ABSOLUTELY

PESSIMISTIC LABOUCHERE.

He Thinks the Principle of Perversity Governs All Departments of Life.

It has been observed from time immemorial that a curious perversity of climate—so we have been accustomed to consider it-generally provides one sort of weather to match a precisely opposite sort of clothing. Thus a walking stick will generally attract rain and an umbrella will produce sunshine.

Indeed the principle of perversity governs every department of life. Should sunshine be necessary it will be wet. Documents of no importance are never mislaid. We invariably meet the people whom we are anxious to avoid and miss those we especially wish to meet. A woman generally loses her heart to the wrong man; a man generally marries the wrong woman. Every one will be able to add to these examples almost indefinitely from personal experience.

There are no accidents whatever in Modern science has established that every incident is governed by an invariable law. Careful observation and the study of statistics prove beyond the possibility of doubt that clothes do very materially influence weather, a discovery which should be invaluable not only to the farmer, but to every member of the community.

Recent science, moreover, has erro-neously adopted the theory of the survival of the fittest. The primal law which governs every circumstance of life is the survival of the unfittest. For instance, if a man is to inherit a fortune from a relative, the latter will survive to extreme old age. In literature and in art the man of talent fails, the charlatan attains fame. In finance and in commerce the swindler makes a fortune and becomes fashionable, the honest man is driven into bankruptcy. An enemy is sure to flourish. The pattern Sunday school boy is cut off in his youth; the truant grows to manhood, marries happily and dies respected and regretted by The worthy youth never marries the woman he loves; she marries his utterly worthless rival. - London Truth.

### IMPRESSIVE GLITTER.

The Metallic Splendor of the Diplomatic Corps on New Year's Morning.

Washington's most picturesque feature, the diplomatic corps, never gets into action until the reception at the White House on New Year's day, although the individual members will be seen out in society for a month or more before the recognized social season. At the New Year's reception, however, the diplomats come out strong, and the procession of the members of the foreign legations and embassies from the White House to the home or hotel of the secretary of state, where the diplomatic breakfast is served, is one of the gala sights of the year. Many of the population of Washington stay up all night in order to get a place on the White House fence where they may see the procession pass as soon as it has been received and properly attended to by the president.

After this reception the entire organization lines up and puts out on foot for the home of the secretary of state. As they pass from the White House grounds in their glittering raiment they are the showiest things in Washington and worth coming miles to see. The lowliest attache in the crowd will give cards and spades to the most showily dressed drum major in the country and will win out with ease. They have gold lace and bullion strung all over them, while the aigrets, plumes, epaulets, cords, tassels and ribbons of any one legation would stock a millinery store. Such is the effect of this aggregation of beauty and valor on the great American crowd gathered without the gates that every man in it utters at some time while the procession is passing, with contemptuous emphasis, the remark which occurs oftenest in the narrative of the adventures of Chimmie Fadden .- Indianapolis Journal.

Running the Gantlope. The following extracts give further information concerning this punish-

"In running the gantlope, the regiment was formed six deep, and the ranks opened and faced inward. Each man being furnished with a switch, the offender, naked to the waist, was led through the ranks, preceded by a sergeant, the point of whose reversed halbert was presented to his breast to prevent his runping too fast. As he thus passed through the ranks every soldier gave him a stroke."-Grose's "Military Antiquities," Volume 2, Page 108.

But the oldest notice I have seen is given in "Monro: His Expedition with the Worthy Scots Regiment (called Mackeyes Regiment), levied in August, 1626, etc. London: Printed by William Jones in Red-Crosse-Streete, 1637:"

"Other slight punishments we enjoyne for slight faults, put in execution by their camarades; as the loupegarthe (running the gantlet; Swedish gantulopp, to run through a hedge made by soldiers), when a souldier is stripped naked above the waste, and is made to runne a furlong betwixt 200 souldiers, ranged alike opposite to others, leaving a space in the midst for the souldier to runne through, where his camarades whip him with small rods ordained and cut for the purpose by the Gavilliger (provost marshal), and all to keepe good order and discipline."-Notes and Queries.

TWO LIFELONG LOVERS.

A Septence Overheard In the Street Am-

Tired by a long day's work and feeling a bit "blue" over some matters which had gone counter to my hopes, I was walking down Broadway one night last week, on my way home. It was after 10 o'clock and the down town streets were almost deserted.

As I turned through Sixteenth street I noticed an old lady and an older gentleman walking slowly, arm in arm, evidently husband and wife. He was apparently about 70, she perhaps five years younger.

They seemed very fond of each other. There was just the least little inclination of the head of each toward the other, and they were strolling along so slowly as to suggest the thought that their pace was regulated not so much by the infirmities of age as by the desire and pleasure of being alone together. They were talking earnestly.

It had rained earlier in the evening and the sidewalks were still wet so that I had put on my rubbers before leaving the office. Consequently my approach was noiseless. Just as I overtook and passed the old people the man turned to his wife and said, as if in answer to some remark she had made, "But, my dear, I like to think God sent you to

From a lover to his sweetheart or from a young husband to a young wife the words might have sounded sentimental, and would certainly have seemed commonplace, but from a husband of three score and ten to a wife of 65 they had a weight and dignity which made them sweet to hear and wholesome to

Here was the whole story of two lives told in a sentence. Here was the answer to the old question about marriage. For them it was surely a divine success. Here at least was proof that the writers of fairy tales and of old time novels spoke truly when they said that "they were married and lived happy ever after."-New York Herald.

#### KOREAN CURIOSITIES.

All the Tools Made by Hand and Native Iron Used.

Frank G. Carpenter, writing about the peculiarities of Korea, says among other things: "One of our ponies had to be shod,

and another time we put shoes on the bull which carried the baggage. The pony was first thrown to the ground, and his four legs were tied together so that he couldn't possibly kick. "Then the blacksmith pounded hoop

iron shoes on his feet with a rude iron hammer. It was the same with the bull, though one man had to sit on his head while he was being shod. The iron seemed to be very good, and it comes from the mines in the northern part of the country. The tools of the country are made of it, and the farming tools are very ingenious, the three and four pronged hoes being quite as good as anything we have in America. They were making tools in this blacksmith's shop, and all the tools and plows are made by hand.

"The blacksmith had a rude bellows, which was worked by a boy who stood on a seesaw and by moving up and down pumped the fire into a blaze. In other places I saw bellows which boys worked by pulling a stick in and out like that of a squirtgun, and everything is rude in the extreme.

'Sometimes horses are shod by being strapped up to poles, so that only two of their feet can rest on the ground, and the band which goes around the belly holds the horse up while he is shod."-Roxbury Gazette.

## A Lake of Boiling Lava.

Mauna Loa, the gigantic Hawaiian volcano, has two craters or openings, one of which, Kilauea, is the largest active volcanic crater in the world. The mountain is 14,100 feet high, and Kilauea is situated on the eastern side, about 4,000 feet above the level of the sea. This marvelous crater is really a vast lake of boiling lava which rises and falls continually by the action of subterranean fires. In tossing to and fro like a troubled sea of molten metal the lava is dashed against the cliffs and hardens there in the form of long, glassy filaments, gigantic knobs, miniature trees, and in imitation of grass, leaves,

Another form of glassy filament to be found along the shores of this flery lake is in the shape of queer bunches and tufts of lava made up of an aggregation of vitreous threads which the natives call "Pele's hair," Pele being the goddess to whom the mountain is dedicated. These glassy threads appear to be caused by the passage of steam through the molten lava. In so doing small particles in the shape of bubblelike balloons are thrown into the air. leaving a tail behind like a comet. When the scene of these miniature steam eruptions is near a rock or the shore all solid and cool surfaces are found covered with bunches of "Pele's hair." This "hair" was formerly used in mystic native ceremonies, and of late years has been gathered in large quantities by curiosity seekers. -St. Louis Repub-

explained.

"Pa, what is a trip hammer?" "It's the hammer, my son, that your ma leaves on the carpet when she hangs up a picture. "-Detroit Free Press.

THE FASHION PLATE.

The dahlia, mulberry and reddish plum shades in velvet and cloth are much used for elegant fur trimmed costumes.

Changeable velvets in exquisite color mixtures are employed by high class modistes and tailors in the making of Louis XVI theater and opera capes and coats.

Jacqueminot or poppy red velours in ribbed patterns, edged with out jet gimp, are used for decorating the bodices of handsome black costumes for the

Changeable effects in silks, satins, silk and wool mixtures, and in fancy velvets are still the very correct fashion, notwithstanding their long limit of favoritism.

Black crepons with brilliantly colored figures on the wavy background are used for elegant dinner and visiting gowns, and these, 40 inches wide, cost from \$2 to \$7 a yard.

Very handsome costumes are made of moss green corduroy trimmed on the coat front with rich iridescent passementeries and elsewhere decorated with narrow bands of dark mink fur.

Fancy belts of fine gold plate not more than two inches wide and fastened with handsome gold clasps are worn with some elegant dinner and reception dresses just brought from Paris.

Very bright colors appear upon the fronts of gowns worn even upon the promenade. Brilliant cherry, orange, vellow, green and other striking colors are used in velvet for stock collar and vest or plastron front.

The jacket with stitched bands simulating box plaits, belted in the back and having open fronts over a fancy vest, retains favor for youthful wearers, both here and abroad. This model has full sleeves and two cape collars edged with narrow fur.—New York Post.

#### STAGE GLINTS.

Lilla Linden has made a hit as the Mexican girl in the opera "Yetiva."

Henrietta Crosman has assumed the leading role in "Burma" at the Boston theater.

Augustin Daly has secured Victor Ko-ning's dramatization of "L'Abbe Constantin" for Ada Rehan's use.

Courtenay Thorpe is to become a member of the Girard Avenue theater (Philadelphia) stock company. Caroline Hamilton, the original Maid

Marian in "Robin Hood," will soon sail for Europe, her intention being to study in Paris. A number of theater managers will

meet in Hartford shortly to form "an association for mutual protection against barnstormers.' Next season Willard Lee of the "Bon-

play written by Herbert Hall Winslow and W. R. Wilson entitled "The Everglades.' Gilmore and Leonard, who are known as "Ireland's Kings," will leave vaude-

nie Scotland" company, will star in a

ville shortly and begin a starring tour in a new comedy, the title of which is 'Hogan's Alley. Louis Martinetti, now successfully appearing in "A Baggage Check," will probably originate the leading comedy

part in Charles A. Blaney's new play,

'A Boy Wanted."

John Oliver Hobbes (Mrs. Craigie) ill arrive in New York in time to se the production of her play, "Journey's End In Lovers' Meeting," with Ellen Terry in the principal role.

## TURF TOPICS.

Hal C, 2:25, is by Hal Dillard, 2:04%. Budd Doble will spend the winter in

Five of the new 2:10 performers are to

be credited to Oregon. Afrite won 14 races and was twice second out of 17 starts.

Sirock, 2:141/2, has won every race he

has started in this season. Directum will make the coming sea-

son in the stud in Kentucky.

Driver Ed Geers has won 65 of the races in which he has driven this year. Myron E. McHenry, the noted driver,

has about decided, it is reported, to retire from the turf. The gray gelding John R. Baldwin,

2:2514, by the Long Island sire Fallis, recently trotted six winning races in 13 days. A. E. Alvord of Syracuse has pur-

chased the colt Hod P, a full brother to Mascot, 2:04. The colt is said to be very fast. Before being retired for the season

Earlmont, 2:0934, showed a half in less than a minute. Strathberry secured 15 track records this season and was a drawing card at western fairs.

John R. Gentry's last race at Reidsville, N. C., with Joe Patchen gives him the championship among the pacing stallions by reason of his actual conquests.-Turf, Field and Farm.

President Hayes and the Farmer. President Hayes had for one of his Ohio neighbors a testy old fellow who kept a small truck farm. During Mr. Hayes' four years in the White House, on one of his visits home, he passed this eld man's farm and found him planting potatoes. The president, being somewhat of a farmer himself, noticed some eccentricity in his neighbor's style of planting, and after a little chat called attention to it. The old man defended his method, and finally Mr. Hayes said as he started along, "Well, I don't think you will get the best kind of a crop if you plant in that manner." The farmer rested his elbows on the fence. "They ain't neither one of us above havin fault found with us," he said, "but if you jest go on presidentin the United States your way and I go on plantin pertaters my way I guess we won't be no wuss off in the end."-San Francisco Chronicle

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NO NOT ONE.

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No. 7, fine twist barrels, top snap, pistol grip, patent fore-end, extension rib, 10 or 12-gauge, \$13.00.
No. 482, fine blued steel barrels, side snap, pistol grip, rabber butt, 10 or 12-gauge, \$10.25.
No. 47, fine twist barrels, pistol grip, rubber butt, 10 or 12-gauge, \$11.25.
No. 137, fine blued steel barrels, top snap, back action rebounding locks, pistol grip, patent fore-end, 10 and 12-gauge, \$14.25.
No. 585, Belgin fine twist barrels, pistol grip, 10 and 12-gauge, \$11.50.
No. 675, fine steel barrels, side, checkered grip, case-hardened locks and mountings, 10 and 12-gauge, \$10.50.
No. 1785, fine twist barrels, patent fore-end, No. 1785, fine twist barrels, patent fore-end,

grip, case-hardened locks and mountings, 10 and 12-gauge, \$10.50.

No. 1785, fine twist barrels, patent fore-end, pistol grip, extension rib, 10 and 12-gauge, \$12.75.

No. 57, laminated steel barrels, pistol grip, rubber butt, nicely cugraved 10-gauge, \$16.25.

No. 17, fine twist barrels, bar rebounding locks, top snap, extension rib, pistol grip, rubber butt, 10-gauge, \$14.00.

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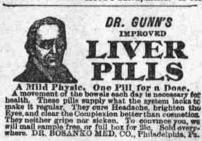
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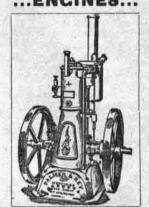
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