Quite Natural.

be, dear, I see they've again
e price of diamonds."
's true Evelyn; but then you
arks will fly upward."—Yonk-
eman.

Cacao in Nicaragua.

aguans use up about 500,000
of cacao a year. Chocolate hot
is used twice a day in every
do household. Cacao grows in
ods containing from fifteen to
five beans each on trees from
twelve feet high. A yield of
n acre is not unusual.

Charcoal and Yellow Jack.

ers in charcoal in Havana are
ever to have yellow fever, while
circles it is advised always to
t about during its prevalence be-
of its absorbing properties, it is
ned.

A Cupid Prescription.

Well, then, how must I make
'
irst you must believe that there
one in the world but me."
've got that far already."
Next you must make me believe
there is no one in the world but
'—Life.

Song Pleased Sir Thomas.

n amusing feature of the reception
n by the Larchmont Yacht club to
Thomas Lipton was the singing of
ng specially written for the occas-
by Clay M. Greene. The song was
mmy Lipton" and was a parody on
ling's "Tommy Atkins." Sir
mas enjoyed the clever verses very
ch.

Deadly West Africa.

West Africa has the most unhealthy
mate in the world. Other places,
h as Aden, Singapore and Hong-
ng, are hotter. Other places show
gher death rates. That is quite true,
t when temperature, the annual rain-
l and the relative humidity of the
mosphere are considered the causes
unhealthiness are revealed.

Thumb Rings in Queen Anne's Time.

In the days of Queen Anne the femi-
ine thumb ring was the badge of wid-
whood, and women tired of single
lessedness were wont to don it and as
"jolly widows" achieve conquests de-
ied to them as spinsters.

Information Wanted.

"Say, Mr. Caller, my big brother
said that sister's steady was a saphead
and an "it" and me and Willie wants
to know if you're sister's steady and
what is a saphead and what is an 'it'?"
—Pennsylvania Punch Bowl.

His Second Offense.

"This isn't the first time you have come in contact with the police?" said the magistrate to the witness.

"No sir" was the reply.

"What, may I ask, was the reason of your former encounter?"

"I woke him. He had gone to sleep on his beat."—Tit-Bits.

A Feminine Marvel.

Chief Millican—That female witness is the most peculiar woman I ever encountered.

Inspector Casey—So? In what way does she differ from most women?

Chief Millican—Why, when she hasn't anything to say she doesn't talk.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

HIS FIRST LOOK AT THE WORLD.

Observations of a Man Who Had Lived in It 30 Years Without Seeing It.

If it were possible for a person to be born with all his faculties ready developed, the sensations of that person probably would not be unlike those of John Carruth, the thirty-year-old Scotchman who, having been blind from birth, has just received his sight as the result of a remarkable operation at the Glasgow Ophthalmic Hospital. Since he left the hospital, Carruth, who is the son of a farmer of Weir, has been getting acquainted with the appearance of persons and things and, as he is an unusually intelligent man, many of his comments thereupon have been remarkably interesting.

It was largely through accident that Carruth came to be operated upon. As he had been born blind, none of his acquaintances ever had supposed that he could be made to see. Neither did Carruth himself, so, even as a little boy, he determined to get through life as best he could without eyesight, and the result was that he accomplished things that seem almost incredible. For instance, he tended cattle, of whose appearance he had been able to form some idea by feeling of them. He grew flowers, picked them, and was able to arrange them in bouquets that it would have been hard for an expert in the grouping of colors to have beaten. For a year and a half this blind man drove the delivery cart of the village grocer and distributed its contents to the customers. Sometimes he would have as many as thirty parcels in his cart, but his wonderfully developed sense of touch enabled him to pick out every one and deliver it at the right address.

Through the agency of a young physician of his town Carruth was taken to Glasgow to be operated upon. Eleven days after the operation, he got the first signal that sight was coming to him, when he made out a red rug which lay over the foot of his bed. Then he was able to distinguish the face of his surgeon. He says that he did not know what it was at first, but that when the physician spoke, he realized that he must be looking for the first time on a human countenance. Afterward he saw his nurse and recognized her as a woman. "I knew she was a woman," he says, "because her face was pale and smooth." Then he asked to see his mother, who came, not knowing that her son's sight had been given to him, and sat down by his bedside. "I had a peep at her sideways," says Carruth, "and then asked her how many wrinkles she had on her forehead. 'You can see!' she cried, 'or how could you tell?' 'Can you count them?' Well, I could not see aye enough for that, but I could see her dear face."

Since then Carruth has been feasting his eyes on all sorts of wonderful things. Everything strikes him as "beautiful," but he says his greatest surprise was color. He had been told that there was a difference between things in this respect, but he could form no idea of what was meant. Green, especially, is his delight. Strangely enough, he says that it is only since he could see that he has known what it was to feel tired. He says, too, that whereas he used to ride a horse fearlessly, he now would be afraid of being thrown. A small and rather flimsy bridge over a river which he formerly crossed without a tremor now worries him considerably to negotiate.

Ships were a surprise to Carruth; in fact, he had been able to form nothing more than a vague idea of anything that he could not feel with his hands. Of women he says that he had no idea they were "sae beautiful and bonny!" He meets a friend without having the slightest idea who he is until he speaks; then he says: "Oh, it's so-and-so!" At first he went into roars of laughter over the sight of people's jaws moving as they ate. But he is ambitious, and says that he wants to study, and to learn languages. Perhaps the most significant remark that Carruth has made, however, burst from him when first he stood and looked over a quiet Scotch country scene with green fields in the foreground, backed by a river and a range of hills against the sunset.

"There's bound to be a creator for all this!" he said.

Origin of Mugwump.

A couple of politicians argued the other day over the origin and meaning of the term mugwump. The first said: "The word was first used in the campaign of 1884. It was applied to the Republicans who repudiated Blaine to vote for Cleveland. It is a word from the language of the Algonquin Indians, and it means 'a big chief,' 'a person of great importance.' The mugwumps, you know, all think themselves of the greatest importance." The other politician said: "Mugwump is a slang word of the South. It no more derives from the Alganquin Indians than you do. A mugwump in the South is a bullfrog in its intermediate stage from the tadpole inward. It is, in other words, a nondescript, a creature that is neither one thing nor the other." "The second derivation seems to be the more plausible," said a third politician. "I'm sure I'd like to know positive which of the two is correct."—Philadelphia Record.

Measuring Hides.

The ancient tanner paid an expert high wages to guess at the contents of his hides when sold by measure. To-day an unskilled workman hands the irregular-shaped pieces to a little machine that looks something like a table with a double top, which, quicker than the mind of the expert could guess it, reckons with exactness the square contents in both the metric and standard systems.

It's Coming to This.

"Speaking of winter," said the foolish man from Towson, "I witnessed a wonderful sight to-day."

"What it was?" asked the easy mark from Walbrook.

"Anthracite!" shrieked the Towson man, as he ducked and called for help.—Baltimore News.

When a great calamity befalls one,

Knew Her Business.

Mrs. Newed—I would like a pound of your best cheese.

Grocer—Yes, ma'am.

Mrs. Newed (examining it)—Why, this cheese is full of holes!

Grocer—Yes ma'am. That's the way it comes.

Mrs. Newed—Well, I don't want any of it. I'm not going to pay for a pound of cheese that contains a half pound of holes.—Boston Journal.

The Charitable Set.

Phyllis—That young millionaire took a great fancy to me att he ball last night. He danced with me five times.

Oh, that doesn't prove anything. It was a charitable ball, you know.

A Second Thief.

"Some mean thief ran off with my umbrella today."

"With your umbrella?"

"Well, with the umbrella I've been carrying all week."—Philadelphia Press.

He Was Bitter.

"John," said the stern woman, "what great man was it that wrote 'Woman is Heaven's Best Gift to Man?'"

"He was no great man at all," growled the little henpecked husband.

"He wasn't?"

"No, he was a chump."—Chicago Daily News.

Indiscretion.

"Aren't the perfect trust and confidence engaged people have in each other perfectly beautiful!"

"Perfectly idiotic, I should say."

"Why?"

"Because when I was engaged I told my future wife all about my income and prospects, and now I can't spend a dollar on myself without her knowing about it."

He Stopped the Clock.

May—Oh! George, papa set the alarm for 10:30 tonight.

George—Indeed. Didn't you remark the other night that the ticking was monotonous and annoyed you?

A Musical Fish.

Lake Batticaloa, Ceylon has the probably unique distinction of being the home of musical fish. The sounds emitted by these are said to be as sweet and melodious as those which would be produced by a series of aeolian harps. Crossing the lake in a boat one can plainly distinguish the pleasant sounds. If an oar is dipped in the water the melody becomes louder and more distinct.

Novel Fishing Feat.

The details of "A Novel Fishing Feat," told by Everett Foster in the September St. Nicholas, are part of an experience of the winter in Yellowstone Park a few years ago. The lad who caught the trout, and, without moving from his position, swung his catch over into Nature's pot and successfully cooked it was a young brother of Mr. Foster; and the narrator was one of those who tasted the uniquely prepared dish and found it palatable.

American Opium Smokers.

The number of opium smokers in the United States is estimated at 1,000,000.

Where Fishhooks Come From.

Practically all the best fishhooks in the world—and nearly so of all qualities—are made at Redditch. The annual output is probably 500,000,000 hooks—about 10,000,000 per week—ranging in size from enormous and ferocious-looking shark-hooks to the tiniest hooks for very small troutflies, with a "bend" diameter of about one-sixteenth of an inch, 1,000 of which will not more than fill a good-sized thimble.

Science and Invention

A new French life preserver is a belt filled with calcium carbide. It is quickly inflated by acetylene on being wet.

Great mountains on Venus are a supposed discovery of Herr Arendt, of Posen. These elevations appear to project through the clouds from time to time, and the observations thus far made tend to prove a rapid rotation in about twenty-four hours.

The magnetic pole in Northwestern America is supposed to have shifted considerably since its discovery by Ross in 1831. Taking with him seven companions in a small schooner, Amundsen, the Norwegian explorer, expects to make observations on the present site of this pole from 1893 to 1895.

Adding fine sulphur to the dissolved material, then heating, preferably with pressure, is found by Isidor Kitsee to more than double the resistance of cellulose as an insulator for electric wires. Flexibility varies with the percentage of sulphur, and resistance to acids and moisture is increased.

In the Smithsonian report on scientific work for 1902 Prof. Langley remarks that when the bolometer was invented, some twenty years ago, it was able to measure temperature to about one-one-hundred-thousandth of a degree. Since then the instrument and its adjuncts have been so far improved that temperature can now be measured to less than one-one-hundred millionth of a degree readily and with precision.

The Italian government is awaking to the necessity of protecting what remains of its forests and to replanting devastated areas. The most valuable tree is the cork tree, which now abounds most in Sicily and Sardinia, the cork forests of Calabria having been almost wholly destroyed for charcoal. The present use of vast quantities of cork in the manufacture of linoleum and for shipbuilding emphasizes the importance of preserving and extending the cork forests. Spain also possesses great cork forests, and a few years ago the exportation of wine bottle corks from that country amounted in value to $5,000,000.

The weights of 1,173 human brains have been collected by M. Marchand, of Marbourg. At birth the average weight is found to be 9.8 ounces in boys and 9.5 ounces in girls. At the age of one year, 2 pounds 1.5 ounces and 1 pound 11.5 ounces, respectively; and at the end of three years the weight has trebled. Increase is then slow. Full growth is attained at nineteen to twenty years in men and sixteen to eighteen in women, the mean adult weight being 3 pounds 1 ounce in males and 2 pounds 10 ounces in females. Loss by senile atrophy begins in man at about forty-eight years and in women at about seventy. Turgeneff, the Russian author, had one of the heaviest brains on record, weighing 4.7 pounds; and Gambetta's, scarcely 2.6 pounds, was one of the lightest.

The first "butterfly farm" is said to have been established only a year or two ago by the English entomologist, William Watkins, at Eastbourne, but already several similar farms have come into existence in France. The object is to rear rare genera of the Bombycidae, the silkworm family. They have, by crossing, obtained some new varieties, which are sought after by museums of natural history. They are also endeavoring to acclimate in France species of silkworms indigenous to other countries. The farms contain oaks, ailanthus trees, pines, plum trees, castor oil plants, and other plants the leaves of which serve as food for the caterpillars. Cocoons are hatched on branches protected by gauze, and, for the sake of uniform temperature, the insects are often kept in a room until after the first molting, when they are placed on bushes in the open air, and protected from birds by coverings of muslin or tulle.

New Rain Producer.

The latest Australian newspapers contain particulars of some experiments, which are said to have been more or less successful, of a novel method of producing a downfall of rain, says the Philadelphia Ledger. The inventor makes this statement:

"I claim to produce rain by sending up continuously from three centers a column of gas made by certain chemicals. The gas, if sent up for a maximum of thirty-two hours, will produce rain over a range of ninety miles at any altitude, with any sky, and with the wind from any quarter. I do not need to wait until the wind is from the usually rainy quarter. In one experiment I made the barometric conditions were quite unfavorable, yet I produced rain. The gas, you see, causes in the different strata of the atmosphere a vacuum. This vacuum is the center of a heat storm and is filled by dense clouds that contain rain. These clouds come down with the gravity of the earth, when the rain descends.

"The rain is different from ordinary rain found in districts in which experiments have been made. It is tropical rain, coming from the very lofty regions, being slight at first, and then later descending in heavy showers and bucketfuls. My operations have been conducted in an inclosure twelve feet by eight. Though I cannot, of course, give away my secret, I may tell you that the chemicals have to be changed in accordance with the conditions."

A Marvellous Menagerie.

The strangest menagerie in the world is on an Ohio farm. Through all the gardens, orchards and fields of this curious place one meets wild beasts of many kinds ingeniously fashioned out of roots, trunks, and the branches of trees. It is a veritable toy Noah's Ark grown up.

Rather than climb the golden stairs to heaven, some people find it easier to slide down the banister to the oth-

Our Eccentric Phrases.

Why do we always talk of putting on a coat and vest? Who puts on a coat before a vest? We also say putting on shoes and stockings. Who puts on shoes before the stockings? We also put up signs telling people to wipe their feet when we mean their boots and shoes. And a father tells a boy he will warm his jacket when he means to warm his pantaloons. We are a little eccentric in our phrases at times.

The Retort Discourteous.

Miss Van der Whoop—Yes, Miss Binns, I am the youngest member of one of the oldest families in New York.

Miss Binns (envious)—I don't doubt that it is the oldest family—if you're the youngest member.

Time to Leave.

Husband (in an aside to his wife)—If you can't think of some more anecdotes of our children's smartness let's go home right away, for they're getting ready to tell us things about their own.—Baltimore American.

The Quail in France.

In France the quail is called the bird of prophecy, this from an idea that the number of his calls twice without resting the farmer expects but 2 francs per bushel for his grain; if the bird calls four times he expects to realize twice the price which two calls insure.

Sorry He Spoke.

Hubsand—Do you know that every time a woman gets angry she adds a new wrinkle to her face?

Wife—No, I did not; but if it is so I presume it is a wise provision of nature to let the world know what sort of a husband a woman has.

Protection of Australian Birds.

Australia has an ornithologists' union which is working hard to secure the passage of laws to protect certain birds which are in danger of extermination. It is suggested that certain islands should be reserved specially for the nutmeg pigeon.

At the Liars' Club.

"Have you got the plans for your new house completed yet?" some one asked him.

"Not quite," he replied. "There is a difference of opinion between my wife and me as to the interior arrangements. She says the pantry is too large and that there are too many closets."

Without another word the medal for the biggest lie of the evening was awarded to him.—Chicago Tribune.

Complying With the Rules.

"Here," said the doorkeeper in the lobby of the playhouse, "what are you going to do with that baby carriage?"

"Take ut in th' theater," responded Mrs. Murphy; "ut sez on th' program thot 'babies are not admitted in ar'rums.'"—Chicago Daily News.

His Particular Line.

"That new man of yours," said the proprietor of the store to the department manager, "seems to be a mighty hard worker."

"Yes," replied the latter; "that is his specialty."

"What—working?"

"No—seeming to."