Other Living Things. It is only reasonable to suppose that the ability to sustain an enormous pressure can only be acquired by animals after generations of gradual migrations from shallow waters. Those forms that are brought up by the dredge from the depths of the ocean are usually killed and distorted by the chormous and rapid diminution of pressure in their journey to the surface, and it is extremely probable that shislow water forms would be similarly killed and crushed out of shape were they suddenly plunged mto very deep water.

The fish that live at these enor the enormous pressure, liable to a curious form of accident. If in chas ing their prey or for any other reason they rise to a considerable distance above the floor of the ocean, the gases of their swimming bladder become considerably expanded, and their specific gravity very greatly reduced. Up to a certain limit the mus cles of their bodies can counteract the tendency to float upward and enable the fish to regain its proper sphere of life at the bottom, but beyond that limit the muscles are not strong enough to drive the body downward, and the fish, becoming more and more distended as it goes, is gradually kill el on its long and involuntary jour ney to the surface of the sea.

The deep sea fish, then, are exposed to a danger that no other animals in the world are subject to-namely, that of tumbling upward. That such accidents do occasionally occur is evidenced by the fact that some fish, which are now known to be true deep sea forms, were discovered dead and floating on the surface of the ocean long before our modern investigations were commenced.—Popular Science Mouthly.

### He Dined on Coke.

It is alleged, in a memoir of the life of Lord Eldon, that when plain John great that he abandoned the pursuit absolutely necessary for his health.

Lord Stowell), with a view of engaging him to meet Dr. Johnson and other men of distinguished literary talent, would sometimes say:

Where do you dine today?" To this question John's uniform answer was, "I dine on Coke today." William would then demur with a Nay, but come to my chambers. You'll see the doctor.'

Whereupon John argued concernbill," and so the friendly suit ended.

It is further affirmed, on the best in the early legal life of John Scott | confirmed. to turn pieces of poetry into the form of legal instruments, and that he actually converted the ballad of style of a bill of chancery.—Sala Journal.

## The Judge's Stuttering Story.

Many anecdotes are remembered of the late Judge Thompson of Gloucester. Thompson was a good story tell er and had the gift of stuttering, which helps along a story teller wonderfully. Judge Thompson always came up to the Democratic state conventions, which used to be held each year in Worcester, and was always primed with good stories.

On one such occasion, the night before the convention, in the Bay State House, he was one of a group of men in the lobby exchanging the latest stories, when a newcomer to the circle broke in with, "I say, judge, tell that stuttering story you told in the cars coming up." The man was a stranger to the judge up to that time and had only met him for a few minutes in the train from Bos ton. As the judge never could by any possibility tell a story that was not a "stuttering story," this unpremeditated joke was considered the best thing said that evening.-Worcester (Mass.) Gazette.

Crown of an Irish King. One of the most highly prized relics in the British museum, that great storehouse of wonders and curiosities, both natural and artificial, is the crown formerly used by the Irish sey calf. kings in the coronation exercises which made them monarchs of the Emerald Isle. Strictly speaking, there were two of these Irish crowns, the one in question being that used by the MacMurrougs, a family who were anciently kings of Leinster. This regal relic, all that remains of the old Irish monarchy, is a plain gold band, rising to a kind of peak or point in front. It dates back to the middle of the tenth century. -St. Louis Repub-

Why Wolfskins Are Cheap.

The Eskimo of the arctic practice an ingenious method of slaughtering wolves-planting a stake in the ice with a blade of flint fastened to the upper end. About the flint blade they wrap a piece of blubber, which freezes hard. Presently along come some wolves and lick at the blubber until the edge of the flint cut their tongues. Tasting their own blood, they become frantic and attack each other, the fight continuing until the whole pack hes dead. Next day the artful hunter comes along and skins them. That is one reason why wolf- not come awound to dwess him "skin rugs are so cheap.—Iron Age.

A Brave Butcher,

The author of the "Breitmann Ballads," Mr. C. G. Leland, was living in Munich, opposite a mediæval tavern called the Ober-Pollinger. His landlady was a nice old soul, with two daughters. On the ground floor of the house was a store in which cutlery and fireworks were sold.

Early one morning Leland and a friend were sitting on a beach before the tavern, waiting for a sliggeroutly to take them out of town. Suddenly bang! bang! erack! was beard from tio fireworks, and pulfs of smoke

mous depths are, in consequence of fireworks. In the back store there was a barrel of gunpowder, which

The family were asleep. Leland ran across the street and rushed up three flights of stairs, screaming; "It burns! There's gunpowder!" Snatching a small bag containing his money, he tumbled mother and daughters century ago. Strange! down stairs.

He was just in time to see a staldoor with an ax and roll out the barrel of gunpowder, 200 pounds, as the butchering an ox. "Peace bath her victories no less renowned than war." -Youth's Companion.

### Velocity of Electricity.

Science of Common Things says that the velocity of electricity is great that the most rapid motion produced by art appears to be actual rest when compared to it. Some authorities have estimated that electricity will pass through copper wire at the rate of 280,000 miles in a single second of time-a velocity greater than that of light.

On the common aerial telegraph wire it has been found that the sub-Scott his zeal for knowledge was so the fluid does not travel at a speed exceeding 16,000 miles per second, of almost every kind of information most authorities giving it as 14,000. and never sacrificed a moment from It should be noted in this connection his legal studies beyond what was that the velocity of transmission increases with the distance between His brother William (afterward the wires and the earth, or, in other words, with the height of suspension. Subterranean wires, such as ocean and river cables, transmit more slowly. Experiments made at McGill college, Montreal, a year or two ago proved that the time required for a telegraphic signal to pass from that point to Greenwich. England, and back again was but 1.05 seconds. The distance traveled by the current in that infinitesimal portion of time ing the doctor, "He can't draw a was nearly 8,000 miles. The figures given in the opening, 280,000 miles per second, were deduced by Wheatauthority, that it was an amusement stone in 1833, but have never been

Paid His Bad Debts Last.

An old men whose capacity for 'Chevy Chase" into the shape and liquor is only limited by his credit in the saloons entered a barro his score already slated had reached the limit. He tried to induce the bartender to give him just one more drink, but the drink dispenser firmly refused. Looking around he saw at a table a gentleman who was apparently much interested in the conversation. Going up to him he said: "Say, friend, can't you loan me a dime to get a drink? I pledge you my word I'll pay you back." The man handed out a dime, never expecting to get it back. The old fel-low hobbled up to the bar, and displaying the dime said, "Now, John, let me have that whisky." The bartender had no sooner placed the drink on the bar than the toper gulped it down. Returning to the man at the table, he handed him the money, saying: "Here's your dime. I told you I'd pay it. I always pay borrowed money before whisky debts." The bartender was dumfounded, but recovered soon enough to hasten the exit of the customer who had bun koed him.-Pittsburg Dispatch.

> A Premium on Calves. Howard T., who has lived all his short life in a city, was taken to visit at a "real farm." The child was in ecstasies. Every animal on the place was a delight to him, but his affec-

tions especially centered about a Jer-"I would like to buy it," he said to

the owner. "But what would you give in ex-

change?" he was asked. "My baby sister," replied the child, with the utmost gravity. "We have a new baby nearly every year at our house, and we've never had a calf."-New York Tribune.

## Mutilated, but Witty.

A soldier who was an inveterate joker and punster, having had his nose, left check and a portion of his chin carried away by a shot in the battle of Shiloh, was asked by some of his comrades if they could do anything for h'm. "Boys," said he, speaking as well as he could in his mangled condition, "I should like a drink of water mighty well, if I only had the face to ask for it."-New

York Ledger. Poor Arthur. Cholly-Arthur had to stay in bed

all day yesterday. Willie-Was he sick! "No, pooah boy! But his valet did Boston Traveller.

THE SECRET OF THE FLOWERS.

If Beauty Is but Utility, Then This Explanation Will Serve.

What are flowers, these parts of plants rendered so conspicuous by their form and color? The poets call them the wedding garments of plants, but afford us no answer to the question, Why do some of the daughters of Flora, for example, the grasses, the prime source of our food pply, wear such incompletions dding garments, while or i re are feeled in such brilliant array or ex-Lale such delightful persume? Scieras en coming out of the bursting, entific investigation has solved the The front store was on fire. It was which can be fertilized only by the riddle. There are numerous plants all of rockets, exachers and other agency of insects, which in their parsuit of food transfer the pollen of the anthers to the pistil. It is to at-Mr. Leland had seen a few days be-tract these insects that flowers don fore when buying powder for his their bright garb and exhale their perfume. Flowers are tavern signs informing insects that here the table is with pollen and with nextar spread. The fact is now universally known, but simple and natural as it appears it was first discovered only a There have been countless lovers

flowers for thousands of years, wart butcher burst open the two inch and not one of them had an idea the purpose which the flowers served until an observant schoolmasflames were licking the stayes! The ter in his ramble through the envibutcher saved them all, doing his rons of Berlin and Spandau had his work as calmly as if he had been attention awakened by observing the unwearied persistence with which the insects visited flower after flower, "caught nature in the act" indeed, and in the year 1793 published his remarkable work, the title of which, translated into English, would be, The Discovered Secret of the Struc ture and Fertilization of Flowers. It was a work indicative of monu mental industry, with 26 copper plates containing 1,117 illustrations. The German schoolmaster was Christian Konrad Sprengel, the son of a Brandenburger clergyman. After a first appointment in a Berlin school he was called (1780) to the rectorship of the Great School (now Gymnasi um) at Spandau, where he collected and worked up the material of his work, an astonishing task, which even today excites the unqualified admiration of botanists. At that time the work brought Sprengel no honor. His love of flowers occupied so much of his time that he limited himself to only the most absolutely necessary of his rectorial duties. He died in complete obscurity. April 7,

1816, in his sixty-sixth year. Shortly before his death he pub lished a short memoir entitled "The Utility of Bees," and the "Necessity of Bee Culture From a New Point of View," in which he drew, more precisely, the distinction between wind fertilized and insect fertilized plants. He showed here experimentally the incapacity of insects to fertilize the flowers of currents, gooseberries, apples, violets and others. These flowers are protected from the visits

of insects by a small canopy of gauze. The labors of Sprengel were practically disregarded. He experienced no recognition, and he did not even retain a single copy of his work Charles Darwin was the first to bring Sprengel's "remarkable book" to light and do full justice to the German schoolmaster, "He was ahead of his age," wrote Darwin. and his discoveries lay long neglect ed."-Neber Land Und Meer.

## Pockets and Pocketbooks.

It is safe to wager that out of every 50 women one meets at a place of amusement or in church with their husbands, 49 are without a cent of money on their person. If a collection is taken up, the husband alone puts something on the plate. Some of the more particular husbands pass over a dime or a quarter to their wives, but these prove the exception to the rule. How many times have we heard married women say, "I never carry any money when I go out with my husband?"

One observing woman told me the wretched fashion of carrying portemonnaies in the hand has given the glove industry one of its biggest booms. More gloves become soiled and worn from carrying the purse in the hands than from actual wear. had talked with several women, and they tell me they do not like to carry purses in their hands, but there is no help for it as the pockets in the skirts are made now. These pockets are usually in the back of the skirt. and if the purses were carried in them pickpockets would be in clover -Brooklyn Citizen.

## Opium In Honey.

The increased cultivation of poppy in various parts of Europe has, it i said, led to a marked growth in the percentage of opium contained in honey, the properties of which ar much influenced by the flowers fron which the bees gather it. This a nothing new, for Xenophon relates that his soldiers were intoxicated by eating Trebizond honey, extracted presumably from the poppies which abound in that region.—Philadelphia Record.

ciouslike. What's thematter?

Young Mr. Dapper (who has been a father just 11 days) -Oh, nothing. You see, I'm waiting until there's no A Travelor's Tale

It was in a first class carriage, and the passengers, throwl ig off all cold reserve had been beguiling the journey with pleasant conversation. One man in particular, whose brouged and sun burned features told of long sojourns in foreign ands, had kept them all interested with nis anecdotes and stories of far distant

"Yes, gentlemen," said he, "there is nothing like travel to expand the mind. You see so many sights that are noveand have so many strange experiences that a foreign tour is an education in it self. Now, I don't suppose, for instance that many of you gentlemen have ever seen a beet root putting on a waistcoat."

The company sat up, staring in sur "Seen a beet reot putting on a waist coat? No, we certainly have not." "Nor a lettuce donning a pair of trou-

"No." "Nor a pile of mustard and cross get-

ting into a shooting jacket?" "Nor a spring onion fixing on its tie and collar?"

'No, not even that," "Well, gentlemen," said the traveler as the train drew up in the station and be prepared to es ape, "you may believe me or believe me not, as you like. But several times in my wanderings I have seen with my own eyes not only a best root, or a lettuce, or an onion, but a whole salad dressing."-London Tit-Bits.

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