GOOD NEWS!

The Woolen Mills Have Reduced their Tariff on my Clothing Bills.

Has just returned from all the Northern markets with the latest selection of

CHOICE CLOTHING

to suit everybody in Lexington county, old and young, rich and poor; for Children, School Boys, Youths' and Men's Suits, in great variety of styles and qualities, which cannot be excelled by any house in this city. I am willing to work for low wages and small profits. I took advantage of my second purchase this season by going to the Northern markets late, in order to seeure bargains to meet the hard times. I bought the goods for cash, so it enables rie to sell it at a close margin to the consumer.

Come one, come all, and examine my large stock of Red Flannel and White Flannel. Camel Hair Underwear for Men and Boys at such low prices that it will astonish the greatest economist that ever wore a Hat on his head, which article you will find in my store in great profusion. Likewise

OVERCOATS and NECKWEAR. which I guarantee the purchaser not to

Be sure to call, under Columbia

150 Main Street, COLUMBIA, S. C.

L. EPSTIN.

greatest reputation.

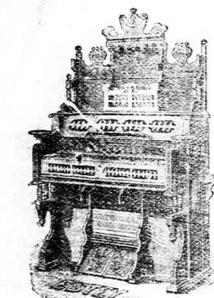
THE MOST POPULAR

SINSTRUMENTS !

SEWING MACHINES

-ARE AT-

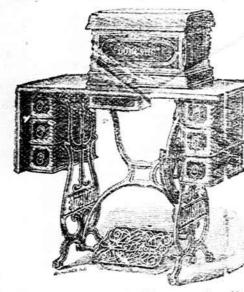
M. A.MALON E'S. Superior goods from factories of largest



L you want a New Piano at \$250, \$300, \$350, \$400, \$450 to \$600, I can supply you. I take second-hand Pianos in part payment for new ones, giving me a stock of secondhand Pianos which I can sell cheap. If you want Parlor Organs at \$55, \$65,

\$75, \$85, \$100 and upwards, I can accom-If you want an Organ for church or Sabbath-school at \$65, \$80, \$87, \$93 \$100, \$125 to \$260, will procure one. Special

discounts to churches and ministers.



Home and Domestic, also White and Davis | comes down the sharp had of the Sewing Machines. Can supply machines apostle as he rever "if any non-will from \$30 to \$60, all warranted. Can sup- not work, neither shall be call.". ply you with needles, parts, attachments or oil for all makes of machines.

I have the best equiped Music House in this section of the State, and defy competition, quality considered. Call on me for terms, etc.

Office, Post Office Block, 192 Main Street,

M. A. MALONE, Proprietor. June 20-6m

then one of them shall get the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ in his heart, and the other shall not get it, the one DR. TALMAGE'S DISCOURSE FOR THE who becomes a son of the Lord Al-

thee my salvation."

have supposed that just as soon as a

man enters into the Christian life his

intellect goes into a bedwarfing pro-

cess. So far from that, religion will

give new brilliancy to the intellect,

new strength to the imagination, new

force to the will, and wider swing to

all the intellectual faculties. Chris-

tionity is the great central fire at

which philosophy has lighted its

brightest torch. The religion of the Lord Jesus Christ is the fountain

poured forth no such inspir-

from under the throne of God clear as

"Night Thoughts," teaching in Cow-

"Paradise Lost." The religion of

Jesus Christ has hong in studio and in gallery of art and in Vatican, the

best pictures-Titian's "Assumption,

Raphael's "Transfiguration," Rubens'

"Descent from the Cross," Claude's

"Burning Bush," and Angelo's "Last

ludgment." Religion has made the

best music of the world-Haydn's

"Creation," Handel's "Messiah," Mo-

tible monuments, and which lifts its

any effect upon a man's intellect but

legic to marshal the intellectual forces

prints of the Creator in the red sand-

stone. It will go with the botanist

HOW RELIGION PREVENTS DESPOND-

ENCY AND GLOOMINESS.

Again I remark that godliness is

profitable for one's disposition. Lord

Ashley, before he went into a great

battle, was heard to offer this prayer:

"O Lord, I shall be very busy today;

if I forget thee, forget me not." With

such a Christian disposition as that, a

man is independent of all circum-

stances. Our piety will have a tinge

of our natural temperament. It a man

be cross and sour and fretful natu-

rally, after he becomes a Christian he

will always have to be armed against

the rebellion of those evil inclinations;

but religion has tamed the wildest na-

turned it has turned fretfulness into

gratitude, despondency into good

cheer, and those who were

hard and ungovernable and un-

compromising have been made

pliable and conciliatory. Good reso-

arm and a mightier hand to bend evil

Lisso than ever held the buffalo on the

prairie. A man cannot go forth with

any human weapons and contend suc-

cessfully against these Titans armed

with uptorn mountain. But you have

known men into whose spirit the in-fluence of the Gospel of Christ came,

until their disposition was entirely

chantain New York. They were very

antagonistic. They had done all they

could to injure each other. They were

in the same line of business. One of

the merchants was converted to God.

Having been converted, he asked the

Lord to teach him how to bear himself

toward that business antagonist, and he

his duty when a customer asked for

certain kinds of goods which he had

not, but which he knew his opponent

had, to recommend him to go to that

changed. So it was with two mer-

habits than the hand that bent the bow

ing waters as those which flow

He Has a Word to Say as to Whether Righteonsness Is Profitable - Godliness Is Good for the Intellect-It Is Also

BROOKLYN, Jan. 6. - At the Tabernacle today the Rev. T. De Witt Talmage, D. D., preached a discourse on the subject, "Does Religion Pay?" The opening hymn was: My days are gliding swiftly by,

A happy New Year to one and all! crystal. Religion has given new en-There is a gloomy and passive way | ergy to poesy, weeping in Dr. Young's of waiting for the events of the opening year to come upon us, and there is a heroic way of going out to meet them, strong in God and fearing nothing. When the body of Catiline was found on the battle field it was found far in advance of all his troops, and among the enemy, and the best way is not for us to be down and let the events of life trample over us, but to go forth in a Christian spirit deter-

The papers were made out, and some of you have just entered into business partnerships, and others of you take zards "Requiem." Is it possible that a religion which builds such indestrucand others have entered upon new entered ensign on the highest promonto. prises, and there were last week in ries of worldly power, can have changes. You are expecting pros | elevation and enlargement? Now, I errive and I am determined, so far as commend godliness as the best mental I have enything to do with it, that discipline—better than belles-lettres you shall not be disciplined, and therefore I propose, as God may help maties to harness the mind to all inme this morning, to project upon triency and elaboration, better than your attention a new element of legic to marshal the intellectual forces success. You will have in the business firm, frugality, patience, industrial Miller and show him the foot-

try, perseverance, economy-a very strong business firm, but there needs to be one member added, mighter ner either- the one introduced by my Bly. It will go with the astronomer text: "Goddiness which is profitable unto all things, having the promise of the life that now is as well as of that which is to come."

TOO MUCH LEVITY IN LATTER DAY RE-

admit that godliness is important in its eternal relations; but perhaps some of you say: "All I want is an opportunity to say a prayer before I die, great many people who suppose that if they can finally get safely out of this world into a better world, they will have exhausted the entire advantage of our holy religion. They talk as though religion were a mere nod of heavenly mansion; as though it were an admission ticket, of no use except to give in at the door of heaven. Andthe shroud, and a religion of the coffin, and a religion of the hearse, and a religion of the cemetery, who have no appreciation of a religion for thy bank, appreciation of a rengion for the tank, for the farm, for the factory, for the warehouse, for the jeweler's shop, for the broker's effice. Now, while I would not throw any slar on a post-mortem religion, I want this morning, and on the first Sabbath of the new year, to culogize an ante-morton religon. A religion that is of no use to you while you live, will be of no use to you when you die. "Godliness is profitable unto all things, having the promise of the life that now is as well as of that which is to come." And I have always noticed that when the grace is very low in a men's heart he talks a great deal in prover meetings about deaths, and about coffins, and about craves, and about churchyards. I have noticed that the healthy Christion, the man who is living near to God, and is on the straight road to heaven, is full of jubilant satisfaction. and talks about the duties of this life,

understanding well that if God helps

him to live right he will help him to

that were coured from the wine vots

gies of your body, mind and soul."

RELIGION IS GOOD FOR THE HEALTH.

store. I suppose that is about the hardthat godliness is good for a man's physical health. I do not mean to est thing a man could do; but being thoroughly converted to God, he resay the tit will restore a broken down constitution, or drive rheumatism solved to do that very thing, and being asked for a certain kind of goods which from the limbs, or neural-gia from the he had not be said: "You go to such temples, or pleurisy from the side; but and such a store and you will get it." I do mean to say that it gives one such habits and puts one in such condition After a while merchant number two found these customers coming so sent. as is most favorable for physical health. That I believe, and that I avow. Everybody knows that buoyand he found also that merchant numher one had been brought to God, and he sought the same religion. Now they are good friends and good neighvantage. Gloom, unrest, dejection are at war with every pulsation of the hars, the grace of God entirely changing their disposition. heart, and with every respiration of the lungs. If lowers the vitality, it slackens the circulation, while "Oh," says some one, "I have a rough, jagged, impetuous nature, and religion can't do anything for me. exhibitation of spirit pours the very balm of heaven through all the currents of life. The sense of insecurity which sometimes hovers over an unregenerate mea, or pounces | them into the mightiest usefulness? upon him with the blast of ten A manufacturer cares but very little thousand trampets of terror, is for a stream that slowly runs through most deploting and most exhausing, while the feeling that all things are working together for my good now, and for my everlasting velous, is conductive to physical body.

You will observe that exhibits in dues industry, which is the foundary which and grinding mill and flashing water-whost industry, which is the foundary which a nature, the swiftest, nervy which is the foundar which, And a nature, the swiftest, the most rugged and the most treof hygiene that will keep a lazy men mendous, that is the nature God turns well. Pleadsy will stab him, eavsing into greatest usefulness. Oh, how many las will burn him, jumdice will dis-color him, gout will cripple him, and who have been pugpacious, and hard to please, and irascible, and more the intelligent physician will not bothered about the mote in their prescribe autisoptic, or telefiture, neighbor's eye than about the beam or anodyne but sins and ham-mers and yardsticks and erections and like ship timber in their own eve, who have been entirely changed by the grace of God, and have found out that pickaxes. There is no such thing as good physical condition without posi-tive work of some kind, although you should sleep on down of swam, or ride ciedliness is profitable for the life that now is as well as for the life which is to come.' in carriage of soft-t aptoriory, or bave on your table oil the fixuries

RELIGION IS GOOD IN LIFE'S PRACTICAL Again I remark, that religion of Ispalan, and tanier. Our religion says: "Away to the bank! good for a man's worldly business. I know the general theory is, the more neway to the field away to business the less religion, the more rethe shop! away to the factory! don't ligion the less business. Not so thought something that will ealist all the ener | Doctor Hans in his "Biography of a Christian Merchant," when he says: The favorites, viz: Easy running New bare back of the fellow multiple drawer time in his life; during those six years he had more business crowding him than at any other fine," In other words, the more worldly business a man has, the Oh, how important in third ev, when more opportunity to serve God. Does so much is said about analous and religion exhibitate or retard worldly physiology and the appropriation and some business; is the practical question for new style of medicane is ever and you to discuss. Does it hang like a anon springing upon the world, that mortgage over the farm? Is it a bad you should understand that the highest debt on the ledger? Is it a lien against school of realistics is the school of the estate? Does it crowd the door Christ, which declars that would through which customers come for ness is probable unterall there, have broadcloths and silks? Now, religion ing the proteine of the life that never will hinder your business if it be a bad as well and that who his treasure but income or if it has good business so if you start out treasure in the wrongly conducted. If you tell lies

world with equal physical health, and behind the counter, if you use false weights and measures, if you put sand in sugar, and beet juice in vinegar, and lard in butter, and sell for one thing that which is another thing, mighty will live the longer. "With then religion will interfere with that long life will I satisfy thee, and show business; but a lawful business lawfully conducted will find the religion Again I remark that godliness is good for the intellect. I know some of the Lord Jesus Christ its mightiest auxiliary.

Religion will give an equipoise of spirit, it will keep you fron rebullitions of temper-and you know a great many fine businesses have been blown to atoms by bad temper-it will keep you from worriment about frequent loss, it will keep you industrious and prompt, it will keep you back from squandering and from dissipation, it will give you a kindness of spirit which will easily be distinguished from that mere store courtesy which out of which learning has dipped its clearest draught. The Helicon shakes hands violently with you, asking about the health of your family when there is no anxiety to know whether your child is well or sick! but the anxiety is to know how many dozen cambric pocket handkerchiefs you will take and pay cash down. It will prepare you for the practical duties of everyday life. I do not mean to say that religion will make us financially rich, but I do say that it will give us, it will assure us of a comfortable sustenance at the start, a comfortable subsistence all the way through, and it will help us to direct the bank, to manage the traffic, to conduct all our business matters, and to make the most insignificant affair of our life a matter of vast importance glorified by Christian principles.

In New York city there was a mer-

chant hard in his dealings with his fellows, who had written over his banking house, or his counting house "No compromise." Then when some merchant got in a crisis and went down-no fault of his, but a conjunction of evil circumstances-and all the other merchants were willing to compromise - they would take seventy-five cents on the dollar, or fifty cents, or twenty cents-coming to this man last at all, he said: "No compromise; I'll take one hundred cents on the dollar, and I can afford to wait." Well, the wheel turned, and after a while that man was in a crisis of business, and he sent out his agents to | home."-Puck. compromise, and the agents said to the merchants: "Will you take fifty cents on the dollar?" "No." "Will you knives, forks and tablespoons, a pocket, take anything?" "We'll take one hundred cents on the dollar. No compromise." And the man who wrote that inscription over his counting house door died of destitution. Oh, we want more of the kindness of the Gospel and the spirit of love in our business enterprises! How many young men have found in the religion of Jesus Christ a practical help? How many there are in this house today who could testify out of their own experience that godliness is profitable for the life that now is. There were times in their business career when they went here for help, and there for help, and yonder for help, and got no help until they knelt before the Lord

Lord rescued them. In a bank not far from our great metropolis-a village bank-an officer could not balance his accounts. He had worked at them day after day, night after night, and he was sick nigh unto death as a result. He knew he had not taken one farthing from that bank, but somehow, for some intion, reformatory effort, will not effect the change. It takes a mightler reason inscrutable then, the accounts wouldn't balance. The time rolled on, and the morning of the day when the books should pass under the inspecof Ulysses, and it takes a stronger tion of the other officers arrived, and he felt himself in awful peril, conscious of his own integrity but unable to prove that integrity. That morning he went to the bank early, and he knelt down before God and told the whole story of his mental anguish, and he said: "O Lord, I have done right; I have preserved my integrity, but here I am about to be overthrown unless thou shouldst come to my rescue. Lord, deliver me." And for one hour he continued the prayer before God, and then he rose and went to an old blotter that he had forgotten all about. He opened it, and there lay a sheet of figures which he only needed to add to another line of figures-some line was impressed with the fact that it was of figures he had forgotten, and knew not where he had laid them-and the accounts were balanced, and the Lord delivered him. You are an infidel if you do not believe it. The Lord delivered him. God answered his prayer as he will answer your prayer, O man of business, in every crisis when you come to him. Now, if this be so, then I am persuaded, as you are, of the fact that the vast majority of Christians do not fully test the value of their religion. They are like a farmer in California, with fifteen thousand acres of good wheat land and culturing only a quarter of an Why do you not go forth and make the religion of Jesus Christ a practical affair every day of your business life and all this year, beginning now, and to-morrow morning putting into practical effect this holy religion and demonstrating in your life that godliness is profitable here as well as hereafter?

HOW AND WHY RELIGION IS INDESPENS How can you get along without this religion? Is your physical health so good you do not want this divine tonie? Is your mind so clear, so vast, so comprehensive that you do not want this divine inspiration? Is your worldly business so thoroughly estab lished that you have no use for that religion which has been the help and deliverance of tens of thousands of men in crises of worldly trouble? And if what I have said this morning is true, then you see what a fatal blunder it is when a man adjourns to life's expiration the uses of religion. A man who postpones religion to sixty years of age gets religion fifty years too late. He may get into the kingdom of God by final repentance, but what can compensate him for a whole lifetime unalleviated and uncomforted? You want religion today in the training of that child. You will want religion to-morrow in dealing with that western customer. You wanted religion yesterday to curb your temper. Is your arm strong enough to beat your way through the floods? Can you without being incased in the mail of God's eternal help go forth amid the assault of all hell's sharpshooters? Can you walk alone across these crumbling graves and amid these gaping earthquakes? Can you, waterogged and mast shivered, outlive the galer Oh, how many there have been who, postponing the religion of Jesus (Shrist, have plunged into mistakes they never could correct although they lived eighty years after, and like serpents crushed under cart wheels, dragging their mauled bodies under the pocks to die; so these men have fallen under the wheel of awful calamity, crushed here, destroyed forever, while a vast multitude of others have taken the religion of Jesus Christ into every-

day life, and first, in practical business

affairs, and secondly, on the throne of

heavenly triumph, have illustrated,

while angels looked on and a universe

approved, the giorious truth that Godliness is profitable unto all things. having the promise of the life which now is as well as of that which is to

INTERESTING PARAGRAPHS.

The total production of the silk manufactories of America now amounts

to \$60,000,000 per annum. Harvard has graduated three presidents, two vice presidents, eighteen cabinet officers, three speakers of the house of representatives, and four

supreme court judges. A hog was butchered at Charlton, Ga., and in the maw of the swine were found some twenty-two nails and a lot of glass, supposed to have been pieces of bottle. The hog was apparently healthy. W. S. Cleveland, a manager, and

his company, were roomed in the top

floor of a big hote small and undesizable rooms. Cleveland asked the gaudy hotel clerk to come around and see his show. The clerk did as he was asked and was given a pass for the gallery. "We are in the garret at your house," Cleveland explained. They have an improved method of lasting shoes in some of the Maine shoe factories by which cement is made to take the place of pegs and tacks. The device, which is patented, costs 20 per cent. less than all other articles for the purpose, and is said to

do three times the work. The total wool production of the world is estimated at 2,000,000,000 pounds. Australia is the heaviest producer, coming to the front with 455, 570,000 pounds; then the United States, 307,588,000 pounds; the Argentine Republic, 283,047,000 pounds; Russia 262.966.000; Great Britain, 135,000,000. All the other countries range each

below 100,000,000 pounds. "Well, this do beat all!" exclaimed Aunt Harriet, as they took their first ride on the elevated; "Who'd 'a thought of railroadin' in the air?" "Sho!" replied Uncle Abner, "my newspaper says that a large part o' the railroad companies of New York are run largely on water, and that's the kind o' road I want to see afore we go

An English paper recommends as | caught it by the neck with one the best contrivance for keeping and clutched the fore paws of the tacked on the pantry door, made of enameled cloth and lined with Canton flannel, the interior being stitched in brains out with a club. Mr. Maddruli's small divisions to accommodate the separate articles. It is urged as an advantage that "the Canton flannel will absorb all moisture that may be left arms were torn by the sharp claws of on the articles."

"God Shave the Queen,"

A most curious statement is being made about the queen of Portugal Not only has Maria Pia, it is said, a clearly defined mustache on her upper lip, but she is positively proud of it. It is furthermore stated, evidently by a confirmed courtier, that this hirsute adornment suits admirably the queen crying for his deliverance, and the of Portugal's style of beauty. Who shall say, then, that this royal example will not effect a reportion in this particular direction?

answers on toilet matters in the ladies journals have been largely devoted to directions to fair correspondents how they might get rid of the superfluous growth of hair on their upper lips and chins. But in future, possibly, toilet editors will be called on to recommend the best mustache developer for ladies whose "style of beauty" the masculine growth on the upper lip is supposed to suit.-London Figuro.

Bells in History. Bells have a large place in history almost larger than any other object that could be mentioned, unless we must except some of the implements of destruction. Their great antiquity is beyond question. An explorer among the ruins of Nineveh, or some other of those vanished oriental cities. claims the discovery of a bronze bell, and the citizens of Rome came together in their public places at the signals of bells. But the Roman bells were elongated pieces of forgings, about as musical, it is to be presumed, as a modern cowbell. It was not until mediæval and modern times that the bell ringer became a man of very distinguished duties. Who has not heard of the Sicilian vesper bells, rung in the year 1283 as the signal for the death of 8,000 Frenchmen, slaughtered so that Sicily might be free? Who has not heard again, and shuddered as he listened, of the bells of St. Bartholomew-the signal, it is said, for the death of 100,000 persons? And the 8 o'clock curfew bell that rang through all England at the bidding of William the Conqueror, as a warning to his newly made slaves to "douse the glim;" has it not echoed in faint and still fainter tones through the pages of English history down to date? But it has not been the fate of all bells to be made to give the signal for slaughter or oppression. Philadelphians have their fondly cherished liberty bell. It is held in such esteem that it was borne half over the continent a few years ago under the escort of a guard of honor to protect it

from all injury. It proclaimed once from its brazen lips the birth of a new nation, and hence if it be not made to endure as long as the nation itself it will be because metal is more perishable than the work of the revolution ary architects. -Lock and Bell.

Melloni's Ruling Passion. "I was born at Parma, and when I ot a holiday used to go into the country the night before and go to bed early, so as to get up before the dawn. Then I used to steal silently out of the house and run, with bounding heart till I got to the top of a little hill where I used to set myself so as to look toward the east." There, he tells us, he used, in the stillness of nature, to wait the rising sun, and feel his attention rapt, less with the glorious spectacle of the morning light itself than with the sense of the mysterious heat which accompanied its beams and brought something more necessary to our life and that of all nature than the light itself.

The idea that not only mankind but nature, would perish though the light continued, if this was divorced from heat, made a profound impres sion, he tells us, on his childish mind. The statement that such an idea could enter with dominating force into the mind of a child will perhaps seem inprobable to most. It will, however, be comprehensible enough to some here, I have no doubt.—Professor S. P. Langley in Popular Science Monthly.

4 Tale with a Moral. There is a certain plumber whose domicile is on East Eighteenth street. He is a genius in his way. He was recently called in to locate a supposed leak in the drain pipes of a fourteenstory apartment house not far from his place of business. After a day's cogitation and sundry profitless soundings and sniftings he finally hit upon a plan to save the owner from salling the building to pay his bill.

of valerian-commonly called cathin. Then he took the elevator to the top floor and poured the contents of hi little bottle of valerian diluted with water down the drain. Half an hour later he took a cat and visited each floor in turn. The cut exhibited no emotion until a room in the seventh story was reached. Then with a bound it sprang from the plumber's arms and began to paw the wall, mewing loudly. A hole was made in the wall and there, sure enough, was the leak. Moral: Keep a cat instead of a plumber. It costs less. - New York

Dressmakers' Skill.

Skillful dressmakers can do a great

deal to make an over stout woman look presentable, but tailors can d. little or nothing to hide the clamsy proportions of a fat man, Notwith standing that all the fashion plane fig ures are of graceful, not to say thin, women as being the best means of dis playing fashionable attire, a great deal of attention is paid to making graceful draperies for stout women. The partial eclipse of the busile is a sax blow to these plump people, since a big bustle relieved their wideness of waist and afforded more support for ample skirts. Nevertheless, all women's clothes seem much better adapted to concealing fat than men's, as any one will acknowledge who takes care ful notice of the apparent size of an actress in skirts and sees her soon after in masculine garb. What appeared in petticoats to be only medium plump ness, in trousers and tail coat is increased in girth to absolute fatness. The same phenomenon may be observed among the bathers at watering places. - Baltimore American.

Fought with a Wildrat. James Maddrah, of Ansonia, Conn., heard a great racket in his saw mill early one morning recently. He arose and went out, expecting to find a fox chasing his chickens, which are kept in a house adjoining the mill, but found an immense wildcat. As he entered the cat sprang at him. He had no weapon and did not dare to turn to flee. He grappled with the animal and, being a very strong man, he brute with the other, and after a strug-

gle choked it into insensibility. Then he flung it to the ground and beat its clothes were ripped open from his shoulders down, his neck was frightfully lacerated, and his shoulders and the infuriated and hungry animal. -Philadelphia Times.

"HITTING THE PITE."

Alarming Growth of This Beathanish Habit as Noticed in Chicago. The smoking of opium in Chicago began about ten years ago, among the white population, though the habit has prevailed with the Celestials since their first arrival in the city. In 1879 the fact that the custom was contagious was brought to the notice of the police department, and the "opium joints" were pulled. This served to kill it for a time, at least apparently, though it was not long before rumors were flying around again that the practice was going on and growing. Considerable difficulty was then experienced in locating the joints, but so soon as one was found it was promptly pulled.

Despite police vigilance, however, the Celestials continued to spread their business until two years ago, when it attained such a growth that a systematic warfare was begun and waged against it, headed by a detective who has since "resigned" from the force. with the result that, save a few small "joints," the Celestial business was entirely broken up. Not long ago, however, it began to show signs of a resurrection, and now there are 100 establishments, and they are increasing in geometrical progression.

An old timer can detect a joint by standing on the steps leading to the basement, so strong is the odor of the opium. Upon entering the visitor is met by an almond eved pigtail, who gutturalizes an inquiry. If the visitor is a stranger and desires a smoke he must give his name. The keeper looks in a book and if the name is not there it is no go. If, however, one of the "steerers"-as a half dozen or more inveterate white smokers about town are called and to whom a novitiate must applyhas seen that the name has been registered, the celestial parts a curtain behind him, and ushers the visitor into a long, narrow passage, on each side of which are a number of small rooms furnished with bunks. Into one of these the visitor goes, lies down on the bunk, gives his guide the regulation fee and is given a pipe containing a pill of opium. A few whiffs and enchanted dominions are reached, and there the visitor remains for half an hour. Sometimes he takes another pill, but generally one suffices until the next visit. And there is always a next visit, so long as money and life lasts; for once

a man (or woman, for that matter) takes the drug, he is, with most rare exceptions, ever afterward its slave. After a few indulgences, which be come constantly more frequent, the newly enthralled suffers a weakness entire community. of the nerves, he becomes suspicious, a crafty air tinged with a strong and whiteness changes to a vellow hu The gratifying of the habit becomes absolutely essential, many fold more irresistible than the sway of King Alcohol. There is very little hope of recovery, and once within its clutches the captured is a goner. When his money has disappeared he joins the ranks of the "steerers," and in consideration of steering a new customer into the joint, receives the privilege of hitting the pipe, and in that way eke out a most wretched and miserable existence until, even his "steering" faculties being lost, the habitue is discarded by the Celestial, and is thrown upon the street to die, which he shortly does amid the acutest sufferings. Most of the beginners are between 18 and 25 years old, some even

when over 30. An observer between the hours of 2 and 4 and 8 and 11 p. m., may see smokers enter these joints, ostensibly laundries; but if the observer waits he will be surprised at the length of time it takes to get one's washing. When a joint keeper believes his place is being watched, he will furnish the smoker when going out with a bundle to carry as a blind, and many a bundle has been opened and found to contain, justead of carefully laundried linen, a lot of waste paper. Women, though mostly outcasts, form a no small part of the Celestial's customers, and not infrequently young girls with an adventurous and romantic turn of mind are decoyed into "just one indulgence." The smoker is invariably robbed of all his valuables, not by the Chinaman, but by the

vounger. Comparatively few begin

steerers, who wait until their victims bought 10 cents' worth of find extract | are asleep, when anything can be done with them without their knowledge .-Chicago Journal.

> An Iowa Peddler's Terrible Scare. A peddler who put up for the night at Maquoketa was so frightened at the threats and boisterous talk of some men who were stopping at the same house that he fled in his stocking feet, hatless, coatless and clothed only in shirt and pants. For two nights and two days he remained in the woods, when he ventured to return. His feet were frozen and he was almost dead with cold and exhaustion. The man who had frightened him so was Talber Streets, who was on his way home from Maquoketa under the influence of liquor. The latter proceeded on his way after the peddler left, and his team running away he was thrown out and killed. Talber Streets was about 60 years of age.-Des Moines

His Life Saved by a Dream.

Another queer dream that seems to have proven a real, substantial warning is told by a tireman on the Baltimore and Ohio road. Frank Baker tried to get out of his run when his freight was ready to leave Wheeling by feigning sickness. Not being able to get off he bade his wife good-by, telling her he had dreamed of a fatal accident and that all would be killed. When the freight took a siding at Valley Falls, Baker made an excuse and left his engine. A moment later an express crashed into the freight and the engineer and brakeman in his place were killed. - Kansas City Times.

Septimus Winner, the Philadelphia song writer, has made \$100,000 out of "Listen to the Mocking Bird," which is still in demand.

BURDETTE'S PHILOSOPHY.

COMPANIONS IN SUFFERING. Mrs. Humphrey Ward, the author of 'Robert Elsmere," complains that she has only received \$500 for the American edition of her book, although 100,000 copies have been sold here. Don't kick, Mrs. Ward, some of us have suffered more than you. I myself read the book clear through, and never got a cent A CHRISTMAS REMINISCENCE.

What strange ideas some people have in regard to the entertainment of chillren. Last Christmas I attended a Christmas entertainment in a church; a live, active, intelligent membership it had, too, and no country church it was. neither. It was well located in a busy city of 100,000 inhabitants. I was a stranger in the city, stranded there by a blizzard, and, tooking over the evening papers to see where I should go to be entertained, saw an advertisement of this Christmas "entertainment." I went to the church, and it was crowded with grown folk and eager, bright eyed, expectant little ones. And this is the way the committee on "amusement" enter-

1. Dirge on the organ. The programme did not give the name of the dirge, but it was played with a wailing melancholy that made your flesh creep. I thought I must have stumbled upon a "Good Friday" exercise, but no; aglance at the programme again assured me that this "dirge" was the initial number of the birthday exercises. "Queer way to celebrate a birthday," I thought, but, as it was none of my funeral, I said nothing. which was perhaps the wisest thing I ever said. 2. A middle aged mourner followed

the dirge with a recitation about a little boy who died rather than tell a lie. The moral was grand indeed, but somehow the introduction of an early and tragic death in the second number of the "entertainment" seemed to have a depressing effect upon the congregation. Still, I hought, perhaps the committee had visely decided to kill off all the objectionable characters early in the evening and have lots of fun at the wake. 3. A sunburst of childish brightness. Seven little girls gave a charming little exercise about the "days of the week." June sunshine couldn't be brighter or

more welcome in December. 4. Sad recitation by a boy with a toothache. He leaned sideways and turned perfectly rigid when he faced the audience. After a moment of embarrassing silence he unlocked his jaw and let her go. He slipped an eccentric on the first line, however, and worked only and side after that, saying his piece out of the northeast corner of his mouth till he came breathlessly to the end and ducked himself off the stage. His performance threw the congregation into a state of bewilderment from which it seemed difficult to extricate them. To complicate matters, a girl of about 15 years came on without any warning as the boy went off and chanted, in melancholy recitative, a harrowing narrative of "The Drunkard's Home." 5. The organist covered the girl's retreat with the "Dead March in Saul," and a dull, sickening shudder thrilled

through the room. people same "I Would Not Live Always." I nervoy. Lucking brother sitting near me asked me in a low whisper for the loan of my rator "to kill rats." I refused somewhat samely because, as I told him, I don't curry a rator on my person, and beside I disapprove of suicide in places of entertainment and at gatherings of

a tind, by a beautiful girl, entranspol the congregation and dispelled the air of resignation which was settling 8. A girl revited "Nobody's Child" so forloraly that it cast a gloom over the 9. A young man sang "Dublin Bay" in

unmistakable suggestion of guilt takes strewed the fatal beach with ghastly possession of him, his skin loses its corpses when the flowing tide came in clear complexion and gradually its would have chilled the heart of a veteran 10. A young lady recited a poem in which an old man died sitting bolt upright in his chair, after which his faith-

ful old colored servant doubled himself

up in a heap and at his master's feet and died bard. This was encored, and they both died again-a little harder this 11. A bright young lady, with a clear voice and excellent dramatic action recited "The Burial of Moses." By this time the congregation had caught the spirit of the meeting, and the "Burial" was rapturously encored. The elocu-

tionist returned and gave "The Maniae" in splendid style. Horrer! The reptile strikes als tooth beep in my heart, so crushed and sad!

Ay! Laugh ye tienes! your task is done—
The mad! Tib mad!

This fairly made the sparkling lights of "Merry Christmas" quiver with delight, and another encore followed. This was a description of a man lost at sea, clinging to a spar, and drowning as he sings "Rock of Ages." The last gurgling, choosing grap of the man as he went down made a physician near me close his watch with a subdued snap and shake his head. I knew then there was no hope for the man. And there wasn't. He

drowned and the Christmas revelries

13, Easta Claus, in furs and bells, big ap and pipe, came in. He had forgotten his piece, however, and after hysterically gasping, "Well, I'm here," was struck dumo, and remained speechless. From time to time, however, he jingled the bells, which pleased the children guite as well as his best speech could

accut ever.

Perhaps the most cold blooded deed of the evening, however, was perpetrated by the superintendent of the Sunday

regular advertising rates.

scheel, who got up to remark that as he had nothing to do with arranging the entertainment-1 didn't blame him for clearing his own skirts-he could conscientiously say that the committee on "entertainment" had indeed given us a most enjoyable evening, and deserved alike the thanks of all, young and old, for the great pleasure they had given us. Now, this is no fancy sketch. It is written from notes, taken on the spot. The Sunday school that arranged this "entertainment" will recognize the sketch, and possibly some one may write me a savage letter, but I will never tell any more than I have told here. I only desire to show people how mistaken well meaning people may be in their ideas of "entertainment." "Christmas" is a birthday, not a funeral anniversary. And to entertain people, we are to sing and tecite not the things we like to sing and say, but the things to which people enjoy listening. The object of entertainment is not to "show off" the entertainersthat is advertisment-but to entertain

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A Victimized Man.

the audience.-Robert J. Burdette in

"Ethel," said Lionel Bertram Jones, as he dropped his slice of bread in the plate with a noise that set the canary in the gilt cage overhead chirping merrily. Ethel, I have something to say to you." They had been married only four weeks and the time had not yet arrived when she did all the saying.
"Do you remember the day on which

[proposed to you?" "Yes," she replied, "I will never for

"Do you remember," he went on, as he abstractedly drilled a hole into the loaf with the point of a carving knife, "how, when I rang the bell, you came to the door with your sleeves rolled up and your fingers sticky with dough, and said you thought it was your little brother who wanted to get in.'

"Oh, Ethel. How could you? How could you?" "How could I what?" she responded,

as a guilty look crept into her face. "How could you make me the victim of such a bluff?"—Merchant Traveler.

A Kiss in the Dark.

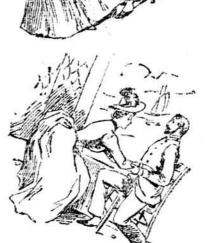
Horace Vernet, the artist, was going from Versailles to Paris by railway. In the same compartment with him were two ladies whom he had never seen before, but who were evidently acquainted with him. They examined him minutely and commented freely upon his martial bearing, his hale old age, the style of his dress, etc. They continued their annovance until finally the painter determined to put an end to the persecution. As the train passed through the tunnel of St. Cloud, the three travelers were wrapped in complete darkness. Vernet raised the back of his hand to his mouth and kissed it twice violently. On emerging from the obscurity he found that the ladies had withdrawn their attention from him, and were accusing each other of having been kissed by a man, in the dark. Presently they arrived at Paris, and Vernet, on leaving them, said: "Ladies, I shall be puzzled all my life by the in-

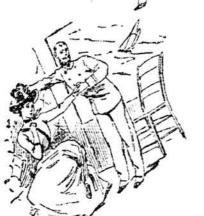
In the Cabin.

quiry, which of these two ladies was it

that kissed me?"-St. Louis Republic.









"I simply detest him, and it was my intention to let him know it in this-interview and put an end to it all, but circumstances made it awfully me. * * *"-Christian Life.

Mrs. de Paris (in Paris)-Oh, my husband. I fear to have you leave me. Must you really travel on one of those dreadful railway trains? Think of the accidents that have occurred. Mr. de Paris (a noted French journalist)—Fear not, my beautiful. The plan has been changed. We are not to travel by rail.

"No; my foe and I have concluded to journey to the dueling ground by carriage."-Philadelphia Record.

Customs of Our Best People. Barber (to customer)-Oil, sir? Customer (emphatically)-No! Barber-You are right, sir. None of our best people ere using oil on their hair

(To next customer)-Oil, sir? Customer - Why, yes, I guess so. Proper thing, isn't it? Barber-Yes, sir. All our best people are using oil on their hair nowadays. hicago Tribune.

A Standing Offer. "You say Mr. Hankinson proposed to you last night, Irene? Why, I've had a standing offer from him for the last two

"Likely enough, Laura. He didn't make me any standing offer, though, It was all he could do to get off his knees when I refused him. He was in earnest

