Where all is vain and vanity is all, And eyes look out and only know they stare 'At conjured coast whose beacons rise and fall, 'And vanish with the hopes that feigned

them there. Where sea-shell measures urge a phantom dance Till fancied pleasure drowns imagined Till Death stares madness out of counte-And vanity is all and all is vain.

It may be as my friends allege: I'm pressed to move that life is some thing more;
And vet a linet on a hawthorne hedge
Still wants explaining and accounting for.

Ralph Hodgson, in Saturday Review.

FROM THE GERMAN. Dy M. M.

HARD TIMES.

Paul Korner was a landscape painter; he was, also, a daily visitor at the Einhorn, the respectable little inn of Gruningen. Here he drank his bottle of Ingelheimer every evening except Saturday; on that night, after the heat and burden of the week, he felt justified in substituting champagne for Ingelheimer.

This had been his invariable habit from the time of his settling in the village, two years before. He had never once deviated from this rule, for, unlike many of his brotherhood, he led a well-regulated life.

One Saturday night, finding himself at the inn rather earlier than usual, he sought to pass away the time until his companions should arrive at the reading table.

The Eastern question was agitating the public mind just then, and people were speculating much over it. Paul began listlessly turning the leaves of a bound volume of illustrated papers, looking indifferently at the

wood cuts. Between the pages lay a fragment of a political newspaper. His eyes fell on a letter from a Vienna correspondent, who, in a diplomatic and ocular fashion, discoursed upon the "situation," winding up with the remarkable declaration:

"We are standing upon a volcano, and no one knows what a day may bring forth!"

Paul, who had never been especially interested in politics, closed the volume with a startling clap.

The words, "We are standing on a volcano," seemed to affect his mind very materially.

"The deuce!" he muttered to himself. "War is imminent, and war is the declared enemy of all the muses! What will become of me in the event which, according to this correspondent, is close upon us? Horrors! Who will buy pictures when bombshells are bursting? Alas! alas! I must begin at once to adapt myself to circumstances, and to live sparingly and economically." Now see what followed.

That evening he ordered, instead

of his customary champagne, a modest quantum of Ingelheimer, with the words: "In these hard times we cannot in-

dulge in luxuries."

This remark made a profound impression on Herr Grundhuber, the landlord, and the next morning, when his wife asked for the money to pay for the Sunday loaf of cake, he waved her back, saying:

"In these hard times there's no money to waste on cakes!" The baker's boy, who, according to

Gruningen custom, delivered his sweet wares at their patrons' houses, stared blankly, and did not fail to repeat to his master, word for word, Herr Grundhuber's remark.concerning the hard times.

The baker, who thought himself quite a politician, looked up and down and around in terrible perplex-

"H'm! Herr Grundhuber, the wellto-do host of the Einhorn, denies himself his usual Sunday treat! There must be something in it! Things must be bad! His self-denial is proof positive that the times are hard indeed!"

An hour later when he entered his wife's room, the baker found her examinng with evident delight a quantity of dress material spread out before her.

"Which piece had I better select for Mathilde?" she asked, smiling.

"Alack!" the baker exclaimed, "we have had many expenses lately, and now in these hard times we must buy only what is absolutelyy necessary. What do you think? Grundhuber has taken no cake for to-day, and under such circumstances our children must take what they can get, and wait for fine clothes till the times mend."

His wife's wits quite deserted her. "Heaven preserve us!" she cried. "What will become of us? There'll be war! there'll be war! I always said there'd be war, and who knows how soon we shall all be Turks? Oh. dear! oh, dear! Lottie, carry all this stuff back as quick as you can, and tell Herr Kleemuller that we can't afford to buy with a war hanging over us, and while the times are so

The servant hurried away on her errand.

Herr Kleemuller, one of the moneyed men among the merchants of the town, listened to her message in dismay.

"This is a fine prospect," said he to himself. "If the baker thinks even now of economy the situation must indeed be bad. Well, we must be ready for anything; the crisis may be close at hand. First and foremost, we must indulge in no needless expenditure." Thereupon, hastening to his desk,

he wrote and dispatched the following letter: "Herr Paul Korner:

"Dear Sir-I om obliged to give you a different answer from what I had intended, in regard to your 'Landscape by Moonlight,' which I 000 worth of shoe leather.

had hoped to buy as soon as it should be finished. To my great regret, owing to the depression of business, it is necessary for me to deny myself the gratification of possessing this masterpiece. Let me express the wish and the hope that the times will soon be better, when I shall feel justified in purchasing one of your truly admirable works of art. I remain, dear sir, very truly yours,

"ALOIS KLEEMULLER." This letter was like a thunderclap to our artist. He had counted upon Herr Kleemuller as a sure patron; prosperity would certainly follow the sale of his "Landscape by Moonlight," which was now nearly completed, but, alas, that dream had fled!

At the Einhorn in the evening, he ordered only half a bottle of Ingelheimer, and the groan accompanying his order created a deep impression, not only on the landlord, but on the other guests.

The score that night was scarcely half as large as usual.

"The times are degenerating," moaned Herr Grundhuber, as he examined his cash box next morning.

A new reduction of his family expenses was the result of this knowl-

Before a week had gone by, the village of Gruningen, but now so prosperous, had assumed an air of misery, such as might be accounted for only by the horrors of a civil war.

The cry, "hard times," rang out from mansion and hovel. Business was about at a standstill, credit at an end.

A fortnight later, Paul sat again in the Einhorn, which he now visited only twice a week.

Again he drew toward him the illustrated volume which had been the means of disclosing to him so clearly the "situation." The paper with the Vienna correspondence lay there still. He cast a forlorn glance on the fata! sheet before him. Then he raised it suddenly, and what dismay filled his soul as he read for the first time the date of this correspondence -it was four years old!

"This is foolisher than foolish!" he cried. "Have I allowed myself to be nearly frightened to death by this nonsense of four years ago?"

Rising and seizing the latest newspaper just brought in, he read in the telegraphic dispatches that the conflict so long feared had at last broken

His hands fell at his side.

"We are then in truth ruined, annihilated!" he groaned. "All hope is gone. it matters little what use I make of the two thalers in my pocket, all I have left.. Heaven grant the rest of my misery may depart with my money!"

Thereupon, in this reckless mood, he ordered two bottles of champagne. The landlord smiled.

"The painter is a mighty politician," he said to his wife next morning. "Before any one else saw the approaching fearful business depression he foretold it, and now he foresees a change, for he is drinking champagne again. That is a favorable sign. I am sure, Jetty, that the times are better. This afternoon you may engage the cake again as be-

"Thank Heaven!" said the baker, when Frau Grundhuber gave her order as of old. "The times are improving. I tell you what, wife, we'll but a fine dress for Mathilde now." A week later Herr Kleemuller purchased the "Landscape by Moon-

light." Business was "up" again. The prevailing "depression" had taken leave of the village, although the war that had caused it was only just de-

clared. This short period of unusual terror. to the honest citizens of Gruningen formed a subject for discussion for

many years after. "Heaven save us from hard times!" the housewives muttered, as they crossed themselves devoutly.

A certain professor, passing through the town at that season of misery, was heard to exclaim, as he took his departure from the hospitable Einhorn:

"There are, forsooth, more simpletons among us than hard times!"

## Muzzle-Loaders.

We are told about the great slaughter the Indians used to make among the buffalo in the good old days, but this success was not to be attributed to their good marksmanship, because they killed these noble beasts with their guns almost "boute

One thing about their mode of loading and firing might be interesting to readers of the present day inasmuch as a generation has been born and has grown up since the last

buffalo roamed the plains. The Indians and halfbreeds who went on these periodical round-ups were armed with and preferred the old nor'west muzzle-loading flint lock. They could load and fire with such rapidity that one would almost fancy they carried a repeating gun. Suspended under their right arm by a deer thong was a common cow's horn of powder and in a pouch at their belt a handful or two of bullets.

As the horse galloped up to the herd, the Indian would pour a charge of powder into his left hand, transfer it into the barrel of the gun, give the butt a pound on the saddle, and out of his mouth drop on top a bullet. As the lead rolled down the barrel it carried in its wet state particles of powder that stuck on the sides, and settled on top of the powder charge. No rod or ramming was

The gun was carried muzzle up, resting on the hollow of left arm unto such time as the Indian desired to fire. The quarry being so close no aim was required. On deflecting the barrel the trigger was pulled before the ball had time to roll clear of the

The Indians saw that their buffalo' guns had very large touch-holes, thereby assuring the pan being When all the balls were; primed. fired a few others were chucked into the mouth and merrily went on the game.-Forest and Stream.

Every day the inhabitants of the United Kingdom wear away \$1,000,-

## Most Famous English Actress.

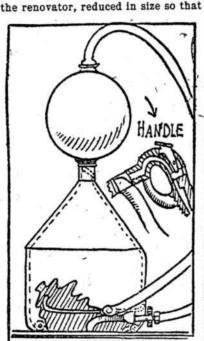


From her latest photograph. MISS ELLEN TERRY.

Her fifty years on the stage has just been celebrated with great enthusiasm in England.

## Does Away With Sweeping.

One of the greatest inventions of the present time is the suction ma- Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands. It was chine for renovating and cleaning built by the Japanese residents. It hotels, apartment houses, etc. No is what is termed a "prayer-tower," sweeping is necessary. The power and was erected in order that praynecessary to operate the apparatus is furnished by an engine fitted with a wagon and supplied by means of rubber hose. The dust is forced into the machine by suction, it being possible to clean every part of the room, ceilings, floors, walls, furniture, etc. Up to the present time this machine has been used for large operations only. Now a Chicago inventor has patented a similar machine, which can be used in every household. The power apparatus is stationed in an outhouse

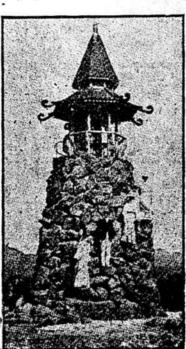


or other out-of-the-way place and

it can be manipulated by anybody Expert skill is not required. In cleaning the rooms the dust is gathered up in the collector, and when the entire house is cleaned the renovator is taken to the cellar and the dust removed. Its superiority over the ordinary method of sweeping will t-w-o pounds-backwa

### An Hawaiian Curio.

A curious tower is to be seen in



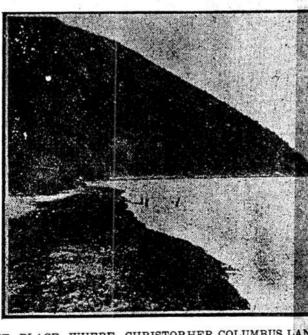
A Curious Japanese "Prayer-Tower." deities by the anxious Japanese for the success of the armies of the Mikado during the recent war. The tiny temple contains a sacred image, and during the campaign prayers were said daily in the tower and religious services held at its base.

Little Susië's (

After a week at the s Susie was being weighe "When she came sh scales at forty-nine p Uncle Jack, "and now forty-two.'

"Oh!" cried Susie, per's Weekly.

## HISTORIC SPOT

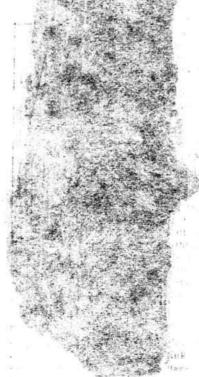


CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS LAND THE PLACE WHERE ISLE OF PINES.

New Potato Knife. It had been surmised that inventors had reached the limit in the im-



Saves Time Cutting.



but this does not se case. Inventors still an out for some device tha

household necessity, as they realize it will command a ready market. As an example, an Iowa man has patented a knife for cutting potatoes that does eight times the work of the ordinary knife. Instead of requiring eight cuts to divide the potato into pieces it is all done in one operation. The illustration shows the construction of this knife, no description being necessary. Six small blades and one centre blade, attached to a handle, are all that is required. One stab at a potato divides it into eight pieces, each piece being practically the same size. In hotels, restaurants, etc., where thousands of potatoes are cut up each day, this knife would save considerable labor

The life of the great guns of a modern battleship is almost a definite number of discharges. After they have been fired about so many times provement of household inventions, they may be expected soon to break.

# POPULAR

State Geologist Perkins, of Vermont, reports that the asbestos mines of that State are not profitable because the rock is too hard.

So successful has the application of the X-rays been-in the treatment of children suffering from ringworm, that the Metropolitan Asylums Board, London, has been enabled to discontinue the use of one of the two institutions reserved for such cases.

Dr. Symes Thompson says the length of time taken in communicating by touch is one-seventh of a second before there is a consciousness of the touch. When a sound is heard the interval is one-sixth of a second; when the object is seen the interval is one-fifth of a second; in the case of a thought it is one-fortieth of a

The Oregon Electric Railway Company has arranged to penetrate the Wilamette valley south of Portland with an electric road constructed for the handling of freight as well as passengers. It will be constructed of seventy pound rails on rock ballasted road bed, with a maximum grade of 2.2 per cent. and a maximum curvature of five degrees.

Reinforced concrete piles have always been constructed by depositing concrete around reinforcing bars or frames in wooden molds. In Europe the molds are commonly set on end, but this practice is not universal; in America the most common practice is to lay the mold horizontally on the ground. Indeed, we recall but one instance—the molding of twelve inch piles on end for the pier construction at Atlantic City, N. J. -in American work of piles molded

It is estimated that at least 2,000,-000 bales of cotton are lost throughout the South every year because of frost and scattered cotton left in the field by the pickers. A machine has been invented called the cotton separator, which will save nearly all this loss. It remains to be tested, however. It is claimed for it that the cotton boll can be saved by this machine for grinding and feeding to cattle, which will be of great value to the cotton growers. The separator uses a series of saws operated by a pneumatic system.

MORE USES FOR DEERSKINS.

Prices Therefore Going Up in the Maine Woods the Last Year or So.

One firm in Bangor, Me., has agents all over Northern Maine to ying deer hides, and thousands of the hides are received here every season and shipped to Boston to be tanned, writes the Bangor (Me.) correspondent of the New York Sun.

It is only within the last year or two that the traffic in deer hides has reached large proportions. A few years ago a deer hide of the best quality could be bought for half a dollar, and the hides were thought of so little account that unless the man who killed the deer had some ise for the skin he threw it awa

The deer hides are now used by the manufacturers of gloves and other articles, and there is a steady demand for them. The demand is shown by the fact that the hides have increased almost threefold in value

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it "sir" and a provincial o doubt that ch more fre-3 than in cities. It is certainly a very old usage.

rect of those

It is etiquette thus to address the King and Queen of England. It is not etiquette to address him as "Your Majesty," but simply "sir." Among well-bred American men the habit of using "sir" is not common, except in addressing strangers, or possibly men of advanced age, or men for whom great veneration is entertained. Among equals the custom, in ordinary conversation, does not exist. We speak more particularly of city dwellers. There can be no question that the use of "yes" and "no" without any supplementary title is somewhat curt, but there can be no question also that among the educated city dwellers of the United States the custom of using "sir" and "ma'am" has fallen into desuetude.-San Francisco Argonaut.

In Russia there are no fewer than eighty-six general holidays in the

Trust Tobacco Destroyed at Princeton, Ky.

Apply the Torch to Stemmeries Controlled by Tobacco and Snuff Companies in Reprisal.

Princeton, Ky .- The tobacco stemmeries of John Steger and John G. Orr, the latter controlled by the Imperial Tobacco Company, of New York, were destroyed by a fire which was kindled against them by a mob of masked men. Several cottages in the vicinity were badly damaged, but nobody was hurt. The loss is estimated at about \$170,000.

The mob, which numbered about

300 men, entered Princeton betwee 1 and 2 o'clock a. m., seized the night town marshal and disarmed They then went to the factories and quickly applied the torch.

The masked men stood on guard

permitting nobody to come near until the buildings were completely enveloped in flames and help was useless. A squad of the mob took charge of the telephone office and no word of the affair was permitted to When the mob saw that the fire was beyond control they left the

town, going in the direction of Hopkinsville, discharging revolvers and rifles as they departed. The fire department then came out, but could do nothing more than prevent the fire from destroying buildings in the vicinity. The Steger factory is controlled by he American Snuff Company, and

Mr. Steger is the Princeton agent for that concern. Mr. Orr is the representative of the Imperial Company. There was about 150,000 pounds of tobacco in each warehouse and all of t was burned.

### Fight With Tobacco Trust.

Louisville, Ky .- The destruction of tobacco stemmeries in Princeton by mob is the result of the strife which has been in progress for several years between tobacco growers and the Tobacco Trust.

An association was formed some time ago in the dark tobacco section of the State to pool the products of the different planters and sell them in their own warehouses, instead of in the field, and thus raise the price of tobacco, which had become so low as to make it unprofitable to the

The Tobacco Trust fought the association vigorously, and some of the farmers refused to join. The organization, however, obtained a majority of the planters and succeeded in bringing up the price of tobacco.

## SUICIDE TO AVOID ERRORS.

Railroad Man Lived in Constant Fear of Causing Disaster.

Cincinnati. Ohio. - Constant fear that he would make a mistake that would cause a wreck and death to many drove James Oliver Page. aged forty, day foreman in the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad yards, to blow his brains out. Page was a conscientious man. His position was a responsible one. A slight error might have caused a calamity. Page felt this deeply and when he came home from work he would worry over errors he might have overlooked.

The burden of his position bore heavily on his mind and he became nervous and despondent. He awoke early to build a fire in the furnace of his home. He had been in the cellar a long time when his wife awoke. She called and when she heard no answer she walked down into the cellar and found her husband's body.

FOE TWICE BURNS THEIR HOME.

This Time the Barn and Live Stock Go With It.

York, Pa.—Awakened by noises made by the live stock in her barn, which was being burned to the ground, Mrs. Peter Runk, who lives near York, grabbed a lamp and started downstairs. She tripped on her night clothes, and in the fall the lamp exploded and burned down the house and its contents. Mrs. Runk man-aged to crawl out of the house and escaped death. All her live stock was destroyed in the fire at the barn. The Runks are the victims of some

enemy, who has twice made them suffer from fire. About one year ago Mr. and Mrs. Runk left their homo for a short trip, and when they re-turned it had been burned to the

APPLES FOR EVERYBODY.

36,120,000 Barrels the Estimated Production in the Country This Year.

New York City .- The apple crop in the United States has just been estimated at 36,120,000 barrels. This s 12,625,000 barrels more than the 1905 crop, and may explain why the New York Central road has been forced to place an embargo on the

apple shipments from the north. The estimated crop in New York State is 4,900,000 barrels, or larger by 1,000,000 barrels than the production in any other State. The estimated New York crop equals the crops in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee combined, and if equally distributed to the people of the State would give half a barrel to each man, woman and child.

A Canadian Ambassador. A London paper declared that it would be a wise course for the Imperial Government to appoint a Canadian as British Ambassador at Washington.

American to Advise Siam.

Professor H. E. Strobel resigned as Bemis professor of international law at the Harvard Law School to become general adviser of the Government of Siam.

Prominent People. The late Major-General William

R. Shafter, who died at Bakersfield, Cal., left an estate of \$15,000.

Marquis Ito and Field Marshals Yamagata and Oyama have been created princes by the Japanese Emperor.

Mme. Melba has such a good memory that she can learn an entire opera in one week. She does most of her studying in bed.

Prince Henry of Reuss, of the German imperial family, spent several hours in Washington, D. C., being lunched at the German Embassy.

# FARMERS BURN FACTORIES RUSSIA'S FAMINE HORROR

About 20,000,000 People Face to Face With Starvation.

Crops in Seven Provinces Fall and in Twenty-one Harvests Are Very Poor-Parents Sell Girls.

St. Petersburg, Russia.—Princes G. E. Lvoff and Orbeliani, the representatives of the Moscow zemstvo famine relief organization, who have just returned from the stricken districts, have given the following description of the conditions in the famine provinces:

The crops in seven provinces, Samara, Saratov, Bembirsk, Kazan, Penza, Tambov and Ufa, were practically total failures. In twenty-one provinces the harvests were very poor. About twenty million people will need assistance for from four to ten months to stave of starvation, until the new crops are available. Contrasted with other years the present famine is the largest since 1891, that of 1905, though affecting eighteen million persons, being far less intense.

In some regions the inhabitants have been suffering from starvation for ten years, passable crops having been gathered in only two out of the ten years. Prince Lvoff believes the Government estimate of \$50,000,000 for famine relief is inadequate. The Moscow zemstvo relief organization calculates that \$75,000,000 and possibly more will be necessary.

Though the conditions in the fam-

ine regions are now most distressing, the real terrors will begin in January. The zemstvo organization funds, \$300,000, will then be exhausted, and the Relief Committee will be compelled to cease their efforts to save the lives of the starving peasants. Prince Lvoff complained that the local officials, for political reasons, are in referring with the establishment of soup kitchens and the rendering of medical assistance. He reported a number of cases where petty functionaries prohibited assistance being given to famine sufferers.

The villages are convulsed by

agrarian troubles, though the inhabitants are actually in the greatest need of food. Hunger, and epidemics of typhus and scurvy, which usually begin in February, have already appeared in these provinces. Tula, Kazan and Samara, and as the winter progresses more epidemics are anticipated. ticipated.

On the strength of his practical knowledge Prince Lvoff reaffirmed the truth of the report, lately officially denied, that girls in Kazan Province had been sold into slavery and taken to Mohammedan harems in the Caucasus. He said the sales were masked under the guise of entering domestic service, but that did not affect the truth of the first statements made. Hundreds of families in the Volga provinces, the Prince added, were flocking to the already overpopulated towns.

Prince Orbeliani, who extended his trip to the Turgal steppes, said that a famine was raging among the Kirghiz and the Bashkir tribes. The horses and cattle of these nomad tribes were perishing from hunger and the owners were killing them for their hides. The tribesmen, accor ing to the Prince, will face complete ruin next year.

SHIP CAPTAIN FROZEN. Reaching Shore

Crew-Sailor Lost. Digby, N. S .- Captain Berry, of the three-masted schooner Emma R. Harvey, was frozen to death near here after the Harvey had gone to pieces, and he and all but one of his crew had forced their way through the breakers to land. One seaman was drowned, but the other members of

the crew found shelter and were re-

The Harvey, of Bucksport, Me. sailed from Applesland, N. S., bound for New York, with a cargo of lumber. Coming down the western coast of Nova Scotia she had a constant fight with wind and wave, and encountered a terrific gale. Driven be-fore the northwester, with the temperature hovering about the zero mark, the Harvey reached a point just off Sloan's Cove, eight miles east of Digby Gut, when a tremendous gust of wind hurled the three-master ashore and every man on board was thrown into the water. The captain came ashore with the others, but fell on the beach some distance away and was frozen to death. One seaman was drowned after the vessel went to

TOWN RUINED BY FLOOD.

Clifton, Ariz., Dam Breaks, Destroying Life and Property. Bisbee, Ariz. - Anywhere from

seven to twenty persons are reported drowned in the flood that came down the San Francisco River and Chase Creek and struck the town of Clifton. The principal business section of the town was almost ruined. The flood was caused by the bursting of the Detroit dam. Mrs. Joseph Throm was caught in a falling building and killed. The other members of the family had narrow escapes. One of the saloons which was washed away carried several men into the raging water and they are believed to have been drowned. A woman and a child were lost in a small restaurant which was dashed to pieces in the flood.

Convicted of Murder. A first degree murder verdict was

returned at Canton, O., against Jas. Cornelius for killing his wife. Hudson River Closed.

The Hudson River was closed to navigation, it being the earliest tieup since 1890, with four exceptions.

Loans on Real Estate. A bill authorizing National banks to make loans on real estate security was passed.

The Field of Sports. Rhyolite, Nev., has offered \$20,000

Battling Nelson.

The number of deaths from football this year was two less than the number last season.

for a fight between Dick Hyland and

The English Lawn Tennis Associa tion refuses to vote Beale C. Wright as the American representative or the English council.

At the recent exhibition of the Royal Agricultural Society, of Vic-toria, in Australia, the exhibit of trotting stallions rivaled that of the thoroughbreds in quality.