

President Taft has decided to send William J. Calhoun, a lawyer of Chicago, to Peking, to represent this country. Mr. Calhoun takes the place left vacant when Charles R. Crane was ousted. The new minister has filled several diplomatic posts satisfactorily to this government.

Western Farmer's Home Dazzles with Bevel Plate Glass.

Structure to Outward Appearance Only Ordinary Dwelling in Pretty Country Town-Once Inside Everything is Changed.

Spokane. Wash.-Among the strangrta houses on record, perhaps, in the United States is that of Alexander ex. He has spent the best part of two years in personally supervising the construction of his residence, which, when completed, will be one of the Anest examples of interior finishing in confided to his playmate that he the northwest, resplendent in mosaic floors of oak, mahogany and maple. shining with 30 plate glass mirrors. which weigh nearly half a ton, and glowing with the dark red of fir, finished in imitation of mahogany.

To outward appearance the house is an ordinary 214-story residence of The better type on an ordinary street, in an ordinary but pretty country hourn. The first thing to attract attention is the yard, which, except for a thin strip for roses and a strip of hawn some ten feet wide on the other wide, is plastered over with cement. In this cement yard there are two large circular openings to the soil, which will be utilized by shrubbery, otherwise the exterior is harsh and

Once within, however, the eyes are dazzled with the elegance which, even in the unfinished state, is everywhere apparent. The doors are of rare parquetry design, with the elegant "rug finish." This design runs through living room, dining room, hall and parfor, though no two rooms are floored in the same design.

The baseboards, door facings, etc., are of curly fir, with the grain brought out clearly in deep red mahogany stain. Fine pressed beadwork adorns all the corners, giving a sense of riotous richness. The walls are in hard white plaster, their simplicity contrasting sharply with the gorgeousness of the wood finishing.

this scheme has been carried out in to continue in Uncle Sam's service. all the important doors both upstairs and down. Between dining room and kitchen the door is merely of plate glass, and transparent. The windows, even in the back kitchen, are of enormously heavy French beveled glass. so clear that one is hardly conscious of their presence.

At every turn the visitor will be met by his own image, advancing or retreating, or sidling away from him at an angle. From one point in the parlor a person can stand and see all the persons and objects in the dining room and even into the kitchen.

Upstairs several bedrooms are finstained imitation of mahogany as be-

A Masonic design on a tiny light amused crowd. placed in the front gable will also peep down at the passerby from its high nest. There is a special switch in the attic, for turning on and off this gable light.

In the basement heavy glass doors meparate the apartments, which are well finished in cement floors and white, hard-plastered walls. Throughout the basement the hinges, door-Example 2 kncbs, etc., are of brass as good as is manally found on front doors of ordinary houses. Spokane Spokesman.

RETURNS AFTER MANY YEARS

Story Like That of the Prodigal Son Is Revealed by Chance in New Jersey City.

Trenton, N. J.-Capt. Edward A. Waldt of the medical corps has been re-united with his family here after, an absence of 20 years, and the accidental meeting with his mother in a prominent thoroughfare in Trenton reveals a story like that of the prodigal son of old. It was followed by a re-union with his childhood sweetheart, the culmination of which will be marriage.

Mrs. Charles P. Waldt, the mother, and Miss Alma L. Alexander, the one-time farm- bride-to-be, are to-day the hanniest women in Trenton, according to the stories.

When only 13 years old Waldt ran away from home. Before leaving he would return some day and marry her. At that time Mrs. Waldt and her family resided in Erie, Pa., as did Miss Alexander, who was adopted when a child by Capt. Waldt's parents.

The runaway boy was more successful than is usual with prodigals. He renched Chicago and got a job with a doctor, who took a great interest in the boy, sent him to a medical college and paid his expenses for four

When the Spanish-American war broke out the young doctor quit hospital work to accept an appointment as assistant surgeon in the United States army and fought the fever in Cuba.

When success crowned his efforts and when he was permitted to return to the states he visited his former home in Erie. He found he knew only a few inhabitants, and also discovered to his dismay that his relatives had left the city. Before he discovered their whereabouts he was ordered to Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

Last week he was sent to this city to examine a deserter. He was walking through State street when he came face to face with his mother. lie instantly recognized her, and a street scene the like of which has never been witnessed here followed his greeting of "Mother, don't you know me?"

It wasn't forty-eight hours after-The sliding doors between hall and | ward when Miss Alexander, who was dining room are of plate glass panels still living with his parents, consented of the finest grinding and polish, and to become his bride. Waldt intends

> Cat Irritates Bulldog. London.—An amusing scene was witnessed at the corner of Oxford circus, near the Queen's hall.

A large bulldog, which had been trotting sedately along by the side of his mistress suddenly dashed at the window of Fashions for All offices. where, among fashion books and paper models of gowns, a mechanical cat sat nodding in the sunshine.

Fortunately the window was thick enough to withstand the assault. The dog growled defiance at his placid enemy until, in response to the tearished in the parquet flooring and ful representations of his mistress. the cat was withdrawn from the window, to the disappointment of an

High Heels Not to Blame.

Camden, N. J.-Twelve gallant men, composing a jury in the circuit court in Camden, decided that highheeled feminine shoes are no bar to: the recovery of damages, and they awarded Miss Esther McTaggart \$2,-500 in her suit against the Merrimac Manufacturing Company.

Miss McTaggart fell downstairs and was severely burt at the com-

TRULY A REMARKABLE BIRD

Wonderful Magple Described by Oliver Goldsmith in Work on Natural History.

Brander Matthews, the brilliant critic, said at a dinner in Brooklyn of a dramatist:

"His success is due to his knowledge of melodrama, not to his knowledge of the human heart. His knowledge of the human heart, in fact, is no profounder than Oliver Goldsmith's anowledge of natural history was.

"Goldsmith's ignorance didn't prevent him writing a very popular natural history. In one part of it—a part will give you an idea of the whole-Goldsmith described an intelligent magpie belonging to a publican named Whiteingstail.

"One day while Whiteingstall's kitchen floor was being cleaned the magpie was considered in the way, and was ordered into his cage, which hung against the wall. He retired obe-

"But he had no sooner been shut up than a cock from the neighboring farmyard entered the kitchen and strutted proudly about. This so angered the magpie that he vociferated: Let me out, Mr. Whiteingstall, let me out; I'll do for him presently!'

"Mr. Whiteingstall let him out and

a combat immediately ensued. After

a few goes the magpie was complete-

ly worsted. He lay helpless on his back, one leg broken. Then, cocking his eye at his master, he said, calmly: 'Take me up, Mr. Whiteingstall, take me up, for he has broken my

MUMMY THAT OF ROYAL COOK

importation That Has Interested Egyptologists Evidently Was Wrongly Labeled.

It develops that the mummy, the importation of which has aroused public interest, is not that of Rameses II., but of his cook:

The discovery need not occasion disappointment. Cook or conqueror, they are now alike, and, indeed, the desiccated remains of the chef of the monarch who from all accounts was the Louis XIV. of Egypt are in many respects a more valuable antiquarian possession than the mummified body of Pharaoh. Antiquity has bequeathed us a surplus of memorials of kings. but only too few of cooks. We could well spare a bust of Caesar or exchange any amount of dry-as-dust chronology for an effigy of Luculius' cook or of that Vatel of his day for whose supplies Apicius found \$400,000 too little.

The interest of the modern world in history is concerned less with the reat conquerors than with the lesser lights, the artists and craftsmen who planned aqueducts and built cathedrais, even those who were charged with the preparation of Caesar's cutlets. The world is tired of kings, but what would it not give for a cuneiform tile containing the menu of Belshazzar's feast? Meantime a cook of the Rameses dynasty is something.

Praise for American Hubbles. Princess Duleep Singh, at a dinner in New York, said that she found the American woman a marvel of beauty and the American man a model of good looks and kindness.

"The American man." said the charming princess, "is rightly held up to the world as the pattern husband. in Europe they have a saying about Eve and the apple which shows how wretched a failure the European husband is This saying is unknown in America, I am sure. It would have no point, no application, here in the land of pattern husbands."

She paused impressively. Then with a smile she ended:

"The saying is this: "'The evil one didn't give the apple to the man, but to the woman, because the cvil one knew well that the man would eat it all himself, but the woman would go halves."

A Virginia Casabianca. "The boy who stood on the burning deck," often is found in different sections of the country, and the famous Casabianca is emulated by men who are told to do certain things and never vary their instructions. President Taft had that experience at Richmond, Va., on the last day of his trip, when the gate-keeper at the famous Hollywood cemetery refused to admit, the president and his automobile party, though he was accompanied by Gov. Swanson of Virginia, by Mayor Richardson of Richmood, and the chief of police of the city. "It is against the rules," said this gate-keeper doggedly, and it was only after the trustees had given him orders to admit the presidential party that he relented. Probably for the first and last time in his life he got a little notoriety by strictly obeying orders.-Washington Correspondence St. Louis Star.

The World's 50,000 Plays. Mr. Reginald Clarence, the wellknown bibliographer of dramatic data, has been working for 20 years on a stage cyclopedia which will contain a bibliography of plays, of which it has been possible to find any record, from R. C. 500 to A. D. 1909. In order to bring his remarkable work to completion Mr. Clarence has delved among ancient records and musty manuscripts in the British museum, he has studied the numerous works in the Guildhall library until his book contains particulars of nearly fifty thousand plays, covering the whole range of stage productions—drama, comedy, farce, opera and comic opera.--Lon-

ROMANCE OF THE MISSIONARY

Nothing in History Finer Than the Work Done by These Civilization Pickets.

About the missionary of to-day-and I have ridden with him, boot to boot, in a score of lands-there is scant reminder of the sombor-garbed, psalmsinging, nasal-voiced, narrow-minded proselytizer who has been made the butt of jokes in comic supplements from time immemorial. The American missionary of the present, cleancut and college-bred, comes from another mold. He is as carefully trained as the consul or the commercial traveler, though on broader and more comprehensive lines. When he starts for his new field, he is something more than a theologian and a preacher. He has had an agricultural course and can plow and sow and reap after the most approved fashion; or he knows something of manual industry and can use a plane, a saw, or a lathe, the tools of a blacksmith, a carpenter, or a mason; possibly he understands the elements of electricity and of hydraulics and can install a dynamo or set up a ram; or perhaps he is going out as a medical missionary, in which case the preaching and teaching will be subordinated to the care of the sick. the healing of the lame, the halt, and the blind.

History shows nothing finer than the way in which these pickets of civilization, scattered over the strange portions of the globe, have distilled a grim humor out of their desolate situations, turning not only a bold but a laughing face upon the perils which their lives may bring. There is, indeed, something approaching the divine in their power to rise above hard conditions, and to use their minds for the purpose of mocking at the miseries of their bodies. In all the world there is no more thrilling romance than that of these pioneers of progress who have carried the gospel of the clean shirt side by side with that of salvation even to the very Back of Beyond.-Everybody's Magazine.

WORTHY OF GREAT PAINTER

Graphic Description of the Beauty of Most Prominent of Restoration Ladies. ..

Of all the pictures that Lely painted, and of all that wondrous group of Restoration ladies who ever sat to him, Miss Hamilton, Countess of Grammont, was the finest. As for the picture, Lely himself "bestowed all his art upon it, and confessed that he had taken a special delight in painting it." It is the only one he signed. Who was this wondrous lady whose portrait made such a sensation? She was the daughter of George Hamilton, the earl of Abercorn's son, and was 19 when Charles II. came to the throne. Her beauty brought her offers of marriage from the duke of Richmond, the duke of Norfolk and the earl of Tyrconnel, but she refused them all and wedded the Comte de Grammont, who had been banished from France for making love to one of the French king's favorites. "When he saw her for the first time at close quarters." we read in his "Memoirs," "he perceived that he had seen nothing at court until this moment. She was at that happy age when a woman's supreme charms commence to bloom. She had the finest figure, the finest. neck and the finest arm in the whole world-though tall, gracious in all her movements. As for her complexion, it had a freshness that the colors of art could not imitate."

Porcupines Kill Alaskan Trees. Milo Kelly says that porcupines kill

more timber on the coast of Alaska than is used for commercial purposes. "Wherever you go along the coast," said he, "you will notice dead standing timber. There are whole patches of these in places. In nine cases out of ten the cause can be traced to the work of porcupines. They ring the trees in hunting for the soft bark next the sap.

"The government is going to lots of trouble and expense to conserve the timber along this west coast but is overlooking the most destructive of all agents. The thing for the government to do if it wants to save the timber is to find some method of killing the porcupines."-Cordova North

First Newspaper Had Short Life. The first newspaper ever published in America never got beyond its first issue. It was called Publick Occurrences and appeared in Boston, September 25, 1690. It contained a promise to publish in its next issue the names of 11 the liars in Boston, and the authorities, taking cognizance of the threat, wisely forbade the publication. The Boston News Letter was the first journal to be regularly pub. lished on this continent. It was started in 1704 and was followed by the American Weekly Mercury, in Philadelphia, in 1719. English journalism is only 35 years older than American. the London Gazette, an official publication, having been founded in 1665.

Held Makers of Taxicab. In a recent case in Paris where driver of a taxicab was charged with homicide and the representative of the company with responsibility toward the victim's family the court meted out a lenient sentence to the former and ordered the company to pay to the victim's widow a life annuity of 600f, and to each of her children 500f. a year until wey reach the age of 14. Examination of the car had disclosed the fact that the metal work was of bad quality and that it was badly worn, rendering its control difficult,

STIRRED HIS CHINESE PRIDE

Why Li Hung Chang Altered Style of His Luncheons Given to Sir Robert Hart.

The book which Miss Juliet Bredon

has written about her uncle, Sir Robert Hart, the "Grand Old Man of China," for many years in charge of the imperial customs service, is full of characteristic and entertaining stories. Among them is the following: One of the most influential of Sir Robert's Chinese friends was the great Li Hung Chang. The diplomat liked Li's household because of the simplicity he found there-no wearisome courses at dinner, but fish and, perhaps, a chicken with rice. Incautiously, as it turned out, he praised this frugality to his own Chinese servant, for the remark reached Li's ears in

ceremonial banquet. "You shall not have the chance to go away and say that you have been fed like a coolie in my house," said the viceroy, proudly, at the end of the banquet

a distorted form. Next time Sir Rob-

ert went there he had to face a grand

"Nevertheless, the very simplicity of your hospitality was what I most appreciated," Sir Robert replied. "But if you believe that I could have made any such remark, and if you persist in altering the style of my reception, I shall not come to lunch with you

LITTLE TALK ON HUMORISTS

Writer, Evidently Himself Among the Number, Succeeds in Saying Some Funny Things.

A humorist is a man who succeeds in getting a joke onto an editor. Hunorists are not numerous. They would even be less numerous if they were not so hard to catch. Killing a man who tries to tickle you to death is justifiable homicide, and this right is recognized in America, where it is called the unwritten mother-in-law.

Humorists misspend their lives in ligging up petrified puns, which they revive, remodel and retail. A new tail on a joke often makes it saiable, and a new joke in a tail often makes it available.

When a joke is available, the editor usually promises to pay on publication. That is the joker in the acceptance, and if the humorist doesn't live until the joke is published it is the editor's joke. So, being a humorist is no joke. Neither will being a joke make you a humorist, though humor-

ists are usually jokers. A humorist is known by his joking. and a good joke doesn't die young. A good joke is an old joke made to look like new. A new joke-well, new jokes are torn, not made, and humorists seldom have twins.—Judge.

Progress of Cremation. Considerations of modern sentiment have operated generally to maintain the custom of interring instead of incinerating the dead; yet, with the Greeks, sentiment centered itself about the latter, and in literature the funeral pyre has a significance as fine as the grave's. Certain pioneering suirits have essayed with some success to give beauty to the baptism of flame, wherein mortal clay becomes dust, and have directed that their ashes be flung to the winds from the top of some lofty tower or cast into the sea at flood tide; or, as in the case of the New York banker, who died the other day, that they be "fed

to the flowers." . Economic reasons, at any rate in the neighborhood of large cities, will tend more and more to make incineration gain headway at the expense of interment. The land is needed. Most burials near cities, as a matter of fact, are only temporary. In the cap-Ital of Mexico this is frankly recognized, and when the poor man takes a plot in a graveyard it is with the knowledge that some years later his bones are to be dispossessed; he rents rather than buys outright. Many of the small parks in this city occupy the sites of old cemeteries.

Maryland Town on Odd Hunt. This town resembled a harvest field the other day, when men with rakes and hoes searched and scraped every nook and corner for a set of gold false teeth belonging to Dr. Elwood Woodrow of West Nottingham.

Just where or how the doctor lost his teeth he does not know. Three of the teeth were solid gold, and as he is put to great inconvenience without his teeth he has offered a liberal reward for their return. One advantage is that this town will get the best cleaning it has had for many a day. -Colora Correspondence Baltimore

Bath Street, Bath, in Danger. Some time ago great indignation was expressed by antiquarians and artists throughout the country at the threatened destruction of one side of Bath street. Bath, with its Georgian colonnade, and it was hoped that the threatened danger had been averted, says the London Standard. On Saturday morning, however, a firm of local contractors, acting on an order from the owners of the property, began the work of demolition.

Out of the Picture. "How pleasant it must be to sit be-

fore a blazing fire while the wind vainly rages outside." "Yes," answered Farmer Corntossel,

"I 'spose it would be right pleasant." 'Why, you ought to know. You live in the country."

"Yes, but I sin't the feller that sits by the fire. I'm the feller that fetches in the wood."

KNEW NOTHING OF DICKENS

Englishman's Strange Ignorance, That Resulted in Somewhat Humorous Inc dent.

If the average person were told that there exists in England to-day a man of good ordinary education who has never heard of Sam Weller he would probably be politely Theredulous, says the Dickensian. Yet, such is the fact, and, marvelous to relate, the man's own name is Pickwick! In a fairly large town,-less than a thousand miles from Bristol, a certain pastime is very popular and a handicap tournament is held every year. The secretary of that tournament bears the mighty name of Pickwick, and, curiously enough, one of the competitors who were taking part this year is named Weller.

Some time ago Mr. Pickwick was sending out notifications respecting a draw, and was addressing post cards to the dictation of an assistant.

Mr. Weller's name was reached. "How do you spell it?" inquired Mr. Pickwick.

Several people were in the room and there was a shout of laughter when some one exclaimed: "Put it down a we, my lord; put it down a we!" But, so far from seeing the joke, Mr. Pickwick looked surprised and hurt that his ignorance as to how to spell a name which he had not heard before should produce such hilarity. Indeed, he looked for all the world as if he were about to emulate Mr. Justice Stareleigh and to exclaim indignantly, "Who is it that dares to address the court?"~

CONSTANTLY SOUGHT TO KILL

Peculiarity of Knife Owned by Rudyard Kipling, as Described by AAAAA Robert Barr.

My mind has flown back down the years to London, and into the large corner toon, on the second floor, Villiers street, Embankment Gardens, writes Robert Barr in London World. On the wall fronting the Thames hangs the most vicious looking knife I have ever seen. It is serpentine in shape, and its downward point is sharp as a needle.

"What a villainous weapon?" V.sal.
"Yes," replied Kipling, and I for the name he gave it; also the sect of India from which it came; "t 2 knife has tried to kill me sever times. It's always on 'the water When I got it there was affixed to i like a button on a foil, one joint of a man's backbone. The knife had been run into the vertebrae, given a savage twist, and brought away with it a piece of human framework."

As he spoke he approached the glittering, snake-like knife. "Don't touch it!"

ought to keep it in a locked box." He didn't touch it, so far as I saw, . but as he raised his hand the knife dropped like a plummet, and stood quivering in the floor within an inch of his boot.

"Look at that!" he said, and stood there without moving a muscle, until I saw how nearly the sinister blade had come to impaling his foot.

Mine Life-Saving Corps. It is hardly less important that the mine operators should bear the small cost of expert direction in accidents than that the government should maintain its elaborate marine life-saving service. Along the seacoast and the great lakes, in addition to the warning lighthouses, we have a system provided with costly boats, cables, mortars, rockets, marine glasses and horses, which saves many lives each year. On stormy days and nights guards patrol dangerous coasts. There are stated salaries, and for exceptional beroism there are medals.

To employ in every mining district a few men who are especially fitted to organize and drill in life saving a corps of the more intelligent miners. as well as to provide suitable equipment for them, would be a small expense, to which most operators could hardly object.

The Slaughter of the Innocents. From 200,000 to 400,000 children in the United States die every year from preventable causes. The chief statistician of the federal census bureau is the authority for that statement. Nearly a fifth are infants under one year of age, and more than a fourth are children under five years of age. It is the conclusion of an eminent medical authority that the deaths of 47 per cent, of the children may be prevented and that 67 per cent. of the deaths of children between two and eight years are also preventable. There is, therefore, a veritable slaughter of the innocents by ignorance, inattention, neglect and poverty. Society is not as well organized as it should be when its infants are thus condemned to death by the whole-

To Help Needy Inventors. The Royal Wurtemberg Chamber of Commerce is organizing a state exhibition of inventor's models, to be held next year at Stuttgart. Its chief purpose, says the Scientific American, is to help poor inventors who have little opportunity of bringing their inventions under the notice of likely purchasers. The directors of the affair promise that strict impartiality will be shown in the selection of exhibits, and that none will be accepted which is not worthy of serious consideration. There will be no expenses of any kind for the very poor inventor, and low fees for the others. It is not said whether the exhibition is expected to he self-supporting, but perhaps not, as the enterprise is being backed by