#### GREAT WRITER IN JEOPARDY

Charles Dickens Once Threatened With Arrest for Attempting to Pass Counterfeit Money.

One night when Dickens had retired at Gad's Hill he found he could not sleep. So he got up, dressed and determined to walk to London, about thirty miles away. He reached the suburbs early in the morning and applied at an early coffee house for some refreshments. When he had finished be gave the proprietor a sovereign, the smallest coin he had with him.

"It's a bad un," said the man, biting at it and trying to twist it in all directions, "and I shall give you in charge."

The coin did have a suspicious look. Dickens had carried some substance in his pocket which had oxidized it. Seeing that matters looked awkward, he said,

"But I am Charles Dickens!" "Come, that won't do; any man could say he was Charles Dickens. How do I know?"

The man had been victimized a week previous and would take no more chances. At length Dickens suggested that they go to a chemist's and have the coin tested. A chemist was finally found when the shops had opened. The chemist immediately recognized the novelist, in spite of his dusty appearance, and the coffee house keeper was satisfactorily convinced that he had not been entertaining a monfidence man.

#### WENT HURRIEDLY ON HIS WAY

Daring Man Threw Metaphorical Brick Into Assemblage and Didn't Wait for Effects.

"Shall we not carry on this fight with we have mere man reduced to a hemipode?" said the suffragette ora-

We shall. But what is a hemipode, anyway?" spoke up one of the masemblage.

"The black-necked hemipode is a bird about the size of a sparrow that lives in Madagascar. A friend out there sent me a pair of them. The male hemipode alone sits on the nest of eggs and hatches the young and takes care of them until grown up," the orator explained.

"Wouldn't that be lovely?" exclaimed one of the audience.

"There are birds down in South America called groove-billed aris. They build a large communal nest of sticks, and several females sit on the eggs in company, so that their conversation need not stop because of hatching. I'd like to have a vote as to which is the more popular." daring man near the door.

But he didn't wait for a vote.-New York Sun.

Passing of the "Writing Masters." One sometimes regrets the passing of the "writing master" of the schools of the last century, for even in these days of typewriting the signature must be handwritten. There seems to be a sort of slap-dash, conceited belief among the users of type machines that everybody can recognize his personal signature. This is an bunfounded belief, and in a drawer by his side there are letters signed—by unknown persons who have never learned to write their name. Their bankers may possibly recognize the hieroglyphic. But it would ease matters if the user of the type machine would learn to write his own name distinctly. We are not all everybody's

Incures Promptness. "What ails that man?" said the city malesman. "I made an appointment with him for one o'clock tomorrow. and he asked me if I meant American time. It ought to be obvious that I

bankers.

am not making an appointment in New York for Madrid time." "Don't grumble," said a friend. \*That question was a guarantee of good faith on his part. Every fresh

arrival from Latin countries asks that when he really wishes to be prompt in his engagements. Left to his own devices he would do as everybody does at home and come straggling along an hour or two late, but to him American time signifies right on the spot, and he'll be there."

Oldest Almanac.

The oldest almanac in existence is the "Almanach National." which has been issued by the French government since 1686. Its name has been! changed a good many times during Its career of 225 years. Originally the "Almanach Royal," it became "Na-\*\*\*ional" in 1793 "Imperial" in 1805. and reverted to its original name nine years later. Since then the title has been altered four times. Like most publications of this sort, the "Almanach National" has grown bulky with advancing years. The first issue contained 48 pages, as compared with :1,580 pages in the current issue.

Power of a Word. A single word was often sufficient for Taileyrand to make his keenest retort. When a hypochondriac, who had notoriously led a profligate life, complained to the diplomatist that he was enduring the tortures of hell Talleyrand simply answered, "Al-

"ready?" To a woman who had lost her husband Talleyrand once addressed a latter of condolence in two words: "Oh, madame!"

In less than a year the woman had married again, and then his letter of congratulations was:

"Ab, madame!"-Kansas City Star.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE OCCULT

Even its Enemies Are Willing to Grant That the Belief Has a Foundation in Fact.

The mysterious, the secret, and the unknown have ever exercised a powerful attraction over the human mind, and the present craze for what we may designate cocmprehensively as occult research is no new thing. But it cannot be denied that, apart from the merely superficial side, which naturally fascinates the empty-headed, the frivolous, or the ignorant, there are aspects of occultism which make a very deep appeal to the more intellectual and spiritual among us. Whether this be a good sign or not, It is not our intention to inquire; but it is curious to note the grounds upon which its bitterest opponents base their objections to occultism in general. We need not trouble about the superior or matter-of-fact persons who, without the slightest inquiry, smile at such "superstitions," for no man has a right to sneer at another's beliefs, unitss he can prove that other to be wrong. But the real enemies of occult science are those who, fully admitting the objective reality of occult experiences, hold that they are necessarily evil and harmful in themselves. On this point, again, we should not care to express an opinion. but it is clearly a remarkable fact that fancies which have for so many generations been looked upon as mere superstitions and old wives' tales should now be acknowledged by so many intelligent and thinking individuals as at least resting upon some foundation of fact. Who could have predicted such a tremendous reversal of opinion concerning these matetrs

#### ANOTHER SIDE TO THE CASE

fifty years ago?-London Globe.

Just a Few Things Elderly Man Overlooked in His Indictment of Lazy Housewives.

Said the elderly man in the street car: "One thing that runs up the cost of living is the laziness of the average woman. She's too lazy to carry bundles home from the stores. Everything she buys, from a spool of thread up, she asks to have delivered, and the cost of the delivering adds 10 per cent to the cost of every article. Now, my wife is different from the common run. Every week day in the year she goes to the market with a big basket, does her own buying and carries the stuff home herself. That's more than your wife does, I'll bet."

Said the younger man: "Does your wife do her own house-

"No, we keep a girl." "Has your wife got a houseful of children to care for?"

"No, we only have a tomcat." "Does your wife have to go to market in an overcrowded street car?"

"No she has her limousine." "My wife doesn't own a limousine. she has a houseful of children to care for, and she does her own work. Under the circumstances I don't see that my wife isn't just as much of a woman as yours, even if she doesn't get down town very often."

"You needn't get cross about it," retorted the elderly man.

"I'm not cross," said the younger man. "Only I don't like to hear women libeled."

Eyes of Night Prowlers. Many creatures are noctambulists. Some have eyes specially adapted to the conditions of the night, among them cats, night birds and night butterflies. In the eyes of night animals the ends of the optic nerve are divided into about 120,000,000 cylindrical fibers and 60,000 conical fibers. According to Von Kries, the conical

fibers perceive dark colors. Many ani-

mais see clearly in the dark because

in their eyes cylindrical and conical,

fibers are uniformly intermingled. The horse follows the road, however dark the night; the owl sees dark things better than he sees light things; therefore, it is probable that the cylindrical fibers of his optic nerves are either more numerous or more powerful than the conical fibers. -Harper's Weekly.

Another Brand. He suddenly put his hand in his waistcoat pocket and drew out three broken cigars. Then he looked at his best girl with

a forgiving smile. "Flor de King Alfonsos," he airity

said. "Fifty dollars a hundred. But who cares?"

"Let me see them," said the girl. She inspected the fragments close-

"Yes," she quietly announced, "that's the kind papa always buys when he's running for office. I know the odor. Five dollars a thousand. Somebody has fooled you, George." She was a wise girl and she did not

The Proud Parents.

amile.

We have discovered why the parents of the Smart Child are inclined to be unduly proud of its achievements. It is clear enough that they feel that their superior mentality is reflected in the child's accomplishments. And as all children are smart children we have a reason why all parents are proud parents and why they prefer their own miserable progeny to those of other people.

These things ought to be excused in a doting mother, but we have known a proud father to break up the social session after the lodge meeting .-- Minneapolis Journal

#### RETAIN THEIR RACIAL TYPE

Gipsies In Spain Are of That Country Only Because It is Their Birthplace.

The second of th

One of the things to attract the notice of every traveler that visits Spain is that strange race which he finds scattered here and there in small groups in the remote rural districts or near the great centers of population. It presents a type that can be mistaken for no other in the Spanish dominions.

The lips thick, the eves large, black and piercing, the hair long, black and straight, the complexion olive tinted, the Spanish gipsy, whether encamped in a sheltering ravine or under the arches of an aqueduct or in the shadow of an overhanging cliff, is indeed Spanish because born in Spain, but in all else he is a gipsy.

Time was when Spaniards of the true blue blood called gipsies "New Castilians," or "Egyptians," or "Moorish footpads:" but while their traits have undergone no change their name

is now definitely gitanos, or gipsies. Between fifty and sixty thousand is the number of them now in Spain, says America. Most of them have no fixed abode; but in some parts, and notably in Andalusia: there are several small settlements, for towns they can hardly be called, where these wanderers have taken possession of caves in the mountain side, whence they sally forth to tell fortunes and to filch. Wherever they are, they are inclined to be quarrelsome among themselves and to enforce their arguments by means of wicked looking knives, which they wield with great dexterity.

#### SOUNDS MADE BY ELEPHANTS

Those Familiar With the Animal Easily Recognize Meaning of Its Different Expressions.

Elephants are said to make use of a great variety of sounds in communicating with each other and in expressing their wants and feelings. Some are uttered by the trunk, some by the throat. The conjunctures in which either means of expression is employed cannot be strictly classified, as fear, pleasure, want and other emotions are sometimes indicated by the trunk, sometimes by the throat. An elephant rushing upon an assailant trumpets shrilly with fury. Fear is similarly expressed in a shrill, brassy trumpet, or by a roar from the lungs; pleasure by a continued low squeaking through the trunk or an almost inaudible purring sound from the throat. Want-as a calf calling its mother—is chiefly expressed by the throat. A peculiar sound is made use of by elephants to express dislike or apprehension, and at the same time to intimidate, as when the cause of some alarm has not been clearly ascertained and the animals wish to deter an intruder. It is produced by rapping the end of the trunk smartly on the ground, a current of air hitherto retained being sharply emitted through the trunk as from a valve, at the moment of impact. The sound made resembles that of a large sheet of tin rapidly doubled.

Finally Excused. A juror summoned to serve in the court of Judge Gates asked to be excused because of pressing business that he must attend to. The judge refused to excuse him and went on with the examination of other jurors. Every once in a while this juror would interrupt and ask to be excused because of the pressing needs of his business and the judge would command him to sit down. At last Judge Gates, losing patience, demanded:

"And what is your business, sir, that is so pressing?" "I am a guard at the smallpox hospital and I have left six smailpox patients there this morning who need

my attention," he answered. There was a stampede from the court room and the judge, holding his handkerchief to his nose, nodded for the juror to go.—Exchange.

Difference in Fathers.

Mme. de Stael, daughter of M. Necker being at a ball with the daughter of M. de Guichen, Leutenant general of the marine, for whom she was in mourning, kept tormenting the latter to dance. The woman replied that she could not dance while she was in mourning for her father; but Mme. de Stael still importuned her, until she said:

"Consider, madame, if you had had the misfortune to lose your father, could you think of dancing so soon?" "Oh!" returned the other with a haughty air, "there is such a differ-

once between fathers and fathers." "True, madame," replied her companion, "there is a great difference. My father served his king and country for sixty years-yours, in a fort-

Women Who Know Sitver. Rich women who are ever on the watch for antique bits of silver or pewter, says the New York Tribune, have

taken to carrying small silver-mount-

night, has ruined both."

ed microscopes, so that the hallmarks can be examined with ease and the accuracy of the date be determined. Dealers in antiques are very apt to talk glibly of George II. silver or of George III., and even of William and Mary, pieces of those of good Queen Anne, and this prattle is bound to make an impression with those who do not know, and can also fool the near-sighted customer. Hence the microscope and a little folded paper

(not mentioned to the dealer), where-

by the memory is refreshed.

#### HAD LOST HIS "CREDENTIALS"

Salesman May Have Improved His Appearance, But Shave Cost Him ുണ് Customers. 🧸 🦠

Charles A. Cotterill has a grand and gorgeous set of whiskers which in their own gold and tawny way, show as many varying bues as changeable silk under the midday sun. There are mixed up in that growth of beard all the marvelous tints of the sunrise, the South African gold mines, and the circus posters. But there is a sad story connected with the facial adornment.

The first year that Coterill traveled for a big drug firm of New York city. he waved the whiskers up and down a wide territory, selling much merchandise and making many friends. At the end of the season he got a shave and on his next trip the tragedy began to unfold. Nobody knew him. Every time he went up to a man to whom he had made a sale previously, the fel-

low would say: "You are not Cotterill. How well I remember Cotterill! He was a merry. good-natured, entertaining fellow, and he told such good stories. Besides, he. had whiskers, and you have none. You can't be Cotterill."

After a week of this. Cotterill, utterly dejected by the fact that he could make no headway in his business, telegraphed his firm as follows: "Must have leave of absence long

enough to grow a beard." He has not shaved since.--Popular Magazine.

### MODEL IN A DOUBLE SENSE

One Quality in Wax Figure Which Convinced Mr. Jones She Would Make a Good Wife.

Mr. Jones came home at an un seemly hour the other night, and was surprised to see Mrs. Jones sitting up for him below stairs with no other light than that of the gas lamp which faced the door to keep her company. "M-M-Marie," he said, huskily, "y-

you shouldn't sit up 'slate when I'm out on business." As Mrs. Jones did not answer him.

he continued in an alarmed voice: "Shorry, m'dear, but it's last timetell you I'm sorry-won't shpeak to me?"

At this moment Mrs. Jones called from above stairs:

"Mr. Jones, to whom are you talking at this hour of the night?" "Thash what I'd like to know m-m-

myself," stammered Jones. Mrs. Jones hastened downstairs. lamp in hand. When she saw the situation, she laughed, in spite of being

Very angry. model I bought today to fit my dresses

"Yes, thash so," said Jones, tipsily. "Model woman-didn't talk back Make some fellow good wife."

Point of View. When the necessity of daily labor is removed and the call of social duty fulfilled, that of moderate and timely amusement claims its place as a want inherent in our own pature. To relieve this want and fill up the mental vacancy games are devised, books are written, music is composed, speciacles and plays are invented and exhibited. And if these plays have a moral and virtuous tendency; if the sentiments expressed are calculated to rouse our love of what is noble, and our contempt of what is base and mean; if they unite hundreds in a sympathetic admiration of virtue, abhorrence of vice or derision of folly-it will remain to be shown how far the spectator is more criminally engaged than if he had passed the evening in the

Wife's Unqualified Praise. The young novelist, had had a hard time of it, and his dear wife had had Just as hard a one. She held his talents in poor esteem and often urged him to try something else, for she was sometimes hungry and all the time ill clad. But one day his luck changed. He began to make money. And there came a day when he was able to write his check for \$100 and pass it to his

idle gossip of society, in the feverish

pursuits of ambition or in the unsated

and insatiable struggle after gain.-

Walter Scott. .

Her eyes filled with tears as she

read it. "Willibrand, darling," she said, se she hastened around the table and put her arm about his neck, "I'll take back all the mean things I ever said about your work. This is the best thing you ever wrote?"

Legend About the Wind. We have plenty of wind in London just now, especially at that corner by Blackfriars Station. But the men of Lincoln assert that the breeziest spot in England is outside their cathedral. According to a local legend, the devil some hundreds of years ago met the wind outside the cathedral and told him to wait there while he went in to see the dean and chapter. The wind is still waiting, for the devil has not yet been able to tear himself away from the congenial society he found on paying his visit. Consequently all the year round a strong breeze blows in front of Lincoln cathedral.-London Chronicle.

The Kind. "There is one class of business men who always take the pledge and generally keep it."

"Who are they?"
"Pawnbrokers."

#### WOMAN TO EMANCIPATE MAN

Time, Says M. Finot in "The Eternal" Feminine," to Throw Off Yoke of Eternal Fominine.

Paris.-M. Jean Finot, in his new book, "The Eternal Feminine," reaches the startling conclusion that it is man and not woman who needs emancipation. Man must proclaim his independence, he declares: for thousands of years he has borne the yoke of the eternal feminine; it is high time that he fought for his freedom from woman, who, by law and custom, keeps him a slave to her emotions and caprices. He thus begins; "All our trouble can be traced to the Church. Council, which was rash enough to declare that woman had a soul. Man originally knew well enough that woman was his inferior, but as time went on one man out of pride and vainglory boasted that he had a handsome mate. Another at once boasted that he had a handsomer. The men then begin to dress them up in fine feathers out of sheer rivalry.

"When a rib was taken out of Adam. during his sleep-it was a mean thing to have done-Adam, I imagine, felt nervous at the sight of the first strange

creature. Eve. "He climbed up a tree, no doubt, and looked at her as his feet were dangling from the branch on which he sat. She was lying in the grass, basking in the sun, already showing her disposition to idle away her time.

"Driven out of Paradise, Adam had to work to support her. When he returned after a hard day's work Eve said to him:

"'See, I have also been working! Look how pretty I am! I have made myself a beautiful dress of leaves. I discovered a lovely pink shell with which to polish my nails—see how hey are shining. Why don't you admire my headgear? Isn't it lovely? Don't you like these birds' wings? Ah, this new life of ours is hard, but I shall have courage. I am looking well, am I not? I slept a little when the sun was high. But you seem to be depressed. You are not at all cheerful, my poor Adam. Ah, I see you cannot bear up against misfortune as well as myself. Come and smile."

"Adam heaved a sigh and tried to

### KANSAS STRAW IS NUISANCE

Santa Fe Road Officials Experiment to Find Some Way It Can Be Used.

Topeka, Kan,-"The greatest need in Kansas is some method by which straw may be utilized," said J. H. Koontz, general freight agent of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe rail way. "We need some plan of getting rid of the straw left on the fields after the threshing is done."

Hoping to solve the problem, the Santa Fe officials have been having experiments conducted with a view of making a satisfactory fuel for stoves and furnaces from straw by treating t with fuel oil and compressing it nto blocks.

Mr. Koontz estimates that along the line of the Santa Fe alone 20,000 acres of wheat land is wasted on account of the straw stacks.

"Straw is of little value as feed," ne says. "and of no value as fertilizer aptil it has rotted. It takes a long time for that. Burning a stack takes several days' time and leaves the ground under it in a useless condition; for years."

### GAME LAWS FOR 125 YEARS

United States Biological Survey, Department of Agriculture, Summa-Para say rizes Them.

Washington.—The record of the United States during the last 125 rears in the way of game protection is summarized in a publication just prepared by the biological survey, departnent of agriculture. The department! reeps close track of game laws passed by the different states and of how hey work, so that it can generally tell in inquirer in a moment whether a proposed law is good or bad, because some state has tried it.

The new book notes that the Engish sparrow was protected by law. for many years after it was brought to this country, and even in the Disrict of Columbia until 1899, fourteen rears after the establishment of the piological survey, which is charged with supervision of the federal game. protection laws.

### DYING. GETS AID IN ODD WAY

Helpless Missourian Attracts Neighbor by Hurling Shoe Th sugh Window.

St. Joseph, Mo.-Feeling himself to be dying, following a stroke of apoplexy while in bed, Frank N. Devores, fifty-two years old, vice-president and general manager of the Richardson Dry Goods company, failed to attract the attention of his wife in a neighboring room. Rousing up and getting out of bed he seized a shoe and with a last effort hurled it through a window and against the house of a neighbor. The latter crawled out his ownbedroom window and assisted the dving man back into bed, where he passed away before medical aid could

Dog Chews Tobacco. Springfield, Mass.—"Teddy," a Boston bulldog who chews tobacco and holds his head over a cuspidor when he sneezes is being held by the Boston and Maine railroad until an owner claims bim.

Busy Prying Into Secrets of Foreign Governments.

England's Excitement Over Conviction of Bernard Stewart in Germany-Army Officers Prefer Work to Barrack Life.

Kansas City, Mo.-A new game has caught the fancy of Europe. It is played in the dark with dangerous weapons. Sometimes the reward is money, sometimes it is honor, more often it is imprisonment and occasionally it is death. It is the game of espionage.

. In times of war spies are numerous. Any soldier knows that. They are selected for their coolness in times of danger, histrionic ability and loyalty. A spy plays his game alone. If he wins, he aids his country; if he loses, it is death

But in times of peace, and all Europe is at peace except Italy and Turkey, espionage has not been considered good form. Of course all governments have had their secret agents. They were men trained in that business. They were detectives. But of late army officers, naval officers, noblemen and persons of high repute have entered the espionage game and apparently just for the zest of the mis-

Even national feeling toward the spy seems to have undergone a decided change. Take the case of Captain Lux of the French army. He had been imprisoned at Graetz, Prussia, serving a four years' sentence. One night he escaped and after a week's dangerous travel reached France. He was received as a hero. People went wild at the mention of his name. A purse of gold was subscribed. Officially, France frowned and ordered Captain Lux back to duty, but it cannot be disputed that he was the man of the moment.

Russia and Germany have almost placed spies of peace on the basis of prisoners of war. A few weeks ago these two governments made a formai exchange of spies, just as prisoners would be exchanged in war.

Now England is in the midst of a popular demonstration against Germany. It results from a four and a half years' sentence a German court gave Bertrand Stewart, a London lawyer and officer in a territorial regiment. British newspapers are assailing Germany bitterly. Demonstrations are being held and probably the British foreign office will recognize the affair and make a formal request that Stewart be set free.

In England a half dozen or more Germans and Russians have been tried on spying charges. But a few days ago Heinrich Grosse, an officer of the German merchant marine, was tried at Winchester and sentenced to three

And so it goes in most all the nations of Europe. The game apparently appeals to the officers. It gives them a chance to get a little adventure in lieu of humdrum life at a

## FIND 100 TACKS IN STOMACH

New Jersey Workman: Has Swallowed Brads for Years; X-Ray Discloses Walls of Organ Covered.

Burlington, N. J.-Abraham Lecony, a shoemaker at Delance, was taken to a Philadelphia hospital suffering from stomach ache. All the home remedies failed to relieve him and the puzzled doctors finally proposed an X-ray examination. The light revealed about a hundred brass tacks sticking in the walls of 2

the shoemaker's stomach. He admitted that for several years he has used his mouth for a temporary tack box, while at work at his bench, and said he remembered swallowing a few brads at various times during the last ten years. Surgeons say one section of Leconey's stemach has more tacks in it than the sole of a boot.

It is hoped that an operation may relieve him.

Phessant-Grouse a Plump Bird. Portland, Ore .- A bird that is a cross between a China pheasant and a blue groume was received by the state game warden from Eugene Simpson, superintendent of the state game farm, at Corvallis. It is much heavier tham a China pheasant and as large as the biggest blue grouse, and for this reason the game warden thinks it would prove a better game bird than the native blue grouse. "1 have for years known that in certain places these birds have crossed," her said: "I have known of one or two other specimens that have been ob tained, but this is the first one that I have ever examined."

His Hero Game Was a Failure. Blackfoot, Idaho.—Running breath lessly into the station, Louis West formerly a brakeman on the Oregon Short Line railroad, said that some one in the yards had been tampering with a switch, which he threw just it time to save a passenger train from wreck. On close questioning Wes admitted that he had thrown the switch in order to have the honor o saving the train.

Were Shocked by Dance. Pittsburg, Pa.—Shocked by an illus tration of the "Grizzly Bear" dance Judges Reid and Haymaker refused to grant a preliminary injunction alk wing the opening of a dance hall, on dered closed by the McKeesport mayor

# L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS