

PATHOS OF ADVANCING AGE

Some Women Won't Acknowledge That They Are Growing Old and Dress Too Young.

Ruskin says somewhere that the only homely woman is the one who refuses to grow old. There is another side to the picture, however. "The pathos of the woman who dressed too youthfully has not been recognized always," said one who was young enough to dress as she wanted to, and so indifferent to the subject that she never cared how she looked, "and persons are likely to look upon her as rather ridiculous. But she is always saddening to me. It is not only the thought of fighting old age that depresses one. That is bad enough. But sometimes an added element of sorrow is to be detected in these attempts to help stay youthful. The other night at the theater two persons sat in front of me who showed in the most striking way the saddest phase of the woman's attempt to keep young. They were man and wife. She was a few years younger than he, who looked about 50. But the difference between them was greater than the few years measured. He was still in the prime of life. She was getting old. A few years more would make her visits to the theater with him much less frequent. She was older, as it was, then most of the women around her. When she took off her hat a white ribbon bow jauntily tied in her hair was disclosed. It seemed a pathetic struggle against the coming age. She knew that the man sitting next to her loved youthfulness in woman and all that estate implied, stylish and animated, in the way that young women can be and old ones can never be. To represent that age was far beyond her power, she could only dress as youthfully as she could, adopt every device to make herself seem of the age he admired so much and come as nearly as possible to filling his ideal of what a woman should be like.

"In this view of the case that little bow in her hair, looking absurdly coquettish and out of place on a woman of her age, was infinitely pathetic and touching. It was one way in which she was trying to keep what represented nearly everything in the world to her—the love of her husband. It is all very well to say that affection between man and wife should be founded on a basis which has nothing to do with the looks of either. But that is better in theory than practice. A woman knows that if she wants to keep a man's affection it must be done by making herself as attractive to him as she can in every way, and looking as he wants her to be one of the ways of doing that. It is easy to say that a woman may make herself absurd, even in the eyes of her husband, if she dresses in a manner entirely unsuited to her age. But her mistake is perfectly natural and human. She wants to hold on to all she has and takes the means of doing it that she thinks best. There are some men to whom no other appeal can be made. It is the wives of such men as that who have the hardest struggle when their fading begins. It is an injustice to any woman to think she is a fool because she dresses herself in a way appropriate to one-half her age. She may have a motive for it that means a great deal to her."—Chicago Chronicle.

A RAINY DAY COSTUME.

It is Made of Cheviot or Frieze That Has Been Waxed with Waterproof.

In no matter of dress has so complete a reform been worked, or conventionality so entirely given way to common sense and comfort, as in the matter of the rainy day costume. The girl of a few years ago who appeared on rainy days enveloped from head to foot in a huge mackintosh, carrying an umbrella, her feet encased in rubbers, is no longer as common a sight as she was. A revolution has been worked, and now the mackintosh, formerly considered indispensable, is decidedly out of fashion, and a woman's wardrobe, and on occasions even the umbrellas is dispensed with. The sensible rainy day costume of to-day consists of a suit of cheviot or Irish frieze, or any other "peasant" cloths of natural wool, which have been treated so that they are waterproof. The skirt is, of course, abbreviated, reaching a little above the ankle, and made with a short collar or Eton jacket, which buttons closely up under the chin and has a rolling collar, which can be turned up to protect the neck. A soft cap of the same water shedding material, which can be drawn down over the hair, is sufficient protection for the head. Stout dogskin gloves and a pair of thick, rubber soled boots of tan leather complete this sensible costume. There is no doubt that the large number of business women and college girls are in a great measure responsible for these radical changes, as they are responsible in a great degree for all the radical and sensible dress reforms of the present day.—N. Y. Tribune.

Ice Cream Surprise.

With the approach of cold weather, a hot sauce with ice cream will prove acceptable to those devoted to this delectable dessert. As rich as it is toothsome, it cannot be recommended as a steady diet. To make the surprise, boil one cup of water and one-half cup of sugar three minutes. Meanwhile, in a separate dish, mix three teaspoonfuls of grated chocolate and one of arrowroot (no substitute allowed) with two-thirds of a cup of milk. Add this to the first mixture, stir, and take from the fire after it has boiled three minutes. Add to the sauce a teaspoonful of vanilla and serve in a small heated pitcher while still very hot. A little poured beside a serving of ice cream and on the same plate, gives an indescribably delicious flavor, as different as possible from that of ordinary chocolate cream, and far away its superior.—Good Housekeeping.

DIVIDING THE SPOILS.

A Lawyer Cleared His Client and His Fee Came Out of the Stolen Money.

"Well, yes. We come across some strange cases of mistaken identity at times," said a lawyer the other day, "and we are occasionally called upon to defend persons accused of a crime to which the most unbreakable chain of circumstantial evidence seems to bind them. "For instance, I was once called upon to defend a man against a charge of breaking into a bank and stealing \$20,000 in cash. The evidence seemed to be of the most conclusive nature. He had not actually been caught red-handed, but he was recognized by more than a dozen persons as having been seen prowling around the vicinity just before the robbery. Immediately afterward he was seen by as many more hurrying from the spot. "Of motive there was abundant evidence, for the poor fellow was penniless at the time, although previously he had been a high roller and had accumulated \$10,000 worth of debts, the payment of which the honor of his family imperatively demanded. "I hesitated to take the case at first, it seemed so black against him. Again, his family, although eaten up with the most extraordinary pride, was as poor as he, and we lawyers are not in the business for our health. "It puzzled me to understand how my fee would be forthcoming. However, after a short consultation with the accused, I agreed to do my best for him and for the honor of his family. "I was eminently successful. I proved beyond a doubt that it was a clear case of mistaken identity on the part of the two dozen witnesses who swore they had seen my client at or about the time and place of the robbery. The prosecution's chain of circumstantial evidence I smashed with the sledge hammer of a cast-iron alibi. "And you did all that without compensation, for the honor of that good old family!" ejaculated the lawyer's admiring hearer. "Not a bit of it, my son," said Mr. Hummel. "I got a \$10,000 fee, and the honor of the family was satisfied, for the other \$10,000 went to pay the fellow's honorable debts."—N. Y. Telegraph.

HOUSEHOLD HELPS.

Hints for the Housewife on Dress and Other Domestic Matters.

The woman who makes her children's clothes should learn to do smocking. It is exceedingly pretty, very smart, particularly on little linen frocks and smocks, and is not difficult to learn. There is nothing new about the applied net laces that are now so popular. Young women of a couple of generations ago did this applique work on net as a pastime, and for additions to their wardrobes in the days when women did more of their own sewing than they do now. Some of these things which have become heirlooms have been brought out and are much more attractive than anything that can be found ready-made. They are in quaint old fashions and broad double and triple collars.

In putting away rubber gloves, rubber sponge bags, and rubber bathing caps, a liberal supply of talcum, or even ordinary toilet powder, should be applied to them on all sides and they should be placed carefully in boxes without rolling. When they are needed for use again they will not be found adhering in different places in a way that makes pulling apart dangerous, if not entirely disastrous.

Beautiful oriental metals set with semi-precious stones are now to be seen in toilet articles and as settings for bags and purses, and for any purpose they are very beautiful. The old eastern coral, dark in color, but soft in tone, has charms particularly its own. The most attractive way of making coffee is in the pretty little steam coffee pots, copper, silver lined. There is the lamp to these, the kettle above in which the water is placed, and the filter and glass through which the coffee can be seen distilling. The coffee pots are not expensive, for they are copper, lined with pure silver. The lamp has a very strong burner, and the little stove is excellent for other kinds of cooking. There are the most delightful little saute pans of various sizes to use for individual service or for various dishes. They are more attractive than the coffee pots, for they show their silver lining, which is the genuine article.—N. Y. Times.

Game Croquette.

Since the white meat of any cold roasted game very fine, dredge it well with flour, season it well with pepper, salt, a little ginger and nutmeg, then put it in the saucepan and add enough cream to make it a thick paste when cooked. When cold add to one pint of paste the juice of one-half a lemon, blending in well. Mold into croquette shapes, dip in beaten egg, roll in crumbs, and let them stand two hours—longer will not hurt them. Fry in deep fat, and serve on a folded napkin garnished with parsley.—Woman's Home Companion.

The Water Cure.

To "break up a cold," the vapor bath is invaluable, and an apparatus may be easily devised for its safe administration. Seat the patient wearing a loose woolen robe or none at all, in a warm room over a tub, pin a blanket around the neck, letting it drape to the floor; pour two or three gallons of boiling water into the tub and steam enough will then be given off to meet the demands of the occasion very well. If, with the bath, hot water is used freely as a drink, the treatment will be doubly effective.—Housekeeper.

CRICKET BOUTS.

How New York Sports Divert Themselves in the Absence of Forbidden Contests.

Since the laws regarding bull baiting, cock fighting and rat killing contests have become so stringent, the sports of New York city have been at their wits' end to devise some pastime that was exciting and at the same time was not covered by any statute. It remained for a Mexican who came to this country for the winter and who missed his regular Sunday bull fight to furnish an innovation in the matter of sports. At considerable expense he sent to Mexico and obtained about 25 of the most pugacious crickets that that country is famous for. Upon their arrival he at once put them in training, and after he was fully satisfied as to their ability to give a good account of themselves in the arena he invited a number of friends to his apartments to witness a battle royal. He first produced a cage filled with partitions, in which he kept his warriors. Then came the arena, a pasteboard box about two feet square and four inches deep, the bottom of which was covered with fine sand. Opening a slide in the cage, he allowed a cricket to leap into the ring. Then he touched the nose of the insect with a straw on which was a drop of amber-colored liquid, the name of which he refused to tell, but said it was made principally of cactus juice and had the effect of greatly irritating the cricket's temper. A second cricket was put on the battlefield and treated precisely in the same manner. Then the hostilities began.

The two warriors glared at each other for a few moments and then made a leap as if to meet in midair. In this they were not successful, but on recovering their feet hopped to close quarters. Then rising on their hind legs they began fencing with their fore legs, all the time watching for a chance to grasp the antagonist. At length one got an opening, and with a spring threw itself forward far enough to grasp the hind legs of the other between its mandibles.

Then the battle was on in all its fury. Over and over they rolled in the sand, biting and clawing, each endeavoring to strike a disabling blow on the other. At length—possibly five minutes after the beginning of the fray—one of the crickets rolled over dead. The hero was in a badly used-up condition. Part of one leg was gone, an eye out and both feelers badly broken.

The vanquished was a frightful wreck. Two legs were gone, one front and one hind, and its head was almost entirely severed from the body. The survivor was put back in its cage with some grass, water and sugar. Its owner thought it would survive and be able to fight again, meeting the survivor of another contest. Three other battles were fought, varying but little from the first in detail. When asked if our northern crickets could be trained for fighting purposes, he said he thought they could, and intended to secure a few and train them for the ring. He said he did not consider it a cruel sport, as crickets are seemingly devoid of feeling, and this statement seemed borne out by one of the crickets, which pulled off one of its own legs which was badly damaged in the fight.—Chicago Times-Herald.

A SPORTSMAN'S CLOTHES.

Elegance of Apparel is the Indication of an Amateur in the Field.

In nothing can a man's character be more truly shown than in the wardrobe which accompanies him each autumn to Scotland. In the same sporting party will be seen the most wonderful and costly of shooting "togs," these generally worn by the amateur sportsman, and the roughest and oldest knockabout suits that have already done good service for several seasons. In the matter of clothes there is no hard-and-fast rule, every one follows his own fancy, and many Scottish lairds have their outdoor garments made by their tailor in their nearest local town. There is, however, one exception to this rule, and that is where fishing is concerned; there, for obvious reasons, the costume must be more or less of a uniform, and must include "waders," made of the best quality gutta-percha, as so much of the fisherman's and fisherwoman's time must be spent actually in the water. Of late years for shooting-suits the Scotch and Irish friezes and homesuns have replaced corduroys and velveteens, and are, of course, very much more practical from every point of view, as these materials are unshrinkable and to a great extent non-absorbent of wet. The kilt is practically going out, but as it is known to be in high favor at Balmoral, where the queen prefers very much to see the Scottish members of her household so arrayed, this most curious and picturesque of national costumes is not likely to become obsolete.—Lippincott's.

Month of Storms.

October is the month of storms. During the last ten years there have been more in this month than in any other. September ranks second. It is six years ago since a terrible cyclone devastated the region lying on the Gulf of Mexico, causing the loss of 2,000 lives. In October of last year there were 23 shipwrecks in which lives were lost, while a storm on the coast of Georgia cost 100 lives. The most disastrous shipwreck of last October was that of the Mohegan.—Chicago Tribune.

A Ban on Dogs.

The board of agriculture of England has promulgated an order forbidding the landing of dogs from Ireland in Great Britain, under a penalty of £20. This is done to prevent the spread of rabies, which is common in Ireland just now.—Albany Argus.

HUMOROUS.

"Your new fall hat is too dear for anything." "That's what my husband says."—Cleveland Plain Dealer. "Hasn't that poet a far-away look?" "Yes, I presume he is trying to see a square meal somewhere in the future."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

There is a Difference.—"Does your daughter play the piano?" "She says she does, but it sounds more to me as if she were working it."—Indianapolis Journal.

Mercenary Miss.—He—"Marry me and I'll be willing to die for you." She—"I would if I thought you had anything worth willing."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

The Codger—"Why, Tommy! You wouldn't hit your little brother, would you?" The Kid—"Well, yer don't tink fer a minnt I'd hit me big one, do yer?"—Kansas City Independent.

Tragedian—"I should think you would make a hit in Shakespearean roles." Hamaker—"No; I tried 'Hamlet' once. There were some hits made, but different members of the audience were responsible for them."—Ohio State Journal.

"Aniline Munnyburn," he screamed, in a paroxysm of agony, "you will drive me to drink!" "Excuse me," she murmured, with the hauteur that was the one drawback to her charm, "but you'll have to see the coachman."—Kansas City Independent.

Mrs. May-Fair—"I hear that your son is a great student and spends most of his time over the midnight oil." Mrs. Jones (a rich parvenu, in pony carriage).—"Not a word of truth in it. We 'ave electric light hall over the 'ouse, and Halfred 'as a 'ole chandleer in 'is room!"—Punch.

THE OIL SMELLER.

A User of the Divining Rod Was Does Business in West Virginia.

England is not alone in possession of divining-rod men, for the United States have their quota. The writer has met two, and one only last week. This diviner possessed the power of locating oil, and as oil is found at a depth of from 500 to 2,500 feet, our American diviner towers head and shoulders above the Britisher. It may be of some interest to state my experience with the oil and gas diviner last week, who is known in the oil country as an oil smeller.

Several gentlemen, producers of oil in the state of West Virginia, and myself had heard of the powers of this man, and having under lease a farm of several hundred acres, it was suggested that the oil smeller be summoned to give a demonstration of his magic, and tell us where the oil was on the farm. An appointment was made. The oil smeller was sent a day ahead in order to make his explorations alone. We met him the following morning, and started out under his guidance to walk over the farm and see the spots where, if wells were drilled, we would positively get oil. We followed him a few hundred yards, when he pulled out of his back pocket his divining rod, the same one which he always uses. It was enveloped in a white bag, at least once white. The rod was really too thin, flexible sticks of wood, each about 30 inches long, and as thick as a lead pencil. These two rods were set into a cube of wood, two inches wide by three inches broad by one inch thick, and when carrying the rod the diviner would hold one of the sticks in each hand at the extreme end and whenever a spot was found where there was oil, the rod would bend downward with the cube pointing toward the ground. The oil smeller in our tramp over the hills would say: "Here is a rich spot; here you will find oil in great quantities." Another place he would say was barren of oil, and at another place a small well would be found. He also could locate gas, but for this he used a piece of ordinary insulated copper wire. He likewise told us the depth at which we could find oil, whether at 500, 700 or 1,000 feet.

I asked the smeller to let me use the rod, but was informed that it would be ineffectual in my hands, as I did not possess the gifted power. He told me that he intended to have the rod patented, but, alas! what was the use, as even his own sons could not use it, he being the sole one of the family with the power. After spending several hours with the man, we asked him to show us the best spot on the farm, which he pointed out to us. We made what is called a location, and have decided to drill a well on this spot. As soon as the well is completed it may be of interest to your readers to know what was found, and I shall be most happy to inform them. You ask me whether I believe in this man's mysterious art? Wait until I have completed the well.—Cor. N. Y. Sun.

Piracy in the Sulu Islands.

The announcement made a short time since that the United States had occupied Sulu, and consequently assumed jurisdiction over the archipelago, was received here with considerable satisfaction. Spanish rule, which began in 1638, and has ended after a period of over 260 years, was confessedly a failure. While it was of effect at the principal port, Jolo (the Spanish spelling of the name), its influence in the outlying islands was nil. Sissal, Tawi-Tawi and many an islet near by continued, as before, to be hotbeds of piracy, and the nominal possessions were, in actual fact, unable to clear them out.—British North Borneo Herald.

Giving a Discount.

"How much for two ounces of zino?" "Inquired a boy of a druggist. "Twenty-five cents." "But my father is a doctor." "O, well, I must make a hundred per cent. profit on such things, anyway. Give me two cents."—Berlin (Md.) Herald.

SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

Buddhist priests are endeavoring to have their religion adopted as the state religion of Japan. Seven Congregational churches are pledged to contribute \$25,000 each to the twentieth century fund of that denomination.

In the grammar schools in Chicago the sexes are about even in numbers, but in the high schools the proportion is about three girls to one boy.

The Church Missionary Society of the Established church of England had in 1880 sent out its one thousandth missionary. It has just sent out its two thousand and third European missionary.

Horace Ash, the new principal of the big Leesburg (Va.) school for colored children, was until recently a waiter in a Plainfield (N. J.) restaurant. He was born a slave and served one term as a member of the West Virginia legislature.

The education department of the government of Japan issued several weeks ago regulations for schools of all kinds. To these the minister of instruction has added a prohibition of all religious teaching and religious exercises both in and out of the regular class hours.

A complete Roman Catholic ritual and prayer book has been issued in the Welsh language, and it is said that Protestant and Nonconformist Wales is very much stirred up by the well-laid plans of the Roman Catholics for carrying forward a vigorous campaign and planting Romanism in the principality. Wales has been made a separate see and a Welshman appointed bishop.

New York is the strongest Lutheran city in the world, having 34 churches of that denomination, with 15,994 communicants, and church property valued at \$2,000,000. This church also controls an orphanage, two homes for the aged, three hospitals, six immigrant missions and a deaconess home. Preaching is done in eight different languages—German, English, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, Finnish, Livonian and Slavonian.

WOMEN IN EGYPT.

Their Condition is Being Improved Through the Education of the Girls.

Woman's position in the Egyptian capital is materially benefited by the movement looking toward the education of native girls. Twenty years ago native ladies regarded education as the learning of sufficient French or Italian to read novels or follow the plot of the opera. The last few years has developed a desire among the upper-class women to have their daughters educated with as much care as boys are, and an important adjunct to the household, consequently, is the European governess, most often English. A sister of the khedive, Princess Khadija, is an active agent in improving the educational status of poor girls.

Most women visitors to Cairo are curious to see the interior of a harem. But this, as Europeans understand it, no longer exists in Egypt. Every native house, however, has its harem division, set apart for women, as the salamlik is for men—nothing more. In this department reside the wife or wives and children of the master, with the addition, perhaps, of his mother. In this case, her rule is probably absolute. It is she who chooses instructresses for the children, orders the affairs of the household, and even prescribes the fabrics, fashions and ornaments of the women, who are simply the wives of the harem usually overlook a courtyard or rear street, and are screened with mubrabeh lattices, penetrable only by the gaze of a person within. To minister to the wants of the women's division, a small army of servants—shiny black "slaves" from Nubia and Berber, and possibly a fair Circassian or two, imported from Constantinople—is essential. "Slavery" of this sort is scarcely bondage. It is the law of Egypt that manumission can be had for the asking, with little circumlocution or delay. These servants are kindly treated, value their home, and shrink from any movement toward legal freedom. Except to the master and sons of the house, the harem is closed to all men, but women friends come and go freely. The tall, high-cheek-boned black men guarding the entrance to the harem, in these progressive days in Egypt possessing no suggestion of the hour scene of the stage, are trained from childhood to keep unauthorized persons from intruding and have a highly developed aversion to sight-seers.—Frederic B. Penfield, in Century.

Friend of Goethe Now Living.

Among the few Goghe veterans who knew and conversed with the poet, born a century and a half ago, is the Widow Castner, now in her 87th year. She was a pupil in 1823 and 1824 at the town school for girls in Weimar, and the pretty custom of that institution was that the four best scholars of each year should call upon Goethe, offer their congratulations on his birthday and present him with four bouquets, arranged on four plates, with a lemon set in the midst of the flowers. The venerable poet received his young visitors with stately cordiality, shook hands with each in turn, asked them a few questions as to their scholastic progress and heard them recite a short poem. Then the flowers were collected in a basket, and the lemons placed on a tray by the major-domo, who gave back the plates to the girls with a small coin apiece. Frau Castner retains vivid impressions of the ceremony, for she had the honor of taking part in it twice.—London Chronicle.

School Children Smoke.

In Mexico the school children are allowed to smoke in school hours when their lessons are well prepared.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

THE WELSH IN PATAGONIA.

Efforts Have Been Made to Suppress the Little Colony of British Subjects.

The agents in this country of the Welsh colony in Patagonia are by no means inclined to rest satisfied with the official rebuff which they have received through the refusal of the government to intervene in their behalf. They recognize that their demand, however logically sound and historically well founded, was somewhat inopportune put forward, and was, from a departmental point of view, rather unreasonable. The senior delegate is frank on this point. "The reply of the foreign office," he says, "was not so favorable as what was wished, but then we wished more than could be expected, seeing that no great efforts had been made in furtherance of the object in view." It has, therefore, been determined to carry the movement into the provinces and endeavor to educate and stimulate public opinion by the organization of meetings at which the case for the colonies may be explained. Lancashire has been the first district selected for this purpose. The expedition by means of which the colony was originally founded was largely financed from Liverpool, and it is probable that a good deal of sympathy could easily be aroused in that locality. The delegates are perhaps not unmindful of the old adage: "What Lancashire thinks today England will think to-morrow."

Meanwhile matters are not improving in Patagonia. Though public meetings continue to be held in favor of the administrative independence of the colony, it is evident that the speakers are embarrassed by the dread of persecution on the part of the Argentine government. A keen sense of disappointment is felt at the fact that no notice was taken in parliament of the high-handed arrest and unconstitutional detention in jail of Messrs. Evans and other British born settlers in January last, and it is feared that the absence of any protest on the part of this country will serve to increase the active hostility of the authorities at Buenos Ayres. A more serious and practical cause of complaint is to be found in the policy of isolation by means of postal blockade which has been carried into effect by Argentine. "The communication," it is said, "between Buenos Ayres and Chupat seems to be open now, but for some months past the steamers carried no mails to the colony, and in all probability the heavy mails which have been accumulating in Buenos Ayres have been designedly kept back, or destroyed by government order." Additional friction is also to be apprehended on religious grounds.

It will be remembered that one of the gravest complaints made by the colonists was that their young men drafted into the national guard were compelled to drill on Sundays. It was deeply resented, too, that Sunday was chosen for the arrest of the colonial reform leaders, which actually took place during the holding of a religious service, and it was believed, rightly or wrongly, that these things were expressly intended to outrage their feelings. They are threatened now with an attempt at direct propaganda. A number of Roman Catholic priests have recently been sent into the colony considerably in excess of the spiritual needs of their congregations. The Roman Catholics in Chupat—that is to say, the few shopkeepers and officials of the Latin race and the half-caste laborers—constitute only a very small minority of the population, and their numbers are practically stationary. It has been the avowed determination of Maj. O'Donnell, the governor, to denationalize the little community at Chupat by striking at its system of education. With this view he has endeavored by financial starvation and other methods to stamp out the Welsh schools and to replace them by others on a Latin model. To do this would be to badly wound the susceptibilities of the little colony of exiled Welshmen, and it can easily be understood that a feeling of very genuine alarm has been excited by the priestly invasion from Buenos Ayres.

The Chupat delegates have an extremely interesting case to lay before their fellow countrymen at home. The remote and romantically circumstanced colony of shepherds and farmers in Patagonia feel that they have a claim, in blood, if not in law, on the support of the country from which they sprang, and from which they have never succeeded even by the process of naturalization. They ask that there should be extended to them something of the active friendliness which Great Britain has so freely and properly exhibited toward the Outlanders and the Armenians. They are unversed in the conventions of international politics, but their common sense goes straight to the point. They make their countrymen acquainted with their grievances, and they refuse to believe that the resources of diplomacy are unable to provide a remedy.—London Post.

Possibility of Trouble.

"You tallow-faced slob!" snarled the bad boy of the neighborhood. "For two cents I'd break yer face!" "I shall go and consult the lexicons in reference to that word 'slob,'" responded the other, a little boy from Boston, wrathful but self-possessed, "and if it has an opprobrious signification I will return and chastise you."—Chicago Tribune.

Few Executions.

Austria is the country most lenient to murderers. In ten years over 800 persons were found guilty of murder, of whom only 23 were put to death.—N. Y. Sun.

Weak.

Bingo—I wonder why Griggs is always so hard up? Kingley—He is generous to a fault. Never can refuse money to anyone—not even to his wife.—Puck.