DEADLY ENGLISH SPORTS.

Matives of South Africa Try Rowing with Results Somewhat Disestrous.

Wherever an Englishman finds his way he leaves traces behind in the form of his favorite sport or pastime. Civilization of this kind has just touched the Zambesi, and the netives are reported to have taken kindly to a regatta, says Stray Stories.

Some of the events were interfered with by what might be termed local elements, or example the eight-oar boat race was scarcely a conspicuous success, owing to a stampede of elebhanis into the water at the start. As a result, only one boat was left

no complete the course, and that one was bitten in half by a hippopotamus when about half distance. In the crocodile race a protest was hodged in consequence of the winning weptile arriving home with his jockey

maide, having accidentally swallowed thim for safety during a collision. The natives engaged in the sailing match fell in with an unfriendly tribe thaif way down the river, and landed to settle outstanding differences. This happened two months ago, and if none of the boats put in appearance before the close of the year the time limit

shause will enable the committee to cancel the race. If the rate of mortality maintained by the last regatta is upheld, statisticians estimate that three more of these riverside festivals may be held

before the tribe becomes extinct.

JOKE OF ENGLISH LAWYER. Writes Satirical Tale the Title of Which Catches an American Librarian.

"How I Beccame a Judge; Being the Reminiscences of the Honorable Mr. Justice Rater." is the title of an amusing little book written by a settrical flawyer recently.

The humorous sketches of life at the bar was widely appreciated and quickly passed through three editions. A copy found its way to the library of congress. Washington, and one of the Hibrarians plainly jumped to the conclusion that Justice Rater is a real, live ornament to the English bench. At any rate, the librarian addressed a reply-paid postal card to the author in care of his publishers, thus:

"Justice Chumley Rater, care of J. B. Nichols & Bons, parliament mansions Victoria street S. W., London, England."

Justice Chumley Rater was asped to furnish the librarian with a bour autobiography and the titles of any others of his published works so that they could be catalogued in the library of congress.

Moral-When English jokes are exported to America they should be labeled.

SENDS POTATOES BY MAIL Movel Method of Saving Fourteen Cents a Pound Found by Alšeka Man.

John R. Dodson, an Alaska miner. (hought 50 pounds of potatoes and ordered them sent to Mastodon, Alaska, by United States mail, says a Portland id Ore.) report.

He paid \$10.50 for the lot and for their carriage by mail into the interior of the northern territory, which will make the "apuda" cost 21 cents a mound laid down at their destination.

At that price he saved 14 cents a pound on the price in the markets

"It is not the saving in expense that finduced me to do this," said Dodson. "Un there we don't go to much bother to save seven dollars. But we are anx-Sous to illustrate to the people of the Minited States how the government is holding back the development of Alaska, and when I tell you what the Canadian government is doing for the Klondike country, just across the line, then the people will understand that momething is wrong with the Alaskan policy of this country."

Korean Curiosity.

Oriental gardeners are adepts at plant tricks, but one of the unique productions of the Korean gardener is a natural armchair, in which the required shape was attained during the growth of the vine. Almost from the time the first tiny shoot appeared the wine had been carefully treated in anticipation of the use to which it was to be put. By the time it attained its growth it was formed into a perfect rustic arm chair, studded with the seeds of the ginko tree, which had grown into the fibres of the wood, as ornaments. All of the joints were made by grafting, so that the chair is practically in one solid piece, and after it had attained a growth of some three feet it was cut and dried. When thorsughly seasoned it was polished, the wood taking a finish like mahogany, and it forms the only complete chair grown upon the plant.

Patchouli. : The patchouli plant is a native of India and China, where it is quite common. It is also grown successfully in Caylon, Paraguay and the French possessions of La Reunion. The leaves and branches possess a musk-like perfame, and upon distillation furnish the sesence of patchouli. It resembles the page plant in height and form, but its Seaves are less fleshy.

Real or Fancied Rats. "What can I do for you, sir?" asked

the drug clerk. "Well," replied the man, "my room. was full of rate last night and I want-

"Yes, sir," interrupted the bright sierk, "bromo for yourself or strychsine for them?"-Catholic Standard

HUMOR IN A CABLE CODE.

English Bank Ordered Extra Money to Prevent Misinterpretation of Message.

Most people would consider that

bank cierks who are able to find any

amusement in their—to most of them -uninteresting occupation, must be possessed of a lively imagination, says the London Bankers' Magazine. bank clerk's duties are monownous in the extreme. The continuous poeting of ledgers, or writing-up of pass books, must have a deadening effect. Still, there are occasions when bank men are able to smile, possibly even to laugh. The following, we think, will prove our contention: Not very long agu, a foreign bank was approached on behalf of a lady who was seriously ill, and was asked to inform her husband (then in India) of the fact, and of her urgent need of £50. The bank's code, which contained only phrases connected with mercantile transactions, did not enable the message to be shortened; the only code word, in fact, which could be used was that for £50 -"larative"-and the message thus head: "Inform X. Y wife seriously ill. urgently requires laxative." In this form the message might easily have been misunderstood, there being nothing therein to suggest that the bank's code was being used. In order to prevent any misinterpretation, the hank altered the amount to £55, using the relative code word, one which would be recognized at once as being used in other than its literal sense. Mrs. Y. received £55, and, no doubt, she still attributes the additional £5 to the good nature of her husband!

SUGAR IS STRENGTH-GIVING

The Vigor of Modern Women Is Attributed in Large Measure to Use of Sweets.

Various reasons have been assigned for the increase in stature and strength of the modern maiden, who has most certainly grown uncommonly tall and proportionately muscular during the last few years. It cannot be that outdoor sports, gymnastic exercises and so on have stretched her out and made her as strong as she is, because her brothers have had precisely the same advantage and they have not developed at the same rate. The secret lies in the fact that of recent years girls have become far greater consumers of sweetmeats than were their mothers and grandmothers.

Time was when we should never have dreamed of having sweets on our luncheon, dinner and tea tables. Now it would be quite extraordinary were one not to offer these dainties. A.m. what is more, we are not merely content to eat sweetmeats at our meals. but we consume them at all times and in all places between meals. It was recently said that boxes of bonbons in modern play a conspicuous part love-making, "sweets to the sweet" being apparently the text by which every young man of the day guides himself through the devious paths of court-

ship. The great Russian wrestler who is shortly to enter again into contest with the Turk, Madrall, tells us that the more sweet stuff one eats the stronger one grows. Sugar is the secret of strength, he declares.

SOME RECENT INVENTIONS

Many Remarkable Contrivances with Queer Names and for Various Uses.

Among remarkable recent inventions are the pneumoslito, the topodict, the telemeter, the telephoneears and the thermophile. The pneumoslito is an automobile especially designed for use on ice, but which can just as easily be used on land. It moves by a propeller wheel run by a two and threequarters horsepower electric motor, the propeller turning in the air and moving the carriage at a speed of 20 miles an hour. The topodict is a combination of a pantograph and telescope, by means of which any person can make a drawing in correct perspective of any scene before him, even if he knows nothing whatever of drawing. By means of the telemeter the exact distance of far-away objects can be measured and recorded. The "telephonecars" is an apparatus by which a ship is automatically warned of submarine dangers. By the aid of the thermophile it is possible to furnish heat by means of a fine electric wire which can be woven into rugs, blankets or cushions, and all that is required is a very small electric battery. The inventor claims for it that it will do away with the necessity of ever having fires in even the coldest weather.

And So Forth. "Having discovered a projectile that will pierce any armor," said the seeker for information, "what will the next

step be?" "To find an armor that no projectile will pierce," answered the naval expert.

"And then?" "We must find a projectile that will

pierce any armor."---Washington Star. Couldn't Stand for That. Mr. Mulcahy, who happened to be passing a grocery store, saw a sign in

the window which said, "Home Grown "That bates me!" he said. "I don't moind givin' a clane, decent pig th'

run of me pa-ar-lors, but I niver raise p'raties in me house, b' Jarge!'-Chicago Tribune.

Making Foreign Coins. Uncle Sam is using his mint as a jobbing shop. With facilities to spare he is producing the coinage of several other countries besides his own.

MEANING OF SUN'S ECLIPSE

Homely Illustration Serves to Describe Cause and Peculiarities of the Phenomenon.

In these days of popular astronomy for the million, it seems scarcely neceary to describe at length what a solar eclipse means. Suffice it to say that it is a temporary blanketing of the sun by the moon coming between it and the earth. Both the sun and the moon are of the same apparent size, but at times the moon, in her orbit, seems to be decidedly the larger, and if then the moon passes exactly between the earth and the sun a total solar eclipse ensues and is visible as such at those portions of the earth within the shadow-track, and as a partial eclipse along a broad strip on either side of this.

The shadow thrown on a blank wall by any globular body held between a lighted lamp and the wall is a simple and homely illustration of an eclipse. The shadow will be seen to be much darker in the middle than at the edges, and the former is known scientifically as the umbra, while the lesser hase is termed the penumbra. If the observer now so stations himself that his eye views the globular body from the center of the umbrathe lamp is seen to be entirely hidden. but when viewed from the penumbra part of the lamp is visible. Such is precisely what happened in a solar eclipse. For two or three minutes the moon completely hides the sun, and the light of the latter is shut off from the observers of the earth, but because of the distance the three planets are from one another the shadow of the moon is cast on only a small portion of the earth's surface. Where the eclipse is total, or almost so, the light enjoyed at the greatest phase, or middle of the eclipse, will be similar to that of a bright moonlit night.

THEIR WONDERFUL BARGAIN It Was a Handsome Auto, But the Cost Was Augumented by

Sundry Mishaps. Mrs. Gunbusta came rushing into the

room breathlessly, relates the New York

Throwing her fur auto coat carelessly on a divan and laying her grim goggles on the Acolian, she gasped: "Oh, Fred, I bought a handsome ma-

chine this morning for only \$375." "Bully for you!" shouted Gunbusta. joyously, laying down the Motor Magazine he had been busily engaged in reading when his wife entered. "But," she stammered, "in my anxiety

to hurry home in it and tell you of my wonderful bargain I was horribly arrested several times for exceeding the speed limit and it cost me \$300 for fines and"-

"Never mindthat, dearest; it's cheap even at those figures."

"And then I had to pay \$200 to merchants for goods of theirs that I ran into and ruined, and"-"What of it?" interrupted Gunbusta.

"Eight hundred and seventy-five dollars is cheap for a good ma"-"And-er-and I gave \$500 to people I had run down and who threatened lawsuits, and all because I was so desirous of hurrying home to tell you of my won-

derful harg"-But before Mrs. Gunbusta had completed the sentence her husband rushed into the back yard and tried to run over himself with his automobile.

FRENCH WAITER'S THEORY.

Always Eating the Same Kind of Bread Cause of Internal Derangements.

"I have a theory about dyspersia and indigestion," said the head waiter in a French restaurant,"that I think ought to be considered by sufferers from stomach complaints. I believe that much of this class of trouble is due to people's persistency in eating the same kind of bread for weeks, months and sometimes years, without a change.

"Now, nobody does that with any other kind of food; meat, for instance. or vegetables, or fruit or other dessert. Yet the average man will eat the same kind of bread twice or even three times a day and think himself wise. The stomach, unuess it is of extraordinary constitution, will naturally get tired of this monotony and refuse properly to digest this eternal bread. Then the bread eater knows he has dyspepsia and starts on a course of dieting—generally sticking religiously to the same old bread—that most often leaves him in a worst plight

"There are many varieties of breadcorn, rye, whole wheat, graham, Boston brown, aerated, barley, Vienna and French bread. All of these differ in the making and the material, and if the average man would only take a turn at some of them for a change from his regniar loaf he would find himself healthier and happier."

Auto Fire Engines. Paris fire fighters race to the scene of disaster at a rate of 21% miles per hour on a 24-horse power automobile. which, including the eight firemen and full salvage equipment, weighs three to seven tons. Its four cylinder oil engine, instead of working directly on to the axles, drives a generating dynamo, the current of which is received by an electromotor, and the latter drives the axles through differential and secendary gear, four combinations affording various speeds. It climbs the. steepest streets and leaves all horse-

drawn cars of its kind far in the rear.

Insinuation. Husband (during the spat)-I wish you were some place where I would

mever see you again. Wife (calmly)—in other words, you wish I were in heaven, I suppose.-Chicago Daily News.

RIDE IN KNICKERBOCKERS.

Women Thinking Only of Their Comfort Are Shocking California Society.

California society has been quite upset by the forwardness of some society women who have had the hardihood to ignore public opinion and, thinking only of their own comfort and safety, assumed knickerbockers and coat instead of the conventional riding habit, and "Lady Algy" in the San Francisco News Letter sets forth in lively fashion the excitement this action evoked. At the time of writing it was the prime subject of conversation in Dei Monte, where Mrs. Walter Martin had appeared in a very stylish suit and waked a very storm of criticism, which had not hindered other women from sending to New York tailors for the same costume.

On the whole, the question seems to be, is there any sensible reason why an equestrienne should not wear knickerbockers? They are not unbecoming while on horseback, and the wearer certainly does not intend to use them elsewhere. The long coat that accompanies them reaches to the end of the knickerbockers, where it meets the high boot, and the great point is that the knickerbocker suit is easy and safe-even better than the divided skirt, now so long the fashion since people have grown sensible and ride astride, avoiding the constant peril of life and limb incurred by the use of the riding habit.

"Lady Algy" affects to think that riding astride and a sensible costume destroys all grace, but admits there s much less danger to life and also that New York and Washington womon wear knickerbockers. She refers to the daughter of Senator Elkins and Miss Roosevelt as proof that the thing can be done without losing standing in society.

CITY TUNNEL UPSIDE DOWN A Town in Montana Shows Wonders in Mining on a Large Scale.

The sightseer has a pleasant experience at Helena, Mont., but to get a glimpse of the internal wonders of mining he must go to Butte. says World's Work. Perhaps nowhere else can he have such an experience. In a sense the world is upside down. To begin with, the city takes its water from the eastern side of the continental divide and thus diverts it from the Atlantic to the Pacific slope. Then a large part of its population is always underground, and its underground ailevs and streets (so to call them) are longer than those overground. All its wealth comes from these depths. Nothing green can grow there. In general nature is turned topsy-turvy.

But it is rich-very rich-interestingly rich. The pay rolls of the mines about \$30 for every man, woman and child.

Within a radius of a mile from the court house there are 125 mines in operation and they are producing more than one-fourth of the copper mined in the world. From beneath the surface of this 1.000 acres has already been taken 1.750,000 tons of copper bullion-enough to make an ordinary troiley wire, they tell you, 1,000,000 miles long. If all the shafts, drifts and crosscuts in the hill around Butte and undereit could be put together into one straight tunnel, it would reach-so they assure you-from Butte to the Pacific ocean. This wonderful place of mines-nobody who has ever seen it can forget it-is on the path that not many years ago Sitting Bull ranged with his braves.

LOTS OF ANIMALS FAINT.

Cats in Particular Are Subject to Attacks When They Become Excited.

When the little white kitten tumbled down on the rug with a piteous "meaouw" the woman, who always knows what to do, picked her up and called for the camphor bottle, relates the New York Port.

"She has fainted, poor little thing." said the woman. "Camphor will bring her to."

All the other boarders laughed, but the woman continued to administer the aromatic spirits in her own motherly fashion. When the white kitten had revived the woman sought corroboration of her diagnosis from the veterinary surgeon next door.

"Of course, the cat fainted." he said. "Lots of animals faint. Cats are especially apt to keel over in moments of excitement. These attacks are sometimes confused with fits, but they are really fainting spells, and the patient can be brought to with camphor. Dogs faint, too, and horses. A horse that faints is usually thought to have blind staggers or sunstroke, but anybody knowing the animal's constitution can tell the difference and apply the special treatment required."

Animal Hospital in India. There is an animal hospital in Lodepur, near Calcutta, where there are usually about a thousand animals wader treatment-horses, oxen, mules, elephants, dogs and even sheep, all comfortably housed and looked after by a staff of 80 native "nurses" under the orders of a British veterinary surgeon.

Distilled Misery. One distillery company in Kentucky turns out every seven days, 1,200 barrels of sweet mash whisky. The output for a year would be 62,400 barrels. The cost of all this to the manufacturers may be fairly estimated at **8374,000**.

COMING AND HE GOT IT.

How a Man Who Wanted the Entire Seat in Street Car Was Taken Down.

A dapper young man, who acted like he was a director of the company, occupied a whole seat on a Brooklyn avenue car the other evening and seemed satisfied with life. A workingman with dinner basket on his arm entered the car and made for the seat. relates the Kansas City Star.

"Excuse me, sir, but would you: mind moving over a bit," he said po-

The dapper young man looked up and scowled. He did not budge an inch.

"Never mind, old man, your time will come some time, observed a sympathetic young man who was jammed over against a window by a woman who held a baby in her arms.

Just then the car stopped, and a negro woman who might weigh 300 pounds, entered. She held two squawking chickens in one hand and a basket of vegetables in the other. The workingman turned, as if he had just risen, and beckoned the negro woman to the seat. She sailed along the sisle past the crowded seats with a grateful smile on her face. When she sat down she struck the seat so hard that the dapper young man was sent fiying over against the window. He looked miserable, pinned there as he was, while the passengers giggled and tittred and chuckled all the way out to the end of the line.

The workingman held on to the strap and looked satisfied. His time had come.

HUNDREDS STRUCK BLIND. Mysterious Eye Disease Has Caused

Much Suffering in Central Africa.

A somewhat remarkable eye disease is at present prevalent in several parts of British central Africa, northeastern Rirodesis and in Portuguese Zambesia. At first it was noticeable in cattle, sheep and goats and only recently was it found to have attacked the natives. The disease, according to the London Mail, is at present raging from Port Herald, a British station on the Zambesi, right on toward Tete, a distance of over 200 miles, and at this latter place it is reported to be quite epidemic.

William Arnatt, a traveler who recently returned from Tete, states that he observed hundreds who were suffering from the disease, and a large number were totally blind. One of the sights of Tete on a Sunday morning. is the long lines of blind people who enter the town to beg, each string being led by a little boy or girl. It first a white spot is observed on the eyeball and this in a short space of time becomes highly inflamed. The eye then discharges a white, milky fluid and the whole of the eye be comes covered with a white film. This is the critical stage of the malady. and if the disease is very severe the eyeball bursts, thus destroying the sight entirely.

ODD WAGER EASILY WON.

Flesh and Blood Leg Was No Match in Endurance with One of Cork.

'It was in the commercial room and the conversation had turned on the topic of the powers of endurance shown by the men of the past and present. During a lull in the conversation a young commercial man said:

"Any man, if he has the will power, can endure pain or fatigue; I know I can." Silence for a moment, and an "old man of the road" replied: "I'll bet you a dinner you can't hold your foot-boots on-in a bucket of hot water as long as I can."

The bet was taken and two buckets of hot water were brought in and a kettle of boiling water to raise the temperature to the point of endurance. In went a foot of each bettor. The young man's face began to pale, but the other called for more boiling water. "What the deuce is your leg made of, sir?" yelled the former, suddenly taking his foot from the bucket.

"Cork, sir-cork," was the cool answer, and the other gentleman felt that he had, indeed, lost.

Peril of the Polar Ice Floe. The crushing force of the floes that cover the northern seas is not to be guessed by those who have not seen them. They are not such films and cakes as we see in our bays and rivers, says the Brooklyn Eagle, but are acres and miles in extent, often solidly compacted, piled one on the other, each foe from 15 to 16 feet thick and representing not the freeze of a single winter, but the consecutive formations of years. Advance through such a flos is as impossible as it would be to sail a ship through a city street. The navigator must wait patiently for "leads" and take advantage of even momentary openings when tides and currents break channels through the mass.

Orders. Employer-Well, what did he say to

Clerk-That he'd break every bons in my body and pitch me out of the window if I showed my face in his office again!

"Then go back and tell him that he is vastly mistaken if he thinks he can intimidate me by his violence."-Life.

Good. Counterfeiter-Do you mean to my that note is not good for anything? Banker-It is good for ten years if you are caught passing it.-Chicago

Journal.

FORGOT HIS BASS DAUM.

Iowa Man Has Strong Claim on this Title Champion Forgetter.

The man who lost the bass drum has been found, says the Chicago inter

Ocean. Newspaper paragraphers have made merry with the absent-minded man. and he has been accused of all sorts of deeds of omission and commission. Therefore, some of the stories told at his expense have been taken in Pickwickian sense. The tale that a man said he was so absent-minded that he at one time lost a bass drum. has always been considered a mere

Originally this story may have been a fable, but now it is true. A man has actually lost a bass drum, and all themembers of an lowa band will bear witness to the fact.

It happened near Davenport, a few Sundays ago. There was a relebration at Davenport and an up-country band had arranged to take part in the feetivities. The train stopped at the station just a moment, and the members of the band piled into the smoker, with their instruments and their regalia.

Just as the train was moving away. a fat, red-nosed man grasped the rail and swung aboard. Then he turned pale and gasped.

"Where's my drum?" he cried. ashis eyes bulged and his knees shook. "I saw it on the depot platform,"

said the trombone player. "Suffering cornshucks! I forgot it!" When the band began business at Davenport, it labored under a handicap, and the bass drummer was not a popular member of the aggregation.

CHEAP SWIMMING POOLS.

May Be Made in the Brook by Country Boys with Small Labor.

The brook or running stream of natural outdoor water gives a variety of chances for the man who wishes to live his life aright, says Country Life in America. The brook can be converted, without being diverted, into a swimming pool for boys by building a dam at the point where the banks do a little extra shelving and tend to form a natural basin. The bottom should be spaded out and made more of a reservoir in its capacity and shape. The dam itself can be made by a family of boys at the cost of the lumber and nails involved. The embankments are sodded. The sides of the spillway are made of wooden posts driven into the ground and boarded up. This makes a boxed-up affair, or rather two boxes, one on each side of the stream. These boxes are filled with sand, rocks and sous to make a sould cubic piece of resistance. The souded embankments run across the valley or depression of the brook hollow to the higher ground. By means of a levera pole (playing into a wooden-jawed socket and weighted with a rock or pieces of iron;-the watergate can be opened against a strong headway of water. The water flows over the top of the spillway when it is closed, and by raising the gate the pond can be emptied or reduced to the normal level of the brook.

WHY THE BARBER TALKS.

Keeps Posted on Current News of the Day and Is Competent to Speak.

"Barbers have to know something besides shaving and hair cutting," said the boss of a downtown shop, says the New York Sun. "They have to read the newspapers. They must keep up with the news of the day, and especially sporting events. I don't know why it is so, but a majority of mes customers begin talking about the races and baseball and other sports as soon as they get in the chair.

"You have heard about the garrulous barber. Now the fact is that a city barber rarely opens his mouth if the customer is reticent.

"If the barber talks it is due to the customer, and, as I have said, most of the customers in a barber shop run to sporting news. If they find that the barber is not posted they will go elsewhere. There is no rule requiring a barber to read the newspapers in the shop, but he understands that he is expected to know what is going on.

"I have one man here who has made a study of the war in the far east, and I really think he would be a valuable aid to any board of strategy. Several of his customers are in the Army building, and no matter how many are ahead of them when they come in they wait for that barber because they like to hear his views."

France's "Green Peril."

France has a "green peril," which, however, it does not dread, but rather courts. In round numbers, it is said 2.926,000 gallons of absinthe are anually required to allay the thirst of Frenchmen, or, rather, French men and French women, as the latter consume their full share, not only in the cafes of Paris, but throughout France. One result attributed to the absinthe habit is the increase in lunacy in France. During the last 60 years the number of lunatics has increased from 10,000 to 80,000, while the increase in crime during the same period has alse been great.

Not Good Reading. "Have you ever looked up your ancestors?" asked the antique enthusi1. Se.

"Well," replied his indifferent friend, with a twinkle, "I've skimmed them ever-yes. After getting that far. I found I didn't really care to go into detail."-Detroit Free Press.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS

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