ODD FACTS ABOUT BIRDS.

Some That Have No Wings-Others Wintout Song-The Biggest Birds That Fly.

Birds without wings are found in New Zealand and Australia. Kiwi is the name of one species. Beautiful mats are made of the feathers of the white variety, but it takes ten years and more to collect enough feathers to make a small mat, which would sell for about \$150, says the New York

Bun. Birds without song belong to Ha waii. In Honolulu one sees a bird about the size of the robin, an indemendent sort of fellow, that walks sbout like a chicken, instead of hopping like a well-trained bird of the United States, and it has no song.

A bird that walks and awims, but does not fly, is a penguin. No nesta are made by penguins, but the one agg laid at a time by the mother is carried about under her absurd little wing or under her leg.

The largest of flight birds is the California vulture or condor, measurling from tip to tip 91/2 to 10 feet, and exceeding considerably in aise the true condor of South America. The bird hays but one egg each season-large, eval, ashy green in color, and deeply pitted, so distinctive in appearance that it cannot be confounded with any other.

The California condor is rapidly approaching extinction, and museums all over the world are eager to secure living specimens. It is believed that there is only one in captivity.

Another large bird is the rhinoceros bird, which is about the size of a turkey. One recently shot on the island of Java had in its crop a rib from m small telescope and three brass butzons, evidently belonging to a Brit-Ish soldier's uniform.

A bird which is swifter than a horse As the road runner of the southwest. Its aliases are the ground cuckoo, the Bizard bird and the snake killer, snakes being a favorite diet. In northern Mexico, western Texas and southern Colorado and California it is found. The bird measures about two feet from tip to tip and is a dull brown in color. Its two legs are only about ten Inches long, but neither horses with sheir four legs, nor hounds, nor electric pacing machines are in it for swiftmess when it comes to running.

Most curious are the sewing or tailor birds of India-Hittle yellow things not much larger than one's thumb. To coope falling a prey to snakes and mankeys, the tailor bird picks up a dead leaf and flies up into a high tree, and with a fiber for a thread and its bill for a needle sews the leaf onto a green one hanging from the tree, the sides are sewed up, an opening being left at the top. That a nest is swinging in the tree no snake or monkey or even man would sus-

Many a regiment cannot compare in perfection of movement with the ight of the curlews of Florida, winging their way to their feeding grounds miles away, all in uniform lines, in unbroken perfection. The curiews are dainty and charming birds to see, some pink, some white.

Birds in flight often lose their bearlings, being blown aside from their course by the wind. In this case they are as badly off as a mariner without a compass in a strange sea on a starless night.

All very young birds, by a wise prowision of nature, are entirely without fear, until they are able to fly. The reason of the delayed development of fear is that being unable to fly, the birds would struggle and fall from their nests at every moise and be killed. Suddenly, almost in a day, the birds develop the sense of fear, when their feathers are enough grown so that they can fly.

It is always a source of wonder to aretic explorers to find such quantities of singing birds within the arctic wircle. They are abundant beyond be-Hief. But the immense crop of cranberries, crowberries and cloudberries that ripen in the northern swamps acwount for the presence of the birds.

A stick of wood seven inches long and a quarter of an inch in diameter was once taken from a wren's nest. It is very singular that so small and delicate a bird should use such rough material with which to construct its mest. If an eagle should use material proportioned to its size its nest would be made up of feace rails and mmall saw logs.

The extraordinary situations in which nests are found occasionally alamost give one the impression that birds must be endowed with a sense of humor. For instance, a wren built lits nest upon a scarecrow, a dead sparrow hawk, which a farmer had hung up to frighten away winged ravagers of his crop. In the pocket of an old jacket "hanging in a barn a bird, also a wrenmade its nest, which, when discovered. contained five eggs. It was a robin that raised a young family in a church pew, and a robin also that built its nest in the organ pipes of a schurch. Places of worship have always been favorite building places for

birds. A Pair of Runaway Kites,

Two kites which were the leading members of a flight of five sent up last summer from the royal aeronautical observatory near Berlin broke mway from their companions, and, edragging a long wire which touched the ground and extended two miles "behind them, fled before the wind al-*most 100 miles before they were brought down to the earth. The resistance of the wire trailing over the land suffeed to keep the kites proper-By presented to the wind, and their flonely journey lasted through an entire night. When the kites started on their remarkable break for liberty they were at a height of more than and miles. - Youth's Companion.

QUALITY OF PAITHFULNESS.

Seat Results Are Achieved Only by Conscientions Application in Any Work,

Old-fashioned it is, to be sure, yet we hope not as nearly obsolete as some pessimistic persons would have us bedeve. It is, however, true that a decided tendency is noted, in this age of aurry and bustle, to slight many things comparatively unimportant, put which nevertheless count in the sum total of achievement, says Elissbeth Robbins Berry, in Boston Budget.

It is as true now as ever that a thing worth doing is worth doing well, and it should be firmly impressed upon the minds of any who are striving for sucses along specific lines. Painstaking pare and attention to detail may be irksome, especially to the young, who look for immediate success, which others have attained only after long years of patient effort. In these early days of the century there is noticeable a tendency to encourage speed, even at the expense of thoroughness. To be able to expedite matters, of whatever sort, is the great desideratum, and in a measure it is excellent, but when imperfect work is the result it would seem better to go a little slower.

In the schools of to-day, under the 'cramming' process now in vogue, the brilliant pupil is he who can acquire the greatest number of facts in the shortest possible time, yet the fact remains that the greatest thinkers of all time, and those who have produced the most value to the world, have seldom been found among the shining lights in their school days, but rather by faithful weighing and measuring of the subjects presented have they absorbed the knowledge which has been the foundation of what they afterwards became.

The lesson of fidelity should be first taught in the home, for there as elsewhere faithfulness in all things is needed. In the culinary department, upon which so much of the working of the domestic machinery depends, this is especially the case. We all know the housewife who expends but little time upon her cooking, and we know, too, the results, for nowhere else are slouchy methods more manifest. --

We know, too, the woman who, in her home is careless of her personal appearance, though such are sometimes thorough housekeepers; and again, there is the one who expends but little time and thought to have the interior of her home attractive. If such have servants, these characteristics are reflected in the service they

Faithfulness in matters of etiquette in the home is not as frequent as it should be, if it were there would be fewer exhibitions of ill manners and lack of courtesy in the world outside. Wherever one is placed, in the home, in social life, in a profession or in business life, faithfulness will bring a sure reward. That it is sometimes unappreciated is no argument against its practice. In a crisis, it will be the athful one upon whom dependence is laced, even though he may previously have been apparently unobserved.

And if other incentives were wanting, the self-respect thus acquired is a sufficient reward. To feel that the task intrusted to one has been faithfully performed, that into it one has put one's best, is very gratifying; and on the other hand, if one has, because of bodily fatigue or otherwise, succumbed to the temptation to do less than his best, how surely do the consequences react.

Faithfulness in all things, however small, if yet worthy, is the only sure passport to peace of mind. Even if disaster follows, one is comforted by the thought that he could have done no more. Faithfulness in every department of life, in friendship or where friendship is lacking, whether appreciated or unappreciated, for its own sake and without hope of reward, should be the ideal if one would achieve the highest form of success, and faithfulness to the ideal will bring its own reward.

Keep Your Children Busy.

Keep your children busy if you would have them happy. When the occupation is some daily labor which has been wisely allotted, see that it is accomplished as well as it is possible for the child to accomplish it under existing circumstances. But whether it be in work or play, let him understand that no matter how well he may have done to-day-and do not be chary of your praise-he has within himself that which will make it possible for him to do still better to-morrow. This treatment, instead of discouraging, will encourage, by inciting the child toward ever better work, and will early implant that spirit of divine discontent which allows of no absolute satisfaction in that which has been accomplished until the achievement reaches perfection. This is the discontent which Emerson preaches and which is holy if doubt is not allowed to creep in to mar the aspiration.-Gertrude Okie Gaskell, in Woman's Home Compan-

Beef Juice.

Procure one pound of beefsteak, one and one-quarter inches thick; place the meat between the wires of a broiler and broil over a clear fire four or five minutes on each side; remove; lay the meat on a warm dish, cut it in small pieces, put them in a meat press and press out all the juice; season with salt. This is generally given by spoon fuls either hot or cold. If the beet juice is to be warmed it is best to put it in a cup and set it in a pan of hot water. -- Ledger Monthly.

Refined Repartee. 21 never tell all I know," he said, in-

Edition hebdomadaire \$3.00.

tending to be mysterious. "Well," she replied, "it certainly san't be because you don't have time," .--Chicago Times-Herald.

BIRD LEGGINGS.

Such as Are Worn by the Swiftest Mail Carriers in the World.

The pigeons that conduct the novel mail service between Auckland and Great Barrier island, New Zealand, at

all times when on duty wear leggings. This, the only part of the bird's uniform, is necessary in order that the tissue paper, on which, the messages are written, might be kept dry when carried in bad weather.

When the miniature mail is being made up the letters are folded and the end sealed with a stamp. These tiny packages are then attached to the bird's legs, and the leggings put

on, says the Cincinnatt Enquirer. Only one message was for some little time carried by each bird after the Great Barrier Pigeon Agency Postal Service was instituted about four years ago, when the charge was 50 cents each message. So successful, however, was this new means of communication, that business increased rapidly, the more so after the postage was reduced to 25 cents, and now some of the fleet little messengers carry as many as four letters.

This unique mail service has no rival in speed, nor is its "dispatch" limited to fixed hours and minutes. At any moment a message may be received the little carrier is in waiting; another moment the missives are attached, the leggings-which are made of waterproof material-put on, and then in another instant the 60 miles journey is set out upon.

On arrival the birds place their heads between two light wires, raise these on their shoulders, and walk forward into an inclosure two feet square. The wires, falling back on a piece of metal, sound an alarm, and notify an attendant, who removes the message.

Having traversed so long a distance. especially in rough weather, these postal delivery birds heartily enjoy the plenty of good food always awaiting them. They also appear greatly pleased to have a well-earned rest after their leggings have been taken

SOME MARRIAGE DANGERS.

Requirements of the Code in Different Countries Conflict in Very Many Respects.

It will astonish many people to be told that a marriage contracted in England between an Englishwoman and a Frenchman, even if solemnized in a church here, is not necessarily binding, unless the needful formalities demanded by the French law have been complied with by the husband, says the Humanitarian.

The English marriage binds the wife, at least in England; but the Frenchman may, should be desire to do so, release himself from all obligations by returning to his own land, where, should he not have complied with the requirements of the French code, he is in a position to make another marriage which shall be lawful -the contract with the Englishwoman being null and void.

Under such circumstances it may be useful to explain what the French code demands of Frenchmen who wish to contract legal marriages with natives of another country.

First, should a Frenchman be under the age of 25, he must obtain the consent of his parents in a document signed before a notary public. Unless he obtain this consent, he cannot contract a legal marriage at all.

Should he wish to marry between the age of 25 and 30, he must still ask the consent of his parents by making what is called the "acte respectueux" three times at stated intervals. After he is 30 he must still repeat the request for parental permission to marry; but need only wait one month before contracting a marriage.

Nor is the matter entirely disposed of so. The banns must be published; first, in the town hall nearest the place in which he may be living, if in France, or at the nearest French consulate should he be living abroad. Secondly, at the office of the mayor of the town in which he was last domiciled in France. Thirdly, in the town where his parents are domiciled, if he is under 25 years of age.

Ah Sin's Ways. To a Chinaman the idea that a judge should take bribes seems as natural as that a duck should take to the water. And yet the Chinaman will not, unless he knows he is on the right track, brutally push his bribe under the judge's nose. Either he or one of his countrymen will from the judge's arrival have rendered him good service. Does the judge want a gardener or a cook? Ah Sin soon provides an excellent one who never asks for his wages. Have some visitors arrived at the alcaldia? Ah Sin sends in a dozen chickens, a turkey and the best fruits. Is it the judge's name day? The wily Celestial presents a few cases of wine and boxes of fine eigars. Is the roof of the alcaldia leaking? A couple of Chinese carpenters will set it right without sending in a bill for it. Then, having prepared the way, should Ah Sin be summoned before the alcalde, he may confidently hope that his patron will not hurriedly give judgment against him, and that he will probably get a full opportunity to present substantial reasons why the suit should be decided in his favor .--"Inhabitants of the Philippines."

Over the Bridge. Mrs. Galloupe-Be sure and come. Mr. Gibble. I promise you you shall meet, oh, quite a number of pretty

women. Gibble-How can I refuse you, my dear madam? It will not be for the pretty women, however, but for you, that I shall come.—Boston Transcript. FOREIGN GOSSIP.

The 20 Mexican banks reported in the government reports show a combined capital of \$70,000,000.

The gold dug from Australia and California since their mines were discovered would fill a room 40 feet long by 20 feet wide and 20 feet high.

Ninety-one thousand readers visit; the British Museum library yearly. It has 32 miles of shelves filled with books, against 18 in the French imperial library. As a curiosity of the recent German

census, it is recorded that the returns showed the village of Reutenbourg contained 444 inhabitants, 222 being of the masculine and 222 of the feminine gender. In the Grodno and Volin districts of Russia there are about ten small Boer

farm colonies, numbering from 400 to 500 inhabitants all told. They were founded in 1820 by emigrants from Holland, and the method of living is precisely the same as that of their relatives in South Africa. London is being so rapidly honeycombed with underground railways

that the government is beginning to realize that a great comprehensive plan must be laid out, unless the site of London is to become a tangle of tunnels and tubes, each with its own ends and interfering with all the rest. Italy's present national debt is

\$2.572,693,491 and the yearly interest is \$115,971,015. The annual revenue of the kingdom is exhausted in the payment of current expenses and the interest on the debt, so that no provision for reduction of the principal is possible. In other words, the country is virtually insolvent at the present time. .

The most recent triumph of the French postal administration is an ingenious little machine, which not only automatically weighs letters and samples, but records on an indicator at the side the amount required for stamps. When the article deposited on the balance exceeds the regulation weight the indicator promptly hoists the sign: "Too heavy."

OLD REMEDY FOR DEAFNESS.

The "Rattle Cure" Improvised by a Quaker Family-Its Inadaptsbility in New York Flats.

Much has been published of late about various mechanical contrivances for the relief of deafness, but no patent has ever been obtained or advertisement given to a simple mechanism used intermittently for years in an old Westchester county Quaker family, among whom this malady seems to be a heritage of the aged, says the New York Times.

The germ of the idea developed many years ago in that generation when they used to make their trips to and from New York on the Armenia, South America, Swallow and other crack North river steam packets. It was noticed that if a place was secured on deck close to the whirling, roaring paddlewheels ear trumpets could be laid aside and conversation carried on by simply placing the hand to the ear. When the railroad came it was found even easier to talk as long as the cars were in motion, especially in places right over the wheels.

One of the sons was an iron founder in his native town, and small talk, and even staid repartee, became possible for him as soon as he entered the shed of the mills, where the rough castings were placed in great iron barrels and cleaned by being rolled over and over, by steam power, with a mass of broken stone and iron.

Once when they were putting the Croton aqueduct through the earth many yards beneath the homestead, they had a big dynamite explosion in the tunnel. Half the windows fell in splinters and pictures fell shattered to the floor.

"Come in," said grandmother, starting for the quivering door. "There, I'm sure I heard that knock as plain as anybody."

All these things went to prove a theory that the hardened tympanums, once set to vibrating; became sensitive to lesser wave sounds as they responded to mighty billows of noise, and led to the final experiment which proved at least as successful as most of the new-fangled mechanisms, and these sufferers have tried them-

New Yorkers have become in a measure familiar with the idea, for some of the old folk spent part of the winter with relatives in a Lenox avenue flat.

And so it happened that wrathful neighbors from time to time had their attention drawn from their own infants, pianos and phonographs by the nerve-wrenching, ear-splitting skrr-r-rat of a big old-fashioned watchman's rattle which once did duty as the fire alarm system for a whole town. As the clatter subsided through the walls rage gradually gave place to wonder as to what it all meant. They didn't know that old Aunt Sophie was simply exchanging a few confidences with a youthful nephew.

. Milk as a Weapon.

There are no points in Europe where the cold records of America are eclipsed, but in Asia our lowest records are thrown completely in the shade. Tomsk, in Siberia, isn't the coldest place in the world, but it must be frigid enough, for the records of the police court there show that last winter a woman was summoned before the magistrate to answer the charge of having knocked down a neighbor with a block of frozen milk which she was bringing home from market. There are many months in the year during which milk has to be handled as a solid rather than a liquid, and it is the custom to deliver it in blocks .- Golden Days.

WORK THAT GOES AWRY.

Things Which Wear Out the Patience and Exhaust the Nervous Strength.

Every housekeeper knows that it is not the steady routine work of the house which goes on day after day, with variations of company and incidental work, that breaks down the strength and health. In the thousands of happy, orderly homes throughout the land, where each member of the family contributes a share of work to complete the whole, the labor of housekeeping is a labor of love. The things which wear out the patience and exhaust the nervous strength, leaving an impress as do drops of water on the solid rock, are small in themselves, but unexpected, says the New York Tribune.

There are certain persons so constituted that they cannot conform to the routine ways of any home. They invariably tangle up the work by going on in a way of their own, regardless of the convenience of all other members of the household. The hour of breakfast may be settled for all the rest, but not for them. These disorderly people are annoying to the systematic housekeeper because they are quite apt to be amiable. They usually have no idea of interfering with the routine of work or of making double the work for everyone else which it is necessary to make.

There are also some housekeepers who have no idea of the value of system in housekeeping. They are hard, drudging workers, forever cleaning and grubbing over floors and pantries which ought to be kept clean. The house which is forever in a bustle of cleaning is forever untidy. The wheels of motion in a well-kept house move so noiselessly that no one is aware that there is a system in all that goes on, unless it be by the sense of quiet and peace prevailing over everything. It is just this quiet atmosphere which the undisciplined person fails to appreciate. Yet there must be serious breaks in the peace of any home which is not run by system.

The housekeeper who is systematic does not undertake unnecessary work, which she is sure cannot be accomplished without hurry and confusion, which will put back necessary housework. It requires cool judgment and executive ability to manage a house, and some independence of character. When every other woman in the village has joined a new society it seems churlish to refuse to do so, yet this is what the systematic housekeeper must sometimes do if it will interfere with necessary work at home. It will generally be found, however, that she does more for the church than most people, because her time is so arranged that she has time to spare.

The systematic woman keeps an account book, and knows to a penny what her expenditures are, and she does not go beyond a fixed amount. She is not subject to untoward accidents, like the upsetting of lamps, the breaking of china and those mishaps which try the patience of careless women. She is careful of little things, and is saved by her care much of the labor that falls to the lot of more negligent women. No work is so wearing to the nervous system as that which rises from want of system in the household and in general from haphazard ways of housekeeping. Indolent and careless people work the hardest. They never find what they are in search of. They make all manner of work for themselves by their slipshod methods. When work has once gone awry it is

laborious to set it aright." A DIPLOMATIC DAUGHTER.

Little Miss Loyalty Adheres Too Literally to Expressions of Her Father.

There is a bright little girl in Detroit whose mother is now trying to teach her that she can use her tongue with both truth and diplomacy. This is a difficult task, as the child does a great deal of reasoning for herself, and has the straight-forward logic of an unprejudiced mind. A certain incident led up to this training.

The father had a high-salaried position in a leading factory. The institution was absorbed by a trust, and the father thrown out of employment, says the Detroit Free Press. In the heat of his wrath he repeatedly declared that all trust and monopoly magnates were robbers and thieves. and the little daughter implicitly believed him. He happens to be one of those rare men whom it is very difficult to replace, and he was offered his former position. But, being shrewd and knowing his own worth he was not to be had except for some stock in ad-

dition to his salary. So he became part of the trust, but did not understand why the little daughter looked at him so doubtingly and was more conservative in the bestowal of her caresses. One evening there was company at the house, and the host became involved in a heated political debate with a peppery guest. The former made a statement which the latter flatly denied.

"Why, my dear man," laughed the host, "you don't mean to call me a

"No, he don't," declared the little

one, as she sprung in front of the visitor and glared at him with flaming eyes, "and I won't have it. My papa is a robber and a thief, but he is no liar!" Explanation as above was soon secured from the child, and the hilarity following the expose was the joy of

the evening.

Heavy Branches of Manufacture. We have more than 40 branches of manufacture in the United States which each turn out annually more than \$50,000,000 worth of products, and of the 40 five turn out over \$500,-100,000 each.—Industrial Journal.

The same of the sa

A CARGO OF CANDY.

Charing Cross Started with Tons of Sugar and Arrived with a Mass of Toffee.

Never perhaps in the history of the world has there been such a dreadful mess as there is now in the efterhold of the steel-built screw steamer Charing Cross, 2,534 tons, lying in the London docks, says a recent issue of the London Mail.

"Take this boy to the toffee room and let him stay there till he cats his way out." So ran the enthralling legend of our boyhood, and little did one think that one would live to see it done. That rapture which his fondest dreams denied him may be the man's who will tread the alleys of that enchanted lagoon, the London docks, No. 10. It is there, in the afterhold of the steamship Charing Cross, that 1,033 tons of toffee welter.

To his eager nostril, approaching

the green water side, the perfume of

toffee is wafted upon the blithe dock air as a breath strayed out of Paradise. He hastens forward. Then his heart laughs within him; he has clutched the gangway rail and it is very sticky. Round the after hatchway men are

gathered. They are gazing downward. Lustrous brown drops eling to their shoulders, besprinkle their exps, as with heavenly dew.

He reaches the side in one bound. And there ... !

In brown depths a score of muscled men delve. They how it with pickaxes, they gouge it with crowbars, steel-shod. They step in viscid pools; they slide and slip -upon their backs sometimes. This is the toffee cavern.

Anon a bunch of solid toffee slabs, fair slithery things, rise from the depths in the arms of sticky crane chains, and, dropping nectar, fall upon the quay with a squidgy sound most comforting.

On December 10 the Charing Cross sailed from Buenos Ayres with a cargo of brown sugar in bags. About a month later she reached the port of London. But when they came to unload they found not sugar, but toffee! They have been working hard for eight weeks trying to unstick it, and they will be a good fortnight yet. The captain is in despair; his ship ought to have been half way back again by this time.

"I was apprenticed to the sugar trade when I was a boy," said Mr. Ockenden, the sugar broker. "and I never saw anything like it. It'll cost thousands to get it out."

Whether it was packed while hot and went on cooking, or whether the cunning Argentine "doctored" it for purposes of his own, nobody knows. But several people care. Whether the Argentine will ultimately be one of them time alone can tell.

ABOUT THE WILD DUCK.

Old-Time Feeding Grounds in Maryland.

Wild ducks have almost ceased to frequent the waters of the Choptank river. It is not many years since the extensive flats in the broad bays that sweep from Cambridge to Cook's point afforded some of the finest duck-shooting in the Chesapeake region. Beginning with Hambrook's bay, fronting what is now known as West Cambridge, the hunter had a choice of shooting grounds that extended 15 miles westward to the Chesapeake.

In those days such estates as Hambrook's, Sandy Hill, Horn's Point, Castle Haven and Cook's Point were almost international in their fame as shooting boxes, says the Baltimore Sun. But it is doubtful if the most skillful duck hunter could in these days secure enough birds to his gun to make the sport worthy of attention. Where there used to be countless thousands of ducks and many geese feeding throughout the entire shooting season, one can scarcely count a dozen in a week.

The oyster business is responsible for driving wild ducks out of Choptank waters. The dredges and scrapers have destroyed the feeding grounds with their iron implements, and the ducks have sought other places. The seagull is about the only aquatic bird that remains with us in winter. The writer made it a point about one month ago to count all the ducks in sight during one whole day -weather just right for ducks-and saw only three little dippers. The situation was in the very heart of the old feeding grounds.

in Indian Hospitality,

How to stop the Indians of the South Dakota reservations from eating each other's food is an amusing but perplexing problem with which the Indian bureau is now dealing. It is an unwritten law of Indian hospitality that a guest may stay as long as he likes, and that as long as the guest remains the host must provide the food. It has become the custom among the Sioux, who have a feast with their two-weeks' ration as soon as they receive it from the government, to go to the more provident Indians and live on them until all their food is gone.—Indianapolis News.

Hence Tommy Atkins,

Let it not be forgotten, however, that the "exquisite humor" displayed in the name Tommy Atkins belongs rather to the war office than to the public. That institution used to issue little pocket manuals, in which each soldier's name, age, date of enlistment, . length of service, etc., were entered, and the method of filling in-the form. was explained by the use of a hypothetical name, not John Doe of the legal profession, but-Thomas Atkina The books were first so called, and then the soldiers.—Academy.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS Est très récendus en Louisians et dans tous les Etats du Sud. 48a publicité offre donc au commerce des avantages exceptionnels. Prix de l'abonnement, vous l'années Edition quotidienne. \$12.00