COSTLY POLITENESS.

ar of Courtsite Notwood Ma-

Comes Very Eigh.

her Instances of the Hapenstven ment of Friendly Acts Between the World's Powers-Amerlong Good Will.

International courtery is one of The meet expensive of all the coulty adulgences of the world powers, and More is apparently no way out of it,

The visit of Prince Henry of Pruswho to the United States is a good exde of the sums that are applied to the polite relations of one gornent with another. The little armey to this country cost the or nemeritors in the neighbor-Bound of \$100,000, but it was considtuned worth the cost, as it put the no metions on a far better footing Show they were before, says the Chigo Tribuns.

an illustration of the same spirit of courtery is shown in the case of the relief ship Resolute, sent out by Maghand in 1855. The ship was complit in the ice, and, being in exums danger, was abandoned and pens supposed to have sunk. But two are later is was found quite intact by Mr. George Henry, sa American mhaler, who brought it back to New

government abandoning its claim, its The American government therespon hought it and theroughly fitted it sent at a cost of no less than \$200,can. Under command of Capt. Hartwhose it was sent scross the Atlantic and presented to Queen Victoria. It mention at Southampton on December 122, 2005, was visited by her majorty Sour days inter, and formally handed amor on the 20th.

mans broken up, a handsome deak was made of its timber and sent by the spanes as a present to the president. The still stands in the white house in Whenhington.

The visit of President Loubet to nie in April lest was no cheap muster, either. Both countries paid muctay heavily for it. An immense ertable dining-room was constructand put aboard the Montonim bethere the president salled. This was was together at Cronstadt, and in it The head of the French republic gave in Suncheon to all the Russian royaltion. The cost of this building alone tome 212,000. The presents which the procedent took with him for the m's little girls sout as much more. In Bussia the great expense was the mailie precautions. An anarchist plot was discovered just before the peresident landed. It is said that be-Surren \$375,000 and \$300,000 was the not of bringing up police and solmusted that during the last six or wen years France has bought \$1. man goo.000 worth of Russian securities, for which there is little or no market outside Paris and Brussels. IM he to be hoped, for her own sake. rithat France has not paid this gigantic name away merely for politeness'

Just at present Great Britain is runup a big bill for feacing for the make purpose of keeping the good will and the United States. The Dominion some sure of pocket to the mater of \$125,000 in such a matter. Wher many years past there have been constant disputes between the cattleamen of Capada and those of the United Minter about animals which have manuaged across the border line. The sematter is of just as much concern the one country as to the other, but Chanda has willingly saddled herself walth the whole burden. She is build-Mag a strong wire fence some 500 miles In length along the boundary line be-Alberta and the state of Monthema. This, it is hoped, will put an ward to all bad blood.

The most striking example in recent years was the action of the United sthat the island of Martinique had been inhometated by an earthquake. At the restion of President Roose relt conthat from France, to which the is-**Shand belonged**, and while the deputies and placed American fact far to the

for the starving Hindnes. No less than **Bad been one of private charity, but** Congress chartered, at a cost of greeral thousand dollars, the steamer mito, and told the contributors to from New York, and all expenses advanced down the river the British and American flags were displayed tomether, and hearty cheers given by a

the golden age of the rawhide.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Twenty persons used the railways of Barbrin last year as at tid in committing swields.

Muce than 140,000,000 sounds of white fish and trout are taken from our guest lakes every year.

At a recent meeting of the Swine Alpine club it was stated that 462, or 54. per cents of the Swiss guides are in-

Molokal, the leper island of Hawail, le overrun with many thousands of red door, the descendants of a few that were imported from England to stock parks.

It is not only in the United States that cantaloupes are an uncertain quantity. Even in Spain, the paradim of melon enters, they have a proverb that buying a molon is like getting mar-

The tampayers of the United Kingdoin may Wahillings three pence a year per head of the gopulation toward navy and army, while the most heavilyweighted colonist pays no more than three shillings five pence a year per head of the population for navel and military purposes.

Bespite opposition at Athens, where the press was strongly opposed to the scheme, the municipal council of Corfu has ratified the contract which the mayor of Corfu made with a syndicate of European capitalists to allow the establishment at Corfu of a gambling casino on an elaborate scale.

California ranks third among the neaten of the union in the number of vegetable canneries, having 136 such factories, against 511 in New York and 271 in Maryland, but California leads both these states in the value of its estimat, which amounts to \$13,000,00 amenity, as against \$7,000,000 in the sther rights. This applies to regu-27.500.000 worth annually, as against \$1,800,000 in Maryland, which is the most put up in any other state.

GREAT MUMBER OF RARIES.

All Born in a Certain Minute Placed in Line Would Beach Around the Globe.

Men who laboriously labor over statistics are almost unconsciously classed among those to whom a good bearty laugh is an unknown quantity. They belong, at least in the popular mind, to the class which, in its scientific enthusiasm, can, with no inherent sense of impropriety, "botanise on a mother's grave." One of this gentry, who is a bachelor, has gone to the trouble to inform the world of this important fact: If all the babies, born at a cortain minute, were arranged in a line in their cradles they would extend around the globe, says the Chi-

With the instinct of a friend whose pulse is evidently kept beating with a circulating fluid deriving its actuating influence from an overflowing ice water tank, he seriously asks a human world of average sympathetic fortunate bables to be carried past a given point in a coherent procession, at the rate of 20 a minute, in their mothers' arms, one by one, the awful line being kept up night and day until the last hour of the 12 months of a

year has clapsed. Having grasped the full importance of this wide and awe-inspiring proposition, this same scientific statistically inclined sharp in cold blood requests us to remain calm while he informs as that, as a matter of mathematical calculation, he has indisputably demonstrated the undeniable fact that the reviewer at his post of inspection at the end of a year would have seen only a sixth of the supply of the infant industry of the current year. Then, with the indifference to be expected only from an unmarried man of Science, he coolly adds, as if it were of mo consequence to the impatient mothers and kids at the end of the line, that when the year's supply was drawing to a close there would be a rear guard, not of infants, but of romping six-year-old boys and girls.

The Speech of Pacrots. Do parrote understand what they say? A scientist relates that he has a Brazilian parrot which is a fluent and accomplished speaker. A gray parrot was introduced one day, but the Brazilian haughtily declined to have anything to say to the gray. Then a neighbor who had just been given a newly imported green Brazilian brought the newcomer to call. The moment the parrots caught sight of each other they broke into a torrent of apparently articulate language, consisting, as it seemed, of questions and answers, but what the language was no one present could tell. The owner of the first parrot had never during the years it had lived with him heard it speak this strange tongue. The two parrots talked to each other without ceasing all the time they were together, and a few days later, when they met again, exactly the same thing happened. Was the first parrot, long exiled from its native forests, asking eagerly of news of its people?-Chieugo Daily News.

Four Thousand Godfathers. Princess Irene, of Russia, is better provided for in the matter of godfathers than any other woman in the world. She can boast of no fewer than 4.000 godfathers, and how she came to obtain so many is a pretty story. When she was born the war of 1866 was drawing to an end, and peace being concluded just at the time of her christening, her father, Prince Henry of Hesse, requested all the officers and men of the regiments under his command to stand godfathers to his little daughter, whom he named Irene (Peace) in commemoration of the end of the war.-London Tattler.

A NEW EXPLOSIVE.

Mathamite to the Latest Addition to the Long List of Powerful Betenätere.

The most powerful explosive known is "Hathamite," a recently discovered substance, which showed remarkable qualities under recent tests, reports

Bosides having the maximum of exlocive power, this strange material, which is the discovery of G. M. Hathpersy, of Wellsbore, Pa., is the most

difficult to explode. To test it on this point the following seemingly dangerous experiments were

tried without offert: Lighted matabes were thrown into

It was pounded to powder on a aledge. Shells were exploded near it.

Rifle balls were fired into it. Light percussion cape were discharged in it. To explode the material a heavy per-

cussion cop must be used, but then it detonates with terrific force. Some of the tests of its explosive force were: A small charge of the missure was

exploded upon a sheet of quarter-inch boiler-plate. It out a hole in the steel as cleanly as a machine could do it. A small charge was exploded between two cakes of ice, each weighing over 150 pounds. All that remained

was a small pile of actual snow-not finely crushed fee. In the second test on quarter-inch steel in the open air the plate was placed on a collar of steel. The steel was out clean over the collar. The coller, of the toughest steel and three inches deep-was broken into several

About an ounce of Hothamite was exploded in a regulation United States government one-pound steel shell, and very thorough fragmentation of the shell occurred.

A similar meant followed the exheavy steel chamber, there being eme ployed in this instance three and oneeighth ounces of the explosive. In this experiment the Bethamite was melted and run solid into the shells. A hole was then drilled into the explosive and primed with two grammes of granulated explosive, which was oted upon by the fuse.

The explosion of a small charge of Hathamite produces a sharp report, comewhat recembling the crack of a rifle, and there arises a rather thick cloud of greenish smoke, but this quickly dissolves in the air. When, in order to demonstrate the safety of Mathamite under ordinary conditions. the explosive has been poured upon fames or a bed of coals, it has burned clowly and with an immease amount of amoke.

TOHNSON GRASS A NUISANCE.

A Farmer of Louisiana Starts a Movement to Exterminate the Trembicsome Growth.

Congress was asked at its last seasion to make an appropriation to be used in getting rid of the water hyscinth in the streams of Louisiana and it voted the money. At this session it will be asked to make another appropriation to assist the farmers in fighting an invasion of Johnson grass, reports a New Orleans exchange.

While the water hyacinth is damming up the streams the graen is at work in the fields, crowding out the rice and corn crops. Johnson grass comes from the far west, brought by the railroads, it is said, and, once acclimated, it has thrived better here than in its birthplace. In the west the plant is killed annually by frost, but in southern Louisiana there is little or no frost to keep it down.

For the past two years the sugar planters have been complaining of the damage done by it. The efforts to get rid of it by ordinary means having failed, the legislature was appealed to for relief.

The head of this movement was William Polk, a member of the legislature from Rapides, who introduced a bill declaring that the grass was being scattered over the entire state by the railroads, and, therefore, requiring them to keep all grass along their lines cut down as on a lawn. This measure, it was insisted, would prevent the grass from going to seed, as it now does, and thus retard, if not prevent, its spread.

The railroads bitterly opposed the act, pointing out that it would require them to keep thousands of lawn-mowers constantly at work and would subject them to a great and burdensome expense. It was also declared that there was no proof that the grass could not be got rid of by the farmers themselves if they went about it in the right way. The bill was defeated.

But, although defeated in the legislature, the campaign against the troublesome grass is not ended. Mr. Polk became very popular among the farmers through his efforts in their behalf and was a strong candidate for congress. He made Johnson grass one of the issues of the campaign, and since he was defeated the issue has not been abandoned. Now congress will be ap-

Goute of Malte.

Though there are many goats in Malta they have no regular grazing ground, but the herds are driven along the roads and hillsides, where they pick up anything they can find .-- Albany Journal.

Prof. John Fiske is authority for saying that a man can travel the whole length of the earth's circumference in less time than it would have taken Herodotus to go the length of the Mediterranean.

BLOW TO LETTER WRITING.

Women Bow Send Out Invitations Over the Telephone for Convenience.

One resear why the art of letter writing is dying out is that the telephone is being used more than ever as a means of communication between friends in the matter of invitations. for the appoundement of important evente and for the sending of messages of congretulation and condcience. says the Chicago Tribune.

Those who aling to the old forms seem to be in the minority to-day. The younger generation refuses to be hampered by the time-consuming methods of several years ago, when a note of invitation, for instance, could not even be sent through the mail, but must be delivered by hand.

The modern youth or maiden picks up the telephone and dispatches an invitation to luncheon or the matinee, and even for so acrious a function as a dinper it is quite common now for a bookese to call up a friend at the last moment, frankly admitting by the action that she only desires to fill some place that has been left recent at the last

moment. In fact, there is a fad for telephoning messages of some sort newadays. When it first gained entrance to the residences the felephone was intended as a means of communication between a man's office and his home chiefly; then it began to be used for the exdering of cabs, for marketing, for hup-'zying up slow tradesmen and the variour uses connected with housekeeping.

By degrees friends began to make use of the quick method of communieating with each other, and it was so delightfully informal that it became a vogue. Of course old-fashioned persons regarded with horror the idea of transmitting messages of a social nature in this way; but the age is in such a hurry that the time saving method has grown to be accepted as quite the

proper thing.

The informality of the telephone method of communication is what appeaks to the younger generation of society. An invitation given or accepted or rejected in this way has not the importance attached to the old method of a note delivered by a messenger. This was a serious affair, and one pondered over the answer to send, the extent of the social chigation involved,

and other matters. But the message over the wire is different. One does not have time to atudy questions as to motives, dress. the people one is to meet, or any other of the small problems that frequently arise on the reception of a formal in-

The telephone bidding recks of the up to date. It simply states that the occasion is there waiting and it calls for quick decision. There is no reading between the lines and no time to ask why and wherefore. It lacks the chilling dignity and importance that sometimes lingers quite unintentionally about a note.

SQUIRREL OUTWITS A CAT.

By the Exercise of Clever Strategy the Kuteracker Escaped from Tabby's Claws.

Squirrels evidently understand the cat's limitations and take advantage of the knowledge for their own protection and sometimes, apparently, for their amusement. An exhibition in Central park lately leads to this conclusion, says the New York Herald.

Grimalkin, with lowered body, was creeping along on the park wall near Sixty-seventh street, when she saw a squirrel sitting on his haunches, enjoying a peanut, the gift of a park visitor. The cat slid into the grass, and hiding as far as possible by flattening herself against the ground she planned an attack on her unsuspecting desired

Mr. Squirrel was not long unsuspecting, for he soon discovered his stealthily approaching natural enemy, and darted up the nearest tree, but only far enough for a position of advantage, and then viewed the situation.

When the cat found that she was discovered she also made a rush, and the squirrel, with quite evident close calculation, waited until she had gained good momentum and was at the very root of the tree, when he darted horisoutally around half of its circumference. The eat scrambled over the very spot where he had been and then came in the limitations, for she was not able to run around the tree. This the squirrel evidently knew and held its position of vantage.

Down went the cat and from the ground circled the tree, but she was able to catch only glimpses of the cunming squirrel as it traveled around the bark, keeping the tree between them. Several times she made a rush, but when she had reached the squirrel's level the diameter of the tree was between them. As she could not follow it, and finally tired of the leaping, the attack was abandoned and the game of tag that had evidently been enjoyed by the squirrel came to an end by the cat starting in search of less cumming

Oil of Rattlers.

In Pennsylvania the oil of rattlesnakes is preserved most carefully as a liniment especially good for sore joints and for rheumatism. In procuring the oil the dead snake is nailed head and tail to a board and cut open. The fat is taken out and laid upon a cloth in the hot sun, from which the filtered oil drips into a jar. From fear that the reptile may have bitten itself, the clear oil is tested by dropping a portion of it into milk. If it floats in one globule it is regarded as unaffected. If, on the other hand, it breaks into beads and curdles the milk, it is judged to be poisonous and thrown away .- N. Y. Tribune.

A COVERED RACE TRACK.

Mast Aurers (Bl.) Has a Tretting Course That is Completely insland.

Few things in the world are "absolutely unique," but this term applies precisely to the Jewett covered trotting track at East Aurora, which is one mile leng, reports a Chicago esobangs.

The covered track is situated on a 600-aura farm about two miles west of Rest Aurora. Henry C. Jewett bulls the track in 1987, when he was heavily interested in the breeding business. Of course, his idea was to provide a place where the colts sould be worked in winter as well as in summer.

The building is in the form of an oval and incloses about 70 serss. The structure is of wood, 20 feet wide, with gable roof. The height of the building is about 16 feet. At intervals of every eight or ten feet on each side are large windows.

The interior is whitewashed and the footing is of tanbark, affording an ideal surface for fast tretting and pacing. When in use the track is hisrowed every day, giving the required elasticity. The building is well venti-

There are two stands on the track -one at the head of each of the stretches. These are commodious sad heated by matural gas. Separated from the track proper by windows, a fine place for an owner to watch the horses at their work is afforded.

Two large barns are directly conmeeted with the track by covered runways. Each of these contains ben stalls for 100 horses, with ample room for aulkies, carts and the like.

Locating at Jewett's as snow begins to fly, a treiner need not take his horses outdoors until the next spring unless he desires. Stabled in roomy quarters, he can hook to a cart in the morning and jog through the rusway to the main track, then sending his trotter or pacer, as the case may be, as many miles as he pleases.

There is a half-mile open-air truck on the farm. This track is inside the inclosure made by the mile track and is thoroughly up to date in every way. It is equipped with a judges' stand and has all modern appointments. The half-mile track affords trainers a chance to get their horses out into the open air when spring comes, and some fast miles are receided off there

every May. The farm is widely known among harness horsemen, and some top-notch reinamen have wintered there. When Ed Geers, who trains for the Hamilias, does not go south he uses the Jewett tracks as a place to make speed. W. L. Snow, the well-known Hornellsville trainer, has wintered at the track,

and Alonzo McDonald, the prominent

grand circuit driver, had a stable at

CLEVELAND NEARLY KILLED.

Jewett's last winter.

Quide Tells How He Found Former President with Londed Gun Point-

A desire to view the statue erected to the memory of Roswell P. Flower, whom he had guided through the wilderness and whose homespun character he greatly admired, led "Chick" Bruce, a well-known guide of the Upper Raquette country, to tramp over the blazed trails of the divide between Massoweipie and Cranberry lakes and make a journey on the "Huckleberry" train from Benson's Mines to this city, says a Watertown (N. Y.) report to the St. Louis Repub-

He spent two days viewing the sights. In the evenings he related incidents of his adventurous career as a woodsman to the many friends he made here during his brief stay.

"Chick" was for several years one of the guides who piloted Grover Cleveland through the Adirondacks, when the statesman, then president, laid saids the cares of office for diversion with rod and gun. He relates the following experience with the chief magistrate:

One day, while hunting on Saranac lake, "Chick" says he placed "Grove," as he familiarly calls the sage of Greycourt, on a small island in the lake, and in company with another guide put the hounds out upon a near-by mountain, where they soon started a fine buck. The dogs drove the game into the lake, and with a boat "Chick" steered the buck up to a point near the island, where the president shot

While skinning the back on the island shore, "Chick" noticed the president sitting with the muzzle of his double-barreled shotgun resting against his ample breast, pointing just above his heart. Forgetting in the anxiety of the moment the respect due to the chief magistrate of the nation, "Chick" shouted: "Is that gun loaded?" Mr. Cleveland replied that it was, and found both barrels at full

cock. "Chick" says that had a fatal accident occurred he would undoubtedly have been hung, as there was no one around for a witness and he and the president were of opposite political parties.

He says that he felt after that whenever he guided "Grove," that the fate of the nation as well as his own depended upon his vigilance, and used to take his boy along to do the guiding work, while he kept his eye on

the presidential gun. Asked if Cleveland was a good man to guide, "Chick" replied that "he was good enough, but that like everybody else who came into the woods he asked a lot of foolish questions."

The salaries of teachers in Italian public schools is at most \$600 a year. after 25 years' service. University professors get from \$750 to \$1,200.

THE PERILS OF PEACE

Brave Men March Daily to Work is the Shadew of Death.

conds of Artisage in Which a Minutes or a Carolose Myre Monne Bestruction.

A dones different callings in New York will show a proportionately greater less to life, taking into consideration the number employed, than the army in time of war. Even the peaceful citizen whose work is conhand to a great office building runs more rick of life and limb every day.

Being a derelict, and the British

When, 24 years later, the old ship.

Mintes when the news was received ness voted the sum of \$500,000 for The relief of the sufferers, although there was no actual precedent justifyling the act. The assistance from the United States was given for in advance where still talking about what to do the help from America was on the may. The action won the approval every civilized nation in the world.

Amother case of American good will was shown during the recent famines

A big subscription was got up among grouple all over the union to buy wheat. \$2000,000 was raised from various priwate sources, and 5,000 tons of grain were purchased. So far the matter at that point the government stepped mut their wheat aboard her. Rear Acmorns Erben was sent to see the vessel. were paid by the nation. As the Quito-

duicide of a New York school teachwe because her pupils misbehaved only Indicates how far we have got away Desepations of Mandrets of Thom-

More than a dones different forms of employment are followed in the eity of New York more perflows than the work of the soldier in the field. That hair's broadth that lies between joyous life and instant and horrible oth is not incidental to the buttlefield alone, nor is personal courage in the face of imminest danger the exclusive characteristic of the man behind the gun, says the Herald, of that city.

The men who go to their work on the great steel structures, in the tunnels, on the piers, as chauffeurs of automobiles, as motor drivers on the surface cars, artiests on the big bridges, on the paint scaffoldings, etc., take their lives in their hands as complotely and trustingly so those who work in powder milis.

Go and see those employed in the labor of constructing piers along the pivers. The great sticks of timber that are driven into the river bottom must be floated and roped and poled into position for hoisting, when the floating derrick and pile driver picks them up and pege them down. But the bringing into position requires the strength and skill and daring of half a dozen men. They work on the rolling, tumbling logs, themselveb sometimes knee deep in the water. and when the tide sets in strongly and the waters become a perfect whiripool of conflicting currents that defy the skill of the oldest pilots it is a thrilling battle with death. For a single misstep-a single slip on the treacherous timbers and no human sid would be able to rescue the unfortun-

Or stop and watch the workman for up in the awinging seats, an in hand, placing shoring timbers against some high blank wall. Hundreds of feet below him is the solid rock. Two or three men manipulate the slender rope that swings between him and doctenotion. With nothing to brace himself, he must work a hole into the wall or fix the head of the awaving timber and drive the wedges that are to hold it secure. To look down would be enough to unnerve the strongest man. He gives orders to raise or lower himself by a wave of the hand. He has not even the security of the so-cailed "Steepte Jack," for the latter is responsible for his own hoisting apparatus. This man must trust wholly to his fellow workmen below.

Thousands of men are working calmly and steadily every day among, the big steel frames of skyecrapera within a step of death. Thousands more toil beneath the treacherous ledges of rock and earth in the dark subways, doubly threatened by their own carelessness and by their surroundings. The shocks of dynamite and the concussion of passing cars frequently loosen great masses of stone and earth, while the swinging cranes spill rocks upon the men below seensionally, and blocks and huge sticks of timber used as shoring give way unexpectedly every day. It is a daily life of mere chapte.

Those who go wildly about every day in automobiles take big risks. So do those who have to dodge them. If any man were fool enough to drive a spirited horse through the crowded streets at the top of the snimal's speed he would be arrested on the first block; yet the chauffeur runs at such a speed. Indeed, few horses can trot at the ordinary speed used by the average chauffeur. There is a species of intoxication in mere speed and some amateur chauffeurs are drunk all the

The hundreds of thousands of brave men who march forth daily to face and work in the shadow of death are not preceded by trumpets or bands of music, or waving flags, or glittering swords. They fall like files, obscurely and uncounted. Their widows and orphans receive no pensions, their graves are never decorated on national holidays. No government monument tells of their courage and heroism to future . ages. Yet in a single year more men fall in the business of the railroads a alone than fell in one of the greatest . battles of the rebellion. And every year more men die with their boots on in the city of New York than have perished in the same time either in the war with Spain or in the Philippines.

A Long Way from the Pinish. The Cape-to-Cairo railway would be 5,700 miles long in a direct line between Cape Town and Cairo. At the present time the rails are laid to within 200 miles of the Zambesi, or about 1,500 miles from Cape Town, and there is now a railway from Cairo to the junction of the blue and white Nile, or 1,400 miles from Cairo. It is thus seen that a line 2,800 miles long must yet be built to connect these terminal systems. The Ugandassynilway is built, connecting the port of Mombasa, on the Pacific ocean, with Port-Florence, on Lake Nyanza; the length of the line is 500 miles. The Bulawayo-Beira railway connects the system with the ocean at the last mentioned port. At Bulawayo the line in 4,460 leet above sea level.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS