

That molasses trust ought to furnish a whole lot of people with "pulls."

Whoever the parents of the trust may be, they are backward in coming forward and claiming their child.

New cures for old ailments are being discovered every day, but people continue to die of the latter just the same.

How would it do for the housewives to invite the tramps who call at their back doors to come in and wash the dishes?

Judging from the numbers of people who have been run over and killed or maimed by it, the bicycle is not going out of fashion.

A graphophone has been used to convict a man of murder. Perhaps justice may yet be brought about by other trumpets than Gabriel's.

The Kaiser may do queer things, but he keeps the world talking about his empire, which is good and free advertising for Germany.

The Sampson-Schley controversy still rages, but it can't pull Cervera's feet up from the place where the man behind the gun sent it.

The scientists have about finished their study of cyclones. They know all about them now except how to predict and how to prevent them.

"Do the dead deteriorate?" asks a Spiritualist journal. The consensus of opinion of the undertakers is to the effect that, if not embalmed, they do.

A mile has been made on the wheel in sixty-five seconds. At this rate the mile will be made in thirty-eight seconds. It will do very well in bicycle tires.

A man has been discovered in Pennsylvania who has been holding down the same punch office for sixty-eight years. He may be said to know a good thing when he sees it.

There is in New York a surgeon who claims that he can cure appendicitis without the use of the knife. If this is true some man may yet have appendicitis and live even though the doctors find him out.

The chewing gum trust is actually worth an output of \$3,000,000. This is a trust, let us hope, which will treble prices, for the higher the prices the smaller the quantity of the stuff that will be used.

"The air bites shrewdly," wrote Shakespeare. With all his presence, he did not dream of the liquid air, which, if it actually touched the flesh, may "bite" so savagely that months may be required for the healing.

A contemporary says Mark Twain should be ashamed of himself if it took him eight days to make his latest pun, holding up the fact that it only took six days to make the earth. It is but justice to Mr. Clemens to say that he has never compared himself to the deity.

The case of the Western young man who has begun suit for damages because he was mistaken for a burglar and badly beaten teaches a valuable lesson. Even when courting it is well to go boldly up to the front door and ring the bell instead of slipping around to the side of the house and tapping on a window. It may not be so romantic, but it is a whole lot safer.

Is there any sphere into which American enterprise hesitates to enter if it can but obtain the open sesame of the gates? If it were not for the success that usually follows it one would be tempted to think it synonymous with that thing that "rushes in where angels fear to tread." Its latest achievement is to put a modern elevator down to the catacombs of Rome and to light the catacombs with 2,700 incandescents lights!

In New York prize fights are tolerated, but the American governor general of Cuba sternly suppresses lotteries. In England Sunday newspapers are treated as a wave of public indignation and protest, but the institution of the barmaid, which would not be permitted by the police of any American city, is a delight to the late-tipping subjects of the most ancient monarchy. No wonder the Latin mind has been held in trying to fathom the moral ethics of the Anglo-Saxon.

When General Miles asserts that the automobile will largely displace horses in army operations in the near future we trust he doesn't mean that officers of the general staff are to be deprived of their chargers on the field of battle. Fancy the generals and colonels galloping along on automobiles! And what, then, would become of all our equine staffs, those noble horses, having one foot paving the air, while their tails and manes are waved by the wind? It won't be the same thing at all to represent a military hero sitting on an automobile, either in marble or bronze.

Along with Goethe's dying cry for "more light" must go thundering down the ages the cry of the Kaiser for "more soap." When a delegation from the medical congress called upon the latter he listened attentively to an account of their proceedings and asked many questions bearing upon the work. Then in conversation, after the formal reception was ended, he remarked with characteristic impulsiveness, "Soap, more soap! That's the weapon to check disease." Technically the Kaiser is right. Saponification is civilization. General Wood proceeded upon that the cry in Santiago and proved it. Contagious diseases, scientists tell us, are dirt diseases. Eradicate the dirt and you arrest contagion and its consequent disruption of society. It all depends upon your definition of soap. If the ordinary combination of oils and alkali are considered the crying need of the world is more soap, as the soap trust will readily agree. If by the term is meant a polite habitant we have entirely too much soap already.

Germany was the star performer at the Hague when she not only blocked the czar's scheme of disarmament in a very effective manner, but also announced her conversion to the Anglo-American arbitration plans. The Anglo-American arbitration plans, these prophets were right who declared that the Kaiser was meditating a move that should put him at the center of the

stage and demonstrate that he had a very large part in the play. That he was consented to the principle of a permanent arbitration tribunal is well-known news. His country is both a great and a growing power, whose influence should be made to tell for all the objects of the peace conference that are practical and praiseworthy, and the permanent tribunal is one of those. It has been criticized because it is said that the questions that will come before it are not such as to provoke war, but the establishment of the principle is likely to have far-reaching effects. Once the nations have been in the practice of appealing to the court its value in the case of larger international problems is sure to be recognized and a wider application of the principle will follow. The triumph for arbitration in the concession of Germany is particularly gratifying to this country, for whose efforts it is primarily due. Our Government and our delegates deserve congratulations on the eminently practical way in which they formulated and advocated one of the few great and feasible schemes of the conference.

The passion for cheapness and the greed for gain have proved too strong for the American conscience. Altogether too many manufacturers are turning out goods which pretend to be one thing and are another. This is seen in furniture, in architecture, in patent medicines, in drugs, in clothing, in jewelry, in food—to name at random a few typical branches of industry. It is well that Emerson, Carlyle, Holmes and Ruskin and William Morris, have ceased to rage against the hollowness of a veneered civilization. What would they say to the vulgar, stone-faced buildings with their flimsy walls and imitation woodwork? How would they endure the varnished rubbish that finds place in so many homes, and the 19-cent books that will fall to pieces in half a lifetime, and the plated jewelry, and sweat-shop clothing, and the monstrosities of advertising, and watered milk and watered stock, and other abominations? Emerson's sarcasm would have to be re-enforced; Carlyle would tear his hair and hunt for new anathemas. It is fundamentally a vice of the mind that leads to such universal deception. The moral who is content with appearance is the man who keeps up the market for shams. The woman who prefers cheap gold plate to real silver in her ornaments because "silver is so common" makes a good customer. The man who is willing to put up bad walls on a bad foundation and cover them up with respectable finish and furnishings in order to make a little more on a contract is a partner in the crime. The druggist who mixes alcohol with his powerful opiate or nerve stimulant and sells it for ten times its cost to people who know no better than to buy unlabeled poison is another sinner. The grocer who sells coffee consisting of lighted berries mixed with metallic compounds, and canned peas treated with copper to make them green, and jellies "made from the gelatine obtained from the skins and cores of apples, boiled, strained and mixed with glucose, with the addition of tartaric acid and in some cases sulphuric acid" is an accomplice of the vendor who sold him the goods. The dairyman who milks his pump as well as his cow has long been a standing joke; but his lairs and salicylic acids which he introduces into unsuspecting human stomachs are no joke. They prepare the way for the patent medicine man and the fake healer. One sham makes another.

A WOMAN BANDIT.
Pearl Hart Helps to Hold Up a Stage in Arizona.
Pearl Hart, the woman bandit, has mapped out a new line of endeavor for her sex by holding up a stage between Globe and Florence, Ariz. She planned the affair herself, and with the aid of a male accomplice carried it out.

The distance between Globe and Florence is sixty-five miles and the country is very wild, being sparsely inhabited by prospectors and hunters. It was midway between the places that the stage was held up. The stage was lumbering along through the hills with nothing of unusual interest to disturb the monotony of stage travel, when two persons in tired mountain dress suddenly appeared from a thicket and clump of bushes. With revolvers cocked and held with steady aim, they gave the old-time frontier order to "stand and deliver."

The driver pulled up his horses with a tug, but not to get them on the haunches, and before the three passengers, each of whom was armed, realized the situation, they were covered by the weapons of the bandits and commanded to line up for inspection.

Real relief was a party of 150 in cash, jewelry and revolvers, and then ordered the driver to proceed. A sheriff's posse was soon afterward formed and pursuit given to the criminals. They were captured and placed in the jail.

Oldest Inhabitant of Athens.
An account of the oldest inhabitant of Athens appears in a letter of recent date, written in that city and printed in a London paper. It was from Major Apollonios Mavrogentis, and he has just kept his 100th birthday. Of Laconian stock, he was born in Paros and went as a youth to study medicine in Italy. The war of independence took him home again, but he still justifies Byron's death, and he fought as a volunteer in several battles. The military laurels in Salamis was then put under his charge, and for many years he superintended the civil smallpox hospital in Athens, but not to his credit in the disease. He has seen the whole modern city rise from the ruins of the old, for when he settled there in 1887, the Piræus consisted of a mere cluster of hovels and taverns, while the capital itself could only show a couple of dirty straggling alleys mending amidst tumble-down houses and disfigured churches. Dr. Mavrogentis is still strong and hearty.

To Measure Devotion.
The measure of a woman's devotion is the extent to which she will make herself uncomfortable for you; the measure of a man's is the effort he will make to have you as comfortable as he proposes to be himself.

BRYAN'S VIEWS ON THE ISSUES OF THE DAY.

William J. Bryan recently wrote an article in which he treated various questions of the day—trusts, annexation of the Philippines, the income tax, the currency, etc. In this article he says:

"Standard Oil and the water of life do not mix. If a man says love God and hate thy brother he is a liar, for he hateth not his brother, who he hath seen, how can he love God, whom he hath not seen?"

"Thus does John in his first epistle denounce those who pretend to love the Heavenly Father while they hate their brethren."

"Christ condensed the ten commandments into two when he said: 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.'"

"The first defines man's duty toward the Almighty; the second his duty toward his fellow men. The fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man are parts of the same gospel and cannot be separated."

"There is a wide zone between the affirmative benevolence which religion commands and the rectitude which Government compels."

"The subject of Taxation. The object of this article, however, is not to point out the wrong which a Christian may aid his brother, but to show that the benefits received by the Government compels."

"The overthrow of the present administration is hoped for by the insurgent leaders."—Gen. Oris' dispatch.

rather to indicate a few of the ways in which he may be doing injustice to him. The subject of taxation is an ever-present one. It is an admitted position that each citizen should contribute to the support of his Government in proportion to the protection enjoyed by him and the benefits received.

"If, because a bad system of taxation or because of faulty administration of a good system, taxes are collected in such a way that some pay more than their share and others less, injustice is done to those overburdened and partiality shown to those too lightly taxed."

"If the unjust law is the handiwork of those who profit by it and is enacted because of the advantage which it brings to its authors, how shall we describe the moral character of the act? The wrong consists in the fact that the money is taken from one person without an equivalent being returned by the Government and given to another. The person who robs by force or fraud is no more guilty from a moral standpoint than the man who purposefully secures legislation which transfers to the shoulders of others the public burden which he himself ought to bear."

"The advocates of an income tax believe that taxation involves a moral as well as a political question, and, believing in equality before the law, they favor an amendment to the Constitution specifically authorizing an income tax. Can the opponents of such an amendment place their opposition upon moral grounds?"

"Honest differences of opinion as to the merits of any proposed financial policy are to be expected, but there ought to be no differences of opinion as to the ideal policy, toward the securing of which every effort should be directed."

"The questions, What money is sound? and What dollar makes the nearest approach to honesty? may afford ground for dispute, but there should be no dissent from the proposition that the best dollar, no matter what system secures it, is the dollar which is most stable in its purchasing power. Absolute stability, if attainable, would give us an absolutely honest dollar, but such a dollar has never yet been devised."

"In money, as in other matters, we strive for perfection, knowing that it cannot be fully attained. Every fluctuation in the purchasing power of the dollar injures someone. If a dollar rises in purchasing power it benefits those who own money and those who hold contracts payable in dollars, but it injures those who owe money and those who produce wealth."

"A dollar which falls in purchasing power produces the opposite effect. To increase the number of dollars called for in a contract would not be tolerated for a moment; to increase the purchasing power of the dollar, however, has exactly the same effect. The purchasing power of a dollar may be changed by legislation. For instance, other than being legal tender, the dollar lessens the volume of standard money increases the value of each dollar."

President McKinley Quoted.
"This idea was forcibly set forth by Mr. McKinley in a speech made in Toledo, Ohio, in 1891. Speaking of Mr. Cleveland's hostility to silver he said: 'He was determined to contract the circulating medium and demoralize one of the coils of commerce, limit the volume of money among the people, make money scarce, and, therefore, dear. He would have increased the value of money and diminished the value of everything else, money the master, everything else the servant.'"

"If legislation intended to make money scarce and therefore dear makes money the master, and everything else the servant, can Christians ignore the moral question involved?"

"What is the attitude of the Christian toward the trust?"

"Can he be a monopolist? Can he run a corner in loaves and fishes without breaking the golden rule?"

"The Standard Oil and the water of life mix. If a trust magnate can purchase religious respectability by liberal contributions to church expenditures, what proportion of his ill-gotten gains should be surrendered in order to atone for the violation of laws, human and divine? No church would ever be the hand of fellowship to a physical giant who occupied a mountain pass and enforced tribute from all who fell into his hands."

"A monopoly does not differ greatly from the giant in method and may be infinitely more potent for evil."

"The Greek and Latin Nazarene be discerned in those who water stock, issue bonds in excess of the value of the plant, drive rivals into bankruptcy by trust methods and then prey upon society at large?"

"Conditions have become so alarming that such organizations are beginning to sound a note of warning."

"The forcible annexation of the Philippine Islands is defended by some on the ground that our nation is performing a religious duty. Without stopping to elaborate the fact that a large number of the Filipinos are already members of one branch of the Christian church, it is worth while to inquire whether wars of conquest are in line with Christian precepts."

"Rev. James L. Barton, Secretary of the American Board of Foreign Missions, denies that an American protectorate over non-Christian countries will aid our missionaries."

"There are some who think that destiny leads us away from the declaration of independence, away from the way with a barb writing loudly over the old land fence, the balance through woods and across roads and gateways on a No. 12 wire nailed to trees, etc., not an insulator or bracket on the line, simply stapled to posts, trees, etc. The phone wire, similar to Blake, but cost me some less. Have had line in daily use over fourteen months and not a cent for repair, save renewing battery material occasionally."

"Has never failed to work, no matter how hard the weather, save for a short time, when one battery froze up. We had to take it off, and then found that we had yet a pretty fair service with battery on one end only. Would not do without it for ten times the cost."

For Dipping Sheep.
The illustration, reproduced from the "Country Gentleman," shows a contrivance for dipping sheep which is made up as follows: A two-inch pine plank, held together by bolts across the ends, outside joints put together with white lead. One end is inclined, so that the sheep may be drawn upon the draining trough, which has a sliding door at the top, so as to permit the fluid to run back into the tub. Two men turn a sheep upon its back, lift it by its legs and head and submerge its body. A third man stands by the trough, and he thought the Lord was in his help, and he replied that he was anxious to be on the Lord's side. We cannot change eternal principles to suit our own convenience or to advance our own plans, but we can strive with single-mindedness to know the truth, and when we find that which we believe to be the truth we can adhere to it."

"Let us not mistake temptation for opportunity. The sight of new territory and the glory of the empire may be fascinating, but the price demanded is too great."

"In for It."
It is estimated that the war tax will yield for the year about \$100,000,000. That much more was taken from the pockets of the people during the year than was ever taken before. And although that much more was taken, and although the receipts under the Digley law were much greater than they were the year before, the expenditures were \$100,000,000 more than the total receipts. And there is every reason to believe that the run still further behind next year. We seem to be "in for it." The administration has got the country into a war with 5,000,000 people in a tropical country, where the cost of carrying on the war is enormous and treasure is enormous. It has got the country into a war that could have been avoided as well as not—any far better than not.—Chicago Chronicle.

This Year's Battle Ground.
The Republican "insurgents" are as numerous, as active and determined as they were in Pennsylvania and Indiana as an obnoxious as they are to the better class of citizens. The "big boss" has demonstrated that he owns the party, and those self-respecting Republicans who believe that the honor of the State and the nation demands his effacement are ready to support the Democratic ticket as the only means to that end. The prospect is a most promising one for the Ohio Democracy, and it need not be surprising if Republican defeat in the President's own State is a result of the coming campaign.—Concord (N. H.) People and Patriot.

His Own War.
The Spanish war was a righteous war—a war for humanity. It was the people's war and was forced upon the unwilling administration. The Philippines war is Mr. McKinley's own American war of conquest, backed by no patriotic American sentiment and encouraged only in Wall Street.—Wheeler Register.

Legislation by Pawnbroker.
When the love of liberty is sacrificed from the human heart and parents no longer are solicitous for the welfare of their offspring, then, and not till then, will an intelligent people consent that all legislation upon the money question shall be dictated by the pawnbrokers and usurers.—National Watchman.



Poultry Keeping.
The Langshan fowls, as its name would signify, is of Chinese origin. Langshan is in the northwest of China, and has long been noted for its fine fowls. Some years ago these fowls were imported into this continent and immediately became popular. They are large bodied, of heavy, solid build, and wholly black in color. The legs are short and feathered to the toes. They lay light brownish colored eggs, rather under sized, as compared with the largest; are extremely hardy, withstanding extreme cold easily, are excellent mothers, and are easy to control. Their flesh is very white and clear, almost semi-transparent, and tender and sweet in flavor. If this breed were better known it would doubtless become very popular. The hen is a very good nurse, and is large enough to rear fifteen in a brood with ease."

Decrease in Bumble Bees.
Wherever a bumblebee is seen in a room his loud buzzing, added to the knowledge of the fact that it is really dangerous if it comes to close quarters, gives everybody a desire to kill it and put it where it will do no harm. Yet really it would be better in most cases if a door or window were opened and the bumblebees allowed to fly away. Early in spring the bumblebees that are flying around about houses are in search of places to make their nests. So many are killed, however, that in the long-stalled parts of the country the bumblebee is much scarcer than it used to be. They are the only bees that can reach down into the blossoms of red clover, and their work in honey gathering and fertilizing is of great value to the grower. The bumblebee therefore ought to be encouraged instead of being destroyed."

The Modern Milking Stool.
The cow cannot kick over the milk pail when this invention is used, says an exchange. Besides offering a security for the milk it also affords a seat for the milker. The idea, which is clearly shown in the cut, consists of an ordinary oblong four-legged bench of sufficient size to permit an opening in its top to receive the bucket. This opening has slanting walls, so as to



MILKING STOOL AND PAIL HOLDER.
hold the vessel at an angle to facilitate the milking operation.

Outwitting the Wireworms.
This is how our farmer got ahead of wireworms. Several years ago he broke up an old meadow and planted it to corn, but the wireworms destroyed all the young plants. He replanted, but to no avail, and could not get stand that year. The next year he planted the field again, but the corn was ruined. The third year, by the advice of an old farmer, he let the ground remain unplanted until the last of May, then plowed deeply and cross-harrowed. He then put on common salt, sowing it broadcast, as he would have sown grass seed, at the rate of two-thirds of a barrel per acre. He again cross-harrowed and planted the corn, and never raised a better crop than grew upon the salted ground the first year and the one following.

Ants Killing Plum Tree.
For a plum tree that is about to be killed by large-ants use the following freely: Paris green or London purple, 1 ounce; fresh slacked lime, 10 ounces; water, twelve gallons. Make a paste of the Paris green and lime by mixing them together thoroughly with a small amount of water. Then add the twelve gallons of water, mix and strain the solution. Apply to every part of the tree and leaves in a fine spray. A regular spraying machine should be used, but a common syringe will do by climbing up into the tree or by using a ladder to reach the top branches. It is likely that one application will be sufficient, but if rains follow repeat the spraying.

Alfalfa for Stock Feeds.
The West the alfalfa crop succeeds better than our common red varieties. It has the advantage also of remaining in the ground several years when it is once fairly rooted. The alfalfa roots go down much deeper than red clover roots, and in this way keep green in dry weather that curbs the red clover. Yet the alfalfa undoubtedly evaporates more moisture than red clover, as it makes a larger growth.

Farm Notes.
Although timothy hay is preferred for horses and clover for cows, yet clover hay that has been cut just as the heads were beginning to turn brown, and which has been well cured, is much more nutritious than timothy, and the horses will show a preference for it. Hardly cured clover hay, however, is distasteful to horses more than to cows.

Should the melons be slow in growing apply a small quantity of nitrate of soda around each hill and chop it in with the hoe. For beans use a mixture of one pint nitrate of soda and two quarts of phosphate of potash. One of the best modes of forcing cabbages to grow is to hoe them after each rain or cultivate so as to have the soil loose and the ground clear of weeds and grass.

The effect of clearing away the forests is damaging to crops, not that the presence of forests causes rainfall, but because they regulate the flow of water. There is less evaporation near forests, and the water does not flow away so rapidly nor cause streams to overflow at some periods, while dry at others. The trees serve as wind-breaks, thus preventing the drying of the soil by warm winds during periods of drought.

REDEEMING HIMSELF.

Brave Engineer Who Atoned for His Error by a Fiery Death.

Men who are ignorant of fear are rare. The bravest are those who, knowing the danger, do not flinch when duty calls. The following act of heroism in the case of a railroad engineer is told in the Century Magazine, August 1892, the engineer in question, employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad, met death by fire to save the passengers behind him.

The train, composed of ten crowded passenger coaches, had just left Jersey City and was passing through the "Hergen Cut," when smoke suddenly blew in through the open door of the smoking-car, and a moment afterward the engineer and fireman scrambled in over the tender.

The smoke cleared for an instant, and showed a roaring fire in the open furnace, and flames streaming back from the furnace had set the cab on fire and forced the engineer and the fireman to beat a retreat.

But in deserting the cab without first doing something to check the speed of the train, they had imperiled the lives of all the passengers; for the flames were spreading back so fiercely that it was only a question of time when the whole train would be on fire. To leap from it would mean death or maiming, for it was rushing along at full speed.

People had crowded into the smoking-car, and a moment afterward the train was stopped. Doubtless Sieg heard their mutterings. It required only a few minutes for him to realize the situation. He sprang through the smoking-car door, and a moment later had disappeared amid the flames beyond.

Presently it was felt that the train's speed was slackening, and soon, with a lurch and a bump, it came to a full stop near the bridge over the Hackensack River.

The passengers rushed out. With the sudden stoppage of the draft caused by the rush of the train, the flames from the cab rose straight into the air. The head and shoulders of a man were seen protruding from the water-tank on the tender. It was Sieg, his face disfigured, his hands burned, his body blistered. He was taken to a hospital, but he burns proved fatal.

In retreating before that first fierce burst of flame Sieg had been guilty of a grave error; but who will say that he failed to retrieve it like a hero?

TORTURE CHARGED.
Spanish Officials Accused of Applying Thumb-screws.

The Inquisition exists in Spain today. Here is a picture of an up-to-date thumb-screw taken from some Spanish official who are now on trial, accused of torturing prisoners in this way. A gentleman, Corporal Botas, and a sergeant were arrested at Barcelona for this offense. Witnesses accused them of squeezing the fingers of the victims in among the accusers. The governor of Barcelona, who is a general in the army, is taking an active part in the proceedings. A railway porter of San Martin, who had this instrument applied to him, has lost the use of his hands and arms.



DARING CYCLING FEAT.
A. H. Minding, of London, ascends and descends spiral on the front wheel of a bicycle.



A Rare Find.
A rare find in the shape of a moose egg has been made in a mining district in Central Otago. There was a fall of earth in a dredging claim, and presently the huge egg was seen floating uninjured in the water. The discovery is the more interesting from the fact that this is the second perfect moose egg that has ever been found. The only other perfect specimen was unearthed by a man while digging in the alluvial soil at the Kalkoura Mountains in the early '60s. This egg, which was nine inches in length and seven inches in breadth, was taken to England and sold for 100 guineas. Some idea of the size of these eggs may be gleaned from the fact that a man's hat makes an excellent egg-cup for them.

Facts About Our Calendar.
No action begins on Wednesday, Friday or Sunday. The same calendar has been made in every twenty years. October always begins on the same day of the week as January, April, July, September and December. February, March and November begin on the same days. May, June and August always begin on different days from each other and every other month in the year. The first and last days of the year are always the same. These rules do not apply to leap year, when comparison is made between days before and after Feb. 29.

Don't get discouraged because you can't embroider. There is always a much greater demand for plain sewing.

The man who stamks his happiness as a maid always makes a miss-take.

THE PEOPLE'S MONEY.

What was the English pound worth previous to 1873, and has it remained steady in its rate of exchange since?—O. H. Washburn.

The question is not quite clear. If the English pound is compared with itself its value is just the same as it was previous to 1873, and so it will always be, because everything is at all times equal to itself. If the pound sterling is compared with gold bullion, its value has remained practically unchanged, because the English law provides that a pound sterling (that is a sovereign) shall contain just so many grains of gold, and any one possessing the gold may have it coined at that rate. Moreover, to guard against loss by delay in coinage, the law requires the Bank of England to take all the gold that may be offered at £17s. 9d. an ounce, which is within one and a half pence of the mint value. So, it is impossible for there to be any substantial difference between the value of an ounce of gold bullion and an ounce of gold in the form of coin. If the pound sterling be compared with the money of other countries it varies just as such other money varies.

In the course of exchange between England and America sometimes the pound sterling calls for \$4.00, and sometimes several cents less. If gold is scarce in England and an American wants to send a bill of exchange to London for a certain number of pounds sterling, he must pay more for it. That is, he pays a high rate. If gold in that country is abundant he can get his bill more cheaply—the exchange is low.

The gold in the pound sterling is just equal to \$4.868, at most American points; but in commercial exchanges it is sometimes worth a little more and sometimes a little less, depending upon the condition of the money market in both countries. But in all such cases the variations are small, because it is simply an exchange of one for the other. In one case it takes more dollars to equal a pound sterling, or fewer pounds to equal a given number of dollars. In the other, it takes fewer dollars to equal a certain number of pounds to equal a certain number of dollars. But all this is simply a matter of commercial exchange. If English sovereigns are delivered at the American mint the gold which they contain is worth just the same as the same weight of any other gold. If American eagles are delivered at the English mint, the gold which they contain is worth the same as the same weight of any other gold, because gold is equal to gold. The only difference is, roughly speaking, one-half—Exchange.

True Money Basis.
No discussion of the bottom facts and principles of the money question can be thorough and complete without a reference to the Bank of Venice. This was the longest and most severely tried, and also the most successful and satisfactory financial system known in history. Colwell discusses the Bank of Venice very fully. I ask attention to the following statements from that able author:

"All historians agree that the Bank of Venice was the first national or state institution of its kind in modern ages. The causes of its creation are to be found in the history of the republic, its situation, the character of its people, its industries and its commercial relations with other nations. In these turbulent times, and heralded by such godmothers as war, pestilence and revolution, the first history of the republic, of the modern world found existence. The finances of the republic were exhausted by this series of calamities—the doge, in 1171, according to some authors, and in 1157, according to others."

"Probably the first step was obliged to have recourse to a forced loan, exacted from the most opulent citizens, each being required to contribute according to his ability. The reimbursement of these loans to the government in all probability was not to be thought desirable. Every creditor was reimbursed when he transferred his claim on the books of the banks. The Bank of Venice performed in functions for over five hundred years, with a nearly unbroken success and continuity from censure or complaint which no other currency has enjoyed for a time of that period. During that time of vast commerce and immense public expenditures, the republic had incessant trouble with its own and foreign coinage, and very many stringent regulations were made and enforced to cure evils and prevent abuses, but we have no record of abuses on the part of the bank, or of injuries inflicted upon it by the people."

As Americans, we may learn a lesson from the Bank of Venice, and improve upon the system. We may admit the deposit of gold and silver in the treasury, at a legal rate, and instead of placing it to the credit of the treasury we can issue him a legal tender Government note. That note should read: "Receivable in the revenues of the Government, and lawful money in all payments." The deposit and the issuing of the notes in the proper denominations and amounts should end the transaction. There need be no money held in the vaults of the Government for redemption purposes, and the old style of notes on the books of the bank may be omitted.—The Nonconformist.

One can hardly take a newspaper nowadays without finding more or less space in it occupied by articles, written in a boastful strain, giving captivating accounts of the wonderful productions of our gold mines. Yes, great rivers of gold are pouring in upon the people. These streams are growing larger all the time. Why, next year we will see oceans of gold coming. Then how prosperity will flap her wings and grow. We will be so good for everything. There will be so much of everything, greenbacks would not find any one willing to pick them out of the dirt. And as for silver,shaw! that will be worse than it was in the days of "Solomon," teaching counted off." However, wise men cannot be easily deceived.

Roof Gardens.
Private roof gardens are becoming an institution in New York. At a handsome residence on a cross street is one of these gardens on the roof of an extension. There is a high wire fence around the roof, not too near the edge, and inside are little chair swings for the use of the children of the family.

In the natural process of ethical evolution a humbug becomes a jallbird.