ALWAYS A DOUBLE.

For Persons Who Gain Social or Political Prominence.

Washington special New York Mail and Express: It has always been a notable fact in Washington that whenever a man or woman gained especial prominence in politics, war or society, there appeared on the streets of the capital his or her double. All the presidents have had their doubles, and Cleveland used to be greatly annoyed when told that Lawrence Gardner who was connected with the Democratic national committee from the district of Columbia, was his exact image. Ex-Congressman Fowler of New Jersey took the greatest delight in being mistaken for President McKinley, and it is said he affected the president's style and dress to heighten the resemblance. One of the female clerks in the treasury department during the Cleveland administration secured many invitations to social entertainments simply because she looked like Mrs. Cleveland, and certain hostesses wanted her presence at their functions to make the unwary believe that Mrs. Cleveland was one of the guests. There have been many fac similes in human form of the various army and navy heroes of the late war constantly seen about Washington and their doings have often caused stories to be circulated about the original, which, at times, were embarrassing to the latter. But so far as known, the gripman who looks like Dewey had not traded on his resemblance, but seems content with attending to his work as Dewey does.

AN INN'S SECRET.

Sample of How Warrants Were Prepared in Old Times.

During the work of rebuilding the Royal Bull hotel of Dartford, England, an old hostelry and landmark, some interesting discoveries were made last month, says the Baltimore Sun. In 1773 a murder had been committed at the house and the body disappeared mysteriously. A skeleton now dug up, three feet below the flooring of an old cellar, leads to the belief that it was the remains of the victim of the tragedy. A secret staircase was brought to light, and, as this communicates by invisible doors in the walls of the cellar with the room in which the tragedy occurred, it strengthens the belief that the body was taken down the staircase and buried. At the same time a number of death warrants, bearing the signature of Portland, minister of George III., were found in the panels of the walls in which the murder was committed. How documents of this character got into so strange a hiding place is a matter for conjecture. One, dated June, 1798, is a good sample of how warrants were prepared in those days. It reads: "Whereas, James O'Coigley, having been attainted of high treason and had sentence passed upon him to be drawn upon a hurdle to the place of execution and to be hanged by the neck, but not until he is dead, but that, being alive, he shall be taken down and his bowels taken out and burnt before his face, that his head shall be severed from his body and his body divided into four parts, and that his head and body shall be disposed of as we think fit, and whereas we think fit to remit that part of the sentence directing the burning of his bowels and dividing the body into four parts, our will and pleasure is that he shall be drawn and hanged and have his head severed from his body."

WISE WORDS.

The peace of any man's soul who has outgrown mere self-indulgence can only come by going forward—on to the deepest principles and final causes of things. Put God underneath all your life, and your life must rest upon the Everlasting Arms.—Phillips Brooks.

You reap what you sow—not something else, but that. An act of love makes the soul more loving. A deed of humbleness deepens humbleness. The thing reaped is the very thing sown, multiplied a hundred fold. You have sown the seed of life, you reap life everlasting.—F. W. Robertson.

The common fluency of speech in many men and most women is owing to a scarcity of matter and scarcity of words; for whoever is a master of language, and hath a mind full of ideas, will be apt, in speaking, to hesitate upon the choice of both, whereas common speakers have only one set of ideas, and one set of words to clothe them in, and these are always ready at the mouth. So people come faster out of a church when it is almost empty than when a crowd is at the door.—Swift.

The knowledge of the past is valuable, because without it our knowledge of the present and of the future must be scanty; but if the knowledge of the past be confined wholly to itself—if, instead of being made to bear upon things around us, it be wholly isolated from them, and so disguised by vagueness and misapprehensions as to appear incapable of illuminating them, then indeed it becomes little better than laborious trifling, and they who declaim against it may be fully forgiven.—Arnold.

Mother Shipton's Prophecy.

The famous prophecy of "Mother Shipton" was made in England in 1485, more than four hundred years ago, before railroads, telegraphs, electricity, or bicycles were even dreamed of, and at a time when if a man had openly predicted such things as a definite possibility he would have been tried and perhaps condemned to death as a wizard. Now every one of these predictions has come true except that the world has not come to an end, nor seems likely to.

Carriages without horses shall go,
And accidents fill the world with woe.
Around the world thoughts shall fly,
In the twinkling of an eye.
Water shall more wonders do,
Now strange, yet shall be true.
The world upside down shall be,
And gold be found at root of tree.
Through hills man shall ride,
And no horse nor ass be at his side.
Under water men shall walk,
Shall ride, shall sleep, shall talk.
In the air men shall be seen,
In white, in black, in green.
Iron in the water shall float
As easy as a wooden boat.
Gold shall be found mid stone,
In a land that's now unknown.
Fire and water shall wonders do,
England at last admit a Jew;
And this world to an end shall come,
In eighteen hundred and eighty-one.

A Piece of Lath.

A story is told of a former mayor of Birmingham, England, that he gave orders to have his robes of office lined with "vermin." When the late Alderman Sturge was mayor he received a royal command to dine and sleep at Windsor. This of course meant court dress and sword. The court dress was reluctantly submitted to, but as a member of the Society of Friends, and, moreover, one who had greatly distinguished himself in the cause of peace, for he had formed one of the peace deputation to the czar before the outbreak of the Crimean war, Mr. Sturge would not consent to wear a lethal weapon. A compromise was happily effected. A scabbard and hilt of the usual kind were at his worship's side when the presentation to royalty took place, but the sword was a mere lath of wood. Fortunately the worthy Quaker was not called upon to draw in defense of his sovereign.

Curious Bird Habits.

It is a well-known fact that if the young of almost any kind of bird are taken from the nest before they can fly, the old ones will feed them most attentively if the cage in which the little birds are inclosed is placed somewhere where the parents can reach it; and a popular but erroneous belief is current that they do this for a time, and end by poisoning the young ones. This, however, is a mistake, the fact being that at a certain stage of a young bird's existence, when it is naturally able to begin catering for itself, the parent birds, also quite naturally, cease to attend it, and then, if the birdlings are shut up in the cage and their custodian has not thought of placing some food at their disposal, they necessarily die, not from poison administered by the parents, but from starving.—Pall Mall Magazine.