MURDER BY, "MERCY TABLETS."

Nothing is easter than to make out a plausible case for Dr. David O. Hudson of Missouri and his "mercy-tablet" plan for the elimination of idiots and the incurably insane. One has but to enlarge with righteous eloquence upon the opening of a door of escape from hopeless ills and sufferings. The point would be ignored that a door would be opened widely also of opportunity cunningly to commit capital crimes. Dr. Hudson tables gibly of confining, the lawful use of prussic-acid potunes to patients "bereft of all bumap insufact" and confined in poorhouses and asylume to be proved legally to kill-and to make sure that the limits shall be invariably respected airs two matters separated by many degrees of difficulty. This separation will endure so long as the world'holds persons who out of revenge, jealousy, greed or other motive of solifaterest are willing to commit murder.

Trust in Dr. Hudson's revival of paganism is forbidden by the untrustworthy elements of the very solety whose ruller is sought. No wheme of "merciful" execution has et been suggested which would not nyolve inevitably an enlarged field for murderers.

A STARTLING THEORY

A STARTLING THEÓRY.

And now comes Professor O'Shea,
of the University of Wiscousts, with
the statement that every home should
provide for savage as well as civilized
file. "The most aesthetic and intellectual persons," says the professor,
"are those who in early life were the
wildest children."

He cless the cat, and declares it
only plays because its ancestors
hunded for a living. So, he asserts,
it is with the child, "He loves dirt
and fighting. He is a brute as far as
his instincts go, and unless he be allowed to develop his savage tend-

nis instincts go, and unless ne be allowed to develop his savage tend-encles at an early age the finer instincts, which do not grow until later, will not develop to their best.

A glance through the childhood days of some of our greatest men seems to bear out the professor in his statement.

LONDON'S RICH BEGGER.
London newspapers are testing about Charles Phillips, who delea in his 75-cent-aweek bunk in White-chapel's Rowton House. In his pockets are testing a seemed hard up, and the Inmates felt berry for him when the borrowed pennies. He never paid any back. From the women he begged cups of tea. He would rise at 8 o'clock, spend 3 cents for breakfast, play chess until lunch, spend 4, cents for soup and 2 cents for bread and butter and tea, and then play chess until beddime. No body was ever able to learn a word and then pay chess and better a wor about where he came from. His will leaves all to charitable institutions.

RESPONSIBILITY DISCLAIMED.
The increase in the cost of living is an economic mystery. Everybody disclaims the gresponsibility or IT. The Secretary of Agriculture insists that the farmers have received out one who was the of the increase, while wholesale and retail deaders protest that their average profits are no greater than they were three years ago, consequently neither the producers nor the distributers of foodsturfs are to blame for the greatly horeases cost to consumers, the fault may been no advance in freight the been no advance in freight the sufficient to account for the greatly first in retail prices. RESPONSIBILITY DISCLAIMED

FEWER PRISONS IN IRELAND.
Kilmainham Prison is, no more, it
will be recalled that the Phoenix
Park hanging took place under the
shadow of this prison, and also that
Parnell. Sexton, Dillon and other
Irish Members of Parliament have
been its prisoners. There are to be
less prisons in Ireland, and Kilmainhap is among the first to go.

COLLEGE MEN AND THE BIBLE."
Figures show that in 1999 over 32,
10 college and university undergrauates in the United States and Canda were voluntary attendants upon
ble classes, and that in other counties 80,000 college men engaged in itelligent and voluntary Bible study.

A QUESTION FOR EVERYBODY.

As you grow older you become worse or Detter. How are you in this respect? Some men are very promising up to thirty-five and then begin to show weak traits inherited from forthless ancestors.

After a man has known a few jeal-ous women he doesn't marvel much the cleverness of Sherlock Holmes or Old Sleuth.

PEARLS AND PIGS.

No same man would cast pearls before awine in these days; hogs are too valuable to take chances of choking them.

The best results are gained when all parties to a controversy put forth all their powers in the direction of that which seems to them logical and right. Out of such contentions right and truth emerge.

WORLD'S GREAT BRIDGES.

Romans Were the First Great Build ers of Stone Spans.

There is a great hope for the future development of bridges in that there seems to be a tendency among financiers more closely to consider the question of maintenance as related to original cost in large construction enterprises, and this will unquestiona bly induce them to build more largely of stone and brick than has been the case until this generation, says the

Metropolitan Magazine.
In the construction of stone bridges In the construction of stone bridges the Romans were the first great builders. Bridge building was in fact one of the most interesting problems they had to solve. In architecture and construction they were infeed a mooriginal and artistic people, too little, appreciated and studied by modern Anglo-Sanons. They were the forerunners of our present construction. Until their time the Greeks had not reached that measure of perfection my so much considered, and theirs so much considered, and their now so much considered, and theirs was the culmination of the slow artistic development through the ages. The Romans, however, had presented to them untried problems to be solved which called for new methods of construction, and of these the bridge or aqueduct was one of the most interesting. They were practically the first people to use the principle of the arch and voussoir construction. The use of the arch principle, while constitutions attributed to the Chinese.

sometimes attributed to the Chinese was practically unknown to the aucients of the western civilization un-til the Roman conquest. It has been contended that the idea of the arch principle was first evolved by the Eruseans; if this is true, it is indeed coming near to Rome. Such wonderful bridges as the one built by Caesar Augustus at Rilmin or the Pont du Gard, the great aque-duct situated about twenty miles from Nirnes built across the River Gard and

nes built across the River Gard and attributed to Agrippa; the bridge of St. Augustus at Rome started by Ad-St. Augustus at Rome started by Ad-rian, and many others too numerous to mention have scarcely ever been surpassed. There seems to have been a period between this time and the twelfth century when few bridges of importance were built, and it was be-tween the years 1178 and 1388 that the famous bridge at St. Benezet at Avignon was built. Several other beautiful bridges soon followed, stimbeautiful bridges soon followed, similar to it in construction. Then came the early Renaissance bridges, also too, humerous to mention—the old Pont. Neuf being, perhaps, the finest paris, the famous bridge attributed to Aumanaut, the architect, in estiment nectury at Florence, also the largest stone bridge ever built in tank own.or., with a span of 183 feet, and a rise of 60 feet over the Allier at Vieue Brecondo, Prance, or the bridge at Chester over the Dee, 40 feet high, with 200 feet span. high, with 200 feet span.

The Power of Attention.

The Power of Attention.

The fact that the mind of man is easily distracted from any subject in contemplation accounts for the slowness of the development of most minds, and for the extreme slowness of the development of the burnal mind collectively. There are historical periods when general enlightenment seems to have advanced by leaps and bounds; but when one takes cognizance of the tens of thousands of years that man has been at play in the Kindergarten of Creation, one is aware of the very gradual and deliberate character of human progress as a whole; and this deliberateness of growth, and the remains of ignorance and superstition even in minds regarded as educated, come largely from the inability of men to keep their thoughts employed steadfastly on the various objects and problems of matter, hind and life. The faculty of attention is strikingly lacking in the savinge man; it increases as civilization increases, and is a large factor in the advance of civilization and of citiline.

savings man; it: increases as vivilization increases, and is a large factor
in the advance of civilization and or
culture.

When the power of attention is exceptional in the individual, he is sec
apart from his fellows; he is a genius
in the business world, or perhaps a
poet, artist, investor, discoverer, philosopher, reformer, statesman or conqueror. When the power of attention
in a community has been stimulated
by one attentive mind or by a group
of attentive minds, the world passes
through periods of great mental activity; great reforms take place; thero
is great material or intellectual advance; or there are revivals in letters
and in the plastic arts.

The supreme object of the teacher
is to cultivate attention in his or ber
charges. When a child has learned
how to pay attention, he has learned
how to pay attention, he has learned
how to study and to learn. "Object
lessons" are favortite devices for fixing, attention. According to the orthodox theologies, religion has been
taught to mankind largely through object. lessons, in the form sometimes
of "Progressive revelations;" and it religions
serves.

of "progressive revelations;" and the system of symbols in all religions may be called simply devices for nr-ing the wandering attention of souls, for their sustenance and lasting ben-

and truth emerace.

The total product of wealth produced by a genius who works for the public good is so much added to the common stock without injury or institute in any one.

Many men make more money than their fathers did, but feel poorer, because they are not willing to live as their fathers did.

MMZZZZZMZZZZZMM Henrietta's Worry

In a way it took just as much herolam for Henrietta to go jauntily down to her place behind the hand-kerchief counter that moraling as would have carried half a coten soldiers through a battle.

Had not the two girls who worked with her and likewise the three girls across the sisle all been at the party the previous night and witnessed how she had been jitted.

she had been Jitted!
For that was what it amounted to.
When a man has attended your footsteps steadily for and a half
and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and a half and half

bargain!

Two tears splashed into the box of blue-bordered handkerchiefs Henrietta was just putting out and she shook her head angrily.

She had not stayed at home from

She had not stayed at home from the dance. After watting until the last minute expecting Tom to sand word, none had come.

Then Henrietts, with a queer tightening at her heart, had commandered her coust, who was only nineteen but who at least could pass muster as an escort.

Her cheeks had been redder than ever and she had laughed a good deal, especially when either Tom or Lirzie Andrews, the girl he had brought, was near. He should not think—

think—
Henrifetta braced herself as the grilnext her gave her a sly glance.

"Had a ight with Tommy?" queried
the gril hrutally, "I see he shook you
last night, all right," she laughed!

Henrietta folded a handkerchief
eardully. "I guess I'll survive," she
said, in what she tried to make a
calm voice. "Don't be too sure he
did the shaking, Mary Smith!"

"Huh! That's all right!" and Mary
Smith disbellevingly
Henriettis heart swolled.
knew how they would all rejoice his
baiting her. for Tom's devotion had
been so marked that they had all been
jachous of her good fortune. To have
any man care for you as he did—make a
positive doormat of himsel. To have
any man care for you as he did—make a
positive doormat of himsel.

Jenule Peterson, across the alse,
looked up from measuring thirty yards
of lace. Jenule had mild blue eyes
that lent her a deceptively sweet appearance.
"Surprised you're down to-day at

looked up from measuring tairty yards of lace. Jennie had mild blue eyes that tent her a deceptively sweet appearance.

"Surpried you're down to-day at the standard you're down to-day at the standard you're down to-day at the standard you carry it off well."

The only solution of the mystery was that he had got tired of her. If only he had chosen any one clae instead of Lizzle Andrews as her successor—a girl Henrietta disliked instanctively for her crafty smile. She sighed and her head ached. It would not be so hard if only she knew the real reason. Henrietta longed to go away by herself and cry it out. Instead, she had to tib her chin higher and smile at the girls who watched her and occasionally laughed among themselven, "allantly said the girl who really liked Henrietta. "I don't think Tom Brittain so awfully handsome, anyhow," vallantly said the girl who really liked Henrietta. "I don't think Tom Brittain so awfully handsome, anyhow," vallantly said the girl who really liked Henrietta. "I don't think be amounts to may be added to the standard to the should live to hear Tom aspersed and have no right to defend him.

As the afternoon wore on Henrietta felt tired all over and the ache in her head increased.

"My, you're pale," said the girl at her right, a waspish little creature. "I

left three in lover and the acre in her head increased.

"My, you're pale," said the girl at her right, a waspish little creature. "I would not let people see I was so broken up over any man!

"You mind your own business!" said Henrietts sharply, as she turned to the boxes back of her, her white face flaming suddenly.

When closing time came she snatched her hat and coat and fled to the open air. At least she could get away from those hateful staring faces and amused smiles. If she only didn't care so much she could have laughed. care so much she could have laughe it off and defended herself.

votedly.

"Yes, it's all right now," she said. your cloud,

ROADSIDE FRUIT.

In Germany it Heipa Pay the Upkeep of the Highways.

The auctions sales of native fruit grown on the trees bordering the country roads in the township of Lipidea, adjoining the city of Hanover, yielded last "atum 20,812 marks (44,908). Along creating the country roads in the township of Lipidea, adjoining the city of Hanover, yielded last "atum 20,812 marks (45,908). Along creating the country of the country high and high and

old watchmen on bloyeles patrol the roads being particularly active on Sundays, when the people are out in large numbers. It is forbliden to pick up fruit from the ground, and to knock it from the trees is subject to a fine of 100 marks (#23.80) or more for each offence, says Consular and Trade Reports. Laws and regulations for the general good, however, excite such respect on the part of the German that cases of theft of fruit from the highway fruit trees rarely occur.

highway fruit trees rarely occur.

Didn't Think the Bride Necessary.

"A queer thing happened here" said Lawyer Nathan G. Foster. And few weeks ago a fellow and girt here and asked me to marr them. They did not know that these was required, so went with the min to the clerk's joiner and they arranged the matter. I told them to come back at a stated time and I would marry themselves to the said of th

Trainmen Hunt Rabbits.
The railroad men say that in the Central Branch country the rabbits are unusually numerous and that jackrabbits are more numerous than

jackrabbits are more numerous than for years.

The trainmen get a chance to hunt cocasionally on account of the poor condition of the engines. Whenever an engine goes wrong the trainmen when the engine of the poor condition of the engine of the engine of the engine of the work of repairing the engine he pulls the white to conduct the trainmen come back to the train and resume their work on the road. At Parnell one crey had time to have a rabbit supper.—Kansas City Star.

rabbit supper.—Kansas City Star.

Under a law which went into effect a few years ago, all industrial and commercial concerns throughout Italy must grant their employes a weekly rest or not less than the employes a weekly rest or not less than the employes and the employes as the employed as the employ restaurants, photograph galleries, pharmacists, etc.

pharmacists, etc.

A "Halirs Breadth."

A "halirs breadth" is 17-10,000 of an inch. For the purpose of such an inch. For the purpose of the purpose of the purpose of the purpose of the bank vaults, for example, of this sort must be done on the doors where every part must fit to the nicest degree.—Harper's Weekly.

Health of Employes.
With the idea of increasing the efficiency of its force, the International Harvester Company is having a rigid investigation made of the health of all of its employes. The main object is to locate and weed out all of those

eare so much she could have laughed clercy of its force, the International is off and defended herself.

In her haste she ran straight into the big young man waiting as far inside the door as he dared stand.

"Tom!" Henrietts gasped, recognisting him through the moist blur her eyes had worn all afternoon. She had no room for any other emotion than the loy of seeling him again.

"I wanted to tell you," the young man broke out at once, his words falling over each other, "It was all Litzic Andrews. She told me you had the promised to go to the dance with that Shannon floorwalker man and that he had cut me out. So I saked her because I didn't care what happened then. And you wouldn't let me got mear you last night to explain.

"Yea, I'm urmured lienrietts and began to cry in good earnest.

"Well, it's all right now, isn't tryquered the young man santously."

"Pre felt swill saw Smith and the lotter of the stableau of rome had did with the shannon floorwalker man and that began to cry in good earnest.

"Well, it's all right now, isn't tryquered the young man santously."

"Pre the word is a standard the older of the stableau of rome bending over her day."

"Yea, it's all right now, "she said.

"Yea, it's all right now, she said.

"Yea, it's all right now, she said.

"Yea, it's all right now, controlled the controlled the

Man Overboard

It was a beautiful sight when we left Venice. Notelessly the gondolas came gliding across the water to the gigantic steamer which, anchored in the bay, was waiting for its passengers.

Soon after it weighed its anchor, Soon after it weigned jits accor, the captain gave a signal and majesti-cally the buge vessel steamed slowly toward the open sea, followed for a little distance by the soniolas; but one after the other dropped out and in ten minutes we were alone.

one after the other dropped out and in ten minutes we were a lone.

I had moved my chair as far to the stern as possible and was looking at the wonderful panorama! of "la belia Venezia," rapidly disappearing in the horizon, and the play of the moonbeams on the azure water when I was awakened from my dreams by the voice of a stranger.

I looked up and saw a jude young man whose yees gleamed like fire in the thin face.

"Give up your dreams." he said, "or you will go insane, and the world has no use for fools and dreamers. If you want to empty a bottle of good wine with me you are welcome!

For a while we were both sind. Suddenly he laughed—a harab, bitter, mirthless laugh.
"It is really too foolish. I will tell

could not help think that the man was insane.

Well, it is this way—one of my friends was always a most pocular fellow, who believed in truth in love and its singerty, and who thought be could convert the whole world to his faith. He, began with a girl, a beautiful creature, the most beautiful in the world to him. She became converted and they married and they married and they married and they were happy, and maybe they might have been happy, but for all unit many the most poor as a church mouse and his wate spoor as a church mouse and his wife loved money and what impley will buy.

poor as a course mouse and us will boyed money and what money will buy.

I so one day a third person can be been a post of the course of the c

vanished like fog between my fingers to appear again standing close to my wife.

He seemed to forget that he had started to tell of a friend, self, but he continued:

"I was powerless against such an enemy. Had he been feelf in and blood as myself I could have shot him. But what could I do now. I must put gold in the scales to conterbalance his gold—love was not epub. I do not know in what disguisely the demon approached my wife, but Jon sight I found the house empty—IJ wife had disappeared.

The stranger laughed—i hellow, uncanny laugh and his eyes shot fire as he continued:

"She had do poed. I was told, but I have we're her and for than y months I saw how be did it in my dreams in the mad-house! Why, de you think, I was sent there? Because I said what was only true—that where other men have a living, beating heart I have a stone—my wife's i-combatone. It is still thore.

"At last I was allowed to green a for the med-house—my wife's i-combatone."

what was only true—that where other men have a stone—my wife' tombstone. It is still there.

"At last I was allowed to get out among other people. But, oh! how changed I found them all! They had grown anaemic and cold; but I understood them very well. He was silent and I fait sorry for him.

Ind then?" I saked.
"In Venke I found a woman who threw herself at my feet and besought me to take her allong. She said she was my wife. She was covered with diamonds and wore costly, heavy silks. Her eyes were red from weeping. An old gentlerian tore her away from me. I let him do so. Why should I care for her-away from the year of the was and the was an end of the was a stranger! She was not my sweet little wife, who is dead!"

"Look what a warpwhere, Rappy people is a she was a warpwhere, Rappy people is a she was a warpwhere. Rappy people is a she was a stranger!"

He turned to go. I was atraded to follow him.
"No stay here," he said. I will be "No stay here," he said.

STRANGE WEDDING PRESENTS

Great Cheese for a Queen-Pair of Trousers for a King.

Wedding presents made to sover-eigns have at times been known to take a decidedly practical if eccentric form, as was the case at the time of the late ill-fated King Alexander of Servia's marriage, when a sum of money was raised by public subscrip-tion and presented to the royal bride-groom that he might be able to degroun that he might be after to de-fray the cost of a new regiment, to be named as a compliment to the lady to whom he had espoused, "Queen

be named as a compliment to the lany to whom he had espoused, "Queen Draga's Own."

One hundred and twenty drinking cups, all fashioned to represent dainty dancing silppers, and no two of the same size, may certainly be described both as a costly and curious marriage gift. Such was the hymeneal offering made to Milte, Zucchi, formerly prima ballerina at the Eden Theatre, Paris, by the friends of her husband, Prince Basetchitkoff, on her quitting the scene of her terpsichorean triumphs for the more sedate duties of home If the milter of the more sedate duties of home If on the marriage of our late Queen in 150 the farmers of East and West Pennard, Surface and the milk of 150 cores concess weighing upward of eleven hundred weight and measuring 9 feet in circumference, which was presented to the royal bride and Prince Albert and by them graciously accepted as a wedding tift.

Sudenly be laughed—a thirsh, bitter, mirthless laugh.

It is really too foolish. I will tell you something, it you will promise me to laugh—laugh as do. Will you?

I nodded assent, though I began to feel rather uneasy at his manner and could not help think that the tran was finance.

—Well, it is this way—que of my friends was always a most poculiar friends was always a most poculiar fellow, who believed in triph! In love and in singerity, and who thought be and in singerity and who thought be most with an intimation that under most with an intimation that under the surface of the country of the purpose of exhibition. Their reaches the country of the purpose of exhibition. Their reaches the country of the purpose of exhibition. Their reaches the country of the purpose of exhibition. Their reaches the country of the purpose of exhibition. Their reaches the country of the purpose of exhibition. Their reaches the country of the purpose of exhibition to the purpose of exhibition. Their reaches the country of the purpose of exhibition to the country of the purpose of exhibition. Their reaches the country of the purpose of exhibition. Their reaches the country of the purpose of exhibition that the purpose of exhibition. Their reaches the country of the purpose of exhibition. Their reaches the country of the purpose of exhibition. Their reaches the country of the purpose of exhibition that the purpose of exhib

quest was granted, but when, their end having been attained, they would have returned the cheese they were met with an intimation that under the altered conditions her. Majesty could not for a moment entertain tue idea of accepting their gift.

A poor peasant woman sent a part of trousers of her own design and make to the late King Charles of Wurtemberg on the morning of his marriage with Princess Olga of Russia, accompanied by a letter expressive of her hope that the garment which she was taking the great but she trusted pardonable liberty to send would not found a better cut and fit than the one in which she had last had the honor of seeing his Majesty attired. Another German ruler, Louis IY of Hesse-Darmstadt, the husband of Princess Alice, received on his wedding day a perhaps more useful offering in a dozen pairs of stockings, knitted and sent by an elderly female admirer in humble circumstance.

The romantic personality of Signor Mario, the celebrated Hallan singer, not infrequently evoked a hopeless plassion in women's hearts that on more than one occasion found expressions, those were desired from a Musich lady of one of his marriage, when he marked in an accompanying note, she had drarn and set with pearls and einersted and as a sarrfple, in the trust that by sometimes wearing it the her of one of dreams would give a passing thought Introduction of Kissing.

Introduction of Kissing, Interedible as it may seem, It is said that the art of kissing was unknown.

Introduction of Kissing.
Incredible as it may seem, it is said that the art of kissing was unknown among our British forefathers like other luxuries; ,, was imported later. It is supposed to have come over with Rowena, the lovely daughter of the Saxon Hengist, who delighted the British Vortigern by this mode of greeting. The kiss throve finely on English ground, and was soon naturalized. We might suppose that it is not

English ground, and was soon in mutualized. We might suppose that it nad goes on spreading to the present day; but there were times in the past when the practice was far more general than it is now.

In the reign of Edward IV a guest was expected to kits all the laddes was expected to kits all the laddes of the family that he was visiting—a proceeding which in the progent day night possibly give ofense. It seems to have been allowable for a man to the kits any woman he liked without fear

might possibly give ordense. It seems to have been allowable for a man to kiss any woman he liked without rear of giving annoyance. When he reformer Erasmus came to England en Gound the custom a very universal one, and was by no means Purtran enough to condemn it.

When Oliver Cromwell sent an ambasador to the court of Sweden, this ambasador to the curt of Sweden, this ambasador was requested by the queen to instruct her suite in the Englishman found very say pupils. It used to be customary to claim a kins from one's partner at a dance, a practice which, if revived in the present day, night do a good deal to increase the popularity of dancing. There is no doubt that kissing was considerably indulged in among the Jawa, and was a mode of salutation with men as well as with women. Samuel kissed Saul when anothing him king of lerael, and Judas consummating his terrible trackery yith a kiss.

Kissing under the mistietoe, as still practiced among us as curvivate of an early Scandinayian

him get away and wanted to follow the him get away and wanted to form the state of the following the following