From Poor's Manual we get the folng information in regard to the railad business of the United States dur-

Not only has there been a considerable line in the construction of railroads, t the earnings also show a larger rela-e decrease than at any period in eleears. The number of miles of raild opened during the year 1877 was 77, against 2,657 for 1876, 1,758 miles 1875, and 2,305 miles for 1874. The st number of miles built has been in w York and Pennsylvania, and in nargauge lines in Ohio, Iowa and Texas w lines of any considerable magni have been undertaken. The gross ngs of all the roads whose open ns have been reported have equaled 2,909,272, against \$497,257,959 for , and \$503,065,505 for 1875; \$342,... 222 were from freight, and \$130,050,... from passengers. The net earnings fallen off \$15,476,055, as compared 1876. The ratio of net to gros ngs was 13.16 per cent., as against per cent. for 1876, equal to an in-use of 1.36 per cent. in the operating ses, as compared with the precedyear. The decrease in earnings from ght has amounted to \$18,278,154, and enger traffic, \$6,070.533, the perges of decrease being, respectively, and 9.7 per cent. The dividends fallen off \$9,483,356, and are less for any year since 1871. The total ital stock on which dividwere actually paid was \$835,038,896 an average rate of seven per cent. lividends were paid on any of the ds in the States of Arkansas, Colo-Florida, Kansas, Louisiana, Misppi, Missouri, Nebraska, Oregon, and Vermont, nor, excepting on d lines, in Iowa and Minnesota. of business has extended all parts of the country, and the rein rates of transportation noted 376 has continued throughout 1877. e principal decrease in earnings has in the Middle States, due partly to pressed condition of the coal trade. artly to the falling off in passenmings, as compared with 1876, the For each hundred of railroad in the United States are 22.8 miles of second track, gs, etc.; 20.1 locomotives, 15.2 nger cars, 4.7 baggage, mail, and s cars, and 495.3 freight cars of nds. The capital stock aggregates 1.507 for each 100 miles; the fundebt, \$2,848,308; the floating debt 078, and the total cost of construct 60,699 per mile of completed road. gross earnings per mile were \$6,380.erating expenses (63.85 per cent.,) 4; net earnings, \$2,306.90. Interid on bonds per mile of road, \$1,-04: dividends paid on stock, \$789.52. aggregate capital stock, 2.53 per In 1871, with only two-thirds as miles of railroad in operation, and e more than one-half the capital , the dividends aggregated \$56,456.n invested. The number of miles ated last year was 74,112, and the cultivated for the perfumers.

Labor and Wages in Germany.

s, plumbers, machinists, and asmiths earn fifty-one to seventycents daily; saddlers and shoe ers forty-seven to fifty-two cents y; bakers and brewers, with board dging, from one dollar and fortycents to two dollars and fourteen weekly, and without board, from cents a day to four dollars and hundred and fifteen dollars with maintenance; railway ers from fifty-six to eighty-three twins, also male and female. s per day, and as high as ninety-five as daily for piece work on tunnels; cents to two dollars and eightycents a week per loom; factory nen, two dollars and fifteen cents,

FOR THE YOUNG PUPLE.

Learning to prim.

Here I am, paps
In my new tints dressed,
Crazy for a pth,
It must p confessed.

Shall weso straight in?

Let no take your hand,

I'm sbig boy, now, pill and strong of limb,

ght years old to-day, Yet I cannot swim!

Down I'm sure to go

While my arms are spread

Don't I kick out right

Floundering here, I feel

Like so sad a dunce! It's as though you tried

You must also tend

I don't even float

Twenty things at once

While you make your strokes

As well as some old log !

Unless you're born a frog

O, I really think That I'm made of lead !

Teach me please, papa

A writer in the Boston Journal tells the story of the fight at Turner's Falls between the early settlers of Massachusetts and the Indians. The whites at spot. Let it dry in the sun; then scrape tacked an Indian village and routed the off the paste, and wash it off with a savages, who, however, rallied and forced their antagonists to retreat. One it is dry, apply it again. If feather beds Jonathan Wells encountered many obstacles in making his escape.

panions. He finally left his horse, and turn on the other side, and let the tickusing his gun for a crutch, dragged his the while:

railroad crosses that stream at the place line, and beat it as you would a carpe now known as Cheapside, he saw an Indian paddling a canoe for him. He aimed his gun at him, though it was unloaded, wet and full of sand, when the red man, leaving his own gun, jumped into the water and escaped.

Wells knew that he should now soon have the whole pack on him, and as a last desperate expedient to escape went into the swamp, which then lay between where the present railroad bridge stands and the before-mentioned wooded hill, or island, in the midst of the meadows. There he found a pile of drift-wood. bushes, leaves and sticks; under this he crawled, and although the Indians passed and repassed the spot many times, and actually stood on the pile, they failed to discover him, and at last withdrew

and he escaped.

After the greatest exertions, and alwis 4.39 per cent; of dividends to aggregate capital stock, 2.53 per all his friends, who supposed him dead.

How the Bees Rode to Mill.

where these sweet-scented things are to the touch it is rare, and if so liked, it

ting is 79,208, divided as follows:

Eugland States, 5,822; Middle
es, 15,166; Southern States, 13,840;
stern States, 41,224; Pacific States, close together, piling them on the carts to be carried to the crushing-mill and

the distillery.
I think I never shall forget the sweet he United States Consul at Bremen orts that for agricultural labor the hum of the bees as they follow the ranges from fifty-six cents a day in carts all along the road, settling down eighborhood of Bremen to thirty-cents a day on the lower Rhiue to it that they can neither be shaken ey, and as low as eighteen cents in nor beaten off. And so, from their love to Silesia. At Bremen, Crefield, of these sweet flowers, they say there Dusseldorf, carpenters, copper- are thousands of them crushed in the great mill; and I never see the tastily labelled bottles of lavender water in the perfumers' stores but I think of my ride through that great purple field, and of the poor bees' ride to the crushing-

mill .- Youth's Companion. A Lioness Adopting Cubs. ents a day to four dollars and eight cents a week; farm hands (New York) Menagerie, gave birth to id from one hundred and seven two cubs—a male and female—a short time ago. Four days later the lioness belonging to the menagerie produced Barnum's lioness, through jealousy or some other cause, dropped dead in cage, and it became an anxious question what was to be done for her little orphans. If given to the other lioness there was great danger that, instead of children one dollar a week. In good on ursing them, she might look upon them as nourishment intended for herself. cost of the necessaries of life has This peril, however, was not so great as e higher than five years ago. A ployees handled the cubs freely, so as to give them, as the superintendent explained, the smell of the human body, dred and seventy-five dollars a year, and placed in the cage of the lioness. to support such an establishment She was a mild mannered but an obtuse other two out. The experiment was igo Rural. tried several times, but without success, tecomposition: "Wen cats is a the lioness thrusting the strangers from

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

Wind, says an old horseman, is the grand secret of a fast horse. Good lungs will cover a multitude of faults, while on the other hand, perfection of shape and form are useless, when the wind is out. The chest, therefore, in all cases, should be large and capacious. It may vary somewhat in shape, according to the service to which the horse is to be put. If he is apt to be kept for slow work and heavy drawing, the chest may be nearly circular in form, because thi shape is one for strength and bulk to receive and bear up against the pressure of the collar, while at the same time sufficient room is secured for that expansion of the lungs caused by slow, regular work. But if the chest is circular, let it be at the same time deep, or else the lungs may be cramped. A horse with a shallow chest is worthless for any purpose. The rule, then, is: For a draught horse, a circular but deep chest; but as you pass through the dif ferent degrees of speed up to the racer and trotter, the chest will increase in depth, compared to its roundness, until, for the highest rate of speed you must take a chest as deep as a greyhound, and at the same time not lacking in strength.

Cleaning Bed-Tickings.
When mattresses and feather beds are soiled mix equal quantities of soft soap spot. Let it dry in the sun; then scrape have been in use some years without He was severely wounded in his hip-and got widely separated from his combeing renovated, put them on the grass ings have a good soaking. When the seless leg along, suffering acutely all sun shines brightly it will dry quickly. Let it lie out several days, bringing it At last, having crossed the river not far from where the Connecticut river When perfectly dry hang it on a strong until all the dust is out of it, and you will have a clean, sweet bed, as well prepared as it the feathers had been run through a machine with a steaming apparatus attached. If the hair mattresser are lumpy rip them open, take out the hair and pull it apart thoroughly.

To Broll a Steak.

First see that the fire is clear, and not oo much of it; open wide all the drafts, to carry off all the smoke that is made during the process of broiling; then see that the gridiron is smooth and quite clean; rub it well with whiting or chalk; lay on your steak. Do not pound it, nor after it is on the fire, stick a fork into it, or the juice will escape, Neither salt nor pepper it; do that on the dish. Throw a little salt on the fire, and put over the steak; place the gridiron close on the range for the first few minutes, to carbonize the surface, then turn it over quickly to carbonize the other side. Now it should be exposed to a slower fire to do which place two bricks on their In the county of Surrey, England, edge, and rest the gridiron on them. The there are great fields of lavender, and steak should be turned repeatedly and equaling 4.19 per cent. of the capi- roses, and heliotropes, and geranium, carefully, and when it feels rather firm ated last year was 74,112, and the cultivated for the perfumers.

I remember once riding through thirty acres of lavender when it was in full the control of which one and a half ounces of butter acres of lavender when it was in full the control of which one and a half ounces of butter acres of lavender when it was in full the control of white perpentations.

Should be taken off, laid on a hot dish on which one and a half ounces of butter has been melted, less than a half teacher of the control of white perpentations. spoonful of salt, a pinch of white pepper

To Keep Butter Hard.

To keep butter firm and solid during the hot w ather in summer, the follow ing method is largely in use among good butter makers in England: Pulverized carbonate of sods and pulverized alum, at the rate of a teaspoonful of each, are mingled together at the time of churning and put into the cream. The butter comes out firm and solid, and with a clean, sweet flavor. The powdered carbonate of soda, and alum do not enter the butter, but, after acting upon the cream, pass off with the brttermilk. The ingredients should not be mingled together until they are wanted for use, just when the cream is in the churn ready for churning. Another-and perhaps the best method of hardening butter-is to keep it in a cool cellar, where the temperature is kept even by means of ice, og its construction, and then carrying the article to market in refrigerator pails or other receptacles.

Weight of Live Cattle.

Power of the Human Eye.

fast-table, and he sent a servant to his beast out of my room," whereupon the

ondition for more than half an hour. The dog must have been very cunning, as his simple word was sufficient. by the servants. This story (an authenticated one) reminds one of well-known ecounts of lions, which have in a simi lar way been kept from making the final spring by a resolute and determined gaze, carried on to even utter prostration of mind and body. There is one emarkable anecdote. of this nature, where a man was obliged to protract this mode of self-defense for such a length of time that he was disabled by the blistering of his feet on a scorching rock, where he was first assailed.

Healing a Sore.

Dr. G. F. Waters, of Boston, performed an experiment upon himself to prove that bicarbonate of soda, if applied to a burn or scald, promptly subdued the pain. He scalded bimse broad, all around his wrist. The application of the bicarbonate immediately relieved the pain, and if all had gone well, the burn would have been cured in

But the doctor was careless, and permitted his cuff-button to catch and tear the blistered skin, and further trouble of the same sort was caused by friction on the edge of the cuff. The result was that while the rest of the burn was soon cured, the part thus torn became a troublesome, suppurating wound.
Studying the subject, Dr. Waters

thought that possibly vegetable albumen might answer the same purpose that animal albumen is supposed to in the formation of dermal scales.

He proceeded to test this theory by removing the scab from a portion of the wound, drying the surface with blottingpaper, and then immediately applying the white juice of the common milkweed (Asclepias syriaca).

Space after space of the sore surface was thus treated, each portion being varied from twenty-four to thirty-six hours; but in each instance new skin formed completely across.

The doctor states, as to this new discovery, that the only essential point is to dry the wounded surface gently and thoroughly with blotting-paper before applying the milkweed juice. From the description, it appears that, after the juice was applied, and while the healing was in progress, a piece of blotting-paper was also used to cover the sur-

Cemetery Customs in Europe.

The story goes that a Frenchman who had lost his wife ordered a stone cutter to make him a tombstone and on it cut the single word regrets. The stone cutter respectfully hinted that regrets eternal would be a more appropriate inscription. "Alas, no sir?" said the gentleman, "I have hired the grave for five years only." This story may very probably be a true one, for it is a cor mon practice in several European countries to hire graves for a ter years and renew the lease when the first ne expires, if the friends of the dead The live weight of cattle can be pretty accurately ascertained by the following method: Measure with a tape line from that would keep their remains undistantly the following that would keep their remains undistantly the following the follow the top of the shoulders to the root of the tail for the length, then around the forgetful, or the family extinct, the renewing the lease, or if the relatives are body immediately behind the forelegs mains are taken up and buried again for the girth. Then apply this rule: in a common trench, or relegated to a Suppose an ox is five feet in length and catacomb, as the case may be. In as nourishment intended for herself, boxes of the necessaries of life has been used some fifty per cent. In the peril, however, was not so great as seed some fifty per cent. In the peril, however, was not so great as seven in girth, multiply the square of some of the burial grounds of Paris the condition of things is really frightful. Here the ground has been used over and wife with two or three children in two or three children in a poor comfortless manner for two and then all four were taken in a bunch the seven is graphed and oxistive feet in length and seven in length and sev thus perfect, as is generally the case, an grave diggers whose unpleasant duty it estimate of the weight, if good judgment is to exhume the bodies which have best. She smelled out her own cubs in a moment, and literally kicked the correct for all practical purposes.—Dir- arising from the graves they are opening, and it has been more than once sug gested to the municipal council of the to composition: "Wen cats is a the lioness thrusting the strangers from arin' and a blastemin' and a tryin' her with her foot. At last, after three lost \$700 in greenbacks, but some days pure air while at their ghoulish work, but some days induced to have compassion upon them, induced to have compassion upon them, the lost \$700 in greenbacks, but some days induced to have compassion upon them, induced to have compassion upon them, the lost \$700 in greenbacks, but some days the same kind of spparatus that had used it to make a head dress for her period to be asphyxiated by the gases if he isn't sleepin' with his big and the four cubs are now being nursed doll, chipping off the corners to make a serves for submarine divers,—America good fit.

Architect.

Some years ago an officer of high rank, a colonel in the Blues, was visiting his friend, Col. —, of the Guards, who resided in Buckinghamshire. This gentleman had a very fine bloodhound, child his amusement was to build which he kept fastened in the yard. One diminutive railroads and run toy morning after the arrival of his visitor, upon them. His father encouraged him Col. — was much surprised at not in this, and when a lad he was set at seeing his friend as usual at the break-work at a lathe in the machine-shop, where he served a regular appren room to ascertain what had become of ship. The Russian minister at Wash him. The servant found the bedroom ington had noted the skill of Ross Wi door ajar, and, on knocking, the gentle-man cried, "Come in, and remove this son to St. Petersburg to compete for the beast out of my room," whereupon the contract for equipping the new railrad, when the vessel in which young Winans find the master's bloodhound in the bed- sailed arrived at St. Petersburg, the room, a very large and fierce dog, who Czar and a party of officials drove down had broken his chain and escaped from to the pier to see the ship unloaded. the yard, and, having scented a stranger in the house, had slipped into the bedroom, as the door had been left unclosed his boots, and armed with a crowbar by a servant who had called the visitor was bossing a party of laborers who in the morning. The dog was on his hind legs at the foot of the bed with his worked and talked at the same time, and forefeet resting on it, fixing his eyes in- his frank, open manner, powerful phytently and ferociously on the unfortu- sique, and thorough knowledge of his nate gentleman, apparently waiting for trade so impressed the imperial sightan opportunity to spring upon him, seer that he turned to one of his officers from which he was only restrained by and said, "I like that fellow in the red his prisoner keeping his eyes steadily shirt." As soon as the work was well fixed upon the animal, and the colonel under way, tha Czar offered him an inwas detained in this most unenviable dependent contract, telling him at the same time that he need give no bonds,

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And a feelin

VOL.

The sultry day The light be Are standing

The golden lig Shines on th Makes a swe

The range of d Looks dark And right acre A path of lig

I gazed till my At the slow! Telling the

Evan and

1 sat spinning the sun, for the when I heard so looking up, the Turner, with hi gate, looking ov my eye he laugh and made hi He was a han squire, and the pulled the giove with pearls and bonny to look at gold in the Octob

his curls dance or that I could hav I've made anoth grieve. May I c sat a chair for father's landlord uncomfortable,

fine company. He talked aw comp iments the lways said, "Hoes," and "Bes

truth. I had d thing. Neither that I wore Ev bosom, or that each other besi grew in the chur to deceive, but little hard, and such a sweet s have struggled to turn a penn the news with t to make his fort minutes after tl

her of the fine a keyhole to the and I have a gue That night w Misf grandfather : b when the half due, not a peni be found. All this time]

been as fond as he came as oft grandpa on the every little whi Squire Tarner, his lazy way wa Once or twice h and over bold, But, squire or his pains, and help either. I could not he

seeing him whe deserve that Ev mighty, and sr the squire con ing to so poor s He made me

"For that I be glad to he him," said I. than you do ju Evan.

bad temper ar For he had l

was no other n Well, Evan with him—no thought-and than a much, though