J. H. SIDES,

Jeweler and Engraver.

I am now showing a beautiful line of New Watches, Rings, Silverware, etc., and prices have been greatly reduced. We want you to inspect our stock.

Remember, we sell every article under a positive guarantee, and stand ready at all times to make good our representations.

This Bear has at last got it through his head that Fahys 14k gold-filled watch-cases are very strong and substantial affairs. But they don't look it. For they all have the daintiness and delicate designing of the solid gold case, and at a price that is an eye-opener

Only be sure it's a Fahys, and that you get it from Fahys 14K MONARCH

J. H. SIDES, Chestertown, Md.

Eggs for Hatching!

—FROM—

Barred Plymouth Rocks, White Wyandottes, Golden Wyandottes and Single Comb Brown Leghorns

$3.00 FOR 15 OR $5.00 FOR 30.

We also have a lot of Brown Leghorns and Golden Wyandottes running together on range. From this yard we can supply a few settings at 50c. if called for, or 75c. if packed and delivered to express office. I have sold all my Prize-Winning Indian Games to Mr. W. B. Megear, Smyrna, Del. If you need stock or eggs of that variety, write him.

☞ No Sunday visitors allowed.

E. E. HUDSON, KENNEDYVILLE, MD.

Gents' Fine Footwear,

No. 23 West Pratt Street, BALTIMORE, MD.

FERD. H. PAAR, SUCCESSOR TO H. MIDDENDORF, MAKER OF

BEAUTIFUL

Summer Goods!

We have just returned from the city with a large and beautiful line of Summer

MILLINERY GOODS!

The latest and most charming styles just opened for inspection. Leghorn and other beautiful Hats, trimmed and untrimmed. Dresden, Taffita and Satin Ribbons (the latest). Chiffons in the most charming effects. Maline also in stock.

Shirt Waists in Variety,

and at reasonable prices. Call and inspect this beautiful line of summer millinery goods.

Misses Cora and Hattie Reed, CHESTERTOWN, MD

Machinery Oils.

Lard,
West Virginia,
Harvester,
Castor,
Golden Machine,

—AT—

M. A. Toulson's Drug Store.

Having purchased the

Photograph Gallery

from the Va. Photograph Co., located ON QUEEN STREET

have opened a FIRST- liberal ...buity.

HOW DUFFY STOLE A JAIL.

It Was a Box Car, and He Coupled It to a Way Freight.

This is the narrative of Duffy's theft of a jail and the prisoners therein. Mr. Duffy, from the core of the nation's intellect, balloonist, manfish, tourist and orator, had found a friend who had indulged him to the extent of the following items, to wit: Three free drinks, one supper, one cigar. This story was his payment therefor. He unbuttoned his vest, for he had consumed a large, thick steak, two dishes of potatoes, two plates of bread, two cups of coffee, three large, heavy flannel cakes and a glass of milk.

"Thrue oratory an me gintlemanly instincts often lead me into pleasant fields an the company of conganial companions," he began. "I oncet committed most shameful larceny in the state of Indianny. I was tourin with a friend an we had journeyed as far as Jay county. Now, ye can't tell me that the people of a county with such a name can cope with a set of brains from Boston. We had reached the town of Portland. Me friend committed the indiscretion of becomin hungry an was arrested. I brought me intillict to bear upon the situoation an kept well fed an free.

"Now, Portland was the county sate, an the jail had recently been burined to the ground. The sheriff therefore kep' his prisoners in a box car down on the railroad thrack, the same bein loaned by a conservative company, the which didn't want the prisoners beatin their way on its trains. Me friend was dumped into this jail. Me an me intillict staid on the outside.

"I agitated me thinker all day an by nightfall had planned the deliverance of me friend an his fellow incarcerates. At supper toime the gyard went away home, leavin his lantern by the trackside. It was me intintion to prise the door off the car, an I was lookin about for a prise whin I heard a train comin. Me intillict was equal to the emergency. I took the gyard's lantern an flagged the train, which was of the way freight species, the hardest of all fer a tourist to travel under.

"The train stopped an the conductor says kind of impedint like, 'What'n'll d'je shtop this train fer?'

"'Me frien,' says I, 'this car is bound fer Tiffin, O., an me instructions was to shtop yez an hitch it on to yer train.' He grumbled a good deal, but hitched the car on, me hangin to the brake beam.

"It was along about 3 o'clock in the mornin when we crossed the Ohio loine an shtopped at a station. I crawled out, broke open the jail door wid a couplin pin an all me laddybucks come foorth, free as the air. An that's how I shtole the jail in Indianny. My, but I'm dry!"—Kansas City Star.

ONE SPORTSMAN'S AMBITION.

It Is to Hunt In the Undiscovered Patches Along America's Coast.

"I'll tell you what I would like to do," said a man whose life is spent roving about from city to lumber camp and from park to forest. "I would like to own a schooner fit to weather any gale on the seas and travel in it up and down the American coast from Labrador to Cape Horn and north again to Bering strait. There's a whole lot of odd places one could visit seldom or never heard of.

"Take it about Cape Hatteras. Now, what do you know about the mainland alongshore there? What can you tell of the people in the swamps there and of the game these people find in the woods? It's so little, you have to guess at it. Then there is a whole lot of the gulf of Mexico's shore line, not to mention the islands and lands south of there. Why, only the other day I heard of a tribe of Indians on some islands somewhere down that way that buy buckshot to kill deer with and poor shotguns, using only a dram of powder for a charge. Just think what sport a fellow with a good rifle would have among them—if they'd let him. What is more, they pay for what they buy with pure gold, and if ever a white man visited them he did not come back to tell about it, nor will the Indians say where they got their stuff.

"When you come to think about it, the sportsman nosing about in these out of the way places could get more game and curiosities than he could get out of Blue Mountain park or from any other of the big preserves.

"I hope to make just such a trip some time. I'll take a 45-90, a 10 gauge, a 20 gauge and a target pistol, with stacks of fishing tackle of all kinds and no end of ammunition. The specimens I will gather will pay for the trip, as I shall go along prepared to skin and dry anything from a tapir to a crocodile, from a condor to a beetle, not to mention snakes and other things."—New York Sun.

Tree Climbing Rabbits.

The London Field has an item that is likely to call out a discussion among English correspondents of that paper. A man writes that "when shooting with a friend in Banffshire last December my friend called out, "There's a rabbit up a tree!" Sure enough one was there at least ten feet from the ground. The tree was an upright fir, and the man had seen the rabbit run up the smooth bark as easily as a squirrel. The rabbit stopped on the first branch to look down.

What is more, "there is a lot of blown timber in the wood, and I suppose the rabbits have got accustomed to climbing on it, for I have often seen them jump on to a root and run up the slanting trunk till they were sometimes 15 feet from the ground," which must have been a dizzy height for an animal of such ground habits.

Corroborative letters will probably come in, and rabbits will have an established reputation as climbers. It is said that in Australia the imported rabbits have begun to develop hooked claws, with the aid of which they are able to climb the rabbit proof fences.

A large number of animals with habits acquired because of environment have been noted from time to time—foxes that climb trees, rats that are beasts of prey, birds that build nests adapted to certain conditions, and so on indefinitely.

Her Dilemma.

They met at the linen counter, and the girl in blue looked so sadly perplexed that the girl in brown said sympathetically:

"Why, May, what is the matter? You look so miserable."

"I'm bothered," acknowledged May. "You see, Rudolph and I quarreled bitterly last night. And to save my life I can't make up my mind whether to go on buying household linens in expectation of a reconciliation or to buy me an organdie to begin a new campaign."

"It is bothering," agreed the girl in brown. "Ah! We women have so many hard problems to solve!"—New York Journal.

Bernhardt's Debut.

"The divine Sarah" has just been describing the emotions that shook her when she appeared for the first time on the boards: "I can picture the evening as though it were now. The excitement—oh, it was so grand!—drew forth my inmost passion, for I was very young then, you know, and it gave me zest and fervor for the ordeal I had to face. I can see the little theater and the people seated in the audience. My heart for the moment seemed to stand still. The first words I uttered fell from my lips with distinct accent. I made one grand step forward, and then all my nervousness vanished."

Drudgery.

The everyday cares and duties which men call drudgery are the weights and counterpoises of the clock of time, giving its pendulum a true vibration and its hands a regular motion, and when they cease to hang upon its wheels the pendulum no longer swings, the hands no longer move, the clock stands still.—Longfellow.

Art thou a man, and shamest thou not to beg, to practice such a servile kind of life? Why, wer... ne'er so mean ... thous...

SING AGAIN.

You sang me a song,
'Twas the close of the year.
Sing again!
I cannot remember the name
Or the words.
'Tis the same
We listen to hear
When the windows are open in spring
And the air's full of birds.
One calls from the branch some sweet thing,
And one sings on the wing
The refrain.
You sang me a song
My heart thrilled to hear.
The refrain
Has run like a fillet of gold
Through the woof
Of the cold
Dark days of a year.
Tonight there's a year at its start,
All the birds are aloof.
Your eyes hold the sun for my part,
And the spring's in your heart.
Sing again!
—Scribner's Magazine.

ENGLAND'S FOOD SUPPLY.

And How It Might Be Endangered In Certain War Contingencies.

Strong as the English war fleet is, it is very far from being strong enough to successfully engage a possible combination of fleets and at the same time protect our sea borne food supply. If the United States and Russia declared war with England, there would practically be no food supply left to protect. They would keep the immense supplies we now get from them at home, and the fear of capture or destruction would effectually prevent Argentina and other neutrals from sending food to us in any sufficient quantity.

What is wanted is that, instead of only a precarious week's supply, we should have stored up in this country enough corn to last for at least 12 months. Experts in the corn trade agree that there would be no insuperable difficulty in gradually accumulating this store of corn. It would be for experts to advise as to the best methods and places of storage.

Perhaps the best plan would be to distribute it over the country in magazines at the military depots, giving the military authorities charge of it, but if it was in the country and safe it would not so much matter where it was. Although most of our corn is made into flour at the great ports, it would not be wise, seeing that most of them are so defenseless, to store it there.

The entire control and management of this great national store of corn should be under some permanent government department. Although its existence could not fail to have a steadying effect on the corn market, it should be outside all speculative influences, the price at which it would be sold, when necessary to sell it, being fixed by law. It would be no sacrifice, in the long run, for the country to provide such a reserve of food, as it would always be worth its cost.

Other nations accumulate gold for use in wartime. We should have a war chest of corn. If we have it, what will it do?

It will give our navy time to devote itself to the crushing of the navy or navies opposed to us. It will give us time, with our great resources, to augment our fighting fleet to almost any extent, and it will give our farmers time to grow three or four times as much corn and breed a much larger quantity of cattle and sheep than they now do.—Nineteenth Century.

A Patent Flycatcher.

A machine for catching flies off the backs of cattle, and so affording the animals relief and comfort, has been invented by a farmer in Madison county, Ky. The flycatcher is a kind of covered pen or passageway through which the animal must walk to secure relief. A few feet from the entrance there is a cupola or dome in the roof of the passageway made of glass and arranged as a flytrap. Beyond this the passage is darkness. The animal walks through the machine, and just as it passes under the dome and enters the darkened part a set of brushes sweeps off the flies, which naturally rise into the lighted dome, and the steer passes out at the other side free of flies. The flies are retained in the dome trap. The inventor has experimented with his machine and finds that the animals soon learn the value of the machine and know enough to walk through it when the flies begin to bite. The device has been patented.

EXERCISES FOR THE THROAT.

A Branch of Physical Culture Not Often Touched On.

The chronic sore throat is not infrequently produced by the misuse of the vocal organs. Very often that unruly little member, the tongue, is accountable for the difficulty, as it is for a great many other troubles in this transitory life. Many people have a habit when talking of pushing the tongue so far back against the delicate membranes that line the throat that irritation more or less painful is caused, and if it continues any length of time ulcers will form, and so will a doctor's bill.

Control of the tongue is excellent in all senses of the word. Physically this organ may be managed by depressing it into a hollow at a point three-quarters of an inch back of where the tip of it comes when in a natural position in the mouth and at the same time singing very light head tones. This exercise requires some patience at first, but the habit of keeping the tongue down is soon acquired. In speaking or singing it should not be allowed to hoop up and fill the mouth, thus interfering with the free passage of the tones of the voice from the throat to the front of the mouth, where they should strike and then escape clear as a bell. This hooping up of the tongue in the mouth is the cause of much of the indistinct and slovenly utterances to which we are too often obliged to listen.

In many people we notice the line from the point of the chin to the neck is in the form of a right angle. In a shapely throat this line forms a curve just as a canary's does when the small yellow artist is warbling his carols.

To develop the throat and make this angle a curve, stand before a mirror so that you may watch the throat swell out. Now thrust your tongue out as far as it will go, then draw it back quickly and forcibly, at the same time bringing it downward in the mouth as far as you can. Place your thumb and forefinger against the larynx (commonly called the Adam's apple), and if you are making the right movement you will feel the larynx pass downward. For a week or two make the movements lightly. After that time put as much force into it as you can. The exercise should be practiced for a few minutes several times a day to insure rapid and good results.

To fill up the hollows of the neck, stand correctly, and then slowly fill the lungs with air without elevating your shoulders. As the air is forced upward into the throat hold it there a few seconds and then expel slowly. This exercise is best performed soon after rising in the morning and before retiring at night.—New York Post.

His Liberal Reward.

The champion mean man up town seems to be a young man who recently advertised in the papers offering a "liberal" reward for the return of a pocketbook containing $30 in cash and some valuable papers. Two young men found the pocketbook in Norristown and called at the loser's house to return it. He handed one of them 50 cents. The finders protested, saying that it had cost them 65 cents to come down from Norristown, and that they hadn't enough money to get home again. The fortunate owner of the pocketbook dismissed them with the remark that he couldn't help that.—Philadelphia Record.

Shake Into Your Shoes.

Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It cures painful, swollen, smarting feet and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age. Allen's Foot-Ease makes tight-fitting or new shoes feel easy. It is a certain cure for sweating, callous and hot, tired, aching feet. Try it to-day. Sold by all druggists and shoe stores. By mail 25c. in stamps. ...

CASTORIA

for Infants and Children.

THIRTY years' observation of Castoria with the patronage of millions of persons, permit us to speak of it without guessing. It is unquestionably the best remedy for Infants and Children the world has ever known. It is harmless. Children like it. It gives them health. It will save their lives. In it Mothers have something which is absolutely safe and practically perfect as a child's medicine.

Castoria destroys Worms.
Castoria allays Feverishness.
Castoria prevents vomiting Sour Curd.
Castoria cures Diarrhœa and Wind Colic.
Castoria relieves Teething Troubles.
Castoria cures Constipation and Flatulency.
Castoria neutralizes the effects of carbonic acid gas or poisonous air.
Castoria does not contain morphine, opium, or other narcotic property.
Castoria assimilates the food, regulates the stomach and bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep.
Castoria is put up in one-size bottles only. It is not sold in bulk.
Don't allow any one to sell you anything else on the plea or promise that it is "just as good" and "will answer every purpose."
See that you get C-A-S-T-O-R-I-A.

The fac-simile signature of Chas. H. Fletcher is on every wrapper.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

Tutt's Pills Cure All Liver Ills.

ARE YOU BANKRUPT in health, constitution undermined by extravagance in eating, by disregarding the laws of nature, or physical capital all gone, if so,

NEVER DESPAIR

Tutt's Liver Pills will cure you. For sick headache, dyspepsia, sour stomach, malaria, torpid liver, constipation, biliousness and all kindred diseases.

Tutt's Liver Pills an absolute cure.

VIRGINIA COLLEGE
FOR YOUNG LADIES, ROANOKE, VIRGINIA.
Opens Sept. 10, 1896. One of the leading Schools for Young Ladies in the South. Magnificent buildings, all modern improvements. Campus ten acres. Grand mountain scenery in Valley of Va., famed for health. European and American teachers. Full course. Superior advantages in Art and Music. Students from twenty States. For catalogues address the President,
MATTIE P. HARRIS, Roanoke, Virginia.

$1.00 Outfit Free to Agents.

With Gold Badge for 10 Days. Others sell them—we give them away, "Life of McKinley and Hobart," by Murat Halstead. Introduction by Mounsey M. Depew. Agents make $20 a day. We pay freight. Largest commissions. Note prizes offered: $5 in gold each agent selling 100 books; $30 agents selling most; $25 next largest; $10 third. Send us your orders.
SEEL & CO., 1633 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.

FARMERS

you can make money by selling and using HOLDFAST Corn Binders, used on every stock. Pull and it's fast. Ties itself. Costs less than string. Never wears out. Thousands easily sold in a town. Good profits. Get your town agency now. Outfit 50c., stamps. TIE CO., Box 528 Unadilla, N.Y.

Not one part but *every* part of HIRES Rootbeer tends toward making it the perfect temperance and healthgiving drink.

Made only by The Charles E. Hires Co., Philadelphia.
A 25c. package makes 5 gallons. Sold everywhere.

PARKER'S GINGER TONIC
cures Lung Troubles, Debility, distressing stomach and female ills, and is noted for making cures when all other treatment fails. Every mother and invalid should have it.

PARKER'S HAIR BALSAM
Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Never Fails to Restore Gray Hair to its Youthful Color. Cures scalp diseases & hair falling. 50c. and $1.00 at Druggists

HINDERCORNS The only sure Cure for Corns. Stops all pain. Makes walking easy. 15c. at Druggists.

Chichester's English Diamond Brand.
PENNYROYAL PILLS
Original and Only Genuine. SAFE. Always reliable. LADIES ask Druggist for Chichester's English Diamond Brand in Red and Gold metallic boxes, sealed with blue ribbon. Take no other. Refuse dangerous substitutions and imitations. At Druggists, or send 4c. in stamps for particulars, testimonials and "Relief for Ladies," in letter, by return Mail. 10,000 Testimonials. Name Paper.
Chichester Chemical Co., Madison Square, Philadelphia, Pa.
Sold by all Local Druggists.

Rainbow Liniment
Banishes all Pain
CURES Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Lumbago, Sprains, Bruises, Chilblains, Cramps & Colic.
Price, 25c. per bottle. Sample bottle, 10c.
Sold by Dealers. Manufactured only by
H. J. HACKETT & CO., 27 N. 2nd St., Philadelphia.

USE HACKETT'S CONDITION POWDERS
For Your Horses, Cattle and Poultry
Take no other. 15c. per lb. package.

Early Tomato Plants!

FLOWERS and PLANTS

AT LOW PRICES

for 1896, grown and for sale by

WM. H. KIRBY,

CHESTERTOWN, MD.

THOUSANDS of Fine, Large Pot-grown Tomato Plants for early Tomatoes. There is money in early Tomatoes for market, and my plants are large, fine and stocky.

We quote you a few of our low prices on good healthy stock of plants viz: A fine collection of Chrysanthemums at 60 cts. and $1.00 per doz. A fine collection of Geraniums, Doubles and Singles and Bronzed-leaf and silver leaf and Sweet Scented Geraniums in variety, at 50 cts. and $1.00 per doz. A fine collection of Pansies, 40 cts. per dozen. A handsome collection of Dahlias, at $1.00 per dozen. We have in our stock many other beautiful plants for bedding and Hanging Baskets and for growing in Pots, at low prices.

We are very thankful for past patronage and hope for a continuance of the same.

W. H. KIRBY, Florist, Chestertown, Md.
m26-3mos.

R. K. PIPPIN. WM. R. PIPPIN. W. T. PIPPIN

R. K. PIPPIN & SONS,

Contractors and Builders,

CHESTERTOWN, MD.

Plans and Specifications furnished. Estimates cheerfully made on all kinds of work. Jobbing promptly attended to. Prices moderate. A call solicited.
Address,

THE BEST

Garden SEED!

THE CHOICEST VARIETIES.

The Largest and Best Assorted Stock in Kent County.

Bushels of Peas,
Bushels of Beans,
Bushels of Corn,
Bushels of Onion Sets,
and all the smaller varieties.

Market Gardners will find it to their interest to buy from us. We can sell you at city prices and save you freight.

COLIN F. STAM, Druggist.

Our Terms Are Cash.

Summer Schedule, 1896.

THE STEAMER LOUISE

(weather permitting) between

Tolchester Beach and Baltimore,

Leaving Tolchester Daily at 10.30 A. M. and 7.00 P. M.
Leaving Baltimore daily at 8.30 A. M. and 2.30 P. M.
Tickets 25 cents.

Russell's Stage makes connection from Chester town with the Tolchester Boat.

TOLCHESTER COMPANY.
Main Office, Pier 16, Light St., Baltimore.
Or, G. E. NOLAND, Tolchester.

CHESTER RIVER

Steamboat Company.

DAILY ROUND TRIPS

EXCEPT SUNDAY!

Beginning on Monday, June 1, 1896, the steamer

EMMA A. FORD

will leave Chestertown at 7 o'clock A. M., stopping at Rolph's, Booker's, Quaker Neck Bogle's, Queenstown and Kent Island.

RETURNING, will leave Baltimore at 2.45 P. M. making the same landings.

Beginning April 1, 1896, the

STEAMER B. S. FORD

will leave Centreville at 7 A. M. daily, except Sunday, for Baltimore, stopping at landings on Corsica River, Jackson Creek and Rock Hall. Leave Jackson Creek at 8.15 A. M., Rock Hall 9.15 A. M. Returning, will leave Baltimore daily except Sunday, 2.30 P. M. for above landings.

GEO. WARFIELD, Pres't.

SASSAFRAS RIVER STEAMBOAT CO.

ROUND TRIPS.

CHANGE OF SCHEDULE.

On and after Monday, April 27th, 1896, the STEAMER SASSAFRAS will leave Georgetown daily at 6.30 A. M. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (not making round trip on Friday), leaving Baltimore at 2.30 o'clock P. M. Saturday. Shallcross' wharf at 6.45 A. M.; Cassidy's wharf at 7.00 A. M.; Turner's Creek, at 7.15 A. M.; Betterton, at 8.00 A. M.; Buck Neck at 9.15 A. M.; Gale's wharf, at 9.30 A. M.

Returning, leave Baltimore, Pier 5, Light street, daily at 3 o'clock, (except Friday), lay over until 2.30 P. M., on Saturday, stopping at Buck Neck and Gale's and all the landings on Sassafras river except Turner's Creek, trip up.

Apr. 30, 1896. WM. CUNDIFF, Sup't.

COAL AND WOOD

OWING to the scarcity of money we will sell at a very small advance above cost FOR THE CASH. Remember, we sell

the Lea Coal

WHICH IS THE BEST WHITE ASH COAL FOR GENERAL USE.

Probably it will be to your advantage to get our prices and examine our stock before you purchase.

2240 POUNDS FOR ONE TON.

Office on Cannon street, near Princess.

J. T. TWILLEY.

Salesmen Wanted

on salary, to sell Pennsylvania grown Nursery Stock, which is the best in the world. All the new specialties as well as the standard varieties of Fruits and Ornamentals. A fine outfit furnished and all traveling expenses paid. Salary dates from day work commenced. Write for terms, stating age.

HOOPES, BRO. & THOMAS,
Maple Avenue Nurseries, West Chester, Pa.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to the TRANSCRIPT $1.00 ...

THE RABBIT SCOURGE

HOW THE AUSTRALIANS TRY TO DEAL WITH THIS PEST.

Fences Made of Netting Over 400 Miles Long—Enormous Cost of Fighting the Plague—Millions Have Been Slaughtered but Numbers Continue to Increase.

Then the New South Wales government, it will be remembered, offered a reward of £25,000 to any person or persons who could suggest a really efficient method of getting rid of the pest; but, although this liberal offer led to the receipt of no fewer than 2,000 schemes from all parts of the world, none of them was regarded as satisfactory, and the offer was withdrawn. The domestic cat was introduced, and in certain limited areas did much service. Poisons were largely resorted to, and ferrets, stoats and weasels have been imported in thousands into some of the colonies and have increased fast. But hitherto the rabbits, owing to the rate at which they multiply, have managed not only to hold their own, but to constantly spread over new ground, carrying destruction with them wherever they go.

In South Australia, for instance, the direct loss from the rabbits has been put down at £250,000 per annum and the indirect loss at a similar amount. In Victoria the active operations for the destruction of rabbits on crown lands have been carried on by the government since 1880, and from that date to the middle of 1894 a total of nearly £300,000 had been spent by the state on that object. As for the money spent by private individuals for the same purpose, that is almost incalculable, but it may be mentioned that on one estate alone upward of £15,000 have been expended by the owner, with the view of clearing his land of the pest.

In the 17 years ending with 1893 nearly 68,000,000 rabbit skins, valued at £402,000, were exported from Victoria, without counting the large quantities used by hat manufacturers in the colony, one establishment alone using 374,400 every year. Yet, notwithstanding all this slaughter, the present infested area throughout the colony is estimated by the chief inspector at no less than 37,750,000 acres. Adding to the direct expenditure the depreciations of the grazing values of the land, the loss to the colonies concerned amount to millions of pounds sterling.

The final outcome of royal commissions, of international conferences and of the testing of every practical method of extermination, is that the most effectual method of dealing with the evil is found to be the construction of rabbit proof netting, by means of which the animals can be kept from areas not yet infested, can be shut off from food supplies, and can be more effectually dealt with locally.

The length of some of these fences is enormous. There is one starting at Barringun, on the Queensland border, and following the main trunk line from Bourke to Cocowa, a distance of 407 miles, and there is another along the entire western boundary of New South Wales, a distance of 346 miles. The Queensland government, too, has erected a similar fence along a considerable portion of the northern boundary of New South Wales, but the surveyor general of Queensland, in the report already referred to, says that "the rabbits must have come through the fence in mobs and droves of innumerable multitudes at some time," and thus have established themselves in Queensland as well.

This, of course, is the weak point in regard to fences, which are liable to break down in places, more especially in times of flood and where they cross over creeks, while the keeping of constant supervision over the fences, so that immediate repairs can be done where openings appear, is quite impracticable where the distances are so great. In many instances countless thousands of rabbits have been seen on one side of a fence dead or dying of starvation after eating all the available food supplies and leaping up at the fence in their attempts to surmount it. One can imagine how they would rush through in the event of any opening appearing and how a single break in the fence might be the doom of a country not previously infested.

There have been many projects for the commercial utilization of the animals by sending them over here in order to contribute both to our food supplies and to the cost of their own destruction, but hitherto the enterprise has not been very profitable, while some of the most competent authorities in the colonies think that if it should be followed up the result may be to conserve the rabbits instead of getting rid of them. On the other hand, too, the shipping of some hundreds of thousands, or even a million or two, of rabbits to Great Britain every year would not be likely to make any appreciable difference on the numbers left behind to constitute what it is feared must be regarded as a pest now altogether ineradicable.—London Times.

SCIENCE TOO SLOW.

Discovery of Cat Language Not Likely to Be of Much Use.

"We live and learn," said the ordinary man. "I always thought that a cat could either mew or purr or spit or leave it alone. It now seems that I've done an injustice to the beast's vocabulary. Professor Marvin Clark, I'm told, has been studying the language of cats, and has discovered 600 'primitive words.'"

"Of which," the mere boy said, "599 are either blasphemous or improper."

"The professor doesn't say so, and I don't see how you found it out."

"I see this professor says that cat language bears a resemblance to Chinese. It's rather rough to insult a fallen and vanquished nation that way."

"Well, if there's anything in it," the ordinary man remarked, "it would account for the Chino-Japanese war in a novel and perfectly satisfactory way. But really, when one comes to think of it, it is much easier to believe that cats talk than that monkeys talk. Cats and owls both make sounds exactly like the sound of a human voice. Given a churchyard, a dark night and a white cat, and you have all the materials of a ghost story."

"It's a pity," the journalist said, "that discoveries of this kind cannot be turned to some practical use. Why don't they discover the language of the horse? It would make driving much easier if you could tell the gee exactly what you wanted and explain to it verbally the perfectly innocuous character of any object at which it might be likely to shy."

"Ah!" said the eminent person. "Before that discovery arrives we shall have the autocars and no horses at all."—Black and White.

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What can be done with it?

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