ster, armed with powerful claws and | cean clung with tenacity. worked up to good fighting trim, was fought by Charles McVane, fisherman and resident of Long Island, four miles from Portland, Me., in Cascoe

Mr. McVane had been fishing all day with indifferent success and had decided to pull up and start for shore, As he neared Ram Island, which is a barren strip of land with bold, rocky shores and entirely devoid of trees, he spied a large flock of sea duck huddled together in one of the tiny coves that run up into the shores of the island. The sight of the ducks aroused his sporting instincts and made him forget the cheerful fireplace of his own cottage. To make a long story short, he spent an hour or so among the wary sea duck sailing about from one cove to another, catching first one and then another flock napping. So ardent did this duck hunter become in the pursuit of his game that he was surrounded by the chilly gloom of an April night almost before he knew it.

McVane is a man of action. With a sweeping glance at sea and sky, and not even stopping to pick up the last duck he had shot, he turned his boat's how toward the island and beached it well on a strip of sand.

With a knowledge born of many similar experiences he turned his dory upside down, and, with the aid of the sail and his oliskins, made almost a tolerably comfortable rest ing place for the night.

McVane had been asleep, as he judges, some three or four hours. when he was suddenly awakened by an ley cold stream of water trickling under him and running up his tronsers legs. Scarcely had he regained his senses when this forerunner of the deluge was followed by a mighty purush of water that took him, his boat, and everything else in its way, pounding up the beach. Such was the force of the wave that a heavy place of driftwood was hurled against McVane's head with sufficient force to render him unconscious for a few

When he recovered he was lying high and dry on the beach, but he had a borrible choking sensation, and his neck and throat felt as though clasped in a vice. Clutching with his hand he grasped the hard, cold shell of a monster lobster. He seized the | English girl before she is married, but claw that gripped his throat and tried | matrimony, somehow or other, seems to break its hold, but the sturdy fish- to change her whole nature, if one erman had been weakened by the may judge from the way she breaks blow on the head and the immersion loose."—Philadelphia Record.

A midnight battle with a giant lob- [in the icy water. The giant crusta-

McVane rolled over on to his stomach and pinned the lobster under five minutes the fisherman and the lobster struggled, one to release himself, the other to maintain its hold.

Perhaps the weight of the man's body was too much for the lobster or perhaps he repented of his midnight assault, for it suddenly relaxed its strangling grip and in a second Mc-Vane had released himself and seized the lobster just back of the head and the base of the claws, the safe grip a fisherman knows so well. The exhausted Long Islander managed to carry the huge crustacean to high ground and fortunately found a deep. smooth hollow in the ledge, the slimy sides of which afforded no hold for the prisoner's claws and thus kept it safely until daybreak. Then McVane took the lobster to Portland and turned it over to Taxidermist John A. Lord, who has just finished mounting This monster measures four feet and one-half inches from the tip end of its tail to the tip of the longest claw, and it weighed 27 pounds.

Significant.

A certain composer abroad had an opera accepted and anticipated for it a great success. On the strength of this supposition he promised each of the musicians in the orchestra a fine supper with wine "ad libitum" at the conclusion of the performance,

To his surprise and dismay the opera at its premiere was a complete fiasco and was all but hissed off the stage. After all was over he returned into the orchestra to collect some missing manuscript and found there seated one solitary musician-a trombone player.

"Well, my friend," he inquired kind-"what can I do for you?" The musician looked at him earnest ly and replied in tones of significant sincerity: "I liked it."-Short Stories.

English Married Women.

women with advanced ideas and unconventional modes of living," says a publisher, "but they are not to be compared to their English sisters. There is nothing so demure as an

Crickets Sold on Ascension Day. Picturesque Custom in Florence.

"Crickets! Crickets! Fine singers!" cry the Florentine venders on Ascension morning. "Two cents, four or five cents for crickets, fine singers!" All day long the streets are cheerful with the call, and with the crickets' songs. For this is the festival which in Florence is dedicated alike to the human soul, and to its symbol, the cricket, whose beginning. tife and departure are as much a mystery as the coming and the passing of man's elusive spirit. You may select your own song-bird if you like from the tangled heap in the peddler's netcovered barrel, and you may choose your cage, too, according to your taste and pocketbook. Your cricket you must pick out with care, for the strength and vivacity of its voice will decide your destiny for the coming year. A herry singer foretells good luck, health, and happiness; a sad one meurs misfortune. You will give your . net a fresh green lettuce leaf, there-

fore, if you are clever. On Ascension morning devout Flormatines go to mass. In the afternoon a merry throng crowds the cafes and the Cascine, the beautiful park which les sunsetward from the city along Arno. The common folk sit on he grass and eat "I cannelloni," the rae kind of macaroni that is the cultur delicacy of this feast day. he bean monde promenades up and en the long avenues of the Cascine, ing their cages and chattering at their respective merits of their irds. When the hills and villas the Arno have begun to tade w and Monte Morello and the on this side here grown



"I have solved the luncheon prob said W. S. Webb of the Missouri Savings Bank yesterday. "I dim every moon, yet I neither have my out for it. Neither do I carry a full dinner bucket, as we did in the last prosidential canvass."

"How do you do it?" was asked "This way," and he took from his pocket a little tin box, in which were a score or more of little tablets. "Buch of these is composed of concentrated They are mixed with malted Three or four of them make a square meal. I find it inconvenient to go out for luncheon in the middle of the day, because that is our busy time. I don't like to have one sent in, and I cannot go without. Therefore, these. I take three or four of them every noon, and perhaps eat a banana or an orange, and I am amply satisfied.

"Yes, I know that sounds funny," he went on, "but that is the twentieth century way of doing things. Soon we will do all our eating on the tabloid plan, and the odors of the kitchen-in fact, the kitchen itself-will be obliterated. We will carry our meals about with us in our pockets, and when we are hungry we will eat, There will be no long dinners, no waits, no quick lunches. We will take tablets and save all worry over burned or underdone steaks, and will not have indigestion over heavy pies and him; then he tried once more to force | batter cakes. Banquets will become the cruel jaws apart, but, though he a thing of the past. Instead of stuffing moved them slightly, he was yet too a guest with half a hundred different weak to do anything more. For fully things at one sitting, we will say: 'Have a tablet?' and then light our cigars and be done with it. It's the coming way."

And Mr. Webb cocked his feet up on his desk and took another tablet .-Kansas City Journal.

CHILDISH IDEAS OF VACCINATION Some Queer Thoughts That Arise in Javenile Minds.

A long chapter might be written on the confusion of ideas produced in the minds of children by unfamiliar words and phrases, says the London Daily News. The writer was lately asked by a little girl of six or seven to tell her what "font" meant. Wondering in what connection she had heard the word, "Come, now," he replied, "tell me what you think it means." don't know what it's like," returned the little maid, "but I know it's where you're vaccinated." "Vaccinated! What is vaccinated?" The questioner half expected to hear this time a tiny lecture upon infant baptism, but he was disappointed, "Oh," came the reply, "every one ought to be vaccinated, it keeps you from being ill."

We were reminded of the above conversation by a paragraph in a provincial contemporary which, whether the incident be real or imaginary, tends to show that the confusion of thought involved was not singular in the case already quoted. "Two small boys were standing by a slippery pavement in one of the inland towns during the recent frost. One of them ventured to slide, and by and by, becoming more courageous he invited his fellow to join him. "Come on, Billy, and let's have a slur." Billy hesitated, "How can I come on? Haven't I been baptised?" "Baptized? What has bein baptized to do wi' it?" Billy gave his companion a scornful glance. "Why the doctor said I was to do nothink as "You may think you know American | ud hurt my arm, an' I might fall

Was Somewhat Persting.

A stranger in the locality was trave. Ning the lower section of the city in search of a small street. Coming to one which he thought might be the one he was looking for, and seeing no sign, he asked a passer-by:

"What street's this?" "Watta street," was the reply.

"What street?" "Yes; Watts street."

"This street." "Yes, this street, isn't this the

street you're talking about?" "Yes! what's the name of ft?"

"Watta street." "What street? You blasted idlot this alley that you Philadelphians call a street, you escaped lunatic. What's

the name of it?" "I'm a stranger down here, and I asked you the name of this street,

"And I told you" (pointing to the blue enameled sign), "Watts street." The stranger's back was to the sign and he had not seen it. He then proposed drinks at the corner.-Philadelphia Times.

Won a Wife on a Train.

What appears to be the record for matchmaking occurred recently in Kansas. It culminated in the marriage of Mrs. Alice Anderson of Trenton Mo., and William Arnold of Smith county, Kan., who met upon a Rock Island train several days ago, fell in love with each other and became engaged before the train had covered 40 miles of the distance between Trenton, Mo., and Kansas City. Arnold is a substantial farmer. He had been a widower for 14 years, and last October decided to marry again. He visited relatives in Iowa, Indiana and sign accepted for the St. Joseph coun-Ohio, but failed to find a woman who | ty monument will cost \$25,000. struck his fancy. He was on his way to visit his cousins in Kansas City when he met Mrs. Anderson on the trein. She was pretty and interesting and Arnold's search for a wife ended.

To Locture on Argentina. Mr. Corthell, an American engineer,

AS THE WORLD REVOLVES

Farmer Hudson of Ararst, Pa., had a queer experience while hunting red foxes on the mountain above his home. A fox that had given him a lively chase ran down a steep hill and dashed toward the Susquehanna river where a boat was lying loosely on the shore. The force of the jump sent the craft out in the stream, and when Hudson came up the boat was in the middle of the river, floating down the current.

In the boat, standing on the seat in the stern, was the fox, gazing back at his baffied pursuer with considerable satisfaction. Hudson discovered another boat on shore, and quietly pushing it off, paddled after the boat that was bearing the fox away. The fox's boat was gradually being carried by the current nearer the opposite shore, and by the time the hunter in his boat was half way from the starting point of the fox's boat, the latter was within a rod or two of the oppo-

MEMORIAL TO GREAT GERMAN POET Emperor William Approves the Model

for the 8 stue of Goothe. Emperor William has approved of the model which has been made for



Rome and work on the monument will be hurried to completion. The illustration shows the head of the statue. pronounced by sculptors to be perfec-

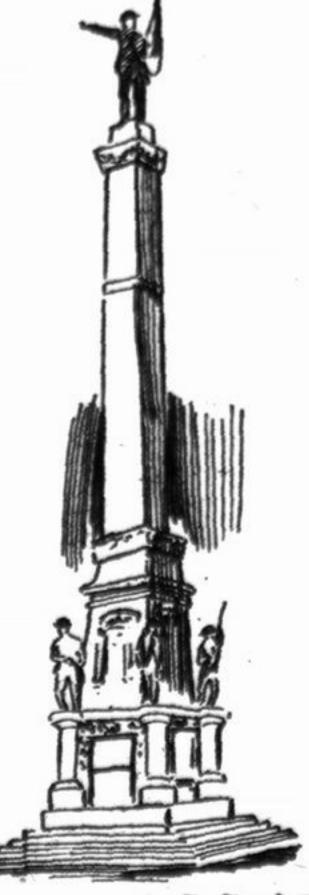
Plan Bly Religious Revival.

Methodists of Sloux City are arranging for a big revival at that place next July or August. They are endeavoring to secure the services of "Billy" Sunday, who at one time played with the Chicago National league baseball nine. Mr. Sunday is now in the evangelistic field and if he can be secured a large tent will be put up for the meetings, with an orchestra and choir made up from Methodist and other churches in Bloux City.

BEAUTIFUL SOLDIERS' MONUMENT

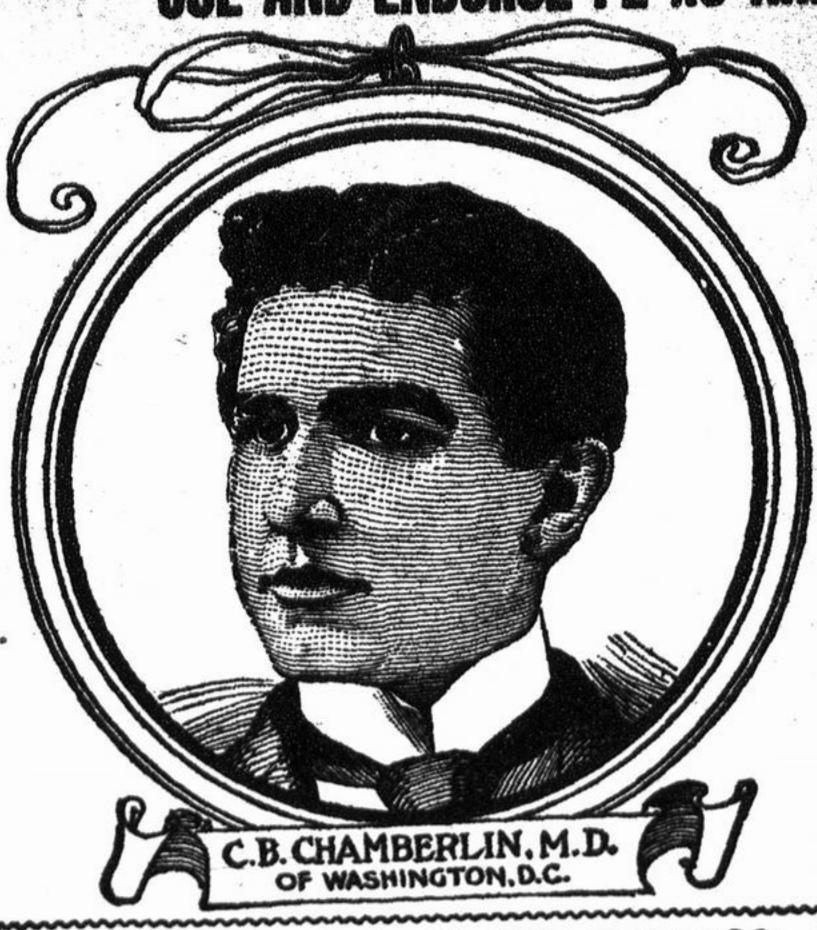
St. Joseph County, Indiana, Hemembers Its Departed Herees.

It is doubtful if the people of any county in Indiana have erected to the memory of its dead soldlers a monument that is finer or more expensive than the one that has been planned for St. Joseph county. This county sent its full share of soldiers to the early wars, and the number of volunteers that responded to the call during the civis war was large. The de-



Why He Had No Sec. Joseph Jefferson was asked the other day why he never introduced a dog into "Rip Van Winkle," and this was his reply: "If I had brought on a real dos he would never have pleased will represent Argentina at a congress | everyone, because each one had a speon matters affecting navigation which cial idea of what sort of a dog will be held in Dusseldorf, Germany, Schneider ought to be. And if the shortly, and will then come to this tail of the dog of realism had wagged intry and lecture in the leading once at the wrong time it would have d everything."

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D. C., writes: The Peruna Medicine Co., Columbus, O.: Gentlemen-"in my practice I have had occasion to frequently prescribe your valuable medicine, and have found its use beneficial, especially in cases of

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