A RACE OF GIANTS.

Wonderful People Who Inhabit an Island in the Gulf of California.

Tiburon is an island in the Gulf of California. Until 1873, when Commander (now Admiral) George Dewey was sent there to make surveys, it was a region shrouded in mystery. During the greater part of the year it is reported to by the Seri Indians, a race of giants who inhabit the adjacent mainland. They are reputed to be extremely suspicious and warlike, using poisoned arrows to oppose the landing of foreigners on their shores. Dewey received several visits from them. Although hostile at first, they became very friendly, says Youth's Companion.

A monograph on the Seri Indians is soon to be published by the bureau of ethnology. It is from the pen of Prof. W. J. McGee, who himself led a government expedition into their country.

They are wonderful navigators, and have need to be, for between the island of Tiburon and the mainland is a narrow strait appropriately called Infiernillo by the early Spanish explorers. The waters of the gulf rush into this passage through a funnel-shaped bay, and the tides pour through it in such a manner as to make it one of the most tumultuous bits of sea in the world.

A safe crossing can be made only occasionally, the only boat suitable for the passage being the balsa, a native raft-like canoe constructed of long reeds bound together with string. In this primitive craft the Seri paddle fearlessly over the waters of the gulf in search of water fowl, for food, and of pelicans, which they hunt for their skins.

Raids on the pelicans are undertaken on a still evening, when there is no moon and the weather is not too stormy. The hunters set out at twilight, and when the island is reached balsas are left in charge of the women, while the warriors and larger boys rush upon the roosting birds and slaughter them with clubs. The skins of the pelicans are sewn together to make robes, from four to eight being required for one garment.

The Indians are said to have a curious way of making the pelicans catch fish for them. They tie a young or crippled bird to a shrub or stone, depending upon the compassion of its fellows to keep it from dying. In these circumstances the sympathetic pelicans bring the captive a plentiful supply of fish. At intervals a boy steals out and robs the bird's pouch of the store it contains.

The Seri are a wonderful people physically. They have fine chests, slender and sinewy limbs, and hands and feet of remarkable size. Of their luxuriant long hair, as well as of their superb figures, they are inordinately proud.

The name Seri signifies spry, and refers to the marvelous powers of these savages as runners. They are said to be the fleetest runners in the world, being able to overtake swift horses. They actually make a practice of running down jackrabbits and deer. The skin of their legs is more like that of a horse or camel than like that of a human being, so that they can run through thickets of thorny cactus that would be impenetrable to a white man.

The houses of the Seri are flimsy bowers of cacti and shrubbery, sometimes shingled rudely with turtle shells and sponges. The big sea turtles, besides replenishing the Seri larder and forming the house roof, provide receptacles for water, the material for many primitive implements, a cradle at the beginning of life and a coffin at the end.

ABSORBED BY THE CHINESE.

Several Branches of Superior Races Have Been Assimilated by the Mongols.

China's remarkable and somewhat terrible capacity for impressing the mental and physical peculiarities of her own people upon everybody that remains long enough within her frontiers has been illustrated by her easy assimilation of more than one nominally superior race that has found little difficulty in acquiring domination over the country, and this power has had even more surprising display in the case of a people that everywhere else has succeeded in maintaining its distinctive characteristics. It has long been known that in the town of Kai-Fung-Foo there is a colony of Jews. When or how they came there is a matter of some uncertainty, but their establishment was of remote date and their isolation has been almost complete, says the New York Times.

Just before the outbreak of the present troubles an effort was made by the Jews of Shanghai to ascertain the condition of their mysterious coreligionists and, though little was accomplished, owing to the disturbed state of the country, still, enough was learned to show that China had done her usual work. A letter published by the Jewish Messenger describes the Kai-Fung-Foo colony as composed of 40 houses and 140 persons. "Their condition in society," says the writer, "is not very high. Once they were the richest and most influential people of the place, but through internal dissensions they have dwindled down until now they are very poor. I am sorry to add they have not a very good reputation. One of them is a Buddhist priest, and also has the rank of a small mandarin. They do not know much of their religion." Only a single inscribed stone marks the spot where their synagogue once stood, and unless their associations with the outside world are soon renewed it seems certain that they will become indistinguishable from the yellow millions around them.

Hopeful.

Milton—Gibson doesn't seem to be getting rich at poultry raising.

Bilton—No; but he says his hens have taken to eating their own eggs, and he has hopes that they'll become self-supporting.—N. Y. World.

SHAKING PALSY.

A Disease Peculiar to Old Age That Is Seldom Cured But May Be Abated.

Shaking palsy, or paralysis agitans, as it is called by physicians, is a nervous affection in which there is a weakness, almost amounting to actual paralysis at times, combined with a constant and uncontrollable jerking of the muscles, says Youth's Companion.

The affection is classed among the diseases of old age, but is not very rare in younger persons, and may occur even in children. As a rule it begins gradually, the first thing noticed being an unsteadiness of the hands, or perhaps a trembling movement of only one finger, generally the thumb. With this there may be moderate pain, which is supposed to be rheumatic.

The trembling movement is often intermittent, at first coming and going without apparent cause; but later it becomes permanent and extends to other parts, finally involving both arms and legs. Less frequently the neck muscles participate in the movements, the head then nodding, turning or moving from side to side. The muscles of the face and the tongue may also be implicated.

In conjunction with the trembling the muscles are weak, and may be almost incapable of voluntary movements, and the patient feels tired and longs for the constant shaking to cease. The trembling does cease during sleep, and it is also less marked when one executes voluntary movements.

The onset of the affection, although commonly gradual, as we have said, is in some cases very sudden, following some great mental or physical shock.

In later stages of the disease the muscles of the body become more or less stiffened, the back is bent, the head is inclined forward, and the various segments of the arms and legs are slightly flexed one on the other.

The rigidity of the muscles of the face gives a fixed expression of sadness, of indifference, or it may be of bad temper. There is a peculiar gait, something like that of a drunken man, who has to walk very fast, or even run, to overcome his tendency to fall forward.

Shaking palsy is seldom cured, but it does not always get worse, and may continue for years without apparent change one way or the other. The general condition of the patient is usually below par, and the chief indication of treatment is, therefore, to improve the nutrition by tonics and a generous diet. Some relief to the constant and fatiguing tremor may be obtained by the patient's making slow voluntary movements, or by massage.

PRESENT WAS TOO FAST.

Story Told an Attorney by His Colored Barber Who Had Been a Victimized.

"I'se glad yo' came in, sah; I ce'tainly is, fo' I wish t' ask yo' fo' a little info'mation about th' law."

The colored barber in the McGraw building pushed the head of Attorney William E. Thompson back to the head rest of the chair, says the Detroit Journal, and then went on:

"Yo' see, sah, it was this way: Th' othe' day a man comes in yeah, sah, an' he says t'me, says he: 'Mistah Ba'bah, does yo' want t' mek yo' honey gal a Crissimus present?' I natchelly says 'at I sho'ly does, so he puts 'ees hand in his pocket an' pulls out a lady's watch that appea'ed t' be a ve'y swell thing, sah, ve'y swell, indeed, sah.

"I says: 'Mistah Man, wha' yo' want fo' 'at watch?" He said 'at he wanted eight dolla's. Then we ba'gained back an' fo'th, an' finally he said 'at I could have 'at watch fo' fou' dolla's an' a half, an' I paid him th' money. I put 'at watch in my pocket an' I reckoned 'at it would bring great joy t' my honey gal. Th' next day I looked at th' watch t' see what time it was and shu's yo' live, it was two hours faste' than th' city hall clock, an' two an' a half faste' than th' guv'ment clock. I set 'at watch again an' th' next mo'ning at nine o'clock my watch was half-past fou'.

"Th' day befo'e yeste'day 'at man came into th' shop jes' as pleasant as could be. He said: 'Hello, Gawge, how's th' watch?' Natchelly I was mad at him, but he soon began t' explanation it an' finally he said: 'Gawge, old boy, youse been monkeyin' with th' hai' spring of 'at watch. Neve' monkey with th' hai' spring,' said he. Then he zamines 't watch again an' he said: 'Gawge, I'll take th' watch t' my jewele' an' he will fix it up all right, but, remembah, yo' mustn't monkey with th' hai spring.'

"He took th' watch away with him an' 'at is th' last I have seen of 'at man or my watch or my fou' dolla's. An' what I would like t' know is, can't I have at' man 'rested f'r la'ceny f'rom th' pusson?"

Improved Escalloped Oysters.

The addition of chopped celery and a white sauce makes of escalloped oysters a rich and substantial dish. The sauce is made with a cupful of milk, a heaping teaspoonful of butter, one cupful of oyster liquor and one tablespoonful of flour. Brown a small cupful of bread crumbs in a very little butter, or, if preferred, rolled cracker crumbs may be used without browning. Put a layer of oysters in the bottom of the baking dish, season lightly with salt and scatter over a little of the chopped celery before adding some of the white sauce. Repeat this order till a quart of oysters and all of the sauce and celery have been used. Cover the top with a thick layer of bread crumbs and bake for not more than 15 minutes.—Detroit Free Press.

Cucumber Jellies.

Make a small quantity of strong lemon jelly, using but little sugar, add to it the pulp of one grated cucumber and set in fish-shaped molds.—Good Housekeeping.

NOTES OF THE FASHIONS.

Pretty Designs and Notions That Make Attractive the Season's Costumes.

Both empire and princesse effects will be conspicuous among evening gowns formed of delicate or diaphanous fabrics.

Hip yokes, formed of the skirt fabric, laid in tucks, or of insertion and puffed bands, arabesque braiding, or applique patterns laid over the entire yoke, will be a feature of summer dress skirts of silk, light wool, and all transparent or semi-transparent materials, says the New York Evening Post.

At a fashionable designing house is shown a Claude Duval collar, characterized by three circular capes that can be made with square or rounding corners, with either a military or turn-down collar. These circular capes are to be added either to the smart automobile cloaks, the long, fitted Newmarkets, redingotes, or the shorter, fly-fronted jackets, with cut-away basques.

Beautiful robe dresses, combining lace and net, soft crepes de Chine, silks, and satins, and sheer dainty nun's veiling, albatross, French cashmere, and other delicate wools, are already set forth for the making of warm-weather gowns. The skirts are usually in circular shape, and material and decoration are supplied for the bodice, which can be used in countless pretty and becoming ways.

Very fashionable stock collars are made of white satin ribbon, with tiny lines of gold braid put on at intervals, or those of black bebe velvet ribbon standing vertically, and ending on a little loop, held with a small gold or jewel button.

In front of these pretty stocks are set a jabot of rich lace, a drapery of Greek tulle, and a single pink rose; soft loops of satin ribbon, and a frill of embroidered chiffon, or coquilles of ethereal gold-wrought guipure, reaching from throat to waist, and meeting a ceinture matching the stock, and fastened with a buckle ornamented with "the emperor's golden bees."

Silver-pointed fox fur which is liberally sprinkled with long white hair is one of the number of comparatively inexpensive furs which are used this winter for neck scarfs and large directoire muffs.

Sweet English violets and lovely mauve and purple orchids, with a dainty mixture of maiden-hair fern in artistic contrast, form the very fashionable bouquets de corsage for afternoon receptions, teas, etc. They are not so favored for evening wear, for overheated atmosphere and strong electric lights dim or utterly destroy their delicate coloring and fragile beauty. Every shade of pink, tea-rose, carnation, La France, etc., rules for evening decoration. Against chiffon, black velvet, lace, pale-green foliage, dark-green velvet, etc., there is no color that can approach it for becomingness and dainty, lovely effect.

SOME CUISINE ITEMS.

A Few Simple Suggestions That May Be of Value to the Young Cook.

Where one likes the flavor of wine in a pudding sauce, but has conscientious scruples against the use of intoxicants, an excellent substitute may be found in the Quaker expedient of combining a small amount of vinegar with a few drops of vanilla. Where the blend is accurate the difference can scarcely be detected, says the Washington Star.

The prevalent custom at kaffee klatches, Japanese teas and Chinese suppers of allowing each guest to carry away his cup and saucer, plate or chop sticks, as a souvenir of the occasion, is but the revival of an ancient custom. Dr. Nicholas Tulp, a celebrated physician of Amsterdam, in 1672, gave a grand entertainment to his fellow burgomasters, which lasted from noon until 11 o'clock at night. At the close of the festivities each guest on leaving took his dessert plate with him, on which were fruit and loaf sugar.

A chocolate layer cake quite out of the ordinary, but eminently satisfactory, is this: Beat to a cream 1½ cups of sugar and a half-cupful of butter. Add the yolks of four eggs well beaten, one-half cupful warm water in which a half cake of chocolate has been dissolved, two cupfuls of flour into which a half teaspoonful of soda has been sifted, one-half cupful of sour milk, with another half teaspoonful of soda beaten in it. At the last fold in the whites of two eggs beaten stiff. Bake in layers and put together with lemon or vanilla icing, made from the remaining whites of eggs. The icing may be boiled or simply stirred stiff with confectioners' sugar and a tablespoonful and a half of water.

When the directions on breakfast food packages give from ten to 20 minutes as the proper time for cooking, the results obtained will be found much more satisfactory if the time is extended to an hour. Cereals which have not had the preliminary steaming should be cooked from four to five hours.

Cracks in a stove grate can be easily mended by supplying ashes and salt moistened to a stiff paste. Put on at night and in the morning it will be found quite firm. Should it crumble again in the lapse of months, renew the application.

Canned Mushrooms.

Stew the mushrooms, peel, rubbing them carefully with a flannel cloth to cleanse them, being careful not to break them. Place in the chafing dish two butter balls and a pound of the prepared mushrooms, and salt and pepper to taste. Cover the dish and allow the mushrooms to steam about eight minutes. Serve on toast.—Detroit Free Press.

SOME NEW JERSEY WHALES.

Extensive Damage Done to a Fisherman's Net by One Making His Toilet.

"Down on the Jersey coast, where I spent the summer last year," said a landsman, relates the New York Sun, "I met a fisherman who told me a story about a whale—a hunchback whale. This fisherman had a pound net planted off the beach. The net was many hundred feet long and cost hundreds, I don't know but thousands, of dollars. One day after he had got the net set the fisherman saw a little farther off shore a humpback whale, sort of idling around in the water, but gradually working inshore. It was not unusual to see whales off the coast, and the fisherman wasn't very particularly struck by this whale, even when he saw that he was edging in toward the land and toward his pound net, because he expected really every minute to see him sheer off and go to sea again.

"The idea of the whale's troubling his pound net never occurred to him, but the first thing he knew the whale was right alongside of it. The next minute the fisherman saw the whale rubbing his back and sides against it, rubbing the barnacles off his back on his pound net!

"The hard, tarred rope, tied up in diamond meshes, was just the thing for this, or would have been if the net and the stakes had been a little stronger; but apparently it pleased the whale greatly as it was. He rubbed along it slowly, the barnacles catching in the angles of the meshes and being yanked off, or else a bunch of them, or the surge of the whale, or both together, tearing the net in some places, the whale crowding in harder all the time and being especially tickled when he rubbed against a stake, but making the stake bend and crack. And still a-crowding harder and harder, rubbing and scrubbing along, the whale finally pushed the whole blessed pound net clean over and wrecked and half destroyed it. Then he up helm and put to sea.

"Well, now, you know, I was inclined to doubt this story; just a little, anyhow; but another fisherman I saw down there said, while this happened before he came, he didn't question that it was the simple truth. He said he'd seen whales rub and roll on a sandy beach to rub barnacles off, and he didn't see why a whale shouldn't use a pound net for that if it found one handy. He said whales often got great numbers of barnacles on them, not on the under part of the body, but on the sides or back, and that the barnacles grew and thrived there just as they would, for instance, on a turtle, or as they do in enormous numbers on ships. These barnacles may not actually irritate the whale, but they impede its progress just as they would a ship's, and make the whale want to get rid of them.

"The whale can't very well rub the barnacles off on the bottom, because it would be likely to find only soft ooze and mud, and that's about what he'd find inshore, too, at the mouth of rivers and such places; but if he strikes a sandy beach, there he'll rub himself. And he might clean himself on a rocky coast; but if he did, it wouldn't be on the rocks, but on some little beach where there was a place for it, made by the weathering of the rocks and grinding up of the fragments by the sea. The whale, this man said, certainly does come into such places to rub the barnacles off; and he thought the pound net story was no fish story, but just a plain statement of the facts.

"I met down there another fisherman still who told me about a humpback whale he once met off Sandy Hook, when he was going into New York on a fishing smack. This whale was lying on top of the water, dead, to all appearances; and from what showed of it above the water it appeared to be about 45 feet long. They headed the smack up for it, and had got within about 20 feet of it, when one of the crew dropped a sweep on the smack's deck. It struck the deck with a loud bang, and—

"Swish—slap! went the whale's tail as he threw it up and then slammed it down on the water; and, zoo-op! down and away he went in a grand crush and slather of foam and waves. They saw him again about a quarter of a mile off, and then they didn't see him again at all.

"The whale, you see, had just been lying there on the water asleep. And they were glad the man dropped the oar as he did and waked him, because the smack was a small sloop, and the whale would have made it warm for them if they'd been over him, as they might have been, when he woke up."

The Largest Incubator.

New South Wales has not only the largest duck farm in the commonwealth, but also probably the largest incubator in the world. The farm and incubator are situated at Botany, near Sydney, the latter, according to a Sydney paper, having a capacity of 11,440 duck eggs, or 14,080 hen eggs. It is not necessary that it should be filled at any one time. The eggs can be put in at intervals, as they are available. With 50 eggs only it will work just as well as if it were filled. The incubator was designed and constructed by its proprietor, with the aid of an ingenious local mechanic.—N. Y. Herald.

Chronic Kicker.

First Waiter—That man over at the corner table is an awful kicker.

Second Waiter—Yes; he complained the other day because there were no pearls in his oysters.

"And now he wants to know what we mean by removing the diamonds from the diamond-back terrapin."—Philadelphia Record.

JEWISH CUP CANDLES.

Flourishing New York Industry Inherited from the Times of Solomon.

On the East side is a quaint industry which is a heritage from the days of King Solomon. It is the manufacture of cup candles, says a New York exchange. They are made of fastening a long and narrow wick to the bottom of a glazed earthenware cup or tumbler, and pouring around it melted wax until the fluid reaches nearly to the brim. The wax hardens, the wick is trimmed and the affair is ready for the market. In place of a cup, a glass tumbler is often employed, and occasionally a silver plated or sterling vessel is used instead. The wax may be of natural color, tinted a pale pink, and even scented with old-fashioned perfumes. Generally a quotation from the Scriptures, or the Talmud, printed on a slip of paper in Yiddish, or Hebrew, is pasted on the outside. These cup candles have many uses. In ultra-orthodox families one is lighted on Friday afternoon and burned until Saturday evening. This complies with the ancient law that no fire shall be made upon the Sabbath, and at the same time it gives enough light to see by in the dark. They are also used for the sick-room and upon feast days and holy days. The quotations are at times quite curious. A favorite one employed at funerals or on the anniversary of funerals is the line from the Psalms: "In the morning it flourisheth and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down and withereth." A second one is quite epigrammatic: "A man lives to die. And a man dies to live."

These cup candles seem to have supplanted the oil lamp at an early period. They are much cleaner than the latter. The flame is protected from the wind by the walls of the surrounding vessel, and if overturned they extinguish themselves without danger or dirt. The heat of the flame is just enough to melt a small pool immediately around the wick, so that when the light is upset the loss is practically nothing. Of the perfumes employed benzoin, myrrh, burgamot, and musk seem to be the favorites. For orthodox Jews with sentimental instincts, there are candles whose wax comes from the Holy Land, and around the Jewish holidays cup candles from Jerusalem and Lebanon may be found in the market. There is a certain sacredness about these relics of antiquity. On one occasion an enterprising citizen made a number of paraffine and offered them for sale. The imitation was soon noticed and an incipient riot was the result. The dealer escaped without any physical injury, but the candles were all destroyed by the angry devout.

NO NEGROES IN THIS TOWN.

One Kentucky Village from Which the Black Man Is Unrelentingly Barred.

Calvert City, in Marshall county, Kentucky, is one of the few places in the world that has effectually solved the race problem. Not a negro is to be found within a radius of a dozen miles, and the negro is yet to be discovered who has any permanent desire to come here, says the Chicago Inter Ocean.

To threaten a negro with Calvert City is to bring before his frightened vision pictures of death more horrible than by lynching.

The peaceable, law-abiding spirit that prevails in the little Kentucky town is swiftly banished when a negro appears. If he keeps going he is not molested, provided he attends strictly to his own affairs and does nothing to provoke the ever-alert hostility of the residents. But he can neither take up his abode there nor remain over all night, and so disastrous have been all past attempts to break this unwritten, but none the less stringent law, that no negro would to-day dare to move into Calvert City and announce his intention of remaining.

The town itself is a small place of a few hundred inhabitants, situated on the Illionis Central railroad, only a dozen miles from Paducah, the metropolis of southwest Kentucky.

The intense hatred of the negro dates back 20 years or more. Few profess to know its origin, but many claim that it was born in the people, but some of the older inhabitants declare that it had its inception years ago when two negroes married white women and settled there. The aversion of the people became so great that numerous attempts, resulting in considerable bloodshed, were made to expel the mismated couples, and eventually they were driven away.

This aroused the bitterest hostility among the negroes, and the white people soon grew to so hate the sight of one that every negro was ultimately run out of the vicinity, and one has never been known to live in these parts since.

In recent years there has been no serious trouble, but it is estimated that no less than ten or a dozen negroes who had settled in the neighborhood have been shot from ambush or otherwise mysteriously killed.

This reprehensible means of exterminating them, however, was always adopted as a last resort, and no one was ever punished for relieving the community of their presence.

How It Happened.

Hi Stackpole—I see that city feller ye took out huntin' yesterday got a few quails.

Josh Gunn—Aw, yes! A fool bird would occasionally fly into the shot.—Puck.

Generally the Case.

Little Elmer—Papa, what is an epigram?

Prof. Broadhead—An epigram, my son, is usually a sarcastic way of saying something that is not so.—Puck.

POTTERY IMITATIONS.

How Is One Way in Which Clever Artisans Turn an Honest Penny.

If the peddler calls upon one any day and offers at counter-bargain prices a ceramic antique, he should be shown the door politely but firmly. He is a humbug and his goods are bogus. The demand for specimens of early ceramic art is so much larger than the available supply that unscrupulous potters the world over are finding profitable work in counterfeiting the wares of the early civilizations. In this field the Japanese are by far the cleverest. They can imitate not only their own earthenwares, but also those of Corea, China and Cambodia. They do it so well that they deceive experienced buyers and have been known to lead astray the best European experts, says the New York Post.

Some admirable counterfeiting is done in Staffordshire, England, but thus far it has been confined to early English productions. One concern has turned out some capital copies of the old Roman pottery, and by some chemical process has succeeded in giving the exterior the grimy and honeycomb appearance which comes normally from long burial in wet soil. France, Italy and Germany have turned an honest penny in this line of work, while the kilns of Egypt and Asia Minor are said to produce relics of the Pharaohs with considerable success. American potters, it is admitted, have yielded to the temptation, but thus far with but little success. Strange to say, their work has been so good that it has sold on account of its beauty rather than its resemblance to ancient models. A popular type of this kind of workmanship is found in a small dark-red earthenware dish, which is Etruscan in style and Japanese in ornamentation. It was imitated in Trenton from a Japanese imitation of an Etruscan original. The oddest in Kioto had upon the circumference of the major swell of the body a few flying birds and conventional fishes, which gave a very pleasing effect to the whole. In Japan it is sold as the copy of an ancient Roman design. The Trenton artisan makes it as a genuine Japanese curio, and sells it as such.

In the last few weeks these ingenious men have taken up the reproduction of Zuni ceramics. Here they have scored quite a hit. The wares are exceedingly simple and require little skill or labor. They are made in large quantities, and can be purchased in New York and other cities for ten and fifteen cents apiece. The latest comer is the Mexican potter, who now produces Aztec antiques. As he is a lineal descendant of that ancient people, his offense is, perhaps, excusable. His normal workmanship is almost as bad as that of his ancestors, so that it is possible his counterfeits are simply unintentional reproductions of the coarse and ugly wares, which were in use in the halls of the Montezumas.

LONDON'S BIRD TRADE.

There Is a Surprising Export of Robins and a Large Import of Canaries.

The birds to which the majority of people are devoting their attention at this festive season of the year are those which are hung up or laid out attractively in the windows of poulterers' shops. There are other kinds of birds, however, that cause a considerable turnover in money in the course of a year. Vast numbers of robins, for instance are caught and sent abroad.

The number of robin redbreasts (Erythaca rubecula) that are exported from this country to the United States, Canada and Australia during the year reaches a total of nearly 25,000, and they fetch about £18,000. A few starlings are included in these figures, as it has been found impossible to obtain separate statistics; but the great majority are robins, says the London Mail.

Among singing birds, at least 500,000 canaries find purchasers in this country in the course of a year, representing in cash £120,000. Fully a quarter of these come from the Tyrol and certain parts of Germany, where in some little villages canary breeding is practically the only industry. The largest number of canaries bred in England is by a firm in the neighborhood of Norwich, which disposes of 20,000 per year, the value of which is about £5,000.

Piping bullfinches are also largely of German importation, the best districts for these being Hesse and Fulda.

About 40,000 trained bullfinches come into this country every year from Germany and Russia, and their value, taking one with another, is over £100,000.

The chaffinch is a very common bird in England, so common that it can be bought in the streets for sixpence, but in Germany there is a variety whose song is very highly esteemed. A few have been brought over here and sold at £4 each, but the climate does not apparently suit them.

Larks and linnets are actually to be bought for twopence each from the men who net them, but a dealer usually charges at least a shilling for them. Blackbirds, thrushes and goldfinches usually cost more, about a couple of shillings, although they may be got for sixpence first hand.

The largest price obtained for a British wild bird is £10, for a perfectly white specimen of a blackbird.

The Bachelor's Idea.

Mr. Newpop—You haven't seen our baby pet. He's only three months old, but I tell you he's bright.

Joe Bachelier—That's so? Can—he—er—sit up on his hind legs and beg?—Philadelphia Press.

Land and Water Centers.

If the world be divided into land and water hemispheres, London is the center of the land, New Zealand of the water.—Science.