

## FOOLED BY A SHARPER.

HOW "SHEENY AL" SWINDLED THE BALTIMOREANS.

They Eagerly Invested in a Gold-Increasing Company that Promised Fabulous Returns—Yellow Metal Worth \$90,000 Disappears from a Crucible One Night and With It "Sheeny Al."

Edward Pinter, alias "Sheeny Al," who was arrested in London for attempting to swindle a jeweler in that city by means of the "philosopher's stone," through which he claimed to increase the bulk of gold, is supposed to be the fellow who played the same game in Baltimore, swindling five well-to-do merchants out of nearly \$100,000, writes a correspondent from the Monumental City. About three years ago a man came to Baltimore and engaged a suite of rooms in a boarding-house on North Charles street. He called at the office of a successful real-estate agent and introduced himself as Mr. Gephart. He said that the agent had been recommended to him as a discreet and enterprising man, and he desired to secure his aid in developing a matter that would surely bring fortune to both of them. He then unfolded his scheme of increasing the bulk of gold, and assured the agent that he did not wish him to invest a dollar in the enterprise until all doubt had been removed from his mind of the ability of Gephart to do all he claimed. He invited the agent to call at his rooms on Charles street, when he would substantiate his claim by practical tests.

The agent accompanied him, and gave Gephart a gold dollar with which to first experiment. This dollar was placed in a small crucible, and a white powder was added by Gephart. The two men took turns at a blow-pipe in increasing the heat in the crucible until the gold was melted and mixed with the chemical. It was then allowed to cool, after which Gephart took it out, gave it to the agent, and told him to send it to the United States mint to be assayed and recouled. The mint officials returned a report showing three times the amount of gold that was put into the crucible. The same tests with larger amounts were continued, and always with the same result. The real-estate agent became convinced of the value of Gephart's secret, and introduced Gephart to several wealthy citizens, with the view of enlisting them in the enterprise. The same tests were made before them, and they, too, became convinced of Gephart's ability to increase the bulk of gold.

A stock company was formed and the basement of the house of one of the men interested was selected as the place of operations. This was fitted up with a furnace and iron vats about the size of an ordinary bath-tub. One member of the go-d-increasing company furnished about \$50,000 in gold, and the other four about \$10,000 each. They were to share proportionately in the profits. In the presence of the whole party Gephart apparently put all this gold into one of the vats and placed it on the fire. He then put in a quantity of the powder and other chemicals. In doing this, however, he declined to permit any of the party to approach the vats, saying that the fumes of the chemicals would overpower any one not prepared to resist them.

A top was put on the vat and at the suggestion of Gephart extra strong locks were procured and the vat was securely fastened with them. The same precautions were taken with the door of the basement. The keys were given to the gentleman in whose house the experiment was being tried. Gephart said that the vat must not be opened for three weeks. After remaining about the city for several days Gephart said he was called to a distant city on business, but would return on the day appointed for taking out the gold. He did not come as promised.

The real-estate agent became suspicious and persuaded the party to make an investigation. They went to the cellar and upon opening the vat found the gold had all disappeared, while in its place, was a lot of rocks and scrap-iron. The men were dumfounded. The cellar had been entered and the gold stolen.

### HER VEIL CAUGHT FIRE.

Exciting Scene in an Ohio Church During Communion Services

A pane was narrowly averted at St. John's Catholic Church in Dayton, Ohio. A class of thirty-nine was receiving its first communion and in consequence the church was packed to its utmost capacity. Suddenly there was a flash of light, and then it was discovered that the veil of Miss Clara Eninger was in flames. The girl screamed, and for a moment it looked as if the vast congregation would make wild rush for the door, but the coolness and promptness of Father Jui and some of his parishioners averted what would have been a terrible disaster if the break had once been made. Willing hands quickly extinguished the flames, but not before they had communicated to the dress of her sister. They are supposed to have caught from the candle that was carried by the young lady. Although burned some about the face the exercises went on, and Miss Eninger was confirmed with the rest of the class.

### RECEIVED 45,000 POUNDS OF MAIL.

A Mining Camp on the Rio Grande Gets 450 Sacks of Letters in a Week.

It is reported from Ilium, a small mining camp in Colorado, on the Rio Grande Southern Railroad, that during the last week 450 sacks of mail have arrived there. The sacks contained newspapers, and all those so far examined were New York Tribunes of March 9. They were mailed in 2-cent wrappers, and all were addressed to Charles S. Newton, Superintendent of the Caribbean Mine. The sending of so much mail matter looks like a scheme to rob the Government. This is the period when railroads weigh mail matter, on which their pay from the Government is based. The average of several lines between New York and Colorado has been flattened, but the local railroad officials say they would not profit much by the shipment. Newton, the man who received the 45,000 pounds of mail, has been summoned to Washington.

### OBJECT TO IMPORTED WORK-MEN.

Employees of a Carpet Manufactory in Philadelphia on a strike.

Some weeks ago John & James Dobson, the extensive carpet manufacturers of Philadelphia, imported a number of weavers from Luister's mills, Bradford, England. The weavers were intended to be put to work at manufacturing velvet in the plush department of the mills. The importation of the English opera-

tives has caused the greatest dissatisfaction among the old hands, and recently when three of the imported weavers and one loom-fixier began work at the looms all the operatives in the plush department, to the number of 500, left their looms and quit work. At the termination of the day's work 500 more hands employed at various work struck out of sympathy with the striking plush weavers. The striking employees claim that the Dobsons have violated the contract labor law by importing the weavers from England, but the Dobson's claim the right to bring them over under the clause in the law which permits a manufacturer to import workmen for the purpose of starting a new industry.

### FOSTER IS DEFIANT.

#### AMAZEMENT AT A MINISTER-EDITOR'S COURSE.

He Prints Brewery Advertisements in His Paper and Freely Defends His Action—A Remarkable Article Which Will Be Read by Strait-Laced Christians with No Little Astonishment.

The Rev. E. P. Foster has for several years been a prominent Congregationalist minister in Cincinnati. Several months ago because of advanced ideas on labor questions he resigned his pastorate, but not the ministry, and began the publication of a weekly paper. Two weeks ago he published a brewery advertisement. A great sensation was caused. This week he printed two columns of such advertisements, and says among other things, in defending his conduct:

"I advertise the breweries because I conscientiously think it is the right thing to do—a strict duty under the present circumstances. This paper is not a church paper, as some seem to have inferred from its title, nor is it advocating Sunday-school measures of reform. There are evils, many and great, in the liquor traffic, but when that is thrust forward as the chief of the devouring monsters in modern society, then that assertion itself becomes a tremendous stumbling-block in the way of reform. The liquor business does not injure those who let it alone. The church has lost the respect of the masses because it is built upon and is the advocate of the system that continually robs and defrauds the people. It is in the pay of the oppressor of the masses, and tries to hush the people into submission by telling them of the dispensation of an overruling Providence, and that their wrongs will be righted in the world to come. The church pretends to be loyal to Christ, yet defiantly tramples upon His commands."

"The dailies of Cincinnati all advertise breweries and business men of the highest lynch standing a lynch alongside the liquor advertisements, even in the Sunday editions. Church members buy these papers and vote for the candidates supported by them. There is not a preacher in town that refuses to have his sermons reported by them, or who, when honored in this way, is ashamed to purchase such papers—saloon advertisements and all—and send them abroad to his friends. In the Cincinnati church of which I was pastor, when the deacons and their wives had neglected to prepare wine for the communion service, they sent the janitor out Sunday morning before church time to a saloon to buy a bottle of wine for the sacramental service.

"If a company of young men go to a saloon Sunday morning and drink a bottle of wine the shocked church calls that a frightful sin. But if the young men had joined the church, and instead of drinking in the saloon had waited until the deacon had sent the janitor out without regard to the Sunday laws on the subject, and he had bought at the saloon that same bottle of wine and brought it to the church, and the young men had drank that same wine around the church altar, the act would then have been a religious rite, the holiest of sacraments."

The article causes a profound sensation among the religious population of the city.

#### A BLOW AT TRUST COMPANIES.

#### Under Certain Circumstances They Have No Recourse in Law.

A trust company has no recourse in law if a member of the trust violates the agreement not to go into business again is the substance of a decision by Judge Thayer of the United States Court, St. Louis, Mo. The decision was rendered in the case of the American Preservers Company against the Taylor Manufacturing Company. For years prior to 1888 the Taylor Company had been carrying on its business in St. Louis, but the temper came, and the American Preservers' Trust bought out business, for which it was to

pay part cash and the balance in trust certificates. The Taylor Company agreed not to go into business again in this country for twenty-five years, or until the trust died. In 1890 the company did go into business again, and when the American Preservers Company brought suit to enjoin it, it claimed the agreement only bound the three stockholders who had signed. As the trust did not allege that the company was bound by the action of those stockholders, it was compelled to file another petition, and the Taylor Company then replied, saying that even if the company was bound by the agreement such contracts were unlawful in the State of Missouri. The demurrer to the bill was sustained.

#### Big Tree to Be Exhibited.

It has been determined to send to the World's Fair at Chicago, as a feature of the Government's exhibit, the largest specimen that can be obtained of the famous big trees of California. A tree thirty feet in diameter will be selected and cut off thirty feet from the ground. The trunk will then be sawed into sections and the outside pieces only sent to Chicago. On arrival at the exhibition the pieces will be put together, so that the outside portion will show just as it did in the forest. It is proposed to place it in the center of the rotunda of Government Building. The interior of the tree will be decorated with cones, leaves and other attachments of the tree, divided into rooms and the whole affair illuminated with electric lights.

#### Combination of Cannery Companies.

For the last few months H. Francis, who represents a syndicate of English capitalists, has been endeavoring to purchase the canners of California to combine. As a result of his labors, the California Fruit Cannery Company has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$2,000,000. The new company comprises about two-thirds of the canneries of that State.

THREE kinds of vegetables to avoid—unripe, overripe and decayed.

## WHEELS ARE POPULAR.

### ASTONISHING GROWTH IN THE NUMBER OF CYCLERS.

Men, Women, and Children Use Them in Every City in the Union Where Roads Are Good—In Small Towns It Makes a Difference Who Starts a Club—General Bike Gossip.



HERE was a time a few years ago when cycling seemed to have reached its limit. One would have said it was likely to remain stationary, or even to decline in public favor. Since that time a few things have happened, however, which have changed the appearance of things wonderfully. The perfection of the safety wheel has made it possible to ride without the constant fear of a broken nose. The invention of the ladies' bicycle has relieved the



weaker sex of the burden of a third wheel and set women all over the country to cycling. The pneumatic tire has placed the bicycle racer abreast of the trotting horse for short distances and away ahead of it for long ones. The prices of "machines" have dropped as their quality improved. The improvement of the common roads has been due largely to the persistent clamor of cyclists and reacts to increase their number.

There are between 250,000 and 300,000 wheels in the country, not counting the myriads of children's velocipedes. As some of the cycles are hired out and some owned in partnership and some are tandems and carry double, there may not be so very many short of 500,000 regular and occasional wheelmen in this country.

The safety or "goat" bicycle is the universal favorite nowadays with men and women alike. The reasons are many. The certainty of avoiding tumble is not the only one. Safeties are all practically of the same size, and if owner ever gets tired of one he has no difficulty in selling it. If he has a big wheel the difficulty of selling is tenfold. First, he has to find a man who wants a wheel of that sort, and few do nowadays, and then it's literally ten chances to one that the purchaser's legs won't be of the right length. The dealers like the safeties, too, as they are made in one size and three styles, and there is no necessity of carrying unusual sizes to suit an occasional long or short-legged man.

Men wheel because they want to, women because others do. It makes an immense difference whether bi-



THE NEW STEAM TRICYCLE.

### A Sea Sick Passenger.

On the ocean, seas little about a storm. He is positively indifferent whether he is washed overboard or not. But, set right by a wine-glassful or two of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, he feels renewed interest in his personal safety. This fine corrective neutralizes in brackish water—often compulsory drink on shipboard, to the grievous detriment of health—the pernicious impurities which give rise to disorders of the stomach, liver and bowels. To the mariner, the tourist, the Western pioneer, and miner, the Bitters is invaluable as a means of protection against malaria, when its seeds are taken in air and water. To the effects of over-work, mental or manual, it is a most reliable antidote, and to the debilitated and nervous, it affords great and speedily felt relief and vigor.

### Just So.

"Why do men who go fishing tell such awful yarns about the number of fish they catch?" asked an interested wife of her husband.

"Because it requires lots of 'line' to catch fish," was the ready answer.

A HOUSEHOLDER in Bangalore is said to have for years used nothing but the dust of the roads, mixed with linseed oil, as a paint for woodwork exposed to the weather.

DR. L. GORSUCH, Toledo, O., says: "I have practiced medicine for forty years; have never seen a preparation that I could prescribe with so much confidence of success as can Hail's Catarrh Cure." Sold by Druggists, too.

"Now," said the Anglomaniac to his valet, "as we are to take the next train you may get the checks." "Which do you mean, sir?" inquired the valet, with respectful reproach, "your brawses or your trousers?"

NO REMEDY in the world is so highly appreciated by mothers as Dr. Bull's Worm Destroyers. Many little children owe their good-health to these dainty little candies. By mail, 25 cents. John D. Park, Cincinnati, O.

"Do you think he really has any hope of winning her, again young Cadleigh's money?" "Oh, no. I don't think he's in the race to win. He is merely playing himself for a place."

LIONS differ. The lion of the Atlas Mountains is a terror, the Cap-lion a cur. The lion among scouring soaps is SAPOLIO. Buy a cake and avoid all imitations.

If sheets of table-cloths are wrung by putting the selvage through the wringer the edges will not curl up, and they will iron much easier.

BEST, easiest to use and cheapest. Piso's Remedy for Catarrh. By druggists, 50c.

If afflicted with Sore Eyes, use Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye Water. Druggists sell it 25c.

We may be as good as we please, if we please to be good.

BEECHAM'S PILLS cure Sick Headache.

The first serpent-walk was laid out in the Garden of Eden.

FITS—All Fits stopped free by Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. No fits after first day's use. Marvellous cures. Treatise and \$2.00 trial bottle free to Fit cases. Send to Dr. Kline, 361 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

It is an ointment, of which a small particle is applied to the nostrils. Price, 50c. Sold by druggists or sent by mail to any sending their address to The C. H. Hires Co., Phila., Pa.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN THIS PAPER.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS, PLEASE SAY YOU