revailing in This Country enalty Made a Farce---How the

ice Almont Livingston, calle ng, accused of the fatal polyellina M. Bliss, before Re-off, of the Court of General in New York.

striking contrast between as administered in Eng as it is administered here resented than by a comparirecent trial of Annie Dyer. er" who murdered n of children intrusted to her, al of Mrs. Fleming for matri-

Oyer was charged with the unler of Doris Marmon and unions, two children she had The murders were to nurse. The manders were d in April of this year. The inquest, showing that the had been drowned, was held le of April. The prelimin dings consumed the rest of and a part of May. The woindicted by the grand jury Two days afterwards the begun before Justice Haw-Central Criminal Court. The d two days. It would not s so long had it not been for page of Dr. Forbes Winslow gan fame, and the introduc-Winslow "expert testimony" on the the defendant's sanity. The a verdict of guilty sence of five minutes. The ounced sentence at once ight afterwards, owing to a of law requiring so long a me. Annie Dyer was hanged e prison.

ing was indicted nearly ter o, one week after her spicious death on the last ust. Her trial, after havwed repeatedly before as was not begun till nine ad clapsed after the alleged the case itself, though only through, has taken up five through, has taken up five preeks of Recorder Goff's he rading of one question so-alled hypothetical quesnearly a whole day. To seend this month, it will be whold night sessions.

comment, in view of so muast, is really superflous, of interest to note what imduced upon an observer apidly from one country to Such an observer was found Mr. Lindsay, the Assistant mey, who was sent to procure the extradition of jewel thieves, and who, attended the trial of Annie

was in England, I made it a urse, to attend the trial of the child-murderess, which ne on before Mr. Justice the Central Criminal Court. minal trials, particularly a woman is charged with there, like in the Hannigan emotional features enter, I that I was struck by the in England. Where it in England. en days to get a jury, as many minutes. the presiding Judge sim-tom the outset that every be true to his oath and do It. In fact, the Judge allowed it, so I was inground that a juror, by stallowed to be swayed by
S. There were none of
als to individual or emo-

listied. And yet the de-remarkably strong, for ggestion even of ap. vers in the on bigher court. The did any one rs, seem to ex

reports of the

as remarkably accurate

and

ne was true of the Though it was

thinking while I sat ded by all the court

dvance of ontik e common source. Their system seems to have begot fa the despatch, and as a result ab confidence in the judges who adminis-ter the law, while our system, which is supposed to be so much fairer, has begot the exact reverse."

This, too, seems to be the view of the udges to whom the state of affairs in They have become the victims of a system which was first inaugurated and encouraged by them, so that they now confess themselves belolege. confess themselves helpless. This, at least, is the explanation of Recorder Goff, who, while speaking of another case and other trials, recently expressed himself as follows:

pressed himself as follows:

"The trouble with us in criminal cases is that we all, judges, lawyers, and newspaper writers, insist on threshing out everything to the last straw. As a result we have reached a point when, not content with the long protracted and exhaustive trial of an protracted and exhaustive trial of an protracted and exhaustive trial of an important defendant, we insist on five or six different trials of one and the same cause. Thus any criminal who has means, or who by the connivance of the newspapers is enabled to appeal to popular simpathy or prejudice, has an opportunity to undergo half-a-dozen trials before he is actually compelled to meet the consequences of his acts. First comes the trial before the City Magistrate, then comes the trial, for that is trate, then comes the trial, for that is trate, then comes the trial, for that is what it really amounts to, before the grand jury. An under cases this is preceded by an inquest in the Coroner's court; then the trial in the criminal courts; then the appeal to the Appellate Division, and finally the appeal to the Court of Appeals. How can six such trials take less than a year? The fort trials take less than a year? The fact that all our trials are conducted with an eye toward the Court of Appeals, and with no pretense even of making them conclusive, further impedes the progress of justice. Thus a judge must sit and patiently listen to many unnecessary and the progress of the progress of the progress of justice. essary proceedings, which he knows to be made for the sole purpose of delay, because as soon as he attempts to stop them, he is at once threatened with the coming appeal. Every exception that is taken during the course of a trial—and we have now reached a point when the exceptions in each important case aggregate to thousands—is really a menace of possible reversal, and must be regarded as such by the trial judge. As a result we have become victims of

our own system, and can do no more than to bear with it as best we can."

The way in which expert testimony is introduced into murder trials in this country has been wofully illustrated by the proceedings of the now famous

Fleming trial.

The trial dragged through day after day, with such results as are known. But it must not be supposed that the remarkable incidents are typical only of New York city. The whole country has had opportunities of observing them close at hand. The lawyers of New York have proceeded to make war upon some of these abuses. They hav addressed a protest to the courts and their example is to be followed else-where. The lawyers allege that prisoners awaiting triad and their friends ar ers awaiting triad and their friends are subjected to constant vexations and annoyances, whereby needless labor is imposed on the o cers of the prison, the administration of justice is imped-ed, and practice of criminal law, which ought to be honorable and reputable, is degraded degraded.

degraded.

They refer to the practice of soliciting prisoners for employment in their defence by lawyers, or men professing to be such, or by "runners" for lawree it defence by mayers, or men processing jury, to be such, or by "runners" for law-ring yers who employ them or share fees with them. Every prisoner awaiting trial is sent for over and over again, sometimes a dozen times a day, by men repression, so familiar to who are wholly unknown to him, whom neither the death penalty, remainstancial evidence. computational evidence, was than to solicit employment from them put in fact, the Judge and to obtain money from them. Cases are within our knowledge in which this has occurred to a single prisoner as often as twenty times, all by separate lawyers or "runners," in the course of two or three days. In other instances as many as a dozen lawyers or "runners" have sent for a single prisoner in the course of a single day, imposing dozen lawyers or "run have sent for a single prisoner in the course of a single prisoner in the course of a single day, imposing on the keeper a vast amount of needless labor, crowding the very limited space aloo, showed admirable resteemer no column reports but the dead babies were at all.

The lawyers of the dead babies were at all.

For the purpose of obtaining sentional details of the story. In spite of this constant in the course to professional details of the story. In spite of this constant in the course to professional details of the story. In spite of this constant in the course to professional details of the story. In spite of this constant in the course of a single prisoner in the course of a single day, imposing on the keeper a vast amount of needless labor, crowding the very limited space aloo, and clients, and making it a humilitating and degrading thing for reputable course to visit their prisoner leaves at all.

By such means the names and ad-dresses of relatives ore obtained from the prisoners, and these relatives and ls are th

trilly say that I never and comprehensive a sent to them by the prisoners.

When the jury By other practitioners of the same served everybody class it is a constant, almost daily, practice to obtain the names of prisoners committed for trial and to address let-Still, there the employment of the writers as law-

Some of these practitioners have improperly acquired the means of know ing at the earliest moment, before the prisoners can do so, of complaints thrown out by the grand jury, or of the at willingness of certain prosecutors to recommend the discharge of prisoners.

Concessing such knowledge they then them to obtain the release of the prison ers for specified sums, to be returned to he payer if the prisoner be not re-eased within the stipulated time.

leased within the stipulated time.

The lawyers say that though they do not wish in the slightest degree to impugn the assistants of the District Attorney or of his deputics, they are nevertheless convinced that some persons in confidential positions are in a greater or less degree involved in these practices and degree involved in these practices and

participators in the profits thereof.

By these practices great injustice is done to counsel assigned by the court to the defence of prisoners. Anxious to devote to such case the same labor and pains they give to prisoners who pay for their services, they are compelled to wait for hours in the wretched consulting room of the Grant Step. ing room of the Tombs, while lawyers in nowise connected with the case are permitted by the turnkeys to see and prejudice prisoners in advance. The result of this agitation will be awaited with great interest wherever there are law courts in this country.

### A FEAT OF PENMANSHIP

More than 7,000 Words on One Postal Card.

Walter D. Wellman, a bookkeeper the employ of Anspacher Brothers, the commission merchants, has performed the remarkable feat of writing in long hand 7,068 words on an ordinar hand 7,068 words on an ordinary postal card. About two months ago M. C. F. Grincourt, a Frenchman, succeeded in writing 5,454 words in French on a postal card. Mr. Grincourt's feat made a great sensation, and his postal card was for a long time on exhibition at the Examinter office. An account steps in Examinter office. An account given in the columns of the Examiner represent-ed this as the finest and closest writing

ever accomplished.

But Mr. Wellman has far excelled the But Mr. Weilman has far excelled the Frenchman, not only in the number of words he has succeeded in getting upon the postal card, but in the length of the words he used also. M. Grincourt copied a portion of one of Victor Hugo's novel in which the words were noticely as a portion of one of victor Hugo's nov-els, in which the words were notorious-ly short. Mr. Wellman copied eight columns of the Bulletin, selected from three distinct articles, so that he could on the accused of copying from one writer whose vocabulary consisted chiefly of short words. There were 110 lines on M. Grincourt's postal card, and 154 on Mr. Wellman's

Mr. Wellman also aserts that he had plenty of room to spare and could easily have gotten in 8,500 words. He worked on it for fifteen days, at odd moments, when he could escape from his business duties. He says he could have accomplished it in six hours of steady work. He wrote it at the pace of fifteen words a minute, while his pace in writing the ordinary size is from thirty-five to forty a minute,

The postal can easily be read with a glass, and a person with a good eye can read it without the help of a glass. A fellow-clerk of Mr. Wellman easily read the postal with the policy of the postal with the policy of the policy the postal with his naked eye, but begged off from all postals being written in this fashion.

The 7,088 words are written with an additional steel leaf for the leaf of the l

ordinary steel pen in violet ink. The ink is a mere matter of change, and has nothing to do with the fitness of the

Mr. Wellman has never done any work of this kind before. His only practice was in writing the Lord's Prayer. Without the slightest difficulty he accomplished the feat of writing these seventy-two words in a space no larger than a gold quarter of a dollar. The writer of the proposition of the company of the

The writer of this curiosity is a young American, twenty-eight years old. He is near-sighted and wears glasses, but his eyes must be very strong, as he has suffered no pain nor inconvience what surfered no pain nor inconvence what-ever from this close work. In fact, his near-sightedness may help him a little, as near-sighted people usually see things at a close range much hetter than people of ordinary sight—San Francisco Ruletin. Francisco Bulletin.

# An Intricate Machine.

Hooks and eyes formerly were made by hand, the wire of which they are by hand, the wire of which they are formed being bent into the proper shape with pliers; sow, however, they are entirely made by machines of great simplicity and beauty. With a pair of the latter it is possible to make two hundred hooks and the same number of eyes in one minute. The operations of the machine are first, to draw the wire forward from the supplying road, they forward from the supplying reel, then cut off the length required for hook or eye, as the case may be; a sinker then descends and forces it into a slot. by which it is bent, and two projecting cams, acting at the same time on the two ends, bend them over so as to form the lateral loops used for sewing the hook or eye to the garment then, in the case of the hook, it is passed under an-other sinker, which forces the double wire into another slot and forms the hook part; one side of the slot, being movable, is made to strike the bent porof the hook sufficiently to flatten it. It is then complete, and drops out to make room for another.

# Consoling to Jel

Johnnie Chaffle—Mamma, papa gave me an awful licking while you were

away.
Mrs. Chaffle—Don't pay any attention to him, Johnnie; I daresay he tion to him, Johnnie: I daresay he don't mean anything by it.—Texas Sifter.

so antiquity, go to the prisoners or to their friends St. Louis is acknowledged to be really far in and make conditional agreements with largest mule market in the world. St. Louis is acknowledged to be the

HAS HE SOLVED THE PROBLEM OF **AERIAL NAVIGATION?** 

His Success Vouched for by Alexander Graham Bell--Details of the Machine Yet a Secret.

It is rather surprising that the an houncement that Prof. S. F Langley, of the Smithsonian Institute, had definitely solved the problem of aerial hayterston been navigation has not attracted more at tention than it has. Coming from such n man, and backed by the word of so practical a man of science as Alexander Graham Bell, it was not such an an-houncement as might have come from

houncement as might have come from some unknown inventor.

Prof. Langley would die a famous man if he had never taken up aerodynamics or attempted to build a fiying machine. He is indeed, in his chosen field of astronomy, the foremost man of science we have in this coustry. Prof. Langley ranks with the greatest astronomers and physicists of the world and he is one of the few whom America has produced so far who have made any real and solid contributions to pure science. He is to the latter something of what Tesla is to applied science.

of what Tesla is to applied science.

It was a really remarkable thing that a man like Prof. Langley should have indertaken to build a fiying machine at all. It was still more remarkable at all. It was still more remarkable at his age. Although he bears them lightly, he has now 62 years to his credit, and he did not take up with his luvestigations as to aerial flights until about six or seven years ago. But he has prosecuted his inquiry with all the lass prosecuted his inquiry with all the lass prosecuted his luveling with all the lass prosecuted his luveling with all the

has prosecuted his inquiry with all the enthusiasm of a young man, and is, in short, one of the type whom you are led to describe as 62 years young.

Again, in both its matter and manner, Prof. Langley's invention, or his discovery, whichever you may like to term it, is of unique interest. His machine is built upon exactly the opposite principle from that upon which other flying machines have been built, and his inmachines have been built, and his in-tention represents a clear triumph for pure inductive science.

When Stephenson built his locomotive he proceeded in his work upon cer-tain definitely known facts—that is, he was perfectly sure that if he could find was perfectly sure that if he could find a way to push his wheels around by steam his engine would run over the ground just as an ordinary wagon would. He was venturing into no unknown field of physics. With Prof. Langley it was just the opposite. Although men of science for two centuries or more have been studying the dynamics of the air, have weighed it, and determined its compressibility, its action under heat, etc., yet up to the time Prof. Langley took hold of the matter there existed no definite data as to the there existed no definite data as to the plan or principle upon which a flying machine, if it is to successfully navigate the air, must be built. To find out these new data was his first work.

Put in a less technical way, .Prof. Langley's problem was this: He says, "Did you ever think what a physical miracle it is for such a bird as one of our common turkey buzzards to fly in the way it does? You may see them any day along the Potomes Getting is the way it does? You may see them any day along the Potomac, floating in the air, with hardly the movement of their feathers. These birds weigh from five to ten pounds; they are heavier than the air they displace; they are absolutely heavier than so many flatirons. irons.

"I fancy if you saw cannon balls loating through the air like soap bubbles you would look upon it as a sufficiently surprising matter. If not as a brigged. The only reason that we are them, surprising matter, it not as a biracle. The only reason that we are not surprised at the soaring bird is that we have seen it from childhood. Per-haps if we had seen cannon balls float-ing in the air from our childhood we mg in the air from our childhood we would not stop to inquire how they did it, any more than we now do how the iurkey buzzard does it. I am speaking how, of course, not of birds that fly by Bapping their wings, but of those who ity without flapping their wings, and with almost no visible expenditure of force."

It was from watching the turkey buzard that Prof. Langley came to con-lude that it was possible to build solid nodels very much heavier than the air and direct such a machine with such an ordinary force as steem, that is to say, he became convinced that there are certain shapes in which matter can be disposed so that the more apidly it moves through the air, in a ense, the less power it takes to move t, and that a machine could be built to akim through the air very much is a skater skims along the surface of very thin ice—the faster you go, the less danger.

Prof. Langley believed that soaring birds have an intuitive knowledge of birds have an injuritive knowledge or bertain properties in the air by which they are able to skim along—rising and falling, soaring up and sailing down, and turning about in circles and turning about in cities without any flapping of their wings or appar-ently any other effort. Just what these properties were he attempted to find out and develop by experiment. In this out and develop by experiment. In this work he was associated with his friend, draham Bell, on, at any rate, Prof. Bell spent a great deal of time over the same subject, and has a mass of notebooks filled with records of his experi-

PROF. LANGLEY'S AIR SHIP mechanical power Support that the air and fig. "Though," Prof. Langthe air and ny. "Theugn," Frot. Lang-ley adds, "this is not saying that we have yet got skill enough to manage this power so as to rise and fly about in the air and descend safely." What is actually demonstrated, repeated hundreds of times in the laboratory, and finally with the successful machine which Prof. Langley built, is that the flying machine is possible. All that now remains is to perfect it and learn how to manage it how to manage it.

#### A Dangerous Honor

However honorable and pleasing is  ${\bf a}$ salute, the consequences may be serious when it is fired too hastily. The Mayor of Southampton received a practical lesson to this effect the other day, as on leaving the American training-ship Essex, now lying in Southampton water, after an official visit, some of the gunpowder of the guns fired in his the ganpowder of the guns ared in his honor struck him somewhat severely, and caused blood to flow. It is a well-known fact that a considerable proportion of the large grains of powder used in the great runs is appropriate. in the great guns is unconsumed.

Some years ago, on the occasion of an inspection of the fleet at Spithead by the Queen, a yacht that was lying too the Queen, a yacm that was lying too near the Devastation when she fired her guns was very roughly treated, some of the party on board being hurt, and the deck deeply scored and scratch-ed by the grains of pebble powder. When it is remembered that these When it is remembered that these grains are as large as walnuts, it can readily be imagined that it is almost as dangerous to be in the line of fire of a big gun when firing blank charges as if it was loaded with grape, and the Mayor of Southampton may be congratulated that his wounds were not more serious. Such accidents would doubtless be of more frequent occurrence were it not that yachts and boats are as a rule very careful to keep at a are as a rule very careful to keep at a respectful distance from vessels firing a salute. In the case of the accident at Spithead, a salute had, as usual been fired while the royal yacht was still at some distance; it was only after she had passed through the fleet that the pleasure craft drew un door to the lies. passed through the fleet that the pleasure craft drew up closer to the line of battle-ships. As she returned, however, she flew the signal for the salute to be repeated, the Shah having expressed to the Queen his desire to see the effect of the guns when close at hand. As the naval signals differ from those of commercial code, the yachts were unaware of its meaning, and remained closely packed outside the line of warclosely packed outside the line of war-ships until the cannonade commenced.

# The Kola Myth.

"There is much myth about the kola plant and nut." remarked a gentleman connected with the botanical gardens, and it gives us considerable to do in and it gives us considerable to do in the way of answering letters regarding the same. After people read these kola nut stories they write us asking for a nut or slip from the kola plant, so that they can grow the nuts themselves y can grow the nuts themselves they can grow the nuts themselves. They may think they can do this honestly enough, but it is not practicable for them to raise these nuts. We have the tree, and have cultivated the nut right here in Washington, but it has to be grown under glass, and under condi-tions as near as possible to those in Africa, the home of the kola. Amateurs cannot succeed with it. There is no doubt but that the kola is a tonic, but we have considerable doubt that it has all the wonderful properties ascribed to it by the writers of the East Indian and African stories, in which it plays

such an interesting part.
"It's nousense, however, to think that the kola nut will sustain life by itself and cure all the ills that flesh is hor to. A am reminded of our experience with the condurance plant, which some years ago was thought to be a some years ago was thought to be a cure for cancer. It had its run, but It had its run, but cure for cancer. It had its run, but who to-day uses it or thinks it will cure cancer? I know of one concern that imported a lot of condurango. Though at one time it sold for \$60 per pound, the market disappeared, and the entire stock was used in filling up an old well."—Washington Star.

# Magic of Mechanics.

Recently a remarkable record has been established by a German paper manufacturing house. An experiment was made to see how long it would take to convert a tree into a bundle of nev be done in a little over two hours. All work in the factory was stopped and the employee held themselves ready to

work with railroad speed.

The mill owner and a party of friends proceeded to a clump of trees outside the factory and selected a large tree for th experiment. It was cut do run on a little wagon into the factory. barked and sawn into a mass and the fibres removed.

Afterward it was turned into the big

machine and made into a woody paste. The subsequent operations were rushed along and the pulp was in the drying vats in a little over an fter the felling of the tr of artificial heat the thin layers of wood

pulp were hardened into paper and taken to a printing machine, brought there for the purpose.

Exactly two hours and twenty-five minutes afterward the men were reading the newspapers under the shade of the slater tree to the one which had been cut down. The operation was witnessed and duly certified by a note. from those experiments it was demon witnessed and duly certified by a nota republic and furnishes one of the most remarkable records of the mechanical facilities of the present day.