Timely Blots.

Came of Cellars,—If they are too cold, bankup the outside with something, or place a double thickness of newspapers over the windows. This lets in some light, and prevents the escape of heat. A double floor, or a fire in the room over the cellar, will help to keep out the frost. A kerosene stove in the cellar, we have the cellar way. the cellar may be used in extreme cases. Ventilate on suitable days, and clean out decaying vegetables and fruits.

Engage Help.—Look about early in the season, and get your pick of hands in the market. Make a written bargain in detail, no matter if you are well acquainted. This will prevent misunder-standing. The man agrees to remain a certain number of months; to perform certain chores Sunday or holidays; to start about such an hour in the morning, and close at such an hour in the even-If, in case of an emergency, he works longer, he may have certain privileges to compensate for it. In case he quits before his time is out, he only reseives a certain stipulated sum.

CALVES AND SHEEP .- Lard and kerosene are good to keep lice from calves; sulphur mixed with salt is good to drive ticks from sheep. Calves, like all animals, should be kept growing from birth to maturity. Here is one place where the profit comes in. There is always a loss of time and feed, and more, too, by allowing young animals to "stand still" for six months or more of the year. Sheep are well clothed, and need shelter Sheep are well clothed, and need shelter from snow and rain, and perhaps from the very strongest winds, but cold agrees with them. Feed them well; give them plenty of water, in small flocks; keep them dry, and they may stay out in the cold and thrive. A close, dark pen is a poor place for sheep.— Rural New Yorker.

Wood, Tooks, Ice.—Cut a supply of wood, posts, rails, and logs for lumber, ready to be moved easily on the advent of sleighing. No thrifty farmer will leave these things to be done in the busier seasons. Get wagons and buggies repaired and painted, as well as tools and implements for summer use.

Make stone-boats, cut handspikes and
stakes, and get ready everything which can be got ready. Snow may be scraped from the ice to keep it clear and allow it to freeze thick. If you have never tried it, build a cheap icehouse, and enjoy a cheap luxury next summer. The cakes should be cut of even size, and set on edge close together. There should be perfect drainage at the bottom, but no access of air. Around all, place a layer of eighteen inches of sawdust.

LOOK BEHIND AND BEFORE. - Many of the hints for last month are equally ap-plicable for this. Now is the time to make plans for the campaign of 1879. Take an inventory of the farm-stock and everything on hand. If this has never been done before the proprietor will doubtless be surprised to find how much he owns. Straighten up the books and the little debts, and collect those due from neighbors. Small accounts should not run long. Trust not to memory. Arrange the books for the business of the year. Study over the plans considerably in detail, and do not wait till the ground is ready to plow before deciding what to do. Look over the past, and study the good hints and the failures whether all was done to the best advantage; whether there was too little or too much help. This should lead to better plans for the future. Nothing can bring larger returns for the time than a few weeks spent in accordance with the above

Cows.-Treat them generously and kindly, but do not keep them fat, unless they are to be turned off for beef. A called an accident, was the collision on mitted that an increase of failures to the peculiarities of the peculiarities of the year under review, it is subtelled an accident, was the collision on mitted that an increase of failures to the run to the boat, and Clark then followed. verting raw materials into milk. If October 8, of an excursion train on the extent of only 1,606 in number, and forty The two rowed back in the boat, which little be given, little will be received. Old Colony railroad with a freight train | millions in liabilities, is even much less | they then broke up and threw into the All animals should have exercise, espe- which was being switched. Twenty-two than might have been anticipated. It is river. Anderson also tore up and deor shut up for days at a time. They ground is frozen and covered with snow, it may be well enough, on pleasant days, to scatter the fodder, and allow the stock plenty of room to pick it up; but when it is muddy no one but a sloven will fodder on the ground. Good racks should be made for the sake of convenience and economy.

Apples for Milch Cows.

A correspondent of the New England Farmer reports this instructive experience in feeding apples to milch cows:

He had one which gave only a small quantity of milk, and with her he began, thinking there could be but small loss should the experiment fail. He commenced by giving two quarts at a feed, and gradually increased to half a bushel. The cow began to increase her milk till she nearly or quite doubled in quantity. The milk and cream were tested at ever stage, and found to be equally as good as when grass alone constituted the feed. To make assurance doubly sure, he stopped feeding the apples, and immediately the cow fell off in her milk to her former yield. After a few days he began feeding again, and the former re sults were attained. It must be understood that the apples were a mixture of varieties, the majority being sour, and windfalls at that. Being pleased with the result thus far, he began to feed them to his other cows, with good re-sults, the gain in milk being about fifty per cent., and the quantity and quality of butter also increasing in somewhat like ratio. The grazing was rowen of the meadow. The only secret of success was commencing to feed in small quantity and gradually increasing to the capacity of the cow's appetite. Now, should any of your readers try the experiment by turning his cows into the orchard and allowing them to eat at their will to begin, and should the cow be badly injured or killed thereby, do not throw the blame where it does not

Startling a Drawing-Room.

On of the most eminent planists in London, having suffered much from the irrepressible conversation of drawingrepressible conversation of drawingroom audiences, devised the other day
a means of giving a little lesson to the
town. He arranged with his violin, his
violoncello and the rest, that the music
should come to a sudden stop in the
midst of the loudest passage of the piece,
at a given signal from him. It was

DISASTERS DURING 1878.

The record of the disasters of 1878 is an appalling one. On September 8, the iron screw collier Bywell Castle crashed into the slightly-built excursion steamer Princess Alice, as both were rounding the bend of the Thames at Tripcock's point, and sank her almost instantly. Exactly how many lives were lost will never be known. Seven hundred is a low estimate, and as the majority were women and children out for a day's pleasuring, the collision is certainly the most distressing in marine history. The report of the official inquiry declared that the collision was caused by the bad and careless steering of the Princess Alice.

On March 25, the Eurydice capsized in a squall off Dunnose, isle of Wight, as she was within half an hour of her anchorage, and carried down, in sight of their homes, 300 lads who were being trained for the British navy. There were but two survivors; but happily their testimony established that the disaster was due solely to the danger of

The German navy also suffered a severe loss. On the last day of May, a squadron was engaged in naval maneuvering in the English channel, when the Grosser Kurfurst struck and sunk the Koenig Wilhelm as they were wearing ship to avoid a merchantman. Two hundred and ninety lives were lost, including thirteen officers. The verdict attributed the collision to a "mistake" of the Koenig Wilhelm's helmsman.

On the night of November 25, the iron loss. Most Elizar and down and sank

bark Moel Eilian ran down and sank the Pommerania, one of the finest steamers of the Hamburg-American line. About fifty-five lives were lost by this collision.

Seventeen lives were lost by the collision on October 31, off Tuscar light, between the National line steamship Helvetia and the British cutter Fanny; and about 150 by the Byzantin-Rinaldo collision in the Dardanelles on the night of December 18.

An explosion of fire-damp in the Abercorn colliery, South Wales, on September 11, caused 251 deaths.

On October 11, the audience of the Colosseum theater, in Liverpool, in their mad rush for escape from the building at a careless or malicious but entirely groundless alarm of fire, tramoled thirty-seven of their number to

In this country there were but few marine disasters. On the 31st of Jan-uary, in the same southeast gale which caused the loss of seven lives at Manhattan beach by sweeping several houses into Sheepshead bay, the Metrop-olis, bound to Para, went ashore on Carrituck beach, on the North Carolina coast, and about twenty miles north of the scene of the wreck of the ill-fated Huron. Ninety-one lives were lost.

Murder or manslaughter, however, are the only words properly descriptive of the loss of fifteen lives by the explosion of the Adelphi's boilers on the 28th of September, near Gregory's point, in Long Island sound. On the inquest it was shown that the boiler needed patching within a month after its inspection, and that it exploded within a month after the repairs. The iron of the boiler was only one-half the reported thickness, and near the rupture it was actually only one-thirty-second of an inch thick. Twenty lives were lost by the collision on December 1, between the Mississippi river steamers Cotton Valley and Charles Morgan, and thirty six by the foundering on December 10, of the Emily B. Souder, on her trip from New

cially those kept for breeding. Some of persons were killed and 120 were wound-

them are naturally lazy, but they will be ed. The inquest found conductors of the better for stirring about in the open | both trains and the engineer of one, air. It is ernel to keep animals tied up | guilty of negligence; and as one conductor testified that he was switching his need light, too. Direct sunshine exerts | train because he "supposed" the excura powerful influence for good on animals, sion train had passed, and when he saw as well as on plants. Do not overlook a it approaching, sent out no signals besion train had passed, and when he saw good supply of pure water two or three | cause he "supposed" the engineer had times a day, or good ventilation and done so, he was held and indicted, but proper cleaning of stables. When the slaughter. The accident is estimated to cost the railroad company \$325,000. Another engineer employed by the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis company, whose watch was slow, but who "supposed" he had time to go on, killed fifteen persons by dashing his

train into another on August 7. The list of railroad accidents may be closed by the breaking under an ex-Farmington river, on the line of the Connecticut Western railroad. This occurred on January 16, and it is not yet certain whether the bridge broke beause it was not originally strong enough or because it had been suffered to decay, or whether the accident was not caused by train-wreckers.

Scott's Poetry in Western Prose.

The train had withdrawn from the castle, but Marmion lingered behind to bid adien to Douglass. "Though something might be explained," he said, "of cold respect to a gentleman sent hither by your king's behest, while in Tantallion's towers I stayed, part me in friendship and noble earl, receive my

But Donglass was ont of sorts, and taking another reef in the band of his

"My dear sir, my manors, halls, towers, et cetera and so forth, are open at my sovereign's will to whoever he desires to send hither, no matter how unworthy such a one may be to stand in the presence of the gentleman who now has the floor," and he looked Marmion straight in the eye.

"My castles are my king's alone,' he continued, "from cupola to the basement kitchen, but the hand of riendship clasp the hand of such as Marmion carries so jauntily in the breast of his cutaway." So saying he thrust his hands in his pantaloons pockets and turned on his heel.

if struck by lightning, and I'm not so sure but I'll do it anyhow! And I tell should come to a sudden stop in the midst of the loudest passage of the piece, at a given signal from him. It was done.

The bawling and shouting voices were left, in the twinkling of an eye, high and dry, as it were, upon a shore of silence.

Joyons, clear and distinct above them all rose a voice from the foremost seats, the voice of Lady —, but no, tortures shall not drag her name from me! And these words were ringing upon the startled air: "We always fry ours in lard!"—London Werld.

sure but I'll do it anyhow! And I tell thee haughty peer, he who does England's message bring, although the months. The instance is one of the months. The instance is one of the most remarkable on record.

At Chinese military posts the sentinels call out: "Twelve o'clock, and I am not worthy to kiss the ground my captain worthy to kiss the ground my captain spittles near—take your hand out of your hip pocket or I'll smash yon—I tell thee thou are defied! And if thou saidst I am not peer to any lord in Scotland. Wife—"But, my dear, I shall catch cold coming down so late to let you in." Husband—"Oh, no, my love; I'll rep you ap well before you come down."

he shook his fist under the Douglass

It was now Douglass' turn to get mad, and he improved the excellent oppor-tunity offered. At first he turned white and purple about the gills, and his ears wagged in awful silence. Then he broke forth:

"Darest thou to beard a family of

royal Bengal tigers in their den, the Douglass in his hall? And hopest thou thence unscathed to go? No; by Saint Patrick of Bothwell, no! Up drawbridge, grooms! What, warder! let the portcullis fall, and be lively about it, while I take it out of the fellow's hide!"

The warder and grooms were on deck in an instant, but a moment was lost in running to the kitchen to get the key of the portcullis from the hired girl. Lord Marmion turned—well was his need— and dashed the rowels in his mule, that shot like an arrow through the archway, and kicked the top of the portcullis as it descended behind him. The mule along the drawbridge clattered just as it frembles on the rise. In the words of an unknown poet:

Not swifter does the swallow skim. Along the smooth lake's level brim.

When Lord Marmion reached his band, where he knew he was compara tively safe, he turned around in the sad-dle and yelled at the top of his voice: "I'll see you later—when I do," and shook his gauntlet at the towers.—De-troit Free Press.

Failure Figures for 1878.

From the annual circular of the mer-cantile agency of R. G. Dun & Co., we learn that the total number of failures Tull s' ranch the night of the murder. in the United States for 1878 were 10,-478, with liabilities amounting to \$284,-000,000. This shows an incresse over 1877 of 1,606 in number, and \$40,000. The amount of 1,606 in number, and \$40,000. 000 in amount. The gradual growth of these casualties is shown in the following statement for the seven years since 1872, with the average liabilities for each

**********		Total	Average
Year.	Number.	Liabilities.	Liabilities.
1878	10,478	\$234 363.132	\$22,369
1877	8.872	190 669,930	21 491
1876	9.092	191,117,786	21 020
1875	7.740	201,060,353	25 977
1874	5,830	159,239 t00	27,313
1873	5,183	228 499 000	44 086
1872	4,069	121,056,000	29,750

The following table indicates the ged graphical sections in which the failures for the past year have occurred, with the average, etc., in each locality:

No. in No. Amt. of Arge Busi-Fail- Lia- Lia-ness, ures, bilitles, b'ties 79,765 1,734 \$35,294,026 \$30,854 229,385 3,199 95,293,466 29,788 96 297 1,415 26,22,961 18,602 240,985 3,496 64,309 503 18,716 28 361 684 13,163,176 18,967 Total for the U. S... 674,741 10,478 234,983,132 22,869 Dominion of Canada. 56.347 1,697 22,908,677 14,088 The circular states that "it is very easy to account for the increase of 1,606

within a year in which the circumstances have been peculiarly influential in en-couraging casualties of this character." These circumstances are stated at five in the first quarter of the year was unseasonable, and thus most unfavorable for sales and collections; the discussions in and out of Congress as to financial matters and the tariff, impaired confidence for the time being; the notable decline in the value of staples the world over; the existence of the epidemic in the South; and, finally, more influential than all others, was the abolishing of the bankrupt law and the long delay permitted to elapse before its repeal." The circular then proceeds:

significant that out of the six leading stroyed his trousers, thinking there was circumstances above enumerated as contributing to failures during the year, five no longer exist. In the room of these disturbing elements other favorable conditions are present, which ought, in the immediate future, to so much im-prove business as to make the decrease of failures in 1879 much more marked than the increase in 1878."

Bishop Simpson on Stimulants.

In his third Yale lecture Bishop S.mpson advises the young men who are entering the ministry to avoid all stimulants, and in connection with this advice gives a bit of information which is not generally known: "I would scarcely suppose that any one who feels himself called to the ministry will countenance their use; yet kind friends will sometimes suggest that you are weak, your nerves are tremulous, you have been out in the cold, you need a stimulant and they will use the taking of a lant, and they will urge the taking of a little wine or brandy before preaching. These friends will tell you that the m distinguished ministers are in the habit of using them; and I regret to say that in many churches both wine and brandy are there kept in the vestry for the use of the minister, both before and after preaching." He further says: "I have known some young ministers who have used a few drops of paregoric or opium to give them strength for the pulpit. I am glad to say that I have known but few such cases; but I must add that these were led in the end to either physical or moral rain," And in passing, he fires a shot at the clerical cigsr: "I suppose there is a sort of enjoyment connected with it, for I have seen men sit for an hour smoking, with their feet ipon a table, professing to be studying. I have no doubt they had visions of greatness and glory; but prolonged observation shows that their lives usually ended, with their eigar, in smoke.

A Locomotive in a Quicksand. The Leavenworth (Kan.) Times says: Mention was made in the Times during the summer of a singular accident which occurred on the Kansas Pacific road at the bridge crossing Kiowa creek, forty-Douglass is his own and never shall in two miles east of Denver, in which an engine attached to a freight train went through the bridge into the bed of the creek, instantly disappearing in the quicksand and baffling all attempts to recover it. For the past six months the search for the missing locomotive has Marmion was the maddest man in town. His swarthy cheek burned until it was red as a lobster and shook his very frame for ire. "And this to me!" sand had been removed for a great number of yards around the scene of the disher of yards around the y very frame for ire. "And this to me!" forty feet deep in the quicksand. The he yelled; "an" twere not for thy gray hairs such hand as Marmion had not spared to cleave the Douglass head as appearance of the engine, a hydraulic ram being used, the locomotive being found at last after a search of six months. The instance is one of the

A FRUIT GROWER'S MURDER.

cramento's Public Administrator Con victed of the Crime—How and Why it was Committed.

In the trial of Troy Dye, ex-public administrator of Eacramento county, Cal., for the murder of A. M. Tullis, a wealthy fruit grower of Grand island, near Sacramento, the jury, after twenty minutes' deliberation, brought in the verdict, "Guilty of murder in the first

degree."
The crime was committed on the night of August 1st, of last year. Its object was to enable Dye, in his capacity as public administrator, to get hold of Tullis' estate, the latter's heirs living at a distance. At the time of his death Tuldistance. At the time of his death Tul-lis was the largest fruit grower on the Sacramento river, having one large orchard and large interests in two others. His gains in the fruit season were at the rete of a thousand dollars a day, and he had accumulated from \$80,-000 to \$100,000 before his body was found cold and stiff in his orchard on the morning of Angust 2d. When Dye the morning of August 2d. When Dye, as public administrator, applied for letters of administration, he rated the estate at \$50,000, his object being to secure all over that amount. The killing of Tullis on any other ground being obof Tullis on any other ground being ob-jectless, the theory was formed, soon after the murder, that either his relatives had committed the crime to secure the estate as his heirs, or that Dye had done the deed to take possession as public administrator. As Tullis' relatives—a brother and a nephew—were from 300 to 3,000 miles from the scene, He was arrested on August 12th. As he a confession of the crime in the presence of the district attorney and others. The murder was not committed by him, but

by Clark, his partner in a saloon ven-ture, and by Anderson, a former em-ployee in Dye's butcher shep, Dye having other occupations besides that of public administrator. Anderson, being arrested, also made a confession. Dye said that he first thought of killing Tulsaid that he first thought of killing I utilis in the spring, having heard of the wealth the fruit grower was acquiring. At that time Anderson offered to kill sny one Dye would name for \$100, and he confessed to the committal of two murders already. After Dye made up his mind to mur-der Tullis, he ealisted Clark as well as Anderson, and the first endeavor was to poison Tullis. Clark visited the fruit grower on pretense of business, and left behind as a parting present a bottle, ostensibly containing a choice cordial, but which really contained poison. For some reason this scheme miscarried, and then it was determined to waylay Tullis and shoot him. A boat was built at failures among 700,000 business men Dye's house in Sacramento, in which Anderson and Clark rowed to Tullis' fruit ranch, which was on an island, while Dye waited for them on the main These circumstances are stated at five in number, as follows: 1878 is the fifth year August first. After they had landed, of a depression unparelleled in extent, Clark concealed himself while Anderson character and duration; the weather for went to look for Tullis, who presently went to look for Tullis, who presently come near where Clark was lying. Anderson asked Tullis for work, but was told that Chinamen were preferred. He managed to get behind Tullis, so that he could strike him with a sandbag. Although shaken by the blow, Tullis closed with Anderson, while the dog tore the assassin's trousers and barked. Clark, coming to the rescue, fired at Tullis with a pistol, but apparently missed. Saying to Anderson, "Stand back," Saying to Anderson, "Stand back," Clark fired again, hitting Tullis in the back. Putting the pistol to the back of Tullis' head, he fired again. Tullis

blood on them. They then met Dye, who carried them back to Sacramento.

Nerves and Noises. Newspaper writers are commenting extensively upon the uproar of cities. They say that nature has provided the eye with a contrivance for protecting itself against unpleasant sights, and one has only to hold his nose in coming in contact with anything disagreeable to the olfactories. Meanwhile the ears stand open like doors that cannot be shut. All sorts of rackets, from the bells of the peddlers to the sharp clanking of the cars of the elevated railroad, rap on the ear-drum. It has been sug-gested that if Edison or somebody could invent some kind of a contrivance to be worn over the ears that would take up all these discordant sound-waves and arrange them into concord and music, life in our cities might be made more tolerable,-Dr. E. B. Foote's Realth Monthly.

Get up and then save your bodily heat if you wish to keep warm. Don't hug the fire, nor bundle up like an Esquimaux. Unless we are invalids we should build a fire within ourselves in preference. The way to do it, and to save us from taking severe colds when we are obliged to go out for any distance, is to exercise moderately in the rooms which are not heated. For the children a jolly romp in the barn will kindle a glow which shall send them to school without great discomfort. -Golden Rule.

A retired fireman, according to the Boston Transcript, calls himself an ex-

Saffering for a Life Time.

Persons afflicted with rhe-umatism often suffer for a life time, their tortures being almost without remission. The joints and muscles of such unfortunates are in most cases shockingly contorted and drawn out of shape. To afford them even temporary relief, the ordinary remedies often prove utterly useless. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, on the other hand, is avouched by persons who have used it, to be a genuine source of relief. It keeps the blood cool by promoting a regular habit of body, and removes from it impurities which, in the opinion of all rational pathologists, originate the agonizing compiaint, and its kindred malady, the gout. Besides this, the Bitters remedies disorders of the stomach, liver and nerves, prevent and eradicate intermittent and remittent fevers, promote appetite and sleep, and are highly recommended by physicians as a desirable medicinal stimulant and tonic.

H. Baldwin, of Monroe City, Ind., writes under date of Dec. 3d, 1877, that his wife used Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription with wonderful results. It effected her entire cure, after several physicians had failed. The many similar letters positively affirming that the Favorite Prescription had cured the diseases and weaknesses peculiar to women, induced Dr. Pierce to sell it under a guarantee. Ladies need no longer submit to useless and painful local treatment, as the Pavorite Prescription is a safe, sure and speedy cure. Hundreds who had been bed-ridden for years have been restored to perfect health by its use.

The chanuels for the exit of impurities from the system must be kept unobstructed or de-

stored to perfect health by its use.

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