## THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH .-- PH

### MY "GOOD-FOR-NOTHING."

#### BY EMILY HUNTINGTON MILLER.

6

"What are you good for, my brave little man Answer that question for me if you can-+ You, with your fingers as white as a nun, You, with your ringlets as bright as the sun. All the day long with your busy contriving, Into all muchos and fun you are driving; See if your wise little nodale can tell What you are good for-now ponder it well."

Over the carpet, the dear little feet Came with a patter to climb on my sent; Two merry eves, full of frolic and glee, Under their lashes looked up unto me; Two httle hands, pressing soit on my face, Drew me down close in a loving embrace; Two rosy lips gave the answer so true-"Good to love you, mamma; good to love you."

## LITERATURE.

THE COUVETTE. A novel founded on facts, by a lady of Massachusetts. T. B. Peterson & Bros. The work before us can be appropriately termed peculiar. It has a flavor of antiquity, a quaintness, force and expression, a power of phraseology, which warrants us in terming it strange. It is founded, we are told, on fact, and the plot is developed in a number of letters, written by the heroine to her friends, which compose the body of the book. It is undoubtedly of deep interest, and its singularities secure for it a savorable attention. Prefixed to the work is a preface, containing the history of "Eliza Wharton," whose sad and tragic life its pages lay before the public. It contains real characters under assumed names, and in a few instances the assumption even is laid aside. Being tounded on events which happened in the last century, there is no danger of a suit for libel. It is undoubtedly of deep interest, and is eminently such a work as will be popular with lady Teaders.

THE QUEEN'S REVENCE. By Wilkie Collins. T. B. Peterson & Bros., No. 306 Chesnut street.

Why the work before us is given the name it is we are at a loss to discover. The "Queen's Revenge" constitutes the first ten pages, and is one of the many sketchy articles which the book contains. It is a series, or rather disjointed collection of pleasing essays, written years ago by Wilkie Collins, before his "Woman in White" had make him famous, and is as gossipy and spicy as we could desire. The essays treat of various subjects, and as we are assured there is "no new thing under the sun," the topics selected are all treated of in the most original style, in order to make the best out of old subjects.-The work, if it had been published before the "Woman in White," would have attracted but little attention, as it is rather a promise of something better than the article itself; yet, coming as it does from a man whose reputation is established, it is interesting because of the progress it shows he has made, as well as the pleasing nature of the work itself.

-Mr. Joel Benton writes the following pleasant poem, apropos of the marriage of a daugh-ter of Mr. P. T. Barnum on the 1st of March:-

> EPITHALAMIUM. FOR MISS P. T. B. I saw two rivers southward flow, Out of a land of cold and snow, Into a vale where smiles the sun Then gently mingle into one.

I saw an ivy yester eve Shoot towards a tree its tender leaf; This morn I passed the spot, and found The oak and ivy closely bound. Two summer birds sat on one bough,

Each gave to each a whispered yow I hen joining in one roundelay They both together flew away, O cher shed friend, I strive in vain By art or symbol to explain

CHINESE CUSTOMS.

# The Food of the Chinese-Small Feet in Women.

The following are extracts from Rev. Mr. Doolittle's work on China, just published by the

Harpers. FOOD.

The Chinese at Fuhchau live principally on rice, 5sh, and vegetables. They never use bread at their meals as people do in Western lands-Wheat flour is used for making various kinds of Wheat flour is used for making various kinds of luncheon and cakes The most common meats are pork, the flesh of the mountain goat, and the flesh of the domesticated buffale or water-ox, and the cow, ducks, geese, chickens, and fish from salt water and fresh water. There is never any yeal or mutton in the market. They never salt down beef or pork. Funchan bacon and hams are celebrated in Eastern and Southern Asia. It is considered a hardship and southern Asia. It is considered a hardship and

a mark of excessive poverty to est potatoes, except as a lunch con. Immense quantities of the sweet potatoes are grated into coarse slips and dried in the sun, for use as food among the poor in case rice cannot be procured. This poor in case rice cannot be produced. This dried potato is called potato-rice. Oysters abound in the winter, and are very cheap, the usual price of clear oysters being between five and six conts per pound. Shrimps, crabs, and elams are plentiful. Little wild game can be obtained at any season of the year. In the winter, phensauls, is small numbers, are brought from the country to sell, having been shot or entrapped upon the hills.

The Chinese at their meals usually have several small disher, fish, etc., prepared, besides a large quantity of could or steamed rice in a a large quantity of other of steamer the in a vessel by itself. Each person helps himself to the rice, putting rome, by means of a ladle or large spoon, into a bowl. The bowl, held in the left hand, is brought near the chin, whence, by the use of a pair of chop-sticks, taken between the thumb and fore and middle fingers, the rice is shovelled or pushed into the mouth from time to time. When ver any veretable or fish, etc., is desired, a morsel is taken, by a dexterous use of the chop-sticks, from the common dish which contains the article, and conveyed to the mouth. The chop-sticks are not used separately, one in each hand, as many suppose. An earthen spoon is sometimes used to dip out the gravy or liquor from the dish of vegetables or fish, but knives and forks are never used at meal time.

The common beverage of the Chinese is a weak decoction of black tea. According to common fame, they never use green tea. At Fuhchan, the use of cold water as a drink is reparded by the natives as decidealy unhealthy, and most would pr for to thirst for a long time rather than drink it, though they might venture to rinse their mouth or wet their lips with water. A drink of hot or warm water would be greatly preferred to a drink of cold water. The poorest of the poor must have their tea, regarding it not so much a luxury as a necessity. They never use milk or sugar, but always take it clear, and, if convenient, as hot as they can drink it. They prepare it, not by steeping, but by pouring boiling water, or water which has boiled, upon the tea, letting it stand a few minutes, usually covered over. It is considered essential, on receiving a call from a friend or stranger, to offer him some hot tea as soon after he enters as possible, and usually he is also invited to smoke a whiff of tobacco. Unless the tea should be forthcoming, the host would be regarded as destitute of good manners, and unaccustomed to the usages of polite society. EMALL FRET.

The feet of girls, usually, when about five or The feet of girls, usually, when about hve or six years of age, are compressed by bandaging, to prevent their further growth, and to reduce them to the form and appearance so much ad-mired by the rich and literary people of China. For this purpose the foot is extended at the ankle, the fleshy part of the heel is pressed downwards and for wards, and the entire foot is carefully wound with a long bandage from the ankle to the extremity of the toes and back again. It will be readily anderstood that this process checks the circulation of the blood, and retards or entirely prevents the further growth of the foot. The smaller toes are naturally, or rather unnaturally crowded together and some rather unnaturally crowded together, and some what bent under the foot. The foot is prevented from spreading out as when the weight of the body is thrown upon it in a state of freedom. It becomes very narrow and tapering to a point at the end of the great toe. The instep becomes unnaturally prominent, and the os calcis, or ms the h ne wh tom and posterior of the heel, is somewhat turned downward. The foot, thus compressed, is placed in a short, nar-row shoe, tapering to a point; and sometimes a block of wood is used, so supporting the heel that the body scems to stand on tiptoe, the heel being from one to two inches higher than the toes. The heel also extends backwards and up-wards beyond the heel of the shoe, so that a foot really four or five inches long will stand easily in and upon a since only three or three and a half inches in leu, th. The ankle remaining nearly of the natural size, and the instep being very prominent, the organs of locomotion present to Western observers a very uncouth ap-Dearance. Descance. Usually it requires two or three years, if pro-perly attended to, for the feet to be cramped into the genteel shape. There is no iron or wooden shoe used for compressing the feet, notwithstanding the contrary opinion which is en-tertained more or lass in Western lands. The tertained more or lass in Western lands. The instruments employed are sisips of cloth like narrow bandages. The toot gradually shrinks and shrivels up. When the bandages are re-moved for the sake of washing the foot or of bandaging tighter, the small toos, after months or years of compression, are unable to resume their natural appearance and position, but re-main cramped up and almost without sensation. When the process is begun at the proper are When the process is begun at the proper age, and the bandaging is properly attended to, the heel sometimes comes down to the ground, or rather to the level of the end of the large toe. The heel seems under the process of bandaging to elongate; but when the toot is large, and almost jull grown before the compressing of it begins, the heel orientimes cannot be brought down to a level with the end of the toe. Then a block is put in the shoe under the heel, so that the bottom of the block and the end of the toe shall be nearly on the same level when the individual is standing. Really she walks on her tiptoes and heels. The ankle or instep bulges outward in front. The genteel shoo for the bandaged foot is about three inches on the sole. Sometimes the shoes are even shorter than three English inches. The toes and the heals are thrust as much as possible toes and the needs are thrust as much as possible into the shoe, and the shoe is then fastened upon the rest of the foot, leaving the bottom portion of the shoe visible. The upper part of the foot is always much larger than the shoe, and being bandaged about with cloth, the whole has the appearance of a club-toot. "The toes and the part of the foot in the shoe have more or less oleth or string of club warned around it." cloth, or strips of cloth, wrapped around them. It is manifest that no stockings can be worn by the ladies who sport such small feet as have been described. The operation of bandaging is necessarily very painful. The flesh or skin often breaks or cracks in consequence of binding the toes underneath. Unless proper care is taken, sores are formed on the foot which it is difficult to heal, because it is desirable that the parts should be constantly and tightly bandaged. If undue haste is endeavored to be made by bandaging more tightly than is proper, in order to have the foot quickly to be come small, the pain becomes proportionably greater. If the girl is twelve or fifteen years old before bandaging her feet is attempted, it is found very difficult to cause them to assume the required shape, and efforts to do so are accompanied with excessive pain. The hones have by this time become hardened, and almost as large as they ever would grow. Usually, however, in the case of girls of advanced age, the toes are compressed, while the rest of the foot retains its acquired shape to a very great extent. The end of the toot is thrust into the shoe, the heel is of the toot is thrust into the shoe, the heel is supported by a block, and the rest of the foot is bandaged in much the usual way. Instances have been known of females with bandaged feet, when hired out as servants, leaving off the bandages, and discarding, of course, the small shoe, wearing a larger kind, much like those worn by the large-footed class, at least as lar as size is concerned. Such per-sons' teet are more or less deformed, and doubt-less they began to wear bandages when consid-

erably advanced in guilhood. There is a good deal of counterteiting small teet practised a this place. Stage actors, who are males, some times have their feet bandaged when they repre-

In consequence of thus wearing shoes into which the toes are thrust, this class of temales are apparently very tall. As has been explained they walk and stand, to a great extent, on their tiptoes, and this fact makes them look talls than they would otherwise look. The small costs class second walk fixed. than they would otherwise look. The small-footed class cannot walk firmly. Their gait is mineing and tottering, their steps being short and taken quickly. They are seldom seen to stride along. While they are often quite strong physically, they are generally unable to carry heavy leads, and to manage themselves with ease and adroitness while performing labor which requires moving from place to place. Coarre, heavy work in households, when the women have small icet, is usually performed by males, or by female servants who have large on natural feet. natural feet.

Small feet are a mark, not of wealth, for the poorest familles sometimes have their daughters feet bandaged—it is rather an index of gentility It is the fashionable form. Small reet, as the appear Landaged, are considered by most of th Chinese "beautiful." The words "good looking are very frequently heard, as indicative of to estimation in which they are held. It is bujust to some Chinese to say that they denounce the custom, and view it as crippling the energy gies of the female sex, and as productive of great deal of suffering, and as entirely useless it does no good, but rather produces evil. It case of emergencies, as of fires and sickness they whose feet are bandaged are almost help they and assless. they whose feet are bandaged are almost help lees and useless. Those who admit such to be the real state of the case in regard to the small footed women, after all feel obliged to conform in regard to their own daughters, to the usage of Chinese society, it living in the cicy, and connected with literary families. As a genera rule, families whose girls have small feet marry their sons into families of the same class. In some parts of China all the females have bandaged feet but it is not thus here. There

bandaged feet, but it is not thus here. Then is a large proportion of the inhabitants of th country, also about six or seven tenths of th population of the suburbs of this city, according to the estimate of some, whose females have feet of the natural size. It is suid that probabl more than nine-tenths of the females who ar brought up in the city have bandaged feet. I is thought that, were it not for the poverty of the people, all the females would in a gener-tion or two have small feet. Necessity lays a interdict on many families, obliging them to res their daughters with feet of the size and shap which nature gave them, so that they can labo in the fields and carry heavy burdens, thus ear ing a living, or, at least, contributing large towards the maintenance of their families. Many poor families prefer to struggle alor

for a precarious living, bringing up their daug ters with small feet rather than allow them grow as large as they would grow, and oblig them to carry burdens and do heavy work order to obtain a more competent support. has been said, small fest are not an index wealth, but of gentility. Families whose daug ters have small feet are evabled to marry the into more respectable and more literary fan lies than though their feet were of the natur size. Concubines or inferior wives, hired se vants and female slaves, generally have larg feet. In the city and suburbs there is a stron tendency to change from the larger-footed in the smaller-footed class. Few or none chan from the latter into the former class of societ

It living in the city. In this part of China, field-women, those wh labor in rice-fields, and engage in the ordinar occupations of the farm, have large feet. some of the northern portions of the empire th class of females have bandaged feet. Those wi bear burdens in the streets, or come from the country with leads of produce for sale, hav large feet. Foreign visitors to this port from the other consular ports are usually immediated struck with the singular appearance of the larg footed women as they go about the streets with their bare teet, and with their pantaloons coming their bare leet, and with their pantaioons comin but little below their knees—in fact, often tucke up so as to come above their knees, as thoug they were afraid of soiling them. Not only the appearance of the large-footed women ver different from those of the small-footed clas as regards their feet and the absence of clothin on the lower part of their limbs but their hear on the lower part of their limbs, but their hea ornaments, and the color and fashion of the garments, are very different, and attract un versal attention, showing that there are two d

HILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 1866.			
i be	DRY GOODS.	INSURANCE COMPANIES.	INSURANCE COMPANIES,
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an ear	ESTATE OF RICHARD W. MEADE GRAHAM, Deceased.	NEWRY, CORK, AND GLASGOW. BATES OF PASSAGE, PAYABLE IN PAPER CURRENCY.	
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TN.	STAMPS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION CONSTANTLY ON HAND, AND N ANY AMOUNT. 11 13	AB HERETOFORE STANFS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION CONSTANTLY ON HAND, AND IN ANY AMOUNT II	WILLIAM G. OROWALL, Scitchar. 228.

the mysile no. the life in life Which join the husband and the wife.

Now, while the spring's first rosy hours Thruli us with dreams of birds and flowers, Thy barque is lauvcoed, and turned to go Where lite's unending currents flow,

Soft be the gales that touch its prow, The future ever fair as now; May Joy attend from this new shore, And Hope be pliot evermore.

-Mr. Trowbridge's forthcoming novel, "Lucy Arlyn," is based, we understand, upon the mate-rial phenomena generally called spiritualism. What side Mr. Trowbridge takes in the matter we are not informed, but it is to be presumed, none in particular, merely using his knowledge ot table-moving, spirit-rapping, etc., for the purpose of his plot and the development of his characters, and leaving the reader to draw his own conclusions. We recall no novei in which spiritualism is handled at length and fairly, most novelists who touch it at all holding it up to unmitigated ridicule—a foolish proceeding on their part, since all that comes to their mill ought to be grist. Like their fellow-workers, the dramatists, they should be above prejudice, even against evil; for just so far as they have it they are unit for their task, which is not to pre-sent flattering, but faithful picture, of life. Spiritualism being an element of American life, it is as fit a subject for fiction as anything else in America; as the scalaring life of New England, the farming life of the Middle States, or the wild, adventurous life of the South or West. How well or ill it is managed by Mr. Trewbridge remains to be seen.

-The lady who writes under the nom de plume of "Homes Lee," a Miss or Mrs. Harriet Parr, is about to publish, in two volumes, "The Life and Death of Jeanne d'Arc, called the Maid."

-Mr. Gerald Massey's new work now in press, is entitled "Shakespeare's Sonnets (never before interpreted) and his Private Friends, together with a Recovered Likeness of Himself."

-M. Cousin is hunting among the archives of the Chateauneuf family, the descendants of Madame de Sev gne, for unpublished documents and souvenirs relating to tacir great ancestress.

-M. de Sacy, editor of the Journal des Debats, has been made a Senator. Besides himself, hterature is represented in the Senate by Messrs. Sainte-Beuve and Prosper Merimee.

-M. Emile Chasles, son of Philarete Chasles, has recently published "Michael Cervantes' Life, Times, Political and Literary Works."

-M. Guillaume Guizot has begun a course of lectures on French prose literature; his first subject was Montaigne.

-The Rev. Henry Alford, Dean of Canterbury, said to be the editor of the new periodical, The Contemporary Review.

-Mr. William Gilbert, author of "Shirley Hall Asylum," etc., has a new novel nearly ready, "Dr. Austen's Guests."

-The author of "Flemish Interiors" has in preparation "Cosas d'Espana; or, Spain and the Spanlards."

-Mr. Thowas Hood has just ready "The Fairy Reaim " s collection of favorite old tales told in verse, with page illustrations by Gustave

-Miss Yonge, the author of the "Heir of Red-clyffe," etc., has in press a new novel, "The Dove in the Eagle's Nest."

-Mr. J. W. Clark, M A., of Trinity College, is to edit from the original editions "The Adven-tures of Robinson Crusoe" for the Golden Trea-

-M. Albert Wolf is about to publish "Me-mours of the Boulevard," a series of pictures of Paris life.

-M. Victor Sardou, the dramatist, is said to be very ill; cause, overworking himself.

-Mr. Henry Kingsley will at once publish new novel, entitled "Leighton Court."

tinct classes of females here, and that it fashions which they follow differ widely fro each other in more respects than the having

bandaged feet, or the having of natural feet. The laws of the empire are silent on the sul ject of bandaging the feet of female children Bandaging the feet is simply a custom; but it a custom of prodigious power and popularity, s may be easily interred from what has been sai above—a custom as imperious as was the custo of tight lacing by some ladies in some countri at the West, and perhaps not more ridiculous unnatural, and much less destructive of healt and life. While foreign ladies wonder why C rese ladies should compress the feet of th female children so unnaturally, and perhaps p them for being devotees of such a cruel and us less fashion, the latter wonder why the form should wear their dresses in the present panded style, and are able to solve the probl of the means used to attain such a result only suggesting that they wear chicken-coops benea their dresses, from the fancied resemblance erholine skirts, of which they sometimes get glimpse, to a common instrument for impriso ing fowle.

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