

THE JUNE MAGAZINES.

"LIPPINCOTT'S" The June number of Lippincott's Magazine has the following table of contents:—"Thomas Tyler's Tombstone," a tale, by Mrs. Mary S. Walker; "Paraguay and the Lopez Family," by H. Hargrave; "Higher and Nearer," a poem; "The Virginia Tourist," part II, by Edward A. Pollard; "My Lovers," by Mrs. Sarah E. Henshaw; "The Lizard Bracelet," a tale, by Mrs. Lucy Hamilton Hooper; "The Revolution at the South;" "Guesses and Queries," part II, by N. S. Dodge; "Sir Harry Hotspur," a novel, part II, by Anthony Trollope; "Glimpses of San Francisco," by Miss Annie Morris; "The Coming Man," by Craig Biddle; "Our Judiciary;" "One in a Hundred," a tale, by Edgar Fawcett; "A Fabled Picture," a poem, by Paul H. Hayne; "Book-makers as Book Lovers," by Edward Howland; "Our Monthly Gossip;" "Literature of the Day."

From the paper on "Paraguay and the Lopez Family," written before the death of Lopez, we take this quotation:—

In 1814, by means of machinations and intrigues, Dr. Francia was elected First Consul of Paraguay for one year, at the end of which term he executed a coup d'etat worthy of some ruler of the present day, which procured his election by a Congress of his own appointment as Supreme Dictator for three years, and finally for life.

By his persecutions of his real or pretended enemies he either murdered or imprisoned most of the principal inhabitants, and by his system of interdicting commerce and isolating the State he ruined the country; so that, whilst during the Spanish rule the revenue derived from imports, exports, etc., amounted to three hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars, being more than sufficient to meet the requirements of the Government, it fell during his reign almost to zero; and, as his expenses were over five hundred and eighty thousand dollars per annum, he was obliged to raise this sum by fines, confiscation, and oppressive taxation, which the impoverished people were in no condition to pay.

Never in the history of mankind has a despotism more complete and irresponsible existed; it rivalled, if it did not surpass, that of the King of Dahomey. The prisons were crowded to suffocation, and the executioner was weary of his task, whilst the system of espionage was so all-pervading that the dearest friends and nearest relatives feared each other, and no man knew that his own brother would not denounce him.

Amongst the victims of Francia was his own brother; and at his death, which took place in 1840, between seven and eight hundred prisoners were found in the dungeons of Asuncion alone, many of whom had been incarcerated for more than twenty years, without having ever been informed of the cause of their arrest.

Carlos Antonio Lopez, a nephew of Francia, after having successfully struggled with his political opponents, placed himself at the head of the soldiery, and by their aid was nominated Consul in 1841, with a colleague; but in 1844, by a coup d'etat, he disembarrassed himself of his associate, and reigned as *Supremo* till the day of his death.

The domestic government of Lopez is described as being as strong as that of Francia, though he is represented as being more liberal to foreigners; but this assertion must be taken for what it is worth, as, in spite of a great parade of proclamations and treaties declaring Paraguay open to the world, no more than twenty leagues above Corrientes, was in 1852, eleven years after his election, the only place where foreigners were permitted to resort; and Colonel Graham, United States Consul at Buenos Ayres, on an official mission to Paraguay, was himself detained there twenty days before obtaining permission to proceed to Asuncion. And as recently as 1855, Captain T. J. Page, sent out in the United States steamer Waterwitch to survey the La Plata and its tributaries, whilst peacefully prosecuting his voyage up the Parana, was fired into from Fort Itaparu, having one man killed; and it was not till 1859, when a United States fleet of twenty-one vessels arrived in the river Plata, that he was enabled to continue his surveys.

Lopez gave to Paraguay a constitution providing for the election of a senate, which met at irregular intervals, and only to ratify the decrees of the Dictator, who held both the executive and legislative powers in his own hands; and also provided for the appointment of a successor by a sealed will, to be opened after his death.

Such were the traditions and such was the Government of Paraguay, when, on the 10th of September, 1862, his son, Francisco Solano Lopez, in accordance with his father's will, assumed, without opposition, the dictatorial power, thus forming the second link in that curious anomaly, an hereditary presidency of a republic.

The title of President is still retained for form's sake, but Lopez is in reality an autocrat, possessing unlimited power over the lives and property of his subjects, without appeal to any court of law. Senor Sarmiento, the President of the Argentine Republic, so well known both in this country and in Europe as an ardent patriot, a profound statesman, the most indefatigable promoter of education, and finally as a man possessing truly enlightened and American views of republicanism, describes Paraguay as a "plantation, with a million of Indians instead of negroes, who consider themselves the property of the Lopez family;" and he adds:—"The triumph of Lopez means the extension to Uruguay and the Argentine Republic of the Guarani Indian despotism, under a master who is dictator, pope, supreme judge, and lord of life and property—imposing upon all those countries that obedience unparalleled in the history of the human race."

From *Guesses and Queries* we take the following:—

If good living contributes to long life, as beyond all doubt it does, have we not in the converse of the proposition a key unlocking the secret of the low average of human life in the United States? We are below Great Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, Prussia, Austria, and Italy in the average age of our people. Is it not because we live upon worse food, violate more laws of hygiene, and suffer intemperance penalties than they? God sends us meat, and the devil sends us cooks. Out of our large cities, what hotel-keeper ever prepares himself by education or training for his business? Throughout our farm-houses,

it is stated that Lopez has already made a will in favor of his illegitimate son by his mistress, well known in South America under the name of Madam Lynch. She was present at the battle of Las Lomas Yalantines, and received three wounds, whilst her son, aged fourteen, had four horses killed under him.

who knows the secret of good bread or light pastry, of a perfectly-boiled potato, or of a joint of meat done to a turn? Though the art of cooking is really the oldest art with which man has made himself familiar, and though gastronomy has formed in all ages of the world a subject of experiment, it is really a serious question whether we in the United States conduct the mysteries of the kitchen in a thoroughly creditable manner. Does not the general health suffer? Are not the doors of our physicians besieged by armies of dyspeptics? Is not the domestic hearth, that sacred shrine of home joys, eclipsed by the restaurant, owing to the neglect of the arts which subserv the pleasure of the palate to cook a potato? I mean so that it shall be a potato after it is cooked—not mashed into a soup—not broken to shreds outside and hard as a stone within—not boiled or steamed into a nondescript lump; but a potato, with a potato's flavor, a potato's substance, pleasant to see and appetizing to eat? When a cook was lately wanted for a London club a number of candidates were appointed to a trial of skill in boiling a potato. Any person who in the course of his life has ever eaten a properly-cooked potato would like to know the artist who bore away the palm.

Take, for example, the men who dine at eating houses in New York and in Paris—say artisans, clerks, and handicraftsmen in good employ. One of the former, between 1 and 2 o'clock, walks into a restaurant, calls for a plate of meat and vegetables, a slice of bread, a glass of water or ale, and finishes with a modicum of pudding or pie, for all of which he pays fifty cents. The latter resorts to the restaurateur's at the same hour. Out of ten kinds of soups named on the *carte* he selects one, exquisite to the taste and provocative to the appetite; then from the list of various dishes of fish and meat he also selects one, and perhaps another; then from the *entremets*, then the game, then pastry or cheese, and bread *ad libitum*; to all which is added a half bottle of light wine; and he has to disburse less than the former, for he pays but twenty-five *cents*. Will not the French workman enjoy his dinner more, work with better will, and live longer?

Comparing the eating habits of dwellers in the rural districts in both countries, the difference is still greater. Through ignorance we waste half our animal food. Fuel to us is cheap—to him dear. Our wages are twice as great as his. Our kitchen utensils, home conveniences, crockery, cutlery, and napery are far beyond his highest expectations. And yet from his *pot-au-feu*, rarely boiling, but simmering all day, into which he has cast whatever his funds will furnish or his patch of ground supply, he ladles from time to time a bowl of potage, at the taste of which the most accomplished gastronome who dines daily at Delmonico's would lift his brows with rapture. Our farmers and laborers, far better-to-do, produce nothing of the kind, nor will they until they stop "eating to live," and adopt the noble "rule of living," in part at least, "to eat."

"HARPER'S." From T. B. Peterson & Brothers we have received the June number of *Harper's Magazine*, which has the following list of articles:—"Jottings and Journeys in Spain," Junius Henri Browne, with thirteen illustrations; "The Mysteries of a Thunder Shower," Jacob Abbott, with nineteen illustrations; "Two Moods," Mary N. Prescott; "Frederick the Great," VII.—The Campaign of Mollwitz, with seven illustrations; "Vanity of Vanities," Christina G. Rossetti; "The Rob Roy on the Jordan," A. H. Guernsey, with fourteen illustrations; "The Hot Current of the Atlantic: A New Theory of its Fountain and Flood," Professor T. B. Maury, with five illustrations; "Transmutation," D. R. Castleton; "The Running Turf in America" (first paper), Hamilton Busbey; "Wampunung Gap," Mrs. Frank McCarthy; "Wine in America and American Wine," William J. Flagg; "Farewell to May," Annie D. Green; "A Story of Six Weeks," Annie Thomas; "Border Reminiscences," General B. B. Marcy; "Anteros," by the author of "Guy Livingstone," etc.; "The Gaming Table," William A. Seaver; "Editor's Easy Chair;" "Editor's Literary Record;" "Editor's Scientific Record;" "Editor's Historical Record;" "Editor's Drawer." From Mr. Browne's "Jottings and Journeys in Spain" we take the following about Spanish etiquette:—

As respects manners, the Spaniards deem themselves the politest people on the planet, of which they think Spain much the best and by far the most important part. If manners do not make the man on the Peninsula, they go far towards insuring his comfort or its opposite. The natives are certainly managed by manners. Any departure from civility, however small, is always resented, and strict observation of it attended with remunerative results. One of their proverbs, "Politeness gets what money can't purchase," experience has often taught me the truth of. The Spaniards, naturally courteous, expect courtesy from others, and appreciate it to the fullest. When you travel, never light a cigar or cigarette without offering one to those in the same carriage. They never take it unless urged; but it is the custom of the country; it shows you are a man of the world and of good breeding. A Spaniard always refuses once—that is etiquette—and you must do likewise; but when he is invited a second time he accepts. At a cafe, or restaurant, if you order coffee, chocolate, or wine, breakfast or dinner, and there are persons at the same table, invite them to join you. It will cost you nothing, for they won't do it; but the invitation will advance you in their estimation.

Lifting the hat when entering the presence of others is more imperative in Spain than in France or Italy. Not to do so in a diligence, railway coach, or a room, is thought a violation of good manners, if not a positive offense. I have seen sensitive Castilians look angry, even fierce, and twirl their moustaches with offended dignity, when foreigners neglected to raise their hats. But when the careless persons remembered, and complied with the demand of etiquette, the sallow faces relaxed, and a gleam of good humor darted out of the jet-black eyes. Hat-lifting and cigar-giving are passports to good treatment everywhere. Many strangers have made fast friends by such simple means. Should I be sent to Madrid on a diplomatic mission, I should engage a servant specially to elevate my sombrero, and a tobaccoist to supply me constantly with the best of Havanas. By liberal use of both, I think I could manage the ministers as well as the Cortes. The inhabitants of the different provinces, though they know and care little about each other, all consider themselves Spaniards, and as such are jealous of their dignity and reputation. They are very nice as to their personal honor (*pundonor*), and regard themselves as gentlemen, whatever their station in life, and the peer of any foreigner, be his position or rank what it may. They often appear cold and reserved; but they are easily won, and once reconciled are extremely obliging. Etiquette is very rigid with them, and never departed from in public. When you visit any one formally the proper costume is black, as it is with us. If the person you have called on be out, you write on the corner of your card E. P. (*en persona*) and leave it with the servant. First visits demand marked courtesy, which means nothing unless it is repeated at the second visit. If you are welcome you will be conducted to the best room, placed on the right hand of the sofa, and your hat treated with as much consideration as yourself, your vest, and your gloves, being placed on a vacant chair. As you take leave of a lady you say, "¡hurl myself at your feet, Madam!" (*A los pies de usted, Señora*); and she responds, with an eloquent casting down of the eyelids and a graceful sweep of her fan, "¡kiss your hand, Sir!" (*Beso a usted la mano, Señor*), for the reason, perhaps, that neither you nor she intend to do anything of the kind. Then she looks tender, and uses the phrase, "May you depart with God, and continue well!" (*Que Dios se acuerde de usted, pase bien!*) Whereupon you assume a dignifiedly gallant air—to be acquired only in Spain—and reply, "May you remain with God!" (*Que Dios se acuerde de Dios!*)

The name of the *Deity* occupies a very prominent place in Peninsular phraseology, and is employed under a variety of circumstances. Your dearest friend intrusts you to the Divine keeping as he folds you in his embrace; and the robber does the same when he points his blunderbuss at your head, and gently requests you to stand and deliver. Men are treated very differently from women by Spanish ladies. These seldom rise on receiving the former, or offer their hand, or accept the arm of their escort; but they kiss the latter at coming and going. The striking contrast is thought to arise from inherent feminine coquettishness, the dark-eyed Castilians desiring to show men what delights they are debarred from by reason of their sex. One of the reasons assigned by the women for not giving their hand to their masculine friends is, that the doing so disarranges their mantilla; and another, that it is likely to be mistaken for a matrimonial intention. The Spanish men, who are always saying ill-natured and cynical things about the other sex, declare the mantilla is a much more serious matter than marriage; that an ill-fitting garment is more difficult to manage than a poor husband.

Unless a Spaniard presses you again and again to repeat your visit, and assures you his house is yours, and it and all it contains at your disposal, you can conclude you are not welcome, that you have not created a favorable impression. Birthdays are made much of, and when they occur formal visits are expected. New Year's is devoted to calls, as on this side of the sea, and presents, remarkable for their fitness rather than value, are often made to those on whom you call. Mr. William J. Flagg, under the title of "Wine in America and American Wine," discusses as follows about grape culture in America:—

The discoverers of the continent, wherever they touched the coast, or however far they explored the interior, found the grape growing. Gigantic vines clambered over cliffs of granite and ledges of limestone, bore down with their weight great trees of the primitive forest, festooned with beauty the borders of rivers and creeks, and before European herds came to browse them away, ramped down to the very shores of the sea. A cargo of voyagers approaching the coast of North Carolina, while as yet more than a hundred miles off, were met, as they told, with a perfume of welcome so sweet and strong it enveloped and pervaded their ship as if she were sailing among gardens. It was the breath of vine-blossoms, borne on western breezes from that land of the grape. As long as the forest itself had stood it had been the home of the vine, whose generations produced and reproduced themselves within its shelter, waiting for a man to come. Three families there were, known to botany as *Vitis labrusca*, *Vitis californica*, and *Vitis vulpina*; otherwise named after the fox, the frost, and the bull. They were mostly hard, thick-skinned, and sour, for their energies were expended in reproduction, to the end that their species might be preserved through the many dangers that beset their wild condition. Yet from time to time they would fling off luscious varieties; seedlings of chance, though fulfilling design; fit for the use of man; yet needing the fostering of his hand, because fine and delicate, and perishing without it.

And thus those wild originals of the vine will continue to do while the forest stands; for the rude changes of our climate destroy the tender plants brought from Europe, and a hardy stock is needed that is native to the soil. Seedlings of chance and foundlings of the woods are our Herbeimont, Lenoir, and Norton's Virginia, members of the frost family; the Catawba, Concord, and Delaware, with many more, members of the fox family; and the Scuppernon and others, of the bull. These we know and have, and others we look and hope for. How many as good or better than they have perished in their bleak nursery for want of adoption none can guess. But we have vines enough, and they are good enough to grow wine to satisfy the needs of our country. Another variety should never be discovered. All needed is, that we know how to place and how to cultivate and preserve them; and richly furnished as is the board of our national feast, the drink that shall fill its now empty crystals will be worthy of it. The same conditions which produce good apples and peaches can produce good grapes. Diversity of soil and climate will give diversity of product; warm sunbeams, clear skies, and a dry atmosphere will insure sweetness and flavor in the fruit, and richness, body, and bouquet in the wine. In most of our varieties there is an excess of flavor to be tempered down by cultivation. Many of them are superabundant in sugar, while others yield a juice whose color is so deep that it too might be deemed excessive, if it were possible for wine to be too red. And if the musky flavor of the foxes is by many disliked, be it known that the important family of frost grapes, *Vitis californica*, have none of it whatever, but only such delicate bouquet and savor as the most fastidious European taste may accept. With such materials we must be poor cultivators indeed if we fail soon to produce something better than what Europeans now send for our drinking, and in time something equal to what they keep for their own.

Though few or none of our grape-growers have yet planted in soils poor enough for growing fine wines, and though for various reasons the culture remains still in its infancy, there have already been some good results obtained. The ill-used and much-abused *Malbec*, whatever may be thought of it as a still wine, has, by virtue of its excess of tartaric acid, such an affinity, so to speak, for

ugar, that if, while yet in the greenness of its first year, it is properly compounded with sugar and ice, a summer drink is made of unequalled excellence. A cobbler of new wine, grown in the valley of the Ohio, or Missouri, where the Catawba ripens almost to blackness, drunk when the dog-star rises, lingers in memory for life. The exile from his native land, whose summer hours overtake, will long for it even on the Rhine or Garonne, whose borders supply no drink to match it; nor can the sherbets of the Orient or cliquot frappe make him forget the cobbler that repaired his soul in the Western bar-room. For the same reason (its happy mode of combining with sugar) sparkling Catawba, properly made and from choice selections of raw material, is fully equal to the average quality of the Champagne we import. The Scuppernon, too, put up in sparkling form, though in respect to acidity quite opposite to the other, can make as good a drink, to say the least, as Moselle. Delaware and Herbeimont, the one for the South and the other for the North, have already proved themselves capable of great things, though every one may not yet know it. Finally, the Norton's Virginia seedling, even when grown on strong corn land, gives an abundant yield of wine that is pure to the taste, vinous, full-bodied, red as blood, yet clear as rock-water, which none would require to be taught how to love. Let this only be produced in sufficient quantity, and it will be at once accepted as a substitute for all ordinary sorts of claret; while for such as shall be grown on fine soils an altogether higher destiny awaits; all of which is written by one who is fully aware that American wines have been immeasurably overpraised.

The June number of *Godey's Lady's Book* is illustrated with a steel engraving entitled "Waiting at the Ferry," and numerous fashion plates. Its literary articles are up to the usual standard of excellence.

The *Lady's Friend* for June is finely illustrated with numerous engravings and fashion plates, and it presents an interesting series of stories and sketches.

Arthur's Home Magazine for June is filled with entertaining articles suitable for the family circle.

The *Children's Hour* offers an interesting variety of reading matter suitable for the young folks.

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