

Miscellaneous.

A baby convulsion was held at Muscatine, Iowa, recently. Fifteen mothers, with their little ones were present, and voted on the question of the pretzel. Each baby got one vote and no more.

"What do you sell those fowls for?" inquired a buyer. "I sell them for profit," was the answer. "Thank you for the information that you are prophets," responded the querist: "I took them to be patriots."

It is in vain to stick your finger in the water, and pulling it out, look for a hole: and equally vain to suppose that, however large a space you occupy, you will miss you when you have passed on.

Britanny raises very fine horses. They are rendered docile and tractable through kind usage. The paragon is chief foal of the horse there, and it is believed to contribute materially to the vigor and beauty for which the horses of the country are remarkable.

Whenever you work for fame, for money, for love, or for anything else, work with your hands, heart and brain. Say "I will," and some day you will conquer. Never let any man have it to say: "I have dragged you up." Too many friends hurt a man more than none at all.

An old bachelor, upon reading that "two lovers will sit up till the night with one chair in the room," said it could not be done, unless one of them stands or sits on the floor. And such painful ignorance pretty plainly indicates that he has never been there.

A Buffalo telegraph operator accidently got locked in his office at dinner-time the other day, and all other efforts to save his moustache, and proving unavailing, he telegraphed to Canada, there to Detroit, and from there to another office in Buffalo, whence a messenger was dispatched to liberate him, and he secured a hot dinner.

THE CAPTAIN'S LAW—"My hearty lair," said a sea captain when he took command of a ship, "I am determined to swear the crew on the quarter deck, there is one law I am determined to make, and I shall insist on it being kept. It is a law, indeed, I will ask of you, and which, as a British officer I expect will be granted by a crew of British seamen. What say you, my lads? Are you willing to grant your new captain one favor?"

"Ay, ay," cried all hands; "let's know what it is, sir."

"Well, my lads, it is this: that you must allow me to swear the first oath in this ship. No man on board must swear an oath before I do. I am determined to swear the first oath on board. What say you lads? Will you grant me this favor?"

The men staved, and stood for a moment quite at a loss to what to say. "They were," said one, "taken aback." "They were brought up," said another.

The appeal seemed so reasonable that the manner of the captain so kind and proffering, that a general burst from the ship's company answered, "Ay, ay, sir" with their usual three cheers. Swearing was thus abolished on the ship.

A man died at West Liberty, Iowa, lately, who expressed an earnest desire that he should be buried on the farm where he formerly lived, near Des Moines. His wife sought to fulfill the wishes of her dead husband. She procured a burial case, and started on her errand. She arrived at the place of burial, a stranger to everybody. Of the station agent she inquired as to the location of the farm where her husband was to be buried, and, on being told, he quickly foresaw a very unpleasant affair. The widow had come to bury her husband on the premises of a man whose daughter, then at home, was the wife of the deceased. The agent, after some consideration, deemed it best to inform the widow of the facts. She received the story with perfect astonishment, and could scarcely believe her late husband guilty of such a scheme; but, on being assured it was so, she became indignant, and left the body with citizens to be conveyed to wife No. 1 (whose first knowledge for years of the whereabouts of her husband was his arrival in a burial case), to be disposed of as she saw fit. It has just been discovered that the man had still another wife in Missouri.

This is a very common sin among us, and it arises, principally, from serious defects in our life. We speak to men harshly; we are irritable and impatient; we are domineering; we wound their feelings; we sneer at them; we make a jest of their failures and imperfections; we treat them contemptuously; we make an ostentation use of our power over them; we compel them to feel—and they do it intentionally—that we attach not the slightest value to their judgment; and that we have no desire to give them pleasure. We do not know that those who are guilty of these offences are likely to be much injured by the consideration of the pain and annoyance which they inflict on others by this treatment of them; and yet they ought to remember that a great part of the misery of the world arises from the wanton disregard of the claims of every man to consideration and respect. Harsh words, spoken recklessly and in haste, rankle in the memory like a wound. Such treatment as this is a hard to endure as a perpetual cast. It destroys all the brightness and pleasantness of life, and condemns those who are subjected to it to a dull and monotonous wretchedness.

Radicals of Philadelphia Journalists.

A Chicago paragraphist who had got a place on a Philadelphia paper was thus addressed by his new proprietor: "Of course you know our Philadelphia papers are different from those of the West; they have to be. You must be a little guarded in your paragraphs. I know that you will say some of the same old stories, and you will say them in the same old way. But you must remember that our subscribers are a peculiar people. Don't pitch into anybody—that is anybody who is alive now, or who has died within say 500 years; don't even say anything harsh of Mr. Richard Turpin, for there are some of our subscribers who go so far as to admire him. No man of genius, no matter how mean he was in private life, must be ridiculed in our paper, for our people love great men and always stop their papers when they see any thing against their heroes. Why we lost all subscribers on one day by a harmless little paragraph on that old lumping, Wm. Penn. By the way, if you should at any time feel as though you really must attack somebody, just pitch into Scrooge, that old Egyptian fraud who pretended to be a conquerer who never conquered anything at all. That was a good while ago, and none of our subscribers know anything about the Egyptians. A good many of those antiquated old scoundrels needs writing up, anyhow. Suppose you begin on old Scrooge at once."—*Londonville Journal.*

A Small Herb Garden.

The *Vitis* Gardeners have been hints, which, if followed, will enable you to get a little, but all the more valuable, in the question of the attractiveness and utility of American gardens:

There is poetry and sweetness in the very name. There may be likewise order and beauty in it. The most satisfactory things in gardens, especially in small ones, are the herbs, scattered here and there all over the place, and these, in time and patience are cultivated in hunting them up when required. Quite a useful feature might be made in every garden, however small, of the herbs, were they only brought together in one place and arranged in order. The best disposition for herbs is in beds. These may be from two to four feet wide, with foot alleys between them, and the length almost double, or, at the least, one-third more than the width. This arrangement in beds is the very essence of an herb garden. Of course in small gardens one entire bed will not be needed for any herb. In such cases several kinds may be grown together—such, for instance, as common and lemon Thyme, Parsnips and Marjoram in one; Fenugreek, Sage and Tarragon in another; and Basil, Summer Savory and Golden Purslane in another. Mint should have a bed for itself, as mint sauce is much in demand. Borel, again, is much wanted in many families for salads, also Borset, Hyssop, &c. These three herbs are the semi-ordinary herbs: Hours should be sown about, Tarragon for tea (that any one ever drinks it), Camomile for face and stomach ailments, Rose for the garden in poultry, Lady's Love, and any variety of herbs that the villa garden may have any use for.

A bed should also be reserved for Angelica, used by those who know the luxury of its shoots candied in sugar, and for the growth of Borage, for favoring claret cups in hot weather. Again, the herb garden is just the place for the orderly systematic cultivation of all small saladings, such as Mustard and Cress, a constant succession of small Onions, a bed of Chives, the cultivation of Radishes throughout the season, and the growth of Lettuce, Endive, etc. All this would find abundant furniture for a good many beds, and by changing these for the different products a nice succession of cropping might be maintained.

Finally several beds should be set aside for the high class cultivation of Parsley—a plant so long neglected in small gardens. Nothing is more useful in a household for flavoring or garnishing, and it is just as easy, on a right system, to have magnificent leaves, exquisitely curled and clean, and raised high above the ground by their stature and strength, as to have and use the small, dirty leaves that lead us to do any thing in the kitchen. Let the parsley have a bed of deep rich soil—if a yard deep is all the better; sow a good curled-leaf kind; let it flourish in place; as soon as fairly up the plants to a foot apart, and let them grow away freely. That is the whole art of growing and using parsley and making it really one of the most beautiful plants in the garden. Sow in March, May and July for succession. If the garden of herbs is too small for the devotion of one or more beds to Parsley, sow at different seasons, then the whole herb garden might be fringed round with Parsley, the clothing is taken out to be aired, and this good opportunity given them to deposit their eggs upon the garments, etc. If they were entirely kept away from their approach, no caterpillar, or larva of the moth, which does the mischief, could touch the articles.

The winged moth that flies about the house does not eat or destroy woollen of any kind, but seeks opportunity to lay eggs in woollen articles, upon which nature dictates that her young must subsist. These eggs produce little caterpillars, which assume the pupa state, out of which comes the winged moth. We prevent the most annoying moth miller from having access to the articles we desire to preserve by their depositing their eggs. For instance, if you do not wish any article that is free from moth in a paper, cotton or linen bag, and pin it up tightly, or tie the mouth of it closely, no winged moth can enter to deposit its eggs, and thus its contents must be secure from depositions. Yet these winged moths are possessed of considerable cunning, or rather instinct, which makes them search patiently and carefully for proper places to feed their young.

Simply putting woollen articles into tight drawers, or covering them with paper, etc., will not suffice; for the least bit of crevice will admit them. Nature has also implanted an instinct to seek unoccupied places to lay their eggs; therefore if you stink any woollen articles or furs occasionally, the moth will avoid them. Thus, occasionally any article of clothing become infested with them, frequent brushing and beating will drive them away; and if they can be dipped into hot water, or held over the smoke of a fire, the larvae will be destroyed. If carpets are infested with them, take boiling hot steam water, and dip cloths and saturate the carpets with it. Hot steam water is very destructive to all insect life. Cockroaches, with bugs, and the like can be exterminated by its use. Woollen articles and furs can also be kept from moths by dusting them over with red pepper or putting camphor gun among them.—*Country Gentleman.*

Pure soft water is the best of all blood purifiers. It dissolves almost every impurity that may find its way to the blood, and passes it off through the skin, lungs, and kidneys, thus washing out the blood without those chemical changes and deposits which are likely to arise from the action of drugs. Why then, we doubt, dangerous and often injurious drugs for purifying the blood, when pure, simple, safe, and far more effectual water may be had without more and without price?

Supplices is no less an enemy to virtue than happiness. He that is already corrupt is naturally suspicious, and he that becomes suspicious will quickly be corrupt.

A great number of papers of this State are getting mad because a man said that if you want to reach an editor's brains, shoot him with his back to you. And shoot low.

Hard drinking—clawing lice.

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