Song.

Slipping, drifting with the tide,
All the summer twilight through,
While in heaven the stars abide,
Ir my heart sweet dreams of you.

Echoes following from the shore
Seem the echoes of our song,
Summer odors blown before
Float the tune along.

Shall we linger till the day
Paints the east a thing divine?
Spread the sail and haste away
Where the distant breakers shine?

Held within their concha crash,
Would they crush us like a shell?
Dying, dearest, in your clasp,
All would yet be well!

Farm, Garden and Household.

FROST BITES.—Dissolve one handful of copperas in a pail half full of warm water; soak the feet well in it, set aside and repeat until it has drawn out. Often one application will answer, according to extent of disease.

PREPARING CORN FOR SEED.—An Illinois correspondent says:—"Soak doubtful seed corn in chloride of lime and it will come. If you soak seed corn in tar water in which a little copperas has been dissolved, the gophers and crows will give it a wide berth."

THE BENEFIT OF COOLING MILK RAPIDLY.—An Orange County dairyman said that in his county a pound of butter required ordinarily twelve quarts of milk to produce it, but when the milk was cooled by setting the pans in a current of cold water, a less quantity of milk was required.

LEMON FOR A COUGH.—Roast the lemon very carefully without burning it; when it is thoroughly hot, cut and squeeze into a cup upon three ounces of sugar finely powdered. Take a spoonful whenever your cough troubles you. It is good and agreeable to the taste. Rarely has it been known to fail of giving relief.

CURE FOR DIPHTHERIA.—A simple and successful treatment of diptheria may be found in the use of lemon juice. Gargle the throat freely with it, at the same time swallowing a portion, so as to reach all the affected parts. A French physician claims that he saved his own life with this pleasant remedy.

RYE BREAD.—Make a rather stiff mush of corn meal, as you would for the table, but boil it long and well; salt to taste; when milk-warm stir in yeast, either baker's or home-made, in just the proportion for wheat sponge. In cool weather this must be done overnight; and in the morning, when light, work in as much rye flour with the hands as the sponge will hold. Do not get it too stiff, for it will adhere to the hands even when stiff enough, and, unlike wheat dough, its "stickiness" is not a sign of the need of more flour. Let the dough rise, and do not attempt to mould it, but scrape out into well-greased round tins.

MEDICINES FOR POULTRY.—It may be making a too sweeping assertion to say that all the medicine advertised for domestic animals are humbugs; but it is safe to declare that most of them are, and to look with suspicion on every new panacea that is heralded. As the vices of mankind prepare the way for the advertisers of nostrums innumerable, so the keeping of artificial breeds of fowls in close quarters and under other unnatural conditions gives rise to epidemics and patent medicines. Even if the latter were as efficacious as their venders claim, we should say, do not keep fowls under any management that requires drugs. Wild birds are so uniformly healthy that one appearing otherwise is rarely procured, yet we are glad to say they take no pills and powders.

HOW TO MANAGE A SMALL MANURE PILE.—We are asked for directions how to manage the accumulating of manure from a stable of two horses, a cow, and the refuse of a house. To make this material ready for the garden or the field in the spring, it must be kept from freezing. To do this, it is necessary to turn it two or three times, and mix the rough matter or litter equally with the finer material from the horse stable. A square pile is the best shape in which to keep it. The refuse from the house should be cast on the top, which should be made hollow to retain the liquid, which will prevent fanging or the dry-rot. When the heat is reduced, commence at one end and turn the heap, and intermix the unrotted outside material with the center.—*Hearth and Home.*

TREATMENT OF HIRED MEN.—"An Every Day Laborer" in Livingston Co., N. Y., thinks something should be done for the "Hired men of Fulton Co., N. Y.," accepting "Reform's" statement of the state of things there as true. He knows of no instance where an industrious laborer has ever dreamed of lodging in a poor house. "For the last two years farmers have paid $20 to $30 per month and board; in winter, day laborers have received $1 25 and $1 50 per day; in summer and fall, $2; in harvest, $2 50 to $3, with board. This is not regarded quite sufficient, considering the extreme price of grain and produce generally—rye sold at $1.30 to $1.60; barley at 60 to 75c.; oats, 40c.; potatoes, 40c.; pork, 85 per cwt. Of course the farmer complains; but if he received specie instead of greenbacks, he certainly could not say but these would be round prices. The laborer gets greenbacks for his labor, not "truck." His manly spirits are not crushed out. If he misuse his stogies upon a horse and is remonstrated with, his reply is, "If you don't like my 'style,' fork over the stamps." This is most likely to occur about the commencement of haying, with 'month' men." The tone of our correspondent's article indicates that he is not in sympathy with chronic grumblers.—*Rural New-Yorker.*

FEEDING TOO MUCH STRAW.—There is such a thing as compelling a horse, for example, to eat much more straw than he really needs, when at hard work. A team requires grain or meal. Straw will not furnish much nourishment. It is better to give a horse not more than a peck of cut straw with the meal, than to mingle the same quantity of meal with a half bushel of straw. Too much bulk is quite as objectionable as too little. This fact will hold good in feeding any kind of stock. Feeding too much straw with a little meal is like compelling a person to eat a quart of diluted soup, when, if the same nourishment were contained in a pint dish it would be more palatable. Sheep, for example, are frequently confined to straw and a little grain daily. Then, for a few weeks, hay is substituted and the grain omitted. Sheep are exceedingly fond of a variety of feed. Therefore a far better practice would be to feed a small quantity of hay every day, and not quite as much grain, letting the stock have free access to good straw, day and night. All kinds of domestic animals would thrive more satisfactorily when a variety of food is provided than when one kind is dealt out without change. Even horses become excessively tired of cut feed every meal. They need a change. Therefore it will always be better to vary the feed so as to afford the animal any advantage that may arise from feeding a variety of hay, straw, corn-stalks, grain, meal, or roots. Another consideration of no little importance is the quantity of cut feed which an animal requires. Most farmers need line upon line and precept upon precept in regard to the care required for their domestic animals during the foddering season. Many persist in adhering to the old practice of feeding only one kind of fodder for a given period, and then changing to another kind for a few weeks. No practice can be attended with more unsatisfactory results than this.

THE STONE STRIKE.—The strike at the Portland quarries continues, and the quarries remain idle. In the busy season of eight months the best hands are paid $2 75 a day, while in the Winter they get only $1 50 a day for December, January, and February, and $1 70 for March. The quarry men refused to work for less than $1 60 the first three months and $1 75 the last, and since the 1st of December, therefore, 800 men have been laid off, 500 of whom, with their families, are in great destitution.

LATEST reports from Venezuela announce that General Guzman Blanco intends to capture the entire revolutionary army.

Temperance Matters.

MASSACHUSETTS TEMPERANCE CONVENTION.

The Massachusetts State Temperance Convention closed its labors after adopting an address to the people of Massachusetts and fifteen resolutions, the principal of which was the following:

Resolved—That the present Legislature be and are hereby petitioned to restore the prohibitory lawof 1867, with the following amendment:

First—Making the implements of a liquor store containing liquor *prima facie* evidence of guilt.

Second—Excluding liquor dealers as other criminals from the jury-box.

Third—Securing the right to challenge liquor drinkers from the jury at discretion.

Fourth—Making the punishment for unlawful sales thirty days' imprisonment for the first offense, sixty days for the second, and so on, doubling the time of imprisonment for each and every succeeding offense.

Fifth—Abolishing the liquor commission, and leaving the State police under the control of the Governor as formerly.

Sixth—Making every person who unlawfully sells or gives away liquor responsible for the damage arising therefrom.

The following dispatch was read by the Secretary:

The New Jersey Temperance Alliance in State Convention at Trenton sends greeting: Our object—the entire suppression of the liquor traffic. The means—local prohibition by the voice of the people. A telegram in reply was sent to New Jersey.

NEW JERSEY STATE TEMPERANCE ALLIANCE.

The State Temperance Alliance Convention of New Jersey was attended by nearly 600 delegates. George Shepherd Page was re-elected President, with a Vice-President from each county, and a board of 60 managers.

The question of Prohibition was discussed, and a series of resolutions passed denouncing the license system, and finally declaring that if the Legislature refused to give them a law to submit the question of license to the people of the several townships and wards of the State, they will use their influence to defeat the men who voted against them the next time they came before the people for election. At the evening session Mr. Page, Mr. Stearns, and Rev. Mr. Craig, and the Hon. Mr. Frye, Member of Congress from Maine, addressed the Convention.

The Petroleum Business.

The figures showing the oil transactions of the last few years are almost bewildering for their magnitude. Just think of ninety-seven millions one hundred and eighty-three thousand and ninety gallons (97,183,090) of petroleum sent to foreign countries from the port of New York alone, during the past year; and from all ports of the country, nearly an amount than one hundred and sixty-one millions ten thousand eight hundred and seventy-three gallons (161,010,873)! While for the same period, there was produced in the oil district of Pennsylvania alone, two hundred and fifty-one millions one hundred and twenty thousand gallons (251,120,000), and in all parts of the country, three hundred and thirty-four millions eight hundred and twenty-six thousand six hundred and thirty-eight (334,826,638) gallons of crude oil.

The regular daily production of petroleum in the oil district of Pennsylvania for December gives an increase over that of the preceding month of about five hundred barrels. The entire amount produced in this State during November was five hundred and twenty-nine thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven (529,877) barrels. Some of the older oil districts show a slight falling off, while in a few of the more newly-opened regions there is an increased production. The largest increase appears to be in Pithole and in the neighborhood of Parker's Landing, at the former it being something over four hundred barrels daily.

Parker's landing shows the greatest number of wells going down of any locality in the State, being in the month of November alone one hundred and ninety, while the average daily production at that point was thirty-three hundred barrels.

The entire production of crude petroleum last month all over the entire oil district, was seventeen thousand six hundred and seventy-two barrels daily, while the aggregate of wells being drilled at the same time was four hundred and eighty-one. These figures are all highly satisfactory, and have very rarely been excelled since the first discovery of petroleum.

The total stock of oil on hand in Pennsylvania on the 1st day of December was five hundred and thirty-two thousand barrels, which is some thirty thousand barrels in excess of the stock in store during the preceding month.

The shipments from the oil districts of Pennsylvania during the month of December were four hundred and ninety-one thousand two hundred and sixty-one barrels, which is an excess of some seventeen thousand barrels over the preceding month.

STOCKS ON HAND AT DIFFERENT TIMES.

December, 1869	264,804 barrels.
December, 1870	340,154 "
December, 1871	554,626 "

During December prices on Lower Oil Creek averaged four dollars and twenty-five cents per barrel of 43 gallons.—*Penn. Paper.*

FAT AND LEAN PEOPLE.—Thin men, the world all over, are the men for work, for endurance; they are wiry and hardy. Thin people live the longest. The truth is, fat is a disease, and, as proof, fat people are never well a day at a time, and are not suited to hard work.

Still, there is a medium between being as fat as a butter ball and thin and juiceless as a rail. For mere looks, a moderate rotundity is most desirable, to have enough flesh to cover all angularities.

To accomplish this in the shortest time, a man should work but little, sleep a great part of the time, allow nothing to worry him, keep always in a joyous, laughing mood, and live chiefly on albuminates, such as boiled cracked wheat and rye, and oats and barley and corn, with sweet milk and buttermilk and meats. Sugar is the best fattener known.

DESTRUCTION OF CHILDREN.—Statistics prepared by competent authorities show that one child in every thirty-eight is bound to receive its death-stroke in school. Whose child it shall be that is thus to be cut down, no one can predict. But bad ventilation, irregularity in diet, disease-engendering attitudes, and other causes, which come from attendance upon school, are sure to cut down one child in thirty-eight every year.

This terrible fact is not to be wondered at when we consider the ignorance of the laws of health on the part not merely of those who control our schools, but of the community at large. Is there no remedy for this state of things? Why would it not be a good plan to subject every schoolroom to rigid sanitary inspection every day by competent men?

MILK.—The London Milk Journal says: We open the new year with a list of twenty venders of deteriorated milk and not one single genuine milk. Bad as our last year's report showed the condition of the milk trade, we fear that the average level of the trade is still worse. "Take off as much cream and put in as much water as you dare! and the more courageous you are the more money you will make"—behold the principles of the London milk trade in the years of grace 1871 and 1872.

An agriculturalist says that the best way to raise early pop-corn is to start it now. Put the corn—any kind will do—in a corn-popper, and suspend in the sun over a pan of water till the shoots grow out between the wires; then in the spring set it out in the pots or beds, and before June the popped corn will be hanging in little paper bags all over the branches.

THE British expedition operating against the Loosbias, of India, attacked a force of the latter and inflicted considerable loss upon them. The expedition also suffered some loss, having four men killed and a few wounded.

An Oil Prince.

In the first days of the oil fever, one Dr. Egbert, a physician on Oil Creek, says a letter writer, was the owner of a miserable tract of land, lying on the creek about twelve miles below Tidioute and opposite the now flourishing town of Petroleum Centre. Falling in with all the rest, after the oil excitement began, the doctor, of course, must try for oil, as it was quite apparent his barren acres could never produce anything else. He drilled and drilled until his money finally ran out; but the oil didn't, and the doctor was stuck. Being a persevering sort of fellow, and dreaming himself half in to the belief that his rocky old pastures overlaid a fathomless lake of petroleum, that only waited the advent of the drill to burst forth and cover him all over with joy and greenbacks, he did not for a moment despair. Full of this idea, he applied to one Charles Hyde, a country grocer, doing a small business near by, to furnish the needful wherewith to finish boring the well. After long and laborious coaxing at divers times, the high contracting parties at length arrived at an agreement. The money was forthcoming and they were to own the well jointly and share profit or loss equally. Before the funds again ran dry, the oil ran out in a huge stream. Oil was indeed struck with a vengeance, a flowing well of one thousand barrels a day rewarded their perseverence, and nearly caused them to lose their wits for joy.

Business once took me to this farm in 1864, and for two hours I stood by this wonderful well, spt in perfect amazement. There was a continuous, though pulsating, stream of pure oil coming forth of its own accord, the size of one's wrist, and keeping numbers of men busy barreling it up and rolling it away. Think of it! a stream, as it were, of liquid greenbacks, at the rate of $4,000 per day for weeks, months and years. I learned in the office of the company that the oil of this well was even then sold for weeks ahead of its production.

Some Fashion Notes.

Stitched gloves are no longer considered fashionable, and are preferred with four or six buttons, without any division at the wrist.

A new style of fringe for dress consists of olive shaped passementerie ornaments, alternating with small leaves studded with jet beads.

A few foppish young men wear overcoats of seal-skin or cloth lined with crimson silk, and the coat is worn open for ostentatious display.

A new style of ear-ring has a chain fastened from one ear-ring to the other, passing under the chin and answering the double purpose of a neck-lace also.

A new style of holder for a bride's bouquet is of frosted silver in the shape of narrow-pointed leaves, and at the end of each leaf a small bell of the same metal.

Striped velvet and satin dresses are very much in vogue for street wear over black or brown silk dresses.

The large pointed veils now take the place of the tiny veilletts which have been so much worn this season.

The latest style of looped overskirt resembles the top of an old fashioned parlor organ.

Sleeveless lace sacks are very stylish, worn with light silk dresses, for the house or full dress.

CHILLS AND FEVER.—Malarious fevers still have the unpleasant peculiarity which they gained after the drought, Summer before last. Places which for many years before enjoyed the happy reputation of being exempt, are now to confess the impeachment, and can only fall back on the consolation that they are so far not alone in the experience that it would be difficult to name a locality which is entirely free. Druggists report a largely increased demand for quinine from every quarter, and from new customers, and the drug has recently advanced greatly in price. That malarious fevers, so called, are truly caused by malarious poisons is a conviction more than ever strong in the medical profession, confirmed by a great multitude of facts which seem to admit of no other explanation. That such poison, as well as any poisonous or deleterious influence, is more apt to take effect on the human system, and in developing disease, when the system is in a depressed condition, as when chilled or when by any cause its tone is lowered below the highest standard of health, is no less true. Prevention is to be sought in avoiding as far as may be the malaria, and in keeping the body fortified against its incursion. In the animal as well as the vegetable kingdom there seems to be a general law that a vigorous life can be expected to resist the incursions of many enemies, while weak lives readily succumb.

VALUABLE DIAMONDS.—The Orloff diamond, bought by Catherine of Russia, is considerably larger than the Koh-I-noor of Queen Victoria, being about the size of a pigeon's egg, and weighing 195 carats. This splendid stone once formed, it is said, the eye of a Hindoo idol in a temple of Brahma at Pondicherry, was stolen by a French deserter, and, after passing through various hands, fell into the possession of a Greek merchant, who sold it to the empress for half a million of dollars, an annuity of $25,000, and a patent of nobility. Wilkie Collins, it is stated, founded in a measure his novel of "The Moonstone" on the history of this magnificent stone. The largest and most valuable diamond known is presumed to be the one so long owned by the Sultan of Matan, Borneo. Its weight is 369 carats, and its estimated value from $4,000,000 to $6,000,000. The celebrated Austrian diamond, weighing 139 carats, is nearly the size of the Koh-i-noor; but the fact that it is yellow and of rose form renders it much less valuable. If it were white and cut in brilliant, it would be worth more than $1,000,000; but as it is, less than two-thirds of that sum would be considered a fair estimate of its price.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE.—Ability to meet an emergency may be largely a natural gift, yet is it not also capable of being developed by proper culture? Many persons, in case of a sudden accident, sickness, fire, or panic of any kind, seem incapable of any useful, common-sense exertion. Even if the emergency is a slight and common one, they are, as it were, *nonplussed*. They either do nothing, or do the most ridiculous things. It is desirable for those who are conscious of an inability to exercise good sense in the minor exigencies of life to educate themselves a little. Take a quiet hour to consider what you will do if your child scalds at midnight with the croup; if he falls and seriously hurts his head; if a fire breaks out in your house; if an accident occurs on a railroad train; and then endeavor to follow out the general principles which in unexcited moments you believe to be the proper ones to guide you in times of difficulty and danger. A little skillful education will be of great service in cases of real trouble, and also enable one to meet gracefully and with ready tact the thousand lesser *contre-temps* of life.

A SAD STORY.—A horrible story is told in a letter from the district of Plotsk, Russia, giving the particulars of a murder committed last November. A landed proprietor of the district, while returning to his home with 5,000 roubles which he had borrowed of a neighbor, in his possession, was overtaken in a forest by a masked man, who demanded his life or his money. The money was given up, and the man returned to his creditor's house to relate the misadventure, and was induced to spend the night there. On the next morning the host entered his son's room, and to his consternation saw, half hidden beneath the pillow of the sleeper, a loaded revolver and the stolen package of 5,000 roubles. In a transport of fury and shame the unfortunate father seized the revolver and killed his son.

Three hundred thousand seamen, more or less, are employed in American vessels. Most of them are robbed daily from the time of their landing till they sail again; but a bill is now before the Senate to remedy these evils. Let us hope it will pass.

The American Indian.

Gen. Custer in his notes on the plains, has the following interesting sketch of the Indian:

If the character of the Indian is enveloped in mystery, how much more so is his origin. From his earliest history to the present time learned men have striven to unravel this mystery, and to trace the genealogy of the red man to its original source. But in spite of all study and the deepest research capable of being brought to bear on this subject, it is today surrounded by a darkness almost as deep and impenetrable as that which enfolded it centuries ago. Various writers of ability have attempted to prove that the Indians came from eastern Asia; others trace them to Africa; others to Phœnicia; while upon the shoulders of others are fastened the responsibilities of the lost tribes. In favor of each of these beliefs strong circumstantial evidence can be produced. By closely studying the customs, costumes, traditions and religious traditions of the various tribes, a striking homogeneity is seen to exist. At the same time and from the same sources we are enabled to discover satisfactory resemblances between certain superstitions and religious rights practiced among the Indian tribes and those which prevailed one time among the ancient Persians, the Hebrews and the Chaldeans. They who adhere to the belief of disparity of origin may readily produce arguments in refutation of an opposite theory. The apparent similarity found to exist in the customs, dress, and religious rites of different tribes may be partially accounted for by their long intercourse under like circumstances, the effect of which would necessarily be an assimilation of beliefs and usages to a greater or less degree. The preponderance of facts inclines strongly in favor of that theory which does ascribe unity of origin to the Indian tribes. Passing down the Mississippi to Mexico and from Mexico to Peru, there existed an unbroken chain of tribes, which, either in a peaceful or warlike manner, maintained a connection and kept up an intercourse with each other. In various ways proofs have been discovered that at one time the most northern tribes must have held intercourse with the civilized nations of Peru and Mexico. These evidences must have been seized upon by certain savants to support the theory that the Indian tribes of North America are descendants of the Aztecs and other kindred nations of the South—arriving at this conclusion from the fact of an apparent similarity in their mythology, traditions and customs. Only by the wanderings, migrations and tendencies of ancient nations, and making allowance for such modifications as climatic influences, intermarriage, contact with civilization, and an altered mode of living would necessarily produce upon any branch of the human race—remaining, too, that in the vast majority of cases relating to our subject we must be guided by tradition rather than history—it is not difficult to establish a strong typical likeness between the tribes of American Indians and some of the nations of most remote antiquity. When or in what exact manner they first reached this continent is a problem difficult of solution. This theory necessarily involves the admission of emigration to this continent centuries before the landing of Columbus. Upon this point there is much that must be inferred, and not a little susceptible of strong proof.

The Case of Stokes.

"Burleigh," the New York correspondent of the Boston *Herald*, gives the following out-line of Stokes' probable defense:

If Stokes has been arraigned on an indictment found by the Grand Jury, but he has not yet pleaded. Everything is in a muddle in New York, so we have two Grand Juries. It is the common opinion of the Bar that one of these bodies is illegal. As Mr. Stokes' counsel have not decided whether to plead to the indictment or demur, it is quite probable that a new indictment will be found after one of the Grand Juries shall have been discharged. There are some interesting if not startling positions taken for the defense. The one is that Col. Fisk was not only armed, but that the wound in his body was inflicted by himself—inflicted *a la* Vallandigham in attempting to draw his pistol from his pocket. The two pistols were discharged very clear, from the fact that two bullets were found, one in Fisk's body and one on the marble pavement, the one bullet fitting the pistol found and the other not. The bullet in the body fitting the pistol found, the bullet on the floor, which produced the wound in the arm, not fitting any pistol yet produced. The theory is that Fisk, coming in at the door and seeing Stokes on the stairs, attempted to draw his pistol when it accidentally discharged at the same moment when he received Stokes' bullet in the arm. The parties who removed the outside clothing of the Colonel are yet to be produced in Court. The woman who handed the pistol to the officer is yet to tell how it came into her hands, with other interesting testimony to show that Stokes did not fire on an unarmed man. But two persons witnessed the shooting. These were two hall boys of the Grand Central Hotel, who were rather so frightened that they did not know what was going on, or deliberately perjured themselves, as they flatly contradicted each other and the direct testimony on the stand. In the proper time and before the proper tribunal, the action of the Coroner's jury will be tested. Above all, the proceedings of the jury in consultation are to be investigated. One of the jury was not summoned. He came unsolicited. He said he was on the Mathews inquest, understood such matters, and wanted to go on the jury. So he sat at the inquest. He was found to be a special enemy of Stokes, and pledged to look after the interests of Col. Fisk. On entering the room for consultation, the jury were presented with a verdict, drawn out in the strong form of an indictment, in which the shooting was set forth as 'killing with malice aforethought,' and other well-turned phrases of an indictment. On this verdict the jury were divided, six and six. The gentleman referred to, acting as counsel, insisted upon the adoption of the verdict with its strong phrases as the only thing that would satisfy an indignant public. Others contended that the sole object of the inquest was not to try Stokes—not to anticipate his defense, but simply to ascertain how Fisk came to his death. The debate lasted over three hours, and ended in a compromise by which the word 'deliberate' was added to the simple phraseology of the verdict."

A WOMAN OF BUSINESS.—The Countess of Loudon, sister to the miserable Marquis of Hastings, furnishes a notable instance of what a good, clever, resolute woman may do to redeem the honor of her family. When her brother died his affairs were in a desperate condition, but the wreck of the property passed to her. She had long foreseen what must happen, and by careful living had provided for the contingency. With her savings she managed to buy a considerable portion of the estate, including Donington Hall, the family seat, and before three years was over had paid off every farthing of her brother's debts. When Lord Hastings's affairs were in extremis, his cousin, Lord Bute, very kindly bought his Scottish property, Loudon Castle, with the understanding that when the Hastings family could afford to repurchase it they should have it at the price that he had paid. This also Lady Loudon has now managed to redeem. A recent *Gazette* announces that the Queen has terminated in this lady's favor the abayence existing in relation to the four separate baronies of Botreaux, Hungerford, De Moleyns and Hastings. This will give her son, when he succeeds her, a seat in the House of Lords—if it still exists. These baronies are among the most ancient.

ALEXIS IN THE UNITED STATES.—The *Journal de St. Petersburg*, in a recent issue, speaks in the most congratulatory terms of the reception accorded to Prince Alexis by the people of the United States. It says all Russia feels grateful and will never forget it, and further adds, "The peace of the world and the progress of humanity will be promoted by an *entente cordiale* between Russia and the United States."

A Horse Distemper.

A singular horse distemper is now prevalent in portions of New York state, to an alarming extent. In the City of New York its ravages are frightful, and the animals in the private stables are the greatest sufferers. There are, it is said, 6,000 stables in the city with 40,000 horses, producing 1,500 cart loads of manure daily. From only a limited number of these stables, say 200, is the manure removed daily, and only a small number of them have ordinary sewerage attached.

In connection with sewer poisoning, water poisoning, and the diseases that attack the human species in consequence of this culpable neglect of ordinary sanitary precautions prevailing in our stables, possess an alarming significance. The horse exists by similar laws to his driver, and is subject to many of the diseases incident to mankind; and when the present deplorable epidemic is thoroughly understood it may be more probable that defective ventilation, and, consequently, poisoned blood, may in a large measure account for the origin of the disease.

Veterinaries and grooms do seem seem to unite in terming the malady spinal meningitis, resembling, if not identical, with the same disease in the human species. In its inception, the animal is suddenly paralyzed in the hind quarters, as if he had received an injury in the lumbar vertebra. He staggers as if drugged, and usually drops to the ground. The pulse becomes thick and small; the hind legs are cold and become partially paralyzed, with much loss of sensation. When the disease assumes its most fatal form the inflammation of the meningeal membrane extends to the brain, when the eyes become red, the pulse quickens, and the animal sometimes dashes himself about as if mad. He soon becomes unable to balance himself, and falls blowing, panting, and struggling. At this stage it is numerous to attempt bleedings. As in case of cerebro-spinal meningitis in the human subject an autopsy reveals inflammation of the membrane of the brain and spinal cord, with the discoloration occasioned by extravasated or congealed blood as in spotted fever. When the symptoms appear in the early morning there is no hope of the animal's recovery, and in several stables valuable animals have been slaughtered when cerebral symptoms supervened. Concerning the fatality of the milder form of the epidemic a hostile hind-quarters alone appear to be affected, it is difficult to present reliable statistics. A veterinary surgeon professes to have lost 40 out of 50 cases; another says he lost of 300 another lost saved scores and only lost one case; while another honestly says that 50 per cent. die. Again, extraordinary differences of opinion exist among professional men as to the proper treatment of the curable form of the disease.

Prof. Copeman pursues one system, while Prof. A. Liautard, of the Veterinary College, Lexington avenue, New York, uses treatment totally antagonistic. The latter has great faith in his peculiar measures—that is, by treating horses that are well to prevent an attack. Mr. Mott, has saved a large number of animals by mustard blisters, alternated with strong liniments over the loins, accompanied by purgatives and urinary stimulants. In nine cases out of ten, however, the animal is ruined, even if he does regain his health and appetite. The 2:40 fly or settles down to an awkward, slow-rolling stager, and the superb and stately carriage-horse becomes a poor, depressed, and ungainly hulk.

Hints for the Season.

WRITE DOWN all you intend to do the coming year. Writing is a great help to thought as well as to memory. Write down exactly *how* you propose to do the work, and what with, and when.

MAKE AN INVENTORY of everything on the farm and in the house, with an estimate of its value. Do it carefully and thoroughly. In case of fire, it will be a great help in settling insurance claims.

ANIMALS must receive constant and regular attention. They can not be neglected for a single day. Be careful to give them abundance of fresh water, and avoid as much as possible compelling them to drink water that is full of melting snow or ice. Provide some kind of shelter for all animals.

HORSES that are doing nothing can be wintered on good, bright straw, with four or five pounds of corn per day, cheaper than hay. If they are worked regularly, they require higher feeding; say ten pounds grain, ten pounds hay, and ten pounds straw per day.

Cows do far better on stalks than on straw. They do not like the latter.

PIGS.—Young growing pigs should have abundance of nutritious food, and warm, dry, comfortable quarters. Feed three times a day, and as much as and no more than, they will eat.

MANURE.—Either draw manure out to the field as it is made and spread it, or make it into a large heap in the barn-yard.

CELLARS should be ventilated at every opportunity. The vegetables will keep far better and it would prevent much sickness in the family.

SHODING HORSES.—Many a good horse is spoiled by not being rough-shod in winter.

ICE.—Fill the ice-house as soon as the ice is thick enough. The colder the weather at the time the better.

Changing the Subject

An attentive little pitcher had heard her father instruct her older brothers and sisters that when, in the course of conversation, a subject came up that seemed to be disagreeable to any one present, etiquette demanded that it should be changed as quickly as possible. Some days after, her father said to her, as he left the house:

"Mary, papa wants you to be very careful, to-day, to play in the garden to-day, not to touch the hyacinths. Will you remember?"

Of course she would; but, on papa's return in the evening, he found his hyacinths picked, and the marks of little feet in the garden bed.

Calling Mary up to him, he looked very grave, and said:

"My dear, you remember that I told you particularly not to touch the hyacinths, and now I find them picked, and no one has been in the garden but you. How is this?"

Mary laughed gaily, and said:

"Oh, papa, it was splendid in the garden to-day! I saw a beautiful blue bird's nest, and there was a great big butterfly—"

"Wait, wait, my child. I am talking to you about something else now. Don't you understand me? I am very seriously displeased with you. I told you not to touch the hyacinths, and now I find them picked, and your foot-prints all about."

"Oh, yes, papa, I did have the loveliest time in the garden to-day. Don't you think it was a very beautiful day?"

"Mary, how dare you answer me so impertinently? I am talking to you about your disobedience. Why do you not attend to me? I shall have to make you!"

Rather sobered at this suggestion, "little pitcher's" countenance fell, and she faltered out:

"Why, papa, you said that when a subject became unpleasant to any one, *the only way was to change it!*" Papa saw the point, and the unpleasant subject was dropped for that once.

AH, BAA.—The Sacramento *Union* says: "A number of sheep on Patton's ranch, north of the American, were not sheared last fall, and hence their fleece is very long. During the fall it got very dirty, and probably grass and other seeds fell into it. At all events, since rain commenced to fall, grass, with blades say two inches long, is growing luxuriantly out of the wool, and the sheep travel about carrying their pastures upon their backs. Any grass which the sheep cannot reach itself a friend is allowed to nibble, and he or she reciprocates. We haven't seen the sheep ourselves."

The biggest "dinner," ever known in England was given by Sir William Lowther, when after the death of his father, Sir James, he stood for the shire of Cumberland, entertaining 3,650 gentlemen freeholders at dinner, at which were consumed 703 gallons of wine, 1,200 gallons of ale, and 5,814 bottles of punch.

Bridal Couples of Washington.

A Washington correspondent is facetious over the bridal couples who look to the Capital to enjoy their honey-moon. He says:

There must be some undiscovered magnet which brings so many happy pairs to Washington. They flourish in such numbers in no other city, but the secret has not been discovered. You meet them everywhere, and at all hours—no, not at all hours, unless you take your breakfast very late. If you go down to your breakfast, say half-past ten or eleven, you will see a perfect school, or flock, or drove of them. There they sit at the little round tables all over the room, and they look very pretty—I mean the brides, of course, for the men, great sheepish fellows, are not worth looking at. There they sit, in the proprest kind of attitudes; they would not have you for the world think they were at that very moment the happiest girls on earth. Their dress is of the proprest kind—a subdued or neutral shade, trimmed with velvet and fringe or embroidery; a dainty little hat, with a bow of ribbon, a patch of velvet, a plume, a shred of lace, and a bright flower trying to hide among them all, even as she is trying to hide the blushes that come and go on her round cheeks.

The little doves always come to breakfast in their hats, and carry their little coats, and muffs, and gloves, to their little couch. This is the style, fair girls, if you have any such thing in view. She may go right back to her room and read over the letters she used to write her all-day lover, and notes out of the hotel at all, since it is the style to go down with hat on and things ready.

It is very amusing to watch these people at the hotels. They come to every meal—breakfast, lunch, dinner and supper. At breakfast they look very pretty, at lunch so so, at dinner they are remembered, and at supper look and feed. You see them another beat at dinner. It is there that they shake constitutional wrinkles in their new dresses. Yesterday the pretty bride went to dinner in black silk and Valenciennes; to-day she wore a tight-fitting long train, trimmed with *point applique*; to-morrow she will wear satin of rose shade with white satin trimming and fringe; the day following, if she stay so long, she will wear a very handsome black silk walking suit, and the following morning you will see her at the early breakfast in a blue demure little traveling suit on, for she is going in the morning train—going back to begin her future or to whether for good or ill, depends largely on herself.

AMERICAN FISHERIES.—The number of catchers in the last year were 41,254 barrels of sperm oil, 76,105 barrels of whale oil and 2,284,811 pounds of whalebone; which was a decrease from the previous year of 13,229 barrels of sperm oil, an increase of 3,414 barrels of whale oil, and a decrease of 115,535 pounds of whalebone. The import of sperm oil the coming year is estimated at about 35,000 barrels, and of whale oil at about 25,000 barrels.

What is the use of owning to be a society for the encouragement of daintiness in dress? Every woman who dresses in a simple, tasteful, economical, elegant way is a whole society in herself, and helps to create a fashion which it will be a credit for all women to follow.

THE President has nominated Franklin M. Drew to be U. S. pension agent at Augusta, Me.

The following extract from a little book on Consumption, by DR. T. PITMAN, M. D., of Buffalo, N. Y., Our readers can obtain the book free, if they send a postal card to Dr. Pitman, Buffalo, N. Y., mentioning this paper.

Consumption.

The great prevalence of this disease, and its fatal results, are well calculated to enlist our best efforts in its cure. What is Consumption? It is a disease of the lungs, produced by an acid and impure condition of the blood, which, circulating through these most delicate organs, poisons and irritates their tissues and invites scrofulous humors of the blood, causing the deposition of tubercles and establishing local scrofula. Another prolific exciting cause of the development of scrofulous disease of the lungs, or pulmonic consumption, is Chronic Nasal Catarrh, which, extending along the mucous lining membrane of the throat, trachea and bronchial tubes, finally attacks the substance of the lungs, and here establishes such an irritation as to invite the fatal tubercle deposit its burden of impurities in these organs. Consumption itself is not so often hereditary as is generally supposed. That a condition of low vitality may be transmitted from parents to their children is unquestionably true. It is this deficiency of vitality, which is inherited—a weakness which makes nutrition imperfect, and leads to the deposit of tubercles. But thousands of persons who inherit feeble vitality would never suffer from consumption if the functions of the system were kept correct and the blood pure. When the liver becomes torpid, and but very imperfectly purges off the effete, poisonous materials of the blood, the lungs, as has before been shown, become irritated. The general health becomes broken down, and the person feels languid, weak, faint, drowsy and confused. Pain in the right side, in the region of the liver, and sympathetic pain in the shoulders and spine, and through the lungs, is generally complained of. The patient soon begins to hawk and spit, and the hacking cough—that "liver cough!" Small minute tubercles are developed in the lungs, and perhaps exist for months all unknown to their victim. Nothing is done to remove tubercles by the ordinary treatment. Cough is only a symptom of the disease, yet this only is aimed at in the usual treatment. There is no rational way to cure consumption except to purify the blood. Those poisonous materials in the blood which cause the tubercles must be thrown off by exciting the liver to action. Vitality must be supported, the system nourished and built up, and the development of tubercles thus prevented. Remove the blood poison by restoring the action of the liver, and the cough, which is only a symptom of the real disease, is relieved. You thereby *strike at the root of incipient consumption and cure the patient.*

From the properties and remedial effects of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, which I have in the preceding pages fully explained, the reader will readily understand why it has been so successful in curing this fatal malady.

With it I have arrested the hacking and harrassing cough, the night sweats and hectic fever of the consumptive invalid; snatched from the jaws of death and restored to health, and happiness, many who, but for my Discovery, have soon have fallen victims to that relentless foe. God, I believe, has instilled into the soul and into the mind of this wonderful medicine is extracted the healing properties, by the use of which, Consumption, the scourge of the human family, may, in its early stages, be promptly arrested and permanently cured. I do not wish to delude, flatter and then disappoint and injure by asserting that this can be accomplished when the lungs are half consumed, as many do who, being devoid of all conscience, aim to humbug the afflicted, that they may sell their often worse than worthless compounds.

But if my Alt. Ext. or *Golden Medical Discovery*, is employed in the first or early stages of the disease, I know from ample observation and actual test in hundreds of cases, that it will positively arrest the disease and restore health and strength. From its wonderful power over this terrible disease I thought of calling it my Consumptive Cure; but from the fact that it is a perfect specific for the sore throat and hoarseness to which ministers and other public speakers and singers are subject, and also for *Bronchitis and all severe Coughs*, and is an invaluable remedy for diseases of the Liver, and also as a Blood Purifier, I decided not to apply to it a name which might mislead and prevent its use in other diseases for which it is so admirably adapted.

It will cure a Cough in one-half the time need for any other medicine, and it does it not by drying it up but by removing the cause, subduing the irritation and healing the affected parts.

DR. PIERCE'S GOLDEN MEDICAL DISCOVERY IS SOLD BY DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE.

UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

SENATE.

A bill was introduced to prohibit American citizens from engaging in the South Sea Island slave trade.

The Apportionment bill was taken up, with the Senate in committee of the whole. Several amendments were adopted, after which the committee rose and reported the bill, which was passed.

The resolution for Congress to adjourn on the 29th of May, was debated. Mr. Schurz moved, as a test question, an amendment that Congress shall not adjourn until the passage of a law for the reformed civil service, which was rejected.

The House bill appropriating $50,000 for expenses of the Japanese embassy, the