The Old School Book.

On the old school book, in its rusty nook,
With a tearful eye I gaze;
Come down, old friend, for an hour we'll spend
In talking of bygone days,
I gaze once more, as in days of yore,
On the task that vexed the brain;
The lesson done, and victory won,
And I feel I'm a child again.

And I seem to stand with a youthful band
In the old house on the green;
I hear the fun ere the school begun,
And I join in the gladsome scene.
I take my place with a sober face,
O'er the well carved desk I bend,
And hourly pore o'er the antique lore
Of thy wonderful page, old friend.

Then our cares were few, and our friends were true,
And our griefs were rare and light:
The world was naught (so we fondly thought)
But a region of pure delight.
But time has sped, and our path has led
Through a dark and tearful scene;
And passed away are the good and gay,
Lilee the old house on the green.

But we'll sing no more of the days of yore,
For the tear drop dims the eye;
Sleep on, old book, in the dusty nook,
As in years that have glided by.
No guilt we trace in thy honest face,
But a mine of gold within
Enriched the youth, as they sought for truth,
In the old house on the green.

A LESSON FOR HARD TIMES.

If one of the characters out of Dickens' novels had walked into the room, I could not have been more surprised. It was press day; I was very busy in my sanctum, when I heard the door open and a curious shuffling noise followed, which made me look up for a moment from my paper. It was but for a moment; I saw, as I supposed, a crippled beggar, shuffling his way on his knees toward my chair. I waved him away with my hand—"Nothing for you," I said, resolutely, a little impatiently possibly, and turned back to my desk, caught up the broken thread, and wound off the completed sentence from the editorial distaff. But the beggar was not repelled. He answered something; with a divided attention I could not well make out what. "Nothing for you," I repeated, somewhat more vigorously than before. The answer was plain enough this time; and in a tone that commanded attention—"I am no beggar, sir."

I had gotten to the end of my sentence now. Two or three weeks ago I had been studying the parable of the good Samaritan. Perhaps the recollection of two very pious men who were in so great a hurry to get to the temple that they could not attend to the unfortunate, may have had some influence on me. I laid down my pen and went to the unknown.

He was on his knees; his legs from his knees to his feet were useless appendages, which dragged after him and produced the shuffling sound which first attracted my attention. His whole body was disjointed; his arms alternately hung down like the wooden arms of a great toy, and moved about in a grotesque attempt at gesture—like the toy arms when the image is pulled by the string from below. When he spoke he wormed and twisted his head from side to side, and contorted his face with the vigor of his endeavor, as though the words were stored below and could be brought up out of a reluctant throat only by a wrestling and invincible will. But his eye was clear; his brow high, and his whole face, when in repose, not unhandsome.

"I have got something to sell, sir, and it is no humbug, either."

Then I noticed for the first time a leathern bag slung over his shoulder. With a curious spasmodic twist he dove into it and brought out a tin box labeled "Prof. ——'s soap; warranted to take out grease spots," etc., etc. In this as in every motion, his arms, and hands, and fingers, made wild attempts before they succeeded in their purpose, like those of a two or three months' old babe that had not yet come into possession of itself.

"What brought you into this condition, my friend?" said I, looking down upon him.

"I was born a cripple, sir," he answered. "But," he added, quickly, as though he saw some sympathy in my face and would refuse it, "you must not think that I suffer, for I don't. I have no pain; it is only weakness; weakness of the spine, the doctors tell me, so that I don't have good use of my arms, or legs, or face. But I don't suffer. And I am not unhappy."

I could hardly look in his face when he was speaking, his endeavors were so distressingly labored. I rarely give to beggars; for that very reason I am always reluctant to turn away any one, from the gamin who is sweeping the street crossings up who is endeavoring to earn an honest living. I bought his patent soap and gave him the price—a quarter. He turned to go away; I should have as soon thought of offering charity to any other independent merchant as to him, but I stopped him with a question. It needed but a very little touch of sympathy to open his heart. He told me his story. I transcribe it here as well as I can, but I am painfully aware that it loses character in the transcribing:

"My father was a mechanic. I was always, from my birth, as you see me now. He supported me till I was twenty-eight. But I didn't like it. I wanted to be self-supporting."

I noted a curious feature of his language. It was that of one born in the lower ranks, but self-educated by courses of reading outside the literature of his companions. I thought this at the time; it was confirmed by a suggestive hint afterward.

"I told my father. He laughed at me. 'What can you do?' said he. I told him that he could not always support me; he must die some day, and he had no money. 'The Lord will provide,' said he. But that did not suit me. I resolved if I could not have my own way I would run away."

There was something pathetically humorous in this picture of a man-boy of twenty-eight running away on his knees from a tyrannical father who despotically insisted on providing for him. Whether he actually did run away or not, he did not tell me, and I did not ask him.

"I bought this recipe for soap. At first I hired a man to go round with me and take care of me, but that did not pay. Then I went to a hotel, and hired a porter to dress and undress me. In the daytime I took care of myself."

All this and much more—for I am compressing a long story into a short one—with labored speaking; and labored listening, too, for it was not always quite easy to tell what was the word which the corkscrew brought up. Like an old cork, it was broken, and often came up in fragments. "I never expected to get married; for I never thought that any woman whom I would have would have me. But you know, sir, the old proverb: 'Every Jack has his own Gill;' and I found my Gill. And I don't believe there is a man in New York that has got a better wife than I have."

The pride with which he said this! and the love that lighted up his eyes! I could easily believe him. It must be a rare woman that could take such a man for her husband; one that she must dress and undress to the end as she would a sick child. I resolved at once that if I might I would know that wife.

"And don't you imagine that I am miserable, sir," he added. "I seem so to you because you judge me from your point of view. But I see many a rich man, and a strong man, and I would not exchange with them. I have my advantages, too. Society claims a great deal of you; but it never claims anything of me. I am independent."

Oh, wise philosopher! Is there any philosophy like that of a calm content?

"And I enjoy life; because, don't you see, sir, I have nothing to do but to study how to enjoy it."

"Do you go to church?" I asked.

"Well, sir, I am a member of the Baptist church, but since I have moved away from the old church and gone among strangers, I don't go to church, for it might create a sensation, don't you see?"

Well, yes! I did see. I imagined this creature shuffling up the broad aisle of a fashionable church, or even of an unfashionable chapel, and thought he showed consideration for the worshipers and the preacher.

"There is only one thing I want," he added. "I would like to get into a library."

"A library!" said I. "What could you do in a library?"

"Oh, as a member, I mean, sir," said he. "I would like to get books out to read."

I took down his address, and with all the inimitable dignity of a gentleman, he invited me to call. Then, with an apology for having taken so much of my time, and an inquiry—for we had exchanged names—whether I was the "historian" Abbot," he shuffled out of my door. I had hardly got to my seat and my pen in hand, before I heard him shuffling back again. He peered round the corner of the doorway, and with that curious jack-in-the-box motion of his, held up three fingers. "Third bell," he said, "ring the third bell," and he was off again.

And I sat down and thought; thought of that poor woman who began two years ago by selling her thousand dollar piano, and last week was found with her clothes and furniture all pawned and her only flannel garment, the remnant of an old blanket, wrapped around her; thought of that merchant who eighteen months ago was contributing to the support of one of our great charities and is now dependent on it for bread for his family; and here is this cripple, without the right use of legs, or arms, or hands, or voice, supporting himself and his wife, "happy as a king," and asking charity of no one; and I said, I will leave the thread unspun on the editorial distaff until I have written down this lesson for hard times.

Visit to an Indian Princess.

At Delhi I visited one of those Gotha women who never appear in public, and, if obliged, as in the case of this Durbar, go closely veiled or with a screen before them. It was the Princess of Tanjore, and I went with a lady interpreter whom I knew. I was met by the husband of the princess, dressed all in cloth of gold. He conducted us to his wife, who was seated upon a high gilded chair, and before her was a gilded one for me, placed in the center, one at my right for Miss Firth, the interpreter, and one at my left for a niece, who is the heiress apparent. These were arranged in a half circle before her. She was dressed in cloth of gold, with a diamond fringed head dress, pearls, rubies and emeralds innumerable. In the head dress were gold tassels and large pins of precious stones. A diamond necklace was worn close about the throat, and a ruby, and then an emerald, necklace hanging below. Two armlets were worn at the top of each arm, and two near the wrist. A wide tape of jewels, as I may say, came from the front ornament of her cap down to the top of each ear, and each ear was pierced from the top of the lobe to the bottom, with rings of pearls and diamonds. In her nose she had five or six immense diamonds, set in the form of a leaf, which reached from the edge of the nostril, on the left side, up to the bridge of the nose; then a pearl of the size of a large pea hung pendant from the center of the nose until it fell over the lip.

After a few courtesies the husband bade me welcome and passed to me a silver cup holding attar of rose and betel nut, wrapped in a leaf lying in the salver. I touched the betel nut, and he put a drop of the perfume on my handkerchief. He then showed me the belt of jewels which his wife had worn, to hold the sword of her grandfather, while on a visit to the viceroy. It was a mass of diamonds all across the front, and the rest was heavily wrought gold, almost too heavy for so little a body to wear. She then put her cloth of gold veil over the head of her little niece, that I might see how completely covered she had been during the interview, only she had placed the head dress, which she had on then, on top of her veil, and had looped up her veil to her shoulder that the viceroy should have the benefit of the jewels on her arms. The little girl sung for me, in English: "Twinkle, twinkle little star," and "How doth the little busy bee."—*Letter in Boston Journal.*

A Desperate Undertaking.

The late Admiral Goldsborough was the son-in-law of William Wirt, and became prominent in the navy at an early age. In 1827, when only twenty-two years of age, he held the rank of lieutenant, and was the executive officer of the Porpoise, then attached to the Mediterranean squadron. At that time Greek pirates were so numerous that no merchant vessel, unprotected by a convoy, could safely venture to sail among the islands of the Archipelago. The pirates, inspired by the success that at one time they succeeded in capturing an Austrian man-of-war which carried ten guns. Lieutenant Goldsborough was ordered to take command of a night expedition to retake an English brig, the Comet, from the Greek pirates, two hundred of whom were in full possession of her. The attempt was a desperate one, and required a desperate effort. Lieutenant Goldsborough took with him only four boats and thirty-five officers and men, but his expedition was entirely successful, though not until many of the enemy had been killed—an average of very nearly three to every man of the attacking party. The ward-room steward of the Porpoise, a mulatto of Herculean strength, was one of the expedition, and killed with his own hand no less than eleven of the pirates. The chief of the horde, with several of his men, was dispatched by the pistol of Lieutenant John A. Carr, of Virginia, a gallant officer, long since dead. On the arrival of the Porpoise at Malta, after the sound thrashing given the pirates, the English governor returned the thanks of his government to her commander, and through him to the officers and men who had been personally concerned in the exploit.

Paper for Houses.

As long ago as 1857 a company in the West began the manufacture of building paper, and now it has three large mills that turn out sixteen tons per day. The paper thus manufactured is a thick, hard pasteboard wound in rolls of twenty-five to one hundred pounds each, and usually thirty-two inches wide. While it is being made it is subjected to an enormous pressure, which compresses the fibers into a solid body. The sheet becomes absolutely airtight, and as paper is a non-conductor of heat it resists the action of both heat and cold. A building lined with it resists the entrance of heat in summer and cold in winter. In case of a fire the paper sheets do not burn so easily as wood on account of their hardness and solidity. This queer building material has been tried in cold and in warm climates, and found to work admirably in all conditions and all circumstances.

A Lawyer's Wooing.

Charles O'Conor's peculiar wooing is thus told by the Washington correspondent of the Cleveland *Herald*: "The young and beautiful widow of Commodore McCracken of our navy returned from abroad, and, finding her financial affairs in a complicated state, went to Mr. O'Conor to get his legal advice. Mr. O'Conor discovered that the commodore had died insolvent and the beautiful widow was left to the cold mercies of a selfish world without a penny to call her own. This he was obliged to break to her, whereupon she held up her hands in piteous dismay, crying: 'Oh, Mr. O'Conor, what shall I do?' 'Who have lived in luxury all my life!' 'Madam,' said the great lawyer, 'the best advice I can give you is to marry me.' They were married."

Another "Toddle" in Church.

In St. Louis a little three-year-old, who is now a man, was taken for the first time to church by the family, and buttoned into the pew, which was near the pulpit. Reaching the sermon, the minister took his text: "Behold I stand at the door and knock." Sliding up to the pewdoor, the little fellow rapped smartly on the inside of it, speaking out loudly enough to be heard all around: "I knock, too." It took both preacher and hearers a long minute to get into a sober enough condition to go on with the sermon.

Dress and Fashion Notes.

Lace scarfs for bonnet strings grow in favor.

Normandy crowns are the most fashionable.

Very little face trimming is seen on spring bonnets, but the variety is endless.

The new black lace mitts are embroidered inside as well as outside the hand.

Rose and blue is a favorite combination of color into new Scotch plaid ginghams.

All kinds of crochet, netting, knitting and lace making are fashionable for fancy work.

Black veils dotted with tilleul chenille and tilleul colored straws are coming in vogue.

The "Sidonie" is a new overskirt which simulates a polonaise with scarf drapery.

Parasols will be used in the demi-saison—large sunshine umbrellas in summer.

The lower part of every ball costume is covered with flounces, plaitings and puffings.

The favorite wrap for carriage wear is the black silk circular cloak lined with squirrel fur.

Fan suspenders of colored silk cords to match each toilet are necessities of the moment.

Sandringham piques are elegant new white goods for children's and ladies' country wear.

Mignonette, on account of its tilleul shades, crops out in every form of bonnet trimming.

Turkish sable brilliantines, black and glossy as silk, are revived for skirts of business suits.

Small square gold buckles, studded with points of steel, are used in trimming bonnets.

Tuscan, Milan and Leghorn straws of deep yellow tints are the favorites for spring bonnets.

Tea, sandwiches, cake and biscuit are the only refreshments needed for a kettledrum proper.

Reception and opera-box toilets are completed by a small lace cap placed high on the hair.

Silver nets over pink or blue or white gauzes are used in the composition of Paris ball toilets.

Full ruches in the necks and around the wrists of confirmation dresses are *de rigeur* in Paris.

Finger puffs and curls are absolutely necessary in arranging the hair in French twist style.

Comic silk handkerchiefs are the fashionable philopœna presents from young ladies to gentlemen.

Black and the natural yellow of the straws have taken the lead of the grays and ecrus this season.

It is estimated that there are now over seventy different shapes and styles of ladies' hats and bonnets.

The new shawl strap has a purse and ticket book attached to the handle, convenient for pickpockets.

The Breton and the Beatrice are the two basques which enjoy the run of popular favor this spring.

Algerine gauze, shawls in lovely shades, of combination stripes and Oriental figures, are novelties.

Humming bird jewelry, made entirely from the feathers of these little creatures, is sought for in Paris.

Embroideries in colored silks, chenille, beads and fine wools are made to produce magical effects in dress.

The fashion of wearing black at a wedding is permitted in France, but is considered bad taste in England.

Linen brocades and damasses in the same patterns as the silk goods are found among the spring wash goods.

The prettiest bunting parasols are white, with blue linings and cardinal bows and streamers on the top.

Tyrolienne bonnets, with small conical crowns, will retain popular favor until the spring shades come in.

Parisian women are wearing their evening dresses very short in front, and with a very long comet tail train.

The caprice of the moment with young ladies is wearing long black kid gloves with light evening dresses.

The Fenelon is an elegant Paris house shoe, cut so as to almost cover the instep, and is tied in front with a bow.

Linen collars and cuffs for out-door wear are plain, and for in-door toilet are trimmed with lace or richly embroidered.

Dark red Agrippina roses and yellow Marshal Niels or Isabella Sprouts are mingled for bonnet and other trimmings.

The merchants are pushing the sales of gray camel's hair wraps. Black wraps will assert themselves without pushing.

Lace scarfs are used as strings for opera hats, attached in such a manner as to form a cape in the back of the bonnet.

Satin-faced gros grain silk is used a great deal for trimming bonnets. It is cut on the bias and arranged so as to show both sides.

The newest fan suspenders for evening toilets are a mixture of silk cord with gold or silver thread, and finished with tassels to match.

None but young girls under twenty dance now-a-days in Paris, as their gauze dresses are the only ones that will admit of the exercise.

As soon as the nuptial knot is tied, a Parisian bells exchanges her gauzy ball dresses for heavy trailing robes of silk, satin and velvet.

Charles IX. shoes have a strap and buckle across the instep, or several bars with a buckle or button or small rosette in the center of each bar.

It is impossible to make a really fashionable coiffure at present without more or less additional hair unless a lady has a very abundant chevelure.

Pocket handkerchiefs of fine batiste are adorned with stripes of blue, red, purple or black, and trimmed with several rows of narrow valenciennes.

Two new collarettes have made their appearance, the Duchesse de Berry, of black and white lace ruches, and the Flanders, a fraise of Flemish lace.

The newest cap head dresses take the baby form, with a long scarf of lace or crape lisse quilted across the back and forming strings to cross on the bosom in front.

Paris thread long gloves with clocked wrists and fingers are seen on the glove counters in shades of drab, tan, gray, brown and buff, and pure white, and black also for mourning.

Confirmation toilets this spring will be in the princess form, of white cashmere or Indian muslin, and under the long, white, gauzy veil will be worn a small baby cap, with full ruchings around the face.

Some of the evening bonnets are trimmed with bias silk bands of water blue and pale rose silk, fastened down with gold and steel buckles, and ornamented also with plumes of blue and rose, and fine lace scarf strings.

Some colors are now never seen in gloves, or, if seen, are a sign that the wearer takes little note of the changes of fashion. These are straw color, tea rose, or flesh color, and pale bule; pearl gray and cream are arbitrary shades, and mastic, a peculiar shade of gray, is the favorite.

Beautiful curtains were recently made by a New York lady whose skill and taste in her household decorations are well known. They were of Canton flannel, ornamented with all manner of cretonne figures, which, being carefully chosen and cut out, were artistically grouped, glued on the flannel, and then pressed with a warm flat iron. The effect was novel and very beautiful.

A fancy ball symbolic costume for Eve is of white India muslin, trimmed with apple leaves, blossoms and fruit. Two fig leaves form the pockets; out of one pocket peeps a snake, with emerald eyes; out of the other falls a triplet of white lilies. In the hand is a silver tipped mother of pearl fan, with artistic pictures of apples of crimson gold. On the head a wreath of small apples, with flowers and fruit. Around the neck a serpent of gold and silver enameled in red and blue.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

Items of Interest from Home and Abroad.

The valley of the east branch of the Williamatic river, in the northeastern part of Connecticut, has just been devastated by a flood similar to that which caused such great destruction to Massachusetts towns not long ago. Situated at intervals along the valley were immense spinning mills, deriving their motive power from the little stream which they bordered, and employing large numbers of hands. During the droughts of the past summer, the water was too low in the stream to afford sufficient power, and this winter the main dam in the reservoir at Staffordville was heightened six feet to hold more water for emergencies. The people of the valley below predicted the breaking away of the dam, owing to the addition being made with frozen earth, and watch has been kept on the structure. Two days' heavy rains filled all the streams to overflowing, and the men at the dam, after careful examination, discovered water trickling through the earth work around a pipe leading from the reservoir. Laborers were instantly put to work repairing the small fracture, but the water defied their best endeavors, and after fighting all day and night the men were warned by a crumbling sound to vacate their position, and did so just in time to see a stream the size of a man's arm leap through the center of the dam, increasing in bulk each second, followed in a few minutes by the giving way of the middle and then the entire dam, letting loose the three hundred acres of imprisoned water which had been pent up. The immense mass of water first swept off a side building belonging to the Conwell mills, crumbled the magnificent dwelling of Otis Holbrook, and then carried off two wooden bridges in rapid succession. The Amidon machine shops were next reached and torn down as though built of paper, a number of tenements and dwellings were swept away, and the small dams of the Phenix, Howe and Valley manufacturing companies were carried away in succession, and their store of water swelled the already large volume. The mills of these corporations, however, escaped comparatively harmless. Rushing onward to Stafford Hollow, all the wooden and one fine iron bridge were swept off their foundations and crushed like matches. A grist mill was then carried bodily down the stream to be dashed to pieces further along. Just above the village of Stafford Springs where the valley narrows, the waters gathered, and after grinding up several tenements, with renewed fury burst upon the little town, washing directly through the heart of the place, destroying L. W. Crane's store, the Home mutual fire insurance company's building, the Congregational church, the Stafford national bank, Gerry's stables, the block of Baker & Heald, the stone house and granary of D. O. Converse, and the warehouses of W. Smith & Co., and Shoddy & Flock, dealers in lumber, the coal yards of C. J. Holmes, the Borough hall, and the engine house. Out again from the village the waters went, carrying away bridges, mills and small buildings, and attached the Willimantic, whose broad bed received and swallowed the great rush of water. When the dam first broke, Mr. E. C. Pinney mounted his horse and fled through the valley in advance of the flood, warning the people. The consul far as reported, but one life was lost, though many families rescued none of their effects. The course of the flood across the fertile lands is marked by a broad path of sand and stones; desolation and waste taking the place of farming lands which were so productive previous to the deluge. The losses are variously estimated, but cannot fall short of $1,000,000, besides entailing much misery on the mill operatives, who will be thrown out of employ, owing to the power of the Stafford mills having been cut off by the destruction of their dams.

The secretary of the treasury has issued the forty-fourth call for the redemption of five twenty bonds of 1865, May and November. The call is for $10,000,000, of which $9,500,000 are coupon and $500,000 are registered bonds. ..... The New York Women's Medical College, graduated twelve M. D.s. ..... At the occasion of Emperor William's birthday, there was a serious fight at Mayence, between Prussians and Hessian soldiers, during which several men were killed and forty wounded. ..... The Abyssinian troops opposed to Egypt number fifty thousand troops well disciplined. ..... In a shooting affray between newspaper men at Topeka, Kansas, J. Clark Savayse, of the *Blade*, was instantly killed by J. W. Wilson, of the *Times*, who survived a little longer. ..... The residence of Henry Scilly, at Crediton, Ont., Canada, was destroyed by fire, and three children, aged respectively nine, seven and five years, were burned to death.

The English revenue for the present fiscal year will fall $6,000,000 short of the estimates, while the expenditures will overrun ..... The sultan of Perak, India, was arrested at night, without warrant or written authority. He was in command of the state in which the troubles occurred last year, during which several English men were murdered ..... Joseph C. Small, teller of the Standard bank, Toronto, Canada, is missing. The deficiency in his cash is said to exceed $6,000 ..... The revival of the story of the Mountain Meadow massacre brings to the minds of many the charge that in 1857 the Mormons, then in open opposition to the government of the United States, murdered eighty teamsters, who had been discharged from government service and started on foot for California, passing through Utah on their route. It is generally known that they were stopped and imprisoned by the Mormons. A conflagration in the town of Clinton, Sampson Co., N. C., burned out the business portion of the place. Loss, $50,000, which was partially covered by insurance ..... George Marclay, aged twenty-five, of Decatur, N. Y., broke into a house at night, and murdered Wesley Hatch, aged 65, and Harriet and Fanny Bates, aged respectively seventy and sixty-three years. Harriet died of her injuries the following day, and the young fiend was held for the crime of murder ..... Enfield, N. C., suffered a loss of one hundred dwellings and stores by fire. Loss, $50,000 ..... The coal laden schooner Richard Wheeler, while making her way through Long Island sound, in a violent storm, struck on Plum Island and was dashed to pieces. Two of her sailors were drowned while leaving the vessel in a boat.

It is now claimed that the Chinese massacre at Chico, Cal., was ordered by the Council of Nine, of the Labor Reform, whose commands were implicitly carried out by members of the order, all of whom are under oath of secrecy ..... The annual convention of the Brotherhood of Engineers in ordering their members to leave several railways, the Reading railway company of Pennsylvania has issued a circular requiring all engineers in their employ to leave the order, according to the rules of the Brotherhood, or notification for its employees which will pay larger returns for smaller assessments, than the Brotherhood ..... The United States consul at Caopulco, Mexico, was arrested on the street by soldiers and confined in prison. The consul had had a difficulty with the authorities, growing out of the arrest of a man claiming his protection ..... The British ship Trowbridge, while crossing the ocean, picked up in mid-water, a boat containing a number of the crew of the vessel Florence Oulton, which had been abandoned in a sinking condition. Another boat containing nine of the Oulton's crew could not be found ..... George F. Seward, late consul general of the United States to China, who was charged by his successor in office with accepting a bribe of $7,000 for liberating a pirate and murderer. The charges are to be investigated. ..... Norman McQuaig shot and killed James B. Jackson, aged sixty, and his son, aged twenty-one, at a ranch on Horse Creek, near Cheyenne. The cause of the shooting was a quarrel about a woman, a cousin of McQuaig. ..... John Chamberlain, the noted New York gambler, recently declared a bankrupt, paid one cent on the dollar ..... Russia has just ordered that all railways in the country must hereafter purchase locomotives and rolling stock manufactured in Russia. This is a heavy blow for the Prussian iron industries.

Another dam in Connecticut has broken down, under the accumulation of water occasioned by spring freshets. The dam at Rainbow, on the Farmington river, gave way unexpectedly, and three large paper mills had a narrow escape from destruction. The loss will not exceed $6,000. ..... A rapid rise in the Saco river, Maine, carried off all the lumber with its valuable machinery, at Salmon Falls ..... Twenty carloads of silks, teas and other valuable articles from China and Japan, on their way to England, came overland from San Francisco to New York in ten days—being the fastest time ever made by a freight train ..... The revenue collector of the sixth district of North Carolina, accompanied by several men, raided an illicit distillery in Watauga county, when they were fired upon, and two of the posse killed and the collector wounded ..... Capt. Bogardus, the pigeon shooter, showed his skill to a New York audience by shooting one thousand glass balls sprung from a trap, at sixteen yards. He succeeded in breaking 972 balls in seventy-six minutes—the time, which he was allowed for the feat, being limited to one hundred minutes. ..... The drought in South Australia is over. ..... R. H. Macy, the proprietor of "Macy's," well known store in New York city, died in Paris, of Bright's disease of the kidneys ..... The Grant House, at Wheeling, W. Va., was totally destroyed by fire, and a number of the guests had a narrow escape from burning. The fire was started by an incendiary, and consumed $100,000 worth of property ..... A fire at Cornwall Landing, N. Y., destroyed Mead & Taft's planing mill and several other buildings to the value of $30,000; partially insured ..... Near Walton, Ky., a colored man named Parker Mayo committed an assault upon a nine year-old daughter of Wm. Murray, during the absence of the parents. The child was severely injured. The next day he assaulted a farmer's wife residing in the vicinity. The succeeding morning his body was found hanging to the limb of a tree about a mile from the town.

By the burning of a tenement house in Rhinecliff, N. Y., Mrs. Peter Burns and four of her children were burned to death. Mrs. Burns, in the presence of mind sufficient to throw a feather bed out of a top-story window and drop her year-old baby upon the mass, thus saving its life. Another child jumped twenty-five feet to the ground and escaped with slight bruises. ..... The war in Colombia, South America, still continues; but the government claims that the rebellion will be put down within two months ..... The larger portion of the business part of the Indiana town of Kempin and Ballence, have been wiped out by fire. The losses were $25,000 and $40,000, respectively; partially insured ..... St. Louis' new directory gives the population of the city as 501,489 ..... Heavy damages have been inflicted in Nova Scotia by the spring freshets. Immense numbers of logs, several bridges and one or two mills have been carried off by the overflowing rivers ..... The protocol has been signed by the various interested powers in Europe, but it is still considered doubtful if peace is permanent ..... The works of the Stafford & Holden manufacturing company, at Barre, Vt., were destroyed by fire. Loss, $20,000; insurance, $10,000.

The State of New Jersey had $50,000 deposited in the State bank of New Jersey at New Brunswick ..... The greater part of the business portion of the Ohio town of Monroeville was destroyed by fire. Loss, $75,000; half of which is covered by insurance ..... The Rahway (N. J.) woolen mills were burned to the ground, involving a loss of $21,000 ..... Heavy rains and melting snow flooded the lower streets of Chicago to such an extent as to necessitate the use of boats. Much damage was done by the water ..... G. Smith Carman, one of the loan commissioners of Chemung county, N. Y., decamped, leaving some $3,000 of the fund intrusted to him unaccounted for ..... In consequence of disagreements with other ministers, Prince Bismarck resigned his portfolio, but the emperor declined to accept; and acknowledging the prince's great services to the country, gave him a year's leave of absence to recruit his health ..... Reports from the Madris (India) famine are to the effect that seven thousand additional laborers have been taken on and provided for at the government works, ... Controller Kelly, of New York city, showed that $226,711.34 had been spent in the "ring" suits, and $690,849.52 recovered ..... The public debt was reduced during March over $14,000,000, principally by retiring some five per cent Geneva award bonds ..... The brig Roanoke, from Philadelphia for Porto Cabello, was disabled in a storm at sea and partially filled, driving the three passengers and crew of nine men on deck, where they were obliged to lash themselves to avoid being washed overboard. Being unable to get any drinking water and but little provisions, for three days they suffered intense thirst and hunger—so much so as to drink the blood of one of their number who died in the sea and was drowned. Portions of the vessel now gave way to the shock of waves and were swept off, carrying their living freight, until but one of the crew were left. He was rescued in an exhausted condition by the schooner Addie Todd ..... President Hayes, after hearing the arguments and investigating the case, ordered the United States troops to be removed from the State house at Columbia, S. C., and Gov. Chamberlain entered an earnest protest.

War Department Employees.

Secretary McCray has issued the following circular in regard to removals, promotions, etc., in the United States War department: "The civil employees now in the service of the United States under the War department are hereby informed that removals will be made in this department for cause only, and promotions will be ordered upon the sole ground of merit. Every official must understand that retention and advancement in the service will depend upon record of good behavior and efficiency, and not upon external influence. No political test is required beyond an earnest support of the Constitution and its amendments, and a proper respect for the rights of citizens guaranteed thereby. Industry and faithfulness in the discharge of duty, a good moral character and strictly temperate habits will be required and enforced, and heads of bureaus will report promptly any case of idleness, neglect of duty, incapacity, drunkenness or any immoral or dishonest conduct. In case of vacancy report thereof will be made, accompanied by a list of all the most reliable and efficient clerks in the same office, division or bureau, from which list the vacancy shall be filled.

Advice to Parents.

There is said to be a young man in the Missouri penitentiary whose parents, at their death, left him a fortune of $50,000. There's where his parents made a fatal mistake. If they had taken the precaution to invest that $50,000 in a small dog, and shot him, and then had simply left the young man a jack plane or a wood saw, with printed instructions how to use it, the chances are that, instead of being in the penitentiary, he would today have been gradually but surely working his way up to a handsome competency and an honorable old age. But ever since the days of Adam and Eve, parents have made it a point to toil and struggle all their lives in order to realize a sufficient sum of money to purchase, when they are dead and gone, their sons each a first-class through ticket to the devil, and it is not much to be wondered at that so many of their sons, reared in vice and illeness, as too many of them often are, have no higher ambition than to invest their inheritance in just that sort of transportation.

As it Should Be.

Let me tell you of one home which will never be desolated by drunkenness. Among the pictures in the sitting-room, where the children meet father and mother in happy companionship many times a day, hangs a total abstinence pledge, with the signature of every member of the family upon it. And the parents take pleasure in it, speaking of it with satisfaction, thanking God for it, keeping the idea prominent in the minds of their children. No intoxicating liquor, for any purpose, ever comes into that house. Neither for cooking, for medicine, or for cleaning, is a child ever sent to purchase alcohol, or any of its foul kindred.

Parents, for the sake of the children, the dear little children, whom you cannot keep in your arms always, keep up a public sentiment in the home that shall be a guard to them, when they go out in the world; set them an example like the north star to guide them, and then, and always, pray to our Father to "deliver from evil."

Farmers and Merchants.

The dull times of the last few years have discouraged many farmers and induced them to seek other employment. Farming, as a rule, is a slow way of making money, but it is much more certain than mercantile business. Of 1,112 bankrupts in Massachusetts last year only fourteen were farmers, and in New York, of 2,550 bankrupts but forty-six were farmers, though farmers constitute fully half the population. According to the report of the New Hampshire board of agriculture there are in that State over two thousand deserted farms, so completely worn out and impoverished that no one can be found to work them for the crop. The immediate gains in mercantile pursuits seem large in comparison with those of farming, but when we consider the risk all who buy and sell must continually take it would seem the dictate of wise forethought to stick to the farm.

Imagination a Cure.

The Sacramento *Record* says: A Sacramentan who had heard and read a great deal about the blue glass cure, concluded that he would try it for his rheumatism. He accordingly procured half a dozen panes, inserted them in the window of his bathroom, and took a "sun bath," according to the prescribed formula, for three successive days. His wife had been away from home, and when she returned she was delighted to hear that the new cure had done her husband a wondrous amount of good. He was eager to have her see the new window, and she felt considerable curiosity on the subject herself, but on entering the bathroom she burst into a fit of laughter, which was explained a moment later by her ejaculation: "That's your mazarine blue glass! Why, goosey, that isn't blue; that's green!" He doesn't feel so well now.

A Father's Effort.

An extraordinary suit was brought before a San Francisco court. Francis Skeffington, who is penniless, sued his son John, who is very rich, for alimony and counsel fees. The plaintiff urged that he was the author of John's being and ought to be fed, clothed and housed in his old age at John's expense. Judge Wheeler ruled that the law did not compel a son to support his father, and that the old gentleman was not entitled to alimony.

A Guinea is Scarce Yellower

Than the complexion of a person becomes who omits to regulate his liver when that important gland grows neglectful of its secretive function. Moreover, the stomach under such circumstances becomes disordered, the bowels are constricted, pains in the side and between the shoulder blades are felt, the head aches, and the nervous system shares in the general derangement. This concatenation of evils is, however, easily remediable with that matchless regulating tonic, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which insures the secretion and flow of healthy bile, acts gently but effectually upon the bowels, and removes every symptom of nervous or digestive trouble. The result is that renewed tone is given to the entire system; the sallow, haggard appearance of the face to which biliousness gives rise is superseded by the glow of health, and the frame gains in substance as well as vigor.

One-fourth of the Mortality

In this country, is due to neglected coughs. This is a statistical fact, and it is equally true that no cough or cold would ever prove fatal if the great balsamic remedy, "*Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar*," were taken in the early stages. Reflect on this. Sold by all druggists.

Pike's Toothache Drops cure in one minute.

Durang's Rheumatic Remedy never fails to cure rheumatism. Sold by all druggists.

Prof. Tyndall's Warning.

In concluding an address to the students of University college (London), Prof. Tyndall, who is unquestionably one of the most indefatigable brain workers of our century, said: "Take care of your health. Imagine Hercules as oarsman in a rotten boat; what can he do there but by the very force of his stroke expedite the ruin of his craft. Take care of the timbers of your boat." The distinguished scientist's advice is equally valuable to all workers. We are apt to devote all our energies to wielding the oars, our strokes fall firm and fast, but few of us examine or even think of the condition of our boats until the broken or rotten timbers suddenly give way and we find ourselves the victims of a calamity which could have been easily avoided by a little forethought. What began with a slight fracture, or perhaps even a careless exposure to disorganizing influences, ends in the complete wreck of the lifeboat. The disease which began with a slight headache or an undue exposure to cold, terminates in death unless its progress is checked and the disease remedied. The first symptoms, the heralds of disease, give no indication of the strength of the on-coming foe, and the victim trusts that his old ally, Nature, will exterminate the invader. But Disease is an old general and accomplishes his most important movements in the night time, and some bright morning finds him in possession of one of the strongest fortifications; and when he has once gained a stronghold in the system, Nature ignominiously turns traitor and secretly delivers up the whole physical armory to the invader. Like the true politician, Nature is always on the strongest side, and the only way to insure her support is to keep your vital powers in the ascendant. Keep your strongest forts—the stomach and liver—well guarded. Do not let the foe enter the arterial highways, for he will steal or destroy your richest merchandise and impoverish your kingdom. To repulse the attacks of the foe you can find no better ammunition than Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It fortifies the system against disease, and is a sovereign remedy for all diseases of the lungs, liver, and blood, if taken in time. Sold by druggists.

Money in Poultry.

Prof. A. Corbett, of No. 7 Warren St., N. Y., has received the Centennial and several gold medals, also 12 diplomas for his new process for hatching eggs and raising poultry by means of horse manure. This valuable discovery will give $500 yearly profit from 12 hens. Catalogues, circulars and testimonials sent on receipt of postage.

Medical success in which every poor, suffering man, woman and child throughout the land is deeply interested—Collins' Voltaic Plaster. They are without price, almost, since they cost but 25 cents, and always cure.

An Experienced Traveler,

Who has tried all the principal first-class hotels of the United States, declares that for comfort and excellence, combined with low rates, the Grand Central Hotel, on Broadway, New York, leads them all. The latest reduction is from $4.00 to $2.50 and $3.00 per day; although the Grand Central is the largest first-class hotel in New York.

Important.

When you visit or leave New York stop at the Grand Union Hotel, opposite Grand Central depot. 350 elegantly furnished rooms. Best restaurant in the city; prices moderate. Baggage taken to and from said depot free. Cars and stages pass the hotel for all parts of the city.

For ten cents we will send a scientific book of one hundred and sixty choice selections from the poetical works of Byron, Moore and Burns; also, fifty selected popular songs and other writings. The jewelry of the age, and is true to nature and the finest ever written. Desmond & Co., 915 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa.

PAINTERS AND GRAINERS, send for new prices of metallic graining tools for "wiping out." J. J. Callow, Cleveland, Ohio.

ASTHMA.—It is useless to describe the tortures of spasmodic asthma. Those who have suffered from its distressing paroxysms know what it is. JONAS WHITCOMB'S REMEDY has never failed to afford immediate relief.

Rheumatism cured at once by Durang's Rheumatic Remedy. Send for circular to Helphenstine & Bentley, Washington, D. C.

Vegetable Pulmonary Balsam, the great New England cure for coughs, colds and consumption. Cutler Bros. & Co.'s, Boston, only genuine.

A positive cure for rheumatism—Durang's Rheumatic Remedy. Send for circular to Helphenstine & Bentley, Washington, D. C.

The National Life Insurance Company of the United States of America.

In marked contrast with the unpleasant developments that have appeared recently, concerning certain companies, we are now in receipt of the results of the operation of this Company. Although having a charter direct from Congress, it does not attempt to disavow its responsibility to State insurance laws.

By mutual agreement, on behalf of the State departments of New York, Massachusetts,