BUSTAPHA.

How He Took His Vacation and What Came of It.

Now in the sixth month of the reign of the good caliph, it was so that Mustapha said: "I am wearied with much work, thought, care and worry have worn me out; I need repose, for the hand of exhaustion is upon me, and death even now lieth at the door."

And he calleth his physician, who felt his pulse and looked upon his tongue and said:

"Twodollars!" (For this was the oath by which all physicians swore.) "Of a verity thou must have rest. Flee unto the valley of quiet and close thine eyes in dreamful rest; hold back thy brain from thought and thy hand from labor, or you will be a candidate for the asylum in three weeks."

And he heard him and went out and put the business in the hands of the clerk, and went away to rest in the valley of quiet. And he went to his Uncle Ben's, whom he had not seen for lo! these fourteen years. Now, his Uncle Ben was a farmer and abode in the valley of rest, and the mountains of re pos rose round about him. And he was rich and well favored, and strong as an ox, and healthy as an onion crop. Oftimes he boasted unto his neighbors that there was not a lazy bone in his body, and he swore that he hated a lazy man.

And Mustapha wist not that it was so.

But when he reached his Uncle Ben's they received him with great joy, and placed before him a supper of homely viands, well cooked, and piled upon his plate like the wreck of a box car. And when he could not eat it all they laughed him to scorn.

And after supper they sat up with him and talked with him about relatives whereof he had never in all his life so much as heard. And he answered their questions at random, and lied unto them, professing to know Uncle Ezra and Aunt Bethesda, and uncle Ed said he had a letter from Uncle George last week.

Now, they all knew that Uncle George was shot in a neighbor's sheep pen three years ago, but Mustapha wist not that it was so, and he was sleepy, and only talked to fill up the time. And then they talked politics to him, and he baited politics! So about one o'clock in the morning they sent him to bed.

Now the spare room wherein he slept was right under the roof, and there were ears and bundles of ears of seed corn hung from the rafters, and he bunged his eye with the same, and he hooked his chin in festoons of dried apples, and shook dried herbs and seeds down his back as he walked along, for it was dark. And when he sat up in bed in the night he ran a scythe in his ear.

And it was so that the four boys slept with him, for the bed was wide. And they were restless and slumbered crosswise and kicked, so that Mustapha slept not a wink that night, neither closed his eyes.

And about the fourth hour after midnight his Uncle Ben smote him on the back, and spake unto him, saying:

"Awake, arise, rustle out of this and wash your face, for the liver and bacon is fried and the breakfast waiteth. You will find the well down at the other end of the cow lot. Take a towel with you."

When they had eaten his Uncle Ben spake unto him, saying: "Con.e, let us stroll around the farm."

And they walked about eleven miles. And his Uncle Ben sat him upon a wagon and let right him how to load. Then they drove into the barn and he taught him to unload it. Then they girded up their loins and walked four miles, even into the forest, and his Uncle Ben taught him how to chop wood, and they walked back to supper. And the morning and the evening were the first day, and Mustapha wished that he was dead.

And after supper his Uncle Ben spake once more and said: "Come, let us have some fun." And so they hooked up a team and drove nine miles down to Belcher's branch, where there was a hop. And they danced until the second hour in the morning.

When the next day was come, which wasn't long, for already the night was far spent, his Uncle Ben took him out and taught him how to make rail fence. And that night there was a wedding, and they danced and made merry, and drank and ate, and when they went to bed at three o'clock Mustapha prayed that death might come to him before breakfast time.

But breakfast had an early start and got there first. And his Uncle Ben took him down to the creek and taught him how to wash and shear sheep. And when the evening was come they went to spelling-school, and they got home at the first hour after midnight, and Uncle Ben marveled that it was so early. And he lighted his pipe and sat up for an hour, and told Mustapha all about the forty he bought last spring of old Mose Stringer in the north end of the half, and about the new calf that was foaled last spring.

And when Mustapha went to bed that morning he bethought him of a dose of strychnine he had with him, and he said his prayers wearily and he ate it.

But the youngest boy was restless that night, and kicked all the poison out of him in less than ten seconds.

And in the morning, while it was yet night, they ate breakfast. And his Uncle Ben took him out and taught him how to dig a ditch.

And when evening was come, there was a revival meeting at Ebenezer Methodist church, and they all went. And there were three regular preachers, and two exhorters and a Baptist evangelist. And when midnight was come they went home, and sat up and talked over the meeting until it was bedtime.

Now when Mustapha was at home, he left his desk at the fifth hour in the afternoon, and he went to bed at the third hour after sunset, and he arose not until the sun was high in the heavens. So the next day when his Uncle Ben would ake him out into the field and show him to take a post and rail fence, Mustapha would swear at him, and smote him with an axe helve, and fled and got him-self home.

And Mustapha sent for his physician and cursed him. And he said he was tired to death, and he turned his face to the wall and died. So Mustapha was gathered to his fathers.

And his physician and his friends mourned and said: "Alas! he did not rest soon enough. He tarried at his desk too long."

But his Uncle Ben, who came in to attend the funeral, and had to do all his weeping out of one eye, because his other was blacked half way down to his chin, said it was a pity, but Mustapha was too awfully lazy to live, and had no get up about him.

But Mustapha wist not what they said, because he was dead. So they divided his property among them, and said if he wanted a tombstone he might have attended to it himself while he was alive, because they had no time.—*Burlington Hawkeye.*

An Ingenious Machine.

There has lately been introduced into the Pennsylvania Railroad company's machine shop at Altoona, Pa., a small invention used for separat ng the iron and brass filings which fall from the lathes. When mixed they are comparatively of little value, but when separated they are worth several cents per pound. The machine for this purpose is about three feet high and two feet square. On top is a hopper into which are emptied the mixed filings of wrought and cast iron and brass. These pass through a trough below and on to a comb which distributes them in a thin even layer on a cylinder. In this cylinder is the mechanism which displays the ingenuity of the inventor. It is well known that a common magnet will attract wrought iron strongly, cast iron slightly and brass not at all. On the inside of the cylinder is a continuous row of magnets. As the mixture of metal falls slowly, the drum revolves and into a box in front the brass filings and bits are dropped, the iron being held by the magnets. Further around is a light brush which sweeps off the cast iron bits into a convenient receptable, while the wrought iron, of which there is very little, adheres in bunches to the drum and has to be cleaned off occasionally. Although there is not constant work for the separator, it has been used considerably, and found to perform its work in a satisfactory manner. It will take a very few weeks to pay for itself in the saving of valuable metal rendered well nigh useless by being mixed with refuign substances.—*American Manufacturer.*

"Oh, pa!" cried a little fellow upon seeing a trout for the first time, "it's got the measles has'nt it?"

Cost of First-Class Bliss in Paris.

It is very expensive to be born in Paris. It costs still more to die here. But to be married here is the most extravagant thing a man can do, unless the bride's pa planks down the money cash, and in legions of Napoleons. Do you think all that is necessary is to get her to say "Yes!" and to slip $100 into Rev. Mr. Walter's hand! Greenhorn! France is a military nation. A French girl's heart is a Sedan, which must be approached by trenches, attacked by siege artillery from behind gabions, mined, then carried by assault. After it is won the winner is allowed to visit the won (the dear one) daily. He gives her on his first visit a gold ring with one (or at most two) very valuable pearls set between two diamonds. The eve of the wedding day he gives her the plain gold ring and a very costly sapphire or ruby or emerald ring. He sends her daily a nosegay of the rarest white flowers tied with costly lace, or with silk ribbon, on which her name is embroidered in silver letters. In aristocratic Romish families the first person to whom the marriage is announced is the pope, who the day of the wed ing telegraphs his blessing. If sovereigns or princes of the blood are among the family's acquaintances they are informed by letter, sealed always with red wax; as it is against etiquette to address letters to such persons sealed with black wax. If these regal personages be intimate friends, the bride's father, the mother and betrothed announce the marriage in person to all their friends. The groom in future is introduced by them only to grandparents. The parents give their daughter twelve dresses, with stockings, bottines, parasols and bonnets to match. The finest white linen and lace alone are used in the linen. The wedding dress must be of East India muslin or gauze, covered with orange flowers in tufts, in wreaths, in fringe, with a long train of damask. No less. Three sorts of lace only are in fashion—Valenciennes, Mechlin and Alencon. A mother who has the least self-respect gives her daughter six dozen day shirts of very fine linen; six dozen day shirts of cambric, twelve dozen night shirts, two dozen short petticoats for walking, six ball petticoats of muslin, with a long train, twelve petticoats for visits de chambre. The basket is no longer willow, covered with silk and trimmed with knots of ribbon, but a very costly antique or modern secretary, with every drawer filled with presents, among them a purse full of gold for charity; in some drawers are lace flounces enough to trim two dresses (one black, one white,) velvet enough for two dresses, satin enough for two dresses, fancy goods enough for two dresses; in other drawers are ball fans, drawing-room fans, flasks, workbox, card case, dressing case and all sorts of costly knick-knacks. Pearls are the favorite gems offered; a pearl necklace with five rows costs $100,000—dog cheap. The groom's mother gives diamonds. It is no longer the tashion to display presents given by friends. Cashmere shawls are no longer given—shawls have gone out fashion. Can you wonder marriages are so rare in France when it takes a fortune to enable the groom to reach the bridal altar?—*New Orleans Picayune's Paris Letter.*

Squeaking Boots.

A correspondent tells in the *Musical World* an incident about Rubinstein, the famous pianist. The kind of man who was the occasion of the incident is very well known to all concert-goers. The writer says: It was good to see the genuine enthusiasm he awakened, and to hear the applause and almost acclaim which greeted him as he finished. It was well known that he never responded to an encore, but the evident desire of the audience seemed to touch him a little, and he kindly and graciously came back, and, with almost a smile on his face, began that beautiful, "Nocturne" Chopin's in F sharp. His mood was a very responsive one just then, and he gave to the tender, dreamy thought a new charm. It was a beautiful moment; the player rapt, absorbed; the listeners intensely silent, when suddenly the spell was broken.

The inevitable man with the squeaky boots, who frequents all public entertainments, and who never has the good fortune to sit on the out, was here, and just at this impressive moment deemed it his duty to leave. So, during one of the softest and most impressive passages, this individual got up and prepared to travel the whole length of the circular gallery. As soon as he started Rubinstein's face lost its rapt look, and he seemed annoyed; but when the man arrived in the center, opposite him, he could bear it no longer, and taking his hands from the keys and looking up at the disturber said, in audible German:

"What does that stupid fellow mean by his eternal walking about? It is impossible to play!" and he arose and left the piano. It was a just rebuke.

Where The Islands and Sand-Bars in the Mississippi River Come From.

From a series of daily observations, extending from the early part of February to the latter part of October, 1879, taken at St. Charles, Mo., under the direction of officers of the United States engineer corps, it has been ascertained that the average quantity of earthy matter carried in suspension past that point by the Missouri river, between one foot of the bottom and the surface, amounts to 14,858 pounds per second, or 1,283,731,300 pounds each twenty-four hours. The matter thus carried along weighs, approximately, 100 pounds per cubic foot when dry, giving an average of 72,837,-312 cubic feet of earth transported each twenty-four hours during the entire year, enough to cover one square mile with a depth of nearly six inches.

During the months of June and July the average quantity per twenty-four hours amounted to 47,396,448 cubic feet, enough to cover a square mile with a depth of one foot and eight inches. The maximum quantity observed for any twenty-four hours was on July 3, when it reached the enormous amount of 111,-067,200 cubic feet, sufficient to cover a square mile to a depth of four feet. These figures do not take into account the material that is held in suspension within the lowest foot of the depth, or that which is being rolled along the bottom. If these quantities could be ascertained with any reasonable limit of approximation to correctness, there is no doubt but they would show an amount far in excess of that which has already been determined.—*Missouri Republican.*

Dog Travel in British America.

For winter travel dogs have hitherto been largely used, as with light loads they are swifter than horses. To drive a team of dogs it is said that one must be able to swear in English, French or Cree, while to be a first-rate dog-driver requires a fluent command of profanity in the three languages. Some years ago a well-known Winnipeg ecclesiastic was making an extended winter trip; the dogs, though frequently whipped, made little progress, so the bishop remonstrated with the driver. That functionary replied that he could not make them go unless he swore at them; absolution was, therefore, given him for the trip, and the dogs, hearing the familiar expletives, trotted along briskly. Dog-driving, however, is passing out of use in the Northwest, as it is becoming much more expensive to keep dogs than it is to keep horses. While buffalo were abundant and every post and wigwam could have unlimited pemmican it was easy for any man to keep a kennel; but as the buffalo are rapidly disappearing, and as the dogs must be fed throughout the whole year while the horses can forage for themselves at all seasons, horses are being used almost entirely on the prairies, except in the more northern districts whereganne and fish are very abundant. —*Good Words.*

The company that has been experimenting in Florida with palmetto for paper-making purposes has met with such gratifiying success that they will erect about twenty paper mills in various parts of the State where palmetto trees grow in abundance, and where the transportation facilities are good. Some English paper manufacturers in Canada have been so influenced by the favorable reports concerning palmetto that they have sent an agent to Florid to ascertain what may be its intrinsic merits.

An unfortunate Indianapolis man, who lost several toes by a car wheel, was consoled by an Irishman near by with: "Whist, there, you're making more noise than many a man I've see with his head off."

A Pompeiian House.

At the celebration of the eighteenof centennial since the destruction th Pompeii, last year, the excavation of an unexplored house was commenced. Three skeletons were taken out at the time, and the house, the excavation of which has been continued, has proved to be the largest and most interesting yet opened. It is called the "Casa del Centenario," and is thus described:

It occupies the entire space between three streets, and most likely a fourth, which has yet to be excavated. The vestibule is elegantly decorated, and its mosaic pavement ornamented with the figure of a dolphin pursued by a seahorse. In the first atrium, the walls of which are adorned with small theatrical scenes, the pavement is sunk and broken, as if by an earthquake, and there is a large hole through which one sees the cellar. The second atrium is very spacious, with a handsome peristyle, the columns—white and red stucco—being twenty-six in number. In the center is a large marble basin, within the edge of which runs a narrow step. On the pedestal at one side was found the statuette of the Faun lately described. The most interesting place in the house is an inner court or room, on one side of which is the niche, with tiny marble steps, often to be seen in Pompeiian houses. The frescoes on the walls are very beautiful. Close to the floors runs a wreath of leaves about a quarter of a yard wide, with alternately a lizard and a stork. Above it, about a yard distant, droop, as if from over a wall, large branches of vine or ivy and broad leaves like those of the tiger-lily; all very freely, naturally and gracefully drawn. At each corner of the room a bird clings to one of these branches. Then comes a space —bordered at the top by another row of leaves—in which is represented a whole aquarium, as if the room were linked with tanks. There are different sorts of shells and aquatic plants lying at the bottom of the water, and swimming in or on it all kinds of fish, jelly-fish, sepias, ducks and swans, admirably sketched with a light yet firm touch. The tripods made by the swimming ducks are indicated, and one duck is just flying into the water with a splash. On each side of the niche this amusing aquarium is enlivened by a special incident. To the left a large octopus has caught a monstrous muræna (lamprey)—which turns round to bite—in its tentacles; to the right a fine lobster has pierced another muræna through and through with its long, hard feelers or horns. These creatures are painted in the natural colors very truthfully. On the left wall of the room, above the fishes, are two sphinxes supporting on their heads square marble vases, on the brim of each of which sits a dove. Behind the niche and on the left side of the room runs a little gallery with a corridor underneath, lighted by small square holes in the border of hanging branches. The wall of this gallery behind the niche is decorated with a woodland landscape, in which, on one side, is represented a bull running frantically away, with a lion clinging to its haunches; on the other, a horse lying struggling on its back, attacked by a leopard; all nearly the size of life. On each side of the doorway is painted respectively a graceful doe and a bear. The other rooms are also very beautiful; one with a specially elegant design on a black ground; in another a small fresco representing a man pouring wine out of an amphora into a large vessel. The bath-rooms are large and elegant, the cold bath spacious and of marble. In one room a corner is dedicated to the lares and penates, and in the fresco decoration, among the usual serpents, etc., I noticed the singular figure of a Bacchus or bacchante, entirely clothed with large grapes. In one of the mosaic pavements is a head of Medusa, the colors very bright and well preserved. As some of the rooms are only excavated to within two or three feet from the floor, it is possible that many valuable ornaments or statuettes may yet be found, as everything indicates that this splendid house belonged to some rich citizen.

A Young Sergeant's Exploit.

In seeking to capture the city of Mexico, the American army was obliged to take first the town of Churubusco about six miles from the city. After that the main approach was by a large causeway, with a ditch on each side, and, at one place, a fortified bridge. So the American forces, under General Worth, had to gain the bridge and fight upon the causeway; and, at one point in the battle, the general found himself separated from a part of his troops, whom he wished to rejoin. In the middle of the causeway stung over a wagon, stood a baggage wagon on fire, and as the general and his staff approached the blazing cart they suddenly discovered that it was laden with gunpowder! They drew up with a start and waited results very anxiously. In a moment, however, Sergeant A. M. Kenaday, then of the Third United States dragoons, mounted to the driver's box, and, without a word the four brave men dashed on to the wagon.

Although they could not tell how soon one of the powder boxes might explode, these men determined to clear a passage for their chief. The gunnybag covers of the boxes were smoldering, and some of them were already aflame, but Kenaday and another soldier mounted into the midst of the blazing boxes and fell to work in dead earnest—quickly tossing them one by one to the two other troopers, who as quickly rolled them into the wet and muddy ditch. Each box of powder, more or less, weighed about seventy pounds, so that to empty the cart was no light labor.

Within a few minutes the cover of the wagon had burned entirely off, and the gallant four, almost exhausted with heat and exertion, were soon after stooped by General Worth, who rode up to the wagon and ordered them out. This command was instantly obeyed, and then the general and his staff spurred their horses and made a rush past the wagon at full gallop, while the sergeant and his comrades followed at a pace that soon put them out of danger.

But they had not yet caught up with the general's party when they heard a loud report behind, and looking back saw no trace of the wagon, even when the smoke had cleared. It had been blown to atoms by the few cases of powder which they had left in it.

And this was not the only act of bravery performed that day by the young sergeant, for later in the same afternoon he joined in the famous charge, led by General (then captain) Philip Kearny, on the San Antonio gate of the city of Mexico. In this reckless onslaught twenty resolute dragoons cut their way into the city through 6,000 of the enemy's panic-stricken soldiers. General Scott, the American commander in chief, said it was the bravest charge he had ever seen or read of, and a full account of it may be found in almost every history of the Mexican war.—*St. Nicholas.*

The Little Shavers.

A bright little five-year-old miss was taken to the barn to see some sheep, and after looking at them for a moment she exclaimed: "Oh, auntie, see, the sheep all wear their hair banged."

The owner of a pair of bright eyes says that the prettiest compliment she ever received came from a child of four years. The little fellow, after looking intently at her eyes a moment, inquired, naively: "Are your eyes new ones?"

Young Boston quickly learns to feel the weight of years. Said five-year-old Bert to his mother, the other night, after saying his prayers, and getting ready for bed: "Well, mamma, I'd like to die now. I've seen all there is here."

Little Annette, who has been sick and is not yet allowed to eat all she wants, turned from her thin toast and weak tea the other day, with an air of disgust, and said to her brother: "I'm going to take a nap; perhaps I shall dream that I am eating my dinner."

A little fellow, turning over the leave of a scrap-book, came across the well-known picture of some chickens just out of their shell. He examined the picture carefully, and then, with a grave, sagacious look, slowly remarked: "They came out 'cos they was afraid of being boiled."

A little boy in a Sunday-school put a poser to his teacher. The lady was telling her class how God punished the Egyptians by causing the first born of each household to be slain. The little boy listened attentively. At the proper interval he mildly inquired: "What would God have done if there had been twins?"

Bad eggs always float on top. You notice this in social circles.—*Bloomington Eye.*

TIMELY TOPICS.

The king of dentists, as he calls himself, is a Philadelphia curiosity. He wears a jeweled crown and gorgeous robes, rides in a resplendent chariot, and extracts teeth without charge. While a glib-tongued attendant sounds his praises, the king takes out teeth for all who apply, sometimes pushing them out with the point of his sword. Then he sells an ache-destroyer at fifty cents a bottle.

The preliminary workings for the tunnel under the English channel, uniting England and France, have had the most satisfactory results. The promoters have sunk their shaft to the stratum in which they propose to bore the tunnel, and are now going to sink another shaft, and lower all the machinery for the bore. In eighteen months they expect to have reached two kilometers (about two and a quarter miles) under the channel, and in three or four years to have completed the task.

Idaho Territory holds court at Boise, where is located all the government offices, and is the home of the United States marshal. He goes to Lewiston, 400 miles distant, twice a year to attend district court, and also twice a year to Malad for the same purpose, traveling a distance of 240 miles to reach there. To simply attend the courts in the three districts requires him to travel 3,700 miles. But to do all his official work last year caused Mr. Chase to travel by stages 9,000 miles.

The slang phrase "queer fish" has been realized in piscatorial form in California. At Monterey some fishermen caught it in a seine. It was about nine inches long. The first half of the fish was a mountain brook trout, having the eye, head, scales, spots and shape of the fish. It had a pair of fins at the usual place behind the gills; an inch or two back of this it suddenly changed into a silver eel, the shape, color and absence of scales being perfect. It will probably find a resting place on the shelves of the San Francisco Academy of Sciences.

A German paper relates that at Biberich, recently, quite a crowd gathered to witness the novel spectacle of a drunken driver being taken home by his horse. The man was so intoxicated that he could scarcely stand, but the faithful animal pushed him onward with its head. Now and then the driver attempted to turn into side streets, but the horse seized him by the coat with its teeth, and thus piloted him to the stable. The horse had a great deal of trouble with its master, but finally got him home safe It is said that this valuable animal has acted the good Samaritan for his master repeatedly before.

An excellent instance of the way in which the children in the average public school learn without learning is related by *Barnes' Educational Monthly.* A teacher in one of our public schools has been accustomed to require her pupils to say: "The equator is an imaginary line passing around the earth," etc. It never occurred to her that boys and girls of her school had no idea what an imaginary line meant, until one day a visitor asked them how wide they thought the equator is. Some thought it was 5,000 miles wide, others 2,000 and others thought they could jump over it. The visitor then asked how they thought ships got over it. One pupil said he thought they got out and lifted them over, and another said he had read that a canal had been dug through it! "What is the name of this canal?" was asked. "The Suez canal!" was the answer.

On the road from Albuquerque to Silver City (New Mexico) is Cook's canon, in which the Apache Indians of Victoria's band have been in the habit of waylaying and slaughtering white people attempting the passage. A private letter of recent date from Silver City says that all 240 white settlers, miners and mail carriers hav been butchered and scalped in the canon by the Apaches. A fortnight before the letter was written the Indians killed a party of eighteen persons and burned their wagons. They also slew the driver and three passengers on the mail coach and destroyed the vehicle. A detachment of soldiers surprised five Apaches in the canon a couple of days after that occurrence, killed and, it is said, scalped them. Among the Indians killed on that occasion was the fifteen-year-old son of the renowned chief Victoria. The lad fought desperately as long as he could strike. The people of Silver City are greatly exercised about the Apaches, who have made mining in that vicinity extremely hazardous.

Birthplaces of the Presidents.

Seven of the nineteen Presidents were born in Virginia. They were Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Harrison, Tyler and Taylor. Of these Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Tyler were graduates of college. Monroe was a descendant of the old Virginia cavaliers, and was almost anything and everything, from a colonel in the Revolution to a justice of the peace, including such offices as governor of Virginia, minister to France and Spain and England, secretary of state and president. Tyler and Jefferson were also both governors of Virginia. Zachary Taylor had only the education which he picked up on his father's plantation, where he served until he was twenty-four, and from there he was sent out on the military career which paved his way to the greatest honor in the power of the nation to bestow. It was said of him that he was so ignorant of, and cared so little for, political affairs that he had not voted for forty years when he became President; and like General Grant, he began life as a farmer, distinguished himself as a general, and was never identified with any office or affair of government until he became chief magistrate. Of the eleven remaining Presidents, Jackson, Johnson and Polk were born in North Carolina, the two Adamses in Massachusetts, Filmore and Van Buren in New York, Grant and Hayes in Ohio, Lincoln in Kentucky, Pierce in New Hampshire and Buchanan in Pennsylvania. Polk and Johnson were both governors of Tennessee. The former began his career with a scanty education, as a clerk in a country store, but eventually graduated at the University of North Carolina, and the latter, following the trade of a tailor, married early and went to school to his clever wife. Franklin Pierce learned the fuller trade and never saw a grammar or geography until he was nineteen years of age, and Jackson, whose parents were scantily paid linen weavers of Scotch-Irish descent, was much distracted in his youth between his predilections for firearms and his love for cockfighting and horseracing.—*Cleveland Leader.*

Man's Age.

Few men die of age. Almost all die of disappointment, passion, mental or bodily toil, or accidents. The passions kill men sometimes, even suddenly. The common expression, choked with passion, has little exaggeration in it; for, even though not suddenly fatal, strong passions shorten life. Strong-bodied men often die young; weak men live longer than the strong; for the strong use their strength and the weak have none to use. The latter take care of themselves, the former do not. As it is with the body, so it is with the mind and temper. The strong are apt to break, or, like the candle, to run; the weak to burn out. The inferior animals which live temperate lives have generally their prescribed number of years. The horse lives twenty-five, the ox fifteen or twenty, the lion about twenty, the dog ten or twelve, the rabbit eight, the guinea pig six or seven years. These numbers all bear a similar proportion to the time the animal takes to grow to its full size. But man, of the animals, is one that seldom lives this average. He ought to live a hundred years, according to physical law, for five times twenty are one hundred; but, instead of that, he scarcely reaches on an average four times his growing period; the cat six times; the rabbit even eight times the standard of measurement. The reason is obvious —man is not only the most irregular and the most intemperate, but the most laborious and hard worked of all the animals. He is also the most irritable of all animals; and there is reason to believe, though we cannot tell what an animal secretly feels, that, more than any other animal, man cherishes wrath to keep it warm and consumes himself with the fire of his own secret reflections.—*Albany Journal.*

FOR THE FAIR SEX.

Mexican Women.

A correspondent in New Mexico writes that the Mexican women are, as a rule, tidy housekeepers. Their domain is not an extensive one, but as far as it goes they act efficiently. Their earthern floors are well swept, fair white-wash coats the walls, the man of the house has a clean shirt with decent frequency, and the crawling baby, probably as naked as at its birth, has its skin scrubbed to the shining point. It must, nevertheless, be admitted that the skin-scrubbing practice is not applied by the adult Mexicans to themselves, and that their personal habits are in many respects very uncleanly. When away from home the men are very dirty. The women seem to monopolize whatever sense of neatness the race is endowed with. The furnishiment of the Mexican house is not a complicated affair. For culinary use there are a "skillet and lid," a frying pan, and a coffee pot. Tables are not frequent in the ordinary run of houses. Neither are chairs. When the meal is repaired those who are to eat squat down on the floor around a small collection of cups and plates, and help themselves from the central vessel without ceremony. Forks are very seldom to be seen. A piece of tortilla answers the purpose when there is food that cannot conveniently be placed in the mouth by the fingers only. Bedsteads are not in general use. The Mexican women make very good pallets of wool, and these are laid at night on the floor, or in warm weather out of doors, in the courtyard, garden, or in the street itself. Nearly every house is well supplied with coarse but comfortable homemade blankets, and usually there is some provision of linen. Of a morning the bedding is rolled up and stowed away in the corners of the room or rooms. There is one piece of furniture which rarely is missing, and that is the chest or trunk containing the women's finery. The female Mexican has a passion for accumulating dresses, generally calicoes, which are stored away in the chest and may remain there, hidden from the sight of man, forever. I suspect that when only women are present, these brilliant and costly treasures are exhibited and discussed with critical admiration. Americans who have Mexican wives tell me that the number of calico dresses that can be packed by them in an ordinary chest is somewhat amazing, and renders contemptible the feats of the magician who produces a whole millinary shop from his hat. Juanita's actual wear is apt to be confined to a very simple matter. The hot summer climate induces a free-and-easy attire of chemise and shirt, and in winter the women are generally seen with shawls covering them from the waist up. When Juanita's man earns enough to pay for a new dress now and then, she asks for no more; but when the household can boast the ownership of a little flock of goats, her happiness, as well as that of the rest of the family, is utter and complete. The goat is the familiar pet, the dear little darling of the Mexican home. It furnishes the milk and the abominable india rubber cheese which is dear to the Mexican palate. Your Mexican will call his goat by all the abusive names of which his tongue is master, but in his heart of hearts he cherishes the animal as the ne plus ultra of brute creation, and an injury inflicted on the goat is a mortal affront to the man.

Fashion Notes.

Leghorn hats are in high favor.

Round pelerines are revived.

Lisle thread gloves are more worn than ever.

Mauve and red are a fashionable combination.

Sortout effects are given even to muslin toilets.

White is more popular than ever for little people.

Gold lace and gold cord hold their place in favor.

Handkerchief costumes are worn in the country.

A novel combination is of wall flower yellow, brown and flame color.

One strap over the instep on slipper is more fashionable than two or more

A terrific torrent of new fashions threatens to overwhelm taste and tact in dress.

Archery and angling are the fashion able outdoor amusements for ladies this summer.

Brown linen suits, made with decidedly short skirts, are shown as angling costumes this season.

Dressy parasols are most elaborately adorned with beads, lace embroidery, and artificial flowers.

Soft sashed belts with tasseled ends, and carelessly tied either in front, at the side, or in the back, are popular.

Dark blue flannel remains the popular material for seaside suits for children, young girls, and older women.

All silk bathing caps are made with brims of the silk this season, the brims being stiffened with a wire on the outer edge.

Slender trains are worn on black-dresses this summer. The waists are rather short, and the long black gloves are scented.

White underskirts are made very short, gored and trimmed round the bottom with three rows of fluting, edged with embroidery or lace.

Princess sack dresses for little people are made with loose fronts covered with tucks and insertion, while the backs are half fitted to the figure, and finished with a Spanish flounce also trimmed on the edge.

Dress Mad.

Behold her at eleven.

Her limbs unfettered by long skirts of conventonality, she runs, she romps, she slides on the ice ponds, she rolls hoop, she climbes fences, she leaps, she kicks, she runs races and is as fresh and fleet of foot as the boys. Her appetite is good, her cheeks rosy, and her movements unconsciously graceful.

Behold her again at twenty.

No more does she run or jump or roll hoop, run races or slide on the ice. It is not proper now nor lady-like, and she couldn't if she would, for she is fettered by long skirts, tight shoes and tighter stays. Her movement has no longer the freedom and unconscious grace of childhood, for now when she walks abroad she walks to be looked at, which now in her estimation is the main object of walking. She is already in delicate health, and has a doctor who prescribes expensive advice and prescriptions for her, and ascribes her complaint to anything and everything but the real cause. This is simply the fettering of her body with fashionable clothes. Physically she is now a prisoner. At eleven she was free. The doctor advises travel, but he does not advise her to take off her fashionable fetters. She wouldn't do so if he did, and he wouldn't advise her if he knew it would bring relief, for she would no longer believe in a doctor who would make her dress like a guy, and being dressed like a "guy" is dressing different from the style prescribed by a Paris modiste. Diana never could hunt in a traveling skirt, narrow, tight, high heeled gaiters, and a pinched, corseted waist, but Diana with belted tunic and unfettered limbs would be bounced off Broadway by the nearest policeman. Dressed for health and freedom of limb is one thing, and dressing for fashion quite another. A man couldn't endure the pinching and encumbrances peculiar to feminine attire for an hour, and a pretty spectacle he'd make rushing about in such during business hours. Yet the "weaker sex" wear double the incumbrances of the so called stronger. To dress at all after the style uses up half of a woman's time and two-thirds of her strength.—*New York Graphic.*

Words of Wisdom.

Anger, like rain, breaks upon whatever it falls.

Draw not thy bow before the arrow be fixed.

Never expose your disappointments to the world.

If you would make a thief honest, trust him.

The simple flowers are sociable and benevolent.

Fortune can only take from us what she gave.

Words sometimes wound more than swords.

A good book supplies the place of a companion.

He who stops to pick a flaw in other's knitting work, drops many stitches in towns.

NEWS SUMMARY.

Eastern and Middle States.

Dr. H. S. Tanner, of Minneapolis, Minn., is trying, in New York city, to go forty days without food. Several doctors have charge of the trial and will watch the faster day and night.

The army worm has made its appearance in myriads in the vicinity of Kingston, N. Y., and in Pike county, Pa., and is destroying every green thing that comes in its path.

The other day there were nine steam vessels which have recently been either interred or temporarily disabled lying in the port of New York.

General W. S. Hancock, Senator Wallace, of Pennsylvania, and Henry Watterson, editor of the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, met at the house of Samuel J. Tilden, in New York, a few days ago. The result of the conference is not stated.

The arrivals of emigrants at Castle Garden, New York, during the month of June aggregated 42,026 persons.

The fifth annual eight-oared, four-mile boat race between crews representing Yale and Harvard colleges was won this year at New London, Conn., by the former after a hot contest. The four miles were made by the winning crew in twenty-four minutes and twenty-seven seconds. During the race D. Waldo Lincoln, of Worcester, Mass., president of the Boston and Albany railroad, and Mrs. Dr. William Appleton, a young lady of Boston only recently married, were thrown from a platform car by the sudden starting of the train known as the moving grand stand and almost instantly killed.

A public ice-water fountain has been opened in New York by a society for the encouragement of moderation in drinking.

The bodies of about thirty-five victims of the Seawanhaka disaster have been recovered, and there are still a number missing.

At a meeting of the Republican national committee in New York Marshall Jewell, of Connecticut, was chosen chairman as successor to Senator Don Cameron, and ex-Senator Dorsey was appointed secretary. The following executive committee was chosen: Horace Davis, of California; James B. Devereaux (colored), of Georgia; John A. Logan of Illinois; John C. New, of Indiana; John R. Runnells, of Iowa; John A. Martin, of Kansas; H. C. Warmoth, of Louisiana; John M. Forbes, of Massachusetts; Chauncey I. Filley, of Missouri; Wm. E. Chandler, of New Hampshire; George A. Halsey, of New Jersey; Thomas C. Piatt, of New York; W. P. Canaday, of North Carolina; Wm. C. Cooper, of Ohio; J. Don Cameron, of Pennsylvania; George W. Hooker, of Vermont; John W. Mason of West Virginia; Elihu Enos, of Wisconsin; R. C. McCormick, of Arizona; Stephen B. Elkins, of New Mexico.

John O'Conor, a Jersey City (N. J.) carpenter, heard one of his five children crying in the middle of the night, and thinking the child was thirsty the father arose to give it a drink of water. To his horror Mr. O'Conor then discovered the dead bodies of three of his children—boys aged two, six and eight years respectively. Their throats had been cut by their mother, who had been in ill-health for some time and was evidently insane.

Western and Southern States.

Adam Kelly walked up to Thomas Holliday, at Paris, Ky., drew out a knife and said: "I'd like to cut your throat." Holliday did not wait to let Kelly gratify his desire, but shot him dead.

At the Prohibitionist national convention, held in Cleveland, Ohio, 142 delegates were present, representing twelve States. The Rev. Dr. Miner, of Boston, presided. Judge Black made a speech. For President, Neil Dow, of Maine, was nominated by acclamation, and for Vice-President A. M. Thompson, of Westerville, O.

The American Institute of Homeopathy has been in session at Milwaukee, Wis., representatives from all parts of the country being in attendance.

United States Senator Vance, of North Carolina, and Mrs. Florence S. Martin were married the other day at the residence of the bride's mother in Oldham county, Ky. Senator Vance was a widower.

The Arkansas Greenback State convention has nominated a State ticket with William P. Parks for governor.

The Indiana Republicans have nominated Albert G. Porter, first comptroller of the United States treasury, for governor.

Judge J. B. Howell, an ex-United States Senator (he was elected in 1870) of Iowa, died at Keokuk in that State a few days ago, aged sixty-four years.

A levee on the Mississippi, between Hannibal and Quincy, Ill., gave way, and a vast area of rich farming land was inundated by the rushing waters. An idea of the damage may be gained from the fact that an extent of country forty miles long and from four to ten miles wide was protected by the embankment. People were compelled to flee for their lives, and in one case an entire family, consisting of a Mr. Freemer, his wife and children, were drowned. The loss to farmers and others will aggregate several hundred thousand dollars.

At about twelve o'clock at night a meteor, as large as a barrel, started from the zenith, plunged down the northeastern sky and exploded near Macon, Ga., with a report that reverberated for thirty seconds, and shook the earth. The meteor was about five seconds in falling, during which time Macon was lighted up as by a powerful electric light.

While the pleasure steamer Lake Minnetonka was lying at a wharf at Minneapolis, Minn., a boiler exploded with terrific effect. The steamer was totally wrecked and four men were killed and eight more badly injured.

The Kentucky court of appeals, in the case of James Johnson (colored), indicted for carrying concealed weapons, on a motion to set the indictment aside on the ground that the grand jury was composed exclusively of white persons, has decided that so much of the statutes as renders all persons other than white men from service on juries is unconstitutional, and that no person can be lawfully excluded from any jury on account of his race or color.

A negro named Scott Bell was hanged at Starkville, Miss., for the murder of another colored man; and on the same day at Huntsville, Texas, A. E. Carter was hanged for the murder of a man named Spaulding in July of last year.

From Washington.

There has been an enormous increase in pension applications at the pension office. The other day 8,065 applications were filed. This sudden increase is the number of applications is due to the fact that applicants whose papers are filed after the thirtieth of June will not be entitled to arrears of pensions.

The closing of the account of disbursements of the navy department for the fiscal year ending June 30, shows that the expenditures for that period have been $426,678.34 less than for the previous year, and that there was on hand June 30, 1880, an unexpended balance of $2,461,188.23 of the amount available for the year, exclusive of balances in the hands of the pay officers of the navy.

The positive denial of the Spanish government that there was a vessel in its service by the name of Nuricio, which was charged with firing on the American schooner Ethel Merritt, and the probability that the same vessel fired on the Boston schooner Eunice P. Newcomb, has caused the state department to give the subject more serious consideration, and it will take immediate steps to ascertain whether the Nuncia was a privateer or really belonged to the Spanish navy.

The national board of health announces that at present there is not a single case of yellow fever in the country.

At the various United States mints last month there were coined 516,788 gold pieces worth $4,372,840; 2,013,000 silver pieces (including 2,011,500 silver dollars) worth $2,011,500, and 2,348,700 minor pieces worth $23,541.