FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

Farm and Garden Notes.

One-half ounce of salt to the pound of butter is the rule of salting adopted by the makers of the celebrated butter which sells at a fancy price in Boston.

If any one desires a plant which will bloom through the winter, with no cessation, nothing will give greater satisfaction than the double pink petunia.

If the food which a healthy cow consumes in July is like that which she consumes in October, the milk which she produces should be substantially the same.

Spiræas, taken up in the autumn in large pots and placed in a cold pit covered with grass, will bloom profusely in March.

All bulbs and plants that die down to the ground in autumn may be protected by covering with leaves, straw and manure, but plants that retain their leaves in winter will not bear such protection.

Every dairyman should bear this in mind, that poor butter or cheese is always the first to feel the effects of a dull market. The best products are always inquired for, even on the poorest markets.

Keep your farm buildings and all your premises absolutely clean. Use absorbents such as dry earth and ashes; and all offensive gases will disappear—thereby promoting health and prosperity.

Never allow a mudhole to remain about a well. If your water is muddy and impure throw in a speck of lime to purify it. If animalculæ appear in the water throw in a half gallon of salt to make them settle to the bottom.

Mixing fowls from different localities is the most fruitful cause of chicken cholera. The different breeds of game fowls seem less liable to this disease than any other, and if kept free from contact with "strangers" are not likely to contract the malady.

Remember that deep plowing for wheat where the soil admits of it is a great protection against winter killing. The breaking up of the subsoil or hard pan, allowing the water to escape below the roots, prevents the alternate freezing and thawing of the rootlets of the plant.

A piece of wood cut from a tree is a good conductor. Let it be heated and dried, it becomes an insulator. Let it be baked to charcoal, it becomes a good conductor again. Burn it to ashes, and it becomes an insulator once more.

The last milk drawn from the cow at each milking is much the richest part of the mess. The reason is the same that the top of a pan of milk which has stood awhile is the richest part of it. The cream being the lightest part of the milk, rises or remains at the top of the udder, while the heavier, watery portions settle at the bottom, similarly, though not as perfectly, as when set in a pan. The richer portion of the milk being of greater consistency, settles to the bottom of the udder but slowly as the milk is drawn off.

A resident of Belchertown, Mass., reports to the *Fruit Recorder* noteworthy results of mulching with stones. Tomato plants, around each of which a compact circle three feet in diameter was placed, "not only proved very thrifty and productive, but commenced to ripen very much earlier than the rest, and the main portion of their fruit was gone before the others had ripened, but a small portion of their crop. This trial was so satisfactory that it was repeated the next season with like results."

Recipes.

TO REPAIR TOWELS.—When chamber and kitchen towels are thin in the middle, cut them in two and sew the selvages together and hem the sides.

APPLE CROUTES.—This simple and dainty little dessert is one taught by Miss CARSON. Peel and core the apples and halve them; take half slices of bread, spread thickly with butter and sprinkle with sugar, then lay apple on bread, core side down; sprinkle on more sugar and any kind of spice to taste. Bake.

STEAMED INDIAN CAKE.—Three cups of buttermilk, three cups of sweet milk, three cups of meal, two cups of flour, one teaspoonful of salt, two teaspoonfuls of soda; put in a greased pan and steam three hours.

BOSTON BROWN BREAD.—Two cupfuls Indian meal (even); one cupful of rye meal, one cupful of flour, one (small) quart of sweet milk, pinch of salt, one-half cupful molasses, two tablespoonfuls cream tartar, one tablespoonful (even) of soda dissolved in water, steam four hours, and water must boil constantly all the time; put in oven and heat for breakfast.

COLD WATER CAKE.—One teacupful of sugar, piece of butter the size of an egg, one-half teaspoonful of cream of tartar in a coffee-cupful of sifted flour, one-fourth teaspoonful of soda in one-half teacupful of water, whites of two eggs beaten to stiff froth, and put in last; flavor to taste.

Value of Bone Manure.

The difficulty of getting barn-yard manure leads many to purchase fertilizers, and these have proven of much value to agriculturists. An English paper commenting on dairies, says that the Cheshire dairy farmer by the free use of bone manure laid on the grass lands, makes his farm, which at one time, before the application of bone manure, fed only twenty head of cows, now feed forty. In Cheshire, two-thirds or more, generally three-fourths, of a dairy farm are kept in perfect pasture, the remainder in tillage. Its dairy farmers compound for the last, for the whole of their manure, not on the arable, but on the grass land, purchasing what may be necessary for the arable. The chief improvement, sides drainage, consists in the application of bone manure. In the milk of each cow, its urine, in its manure, in the bones of each calf reared and sold off, a farm parts with as much earthy phosphates of lime as is contained in half a hundred weight of bone dust. Hence the advantage of returning this mineral manure by boning grass lands. The quantity of bones now generally given in Cheshire to an imperial acre of grass land is twelve or fifteen hundred weight. The dressing on pasture land will last seven or eight years; and on mowed lands about half that period.

Words of Wisdom.

Inclination and interest determine well.

A delicate thought is a flower of the mind.

The art of praising caused the art of pleasing.

Diversity of opinion proves that things are only what we think them.

The faith which looks forward is far richer than the experience that looks backward.

One may ruin himself by frankness, but one surely dishonors himself by duplicity.

There are few occasions when ceremony may not be easily dispensed with, kindness never.

A good constitution is like a money box—its full value is never known until it has been broken.

The raven is like the slanderer, seeking carrion to feed upon, and delighted when a feast is found.

Let every one sweep the drift from his own door and not busy himself about the frost on his neighbor's tiles.

Intellectual pride is less outraged by the obscurities of faith than by the authority with which it is clothed.

It is safer to affront some people than to oblige them, for the better a man deserves the worse they will speak of him.

A man should never blush in confessing his errors, for he proves by his avowal that he is wiser to-day than yesterday.

One of the most effectual ways of pleasing and of making one's self loved is to be cheerful; joy softens more hearts than tears.

The man or woman whom excessive caution holds back from striking the anvil with earnest endeavor, is poor and cowardly of purpose.

A man need only correct himself with the same rigor that he reprehends others, and excuse others with the same indulgence that he shows to himself.

Wise men mingle innocent mirth with their cares as help either to forget or overcome them, but to resort to intoxication for the ease of one's mind is to cure melancholy with madness.

A correspondent of the London *Builder* estimates that the number of bricks annually used for building purposes in that part of London comprised within a radius of four or five miles from London bridge is 800,000,000.

NEWS OF THE WORLD.

Eastern and Middle States.

Pegram (colored) and Howard, the pedestrians, who are to take part against Rowell in the contest for the Astley belt in London next November have sailed from New York for England.

Nearly all the horses in Boston are suffering from a distemper resembling epizootic.

The ocean steamship Alsatia sailed from New York for London a few days ago, and when 250 miles out the coal in both bunkers was discovered to be on fire. In a short time a terrific explosion occurred and before the fire could be extinguished nearly all the coal was consumed. The vessel returned to New York.

Recent Associated Press dispatches give the total vote in Maine for governor as follows: Plaisted, 73,814; Davis, 73,640, Plaisted's plurality, 174. Although these figures are from the official returns, the official canvass of them is not made until the legislature meets in January, and only that body takes cognizance of errors in them. The plurality system—which provides that a plurality of votes and not a majority is all that is necessary to elect—is carried by a large majority.

The Maine Greenback State convention held in Portland a few days ago adopted resolutions indorsing the action of the State committee recommending fusion with the Democrats. The presidential electors named by the resolutions consist of four Greenbackers and three Democrats. The resolutions were supported by H. M. Plaisted and others, and opposed by Solon Chase and others, who afterward held a convention in the city hall, nominated a separate electoral ticket and adopted a resolution that they would vote for Weaver and Chambers.

The mother of Lillie and Lavinia Grace, two of the victims of the recent railroad disaster at May's Landing N. J., died the other day in Philadelphia from the shock to her system produced by the untimely death of her children.

The trotting wonder, Maud S., has been withdrawn from the turf by her owner, William H. Vanderbilt.

The northern freight-house of the Boston and Maine railroad, in Boston, was almost destroyed by fire a few evenings ago, involving a loss on the building and the freight stored in it of probably $130 000.

The Massachusetts Greenbackers at their convention in Worcester nominated a full State ticket with General Horace B. Sargent for governor.

Captain Allers, a New York pilot, while cruising several hundred miles off the coast, discovered a schooner of about 125 tons floating bottom upward. Upon sending a boat to the wrecked vessel for the purpose of scuttling it—as it was in the path of European steamships—a dead body was discovered in the rigging, with indications that the crew had perished in the cabin when she capsized. The stench from the decaying bodies was so overpowering that the men from the pilot-boat were compelled to leave the wreck drifting about on the bosom of the Atlantic.

The centennial celebration of the capture of the British spy, Major John Andre, by three Americans, was celebrated at Tarrytown, N. Y., in the presence of a crowd of visitors estimated to number between 50,000 and 75,000. The proceedings consisted of a long procession and the unveiling of a statue on the spot where Andre was captured. Hon. Samuel J. Tilden presided and Chauncey M. Depew was the orator of the day.

The political pot is boiling furiously in New York city and vicinity. Following upon Senator Conkling's speech in the Academy of Music the Democrats of the city have had a demonstration. Speeches were made by Senators Bayard, Kernan, Hill and others from the platform of Tammany Hall and nine stands on Union square, and a torchlight procession, variously estimated to have contained from 30,000 to 50,000 men took place. On the same evening Senator Blaine addressed the citizens of Newark, N. J., on the issues of the campaign.

The other day there was a snow-fall on Mount Mansfield, Vermont.

General Garfield spoke at a soldiers' reunion in Toledo, Ohio, the other day.

A fire in Brooklyn, N. Y., destroyed two large factories, causing a loss of about $230,000 and throwing some 400 men and women out of employment.

The official returns of the Vermont election are as follows: Total vote for governor, 70,709; Farnham, Republican, 49,894; Phelps, Democrat, 21,223; Heath, Prohibitionist, 1,578; scattering, 14. Farnham's majority, 25,079.

James Bean, a farmer fifty-two years of age, and his son, nine years old, were riding in a buggy near Addison Junction, N. Y., when the vehicle was struck by an express train and man, boy and horse were all killed.

General Hancock has written a letter declaring that he is opposed to the payment of rebel claims.

Six white and four colored criminals were publicly whipped the other day in Newcastle, Del.

At a Republican meeting in Philadelphia a few nights ago about 35,000 men paraded, and speeches were delivered by Senator Blaine and others.

Western and Southern States.

At the residence of Andrew Tiffany, near Janesville, Mich., Henry Lindley, a hired man in the employ of Mr. Tiffany, who is supposed to have conceived a passion for his employer's second daughter, Alice, aged eighteen, shot her dead and then blew his own brains out.

During a barroom fight at Milltown, Ky., twenty-six shots were fired and one man was fatally and three others more or less dangerously wounded.

A fire which broke out in a lumber yard at Bay City, Mich., for a time threatened the destruction of the whole city, but was finally subdued with the destruction of about a million and a half feet of lumber and a pecuniary loss of $20,000.

There have been floods in the Neuces, Sabrinal and Frio rivers of Texas, causing great damage to farm property.

Silas M. Waite, the absconding president of the First National bank i Brattleboro, Vt., whose defalcation amounted to $450,000, has been arrested at the house of his brother-in-law, Truman Buck, at Omaha, Neb. At the time of the arrest Mr. Buck and his family were away from home attending the State fair. The house was surrounded, when Waite ran into the cellar and tried to make his escape through a back door. When caught he threatened to commit suicide, and precautions were taken to prevent any such deed. He was taken to jail.

Memphis, Tenn., has been celebrating her continued good health and freedom from yellow fever by a large procession containing representatives from every branch of trade and industry. Among the thousands of visitors were the governors of Tennessee, Kentucky and Arkansas.

Miss Sadie White, nineteen years of age, daughter of a prominent citizen of Richmond, Ky., and generally conceded to be the belle of the blue grass region of Kentucky, was found dead in bed with a penknife in her hand and her throat cut from ear to ear. She is supposed to have committed suicide while in a temporary fit of insanity.

The boiler in a fruit-drying house at Monroe, Mich., exploded with terrific violence, killing the engineer, another man and a boy, wounding nine others more or less seriously and demolishing the building.

Peter Leach, a colored man, was hanged at Lumberton, N. C., for the murder of Sam Townsend, also colored.

The Mississippi steamer Florence Meyer struck a snag twelve miles above Natchez and sunk, carrying down five persons.

The bark Legal Tender, which arrived at San Francisco a few days ago from the Arctic ocean, reports that nothing has been heard of the exploring vessel Jeannette, nor of two whaling vessels, the Mount Wollaston and the Vigilant. Whalers are unanimous in the opinion that nothing will ever be heard from either the whaling vessels or the Jeannette.

Clarence Gray, candidate for district attorney at Santa Barbara, Cal., shot and killed Theodore Glancy, editor of the *Evening Press* of that city, for writing articles reflecting on his character.

By the bursting of a boiler belonging to a steam thresher on a ranch near Princeton, Cal., the fireman and two Chinamen were killed, and the engineer and six others were seriously scalded.

The prisoners confined in jail at Grenada, Miss., set fire to the building, which was entirely consumed. All the prisoners were released and made their escape.

Deadwood, Dakota, has just had a fall which lasted a week and which was the first ever held in the Black Hills.

From Washington.

Secretary Schurz, who has returned to Washington from his tour through the Indian country, visited on his trip seven of the principal Indian agencies and reservations in the West and Northwest. He a so met and conversed with a number of delegations from different Indian tribes whose reservations were not on the line of the route pursued by the secretary.

Nothing has been received at the revenue marine bureau or the treasury department concerning the revenue cutter Thomas Corwin, which was sent to the Arctic regions to relieve the whalers supposed to be ice-bound. The officers, however, are of opinion that the vessel is safe, and will be heard from this fall.

The minister of the United States at Peking, China, informs the state department that the United States consul at Hong Kong has reported to him that during the quarter ending June 30, 1880, emigrants numbering 6,902 left Hong Kong for the United States, of whom seven were females and forty-four boys.

The second assistant postmaster-general is having prepared for distribution the advertisements for proposals for carrying the mails over star routes for four years from July 1, 1881, in New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia, and the New England States. The advertisements will be printed and ready for distribution October 15. They will embrace proposals for 3,415 routes in the States mentioned below, and are distributed as follows: Maine, 280 routes; New Hampshire, 130; Vermont, 150; Massachusetts, 164; Rhode Island, 22; Connecticut 110; New York, 662; New Jersey, 114; Delaware, 28; Pennsylvania, 874; Maryland, 164; Virginia, 451; West Virginia, 266.

Dr. Bemis, of the national board of health at New Orleans, in a telegram to the secretary of the board, says that the commission recently appointed to investigate the character of the disease now prevailing on the lower Mississippi, which has been described as yellow fever, reports that it is malarial fever.

Mr. W. W. Corcoran, the aged banker of Washington, has given away more than $3,000,000.

The annual report of the supervising inspector-general of steam vessels shows that the lives lost during the fiscal year of 1880 will not exceed the following: From explosions, twenty-two; from fire, fifty-two; from collisions, sixty-six; from snags, wrecks and sinking, fourteen; from accidental drowning, twenty-five; from miscellaneous causes, six; total, 185. In 1879 the total number of deaths resulting from similar causes was 177.

During the last fiscal year the United States sent 126,468 pounds of letters to Great Britain, 64,433 pounds to Germany, and 19,994 pounds to France. The newspapers and periodicals transported in the domestic mails weighed over 30,000 tons, on which $1,226,412 postage was collected. Nearly 9,000 tons, paying postage to the amount of $346,529, originated in New York. Chicago ranks next with 3,000 tons, and St. Louis is fifth with 1,348 tons.

It is discovered that a safe in the office of the second auditor of the treasury at Washington, where are deposited a large number of trinkets and personal effects taken from the dead bodies of Union soldiers whose relatives could not be traced, has been robbed of property worth $5,000.

Foreign News.

A dispatch from Ottawa, Ontario, says that Major Walsh, of the mounted police, has accused Sitting Bull for the two years five a company of Canadians who propose making a tour of the United States and Canada with him, beginning on the first of January. He will appear in a border life drama.

By a landslip at Naini Tal, India, eleven British officers, fifteen soldiers and eleven other persons were killed and four injured.

At the recent battle before Candahar the Afghan loss must have been enormous, as it took a party sent out for the purpose eight days to bury the dead.

A steamer sailed the other day from Liverpool for New Orleans, having on board 150 British farmers for Texas.

Turkish troops near Scutari are dying of fever at the rate of 200 a day.

The sea serpent has again been found, this time off the coast of British America. A dispatch from Victoria says: A genuine sea serpent, six feet in length, with an orthodox mane, head shaped like a panther's and a tail terminated down to a sharp point, was brought in by Indians recently, they having caught it in deep water in the straits of Doharo. Its appearance creates intense interest among savants, and old fishermen cannot place the monster. The sea serpent has been photographed, and the body will be preserved in spirits and sent to Ottawa for classification.

Six thousand native Basutos, in rebellion against the British government in South Africa, have been thrashed by the colonial forces.

A dispatch from Madrid says that in consequence of the present tranquility in Cuba it is expected that the withdrawal of 15,000 troops will shortly be ordered.

Six persons were drowned by the capsizing of a ferry steamer at Bordeaux, France.

The king of Spain has ordered the twenty-fifth of September to be kept hereafter as a holiday, in honor of the new-born Infanta Mercedes.

Captain Howgate's Arctic exploring vessel, the Gulnare, has returned to St. John's, Newfoundland, in a damaged condition, having received rough handling in a gale.

The greater part of Vissoye, a large village in the canton of Valats, Switzerland, has been destroyed by fire.

Viscount Montmorres, an Irish landlord, on bad terms with his tenants, has been found shot to death with six bullet wounds, near Ballinasloe.

In a speech near New Ross, Ireland, Mr. Parnell denounced the British government, and said that nothing but the abolition of landlordism would settle the land question.

Five men were suffocated while cleaning sewers in Paris.

Russian constables have been stationed aboard the czar's new yacht, Livadia, now building at Greenock, Scotland, in consequence of a reported design to place explosives among the coals on board.

The Sultan of Turkey has ordered that any official heard expressing an opinion against his policy shall be exiled.

Brothers Reunited After Fifty Years.

The Richmond (Va.) *Dispatch*, of a recent date tells the following romantic story: On Saturday a stranger came here and made inquiries regarding the whereabouts of Mr. John Woodworth, a worthy farmer, who owns the place formerly the property of Judge Leon Trayer, Esq., on the Williamsburg road, about four miles from the city. The stranger had the appearance of a well-to-do farmer, and was evidently not familiar with our localities. He, however, soon found Mr. Woodworth at a stable on Eighteenth street, hitching up his team and getting ready to go home. He entered into conversation with Mr. Woodworth, asking him several questions, to which Mr. Woodworth, supposing him to be a sewing machine or lightning-rod agent, returned evasive answers. Presently, however, becoming more earnest in his manner, he startled his hearer by remarking: "I am going home with you to-night. Although you don't know me, I know you. I am your brother William." Mr. Woodworth was dumbfounded at this remark, and was distrustful, but his brother recalled incidents of their childhood which were distinctly remembered by him, though he was only three years old at the time, and convinced him that he who thus addressed him was indeed his brother. It seemed that about sixty-five years ago their father and mother with their children named in the order of their ages Catherine, William, Margaret, John and Absalom, were living in or near Albany, New York. The death of the parents following close one upon the other, when Absalom was a mere infant and John only three years old, caused a scattering of the family, kind friends taking little ones and administering to their wants. The boys, without home attachments or home influences to restrain them, wandered off early in life to various portions of the country. John was the only boy whose wanderings could be traced; for when thirteen years after, the sisters visited the scene of their early childhood his whereabouts was easily discovered, and communication was entered into with him. No knowledge could be obtained of the others. A short time ago that feeling which has a lodgment in every human breast to visit the old homestead, induced William to go to Albany and see once more the place of his infancy and friends of his early life. Here he found his sisters, and heard that his brother John was also alive and living near this city. The whereabouts of the younger brother, Absalom, even should he be living, is unknown.

Cellars.

Experiments prove that the air in a cellar rises and circulates through the house, and that, too, not only by means of the frequently-opened doors, but even when every door is kept shut and keyholes are stopped. It is simply impossible to keep a dwelling free from contaminated cellar air.

Yet how many sources of contamination are found in cellars—rotting wood, the entire floor often being pervaded by decay; vegetables stored there for the winter, and their refuse left the year round; musty barrels of vinegar or cider; leaky gas fixtures; badly constructed furnaces, from which escape various noxious gases; water closets, foul at the best, and often fouler through defects; defective sink and sewer drains, not unfrequently saturating the soil beneath the floor with filth.

Many cellars are dug directly into made land, and the gases of the decayed matter with which the soil is more or less filled pour directly into them, just as the water of the soil finds its way into the well.

This latter point is more important than most think, for the air circulates freely through the soil, even when frozen. Persons have been repeatedly poisoned and killed by gas which had traveled for a distance—in one case twenty feet—through the soil, and had penetrated into the cellar, and thence into the rooms above.

As the ground water rises or falls, the air follows it. Barometric influences—changes in the pressure of the atmosphere—force it down further or lift it out of the earth. Changes of temperature similarly affect it, and particularly does the warmth of a house establish an upward current from the cellar to the rooms above, and from the soil into the cellar. Hence—

1. Keep everything out of the cellar likely to vitiate its air.
2. Get the best constructed furnaces.
3. Have the gas meter and fixtures frequently examined.
4. Let the drains be of the best material and construction, and be ever in right—suspended from the ceiling instead of being buried under the floor.
5. Have the floor and sides made as impervious as possible.
6. Let the cellar be constantly and thoroughly ventilated with sun purified air.
7. If vitiating sources must remain, use the best disinfectants—not mere deodorizers.—*Youth's Companion.*

A New Peril for Smokers.

The poisonous effects of nicotine, which the anti-tobacco party has based most of its arguments against the weed on, have found a powerful ally. A well-known journalist of New York, one of the most distinguished war correspondents of the country, was recently much alarmed to learn that a lip sore, from which he had been suffering for some time, was diagnosed by his physicians as a symptom of a scrofulous disorder of a serious character. A thorough examination failed, however, to reveal the presence of any other evidence of the disease, and the doctor was, for the time, at a loss to discover its origin.

The patient is an inveterate cigar smoker, and this fact led his physician to make some inquiries in regard to the quality of the cigars that he smoked, the manner and place of their manufacture and other particulars. His investigations resulted in his forming the opinion, in which his patient is disposed to concur, that the mysterious sore and the disease, of which it is the undoubted evidence, were due to the smoking of cigars which had been made by some person with a scrofulous taint, who had communicated through the cigars to the smoker.

This theory, alarming as it is, is fully borne out by the testimony of the physicians of Bellevue and other eminent authorities, who are reported by the New York correspondent of a Western paper to have recently declared that, within their own experience, cases of contagious disease have frequently been traced to the same cause. These medical gentlemen assert that disease is so common among the tenement-house cigar-makers, who use their mouths as well as their hands in their labor, that it is not safe for any to smoke cigars without the use of a tube or holder, so as to avoid contact with the possibly infected leaf.

In the present case the physician is of opinion that the disorder thus strangely incurred has gone already too far even to be completely eradicated from the system, and hence another illustration of the danger of indiscriminate cigar-making and of unprotected cigar-smoking.—*New York News.*

Never Too Late to Learn.

Socrates, at an extreme old age, learned to play on musical instruments.

Cato, at eighty years of age, began to study the Greek language.

Plutarch, when between seventy and eighty, commenced the study of Latin.

Boccacio was thirty years of age when he commenced his studies in light literature; yet he became one of the greatest masters of the Tuscan dialect. Dante and Plutarch being the other two.

Sir Henry Spelman neglected the sciences in his youth, but commenced the study of them when he was between fifty and sixty years of age. After this time he became a most learned antiquarian and lawyer.

Doctor Johnson applied himself to the Dutch language but a few years before his death.

Ludovoico Mondaldesco, at the great age of 115 years, wrote the memoirs of his own times.

Ogilby, the translator of Homer and Virgil, was unacquainted with Latin and Greek till he was past fifty.

Franklin did not commence his philosophical results till he had reached his fiftieth year.

Dryden, in his sixty-eighth year, commenced the translation of the Æneid, his most pleasing production.

Thousands of examples of men who commenced a new study either for a livelihood or amusement, at an advanced age, could be cited. But every one familiar with the biography of distinguished men will recollect individual cases enough to convince him that none but the sick and indolent will ever say, "I am too old to learn."

The Water of the Nile.

In a work by Maillet, published last century entitled, "Observations on Several Passages of Scripture, as Illustrated by Voyages and Travels in the East," he speaks of "the extraordinary deliciousness of the Nile." It is, he says, so delicious that one would not wish the heat to be less, nor to be delivered from the sensation of thirst. The Turks find it so extremely charming that they excite themselves to drink of it by eating salt. It is a common saying that, if Mahomed had drank of it, he would have begged of God not to have died, that he might always have done it. In truth, when one drinks of it for the first time, it seems to be some water prepared by art. It has something in it inexpressibly agreeable and pleasant to the taste, and we ought to give it, perhaps, the same rank among waters that champagne has among wines. Its most valuable quality is that it is infinitely salutary. Drink it in what quantities you will, it never in the least incommodes you. This is so true that it is no uncommon thing to see some persons drink three buckets of it in a single day without finding the least inconvenience.

Conundrums.

When is a wall like a fish? When it is scaled.

How does a stove feel when full of coals? Grateful.

Which of the reptiles is a mathematician? The adder.

When is a boat like a heap of snow? When it is adrift.

When is a doctor most annoyed? When he is out of patients.

When is a literary work like smoke? When it comes in volumes.

Why is the letter G like the sun? Because it is in the center of light.

What is that which shows others what it cannot see itself? A mirror.

Why is the letter N like a faithless lover? Because it is in constant.

How does a cow become a landed estate? By turning her into the field.

Why is whispering a breach of good manners? Because it is not allowed.

What is an old lady in the middle of the river like? Like to be drowned.

What word may be pronounced quicker by adding a syllable to it? Quick.

Why is a miser like a man with a short memory? Because he is always forgetting.

How does a sailor know there is a man in the moon? Because he has been to sea (see).

Why is a fool in high station like a man in a balloon? Because everybody appears little to him, and he appears little to everybody.

A Curious Combat.

A traveler in South Africa witnessed not long since a singular combat. He was musing one morning, with his eyes on the ground, when he noticed a caterpillar crawling along at a rapid pace. Pursuing him was a host of small black ants.

Being quicker in their movements, the ants would catch up with the caterpillar, and one could mount his back and bite him. Pausing, the caterpillar would turn his head, and bite and kill his tormentor. After slaughtering a dozen or more of his persecutors, the caterpillar showed signs of fatigue.

The ants made a combined attack. Betaking himself to a stalk of grass, the caterpillar climbed up tail first, followed by the ants. As one approached, he seized it in his jaws and threw it off the stalk.

The ants, seeing that the caterpillar had too strong a position for them to overcome, resorted to strategy. They began sawing through the grass-stalk. In a few minutes the stalk fell, and hundreds of ants pounced upon the fallen caterpillar. He was killed at once, and the victors marched off in triumph, leaving the foe's body on the field.

The Diary of a Dollar.

Found myself yesterday morning in the pocket of a man who had promised to love, honor, protect and cherish me with all his might and main. And this morning where am I? Burst. Broken. In a hundred pieces. Lying disjecta membra, etc., in grim saloon tills or dirty pockets. But I anticipate. I was on the reserve force and laid by to pay a bill. My comrade was a fifty-cent piece, who was expected to pay that day's expenses. Suddenly this comrade disappeared. On dit, he was borrowed. I came next. I went thus: For a cigar after breakfast, ten cents; for a glass of beer at 10 A. M., five cents; for four glasses of beer for the crowd at 12 M., twenty cents; for another glass of beer, five cents. Verily, what a shadow is a $? What a shadow it pursues.—*New York Graphic.*

Butchers are not to be relied on; their's is a skin game.—*Waterloo Observer.*

THE POWER OF THE PINS.

English Superstition Connected With the Glittering Little Shafts.

Why north-country people are so persistent in their refusal to give one another a pin it is not easy to discover, as even they themselves cannot give the origin and reason for this superstition. When asked for a pin they invariably say: "You must take one, but mind, I do not give it." Another fact associated with pins will doubtless interest those of the fair sex about to enter on the happy state of matrimony. Thus, it is still a prevalent belief in certain places that the bride, in removing her bridal robe and chaplet at the completion of the marriage ceremonies, must take special care to throw away every pin worn on this eventful day. Evil fortune, it is affirmed, will, sooner or later, inevitably overtake the bride who keeps even one pin used in the marriage toilet. Woe also to the bridemaids if they retain any of them, as their chances of marriage will thereby be materially lessened, and anyhow they must give up all hope of being wedded before the following Whitsuntide.

On the other hand, in Sussex, a bride on her return home from church is often at once robbed of all the pins about her dress, by her single friends present, from the belief that whoever possesses one of them will be married in the course of a year. Much excitement and amusement are occasionally caused by the youthful competitors for this supposed charm; and the bride herself is not unfrequently the victim of rather rough treatment.

Among the magical properties of pins we may mention their supposed efficacy in the cure of certain diseases. Thus, in Leicestershire, in the case of warts, the patient is taken to an ash tree, where a pin is first stuck into the bark, and withdrawn; a wart is transfixed with it till he feels pain, and then the pin is again pushed into the tree. Every wart thus treated is said to die away gradually until they entirely disappear. A few years ago, we are told that some trees might be seen thickly studded over with pins, each the index of a cured wart. In place of a pin, a nail driven into an oak is reported to cure toothache. A Gloucestershire remedy consists in rubbing the warts with a small, sweet pin has been pierced with a pin as many times as there are warts. As the snail by degrees withers away, so it is believed that the wart impregnated with its matter will do the same.

One of the most popular species of enchantment to which pins have been applied, is their supposed influence in counteracting the ill effects of witchcraft. An interesting case of this kind occurred within the last few years at Sussex, which Mrs. Latham has recorded in the "Folk Lore Record." A lady observed upon a cottage hearth a quart bottle filled with pins; and on inquiring why they were put there, was requested not to touch the bottle, as it was red hot, and because if she did so she would spoil the charm. "What charm?" she asked, in some surprise. "Why, ma'am," replied the woman, "it has pleased God to afflict my daughter with falling fits, and the doctors did her no good, so I was recommended to go to a wise woman residing near Guilford, and she said, if she was well paid for it, she could tell me what ailed the girl, and what would cure her. So I said I was agreeable, and she told me that people had bewitched her with falling fits were bewitched, and that I must get as many pins as would fill a quart bottle, and put them into it, and let it stand close to the fire, upon the hearth, until the pins were red hot. As soon as this took place, they would prick the heart of the witch who had brought this affliction upon the poor girl, and then she would be glad enough to remove it." A medical practitioner of the same neighborhood, in illustration of this superstition, narrates that when a house in Fulborough was undergoing thorough repair, a bottle containing upward of 200 pins was found beneath the hearthstone of one of the rooms, every pin being bent, and some of them nearly in a curve. This was done, it was thought, apparently by a person of common occurrence, and the workmen, who were engaged in doing up the house in question, affirmed that they often made similar discoveries in repairing houses. Another curious case of counteracting witch craft by "pin-sticking" occurred at a recent period in the parish of Honiton Clyst. A landlord having lost one of his tenants, certain repairs and improvements were found necessary to prepare for the next. In carrying out the work a chimney had to be explored, when, in the course of the operation, there was found carefully secreted a pig's heart, stuck all over with thorn prickles. This is supposed to have been done by the direction of some "wise" or "cunning person," as a means of taking revenge on the witch to whose incantations the party considered some mischief due, in belief that the heart of the ill-wisher would be pierced in like manner, until it finally became as pulseless as that of the pig.

In divination, pins are generally dropped into wells and omens gathered from the direction in which they fall. In the north of England there are the "wishing wells," into which, if the passers-by only drop a crooked pin and breathe their wish they may rest assured of its fulfilment. Near Wooler, in Northumberland, on the flanks of the Cheviots, there is a spring of water locally known as "Pin Well;" and the "Worm Well," at Lambton, has for many years been a popular resort for pin divination. St. Helen's well, near Sefton, is no less famous. Young people from time immemorial have been in the habit of casting pins or pebbles into it, and making prognostications from the circles formed on the surface of the agitated water. In many a well will be found the pins which have been dropped by maidens desirous of knowing when they were to be married. One writer tells us how he once witnessed on a May morning a group of beautiful girls perform the ceremony of pin dropping at Madron well, near Penzance. Two pieces of straw about an inch long each, were crossed and the pin run through them. The cross was then dropped into the water, and the rising bubbles carefully counted, as they marked the number of years which would pass ere the arrival of the happy day. People also formerly were accustomed to visit this well and wash in its water when suffering from sundry maladies. All over the highlands of Scotland there are holy healing wells at which the peasantry leave offerings of pins and nails.—*London Queen.*

Taking Him at His Word.

The inhabitants of the north of England are a matter-of-fact people. The following incident illustrates their shrewdness and ready resource. In a village in one of the Dales lived a kind-hearted but somewhat hot-headed woman who entertained the minister when he came to preach there. On the occasion of the first visit of one of this fraternity, she deemed it necessary to ascertain his preference for tea or coffee for breakfast; so as she was going on with the preparation of the meal, she went to the stairfoot and called out the name of her guest. But no answer was vouchsafed her call. Wonderingly, she waited awhile, and then, repeating her call, she was answered by, "What do you want?" in anything but a gentle tone of voice.

"I want to know whether you'll have tea or coffee to your breakfast?"

"I'll have either, or both," was the odd and stinging reply.

"You've got out on the wrong side o' the bed ta morn," said the irritated dame to herself; "but I'll fit up yer order, my man;" so saying, she went to the cupboard, took thence another teapot, and putting therein equal quantities of tea and coffee, she made a strong decoction thereof for the preacher. Presently, he felt that he had a strangely-flavored beverage before him; so, pausing, he asked: "What's this, missis?"

"It's both, sir; and you shall either sup it or gang without."

Ra her High.

A French journal contains the following statement of the height of the different highest spires and monuments on the globe.

	Feet.
Towers of the Cathedral of Cologne	480
Spire of the Cathedral of Rouen	461
Tower of St. Nicholas, Hamburg	433
Cupola of St. Peter's at Rome	429
Spire of Strasburg Cathedral	426
Pyramid of Cheops	411
Cathedral of St. Stephen's, Vienna	406
St. Martin's, Landshul, Bavaria	399
Cathedral of Fribourg, Baden	375
Spire of the Cathedral of Antwerp	370
Dome of St. Mary's, Florence	347
St. Paul's, at London	434
Dome of the Cathedral at Milan	327
Cathedral of Madebourg	311
Tower of Rathhaus, Berlin	264
Trinity Church, New York	258
The Pantheon, at Paris	240
Notre Dame, at Paris	360
The Washington Monument is to be	500

TIMELY TOPICS.

A scheme of African exploration is said to be under consideration in Portugal, which, if carried into execution, will probably result in the achievement of the most important geographical work. It is proposed that two expeditions should start simultaneously from the Portuguese possessions on the east and west coasts of Africa, and, after founding a series of scientific and commercial stations along their line of route, meet at some point in the interior.

The wool-clip of the world has increased five times since 1830, when it was about 320,000,000 pounds in weight. In 1878—the latest year for which there are complete figures—Europe produced 740,000,000, River Plate 240,000,000, United States 208,900,000, Australia 350,000,000, and South Africa 48,000,000 pounds, making a total of 1,586,000,000 pounds. Great Britain and France consume each about the same quantity of wool—380,000,000 pounds a year. Germany consumes about 165,000,000 pounds, United States 250,000,000 pounds, and Russia, Austria and other countries 400,000,000 pounds.

It is a curious fact that the locomotive which, with its train, went down with the Tay bridge, is now running regularly between Glasgow and Edinburg. For three months it laid in the bottom of the Tay, but when it was brought up it was found uninjured, except the funnel, dome and weather-board, which had to be renewed. She ran on her own wheels to Glasgow just as she came out of her long bath. Strange feelings might arise in the traveler's breast on learning that his train was drawn by that engine—but there is a locomotive engineer, it is said, in the United States, running regularly upon a railway upon which he was one time the cause of a most terrible disaster.

Cologne cathedral, which has just been completed after centuries of labor, is one of the largest and loftiest buildings in the world. For the past sixty years the work has been carried on with but little intermission, the cost being met by both public and private contributions, and a German architectural journal has ascertained that the aggregate amount expended within this period is eighteen millions of marks, or about $5,400,000. When to this is added the money contributed during past centuries and "notably what has been sunk in the colossal foundations and spent in purchasing various necessary parcels of ground," it appears that the cathedral, as it now stands, represents about forty millions of marks, or $12,000,000.

The number of postoffice employees in England (46,192) seems very large in proportion to an exceedingly small number of offices (13,912) until it is considered that the English postoffice also conducts a large savings bank and telegraph business. The United States postoffice's number 42,069. The total of "delivered" letters in England was 5,345,678, while 2,996,513 letters passed through our dead-letter office. Not less than 526,469 persons forgot to put their own address inside the letters they wrote, and 21,621 letters were posted positively without any address whatever, of which not less than 1,141 contained valuables. These last figures indicate a number carefully conducted correspondence than is common in the United States, for among American dead letters were 13,775 containing $1,100,000 in checks, drafts, etc., besides 64,000 others containing stamps, etc. Among the novelties of the English service is a system by which receipts are given for letters posted (which does not be confounded with the registration system), and the charging of a "late fee," by paying which domestic letters are received after the mails have closed, as is now done here for foreign letters.

What is Healthful Exercise?

This is a question propounded to one of our leading physicians recently. He did not answer specifically. "A man in a sedentary occupation," said the doctor, "ought not to take violent exercise. Exercise, like everything else that is good, should be taken in moderation. That is the objection to rowing and kindred amusements. They are not healthful because carried to excess. Horseback riding is good exercise, so is walking. But whatever the form of exercise do not put use it to extremes."

There is a deal of sense in what the doctor says, remarks an exchange. Nearly all the great pugilists, baseball and oarsmen, pedestrians, athletes and men who are specially trained for extraordinary feats of physical endurance, break down early. They exhaust