

It was in 1888 that Colonel John Washington saw that Mount Vernon would have to go by the auctioneer's hammer if something did not turn up. And here comes the romance of Mount Vernon. A woman who had been abandoned by her lover, the nineteenth year raised a fund of \$200,000, and embodied a plan that gave Mount Vernon to the nation. This was Anna Parson Cunningham of South Carolina. She was an only and indulged daughter. In her childhood she had visited Mount Vernon, and when she had resigned in 1873, she except that which could be enjoyed in a sick room, in her early womanhood she took hold of a project to buy Mount Vernon, or rather she projected a look hold of her. It is one of the most singular instances of indomitable energy and practical perseverance on record. This trail woman, from her husband abandoned, raised especially among Southern women, that resulted in a splendid success. She inspired Edward Everett with her spirit. An incident of the romance of Mount Vernon poured money into the treasury. She interested Miss Lovett and Mrs. Cora Mowatt Biddle, and in 1887 it was accomplished. Invaluable tracts of Washington and 200 acres of land belonged to a national association. The legislature of Virginia granted a vote of thanks, and the government accepted the gift. The capital stock was limited to \$500,000. It was granted in full, and the constitution of the Mount Vernon Association was passed. The association was organized in Washington, and the first meeting was held at Mount Vernon. The association has since that time been engaged in the restoration and preservation of the Mount Vernon estate. It has succeeded in securing the title to the estate, and in restoring the buildings and grounds to their original appearance. It has also been successful in securing the recognition of the estate as a national monument.

The Floral Mystery.
Two children long at play,
Basil picking flowers
To play with and to away.

One holds in her tiny fingers
A buttercup, golden bright,
And pulls out the sunny petals,
Scattering them left and right.

Her face wears a puzzled expression,
And she whispers mournfully,
" I have pulled the eye to pieces,
And where can the butter be?"

FRED KURTZ, Editor and Proprietor.
VOLUME XV. CENTRE HALL, CENTRE CO., PA., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1882. NUMBER 48.

The Farmer's Thanksgiving.

The harvest fields are striped in green;
The late-own corn is shucked in bin,
And husked beneath a chilly sun;
The ragged stubble checks the plain.

The hills are desolate and cold,
The maple stands in lone array,
And through the forest's muffled gray
The winds of heaven strike the wood.

Ye hills the harvest splendours fall,
The grain is sold, the barter made,
And with the cash and corn, and trade
Are past and slow and slow away.

The Thanking-in of the Hills.

That old Anstie Purcell loved her home
Was not to be wondered at,
She had her mother's love, she had her mother's care,
She had her mother's love, she had her mother's care.

The Ocean's Depths.

Some of the wonderful things discovered
At a meeting of the National Academy of Sciences in New York
Professor A. E. Verrill, of Yale college,
described the physical and geological character of the sea bottom.

Scientific Notes.

A very durable artificial ivory has recently been prepared by dissolving shellac in ammonia, mixing the solution with oxide of zinc, driving off the ammonia by heating, powdering and strongly compressing in molds.

Facts and Comments.

There may be something to cause people to look upon the revenue of the Dominion of Wales as being a very desirable thing, but the revenue of 10,000,000 recovered by an English lawyer against a town as compensation for personal injuries caused by drinking impure water supplied by the corporation.

One's First Earthquake.

A private letter recently received from Miss Fanny Snow, containing an interesting account of the earthquake in Mexico, is so full of interest that we have been permitted to quote a portion of it.

Alaska's Mineral Wealth.

A man named Moore recently arrived at Victoria, B. C., direct from Alaska. He says that the Yukon prospectors from Arizona, by the gold discoveries of bituminous coal, gold, silver, copper and nickel, amounting to \$100,000,000.

Down in the World.

A New York letter to the Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution contains the following personal: "I saw to-day a man in shabby get-dress—his beard long and matted with grime, and his face thin and pinched—

An Unwelcome Visitor.

A humorous article happened about the bombardment of Alexandria. A gentleman wrote to Admiral Seymour, complaining that there was a number of boxes of the kind in his drawing-room, and requesting its removal.

Never, mother, And we will.

"Never, mother, And we will make it what it used to be; for, worthless as they look, in that handful lies a whole universe of happy possibilities." "Gretchen, my faithful wife! there lies home regained, my mother blessed, my children educated, and you without a care. These are the Purcell acres and all the Purcell acres once again our own."

Noteworthy Trees.

An elm near Lawrenceburg, Tenn., is 150 feet in diameter from tip to tip of its branches, and 320 feet in circumference.

Greene county, Miss.

Greene county, Miss., is a double pine tree which has a distinct trunk twenty feet apart, forming a sort of Y-shape, and during the present season over 200 birds built nests in its branches.

A Bank Clerk's Sacrifice.

A good many years ago, a cashier took a little lad from a neighboring poorhouse and when the boy had become a youth he was given a responsible position in the bank. Later the cashier stole more than \$15,000 from the bank.

Wackerle Insurance case.

The Wackerle insurance case at St. Louis has recalled other attempts, or alleged attempts, to swindle insurance companies. A jeweler having insured his store for \$100,000 against fire, discovered a process of canneling gold with the cyanide of potassium.

Simplicity in Food.

How, says Dr. Nichols in the Food Reform Magazine, are we to get at the proper quantity of food? There are some good rules for feeding as to quantity. When our food is simple and natural in kind and quality and mode of preparation there is little danger of eating too much.

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Thirty thousand horses a year are needed to supply New York city's demand.
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