

The Pith of Poetry and Prose.

A man alone in a room is left to his own reflections. When the weather waxes too warm Venetian keeps shady.

A mule is unlike a poor rule, because he works both ways.

Burglars never tackle a healthy book agent. Life is too short.

Three donation parties to one pastor are as destructive as a fire.

A big balance in the bank gives a man a substantial backbone, and he feels it, too.

The belle of the season is now at every watering place and summer resort on the globe.

"Behind Her Fan."

Behind her fan of down fluffy, Sewed on soft saffron satin stuff, With peacock feathers, purple-eyed, Caught daintily on either side, The gay coquette displays a puff.

Two blue eyes peep above the buff; Two pinky pointing lips—enough! That cough means surely come and hide Behind her fan.

The barque of Hope is trim and tough, So out I venture on mine rough, Uncertain sea of girlish pride. A breeze! I tack against the tide,— Cepture a kiss and catch a cuff,— Behind her fan.

We carry all our neighbors' crimes in the light and throw our own over our shoulder.

It is said that snuff is a sure remedy for separating fighting dogs. Its sneezy thing to do.

Ninety million postage stamps are sold annually. This is the country that gets in the big licks.

Ella Wheeler warbles "Love is enough." Ella always sings in that strain just after a big dinner.

"Should old acquaintance be forgot, etc?" They always remember us when they want a few dollars.

"Pride comes before a fall." Yes, and a good big oath comes after a fall, especially if you fall on hard ground.

A millennium that would come before its time would be like pears plucked when green and ripened in the show-case.

Brevity is one of the characteristics of certain journals. A Southern paper speaks of Weston, the walker, as an "ex ped."

Working Unshod Horses.

A gentleman who claims to have tested it, says:

"I find that they work better, are more sure-footed, and far less liable to lameness than when shod, and I am satisfied that horses' feet, as nature made them, are all sufficient for ordinary work. After my long experience I should now as soon think of going to a farrier myself to be shod as to send my horse. Our roads are rough, shaly and stony, much more than the average roads. To prevent the hoofs from chipping, the toes should be kept slightly rounded by a coarse file, such as is used by shoers, and the feet should always be looked to when the horse is groomed."

We will admit that nature made all the arrangements necessary for the horse's foot, when the horse is left in this wild condition, as nature made him. Who would think—or what benefit does anyone suppose could be derived from going out on the plains, catching a wild horse and putting shoes on him? History has yet to teach us of a single instance where the horse is found in a wild state, in any country that is rocky or mountainous—or, if they are, the mountains are interspersed with soft, luxuriant valleys, where the horse makes his home, and consequently we say that the horse's foot was as nature intended it (as nature does not make mistakes), all right and properly made for the animal, when left to himself and allowed to roam where his natural instincts lead him. But when we talk of driving our civilized horses over our piked roads in the country, our rough roads filled in here and there with sharp, jagged stones, and still worse, our macadamized, Belgian and cobblestone streets in cities, the domesticated horse is brought within another sphere, and is made to go where, and do which, he would not if allowed to use his own instincts in the matter. And it is for this very reason that human judgment devised the means of protecting the horse's feet by use of iron bands; and the same argument holds good where the writer says that the world as soon think of going to the farrier's to be shod, as to send his horses. But we are inclined to think the author of the above would not make any mistake about going to the shoemaker after a pair of good boots, but he intended to draw in a crop of wheat, or grain that had plenty of Canada thistles or creeping vines well decorated with briars—especially if he did the leading.

As to the question of horses being more subject to go lame, we will answer by saying that there are two reasons for this, the first being that there is not enough attention paid to the question of shoeing horses. Four weeks is the longest that any set of shoes should stay upon a horse's foot before being reset. But how often do we find people that do not think of this matter, unless a shoe be thrown,

oftener than every three months? And, secondly, when they do get the horses shod, it is by incompetent farriers, and herein we claim the greatest trouble lies.—W. S. Webster in Thoroughbred Stock Journal, Phila.

Home Economics.

APPLE MARMALADE.—Take any kind of sour apples, pare and core them; cut them in small pieces, and to every pound of apples put three-quarters of a pound of sugar; put them in a preserving pan and boil them over a slow fire until they are reduced to a fine pulp; then put in jelly jars and keep in a cool place.

CRUMBS PIE.—Take one cup of molasses, one cup of cold water, one teaspoonful of soda, stir together and pour into the crusts; then take three cups of flour, one sup of sugar and one cup of butter, rub well together and sprinkle over the tops of the pies; set in the oven and bake until light brown. This recipe will make four pies.

HAM COOKED IN CIDER.—Put a pint of cider and a cup of brown sugar into enough water to cover the ham; boil three hours, or until the skin will peel off easily. Remove the skin, cover the ham with a crust of sugar, and bake in a slow oven three hours. Dissolve a cup of sugar in a pint of cider and baste the ham frequently while baking. If the cider is very sweet use less sugar.

CRAB APPLES.—Select perfect ones; pour boiling water over them, which removes the skin; lay them in water enough to cover them; let them simmer slowly until soft; take them out and drain; make a clear sirup, pound for pound; boil them in it till clear, lay them on dishes to cool, and place them in jars; cook the sirup a little longer, and pour it over the apples when hot: seal.

STEAMED FISH.—Place tall of fish in its mouth and secure it, lay on a plate, pour over it a half pint of vinegar seasoned with pepper and salt; let stand an hour in the refrigerator, then pour off the vinegar, and put in a steamer over boiling water; steam twenty minutes, or longer if the fish is very large (when done the meat easily parts from the bone); drain well, and serve on a napkin garnished with curled parsley.

CREAM OYSTERS.—Fifty shell oysters, one quart of sweet cream, butter, salt and pepper to taste. Put the cream and oysters in separate kettles to heat, the oysters in their own liquor, and let them come to a boil; when sufficiently cooked, skim; then take them out of the liquor and put into some dish to keep warm. Put the cream and liquor together. Season to taste and thicken with powdered cracker. When thick stir in the oysters.

FRENCH SETWED OYSTERS.—Wash fifty large oysters in their own liquor, strain the liquor into a stew pan, putting the oysters into a pan of cold water, season the liquor with a half pint of sherry or madeira, the juice of two lemons and a little mace. Boil this liquor and skim and stir it well; when it comes to a boil put in the oysters well drained, let them get heated through, but do not boil them. Many people consider this the neatest way of stewing oysters.

FRENCH MARMALADE.—Take the entire rind of twelve oranges or lemons; put it into plenty of fresh water and boil until quite tender; then throw it into a pan of cold water; let it remain from eight to ten hours; drain it, mash it smoothly, pass through a sieve, weigh it, and to each pound of pulp add one pound of white sugar; put it into a preserving pan and stir it well over a moderate fire until it is a rather thick paste; put in small pots for use. The juice and pulp are not used.

The Dispensary.

PEPPERMINT DROPS.—Mix half a pound of sifted sugar into sufficient lemon juice to make a proper thickness. Dry it over a fire, gently stirring in, at the same time, 120 drops of oil of peppermint, after which drop the mixture upon white paper well greased.

HOW TO OBTAIN LONG LIFE.—Thousands of people annually ruin their constitutions by simply swallowing too much medicine. It may seem a strange thing for medical men to say, but it is nevertheless a fact. It is a dangerous thing to fly with every little ailment to the medicine chest. The use of tonics, unless under medical advice, should be discontinued; a tonic is sharper than a two-edged sword—it is a tool that needs to be used with caution.

COUGH TROCHES.—One ounce of Spanish licorice, two ounces of finely powdered gum arabic, and extract of opium one scruple. Beat the whole together, make into small troches; to be dissolved in the mouth when the cough is troublesome.

Onions, to be deprived of strong odor, should be boiled in salted water for ten or fifteen minutes, and then put in cold fresh water for half an hour; after that they should be put into a stew pan with just enough cold fresh water to cover them, and boiled gently till tender. Drain and serve with melted butter.

The Field of Science.

Silecia yields a kind of asbestos, which is made up of short interwoven fibres, and it has more than 3 per cent.

At a meeting of the Russian Chemical Society, on September 22. M. Mendeleeff stated that the specific gravity of the petroleum of Baku was between 0.881 and 0.880 and that it yielded large quantities of vaseline.

Ultramarine blue is decided by M. Guckelberger to be a true definite chemical compound, requiring for its formation a temperature about the melting point of zinc, and toward the end of the process even a still higher degree of heat.

Basing his opinion on the results of experiments conducted at the Agricultural School at Norden, Dr. Wegner says that artificial manures can be applied profitably on marsh lands. The harvest of the crops raised yielded a very fair return for the expenditure incurred.

Salting, M. L. Fourment asserts, is not necessarily fatal to trichinae imbedded in meat. These parasites may live in salt provisions for fifteen months. Salting, indeed, often serves to preserve the vitality of trichinae, as it protects them to some extent from the destructive influence of heat.

Sir James Paget is indignant at the nature of the English law against vivisection. "I may," he says, "pay a rat catcher to destroy all the rats in my house with any poison he pleases, but I may not myself, unless with a license from the Home Secretary, poison them with snake poison."

Rawhide horseshoes are made and used in England, but to no great extent. Three thicknesses of green hide are said to be compressed into a steel mold and then subjected to a chemical process. It is said one of these shoes weighs but one fourth as much as an iron shoe, and will wear longer.

The method by which Dr. S. R. Marsden recently succeeded in making minute diamonds depends upon the solubility of carbon in fused metals and its crystallization afterward, when the mass is allowed to cool very slowly while the crucible is buried in sand. He makes the carbon by calcining sugar.

Eastern Carpets.

It is not easy for a European who has never been in the East to realize what an important position the carpet fills there. To an Arab his rug is his most treasured possession. Without one he is a pauper. It is necessary to his devotion, it is often his bed, sometimes his saddle, and generally the only decoration of his tent. This has been the case for centuries and over a vast extent of territory.

The process given in ancient times would now be thought extravagant even by the collector who will offer thousands of pounds for a Meissonier or a few inches square. A million of money is said to have been paid by a former Gulkwar of B. R. da for a cover for the Prophet's tomb, and though their value portion of this sum represented the jewels interwoven, still about 230,000 remained as the value of the groundwork. Major Euan Smith mentions that he saw at Kerman a carpet being made for the shrine at Mashad which was to cost it the rate of 27 the square yard. It was 11 yards long by 2 1/2 broad, and would take 70 years to make. This means a still larger price when labor becomes more valuable, which it must do even in Eastern countries. Then, too, modern chemistry has done its best to ruin the colors, and dyes are not proof against the temptation of the cheapness of aniline as a substitute for the more expensive but lasting pigments. Mr. Vincent Robinson tells us that Kermes, the best red ever discovered, was in the Middle Ages in general use all over Europe. It was known to the Greeks and Romans, the Turks, Cossacks and Armenians. Venetian red was made from it, and the Spaniards paid tribute to Rome with it. grains. The serfs in Germany were bound annually to deliver a certain quantity to the convents. Hellot speaks of it in old Flemish tapestries as having lasted 300 years without fading. We hear that Mr. William Morris has determined to revive this valuable dye, for there is no dye known in modern times that can supplant it for lasting qualities. Whether it can be procured at a price which is likely to bring it into general use remains a question yet to be solved. Sir George Birdwood thinks that in India the decay both in the quality and the design of carpets has been greatly owing to the competition between the Government mills and the caste weavers. It is only from provinces far away from European influence that anything worth buying can now be had. He hopes much from the revival of taste in England, and thinks that with more universal culture we shall come to reject the pretentious and worthless manufactures now flooding the market.

Poet's Corner.

Ashes of Roses. So fit on the sunset sky Bright daylight closes, Leaving, when night doth die Pale hues that mingle lie— Ashes of roses.

When love's warm sun is set Love's brightness closes; Eyes with hot tears are wet, In hearts that linger yet, Ashes of roses.

At Parting. As one in thinking of the dead Recalls the face, but not the name, As knowing when the soul has fled A little goeth as it came.

Be mine the face that you recall And mine the name that you forget, The sweetest story of them all Is thought, but never uttered yet.

Autumn. The aster glows the falling leaves beneath, The golden rod gleams by the hedgerow brown, As though the dying summer in the frost-kings' teeth Had buried her gaudy tawny down.

So when the shades of solemn silence sink Upon us, and we reach life's latest breath, The soul exultant bids, 'E'en on the grave's black brink, Defiance unto death!

We perish not. The mounting spirit towers In celestial immortality sublime, And gains beyond death's feeble, fleeting winter hours Eternal summer time.

Fate. Who can withstand Fate's weapons, time and change? The warrior spirit, armed and nerved for the fight, Awaits Fate's onset from whatever quarter; But entertained so well by peace and plenty Fate finds him at his ease and weaponless! The lover, by his passionate zeal inspired, Stands ready to dare all things for the dear one's sake; But crafty Fate will wait till love's fierce flame, Its own heart consuming, sinks to the common level!

The would-be Spartan is put not to the test Till many dainty meals have made him dainty. He has rehearsed his scene with Death, both lines and gestures; But when the dreadful call comes all's forgotten. Trembling he stands, and, like an ox, is led out speechless!

And thus, with all high and heroic daring, Fate little heeds our deafening storm of challenge. Else heroes were as plentiful as men.

The Fair Sex.

One of the sweetest-looking girls in Ray county dislocated her shoulder the other by kicking at a cat. Beauty is a mighty deceiving thing, young man.

A woman has suggested that when men break their hearts it is the same as when a lobster breaks one of his claws—another sprouts immediately and grows in its place.

A Lady's Toast to the Men. At a literary meeting Mrs. Dunway toasted the men as follows: "God bless 'em. We have their joys, double their sorrows, treble their expenses, quadruple their cares, excite their affections, control their property and out-manoeuvre them in every thing. In fact, I may say, without a prospect of successful contradiction, without 'em it would not be much of a world anyhow. We love 'em and the dear being can't help it; we control 'em and the precious fellows don't know it. As husbands they are always convenient, though not always on hand; as beaux they are by no means matchless. They are most agreeable visitors; they are handy at State fairs and indispensable at oyster saloons. They are splendid as escorts for some other fellow's wife or sister, and as friends they are better than women. As our fathers they are inexpressibly grand. A man may be a failure in business, a wreck in constitution, not enough to boast of a beauty, nothing as a legislator of women's rights, and not even very brilliant as a member of the press, but if he is our own father we overlook his shortcomings, and cover the peccadilloes with the divine mantle of charity. Then, as our husbands, how we love to parade them as paragons! In the sublime language of the inspired poet—

"We'll lie for them, We'll cry for them, And if we could we'd fly for them. We'd do anything but die for them."

Fashion Hints. STYLES FOR CHILDREN.—The Princess dress for little girls is always in favor, and is usually completed with a deep collar and cuffs turned back in union with it. Sailor suits for both boys and girls hold their own, and there are few styles more becoming and comfortable.

It is always a difficult matter to dress little boys well, but the pretty kilted dresses, which are simple and child-like and yet essentially boyish, solve the problem.

The large collars for both boys and girls continue in favor, and are made in every style, plain and shirred, rounded or square. The first trouser suits for boys of four or five are very prettily finished off, with knee pants, vest and loose jacket, with several rows of raised black buttons down the vest, while for larger lads a suit of long pants and jacket which is semi-tight and comes below the hips, is useful and gentlemanly.

ENGLISH APRON OR BLOUSE.—This simple little dress, arranged so as to give the effect of a blouse worn over a

glimpe, is made of white French nailbook, prettily trimmed with Valenciennes edging and insertion. The blouse is mounted upon a square yoke, made of alternate rows of lace insertion and strips of nailbook, and the full sleeves are gathered at the wrist with a band of insertion and lace ruffle. In less expensive goods this design is an excellent one for an apron, and be worn to protect the dress underneath.

Englishwomen have taken a great fancy to the Greenaway styles for their children. This fashion derives its name from the authoress of a number of charming designs which are creating a perfect furor in London. The designs represent chubby little children, with rosy cheeks and curly hair, dressed in old style, such as were worn by their grandmothers fifty years ago. Little girls wear skirts fastened to very short waists, leg-of-mutton sleeves, and immense "cabriole" hats. The boys are dressed in short coats, wide trousers, and the style of hat worn in 1830.

The Girls. Wildness is a thing which this cannot afford. Delicacy is a thing which cannot be lost and found. Nature can restore the grape to its bloom. Familiarity without love, without confidence, without regard, is destructive to all that makes woman exalting and ennobling.

"This world is wide, these things are small, they may be nothing, yet they are all."

Nothing? It is the first duty of woman to be a lady. Good breeding is good sense. Bad manners in a woman is immorality. Awkwardness may be eradicated. Bashfulness is constitutional. Ignorance of etiquette is the result of circumstances. All can be condoned and do not banish me, or women from the amenities of their kind. But self-possession, unshrinking, and aggressive composure of demeanor may be reckoned as a State's proudest offense, and certainly merits that mild form of restraint called imprisonment for life. It is a shame for women to be lectured on their manners. It is a bitter shame that they need it. Women are the umpires of society. It is they to whom all mooted questions should be referred. To be a lady is more than to be a princess. To a lady prince and peasant alike bow. Do not be restrained. Do not have impulses that need restraint. Do not wish to dance with the prince unsought, feel differently. Be sure you confer an honor. Carry yourself so loftily that men shall look up to you for reward, not at you in rebuke. The natural sentiment of men toward women is reverence. He loses a great amount of grace when he is obliged to account her as a being to be trained in propriety. A man's idea is not wounded when a woman falls in worldly wisdom. But if in grace, in tact, in sentiment, in delicacy, in kindness she should be deficient wanting he receives an inward hurt.

Independent Girls. There is growing up among the more intelligent young women a desire to be independent. They want some means for earning a living, so that they may be independent in the matter of support even of a husband. There is a great deal of education not taught in the schools. It is an education of the young which comes of family training and observation. Marriage is no longer preached as a duty or as the acme of lasting human bliss. Conscientious mothers, who have taken it all in, are advising daughters not to marry for the mere sake of catching a husband. Sensible, observing girls have watched and noticed the results of marriage among their companions and former schoolmates, and the general verdict on the subject is not favorable.

The average girl, whether of the store, workshop or boudoir, is still as pretty an idiot as ever on this subject. Her dream is the nice young man with plenty of money or at least a good salary, who shall put the plain gold ring on her finger.

This is not wrong. It is natural and right. It is not well for any to live alone. But some wisdom, some discretion, and considerable knowledge are necessary as to the choice of the young man.

But the small class of girls are growing up with a strong prejudice against putting themselves in a position where they shall be obliged to ask a man for spending money. It matters not how dear or near the relative yet it is a trial to any person of pride or spirit to be dependent for every cent they need or want on another. One of the greatest of the world's pleasures to persons of such disposition is to hold in their hands their own money, the money they have earned; to feel it is theirs; that it is nobody's business but their own what they do with it, and that no one has the right to call them to account for one penny of it.

A visitor to a baby show sums up: "For pure, unadulterated foolishness about a baby, a father can 'out foolish' all the rest of the family—yes, and I will throw in the grandmother on the mother's side, too."

Money Order System.

From the superintendent of the money order system for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1882, it appears that the business in that division exhibits a remarkable increase over the transactions of the previous fiscal year. The domestic operations of the 5491 authorized money order offices (to which number 449 have been added since June 30, 1882, while one office has been discontinued), received the sum of \$118,400,118 21 in money orders, and of \$113,388,301 93 in orders paid and repaid, a gain in each case of about eight per cent. The fees received from the public amounted to \$1,053,710 55, an increase of nearly nine per cent. There were 377,443 international money orders issued of the value of \$6,536,514 48 and 116,883 such orders paid, amounting to \$2,453,462 79, while the total amount of fees paid to the public was \$145,644 25, so that the domestic and international money orders issued during the year aggregated \$119,936,932 69, and the orders paid with the repayments of over \$115,000,000. The gains in the issue of the orders of the several nationalities varied from twenty-three to seventy per cent., and in the payment of such orders from three and a half to forty-nine per cent. Admissions are constantly made to the number of foreign countries with which the United States transacts money order business, Jamaica, New South Wales, Victoria and New Zealand having been added during the past year, while an interchange of money orders with Portugal will be commenced on January 1st next, a convention for that purpose having been duly signed and approved July 15th, 1882.

The gross revenue from the domestic money order business was \$280,341 for the fiscal year 1881-82, and from the international money order business for 1880-81, \$80,426.

The sum total of these amounts has been paid into the Treasury for the service of the Postoffice Department. Deducting therefrom all the expenses of the system which were paid during the year, and there remained a net profit of \$165,030.

One hundred and nineteen cases of alleged lost remittances and ninety-five cases of alleged erroneous payments were investigated by post office inspectors, forty-eight of these cases occurring from July 1st, 1881, to June 30th, 1882, making the ratio of improper payments as 1 to 175,034.

Superintendent McDonald concludes his report with a renewal of the recommendations contained in his last report, providing for modifications of the money order system, and for the issuance of new form of money order, to be called "postal notes," for sums under five dollars, at a fee to the public of three cents, designed to replace the withdrawn fractional currency so far as it was formerly employed by "mittance by mail."

Coloring Powers of Soil.

A recent inquiry by Herr Volny into the influence of color of ground on its heating, yields the following results: (1) The color of arable land of approximately the same nature affects its heating to a comparatively great depth. This influence is different according to the season, time of day, and amount of cloudiness. In the warm season, at the time of daily maximum of ground temperature, and with unhindered radiation, the ground is hotter the darker the color. The difference of temperature between bright and dark colored ground disappears more or less in the cold season, at the time of the daily minimum of temperature, with diminished insolation, and at great depths. (2) The daily variations of temperature are greater with dark coloration than with bright. They are generally; rather the greater the difference in the mean temperature, and conversely. (3) The influence of color indicated in (1) decreases in proportion as the water content increases, and other factors which determine the heating of arable land gain the preponderance. With great differences in physical properties, chiefly caused by a larger amount of humus, and water capacity, the influence of color may be wholly set aside.

Worlds With Double Suns.

It has now been ascertained that many planets in the universe are illuminated by two suns. While astronomers are certain of the fact, they are puzzled to account for the orbit of these planets, which must describe irregular paths in their revolutions. The suns are often very different in their appearance, often one is yellow and the other purple. It follows that suns and sunsets on such planets must be far more beautiful than here on this earth. The blending of different solar rays must give rise to many varied phenomena of the natural forces not known to us. In such solar systems light, heat and electricity must assume new phases. As yet we are ignorant of some of the deeper mysteries of the starry heavens, but it is wonderful how much man has found out about the distant stars.