

### Domestic Economies.

Polish oilcloth with kerosene.  
Wash matting with salted water.  
Clean grained wood with cold tea.  
Charcoal in the cellar sweetens the whole house.

If you dip your broom in clean, hot suds once a week, then shake it and hang it up, it will last twice as long as it would without this operation.

A simple and easy way to ornament a common pillow-case for the baby's pillow is to feather-stitch it all around with scarlet marking cotton. Choose the cotton which is warranted not to fade.

There is danger, as many people have found to their sorrow, of a gossamer waterproof cracking when stiffened by cold; so before putting it on, in severe weather, warm it before the fire, both outside and in, and this danger is averted.

**THE DINNER TABLE:** We are often asked for information in regard to the proper manner of arranging a dinner-table. The following hints are, we believe, the correct thing: Above all things have your linen spotless and shined properly, and your silver and glass shining. Arrange your plates upon the table right side up. A knife and fork should be supplied for each course, and a dessert spoon for soup. Place the knives with the spoon between, upon the right hand, the forks, with the tines down, upon the left. All the dishes should be well heated. The napkin should be neatly folded with a piece of bread or roll inside and placed at the right-hand side. A china bowl full of ferns or flowers, if obtainable, should always be upon the dinner-table, or a flower-pot of growing ferns concealed in a handsome jar. In giving a dinner party, a large block of ice placed upon a silver and covered with moss and flowers will make a pleasing ornament which, as the ice melts away, cools the air. Soup is usually served first, the servant handing the plates at the left hand to the guest. Only a few spoonsful are in the dish and no one asks for or accepts a second plate. Fish is next served with potato cake or rolls; or small oyster patties and served after the soup and before the roast appears. When wine is served, if you do not wish it, put your finger over the top of the glass and say: "Excuse me, please." The dessert is placed upon the table after the salads have been removed and the crumbs brushed from the cloth. Puddings and pastry are served first, then jellies, ices and cakes and fruits. Finger-bowls should be placed at each plate when the fruits and ices are served, with a dainty napkin for drying the fingers.

### Tobacco Items.

**CIGARS.**—Manufacturers of cigars have got their troubles just now; orders are flowing in freely at the full reduction, while cigarmakers are clamoring for an increase of wages; certainly not a pleasant situation, but one which seems to us will require careful handling in order to bring about harmonious action. The opinion is general, that for the balance of the year a large substantial satisfactory business can be claimed.

Manufacturers of fine grades are having a steady, healthful, improving demand, while medium and low grades receive full attention for May delivery.

**SNUFF.**—Largely booked for next month, while for the past week increase orders for immediate use were received.

**SEED LEAF.**—Packers and dealers of cigar leaf claim trade very quiet, but admit manufacturers call daily and inspect the various grades of wrapper leaf, which they acknowledge they must buy before long, for heretofore they have been working on stock exclusively in factory; dealers, knowing the stock will be needed after awhile, do not show any anxiety to force sales, but abide their time; their stocks are well selected and can be sold at fair figures, therefore they feel confident it is only a question of time when their labor will be fully rewarded.

Hinders and fillers as usual find buyers at full figures.

Sumatra has been largely handled and shows a decided advance from 10 to 15 cents. A great number of new inquirers are to be seen daily on the market.

**HAVANA.**—Begins to show new life, especially first-class Vuelta Abajo. Prices rule steady, and favor the holder of stock of extra quality. Havana wrappers are fast being taken off the market by manufacturers.

The rains lately fallen at Remedios have done much good to the plant and imparted great hopes to growers in that locality.

According to our Vuelta Abajo exchange the last rains have been very beneficial to the plant at Guane and few other localities where some sales have been lately effected at advantageous prices for growers, say \$4.50 gold per carrot for 1sts to 6ths; \$3.50 do do for 7ths and 8ths; quebrado de 1ra at \$1.75; 9ths and quebrado de 2a at \$1; 10ths at 2/4 rs, and 11ths and 12ths at 2 rs.

The last rains have had for result a decided improvement in the quality of

the leaf in several localities of the Vuelta Abajo; the tardio leaf has turned out such an excellent class that some growers sustain it as good as the temprano. Repors from Hato Quemado, Pilotos and other celebrated districts are cheering; but though a certain number of purchasers are now visiting those localities, transactions have heretofore been unimportant, owing to the pretensions of growers who have taken advantage of the smallness of the crop to enhance prices to a further extent.

According to recent advices the totality of last year's crop at Remedios, though of good class, remains unsold as yet, from want of buyers at prices pretended by holders.

The following new cigar brands have been recently incorporated:—"La Catalina" by Mr. M. Garcia; "C. Alvarez" by Mr. Gonzalez; "Flor de Garcia" by Mr. Oceguala, and "Mi Odalisca" by Mr. Gonzalez.—*Spencer's Price Current.*

### THE FRENCH REGIE CONTRACT.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Alex. Harthill, the well known tobacco broker of Louisville, Ky., we are enabled to give the following official particulars regarding the French Regie contract for the present year:

**ADJUDICATION, PARIS, JUNE 6th.**  
3,000,000 kilogrammes (about 9000 hogsheads) Maryland; 2,000,000 kilogrammes (about 6000 hogsheads) Ohio.

**ADJUDICATION, PARIS, APRIL 7th.**  
5,000,000 kilogrammes (about 8000 hogsheads) Kentucky, light types, composed of 25 per cent. "A" and 75 per cent. "B"; 2,000,000 kilogrammes (about 2750 hogsheads) Virginia.

Conditions are as usual. All tobacco to be of 1881 and 1882 crops. Kentucky deliverable in following manner: One-third before October 1, 1883, another third before December 10, 1883, and the other third before March 1, 1884. The quantity of Kentucky tobacco called for is about 1500 hogsheads less than called for last year.

Regarding the requirements of the Italian Regie, it is said that they will call for but 11,000 hogsheads, while they took 16,000 last year, a probable decline in this year's requirements of 5000 hogsheads. If this be true, low prices may be looked for in the types required by the Regies.—*Western Tobacco Journal.*

### CANADA'S NEW REVENUE ON TOBACCO.

The Canadian Government have arranged a new excise on tobacco, which is announced by the Minister of Finance, Sir Leonard Filly. After May 1, 1883, tobacco and snuff manufactured from Canadian leaf, 2 cents per pound; that manufactured from foreign leaf, 12 cents per pound. Until July 1st, 15 cents per pound will be levied on cigars manufactured from Canadian leaf, and 30 cents per pound on all manufactured from foreign leaf. All packages of cigarettes or cut tobacco of less weight than one-twentieth of a pound, 20 cents per pound. After July 1, cigars made from Canadian leaf will pay a revenue of \$1.50 per thousand, and those made from imported leaf \$3.00 per thousand.

### Kitchen Conceits.

**CELERY SAUCE.**—Stew one pint of cut celery slowly in one pint of water, till perfectly tender, skim it out carefully, make a drawn butter sauce with the water, add the celery, and serve.

**SALAD OF SOUR ORANGE.**—Slice half a dozen of sour oranges; remove the seeds without breaking the slices; arrange them neatly on a salad dish or salad bowl; dust them lightly with cayenne pepper; pour over them three tablespoonfuls of salad oil and serve the salad with game or poultry.

When, as is often the case, it is found impossible to mash turnips so that they are free from lumps and are smooth, do not attempt to serve them in this way; it is much better to acknowledge defeat, and send them to the table in slices, if the turnips are large, and in halves or quarters if small. Put a lump of butter and a little pepper and salt on each piece.

**GRAHAM PUDDING.**—Mix well together one-half a coffee cup of molasses, one-quarter of a cup of butter, one egg, one-half a cup of milk, one-half a teaspoon of pure soda, one and a half cups of good graham flour, one small teaspoon of raisins, spices to taste. Steam four hours and serve with any sauce that may be preferred. This makes a showy as well as light and wholesome dessert, and has the merit of simplicity and cheapness.

**GLAZED TURNIPS.**—Peel a quart of small, even-sized turnips, boil them just tender in salted boiling water, and drain them on dry towel; put into a frying pan just large enough to hold them, a teaspoonful each of butter and sugar, and let them melt together; then put in the turnips, set the pan over the fire, and shake it occasionally until they are light brown; keep them hot without burning, to serve on the dish with tenderloin.

### What is in Writing only Admissible.

A real estate suit was last month decided which illustrates the necessity of having every detail of a real estate or other bargain fully set forth in the written contract. A piece of property was ordered sold for \$72,176. The buyer asked that the \$175 be thrown off. The agent complied with his request, and sold the property for \$72,000, but the \$175 was to have come out of his commission, and not out of the seller. This the seller understood, and, consequently, as far as she was concerned, the sale was made at \$72,175. But in consequence of a heavy deduction asked for by the buyer for a right to the use of an alley which the seller erroneously thought her lot possessed, and some complications of a State title, the seller refused to complete the sale. The buyer then sued her, but was beaten, because the courts held that the agent exceeded his power in selling for \$72,000, when his order from the seller was \$72,175. Testimony to show that the seller was notified and that it was not a deduction from her price but from the agent's commission, was not allowed to be introduced. The written contracts alone were admitted, and the agent was apparently censured for doing what so far as the seller's pocket was concerned he did not do at all—selling for a lower price than she ordered, the property sold at. The court also said that the agent bound the seller to pay the taxes, and that, though they were then a lien (the sale was made in October) he (the agent) had no right to bind her to pay them. No explanations of this or other matters were allowed, because they were not in the contract. What is in writing in such cases only will be admitted as testimony.

### The Site of Rome.

The site chosen for the building of Rome was that long expanse of undulating ground, lying on the banks of the Tiber, to which the name of the Campagna has been given. The Seven Hills, of which we hear so much, are projections of the table land as it advances towards the river; and after the enlargement of the city walls by Aurelian, these projections were considerably more than seven.

The Campagna extends along the central portion of the western shore of Italy for about ninety miles, with an average breadth of twenty-seven miles. On the right, looking toward the south, are the waters of the Mediterranean; on the left rises the lower chain of the Apennines, beyond which stretches the main ridge of these mountains, which divide Italy into two nearly equal parts.

Travellers who visit the Campagna de Roma at the present day behold a wide extent of open country, partly marsh-land, partly pasture, partly cultivated ground, which in the hot days of summer is yellow or gray with the universal aridity, but in the winter or early spring presents a scene of exquisite beauty, green with the rich grasses of a fertile earth, and brilliant with the wild flowers which are natural to that region. At whatever period of the year the explorer sees much more than the productions of the soil, or the changeable effects of atmosphere. In the immediate vicinity of Rome, he sees the wrecks and ruins of that Imperial system which had there its seat and centre. The remains of magnificent buildings, shattered towers, broken arches, and the crumbling temples of forsaken gods, and the gigantic aqueducts which carried water to the great city start out of the marshes, or the uncultivated fields, like the bones of a departed greatness. In some places the luxuriant vegetation of a Southern clime has taken these relics back into the embrace of nature, in others they rise bare and forlorn, above the pitiless waste. There is no such impressive scene elsewhere; no scene at once so grand, so mournful, so full of varied interest, so pregnant with profound morals, so dowered with weight and continuity of life.

It has been well remarked that, in comparison with Rome, all other cities are provincial. No other locality is so uniformly and permanently great; so great both in the ancient and modern world; so great in arms, in intellect, and in far reaching authority. The history of Rome is for many ages the history of all that portion of the world which mainly excites the interest of intelligent and thoughtful men.

### A Pomological Monstrosity.

A peculiar freak of monstrosity of nature is exhibited in an apple brought to our office by a friend some weeks since. It is a perfectly formed apple, one half being a russet and the other a bellflower.

The Government work under General Ransom, on the Trent river, in North Carolina, has enabled large steamers to go 35 miles up the stream.

### Misers.

#### Some Interesting Facts Concerning Them.

Thomas Guy was at once a miser and philanthropist. He was a bookseller, and began life in London with a capital of £200. By speculations in South Sea stock in the year 1729 he amassed an immense fortune. Almost everyone else was ruined by the memorable "South Sea Bubble." He was a pitiable miser, denying himself the necessary comforts of life. He always dined alone, with a newspaper for a table cloth. One winter evening he was sitting alone without fire or light in order to save the expense of both. A visitor was announced, and Guy lighted a farthing candle. The visitor was a Mr. Hopkins, another celebrated miser, who had called in order to be taught a lesson in frugality.

"If that is all you have come about," said Guy, "we can as well talk in the dark," and blew out the light.

Struck with this instance of economy, Hopkins took his leave.

Strangely enough, while depriving himself of all that makes life comfortable, Guy was erecting and endowing a hospital, since known as "Guy's Hospital." At his death he left the largest sum ever donated by a single individual for charitable purposes. He founded several other charitable institutions beside Guy's, principally hospitals, nor did he leave his relatives unprovided for. Altogether Thomas Guy was one of the most singular compounds of meanness and benevolence that ever existed in the human form.

Before London had any bridge over the Thames the conveyance was by ferry, the ferrage privileges belonging exclusively to one John Overs.

Although penurious to the last degree, Overs educated his only child, a daughter, with the utmost liberality, but when she grew to womanhood he would not suffer a man to speak to her, if he could help it. However, a young and venturesome gentleman managed to make her acquaintance while the old man was raking in his penny fares. They determined to elope, and were awaiting a favorable opportunity, when Overs, in order to save a day's expenses, hit upon the expedient of feigning death. His half-starved apprentices, hearing the good news, and supposing him really dead, began to skip about the corpse and ransack the cupboards for eatables, loudly rejoicing over his death.

Unable to contain his rage, Overs rose up in his winding sheet and started forth like a ghost. One of the apprentices, thinking it was the devil in his employer's likeness, caught up a broken oar and with one blow struck out Overs' brains. Thus the old miser actually lost his life through counterfeiting death. The law acquitted the apprentice.

While the old man was thus imitating death the daughter's lover was in such haste to run off with the girl that his horse threw him and broke his neck. For his penuriousness Overs had been excommunicated by the church and was refused Christian burial. The body was, therefore, placed upon an ass and turned adrift. It wandered until it came to the place of execution—hangman's ground, where it shook off its burden.

The body was tumbled into the ground at the foot of the gallows. So many misfortunes coming together unhinged for a time the daughter's reason. On her recovery she determined to dedicate her father's fortune to charity, by way of expiation. She founded a famous church called St. Mary Overs, which title it still bears.

The church was afterward converted into a college for priests, some of whom built London Bridge, the first bridge across the Thames.

Another tragic death was that of Mr. Foscoe, a French miser of the eighteenth century. He had amassed fabulous wealth by grinding the poor. He was ordered by government to raise a large sum of money, and to evade this he pleaded poverty, and hid his wealth in a cave, which he made himself in his wine cellar. He used to descend into this cave by a ladder, the door fastening by a spring lock. One day Foscoe was missing, and all search for him proved unavailing. At last his house was sold, and the new purchaser discovered a little locked door in the cellar, which he ordered to be opened. There, in the midst of almost countless gold and piles of treasure, lay the skeleton of the miser. He had died of hunger, after gnawing the flesh off both arms. The door had accidentally closed and shut him in, to die a slow death, in sight of his precious hoards of treasure.

The cigar manufacturers of Cincinnati proposed to the strikers to pay 90 cents per thousand advance and give the remaining 10 cents to "packers and others." The strikers "emphatically" refused, and made an additional demand that hereafter the charge of 30 cents per month for extra gas burned during the winter be abolished. One factory employing 70 hands was granted the demand.

### For the Young.

#### The Silver Lining.

It was a dull, cloudy day, but Lill put on her hat.

"Where are you going?" asked her mother.

"I am going to find the silver lining at the clouds," said she.

"You will have to travel far, child; you will get wet to the skin."

But Lill thought she could run between the drops, at a pinch; and away she went over hills and through the woods and across little rivulets, without finding it. Once she thought she saw it gleaming in the distance, but when she reached it, it was only a mud puddle. She asked of every one she met, "Have you seen the silver lining of the clouds?" but few had been so fortunate; many had never even heard of it; some thought she ought to borrow Jack's bean stalk, if she was going after it, and others advised her to inquire of the man in the moon.

"I have seen it often," murmured the little stream that tumbled over a rocky bed. "In the summer time, after the drought, my waters are often too scant to turn the mill wheel, and the miller can grind no grain, and the little children go hungry to bed, till a great cloud comes up and shows its silver lining."

"We have seen it, too," whispered the trees together, when our roots were thirsty and our leaves withered. "And all the grasses sang its praises."

"I will spin you a silken ladder to go in search of it," offered the garden spider.

"If I could find out where the rainbow begins," said Lill, "that would carry me to cloud-land."

"Can you tell me where the rainbow begins?" she asked, knocking at a farm-house door.

"Yes, indeed," said the old farmer, looking over his spectacles; "it begins in neighbor Goodwin's meadow, yonder. I've hunted for it myself, when I was a boy, and went bird-nesting, but I never caught up to it. Every year I meant to look it up, but now I'm too lame. But I've seen it over yonder, these forty years."

Lill pushed on along the highway, without seeing the rainbow or the cloud's silver lining. But she met a peddler, who said he had them both in his pack, and would sell them cheap.

"As I was coming down the valley this morning, singing to myself, some saucy girl began to mock me. Tell me her name, and I will show you the silver lining of all the clouds."

"Oh, dear!" cried Lill, "but I don't know the girls about here. Maybe I can find out, though. What else have you got in your pack, please?"

"I've got a good stock, let me tell you; none of your tinsel gewgaws, but a serviceable lot, nobody can do without. Here's your rainbows, both single and double, and your showers, your fogs and your frosts. I've a rare invoice of frost-work embroideries, just imported from the North Pole; and here are your Northern Lights and your Christmases, and your Fourth of Julys, and your Thanksgivings all stowed away in my pack."

"Are the yesterdays there, too?" asked Lill.

"I've got all the to-morrows."

"And the silver lining of the clouds, too?"

"Plenty of it; only find out the name of that wicked girl who dared to mock at old Father Time, and then you shall see it."

Lill went on more quickly than before; she climbed the mountain and reached the valley, but she met with no girls; only an old woman gathering fagots, and a wood-chopper felling trees. "Hallo!" said he, and somebody answered, "Hallo!" but it was not Lill, and yet there was nobody else in sight.

"Have you seen the girl who mocks at the people in this valley?" asked Lill.

"Have I seen her?" repeated the wood-choppers. The oldest inhabitant has never seen so much as her shadow. She's nothing but a voice, only."

"What a queer person!" said Lill.

"Where does she live?"

"In a castle in the air, perhaps."

"It's growing dark; they'll be looking for me at home," said Lill. "I came out to find the silver lining of the cloud."

"You'll be just as likely to find it at home as anywhere," returned the wood-chopper.

And sure enough, when Lill opened her eyes the next morning, there it was, shining on the hedges, sparkling on the meadows, and hanging on the branches of the plum trees in great white garlands of snow.

### The Purse of Rupees.

A merchant put two thousand rupees into a purse, and, having closed the mouth thereof with a seal, he gave it in charge to a Cazy, and then went on a journey. When he returned, he received it from the Cazy, sealed up in the same manner as when he had delivered it; but upon opening it, he saw copper coin instead of his silver. He began disputing with the Cazy, who denied that he had shown him the rupees;

and said that he had received back the bag, sealed up just as it was delivered. The Cazy's people drove him away.

The man went to the King, and presented his grievance. The Sultan after pausing a little, said to him:—

"Go for the present, leave the purse with me, and I will do you justice."

"The next day he made a small rent in the new musnud (cloth) of the throne, and then went a hunting.

A Ferash, whose turn it was to be that day in waiting, when he saw the musnud torn, was so frightened that his body was all in a tremor. He showed it to another Ferash, and remarked:

"If the King should see it, he would kill me."

The other asked whether any one else had heard of the accident, or had seen the musnud, and he answered in the negative.

"Be of good cheer, then," replied he, "for there is in this city a Ruffogour (or darning) who is a perfect master of his business, carry the musnud to him, and he will fine-draw it in such a way that no one will discover it."

The Ferash went to the shop of the Ruffogour, and told him that if he did the business nicely, he should have whatever he might demand. The Ruffogour required only half a dinar, but the Ferash gave him a whole dinar, and the musnud was mended and returned in the course of the night. The next day the Ferash spread it on the throne.

When the King saw that the musnud had been put to rights he asked the Ferash who had darned it. The Ferash pretended ignorance, but the King told him not to be alarmed, for that he had torn the musnud to answer a particular purpose. The Ferash then named the Ruffogour, and the King sent for him, and asked him whether he had darned a purse in the course of that year, and whether, if he should see it, he should know it again. He answered, "Yes."

The King then showed him the purse, which he knew again, and said that the Cazy of the city had given it to him to do.

The King then sent for the Cazy, and said to him:

"I had perfect reliance on your integrity; on account of which I promoted you to the dignity of Cazy. I did not know you to be a thief. How came you to steal a man's property?"

He answered:—"Alas! my lord, who accuses me of this?"

The King replied:—"I say so," he then produced the purse, and showed where it had been darned. The Cazy was confounded, and trembled. The King sent him to prison, and he commanded the owner of the purse to take his money from him, and the Cazy, having no alternative, paid it. The next day the King ordered the Cazy to be hanged.

### Curiosities of the Railway Census.

In the *Scientific American* for March 3, under the above heading, was a paragraph relating to the difference between the receipts of railways for transportation of passengers and freights, in which the results were rendered rather absurd by the use of mighty dollar marks instead of humble cents. The paragraph should read as follows:

The freight carried in 1880 was two hundred and ninety-one millions of tons, for which the railways charged 1.29 cents per ton per mile, and made a profit of 0.53 of a cent per ton per mile.

The number of passengers carried was two hundred and seventy millions, for which they each paid an average of 2.33 cents per mile, and the companies made a profit of 0.62 of a cent per mile. If the passengers are counted by weight, allowing 14 passengers to the ton, then the receipts of the companies for their two-legged freight was \$3.26 per ton per mile, and their profit was 86.8 cents per ton per mile.

By the ton, then, passengers yield sixteen times more profit to the railways than ordinary freight.

We renew the suggestion that there seems to be an opportunity here for the exercise of genius by railway managers in the development of new and better inducements for travel. Various suggestions, doubtless, will rise in the minds of readers, such as the adoption of improved means for safety, smoothing and better ballasting of roadbeds, faster time, easier and more commodious cars. But without going through the entire list of improvements that might help travel, we will name one subject that railway officials might study and proceed to carry out at little expense, as a help to passenger traffic, namely, the inauguration in every city, town and village of a thoroughly good and cheap service for the use of customers between their homes and the stations. At present the companies leave their patrons to the tender mercies of extortionate hackmen and baggage smashers; and so general are the inconveniences that exist between residence and car that probably not a hundred tickets are bought where a thousand would be purchased if a first-rate service, such as we have indicated, could be realized.