

ONE VIEW OF MARRIAGE.

I must give up my billiards, my beer and cigars—
Never think about matinees, races or bars.
And make my small income in some manner do.
To furnish food, clothing, et cetera, for two.
The girl may be pretty and loving, I grant—
Perhaps she can cook, but more likely she can't!
She may play the piano for "all that it's worth."
But for her washing—why, heavens and earth!
No marriage for me, it's too much of a sham!
I think I am far better off as I am.

ANOTHER VIEW.

I'm weary of bachelor's life, I declare,
Of a little hall bedroom and boarding-house fare.
No pleasant companionship, nothing at all;
I long for a home, be it ever so small—
For a home and a wife who is cheerful and bright.
If "union is strength," why, my notions are right.
My wages are small, but I think they will do.
With a little economy, nicely for two.
I've my eyes on a girl, and I'll ask her—
That's flat.
So off with my slippers, and ho! for my hat!

Beauty and Extravagance.

Do women look prettier for all this increased expenditure? Oldish men say, "Ah, there are no pretty girls now, such as there were when I was a young fellow." Young men say, "What guys women made of themselves before the present style of dress came in." The truth is, probably, that a pretty woman charms in any dress, not because of it, but frequently in spite of it; while a plain woman is often enough stylish in her get-up, taking especial trouble to be perfectly correct in details since she cannot hope successfully to compete in point of looks. Extravagance, then, is by no means necessary to the setting off of beauty, and as for the common excuse, that lavish expenditure is good for trade, it furnishes a knife that cuts both ways.

If expenses increase in one direction they must necessarily be limited in another; and if one set of tradesmen get the Benjamin portion of a man's income (through his wife and daughters), some other sets obtain less than they otherwise would. There were of course, extravagant women in the days of crinoline and back chair, but their very extravagance would now almost be considered as economy. As compared with the powers of spending money of a woman of to-day, it was "as moonlight unto sunlight and as water unto wine." With all these blue, yellow and scarlet ribbons for temperance in drink, will no one start a white ribbon for temperance in costume? It might be at first difficult to obtain recruits, but there certainly are a few women of England who have been secretly hoping for a backward tide in the flow of present extravagance, and who would gladly hail the initiation of far different state of things—a reaction in favor of simplicity and a purer taste.

Of Charlotte ex-Empress of Mexico an exchange says: "Her splendid black hair has whitened, but her health is good, and she has recovered from the attack of madness which followed her being told of the execution of Maximilian. She is very fond of music, spending many hours in playing duets with one of her ladies of honor, and also shows much interest in her garden. When the weather is fine she walks a great deal in the park surrounding her Chateau de Vouchant, and plays with a dog which the Queen of the Belgians one day rescued from some boys who were tormenting it, and gave it to her sister-in-law."

Religious Sentiment.

When there is alarm lest the foundations will be shaken, because old traditional views are proved incorrect, it is wise to listen to the words of those who have earned a right to speak. "To me," says Prof. James D. Dana, "the first chapter of Genesis is greatly illumined by the revelations which science has made. I see nothing in modern developments to shake my faith in its inspired announcement rightly interpreted, or in any of the essential truths taught in the Bible.—*Golden Rule.*

"I AM WRONG."—Let any one try it, and he will find that so say in earnest, "I am wrong," is the most difficult speech he can make. And yet, it is the noblest of all. Very often, indeed, it is true that any one of us, and it always shows that we know ourselves. It is the only possible road to take to produce an amendment of life. No man can reform while under the conviction that his deeds were virtuous rather than vicious. It is only a conscious sinner that can become a penitent one. The proofs around us and within us that we err, are as manifold as the variety of ways that proof can be made. To acknowledge is the first and most necessary step; to amend will follow as effect follows cause. The prayers offered confessing our sins are innumerable, but God alone knows how few confessions are made in the heart.

SILENCE.—Silence has a kindly influence when rightly used. What an incalculable portion of domestic strife and dissension might have been prevented. How often the quarrel, which,

by mutual aggravation, has perhaps terminated in bloodshed, might have been checked in its commencement by a well timed and judicious silence! Those persons only who have experienced it are aware of the beneficial effects of that forbearance which to the exasperating threat, the malicious sneer, or the unjustly imputed culpability, shall answer never a word. And there are not wanting instances where the reputation, the fortune, the happiness, nay, the life of a fellow-creature might be preserved by a charitable silence either by the suppression of some condemning circumstances, or by refusing to unite in the defamatory allegations. In silence, too, there is safety always.

COMFORT IN SICKNESS.—A minister in Dublin, some years ago, made a call on one of his flock, a lady, who was feeble and rather desponding. When asked very tenderly about herself, her reply was, "Weak—oh, so very weak!" And then she added, that she had been that day much troubled in mind because she had found it impossible to govern her thoughts in meditation and prayer, so much so, that "She had kept going over and over the same thing again and again." "My dear friend," replied the pastor, "there is provision in the gospel for you here. Our Lord Jesus Christ, when his soul was exceedingly sorrowful, three times prayed, and spoke the same words." In a moment her face was lightened up. Her trouble was gone. In similar circumstances, Dr. Stoughton, of London, entered the room of one sinking under pulmonary disease. "How are you feeling to day?" "Weak—oh, so very weak!" He looked at her pale, sad face, and with half a smile on his own face, repeated the first two lines of a hymn well-known to her:

"When I am weak, then I am strong;
Grace is my shield, and Christ my song—"

The effect was remarkable. Her countenance changed, lighted up with a gladness that never left it, but shone from it even in death.

"I am useless now—quite laid aside," said a devoted Christian man in a time of sickness to a friend who came hoping to speak a word in season. The sick man was calm and patient. The words of his friend, however, seemed to aid him in no way, till, in going away, he said with true feeling, "You think you lie there useless; but the sight of you, to-day, has taught me what will send me on my way with stronger faith and confidence." The idea of having helped another at once touched a chord in the heart of the sick believer who was left in his chamber with his cup brimming over.

After Two Centuries and a Half.

Few more unlikely repositories of a love token, or tender pledge of the affections, would suggest themselves, one would say, to even the most inquisitive collector of such relics than, let us say, a chimney cowl, or the foundation stone of an Asylum for Incurable Tricyclists. Yet a lock of hair once bestowed by some generous maid upon a too-secretive lover has recently been discovered in a locality far more widely improbable than either of those indicated above. A few weeks ago, upon the farm of one Siam Evans, near Bethel, Oregon, (Eng.), an oak tree, three feet six inches in diameter, was felled, and sawn up into planks. One of these in due course found its way to a carpenter's shop, where it attracted attention by an odd-looking branch-like knot traversing its substance. This knot, excised from the plank out of sheer curiosity by one of the workmen, proved to be a hollow peg or yew, containing a lock of bright red hair, to which, as the objects "in amber" referred to by Pope in his epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot, were peculiarly applicable, the lines: "The things, we know, are neither rich nor rare, but wonder how the devil they got there!" Further investigation demonstrated that a hole had been bored into the trunk of the oak tree with an inch auger, and that the plug of yew freighted with love's gift, had been driven into the aperture thus prepared for its reception. In the course of time the wound inflicted upon the tree had healed over the plug so effectually that the portion of the trunk under which the ruddy lock lay concealed exhibited no fewer than two hundred and fifty "rings," each one representing a year's growth of the brave old oak, chosen A. D. 1632 by some careful swain as the hiding-place of his mistress's ringlet. The difficulty of keeping a secret forever has seldom been more quaintly illustrated than by the accident that this heart of oak has been compelled to yield up its charge after preserving it so rigorously throughout two centuries and a half.

A loamy soil, with a loose gravelly sub-soil through which the surplus water easily drains away, may be deeply plowed with good effect, or at any rate without the injurious results which follow the practice of the deep plowing on stiff clayey soil.

Monstrosities.

Authenticated Cases Which Make the Siamese Twins Appear Normal.

"He is a very devil in royal skin," was a remark made of Henry VIII when he procured a divorce from Anne Boleyn, but the majority of readers of English history are unaware of the fact that, although considered the most beautiful woman of her day, she had congenial deformities. There were six toes on each foot, and she had three breasts in a straight line across her chest, and with these deformities her royal spouse became disgusted to such a degree that he procured a divorce from her. There are numerous cases of this deformity recorded. One, three, four, five and even more breasts have been reported as belonging to one individual. These supernumeraries are sometimes in a straight line with the normal ones—again, under the arm or on the hips. Several cases where they were on the back, and in one or two cases they are reported as forming diamond and triangular shapes. There is one case recorded where the female had eight breasts—four on each side.

Many of the numerous cases of deformity reported surpass belief. There was a monster at the Court of St. James, who was 28 years of age at the time the observation was taken. He was perfect in every way but one. He possessed two heads—one of which was very smart and the other very stupid; the stupid one kept him in so much trouble that all his time was spent in allowing his smart one to get him out of the scrapes his other head had caused. His stupid head died a short time after this report, and the whole man lived for ten days after, until the dead head had almost separated from the body by decomposition. Valentine and Horne relate the case of a child in Bengal who was the unlucky possessor of two heads. In this case the heads were placed one on top of the other, and joined very closely together. They were both perfect in formation. Sometimes one of the heads would be asleep and the other awake. If the hair of one head were pulled, the other head would cry; if one mouth were fed, the other mouth would water and show evident signs of satiation. The monstrosity lived for four years, and was in the best of health at the time of its death, which was caused by the bite of a viper. Winston tells of an Italian child 8 years of age who carried a little head under its right arm, which little head peeped out, giving one the impression that the body of the little head was buried in the somewhat larger body of its bearer. The little head was christened Mathew and the larger one was christened James. If little Mathew's ear was pinched James roared, but at all times little Mathew was under the impression that he was in reality the only protection that James had. The last report of this double boy says he was in perfect health.

A story is told of a Moor in Tunis, 30 years of age, whose head was so large that a crowd always followed him on the street. His mouth was so capacious that he could place a muskmelon in it as easily as the small boy of to-day could a cherry. He was four feet four inches in height, and the distance from his chin to the top of his head was twenty-three inches—over one-third his height. Benventi saw a lad well proportioned as to his head. At the age of 7 the head began to grow rapidly, so that when he was 27 years old his face and his head were fifteen inches long and thirty-eight inches in circumference. The number of double children presenting far more astonishing features than the well-known Siamese twins is large. Buffon relates the history of two girls who were joined at their abdomens.

At 6 years the little blonde, Helena, became paralyzed. The taller brunette, Judith, then carried her around for sixteen years. They had small-pox and measles in common. Other diseases they had independently of each other. At 22 Helena died of fever, and Judith a few minutes after. A post-mortem examination revealed the fact that they could not have been separated. Judith, who was a very beautiful girl, had a lover when she was 18, who tried for a long time to persuade her to marry him in spite of the load she was doomed to carry through life. "Every lassie has her laddie," but there is no mention of a lover for poor Helena.

Munster tells of two girls attached at the forehead. At the age of 11 one died, and the operation for separation killed the other. Cases of pairs joined at the back of the head, at the back, and in every conceivable way may be found without number. The double-headed child of Oxford, England, attracted considerable attention. It lived for some time. The peculiar feature was that one head possessed a bright, smiling, contented countenance, and the other a dark, scowling and dejected one. It also had four arms. The rest of the body was natural. The deformity was christened Martha and Mary. Liceti, an

other authority, tells of a case in which a child had a natural body and lower extremities, but possessed seven heads and seven arms, and lived about a week. An odd story is told of the old surgeon Zullomius, who had performed the operation of making an artificial nose for a man. The material used was procured from a hog. The operation was a success. A child born to him about one year after had an unmistakable hog's nose, and a short time after the old hog was killed, when both the old man's nose and that of his child rotted away. This apocryphal story is told, no doubt, to illustrate an old superstition. There is an odd case reported of a man in the prime of life who surprised the physician he consulted by telling him he had never been sick, had never taken medicine, and had called out of curiosity, because he felt a little out of sorts. This man had a large cup-shaped piece of clothing made of some solid substance, which he said he wore to protect a part that was very tender. On examination it proved to be his heart, which was literally on the outside of his body. He had protected it instinctively, and had caused him no trouble. A case mentioned in one of the late medical works is that of a wood-chopper who met with an accident that laid open his stomach. He was fed through this hole, the food being simply placed in the stomach, where the process of digestion could be watched at ease. He was of wonderful assistance to physiology undoubtedly, and his general health did not seem to be impaired by this unnatural manner of feeding. The half-crazy quarryman who had a crowbar driven through his head recovered, and became a Justice of the Peace. One of the most wonderful authenticated cases of artificial deformity is that of a Frenchman, who had the entire skull cap removed for some disease of the brain. He recovered and adopted the profession of a beggar. His stock in trade was allowing givers to produce physiological experiments by pressure on his brain. The fee was deposited in his cup—which cup was the top of his own skull.

Home Economies.

Copperas mixed with whitewash upon the cellar walls keeps vermin away.

Drain pipes and all places that are sour or impure may be cleansed with lime water, copperas water or carbolic acid.

Good fires should be kept up during house cleaning time, even though the doors and windows be kept open.

Excellent shampoo is made of salts of tartar, white castile soap, bay rum and lukewarm water. The salts will remove all dandruff, the soap will soften the hair and clean it thoroughly, and the bay rum will prevent taking cold.

The reason why cabbage emits such a disagreeable smell when boiling is because the process dissolves the essential oil. The water should be changed when the cabbage is half cooked, and it will thus acquire greater sweetness.

To extract ink from cotton, silk or woolen goods, dip the spots in spirits of turpentine and let remain for several hours; then rub thoroughly between the hands, and it will all disappear without changing either the color or texture of the fabric.

A bottle of aqua ammonia is invaluable to the housekeeper. A spoonful put in the iron pans and kettles in which meat and vegetables have been cooked will remove all grease, and make the cleansing of these a very easy operation. One of the best washing fluids is made by mixing equal parts of turpentine and ammonia. This fluid makes rubbing almost unnecessary, while it whitens the clothes without rotting them. House plants are very much stimulated by giving them water which contains a small quantity of ammonia. Two spoonfuls to a quart of water are sufficient.

Women.

A Boston lady takes thirty babies and their mothers to a seaside hotel every summer for one month.

The empress Eugenie in her palmy days ate an onion at six o'clock every morning to preserve her complexion.

When Queen Elizabeth died twenty-seven fans were found in her wardrobe. One of them was valued at £400; the handle was covered with diamonds.

In New Orleans lives a woman who went through the civil war on the confederate side, and was promoted to a lieutenant before she was discovered.

"I would like scalloped oysters," she remarked. He answered, meaning to be funny, "I don't know how to scallop oysters." "Then bias some," said she.

In the east lives a girl who is learning the blacksmith trade. She says it may come in good some day, and she does not like dress-making and other tame occupations.

A Rockford, Alabama, girl gets up in her sleep, and goes out into the back-yard and chops wood. Her father regrets her somnambulism, but he always leaves the axe handy.

How Marbles are Made.

Marbles are known from the Latin word "marmor;" by which similar playthings were known to the boys of Rome two thousand years ago. Some marbles are made of potters' clay, and baked in an oven just like earthenware is baked but most of them are made of a hard kind of stone found in Saxony, Germany. Marbles are manufactured in great numbers, and sent to all parts of the world, and even to China, for the use of the Chinese children. The stone is broken up with a hammer into little square pieces, which are then ground round in a mill. The mill has a fixed slab of stone, with its surface full of grooves or furrows. Above this a flat block of oak wood, of the same size as the stone is made to turn rapidly around, and while turning, little streams of water run in the grooves and keep the mill from getting too hot. About one hundred of the square pieces of stone are put into the grooves at once, and in a few minutes are made round and polished by the wooden block.

China and white marbles also are used to make the round rollers which have delighted the hearts of the boys of all nations for hundreds of years. Marbles thus made are known to the boys as "Chinas" or "alleys." Real chinas are made of porcelain clay, and baked like chinaware or other pottery. Some of them have a pearly glaze, and some of them are painted in various colors that will not rub off, because they are baked in, just as the pictures on plates and other tableware.

Glass marbles are known as "agates." They are both made of clear and colored glass. The former are made by taking up a little melted glass upon the end of an iron rod, and making it round by dropping it into an iron mould, which shapes it, or by whirling it around the head until the glass is made into a little ball. Sometimes the figure of a dog or a squirrel or a kitten, or some other object, is placed on the end of the rod, and when it is dipped in the melted glass the glass flows all around it, and when the marble is done the animal can be seen shut up in it. Colored glass marbles are made by holding a bunch of glass rods in the fire until they melt, then the workman twists them round into a ball or presses them in a mould, so that when done the marble is marked with bands or ribbons of color. Real agates, which are the nicest of all marbles, are made in Germany, out of the stone called agate. The workmen chip the pieces of agate nearly round with hammers, and then grind them round and smooth on grindstones.

Scientific.

A SURE REMEDY FOR A FELON.—Take a pint of common soft soap, and stir in air-slacked lime till it is of the consistency of glazier's putty. Make a leather thimble, fill it with this composition and insert the finger therein, and a cure is certain.

IMPROVED MORTAR.—Sawdust it is said by some one to be better than hair in protecting rough cast from peeling and scaling under the influences of frost and weather. The sawdust should be first dried and then thoroughly sifted, in order to remove the coarser particles. A mixture is then made of two parts sawdust, five parts sharp sand, and one part cement, which should be thoroughly stirred together and then incorporated with two parts of lime.

A paste of equal parts of sifted ashes, clay and salt and a little water cements cracks in stoves and ovens.

In the opinion of the *Scientific American* there is a possibility that the wonderful comet of 1812 may make its reappearance before the year closes.

More than twelve months ago a perpetual clock was started at Brussels. An up draught is obtained in a tube or shaft by exposing it to the sun; this draught turns a fan, which winds up the weight of the clock until it reaches the top, when it actuates a brake that stops the fan, but leaves it free to start again after the weight has gone down a little. This clock was keeping good time in June, after running continuously for nine months.

HOW THE HUMAN ORGANISM PROTECTS ITSELF.—The organism of the human body is a self-regulating apparatus. Every interruption of its normal functions excites a reaction against the disturbing cause. If a grain of caustic potash irritates the nerves of the palate, the salivary glands try to remove it by an increased secretion. The eye would wash it off by an immediate flow of tears. A larger quantity of the same substance could be swallowed only under the protest of the fauces, and the digestive organs would soon find means to eject it. The bronchial tubes promptly react against the obstruction of foreign substances. The sting of an insect causes an involuntary twitching of the epidermis. If a thorn or splinter fastens itself under the skin, suppuration prepares the way for its removal. If the stomach is overloaded with food it revolts against further ingestion.

These automatic agencies of the organism generally suffice to counteract the disturbing cause, and the sensory symptoms accompanying the process of reconstruction constitute merely a plea for non-interference. The suppurating tissues push the thorn outward, and resist only a pressure in the opposite direction. The eye volunteers to rid itself of sand dust, but remonstrates against friction. The run-soaked system of the toper undertakes to eliminate the poison, and only asks that the consequences of the outrage be not aggravated by its repetition. But if that plea remains unheeded, it finally takes the form of the emphatic protest called *disease*. For, even in its urgent manifestations, the reaction against a violation of nature's health-laws, it is a cry for peace rather than a petition for active assistance in the form of medication. "Accustom yourself in all your little pains and aches," says Dr. Jennings, "and also in your grave and more distressing affections, to regard the movement concerned in them in a friendly aspect—designed for and tending to the removal of a difficulty of whose existence you were before unaware, and which, if suffered to remain and accumulate, might prove the destruction of the house you live in—and that instead of its needing to be 'cured,' it is itself a curative operation; and that what should be called *disease* lies back of the symptoms which, in fact, are made for the express purpose of removing the real disorder or difficulty."

Snakes as Family Pets.

The following interesting observation on the intelligence of snakes shows, not only that these animals are well able to distinguish persons, but also that they possess an intensity of amiable emotion scarcely to be expected in this class. A writer to the *London Times* thus describes the behavior of some pet snakes kept by a gentleman and a lady of his acquaintance:

"Mr. M—, after we had talked for a little time, asked if I had any fear of snakes; and after a timid 'No, not very,' from me, he produced out of a cupboard a large box-constrictor, a python and several small snakes, which at once made themselves at home on the writing table, among pens, ink and books. I was at first a good deal startled, especially when the two large snakes coiled round and round my friend, and began to notice me with their bright eyes and forked tongues; but finding how tame they were I ceased to feel frightened. After a short time Mr. M— expressed a wish to call Mrs. —, and left me with the box deposited on an arm chair. I felt a little queer when the animal began gradually to come near, but the entrance of my host and hostess, followed by two charming little children, put me at my ease again. After the first interchange of civilities, she and the children went at once to the box, and calling it by the most endearing names, allowed it to twine itself most gracefully round about them. I sat for a long time, lost in wonder at the picture before me. Two beautiful girls and their charming mother sat before me with a box-constrictor (as thick as a small tree) twining playfully round the lady's waist and neck, and forming a kind of turban round her head, expecting to be petted and made much of like a kitten. The children, over and over again, took its head in their hands and kissed its mouth, pushing aside its forked tongue in doing so. The animal seemed much pleased, but kept turning its head continually toward me with a curious gaze, until I allowed it to nestle its head a moment, up my sleeve. Nothing could be prettier than to see this splendid serpent coiled all around Mrs. M— while she moved about the room and when she stood to pour out our coffee. He seemed to adjust his weight so nicely, and every coil with its beautiful marking was relieved by the black velvet dress of the lady. It was long before I could make up my mind to end the visit.

Idleness.

Jane Rice was a very idle girl; she liked to spend all her time at play.

One day, as she went to school, she saw a little bee among the flowers. "Pretty bee," said she, "come and play with me."

"No," said the bee "I have no time to play with you, I must haste away to get honey for my hive. Soon the winter will come, and the flowers be gone, so I must work while the sun shines."

Then Jane saw a dog in the field, and tried to get him to play with her; but he only wagged his tail and ran off, as he had to mind the sheep.

After this Jane saw some birds in a tree, and tried to get them to play with her, but they had no time to play; they were busy picking up straws to make their nest, so had no time to waste.

"Well, well!" said Jane Rice, "it seems I am the only one idle, so I will hurry on to school, and try to learn my lessons."