

THE RICE CR. P.

REVOLUTIONIZING THIS SOUTHERN INDUSTRY.

Highly Important Suggestions by the Department of Agriculture Regarding Abandoned Plantations.

People who are looking for places to invest considerable sums of money may be interested in some suggestions offered by the Agricultural Department in regard to the cultivation of rice in the United States and the possibilities of great results. According to this statement there are in the South hundreds of thousands of acres of fine rice lands abandoned and lying idle which offer great financial advantages to those willing to invest in them for the cultivation of rice in large quantities. The loss of the rice planters during the war were very great. During their absence the dykes which kept back the water from the rice lands were washed away, canals were filled up, and plantations which had cost immense sums thus rendered valueless. It was impracticable for these men impoverished as they were on their return to re-enter upon the industry of rice growing, because large sums of money were required to rebuild dykes and recut canals and bring the land again into condition for the cultivation of this crop. It was not possible to put nearly an acre or two under cultivation because great systems of dykes and canals had to be constructed before any portion of the land could be made available. The lands which were mortgaged, and which were held by banks of the great Southern cities, no one caring to foreclose to get property for which there is no sale. Lands which were formerly worth two hundred or three hundred dollars per acre, according to this report, are now worth no more than twenty or thirty, and where dykes have been washed away and the canals and ditches been filled up they can often be had for one dollar per acre. Another difficulty which people of small means have encountered is in getting labor to build dykes and keep them in repair, or to repair and dig canals. The colored workmen of the South prefer work in the phosphate fields.

All these difficulties, the Department of Agriculture suggests, could be overcome by men or companies with large capital. Instead of being dependent upon the colored laborer, which prefers work in other lines of industry, an organization with means to purchase dredges and flats could dredge canals and build dykes by steam machinery at a very small cost. Machinery could also be used in the preparation of the land and its cultivation and in the harvesting of the crop. The rice lands are perfectly level and divided into rectangular fields with low dykes or embankments around each, and there is no reason why steam machinery should not be used on these fields in the cultivation and harvesting of the crop.

In this connection some general facts about rice, which are also given in the same report are interesting. Rice, according to this statement, stands first in importance among cereals and grains, both in regard to the number of persons who consume it, the amount produced and the area devoted to its cultivation the world over. Rice forms the principal and in some cases almost the only food, according to this statement, of from one-third to one-half of the whole human race. The rice-consuming nations, including the Chinese, Japanese, the people of India and portions of Africa, make up a total of 800,000,000 people, or over fifty-four per cent. of the total population of the world.

Since we are in the centennial mood, it is worth while mentioning that this is just about the 200th anniversary of the introduction of rice growing as an industry in the United States. It was in 1694 that an English ship bound from Madagascar was driven to seek shelter in the harbor of Charleston, and its Captain gave to Gov. Thomas Smith a small bag of rice seed from the ship's stores. This was planted, and was, it is said, the origin of the once important industry of rice growing in South Carolina. It is also said that the Earl of Shaftesbury sent 100 pounds of seed to Charleston about the same time.

That there is a demand for rice, and that those who might undertake its culture in quantities, as suggested by the Department of Agriculture, would find a market for it, is shown by the fact that the importations into the United States now run at the rate of 500,000 pounds per day, or over 15,000,000 pounds per month. This is more than double the amount imported at the corresponding time last year, when the importations only amounted to 7,000,000 pounds per month. Rice is produced now in the States of North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, but altogether these States do not produce more than one-half the amount consumed in this country, and not one-fourth the amount that probably would be consumed if its production were more general. The Carolina rice, it is said, is esteemed among foreign consumers as the best in the world.

As a food the value of rice is too well known to require comment. It is interesting, however, to remark that according to this report rice contains a slightly larger amount of nutritive matter than wheat or rye or corn or potatoes or beef. One pound of rice, according to the report in question, is equivalent to one pound of wheat flour, or over four pounds of potatoes, or nearly two pounds of beef. In the matter of heat production, calculating its fuel value and potential energy as a food, the pound of rice is actually less energetic than a pound of wheat or fat beef or oatmeal, but is more energetic than a pound of rye flour or cornmeal or lean beef. In the matter of digestibility, rice is extremely important to a large class of people with impaired digestion, the rice is shown to be fully as digestible as wheat flour or Indian meal, and more digestible than bread or potatoes.—[St. Louis Star-Sayings.]

ANIMALS CAN COUNT.

Crows the Most Accomplished Arithmeticians and Dogs are Next.

A Russian physician has been making some curious experiments to find out how far animals can count. He declares that the crow can count up to ten, and is thereby superior in arithmetic to certain Polynesian tribes of men who cannot get beyond five or six.

The doctor had a dog, which was accustomed to bury the bones it found, each one in a separate place in the garden. One day, wishing to test the animal's power of counting, the master gave it no less than twenty-six bones, which were all buried one after another in special hiding places. The next day the dog was given no more bones, and was forced to dig up the old ones. Without any hesitation he recovered ten and then came to a stop.

After whining and running about as if in a state of great perplexity a new idea seemed to enter the canine brain, and again the dog began to dig up the hidden bones, this time adding nine to the total before his memory again failed him. Then there was a second period of whining and perplexity, after which the seven remaining bones were found with some difficulty.

The doctor concluded from this that twenty-six was too large a number for the dog to take in all at once, and that he had been obliged to remember the bones, as it were, in three shorter series. The cat, it would seem, is even less than an arithmetician than the dog, not being able to count as far as ten. Before giving his cat its regular piece of meat the doctor would put it under the animal's nose and then withdraw it five times in succession, and it was only the sixth time that he would give the cat the morsel. This number was repeated every day until the cat became perfectly accustomed to waiting five times, but would spring forward of its own accord at the sixth presentation. Having thus demonstrated that pussy was able to remember up to six, the doctor tried to seven, but without success. As soon as he attempted to perform the experiment with higher numbers the cat became confused and would jump forward for the meat at the wrong time. The number six, therefore, would seem to be the limit of this cat's power of counting.

Not less interesting were similar experiments with horses. In the village of Pekoe, the doctor found a peasant's horse which was used for ploughing, and which had acquired the habit of counting the furrows and stopping for a rest regularly at the twentieth. So confident was the ploughman of the accuracy of his horse's calculations that at the end of the day he used to estimate the amount of work done, not by counting the furrows himself, but by simply remembering the number of times his horse had stopped to rest.

In another village the doctor found a horse which could count the mile posts along the way and which had been trained by his master to stop for feed whenever they had covered twenty-five verses. One day they tried the horse over a road where three false mile posts had been put up between the real ones, and sure enough, the horse, deceived by this trick, stopped for his oats at the end of twenty-verse instead of going the usual twenty-five.

The same horse was accustomed to being fed every day at the stroke of noon. The doctor observed that whenever the clock struck any hour the horse would stop and prick up his ears as if counting. If he heard twelve he would trot contentedly to be fed, but if there were fewer strokes than twelve he would go on working resignedly. The experiment was made of striking twelve strokes at the wrong time, whereupon the horse started for his oats in spite of the fact that he had been fed an hour before. This shows a little knowledge may be had for horses as well as for men.—[New York Telegram.]

COTTON STILL KING.

America's Greatest Single Contribution to Modern Progress.

The development of the production of cotton in the United States with a single century from insignificant proportions to 9,000,000 bales a year, considering all its relations to modern industrial progress, is without a parallel in history. The facts in this case have led D. A. Tompkins to write for the Engineering Magazine a review of "Cotton as a Factor in Progress," which contains many facts of great interest, which doubtless will prove new to a large number of readers.

The present industrial development in America, in England, and on the Continent had its beginning, says Mr. Tompkins, in four events, the absence of any one of which would have destroyed the greater portion of the value of the other three. These were the invention of the power-spindle, the invention of the power-loom, the invention of the cotton-gin, and the response to these of the southern portion of the United States in the production of the raw material for the utilization of these inventions.

It is not alone of interest that the impetus given to the production of cotton by mechanical inventions has added to the productive capacity of Southern agriculture and increased the wealth of an important section of the United States. Every family in the whole country has been benefited by the cheapening of clothing and other articles made of cotton by reason of the marvelous increase in the extent of production of this fiber. The manufacturing and commercial interests of New England have been promoted to a remarkable extent by the same cause, to say nothing of the effect upon the cotton manufacturing interests in England and other parts of the world, and the increase in the consumption of cotton goods due to the wonderful cheapening of their cost. The single item of the benefit to the shipping interest due to the cotton carrying trade is of great extent. Cotton, more than any other one item of freight, has been the basis of transatlantic commerce.

Leaving aside these general considerations of benefits at home and abroad, to industry and commerce, and the increased comfort of the human race, we may again recur to the importance to the Southern States of the cotton-growing

industry in a great variety of directions. Cotton as a basis of wealth and of productive industry has made possible the growth of prosperous cities and towns where, at least before the development of mineral resources in the South, nothing of the kind could have existed. The cotton interest has contributed to the success of all transportation systems in the South, whether in the palmy days of steamboating or since railroads have been constructed in every State. Even the development of the mining interests of the South has been hastened by the need of iron by railroad companies in preparing for the transportation of the cotton, and in the manufacture of cotton machinery, and the need of coal for transportation and manufacturing purposes, to which cotton has given rise. The cotton-growing industry, in short, has furnished what opportunity has existed in its large portion of the union, for the employment of engineering and mechanical skill, contributing thus to every branch of material progress.

AFRICAN RAIN MAKERS.

A Fakir Who Did His Cloud-Compelling With a Magic Whistle.

A popular figure in Africa is the rain maker. The office, however, is rather a perilous one, for if the chief in charge of the weather fails to produce rain on demand his life is not safe. Baker gives an amusing description of one of these, named Katchiba, who called on the famous explorer, and said that rain was needed.

"Well," I replied, "why don't you give your people rain?" "Give my people rain!" said Katchiba. "Give them rain if they don't give it to you! You don't know my people. If I am fool enough to give them rain be sure they give me goats they will let me starve! No, no! let them wait; if they don't bring me supplies of corn, goats, fowls, yams and all that I require not one drop of rain shall ever fall again in Obbo. Impudent brutes are my people. Do you know they have positively threatened to kill me unless I bring the rain. They shall have a drop. I'll teach the rascals to insult me!"

With all this bluster I saw that old Katchiba was in a great dilemma and would give anything for a shower, but did not know how to get out of the scrape.

Suddenly altering his tone, he asked: "Have you any rain in your country?" I replied that we had, every now and then.

"How do you bring it? Are you a rain maker?" I told him no one believed in rain makers in our country, but that we understood how to bottle lightning, meaning electricity.

"I don't keep mine in bottles. I have a house full of thunder and lightning," he most coolly replied; "but if you can bottle lightning you must understand rain making. What do you think of the weather to-day?"

I immediately saw the drift of the cunning old Katchiba; he wanted professional advice. I replied that he must know all about it, as he was a regular rain maker.

"Of course I do," he answered; "but I want to know what you think of it."

"Well," I said, "I don't think we shall have any steady rain, but I think we may have a heavy shower in about four days."

I had observed fleecy clouds gathering daily in the afternoon.

"Just my opinion," said Katchiba, delighted; "in four, or perhaps in five days, I intend to give them one shower, just one shower. Yes, I'll just step down to them now, and tell the rascals that if they will bring me some goats by this evening, and some corn to-morrow morning, I will give them, in four or five days, just one shower."

To give effect to this declaration he gave three toots on his magic whistle, inquiring: "Do you use whistles in your country?"

I replied by giving so shrill and deafening a whistle on my fingers that Katchiba stopped his ears, and relapsing into a smile of admiration, took a glance at the sky from the doorway to see if any sudden effect had been produced.

"Whistle again," he said, and once more I performed like the whistle of a locomotive.

"That will do; we shall have it," said the cunning old rain maker, and proud of having so knowingly obtained "counsel's opinion" on his case, he toddled off to his impatient subjects.

In a few days a sudden storm of rain and violent thunder added to Katchiba's blowing and drums beating in honor of their chief. Between ourselves, he considered my whistle infallible.—[Youth's Companion.]

A "Petifying Spring" in Georgia.

The recent accounts of the wonderful properties of a certain creek in the Black Hills country, which is said to transform plants, nuts, leaves, and even flesh into solid stone, reminds me that there is a spring in Brooks County, Georgia, which in a very short time converts wood and several other substances into hard rock. The peculiar qualities of this Georgia fountain have been known since early in the century, when an old "bar" hunter accidentally lost his knife in the basin, which has been hollowed out of the granite strata by the ceaseless bubbling of the water. A month later the old trapper again repaired to the spring and was agreeably surprised to find his favorite knife. The water had had no effect upon the bright steel, not even to the extent of leaving a speck of rust, but with the wood of the knife's handle it was far different. The petrifying particles with which the water is so highly impregnated had entered every pore and sap-tube in the wood, and what was but a few weeks before a hickory handle of "home make," was now two thin slabs of solid stone, wood-like in appearance, but as hard and unyielding as a chip from a granite bowlder. To this day the place is known as "Old Moore's petrifying spring."—[St. Louis Republic.]

Peru has only thirty-six telegraph offices in the entire country, but 1,600 miles of wire.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The women of Iceland have had municipal suffrage for more than twenty years. They are now eligible to municipal offices.

A man in Washington County, Penn., has a bantam rooster that is so familiar with a cat that it can get on the feline's back and crow without the cat's taking any notice of it.

The British Government report of an investigation into the epidemic of influenza of the past four years regards the proof of the contagiousness of the disease as overwhelming, and that it is not transported through the atmosphere.

The Chinese doctor's lot is not wholly a happy one. Four members of the Imperial College of Physicians at Peking failed recently to make a proper diagnosis of the Emperor's indisposition and were punished by being fined a year's salary.

It has been said that the world pays most to those who kill—generals and great lords; next most to those who amuse—singers and actors, while those who preach, teach and write for the papers come along somewhere near the bottom of the list.

For what is the greatest amount of lumber used? Nine people out of ten will say for houses and buildings. It is doubtful if 55 per cent. of the lumber output goes into buildings. The railroads, farmers, and miscellaneous purposes take about 40 per cent., and the other 20 per cent. goes into boxes. The estimate is made, says the Southern Lumberman, on the judgment of some of the oldest and best informed lumbermen in the country.

The costliest mile of railroad is a mile measured on the steel portion of the Forth bridge. The length of this portion is a mile and twenty yards, and the cost of it was considerably over \$10,000,000. The most expensive railway system in the world is the "Inner Circle" line of London, which cost, including the purchase of land, from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000 per mile. The last constructed mile, between the Mansion House and Abingdon, cost altogether, including "compensations," nearly \$10,000,000.

It is reported that a company has been organized at Dundee, Scotland, for the purpose of working the whale and seal fisheries of the Antarctic ocean. An experimental expedition was sent there during the past summer, and it has returned with the report, backed by abundant substantial evidence, that whales and seals are much more abundant in the Antarctic waters than in the Arctic. It is asserted that an Antarctic seal-skin is a much better article than that about which the United States has lately been having so much trouble. This company proposes to establish a depot in the Falkland islands, where the seal-skins may be prepared for market, and the sealers obtain supplies, and the product will be taken thence to England by a line of fast steamers.

Forty years ago a mulatto boy of Chatham County, N. C., was sold into slavery and taken to Georgia. A few days ago he returned, a venerable-looking man and worth more than \$50,000. His name was Nathan, and he was sold to a man named Toomer, who made him his body servant. He proved himself honest and faithful and enjoyed his master's full confidence. He served Mr. Toomer until his death, shortly after the war. His unusual intelligence, quick perception and good judgment gained Nathan the respect and esteem of all the white people, and he acquired considerable property. He then married the daughter of Dixon, the big cotton planter, and it is well known that Dixon left his large estate to this daughter. Last month Nathan's wife died, and she left all her property to her husband, Nathan recently converted all his Georgia property into money, and will, it is said, make New York City his future home.

A New York exchange notes the fact that the treatment of cholera invented by Dr. Elmer Lee, of Chicago, and tri-umphantly demonstrated in the hospitals of St. Petersburg last year, has robbed the dread disease of most of its terrors. The process is the simplest thing possible. It consists merely in flooding the intestinal canal of the patient with warm soups at frequent intervals, and thus washing out and rendering harmless the cholera germs, whose ravages are carried on in the intestines. By the use of this method Health Officer Jenkins, of New York, has been able to save no less than nineteen of the twenty-two cases that have developed at quarantine, reducing the ordinary death rate of cholera runs from 50 to 75 per cent., according to the violence of the plague. Since this discovery a person fortified with soap and water and a good syringe need dread the cholera no more than an attack of pneumonia or bilious fever. The disease has been vanquished and an American doctor did it.

According to a Dutch Government report just issued, the labor question is practically unknown in the Netherlands. Strange as it may seem, the Dutch workmen like long hours and are content to live on forty cents a day. The reason why they prefer long hours to short is because they can thus work in the slow and leisurely manner that suits them best and can indulge their national conscience in the matter of thoroughness; and they are content with low wages because they know how to make them go a long way. The only thing that in any way resembles a labor question in Holland is connected with the introduction of machinery, which puts the true Dutchman out of gear altogether, forces him to work briskly and even makes him discover that old-fashioned wages are not quite up to new-fashioned ideas.

The alligator business in Florida, Dr. Hugh M. Smith, of the Fish Commission, informs us, is on the decline for want of alligators. Formerly the capture of alligators brought many a dollar to the state. Hunting was as systematic as it was relentless. "It is within bounds to say," writes Dr. Smith, "that since 1880 not less than 2,500,000 alligators have been killed in the state, and it is not surprising that the supply has been greatly reduced in view of the more

migratory habits, the remarkably slow growth of the animal, and the sacrifice of large numbers before they had reached the reproductive age." According to the observations of those who have studied the alligator, it is not more than a foot long in a twelvemonth. He is ten years old before he is two feet long. When he is twelve feet in length he has lived three-quarters of a century. On the St. John's, below Palatka, alligators are rapidly diminishing. In the Indiana River region the headquarters of the alligator hunters are to-day at Cocoa, Melbourne, and Fort Pierce. Ten years ago 5,000 alligator skins in the season were thought to be a fair business. To-day not half this number are taken. Kissimmee, on Lake Tohopekaliga, is the centre of the alligator hide business. In 1889 33,600 hides were taken there. It was not unusual for a hunter to kill a dozen alligators in a day. The business in hides seems to be centered in Jacksonville, but the receipts are rapidly diminishing.

"The way in which an immense crowd will collect in any New York street in a few seconds is always a matter of wonderment and comment among strangers in the city," said a Wall street broker to a San reporter, "but the way a crowd sprang up from the ground in a deserted street in the dead of midnight this week greatly surprised even me. I had remained at my office until nearly 2 in the morning, and was walking up Broadway for a few blocks before taking the car home. I came opposite City Hall Park with not a soul in sight. Suddenly there was a shout of alarm behind me and a scurrying of feet. A man was pursuing another along Mail street, the first shouting 'Murder!' A policeman came running from the shadow of the park; a crowd of men was at his heels; more men seemed to spring out of the ground around the Post Office, and in half a minute there were fifty or sixty persons running after the first two men. The policeman caught up with the couple as they started to pummel each other, and then I saw streams of men and boys running from doorways along Park Row, aproned clerks from the post office, waiters from the restaurants, printers and newsboys from the newspaper buildings, and tramps from the park benches, until long before I had reached the scene of the melee, at Mail street and Park Row, there was a dense crowd of people choking Mail street from curb to curb, several hundred men and boys, where two minutes before there was not a sign or sound of life."

Some Curious Superstitions.

"Say," said Colonel Peter Sweeney of the Union Pacific the other evening to the Omaha Bee, just after the man he was talking up with stopped and picked up a pin that lay shining close to the curbstone, "did you ever notice how many cranks there are in the world? Of course, I don't refer to present company—oh no, certainly. But I was just remarking on the curious superstitions that people get into their heads. Now, for instance, you stopped just now and picked up that pin, from which I infer that you are in the habit of doing so whenever you see one."

"Well, I know of lots of men who never fail to pick up a pin, the same as you do. Then there are the sidewalk cranks, who always step on each third or fourth crack, according to the width of the boards, or, if they are walking on a pavement, they step between and on the cracks."

"After these come the stair cranks. They wouldn't tell it to anyone if they were asked about it, but the fact is that these persons always start upstairs left foot first, and feel badly if the right foot doesn't strike the top of the stairs first. These persons, I may remark, are usually those who have been afflicted with a semimilitary education, as are those sock and shoe cranks who put their hosiery and footwear on the left foot first, or see one."

"Then some men have a peculiar way of entering a room. They will always enter with a certain foot foremost and their exit will be made in the same way. And, great Scott! I might go on for a year about cranks and never get through. But do not mind telling me why you pick up stray pins?"

"Why, no, certainly not," answered the other man. "I do it for luck, of course."

"For luck, eh? Well, have those blooming pins ever brought you any luck?"

"To be sure. Why, only last winter, at a time when I was in very uneasy circumstances, I picked up three pins in one forenoon, with the point toward me in every case. That afternoon I got—"

"You got a draft!" asked Colonel Sweeney in a sort of I-think-you-are-a-tone-of-voice.

"I got an insurance assessment of \$30.05," replied the pin crank sadly, "and still you say pins don't bring luck. Wasn't that luck—had luck?"

But Colonel Sweeney hadn't a word to say.

Nutritive Value of Eggs.

The nutritive value of eggs and the cheapness of their production, are scarcely realized by the public. It may seem rather improbable to state that when meat is twenty-five cents a pound the food value of eggs is about thirty-seven and a half cents a dozen, yet this seems to be the fact. A hen may be calculated to consume one bushel of corn yearly, and to lay twelve dozen or eighteen pounds of eggs. This is equivalent to saying that three and one-tenth pounds of corn will produce, when fed to a hen, one pound of eggs. A pound of pork, on the contrary, requires about five and one-third pounds of corn for its production. When eggs are twenty-four cents a dozen, and pork is ten cents a pound, we have the bushel of corn feeding producing two dollars and eighty cents' worth of eggs, and but one dollar and five cents' worth of pork. Judging from these facts, eggs must be economical in their production and in their eating, and especially fitted for the laboring man in replacing meat.—[Scientific American.]

T. T. Bell of Independence, Mo., while chopping down a large walnut tree a few days ago found a tenpenny nail nearly ten inches beneath the surface. Mr. Bell says he remembers driving it there while fixing a swing at the beginning of the war—thirty years ago.

FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS.

LONG FINGER AND LONG TONGUE.
Dear children, you are very nice,
To be so very young—
But tell me, have you ever met
Long Finger and Long Tongue?
Long Tongue can only bial the news
To towns and cities near;
Long Finger reaches round the world
And spreads it everywhere.
Long Tongue shouts out, "Hello! Hello!"
And talketh over much;
Long Finger tells us all he knows
Just by a gentle touch.
Ah, I must solve my riddle now
Or you will guess it soon—
Long Finger is the Telegraph,
Long Tongue the Telephone.
—[Pearl Rivers in The Picayune.]

A SOUTH AMERICAN BOY'S PET.

In South America a boy who wants to own a pet animal gets a monkey instead of a dog. Sometimes he can buy a monkey already trained, and if he can do so he is a very happy boy, because wild monkeys are ugly little fellows, and it takes a long time to teach them how to live with civilized people. A South American boy has to get a monkey because there are not enough dogs in South America. The dogs that are found there are used more as beasts of burden, like Arctic dogs, for useful purposes, such as drawing wagons of eggs to market or boxes of coconuts. Nor are they affectionate animals like our dogs. But with the South American boy a nice tame monkey, with soft fur and snapping black eyes, is very highly prized, and he becomes attached to it, just as an English boy becomes attached to his collie or his Newfoundland, so he does not feel the need of a good dog.—[New York News.]

ELEPHANT TRAINING.

New elephants are trained as follows: They are first tied between two trees, and are rubbed down by a number of men with long bamboos to an accompaniment of the most extravagant eulogies of the animal, sung and shouted at it at the top of their voices. The animal, of course, lashes out furiously at first; but in a few days it ceases to act on the offensive, or as natives say, "Shurum lugta hai." It becomes ashamed of itself, and it then stands with its trunk curled up shrinking from the men. Ropes are now tied round its body, and it is mounted at its picket for several days. It is then taken out for exercise, secured between two tame elephants. The ropes will remain round its body to enable the mahout to hold on should the elephant try to shake him off. A man precedes it with a spear to teach it to halt when ordered to do so, whilst, as the tame elephants wheel to the right or left, the mahout presses its neck with his knees, and taps it on the head with a small stick to train it to turn in the required direction. To teach an elephant to kneel it is taken into water five feet deep when the sun is hot, and, upon being pricked on the back with a pointed stick, it soon lies down, partly to avoid the pain, partly from inclination for a bath. By taking it into shallow water daily, it is soon taught to kneel even on dry land.—[Yankee Blade.]

HONOR THE DEAR OLD MOTHER.

Time has scattered the snowy flakes on her brow, plowed deep furrows on her cheek—but is she not sweet and beautiful now? The lips which have kissed many a hot tear from the childish cheek are the sweetest lips in all the world.

The eye is dim, yet it glows with the rapt radiance of a holy love which can never fade.

Oh, yes, she is a dear old mother.

Her sands of time are nearly run out, but feeble as she is she will go further and reach down lower for you than any other on earth.

You cannot walk into midnight where she cannot see you; you cannot enter a prison whose bars shall keep her out; you can never mount a scaffold too high for her to reach that she may kiss and bless you.

In evidence of her deathless love, when the world shall despise and forsake you—when it leaves you by the wayside to die unnoticed, the dear old mother will gather you up in her feeble arms, carry you home and tell you of all your virtues until you almost forget that your soul is disgraced by vices.

Love her tenderly, and cheer her declining years with holy devotion.—[The Bugle Call.]

ANDREW MARVEL AND THE BRIBE.

Andrew Marvel, a poet of some little fame, was chosen as a member of Parliament for the borough of Hull, in the reign of Charles II. He was a man of integrity and spirit, and such persons seem to have been rare in that reign. The Government, wishing to bring over to their side so important a person, and believing that a man of no fortune could readily be bought, sent the lord treasurer, who had been his school-fellow, to see Marvel Danby, at parting, slipped into his hand an order for \$3,000, and then went to his carriage. Marvel called the treasurer back to the garret, and then summoned Jack, his servant-boy.

"Jack, what had I for dinner yesterday?"

"Don't you know, sir? The little shoulder of mutton you ordered me to bring you from the market."

"Quite right, child; and what have I for to-day?"

"Don't you know, sir, that you bid me lay by the blade-bone to boil?"

"'Tis so; very right, child; go away." Then, turning to the astonished treasurer, he said: "My lord, do you hear that? Andrew Marvel's dinner is provided. There is your piece of paper; I want it not. The ministry must seek other men for their purpose; I am not one."

Black and white jacquard camel-hair materials are used for autumn traveling costumes. Black and white and brown and white suits made of the shepherd's check fabrics in fine wool, are shown as suits entire, or made up in combination with plain India cashmere, camel's hair or English serge.