

**The New Year.**

"The king is dead! Long live the king!"  
How oft those words renowned  
Come back to me when joy bells ring  
With sweet and cheering sound!  
Those bells that say, "A year is dead!  
Another's king-to-day!"  
Aye, king ere yet the echoing chime  
Of midnight dies away.

And though the wintry winds oft sting  
The dead king's funeral song,  
We know that round the new-born king  
Spring flowers will bloom ere long.  
Then be thy sorrows what they may,  
Let hope dispel each fear,  
When all who meet thee, smiling, say,  
"A happy, bright New Year!"

**PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.**

Shocking disaster—An earthquake.  
The phrenologist is a man who cannot do his work well unless he feels right.  
The worst motto a dentist can have is "Try, try again"—the worst for the other fellow.  
Naturalist: Can a wolf become fond of a man? He can, and would just as soon have him raw as cooked.  
Every family is said to have a skeleton in the closet, but Hanlan and gentlemen of his craft are said to prefer a skull.  
The world will never progress far enough to believe that a man's black eye was caused by anything else than somebody's fist.  
Trained dogs exhibit so much intelligence that it probably won't be long before there will be sausage in the market that can talk.

Don't throw away your old barrels. They are useful. It has been found that an ordinary flour barrel will hold 678,000 silver dollars.  
Parlor matches are like fashionable engagements. There is too much fuss and noise about them for the money.—*New York Commercial.*  
A funny man at Jackson, Mich., put a cast-iron bullfrog on a log in the river, and the boys threw stones at it all day without discovering why it didn't plunge.  
The gentleman who caught a severe cold from pressing his lips to a maiden's snowy brow, recovered quite rapidly while looking in the sunny smiles of another fair damsel.

The ice cream day  
Has passed away;  
What will our darlings try?  
They one and all  
Now quickly call,  
"Give me an oyster fry."

The best sermon in the world never yet reconciled the proud man, trying to curl his feet out of sight under the pew, to the painfully obtrusive and evident fact that the wife of his bosom had used his blacking brush to polish the kitchen stove.  
A million dollars in gold weighs 3,685 pounds avoirdupois. It took us some time to learn this interesting fact, and if any persons think we have made a mistake they can call at the office and we will show them the weights and also the scales.  
A young lady who has an objection to the revision of the New Testament, writes to a London paper to say that the phrase "purple and fine linen" conveys no idea of luxury to her mind, and she suggests as an improvement, "sealskin and black velvet."

Where is the use in puzzling one's brains over such intricate problems as the origin of man and the withersness of his future, when one cannot tell so simple a thing as how the small boy in rubber boots gets his feet wet going twenty rods over frozen ground?  
**NUMERICALLY CORRECT.**  
The fair Euphenia Brown is 1,  
And quickly 2 the church she hires,  
With 3 son for the hasty act  
Be 4 her ardent lover's eyes;  
"If 5 to meet your irate pa,  
I fear 'twill make me 6," said he  
"Unless this 7 ly plan of ours  
Should culminate 8 auspiciously,  
Oh, Fate, be but in this 9,  
I 10 nothing more from thee!"

In a small German town an innkeeper, to get rid of a book peddler's importunities, bought an almanac from him, and putting it in his pocket left the inn, his wife just then coming in to take his place. The woman was then persuaded to buy an almanac, not knowing that her husband had one already. The husband shortly returning and discovering the trick sent his porter to the railway station after the peddler, with a message that he wished to see the latter on business. "Oh, yes," said the peddler, "I know; he wants one of my almanacs, but I really can't miss my train for that. You can give me a quarter and take the almanac to him." The porter paid the money and carried the third almanac to the innkeeper. Tableau!  
There are in the Canadian provinces ninety-one Congregational churches having fifty-one pastors with twenty-eight assemblies not churches, and eighty-four preaching stations. The total average attendance at the Sunday services was 13,210.  
Horseshoes are now being made of cork. It will be a lucky day for the human race when the hind shoes of a mule are made of the same material.

**PEARLS OF THOUGHT.**

Industry need not wish.  
Truth is the basis of every virtue.  
Avarice is the mother of many vices.  
The path of truth is a plain and safe path.  
Old injuries are seldom canceled by new benefits.  
He that cannot live well to-day cannot to-morrow.  
The fountain of content must spring up in the mind.  
Falsehood sinks us into contempt with God and man.  
The road to home and happiness lies over small stepping stones.  
less demonstrative when deserted, and remains longer inconsolable.  
The touchstone by which men try us is most often their own vanity.  
There is a long and wearisome step between admiration and imitation.  
A man explodes with indignation when a woman ceases to love him, yet he soon finds consolation; a woman is not so quick.  
It is hard to personate and act a part long, for where truth is not at the bottom nature will always be endeavoring to return, and will peep out and betray itself one time or another.  
He understands liberty right who makes his own depend upon that of others. True liberty does not permit the enfranchisement of one's self through the enslavement of some one else.

**Recent Changes in the Earth's Surface.**  
According to Lombardini, the Po now transports nearly three times as much sediment as formerly, the increase being chiefly due to the destruction of the forests and the consequent increased denudation of the Alps. French engineers estimate that the delta of the Rhone has advanced at a rate far greater than it did previous to the cultivation of its valley. In the Eastern United States, wherever a mountain slope has been stripped, incipient ravines quickly form and enlarge with such rapidity as to excite the attention of geologists. This is especially the case with the sandy soils of Maryland, Georgia and Alabama, previously covered with pine forests.  
The black earth of Russia, one of the chief sources of the agricultural wealth of the empire, is quickly cut up into huge ravines, and the finest soil in Europe is being rapidly carried away to increase the deltas of the Volga and the Don, and to slit up the sea of Azof. During the great floods of 1866 and 1868 in France and Switzerland, the wooded soils alone escaped from being washed away. The immunity of the provinces of Brescia and Bergamo from damage by the great floods of 1872 was chiefly due to forest improvements. During ten years the department of the Lower Alps lost 61,000 acres of cultivated soil from the effects of torrents; and the clearing of the forests of Ardeche has resulted in the covering up of 70,000 acres of good land with barren sand and gravel.  
It is thought by many that vegetation elevates the surface as much as water depresses it. This, however, can only be the case when natural vegetation is suffered to decay on the ground in which it grew. In the case of cultivated crops, which only partly return to the soil, this elevation of the surface cannot take place, and its compensating effect being lost, denudation is relatively greater from this cause alone.  
Hence, it appears that one effect of man's influence, by laying bare large tracts of land for cultivation, has been to largely increase the erosion of the surface. In some instances, however, the action of man has been to check the natural transport of sediment. This is especially has been done in the case of shifting sand-dunes and encroachments of the sea. Along that part of the French coast which extends from the Gironde to the Adour, the sea throws up annually 1,245,000 cubic meters of sand, which the wind heaps up into hills and carries inland, overwhelming villages and converting streams into marshy pools. The annual progress of these sand hills was so great that in many parts of Bretagne the tops of chimneys above a sea of sand alone marked the site of buried villages. The amount of dune land in Western Europe alone has been estimated to cover more than 1,000,000 acres, and still larger deposits exist in parts of Asia, Africa and America. The destruction caused by these shifting sands has, from an early date, attracted the attention of governments; and the result has been to check their ravages by careful planting. Thus has man's ingenuity been successfully opposed to the action of the agencies which have caused those endless wastes of drifting sands in Poland, Peru and the United States; and to the devastation which has resulted in the formation of the *landes* of Gascony, Sologne and Brenne, and the Campine sands of Belgium.—*Chambers' Journal.*

Silver dollars with holes in them are painfully numerous, but they are not half so painfully numerous as holes without any silver dollars around them.

**MORAL AND RELIGIOUS.**

**Missionaries in India.**  
There are 689 foreign missionaries in India. One hundred and seventeen of these are American; and so far as is known they are from the following States: Ohio, 18; New York, 16; Pennsylvania, 12; Massachusetts, 7; Connecticut, 5; Indiana, 5; Illinois, 4; Kentucky, 3; Maine, 2; Vermont, 2; New Hampshire, 2; Virginia, 2; Tennessee, 1; Michigan, 1; Wisconsin, 1; Iowa, 1; unknown, 29. Ohio is the banner State for missionaries as well as for presidents. One missionary in India has been in the field fifty-five years; 16 have labored upward of forty years, 33 from thirty to forty years; 100 from twenty to thirty years; 179 from ten to twenty years; and 300 under ten years. What a record of labor this is! There are 389 native missionaries in India, 340,623 communicants, and probably as many more adherents, to say nothing of the hundreds of thousands of children under instruction; and the schools on these mission fields are not under cold-hearted state government, but the warm, genial impulses of a Christian heart are spread over the minds and hearts of these children, so that heart-culture goes hand in hand with the development of mind and body. This makes civilization and Christianity indivisible.—*Missionary Visitor.*

**Religious News and Notes.**  
In the Indian Territory there are ninety Baptist churches, with about 6,000 members.  
A Christian church has been built with stones from the ruins of a heathen temple by the native converts connected with the Madura mission of the American board.  
The National Christian association, which wants the name of Deity inserted in the Constitution of the United States and is opposed to all secret societies, held a national convention in Galesburg, Ill., December 1 and 2.  
The grand total of Lutherans, according to the Lutheran kalender for 1892, is 3,299 ministers, 5,865 congregations and 738,302 communicants; an increase during the past year of 125 ministers, 182 congregations and 37,884 communicants.  
The Protestant Episcopal diocese of Tennessee reports the following statistics: Clergy, thirty-five; parishes, thirty-two; baptisms, 394, of which eighty-three were adults, confirmations, 281; Sunday-school scholars, 12,140; parish-school scholars, 208; communicants, 2,738. Contributions for all purposes, \$91,681.14.  
When the news of the massacre of twelve native missionaries in New Guinea arrived in the other islands of the Pacific, and request was made in the island of Tahiti that three men should be sent to supply the place of those who had fallen, all the students in the college volunteered, so that they had actually to cast lots who should be the three to go.

**Similar to Guitau's Case.**  
The case of Guitau is doubtless one of the most peculiar in the annals of criminal jurisprudence, but it is not wholly exceptional in some of its aspects. Many years ago, in Maine, a man of previous respectability received as he claimed, an order from the Lord to go some twenty miles up the Sandy river and kill a person whom he would find chopping wood on the banks of the river. He performed the mission and was arrested for the act. At the trial in Augusta he pleaded guilty and said that he deserved and expected to be hung, although he had only obeyed the voice of heaven. The court, after consideration, let the plea be entered on the records, but did not pass sentence of death on the prisoner. The case was confined for judgment and the prisoner was remanded to jail. For something like twenty years the case came up at every session of the court for sentence, and was always continued for judgment, the prisoner all the time protesting against this course and insisting on his constitutional right of being hung. He finally died in jail.—*Boston Advertiser.*

**A Great Place for Tobacco and Sponges.**  
The population of Key West, Fla., inside and outside of the corporation boundaries, is variously estimated from twelve to sixteen thousand. It is ascertained by persons well acquainted with the place that it does not contain half a dozen families from the Southern States of the Union, and not twenty families from the Northern States, and that of the whole population, exclusive of the garrison and the United States officials, there are not twenty-five unacclimated adults. About one-half of the population are supported directly or indirectly by the trade in tobacco and the manufacture of cigars; and the other half are dependent upon fishing and sponging. The tobacco is brought from the West Indies and most of it from Cuba. The cigars manufactured from it are shipped almost exclusively to New York, either directly by ocean steamers or through Cedar Key and Fernandina.

**THE FAMILY DOCTOR.**

**SCARLATINA.**—A member of the Massachusetts Medical Society sends to the *Transcript* the following remedy for this much dreaded disease: It seems very important that attention should be often called to the prophylactic virtues of belladonna. Many eminent physicians have published their opinions in its favor, and there exists any amount of evidence, abundantly sufficient to establish its efficacy. Moreover, the remedy is cheap, safe and comparatively harmless. Nothing more is requisite than a tumbler of water, containing four or five drops of belladonna tincture, if attainable, if not, about two grains of the extract, perfectly dissolved. Of this an adult may take a teaspoonful; a child a half or a quarter as much, according to age—repeating the dose every four or five days during the time epidemic is in the neighborhood, or every day if there be any known exposure to it. The quantity taken should be less, if it should cause dilated pupils, irascibility and disturbed sleep. It is a mistake to suppose that this use of belladonna will always prevent scarlatina; it only modifies it, as a general rule, and destroys its malignancy. It has been tried in two or three hundred cases, and I never knew one prove fatal where they take it.  
**BURNS AND SODA.**—We must again, says *Youth's Companion*, call the attention of our readers to the power of bicarbonate of soda—the common cooking soda—to relieve the pain of burns. This power is truly wonderful, and the fact that soda is always at hand makes it important for every mother fully to understand that she has in her cupboard a sure and inexpensive remedy for the sufferings of her burnt child.  
A friend of ours, one morning not long since, burned and blistered his wrist. The length of the blister was at least two inches, and the width half an inch. Moistening the wound and spreading dry soda thickly over it and then dropping just enough water upon the soda to make it a sort of paste, he was instantly relieved, nor did he have an unpleasant sensation from the burn afterward.  
A writer in a St. Petersburg medical journal, speaking of sixteen persons who were severely burned in efforts to save their property from a fire, all of whom were treated exclusively with soda, says "he considers himself justified in pronouncing this remedy the best and most efficient in burns of all kinds and degrees."  
In one case the burns covered half the body of the sufferer. The whole face was stripped of the epidermis (scarf skin). The front of the neck, chest and abdomen and upper part of the foot presented burns of the second degree. Burns of the third degree were found on the right mammary gland, and on the right forearm, all the muscles of which were exposed, as if prepared by dissection.  
Soda was used and it relieved the pain, and a cure was effected in four weeks, excepting that the healing of the breast and arm required another month. The scars were insignificant.  
In burns of the first degree—the slightest—powdered soda will do. In burns of the second degree cover with linen rags and keep them moist with a solution of soda. In burns of the third degree, the rags will need frequent changing to wash off the pus which accumulates beneath.

**Country Origin of Wall Street Kings.**  
Looking upon the personal history of the present stock capitalists, says a New York letter, it is a peculiar fact that they are all of rural origin. Rufus Hatch is from Maine. Cyrus W. Field came from Stockbridge. E. D. Morgan was bred on a Connecticut farm. Russell Sage is from Russellburg county. William H. Vanderbilt is a native of Staten Island, and Jay Gould came from Delaware county, where his father was a laborious farmer. Other names might be mentioned to illustrate this fact. The financial talent of Wall street is drawn from all parts of the country, but is developed here under the exigencies of the occasion. It is circumstances that make men great, simply because they bring out latent faculties, and generally surprise the possessors of the latter as much as they do the rest of the world. How little, indeed, could Cyrus W. Field have imagined when he kept a rag shop in Burlington (where I first saw his name) that he would ever reach his present distinction. He then bought the daily product of the street rag picker, which was shipped to the paper mills of his native State, and he did well to clear \$1,000 a year, but at present he clears double that sum daily. How little also could Jay Gould have dreamed when he peddled his maps through Delaware county that the time would come when he would make every year more than the entire valuation of that county! Here, however, we see the thing done, and it seems to be accomplished in a very facile manner. Reader, what an age we live in!

Will the "coming man" shut the door after him? He will in this office, or the going will go out of the window.

**SCIENTIFIC SCRAPS.**

The assertion that iron and platinum, when raised to incandescence, are transparent to light, has been proved false by a series of experiments.  
The impression that flowers are never found double in a wild state is an incorrect one, the fact being that this is frequently one of nature's variations.  
Some engineers of Dundee, Scotland, have tried with success a new gun for throwing a line to a wrecked vessel. The gun is about two feet in length.  
It is recommended that, as the common ailanthus tree is diocious, only the female trees should be propagated for shade in towns, the male having the disagreeable odor.  
Insects are often attracted from a distance by artificial flowers, but they never light on them, leading us to believe that they are guided by some other sense than that of sight.  
The latitude of England is the same as that of Labrador, and the former country is only saved from the coldness and desolation of the latter by the warmth of the gulf stream.  
M. H. F. Blanford reports that he has observed white ants in the act of emitting rhythmic sounds. Another observer, Mr. F. P. Pascoe, has heard a peculiar sound, in fields of Southern Europe, which was found to be the song of a small lizard. It is generally believed that these creatures have no power of producing vocal sounds.  
Herr Hansen has found that the blue color in milk is due to the presence of peculiar microscopical organisms—known as bacteria—which multiply very rapidly, and in so doing produce a blue matter resembling aniline. These organisms render the milk unfit for food, especially for persons of weak digestive power.

**A Flying Monkey.**  
Birds and insects are not the only animals that fly," a veteran New York taxidermist said. "Here's a collection I'm making that shows all the animals known that move through the air without wings; not many, to be sure, but interesting enough when you come to think about it. Now, if any one should tell you that he'd seen and shot a monkey sailing through the air one hundred feet from the ground, you'd think perhaps he was overloading you with facts; but here's the very creature, a regular flying monkey. He ain't much at it now, on account of being a little too set up," with a cough of apology for the professional joke. "Its name is the colugo or flying lemur. They are found in the islands of the Indian archipelago. You see, the limbs are connected by this wide membrane that looks exactly like a great hairy cloak that, if the animal flaps its arms, would completely cover it up. It is a night animal, like the bat, and lives on very much the same kind of food, and spends its time in the trees. When it is crawling a limb the membrane hangs closely to the body, and you would never suspect it of flying; but let anything disturb it, and it's good-bye legs. It rushes to the top of the tree, out on the end of a branch, and dashes off into the air. The four legs are stretched out at full length, and the skin between them bellies out like a parachute, and it moves away, floating down and swinging from side to side, and after passing perhaps two or three hundred feet downward sweeps up twenty-five or thirty, fastens to a limb, and, in less time than you can tell it, is at the top of the tree and has flung itself off again. It travels so fast in this way that a man told me he couldn't keep up with one by running along below; and in one case where one jumped from a tree nearly one hundred feet high it came down about fifty feet with a rush and by the force of its swoop rose nearly the same distance again. They carry their young, generally two, through the air with them."

**The Champion Eel Catcher.**  
Samuel Gaddis, who lives at the Smithtown lock, Pa., on the Bucks county side of the Delaware river, claims to be the champion eel catcher. He brings home every morning from 600 to 1,000 eels, caught during the night. The only instrument he employs is a large basket, which he made himself. It has a wicker cover, with a spring that fastens the cover whenever it is shut down. He says he can tell, even in the dark, where the eels are swimming, and knows all their habits. When they move out from some ditch in the river bank, or squirm up from a mud patch, they start up and down the river in crowds. Gaddis opens his yawning basket and dives with it into the thickest of the run. It takes only a second to fill the basket, and then down goes the lid. The basket will take in forty eels at a time. Eels, Gaddis says, are quiet in the daytime, and do most of their traveling at night. They move all night, so that he is sure of a haul. Every time his basket is full he empties it into the bottom of a big cart which he keeps near the river, and there the eels remain until morning when he sells them.

**A Smart Girl.**

The smartest girl I've met in Iowa, writes a correspondent, I met yesterday at Nevada, Story county, Northwestern Iowa—Miss Belle Clinton. Miss Clinton is a bright-eyed, rosy-cheeked girl of about twenty, as full of fun and health and vigor as a good girl can be. Two years ago Miss Clinton was a school-teacher. Saving up by her teaching about \$160, she last spring borrowed a span of horses from her father, rigged up a "prairie schooner," and taking her little brother, started for Dakota. In the wagon were a nice, soft feather-bed and a mattress, bags of flour, coffee, hams, canned milk and small groceries. Miss Clinton says laughingly to-day, speaking of her trip:  
"Why I never lived so nicely in my life, and I never had such an appetite; and such courtesy I received everywhere! Rough, rude men would come to our camp, and, after I had talked with them awhile, offer to build my fire, and actually bring water to me. How was the scenery? Oh, it was gorgeous! We rode through prairies carpeted with flowers and melodious with the songs of birds."  
"What did you do when you got to Dakota?" I asked, entranced by her story.  
"But let me tell you first how we went. We went up through the Spirit Lake country in Iowa, crossing the Milwaukee and St. Paul road at Spencer. Then we drove northwest across the Iowa border into the northwest corner of Minnesota. Then we went west, crossing the Big Sioux and a dozen little rivers, and finally came to James river. This is the Dakota wheat country which they call the Jim river country. It is about one hundred miles east from the Missouri at Fort Sully. Here in Beadle, Bond, Spink and Faulk counties we came on to the finest wheat prairies in the West."  
"Now, you ask me what I did. Well, I homesteaded 160 acres of land. Then I took up a timber claim of 120 acres more."  
"What is a timber claim?"  
"Why, I hired a man, and we set out ten acres of trees. This, I say, gave me 100 acres more. So I have 280 acres now. But I must tell you about those trees. They were young locust, apple and black walnut sprouts. I sowed a peck of locust beans, a pint of apple seeds and two bushels of black walnuts in our garden in Iowa a year ago. These sprouts were little fellows, and we could set them out fast—just go along and stick them in the ground. But they are just as good. I believe my 3,000 little black walnut sprouts will be worth \$15 apiece in ten years, and \$20 apiece in fifteen. My locust trees will sometime fence the whole county."  
"Then what did you do?"  
"We built a shanty and broke up five acres of land, and this fall we came back to Iowa to spend the winter and here we are," and Miss Clinton, laughingly, made a courtesy, and tipped her hand like the dancing fairy in the opera.  
"And what will you do in the future?"  
"In the spring I'll go back with more black walnut and locust sprouts, and take up 160 acres more. The trees are just what I want to plant, anyway, and they'll pay better than any wheat crop that could be raised, only I've got to wait for them ten or twelve years; but I can wait," and her eyes glowed with hope and happiness as she looked into the future.

**Some Monsters of the Forest.**  
Near Stockton, Cal., is a tree that is 225 feet high, and two in Victoria, Australia, are estimated to be 426 and 450 feet high.  
A great elm tree that had been blown down near London, with a large ball of earth at the roots, settled back into its original place after the branches had been cut off.  
A cypress tree felled by N. B. Jordan, of High Hill creek, S. C., measured twenty-five feet in circumference at the butt. It took two axmen five hours to cut it down.  
A black walnut grove that was planted by a Wisconsin farmer about twenty years ago on some waste land was recently sold for \$27,000. The trees are now from sixteen to twenty inches through.  
A tree that was eight hundred feet in length, ninety-six in circumference at the base, and six to the very heart, was felled in California recently. Five men were twenty-two days in doing the work. After it had been completely severed by auger holes it still stood unremoved, and required blocks, pulleys and tackling to bring its proud head to earth.  
"Do let me have your photograph," said a dashing belle to a gentleman who had been annoying her with his attentions. The gentleman was delighted, and in a short time the lady received the picture. She gave it to her servant with the question, "Would you know the original if he should call?" The servant replied in the affirmative. "Well, when he comes, tell him I am engaged."