In the heyday of my years, when I thought the world was young, And believed that I was old—at the very

It seemed in every song the birds of heaver

That I heard the sweet injunction : "Go and get to thee a wife !"

And within the breast of youth woke a secre

For Love spoke in that carol his first mys terious word, That to-day through ashen years kindles mem-

Though the birds are dead that sang it, and the heart is old that heard.

I have watched my youth's blue heavens flush to angry, brooding red,

And again the crimson palsied in a dull un-

pregnant gloom;
I am older than some sorr
by Pleasure dead; sorrows; I have watched

I have seen Hope grow immortal at the threshold of the tomb.

Through the years by turns that gave me now curses, now caresses,

I have fought a fight with Fortune wherein Love hath had no part ;

To-day, when peace hard-conquered riper years nd weary blesses, Will my fortieth summer pardon twenty win-

ers to my heart? When the spring-tide verdure darkens to the

nmer's deeper glories, And in the thickening foliage doth the year

s life renew,
Will to me the forests whisper once more their wind-learnt stories?

Will the birds their message bring me from out the heaven of blue? Will the wakened world for me sing the old en-

chanted song-Touch the underflow of love that, through

all the toil and strife. Has only grown the stronger as the years

passed lone and long? Shall I learn the will of Heaven is to get for mea wife?

The boy's heart yearns for freedom, he walks hand in hand with pleasure ; Made bright with wine and kisses he sees the

face of Life; He would make the word a pleasure for a love

that knows not measure; But the man seeks Heaven, and finds it in the bosom of his wife.

-H. C. Bunner, in Scribner's.

MRS. RAYNOR'S SYSTEM.

Mrs. Raynor's neatness was a proverb in the locality in which she lived; her brother called her "painfully neat," and sometimes thought, when driven almost desperate by her system, that he would buy a farm for himself, and never again take any of his brother-inlaw's land on shares. But once when he spoke about it while haying in the field, Aaron seemed to feel so badly that he promised not to make the contemplated change for some time, anyhow.

"Poor Aaron!" thought Jack, when he saw how troubled was his brotherin-law's face; "he is worried at the bare idea that I might go off and leave him to that rigorous system of Emma's. For his sake I'll wait awhile: I owe him some consideration, for if it hadn't been for me he would never have met

Aaron Raynor was a very quiet man, and never had much to say on any subject; it was seldom, indeed, that he gave vent to his views on anything but the farm work, but he thought a great deal, and if Emma had only been able to read his thoughts she would have been saddened, perhaps, by their desponding and regretful tendency. He was, however, a faithful, kind husband, who did all in his power to lighten his wife's burdens, and, had he not lived in an atmosphere of fault-finding, would have been both genial and affectionate

The unhappiness and regret which pervaded the atmosphere of the Raynor home had its rise in the system, that terrible system which was the one law med Emma's life. drank and slept by it, and never guessed that she made the lives of her husband and brother unhappy by her strict adherence to it.

Every Monday morning the washing was done, rain or shine, and frequently on a rainy day Jack and Aaron coming into the big kitchen, wet and tired, and longing for seats by the fire, found the stove surrounded by chairs, all filled with the damp clothes, from which a steam rose slowly, while across the room were stretched ropes on which hung the small pieces. It wasn't very cheering, certainly; but Aaron never complained, because it wasn't his way to complain about anything; and Emma never took any notice when Jack found

On Tuesday the ironing was done, and well done, too. Every towel, no matter how old and worn, was faithfully smoothed and folded evenly; the shirts were ironed on both sides, and the neighbors often remarked that the linen worn by Jack and Aaron would have done credit to a Chinese laundry.

On Wednesday the baking and churning were done; on Thursday the house was thoroughly swept and cleaned from garret to cellar; on Friday the mending and little jobs were scrupulously attended to, and Saturday was devoted to baking and cleaning generally. Deli cious bread, cake and pies came forth from the capacious oven to be stored away on the pantry shelves, and body.' the kitchen and hali floors were made

marvelously white and clean by vigorous scouring.

No matter what happened, the system went on as usual-nothing whatever was allowed to interfere with that.

Aaron never thought of such a thing as coming into the house without first removing his boots in the little entry by the kitchen door and putting on his slippers which were always in readiness in a neat bag; and he submitted to his wife's rule of retiring precisely at 9 o'clock without a single word of rebellion.

If Jack, in his careless indifference sometimes crossed the white kitchen floor in his muddy boots, his sister, much to his annoyance, followed close behind him with a cloth in her hand and carefully wiped up his tracks, with an expression upon her face which spoke volumes, and distressed him more than a good round scolding would have done.

Emma was unaware that her system was rapidly destroying her good looks. She had been a pretty, pleasant girl in the days when Aaron had courted her; a little prim and precise perhaps, but not given to lectures on neatness and order. She lived with two maiden aunts, who had taken pains with her bringing up, and thoroughly imbued

her with their system of housekeeping. Mrs. Raynor would not have a servant, for servants were so "slack and disorderly," and she preferred to see after her household affairs herself, unconscious that her voice was from much fault-finding becoming a fretful, querulous whine; that lines were marring the beauty of her white forehead, and crow's feet gathering around her eyes; that her energy and elasticity were less with every day, and that she was deteriorating both physically and intellect-

"If I ever marry," said Jack, one evening, suddenly dropping on the floor the newspaper he had been reading by the center table, "I shall insist upon my wife's keeping a stout girl to help her. You don't seem to be aware of it, Emma, but you are working yourself into the grave."

Mrs. Raynor rose from her seat to pick up the newspaper, tolded it neatly and laid it on the table. Then she took up her mending again, saying as she did

"I could not endure a hired girl in the house, Jack. They are all so slovenly and neglectful. Mary never could remember to rub off the kettle in the morning when she filled it; Bridget always forgot to hang up the broom, and Hannah used to upset things over the stove. I tried all three thoroughly, and decided never to have another

Well, those are only minor evils when compared to you becoming a fretful invalid or dying of overwork, Brooms are cheap, and what did it matter even if the kettle did happen to be a trifle dust 7 occasionally?"

"Jack?" Emma's tone was one of horrified disapproval. "It's the principle of the thing more than all else. I never could find a girl with any system about her."

Jack smiled grimly. "And I will say this in my own

praise," pursued Emma, "nobody could gather a teaspoonful of dust in my house after I had swept it, if they searched from garret to cellar."

"True; it would be a waste of time to try," said Jack. Emma paid no attention to her broth-

er's sarcastic tone, but said: "If you ever do marry, I hope your ife will be orderly and neat. You have no system about you, and if she is no better I pity the house you live init will always be at sixes and sevens."

"I woul rather it should look like a pig-sty than that Fan-my wife-should overwork herself as you do in keeping it clean and neat. Aaron, you really ought to put a stop to Emma's perpetually trifling with her health and strength."

Jack had expected only a smile and a sigh from his brother-in-law, but to his great surprise, Aaron spoke.

"I've talked to her about it often," he said; "but it will be necessary for her to have a severe lesson before she will learn common sense. I made up my mind a year ago that I would say no more to her on the subject."

"Common sense!" said Emma; "I don't understand you. Would you have me sit with my hands in my lap and see the dirt rot the floors through and the stove go to pieces with rust?"

"No, but I would have you rest whenever you are tired. I would not have you polish the stove every Wednesday and Saturday, no matter how much else there is to attend to; and mop the kitchen and hall floors at regular intervals, even if suffering under a severe cold, which is liable to be increased by

any imprudence." "Why, Aaron, I never had a severe illness in my life!"

"There is no surety that you never will have one, Emma."

"No, but I'm well enough always. I've often felt under the weather, of course, but I have always managed to work it off. There isn't a lazy bone in my

"If you were taken sick the house

mercies of a servant. That fact, if no other, should make you prudent and careful of your health," said Jack. 'And another thing; when we come in at night you are tired out, and depressed, and often fretful. Now, if you saved your strength you would feel bright and cheerful in the evening. Women who work as you do wear out before they reach middle age, or else go insane. And it makes such a difference to a man whether his wife is glum and ross or-"

"It seems to me," interrupted Emma that Jack has a great deal to say lately about wives. I hope he won't bring home one of those Hopson girls and ask ne to welcome her."

"And why not?" asked Jack, with sudden rush of blood to his face.

"Your eyes ought to tell why not," answered Emma. "Their house is forever littered up with all sorts of trash. Books, newspapers, birds and plants scattered all around the best parlor, and no attempt to systematize the work."

"The family is large," said Jack, and of course the girls can't keep things in such order as you do. But they are all amiable and full of funit's a treat to go there."

"Less fun and more work would be better for the house," said Emma. "I don't mean to say that I ever saw soiled curtains there or rusty knives, but there seems to be no system about the work. Now, I should have each girl perform certain duties on certain days-

"In short make herself into a natent machine to go by regular windings," interrupted Jack. "Perhaps, Emma, it is as well to tell you now as any time that I am engaged to Fannie Hopson, and we are to be married in May." "Jack !"

It was all Emma could say, so shocked was she at this piece of news.

"Of course you pity me from the bottom of your heart," said Jack, "but no machine woman for me! I have enough of systems, and I should hate Fannie if she followed me around to wipe up the tracks I made on the kitchen floor, or made a point of washing the windows at a certain hour on certain days of the week."

With this parting shot Jack walked out of the room slamming the door behind him.

The first thing Emma did when the door closed, was to set Jack's chair in its own particular place against the wall, the next to remark to her husband that she hoped Providence would interpose to save Jack from the certain misery which would be the result of a marriage with a girl who had no system about her work.

One Monday morning Aaron rose a usual at daybreak and went out to attend to the chores. He left his wife asleep, as he supposed, and was glad that she should have the rest, for she had complained of a severe headache the night before. He expected, however, to find her at work in the kitchen when he came in with the milk: but she was not there and no preparation had been made for breakfast. Surprised and alarmed he went upstairs to the bedroom.

"Are you sick, Emma?" he asked, going to the bedside.

She turned restlessly on her pillow. an anxious expression on her face.

'Don't throw away those soapsuds, she said. "I want them to mop the floor when I get these clothes out.

Even in her delirium she knew the day of the week, and washed as usual. But the washings were done without her for many weeks to come. It was Fannie Hopson who took charge of the house, claiming it as her privilege to do so, and Jack and Aaron were very glad to have her instead of an ignorant domestic. It is to be feared that the stove was not polished quite so often as it had been under Emma's reign, and the kitchen floor was not quite so white, but Jack and Asrcn were made thor oughly comfortable every way.

At last Mrs. Raynor was pronounced out of danger, but it was long before she was well. There had to be months of weary convalescence more trying than her dangerous illness had been; days when she could not hear a door closed without pain, and hour upon hour when she wept over the slightest jar to her quiet. She had ample time to review her past, and recall to mind its mistakes and follies; more time than she needed to become convinced that she had acted without wisdom or dis cretion; time to think of the wreck she had become through carrying out the system she had so thoroughly believed in; time to resolve to be a different woman and a better wife should she ever regain her health.

She learned to love Fannie, who in May had quietly married Jack, and continued her duties as if nothing had occurred, and had long talks with her young sister in-law to whom she confiled her most secret thoughts.

In midsummer Jack and Fannie mov to a home of their own, and again Emms took in her hands the reigns of household government. But she had Indian colony, engrafted on the North at last learned a lesson. Her long and American fauna of the east and west expensive illness had taught her that coasts of the peninsula.

would be handed over to the tender she could not trifle with her health as she had done, and much thought during her convalescence had convinced her that she had no right to trifle with her husband's happiness either. Many things were now neglected, the performance of which had once been considered a sacred duty, and the servant whom Aaron had hired to help in the ouse was not dismissed for allowing the dust to gather occasionally on the kitchen mantel, or scolded for inattention to the rain marks on the window panes.

In short the house on the farm became truly a home to Aaron, and happiness reigned where once discontent had been king. No further lectures were needed from Jack, for Mrs. Raynor's system had taken wings to itself and flown away.

Sardines.

Sardines are little fishes preserved in

oil. So much everybody knows, but

few of the multitude who eat them

know even whence they come. The sardine is a little fellow of the herring family, taking his name from the island of Sardinia in the Mediterranean. The best preserved specimens of him come from the French coast, not in the Mediterranean, but north from Spain to the English channel. About April 1 the old-fashioned smacks, manned by four men and a boy, begin work, and after May 1 the fish move northward, increasing in size and giving its turn to each station along the west coast. The process of putting up the fish is simple. After sorting they are put in baskets of twined wire and cooked in caldrons of boiling oil; then they are packed "as tight as a sardine" in their little boxes, hot oil is poured over them, and the sealing, after careful expulsion of air, completes the work. The nearness of the factory to the place where the "catch" is, and the quality of the oil used, determine the quality of the fish. If they must be carried far before boiling, packing in salt is necessary, which toughers the flesh and gives the tiny bones more consistency and resistance than is agreeable to the eater. If the oil used is good olive, all very well; but if a cheap trade is catered for, or if the packer is greedy, he may use "arachidi" or peanut oil, or the cil expressed from cotton-seed, this disagreeable stuff being more or less sold as linseed-oil for pain's, and being largely used as a substitute for, or adulterator of, the much dearer olive. The city of Bordeaux has a dozen large firms in the sardine trade, and these support the great factories. In 1879, a year of remarkable abundance for this fishery, a single boat not uncommonly brought in 25,000 to 30,000 sardines in a day, at from thirty to forty cents per 1,000; in that year 600,000 cases, containing 100 "quarter-boxes," were produced, and a part of this is still held in stock, being deemed of better quality than that of subsequent years. In 1880 and 1881 the packing was 450,000 and 350,000 cases of 100 quarter-boxes respectively, estimated as worth \$8 per case. A severe winter is always followed by a poor season, and a good season is therefore expected to follow the mild winter lately ended. Packers are thought to have been losing money of late years, the ost of the fish having been high, although the market prices of the cure fish have declined, in consequence, it is said of the superior quality of canned lobster and salmon from this country. which is becoming a favorite food in Europe. In 1881 Bourdeaux sent to the United States sardines to the value

of \$489,429, against \$676,336 in 1880. "I am General Logan's Daughter." Mrs. Paymaster Tucker, nee Logan, was in the members' gallery one day, viewing the Senate proceedings, while directly in front of her sat two ladies, one evidently a Washingtonian and the other a stranger. The native was taking unusual pains to make herself agreeable, and as Mrs. Tucker was about to sit down said to her friend:

"There, you see that large man sitting in the center of the chamber, with the jet black hair and large mustache?" Yes."

"Well that is General Logan, of Illinois. It isn't generally known, but he is half Indian."

At this point Mrs. Tucker could contain herself no longer. So gently tapping the lady on the shoulder, she said: "Excuse me, madame, but you are

mistaken when you say that Senator Logan is half Indian." "Well, I guess I ought to know," warmly responded the stranger; "I have lived in Washington all my life, and the fact of his Indian blood has

never been questioned before."

"I think I ought to know something about the matter, too," quietly answered Mrs. Tucker. "I am General Logan's daughter." As Dandreary says, "The conversation is ended," and with a letgo-my hair look at Mrs. Tucker the stranger and her companion flounced out of the gallery .- Washington Letter

The marine fauna of the coral region of South Florida is said to be a West TOPICS OF THE DAY.

There are in use in the United States lone 200,000 telephones and transmitters. New York, including Brooklyn, Jersey City and suburbs, has some 4 000 subscribers; Chicago and suburbs, 3,600: Cincinnati, 3,500; Philadelphia, 1,800; Albany, 1,200; Buffalo, 1,100; Baltimore, 1,000; Louisville, 1,000; Milwaukee, 700; Lowell, 734; Springfield and Holyoke, 850. Portland, Me., has more subscribers as to population than any other city in the world, having a telephone to every fifty-cne persons; Springfield comes next, with one to each sixty-two person. The principa cities of Europe have exchanges, and its progress has been retarded by the government telegraph monopoly. London has but 1,500.

From the gaps left by the two masses of rook which last year fell from the Risikopf upon the Swiss village of Elm t is estimated that they formed only a hundredth part of the whole mass of the impending earth slip. A Geneva correspondent writes that the final catastrophe cannoi be long delayed, but that neither the precise time nor the direction of the inevitable fall can be foretold. Much depends upon the weather during the next few months. Meanwhile, although the people of Elm watch the mountain with extreme solicitude and are always ready for temporary flight, they show no disposition to leave their homes permanently. A new course has been made for the Sernf. into which so much rubbish fell last year, and roads have been opened over the debris to the meadows and mountain pastures that lie beyond it. Snowplows have been brought into requisilion to push the rubbish saide-where it is not too deep-and lay bare the cultivated ground underneath; and new barns and shippens are being built to replace those that were destroyed.

Some idea of the rapid growth of the coffee trade of the world may be obtained from the fact that the total production, which was 675,000,000 pounds in 1859, has now risen to 1,300,-000,000 pounds, or nearly doubled. In Europe alone the consumption of coffee is said to have increased 240,-000,000 pounds in the single year of 1879. As for the producing countries, it seems that Brazil now holds the first place with a total of 560,000,000 pounds against 330,000,000 in 1870. The emancipation of the slaves is, however, expected to lead to a falling off in the crop, unless the Chinamen and coolies imported from Asia should prove unexpectedly well suited for the work of cultivation Next on the list come the Dutch Indian possessions, which export about 150,000,000 pounds, the British East Indies, now exporting over 140,-000,000, and Venezuela, producing about 100,000,000. On the other hand the Antilles Islands have long been declining in the scale. Jamaica does not supply half as much coffee as in Martinique has fallen still more entirely out of the race, and the Reunion coffee, which was once highly esteemed, and is still declared to be of excellent quality, finds no longer any market in Europe owing to the unfash ionable bitterness of its taste.

In an article on the comparative growth of nations, the New York Tribune remarks: About 800 000 inhabitants have been added to the population of this country during the past year by emigration, and 1,470,000 since the last census was taken. During the last decade the increase was 2 812,190 by emigration, leaving 8 785,222 for the increase by excess of births over deaths. More than half as many emigrants as were received during the whole of that decade have arrived within the two fiscal years which ended last Friday, and the population of the United States must now be about 53.800.000. Recent enumerations of population in Great Britain, France and Italy enable us to contrast the growth of this with other nations. In ten years Great Britain has gained in population 3,400, 000; in two years the United States has gained about 3 700,000. In ten years France gained 1,200,000, having lost to Germany a population of about 1,600, 000, or about 2,600,000 from other causes, so that the joint increase of both Germany and France, with 77,000,000 of people ten years ago, has been less than one-hal greater in ten years than that of the United States has been in the two years just ended. Austria gained from 1869 to 1880 only one 1,981,000 inhabitants, and Italy from 1871 to 1881 only 1,651,000, so that their joint increase in ten years was less than that of the United States has been in two years. Europe has been disturbed by wars, it is true. But this country was also retarded in growth by great civil war during the previous decade. Looking back three decades which include two of general peace and prosperity for each country, we find that the United States has more than doubled in population, while not one of the European nations has increased as much as thirty per cent. in thirty

For the was, oh! so dainty-sweet and som-like and fair !

flush of morning in her face, and in her eyes the evening; The red of roses in her lips, the summer in her hair.

Rose Leaf! Rose Leaf! Our tenderest es

Were never half so tender as her touch reply;

ngs of the fairy palms and pinks velvet fingers, The clinging of the dimpled arms, the love illumined eye!

Rose Leaf! Rose Leaf! The very airs of heaven, They loved her, and came down to her, and

caught her in delight, and far away, across a day of wailing autum weather, She glimmered, wavered, swooned away, and

drifted out of sight. -James W. Riley, in Harper's Basar.

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

When a doctor cures you for nothing ne is one of nature's no-bill-men.

The circus performer is the authore of the period now, for he is in tents most of the time.

The jokes of the circus clown must be made up of kind words. For, you know, "kind words never die."

Even if a woman is afraid of a June bug, and can't throw a stone as straight as a man, she can pack more things in a trunk and chase a hen farther than any man in existence.

"Louise, dear, don't let the men come too near you when you are courting." 'Oh, no, mamma; when Charles is here we have a chair between us all the time." Mamma thinks the answer was rather ambiguous.

"Don't you think I have a good face for the stage?" asked a young lady with histrionic aspirations, "I don't know about the stage," replied her gallant companion. "but you have a lovely face for a 'bus."

"Won't you please play us some thing, Miss Hammerandbang?' asked "I should like to, ever so Fogg. much," she said, looking at her watch, "but really I have no time." "So I have heard," said Fogg, "but we will overlook that, you know."

The prize in-every-package tea stores are at present the subject of a general crusade. When a man buys a fifty cent package of tea expecting to get a five dollar prize, and takes it to the wife his bosom who opens it and finds therein a pewter spoon, he feels a yearning desire to go out under the silent stars, by the each fence, and kick bimself. GOADED TO DESPERATION.

When falls the soulful moonbe Upon the back-yard fence, And tuneful feline chorister Their serenade commence, The suffering esthetic His utterness forgot Hurls madly through the midnight air His too-too sunflower pot.

"A youth to fortune and to fame unknown" sent Damas the manuscript of a new play, asking the great dramatist to become his colaborer. Dumas was for a moment petrified, then seized his pen and replied: " How dare you, sir, propose to yoke together a horse and an The author, by return of posts "How dare you, sir, call me a horse?" Dumas, by next mail: "Send me your play, my young friend."

It was a youth of modest purse Said soft unto a maid: Which would you rather tackle next, Ice cream or lemonade?" Across the maiten's rosy cheek Fast flits a winning smile; 'I'll order some of both." she said. Heaven help the young man's pile. CLIPPINGS FOR THE CURRIOUS.

the silk-worm is eleven miles long. Crabs possess compound eyes borne at the extremities of highly morable stalks.

The thread which forms t

The mean elevation of Colorado is higher than that of any other State or Territory.

A catalpa tree large enough for four railroad ties can be grown from seed in twenty years. A Japanese fish, the chaetodon, shoots

flies with unerring aim by means of a drop of water blown from its beak. From the recent census in China it is

estimated that the population of that country is not much over 250,000,000. Cases have been known where all bat

one of a starfish's arms have been removed, and all the destroyed parts grew again. Assuming the average length of mankind to be a little under four feet, the

bodies of all mankind, living and dead, placed end to end, would just make a oridge from the earth to the sun. An ingenious Strasburg dentist lately extracted a molar, and finding it sound with the exception of the joints of the roots, he sawed them off, filled the

cavity with gold, and replaced it. It has re-established itself. A piece of coral five inches in height and six inches in diameter was taken from a submarine cable near Australia. As the cable had been laid only four years, the coral must have attained its growth in that time.