DICKENS' CHARACTERISTICS.

His Habits at Home-Aversion to Good-Bye-His "Readings."

[Mamie Dickens in Youth's Companion.] His punctuality was a remarkable characteristic, and visitors used to wonder how it was that everything was done to the very minute. It is a common saying now in the family of some dear friends, where puectuality is not quite so well o's rvef. "What would Mr. so well .o.s rved. "What would Mr. Di kens have said to this?" or "Ah! my dear child, I wish you could have been at Gad's Hill to learn what punctuality means". He was very fond of music, but not of "classical" music only. He loved national airs, old tunes, songs and ballads. He was easily moved by anything pathetic in a song or tune, and was never tired of hearing his particular favorites sung or played. He liked to have music of an evening, and duets used to be played very often four hours together, while he would read, or walk up and down the room.

There was a large meadow at the back of the garden in which, during the heavily colored candies. summer-time, many cricket matches were held Although never playing himself, Charles Dickens delighted in the game, and would sit in his tent. keeping account for one side, the whole day long. He never took to croquet, but had lawn-tennis been played in the Gad's Hill days, he would certainly have enjoyed this game. He liked "American bowls," at which he used constantly to play with his male guests. For one of his "improvements," he had turned a meadow he used also to practice many of his "readings;" and any stranger passing down the lane, and seeing him gesticulating and hearing him talking, laughing, and sometimes it be, weeping, most sarely would have thought him out of his mind. The getting up of those "readings" gave him an immense amount of labor and fatigue, and sorrowful parts tried him greatly. For in-stance, in the reading of "Little Dombey," it was hard work for him to steel his heart as to be able to read the death without breaking down, or displaying too much emotion. He often told how much he sufferel over this story, and how it would have been impossible for the picture of his own "Plorn," alive and strong and well.

His great neatness and tidiness have already been alluded to, as also his place, neat and orderly.

This was also the first thing he did upon his return home, after any absence. A more thoroughly orderly nature never existed. It must have been through this gift of order that he was enabled to make time, notwithstanding any amount of work, to give the minutest household details. Before a dinner-party, the menu was always submitted to him for approval, and he always made a neat little plan of the table with the names of guests marked in their respective places and a list of who was to take who in to dinner. He had constantly some "bright idea" or other as to the arrangement of the table or rooms.

He had a strange aversion to saying good-bye, and would tio anything he possibly could to avoid going through In a letter to a friend Charles Dickens writes

UNWHOLESOME SWEETS.

Adulterations of Candy - Chalk Starch Largely Employed.

[Interview with San Francisco Candymaker.] "Do you believe that much of the candy sold in this city is deleterious?"

"I do. There is no disguising the fact that chalk and starch enter largely into the composition of candy. want you to distinctly understand that I refer more especially to the small traders, who cannot possibly afford to make a wholesome bonbon for the prices at which they sell. The most deleterious mixtures are those intended for chewing. They are made of wax and tallow, in which starch is largely introduced. The quality required in this class of candy is their capability to last. Common sense will tell you that they cannot possibly be made of good material. See how many of those chewingsticks can be bought for 5 cents and you can judge for yourself of their value. Then those peppermint crops are especially deleterious, as also are all

"The best candy coloring comes from the town of Stuttgart, in Germany, and mostly all the principal manufacturing establishments in the world purchase their colors there. Scientific men are employed to mix the colors, and so they are perfectly innocuous. Now, take for example one of these petty stores. They have a great pot of paint, in which they poke a beam of wood, drag out a lump uests. For one of of paint and mix into the mess upon he had turned a which they are working. This is the waste piece of land into a croquet-ground and bowling-green. In the generally obtains among a certain class of dealers. Then I must class among the dangerous candies those styled 'cough condies.' A big refuse box is kept in these establishments, into which is thrown broken candy and all manner of rubbish. I myself have seen the sweepings of the floor thrown into the box. From this conglomeration of nastiness is manu. factured that candy which is fondly believed to cure a cough and soothe an irritated throat."

"What is the percentage sold in this city of good candy?

"I do not think over 50 per cent. is actually fit to be eaten. But then the manufacturer is not wholly to blame. The consumer is always desirous of cutting down prices, though there is grad him to have gone through with it had he not kept constantly before his eyes city a superior class of candy. It would pay you were you to stroll through some of these new establishments and see the amount of work expended upon some of the fancy wonderful sense of order. The first boxes and baskets. To give you an idea thing he did every morning, before of the value of a confectioner's services going to work, was to make a circuit of I will tell you that a prominent New the garden, and then go over the whole house, to see that everything was in its \$500 for four days' work, during which time he taught how to commine jellies and fruit juices with candies.

"Have you any dull season in your business?

"We have. The dull season may be said to last from June till September. That is when the schools are closed and the children have gone into the country. We look upon those few months as very bad indeed for business."

Pittsburg's Natural Gas. [Chicago Times.]

It is asserted that the supply and use of natural gas by the city of Pittsburg is so large that it promises to revolutionize some of the essential characteristics of that city. Many manufacturing establishments use it for fuel, with the result that a very large portion of the dense smoke which for so many years has

"Snide" Business. ["Gath."]

The word "snide," which has come into general use, like many slang words, means more than the nearest English word to its meaning. There is the word 'snod," from the provincial English, which means "sly, cunning." and is de-rived from the word "snood," used in fishing tackle and in the way artful young misses the up their hair so as to tie the young mans heart within. The word "schn.de," from Pennsylvania Dutch, means the cut as applied to a tailor, who is called "schnider," and probably cuts the cloth too short.

"Snide" is now applied to almost everything manufactured which is under quality. A "snide" buggy is one loosely constructed and painted up to look well but out of which the spokes will fly driving around the sharp turns. A "snide" piano is one which has a well-varnished ase and brass fixings, but with a harp like that in Tara's halls and it will soon be mute.

There is scarcely a line of business in New York which has not its "snide" devotees. You see an advertisement for the sale of furniture in a private house, all described. You go there, and by carefully provided lights of gas or day you see what seems beautiful, but when you have bought it you are surprised to find the next day another advertisement, and going there you will find another set of furniture like yours. The selling of horses is another "snide" business here; you advertise for a pair of horses of certain age, height and style, and an answer comes from "a gentleman" who wants to dispose of his horses before going to Europe or to Florida.

You are taken to a stable, apparently a private stable, standing among certain others belonging to gentlemen, and when the horses are brought out of the half-light there you are asked to get in before the doors are opened, and when the doors are opened the horses are touched up with the whip and they go to the park in style. But when you return the doors are closed immediately. These horses, many of them, have their teeth filed to bring them down to age. A few days after you have bought them if you go back to the same stable you will find another "elegant pair" ready to be worked off on an unsuspecting oublic.

The Sun's Supply of Heat' The Century.]

How is this heat maintained? Not by the miracle of a perpetual self-sustained flame, we may be sure. But then, by what fuel is such a fire fed? There can be no question of simple burning, like that of coal in the grate, for there is no | source of supply adequate to the demand.

The state of Pennsylvania, for instance, is underlaid by one of the richest coal-fields of the world, capable of supplying the consumption of the whole country at its present rate for more than 1,000 years to come. If the source of the solar heat (whatever that is) were withdrawn, and we were enabled to carry this coal there and shoot it into the solar furnace fast (nough to keep up the known heat supply, so that the solar radiation would go on at just its actual rate, the time which this coal would last is easily calculable. It would not last days or hours, but the whole of these coal-beds would demonstrably be used up in rather less than one one-thousandth of a second!

We find by similar calculation that if the san were itself one solid block of coal, it would have burned out to the

ply the sun for but little more than

America's Wine Production.

America promises to become the

greatest wine-producing country in the

world. Ten years from now our annual

wine product will probably amount to

100,000,000 gallons. Even then the in-

dustry will be only in its infancy.' Cal-

ifornia is a great wine state, but as yet the has cultivated very little of her

grape area. There are three great wine

Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia and parts of Kentucky and Tennessee, the

[Chicago Herald.]

sixty years.

ELOQUENT WORDS. The Sense of Duty Rather than the Love of Glory. [Prof. Tyndall.]

In his own house I had the honor of an interview with Hamboldt. He rallied me on having contracted the habit of smoking in Germany, his knowledge on this head being derived from my little paper on a water jet, where the noise produced by the rupture of a film between the wet lips of a smoker is referred to. He gave me various messages to Faraday, declaring his belief that he (Faraday) had referred the appual and diurnal variation of the declination of the magnetic needle to their true cause the variation of the magnetic condition of the oxygen of the atmosphere, 1 was interested to learn from Humboldt himself that, though so large a portion of his life had been spent in France, he never published a French essay without having it first revised by a Frenchman. In those days 1 not unfrequently found it necessary to subject myself to a process which I called depolarization. brain, intent on its subjects, used to ac quire a set, resembling the rigid polarity of a steel magnet. It lost the pliancy needful for free conversation, and to recover this I used to walk occasionally to Charlottenburg or elsewhere. From my experiences at that time I derived the notion that hard thinking and fleet

talking do not run together. Far from seeing in this address a display of egotism, you will, I believe, accept it as a fragment of the life of a brother who has felt the sears of the battle in which many of you are now engaged. Duty has been mentioned as my motive force. In Germany one heard this word much more frequently than the word glory. The philosophers of Germany were men of the loftiest moral tone. In fact, they were preachers of religion as much as expounders of philosophy. It would, to a certain extent, be true to say that from them the land takes its moral color; but it should be added that the German philosophers were themselves products of the German soil, probably deriving the basis of their moral qualities from a period anterior to their philosophy.

I asked two Prussian officers whom I met in the summer of 1871, at Pontre sina, how the German troops behaved when going into battle-did they cheer and encourage each other? The reply I received was, "Never in our experience has the cry, 'Wir mussen siegen'-we must conquer-been beard from German soldiers, but in a hundred instances we have heard them resolutely exclaim, Wir mussen unser Pflicht thun'-we must do our duty" It was a sense of duty rather than love of glory that strengthened these men and filled them with an invincible heroism. We in England have always liked the iron ring of the word "duty." It was Nelson's It was Nelson's talisman at Trafalgar. It was the guiding star of Wellington. When in his days of freshness and of freedom our laureate wrote his immortal ode on the death of the duke of Wellington, portions of which both he and others might well take to heart at the present moment, he poured into the praise of duty the full strength of his English brain:

Not once or twice in our rough island story The path of duty was the way to glory; He that walks it only thirsting For the right, and learns to deaden Love of self, before his journey closes He shall find the stubborn thistle bursting into glossy purples which outredden All voluptuous garden roses,

Statesmen in Bad Hats.



INV

abriometer riter Democrate

And Have Your Job Work

Job Office

DONE

CHEAPLY, NEATLY AND WITH DISPATCH

"Another generation begins to peep above the table. I once used to think what a horrible thing it was to be a grandfather. Finding that the calamity falls upon me without perceiv-ing any other change in myself, I bear it like a man."

But as he so disliked the name of grandfather as applied to himself, these grandchildren were taught by him to grandenindren were taught by him to call him "Venerables." And to this day some of them still speak of him by his self-invented name. Now, there is an-other and younger family who never knew "Venerables," but who are taught to know his likeness, and taught to know his backs through the nictures in know his books through the pictures in them, as soon as they can be taught anything, and whose baby hands lay bright flowers upon the stone in Westminster abbey, every 9th of June, and every Christmas Eve.

For, in remembrance of his love for all that is gay in color, none but the brightest flowers-and also some of the gorgeous american leaves, sent by a friend for the purpose-are laid upon the stone, making that one spot, in the midst of the vast and solemn building, bright and beautiful.

In a letter to "Plorn," before his dewrites: "I hope you will always be able to say in after life, that you had a kind father." And to this hope, each one of his children can answer with a loving, graceful heart, Amen.

Imagination.

[John Swinton's Paper.]

"It is in our imagination we are thus and thus." So says the unknown author of the "Unknown City," and with truth.

The other day I was creeping sidewise. with my face to the wall, into Breiser's 25-centa dinner restaurant. Plume our pride as we may, there is something about a 25-cent' five-course dinner that would strain the philosophy of Diogenes. I felt, to confess the truth, as meek as Moses. As 1 was trying to make up in appetite what I lost in pride, I caught sight of a gentle-man at a table opposite, who had decked himself in a well-worn full-dress suit, with a flower in his buttonhole, and his hair barbered to glossy perfection. And I verily believe it was for nothing but to appear in state at this restaurant. Every mouthful he took seemed to invite the admiration of the whole city, and the air with which he read the general paper would have served as a model for a stage king. After sipping his coffee sublimely, he rose, walked to the bar and paid his quarter with the conscious look of a man who is taking a controlling part in affairs, and then marched off. "That man," I thought, pol is stronger than ever, owing to its monster guns, torpe los and improved "gets more enjoyment out of his quarter than Vanderbilt out of his millions'

Paper bottles are now use 1 extensively in Paris.

overhung and destroyed the beauty of the place has disappeared. The cost of this gas is fixed at the same as the cost of coal used as fuel; but even at the same price there is a great economy. There is no coal to be hauled, no ashes to be disposed of, and perfect cleanliness takes the place of the smoky atmosphere. The use of the new fuel being a success both in dwellings and manufactories, the only question of importance that remains is as to the duration of the supply. Ex-perts claim that there will be no material diminution in the next twenty years.

Hindoo Cure of Snake Bite. [Exchange.]

The Times of India gives an account of a native cure of snake bite at Walkeshwar. A Hindoo woman having been bitten on the ankle, her husband applied a bandage above the wound and sent for a famous Indian specialist in such matters. The man recommended the chicken cure. Twelve live chickens were brought to the house and applied to the wound one after the other. All of them died from the effects of the poison, and two more were sent for; these two lived, and the patient was declared cured. The matter having been reported to the police, the woman was removed to a hospital, but at the end parture for Australia, Charles Dickens of five hours the doctor found no signs of poisoning, and permitted her to walk home.

From Florida to Manitoba, [Chicago Times.]

[Chicago Times.] The first car-load of oranges ever shipped direct from the orchard in Florida to Manitoba arrived recently at ghanies and the Blue Ridge, including Winnipeg. A few odd lots have previously been brought in by express, but no full car has ever before made the Indian territory, with large parts of journey direct. This car was shipped New Mexico, Arizona, Arkansas, Kanfrom Florida about fifteen days ago. sas. Texas, Missouri, Ohio and New When it started it was a refrigerator York. We have 100 acres adapted to theroughly set up in ice. When it grapes for every one acre that France reached Manitoba the ice was not can show. needed, but a stove was in full blast to

Carlyle's Portrait.

A Drummer's Life.

place to some beginner who will renew

Russian engineers claim that Sebasto-

keep the fruit from freezing.

said was not preserved.

the same experience.

earthworks

stones.

What Distance Did He Travel. [New York Journal.]

Carlyle's Portrait. [Philadelphia Call.] Thomas Carlyle once complained that the moment of starting an orderly starts a portrait of him made him appear "a from his place at the extreme rear of the delirious looking mountebank, full of column, with dispatches to the comviolence, awkwardness, acroenty and stupidity." What the photographer manding officer, who is at the head of the column. He delivers the dispatches, and starts back to his place in the rear again, and reaches there just as the army has completed its march of the A leading New York dealer asserts tifty miles. It is understood that the that a drummer rarely lasts over a halforderly travels at a uniform rate of dozen years, at the end of which time What distance did the orderly speed. he is generally worn out and must give

travel in all?

Skrewd Mongols.

When some American capitalists were endeavoring to get the consent of the Chinese mardarins to develop the coal fields of China, the answer was, at least, not without diplomatic skill:

Whitehall Times: Some people are so "No, we cannot permit it. First, it vindictive, that with one foot in the grave they will kick surrounding tombe the world will tumble over; second, if it in the morning found himself paralyzed is a good thing for you it is good for es." I nat all aid of science.

[New York World. last cinder in less time than man has Most of the Washington "statesmen" certainly been on the earth. But durwear very bad hats. Kandall's is paring prehistoric times there has as surely ticularly bad, and that of Gen. Logan been no noticeable diminution of the perfectly offensive. The former ramsun's heat, for the olive and the vine bles through the corridors in an ancient grow just as they did 3,000 years ago, and the hypothesis of an actual burning becomes untenable. It has been sup-"plug" that looks as if it had been battered all the way from Philadelphia. and the latter in a cavalry "slouch' posed by some that meteors striking the which seems to give pretty good evisolar surface might generate heat by dence of having been used at a target their impact, just as a cannon ball fired excursion. Brewster, attorney general, against an armor-plate causes a flash of is the most particular man in town light, and a heat so sudden and intense about his hats. He has them made to order in Philadelphia, and uses about as to partly melt the ball at the instant half a dozen during a season. They are of concussion. This is probably a real source of heat supply so far as it goes, built very high with a bulging crown and a broad trim, and possess the adbut it can not go very far; and, indeed, if our whole world should fall upon the solar surface like an immense provantage of being equally attractive, no matter which way brushed. jectile, gathering speed as it fell, and finally striking (as it would) with the force due to a rate of over 300 miles a second, the heat developed would sup-

Blaine generally strolls along in a slouch hat, pulled well over his eyes; Chandler always in a derby, while the sprightly Ingalls, of Kansas, carries an opera hat, which he can flop up and down to suit his convenience. President Arthur's hats are models. They are the only ones of the kind, and the kind is good. They are tall silk-head coverings, nearly straight, with broad brim and a slight curve near the crown. Mr. Arthur has them made in New York. William Walter Phelps, notwithstanding the elegant cut of his clothes, does not pay much attention to his hats. Some of them could be appropriately worn by the end man at negro-minstrel show.

Cleanly Rio Janeiro.

[New Orleans Times-Democrat.] Rio de Janeiro, says an American steamship captain, is now one of the cleanest and most healthy cities I know. It used to be one of the filthiest and most unhealthy. When Dom Pedro came here in the contennial year, he carefully studied the sanitary regula-tions of American cities. He got his deas, and when he went home he put them in practice. Rio de Janeiro is now in a constant state of scouring and disinfecting. The most rigid sanitary laws are in force. The markets are not allowed to be open after 7 o'clock in the morning, and they are kept as clean as they possibly can be. The tables are all of marble, and the floor is paved, so that the whole market can be thoroughly washed every day. Dead beef is not al-lowed to be carried through the streets on open wagons, but must be covered.

Potency of Vocaloo Poisons.

[Fort-a -Prince Cor. N. Y. Mercury.] The Voodoo priests of Hayti use their knowledge of mysterious drugs for the purpose of getting victims. They know more of the secret properties of drugs than any one else. Nothing is more barbarous or more absurd than the uses to which they put their art. They pro-duce death-that is apparent death, either slow or instantaneous-paralysis, impotence, madness, and idiocy at will. Many a one has retired to bed at night

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