FROM A RURAL POINT OF VIEW.

Criticising the Engraver's Work-At the New Orleans Exposition-In Antwerp. [Chicago Tribune.]

There gathered in a room at the Sherman house one evening after a meeting of the state board of agriculture several members and their friends, who were looking at the third or fourth attempt of the artist to get up a head to the fair bills which might be up to the standard of rural Illinois. One with horses and cows in abundance had been rejected because the animals were not full stocks but common every day horses and cows which the engraver had known in early childhood be-fore the war, and before the Herefords and Short-Horns and various other un-pleasaninesses had brought blooded stock into every barnyard.

"That horse reminds me of a job a New York engraver did for me, guest remarked, pointing to a peculiarly ungainly animal which was helping puil a heavy plow with its center of gravity askew. "I had a cut of a reaper and wanted horses attached to set it gave the man the cut to fix up. In a few days he came into my office with a proof of his work and confidently asked me how I liked it. The horses were good horses, a very fine team indeed, but in-stead of being hitched to the machine they were facing it. "Why in thunder did you make them

that way? Why aren't they pulling the reaper?' I blurted out when I had got over my astonishment. "'I was going to do it that way.' he re-

plied, 'but horses look so much better

when they are facing you, you know." "When I was at the New Orleans expo-sition," put in another, "I saw a combin-ation of pictures as bad as that It was in the Mexican art gallery. Directly above a very good picture entitled The Cru i fixion of Christ there hing a gaudy and flaring picture of a cock fight. I called the attention of the Mexican attenda it to the incongruity, but he could see nothing out of the way in it, even after I had reminded him of St. Peter. Those Mexi-cans never can see anything." "That puts me in mind," said Samuel Dysart, the coancisseur from Franklin

Grove, "of a picture I saw in Antwerp which was called "The Savior at the Carpenter Bench." When I saw it there was a great crowd in the gallery admiring the painting, which was undoubtedly a great work of art. When I had looked at it a while I turned to a man standing before me whose face spoke raptures.

" '1 on't you see anything wrong in that picture :' said I. "'No; certainly rot,' he replied in a

rather shocked manner, looking at me as if I were an escaped heathen.

"You see a man hard at work planing, the perspiration running from his brow. and yet there is not a scrap of a shaving to be seen.'

" 'Perhaps he was working by the day. suggested a worldiy minded bystander, a suggestion which turned the conversation into other fields than that of art.

The "Crop Stick" Craze. Washingt n Cor. Baltimore American I

Among the ultra fashionable people in Washington, the great rage of the horseback riding season is the "crop stick. looks like a cane with about a foot of the lower end sawed off. All the swell people use it when they go to ride. "What is it good for and what does it mean?" asked your correspondent of one of the livery-men of the city who makes this sort of

thing a study. "(h." he laughed, "it is simply an alsurd imitation of the Fuglish custom. It is most ridiculous. but we have to cater to it, of course. In England, you know, those who ride in fox hunts and that sort of thing, carry long whips with which to whip in the hounds. Well, these whips are fastened on to sticks with ng nae course, it is all right where they have any occasion for this sort of whip; but they have none here. Yet they want to ape the English fashion, and so take the stick, discarding the lash, for which they cannot have even an excuse. These 'crop sticks,' you see, have ca h of them a stick fastened over the end, as a place for a lash; but the lash is never put on. There is no need for it."

Esquimau Candy. [Lieut, Schwatka in St. Nicholas.]

It would seem very strange, and perhaps not very pleasant, to my young readers to hear a tallow candle or the shin bone of a reindeer called candy. And yet these things may really be considered as Esquimau candy, because they would delight the children of the cold in pre-cisely the way that a box of bonbons would delight you.

There is a certain kind of water fowl in arctic countries known as the dovekie. It is about the size of a duck, is quite black, has a prominent white stripe on its wings, and its web ed feet are of a brilliant red. When sitting in rows on the edge of greenish "ock these little red feet are very con spicuous. Sometimes, when the men have killed a number of dovekies, the Esquimau w men cut off the bright red feet, draw out the bones, and, blowing into the skins, distend then as much as possible so as to form pouches. these pouches are thoroughly dried they are filled with reindeer tallow, and the bright red packages, which I assure you look much nicer than they taste, are little Loreas' candy. In very cold weather the squimau children eat great quantities of fat and blubber; and this fatty food, which seems to us so uninvit-ing, helps to keep them warm and well. The only other kind of candy that the Feedback didner have is the marked

Esquimau children have is the marrow from the long leg or shin bone of the slaughtered reindeer. Of this also they are very fond. Whenever a reindeer killed and the meat has been stripped from the bones of the legs these bones are pla el on the floor of the igloo and cracked with a hatchet until the marrow is exposed. The bones are then forced apart with the hands and the marrow is lug out of the ends with a long sharp, and narrow spoon made from a walrus tusk. I have eaten this reindeer marrow frozen and cooked, and after one be omes accustomed to eating frozen meat raw it is really an acceptable tid-bit; while cooked and nicely served it would be a delicacy anywhere.

The Latest Engines of Destruction.

[Brooklyn Eagle.] Two items of information on the same subject, but from two different parts of the world, merit a passing word. It is reported that experiments with a new Nordenfeit mitrailleuse have been made in Vienna. The new gun, which is the invention of M. Rous, carries with it an unusual capacity of destruction. The other item of news comes from Marseilles, and says that Turkey has ordered in that town five new torpedo boats. The ea-gine of each boat is to be of 500 horse power, and two of the new Nordenfelts are to be on the captain's turrets.

Here we see two nations-Australia and Turkey - arming themselves with the latest, the most expensive and the most destructive engines of destruction, and these two engines are by Turkey to be combined. The torpedo, which is to destroy under the water or on the water, is to carry on its turrets the new Nordenfelts. And so human ingenuity, in its latest development, is to be used, not for human weat but for human wee

The late Lord Peaconsfie'd said that Europe was "governed by sovereigns and statesmen," and the result is that some of the richest resources of nations are made a curse rather than a blessing. It is questionable whether the peoples, if they governed themselves, would make matters worse. But what aggravates the cvil is that the millions speut on war and preparing for war is everywhere in antagon ism to popular government and free institutions.

A Peep Into Nature's Laboratory. [Thealxville Messenger.]

There is in the town of Phœnixville to day an exemplification of the operations of nature as displayed in the formation of coal, where it can be found in actual rocess of transformation from vegetable matter to a soft soapy carbonic substance. and the latter grafually changing to lignite and then again into soft coal of the bituminous form. Go along the Pennsylvania Schuylkill Valley railroad, between the first passenger station of that system and the new one and you will find a force of men cuiting down the bank there eighteen or twenty feet high, and amid those rocks, perhaps three feet above the rairoad track, you will ob serve a black seam. That black seam is a laborstory of nature. From above, before the Morgan house was removed and the surrounding bank, big trees sent their roots down through the soil and then through the crevices of the rocks till they reached the filled with roots and fibres. The trees above died and the roots and fibres con-fined in the seam began to work, chemical change took place carbon was evolved and coal was the result. The is oratory was orened by the building of the rail-road before the slow process was fully completed, so that you can find there to-day the variable and carbonized matter day the regetable and carbonized matter and lignite and coal a together, proving, indeed that the popular thought that coal grows is true.

A PRIVATE DETECTIVE AGENCY.

Wives Who Have Taken to the Spy System of Learning About Their Husbands. (New York Cor. Chicago Journal.)

The opening of a private detective agency in the midst of the fashionable re-tail trade, where the throngs have ten women to one man, caused comment a year ago. Now there are three such con-cerns in the same neighborhood, and each covers the front of a building with big, covers the front of a building with big, bright lettering. It is clear from the multiplication of them, and their occupancy of costly preuises on the streets crowded with shopped, that their busi-ness is chiefly with women. The feet is that wives have taken to the spy system of learning about their husbands, and it is not at all unusual for maidens to use the prohered tacilities for accuming. the profilered facilities for acquainting themselves with the actual characters of theinserver with the actual to get at the subject, I asked a bright girl to call upon one of the agencies with the ostensible errand of wishing to have a man shad-owed. She assented. This was her experience: A boy met her at the entrance. and ushered her into a small room, where a man politely gave her a chair and inquired what he could do for her. She replied that, for personal reasons, she de-sired to know where and how a certain gentleman spent his time outside of business hours.

"That is in our line of work, " was the affable reply. "Give us a description of the person and tell us where he can be seen, for we have to first get a spot on him-that is, identify him-so as to know whom to follow. If he is in an office or store, 1 will send a detective ou some sort of pretended errand, and then this man will point him out, as he quits his busi ness, to a second, who will shadow him as long as ordered. Our charge is \$8 a day and expenses-such as car fares, ad mission to places of amusement, drinks in a bar-room, or whatever may be requisite in order to keep him under sur veillence without exciting suplcion. It is safer to employ two men, for that guards against his slipping out of view-a thing that will sometimes happen, in case he goes into some house by one door and comes out by another. In that case, the charge is double, of course. For \$16 a day we will cover the gentleman with two faithtul detectives from the moment he leaves home in the morning until he returns at night, reporting to you in writing every movement of his, and notitying you by relegraph or messenger, if desired, on locating him in any place where you might care to get proof po itive by confronting him.

The manager further informed her that, in order to prevent the use of his detectives for blackmalling purposes, his necessary rule was to be told who she was and why she wished the spying done. He added that, if she disliked to explain to him, he would send a woman in to hear the facts. There would seem to be no insurmountable barrier to the detectives themseives turning bla kmailers. The im ression of the regular po lice, however, is that these agencies - or at least the cons, icuous ones-are conducted legitimately, if such a word can be used in connection with the kind of work they do.

About a Fat Printer.

[Philadelphia Times.] "I'll tell you a funny story about a fat printer I knew once, "sa'd ham Hemple, the comedian. "He had a linen duster on that was a mile too big for him and he was 'full.' What I mean by that is, he was drunk, and awfully drunk, too. of his companions were trying to get him along, when they met a third party, who invited them in to drink. The fat fellow wasn't able to stand alone, they didn't want to let him fall and he wouldn't sit down on the curbstone until they came out, so they deliberately pulled him over to a lamp post and buttoned him around it by his duster, while they went into the saloon. It was the funniest sight I ever It was moonlight. The fat fellow 88 W. had iost his cap and the moon glistened and shone on his bald head like dew on had jost his cap and the moon glistened and shone on his bald head like dew on a flower. When his friends came out of the lavern the found him all O. K. as erect as the lamp post to which they had

(George Macdonald.) Roses, roses all my song, Roses in a gorgeous feast, Roses in a royal throng, Surging rosy from the east!

ROSES.

Roses all the rosy way. Roses to the rosier west, Where the roses of the day Cling to night's unrosy breast.

Out of darkness light is born, Out of weakne s make me strong For the day when every thorn

Breaks into a rose of song. Does Habit Make Desency in Dress ?

Hondon Times, What is it that constitutes decency in dress? Clearly nothing but habit. custom of the particular society or subject matter concerned-in ordinary lan guage, convention. This seems strange to some people; but it is most certainly true that there is no absolute rule as to what drapery is or is not decent. Even in the same society the conditions vary enor-mously. Use and custom alone deter-mine the becoming. A Turkish lady is shocked if a strange man sees her without a yashmak and a monstrous bundle of wraps. So conventional is this covering of the face that a Mussulman peasant woman surprised in the field will often veil it with her only petticoat. Travelers tell us that a well-bred Afri-

can woman blushes to be seen for the first time in clothes. The unusual use of clothing appears to her scarce-ly decent custom, habit, and convention decide the matter among ourselves. A pure cottage girl in Conne-mara, who sleeps in a room with men aud never owned stockings, would feel uncasy in a ball dress of a princess. The princess would almost suffer death than share her cottage for a week. If the daughters of conidas went to a drawing room at Buckingham palace in their Spartan tunics, they would probably cause as great a flutter as they would feel themselves. No one would expect a hospital nurse to do what hundreds of innocent girls do in a pantomime; but the danseuse, again would hardly submit to the unsparing revelations of a surgi al ward. Honi soit is the soul and paramount rule: but then this depends on certain conventional practi es being respected.

> The London Ragamuffin. (Eaclish Blustrated Magazine,)

The genuine ragamuffin will never com lain. He never expects or e en hojes that his condition will improve; he is as much a fata ist as the Turk. I once asked a interesting little boy with a pale, careworn face and an intelligent expression, if he had ever wondered why it was that he had nothing but rags; why it was he had no boots, and sometimes no bread to bad no boots, and sometimes no bread to eat, while I had plenty of everything: He looked up at me with a calm, patient expression, as much as to say, "I have never wondered at such things." "Tell me," I persisted, "have you ever thought about this difference?" "It is the Lord's will "he realised tricke but here ever will," he replied tritely; but he seemed celuctant, when I pressed him, to explain

what he understood by the Lord's will. At last in a timid, hurried voice he said: "It is all the Lord's doing, this way; you are grand like, and dress nice, and lives in a big house, and you have a pianner, and—and, "he looked round the room that he might enumerate all our titles to c nsideration-"and a sofy; so the Lord sees as how you are gentlefolks, and he thinks lots of such like as you. But we are very poor, we are. Mother pawns the blankets, and father beats mother, and swears awful. We ain't got no Sunday things; we're all raggety, so the Lord don't take much notice on us."

A Well-messed Fore'gn City.

[W. D. Howe is in The Century.] What strikes one first in the Florentine

rowd is that it is so well dressed. I do ot mean that the average of fashion is so

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"And they carry these absurd clubs for

"And they carry these absurd clubs for use as whips for their horses?" inno-cently asked the correspondent. "Yes, indeed, but it's sily, isn't it?" You might as well take your heavy cane for a riding whip. But that is what they want, and so we let them have them. They cost all the way from \$1.50 to \$15.

Indians Ga hering Grasshoppers. I hico Ch oniel

During the present week there has been a large band of Indians along Lutte creek gathering a grasshopper harvest. The men and children have succeeded in capturing large quantities of the pests, and yesterday they brought to town twelve and yesterday they brought to town twelve large bags of them. They drove them into pits with branches from trees and the catch was easily made. The Indians have a way of taking the legs and wings from the hoppers by pressing upon bags containing them, leaving only the bodies. The harvest is turned over to the squaws, who easend if into The harvest is turned over to the squaws, who convert it into ...our and then into bread. The hoppers are ground into a fine powder in stone mortars, after the fashion of grinding their maize. Old-timers who have caten grasshop, er bread say that it has a pleasant taste, not unlike that made from wheat four, and that it is just as nourishing. The lay

that it is just as nourishing. The In-dians prize it more highly than wheat bread. The process of drying the hopper is an interesting sight. The insects are spread upon canvas stretched upon the ground in a sunny spot, and are turned and returned with the same care that a perfect cook would hot cakes to keep them from scorching. The insect: undergo this sort of treatment for nearly a week, at the end of which time they are as dry as leaves and easily powdered. To the indians this is now a land of plenty, since grasshoppers can be cap-tured by thousands with but little effort.

New York's Loss.

(Chicago Tribus

IChicago Tribune.) New York has au Tered a grave loss in the death of 1 mperor, a horse trained to conduct himself properly when ridden by a year and marshal is not per cettly at home on his curveting steed, yet the aver-age grand marshal wants his steed to curvet for effect's sake. Emperor would to the thing imposingly, yet with safety to his rider. I.e would enable a shudder-ing grocer when on his back to look like a field marshal, and knew enough to take a field marshal, and knew enough to take a horse must be. Steeds trained to carry grand marshals imposingly with-out throwing them are among the crying needs of the age.

Josh Billings: The man that is ali-wuss reddy to follow advice iz sure to follow the poorest that offers.

Kangaroo leather is the toughest leather known, but not much used.

A Too Par cutar House.

[Wa] (treet Nors] A man from Indiana who went to Chicago to buy a stock of groceries to start business, had but 1 tile r ady cush. and was asked what security he could

give. "Well, I did own a saw-mill," he re-

plied.

- ".ut you don't now?" "No, it was sold on a mortgage. I did have a farm."
- "Is that gone, too?"

quite so particular.

- "Yes, went on a mortgage." "Got a home?"
- "That's gone with the rest." "Any wild lands:"
- "I had 1.0 acres, but its gone."

"That its acres, but its gone," "Then you really have no security." ".ook a here, mister, "said the Hoosier, as he straightened up "after a man has been used to doing a mortgaging business for twenty-five years he can't change all in a minute. If a chattel mortgage on this stock an't security enough for you I'll look around and find some house not quite so particular."

The Student in Engineering.

(Exchange,)

"Suppose," said an examiner to a stu-"Suppose," said an examiner to a stu-dent in engineering, "you had built an engine yourself, performed every part of the work without assistance, and knew that it was in complete order, but, when put on the road, the pump would not draw water, what wou d you do?" "i should look into the tank and ascertain if there was any water to draw, " replied the student. student,

England Ahead,

[Chicago Hera'd.]

[Chicago Hera'd.] Despite the heroic efforts of the Ger-man students, England still retains her reputation of the greatest beer-drinking country in the world. Some recently compiled statistics show that, while Eng. land's 27,000 breweries preduce 950,000,-000 gallons of beer in a year, the Ger-mans, with 2,000 fewer breweries, make 900,000,000 gallons. 900,000,000 gallons.

Paper for Resisting Fire and Damp. Scientific Exchange. |

For making paper capable of resisting fire and damp, lierr W. Herre proposes to add to the pulp during the process of griniling in the rag engine solutions of certain salts which, by mutual decomposi-tion, form insoluble compounds. The so-lution which is added first contains zinc sulphate or chloride, or calcium chloride, or acetate, whereupon tallow, soap, glue, and alum are added. After having been thoroughly mixed the mass is formed into paper, which, however, before being dried is on e more passed through a bath of the same or similar composition to the solu-tion used for mixing with the pulp in the rag engine, and untimately impregnated with a solution of catechu.

"Hankey's Folly." [Foreign Letter.]

The Queen Anne mansion, in London, which is intended to meet the growing preference for flats which prevaits there and is Paris, is a big caravanseral. about thirteen stories high, and with some hundreds of rooms. It was built by a wealthy man named Hankey, and it is often called "Hankey's Folly." He spent a vast sum of money on the undertaking, and when it was finished so was he. A number of M. P.'s and actors have re-sided there. Among the latter was Dion Boucicault.

Misdirected Ganius.

[San Francisco Examiner. Consul (to stowaway who had been brought before him. — You have just been discharged from prison in Hong Kong, and I believe it was not the first oc asion! Stowaway—I had that misfortune, sir, but look you have all craising him the sir. but loo's ye here, sir (raising his voice), it's a 'ard case. I can dance a jig on a cellar imp from morning to night 1'm tattooed all over: I can whistle any toon in all creation—but yet I can't make a living. Its a 'ard case, sir!

An Interesting Fxhibit.

[Foreign Letter.]

One of the most attractive objects ex-One of the most attractive objects ex-hibited at Turin during the late exposition was a burgh of the medieval age, to-gether with its little town constructed with the most painstaking fidelity. All the buildings and rooms were, down to the smallest details, constructed according to historical account, and exhibited do-mestic life and trades of the fifteenth cen-tury. tury.

Sweeping Out. Fashionable wife—Did you notice, dear, at the party last evening, how grandly our daughter Clara swept into the room. Husband (with a grunt)—Oh, yes, Clara can sweep into any room grandly enough, but when it comes to sweeping out a room, she isn't there.

she isn't there.

Alfalfa roots in California have been known to penetrate fourteen feet toward the center of the earth.

great as with us, but that the average of raggedness is less. Venice, when I saw it again, seemed in tatters, but so far as I erect as the lamp post to which they had fixed him." show it on the street; beggary itself is silenced to the invisible speech which one sees moving the lips of the old women who steal an open paim toward you at the church doors. Florence is not only better dressed on the average than Boston, but with little over half the population there are, I should think, nearly twice as many private carriages in the former city. I am not going beyond the most non-committal si dice in any study of the Florentine civ-ilization, and I know no more than that it is said as it has been said ever since the first northern tourist discovered them) that they will starve themselves at home to make a show abroad.

> Crnel y to Trees. hi aza Times.

Driving nails into growing trees is rightly called a barbarous practice, only to be surpassed by the still worse habit of twisting wire round the stems and branches to keep them back in shape, or when newly planted to hold them steady to stumps in the ground. If anything must be used, tar cord surcly is better, but even that sometimes will cut into the bark of a rapidly swe ling tree. It is not only in forming far cy plantations round a newly-built house, that the young trees, etc., are established by means of wire and left to throttle. Themesives, but it is often left to throttle themselves, but it is often freely used to tie back boughs or bushes overhanging walks, or which have strag-gled away from a walk. No one thinks of loosening the wire afterward; probably no one knows it is there till the mischief is almost past repair.

. A Great Scheme. (Chicago Trib na.)

"I've bit upon a great scheme " said a western editor; "1 nearly doubled our circulation vesterday."

"How did you work it?" "See that steel's amp? Well, I just cut out a paragraph in the local column of the whole edition."

whole edition." "How did that help the circulation?" "Every woman in town bought an ex-

tra copy. Uses of Glucose.

[Philadelphia Call "Queries."]

Glucose is used principally in the fol-lowing ways: For the manufacture of table syrup As a substitute for barley malt in the brewing of beer and ale. As a substitute for cane sugar in confection-ery and in canning fruit. To adulterate cane sugar. To manufacture artificial honey. in making vinegar.

Good Monners.

Habit is strong, and you will always find that the casiest way to make sure of doing right on all occasions is to get into the habit of doing right. Good manners cannot be put on at a moment's warning.

A Mexican Commissioner. The government of Mexico has ap-pointed a commission for the scientific in-vestigation of the natural products of the country.

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