

GOTHAM THEATRES BURNED

The Fifth Avenue and Herrmann's Totally Destroyed.

The Entire Block and the Sturtevant House in Ruins.

A half-burned cigarette thrown into a bunch of inflammable debris in the property room of the Fifth Avenue Theatre, New York City, started a conflagration a few nights ago which, for the rapidity of its spreading, the extent of territory covered and the loss involved, has not been equalled in New York for a quarter of a century.

Within an hour that famous playhouse was practically destroyed. Herrmann's Theatre was in flames and the entire block in grave peril. The Sturtevant Theatre, 160 feet front, across Broadway, was set on fire and emptied of its guests. The top floor was afire at 1:45 o'clock next morning. Peter Gilsey's house, on Twenty-eighth street, next door to the Fifth Avenue Theatre, was set afire, with every prospect of destruction.

Fanny Davenport played "Cleopatra" at the Fifth Avenue Theatre the night of the fire. The play was over at 11:30, and five minutes afterward the audience had left the theatre. No one was left in the building, excepting the old watchman of the Gilsey properties, Benjamin Finn, and two actors, who were dressing.

Finn was on the stage passing through the theatre when he smelled smoke. The first alarm was rung at 1:50. Five minutes later, after a second and a third alarm were sounded, bringing a dozen fire engines.

The firemen found the theatre filled with smoke, lighted by only enough fire to render the rolling volumes here and there. They chopped holes in the flooring opposite the entrance and turned their streams into the black space under the auditorium.

Then began a series of violent explosions, each of which was followed by volcano-like bursts of fire and glowing cinders. There were half a dozen or more of these explosions. They were the blowing up by the heat of tanks of oxygen and hydrogen gases used to produce the calcium lights for scenic effects on the stage.

A shower of sparks flew across the street and the woodwork of the windows of the Sturtevant House took fire. The hotel brigade extinguished this, but in less than five minutes it was ablaze again.

Almost at the same time there was another mighty roar, and Herrmann's Theatre, which was then burning briskly, seemed to go up in an ocean of sparks and flame.

Following this, all the buildings beyond Herrmann's took fire, and then the flames began spreading east on Twenty-eighth street.

At one o'clock the entire front of every building on Broadway, between Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth streets, was on fire. Smoke poured from the crevices of doors and windows, and as the streams of water shattered the glasses the blaze leaped out and drove the firemen back.

The fire was under control at 1:40, but the entire efforts of the department were required to protect the Sturtevant House and the buildings on the adjoining blocks.

A number of firemen, who had clambered on the roof of the Fifth Avenue Theatre, fell with the burning roof into the ruins, and it was believed on the morning of the fire that six or seven of them had perished.

The block in which the two theatres are situated, contained ten stores on the Broadway side, all of which were burned out.

The Fifth Avenue was refurbished and decorated by Manager Henry C. Miner, last summer, at a cost of \$50,000. This Mr. Miner had partially insured, but his loss, which will be large in consequential damages, from the inability to complete his contracts, will be very great.

Magdalen Alexander Herrmann's loss in the Herrmann Theatre will be over \$25,000. While Manager Harry Miner saved nothing from the wreck Professor Herrmann and his wife worked like beavers. Mrs. Herrmann saved her four pet doves, but her husband sorrowfully said that his favorite trick apparatus, worth \$20,000, was lost to him forever.

WAR IN AFRICA.

German Forces Under Etna Capture a Slave's Camp.

Etna Pacha recently sent Lieutenants Langford and Buslow, at the head of a body of troops, to Urumbo, Africa, where they fought a battle with the Watuta tribe, defeating the latter with severe loss. The Watuta tribe subsequently joined forces with the Waniamwesi tribe and again attacked the German troops. Another severe engagement followed, the Watutas being again defeated. The German forces had three men killed and nine wounded. Commander Stuhlmann recently captured a slave's camp near the Victoria Nyanza. After a fight, in which many Arabs were killed, the Germans succeeded in releasing a large number of slaves. In this camp a quantity of ivory, gunpowder, about 100 muskets and other property were seized. The troops then continued their march, finally reaching Makongo, where they met Etna Pacha.

MANY CHILDREN PERISH.

Unhappy Ending of a Sunday-School Festival in England.

Six children have died from a terrible accident at Wortley, near Leeds, England. The tragedy began in the dressing room of the church school, where a number of children were preparing to take their parts in tableaux vivants, held under the auspices of the Episcopal rector in aid of the church. The children were in gauzy attire and were getting ready for their parts when a lamp upset and set fire to the dress of one of the girls. In their flight and confusion the flames rapidly spread and the little ones rushed, a burning mass on the school-room stage. Parents flew to the rescue and smothered the flames as rapidly as possible. Many mothers fainted. Some of the sufferers were taken to the Wortley infirmary and others to their homes. More deaths were expected.

KILLED BY A POWDER BLAST

Four Men Meet Death and Four Fatally Injured.

By a blasting accident near the village of Stafford, four miles west of Leroy, N. Y., Andrew Hunt and three Hungarian laborers were instantly killed. Four other Hungarians received injuries which it was believed would result fatally.

The accident happened on a railroad extension. A blast had been fired, and a second was placed near the place where the first was fired. The explosion tore up the rocks and earth in great quantities.

It is thought that some of the fire from the first explosion remained in the ground and ignited the powder placed for the second one. The blast was in a cut, and the dead and injured were covered by the earth and snow.

SINCE 1892 the only Indian fighting has been with the little squads of Apaches in Arizona and New Mexico. For every Apache run down and killed or captured the Government is said to have spent \$100,000.

FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

In the Senate.

23d DAY.—There were eighteen Senators present. Prayer was said by the Chaplain. The Journal of Wednesday last having been read and approved, the Senate, on motion of Mr. Hoar, adjourned.

24TH DAY.—The Senate resumed the consideration of the Election bill, and Mr. Hoar yielded the floor to Mr. Hiscok, who addressed the Senate in support of the bill. Mr. Hoar then spoke. The Senate Committee on Commerce favorably reported the bill creating a Marine Board in the Treasury Department. Mr. Faddock reported, with unimportant amendments, the bill known as the Pure Food bill, for preventing adulteration and misbranding of food and drugs.

25TH DAY.—Messrs. Walcott, Stewart and Teller made speeches against the Election Reform bill, and Messrs. Feller and Hale attacked the Election Committee for its delay in pressing the bill; Mr. Hoar made a speech defending the committee's action. Mr. Stewart opposed the caucus Financial bill. Although the attendance was far short of a quorum, no notice was taken of the fact and business was proceeded with. Mr. Manderson offered a resolution, which was agreed to, directing the Superintendent of the Census to report at the earliest possible moment the population of the United States, according to the census of 1890, by Congress districts and counties.

The joint resolution directing the Architect of the Capitol to cause to be placed on the east and west fronts of the main portion of the Capitol building flagstaffs, and to have the American flag float therefrom from sunrise to sunset each day of the year, and appropriate \$500 therefor, was passed. The Force bill was further discussed by Messrs. Sherman, Hoar, Evans and Teller.

27TH DAY.—The Senate simply met and after roll call adjourned for three days.

In the House.

22d DAY.—The House met and adjourned for three days without transacting any business.

23d DAY.—Roll call revealed the presence of only 101 members, so the House adjourned for three days.

MILES OF FOG.

Western Telegraph System Abandoned for a Time.

A telegram from Chicago, Ill., says: A large part of the telegraph system of the United States was idle to-night. Throughout the West and Southwest a heavy mist covered the land, and the wires from city to city were lifeless.

Scores of telegraph operators sat at their tables in this city watching for a chance to get their sounders working.

The first symptoms of trouble were noticed south of Louisville, Ky., and the trouble grew to such proportions that long circuits had to be abandoned and roundabout routes were substituted.

Last night the country west and northwest of Chicago began to be affected, and to-day the efficiency of the eastern wires was seriously impaired.

To-night the situation had grown so desperate that an Association of Western Lines, usually working in continuous circuit between Washington, Minneapolis and New York, taking in all the important intermediate cities, was cut into short lengths, scarcely a sixth of its usual distance, and extra charges provided at each sub-terminus. Even then very little business was done.

The aspect of the streets here this afternoon and evening was remarkable. A dense fog prevented more than the shadowy outlines of objects being seen more than a few feet away.

SEVEN PERISHED AT SEA.

A Survivor of the Crew of the Lucinda G. Potter Tells a Harrowing Tale.

A terrible tale of suffering from shipwreck was told at Philadelphia, Penn., by Charles Vollenberg, the only survivor of a crew of eight who had shipped on the three masted schooner Lucinda G. Potter for a voyage to Norfolk.

The vessel capsized in the recent storm and Vollenberg and Captain Evans were picked up in an exhausted condition by the schooner A. D. Hanson (Captain Smith), Captain Evans, who had been injured, died soon after being taken on board the Hanson, which has since arrived at Philadelphia with the dead crew.

Vollenberg says the vessel was thrown on her beam end in a hard gale off the Jersey coast off Barnegat. He, the Captain and the crew climbed on the aftermast.

The first wave swept the cook and a man known as Jim overboard. The survivors constructed a raft. Captain Evans was nearly able to swim, but managed to crawl on to it. The cold was intense, and one by one the men dropped off into the ocean until the Captain, Vollenberg and another man alone remained.

On the third morning the raft was sighted by the A. D. Hanson, but before she came to the raft man was washed away, and Captain Evans died soon after he was taken aboard.

GENERAL SPINNER DEAD.

The Famous Ex-Treasurer a Victim of Cancer.

General F. E. Spinner, ex-Treasurer of the United States, died of cancer at 8:30 o'clock on a recent evening at Jacksonville, Fla.

Francis Elias Spinner was born in German Flats (now Mohawk), N. Y., on January 21, 1802.

His father, a native of Baden, who was a Catholic priest, and after years a reform preacher, died at German Flats in 1848. Francis Elias learned the trade of confectioner in Albany, and afterward that of a saddler in Amsterdam. He engaged in trade in Hamilton in 1824, and was Deputy Sheriff of the county in 1829. He was an active Republican from the organization of the party. He was twice re-elected to Congress, serving altogether from December, 1855, to March, 1861.

He was appointed Treasurer of the United States by President Lincoln in 1861, and held the office until June, 1874. He suggested and inaugurated, under Secretary Chase, the practice of employing women in the Government offices. He signed the Treasury note in a peculiar handwriting that became famous for the purpose of preventing counterfeiting. General Spinner went South for his health after leaving office, and has for several years lived in a camp at Pablo Beach, Florida.

A YEAR'S FAILURES.

Business Disasters in This Country and Canada in 1890.

The business failures occurring throughout the United States for the entire year of 1890, as reported by R. G. Dun & Co., the New York Mercantile Agency, are 10,907 in number, being only 25 greater than in 1889, when the number was 10,882. The liabilities, however, show a very large increase over 1889, being \$180,000,000, as against \$148,000,000, an increase of \$41,000,000. These are the largest liabilities since 1884, when they amounted to \$229,000,000.

In Canada the failures for the year are 1847 in number, as against 1777 the year previous. The liabilities are \$18,000,000 in 1890, as against \$14,000,000 in 1889.

The oldest son of Brigham Young has purchased 3,000,000 acres in the northern part of Mexico and will establish a Mormon colony there of about 10,000 persons from Utah.

NEWSY GLEANINGS.

OIL has been going to be scarce.

CIL has been struck at Valparaiso, Ind. The supply of natural gas in Ohio is falling.

The value of the European potato crop is \$600,000,000.

WISCONSIN has a large cranberry crop of good quality.

THE ice crop in Maine this year is estimated at 888,000 tons.

A GENUINE case of leprosy is reported at Delmar, Iowa.

A LARGE acreage of wheat has been sown for this year's crop.

THE railroad pay-rolls for 1890 were nearly \$700,000,000.

A VEIN of salt 246 feet thick has been found at Kanopolis, Kan.

AMERICAN corn will hereafter be admitted duty free into Mexico.

THERE are thirty thousands cases of the grip in New Orleans, La.

THE golden poppy has been selected as the State flower of California.

CHICAGO has a canning company that is composed entirely of women.

A SUGAR beet factory, to cost \$100,000, will be built at Pierre, South Dakota.

MUCH of the corn grown in the West last year was too soft to put into cribs.

THE Paper income for 1891 is estimated at \$1,400,000, and the expenses \$1,440,000.

THE German Emperor will shortly make a tour through France in strict incognito.

PETROLEUM was struck in an artesian well at a depth of 815 feet at Chinook, Montana.

THERE is a coal vein in the Antwerp (Belgium) harbor that wooden shipping cannot enter.

THERE were more suicides than ever last year at Monte Carlo, the European gambling resort.

IT costs from \$3000 to \$6000 to clear the streets of New York City after one snow storm.

EIGHT new monasteries are being built in Barcelona, Spain, where there are already fifty-five.

AN army of locusts is moving across several districts of Victoria, New South Wales, causing great loss.

SAN FRANCISCO has been without rain for nine months, and the farmers are leaving the dry districts of California.

THERE are 30,000 pension attorneys in the United States, and their profits aggregate over \$2,000,000 per year.

MESSES. KIDDER, PEABODY & Co., of Boston, last year made gifts to their employes amounting to over \$40,000.

THE London money market is in good condition again, and confidence on the London Exchange in American securities is rapidly gaining.

THE aggregate amount paid to the credit of the pupils of the public schools in the Long Island City (N. Y.) Savings Bank is \$16,510.28.

ADVICES from the fruit belt on the lake shore of Michigan state that the condition of the early crop is good and that it will be able to stand a severe winter.

A CHICAGO publishing house is reported to have refused to fill an order for maps from the State of Indiana unless the cash accompanied the order, the firm alleging that the State's credit was not good.

THE meteorological records of New Hampshire showed that during the past year six persons have died who had reached the age of 100 years, one being 105 years old. Seventeen persons died whose ages ranged between ninety-five and 100, and nearly seventy others who had reached or passed four-score and ten.

EMPEROR WILLIAM is followed by the example of Frederick the Great in enlisting the tallest men that can be found for his Guards. The latest acquisition is a young Rhineland whose height is seven feet four and a half inches. He is the tallest man in the Guards since 1850.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

PAINELL is only forty-three years old. EX-KING MILAN, of Serbia, is sojourning in London.

QUEEN NATALIA, of Serbia, is writing her memoirs.

THE Empress of Russia is now forty-three years old.

DR. HENRY SCHLEIMANN, the archaeologist, is dead.

BISMARCK is not a good conversationalist, and he is a worse orator.

EMPEROR WILLIAM, of Germany, is an ardent amateur photographer.

RIDER HAGGARD, the Irish novelist, is in Mexico delving after Aztec treasures.

A SON of the late Senator Riddleberger, of Virginia, has been appointed a page in the Senate.

JAMES PAXTON VOORHEES, son of the Indiana Senator, has written a drama based on his novel, "A Tale of Wealth."

THE French President and Mme. Carnot devoted Christmas Day to charity, distributing about \$6000 among the poor.

MRS. SAMUEL J. RANDALL is living very quietly in Washington on Capitol Hill, her youngest daughter being her constant companion.

JUSTIN MCCARTHY, the Irish Home Ruler, literary man and novelist, is fifty-nine years old. He is small physically, but the concentration of energy is great.

THE German Kaiser rises every morning at seven. He takes a cold shower bath, is shaved and shampooed and by 7:30 is ready for breakfast with the Empress.

SEBASTIAN STEPHAN, the famous Russian revolutionist, exile, and writer, arrived in New York a few days ago. He will deliver fifty or more lectures in this country.

SIR JOHN POPS HENNESSY, who is now playing a prominent part in Irish politics, is said to be the original of Anthony Trollope's character of "Phineas Finn," the Irish member.

SENATOR WARREN, of Wyoming, is six feet tall and his form is as straight as a Rocky Mountain peak. He is blond, rather good looking, and talks and dresses well.

REV. EDWARD EVERETT HALL is sixty-eight years old. He was a newspaper man in his youth, and even now, if called on, he could set type or report a fire in an entirely correct way.

STORY, the American sculptor, now living in Rome, has been chosen to design the statue of George Washington, which will be presented to France in return for the gift of the Bartholdi statue.

THE famous Lafayette family, of France, has become extinct by the death of Senator Edmond de Lafayette, a grandson of the General. He was a wealthy bachelor and gave largely to charities.

NATHANIEL TRAYER is called the Vanderbilt of Boston. He has a fortune of \$10,000,000 invested for the most part in Western railways. He belongs to a number of fashionable clubs and keeps a stable full of fast horses.

THE marriage of Miss Virginia Schley, the daughter of the late Commander of the cruiser *Ballou*, to the nephew of the Earl of Wharfedale, is to take place on board her father's vessel in the Mediterranean next February.

THE aged Grand Duchess Alexandra is the only living sister of the late Emperor William of Germany. She is eighty-nine years old, she is active and strong. She is very simple in her tastes and frequently drives about among the people in a plain little donkey cart.

THE FARM AND GARDEN.

FROSTED COMBS OF FOWLS.

An authority remarks that the comb is easily injured by severe cold, and the larger that member the greater the injury, as it requires more blood to keep it warm than if small and close to the head. The comb indicates the condition of the bird. If it is of a bright scarlet red it denotes health, but if the points turn black you may depend upon it something is wrong. When the comb becomes frosted all that portion injured rots off, and the bird suffers pain. If a hen it will not lay until the injured comb is healed, while a cock with a frosted comb becomes unwell and un-servicable.—*New York Witness.*

HOW TO FEED FOR RICH MILK.

There can be no question among practical dairymen, however much scientific men may doubt it, that rich food will produce rich milk—that is, food rich in fat will add to the fat in the milk. The common practice among the best dairymen is to feed the cows fully with such food as is given under ordinary circumstances, and then either change a part of it or add to it some other kind which contains a large quantity of fat. Thus, a cow fed on clover hay, with as much cornmeal as she will eat, may have two quarts of the meal changed for two quarts of cottonseed meal, which contains nearly three times as much fat as the cornmeal. This change of food will almost always result in the production of more butter without increasing the milk—that is, the milk is richer in fat. A cow that is fed on hay and bran will increase in butter if the bran is displaced by cornmeal.—*New York Times.*

LEARNING TO WALK.

During the winter after the rush of the work is over is a good time to break the colts. Get them accustomed to light work in the winter so that if need be they can be used to some extent during the more pressing work in the spring. One item is of great importance in breaking the colts, and that is to train them to walk well. A larger part of the farm work is done in a walk and it will make considerable difference in the amount of work done whether the team are good walkers or not. One item in doing this is to only work them with horses that are good walkers. One of the best plans of managing a colt is to commence walking it with a good gaited but steady going horse that will take whatever load they are hitched to without difficulty. If, however, he is slow, the colt will soon learn the same gait, and little care in this respect at the start will make a considerable difference in a short time. Be sure at first that the horse used in breaking the colt is naturally a good walker and then see that the colt is well broken beside him and an important point will have been gained.—*Chicago Times.*

PRUNING TREES IN WINTER.

Notwithstanding many say that winter pruning of trees is injurious, I contend that it is not. If done when the wood is not frozen, and the wounds (say over one-fourth of an inch in diameter) be cemented over or even coated with boiled linseed oil, there is no danger of black spots or the flat headed borer taking advantage of it. The covering of the wounds can be done a month after the pruning, as by that time it will have dried so as to take the oil or cement the better. I have already done some pruning this fall. There is another advantage in pruning now, where the rabbits are plenty, as the green brush will give them something to bark, instead of their attacking young trees, much to their injury oft times. If young trees are properly trained from their infancy there need be no other tool needed than a good pocket knife. The pruning of trees in June, as some recommend, I deem most emphatically, as from all my experience, where it becomes necessary from the effects of storms, the result was injurious. It stands to reason that when a tree is in full growth that any foliage taken from it, the result is a check, and cannot be otherwise than injurious.—*Canaan's Rural World.*

HOW TO DRESS CALVES.

"Calves from three to six weeks old, and weighing about 100 pounds, or say from eighty to 120 pounds, are the most desirable weights for shipment," said a leading dealer in Faneuil Hall Market. "You ask the way to dress calves," said he; "there is only one way. The head should be cut squarely off. In some cases the head is scalded and dressed and sent to market, but in most cases is overlooked and left at home. The legs should be cut off at the knee joint. The entrails should be removed, excepting the kidneys. The liver, lights and heart should be taken out. Cut the carcass open from the neck through the entire length, from head to crotch. If this is done they are not so apt to sour and spoil during hot weather. Do not wash the carcass out with water, but with a dry cloth. Do not ship until the animal heat is entirely out of the body, and never tie the carcass up in a bag, as this keeps the air from circulating, and makes the meat more liable to become tainted.

"Mark for shipment by fastening a shipping tag to the hind leg. Calves under fifty pounds should not be shipped, and are liable to be seized by the health officers as being unfit for food. Dealers, too, are liable to be fined if found selling these stunks, for violation of the law. Very heavy calves, such as have been fed upon buttermilk, never sell well in the Boston market, for they are either veal or beef."—*Boston Cultivator.*

HAULING OUT MANURE.

After the harvest work is finished and the plowing for the seed has been done there is usually a good opportunity for hauling out manure, and for winter wheat and grass that is to be sown in the fall, this is one of the best times to manure; and by applying after plowing the work of preparing in a good tith will work it well into the soil. On many farms it is difficult to find time to haul

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

NEW WAY OF COOKING BEEFSTEAK.

Rice is becoming a much more popular article of food than heretofore. It is frequently substituted for potatoes at the chief meal of the day, being much more nutritious and much more readily digested. At its present cost it is relatively cheaper than potatoes, oatmeal or grain-grits of any kind. In preparing it only just enough cold water should be poured on to prevent the rice from burning at the bottom of the pot, which should have a close-fitting cover, and with a moderate fire the rice is steamed rather than boiled until nearly done; then the cover is taken off, the surplus steam and moisture allowed to escape, and the rice turns out a mass of snow-white kernels, each separate from the other, and as much superior to the usual soggy mass as a finely sieved potato is superior to the water-soaked article.—*Boston Cultivator.*

HOW TO COOK RICE.

Draw and singe three ducks. Canvas Back, if you can get them—of course, any other variety will answer, if you cannot procure the first. After the ducks are drawn, wipe carefully with a damp cloth and truss them in good shape. Slice one onion, one carrot, a turnip and two or three slices of celery into a braising or baking-pot. Put the ducks on top, add one quart of stock or water, cover with another pan and bake in a quick oven three-quarters of an hour, basting every ten minutes. When the ducks are half done, dust with salt and pepper. When they are done dish them. Put two tablespoonfuls of butter in a frying-pan to brown. When very brown add two tablespoonfuls of flour and brown again, then add one pint of the liquor from the pan in which the ducks were braised. Stir continually until it boils. Take from the fire, add two tablespoonfuls of mushroom sauce, salt and pepper to taste. Moisten the ducks with this sauce, garnish with cress and serve.—*New York Observer.*

BREAISED DUCK.

Tallow, applied warm, will soften and finally cure corns and bunions. Apples will not freeze if covered with linen cloth, nor a pie or custard burn if in the oven with a dish of water. Purify clothes that have been kept from the air by laying pieces of charcoal (wrapped in paper) in the folds. Try the open air at first. To preserve apples, spread them on a grating, but not in contact with each other, as one bad apple will spoil the others by starting decay. Two apples kept in the cake box will cause moderately rich cake to remain moist for a great length of time, if the apples are renewed when withered. Turpentine and black varnish is the blacking used by hardware dealers for protecting stoves from rust. If put on properly it will last through the season. The best way when hot grease has been spilled on the floor is to dash cold water over it, so as to harden it quickly and prevent it striking into the boards. Don't forget to have a few beans of coffee handy, for this serves as a deodorizer if burnt on coals or paper. Bits of charcoal placed around are useful in absorbing gases and other impurities. Lemons should be kept hung up in an open work basket, or a bag made from a net. Soap should be cut into convenient-sized pieces and piled neatly on one end of the shelf, so that the air may circulate and dry it. Keep your jelly in a cool, dry closet. Either write the name of the variety of the jelly on a not a little slip of white paper, and paste this on the side of the glass, or write in the centre of the covers before pasting them on. A porcelain kettle is the best for preserving; too large a quantity should never be cooked at one time. Large fruits may be put in the syrup, cooked rapidly at first, and then slowly, to preserve the shape; if the fruit is cooked and the syrup yet thin, take up a piece at a time carefully, boil the syrup until thick, return the fruit to it and cook slowly. A pretty way of serving eggs for tea is this: Cut bread in nice square pieces and toast. Take eggs out of the shell, keeping yolks whole. Beat the whites to a stiff froth, lay the beaten white around nicely on the toast, drop yolks in centre of white ring, salt and put in hot oven to bake a few minutes. When you take them out of the oven, pour a little melted butter on toast.

THE POET WHITTIER.

John G. Whittier, who has just begun his eighty-fourth year, is not only the oldest of our living poets, but comes near being the oldest of any American poet who has ever lived. William Cullen Bryant died at the age of eighty-three. Longfellow was considerably less than eighty at the time of his death, and so was Emerson. Richard H. Dana, however (whose grandson, also called Richard H. Dana, married the daughter of Longfellow), died a few years ago when he was over ninety years of age. But he had not written any poetry for nearly fifty years previous to his death. Whittier's era of productiveness, however, is not yet over, even at his advanced age, for he still publishes occasional poems. It is strange that a man who has always been in precarious health, like Whittier, should live so long. But as a rule no one lives as long as invalids.—*Faerie Tales.*

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

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