Meerschaum.

There are so many errors prevalent concerning the origin of meerschaum that a few correct particulars may not prove uninteresting. It is a sort of chalky clay which, owing to its lightness, the Turks call, "Keffi Kiel," meaning foam or light earth, and in former times this name suggested the idea that it was formed from the hardening foam of the sea.

In its natural condition it is white or cream colored, and of a soft, fatty or greasy nature to the touch; has a dull, earthy fracture, and is so yielding that it may be easily cut. It is found chiefly near Thiva—the Antique Thebes—in Turkey, and is also produced near the village of Kilischili, and the town of Eskischeher, in Lesser Asia, where it is sometimes discovered in veins twenty feet below the upper stratum of soil. When first dug up it is white and soft, but readily hardens without exposure to the fire, and, as the miners positively declare, grows again to excavated hollows by a second crop of deposit re-produced from below. The meerschaum is found in the neighborhood of Paris, and Madrid also, chiefly in rough, rounded pieces of uneven and shiny surface. Its constituent substance is soft and smooth, in these cases also, yet it is easily split, and clings sharply to the tongue. In Spain it is used chiefly for stoves and ovens.

The price of the meerschaum is according to the size of the fragments, which are wrapped in cotton and sent from Asia Minor to Constantinople in boxes borne on the backs of horses. From the Turkish capital they are forwarded to Semlin, and thence by way of Pesth to Vienna, which is the chief market for the article.

In the manufacture the so-called inferior pipe bowls are made from the refuse pieces, and are distinguished by connoisseurs from the best by their greater weight and imperfect coloring when smoked.

—The commerce in meerschaum is very considerable, not merely in the raw material, but in the manufactured article, as the value of the pipe may be enhanced to any extent by carving. A plain bowl of superior fineness and beauty will often bring $10 to $20, while the carved pieces sometimes reach $100, without the mountings. The value of the raw meerschaum imported into this country last year, is estimated at a million dollars, and the richly carved pipes at as much more.

So long as the practice of smoking is so generally indulged in as at present, the use of meerschaum pipes will be hailed as a useful amelioration, owing to their property of absorbing the nicotine, which forms the most deleterious substance contained in the fragrant weed.

The Wonders of Ancient Rome.

Modern writers, taking London and Paris for their material civilization, seem unwilling to admit that Rome could have reached such a pitch of grandeur in the world's growth and power. To him who stands within the narrow limits of the Forum as it now appears, it seems incredible that it could have been the centre of a much larger city than Europe can now boast of. Grave historians are fain to compromise their dignity and character for truth by admitting statements which seem to men of limited views to be fabulous, and which transcend modern experience. But we should remember that most of the monuments of ancient Rome have entirely disappeared. Nothing remains of the palace of the Cæsars, which nearly covered the Palatine hill; little of the *forum* which, connected together, covered a space twice as large as that between St. Peter's and the Palaces of Tuileries, with all their galleries and courts; almost nothing of the glories of the Capitoline, and little comparatively of those Thermæ which were a mile in circuit. But what does remain attests an unparalleled grandeur. The broken pillars of the Forum; the lofty columns of Trajan and Antonine; the Pantheon, lifting its spacious dome 200 feet into the air; the mere vestibule of the Baths of Agrippa; the triumphal arches of Titus and Trajan and Constantine; the bridges which span the Tiber; the aqueducts which cross the Campagna; the Cloaca Maxima, which drained the marshes and lakes of the infant city; but above all, the Coliseum. What glory and shame are associated with this single edifice! That alone, if nothing else remained of Pagan antiquity, would indicate a grandeur and a luxury such as cannot now be seen on earth. It reveals a wonderful skill in masonry; and great architectural strength; it shows that wealth and resources of rulers who must have had the treasures of the world at their command; it indicates an enormous population, since it would seat all the male adults in the city of New York; it shows the restless passions of the people for excitement, and the necessity on the part of emperors of yielding to this taste. What leisure and indolence marked a city which could afford to give up so much time to the amusements of sports? What facilities for transportation were afforded, that so many wild beasts could be brought to the capital from the country parts of Africa without calling out unusual comments? What improvements in palace that compels the government to provide such expensive pleasures? —*Hours at Home.*

Anecdote of Bierstadt.

Might I be excused telling one little personal anecdote which the artist gave me to meet with this summer in the land of the mountain and the flood? I found myself sitting beside a young German as a *table d'hote* at Grindelwald. So delicate, graceful at once, and so good and manly, there was no mistaking her to be American, though who she was, or the happy man who sat on the other side of her, I knew no more than the man in the moon. "What could you be saying to that very pretty woman at dinner to make her blush so?" asked somewhat reproachfully a female friend who had sat opposite, in a tone as though I had done something to compromise myself or my good manners. "Oh! my dear madame," I replied, "I have had the happiness to impart the purest gratification by the most unconscious praise, and that I have just been telling Mrs. Bierstadt, without being in the least aware of it, that the lady Montanvert was the noblest portraiture of the sublimities of nature ever transferred to canvas, and the glory of the Fine Art Department of the great Universal Exhibition the world has ever seen." It was even so; and just as I had finished my encomium the lady to whom it was so appropriately but wholly unconsciously addressed had turned round, and, blushing like a bride, had said simply, "The picture was painted by my husband—and presented to Mr. Bierstadt, who sat behind her. The great American artist, with inoffensive energy, has been over the states of Europe with the exquisite souvenirs of Swiss scenery travel, and after descending the Faulhorn, the last time I heard of him he was seated, brush in hand, in front of the Devil's Bridge, on the St. Gothard.—*Paris Cor. Cin.*

Men Whom the World has Loved.

Under this head a writer in *Macmillan's Magazine* remarks:

Against Steele, Fielding, Burns, Lamb and Coleridge, the devil and his advocates may exhaustive many a busy charge of recklessness and ill-living. But we feel instinctively that these men had the root of the matter in them. We feel that they were better than their lives; that there was a deep tap root of religion and goodness beneath the tree, even though its bark was cankered and its fruits sour. And the world in judging thus has judged rightly, even though it may have arrived at the truth through instinct rather than by any reasoning process. For men's hearts are ever wiser than their heads. The majority of men may be fools; but the majority of men are benevolent and honest and well intentioned. Poor Dick Steele!—for he is whose life suggested these thoughts. You have read the *Spectator*, of course, But do you have been accustomed to associate all that is best of it with the name of Addison? Is the worst (and some of Steele's Essays are by no means the worst) is ever thought to be more rotten than the age which gave birth to it. And I think there are few who have loved and honored you can read Steele's Essays upon the death of his mother, in No. 181 of the *Tatler*, without being touched even to tears. Steele is, in fact, eminently human. All the relationships of life are dear to him. He is warm-hearted, affectionate and impulsive. His religious principles are excellent; but from his youth up he suffers the terrors of conscience with a troubled mind, as all men must do whose faith is a constant protest against their lives. For his life is a continued struggle against temptation and a yielding to sin, u ill you are weary and sick at heart with following the footsteps of a combatant who is always being beaten. All his sympathies are in favor of religion and morality, and all his practice, unhappily, on the other side. As a desperate chance, a last throw to make a good man of himself, while he is still young, he publishes a book called the "Christian Hero." He hopes, poor soul, that his public profession of religion, in the face of a sneering, irreligious world, may yet habituate the ship of life, the Christian Hero to be discovered next morning in the kennel, drunk, having so celebrated his victory in a duel which had been forced upon him about a woman of bad character.

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The London correspondent of the *Tribune* writes:

"Miss Braddon has found champions who have access to the columns of one or two minor journals, and who present to the public a defense, not merely in the raw material, but in the manufactured article, as the value of the pipe may be enhanced to any extent by carving. A plain bowl of superior fineness and beauty will often bring $10 to $20, while the carved pieces sometimes reach $100, without the mountings. The value of the raw meerschaum imported into this country last year, is estimated at a million dollars, and the richly carved pipes at as much more.

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When Mr. Quincy was a young man he attended one of Webster's orations, and speaking of the first President, he said to his son: "I will tell you just how he struck me. He reminded me of a Roman; men who used to come to Boston in those days to attend the Commercial Convention. And I think there are few who have loved and honored you can read Steele's Essays upon the death of his mother, in No. 181 of the *Tatler*, without being touched even to tears. Steele is, in fact, eminently human. All the relationships of life are dear to him. He is warm-hearted, affectionate and impulsive. His religious principles are excellent; but from his youth up he suffers the terrors of conscience with a troubled mind, as all men must do whose faith is a constant protest against their lives. For his life is a continued struggle against temptation and a yielding to sin, u ill you are weary and sick at heart with following the footsteps of a combatant who is always being beaten. All his sympathies are in favor of religion and morality, and all his practice, unhappily, on the other side. As a desperate chance, a last throw to make a good man of himself, while he is still young, he publishes a book called the "Christian Hero." He hopes, poor soul, that his public profession of religion, in the face of a sneering, irreligious world, may yet habituate the ship of life, the Christian Hero to be discovered next morning in the kennel, drunk, having so celebrated his victory in a duel which had been forced upon him about a woman of bad character.

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E. M. NEEDLES & CO.

Invite attention to their First-class Stock of

Laces and Lace Goods,
Embroideries, Hdkfs, Veils, &c.,

To which additions will constantly be made of the

Novelties of the Season.

They offer their

White Goods Department

HEAVY SKIRTING CAMBRICS,

At 25, 35, and 40 cents.

A Great Sacrifice.

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GEO. FRYER,

916 Chestnut Street,

Has received and now opens his Full Importation of India Shawls and Scarfs, together with all other kinds of Shawls and Scarfs.

RICH DRESS SILKS,
BLACK SILKS,
POPLINS,
CLOAKINGS,
CLOAKS, &c.

To which the attention of purchasers is invited; the goods are purchased for cash and will be sold cheap. oct6tf

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E. M. NEEDLES & CO.'S,

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House Furnishing Dry Goods,

Offer the Lowest Prices.

Bleached and Brown Sheetings, Blankets, Sheeting, Pillow and Table Linens, Linen Towels and Napkins, Damasks, Wine Cloth, Doylies, Towels and Toweling, Marseilles Quilts, Counterpanes, Blankets, Flannels, Linsey Woolsey, Lancaster, Allendale, Jeanes, and other Spreads, Denims, Cottonades, Satinets.

In all qualities and widths,

AT THE LOWEST RATES.

1101 CHESTNUT STREET.

EDWIN HALL & CO., 28 SOUTH SECOND STREET, are now receiving their Fall and Winter Importation, Fashionable Dress Goods, Silk and Wool Poplins, Black Silk and Wool Poplins, Black and Colored Cashmeres, Black and Colored Delaines.

44 Green and Blue, Blue and White, and Scarlet and White Checks.

HOUSE FURNISHING DRY GOODS.—ONE CASE Fine redwing-2 Stair Linen, 5-4 Silk Damasks, One lot good Worth Crash, 12½ cents, One lot Huckaback Towels, 25 cents, Two cases of Turkish Bath Towels, A very large variety of Scotch and Rowels Diaper, at much reduced prices.

50 dozen heavy red bordered Towels, at 12½c cents.
24 dozen Huckaback Towels, at 25 cents, worth 37½c.

JOHN H. STEVENS & CO., 1104 Arch street.

FINANCIAL.

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EXCHANGED FOR

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ON MOST FAVORABLE TERMS.

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40 South Third Street.

U. S. SECURITIES

SPECIALTY.

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Philadelphia. New York.

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WALNWRIGHT & SHAW,

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No. 17 NEW STREET, NEW YORK.

Particular attention given to the purchase and sale of

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES,
RAILROAD STOCKS AND BONDS AND GOLD.

Business exclusively on Commission.

All orders will receive our personal attention at the Stock Exchange and Gold Room. dstf1yr

EXCURSIONS.

FARE TO WILMINGTON, 15 CTS.

CHEIFTEN OR HOOK, 10 CTS.

On and after TUESDAY, Oct. 1st, the Steamers Ariel and Penn will leave Market street Wharf at 9 A. M., and 3 P. M. Returning leave Wilmington, 6 A. M., and 2 P. M. Excursion Tickets, 25 cts. Fare to Chester or Hook, 10 cts. oct1-6t

DAILY EXCURSIONS TO WILMINGTON, Delaware.

The Steamer HANCOX will leave, on and after Tuesday, 10th instant, Market Street Arch street, daily, at 9 A. M., and 4 P. M. Returning leave Wilmington, at 7 A. M., and 2 P. M. Fare for the round trip.....50 cents.
Children under 12 years of age.....25 cents.
Excursion Tickets, good for a day.....75 cents.
For further particulars, apply on board.
1866 HANCOX & SON, WILMINGTON, Captain.

UP THE RIVER—DAILY EXCURSION—Landing at Burlington and Bordentown.

Andalusia and New Jersey Railroad Connections.

The splendid Steamboat JOHN A. WARNER, leaves Market Street Wharf, at 3 and 4 o'clock P. M. Returning, leaves Bristol at 7 o'clock A. M., and 4 P. M.

Fare 25 cts. each way. Excursion, 40 cts. 1413-tfs

GOVERNMENT BLANKETS.

200 BALES 60x80 FAIRS.

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GREY BLANKETS.

FOR SALE BY

H. P. & W. P. Smith,

246 Chestnut Street.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, PHILADELPHIA, PA., September 16, 1867.

NOTICE TO BONDHOLDERS.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors held on 4th instant, the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, Numerous applications have been made to the Board of Directors of this Company, by the holders of Mortgage Bonds to convert the same into Sterling Mortgage Bonds, dated July 1, 1867:

Resolved, That the Treasurer be and he is hereby instructed to give notice to parties who may be desirous of exchanging the Sterling Bonds, dated July 1, 1867, for a general mortgage upon the line from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, that the Company will receive the Sterling Bonds, dated July 1, 1867, at their par value, and exchange them for Sterling Bonds of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, Guaranteed Mortgage Bonds, dated July 1, 1867, at Philadelphia.

Further information can be obtained on application at this office. THOMAS A. SCOTT, Treasurer.

NOTICE.—THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS of the CALDWELL OIL COMPANY, will be held at the office of the Company, on Wednesday, 16th inst., at 12 o'clock.

Special business relating to a change of the location of the Company will be transacted.

Special notice is hereby given to the stockholders that the Board of Directors have fixed a value of the majority of the stock of the Company, and have decided that the value of the shares will be altered and changed from a nominal and arbitrary value to a substantial one, and the stock shall decline accordingly. CHARLES M. STIER, Secretary.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 5th, 1867. 10-5-2t

OFFICE PEEL-LITE MINING COMPANY, NO. 1 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, September 16, 1867.

Notice is hereby given that all stock of the Peel-lite Mining Company, on which the assessment was due and unpaid, has been duly declared forfeited, and will be sold at public auction, on Tuesday, October 15, 1867, at 12 o'clock, noon, at the office of the Secretary, 1 Broadway, New York, unless the assessment, with interest and expenses, shall be previously paid. By order of the Board of Directors.

H. A. HOOPER, Treasurer.

ALL INDUSTRIOUS AMERICANS.

Bond street and Columbia avenue, is open for the subscription of Stock in a company in order to wait for articles not selected or deserted by the Gentlemen. If the Stock is not taken up immediately, the Gentlemen will be kept from evil, and made respectable and united in Christ.

Contributions may be sent to JAMES T. SHEPHERD, Bond street and Columbia avenue. oct8-tf

BATCHELOR'S HAIR DYE.—THE ONLY TRUE and PERFECT DYE.—The Great Original—This celebrated Dye is perfect in every respect. Natural Black or Brown. No disappointment. No ridiculous results. The hair Invigorated, Strengthened and Beautified. Sold by all Druggists. Factory, 81 Maiden Lane, New York.

ALEX. BATCHELOR, Chemist. 1-1-1yr

WOMAN'S MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PENNSYLVANIA.—The Twenty-Ninth Annual Course of Medical Studies of this School will be delivered in Broad street, near Spring Garden, on MONDAY, Oct. 7, 1867, at 8 o'clock, P. M. Tickets, $15. Dissecting Ticket, $5. For the Clinical Lecture, Dispensary Tickets, $5. For the Lectures and Clinical Lectures, $20. Hospital Ticket, $5. For the Hospital and Dispensary, $10. Students can board in the College Buildings, North College avenue and Broad street. For Circulars, address

JOHN PRESTON M. D., Dean,
Broad and Spring Garden Streets.

OFFICE OF THE ATLANTIC AND GULF PETROLEUM COMPANY.

PHILADELPHIA, October 9th, 1867.

The Stockholders of the Atlantic and Gulf Petroleum Company are requested to meet at the office of the Company, 1 Broadway, New York, on Tuesday, October 15, 1867, at 12 o'clock, noon, to consider and adopt such measures as may be deemed necessary for the interests of the Company, and also to consider the propriety of the Company's Stock being placed upon certain forms, to the more large, about to be issued