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## RIDGWAY, PA., THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1872.

# POETRY.

# THEIBREWING OF SOMA.

The fagots blazed, the caldron's smoke Up through the green wood curled; Bring honey from the hollow oak, Bring milky sap," the brewers spoke. In the childheod of the world.

And brewed they well or brewed they ill. The priests thrust in their rods, First tasted and then drank their fill.

And shouted, with one voice and will.

Behold the drink of gods!" They drank, and lo! in heart and brain A new, glad life began; The gray of hair grow young again, The sick man laughed away his pain.

The cripple leaped and ran "Drink, mortals, what the gods have sent, Forget your long annoy."
So sang the priests. From tent to tent

The Soma's sacred madness went A storm of drunken joy. Then knew each rapt inebriate A winged and glorious birth. Soared upward, with strange joy clats. Beat, with dazed head, Varuna's gate, And sobered, sunk to earth.

The land with Soma's praises rang Its hymns the dusky maidens sang In joy of life or mortal pang All men to Soma prayed.

The morning twilight of the race Sends down these matin psalms; And still with woplering eyes we trace The simple pravers to Soma's grace.
That Verk verse embalms.

As in that child-world's early year, Each after age has striven ny music, incense, vigils drear, And trance, to bring the skies more near Or lift men up to heaven!-Some fever of the blood and brain

Some self-exalting spell. The scourger's keen delight of pain. The Dervish dance, the Orphic strain. The wild-haired Bacchant's yell,-The desert's hair-grown hermit sunk

The saner brute below; The naked Santon, hashish-drunk, The cloister madness of the monk, And yet the past comes round again

In sensual transports wild as vain We brow in many a Christian fans The heathen Soma still ! Dear Lord and Father of mankind.

Forgive our foolish ways! Reclothe us in our rightful mind, In purer lives thy service find. In simple trust like theirs who heard Beside the Syrian sea The gracious calling of the Lord,

Let us, like them, without a word O Sabbath rest by Galilee ! Where Jesus knelt to share with these

With that deep hush subduing all Our words and works that drown The tender whisper of thy call, As noiseless let thy blessing fall

As fell thy manna down. Drop thy still dews of quietness, Till all our strivings cease : And let our ordered lives confess

The beauty of thy peace. Breathe through the heats of our desire Thy coolness and thy balm; Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; Speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire

- John G. Whittier, in Atlantic Me

# THE STORY-TELLER.

# ARNOLD'S WIFE.

It had caused a commotion in aristocratic circles when it was known that Arnold Morford had married a nobody. "My dear," said Mrs. Drumo to her friend and confidant, the stylish Mrs. Cleveland, "she is really nobody. He picked her up in some out-of-the-way place where he was spending the summer, fishing. His sisters are perfectly wretched about it."

"I should think they might be," was the sympathizing reply. "A young, handsome man, with his wealth, position, and connections-why, he might have married in our very first cir-cles;" and Mrs. Cleveland thought of her daughter Arabella's thin shoulders and twenty-six summers, and noted the news upen her mental tablets as "one

It was not likely that so important a important firm, nephew of Giles, a bachelor, who would probably leave him all some stir in his own social circle; but dress, but I am terribly afraid it was a when, as Mrs. Cleveland expressed it, he shilling calico." "sneaked off to some obscure town to marry a raw country girl he was probaflutter.

It was understood by sympathizing friends, that Lucy Clifford and Leonora Maxwell, the sisters of the bridegroom, were completely prostrated by their brother's infatuation and obstinacy, al-though the old gentleman declared he Pearl jewels adorned the round white "did not see why the boy should not arms and throat, and caught up the marry as he pleased. There was money costly lace bertha on the shoulders had not two dresses to wear."

In the meantime the young brideentirely oblivious of the probable commotion amongst his friends, and keenly alive to the anger of his fashionable sisters. He had won his little bride—his the little bride. wood-violet, as he called her-when boarding with her widowed mother during a summer vacation. He loved her idly, and he trusted in her love, as she had yet to learn that he was wealthy Yet, deeply in love as he was, Arnold Morford was slightly twoubled. He had carnest desire to do honor to her position taken his bride to New York, established as a wife. her in a fashionable hotel, and after a week of quiet happiness, ventured upon the delicate ground that caused his perplexity. Seating himself upon the sofa, he drew his wife down beside him, and thus commenced:

"I want to say something to you, Ettie, darling, that may hurt your feelings a little. Will you believe that I have a motive for doing so, and forgive me be-

fore I speak?"
"You know I will," she said,

lifting her sky blue eyes lovingly to his face. She was very pretty; a little fairy-like blonde, with a complexion like a replaced these, and the dignity of the miniature painting, a wealth of golden curls, feet and hands like Titania's, and

a mouth like a cleft rosebud. "It is about our future, love. You married me believing we should live in a tiny house, where you would have to prepare the meals, keep the rooms in or-der, and look upon a silk dress as a luxury to be indulged in once in a lifetime. Did you not?"

She only looked at him with wonder-

ing eyes. Well, Ettie, love in a cottage is not to be our lot, sweet though it is. My father is a man who counts his money in hundreds of thousands, my sisters are the wives of men of large wealth, and I am an only son, and junior partner is the firm of which my father and my mother's brother are the heads. I do not want my little wife to be worried yet with the cares of housekeeping, so I have taken a suite of rooms in a large board-ing-house, where she will have nothing to do but enjoy herself. My father lives with my oldest sister, so there is no real home for my fair bride. But now I am coming to the point that may wound you-your dress.

"I thought you liked all my dresses, said the little bride, thinking of the many hours she had spent with her mother, stitching on her modest trous-

"I do. If only my taste were consulted, I would never want to see my little lily-of-the-valley in any dress but the pretty muslins in which I first saw her. But darling, my wife will have a social position to maintain, must move in society, receive and pay calls, go to concerts, parties, and operas, and must dress in a style befitting her beauty and my wealth. Now, Ettie, don't look so terrified. You shall not go home for two months, and before that time the drygoods merchants, dressmakers and milliners shall transform you into a fashionably dressed little lady."

"But, Arnold, do you mean that I must wear such dresses as the ladies we see at the table?"

"And hats and cloaks such as we see on Broadway?"

"And-the-the-money?"

"Don't fret about that." "I think I understand you, Arnold.

You will go with me, just at first, will you not? She was a sensible little woman, and she let no foolish pique influence her while yet her gentle modesty was un-

Society had calmed down somewhat after the flutter occasioned by Arnold Morford's marriage, when again it was er the storm. Willets & Company's agitzted by the invitations issued by failure was a great blow to us, and we agitzted by the invitations issued by Mrs. Lucy Clifford for an evening party to introduce Mrs. Arnold Morford to her

circle of friends. Ladies who had secretly hoped to be the bride introduced, shrugged their I hope to borrow that." shoulders, and wondered if the "gawky country girl knew how to behave herself," but prepared for the occasion, while the sisters-in-law, in private council, agreed that "they were agreeably sur-

prised at Arnold's choice."
"Really, my dear," said Mrs. Clifford, her trousseau is in exquisite taste." "And Arnold has given her perfect

ewelry.' "She is so shy and graceful, and so very pretty, that society will readily overlook any little gaucherie." "But she really has none. She is

ady, if she was country born and bred Did you hear her play?" "Don't tell anybody; she was educated at a musical school for a music-teach-

er, but nobody need know that." "She never taught?" " No; Arnold found her when she was only at home a few weeks from school. Between you and me, Arnold has made a better choice than any of the silly girls would have been who have been trying to catch him for the past ten

"I was afraid he would be an old bachelor, like Uncle Giles. By-the-way, Ettie must be years younger than he is. "She is seventeen."

"And he thirty-one. Well, the difference is on the right side." "Did you venture upon any hint about her dress on Wednesday even-

person as the only son of Morford, of Morford & Giles, junior partner of that "Not I. Trust Arnold for that. With her taste, and his savoir faire, you may be sure she will be appropriately dressed his money, could marry without creating I might have hinted at her wedding-

Mentally the ladies concluded that they were right to trust to Arnold and bly ashamed of," society was really in a Ettie, when the bride entered Mrs. Clifford's crowded drawing-room. The pure blonde beauty of the winning little lady bore well the dress of exquisite lace over rose-tinted white silk, while the golden hair, in soft, full curls, was costly lace bertha on the shoulders. enough to start him in life, if his wife From the tip of the white satin slipper to the snowy gloves, there was no fault to find, and the favorable impression groom, happy and hopeful, was yet not awakened by the fair, shy face and beautiful dress was increased by the graceful manner, the evident cultivation of mind, and the artistic musical culture of

> It was not long before the shy country beauty found herself fairly launched in the cream of fashionable so ciety, and Arnold could, with a sigh of content, feel that she had under her shy manner the tact of a lady, and the

> Ten years passed over Ettie Morford's head before any event of more than usual interest occurred to break upon that rare combination, a perfectly happy married life.

Two children graced her home, for Arnold had, long ago, yielded to her decare upon her lovely face. The girlish contour was gone, the shy drooping of young matron well became the young

figure.

It had long been conceded that if
Mrs. Morford was not especially well
versed in small-talk, scandal and flirting, that she was more than usually well read, and could converse easily and gracefully with men whose society was esteemed an honor from their intellec-

tual acquirements or scientific standing.
She was no pedant, and made no pretensions to literary attainments beyond the usual acquirements of her sex; but she read and studied intelligently, and where she found the conversation soaring beyond her comprehension, could listen modestly, and gain information. She was entirely happy. How many

can say so truly? But a blow was to come to her that was sudden and unexpected. It was at a large evening party that she heard the first intimation of approaching dan-

She was seated in a deep window-seat, hidden by the heavy curtains, when two gentlemen, standing near her, com-menced a conversation that made her heart seem to stand still.

"They say," said one, "that Morford & Giles will have to suspend payment." "I have heard such a rumor. They suffered severely by the failure of Willets

" And I suspect they suffer some from the extravagance of Arnold's wife. That woman's dress must cost a small fortune, and the children are always a mass of embroidery and finery."
"Her jewelry would support a fam-

The voices died away, but Ettie had heard enough. Was this really true? Her conscience was clear, for she knew that Arnold alone was to blame for her own and her children's expensive wardrobes. Her jewelry was always a Christmas or birthday gift from her husband, and he knew, if no others did, that it was to please him she wore expensive toilets, when she would have willingly returned to the simple muslins and cali-

coes of her girlhood. There was a glad smile on her lips as she parted the curtains, and stepped in-

An hour later, she was in her own room with her husband, and throwing aside her wrappings, she made him sit beside her, by a pleading—"I am not tired, an I I want to talk to you." Not looking in his face, she repeated

the conversation she had heard, and asked:

"Is it true, Arnold?" "That your extravagance has embar-rassed us? No. We are in difficulties, great difficulties, but we hope to weathunfortunately made some losing invest-ments in the fall. If I could now have ten thousand dollars to meet present emergencies, we could see our way clear.

But if you borrow it, you must pay it back."

"Certainly. But we gain time." "Still, if you could have it without orrowing? That would, indeed, relieve us.

that is impossible." "Arnold, will you listen to a story, and not ask any questions till it is finished ?

"Is it not too late for stories to-

night ?" "Please, let me tell you."

"Well!"

"Once upon a time, there was a little country girl who married a rich city merchant. She had been a poor girl all her life, and industry had become a necessity to her. After her marriage she found herself condemned to a life of almost entire idleness. Her husband was fond of her and proud of her, and one of his prides was to see her always beautifully dressed. In order to ensure this, he gave her a liberal allowance for material and dressmaker's bills. Now, this wicked little woman having a knack for sewing, took it into her head that dressmakers and milliners were not necessary to aid her in making a fashionable appearance, and secretly, while her husband was away during the day, she learned to make her own dresses and hats. Children came to bless her, and the generous allowance for dress was increased, while still time was found for embroideries and dainty stitching for the little ones. In all this time the little woman kept a memorandum of the cost saved upon each dress, and by way of preparing an umbrella for a rainy day, commenced a little hoard of money, that grew year by year, till— Arnold, do you not guess how my story is to members without one or more of the I have more than enough saved others. to help you now. You have been so generous, that I have saved over a thousand dollars every year, and now you kind, echoing through the woods on a will not have to borrow money to meet still, sunny day in winter—the lively your embarrassments, for it is here, in chatter of the chickadee, the slender the house, all your own."

prosperity and credit to the economy and ndustry of Arnold's wife.

What Makes Men. It is not the best things-that is, the things which we call best-that make men ; it is not the pleasant things; it is not the calm experiences of life; it is life's rugged experiences, its tempest, its The discipline of life is here good and there evil, here trouble and there joy, here rudeness and there smoothness, one working with the other; and the alternations of the one and the other which necessitate adaptations constitute that part of education which makes a man a man, in distinc-tion from an animal, which has no education. The successful man invariably bears the mark of the struggles which he has had to undergo on his brow.-Exchange.

### Monolith Temples.

The largest existing monolith temple in Egypt—i. e., a temple hewed out of a single block of granite—is that of Tel-el-mai, on the Delta. It is 21 feet 9 inches high, 13 feet broad, and 11 feet 7 inches deep. Large as this structure is, it was exceeded by that of Amasis, which was also on the Delta, and which Herodotus states required three years to transport, with the aid of 2,000 laborers, from Elephantine to Sais, a distance ordinarily of twenty days' Nilotic navigation. According to the same venera-ble authority, a third and still larger monolith temple was the glory of Lato-na, a city which stood on the western branch of the Nile, and distant about twenty miles from its mouth. most wonderful thing" (relates the father of profane history) "that was actually to be seen about this temple was a chapel in the inclosure made of a singl stone, the length and height of which was the same, each wall being forty cubits square (sixty feet), and the whole a single block! Another block of stone formed the roof, and projected at the eaves to the extent of four cubits." According to these admeasurements, sup-posing the walls to have been only six eet thick, and the material granite, as in all other monoliths, this monument would weigh 7,000 tons, being 76,032 cubic feet, without the cornice, which was placed on the roof. This cap-stone, although comparatively of inconsidera-ble weight—2,400 tons, if six feet be taken for its thickness—displays a won-derful example of the union of skill and power in its elevation through the air to the altitude of more than sixty feet. If any doubt exists respecting the ability of the ancients to transport and uplift such enormous masses of stone as these, it is set at rest by M. Jomard, the celebrated Egyptologist, who gives a sketch, in his work on Egypt, published by the French governof a huge block of granite situated almost a quarter of a mile from the modern town of Syene, where it was abandoned for some unknown reason while on its way from the quarry. It bears numerous traces of instruments in the work on its surface, as well as evi-dences of its having been intended for a colossal statue. M. Jomard's dimensions are—the largest 22 2-10 meters, and for the body and back 6 1-2 meters, or about 72, 21, and 21 English feet, which, at 13 cubic feet per ton, yield nearly 2500 tons! This block of granite is probably the largest in existence of which there is indisputable evidence of its having been moved by sheer man-

# The Birds in Winter.

What do the birds do in winter? Many, you know, go South. As a gen-eral thing, winter's cold does not seem to affect those who stay with us. The truth is, birds are remarkably well guarded against cold by their thick covering of down and feathers, and the quick circulation of their blood.

The chickadee is never so lively as in clear, cold weather. When the thermometer is three of four degrees below zero. it shows by its behavior that it is pretty cold. On such a morning I have seen small flock of them on the sunny side of a thick hemlock, rather quiet, with ruffled feathers, like balls of gray fur, waiting with an occasional chirp, for the sun's rays to begin to warm them up; a little sober, perhaps, but ready, if cold continued, to get used to it.

What do they eat? Our merciful Father does not leave the earth bare. There is food enough and to spare. The seeds of the grasses and taller summer flowers, and the elders, birches and maples furnish supplies that the cold and snow does not destroy; also the buds of various trees and shrubs, for the buds do not first come in the spring, as some people think; there are buds all winter; there are insects, too.

A sunny nook any time during the winter will show you a variety of two-winged flies, and several kinds of spiders, often in great numbers, and as brisk as ever. Then in the crevices of the tree bark and dead wood there must be something nice to be had, judging from the activity of the chickadees, goldcrests, and their associates.

In the winter no mischief can be done there is no fruit to steal. Nothing can be destroyed now except the farmer's enemies; yet the birds keep at work all

Winter, too, is favorable to sociability among birds as among people. The chickadee, the gold-crested wren, the white-breasted nut-hatch, and the dow-

No sound in nature is more cheery than the calls of a little troop of this contented pipe of the golden-crests, and And nobody knew or guessed that the emphatic, business-like hank of the Morford & Giles owned their continued nut-hatch, as they drift leisurely along the emphatic, business-like hank of the from tree to tree.

A Nice Point. During the war, a man named Smith had a mule taken from him by the United States military authorities for use in the army. Smith subsequently died, and his widow made application for pay-ment. Pending the application of the widow, the guardian of Smith's infant children intervened, claiming that payment should not be made to the wid but should be paid to him as guardian. The guardian's allegation is that after Smith's wife died (who was the mother of these infant children), Smith married again; after which Smith died, leaving this widow, (the applicant above described). But it is alleged that when Smith married this second wife she had another husband living, and therefore her marriage to Smith was void. The guardian consequently claims the money on behalf of the minor children of There is, perhaps, no time at which on behalf of the minor charges on we are disposed to think so highly of a Smith. The application, says the Washwe are disposed to think so highly of a Smith. The application, says the Washward the clerks there are puzzero and the clerks there are puzzero. zling themselves over the conundrum.

### Grand Jury Stories.

T. W. Knox, in Scribner's for March. has an article on the famous New York Grand Jury of which he was a member. We quote from it as fol-

Not many days after we were con-vened, a case that touched the heart of every man in the room was brought before us. A young girl had been accused of theft; a few dollars in money had been stolen; it was found in her pos-session. The complainant was a woman, and the accused had been in her employ. When the case was called the woman entered the jury-room and was sworn by the foreman. She took the chair assigned to witnesses, and the fore-

man questioned her.
"Did you lose some money?" Yes, sir.

"When did you lose it?" "On the first day of December." "Who took it?"

"The girl named in the complaint." "How do you know she took it?" "I found it in her possession, and she

confessed taking it. "That will do; you may go."
But the woman kept her seat, and
moved her hands uneasily. "You can
go," said the foreman again, but she did not start. A juror sitting near the door rose to show her out, and as he did so

the woman said: "I do not wish to press the complaint. I want to withdraw it and have the girl

"Why so?" asked the fereman. "Because," and her voice began to

beg you to be merciful, gentlemen."
Half her utterance was drowned with tears, which flowed rapidly down her The foreman told her to step outside and he would call her again in a few moments, and inform her of the result of her eloquent appeal. "Be merciful, gentlemen," were her last words

as she closed the door.

It was voted to dismiss the complaint, and when the foreman called her to the room, to inform her of the result of the vote, and commended her for her kindness of heart, her tears flowed afresh, and she thanked us through broken sobs. I know that in that room more eyes than hers were wet-eyes not accustomed to

But soon a discussion arose as to the propriety of our action. When the Grand Jury was impanelled the following oath

was administered to the foreman: "You Lucius S. Comstock, as Foreman of this Grand Inquest, shall diligently People of the State, your fellows and your own, you shall keep secret; you shall present no one from envy, hatred, or malice; nor shall you leave any one unpresented through fear, favor, affection, or hope of reward; but you shall present all things truly as they come to your knowledge, according to your un-derstanding. So help you God!"

And to the other members the follow-

ing oath was administered: "The same oath which your Foreman has taken on his part, you, and each of you, shall well and truly observe and keep on your part. So help you God!" Some of the jurors thought we had no right, under our oath, to show favor, no matter how strong might be the appeal to our sympathies. Every man in the room wished to be lenient, but at the same time, above all other things, wished to do his duty. The discussion re-sulted in our sending for the District Attorney and asking his advice.

After hearing the case, he said there

was a difference of opinion as to the

your discretion in certain cases, and act

society. It is both right and proper that the Grand Jury, and also the Dis-trict Attorney, should be clothed with a discretionary power, as it frequently happens that they can do more good by exercising it than by following the strict letter of the law. I will give you an illustration: Some years ago, the case of a young man charged with embezzlement was placed in my hands to prosecute. His employer was determined to push the case; he was rather ugly about it, and there seemed no other course than to prosecute. The young man was out on bail, and came to me to beg to be let off. He said he was guilty, and should so plead; that he had an invalid sister, and with the utmost economy on his small salary he was unable to support himself. He knew that this was no excuse for his theft, but he took the money under great temptation, and did not realize the enormity of his offence until after he had committed it. "You can send me to the penitentiary," he said, "and nobody can blame you; but you will ruin me for life, and bring disgrace upon my parents and sister, who know that I am charged with crime. If I can be released and the matter hushed up, I will faithfully promise to do better in future, and I think this will be a life-long lesson to me." He pleaded so carnestly that I promised to do what I could for him. I sent for his accuser, and urged him to withdraw the charge. At first he refused, but I laid the case before him in such a light that he at once consented. And I then urged him to take the young man back and give him a new trial, and after much withdrawn; the young man was restorsalary was increased; by-and-by the dissolved in consequence of the death of one of its members; the young man went to another house, proved himself worthy of confidence, and to-day he is a member of that house, and as honorable and upright as any business man in

and never will forget, that lesson. the had gone to the penitentiary his worst fears would have been realized. When an offender is young, the offence is a first one, and the offender appears penitent, it is entirely proper for you to exercise leniency by dismissing the com-plaint; and in the case now before you, gentlemen, you have been entirely right

in your action.

As the District Attorney ended his re-marks there was a round of applause, in which I am very certain every member of the jury participated. Those who had been most doubtful of the propriety of our action were heartily glad that their doubts were not well founded.

### The Power of Chemistry.

The last example of the power of chemistry will be found in the immense prairies of La Plata and Australia. Here wander innumerable flocks of sheep and cattle ; a vigorous vegetation, favored by a warm climate and the humid salt emanations from the sea provides abundance of nourishment; animals prosper and multiply amazingly. The South American hunters are numer ous also; and the number of cattle kill-ed every month may be counted by hun-dreds of thousands, so that the wonder is that they do not wholly disappear. In former days, this rough sport was carried on for the sake of the hides and wool only; the flesh, bones and sinews were too difficult of transport and preservation for this rudimentary trade, and lay abandoned on the spot. Some persons interested themselves to utilize choke, "because the girl is young, and I more fully these waifs and strays of the do not wish to ruin her. Somebody else urged her to steal the money, and I think she will do better in future. If I send her to prison she may become a commercial value which covers the professional thief, but if I give her a price of the freight; they are largely chance she will be a good girl. She is an orphan and has no friends, and I want to be her friend. I know she is guilty, but I want to be merciful, and I beg you to be merciful, gentlemen."

Traff her atterance was drawned with the price of the freight; they are largely used by the cutlers; gelatine is extracted from them; by burning them, the sugar: phosphorous is made from them, and lastly, they furnish the most valuable. ble manure for the agriculturalist. As for the skins, the country not offer-

ing the necessary resources for the establishment of tanyards, they were exing. ported in a fresh state. A new agent, phenic acid, preserved them from any alteration during the voyage. It is the best antiseptic known; there is no animal fermentation which can resist it, no putrefaction that it does not arrest. After this, there only remained the flesh to perish for want of suitable means of preservation. The employment of phen-ic acid could not be thought of; excellent as it is for the purification of sta-bles, houses, and hospitals, it does not answer for articles of food. Though it has been purified so as to obtain colorless crystals, it always has an odor of the coal-tar from which it is extracted, which gives a flavor to the meat. In default of tion. a modern antiseptic, another was tried, less efficacious, and as old as civilization inquire and true presentment make, of all such matters and things as shall be given you in charge; the counsel for the

which was left to perish. The well-known chemist, Dr. Liebig, directed his researches in another way instead of exporting the flesh, he wished to concentrate on the spot, and in a small compass, the principal nutritive elements; to obtain an extract of meat, which, when it reached England, might be weakened by thirty times its weight of water, and give a liquid having all the essential qualities of ordinary beeftea. This new commercial production has been largely consumed in England

and Germany; it is used in the navy and in distant colonies where food is difficult to obtain; but in France, where refinement of taste is greater, the sucthe manner in which it is prepared; the primitive state of the country. Af- as a poker and minus one ear. very small, and steeped in an equal quarter of an hour, when the whole is

power of a Grand Jury. "You can undoubtedly," he continued, "exercise as you think is for the best interests of fat, which would interfere with its keepstraining; and thus pressed it forms a sort of cake, which is considered to be exhausted of all eatable particles; a residue which at some future time will probably be turned to a useful purpose. to Louisville for a cook. The latter in a being carefully skimmed off the top, it apparently, in a large quantity of cast-off is boiled down to one-sixth of its origin- masquerade finery of the Queen of al volume, and brought to the consistency of extract, keeping it from all con-tact with the air in the vessel where a that would have fitted the Queen of pneumatic pump. Nothing more is ically closed, and sealed with a leaden seal, to preserve them from adulteration.

Old Chestnut Trees on Mount Etna. Mount Etna is celebrated for the great age and colossal dimensions of its chestnut trees; for one of the largest and oldest trees of the kin in the world is that on Mount Etna, which is called Castagno di Cento Cavalli. It is said Jeanne of Arragon, on her road from a pianoforte. In every instrument there Spain to Naples, visited Mount Etna, attended by her principal nobility, and being caught in a heavy shower, she and a hundred cavaliers took refuge under the branches of this tree, which completely sheltered them. A century ago, according to Brydon, this tree measured 204 feet in circumference near the ground; but more recent travellers give only 180 feet as its girth. There are also two other celebrated chestnuts on Mount Etna, one called the Castagtalk I succeeded. The complaint was no di Santa Agata, which measures 70 feet in girth, and the other, Castagno ed to his position; in a little time his della Nave, which measures 64 feet; the stems, however, attain no great height, but soon branch off above the ground. According to Dr. Philippi, the Castanea vesca does not appear to be wild in any part of Mount Etna, but always to be cultivated .- The Garden.

England has 32,623 breweries.

### Facts and Figures.

Ah Och, of San Francisco, Mongol, while being prepared for the grave, Chinese fashion, was burned on the fore-head with a white-hot poker, when he rose to explain. He was only in a

A writer says that more than 150,000 acres of the best timber in America are cut every year to supply the demand for railway sleepers alone. In a single year the locomotives in the United States consumed \$60,000,000 worth of wood.

The total number of hogs packed in the West for the season just closed was 4,820,555, against 3,695,251 the previous season, being an increase of 1,125,304. Of the number packed in Illinois, 1,579,527, Chicago packers make returns of over 1,206,000.

The bullion production of the Pacific States and Territories for 1869 and 1870 averages from \$70,000,000 to \$75,000,000. There is reason to believe that last year it reached \$80,000,000, and there is good ground for expecting that this year it will aggregate from \$90,000,000, and

may possibly reach \$100,000,000. The land of Dakota is largely prairie, anging from one-third " bottom" and "bench" lands, one-third gently sloping, dry, rich and productive higher prairie, to one-third more rolling and elevated prairie, part of which is second or third class in quality. The timber is found along the streams and in places other-wise protected from prairie fires.

The Western States are now delibera ting whether the disfigurement of a wife's complexion by small-pox ought not to be added to the list of legal grounds for divorce. The question has been brought up by the action of sever-al estimable Chicagoans who claim to be justified in deserting their better halfs for this reason; and it is plausibly argued that since much less obnoxious conduct on a man's part is daily admitted as good cause for freeing his wife from nuptial bonds, she ought not to be allowed to pit herself against him for

The Chinese carte de visite is a curiosity. It consists of a huge sheet of bright scarlet paper, with the owner's name in-scribed in large letters—the bigger the more exquisite. For extra grand occasions this card is folded ten times, the name is written in the right hand lower corner with a humiliating prefix like "your very stupid brother," "your unworthy friend who bows his head and pays his respects," etc., etc., the words "your stupid" taking the place of our "yours respectfully." It is etiquette to return these cards to the visitor, it being presumable that their expense it too great for general distribu-

There is an embryo showman out in Virginia City, Nevada, who has already made his mark in the world. He is an interesting boy of nine summers, who painted his little brother in the late style of the fierce Sioux, and exhibited him as a captured son of "Spotted Tail at 25 cents a ticket. The exhibition was a great success, and the juvenile Barnum was drawing in the quarters at a rapid rate, when his mother came to see the show and recognized her offspring through the red ochre and lampblack, whereupon, circumstances over which the young manager had no control, put an end to his great enterprise for the entertainment of his fellow citi-

zens. A Western editor, during the late frozen period, thus accounts for the dearth of local news in his paper: "Our reporter started out this afternoon in cess has not been se general. This is search of local items. After an unusually long absence he returned; but, alas! in a the process is very simple, and suited to most deplorable condition-frozen stiff ter the animal is killed, the meat is cut stood him up against the wall behind the stove, and ordered the 'devil' to quantity of water; this is boiled for a pile on the fuel. We finally succeeded in prying his mouth open with the ash thrown into a linen cloth, and the liquid shovel, when a dosen or so of words fell which passes through is the beef-tea in out upon the floor and broke into pieces. its normal state. There is, however, too large a proportion of water, and some fat, which would interfere with its keep-'Coldest day of the season; everything ing. The dydraulic-press is applied to the mass of meat which is left after froze stiff; saloon keepers selling hot whiskies by the stick.'

A Kentucky country paper gives the following: Recently one of our most excellent housewives had occasion to send The liquid is again heated, and the fat few days put in her appearance, arrayed, Sheba; dilapidated paniers, flounces, vaccuum has been made by means of a Hayti-jute curls, ringlets, frizzles, chignons, and rats in alarming profusion. wanting but to pour it into jars hermet- The former looked on the new-comer in astonishment, and when sufficiently re-covered, informed her that she did not think she would suit as mistress for the kitchen, as her appearance indicated that it would take three-quarters of the day to get up her elaborate head toilette alone. "Why, la, ma'am, I never combs my head," was the response. The fashionable cook returned to Louisville.

A writer has taken the trouble to give the actual material used in constructing are fifteen kinds of wood-viz., pine, maple, spruce, cherry, walnut, whitewood, apple, basswood and birch, all of which are indigenous; and mahogany, ebony, holly; cedar, beech and rosewood, from Honduras, Ceylon, England, South America and Germany. In this combination elasticity, strength, pliability, toughness, resonance, lightness, durability and beauty are individual qualities, and the general result is voice. There are also used of the metals, iron, steel, brass, white metal, gun metal and lead There are in the same instrument of seven and a half octaves, when completed, two hundred and fourteen strings, making a total length of seven hundred and eighty-seven feet of steel wire, and five hundred feet of white (covering wire). Such a piano will weigh from nine hundred to one thousand pounds, and will last, with constant use (not abuse,) fif-

teen or twenty years.