PLANTS DESCRIBED. n Enormous Blossom—Sleeping Plants—A Botanical Clock—Plants as Weather Indicators.

"It is curious how plants differ," said a botanist to a visitor. "They remind me of persons. I have a plethoric friend whom I always associate with a pumpkin, and to show how accommodating and obliging some people are, when I once suggested it to him, he offered to have his brain taken out and a candle introduced, so that the idea of the jack o' lantern might be carried out. The lilies, roses, and daisies all remind us of types of human beings, and the association is a very pretty one.

"During a journey in India," con-tinued the botanist, "I made the ac-quaintance of a number of flowers, and some of exceeding interest. What would you think now of riding along through the wood and coming upon a flower that offered a fair jump for your horse?—in other words, was three or four feet across and ten or twelve feet in circumference. Well, this was the experience of an acquaintance in Sumatra, where some of the most remarkable creations of the floral world are found. This flower was about all there was to the plant; roots, stem and everything seemed to have been sacrificed to make up the enormous flower, that weighed, he estimated, fifteen pounds or more.'

"The odor must have been of several horse-power," suggested the listener.

"So it was," was the reply- 'so strong, overpowering, and offensive that it was impossible to remain within close proximity of it. The central portion constituted a cup that held about two quarts of water, and as this was filled with insects dead and macerated, it might have been the cause of the odor. These giare comparatively rare; only a few have remarkable faculty of going to sleep, just about as we would ourselves. One large-leafed fern particularly attracted my attention, as it grew at my dooryard. In the daytime the leaves were upright, but as soon as the sun disappeared they became gradually depressed, and were asleep, only opening out when the sun rose the next morning. But I need not take you to India to see the plants asleep; many of our own put on the night-cap. There is in reality no direct analogy between the sleep of animals and plants, leaves of some are in activity, and at as an example the acacia tree, the wood sorrel, and white clover; compare the positions of their leaves during night and day. The wood sorrel resembles clover, each leaf having three heartshaped lobes connected to the stalk by a slender stem. Now in the daytime they are spread out just as are the clover leaves, but watch them as night comes on, and you will notice a gradual closing un. Finally each lenf will be found to have completely closed and fallen down, resting on the foot stalk.

"The interesting feature of this is to notice how at certain times the movement commences. Thus at about half past five the leaves will be seen to sink or close rapidly, and two hours later are can be observed by keeping plants bring a change of scene. in pots. In one of his experiments Darwin observed one of these plants elevate and depress its leaves four times in one day-napping, we might say. The plant known as the Blimbling, or scientifically, Arerrhoa bilimbi, a distant relative of the wood sorrel, is interesting from the fact that it not only goes to sleep, but actually appears to have certain movements during the day time. If you watch it, you will notice that all at once a leaf will elevate or depress itself spontaneously. and when hundreds of the leaves do this thought that it was the wind; but examination showed that the tree was actually waving its leaves, so to speak. As night become depressed. Beside these movements at night and morning, many plants have motions more or less dependent upon the weather, and many curious derices have been suggested to utilize them in clocks, barometers, and so on. On this principle a botanical clock has been made, and that it is possible is evident from the fact that there is not an hour in the day but what some plant blooms; thus the purple convolvulus blooms at 2 A. M.; the fior de notte at 3 or 4; the goats' beard at 4; yellow arctic poppy at 5; the nipplewort at 6; sow thistle at 7; nolana at 9; red sandwort at 10; fig marigold at 11; and so on, and by thus arranging these you surely have a time-piece of nature.

"A very fair indicator can be made of the little capsules of Messembryanthenumber of plants have the same property. "Perhaps," said the botanical artist,

"there is nothing that strikes one so remarkably as the rapid growth of some plants. I remember seeing a plant in Florida that appeared so suddenly by Texas. my window that I spoke to my host about it, and remarked that he had been planting; but he averred that it had grown up in the night at least a foot. It the bean-stalk, but I measured the plant a true specimen of the 'Cephaloptra and was finally convinced. This is nothing, however, to the growth of and as it iny dead on the beach it exactsome bamboos, that actually lengthen ly resembled an enormous bat or vamthree feet in twenty-four hours. In fact, the facts of botanical science from the extreme edge of the pectoral are as remarkable as any imagination fins and fourteen feet long, while the would have them, and, curlously enough, some of the old stories of plant wonders that were considered fables have been ages like horns, with which it seized its shown to be founded on fact. In a book published a century or more ago there is a story of a rain tree of South America, from whose branches even in the dryest weather there poured a shower of water. Of course, this was considered a fable, but within a few years a botanist has discovered such a tree, and now the fact is well outablished. The scientific name

SOME FLORAL WONDERS, there drips from the leaves or branches a continuous rain, so that the ground beneath is kept in a swampy condition all It is said that when the rivers are dry this remarkable tree gives out the most rain."—New York Evening Post.

Rowing a Gondola.

A letter from Venice to the Memphis Avalanche has the following: It was the first evening I was in a gondola, and, after admiring the skill and ease with which the gondoller manipulated his oar, I was struck with the idea of attempting the feat myself. looked easier than to imitate that swarthy Italian, to stand up on the rear end of the gondols, and dip the oar in and out of the water.

"You look tired," I said to the gondoller; "if you like you may rest awhile

and I will row for you."

Had I offered to stand on my head and walk to Milan the man could not

have looked more astonished. "You, signore?" he exclaimed; "why,

you couldn't even learn to stand up here under two months." "Pooh," said I, "I have rowed boats on the Mississippi-from Memphis as far as Hopefield. Do you think I don't

know how to work this lumbering thing on the smoother waters of Venice!" The gondolier smiled a very unsatisfactory smile.

"Ah, buono-good signore. I take you where you have nice swim . Signore, you take clothes off."

This was consoling advice to a confident oarsman, not very flattering to my pride, still I thought I might as well follow his advice; so he slowly paddled me over to the lagoons between the cemetery and Muran's. I divested myself of all clothing and prepared for a first lesson in the Venetian style of gondoliering. As I have said, it looks to be the easiest thing in the world. The gondo-lier stands at the extreme end of the gantic creations of the vegetable world long, slim boat, and the oar rests in an oar lock that stands up from the deck been seen, and none brought to Europe. a foot or eighteen inches. There is noth-Some of the plants that I noticed had a ing to hold the oar in the lock, but this I did not notice until I tried it myself. It stayed there so quietly and pleasantly as long as the Italian was at the stern that the idea never entered into my head but that it belong there and stayed of its own accord. Woful mistake,

I had scarcely taken position on the soon completely closed up-actually fast stern of the boat and made my first stroke when the oar flew out of that lock in a miraculous manner, that I am to this minute unable to understand, and I flew out of that boat into the water. Then it was that I thanked the gondolier for his timely warning and advice. The only we know that during the day the knapsack traveler does not carry with him a very extensive wardrobe, and had night they are not; hence we assume I fallen into the water with my clothing that they are at rest, or sleeping. Take on I would have been in a very bad plight indeed. As it was, I swam around awhile, had a good bath, then climbed into the gondola, and tried it over again, and with the same result. A third and fourth attempt proved no more successful, and finally I came to the conclusion that gondoliering was not as easy as it looked, and so dressed myself and turned the oar over to the proper hands.

Sleeping With the Head to the North, It is far from a modern idea that the position of the body in sleep may be beneacial or otherwise. The idea is centuries old. Nor is the belief confined to Christian lands. The Hindus religiously believe that to sleep with the head to the north will lengthen one's days; same time in the morning. This east will bring riches; to the west will east will bring riches; to the west will

Among millions of people there is a notion that the head in sleep should always be to the north and the feet to the south. In Germany this is more firmly believed than anywhere else. A celebrated old German professor, who died a few years ago at the age of ninetyeight years, declared in his will that he had attained to his unusually long life mainly because of his having always taken this position at night. A Scotch physician has recently written an article on the subject. He says that when at the same time the effect is very other means, of quieting sick children When first observed it was have failed he has turned their heads to the north, and nine times out of ten sleep has soon followed. (Skeptical ones have asked why the doctor did not try approaches all the leaves hang down or this never failing remedy in the first There are scores of other auplace). thorities to the same effect. Many people account for the supposed benefits of sleeping in this position by the claim that sleep is easier with the head toward the north. They all have something to say about the magnetic currents of the earth, of which the wisest philosophers declare they have no certain knowledge. If the healthfulness of the particular position they recommend is a fact, still the explanations are mere guess work. Whether it is a fact or not, any one can easily decide for himself; but the majority of people, trying for the first time the experiment, believe it to be "all humbug," and the trial only confirms them in this opinion. Or there is a disposition to find it true, which influences their mum tripolium by placing them in a the experiment with an earnest purpose dish of water. If rain is threatened, the to get at the truth, think there is nothjudgment. Some persons who have tried the experiment with an earnest purpose seed vessel opens like a star, closing ing in the theory; but even if this be so, again when the shower is over; and a it is as harmless a fancy as one could in-

A Marine Monster.

A monster devil fish has been caught in the Gulf of Mexico, off Galveston, These creatures are rarely seen in the neighborhood, but lately a shoal came in shore, and after much trouble one was caught in a seine. It had to be grown up in the night at least a foot. It dragged ashore by horses, as it weighed seemed a little too much like Jack and fully two tons. The catch proved to be Valapyrus," the vampire of the ocean, The fish was sixteen feet wide mouth was four feet wide, and was protected on each side by curious append-

The Eolian Harp.

An Æolien harp is an instrument so simple in construction that any boy, unskilled in the use of tools, can make one. Stretch in parallel lines, over a box of thin deal, catgut or wire strings. box is to have sounding holes cut in the of the tree is Pithecoloblum Saman, and top. The strings being tuned in unison. it is common in the eastern Peruvian the instrument is placed in a current of In the dryest days, when the air, and harmony is produced. - Scientific vegetation about is withered and burnt, American.

NEWS AND NOTES FOR WOMEN.

Good-bye to flounces. White skirts are going out of fashion. Bustles have reached their maximum

Large bridal bouquets are no longer in

The V-shaped corsage is very popular in Paris.

Ribbons are growing more beautiful and expensive.

Black or cream lace mantles are worn with any toilet. Canvas draperies are much employed

for silk dresses. Tailor-made cloth suits are worn more than ever this fall.

Crescent brooches retain their hold upon popular favor.

The handsomest jewels are now set in silver instead of gold.

Etamine and cotton fabrics stamped with gold are novelties. Jackets are in great favor and are of

a number of varied shapes and styles. Openwork cotton tissues are worn over thin silk either to match or of a contrasting tint.

Ladies' dress slippers support the ankle better than formerly; the kid is made higher on purpose.

The newest cloak clasps are of wood, and doves' heads, owls' heads, and even snipe are represented.

Hoods of embroidered silk, and of lace lined with silk, are among the novelties for evening head gear. Shoulder capes are longer and lighter

than formerly; they are made of creps de chine, lace or chenille. A Philadelphia man says the banker Drexel's three daughters will get \$6,000,-

000 apiece from his estate when it comes to them. House and dinner dresses are worn longer than last year, so that they drag a little behind, and almost touch the

floor in front. Dark navy blue velvet boots are shown for the autumn with a kid toe and heel cap, cut in fancy patterns where it unites

with the velvet. Very fine silk tulle veils are now to be procured in every color; instead of the thick dots they are ornamented with tin-

sel woven in rings. The Princess Amelia, a sister of Frederick the Great, was the only royally descended musician who ever achieved any but ordinary musical fame.

It is ascertained that the number of American women exceeds the entire foreign-born population (both men and women) in the ratio of three to one.

Velvet is generally used with lace, and when the lace dresses are not made with a velvet skirt, sash or bedice, they have at least collar, cuffs and a bow or panel of velvet.

The most approved autumn veils for young ladies are of plain silk tulle, but, as the plain is unbecoming except to a very clear complexion, the tiny dotted chenile are still worn.

The Crown Princess Stephanie, of Austria, contributed some original draw ings for a picture book and accepted pay at the rate given to other artists, though she presented the money to a charity.

Derby hats for misses, in brown and gray felts, have no plume this year, simply a corded ribbon to match the color of the hats. In shape they are higher and with more of a flat brim than last year's.

The Boston dry goods merchants like strapping girls for saleswomen-"tan saleslady" is the professional term. The "tall saleslady" gives a character to the store, and "ladies, as a class," prefer to trade with her.

The latest craze in fancy work is the making of artificial flowers of tissue In the hands of an expert with artistic feeling very fine results from this inexpensive material are accomplished in the way of decorative pieces for interior decorations, as well as for personal adornment.

In Russia betrothal feasts are held The woman has a lock of hair cut off in the presence of witnesses and given to the man, who, in return, presents a silver ring set with turquoise, an almoud cake and a gift of bread and salt. Among poor people tin and a bit of bluestone are substituted.

In 1771 a young Boston girl wrote to her mother a description of the construction of her coiffure. It was composed of a roll of red cow's tall, mixed with horse hair and a little yellow human hair, all carded and twisted together and made into a structure a full inch longer than the young lady's face.

Government officials in Canada, as well as a large number of well-informed private ladies, say that if superior women between the ages of eighteen and twentyfive go there and submit to the position of domestic service they are almost sure to marry, and marry well, within a short time of their arrival, especially if they go far west.

A Dog Fanning the Baby. Dog stories are always in order, pro-

vided they are true. A gentleman in one of the suburban wards owned a fine specimen of the spaniel breed, which is very fond of children, and when any little ones visit his master's house constitutes himself their companion, p'aymate and guardian. A few days ago a lady with an infant [visited the gentleman, and in the course of the day the child was laid on a pillow on the floor to amuse itself for a time. The dog took his place near the little one, as usual. The day was hot and the flies bad, and they made the baby the target of frequent attacks, This rendered her restless. Doggie watched her for a few minutes, and then, walking close up, with his nose or paw drove away every fly as soon as it hi on the baby's face, and did it so gently, too, as not to disturb her in the least. dog's actions attracted the attention of the mother and others, who were filled with astonishment at his thoughtful kindness. This story has the merit of truth. - Pittsburg Chronicle.

A German scientist has drawn atten tion to the fact that the Saviej, one of the streams of British India, is probably the swiftest large river in the world, having a descent of 12,000 feet in 180 miles, an average of about slaty seven feet per mile.

A Physician's Peril.

In the life of a medical man of large and influential practice, there must be many and varying episodes, but there are few adventures that can surpass in herror the one recently experienced by Dr. Morrison at Paris. A man of fine man-ners and appearance was introduced into his consulting-room, who immediately accosted the medical man with this startling declaration: "For years past I have been suffering the most intense agony from disease of the lungs; I have tried every treatment, but in vain, I am informed that the liver cut from the vet warm human frame will effect a certain cure, and I have chosen you as the victim.

The doctor gasped with terror as he saw the maniac advance toward him with a sharp stilletto in his hand, but instantly recovering his presence of mind, he replied with cool emphasis: "You are quite right, my friend, but in order to effect a cure the organ must be in a sound state; now I have suffered for years with a liver complaint, but I can introduce you to a brother-practitioner of mine upon whom you can make the experiment." The madman consented, and in a few moments he was secured and conducted to an insane asylum. His name is Richl, a native of Hanover, occupying a wealthy position in society. Dr. Morrison was so affected by the scene that he was stricken down with an attack of apoplexy on the same night.

In the Forest City.

Mr. G. E. Bryan, No. 151 Putnam street, Cleveland, Ohio, has naturally much experience in sickness-with a family of sezen children, and his doctors and druggists' bills are heavy. He states publicly that he has given Red Star Cough Cure a thorough trial in his home, and finds it to be the best remedy that he has ever used for coughs or colds. It contains neither morphia nor opium, and therefore leaves no depressing effects.

India produces the latest wonder in the person of a thirteen-year-old lad who has one head and two bodies.

ONE OF THE MOST MELANCHOLY SPEC-FACLES in the world is a human being shattered and broken down by the use of ardent spirits. But the dilapidation may be repaired, the human ruin strengthened and restored to perfect soundness by a course of that most powerful of all invigorants, DR. WALKER'S VINEGAR BIT-

It is not generally known in this country that the London police have not the right to vote.

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In Denmark a drunken man is taken home in a back by the police, and the man who sold him the last drink has to pay for the

"I would not live alway." No; not if discass is to make my life a daily burden. But it need not, good friend, and will not if you will be wise in time. How many of our loved ones are mouldering in the dust who might have been exceeded. have been spared for years. The slight cough was unheeded, the many symptoms of disease that lurked within were slighted and death came. Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discov-cry" cannot recall the dead, though it has snatched numbers from the verge of the grave, and will cure consumption in its earlier stnges.

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I have been troubled with catarrh from boyhood and had considered my case chronic until about 1 procured one.

until about three years ago I procured one bottle of Ely's Cream Balm, and I count my-self sound to-day, all from the use of one bottle.—J. R. Cooley, Hardware Merchant, Montrose, Pa.

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Cancer of the Tongue. A Case Resembling That of General Grant.

A Case Resembling That of General Grant.

Some ten years ago I had a serofulous sore on my right hand, and with the old time treatment it healed up. In March, 1881, it rooke out in my throat, and concentrated in cancer, eating through my check to the top of my left check bone and up to the left eye. I subsisted on liquids, and my tongue was so far gene I could not talk. On October first, 1881, I communed taking Swift's Specific. In a month the eating places stopped and healing commenced, and the fearful aperture it my check has been closed and firmly knitted together. A new under lip is progressing, and it seems that nature is supplying a new tongue. I can talk so that my friends can readily understand me, and can also eat solid food again. I would refer to Hon. John H. Traylor, State Senator, of this district, and to Dr. T. S. Bradfield, of LaGrange, Ga.

La Grange, Ga., May 14, 1883.

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Dyspepsia or Indigestion, Headache, Pain in the Shoulders, Coughs Tishtness of the Chest, Dizziness, Sour Stouach, Furred Tongue, Billious Attacks, Palpitation of the Heart, Pneumonia, and Pain in the regions of the Kidneys, are cured by the use of the Ritters.

For Skin Diseases, Eruptions, Bolls, Erysipelas, Scrofula, Discolorations, Humorsand diseases of the Skin of whatever name or nature, are literally dug up and carried out of the system in a short time by the use of the Ritters.

It Invigorates the Stomach, and stimulates the torpid Liver and Rowels, which render it of unequaled efficiency in cleansing the blood of all impurities, and imparting new life and vigor to the whole system.

No Person can take the Bilters and remain long unwell.

long unwell.

Pin, Tape and other Worms, are destroyed and removed from the system.

Cleanse the Vitlated Blood whenever it is foul; your feelings will tell you when. Keep the blood pure, and the health of the system will follow.

In conclusion: Give the Bitters atrial. It will speak for itself. One bottle will prove a bet-ter guarantee of its merits than a lengthy ad-R. H. McDonald Drug Co., Proprietors, San Francisco, Cal., and 168, 150 & 520 Washington St.





f all styles Automatic En-, also Pulleys, Hangers and Box 1850. TON









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