A Proverb.

There is a proverb in a heathen tongue,
Which often strikes us as much more sublime
Than sayings which a wiser day had sung,
And well to be remembered in our time.

'Tis this: "All persons carry two huge sacks,
One is behind, in front the other rests;
One holds their own faults—this is on their backs;
One hold their neighbors'—this lies on their breasts.

So they look down and see each neighbor's ill,
And cry, 'This foul!' but all the while are blind
To their own faults, which, growing daily, fill
That baser burden which rests on behind."

Farm, Garden and Household.

To MAKE FLAT-IRONS SMOOTH.—Rub them with clean lard, and wipe dry; or, rubbing them with a little beeswax while hot will have the desired effect.

RIDDING SHEEP OF TICKS.—Mix sulphur and salt, seven parts of salt to one of sulphur, and feed or salt them with the mixture, and it will drive the ticks from sheep and lambs. Give it to them several times.

FOR SCALDS OR BURNS.—Poultices of tea leaves, moistened in hot water, are preferable to all other remedies, in the first stage of burns and scalds. Or take raw onions, pound or mash fine as possible, and apply at once; it will give immediate relief.

GET RID OF FLIES.—Take half a teaspoonful of black pepper, ground, one teaspoonful of brown sugar, and one teaspoonful of cream, mix them well together and place them in the room on a plate where the flies are troublesome and they will soon disappear.

HOW TO SET COLORS.—Dissolve a teaspoonful of sugar of lead in a pail of water, in which you soak your colored cambric for 15 minutes before washing. If more convenient a little vinegar or a handful of salt thrown into a pail of water, and the dress soaked will set the color.

HOW TO COOK GREEN CORN.—Corn should be allowed to boil (says the Ohio Farmer) in clear, soft water, and by itself alone. Not in salt and water, for the salt hardens the corn; and not, on any account, boil the ears of corn with the potatoes, as so many do, for this greatly injures the taste and goodness of the corn, and also hardens it. The skin of the potato contains a poison which is freely given to water, rendering it unfit that corn should be boiled in it.

TO CLEAN KID GLOVES.—Have ready a little new milk in one saucer, a piece of white soap in another, and a clean cloth folded two or three times. On the cloth spread out the glove smooth and neat. Take a piece of flannel, dip it in the milk, then rub off a good quantity of soap on the wetted flannel, and commence to rub the glove towards the fingers, holding it firmly with the left hand. Continue this process until the glove, if white, looks dry and spoiled. Lay it to dry, and the operator will soon be gratified to see that the old glove looks nearly new. It will be soft, glossy, smooth, and elastic.

PINEAPPLE JELLY.—Take perfectly ripe and sound pineapples, cut off the out-side, cut in small pieces, bruise them, and to each pound put a teacupful of water; put in a preserving kettle, and let them boil for twenty minutes; then strain it, and squeeze it through a bit of muslin. For each pound of fruit take a pound of sugar; put a teacupful of water to each pound; set it over the fire until it is dissolved; then add the pineapple juice. For each quart of the syrup clarify an ounce of the best isinglass, and stir it in; let it boil until, by taking some on a plate to cool, you find it a stiff jelly.

SHAD CULTURE.—Shad culture, which was held somewhat doubtful at first, is coming on handsomely in Connecticut. The operations were begun at Hadley Falls in June, and already the ova taken exceeds 64,230,000, from which at least 60,000,000 of young shad have been produced. These little fish are distributed all over the waters of the State. The average length of time required for the hatching of the eggs after being placed in the boxes is four days, varying somewhat according to the temperature of the water. The shad were taken in a seine at night (ripe fish rarely being found in the day time), the first haul being made at about 8½ p. m., and the two following at 9½ and 10½ p. m. The number of ova taken per night ranged from 145,000 to 8,000,000, the average being about 2,920,000.

MICE IN MEADOWS AND ORCHARDS.—The ravages of mice are some time sufficient to completely destroy a sod during one winter. If allowed to increase and find shelter, no means of prevention will avail. There is no plan but to disturb their haunts, clear out the fence rows of brush and weeds, remove all pieces of decaying rails, pick off all loose stone; in fact, leave no places for the vermin to hide. Their natural enemies, the hawks, owls, skunks, and cats, will then find them and devour them. In addition, leave a few small bundles of straw in the fields scattered about, and when they have commenced to work at them, put a small quantity each night of corn-meal and arsenic under each bundle. This will help thin them off, and if persevered in will so reduce their numbers that the sod and the trees in the orchard will to a great extent be spared the ravages.

STOCK FOR SOUPS.—Buy a knuckle of beef or veal. Have the bone well cracked in small pieces. Put it in the soup digester, or if you have none, in a closely-covered iron pot. For a medium knuckle, add five or six quarts of *cold water* (by using cold water you will secure all the juices, whereas in hot water half the juice is retained in the meat). Let it come to boil before you add salt and pepper; then season it to suit your taste, and if agreeable, put in a small bit of red pepper. Put the pot on the back part of the stove after it commences to boil, and keep it gently simmering all day; then strain it from the bones and meat, which are now worthless, into a jar kept for the purpose. Never throw away bones that are left from baked, boiled, or roast meat of any kind, or bones such as are left from steak, poultry, anything—if they have not been put on to the plates; dried or grisly bits of meats—all may be used to prepare stock for soup; and, in a large family, sufficient may be gleaned, that would otherwise be thrown into the swill, to keep stock on hand for weeks, without buying a bone for that purpose alone. When the stock is strained, set it in the cellar to cool. The next morning carefully remove all the grease that has risen to the top and hardened, and you will have a clear, rich stock ready to be used in soups. Clarify the grease removed from the *stock*, by slicing a raw potato into it, and set it over the fire in a skillet, till it boils; then strain it from the potato, and you have a fine dripping for many purposes.

MINERS BOOTS.—In Worcester, Mass., are several factories which make a specialty of boots for the coal miners of Pennsylvania, and formidable articles of attire these are, from the description. The leg is made of heavy leather, and comes far up towards the thigh, and the soles are three-quarters of an inch thick and made to guard the foot, like the "fenders" on a river steamer. The heels also project in the same manner, and flare out towards the bottom, so that a very respectable hold is afforded the wearer. In both heel and soles are flat-headed nails, the tops about as large as a gold dollar, and driven as closely as possible, so that the entire bottom of the boot is metal-clad, and, as if this were not enough, three long nails of Swedish iron are driven through the heel and clinched on the inside, and six are driven similarly through the shank. The sewing on these slippers is done with a six-corded thread, calculated to bear a weight of one hundred pounds. A pair of these miner's boots will weigh six and a half pounds, the leather weighing five pounds and the armor in the shape of nails one and a half.

The tobacco crop according to the figures furnished by the Louisville *Democrat*, amounted last year to 272,800,000 pounds, valued at $32,206,325. Of this crop the Southern States produced all but 61,300,000 pounds, which were grown in New England Middle and Western States.

News Summary.

THE income tax for the last fiscal year amounts to $332,000,000; or about $9 per head.

COMMODORE ASHBURY has reconsidered his determination not to send the yacht Livonia to America.

VERMONT'S elections are hereafter to be held biennially. There will be no election in that State this year.

OPPOSITION to the prolongation of President Thiers's term of office is said to be rapidly growing in France.

THE total imports at New York for the past week amount to $9,690,472, against $3,214,146 for the corresponding week of last year.

THE next elections are to be held in September, in the States of California and Maine. The former will be most vigorously contested.

THE city government of Paris has voted $70,000,000 to rebuild and repair the public edifices destroyed or injured during the reign of the Commune.

THE first cost of stock in Texas is light—the price there paid being: for yearlings, from $2 to $2.50; two-year olds, $3.50 to $4; cows with calves, $6 to $8.

A FARMER in Mercer county, Mo., killed a viper fifteen feet long. His snakeship was looking leisurely over the fence at the man plowing, and he shot him.

THE apple crop throughout Pennsylvania, as far as we are able to learn from our exchanges, promises even a larger yield than last year, when they were plentiful.

ELEVEN thousand barrels of flour have just been shipped from San Francisco for Hong Kong, and another like shipment will soon follow, with 3,000 barrels for Singapore.

AN order has been issued by the Minister of Worship, forbidding throughout the Russian dominions the holding of divine services according to the forms of the Protestant Baptist religion.

THE Grand Jury of Baltimore signed and presented indictments against Mrs. Elizabeth G. Wharton for the willful murder of Gen. William Scott Ketchum and an attempt to poison Eugene Van Ness.

IT is said that the rapidly-increasing population of Minnesota, by destroying the timber and tilling the prairies, has so changed the climate of that state as to make its value as a sanitarium for consumptives exceedingly doubtful.

A MILLINER in Troy, Mrs. Grimes, told her little apprentice, who had balked in arranging a bow on a $2 hat, that she would shoot her for her offence; and the youngster, believing this to be true, went into convulsions for the rest of the day.

THE St. Louis *Democrat* describes how a Deputy United States Marshal got drunk, lost a prisoner, was himself arrested by the police, was dismissed by the Marshal, was put off a train of cars, and was run over and killed, all in one day.

LIEUT. James Carlins, U. S. Cavalry, has been dismissed the service for conduct "prejudicial to good order and military discipline," in ordering a private to fire at a target before which a trumpeter was standing, thereby killing the trumpeter.

A COLD-BLOODED murder was committed thirteen miles, from Denver, up the Platte River. George M. Bonacina and Mrs. Newton, his sister, were shot by a German farm-hand named Theodore Myers. Bonacina is dead and Mrs. Newton will probably die.

A YOUNG man in Missouri espied a flock of wild turkeys, but as they were too far off to shoot he secreted himself under the bushes and "called" them. Another hunter coming along heard the call, and concluding it was a turkey secreted in the bush, fired and killed him.

COURBER'S defence before the court-martial which is trying the communist prisoners is a novel one. He claims that he joined the Commune for the purpose of effecting a pacification between its members and the Versailles authorities, and that to his personal exertions was due the saving of many objects of art during the siege of Paris.

MR. EDWARD RICHARDSON, a Vermonter, after residing eighteen years on the island of Hawaii, owns an estate of 400,000 acres of land, plentifully interspersed with lava from the volcano of Mauna Loa. He went to the Sandwich Islands a poor man to earn his livelihood as a carpenter. Among his other possessions are 500 head of cattle.

Infant Mortality.

"Infant Mortality and the Necessity of a Foundling Hospital in Philadelphia," is the title of a paper by John S. Parry, read at one of the meetings of the Social Science Association in that city. According to returns of the Board of Health of Philadelphia for five years ending 31st. Dec. 1870, there were born in that city 85,957 living infants, and 3,933 dead. The deaths between birth and the age of five among children born alive numbered 31,642, a mortality of a little more than 36.83 per cent. In the first year of life the deaths were 19,227, a death rate of 22.36 per cent., in the second year 6,409 deaths; an amount for the two years of 25,630, a mortality of a fraction more than 29.82 per cent. This high death rate the author shows to be chiefly among the crowded unwholesome localities, and says that a vast proportion of these deaths could be prevented by proper care and the diffusion of proper information. More than 50 per cent. of them are the results of ignorance or of carelessness."

Directing next his special attention to the class of illegitimate children, he makes an estimate, from rather imperfect data, of 700 as the number of children born out of wedlock in that city in 1870. We are told that in Glasgow few of this class survive the first year, and Dr. Parry is convinced that 75 per cent. of those born alive in Philadelphia die during the first year after their birth.

The cause of these fearful death rates, Dr. Parry infers, are chiefly: First, want of mother's milk or other natural nutriment; second, the aggregation of many infants in one or more confined apartments. A conjunction of the two causes gives rise to the heavy mortality in foundling hospitals, the erection of which, Dr. Parry says, "is strongly to be reprobated, and we cannot better insure the speedy death of the abandoned children of Philadelphia, than by establishing such an institution in our midst."

THE FINEST TOWN IN SIBERIA.—The finest town in Siberia is Ekaterienburg, the frontier town between European and Asiatic Russia, a position which gives it many advantages, and in respect of which it possesses certain trading privileges. It is the chief centre of the government mining department, and is in near proximity to many valuable metallurgical undertakings, from which circumstances it derives much importance and an increased population. Irkutsk is also a nice town, but Ekaterienburg has the superiority in several respects. It contains a population of 25,000 souls, and is handsomely built, possessing several fine churches, and a great number of brick and stone houses, among which some deserve to be called rather palaces; also a mint and large mechanical works belonging to the government. It has also a theatre, a club, and two really good hotels; and on the whole is as unlike a city on the outside borders of civilization and in the close neighborhood of Asiatic barbarism as it is possible to imagine. When eating the "dinner a la carte," supplied by M. Plotnikoff at the best hotel, the traveler will find himself as closely surrounded by the externals of civilization as he could be in any European city. There is plenty of refined society to be met with in all Siberian towns, and the time of one's sojourn there always glides away pleasantly; the regularity and eveness of the climate being an addition to the enjoyment of life.

ABOUT MILK.—There were 1,700 samples of milk inspected in Boston last year, of which 610 were more or less adulterated. The whole number of complaints made for the year were 206. The number of gallons daily supplied the city of Boston for the year ending on the 1st of April, 1871, was 28,316; daily cost to consumers, $7,927.44; yearly cost to consumers, $2,893,515.60.

The Next Total Solar Eclipse.

Already the scientific world is astir with preparations to observe this grand phenomenon. It is a most fortunate thing for astronomy that this rare event occurs again just as the knowledge obtained from the recent eclipse expeditions has been garnered up and carefully studied as a starting point for future solar inquiries. Our knowledge of the great central luminary of our planetary system has within a few years so rapidly increased that we need new and improved appliances for vigorously pushing investigation. The central line of the next total solar eclipse will first meet the earth's surface in the Arabian Sea, and, entering on the western coast of India, will pass directly across one of the most important and populous parts of Hindostan in a southeastern direction, where the sun will be about twenty degrees above the horizon at the time of total obscuration. The duration of totality will be two minutes and a quarter and the breadth of the shadow about seventy miles. Leaving the eastern coast of the Madras Presidency, the central line crosses Palk's Strait, the northern part of the island of Ceylon, thence continuing its course over the southeastern point of Sumatra and will touch the southwestern coast of Java, near its capital city, Batavia. The shadow path will then leave the East Indies, and crossing over the most uninhabited portions of Australia, will ultimately disappear in the Pacific Ocean. English observers are making arrangements to visit the most eligible spots for studying the eclipse, and the Astronomer Royal is superintending the adaptation of instruments.

The question of the sun's corona, if it is not, as Mr. Lockyer claims, "the scientific question of the day," is undoubtedly the great problem of celestial physics. If astronomers can only once settle what is the real nature of the sun's surroundings the path of research is open for the more distant stars. At present, however, the corona is wrapped in a cloud of hypothesis. Surrounding the sun somewhat as an intensely illumined atmospheric envelope, Mr. Airy likened it to the ornament round the compass card, giving it a height equal to about once and a half the sun's diameter. In 1652 it was described as "a pleasant spectacle of rotatory motion." Don Antonio Ulloa, a Spanish astronomer, remarked of the corona observed in the eclipse of 1788, "It seemed to be endued with a rapid rotatory motion, which caused it to resemble a firework turning round its centre." The terms whirling and flickering were applied to it in the records of the eclipse of 1860—an extraordinary condition, which, however, was fully endorsed by the late eclipse observations.

It is highly probable that great and early discoveries are in store for the indications strongly favor the view that this remarkable phenomenon, just alluded to, is not a mere accident, but an essential part of the solar mechanism, which, like all other parts of creation, have a bearing upon man's welfare. History records some instances in which, even during severe battles, the prodigy of an eclipse either stopped the combat, or silenced its din and fury by striking the combatant's with the paralysis of terror. If the recurrence of the "awful obscuration" has lost its power to terrify it has not lost its power to instruct the philosopher and to fill the beholder with the mute and sublime admiration. Let our American astronomers be among the first to win the honor of these magnificent solar discoveries.

The Code in South America.

The citizens of Lima, the capital of Peru, have been defrauded out of a first class sensation—one that would have made their Republic famous throughout the world. A venturous newsman published some very severe strictures upon the administration, which so incensed President Balta, that he caused the unfortunate author to be imprisoned. After a time the courts took the matter in hand, and finding the prisoner had committed no offense against the laws ordered his release. This action of the judiciary added fuel to the ire of the President, who sent for the offending official and upbraided him for interfering with the course of justice. The interview was spirited if not consoling. President Balta's wrath found its counterpart in that of the judge's; uncomplimentary expressions were interchanged, and the conference ended by the judge assuring the President that as soon as he vacated the Executive chair a personal satisfaction would be demanded. Balta is impetuous and plucky, if not discreet and considerate, and within ten hours after the occurrence, in order to give the judge an opportunity to avenge his wounded honor, signed a decree resigning his office and calling the Vice President to the chair. Here was a lesson in chivalry without parallel in history, and great was the rejoicings of the Limanos thereat. Of course no affair of honor would be complete without a woman being in the case, and President Balta's exciting episode was no exception to this universal rule. The President's counselors saw the dangers which threatened their republic should he resign and leave the chief magistracy in the hands of so inexperienced a person as the Vice President, and accordingly besought him to reconsider his determination; but Balta was inexorable, and no consideration could induce him to forego the pleasure of meeting out satisfaction to his opponent. At length the aged mother of the President appeared upon the scene, and to her tears and entreaties the spunky Balta succumbed, and agreed to defer the combat till further notice.

A Kentucky Romance.

An old lady of Kentucky has a romance connected with her second marriage. It is as follows: When her mother was a young lady, Colonel Boone, the nephew of Daniel, was very much in love with her, and asked her, on one occasion, to marry him. She told him she was engaged to Morgan Bryan, and that they were to be married in a few days. Col. Boone went away and married another young woman. Afterward he, with his wife, visited the other young married couple, when their first child (now in her fifth score of years) was but a very few days old, and seeing the baby, he laughed, and said to her mother: "Now Milly, as you wouldn't have me yourself, you'll give me the girl for my second wife, won't you?" Whether any jesting promise was made I am not informed; but the baby grew up, and at twenty-seven she was married, had several children, became a widow after nine years, and remained one for a long time, when Colonel Boone's first wife having died previously, she really became, in her own middle life, the wife of her mother's early lover, who had claimed her in her cradle. The good old lady is accustomed, in relating this to her sons and neices, to speak of it as "one of the most remarkable things that ever happened." I think so too, and it is a true story.

PENSIONS.—The Commissioner of Pensions estimates that there are at least forty thousand people, soldiers and widows of the war of 1812, who will be entitled to pensions under the act of February 14, 1871. This number will require the sum of $4,000,000 annually. When the bill was under discussion last winter the maximum number of these pensioners living was supposed to be only 9,000, but the estimate of the Commissioner is not likely to be correct. This will require an appropriation for pensions next year of fully $35,000,000. The total number of applications for 1812 pensions to date is 30,540.

A NEW LEATHER.—Vegetable leather is now extensively manufactured, the principal materials being caoutchouc and naptha. The product is only one-third as costly as ordinary leather, which it resembles so closely that they can be distinguished only by close inspection; and the vegetable leather has the additional advantage of being made in entire pieces of fifty yards in length, if desired, one and a half yards wide, of any thickness demanded, of uniform quality, and ample strength.

A new treatise on precious stones declares that after all, mankind, if wise, will say of precious stones, the most valuable as well as the most useful stone in the world is the grindstone.

Are Sunday Weddings Void?

There is, we heard an eminent lawyer allege a few days since, no marriage legal which is celebrated on the Sabbath day. There are, no doubt, twenty thousand couples in this State alone for whom the marriage ceremony was performed on the Sabbath—many of them in the evening of that day. A note drawn and signed on the Sabbath is illegal, or any other legal agreement between parties.

Marriage is a legal contract, which, if preformed out of the legal time, necessarily must be void; and claiming this, the sons and daughters of a recently deceased millionaire mean to contest his will because in that a large portion of his estate was willed to the children of their stepmother, who was wedded to their father on the Sabbath, in a church in the city of Rochester in this State. If the question is to be decided that such marriages are illegal, another long catalogue of vexatious suits will be brought into our courts by parties similarly related to the one above mentioned. The decision lately rendered by a learned Judge of our courts, that marriages of minors are illegal, and a divorce for such not necessary in order that they can separate and remarry legally, since it was carired into immediate practice by the parties for whom the decision was rendered, is proving baneful to society. The harm that this decision does to our social system is temporary only, and if the entire marrying population but learn of this decision, the future will witness less elopements of young couples, and a less number of cases where guileful and designing men entice young ladies from home in order to wed them. That the ceremony of marriage performed for minors on any and all days of the week, or for a couple where one is a minor and the other an adult, should be pronounced illegal and non-effective, is strange. But in the face of long-practised customs, that Sabbath day weddings are illegal will strike thousands with feelings akin to consternation. With all our laws and codes it is, indeed, strange that those legal enactments which most concern our personal welfare and happiness are least known and least understood by the general public, including our most intelligent people.—*New York Society*

The Westfield Explosion.

The members of the Board of Inquiry in the Westfield case have not made any statement as to their conclusions, but the general drift of their report may be summarized as follows:

1. There was a sufficiency of water in the boiler; fires were "good," and furnace doors closed.

2. The pressure of steam was increasing during the ten minutes previous to explosion, and was at least two pounds above legal limit.

3. There was an old rupture under the side of the boiler, caused by unequal expansion.

4. At the joint in the middle section of the shell, opposite the centre of the lower range of flues on the "port" side there was a fissure in the iron, created, or at least increased, by the bellows-like action of the shell in alternately rounding and flattening under the varying pressure.

5. The boiler had received its last supply of water at Quarantine, an hour previous to the explosion, and, while at the slip, the water had become quiescent, the air had been entirely expelled, and a great amount of heat had been absorbed, which, however, did not evolve the usual amount of steam.

6. The explosion occurred the moment the engineer sounded the whistle, because that produced an agitation of the water sufficient to cause extraordinary masses of steam to be devolved; the water, when the air was "boiled out" of it, became a reservoir of heat, which absorbed the rapid accumulation from the furnace, without being converted into steam, until stirred up; the pressure then instantly increased to a point beyond the capacity of the safety-valves to counteract it, caused the shell to yield at the point already weakened by the rupture, flaw, or fissure, and the perrerations made in riveting.

7. Engineers should be better educated. Inspectors should search more carefully for ruptures and flaws, and engineers and firemen must be especially careful as to the condition of their boilers just before starting.

The Arab Sword Trick.

To my astonishment, the next who issued forth as a performer was my Zouave acquaintance, who far eclipsed all the others. He had taken off his fez, and his long sweeping hair was hanging wildly about him. He advanced to a brazier of burning charcoal placed on the ground, into which incense was thrown, and swung his head and arms about over the rising vapor with intense violence for several minutes, when he removed his embroidered jacket and then his shirt, so that the upper part of his body was nude, his head rocking and his hair swaying in the wind all the time. On a signal from him, a Marabout presented him with a naked scimitar, whereupon he kissed the feet of the Marabout, and ran the sword across his own tongue. Two men now came forward and held the scimitar between them, when he flung himself upon it on his bare stomach, and in this way he was carried three times round the yard amid rapturous lou-lous from above. When he ceased, the scimitar had sunk deeply into the flesh of his stomach, which had folded over it so that it required an effort to extract the weapon. A deep red welt remained, but no blood flowed. He next stood with his bare feet on the edge of the blade, and was borne round in like manner, standing on the weapon. After this he lay upon the ground on his back, and the scimitar was held over his stomach by two men, while a third stood upon the blade. This appeared to inflict dreadful torture on the victim, but gave intense gratification to the female spectators in the upper gallery, who became louder than ever in their vociferations. These feats must have caused him much suffering, for at the conclusion he was in a profuse perspiration, and was laid on the ground and covered over for some time, after which he was supported into the house in a state of apparent exhaustion, doubtless with a bad headache after all the churning his brain had undergone.

THE INDIANS.—General Sherman does not think the need for troops in the West will diminish within the next few years. On the contrary, he believes it will increase, owing to the necessity of guarding the construction and surveying parties on the Northern and Southern Pacific Railroads. The Northern Road, from the point where it crosses the Red River of the North to the settlements in Montana, traverses a region, inhabited, he says, by hostile Indians, chiefly the warlike Sioux, who will have to be fought off the line of the road at almost every mile of its progress. The Southern Road, when it gets into the Apache country, will meet with the same difficulty, the Apaches being the worst Indians to deal with in the country. Both of these roads will eventually be great peace-makers, as the Union Pacific has been; but while they are building, the General believes that a large force of troops will be required to guard the laborers and protect the track and stations.

TO DETECT THE ADULTERATION OF TEA.—The simplest method is to burn the tea and weigh the ashes. Any kind of tea from the best quality down to the most common must not leave over 5 per cent. of ash; while those adulterated sorts have actually given 35 to 45 per cent. of ash, proving that at least 30 to 40 per cent. of worthless or injurious stuff had been added. If a pound of such tea cost $1, it would contain from 60 to 70 cents' worth of tea and some six ounces of plaster, sold for about 6 cents per ounce.

DRIVE ON.—"Will you take this woman to be your wife?" "Well squire," was the reply, "you must be a green un to ask me such a question as that. Do you suppose I'd be such a plaguey fool as to give up the bar hunt and take this gal to the quilting frolic if I want conscriptiously sartin and determined to have her? Drive on with your business."

Something about Cheese.

It is comparatively but a few years since farmers in New York state, seeing the waste of labor necessarily consequent on each small farmer being his own manufacturer of cheese and butter, commenced to form labor-saving co-operative factories, where one set of workers would do the work of many, and where, by affording superior facilities and giving special attention, the quality of the product might be improved. The movement was completely successful, and at this day, the number of these co-operative factories in the state is more than nine hundred, with a supply of milk from a quarter of a million of cows; every three thousand cows afforded a million of pounds of cheese, valued at $140,000, or more than three hundred pounds of cheese and three hundred gallons of milk for each cow. Of this large number of factories,

	Factories.	Cows.
Oneida county has	94	30,000
Jefferson county has	72	25,000
Herkimer county has	70	25,000
Madison county has	66	20,000
Oswego county has	58	15,000
Erie county has	54	20 000
Otsego county has	46	15,000
Orange county has	44	14,000
Other counties	440	110,000
Total	944	249,000

As to the other states:

	Factories.	Cows each.
Ohio has	80	500
Illinois has	50	400
Wisconsin has	34	250
Vermont has	32	400
Massachusetts has	26	250
Michigan has	22	400
Pennsylvania has	14	200
Other states	25	....
Canada	34	....
Total	317	....

So that on this continent we have now after a comparatively few years of work, nearly 1,300 cheese and butter factories, supplied with the milk of more than 300,000 cows, and producing about 100,000,000 pounds of cheese annually. Our export of the product of this new industry, or old industry in a new form, was last year the large amount of 57,000,000 of pounds, valued at $8,000,000, while the whole export from Britain of her cheese is little over 3,000,000 of pounds. Even the Dutch, who have made a specialty of cheese for centuries, and who in their varieties adapt their article to many tastes and markets, exported last year only half the quantity we did. When this experiment was commenced the European cheeses had all their special markets and special customers, who took them regularly, and would not be induced readily to make a change, while the previous character of American cheese was not in its favor, but rather the contrary. We had, therefore, nothing to look to for success but the superiority of the article at the price, and in less than twenty years, with everything rather against us, we have surpassed England in the world's markets, and are at this day selling nineteen times as much cheese as she is able to do, with all her prestige and previous fame as a cheese producer! In all the history of progress there is no parallel to this triumph of the American adaptation of fitting means to needed facilities. Switzerland, from a kind of necessity imposed on it by the peculiarities of Alpine pastures, had a kind of co-operative cheese-making before we commenced it; but it was and is of small account. Our co-operative arrangements enabled many single workers with but indifferent success, by that union which is strength, to become a great power for supplying the world with two prime articles of family consumption, and for doing it well. Our triumph, however, is not yet quite complete. Before it is so we have got to do one or two things, or both; that is, to produce a cheese which will surpass in its attractive qualities the favorite products of all other countries, or to produce cheeses so nearly approaching these favorites in qualities as to compete with them successfully.

Out of School.

Many of our young readers are now enjoying the delights of vacation. Wading in shallow brooks; fishing in quiet, shady nooks, where the speckled trout love to hide away from the heat; following the mowers through the fragrant fields; watching the reapers in the rustling wheat; gathering flowers and berries; filling pockets and aprons with the early harvest apples; driving home the cows at evening; and lying broad awake on moonshiny nights to listen to the whippoorwill on the garden wall. Ah! we older children can only remember the many charms of vacation. There are no more such times for us, because, go where we will, do what we may, our work and our cares follow us.

I missed your faces, yesterday, when I went through the street to the office, and did not see the crowds of children marching along with books and slate; but I smiled, as I thought to myself, "It is vacation now, and the children have gone into the country, or are having the best times they can at home." The city parks are alive with them, playing all sorts of noisy, rollicking games, and rushing about as if they never heard of thermometers, or lying in happy abandonment on the grass under the trees, as if they never heard of ague and rheumatism, as heaven grant they never may.

But how about the children who get no vacations?—to whom, summer, and winter, the year is one long work-day? Perhaps you hardly knew there were any such; but I meet them on the street every day—children who work in all sorts of mills and shops and factories, ragpickers, and bootblacks, and little peddlers, though the gypsy life of these out-door workers makes up somewhat for the lack of vacations. You could hardly guess how many there are of these in all our great cities—children whose daily bread comes from their daily toil, and to whom vacation would mean, not rest and play, but *starvation*. You little people that groan over your six hours in the bright school-room, with books and pictures and merry faces all around you, and now and then a run in the open air, what do you think of children nine, eight, yes, only *seven* years old, who work ten hours of every day in dark, foul smelling tobacco factories. And yet, in New York city, a great many of these little workers go to the evening schools, and try to study with their tired eyes, so eager are they to learn. Their teachers tell us they go to sleep over their books, and one can hardly wonder at it. Don't you wish you and I could do something to help them to a vacation?—*Little Corporal.*

PELOUZE PROCESS OF PRESERVING MEAT.—We have already referred to a process devised by Pelouze for preserving meat unchanged for an indefinite period of time without the use of any chemical solution, and to his having deposited an account of it with the secretary of the Academy of Sciences in Paris. In a late number of the *Moniteur Scientifique* the secret is announced, from which we see that it is not essentially different from processes already in use. For the purpose in question the meat is to be cut up into pieces of convenient size, and subjected to an atmosphere of carbonic oxide under pressure. After this a current of dry air is passed over the meat, so as to carry off all the moisture, and this being accomplished, a solution either of salt or saltpetre, or much diluted carbolic acid, is to be brought into contact with it, and the mass then sealed up in a tight vessel.

THE CHOLERA.—Apprehensions as to the rapid spread of the cholera may be somewhat allayed by the intelligence that the disease, so far as known, is not of the Asiatic type, but the English, which is less contagious as well as less virulent. At Konigsberg, a day or two since, there were sixty-two cases, of which only twenty-two proved fatal. This is not a large number of cases for a city of 75,000 population, nor a large proportion of deaths to the number of attacks.

A charcoal man and his wife, who belonged to the Commune, escaped the vigilance of the police by the happy device of a thorough washing. The disguise was too perfect unluckily, for they have been looking for each ever since.

Terrible Mining Disaster.

Another fearful mining disaster occurred at the Eagle shaft, about a mile south of Pittston, Penn., occasioned by an explosion of fire damp. Eighteen men were at work in the chamber in which the explosion occurred, and there is no hope but that all in the mine have met with death.

In going to and from their work the miners used an air shaft, which they ascended and descended by means of a ladder, the main opening not being provided with a safety car, and therefore considered unsafe. It is supposed that the explosion blew away the props, and a consecuent fall of the roof followed, completely blocking up the passages, and cutting off the means of escape, should the men escape death from the explosion which is not probable.

On hearing the explosion, volunteers at once proceeded in the direction of the noise, without lamps, and, in about three-quarters of an hour, brought up the body of a miner named Benjamin Davis. Scores of willing hands immediately proceeded to repair the brattice, a board partition used to keep the fresh air from rushing into the worked-out chambers, so that it will enter only to those where men are working. At about 3 o'clock the body of Evan E. Jones was found and brought up. During the afternoon the dead bodies of Thos. Leyshon, Jas. Morgan, and David Harris were found and brought up.

On entering the chamber in which the explosion occurred, a fall of rock was first found, which laid partly upon a car, completely blocking up one side, and leaving a space on the other just sufficient for a man to force himself through. Some distance further in there was another fall, which completely filled the passage, and behind this the men are walled so completely that it will take hours of the most persistant labor to reach them. Volunteers are now at work endeavoring to get around this fallen rock, so that they can reach the entombed miners, but the density of the black-damp prevents them from prosecuting their work with full effect. They are continually being brought up in an exhausted condition, but their places are immediately supplied by other volunteers, and so the work goes on unremittingly. All that mortals can do was done to rescue the unfortunates, but only blackened and disfigured remnants of mortality have thus far rewarded the toilers.

Outside the scene is heart-rending in the extreme. Thousands of sympathizing citizens, miners, and others are present, and rendering all the assistance that is possible under the circumstances. Women and children are weeping, wringing their hands, and mourning aloud for the loved and lost, and waiting, in anxious, hopeless expectation, for each new report from the poisonous pit. Words of sympathy fall like empty sounds upon their anguished souls, and nothing can still the aching void within. Women are everywhere doing what they can to minister to the wants of the exhausted volunteers, as they are borne like helpless children back from the mouth of the pit. Great caldrons of steaming coffee are ready, and all the known restoratives are at hand. Woman's hearts and woman's hands are first in the work, and where brave men falter and turn pale, they neither shrink nor turn away from their ministering mission. Sad hearts are everywhere tonight; some in sympathy with the bereaved friends, and in mourning for their dead.

This mine has been nearly exhausted, and was known to be filled with the black-damp, and yet it was considered safe, and has been constantly worked since the conclusion of the strike, although not to its full capacity. It is owned by Mr. J. Schooley of Wyoming, and worked by Mr. A. Tompkins, who is extensively engaged in the business of mining coal, and owns and operates several openings. Twelve feet of gas was found in a heading just off the gangway, which had been traversed all day by explorers with a naked light, and the merest accident would have caused another and a worse explosion, involving a loss of at least 50 lives.

What it Costs to Run the Government.

The following are the receipts and expenditures by warrants for the fiscal year ending June 30:

Net receipts from customs	$205,270,408.05
Net receipts from internal revenue	143,098,153.63
Sales of public lands	2,388,646.68
Miscellaneous sources	31,566,736.53
Total net revenue	$383,323,944.89
Balance in the Treasury June 30, 1870	149,505,867.78
Total	$532,829,812.67
Net Expenditures.	
For civil and miscellaneous	$69,498 710.97
War department	35,799,991 82
Navy department	19,431,027.21
Indians and pensions	41,870,892.32
Interest of public debt	125,576,565.93
Net ordinary expense	$292,177,188.25
Purchase of bonds for sinking fund, &c	130,735,147.18
Total net expenditure	$422,912,335.43
Balance in the Treasury, June 30, 1871	109.917,477.24
Total	$532,829,812.67

In consequence of the change made by the law of July 8, 1870, whereby the payment of pensions was made quarterly instead of semi-annually, the payments of the past year have been increased about $8,000,000 by the payment of an extra quarter's pension falling due within the year. The receipts from miscellaneous sources include $8,892,829.95 from premiums. The expenditures for civil and miscellaneous purposes include $9,016,794.74 for premiums. Indians and pensions show special expenditures for Indians of $7,767,502.22; leaving the expenditure on the pension account at $34,103,390.09.

ESCAPE OF CONVICTS.—Twelve convicts escaped from Sing Sing prison by a most ingenious and daring stratagem. About quarter to 12 the Dean Richmond, a small propeller which usually plies about New York harbor, approached the prison dock having a canal-boat in tow, and was immediately warned off by the guards. The captain, P. Van Orden, was at the wheel, and rang the bell for the engineer to "slow" the boat. At the same instant a man who was in the wheel house, and was one of the two men said by the captain to have chartered the boat for the purpose of carrying down to New York some furniture, rang the bell again in order to confuse the engineer. The latter, not knowing what to do, paid no attention to the signal, and kept on. The captain saw 12 men rush out of the shops and jump aboard the boat as she touched the pier. The captain immediately leaped ashore, while the Dean Richmond steamed out into the river, and casting off the canal-boat, ran across to the opposite side of the river, where her villainous crew sprang ashore, and disappeared in the thick woods that line the shore at that point. Most of the prisoners have been recaptured.

KILLED IN A QUARREL.—A quarrel between John Husmann, a house-painter, twenty-one years old, and Maggie Maloney, a young girl of sixteen, in Cincinnati, had a fatal termination on Monday night. They were tenants of the same house, and it is said she had rejected his offer of marriage. On Sunday night she came home with some friends and found Husmann and his mother sitting on the door-step. The quarrel was renewed, and she at length became so enraged that she seized a piece of brick and hurled it at him. It fell short of its mark, and his mother drew him into the house and shut the door. Scarcely had it closed behind him, however, when he turned, opened the door, and drawing a revolver, fired at Maggie, who was standing at the gate. The ball entered her left breast, and she fell into the arms of a young man crying, "Catch me, Tom; I'm shot," and instantly expired. Husmann was afterward arrested, being found by the officers concealed under some straw in the cellar.

Voltaire, having paid some high compliments to the celebrated Haller was told that Haller, was not in the habit of speaking so favorable of him. "Ah," said Voltaire, with an air of philosophic indulgence, "I dare say we are both of us very much mistaken."

Life in New York City.

Of families that spend between $25,000 and $30,000 a year, there are about a thousand in New York. It would be impossible to ascertain the exact figures, but the above figure is the result of considerable research, and to be relied on as very near approximating the fact. Easier is it give a close figure as to the families spending between $50,000 and $60,000 a year. There are about sixty or seventy such families. Our figures would stand thus: 10,000 or 13,000 families that spend $10,000 a year; 1,000 spend $20,000 to $30,000 a year, and 60 or 70 whom it costs $50,000 a year to live.

On Fifth avenue it costs $25,000 to live respectably. In thus sum, we do not include the rent of the house, which would certainly swell the amount to $30,000. A first-class establ