AGRICULTURAL.

HOW TO KILL THE POTATO BEETLE.—A letter from Professor Packard has just been published by the Agricultural Experiment Station at Middletown which contains these statements:

"The 'potato bug' may be looked for early in June. Its eggs will be found on the under surface of the leaves; they are bright orange red and quite large. The beetle itself is a roundish insect half an inch long, has ten black stripes on the back, and is reddish underneath. It is larger than the 'lady bug,' which somewhat resembles it. The grub is thick, fat, and orange red in color lives about ten days on the leaves and stems, after which it enters the ground to become a beetle. Thus nearly all the life of the insect is passed on the plant. The offspring of last year's beetles will begin to lay eggs in about fifty days from the time the egg from which itself sprang was deposited. Probably not more than two crops of them will appear in our climate, but each female is capable of producing more than a thousand eggs.

"The remedies are hand-picking both of the mature beetle, the grubs and the eggs. They should all be burned. Paris green is also largely used This is a most deadly poison, containing arsenic. It is almost insoluble in water. It may be mixed with plaster, flour or fine dry earth, and dusted on the plants from a sifter or bellows, or applied stirred up in water, about a table spoonful to a pailful, and thrown from a syringe, or sprinkled from a watering pot. In any case great care must be taken not to breathe the dust or handle with naked hands.

"A number of specimens collected in New York are being analyzed in the laboratory of the station. They range in price from 28 cents per-pound (wholesale) to 18 cents, and contain from 10¼ to 46 per centum of insoluble adulterations. The arsenic varies from 55 per centum in the best to 20 per centum in the lower grades. Some are mixtures of the Scheele's green, others are Schweinfurth green. The former when pure, contains 71¼ per centum of arsenious acid and 28½ per centum of copper oxide. The latter should contain 58 per centum arsenious acid, 31 per centum copper oxide and 10 per centum acetic acid. From these facts it appears that it will be most economical to buy the best. Ask for pure Paris green. It will possibly cost fifty cents per pound. If it seems to be of doubtful quality send a small sample to the station at Middletown for analysis, first finding out the name of the manufacturer. No time should be lost if the potato crop is to be saved, as the beetle has appeared in alarming numbers in many parts of the state."

CLOSE BREEDING.—A writer in the *Western Farm Journal*, after alluding to a discussion on this subject by the stock breeders' association, says: "It has been supposed destructive to good breeding to go into any of the forbidden degrees of relationship. If a neighborhood was enterprising enough to buy a fine bull, or horse at great expense, after a certain time the animal and all his progeny must be discarded for fresh blood, which must be imported at a further increased expense, or the original improvement went for nothing and was lost. In this way many good breeds have been frittered away and wasted, because the importations could not be kept up and maintained indefinitely. This position is nonsensical in the extreme, as any intelligent breeder ought to know.

"How was it possible for Bates, or Webb, or Bakewell, or any of the original improvers of stock, to maintain the superiority of their breeds! They had no other choice strains to run to, if they had desired to do so ever so much, for there were none in existence. It is more than probable that if there had been, they would have kept on as they did, for when they once got a choice animal they carefully preserved all his good qualities by breeding to others possessing, as near as possible, other points. They were compelled to do this, regardless of relationship, for the reasons above stated.

"It is now quite certain that the only way to maintain a choice breed of stock is to keep up the intercourse between them, regardless of relationship, so long as there are any good qualities worthy of preservation. Any system of breeding which is based on any other principle, is founded on error, and is sure to fail, as so many of our previous attempts at improving western herds have tailed.

PRUNING TOMATOES.—A correspondent of Colman's *Rural World* writes that paper as follows on this subject:—

"That tomatoes are benefited by pruning we have not the slightest doubt and we yearly practice it in our garden. Some recommend, and others practice, cutting off all the tops to the plants, to which we most strongly object, as we are satisfied that such a course is very injurious to the plants, as well as to the perfect ripening of the fruit. As the tomatoes begin to grow, select say three or four of the strongest shoots; pinch all the others out, should there be any, with finger and thumb, close to the main stem; when these four branches begin to show fruit, a small lateral branch will show itself immediately at the next joint; these should be pinched out as fast as they appear, letting no shoots grow at any time but the four main branches referred to.

"By following the above rules, whether the plants were tied to stakes or laid on the ground, we have always found that we secured a larger, finer and heavier crop than we could by any other process. We have raised tomatoes that weighed two pounds apiece."

DEODORIZING NIGHT SOIL.—A correspondent of the *Canada Farmer* says:—Night soil is a valuable and extremely powerful manure, richer in nitrogen than horse or cow dung. It should be deodorized before using by sulphate of iron or powdered charcoal. The use of charcoal for deodorizing night soil is attended with peculiar advantage, as it is of itself, from causes not entirely ascertained, one of the best auxiliary manures known to agriculture. Wherever charcoal is present to a considerable amount in the soil, there grapes and all kinds of fruits flower luxuriantly and mildew is unknown. Charcoal and gypsum are the best deodorizers of night soil, as they both fix the ammonia. Lime should never be used with night soil, nor indeed in the composting of any animal excrements, as it drives off the ammonia. As before stated, plants take up their food in the liquid and gaseous condition, which of itself shows conclusively that the urine of all animals should be given to the soil.

MINERAL MANURES FOR POTATO BLIGHT.—Just now, when chemical fertilizers are creating so much attention, it is of interest to note that Mr. Charles T. Hayward, of England, as we learn from the *Journal of Horticulture*, has apparently succeeded in preventing potato blight, by supplying the mineral elements of potato plant food to his garden which had previously been well dressed with nitrogenous manures. He claims to have secured a better crop, the tubers more even in size, smooth skinned and free from disease; while the market gardeners about him suffered heavy losses from the potato disease.

A PATIENT entomologist asserts that there are 30 species of insects which subsist on garden vegetables. The grapevine has about 50 insect enemies. The appletree 75. Our different shade trees over 100, and wheat and other grains 50.

THE brightest, largest or heaviest and newest seeds are, as a rule, the best and the most likely to produce the finest crops.

SCIENTIFIC.

Sea Soundings without a Line.—Dr. Siemens exhibited, at a recent meeting of the London Royal Society, an instrument devised by himself for ascertaining the depth of the sea. In explaining the principle of this instrument, Mr. Siemens observed that the total gravitation of the earth, as measured on its normal surface, is composed of the separate attractions of its parts, and that the attractive influence of each equal volume varies directly as its density and inversely as the square of its distance from the point of measurement. The density of sea water being about 1,026, and that of the solid constituents composing the earth's crust about 2.763, it follows that an intervening depth of sea water must exercise a sensible influence upon total gravitation if measured on the surface of the sea. His instrument, which he calls a barometer, is described in the London *Times* as consisting "essentially of a vertical column of mercury, contained in a steel tube having cup-like extensions at both extremities, so as to increase the terminal area of the mercury. The lower cup is closed by means of a corrugated diaphragm of thin steel plate, and the weight of the column of mercury is balanced in the centre of the diaphragm by the elastic force derived from two carefully-tempered spiral steel springs of the same length as the mercury column. One of the peculiarities of this mechanical arrangement is, that it is parathermal, the diminishing elastic force of the springs with rise of temperature being compensated by a similar decrease of potential of the mercury column, which decrease depends upon the proportions given to th areas of the steel tube and its cup-like extensions."

The instrument is suspended in such a manner as to retain the vertical position, notwithstanding the motion of the ship, and the vertical oscillations of the mercury are almost entirely prevented by a local contraction of the mercury column to a very small orifice. The reading of the instrument is effected by means of electrical contact, which is established between the end of a micrometer-screw and the centre of the elastic diaphragm. The pitch of the screw and the divisions in the rim are so proportioned that each division represents the diminution of gravity due to one fathom of depth. Actual experiment has shown the apparatus to be very reliable.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

The Lammergeyer or Bearded Vulture.—The bearded vulture, called in Germany (where it is most common) *lammergeyer*, is the largest and most powerful of European birds of prey, and its German name is derived from its propensity to seize and carry off young lambs, a feat for the performance of which a bird must be largely endowed with strength and audacity. The bearded vulture, when fully grown, is about 4 feet high, measuring from 9 to 10 feet from tip to tip of its wings: the head and neck are completely clothed with feathers, and the base of the bill is hidden by projecting bristles; the bill is long, strong, and straight, and laterally compressed, with the tip curved and sharp. a tuft of stiff bristles projects forward like a beard from the base of the lower mandible; the wings are long, the second and third quills being the longest and nearly equal; the tarsi are short and covered with feathers; the anterior toes are united at the base with a membrane; and the claws, especially those of the inner and hind toes, are curved; part of the head, the neck, and the under parts are whitish, tinged with orange, deepest on the breast, the wings and tail are grayish black, and the back deep brown; the wing coverts are dashed with orange white; the beard and the space round the eye are black, and the bill horn-colored. The bird is also found in Asia and North Africa.

It is by no means uncommon for the *lammergeyer* to frighten its prey over a precipice, and then to descend and devour the carcass.

Iron Pillars.—A writer in *Metals and Arts* asserts that few iron colums, when sound, of proper thickness and strength, and standing well on their feet, can ever be overloaded to a crushing degree, by weight of the mere front that is carried up over them. Nevertheless, it is in such situations that iron pillars are exposed to the greatest stress. It is admitted that a column which is abundantly strong when cold, will, when heated to a red heat, yield to its superincumbent weight—such instances being, however, far less frequent than where a column of limestone or sandstone, and even granite, when subjected to a similar exposure, behaves in a much worse manner. Iron may melt, or crack when played upon by water; but, while it is seldom that an iron front is thus rendered incapable of repair and future use, nothing would be left of stone columns but dust, slabs, and spalls. There is no defect in the application of iron that cannot be either remedied or partially obviated.

Direct Manufacture of Soap with Salt.—If grease, fat, or rosin, which are commonly employed to make soap, are heated with an excess of common salt, ammonia, and water, a soda soap separates, leaving chloride of ammonia in the liquor together with the excess of ammonia and salt. This reaction is the consequence of the great solubility of ammonia in ammoniacal water, and the insolubility of soda soap in water containing more than ½ per cent of salt. The ammonia at first unites with fatty acids; then the sodium in the salt exchanges places with the ammonia in the soap, forming, as we said, a soda soap and chloride of ammonia. It is essential that there be an excess of ammonia and salt present in order that the reaction take place. One hundred parts of grease requires 15 to 20 parts ammonia, 20 to 30 parts salt, and 200 to 300 of water.—*T. N. Whitelaw, in Chemisches Centralblatt.*

The Effects of Cold and Ozone on Color.—It has been observed by Kœchlin that woolen cloth dyed with indigo had its peculiar blue color notably diminished by being exposed to a freezing temperature. According to some experiments, due to Goppelsrader, this discolorization is due to the ozone present, which act at temperatures below zero, but only when the tissue was wet. Cochineal reds on wool seem to lose their brilliancy when exposed to the action of ozone during eight days. Aniline black was unchanged, but aniline brown on cottons was turned into a yellowish brown. Magenta, aniline blues and violets, and iodine greens were unchanged, as were lakes and such strong colors as Turkey red. Ozone seems, however, to have, in some instances, the property of developing and intensifying certain colors, more especially the aniline blacks.

Explosibility of Nitrate of Ammonia.—In the *Comptes Rendus* M. Berthelot states that the melting point of nitrate of ammonia being about 153 deg., it is only at 210 deg. that it begins to decompose sufficiently to yield an appreciable volume of gas. Then the decomposition increases in activity as the temperature of the salt is raised up to any fixed point between 200 deg. and 300 deg. If, then, the temperature is augmented the reaction becomes explosive. M. Berthelot affirms that the amount of protoxide of nitrogen collected falls always below the theoretical amount in consequence of the volatility, real or apparent, of the nitrate of ammonia.

WARMED-UP MUTTON.—Cut off the meat carefully, throwing aside all stringy pieces, mince finely, and season to taste with pepper, salt, and, if liked, catsup, and finely-chopped onion. Moisten with some rich stock, or the gravy left over, after taking off the fat which has risen on top and cooled. Put it on a dish and cover over with mashed potatoes, scored roughly across the top if you like, or smoothed over and washed on top with a little melted butter. Brown it in the oven a fine dark golden color, and serve very hot.

DOMESTIC.

DRYING FLOWERS IN SAND.—The *Floral Cabinet* says: There are many of our brilliant flowers, such as dahlias, pansies, pinks, geraniums, sweet williams, carnations, gladiolus, which may be preserved so as to retain their color for years. White flowers will not answer well for this purpose; nor any succulent plant, as hyacinths or cactus. Take deep dishes, or those of sufficient depth to allow the flowers to be covered an inch deep with sand; get the common white sand, such as is used for scouring purposes, cover the bottom of the dish with a layer about half an inch deep, and then lay in the flowers, with their stems downward, holding them firmly in place while you sprinkle more sand over them, until all places between the petals are filled and the flowers buried out of sight. A broad dish will accommodate quite a large number; allow sufficient sand between. Set the dish in a dry warm place where they will dry gradually, and at the end of a week pour off the sand and examine them; if there is any moisture in the sand it must be dried out before using again, or fresh sand may be poured over them, the same as before. Some flowers will require weeks to dry, while others will become sufficiently dry to put away in a week or ten days. By this simple process flowers, ferns, etc., are preserved in their proper shape as well as in their proper color, which is far better than to press them in books. When arranged in groups and mounted on cards, or in little straw baskets, they may be placed in frames under glass.

FIG CAKE.—White part—two cups of sugar, three fourths of a cup of butter, one cup of milk, one cup of corn starch, two cups of flour, whites of six eggs, one teaspoonful of baking-powder; flavor with lemon. Dark part—two cups of sugar, one of butter, one cold water, with a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in it; three cups of raisins, chopped fine, cinnamon and nutmeg, four eggs, one pound of figs; use the figs whole, covering them well with the cake to prevent burning; flour enough to make as stiff as pound cake; bake in layers, frosting between each layer; white part is baked in layers by itself—the dark part the same; when baked, put a layer of white, then of the dark, until the loaves are complete; cut with a sharp knife to prevent crumbing; This recipe makes two loaves.

STRAWBERRY BLANC MANGE.—For a quart of strawberries take four ounces of white sugar; crush the strawberries with a silver spoon and mix them well with the sugar. In four hours strain them through a sieve. In a pint of boiling milk dissolve two ounces of gelatin, add to it four ounces of sugar, strain through a bit of muslin, and mix with it one and one-fourth pints of cream, stir till nearly cold, then add the strawberries gradually, beating the two quickly together; then drop in a little at a time the juice of one lemon. Butter a mold, pour the mixture in, and set in a cold place over night.

TO KEEP BUTTER SWEET.—A friend assures us that his wife always keeps butter sweet or removes rancid taste and odor from it by means of charcoal packed in the vessels with it. She cuts smooth sticks of charcoal, and, after washing the dust from them, shoves them through the butter perpendicularly, allowing them to remain in the vessels until the butter is consumed. Fresh butter will never become rancid if thus packed, while rancid butter will soon become as sweet as ever. This may be a valuable hint to those who make butter to sell.

RHUBARB "MASH."—Take and cut a pound of the stalks, after they are pared into short lengths, have ready a quarter of a pint of water boiled for ten minutes with six ounces of sugar; put your fruit in, and let it simmer from ten to fifteen minutes. This served with boiled rice is much more wholesome for children than puddings. If for sick people, to be eaten alone, the compote should be made with the very best lump-sugar; and the same for dessert. But common sugar for children's use will do.

FOR PIMPLES ON THE FACE.—Avoid greasy and indigestible food, take a great deal of exercise without becoming overheated, keep early hours, and bathe all over daily in cold or lukewarm water. Use as lotion the following: Powdered borax, half ounce; pure glycerine, one ounce; camphor water, one quart; mix and wet the face with this morning and evening; let it remain on a few minutes, then wash off with soft water.

A GOOD GRAVY.—Chop fine some lean meat an onion, some slices of carrot and turnip, and a little thyme and parsley; put these, with half an ounce of butter, into a saucepan, and keep them stirred until they are slightly browned; add a little spice, and water in the proportion of a pint to one pound of meat. Clear the gravy from scum, let it boil half an hour, then strain it for use.

EGG BALLS.—Boil five fresh eggs quite hard, and lay them in cold water to get cold. Take the yolks out, and pound them smoothly with the beaten yolk of one fresh egg; put a little cayenne and salt, roll the mixture into very small balls, and boil them for two minutes. Half a teaspoonful of flour can be worked with the eggs.

CURRANT JELLY.—Wash your currants, put them in a kettle, stems and all, mash, and boil fifteen minutes after they begin to boil; then strain, and measure, and boil fifteen minutes longer; then remove your kettle, and add eight pounds of sugar to seven pints of juice. Always have one more pound of sugar than there are pints of juice.

BREAD OMELETTE.—Put in a stew-pan a cup of cream, the same of bread crumbs, a little salt, a dust of pepper, a little nutmeg. Set over the fire, and when the bread has soaked up all the cream remove from the stove, cool, then beat a dozen eggs, thoroughly mix with the cream and crumbs, and fry. Serve as an omelette.

APPLE FRITTERS.—Take one quart of sweet milk, three eggs well beaten, a little salt, and flour enough to make a batter stiff enough for pancakes. Mix in with it very thin slices of your apples. Drop by the spoonful into hot lard, and fry like doughnuts. Serve with cider and sugar, or a foaming wine sauce.

TO WHITEN lace, iron it slightly, and sew it up in a linen bag; let the bag remain for 24 hours in pure olive oil. Then boil the bag in soap and water for 15 minutes, rinse in warm water, and then dip into water containing a slight proportion of starch. Take the lace from the bag and stretch it out to dry.

HAIR WASH.—Try half an ounce of borax to a quart of water for a hair wash; apply very gently with a sponge on alternate days; apply a little glycerine dissolved in soft water.

A GOOD AND simple furniture polish consists of a little Castile soap scraped into a pint of warm water. Add three tablespoonfuls of sweet oil; heat, and apply while hot.

CORN BREAD.—One pint buttermilk, two eggs, one pint Indian meal, two tablespoonfuls melted butter, a little salt, one teaspoonful soda.

TO CURE corns, lay a piece of raw fat pork upon them. The corn will disappear in a few days.

FOR AN injury from a pitchfork, or other injurious metal, make a poultice of peach-tree leaves.

CRANBERRIES will keep all winter in a firkin of water in a cellar.

HUMOROUS.

A TENDER REQUEST.—He had gone up to her house with her from a shopping excursion the other afternoon. While he was there such a flood of tenderness came over him that he impulsively dropped on his knees before her, and giving her a glance that spoke volumes, huskily said: "I can no longer keep my feelings back. I love you. Oh, will you, Oh, will you be——" "——SHAD! Ten cents!" rang out the clarion voice of a street vendor before the house. She made a clutch for her handkerchief to cover up the emotion, but she was too late. The ludicrousness of the combined sentiments was too much for her intellect, and she melted into a prolonged giggle. His face flushed scarlet, and for an instant he was too profoundly impressed to realize his position. Then he shot up on his feet, and with a howl of rage, departed. Really, should not more intelligent and more discriminating people be employed on fish wagons? — *Danbury News.*

AN EDITOR who wrote an amusing sketch of the manner in which a woman reads a newspaper, omitted one important particular. It is a remarkable fact that if an item happens to have been clipped out of a paper, the woman loses all interest in everything else that is in that paper, and concentrates her attention upon the item that isn't there. She will look above it, under it and around it, and will exhaust herself in efforts to guess what could have occupied that empty space. Then she will wonder who cut it out and why it was cut out, and ten to one its absence will engender in her mind some horrible suspicion concerning her husband. Finally she will throw down the sheet with the declaration that she can't take any interest in a newspaper when the only thing she wanted to read has been cut out.

THESE alphabet puns and quirks are very numerous, and a few of the old ones are very good. Here is one: "Majesty stripped of its externals is a jest." This is more than a joke; it is a philosophical truth. Why is the letter s like a sewing-machine? Because it makes needles needless—more ingenious than true, by the way. Here's another that we recall: Why is the absence of the letter m like the presence of a hand-organ? Because, of course, it makes u-sic of music! There is another: "Y is the Fourth of *July?*" When pronounced orally it sounds like an unfinished conundrum, and the enunciator thereof like an idiot, where it is, in fact, a great orthographic truth.

RULING THE ROOST.—He waltzed out of a Liberty street front door yesterday, followed by a wash board and two bars of Babbitt's soap, and as he straightened himself and walked firmly down the street he remarked: "A man must draw the line somewhere or he can't be boss of the house, and I'll be hanged if I'll fetch more than one barrel of water for no washing, and there ain't no woman can make me do it, unless she locks me in."

FOOTE, THE actor, patronized Brighton, and for mimicing the good parish priest was cornered by the parson's fighting parishioners, cane in hand. Foote apologized by saying, "I imitate everybody. Why, I take off myself; I will show you." At the same time stepping slily behind a gate, he shut it in their faces, and hastened away with a "Good morning, gentlemen."

"CAN you pay me some money today?" inquired a creditor. "No," said the man who owed him, "it is cold today, with the wind East, and there are no sales in my line. If we can have two or three hot days, and warm sweltering nights, business will be brisk, and I can pay you." The debtor was a large manufacturer of the bed-bug poision.—*Boston Traveller.*

"WHERE'S the bar?" asked a dirty and rather boozy-looking stranger of the bell-boy of a hotel the other day. "What kind of a bar?" asked the latter. "Why, a saloon bar, of course; what do you suppose I mean?" "Well," drawled the boy, "I didn't know but you might mean a bar of soap."

THEY docked the Norristown *Herald* man seven dollars out of his week's salary for writing this: "A jocose young man says his girl wears such a threatening looking jabot that he has to be very careful when he kisses her for fear she will jabot in his eye."

SCUMBLE—"You'll get your rent, Mrs. Flaherty, if you'll wait a little. I'm not going to run away. Besides, there's my clothes—" Mrs. F.—"Yer clothes, indade! A moighty lot on 'em you've got, sure! Why, whin yer hat's on, yer wardrobe's impty!"

TWO CARD playing friends were passing through a pine forest, when one asked the other the audacious conundrum: "Why cannot the proprietor of this forest fell his own timber?" "Because no one is allowed to cut when it is his own deal."

YOUNG miss, fond of pets—"Oh, I'm so glad you love birds. Mr. Snooks; what kind do you admire?" Young man, who is quite poetical—"Well, ahem! I think a good Turkey, with oyster stuffing, is about as good as any."

AN ILLINOIS judge has decided that a washing bill cannot be collected, and any experienced washerwoman will tell him that he is right six times out of ten, which is probably better than the average of his decisions.

AN ENGLISH LADY, visiting the Philadelphia exhibition, saw a "Great Sale of Domestics" advertised in the newspaper. "Bless my 'eart," said she, "Hi thought they'd habolished slavery 'ere you know."

"GIVE me a chaw terbacker," said a dilapidated tramp, accosting a gentleman on the street the other day. No, sir; I can't do it," returned the latter, "beggars shouldn't be chewsers."

AN IRISH guide told Dr. James Johnson, who wished for a reason why Echo was always in the feminine gender, that "maybe it was because she always had the last word."

THE young lady who vowed she'd never marry a man under five feet ten in stature, has not as yet been led to the altar of Hy-men.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

AN IRISHMAN in Chicago says his boarding-house keeper must be a chess-player, because she "pawns" the boarders' clothes, and gives them "stale mate."

EUPHRASIA, who attended the opening, said she liked Wagner's march pretty well, but she didn't think it near as nice as riding in his palace cars.

NOW THAT silver is coming around again, a reporter can jingle two brass buttons and some shingle nails in his pocket, and pass again for a capitalist.

A YOUNG LADY of Chicago, on returning from church recently, was asked what the text was, when she innocently replied, "Blessed are the dressmakers."

THERE is nothing to be gained trying to look through a knot-hole with a glass eye.

THE good Samaritan stopped at the sound of woe; so does a good horse.

A TRUISM: An expensive wife makes a pensive husband.

A GREENBACK is like a lost boy—it wants its par.

MEN who move in the right direction —Teamsters.

A BENEFICIAL strike—striking a job

YOUTH'S COLUMN.

Pell's Ironing-Day.—"Is it ironing-day to-day, Bridget?" asked little Pell Packard, thrusting his curly head into the kitchen door.

Seven mornings in the week, one morning right after the other, was Pelly's rosy face thrust into that kitchen door with the self-same question.

He would perhaps sit meekly on the kitchen stairs, with a dandelion or clover for a peace-offering; and, stretching it out to Bridget, as she at last came up with mop and pail, would whisper, "Maybe, Bridget Flinnigins, *this* is ironing-day?"

"Maybe it isn't, thin," would perhaps be the only answer Pell and the dandelion would receive.

Monday, after one furtive peep, he would trot away briskly from the whirling clouds of steam and the fearful rubbing and scrubbing of Bridget at the wash-tub.

But Tuesday he would give a wild scream of delight to hear the thump of Bridget's iron making music for him as he ran merrily down the lower stairs.

"This is ironing-day!" There was his little iron on the stove, and his little roll of handkerchiefs on the table. How important was Pell on Tuesdays! Those were the days when he felt of use in the world. Bridget, he was quite sure, could never manage her ironing without his assistance. So imagine his small plaid stockings twinkling among the rounds of the chair, as he climbed up.

"Don't scorch, don't smooch, and remimber to wipe your iron, now, Pell."

"I know all about ironing, Bridget Flinnigins," said Pell, with a lofty air.

Then Pell deftly worried the little handkerchiefs with the iron. If they had had mouths, they would have begged to be folded straight and smoothed nicely. But Pell toiled on, looking at the brown zig-zag pile with great satisfaction.

"It is so nice, Bridget, to be useful!" Pell smiled up into Bridget's face for approval. But Bridget, eyeing askance Pell's ironing, only muttered an unmusical "Umph!"

"Well, I'm going to show these to my mamma. *She* thinks I'm *very* useful: yes, *she* thinks so. 'Less you want me to stop and iron your nice stockings."

Bridget gave a little smothered shriek, and snatched at her ragged, shapeless stockings, lying on the table before her.

So Pell gathered up his ironing in his apron, and ran away for the word of praise that awaited him elsewhere. "Yes, my dear little boy, it is very good to be useful!"

Johnny's Tears.—Johnny had a great trial. He was sitting on the floor, looking over all his pictures, and baby toddled up and tore one right across, one of the very prettiest. Johnny called out, "O, mamma, see!" and then he began to cry.

"Johnny," said mamma as she took baby away, "did you know tears are salt water?"

Johnny checked a sob and looked up. "No," he said with great interest; "are they? How did you find out, mamma?"

"O, somebody told me so when I was a little girl, and I tried a tear, and found it was true."

"Real salt water?" asked Johnny.

"Yes, try and see."

Johnny would very gladly have tried, if he could only have found a tear. But by that time there was not one left, and his eyes were so clear and bright it was no use hoping for any more *that* time. He looked at the torn picture, but it did not make him feel bad any more. All he could think of was whether tears tasted like salt water.

"Next time I cry, I'll find out!" he determined.

That very afternoon, while climbing over the top of the rocking-chair he fell and got a great bump. It was too much for any little boy, altogether too much for Johnny, and he was just beginning to cry loudly, when he happened to think what a good chance this was going to be to catch some tears. He put his fingers quick up to his eyes, altogether too quick in fact, for there had not a tear come yet worth mentioning, and now that his thoughts had wandered from the bump he could not seem to cry about it any more. So *that* chance was lost.

"I can't get a single tear to taste of, mamma!" he said ruefully.

The next day it happened again. Some little thing went wrong, and the tears were starting to Johnny's eyes, when he suddenly remembered to wonder whether they would be salt. And wasn't it strange that after that the tears would not come at all? If things keen on that way, how is he *ever* going to find out! His mamma begins to think he is really going to be one of those brave little boys who don't whimper over every small trouble, and if that is the case, I don't know as we shall ever hear any more about Johnny's tears.

Little Children.—People who habitually put children out of their hearts, and close their doors upon them, have no idea of how much comfort they set aside—what pleasure, what amusement. Of course the little creatures meddle with things, and leave the traces of their fingers on the wall, and cry and "bother a little; but, when one gets into it, as mothers and other loving relatives do, those things become of minor importance. Children say such pretty things, the touch of their little hands is so soft, the sound of their little voices so sweet, their faces are so pretty, their movements so graceful and comical the whole family goes mad—and it is no wonder. No book was ever written that was half as interesting as a little child that is learning to talk and to think, that is developing from a tiny animal into a being with a conscience and a heart.

A gentleman observed an urchin who had a large slice of bread in his hand, and who was crying very bitterly.

"My son," he exclaimed, "what are you crying about?"

"Mother won't—boo-hoo-oo—put any butter on my bread—boo-hoo-oo!"

"Oh, is that all?" said the gentleman. "Come, dry up your tears, and be a man."

"It ain't so much the butter," retorted the little urchin; its the disposition of the old woman.

Sunday school teacher (to pupil)—"Now, my little man, can you explain to us the cruse of Adams fall?" "Little man, (emphatically)—"Yes, sir! 'cause he hadn't any ashes to throw on the sidewalk."

Origin of the God Hymen.

Danchet, the French poet, tells us respecting the deification of Hymen that he was a young man of Athens, obscurely born, but extremely handsome. Falling in love with a young lady of distinction, he disguised himself in a female habit in order to get access to her and enjoy the pleasure of her company. As he happened to be in this disguise with his mistress and her female companions, celebrating on the seashore the rites of Ceres Eleusina, a gang of pirates came upon them by surprise and carried them all off. The pirates, having conveyed them to a distant island, got drunk for joy and fell asleep. Hymen seized his opportunity, armed the virgins and dispatched the pirates after which leaving the ladies on the island he went in haste, where he told his adventure to all the parents, and demanded her he loved in marriage as her ransom. His request was granted, and so fortunate was the marriage that the name of Hymen was ever after invoked in al future nuptials, and in progress of time the Greeks enrolled him among their gods.

—The soldiers' monument that is to be erected at Buffalo will cost $50,000.

SLANDER.

'Twas but a breath—
And yet the fair, good name was wilted;
And friends, once fond, grew cold and stilted,
And life was worse than death.

One venomed word,
That struck its coward, poisoned blow,
In craven whispers, hushed and low—
And yet, the wide world heard.

'Twas but one whisper—one,
That muttered low, for very shame,
The thing the slanderer dare not name—
And yet its work was done.

A hint so slight
And yet so mighty in its power,
A human soul in one short hour
Lies crushed beneath its blight!

Killed and Wounded in Ancient and Modern Warfare.

At the battle of Talavera (1809), the loss in killed and wounded was one-eighth of those engaged. At Austerlitz (1805), it was one-seventh. At Malplaquet (1709), at Prague (1759), and at Jena (1806), it was one-sixth. At Friedland (1807), and at Waterloo (1815), one-fifth. At Marengo (1800), it amounted to one-fourth. At Salamanca (1812), out of 90,000 combatants 30,000 were killed and wounded. At Borodino (1812), out of 250,000, 80,000 fell on the two sides. At Leipsic (1813), the French sustained a loss of one-third of their total effective force. At Preussich Eylau (1807), 55,000 were killed and wounded out of a combined total of 160,000 combatants, giving a loss of more than one-third; while at Zorndorf (1758), the most murderous battle which history records in modern times, out of 82,000 Russian and Prussian troops engaged, 32,800 were stretched upon the field at the close of the day. Let us now come to more recent times. The first great battle in which rifled firearms were used was Solferino (1859), and when the war broke out it was confidently predicted that the effects of the new weapon would be frightful; but the loss actually fell to 1-11 of those engaged. At Koniggratz, where, in addition to rifled weapons, one side was armed with breech-loaders, the actual loss was further diminished to 1-15. Finally we come to the last war, in which the proportions were—Worth 1-11, Gravelotte 1-12, and Sedan 1-10. These figures may surprise many who not unnaturally, imagined that improved weapons entailed increased slaughter. It is not intended to imply that battles are not still sanguinary, but it is incontestable that they are much less so than they were.—*Macmillan's Magazine.*

Landing at Jaffa.

Since Jonah made his short ignominous voyage along the Syrian coast, mariners have had the same difficulty in getting ashore that the sailors experienced who attempted to land the prophet; his tedious though safe method of disembarking was not followed by tear navigators, and the landing at Jaffa has remained a vexatious and half the time an impossible achievement.

The town lies upon the open sea and has no harbor; it is only in favorable weather that vessels can anchor within a mile or so from shore, and the Mediterranean steamboats often pass the port without being able to land either freight or passengers. In the usual condition of the sea the big fish would have found it difficult to discharge Jonah without stranding itself, and it seems that it waited three days for the favorable moment. The best chance for a landing nowadays is in the early morning, in that calm period when the winds and the waves alike await the movements of the sun. It was at that hour on the 5th of April, 1875, that we arrived from Port Said on the French steamboat, Erymanthe. The night had been pleasant and the sea tolerably smooth, but not to the apprehension of some of the passengers, who always declare that they prefer, now, a real tempest to a deceitful ground swell. On a recent trip a party had been prevented from landing, owing to the deliberation of the ladies in making their toilet; by the time they had attired themselves in the proper manner to appear in Southern Palestine, the golden hour had slipped away, and they were able only to look upon the land which their beauty and clotnes would have adorned.—*Atlantic Monthly.*

To Young Ladies.

Be cheerful, but not gigglers. Be serious, but not dull. Be communicative, but not forward. Be kind, but beware of silly, thoughtless speeches; although you may forget it, others will not. Beware of levity and familiarity with young men; a modest reserve without affectation is the only safe path. Court and encourage serious conversations with those who are truly serious and conversible; and do not go into valuable company without endeavoring to improve by the intercourse permitted you. Nothing is more unbecoming when one part of a company is engaged in profitable and interesting conversation, than that the other part should be trifling and talking to each other.

Which Shall I Take.

This is often a serious question with the invalid. He finds the market flooded with proprietary medicines, scores of which are recommended as certain cures for his peculiar ailment. He reads the papers, circulars, and almanacs, and finds each sustained by plausible arguments setting forth its virtues and specific action. The recommendations are as strong for one as for another. The cures claimed to have been wrought by one are as wonderful as those claimed to have been wrought by another. In his perplexity and doubt, the sufferer is sometimes led to reject all. But it should be borne in mind that this condition of things is one that cannot be remedied. In a land where all are free, the good—the truly valuable—must come into competition with the vile and worthless, and must be brought to public notice by the same instrumentality, which is *advertising.* In such a case, perhaps the only absolute proof that a remedy is what it claims to be, is to try it. The "test of a pudding is the eating of it." "Prove all things, hold fast that which is good," is the apostolic injunction. There may, however, be stronger presumptive evidence in favor of one remedy than there is in favor of another, and this should be allowed its due weight. A due regard to this may save a vast amount of experimenting and a useless outlay of money. As a presumptive evidence in favor of Dr. Pierce's Family Medicines, the proprietor desires to say, that they are prepared by a new and scientific process by which the virtues of the crude plants and roots are extracted without the use of a particle of alcohol. Not a particle of this destroyer of our race enters into the composition of either his Golden Medical Discovery or Favorite Prescription. This consideration alone ought certainly to rank them high above the vile compounds saturated with alcohol, Jamaica rum, sour beer, or vinegar, which are everywhere offered for sale. Again, they are of uniform strength, and their virtues can never be impaired by age. They are also made from fresh herbs and roots, gathered in their appropriate season, when they are flush with medicinal properties. In support of these claims, the following testimony is offered:

NEWARK, N. J.

R. V. PIERCE, M. D.:

Dear Sir:—I have sold a great deal of your excellent remedies, and I prefer to sell them before others, because they give good satisfaction to those who use them. I hear such remarks as "Sage's Remedy completely cured me; it is a splendid thing;" or, "Pierce's Discovery is just what I wanted; I feel better than I ever did." One of our celebrated singers uses it for strengthening her voice, and says "there is nothing equals it;" and so I might give scores of remarks said about your preparations. A colored woman was using your Discovery, and after taking three bottles was completely cured. She, being in the store, said to me, "I don't want any doctors 'round me so long as I can get the Discovery; it beats all your doctors." And so I might go on.

I am, most respectfully your,

33 ATHA B. CROOKS.

To Parents.

If your child is suffering from worms, use DR. WISHART'S WORM SUGAR DROPS, an old and reliable remedy, that *never fails* in thoroughly exterminating these pests of childhood. Being made in the form of Sugar Drops, having neither the taste or smell of medicine, no trouble is experienced in inducing children to take them. Sold by all Druggists at 25 cents a box, or sent by mail on receipt of price, at the Principal Depot, 916 Filbert Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Schenck's Sea Weed Tonic.

In the atmosphere experienced here during the summer months, the lethargy produced by the heat takes away the desire for wholesome food, and frequent perspirations reduce bodily energy, particularly those suffering from the effects of debilitating diseases. In order to keep up a natural healthful activity of the system, we must resort to artificial means. For this purpose Schenck's Sea Weed Tonic is very effectual. A few doses will create an appetite and give fresh vigor to the enervated body. For dyspepsia, it is invaluable. Many eminent physicians have doubted whether dyspepsia can be permanently cured by the drugs which are generally employed for that purpose. The Sea Weed Tonic in its nature is totally different from such drugs. It contains no corrosive minerals or acids; in fact it assists the regular operations of nature, and supplies her deficiencies. The tonic in its nature so much resembles the gastric juice that it is almost identical with that fluid. The gastric juice is the natural solvent which, in a healthy condition of the body, causes the food to be digested; and when this juice is not excreted in sufficient quantities, indigestion, with all its distressing symptoms, follows. The Sea Weed Tonic performs the duty of the gastric juice when the latter is deficient. Schenck's Sea Weed Tonic sold by all Druggists.

TONIC.—Every one, at times, feels the necessity of some restorative of the vital powers, depressed by mental or bodily exhaustion. In such conditions, let every one, instead of flying to the alcoholic or medicinal stimulants, which must be followed by depression equal to their excitement, reinvigorate his deranged system by the natural tonic elements of the PERUVIAN SYRUP. Sold by all druggists. 17

HOT—HOTTER—HOTTEST.—Every day the mercury climbs up still higher in the thermometer. Even the scantiest garments are a burden. We long for Paradise and the good old days of Adam and Eve. But as the laws would scarcely admit of wearing the scanty raiment of our first parents, the next best thing to be done is to go to Bennett & Co.'s Tower Hall, No. 518 Market Street,—sign of the big clock—and select a suit from their thin summer fabrics, which have not only the merit of being cool, but reasonable in price.

25 LATEST