ONE WORD.

BY W. H. DAVIS.

One word if kindly spoke, will heal
The deepest grief we sometimes feel,
And trouble under which we smart,
Drive quickly from the beating heart.

The orphan who so sad and lone,
Weeps for its parents dead and gone,
One kindly word his tears might stay,
And drive his gloomiest thoughts away.

The drunkard in his wild career,
Who neither God nor man doth fear,
One gentle word his steps might turn,
Henceforth the poisoned draught to spurn.

One kindly word will quick dispel
The wicked thoughts that in us dwell,
Sweet peace unto the mind restore,
When angry passions chafe us sore.

Then since so much of good will flow
From one kind word spoke soft and low,
Let all who will speak kindly here,
The life of all on earth to cheer.

The Antiquity of Man.

Prof. Dawkins and the Rev. Mr. Wells recently sent a paper to the British Geological Society concerning traces of man in Robin Hood's cave. It confirms the views of some eminent geologists—among them Sir William Guise and the Rev. Mr. Simonds—as to the same traces discovered two or three summers ago in the Doward Caves, near Monmouth, and particularly so as regards one of them known as King Arthur's Hall. In these caves, beneath the relative layers of debris between three stalagmitic floors, which had been blown up, and rising also upon a fourth, were found remains (in excellent preservation) of the mammoth (in various stages of development.) the longhaired rhinoceros, the reindeer, the Irish elk, bison, beaver, hyena, the great cave lion, and the cave bear. That man was here associated with the calf animals was abundantly proved by the chipped flints and pebbles, the work of his hand, being found among the remains of the monsters just mentioned, and which were lying side by side with them, sealed up by the same stalagmitic floors. Man evidently went occasionally for shelter into the older dens used by hyenas as a larder, wherein they kept the prey they had dragged thither, and there left his handiwork as evidence of those visits. These caves are now some 300 feet above the level of the Wye; but resting upon the lowest stalagmitic floor, mingled with the remains of extinct animals and the chipped implements of the old stone men, were found river silt and sand, and river boulders of the same character as those to be found in the bed of the Wye to-day. These caves, moreover, bore evident traces of the glacial period. On the occasion referred to, the Rev. Mr. Simonds concluded an address by saying, "We know absolutely nothing as yet of the lapse of time which separates us from the cave periods, when the old men whose haunts we have visited to day, lived and died. The 'everlasting hills' have moldered and shed vast masses of debris; the climate has changed; cities rise where flowed the salt sea water; land has become sea, and brooks run where rivers ran before; rivers have shrunk in their beds, and the reindeer and musk ox have retreated to the distant north since the last hyena dragged into the Doward caves his last morsel, or the last glacier melted among the mountains of Wales."

The Balearic Islands.

Chapter 8 of the book published by Charles Toll Bidwell, which treats of courtship and marriage, is full of charming little bits of feminine manners and customs. The law of compulsory civil marriage passed in 1870 seems to be distasteful to the majority of the Majorcans, who systematically evade its provisions save where property would be in peril if neglected. The wooing in Majorca is, so far as the humbler classes are concerned, *sui generis*. There it is perpetually leap year, and the rule is for Phyllis to court Damon to the bitter or dulcet end, as the case may be. An engagement in the more aristocratic circles is a serious and formal business, and, if parents and guardians prove agreeable, the course of true love is smooth enough; but in those cases where they do not, the bride is "robada," or robbed, which our author explains thus.—"A young lady is said to be robbed when the lover who aspires to her hand and heart marries her without the consent and countenance of her guardians, and the circumstance actually occurs often enough to make all parties interested in such matters quite accustomed to this mode of procedure." The "blue blood" which came over with the Conqueror, (James the First, of Aragon,) still carries its head high above the common herd. These families are not numerous, but some few still exist who have remained on the island since the King of Aragon annexed it. No action for breach of promise ever takes place, and it would probably not be easy to bring a recalcitrant lover to book, and make him pay for his "change of mind. The Spaniard scorns a pecuniary recompense for injured honor or damaged matrimonial aspirations. This may be accepted as the logical consequence of a perpetual leap year; the breach being on the lady's side, the male creature is as mercilessly "sacked" as a faithless denizen of the seraglio in the days of Haroun Alraschid. Occasionally a male member of the aristocracy is "robbed," and in these cases the culprit is some dainty damsel of low degree. In the Island of Ivica, the popular emblem of love is gunpowder, and the most brilliant accomplishment a young damsel can display is to stand without flinching while her lover fires at her legs, and which often assume, after a lengthy courtship the appearance of a Christmas plum pudding; in the other islands gallantry displays itself by the usual offerings of sweetmeats; in Ivica the tribute is gunpowder. Majorca would appear to be the paradise of servant girls, for not only are "followers" allowed, but stipulated for, and Sundays and feast days claimed as a right for a turn on the Alameda with their lovers. A comic song upon the miseries of "servantgalism" in the Majorcan dialect is funny, but we suspect the prose translation fails to give the epigrammatic force of the original.—*The Athenæum.*

Manufacture of Persian Shawls.

A writer in one of the foreign scientific journals states that at the present day, as from time immemorial, the wool industry is the most important in Persia, and the Persian shawls and carpets still maintain their long-established fame, world-wide and almost unexcelled

The best of these shawls, it appears, are now made in Kerman, the town of Mushel supplying a secondary quality, the one-colored shawls without figured designs being also manufactured in the first named place—the hair of the Murgur goat furnishing the most valuable raw material for these shawls, its peculiar qualities rendering it in fact of almost unsurpassed value for this purpose.

In the production of these fabrics the ground patterns are mostly adopted from simple variations of the palm, etc., but these combinations are so adroitly designed that scarcely one design appears quite similar to another, unless under careful examination for the purpose.

The various descriptions and qualities of these shawls are distinguished according to their pattern, shade, fabric and dimensions; thus, the measurement of the non-cut shawls is fixed at close on to twelve feet in length and four feet ten inches in width, though these dimensions are usually curtailed by cuttings. The palm patterns are also used in the sewed shawls, these latter being, however, considerably cheaper than the former. The price of a good, genuine Persian shawl varies from thirty-five to fifty dollars; it very rarely happens that shawls of seventy-five dollars in value are made, in which case these are noted for extra fine material and close fabric.

AGRICULTURAL.

INSECT RAVAGES.—Professor C. V. Riley asserts that in 1874 the Southern States lost $20,000,000 by the cotton-worm in a single week. In 1871 $30,000,000 worth of grain was ruined by the pinch bug, and that in 1873, 1874, and 1875 the Rocky Mountain grasshopper destroyed food to the amount of $50,000,000. Bringing in evidence the attention paid by the French Government to the study of the phylloxera, Professor Riley states that they have offered a prize of 300,000 francs for the discovery of a remedy, and are constructing a canal capable of irrigating 60,000 acres of vine, believing that water will kill the phylloxera. The attention of our Governments having been drawn toward these insect pests, Professor Riley advocates that a commission, extending over a period of five yers, be empowered by Congress to study these subjects, as he declares that in less than that time it would be impossible to discover the origin or habits of many of the insects, or devise methods for their destruction. We have a good deal of faith in Professor Riley, and should be very glad to see his suggestion adopted by the Government. But it must be confessed that the labors of the mere scientist have not acbomplished much to aid the farmer in protecting his crop against the ravages of these insect pests. The discovery of the origin and habits of insects have not pointed out the method of their destruction. If this commission is to be appointed, we hope it will embrace men of practical experience, and those of scientific attainments; for however desirable and important we may deem the investigations of learned men in matters of this sort, they are seldom so satisfactory as the results of intelligent and carefully conducted experiments.—*Southern Agriculturist.*

ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF LIME.—Soils that are light and deficient in vegetable matter are made worse by lime. Let one for instance take a strip of Jersey land—light enough to satisfy anybody—and lime it, and he will soon have as poor a strip of land to operate on as anyone could desire to experiment with. A piece of sand saturated with iron rust or oxide of iron, could not be poorer. And this is true of lime on any kind of light land. Lime tells to best affect on heavy land always, but only here when in connection with vegetable matter.

Indeed taking a practical view of things irrespective of any chemical language or, chemical theories, we should say that lime simply acted as an agent in preparing vegetable matter to be food for plants. In farm language it "eats" the vegetable waste and half digests it, and it is then in better condition to be made use of by the roots of the regular farm crops. Thus, if we are about to plow up a piece of old sod, we lime it a little before we plow it down, or we lime a piece of stubble for the same reason. The lime affects the vegetable material in the soil, and the plants feeding on it are able to get as much profit from it in one year as from the unlimed land in two. Lime indeed adds nothing or but little to the richness of land, but makes the natural richness more available. In other words it is an excellent aid in land already rich, but the poorest thing possible for light land, if by light is understood poor land.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

PROFITS ON SHEEP.—An extensive wool grower in Michigan figures up the entire cost of keeping full-bred Merinos, and says that their wool costs him but 14 cents per pound which sells at 30 cents. His wethers average 7 lbs. to the fleece, giving a new profit of $1.12 to each head on the wool. The profit on the ewes, including lambs is much more than this. The report says: "He had been satisfied for some time that the better the sheep, the better they paid; but these facts, which were taken from his own experience had satisfied him that those who kept thoroughbred sheep had a great advantage over those who kept sheep whose fleecess were not of first quality. He had kept sheep at first whose fleeces only yielded 4 lbs. on an average, and they consumed just as much as sheep that produced 7 lbs." Wool growers have to take into consideration not only the quality of the wool but the sale of sheep for mutton; and as mutton sheep the Merinos are not profitable.

CROPS NOT ACRES—A good soil rarely fails, even in a poor season of returning a paying income for the labor expended upon it in the cultivation of any crop adapted to it.

The idea that the number of acres in crops indicates the farmer's income must be abandoned, and the number of bushels per acre must be looked for instead. There is certainly less profit in plowing fifty acres, to raise one thousand bushels of grain, than in plowing twenty-five to grow the same amount, and trusting to good seasons for fair crops will not be thought of by the improved farmer. A rich and well cultivated soil will usually make fair returns in what we call bad or unfavorable seasons. What the farmer on a poor soil would call a good season seldom comes.

WE ARE glad to know that salting hay as it is hauled into the barn is losing advocates. It may possibly prevent the barn from burning when the hay is too green and improperly cured, but it undoubtedly damages the hay. It is true that the cattle will eat it and rather prefer it to unsalted hay, but it is unwholesome and injurious. Lime is better, if it be deemed necessary to use either; but it is better not to use either, but to cut the grass at the proper time, and that time is when the timothy or clover or meadow-grass begins to show the blossom, and then to cure it carefully and enough to do without the salting or liming. Better to run the risk of a wetting than to house hay only half dried.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

A FARMER states that he planted five rows of corn with seed taken from the three inches below the top of the ear, rejecting the imperfect grains at the extreme point; then five rows taken from the middle and base of the ear, rejecting the imperfect grains at the butt. The result was that the five rows planted from the middle and butt of the ear ripened about two and a half weeks before the other rows, the corn of the former being better eared and filled to the end of the cob.

TO KEEP the roots from rambling we lift, and if necessary shorten a few while the trees are young, thus bringing them into the habit of forming fibry roots near home; while to prevent them entering cold, unsuitable soil we find there is nothing so effectual as keeping the surface soil in a suitable state as regards moisture and richness, and, of course, not digging and cropping it.

THE *Rural New Yorker* insists that the best way to manure melons or other vines, is by manure water, made strong and placed in direct contact with the roots. Deep holes can be punched in the soil with the hoe handle, and manure-water poured into these until they are filled. The water and manure will spread in every direction, and the roots will speedily reach their food.

WEEDS.—"Ill weeds now grow apace." In the harvest work these should not be neglected. A ray's delay may not hurt the crop, while it may make a wonderful difference in the growth of the weeds. To cultivate in a dry time, will do the most execution amongst the weeds, and by keeping the soil mellow, will make it more absorbent and retentive of moisture.

FOR spasmodic colic in horses, give one ounce of sulphuric ether and laudanum in a pint of of cold water, and repeat the dose every fifteen minutes until the symptoms abate. A pint of turpentine, dissolved in a quart of solution of soap as an injection will frequently give almost immediate relief.

SCIENTIFIC.

Experiments with Steel.—M. Treve has communicated to the Acadamie des Sciences the results of experiments made by himself and M. Durassier, on the connection which exists between the nature of steel and its magnetic force, which results are of peculiar interest and value.

It appears that fifteen bars of steel were selected, which were divided into five sets, each of these receiving a different temper, after which M. Treve magnetized them to saturation, and then determined their magnetic force by the method of deviation. Thus, those bars which contained .950 per cent. of carbon, and which were hardened in cold water, gave a maximum of deviation represented by the number 47; whilst a bar with the same amount of carbon, but hardened in boiling water, gave the number 44; and a third bar, also with the same of carbon, but hardened in oil of fifty degrees temperature, only gave forty-three, showing that the fluid used in hardening exerts an influence.

The effect of the amount of carbon contained in the steel is also established—for, whilst the maximum of deviation of the above mentioned bars, which contained .950 per cent. of carbon, was found to be 47, other bars containing .250 per cent. of carbon only showed a deviation of thirteen. In laying down the curves of variation, the influence of the amount of the carbon and of the hardening media was sensible enough, but the effect of the latter appears to have been smaller in proportion as the former increased, and M. Treve has ascertained the fact that the magnetic curve of a steel bar coincides with its curve of elasticity, thus showing that carbon not only gives to steel its elasticity, but also its magnetic capacity, a fact which is of much importance in the treatment of steel and its various applications.

Spontaneous Generation Contrary to all Analogy.—Manifestly, then, it must be weighty—nay, equivocal and even irresistible—evidence that will induce the philosophical biologist to conclude that Nature's otherwise universal method is changed, in the outmost fringe of organized being. Mere reasoning could never accomplish this. It must be a hard, defiant fact, which none can gainsay. But verily no such facts—nor even their most distant foreca-ts—are before us. The profound difficulties which bristle round the inquiry on every hand are prominent signals for caution; while the uncertainty and incompetency of the methods hitherto employed, and their conflict of results, is alive with meaning. Indeed, we are dealing with organisms so minute as to elude all but our best optical appliances; and the accurate and correct interpretation of the details they enable us to discover requires the practice and experience of years. Of the developmental history of these organisms themselves, we know from actual observation almost nothing with certainty; and the little we do know from such careful and patient observers as Cohn, Billroth, Ray, Lankester and others, is so complex and conflicting as to demonstrate the necessity of years of patient experiment and skilled research, and to plainly tell us of our ignorance of this minute and wonderful group of organic forms. And yet, forsooth, we are asked, upon the conflicting testimony of a multiplicity of boiled infusions, yielding often even in the same hands uncertain results, and in different hands conflicting ones, to believe that organic Nature—whose method of reproduction is the same to the very limits of *certain* knowledge—changes its method in this uncertain and cloudy region.

Guanine.—The perfectly white solution of the scales of the bleak, *(leuciscus alburnus)*, a fish indigenous to the rivers of France, is now used largely for the manufacture of artificial pearls. The solution of guanine is a mucus which lubricates the scales of the fish. It coagulates by heat to a thick, white deposit, and is obtained by carefully scraping the fish over a shallow tub containing fresh water. Care is taken not to scale the back or dorsal part, as these scales are yellow, while the white scales possess the value. The material is received on a horsehair sieve. The first water, mixed with a little blood, is thrown away. The scales are then washed and pressed, when the mucus or essence (guanine) sinks to the bottom of the tub and appears as a very brilliant blue-white oily mass. It takes 40,000 fish to furnish two pounds of the material. The fishermen seal it in tin boxes with ammonia, and in this condition send it to Paris. If a drop of the essence be taken up by a straw and let fall upon water, it floats, giving forth the most brilliant colors. Mere glass bulbs, in shape of pearls, lined with this substance imitate the real gems with remarkable closeness.

Steam Power for Street Cars.—Two separate trials were lately made in Edinburgh of Grantham's patent tramway car, propelled by Shand, Mason & Co's patent steam engine, with tubular boiler. The trials took place on the tramway rails of the Woodside Ferry and Hoylake Company. The car runs on a bogie with four wheels, the other end of the machine resting on two wheels. The latter being small, an acute curve is taken with facility. On a level part of the line the speed attained was not less than 14 miles per hour. The car can be stopped as suddenly as one drawn by horses. It is claimed for the engine referred to that it gives 12 horse power by a consumption of ¾ cwt. of common gas coke per hour, or the work of 12 horses for 10 hours at the cost of 5 cwt. of common gas coke, or less than $1.25. Out of fifty or sixty horses met by the car four of them shied on its approach. A small quantity of smoke was emittted from the funnel when the car stopped, and some when the steam passed through the safety valve.

Rail Rolling Mills.—The whole number of rail rolling mill in the United States last year was ninety-one, of which fifty-seven made heavy rails mainly, and thirty-four made only the light or street rails. Of the whole ninety-one mills twenty-two made no rails in 1874; the product of that year was therefore rolled by sixty-nine mills, and many of these ran only part of the time. The capacity of all the rail rolling mills of the country is estimated to be at least double the amount produced in the year named which was 729,413 net tons. Of the sixty-seven mills which made rails in that year seven made both iron and Bessemer steel rails, one made Bessemer steel rails exclusively, two made steel-headed rails exclusively, two made the latter and iron rails, and one made solid cast steel rails and iron rails.

Potato Bug Sailors.—The sea coasts in the vicinity of New York and the shores of Long Island Sound are, at the present time, undergoing invasion by countless myriads of potato bugs. Where the insects come from is a mystery. They seem to cling to the floating sea weed and are left therewith on shore by the tide. At Coney Island and other points directly on the ocean the bugs are most numerous, showing that they have been brought hither by sea currents, and by similar means have been swept into Long Island Sound. It seems hardly possible that the insects will now fail to reach the other side of the Atlantic, as they may find transportation on vessels or be carried over in the drifting weed of the Gulf Stream.

Killing Entomological Specimens.—The Bulletin of the Amiens Linnæan Society describes the following simple device for killing butterflies and other insects, without injuring them, as is often the case when they are held in the hand. A glass tube of sufficient diameter to accomodate the insect is provided, with corks at each end. As soon as a butterfly is captured, one cork being removed, it is gently inserted in the tube, then a wad of tow is pushed in, saturated with a couple drops of ether. The insect dies instantly, and may be at once removed and pinned.

DOMESTIC.

HOW TO FOLD MEN'S CLOTHES.—*Harper's Bazar* gives a timely suggestion or two as to how mens's clothes should be best folded, which should be done immediately after they are taken off, when the cloth is more plastic and impressionable from the warmth of the body. Each garment must be pulled into shape before folding. The coat sleeves should be gently but firmly stretched to full length, and then doubled up with the crease at elbows. The skirts are then turned over, and, without disturbing the collar, the whole is doubled down the back, and left at full length when put by in the wardrobe.

This mode differs from folding for packing. In this case the collar is turned up, arms doubled, skirts brought up to collar—cloth to cloth; the process then goes on as above. Trousers should be pulled down each seam, and particularly stretched from fork or crutch to boot; then fold them flat, *knee to knee*—not as tailors do, with crease down the centre; then turn over into three, taking care this crease is below the knee.

To keep trousers in shape, you should occasionally damp them with a sponge well wrung out. When folded, envelop them in brown paper, and put away under a heavy trunk or other weight. How do soldiers, with their limited stock of trousers, manage to turn out so well? Simply by following these directions; they damp their overalls, roll them up, and place them often under their bed or pillow.

When clothes are wet, they must not be folded—only pulled into shape and put to dry. A coat is best placed over the back of a chair, as if dressing a lady figure; trousers over a towel horse. This will be found better than hanging them from pegs, for they are apt to dry askew and out of shape. Often after drying it will be found they require a tonic to restore them; and the tincture of iron (hot) must be administered by a tailor, unless you can have the remedy applied at home. Here it is where auxiliary help comes in handy. Mary Jane, if willing and a skilful *repasseuse*, should be suborned with a largess of ribbons or similar fallals and instructions given her to iron on the wrong side only—previously having damped the refractory garments with a moist sponge.

Of all enemies to clothes the most deadly known is dust. If you have been caught in a whirlwind of it, you will fold away your clothes in vain. They must first be dusted. Mark well; if you wear cloth ground in with dust, and are caught in the rain, your suit is done for. You must have a limber switch or cane borne on the effective strength of your toilette establishment, and make free use of it at the end of a dusty day. If you don't like the job yourself—and few do—you must get it done by the handmaid, the domestic Abigail before alluded to, or by anyone else you please, so long as it is done. However, I repeat, dusted the clothes must be, or they will be done for.

A VALUABLE RECIPT.—An excellent remedy for chronic Summer Complaint, and one that we never remember seeing in print, one, also, that can do no one any harm (which many of the mixtures of laudanum, camphor, pepper etc., are likely to do), to persons much weakened by the continuance of the disease, is to make a white flannel bag, about 10 inches long and 5 inches wide, put into it half a pound of finely ground Peruvian bark, sew up the end, spread the bark evenly, and then quilt it nicely to keep the bark in place. Sew tape on the corners and tie it around the waist, the longest part across the bowels, and wear it night and day, (making a new one, of course, when soiled) for four or five months, if necessary, or, until you can eat anything you please. A friend of ours, who suffered at times for 12 years from chronic Summer Complaint contracted in India, and who was obliged to deny himself of almost everything in the way of vegetables or suffer the penalty of an attack, was relieved in a short time and finally cured with this remedy. You want nothing but the dry Peruvian bark quilted in the flannel bag, the perspiration of the body will do the rest.

DECORATING A DINNER TABLE.—The graceful decorations of a dinner table, though it may, in the highest degree, partake somewhat of the character of an art, in its simpler expression is within the capabilities of any one. A bouquet of choice flowers, a bunch of ferns, so readily and cheaply obtainable, when placed on the dinner table enhance the pleasure of a meal. A few sprigs of parsley arranged on a dish is an ornamentation which gives additional zest to food. Between a lobster, even unadorned, when served with care, and one slung on the table, there is exactly the difference which exists between the same shell-fish seen on a gentleman's table, and the crustacean when exposed for sale on the fish-dealers slab. Even in such a trivial thing as the serving of food to the guest, something of a proper taste and good breeding may be made manifest. It is a treat to watch a deft cook serving a dinner. It is a triumph of practical skill.

TO STIFFEN LINEN.—Such articles as collars, cuffs, etc., which require to be made very stiff, should be starched in the following way: Mix a tablespoonful of starch with enough cold water to make it smooth, then turn on enough boiling water and boil it ten minutes; then add a bit of white wax the size of a three-cent piece and a teaspoonful of alcohol. The spirit is to increase the stiffness and help to retain it. The wax is to prevent the starch from sticking to the iron. If the flat iron still sticks to the starch rub hard soap gently over the bottom of the iron. Put the collars, cuffs, etc., into a tin pan and place in a warm spot by the stove or range, to become very dry before putting away.

SAUCE FOR DUMPLINGS.—Take a coffee cup of New Orleans molasses, half a cup of water, and let it come to a boil; blend one teaspoonful of flour in a piece of butter half the size of an egg; stir this in and let it all simmer about ten minutes. As you take it off the fire stir in about two teaspoonfuls of vinegar; this keeps it from being so clogging.

MACARONI AND CHEESE. — One half pound macaroni broken into inch pieces; wash, put on the stove to soak till soft, then drain; grate one-half pound of old cheese; put layers of macaroni and cheese, with bits of butter, pepper and salt, and three tablespoonsfuls of milk; let the last layer be cheese. Bake for three quarters of an hour.

SCALLOPED VEAL.—Chop cold cooked veal fine; put a layer in a baking dish, alternated with a layer of powdered crackers, salt, pepper, and butter, until you fill the dish. Beat up two eggs; add a pint of milk; pour it over the veal and crackers. Cover with a plate and bake half an hour. Remove the plate and let the top brown.

LIVER — VENICE FASHION.—Take a couple of onions, finely chopped, and fry them in oil and butter, with plenty of chopped sweet herbs, till quite done. Just before serving throw into the same frying-pan one pound of liver coarsely chopped; fry all together, but not for long, as the liver does not require much cooking.

BAKED TOMATOES.—Cut large, ripe tomatoes across, take out seeds, fill with grated bread, pepper, and salt; a piece of butter improves; place them together so each tomato will be perfect; grease your pan and bake.

FIRST RATE SALVE.—One and a quarter pounds of lard, twelve ounces of resin, four ounces of bees-wax, one ounce oil of spike, one ounce oil of amber; heat, and stir in the oils while warm.

TO REMOVE GREASE SPOTS FROM CALICOES, MUSLINS, ETC.—Cover the spots with the yolk of an egg; then wash off the egg after it has remained half an hour; use no soap, but wash in suds.

HUMOROUS.

THE STRIPED BUG.—The striped bug has come, the saddest of the year. He is a moral double-ender, iron clad at that. He is unpleasant in two ways. He burrows in the ground so that you cannot find him, and he flies away so that you cannot catch him. He is rather handsome, as bugs go, but utterly dastardly, in that he gnaws the stem of the plant close to the ground, and ruins it, without any apparent advantage to himself. I find him on the hills of cucumbers (perhaps it will be a cholera year, and we shall not want any), the squashes (small loss), and the melons (which never ripen). The best way to deal with the striped bug is to sit down by the hills, and patiently watch for him. If you are spry, you can annoy him. This, however, takes time. It takes all day and part of the night. For he flieth in darkness, and wasteth at noonday. If you get up before the dew is off the plants,—it goes off very early,—you can sprinkle soot on the plant (soot is my panacea; if I can get the disease of a plant reduced to the necessity of soot, I am all right), and soot is unpleasant to the bug. But the best thing to do is to set a toad to catch the bugs. The toad at once establishes the most intimate relations with the bug. It is a pleasure to see such unity among the lower animals. The difficulty is to make the toad stay, and watch the hill. If you know your toad, it is all right. If you do not, you must build a tight fence round the plants, which the toad cannot jump over. This, however, introduces a new element. I find that I have a zoological garden on my hands. It is an unexpected result of my little enterprise, which never aspired to the completeness of the Paris "Jardin des Plantes."—*Warner's Summer in a Garden.*

NO USE TRYING.—The good father who secures a prescription from the family physician for medicine to brighten up little Willie, who hasn't been well for three or four days, will put the bottle in his coat-tail pocket nine times out of ten. When he takes the car to go home to dinner he will drop down on that bottle, smashing it fine or working the cork out, and as the odor of paregoric fills the car it will be a sad hour for him, and there's no use in his trying to keep a scowl between his eyes and make believe it is the grease under the car that smells so.

One man will sniff and snuff and look around, and next instant will yell out—

"Who upset that jug?"

There is no jug, and the old woman beside him knows it, but she will sniff and snuff and mutter—

"Seems to be they are tearing down a distillery somewhere."

Then a man with a red neck and freckled nose must look up from his paper and say:—

"There ought to be a law against permitting drunken men to ride on street cars."

Every one getting off will sing out "Whew!" and every one getting on will stick up their noses and inquire of the conductor if he has a sick man in the car. The feelings of the good father are shown in his face, but he hangs to his seat all through until the bad boy found on every car has his say. The boy has waited for all exclamations and inquiries to cease, and when the proper time arrives he stands up, gives himself a shake, looks at the victim, and remarks:—

"Arnica is the best thing in the world to reduce the swelling down when a man has been kicked down stairs!"

A SOLITARY WITTICISM.—There is but one instance on record of James II. uttering an expression of wit or humor; and, strange to say, that would appear to have been expressed from him by the weight of his sorrows at the Revolution During the advance of the Prince of Orange towards London, as, morning after morning, some leading man or other was found to have left the king's camp during the night, and gone over to the liberator, the Prince of Denmark used to exclaim, as each successive instance was related to his majesty, "Est il possible?" (is it possible?) as if he could not believe there was so much treachery in human nature. At length the good Prince of Denmark found it necessary, with his wife Anne, to follow the example of those well-principled persons. James remarked, when told of it in the morning, "What! is Est-il-possible gone too?"

WHY SHE MARRIED THE DOCTOR.—"So you are going to marry a druggist's clerk?" remarked a Chicago girl to another on the street cars.

The question was asked in an unmistakable tone of decision, and so that the fair one addressed half apologetically replied:

"Of course—don't they have all the soda water they want for nothing?"

"Yes," was the gloomy reply; "they're all right in the summer, but what about next winter?"

"Oh," mildly answered the engaged one, "maybe by that time we'll be divorced!"

The interfering friend seemed satisfied then.

CONSCIENTIOUS.—A distinguished professor, residing not a thousand miles from Andover, was recently on an excursion to Europe. Being in Edinburgh one wet Sunday, and desiring to go to church, he hired a cab. On reaching the church door he tendered a shilling to cabby, the legal fare, and was somewhat surprised to hear the cabman say, "Twa shullen, sir."

The professor, fixing his eagle eyes upon the extortioner, demanded why he charged two shillings, and the cabman dryly answered, "We wush to discourage traveling on the Sawbath as much as possible, sir." The fare was paid.

"JOHN, I am going to church, and if it should rain I wish you would come with the umbrella. However, you need not come unless it should rain downright."

The gentleman went. It did rain, but John had gone to the other end of the town to see Mary. His master came back with drenched garments, and a look of implacable anger.

"John!" said he, "why didn't you bring the umbrella?"

"Because, sir," replied John, "it rained *slanting!*"

MILITARY PRIDE.—The Douglass Infantry (colored,) of Augusta, Georgia, complain of cool treatment by the colored troops of Charleston, South Carolina, on their Fourth of July visit, who declared that "dose Gusty boys when dey order arms, let der guns cum down boom, all at once, while our guns go bump! bump! bump! No sah, can't drill wid us."

IT WAS a widowed miser who, after composing a long epitaph for his wife, suppressed it altogether, and said: It's too expensive; put on the grave-stone a few tears." "Very well," replied the artist; "say three tears, like this—! ! !" "Heavens, no! Three tears when I have only two eyes? Absurd! Two will be plenty."

AT A PRAYER meeting, the other evening, a brother who was relating his experiences, bore testimony to the fact that religion had a great deal to do with strengthening a man's courage, and added: "I never had to run for my life but once, and that was the second year after I was married. If she hadn't stumbled and broken her neck, I don't believe I would be here now."

DR. KEATE, at one time head-master of Eton College, is said to have held that there is a vital connection between the birch and the beatitudes. After reading "Blessed are the pure in heart," it is stated that he told his pupils, "Mind that; it's your duty to be pure in heart. If you are not pure in heart, I'll flog you."

A COMBINATION lock—The marriage ceremony.

YOUTH'S COLUMN.

LEGEND OF THE COCOANUT.—Once upon a time, before a big tree existed, when the sea was the garden, flesh-pot, etc., of the aboriginal Gilbert Islanders, a daughter-in-law rebelled against the family law by which all son's wives brought home to live, thereby become wives *ex-officio* of the old man. The father asked a kiss, and was denied; then took the refusal to heart and starved himself. On his dying bed he told the ungracious daughter that his death lay at her door, that though she never kissed him when alive, she should of her own free will when dead. To his son he said:

"You have ever been a good boy. All mine is thine. Bury me under that bush, from which shall grow a tree. When you gather its fruit remember your father." To the stubborn woman he said, "Remember." She only said, "I never did, I won't now, and I never shall." The old man answered, "You will," and died. In due time the old heathen's word was verified by a new unknown tree, a cocoanut that became heavy with fruit. The young man remembered his father, but the woman persuaded him to gather and husk the nuts.

When he saw the almost human nose and eyes and mouth, he said, "Father!" but she said, "I was not afraid of him alive, and I ain't now," and then dug open the tender eye, put the cocoanut to her mouth and was drinking, when spiritual arms grasped her neck and a voice came from the nut saying, "At last you have kissed me."

Is this a new version of Adam and Eve? It certainly is a Gilbert tradition never before made public, and has some points worth the attention of the curious.

THE WHITE CROWNED SPARROW.—Among the birds that tarry briefly with us in the Spring on their way to Canada and beyond, their is none I behold with so much pleasure as the white crowned sparrow. I have an eye out for him all through April and the first week in May. He is the rarest and most beautiful of the sparrow kind. He is crowned as some hero or victor in the games. He is usually in company with his congener, the white-throated sparrow, but seldom more than in the proportion of one to twenty of the latter. Contrasted with this bird, he looks like its more fortunate brother, upon whom some special distinction has been conferred, and who is from the egg of finer make and quality. His sparrow color of ashen gray and brown is very clear and bright, and his form graceful. His whole expression, however, culminates in a singular manner in his crown. The various tints of the bird are brought to a focus here and intensified, the lighter ones becoming white, and the deepest ones nearly black. There is the suggestion of a crest also, from a habit the bird has of slightly elevating this part of its plumage, as if to make more conspicuous its pretty markings. They are great scratchers, and will often remain several minutes scratching in one place, like a hen. Yet unlike the hen and like all hoppers, they scratch with both feet at once, which is by no means the best way to scratch.—*Scribner.*

A PROMISING PUPIL.—Some years ago a benevolent lady of this city took a little negro girl into her family, intending to give her a very thorough moral and religious training. Unfortunately the child was much given to lying, and though the mistress strove incessantly by precept and example to eradicate this vice, her efforts were far from successful. One day, returning home after some hours' absence, the lady was met at the door by her sable handmaid, who, with many tears, informed her that she had broken a very valuable china pitcher, an heir-loom in the family.

Here was light in the darkness, strict truthfulness in the face of reprimand or punishment; the good mistress was delighted. Such opportunity to reward and strengthen virtue must not be lost; so the lady magnanimously forgot her annoyance at the loss of her cherished pitcher (one of a pair), and, taking out a penny, said kindly, "Well Jenny, since you have been such a good girl, and told the truth so quickly, I shall not even scold you. Here is a penny for you."

Alas! the next morning the lady, on returning home from market, was met at the door again by her promising pupil, who delightedly exclaimed: "Oh, missus! I'se broke the other pitcher. Wont you give me another penny?"

Further description of that good woman's state of mind would be superfluous.—*Harper's Magazine.*

"ROB," said Tom, "which is the most dangerous word to pronounce in the English language?"

"Don't know," said Rob, "unless it's a swearing word."

"Pooh!" said Tom. "It is 'stumbled,' because you are sure to get a tumble between the first and last letter."

"Ha, ha!" said Rob. "Now I've one for you. I found it one day in the paper. Which is the longest word in the English language?"

"Valetudinarianism," said Tom, promptly.

"No, sir; it's 'smiles,' because there's a whole mile between the first and last letter."

"Ho, ho!" cried Tom, "that's nothing, I know a word that has three miles between its beginning and ending."

"What's that?" asked Rob, faintly.

"Beleagured."

A BOSTON BOY ON FISH.—Fish lives in the Atlantic Ocean, Buzzard's Bay and some in Charles River. When they are small they are codfish, herrin' and sich; when they grow up they are whales. Whales is very useful; they sometimes swallows a whole ship and all the crew. The fat of whales is biled out, and made inter kerosene oil for gaslight. Their bones is made inter whalebone for ivory planner keys and dominos, also for horn handles for jack knives I wish a whale would swaller my school and all the teachers. Fish is always eat Friday. I hate fish; there is so many bones to pick out when you eat 'em. I'd rather eat a paper of pins fried in lard. A whale could lick all the boys in the Harvard Grammar school. Could lick thunder out of 'em and make 'em look sick, and don't forget it.

A LITTLE girl in town recently saw an old drunken man lying on a doorstep, the perspiration pouring off his face, and a crowd of children preparing to make fun of him. She took her little apron and wiped his face, and then looked up so pitifully to the rest and made this remark. O, say, don't hurt him. He's somebody's grandpa."

"I HATE to trust myself in front of corn fields this hot weather," said an Illinois farmer boy to his father last week, when ordered to go round and mend up the fences. "Why?" asked the paternal, gruffly. "Because," replied the roguish farmer boy, "they are shooting ahead so."

The True Code of Honor.

A man can not afford to be unfaithful under any circumstances; a man can not afford to be mean at any time; a man can not afford to do less than his best at all times, and under all circumstances. No matter how unjustly you are treated, you can not for your own sake, afford to use anything but your better self, nor render anything but your better services. You can not afford to lie to a liar; you can not afford to be mean to a mean man; you can not afford to do other than uprightly with any man no matter what exigencies may exist between him and you. No man can afford to be any but a true man, living in his higher nature and acting with the highest consideration.

The mind that is in harmony with the laws of nature, in an intimate sympathy with the course of events, is strong with the strength of nature, and is developed by its force.

The Luxury of Repose.

Swinging in a hammock is the very luxury of repose. It is restful just to think of it; and to pass by a clump of shady trees or a vine curtained veranda, and watch the lazy swing of one of these aerial couches, without envy, is an example of virtue that is not often vouchsafed to one with a generous capacity for resting.

The general idea is that hammocks are only for the wealthy, "the stylish," the professional time killers. It is a great mistake. Every well to do farmer, every owner of a cosy village home, every member of a city stay-at home club who commands a spot big enough to swing one, should have a hammock. Very good ones may be bought for $2.50 to $4. They should be hung where there is a good afternoon shade, and if intended in part for children's use, so low that small children can get into it by the aid of a box or low stool, and over soft ground, so that the numerous tumbles that are probable will be harmless. If no other place is available it may be hung between the pillars of a shady verandah, a place well enough for the older people who use it, but undesirable for children on account of the lack of soft turf as well as for the noise which accompanies its use by the youngsters. When children only are to use the hammock, the manner of handling it is important. But if provided for the use of grown persons, it should be then so suspended that the head will always be considerably higher than the foot, and much of the comfort of the one who uses this depends on a proper observance of this fact. If you have no more suitable place, suspend it from the columns of a verandah. The hook which supports the head end should be six and a quarter feet from the floor, and that for the foot end three and three quarters feet, and these precautions should be observed wherever it may be hung, to secure the most desirable curve for the ease of the occupant. Another point to be observed:—The head end should be fastened to a hook by a rope less than a foot long—just enough to properly attach it, while at the foot is a rope four and a half feet long. This gives the greatest freedom for swinging the lower part of the body, while the head moves but little. This is a point which cannot be observed in a hammock for children, who think more of it as a swing than as a place for comfortable repose. When trees serve for supports, ample provision should be made to prevent injury to the bark, by means of stout canvas or heavy bagging between the ropes to which it is suspended and the bark. If the hanging be so arranged that the hammock can be taken in during long storms, it will last much longer.

Influence of Neatness.

If you see a man going about peristently untidy—neglectful of of such matters as his boots, his nails, and his linen—you may be certain that sometime he will become a sloucher, and that his affairs will be always more or less muddled. Thus it will be unsatisfactory to have dealings