An Asiatic Pope.

A few days before Pius IX. breathed his last the Pope of the Mussulmans passed away, Abdul Ghafur the Akhoond of Swat. Abdul Ghafur was born of shepherd parents in 1790, and till he was sixteen herded their cattle. Running away from home he sought out teachers first at Peshawur, then at Khuttuk, Desirous of greater distinction than that offered by the ordinary career of a Mooliah, he vowed to become a Derveesh and took possession of the island of Bokka, a mere bank of mud formed at one great inundation of the Indus to disappear at another. Here for twelve years he lived a hermit life, in a wretched hut, exposed to the cold blasts that only High Asia knows and having for food only milk and the ends of a variety of grass. Literally for months he remained squatted on the ground facing towards the Holy City and howling the Creed and the ninety names of God, as the Rev. Mr. Hughes a missionary to Peshawur, and Sir Harry Lumsden, a British officer, certify. The latter had been specially ordered to visit and report upon this fanatic, who had already become powerful in the religious world. Indeed his fame had already come to the ears of the Sikhs, masters of the Peshawur Valley, who had vowed vengeance on their former Mahometan persecutors, and they attempted his life, but he fled to the mountains. So great was now (1835) his influence that Dost Mohammed courted his assistance when he struck against the Sikhs, but Runjeet Singh was too strong for Ameer and Ahkoond, and the latter, after fighting gallantly in the Khyber Pass for the Afghans, fled to the Swat village of Sydoo, where he was destined to make another Mecca.

The Swat valley, a valley some fifty or sixty miles long by three miles wide was broken up into three contesting tribeships, each claiming supremacy over the other for its doctor of the laws. By craft and simulated miracles Abdul Ghafur induced the clans to consolidate under a nominal king of his own choosing, Syud Akbar. Then he removed his rival saints by having one assassinated while at prayer and denouncing the other two to the British, who had conquered the Punjaub, as Wahabees. Dost Mohammed urged him to preach a holy war against the advancing infidel British but the Ahkoond, who saw that English sovereignty guaranteed peace and prosperity to the faithful, repelled his overtures. Henceforward he continued to exercise his influence in favor of the British, or at least refrained from using it against them, save when, in 1863, he for a time checked Lord Elgin in the Umbeyla campaign by casting in his lot with the Wahabees. This, however, was only temporary, for he preached ever afterwards that a djehad or crescentade, against the reformed of the Wahabee rite was even more meritorious than one against the infidel British. It was Wahabee assassins, by the way, who struck down the Viceroy, Lord Mayo, and Chief Justice Norman, of Calcutta.

The Ahkoond's influence it would be almost impossible to overrate. For nearly half a century the Indian Government watched him as assiduously and anxiously as Europe watches Bismark or used to watch Napoleon III. In 1852 Sir Harry Lumsden wrote: "This saint has gained such an ascendancy over the minds of Mahometans in general that they believe he is supplied by supernatural means with the necessaries of life. Every morning, as he rises from his prayers, he is said to find money sufficient for the day's expenditures. He is consulted in all difficulties." "The Pope of Sydoo," says Mr. Hughes, the missionary already mentioned, "reigns supreme as the guide and director of the hearts of men all over High Asia." Three hundred pilgrims daily visited him, and none came empty handed, whether their home were Bengal, or Bokhara, or Constantinople, or Mecca itself (for even in the Holy City the Ahkoond was held in high repute), or Persia, or Tunis. These he entertained—fancy the host of 100,000 visitors every year—blessed, prayed for and admired.

His counsels and predictions were sought upon every imaginable subject. This man came to ask if he could lawfully learn English, a language which the oracle denounced as "the seed of infidelity;", this if his crippled son would be healed by a certain treatment; this how his lawsuit in the Anglo-Indian courts would turn out; this (a ruler) whether he should declare war upon a neighbor, or the Franks, or the Russians. Up to the very last he retained his vigor. Last summer Ameer Sher Ali, of Cabul, as his father, Dost Mohammed, had done before him, invited the Ahkoond's co-operation and blessing in the military movement then being prepared in Afghanistan to take advantage of the Russo-Turkish war, however it should result. The Ameer had, indeed, previously testified to his veneration of the old saint by ordering the compilation of a bulky volume celebrating his sanctity and his miracles. In May, 1877, though then eighty seven, blind and suffering from a chronic skin disease, induced by the austerities of his early life, the Ahkoond, already the patriarch of a great family, married a girl of twenty.

The Courage of the Fox.

The ordinary idea of the fox is that of a flying, frightened creature tearing away for bare existence; he is really a bold and desperate animal. The keeper will tell you that once when for some purpose he was walking up a deep dry ditch his spaniel and retriever suddenly "chopped" a fox, and got him at bay in a corner, when he turned, and in an instant laid the spaniel helpless and dying and severely handled the retriever. Seeing his dogs so injured and the fox as it were under his feet, the keeper imprudently attempted to seize him, but could not retain his hold, and got the sharp white teeth clean through his hand. Though but once actually bitten, he recollects being snapped at viciously by another fox, whom he found in broad daylight asleep in the hollow of a double mound with scarcely any shelter and within sixty yards of a house. Reynard was curled up on the ivy which in the hedges trails along the ground. The keeper crawled up on the bank and stopped, admiring the symmetry of the creature, when, purposely breaking a twig, the fox was up in a second and snarled and snapped at his face, then slipped into the ditch and away. The fox is, in fact, quite as remarkable for boldness as for cunning. Last Summer we met a fine fox on the turnpike road and close to a tollgate, in the middle of the day. He came at full speed with a young rabbit in his jaws, evidently but just captured, and did not perceive that he was observed till within twenty yards, when, with a single bound he cleared the sward beside the road, alighting with a crash in the bushes, carrying his prey with him. Hares will sometimes, in like manner, come as it were to meet people on country roads. Is it that the eyes being placed toward the side of the head, do not so readily catch sight of dangers in front as on the flanks, especially when the animal is absorbed in its purpose? Hares are peculiarly fond of limping at dusk along lonely roads. Foxes when they roam from the wood into the meadow land, prefer to sleep during the day in those osier beds which are found in the narrow corners formed by the meanderings of the brooks. Between the willow wands there shoots up a thick undergrowth of sedges, long, coarse grass and reeds; and in these the fox makes his bed, turning round and round till he has smoothed a place and trampled down the grass; then reclining, well sheltered from the wind. A dog will turn round and round in the same way before he lies down on the hearth rug. These reeds sometimes grow to a great height, as much as ten or twelve feet. Along the Thames they are used, bound in bundles, to pitch the barges; when the hull has been roughly coated with pitch, one end of the bundle of reeds (thickest end preferred), is set on fire and passed over it to make it melt and run into the chinks. So, mayhap, the Saxon and Danish rover may have used them to pitch the bottoms of their ceols when worn from constantly grounding on the shallows and eyots.

About Valentines.

During the glorious days of the ancient empire the feast of Lupercalia was celebrated at Rome with a license and energy that render the Carnival a small affair in comparison. Among other ceremonies the young people of both sexes would let Chance assign the matters that we now leave to Sentiment and other considerations, by mingling in an even and equal number youths' and maidens' names; and as Fate determined the succession of them, Corydon and Flavia were matched as lovers. From time to time the privileges appertaining to this festival caused such abuses as to shock even Roman morality, and among the modifications enforced this game of lovers was abolished. As a matter of course, some less objectionable custom was substituted; and through various phases it took the form of valentine gifts, where, ignoring the barbarism of choosing by lot, a natural course for election was permitted, and the dynasty of Pan was overthrown. If this had been a legitimate indulgence, the Cyprian goddess would have been the patron saint; but aside from his regard for shepherds and their flocks, and the protection of the game-laws, Pan had a reputation for depravity that should have excluded him from respectable society; and the fact that he was selected as patron of the Lupercalia reconciles all well-disposed people to the abandonment of those rites.

St. Valentine came on the scene during the third century, but he was kept pretty well occupied with his own affairs by reason of a continuous persecution on account of the bold assertion of his religious tenets; and if he did anything worthy of the succeeding veneration exacted from sighing lovers, it must have been at an early period of his existence. It is certain that he lacked either the time, inclination, or opportunity, to make any impression on the sex, as he died a bachelor—a victim to the harsh Claudius. As St. Valentine was conspicuous for the purity of his life, it is probable that in the reaction of popular feeling the rites substituted for the licentious orgies of the preceding age were named in his honor.

The indifference of late shown for the recognized prerogatives of St. Valentine's day is a sad commentary on this age, when sentiment and the science of the beautiful are giving way to sordid interest and devotion to affairs practical. The shop-windows are no longer decorated with the gorgeously-illuminated missives of Love for which gages the youth of our country were wont to straiten their lollypop supply for a time in direct ratio with the ardor of their affections. There is a dearth of rosy-cheeked cupids; and the conventional illustrations of lovers wending their way through cosy nooks, surrounded by a halo of atmospheric splendor, would now excite ridicule from our groundlings, if they were exposed.

In fact in delicate sentiment, we are on the verge of another social revolution, and we may infer its character from the tendency of our people in the matter of their tastes for public amusements. With the teachings of Woodhull and Andrews, the riotous jollity of the Pandean votaries menace the innocence that has hitherto characterized the celebration of this love festival. The "Personal" columns of our public journals now carry the messages that were formerly intrusted to scented paper and questionable orthography. The merits of St. Valentine will soon pass out of mind.

An Episode of the War of 1812.

The English papers announce the death of an officer whose exploit in the Eastern ocean recalls a nearly forgotten occurrence of the war of 1812, and one not very creditable to the humanity of one of our naval commanders, and perhaps not to the good judgment of his English adversary. On the 30th of June, 1815, several months after peace had been declared, the United States corvette, Peacock, twenty-two guns, commanded by Captain Warrington, encountered the East India Company's brig, Nautilus, fourteen guns, commanded by Lieutenant Charles Boyce. As Lieutenant Boyce had received intelligence that peace had been declared, he did not attempt to shun his more powerful opponent, but sent a boat to inform Captain Warrington of the conclusion of peace. The only reply he got was an order to strike his flag. This he refused to do, thinking he would dishonor his country by compliance. Whereupon the Peacock fired a broadside, killing six men and wounding eight others. Lieutenant Boyce was struck by a grapeshot in his hip, and his right knee and thigh bone were shattered by a thirty-two pound shot. His first lieutenant, Mr. Mayster, was mortally wounded. Having thus vindicated the honor of his flag by losing fourteen out of his crew of forty men, Lieutenant Boyce surrendered. Captain Warrington, however, released his prize next day, the fact, which he should have realized before uselessly spilling blood, having penetrated his skull that he had no right to hold it.

Strange to say, Lieutenant Boyce recovered from his fearful injuries, and survived to the age of ninety-one years, dying at St. Calais, Sarthe, in France, on the 7th of January last. He enjoyed a liberal pension from the Indian administration to the day of his death.

AGRICULTURE.

WATERING PLANTS WITH HOT WATER.—M. Willermoz has pointed out the utility of watering certain plants with hot water when out of health. Such waterings render repotting in fresh earth needless, when the flagging of the plants is caused by acid substances, which, contained in the soil and absorbed by the roots, act on living vegetables like veritable poisons. The small roots are withered and cease their action, consequently the upper and younger shoots of the plant turn yellow and the spots with which the leaves are covered indicate their morbid state. In such cases the usual remedy is to transplant the invalids into fresh soil, clean the pots carefully, secure good drainage, and so on, often with the best results. But the experience of several years has proved the unfailing efficacy of the simpler treatment, which consists in watering abundantly with hot water at a temperature of about 145 degrees Fahrenheit, after stirring well the earth in which the plants are growing until the water runs well through the pots. At its first experimental application, the water came out clear; afterward it was sensibly tinged with brown, and gave an appreciable acid reaction. After this thorough washing, the pots were kept warm close to a stove or a *calorifere*. Next day the leaves of two *Ficus elastica* so treated ceased to droop, and the spread of black spots on their leaves was arrested, and three days afterward, instead of dying, the plants had recovered their normal look of health. Very soon they made new roots, immediately followed by a vigorous growth. In large towns especially this course of treatment is easier to carry out than a general repotting. Perhaps the extra warmth may be as efficacious as the extra water.

BEES IN SPRING.—As soon as Spring opens, our bees should all be examined by lifting the frames of each hive, and if the stocks are weak, the bees are shut to one side of the hive by means of a division board, so as to keep up the necessary heat for brood-rearing on as many combs as they can cover. As soon as the queen has filled these combs with eggs we spread them apart, inserting an empty comb between those occupied with brood, and in a few days' time the queen will fill this one also; and so we keep on until every available cell is occupied with brood. Thus it will be seen that instead of the queen laying her eggs on the outside of the cluster, she lays them in the centre of brood-nest where they should be. After the hive is full of brood and bees, it does not make so much difference, as the weather is warm and bees are plenty, so that the queen can deposit her eggs anywhere in the hive. As soon as the strongest stocks are full, take a frame of brood just gnawing out, and place it in the weaker ones, giving the strong one an empty comb for the queen to fill again, and so keep on until all are full.

ANIMAL manures differ in quality; cows, for instance, for the chemical constitution of their bodies, or for the formation of milk, more nitrogen and phosphate of lime than sheep; and again, the latter require more sulphur and common salt, for the formation of their wool. Hence the excrements of oxen cannot contain so much nitrogen as those of sheep, while they are more abundant in salt and sulphur. Again, the value of the excrement depends partly upon the digestive organs of the of the different kinds of animals, and their organs of mastication. Sheep, having stronger digestive organs than cows, and also the ability to reduce their food to a finer state by chewing, are able to abstract more nutriment from a given quantity of food. With food of the same kind sheep dung cannot be of so much value as that of oxen, though owing to the former being more finely divided it decomposes sooner and acts more quickly than the latter, and experience teaches that sheep manure produces its effect more speedily, but not to permanently, as the manure of oxen.

TILE DRAINS in peat meadows, where the peat is several feet below the tile, are of frequent occurrence. When properly laid there is little danger of their filling with the fine peat. Boards should be laid on the bottom of the ditch which has previously been made of a regular grade; then lay the tile upon the boards, covering the joints with a small bit of inverted sod or a narrow strip of tarred paper.

A Tremendous Talker.

Coleridge was prodigal in his words, which, in fact, he could with difficulty suppress; but he seldom talked of himself or his affairs. He was very speculative, very theological, very metaphysical, and not unfrequently threw in some little pungent sentence characteristic of the defects of some of his acquaintances. In illustration of his unfailing talk, a correspondent gives an account of one of his days when he was present: Coleridge had come from Highgate to London for the sole purpose of consulting a friend about his son Hartley, (our dear Hartley,") toward whom he expressed—and I have no doubt felt—much anxiety. He arrived about one or two o'clock, in the midst of a conversation which immediately began to interest him. He struck into the middle of the talk very soon, and held the "ear of the house" until dinner made its appearance, about four o'clock. He then talked all through the dinner, all the afternoon, and all the evening, with scarcely a single interruption. He expatiated on this subject and on that; he drew fine distinctions; he made subtle criticisms. He descended to anecdotes—historical, logical, rhetorical; he dealt with law, medicine, and divinity, until at last, five minutes before eight o'clock, the servant came in and announced that the Highgate stage was at the corner of the street, and was waiting to convey Mr. Coleridge home. Coleridge immediately started up, oblivious of all time, and said, in a hurried voice: "My dear Z——, I will come to you some other day, and talk to you about our dear Hartley." He had quite forgotten his son, and everybody else, in the delight of having such an enraptured audience.

The Memory.

Good forgetfulness is considered by the *Scientific American* scarcely less valuable than good memory. "Actors," it says, "who are obliged to study new parts frequently, and commit long speeches to memory in very short periods of time, apparently have the power of cleansing the memory and rendering it blank and receptive to new tasks. After taking part in a performance which has been repeated night after night for months, the reproduction of the same play, after the lapse of a year or so, finds them almost ignorant of the text, and necessitates complete restudy." Mr. Verdon, in a recent article on "Mind," holds that the memory of every individual has the capacity of keeping in fresh recollection a certain number of things, and that these, on being displaced by others, grow dim or entirely fade away. He says that a person may expend all his energy of memory on a few things and become "absent-minded," or may make it cover a great number with less distinctness.

SCIENTIFIC.

Wood and Metal.—Interesting experiments were recently made at the Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College, with their mammoth testing machine for the determining the strength of different kinds of metals, timber, etc. The first tests were of tenacity. A quarter-inch annealed iron wire broke at 5,160 pounds; another piece of unannealed wire, of the same size, broke at 3,860 pounds; a piece of bar iron, half-inch square, broke with 13,660 pounds; a bar of Bessemer steel, scant half-inch square, only gave way under 30,320 pounds, the latter tests showing clearly the comparative strength of iron and Bessemer steel. A piece of hickory, one and a half inch square, broke at 10,460 pounds, and a piece of black walnut, same size, at 3,270 pounds. The arrangement of the machine for transverse tests was illustrated by breaking a bar of apple wood, one inch square and one foot long, supported at the ends and weight applied in the middle, with white Waverly sandstone was crushed at only 960 pounds. A two-inch cube of 12,560 pounds. Such cubes of wood stood a test of 7,000 and 8,300 before being crushed. The last experiment was the breaking of a 15x16 inch iron screw bolt, which was accomplished by a pressure of 25,850 pounds. All specimens of metal could be seen to stretch very materially before breaking, becoming of less diameter near the place of rupture. It was interesting to notice the heat generated when this stretching took place, which is ascribed to molecular friction. The tests followed each other rapidly, and the gentlemen present, who included rolling mill operators, practical engineers and manufacturers interested in the experiments, were delighted at the prompt and accurate working of the machine. Prof. Mendenhall is desirous of making tests of the comparative strength of the various materials used by manufacturers, builders and others, and will be very glad to receive any and all specimens which may be offered. The results of those tests would seem to be of great value in many buildings and others, yet Professor Mendenhall states that he was actually obliged to buy specimens for the tests above described.

Filtering the Air: At a recent meeting of the New York Academy of Useful Arts, attention was called to a simple method of filtering the air of an apartment. The object is to free the air from dust, excessive dampness, and possibly from the germs of malaria. The contrivance consists essentially of a fibrous woven fabric, strengthened by brass wire. It is to be applied to windows and ventilators, and may be of service on railway cars to exclude dust. It has the merit of checking drafts, while admitting air. Its general use might tend to prevent the spread of malarial diseases, and modify the dangers that dirty streets occasion to the health of city residents.

M. Berthelot has informed the Academy of Science, Paris, that in experimenting on etherification 16 years ago he put aside a number of mixtures to be kept a considerable time, in order to ascertain the limits of the reactions produced at ordinary temperatures. These mixtures consisted of acetic acid and alcohol, acetic acid and glycerine, tartaric acid and alcohol, valeric acid and alcohol. Recently the mixtures were examined, and it was found that the results confirmed the truth of the general laws of etherification.

Hunting the Sea-Otter in Alaska.

The sea-otter, which constitutes the sole means by which these, the only civilized people of our new Territory manage to clothe themselves rightly and maintain their Church, may be appropriately mentioned in detail. It is an animal, when full grown, that will measure from three and a half to four feet at most from the tip of its short tail to its nose. The general contour of of the body is much like that of the beaver, with the skin lying in loose folds, so that, when taken hold of in lifting the body out of the water, it draws up like the hide on the nape of a young puppy dog. The skin is covered with the richest of all fine deep fur, a jet black, with silver tipped hairs here and there scattered as is so well known to our ladies of fashion.

The sea-otter mother sleeps in the water on her back, with her young one clasped between her tiny forepaws. Frequent attempts have been made to rear the young sea-otters, as they are often captured alive; but, like some other species of wild animals, they seem to be so deeply imbued with fear of man, that they invariably perish by self-imposed starvation.

The Sannack islets and reefs constitute the great sea-otter ground of Alaska, and hither come native hunting parties from Oonalaska on the west, and Belcovski on the north, where they camp on the main island, and venture out in their bidarkies fifteen and twenty miles in every direction to sea. Fires are never built here unless the wind is from the south, and food refuse is never scattered on the beaches. The sufferings to which the native hunters subject themselves every winter on this island, going for many weeks without fires, even for cooking, with the thermometer down to zero in a northerly gale of wind, are better imagined than described; while the various shrewd and skilful artifices by which they outwit the otter in capturing it, would make a lengthy chapter if fully enumerated, for this animal, of all wild animals, seems to be possessed of the greatest aversion to or dread of the presence or even the proximity of man.

The natives, when they go from Oonalaska to Sannack on a hunting trip of this character, usually make up a party of from forty to fifty men. They travel in light skin bidarkies, two men in each, and are gone usually three to four months at a time before returning to their families; they haul their kyacks out from the water every night as they bivouac along the coast, and sleep in piles of wind, which are always loaded with rain, sleet and fog, without the least covering, and almost invariably without a fire. Ah! rude indeed is the country of the Aleut, but he is as rugged, and the bleak, precipitous islands stamped with his name are all the world to him. He wants no other, and he is happy where we would be supremely miserable.

Cotton Goods.

The announcement by the President of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce that the exports of cotton goods from America have increased from $75,000 in 1870 to $2,250,000 in 1876, is of deep importance to our Eastern manufacturers. Should a general European war break out, an exchange says, it will be in the power of America to acquire almost immediately a very large proportion of the trade in cotton fabrics both in England and on the Continent. This rapid increase which already, in times of peace, has averaged 500 per cent. per annum, would be vastly accelerated in case of war.

A BILIOUS HEADACHE, and all the uncomfortable symptoms accompanying a Disordered Liver, may be speedily got rid of by the use of Dr. Jayne's Sanative Pills.

DOMESTIC.

THE LAWS OF HEALTH.—Clothing is essential to protect the body from heat and cold. Different qualities are suited to different seasons and climates, and are chiefly connected with the relations of fabrics to heat and moisture. In cold weather the object is to prevent the loss of heat from the body, by conduction and evaporation; in warm weather the aim is to promote evaporation. Hence we must wear non-conductors and slow absorbers in winter, and free conductors and ready absorbers in summer. The fabric must be selected with this object in view. As far as consistent, clothing should be light, durable and readily cleansed. Linen fabric is a good conductor, and hence favors the escape of animal heat. It also absorbs moisture from the surface of the body rapidly, and gives it off again to the external air, by evaporation. This process produces rapid cooling, even in hot weather. But linen should never be used next to the skin, under any circumstances, as it has no power to prevent sudden chills. Cotton is a poorer conductor of heat than linen, and hence warmer. It does not so readily absorb moisture, and therefore is safer for under garments. Cotton ranks next to linen as a fabric for summer wear. It is a much better absorber of moisture and conductor of heat than either silk or wool. Woolen fabrics are coarse and porous, detaining within their meshes a large amount of air. Hence they are slow conductors of heat. Woolens also possess a great capacity for moisture, though they receive and discharge it very slowly. This is a valuable quality in articles of clothing. Woolen is a much better protection against heat than either linen or cotton and much warmer when wet. Its great power to absorb moisture is a highly important property, as it regulates evaporation from the surface of the body, and prevents too great loss of animal heat. As an equalizer of the temperature and protector against sudden chills, woolen fabrics are superior to all others, and should be constantly worn next the skin.

The color of clothing is important only in relation to solar heat. Black cloth absorbs the heat of the sun, and white cloth reflects it. But with the heat of the stove the color makes no difference. The absorbing powers of the garment to the sunlight decreases as the shade grows brighter, and in this order, black, blue, green, yellow, white. The dark colored materials absorb more moisture than the light colored, and black absorbs nearly as much again. But after all more depends upon the manner of dressing than the material used. The poorer materials, properly worn, are better than the best improperly put on. As I have said, clothing should be light. Weight does not imply warmth, and often it becomes a source of great discomfort. Several layers of light, loose fitting garments are safer than a few layers of heavy clothing. The imprisoned air more than the material secures warmth and hence the number of layers more than the thickness of one layer. Again loose clothing is warmer than that which fits the body closely. Besides, the tight fitting obstructs the circulation, restricts the natural motions and healthy action of the parts affected.

TO EBONIZE WOOD.—Mix up a strong stain of copperas and extract of logwood, about equal parts; add powdered nut-gall, one-fourth part; stain wood with solution, dry, rub down well, oil; then use French polish, made tolerably dark with indigo or finely-powdered stone blue.

SALVE FOR CHAPPED HANDS.—Two parts fresh lard, one part white pine pitch, melted together; very healing.

Striving to be an Actor

During a theatrical trial in Philadelphia in 1865, brought by an actor named Sherry, against the management of the Chestnut Street Theatre, many amusing incidents occurred. It was a hot day, and the court room was crowded by members of the dramatic profession.

The counsel for the plaintiff was Mr. T. J. Worrell, formerly an actor, with a ponderous bass voice; the defence was represented by Mr. Lucas Hirst, an eccentric gentleman with a voice like that of Stuart Robson, very high and all squeak; and the "I object" of one, and "We appeal" of the other, never failed to produce a most hearty laugh. In fact, the entire trial was more of a comedy than a reality.

Among the many witnesses called to sustain the actor was Mr. Sam Hemple, a popular low comedian. After taking the witness stand, the necessary oath, and answering to the questions. "Your name?" "Your profession?" Sam spoke out boldly, "An actor."

In an instant, as if by magic, from among a knot of actors the words, "Perjury! perjury!" was uttered with so much emphasis that order had to be called. This incident so disconcerted Hemple that it was with the greatest difficulty he gave the balance of his testimony.

The next witness called was Mr. Ed. Tarr. Ed. walked up and kissed the book. "Your name?" "Your profession?" Tarr, not willing to be caught as Hemple had been, and giving a sly look at the party of actors spoke out:—"Sir I am striving to be an actor."

This was too much. There was a general roar, in which counsel, judge, jury, and all joined and it was several minutes before order was resumed.

The sanctified soul enjoys Christ as a delicious feast; the carnal professor only desires to hide in Him from the wrath to come.

The Crisis.

What think you would be the result if the earth should stop spinning around the sun? Were you ever near a large and intricate machine when one of its wheels became clogged or broken—near enough to hear the grating, jarring clash, the sudden, deafening crash? Astronomers assure us that precisely similar effects, only on an inconceivably grander scale, would be produced if our earth—one of the wheels in the universe-machine—should suddenly cease its revolutions. In other words, there would be a general clash and crash of state lites, planets and systems. What were our financial crises are due to a similar causes. One of the wheels in the finance machine becomes clogged, perhaps shattered. The terrible Wall street "crash" which follows is communicated to every part of the financial mechanism of the country. But analogies do not stop here. There is that other mechanism, the most intricate of all—sometimes called an organism because it generates its own forces—the human machine. When one of its members fails to perform its office, the whole system is thrown into disorder. Members before considered unassailable, break down under the unnatural pressure. The shock comes, and utter prostration is the result. Reparation can only be effected by the restoration of the impaired parts and the re-adjustment of its levers, the physical forces. There is one part of the machine more liable to disorder than any other—the liver—the great balance-wheel of the machine.

The liver being the great depurating or blood-cleansing organ of the system, set to work and the foul corruptions which gender in the blood, and rot out, as it were, the machinery of life, are gradually expelled from the system. For this purpose Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, used daily, and Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets, taken in very small doses are pre-eminently the article needed. They cure every kind of humor from the worst scrofula to the common pimple, blotch or eruption. Great eating ulcers kindly heal under their mighty curative influence. Virulent blood poisons that lurk in the system are by them robbed of their terrors, and by their persevering and somewhat protracted use the most tainted systems may be completely renovated and built up anew. Enlarged glands, tumors and swellings dwindle away and disappear under the influence of these great resolvents.

HUMOROUS.

ASK THE OLD WOMAN.—A gentleman traveling out west relates the following: Riding horseback just at night through the woods in Signor county, Michigan, I came into the clearing, in the middle of which stood a log house with its owner sitting in the door smoking his pipe. Stopping my horse before him, the following conversation ensued:

"Good evening, sir," said I.

"Good evening."

"Can I get a glass of milk to drink?"

"Well, I don't know. Ask the old woman."

By this time his wife was standing by his side.

"Oh, yes," said she, "of course you can."

While drinking it I asked:

"Do you thing we are going to have a storm?"

"Well, I really don't know. Ask the old woman—she can tell."

"I guess we shall get one right away," she said.

Again I asked:

"How much land have you got cleared here?"

"Well, I really don't know. Ask the old woman—she knows."

"About eighteen acres," she replied.

Just then a troop of children came running and shouting around the corner of the shanty.

"All these your children?" said I.

"Don't know. Ask the old woman—she knows."

I did not wait to hear her reply, but drew up the reins and left immediately.

A SETTER.—A raw boy coming into a printing office to learn the business, the foreman asked the question: Have you ever set any? meaning type of course.

"Set? reckon I kin; haven't I set all our old hens; and didn't every one on 'em hatch out every egg put under 'em except old speckle, that went off and left her nest—consarn her old pictur!"

"You'll do," said the foreman. "I don't want you to set hens, but to set at that stand."

"Waal that's quare; you want me to *set* at a *stand*, like them set of feilers pickin' up them little jigamarees, do you! Waal, here goes."

John went to work, and learnt his "letters" at the case, until he could compose and punctuate correctly—so that he is now a first-rate *setter* and *pointer*.

"WHAT's this bump, Doctor?" inquired a chap who had dropped in at a country phrenologist's. What's this bump here on the right side?"

"This! ah," replied the Professor, as he discovered a lump about the size of a hen's egg over the right ear; "this, I should say, indicated a fondness for the Transcendental, a love for the Sublime, a regard for—"

"Hold up, Doctor," said the visitor, "hold up. Don't diagnosticate any further. I raised that bump on your sidewalk not five minutes ago."

A LITTLE "POP."—"How nicely this corn pops," observed he, as they sat eating it together by the fire.

"Yes," replied she, holding down her head, "it's got over being green."

Of course he couldn't stand such an inference as that, and might soon have been seen "popping" himself, and watching the glad light in her eyes as she blushingly said:

"Go ask 'poppy!'"

"HOW MUCH for that piano?" asked a customer at an auction shop the other day.

"Fifty dollars, twenty per cent. off," was the reply.

"I'll take it then," said the other, counting out two twenty dollar bills, "two twenties make *forte*."

THE young lady who fancied cucumbers grew in slices, has recently been married to the young gentleman who sent over to St. Petersburg a large cargo of soap-stones for cleaning the steppes of Russia.

"MY DEAR," said a husband in startling tones, after awaking his wife in the night. "I have swallowed a dose of strychnine!" "Well, then, do for goodness sake lie still, or it may come up."

THE Bologna sausage is said to be the most economical food procurable. A sausage can be eaten for supper, and it will just begin to digest in season to answer for breakfast.

THE Paris belles dress largely in wine color, so that the young men will be more certain to drink in their loveliness.

THE man who promised to get his boys some new skates this winter, has since concluded to "let 'em slide."

WHAT is the difference between a hill and a pill? One is hard to get up, and the other is hard to get down.

Explanation of a Mysterious Occurrence.

An Englishman went into a church in Rome the other day, and as a service was going on he sat quietly down, placing his hat on the ground beside him. After waiting a little while, and as there seemed no immediate prospect of the ceremony coming to an end, he thought he would go, and reached for his hat, but was stopped by an unseen arm which grasped him from behind. Thinking that probably some custodian of the church wished him to remain till the conclusion of the service he again waited.

Presently he again thought of going, again reached for his hat, and again the unseen arm firmly prevented him. Convinced that the service was really some important one which his leaving would disturb, the Englishman again waited for about a quarter of an hour. At the expiration of that time he determined to depart, in spite of etiquette. So he reached for his hat. Again the hand grasped him, but as he determinedly resisted his detaining efforts a voice behind him exclaimed in English: "I beg your pardon, but this is my hat you are taking." And this was fact. Our hero had been detained all this time because each time he wished to go he had reached in mistake for the hat of another stranger, placed in close proximity to his own.

About Governor.

There are but five States in the Union where the Chief Magistrate is elected annually. They are as follows, with the amount of salary appended: Maine, salary $2,500; Massachusetts, $5,000; Michigan, $1,000; New Hampshire, $1,000; Rhode Island, $1,000. The following States have terms of two years: Alabama, salary $3,000; Colorado, ——; Connecticut, $2 000; Iowa; $3,000; Kansas, $3,000; Minnesota, $3,000; Nebraska, $2,500; Nevada, $6,000; New York, $10,000; Ohio, $4 000; South Carolina, $3,500; Tennessee, $4,000; Texas, $5,000; Vermont, $1,000; Wisconsin, $5,000. The following have terms of three years: New Jersey, salary $5,000; Pennsylvania, $10,000. The following have four-year terms: Arkansas, salary $3,500 California, $6,000; Delaware, $2,000; Florida, $3,500; Georgia, $4 000; Illinois, $6,000; Indiana, $3,000; Lousiana, $8,000; Kentucky, $5,000; Maryland, 4,500; Mississippi, Missouri, $5,000 North Carolina, $5,000; Oregon $1 500; Virginia, $5,000; West Virginia, 2,700.

Mothers, Mothers, Mothers.

Don't fail to procure MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for all diseases of teething in children. It relieves the child from pain, cures wind colic, regulates the bowels, and by giving relief and health to the child, gives rest to the mother.

That Terrible Scourge,

Fever and ague, and its congener, bilious remittent, besides affections of the stomach liver and bowels, produced by miasmatic air and water, are both eradicated and prevented by the use of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, a purely vegetable elixir, indorsed by physicians, and more extensively used as a remedy for the above class of disorders, as well as for many others, than any medicine of the age. A languid circulation, a torpid state of the liver, a want of vital stamina, are conditions peculiarly favorable to malarial diseases. They are, however, surely remedied by the great Preventive, which, by invigorating the system and endowing it with regularity as well as vigor, provides it with a resistant power which enables it to withstand disorders not only of a malarial type, but a host of others to which feeble and ill regulated systems are subject. The Bitters are a safe as well as searching eradicant and have widely superseded that dangerous drug, quinine, which palliates but does not eradicate malaria.

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This excellent remedy contains no injurious drugs, and does not disagree with the most delicate stomach. Its use in cases of Debility, Dyspepsia and Indigestion will be attended by the most beneficial results.

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It is really wonderful how cheap any one can now purchase beautiful and good hosiery. One of the most reliable houses who sell this class of goods is that of B. F. Dewees, No. 725 Chestnut street, Philadelphia. This is the first spring season they have sold hosiery, consequently their stock contains only new goods. They have but one price, and any person sending money or orders to them can depend upon having as good hosiery for the price as can be bought in this country. Special bargains in ladies and children's plain and fancy hose.

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All those troublesome scaly, itching, pimply, blotchy, humid eruptions of the skin, denominated *Tetter, Erysipelas, Acne, etc.*, that are so unsightly and annoying, are quickly and effectually cured by the simple application of *Hieskell's Tetter Ointment*, a remedy that has proved itself to possess wonderful healing powers, curing hundreds of cases that had resisted all other treatment, even that of the best professional talent of the country. It only needs a trial to prove its virtues. Sold 50 cents per box; sent by mail for 60 cts. JOHNSTON, HOLLOWAY & Co., 602 Arch st., Phila.

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