Editor and Proprietor.

#### VOL. XLI.

The Still Small Volce

I was aweary and I fain would rest, I sought the brooklet side. with its singing it might calm my

And drive away the pain that in it hid. I chose the water willow for my shade, My pillow was a stone, O'er grown with long, soft grass, with moss

inlaid, From off the blue-eyed flags my perfume

I heard the brooklet singing at my feet, The birds above my head; The fluttering leaves my tardy steps didst

And sung sweet melodies above my bed. But still I was not happy; something said, As restless there I lay. "Why is it that aweary grows your head, And shadows deep and dark around you

play? "Why art thou weary ere the hast'ning eve? Why weeps your soul in pain?
Is this the prize that truth and virtue give?
Could sin and folly give a greater band"

I heard a whistle in the air, and clanced above; Saw through the willow's shade,

Swift flying through the sky, a turtle dove, That beating quick its wings, the whistle I had not known the dove was in the air, Or flying o'er the brook, Had not its whistle called my 'tention

And caused me through the willow's

I said unto the voice that still did plead, "So does the still, small voice Wake us to thought, when sin astray wouldst lead. And lure as forth to death from para

# THE VERSAILLES LOCKET.

Reginald Fontaine owed his prosperity largely to personal skill as a workman, and to correct tastes. In part, also, his success was the result of economy, and that sound judgment which led him when once he had saved a little money to rent the principal corner store in town and advertise briskly. And part was due to his

name, which had an aristocratic sound. Fontaine was a young man of fine and he quickly became the leading jeweler. His credit was excellent from the start. He bought directly of the manufactusers, won and held the popular retail trade, and in five years rose

to a good commercial standing. One September morning a stranger asked for Mr. Fontaine at his store, a gentleman of foreign accent and appearance, handsomely attired, with a shrewd, energetic face. He was salesman for a French manufacturing firm. who solicited trade direct with American retailers. His prices seemed high, although his wares were original in pattern, and the stones of superior purity and lustre. In fact, it was a grade of jewels more costly than Fontaine had yet carried, and it appeared doubtful if his quiet itown would jus tify such expensive investments. Ac-

cording he declined to buy. The stranger retired, but in a halfhour returned again. He had made nald Fontaine more cordially, and said inquiries at the banks, and satisfied himself of the jeweler's responsibility. He now offered to leave a few articles on commission, for the purpose of introducing his styles. Fontaine welcomed this proposal, and gave the receipts, obtaining a dozen very handsome gold breastpins, bearing ruby, sapphire, and emerald in unique settings, and a costly locket. He exulted over the brilliant additions to his exhibit, which would at least lend

eclat to the stock and add to his repute. The locket especially was a notable accession, and he gave it a conspicuous plate-glass shelf of his corner show window. It was oval in form, of solid gold, adorned with delicate bas-relief work and dainty enamel. It was studded with a cluster of five diamonds on These diamonds were clear and vivid, uniform in size and quality, and of radiant depth.

"We ought to give that locket a name," said Jean Fontaine, as he stood by the window, admiring it. Jean was Reginald's brother and chief clerk, a skilful and competant assistant. "Suppose we label it former property of Marie Antoinette," suggested Regi-

nald, who was wont to make free use of his imagination. "No, no!" replied the more prosate "We can't asortbe historical

qualities. It looks too new. We might call it 'A Congo Souvenir,' or 'The Tonquin Trophy. Reginald demurred.

"Not one in ten of our customers will know it is French, or even understand such a name. They will think it was made in Connecticut, unless we state the contrary. I will have a little placard printed, naming it the 'Versailles Locket,' and announcing myself as importer.

Accordingly, next day appeared a delicate advertisement in black-andwhite: "The Versailles Locket .- Our own importation. - Direct from France. -Genuine Diamonds -Fine Gold .-

Hand Graven .- Price, \$3,000." Time passed. The ladies of the town came, examined and admired the locket. Christmas went by, and still the jewel lay in its satin bed upon the plate-glass shelf unsold. The breastpins were taken, but the locket proved too expensive for Fontaine's patrons. Twenty-five hundred dollars was the sum he stood accountable for to the French manufacturer in payment for this locket should be make a sale, and although in confidential moments he offered it to special customers at twenty-seven hundred, no one profited by this liberal discount from the set price. Every night the locket was carefully put away in the burglar-proof compartment of his huge steel vault, and every morning its plush box was restored to the show-shelf, but the jewel seemed likely to remain as an advertisement until the traveling salesman reappeared to claim it.

One day a gentleman came in and left his gold watch for repairs. This was a tall, majestic person, whom Fontains had often seen of late upon the street, wearing a heavy sealskin cap and a melton ulster, with collar and cuffs and pocket-flaps of seal fur, and clad throughout in costly deference to fashion. His watch was heavily chased, and bargains often hang on trifles. He and very valuable. He was particular to take a receipt in the name of F. F. Barton, and departed abruptly, with- glass. out so much as recognizing in Reginald Fontaine the proprietor of the

At the appointed time Mr. Barton returned for his watch. Fontaine in person waited on him, and noticed the massive signet ring worn by his customer, the onyx monogram of which seemed cracked. Mr. Barton threw

without appearing to take count of it. He hooked the golden loop of his heavy chain into its buttonhole, restored the watch to his pocket with an air of sat-

sfaction, and turned away. "I see that your signet is broken." said Reginald Fontaine, respectfully. "A little," replied Mr. Barton, drawing on his fleece-lined gloves.

'I am now taking orders for signets. Should you wish to have the stone replaced at any time, I can have it duplicated with precision at reasonable

The visitor bowed as he pulled on his other glove, and replied: was cracked a century ago. Nothing his wrath, as if summoned at an uncould replace it.'

"In that case, of course not," rejoined Fontaine. He drew from a marveling at the luxurious surrounddrawer a ring-tray. "If you are interested in rings, examine these. I have some cdd forms here. I don't expect you to buy, sir; but I am an enthusiast in my trade, and if any one likes to look, I like to show the goods."

And, in fact, it was a feature of Fonto have every customer see as many of his wares as possible.

Mr. Barton glanced incuriously over the tray. "I've seen acres of rings," he re-

plied, with a curling lip. And he continued to button his gloves. "Is there anything I can show you that you are interested in?" continued Fontaine, politely, replacing the tray.

Family plate, tableware, children's or ladies' ornaments --- ' Mr. Barton had faced to wards the door. He turned about with feeble curiosity to ask:

"What have you in the way of ladies" ornaments?" Fontaine led his csutomer to a showcase glittering with bracelets, combs

pins, and other bijoutry. "The variety has been a little broken by our Christmas sales——" he began.
"No matter, I need not trouble you," interrupted Mr. Barton. "There

nothing here that I wish " "It is the best assortment in town!" retorted Reginald Fontaine. "Very likely. But I came from Paris only six months since, and shall return address, with a knack of apt appare!, in the spring. I think I can afford to wait until that time before I buy." With some warmth Fontaine flew to

the show-window and caught up the locket. He put this before his scornful "Here is something you have never seen excelled in Paris or elsewhere." Mr. Barton looked at the locket in

stlence. He drew off his gloves and took up the jewel. He examined it minutely, and said, at last: "These are genuine brilliants?" "Guaranteed true diamonds."

"A very handsome affair-very hand me. This came from France?" "Versailles. It is a masterpiece, sir, snown as the Versailles locket. "What is the price?" "Three thousand dollars."

change of bearing. He looked at Regiin an insinuating tone:
"I presume you would shade that price a little for cash?" "I might, a very little," returned the

Mr. Barton inspected it closely, and

jeweler, now speaking coldly in his "Well, I'll see. I'll send my wife around to look at it. She likes such toys, but whether she will buy or not is quite uncertain. Luckily for me, she has money of her own. For my part, three thousand dollars is too much

o put into a jewel." "What is your business, Mr. Baron?" Inquired Fontaine. "Importer of oil paintings. 1 am also commissioned by wealthy people to buy works of art abroad, and usually make a trip once a year. Am here now to receive a shipment from Antwerp.

plaines House." He laid down an embossed card, neatly engraved with his name and bearing his crest, bowed and sauntered

My wife and I are stopping at the Des-

Three days later a messenger came to Reginald Fontaine with this note: "DEAR SIR: Please bring the locket to Room 24, Desplaines House, at two o'clock this afternoon. My wife wishes to see it, and is unable to leave the hotel. I can't promise you that she will buy; but, as you like to show your wares, I would be pleased to have you submit the locket to her, Yours, F. F. BARTON.

Reginald Fontaine thought a moment. Then his dignity asserted itself. He called his trusty brother, and showed him the note.

"Jean, I'll let you wait on these people. Sell the locket if you can. Get twenty-seven hundred if you can't do any better. Take good care of the A porter led Jean that afternoon to

Room 24, and knocked upon the door. "Enter," said a voice within. Jean went in. A lovely young woman, richly clad, with pale face and languid air, reclined in an easy-chair. Before her on a centre-table was a tray of wine-glasses. Mr. Barton stood opposite, and still upheld a newly opened bottle from which he had just poured a tiny glass of dark wine. He

lowed to Jean. "You are from the jeweler's?"

"Yes, sir." "Step forward, if you please." The porter went out and closed the Jean handed forth the locket, door. which Mr. Barton passed to his wife.

"How beautiful!" She held it to the light and examined It critically. "Had you not better take this now?" said Mr. Barton, proffering her the

glass of wine. She took it, and looked toward Jean. "Perhaps this gentleman-" she said, uggestively. "Certainly," replied Mr. Barton. He

poured out two more glasses, and pushed one toward Jean. "Will you join us, sir? It is port. De you like sweet wine?" Jean was very temperate and unused to liquors. But here were a couple, evidently of high social rank, accustomed, no doubt, to the foreign use of wine. It might give offense to refuse,

sweet port to the quick botton of his "Take a seat here," said the lady. Jean accepted a large easy chair by her side. She turned her bright, dazzling eyes upon him.
"You are certain these are real dia

responded courteously, and sipped the

"Warranted genuine, madam," re urned Jean. His voice sounded thick to his own down a fifty-dollar bill with an indiffer-ent air, and gathered up the change brain, the world seemed rocking upon

MIFFLINTOWN, JUNIATA COUNTY. PENNA.. WEDNESDAY. APRIL 13, 1887. endless waves, and the lady and the

locket appeared to float away-away. When Jean awoke, twilight filled the room with fantastic shadows, and ray from the street lamps fell flickering on

> He knew he was in a place he had seen before, but all was so unwouted, and the languor that lay upon him was so delicious and enchanting that he felt sure he was in a dream from which

he hated to awaken. Even the loud knocking at the door failed to rouse him to reality, and when he heard his brother's voice crying out "It is an helrloom in my family, and in alarm: "Jean, Jean!" it only stirred

> welcome hour. Then followed silence, and he sat ings, and the mystery of his presence

The turning of a key was followed by the quick entrance of the hotel clerk and Reginald Fontaine. The jeweler darted forward to his brother and clasped this arm, he looked into his taine's sagacious policy that he tried dilated eyes and bewildered face, and cried.

"Jean! Jean! What is the matter? Where is the locket?" The locket! Jean sprang up. His ethargy departed. He understood, and

tottering toward his brother, fell sense less at his feet. Ten days later the French salesman eappeared. In valu Reginald Fontaine

recounted these facts and urged delay until the swindler was captured and the locket recovered. The Frenchman only shrugged and listened, and at the end repeated: "Settlement!" Fontaine at last drew a check for the

amount of his indebtedness, and the Frenchman disappeared. Time passed. No trace was found

of Barton nor his lovely wife. One day, in New York, Reginald visited the Rogues' Gallery at Police Headquarters. He saw many faces there not in the collection of his home officials-among these, F. F. Barton and the French salesman who had commissioned the locket.

Although the police could not explain this coincidence and scouted his conclusions. Fontaine always believed himself the victim of a double conspiracy; that the knaves traveled the globe with ample capital, one placing jewels stolen abroad in the hands of responsible dealers in small American lowns, the other following to recapture the prizes, and the original consp returning to demand payment for the

But while he never placed hand or eyes again upon the French salesman, he had the satisfaction of adding his testimony to the catalogue of evidence against Mr. Barton at a later day, and of seeing him consigned to prison. The Versailles Locket, however, never reappeared, but Mr. Reginald Fontaine concluded that his experience is worth the two thousand five hundred dollars which it cost him. He deals no more with unknown foreign manufacturers, aid it down at last with manifest neither does he trust valuable jewels among strangers.

#### A Ranch in Montana.

A large one-story and a half house built of hewn logs, and neatly chinked and mudded, stands in a group of pine trees by a roaring trout stream. An irrigating ditch brought water into a blue grass lawn, which was kept closely mown. There was not a particle of luter around the house. It was in October that I visited this ranch. Wood fires blazed on wide hearths in almost every room on the ground floor. A pair of handsome Irish setters lay in front of the sitting room fire. Handsomely mounted deer and elk heads, full antiered hung on the walls of the dining-room. Illustrated papers, magazines and books were in every room. The house was beautified by the presence of a handsome and agreeable woman. The windows and doors were protected with wire screens.

There were excellent servants in the house. The employes of the ranch were housed and fed in another and remote building. This ranch was the home of a Philadelphia gentleman. He raid that it was not necessary to live like a Digger Indiau to succeed in cattle raising. He and the wife were intelligent persons, who could live in the fore parts of their heads. They were fond of out-door sports and were not oppressed by solitude-rather enjoyed their isolated life. The meals I ate in this house were well cooked and handsomely served and the claret was most excellent. My host had a passion for grouse and black tailed deer shooting, and gratified it during the three days I spent with him.

#### Salt For the Throat.

In these days when diseases of the throat are so universally prevalent. and in so many cases fatal, we feel it our duty to say a word in behalf of a most effectual, if not positive cure for sore throat. For many years past, indeed, we may say during of a life of more than forty years, we have been subject to a dry, hacking cough, which is not only distressing to ourselves, but to our friends, and those with whom we are brought into business contact. Last autumn we were induced to try what virtue there was in common salt. We commenced by using it three times a day-morning. noon and night. We dissolved a large tablespoonful of pure table salt in about half a small tumblerful of water. With this we gargled the throat most thoroughly just before meal-time. The result has been that during the entire winter we were not only free from coughs and colds, but the dry hacking cough has entirely disappeared. We attribute these satisfactory results solely to the use of salt gargle, and most cordially recommend a trial of it to those who are subject to diseases of the throat, Many persons who have never tried the sait gargie have the impression that it is unpleasant, but after a few days' use no person who loves a nice, clean mouth and a first-rate sharpener of the appetite will abandon it.

There are resident in the city of London more Roman Catholics than in Rome; more Irishmen than in Dublin; and more Jews than in Jerusalem. Neither William Tell nor Anti-Maso Morgan ever existed; Paul Revere never took a ride; Barbara Freitchie did not wave a flag at "Stonewall" Jackson, and Napoleon was not a

Never purchase a brood-sow the im-nediate progenito of which have been prepared for a show ring. She will lack a strong constitution.

ENGLISH AS SHE IS TAUGHT. Curious Definitions Given by School Children.

Aborigines, a system of mountains, Alias, a good man in the Bible. Amenable, anything that is mean. Assiduaty, state of being an acid. Auriferous, pertaining to an orifice.

Ammonia, the food of the gods. Capillary, a little caterpill Corniferous, rocks in which fossil co

Emolument, a headstone to a grave Equestrian, one who asks questions Eucharist, one who plays euchre. Franchise, anything belonging to the

Idolater, a very idol person. Ipecac, a man who likes a good din-

Irrigate, to make fun of. Mendacious, what can be mended. Mercenary, one who feels for another Parasite, a kind of umbrella Parasite, the murder of an infant. Publican, a man who does his prayers

n public. Tenacious, ten acres of land." Here is one where the phrase "publi ans and sinners" has got mixed up with politics, and the result is a definition which takes one in a sudden and unexpected way:

Also in Democratic newspapers nov and then. Here are two where the mistake has esulted from sound assisted by remote

"Republican, a sinner mentioned in

the Bible."

"Plagiarist, a writer of plays, "Demayogue, a vessel containing beer and other liquids." Here is one which-well, now, often we do slam right into the truth

without ever suspecting it: "The men employed by the Gas Company go round and speculate the

meter And here-with "zoological" and 'geological" in his mind but not ready o his tongue-the small scholar has innocently gone and let out a couple of secrets which ought never to have been livulged in any circumstances: "There are a good many donkeys in

theological gardens, 'Some of the best fossils are found in heological cabinets

She Yoked Her Foes.

"I am going to have two guests at Elimdale the day after to-morrow," remarks Mrs. Radeliffe, carelessly, one norning to the old husband who adores er and who is fully thirty years her

"Indeed!" responds Mr. Radcliffe, with an assumption of interest which e in reality possesses for little except his green house and his veg-table garden. "Who have you selected, my love? That is, do I know them?"

She is Miss Eloise Bristow, and the gentleman is Mr. Parker Folsom." Mr. Radcliffe considers this response or a moment, and then up go his grayuched eyebrows in unmistakable as-

"My dear, you must be making some mistake. I have heard you say very hard things about both these people. emember your being very angry indeed just before your marriage, for-for"-"Can't you recollect why?" she interrupts in smiling interrogative, "This was my reason for being angry. Both these people chose to spread abroad certain reports about my love of wealth when I was poor little Ophelia Shelton. which, whether they were true or false. concealed behind them the design of

tonishment.

preventing our marriage. You were sensible enough not to believe the gossip, and so they were defeated."
"But have you forgiven them, Ophelia? I thought not," Five or six days after the above conversation the two guests arrive at Elmdule. Each of them is bewildered by the invitation, and each takes it as a

sweet sign of peace and goodwill. "You have a most excellent here," Parker Folsom tells his hostess, while they are left alone together for a few moments, on the night of his ar-

rival. the sweet answer. "I'm so glad everything pleases you. And how about your fellow guest, Miss Bristow? Is not she lovely." "I never specially admired brunettes "

glance at the flaxen tresses of Mrs. "Oh, it doesn't matter muc', I fancy, whether one be blonde or brunette, if one has immense wealth,"

"Immense wealth? And is Miss Bristow"-"Wealthy? Oh, enormouslythe greatest heiresses I know of."
"Indeed!" Parker Folsom responds,

beginning suddenly to stroke his dark, silken mustache with considerable Not long afterward Mrs. Radeliffe is "My dear Eloise," she begins,

lone with Miss Bristow. are looking so well! By-the-by, Mr. Folsom paid you a compliment A slight flush tinges Eloise Bristow's

"He said you were pretty."
"He is very kind," Eloise answers, a ittle disappointely. She is pretty and knows it very well, having been told so again and again.

Mrs. Radeliffe taps her reprovingly

"Really! What was it?"

with a costly ivory fan. "My dear girl, you should not under value such a compliment from a milionaire like Parker Folsom. " Eloise's glossy, dark eyebrows sudlenly lift themselves.

"A millionnaire, Mrs. Radeliffe?"

"Yes. Oh, his wealth is immense! thought you knew it." "No, I have not heard." "Well, that is not strange, when one remembers. He is a Philadelphian, and you are from New York." Eloise Bristow has always told herself that she means to respect and honor the

man whom she marries, but she has

also repeatedly told herself that wealth

or, at least, an independent competence

must belong to this same favored individual. As for Parker Folsom finding himself stripped of nearly all his former possessions at an age when to begin a business life is to alter habits of idleness and ease that have almost become a part of the man's nature, he on his side has more than once assured his inner self since the crash of his pecuniary misfortune occurred that to marry for money would be the most compl

sensible course of action he could poss bly enter upon.
Yes, Eloise Bristow and Parker Fol-More than once, while thinking of how stances, superbly her revengeful scheme had with it.

succeeded, Mrs. Radcliffe's eves flash with malicious triumph.

One day whilst passing the library

door, he catches the gleam of a pink muslin morning dress, "If it is she," he mentally murmurs "and provided she is alone, I shall not leave her until I have declared the truth." Eloise proves to be alone. Parker

a few moments he has spoken words that bring the rich color glowingly to the girl's cheeks and make her eyes sparkle with brilliant fire. He finished with these humble words: "I have no right to address you as I am doing; for oh, Eloise, even should

you consent to become my wife, the

Folsom seats himself at her side, and in

world would call me little else than a scheming fortune-hunter.' A moment after these last words are uttered Eloise Bristow leaps to her feet. "A fortune hunter!" she bursts forth ndignantly. "I-I do not understand you, Mr. Folsom, unless you mean what

you say for cruel satire.' He rises now 'Satire? Why of course, I do not, The facts are plain enough. My fortune is now a mere wreck of what it once was, and you are immensely wealthy,' A bitter, bleak sort of laugh leaves

loise Bristow's lips, "Did Mrs Radcliffe tell you thatthat I was immensely wealthy?" she questions excitedly. Eloise sinks back into her seat. Fix-

ing her eyes on Folsom's face, which has become very pale, like her own, she now continues. "And Mrs. Radcliffe told me the same thing regarding you!" A slight pause. Suddenly she asks: "Have you ever thought in past time that Mrs. Radcliffe had any dislike toward you?" Parker Folsom's answer then comes

promptly enough: "Yes; I used to believe that she hated

me. L. Eloise laughs again though less bitterly than before.
"And I feel that she has hated me all ng, now. This is her revenge." These four words exercised a strange effect upon the man who hears them. He seats himself at her side. He fixes upon her face a pair of eyes that glow strange-

"Floise Bristow," he begins, with solemn, determined voice, "the story of my wealth is what first attracted you toward me; but now that you know me. is there not any feeling in your heart wholly apart from all this?" Eloise made no answer. She lowers

her eyes and begins to tremble. The man at her side draws nearer, and nearer. Eloise, I love you well enough to die for you-yes, even in these queer, prossic times of ours. And if this be the case, surely I love you well enough

to work for ou! What is your answer. darling? Lift up your head, and speak by means of the rope by which she is it out bravely. When Mrs. Radcliffe next meets us, shall she laugh to herself in malignant delight, and silently murmur, 'My revenge is accomplished?' or shall she grind her handsome white teeth in secret rage, while looking on ways leave a sinking ship" is perfectly our happiness, and be forced to confess true. If, however, the ship be waterthat we have conquered her with the very weapons she sought to use against has been told by M. De St. Pierre that us: turning her revenge into that which

such joy, Eloise, as no money can pur-There is a momentary silence, whilst Eloise sits motionless, with eyes still lowered; and then, an instant later, she has flung herself upon his breast, and hidden her passionately tearful face against his shoulder. He needs no

### other answer.

We hear a great deal about how suffering purifies the human heart. Perhaps it does. We are not going to dispute what is an accepted fact—that is, not much. We are not prepared to say that a lung fever, or a sharp attack of meningitis, or a run of liver complaint, judiciously applied, will not do something toward turning the heart of the hoary old sinner from his evil ways, eral eggs from her store closet, and for people generally seem to think naturally concluded that they had been favorably of sickness as an instrument of salvation, and we should have all the believers in creation in our hair if we

disputed it. So we let it pass. But we do not believe that toothache ever brought gentle feelings into any human heart. We don't believe any man is brought any nearer heaven by having steam-engine pumping away inside his head, and every throb feeling as if his skull bone was being rent in twain, and a red-hot iron was being thrust into the cavity? We do not believe in chloroform, and creosote, and peppermint essence, and hot drops, and pain killer, and salt petre, and salt, and ginger, and catnip, and oil of cloves, and cayenne pepper, and a hundred more things of that kind in general use for the toothache, as means of grace! We don't believe any man was ever converted while suffering the pangs of a regular old-fashioned, genuine, jumping toothache! We don't believe there was ever grace enough given any human being to thank God for the toothache! If every at night in a house where rats were man has got over far enough for that, he deserves to be translated, and done

Another kind of suffering, which we do not believe purifies to any great extent, is a corn on the toe. Or, perhaps, we had better put it corns, for when a man has one corn he generally has others to keep it company, and they all ache in

capital letters.

Corns are clannish, and seldom exist without the society of their kind. They are social, and prefer aching in concert. Now what man could have a heart full of gratitude, when he had on a pair of new boots, tight and hard, as new boots mostly are, and pressing right exactly on his sorest corn, and making it feel as if some determined masterbuilder was boring a hole into his toe with an inch auger, and making all the from New Mexico. his dearest Mary Anne sitting opposite. and talking to him about the weather, mixed up in artistic confusion-ves, we could be happy, thankful, and polite,

under such circumstances?

There are some kinds of suffering under which the noblest soul that ever lived could not be patient-under which a saint himself would wriggle, and think

comes from tight boots, and too much onfectionery, and stomachs overloaded, and nerves overworked; and the Provisom are thoroughly in love with each other at the end of a week's time.

More than once, while thinking of how dence which we are all so fond of arraigning, under the most trivial circumbirth to fifty-three pigs in three litters stances, has nothing whatever to do within twelve months—thirteen, twenty

THE RAT.

Characteristics of the spised Rodent.

The rat is finely equipped for the pe-culiar life he is ordained to lead. He

has strong weapons, in the shape of four long and very sharp teeth-two in the upper jaw and two in the lower. These teeth are wedge-shaped, and, by a wonderful provision of nature, have always a fine, sharp, cutting edge On examining them carefully, the inner part is found to be of a soft, ivory-like composition, which can easily be worn away, and the outside is composed of a glass-like enamel, which is exceedingly hard. The upper teeth work into the under, so that the centres of the opposed teeth meet perfectly in the act of gnawing, hence the soft part is being continually worn away, while the hard part keeps a sharp, chisel-like edge all the time, and at the same time the teeth are constantly growing up from the bottom. so that as they wear away a fresh supply is ready. Should one of these teeth be removed by accident or otherwise, the opposite tooth will continue to grow, and there being nothing to wear it away, it will project from the mouth and be turned upon itself, and if it be an under tooth it will often grow so long as to penetrate the skull. There is a fact, but little known, which well illustrates the ravages rats can inflict on a hard substance by these little sharp teeth. Many of the elephants' tusks imported into London are found to have their surfaces grooved into small furrows of unequal length and depth, as though cut out by a very sharp edged instrument. No man would take the trouble to do this so carefully, but the rat has found out the tusks which contain the most gelatine-a most delicious morsel for his palate-and he gnaws away as much as suits him and leaves the rest for the ivory worker, who is neither unable nor unwilling to profit by the fact marked by the rat's teeth. The Ivory which contains a large amount of gela tine is softer and more elastic than that which does not, and as elasticity is the thing needful for billiard balls, he selects this rat-gnawed ivory and turns it into beautiful clastic spheres, to be used upon the finest billiard tables.

The elasticity of some of these balls is so great that, when thrown forcibly on a hard floor, they will rebound to the height of three or four feet. Rats have a remarkable instinct for finding out where there is anything good for food, and it has often been a subject of wonder how they manage to get on board ships laden with sugar and other attractive cargoes, but the mystery has been solved, for they have been seen to come off shore to the ship means they will leave the ship when she comes into port particularly if they find their quarters bling or filled with water. The saying that "rats will alwhen the man-of-war Valiant returned may be our life-long future joy—and from Havans, in the year 1766, the rats increased to such an extent that they destroyed a hundred weight of biscuit daily. The ship was finally smoked between decks, and six hampers were, for some time, filled every day with the rats that had thus been killed. When the atmospheric pumps were in use at the terminus of the Croydor railway, hundreds of rais lost their lives there in this way. At night they used to get into the large exhausting tube to lick the grease off the leather

valve. As soon as the pump was put in order to work for the early train. out these rats were sucked. There are curious facts connected with the habits of the rat which warrant a close observation of them on the part of those who may have an opportunity. A lady at one time missed sevremoved by the servant for her private use. Sne questioned the servant who denied any knowledge of the removal The eggs continued to disappear in the same mysterious manner, when one day the thief was unexpectedly discov ered. The lady observed one morning on entering her storeroom, a singular s Parker Folsom's reply, with a covert to lie awake night after night, with a sight. A small rat was on his back upon the floor and grasping an egg. while a larger rat was hauling him around by the tail. In this way undoubtedly, all the missing eggs had

been carried away.
It appears that rats, like birds, fish, etc., are often influenced to change their abode by want of food or the need of a proper place where they can procure sustenance for their young, and often by their fear of man. A gentleman's house was once infested with rats, and he get complately rid of them by catching one of them alive, and covering it with coal tar, and allowing it to return to its hole. At another time a trap was set numerous, and in the morning the trap was found sprung, with a long tail inside. Its owner had vanished, and, perhaps, after relating his narrow escape, and how he had lost his beautiful appendage, took all his rat friends and

left the house forever. The rat, though naturally a savage creature, is capable of being tamed and made obedient to man's will. Some of the Japanese tame rats, teach them to perform many tricks, and then exhibit

#### Domestics in New Mexico.

ussion of the domestic service problem, is given by our correspondent other corns sympathetic, until he working women of the East can not couldn't tell which ached the most, and know that in New Mexico domestic servants are paid \$30 a month, with board and home in addition, and can and expecting him to admire the placque not be obtained even for there large she has painted, with two cats, and a wages. The native Mexicans supply screech owl, and a bunch of pond lilies, about the only servant to be had there, and they are so unfamiliar with Amerwant to know where is the man who ican methods of house-keeping, and withal, are so indolent and careless that their service is far from satisfactory, The pride which keeps the native American at "respectable" work in the East at \$2 or \$3 a week, it would seem, would disappear before the temptation of some bad word that would apply.

And it is pleasant to think that all suffering is not of divine origin—for it home is furnished in addition to the money wages.

J. D. Shedd, of Fairfax, Vt., reports and twenty respectively.

LOOKING GLASSES

A Brief Chapter on the Origin of Mirrers.

Any solid substance that can be polished will, to a certain extent, answer for a mirror; and metallie "looking glasses" are frequently mentioned in the Old Testament. Such lookingglasses were made of mixed metal, chiefly of copper, and were susceptible of a lustre which Sir G. Wilkinson says has been partially restored in some of those discovered at Thebes, though buried in the earth for many centuries. They were round or oval, and inserted in handles of metal, wood or stone, whose form and ornamentation varied with the tastes of their owners

In the catacombs of ancient Rome, mirrors have been found which appear to be made of a mixture of bronze and lead and tin, while others are of a peculiar kind of stone supposed to be vitrified lava.

Pliny mentions the rage for silver mirrors as an evidence of Roman extravagance, and says every Roman girl wanted one. Plutarch says that Domosthenes had a looking-glass-probably of silver and sufficiently large to reflect bis entire person-before which he was accustomed to rehear e his

orations and arrange his gestures. There were two serious objection to metallic mirrors-their weight and the fact that they were lible to dis- the Le Sueur county (Minn.) jail for tort the features of those looking into three months. thera. The latter was, of course, offensive to ancient beaux and belles. and led to the substitution of metal of obsidian, a black stone, "sometimes transparent"-to quote again from Pliny-"but of so dull a transparency that, as a mirror, it renders the shadow

rather than the image of an object.' When the Spaniards discovered America they found mirrors made of a substance which they called the Inca's stone, because it was used by the Peruvian princes for ornamental purposes. It was a sort of pyrites, susceptible of a high degree of polish and excellently well-calculated for mirrors.

As the ancients were familiar with glass, it seems strange that they were not acquainted with mirrors made therefrom. True, Aristotle, some 400 years B. C., wrote: "Glass and crystal must be lised with a sheet of metal in order to give back the image presented to them. "But most authors regard glass mirrors a modern invention. The first mention of glass mirrorsafter their present form-occurs in a

work on optics written by an English monk, Johannes Peckham, in 1219. In it he speaks of "glass mirrors, covered on the back with lead, that reflect too image if the lead is scraped And another careful investigator thinks the invention cannot date from a period earlier than the middle of the thirteenth century, because in France, during the fourteenth century, glass mirrors were scarce, while those of metal were abundant. The crusades, which did so much to

acquaint Western with the industries and civilization of Eistern Europe, was the direct cause of the introduction of the manufacture of glass into Venice. For a long time, this was the only place where glass was manufac- for Passover purposes, tured, and thither every country, desiring articles of glass, was compelled to go go or send. Venetian glass rap- ably thinks that it cannot get colder idly became famous, and its sale the | than it is at Winnipeg. source of an immense revenue to the Naturally, Venice was anxious to se- a year for privates, and an extra \$100 cure to herself for the future so valua- per annum for the captain.

city proper, and establish themselves curred and others are expected. at Murano, on an island a little disover, it was proclaimed that if a hist cloister of Hanle, Thibet, where might enable other countries to enter feet. into competition with Venice so far as his property would be confiscated and himself liable to be put to death.

At Murano, glass mirrors were first 1779. made after the manner suggested by Aristotle-by placing a metallic sheet back of the glass. The experiment did ors remained in vogue till the beginning of the sixteenth century, when two glass-makers of Murano discovtwo glass-makers of Murano discov-ered the method of making mirrors crossed the Banks of Newfoundland n Germany.

The German process was as follows: Melted lead or tin was blown with a sold her grandchild to a white woman pipe into a hollow ball of glass, while for \$150, and as the little one has not, thereby entirely coating its inte- failen into good hands there will probrior. When the glass had cooled, it ably be no effort to interfere with the was cut into small, round mirrors. bargain. The two Muranese improved on this

Ten" that the right to manufacture a period of 20 years. these mirrors be granted them exclusively for twenty-five years. The destred privilege was granted them for twenty years. Wonderful success attended the enterprise, and, when the twenty years had expired, hundreds engaged in it. Indeed, so numerous were the mirror-

makers, and established a distinct com- and mother, grandfather and grandpany for their benefit. Gradually, the manufacture of glass two creat-grandmothers. mirrors advanced toward perfection,

#### The Bath Not Weakening.

of a size previously unattainable."

An error is in supposing that the daily bath is weakening and omitting it as soon as it does not appear requisite to absolute cleanliness. It may be diminished if convenience demands it, but granted good health, it is hard to see any reason why a bath, properly given, should not be useful throughout childhood, as well as in infancy and adult life. And this is said without any of that fetich-worship that makes the daily bath a religious duty, irrespective of health or circumstance. It would surprise many of our readers to know how recent is the general use of daily bathing; and if is said to have eloped in ture. Annie, we rightly interpret some remarks in a the eldest, ran away when she was 21 medical work of about the beginning years old, Amelia when she was 14, of this century, babies were not usually bathed after the first washing that followed their birth. But, when it is recommended indefinitely to continue was 12 Edward Russell, the hero of the bath it is not intended that it always should have the same temperature and duration. The room should

## NO. 16

NEWS IN BRIEF. -Berlin University contains 149 American students, -Harvard's law department is to publish a law monthly.

-Paris is said to consume nearly fifty tons of snails in a season. -A large ice factory is to be put in operation at Roanoke, Virginia. -The mayor of Dubuque, Iowa, runs a lunch counter and saloon. -A hunter in Nine Pierre, D. T., recently killed a rabbit four feet long. -An Iona (Mich.) justice of the

peace has begun suit for a wedding -Delorain, D. T., is four months old. It has 100 houses, 7 stores and 4

-A Hemlock (Mich.) man humanely chloroforms his hogs before he butchers

them. -Mule Head is the game hit upon

for a settlement in Charles Mix county. Dakota. -Asbury Park (N. J.) houses have been numbered after the Philadelphia

system. -In a single ward in the city of Lincoln, Illinois, there are thirty-two widows.

-Esmeralda county, Nevada, produced about \$110,000 worth of borax last year. -There has not been a prisoner in

-Mr. Pyron, of Chester, Illinois, has pet crow that talks as fluently as a trained parrot.

-A band of Indian squaws who ame into Bangor, D. T., recently, all invested in corsets. -A Pokagon (Mich.) man found a bear's tooth in the center of a solid log recently while chopping.

as-you-please pedestrianism, with American pedestrians contesting. -A lady in South Haven, Mich., has parlor ornament in the shape of a dead rattlesnake five feet long. -Some fish in the aquarium at St. Petersburg, Professor Baird is quoted

-London is having a revival of go-

as saying, are over 100 years old. -A preacher of Larkin, Illinois, was fined \$1.50 and costs for disturbing a religious meeting of a rival sect. -Lookout Mountain, the scene of 'the battle amid the clouds," has been so'd to a hotel and railroad company. -At a funeral in Fiint, Michigan, the floor of a room full of people gave

way, throwing all present into the -During January fully 1,000 sled eads of bullheads were caught on the borders of Beaver Dam Lake, Wis-

-Women candida' cs bave been nominated by the Prohibition party in Newburg, New York, for school com Intssioners. -The closing service of the Rev.

Sam Jones and the Rev. Sam Small in Boston is said to have been attended by 12,000 people. -Wine (nearly 500 gallons) that left Jerusalem December 15th has been received in Chicago, where it is to be used

-An explorer has started for the North Pole from Winnipeg, He prob--The police of Flushing, L. f., want a raise in their pay, which is now \$600

ble a monopoly; and to this end, —Raw ham has filled a family near through the "Council of the Ten," she South Butler, Wayne county, N. Y., ordered the glass-makers to leave the with trichinge. Two deaths have oc-

workman should export anything that 21 priests live at an altitude of 16,000 -Mr. Thomas M. Davis, of Milford, the making of glass was concerned- Delaware, is the owner of an old sleigh. His great-grandfather, Mark

Davis, bought it in Philadelphia in -Tennessee's Senate has rejected a bill appropriating \$1800 for a monument to George Peabody, through not prove satisfactory, and metal mir- whose benevolence the State was a great gamer. -Monster icebergs have been en-

which had for several years prevailed during the past week or two-unusually early for their appearance. -A Louisville colored woman has

method by substituting an amalgam of the discharged as cured tin and quicksilver in place of the from a neighboring insane hospital. metals used by the Germans. Then after a few months' treatment, though they petitioned the "Council of the her mental troubles have extended over -At the Washington territory penitentiary the rules require that the hair

on the right side of prisoner's heads shall be shaved off, while that on the left side is allowed to remain in its normal condition. -Albert Nickerson, of Sag Harbor, makers, the Venetian Government sep. L. I., is 12 years old. Every day he arated them from the other glass- sits down to the table with his father

mother, and great-grandiather and PROFITABLE ORANGE GROWING.and no one did more in this direction The Savannah News of a recent date than Liberale Motta, who flourished at relates: An Ocala firm sent seventy-Murano about 1680, and "made them five boxes of eranges to a Macon (Ga.) commission house, and in return received eighty-two cents in postage

> -A crowd of Prohibitionist workers in Portland, Oregon, gathered in front of a saloon, and sang with great vigor a campaign song, "It's Water, Not Leer, we Want," until the saloon keeper, taking their request literally. turned the bose on them. -A lightning adder gave an exhib-

> ition in a public place in Lansing, Michigan, and gained great admiration by his rapid work with columns of figures. After he had taken up a collection and disappeared it was dis covered that his totals were all wrong. -Every one of the six daughters of a grocer named Schlecht, in New York,

> the most recent elopement, has been ent to prison for marrying a child. In order to render glue insoluble in

Caroline and Netta when they were

7. Adeline when she was 16, and

be well warmed, and if the feet be kent | water, it is only necessary to add a little warm the sponge bath may be graduclly reduced in temperature, its effect which it is dissolved, and expose the being carefuly noted. part of the bi-chromate will suffice.