The Realizing Faculty.

There is no faculty of the mind which is so prominent in its influence on the moral nature as imagination. As the reasoning powers and the judgment are cultivated they reveal to us much knowledge of right and wrong, solve many of the knotty problems of life, and disentangle some of the intricacies of duty. But it is reserved for the imagination to touch the heart and to arouse the feelings. And as the essence of the moral life is *love* of the right, and the desire to persue it, whatever can inspire or nourish these deserves our special consideration.

The imagination is almost boundless in its range. Without creating anything absolutely new, it has the power of so combining and re-combining, fashioning, and re-fashioning the actual materials and relations of life as to form innumerable fantastic and even impossible images, which appear, dissolve and re-appear in ever new forms. But, aided by keen perceptions, wise discriminations and a sensitive nature, it also has the power of picturing things *as they are*, with a fair degree of correctness. This may be called the realizing faculty. Its function in our social life is much more important than is generally supposed. A very large proportion of our sins against our fellow men may be traced to a deficiency of this power. Unkindness, from the most trifling discourtesy to the most pitiless cruelty, is largely due to the fact that we have no adequate image in our minds of the feelings of those we thus hurt. In former times this was the case with regard to bodily pain. Men, and even women, could witness without a shudder the gladiatorial contests and the agony that supervened. Torture and persecution were every day affairs, because no one realized the pangs inflicted. Civilization, with its increase of knowledge, insight and sympathy, has made all such things well nigh impossible. And slowly, too, we are becoming able to picture to ourselves the thoughts and emotions of others, and these images make many persons careful not to cause mental distress to those with whom they mingle. Pity and compassion are, indeed, the first fruits of this realizing faculty, and are generally proportioned to its development. We know how much more easily they are aroused by the sight of the pain than by its mere recital, by the occurrence of a small catastrophe in our immediate vicinity, than by the wholesale destruction of life in a faraway land. In the one case the mental picture is vivid, in the other it is pale and colorless.

If this realizing power makes us compassionate it also makes us charitable. Intellectual sympathy is more rare and more difficult of attainment than mere sympathy with pain and pleasure. Those accustomed to one line of thought and associating only with those who share it cannot readily understand how any one can differ from them, and are, therefore, inclined to doubt either their honesty or their intelligence. Much bitter controversy, much harsh and unjust criticism is due to the feebleness of this power. Neither party can put himself in the place of the other or see how he came to hold such beliefs, or why he should not at once abandon them. So the estimates of guilt commonly made are seldom fair and just for the same reason. When a man, accustomed all his life to abhor some vice or to loathe some crime, and mingling only with those who share his feelings, forms his judgment of a delinquent from his own standpoint, it must be an erroneous one. He thinks what his own guilt would be in such a case, which is a very different matter. He does not pause to remember that the man whose birth, surroundings and education have made vice and crime familiar, cannot regard it as he does. He cannot conceive of the strength of his passions or the force of his temptations. So the rich and poor fail to understand each other, the well informed and the ignorant, the employer and the employed, the young and the old. Their lives, their modes of thought, their influences, their standards of action are all different, and, failing to realize any but their own, their judgments of each other are erroneous and uncharitable.

If this realizing faculty is so powerful a factor in human welfare, how may we develop it? Every advancement in education, every act of mental discipline, every advantage of wider intercourse by society or travel, everything which brings different classes into closer relations, every influence which broadens the mind and expands the views, tends in this direction. To beware of getting into ruts, to avoid dwelling upon a single line of thought, to vary the life as much as may be, to study human nature in its personal and social aspects, to be hospitable to another's thought, tender of another's feelings, respectful to another's individuality—all these will help us to a clearer and truer relation of our fellow men and to better and happier relations with them. In the close and impure air of selfishness imagination drops and withers, but where the spirit of generosity and magnanimity reigns, there it flourishes and bears rich fruit.

Lookout Mountain Philosophy.

All men air born ekal, but they don't stay that way long.

All ded men are virtuse, and virtuse men air mostly ded.

Never say die. There ain't no use menshnin it—just die.

Luv in a cottage are beautiful, but it air too apt to leave fur higher-priced lodgins.

The man as has the respekt of the entire community userly died sum time previous.

Fortune is the lazy goddess, but she don't want eny lazy men worshippin' at her shrine.

Still waters run deep. Barbers air allus noisy bekase their perfushun only goes skin deep.

Clothes don't make the man, but they has a mighty site to do with his looks arter he is made.

I'd rayther talk to a crank as has one idea than ter a man as knows nothing, and talks about everything.

Young man, save your munny. You will miss lots of fun, but yore grave will be the ornament uv the cemetery.

Thar air a strane of maternal tenderness in every man's breast, as can be delivered by dealin' him fore queens.

The man as can contemplate fore aces in a uker game without wantin' to bet on poker han't got much speculachun in him.

It has been sed that hell is paved with good resolutions. That is not true; they are much too easy broken to malk good paving.

According to Prof. Wanklyn the manufacture of gas from limed coal is a success, as it reduces the amount of sulphur compounds to three gains in the hundred cubic feet, and increases the yield of Ammonia and tar by the abolition of the time purifiers.

TWINS IN MEMORIAM.—It seems as though the horrors of the Johnstown disaster were never to come to 'an end. Now we have news that the twins of Mrs. John Emmerling, born at Johnstown since the disaster, have be n named Philip Henry Wreck and Otto Emil Flood.

LITTLE MEN AND WOMEN.

Facts About Some Diminutive Specimens of Humanity.

Few freaks of nature are of greater interest than little people, for a symmetrical dwarf is a diamond edition of mankind; and as diminutive bits of mechanism are esteemed because of their rarity, so they are regarded with more interest than ordinary men, although doubtless of less use to the world in a practical way. A curious old author gives an infallible recipe for dwarfing men by art. He says, "If you anoint their spines in their very infancy with the grease of mules, bats and dormice they will be of short stature." He adds; "The Bononians in Italy, to make their dogs very little, wash their feet and backbones very often from their birth in cold spring water, which, drying and hardening these parts, hinder their extension."

Some of our modern Barnums would, no doubt, like to try these experiments if assured of their efficacy; but they would be much better appreciated by them than by the unfortunate subjects of their attentions. Probably the smallest individual on record was an Egyptian dwarf, who lived in the reign of Theodosius. This diminutive pigmy was so exceedingly small that he represented a partridge, yet he performed the duties of a grown man, and as an ancient historian puts it, "had an excellent knack at singing musically." Another one, John de Estrix, of Mechlen, who lived in 1592, at 35 years of age had a long beard, and was but three feet in height. He was noted for his good sense and ingenuity, spoke three languages to perfection, played well at most games, and was very industrious in all things that he was capable of undertaking.

A DIMINUTIVE COURTIER.

Among other dwarfs of exceptional talent mentioned in history, one of the most prominent is Joseph Bornulaski, a Russian by birth, who was known throughout Europe as "Joujou." He was of an exceedingly amiable disposition, and unusually well educated. It was this dwarf who made the celebrated retort to Maria Theresa, empress of Austria. While he was visiting Vienna, the empress lifted him up on her lap and asked him what he thought the most wonderful sight he had seen in his travels, whereupon the little courtier replied: "The strangest sight is that I see at the present moment."

"And what is that?" inquired the empress.

"To see so little a man on the lap of so great a woman."

After marrying a young lady of ordinary size, Joujou settled down in life and became the head of quite a large family. He wrote and published a book descriptive of his life and travels, and lived until the remarkable age of 98 years.

During the last century several noted dwarfs were on exhibition in various parts of Europe. Quite a sensation was created in London by a tiny couple known as Mr. and Mrs. Robert Skinner, who were each but two feet in height. Their carriage, which was about the size of a baby's, was drawn by two dogs, and their coachman was a small boy dressed in purple and yellow livery. They had no less than fourteen children, none of which were unusually small.

THE MOST FAMOUS AMONG DWARFS.

During the French revolution a dwarf named Richebourg was made useful in carrying letters and messages out of Paris. He was dressed in a full suit of baby clothes, and with the secret papers hidden about his person was carried in the arms of a nurse. Very luckily for the "baby" the trick was never discovered. This pigmy lived to the age of 91 years, and during the last twenty-five years of his life never went out of doors, being very shy before strangers.

The most famous dwarf in history is undoubtedly the celebrated Jeffrey Hudson, who was only 18 inches tall when he made his first appearance before the king of England, served up, it is said, in a cold pie, out of whose crust he leaped in the full attire of a page of honor. After this the dwarf was presented to Queen Henrietta Maria, and soon succeeded in obtaining the utmost confidence of the queen. While on his way to France, on a confidential mission of great importance, he was captured by a French privateer, but was soon after released at the express command of the French court. In the civil war Jeffrey obtained a commission as captain of horse, but followed the fortunes of his mistress when she took refuge in France.

One of the most singular occurrences connected with liliputians took place in England a few years ago, when a pigmy 17 years of age and barely 25 inches high was actually torn to pieces by cats. The showman having him in charge conceived the idea of establishing a miniature menagerie, with the dwarf as tamer. He accordingly caused a number of cats to be painted to resemble tigers, and, giving the dwarf a whip, he compelled him by threats and kicks to goad them into a furious rage. The consequence was that the poor little fellow, who had always had a great aversion to cats, was attacked by the infuriated animals, and before he could be rescued was literally torn to pieces in the sight of the terrified spectators.

SOME LITTLE LADIES.

Among modern dwarfs Mrs. Louisa Sheppard, who died in New York some years ago, was one of the most diminutive and interesting. She had been on exhibition in this country about ten years, under the name of "Lulu." At the time of her death, from pneumonia, she was 21 years of age. Although but 13 inches high and weighing but 39 pounds, her form was exquisitely proportioned, and she appeared a perfect woman in miniature. Her mental powers were good, and she was a lively, interesting conversationalist. Unlike many dwarfs, she was never known to be irritable or querulous. Her husband was a man nearly 6 feet in height and of corresponding weight. She was born in Keyport, N. Y., where her family had lived for many years, her maiden name being Van Pelt. Dollie Dutton was another little woman, and at one time the most noted of American dwarfs. She was born in Natick, Mass., in 1855, and at the time of her birth weighed 2½ pounds. She was exhibited in a tent in the Public garden, Boston, when but six months old, and was subsequently shown throughout the United States and Canada. In New England, particularly, she was a great favorite. At 18 years of age her weight was only 12 pounds. In 1875 she was married, and had one child, which died in infancy. Owing to domestic troubles she became insane, and died about seven years ago—a sad fate for one of the most charming little ladies on record.

Plissed toilets are a pretty novelty, and are very simple and easily made. Only fine; thin stuffs lend themselves to this arrangement, however.

A new process for hardening plaster of paris, making that substance suitable for flooring purposes, has been communicated to the French Academy of Sciences by M. Julte. The plaster is mixed with one-sixth of its weight of fine, freshly slaked lime, and used with as little water as possible. After becoming thoroughly dry it is treated with a saturated solution of either zinc sulphate or iron sulphate. With the first the hardened plaster remains white, while the second, by gradual oxidation, yields the color of iron rust, which gives a fine imitation of mahogany under an application of linseed oil.

—Johnston paced the Detroit track in 2.11½ on July 4.

THE FLOWER GARDEN.

FLORAL BASKETS.

The most popular ornamental baskets for florists' use seem just now to be rather large and shallow ones, with tall handles, bent to a rectangular shape, which are covered, body and handle both, with folds of ribbon. It is a question whether it is as tasteful to use such an extent of color in connection with flowers as to use the simple, harmonious tone of uncolored straw. Nevertheless, the public always fancies new and "effective" arrangements, and when the color of the ribbon contrasts properly with that of the flowers, and too many bows and streamers are not employed, these baskets are distinctly better than many we have seen in recent years. The fashion seems to have come from France, where baskets of this kind are often used to contain two or three pots with growing plants, the pots themselves being covered from sight with trimmings of green. Something may be learned from Parisian florists as regards the number of blossoms which should be used. Too often in this country we see more blossoms and less foliage than is desirable, while in Paris, even when cut flowers are used, four or six fine specimens relieved against a great mass of green, are preferred to a more compact display in which the beauty of individual flowers cannot be so well revealed.

* * *

MAPLES from Japan, says a well-known florist, are likely to become as popular in this country, in time, as the chrysanthemums have been for the last few years. They are especially adapted by their diminutive size and brilliancy of colors to garden decoration. The Japanese use them in this way. Where a change of color is desired in their gardens a pot is sunk in the ground and one of the richly colored maples planted. The fine, delicate, fern shaped leaves of some of the varieties are effective at a short distance off, when the lacy veining of the leaves can be seen traced in all their beauty. Other varieties, where the colors are more solid and the leaves larger, look better when at a longer distance. They make a good foreground for lawn scenes and have a good effect in small parks.

Something About Needles.

A needle is a little thing hardly worth mentioning, in fact, but the daily consumption of them in the United States is 4,200,000. About one-sixth of these are made in Brooklyn, but the greater part of the needles we use come from Redditch, England, according to the New York Graphic.

There are needles which all wig makers use. They are as delicate as a hair and shaped like a fish hook. There is the tambour needle and the needle for shirring machines; the great sail needle which has to be pushed with a steel palm; the knitting machine needle with its little latchet; the arrasene and crewel needles, and the long instrument which the milleners use.

Then there is the surgeon's cruel outfit, the probing needle made for hunting after bullets or internal sores; the post mortem needles, of various curves and sizes; the hare-lip needle; the long accupressure pins, for pinning gaping wounds in place; all the needles for eye, head and body—long, short, curved once, twice or three times. Then the veterinary surgeon has his case of needles, too. The upholsterer is a favored man. He has needles on the half curve, and on the quarter curve, round points and sword points, long eyes, round eyes, egg eyes, and countersunk eyes.

The cook is not left out of this trade, but has a curious trussing needle, made for carrying melted butter or savory sauce right into the very heart of a fowl or roast, being hollow and large at the end where the butter is poured in. There is also the larding needle, which sews large pieces of meat together, or fastens a bit of fat deep in a lean piece of meat. One of these was invented by a French *chef*. The other was made to meet the demands of butchers who cook large quantities of meat for the free lunch restaurants, and who wish to sew their meet into good shape, so that it will cut well.

The collar maker's needle is not unlike the upholsterers. The netting needle has a little branch at each end, and with them goes a broad "mesh" of ivory or polished wood. The knife point ham needle, with its broad blade was invented to suit the men at the Chicago stock yards. The broom maker's needle, like the sailor's has to be pushed with a steel palm. That which the millers use has a spring eye which the heavy thread enters when the side of the eye is pressed.

A novice could never guess how to use the needle for sewing soles on shoes. The glove needles are marvelously fine affairs, though even the daintiest of them have three-cornered points. The knitting and astrachan needles want no mention.

The needle for filling rugs has given place to an ingenious machine which does four times the work. The beading needle is slender and long. The rag baler's needle has a blade like a leek, and is another invention made for Chicago. The weaver's pin for picking up broken threads has an open eye in a hook which catches and holds the lost thread firmly.

The making of a needle is a very laborious matter in Germany, France and England where it is done by hand. The polishing there requires sixty or seventy days. But in America it has called forth some of the most interesting and delicate inventions in machinery of which this country can boast.

The Tobin bronze is the name given to a new alloy of copper by its inventor, Engineer John A. Tobin, United States Navy. It is turned out in the shape of sheets and plates, rods and wire, seamless tubes up to two inches in diameter, and ignots of three standards of quality. It possesses those distinctive characteristics, great tensil strength—about equal to that of the best mild steel, remarkable rigidity and toughness and—when forged, rolled or stamped at a dark red heat—as homogeneous a nature as the best artistic bronze, which make it available for an extremely large and varied number of purposes. From violin pegs to ship sheathing, or torpedo boat hulls is certainly an extended range of usefulnes, especially when this range comprises such an incongruous detail as agricultural implements and gunpowder tools, journal boxes, bearings and pinions and propeller blades, valve fixtures and gun mountings, for all of which purposes it is particularly suited. The Tobin bronze is practically non-corrosive, though, when exposed for any considerable time on a ship's bottom, it has just that minimum degree of exfoliation which is requisite to assure a surface clear of barnacles. The Navy Department has already adopted it for certain features of the machinery and fittings of the new cruisers, its resistance to climatic and oxydizing influences rendering it valuable for a variety of uses on shipboard.

Save the spent tea-leaves for a few days then steep them in a tin pail or pan for half an hour; strain through a sieve, and use the tea for all varnished paints. It requires very little elbow polish as the tea acts as a strong detergent, cleansing the paint from all impurities and making it equal to new. It cleans windows and sashes and oilcloths; indeed, any varnished surface is improved by its application. It washes window-panes and mirrors much better than water, and is excellent for cleansing black walnut and looking-glass frames. It will not do to wash unvarnished paints with it.

FARM NOTES.

A CHEAP CORN-CRIB.—This is the plan for a corn-house, the patent upon which has just expired. It is intended for use where large quantities of corn are raised, and where shoveling in and getting at the grain is of importance. Portions of one side of the roof are hinged in such a way that upon driving beside the crib the load can be shoveled in at the roof, and the roof afterward made tight again. An inclined floor, and an inclined plate running the entire length of the crib, naturally lead it to the trough on the bottom, outside whence it is taken by means of shovels or scoops. As fast as it is removed, that remaining in the crib takes its place, the inclines causing the grain to gravitate into the trough. The narrow incline regulates the flow of the corn, and prevents it from clogging while entering the trough. Such cribs can be made of slabs or of any cheap material, and are as useful as more expensive buildings in new countries where lumber is scarce. Of course they cannot be as high as Eastern-made corn-cribs if it is expected to throw the corn in through the roof. Neither will the cheap condition of the building warrant its being erected to any great height, for it might thus catch the winds and be demolished.

CROPS THAT CAN BE SOWN OR PLANTED IN JULY.—It is rather late to sow Swede turnips or rutabagas, but the intermediate sorts, such as yellow Aberdeen, do well sown in July, while the earlier varieties such as Golden Ball, White Flat Dutch and Purple-top Strapleaf, can be sown the last of July or first of August. Of cource much depends on the latitude—the farther south the later you can sow a plant. Early varieties of beans can be planted the last of June or the beginning of July. Also early varieties of sweet corn. Hungarian grass or millet can be sown to advantage in July, the earlier the better. Make the ground as fine and mellow as possible, and sow evenly from three pecks to a bushel of seed per acre. Cucumbers and pickles are sown the last of June to the middle of July. Cabbage and cauliflower can be set out any time in July, but toward the last of the month it will be well to plant early kind, such as Winningstadt and Henderson's Summer among cabbage, and early Paris and early Erfurt among cauliflowers. Snowball and Erfurt Earliest Dwarf can be planted as late as the middle of August and be certain to head. Le Normand short-stem cauliflowers, one of the largest and best varieties, can be planted the middle of July. Give them plenty of room, say three feet apart each way.

IMPROVED METHODS OF PASTURING.—The large breeds of sheep cannot be turned out on an inferior pasture to be compelled to find their food. They must, like the steer, be made to produce as much as possible in the shortest period of time. They will not grow rapidly and fatten readily if they are to forage over the whole farm and be forced to work for all they get. The foraging system will answer for the merino, but large sheep do not thrive in large numbers. Only the best of pastures, the flocks divided, and a mess of grain at night, will force them. True, it requires more labor and care, but it pays, and as the matter of sheep raising is one for profit the labor will always be paid for before the estimate of profit can be made. If more money can be made on one good sheep than from three inferior ones it is a waste of time and pasture to keep the natives. The greatest profit is derived from the mutton breeds, and the best pastures on the farm can be given up to them with profit.

A POINT FOR BEE-KEEPERS.—Here is the substance of a bit of dauber literature in "Gleanings in Bee Culture" by Professor Cook, of the Michigan Agricultural College: A mud dauber is an economic creature. When it gets a cell ready to be sealed up, it finds a spider, paralyzes it, puts it in the newly constructed cell, inserts a dauber egg in the spider's plump body, and seals the house up. The egg hatches and the thing of life goes to work and slowly eats up the spider. As it eats it grows, and as it grows it eats more spider, and finally emerges from its cell a regular mud dauber.

A MICHIGAN cattle-breeder says he has settled one question quite firmly with his herdsmen, and that is that dumb brutes must be treated with uniform kindness. In illustration of its practical value he relates that some cattle he bought in Kentucky last Fall were wild as deer; if any one went into the barn where they were, they would spring up, try to get away, and make themselves generally disagreeable. He has them now so that they are quiet and docile as lambs—a result "obtained by good feeding and uniform kindness."

IN domesticating certain animals, we make them conform their habits to our own purposes, and as an offset to this, we believe them of all trouble in hunting for their food. In providing for the various comforts that they would seek in the wild state, one is often overlooked—that is, shade. Look at animals in a pasture in which there is abundant shade, and where do you find them during the hot portion of the day? Certainly not exposed to the sun, and grazing, but every one, whether horse and cattle or sheep and pigs, quietly resting and endeavoring to digest in the shade the food they have eaten earlier in the day.

BATHING.—While we advise frequent bathing for the farmer and his hands, we would also provide bathing facilities for the domestic animals. Fortunate is the farmer whose land borders upon a lake or stream of sufficient depth to allow the horses, cows, etc., a frequent bath. Not only will the animals enjoy it, but the boys will find it more fun than work. Often a small stream may be so dammed as to retain the water and form a suitable bathing place. Do not allow the animals to drink from such artificial bathing pools, especially if the bottom is muddy.

COLD WATER.—Water from some wells is too cool to be given to animals. Especially in very warm weather it is judicious to draw the water long enough in advance to allow its chill to be removed before the animals drink it, especially if they are fatigued. A handful of fine corn meal stirred into a bucketful of water will be acceptable, and prevent injury by excessive drinking of cold water.

For large raspberries or blackberries head back severely, cutting out superfluous canes and mulch.

Savings banks were established in France in 1834, but a though these institutions grew yearly in popular favor, it was not until the end of 1845 that the amount of deposits reached even 393,000,000f, and the number of depositors 684,000. At the end of 1882 the depositors aggregated 1,746,000,000f., and at the same period 211,580 persons had to their credit 46,823,457f. in the Post Office Savings Bank, which was established by law so recently as April 9, 1881. The study of the statistics in detail of the French savings banks unfold not a few instructive lessons in social and political sciences.

It is thought probable, says the *Engineer*, that the Government of Victoria will repeat the offer of a high premium for a combined reaper and thrashing machine suited to Australian requirements.

HOUSEHOLD

THE careful housewife finds a use for everything, and when a roll of matting was undone the other day, in a charming cottage that I know, the outside covering was seized upon immediately by the artist of the family as something which might perchance be used for decorative purposes. It is astonishing what neat and dainty workers the Chinese are; nothing seems too trifling for them to spend time and thought upon, and this matting is as carefully made as the floor covering it is intended to protect. In a very short time a door in our artist's library suggested a use for it; its blank surface had long been a something of a trial to her, and she now decided to try the effect of the matting. She tacked it up with the fringed ends top and bottom, and with the superfluous width folded over on both sides, securing all with small tacks. In the centre she pinned the ART INTERCHANGE Study of Wild Apples, and that corner of the room is considerably brighter, the matting proving a very effective background for the lovely colors of the picture. She is now planning to mount the Chrysanthemum Study in a similar manner, only cutting the matter four or five inches larger than the picture, to look like a frame, and fastening it to the wall. This same material may be used as a cover for a portfolio; it should be pasted on cardboard and put under a weight to dry, and then a lining of bright colored satin sewed in. A spray of flowers painted on the outside, and a bow of ribbon to match, make a pretty case for engravings or photographs, the only trouble being the pasting of the matting on the card-board. Gum tragacanth mak s the best and strongest paste for the purpose, and is very easy to prepare, as it only requires to be dissolved thoroughly in water to be ready for use.

Tables with bamboo legs may be bought very reasonably at this season, and if the matting is tacked on the top and finished around the edge with a piece of split bamboo, a pretty and inexpensive piazza teatable will be secured.

In this same pretty cottage which I have mentioned, are two unique and original picture frames. The pictures themselves are simply fine photographs taken from an art catalogue, being copies of celebrated paintings. They are framed in a mat made of Japanese crepe pictures, the predominating colors being red and yellow; pinned up against the wall, they make bright bits of color, and do nicely for pictures not valuable enough for framing in any other way. An odd frame for an etching is of olive green plush put on plain, with a mat of bluish green cartridge paper; the mat is wide, and the frame rounding in effect and very narrow. Another has a light blue cartridge paper mat, and the inch-wide frame is done in ebony black, producing an odd effect, its very simplicity being a relief after the ornate and gorgeous frames which seem to be the rule just now.—*Art Interchange.*

DOING UP CURTAINS.—A more economical method of doing up curtains than to send them to a laundry is described by a good housekeeper as follows: Dust them thoroughly, and if there are any breaks or tears in them, mend them before washing. Do not wring them, but pass them through a clothes wringer, keeping them straight; boil a few minutes, then rinse in cold water. Blue the starch a trifle, but do not make them too stiff; then lay sheets on the floor and spread the curtains on them, taking care to stretch the work straight and true. Pin the edges on the sheet and let them lay till perfectly dry, and you will be convinced that home laundrying of nice curtains is far preferable to hiring them done up, as they will last longer and look nicer than when pressed by hot irons.

CHARLOTTE RUSSE.—Cover a half box of gelatine with a half cup of cold water and soak for a half hour. Whip one and a half pints of cream, turn it into a tin basin, stand the basin in a pan of cracked ice, and add carefully to the cream two-thirds of a cup of powdered sugar, a dessertspoonful of vanilla extract or half the quantity of the vanilla bean, and, if you use it, a wineglass of sherry. Stand the gelatine over a kettle of boiling water until it melts, then stram it into the whipped cream and stir immediately, constantly and carefully until the mass thickens. Have ready molds, lined with lady's fingers or sponge cake, turn in the mixture and stand into a cold place until wanted.

TOMATO BISQUE.—One of the best soups in the world, is also the cheapest. Here is the recipe: One pint of canned tomato rubbed through a sieve, well seasoned with pepper, salt, good butter and judgment. Place on a stove on an earthen vessel till it boils. Put a pint of milk in a double boiler and raise to boiling heat; add to the milk about a quarter of a teaspoonful of baking soda, pour this into the hot tomatoes, and serve immediately. You will think there has been a lobster around, and bless this journal. Thurber's condensed tomatoes are the best to use, being already cooked and seasoned, and only need to be heated, and a very little additional seasoning to taste.—*Journal of Useful Inventions.*

LOBSTER FARCI.—Cut boiled lobster into small pieces, and to each pint allow a half pint of milk. Put the milk in a farina boiler. Rub one tablespoonful of butter and one level tablespoonful of flour together, and stir into the boiling milk, add one tablespoonful of dried bread crumbs, stir until smooth, take from the fire, add a tablespoonful of chopped parsley, the yolks of three hard boiled eggs, mashed fine, a quarter of a nutmeg, grated, a tablespoonful of salt and a dash of cayenne, mix, and stir in carefully the lobster. Wash the shells and wipe them dry, and, with a pair of scissors, cut off the under part of the shell. Put the two large ends of the tail shells to the body of one lobster, thus forming a sort of a boat, put the mixture into this boat, brush over the top with beaten egg, dust with bread crumbs, and place in a quick oven for fifteen minutes to brown. Serve in the shell.

A SCANT teaspoonful of sugar added to each pint of meat gravy, imparts a delicious flavor that can not be obtained in any other way. It is also an improvement to soups, if added in the same proportion. If meat has been allowed to stand a little too long before it was cooked, sprinkle a little sugar over it before removing it from the fire, and the unpalatable taste will be removed. A teaspoon of sugar to every pint of milk should always be used when the milk is to be thickened with corn meal. Oatmeal is much improved if sugar is put in it while it is cooking, instead of being put on it at the table.

A notable invention is a self-registering ship's compass, so contrived as to keep a continuous record of the steered course of the vessel the length of time during which she has remained on each course, and changes in the course, and the exact time of every change. The record is automatically traced on paper.

Ptolemy's Menichias is regarded by M. A. Grandidier, after an examination of the maps of the Middle Ages, as identical with Madagascar, and he believes that the island was known to the Greek and Arab geographers long before its discovery by the Portugese in 1500.

SCIENTIFIC.

The Sanitary News of April 6 calls attention to the unhealthfulness of the customary practice of dealing with the walls of our houses. Allusion is made to the outcry of a few years ago against arsenical wall papers and it is asserted that other conditions of our walls and ceilings are far more deadly. People are urged not to paper their walls, but if they will do so to remove the old coats of paper and paste before applying new coats. It is a well-known fact that flour paste will soon mold; that it is a ready absorbent of moisture and disease germs; also, that paper is a very ready absorbent. They may not be aware, however, that the coloring and bronzes, which are pulverized metals, brasses, etc., are only temporarily held upon the face of the paper with animal matter (glue) that soon decays, and glue is the greatest absorbent of moisture and the natural culture ground for the germs, and if these little pests get sufficient heat while there they will flourish, and the rooms are sometimes very warm above the lines of the doors and windows with a moderate fire; and where repeated coats of this paste, paper and glue are applied, from which outdoor air with its purifying effects are excluded, by the respirating pores being sealed or strangled, the danger is much greater. The glue soon rots sufficiently to allow the air, or any friction, to remove small particles to which these germs have attached themselves to float about the room unseen, until they lodge in the system of some unsuspecting victim, whose physical condition is such that they take effect; then they still have the little particles of fertilizer with them to help give them a start on their deadly mission. The practice of calcimining and painting walls is also condemned, although it is preferable to paper from a sanitary point of view. By any method in use the pores of the wall are closed, and the purifying process of the air passing through and through them is cut off. By this showing it would appear that undecorated walls, unsightly as they are, are the only healthy ones to live within.

A DISMAL FAILURE.—A man in the suburbs bought a cast-iron dog, "as natural as life," and placed it in his front yard to frighten off tramps. "You onery-lookin' cuss," said the first tramp that saw the deception, "I'll settle yer," and picking up a stone he hurled it at the cast-iron fraud and struck it right between the eyes. The missile glanced off, crashed through a French plate window, and nearly fractured the skull of the head of the house. The tramp escaped. The cast-iron dog has been relegated to the stable, and a flesh and blood animal, with a head as big as a water-bucket, put on duty.

LOST HIS PLACE.—"So you be studying law, Jones?"

"Yes."

"Like it?"

"No, sir-ree!"

"How is that?"

"Well, I'd read about half through Blackstone."

"Yes."

"Had a bookmark to keep my place."

"I see."

"Some one stole the bookmark. I couldn't find my place, and had to go clear back to the beginning, and read the dratted book all over again!"

MEN AND THINGS.—A man about to be hanged knows more than any other living person. He always has the latest noose.

As a general thing cowboys do not marry. It is a mystery, too, for each one loves a las-so.

The man who works the brass brick dodge is not likely to win golden opinions from his victims.

When you split your sides with laughter you must run till you get a stitch in them.

It is the astronomer who most frequently rises to observe.

Climate for Consumptives.

The several climates of Florida, Colorado and California have each been much prescribed for sufferers from lung disease, yet thousands of the natives in those states die of this fatal malady. A far more reliable remedy is to be had in every drug store in the land, and one that can be used at home; a remedy which is sold, by druggists, under the manufacturers' *positive guarantee* that, if taken in time and given a fair trial, it will effect a cure, or money paid for it will be promptly returned. We refer to that world-famed remedy for consumption (or lung scrofula) known as Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It is the only remedy for this terrible disease possessed of such superior curative properties as to warrant its manufacturers in selling it under a guarantee.

Don't hawk, and blow, and spit, but us Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy. Of druggists.

WHAT HE NEEDED.—Mr. Woodware—"That young fellow you have in your office is the most conceited puppy I ever ran across."

Mr. Queensware—"Yes, I know; but you must remember he is young yet, and his character is not yet fully formed? He has never been tried by fire."

Mr. Woodware—"Then you'd better fire him."

AN APPROPRIATE MOTTO.—Cemetery Sculptor—"You wish a monument to your aunt? Yes, sir, I knew your dear, departed relative very well sir. She was all her life a boarding-housekeeper in my neighborhood. Do you wish a motto inscribed on it, sir?"

Englishman—"Ho, yes. Put hon 'Peace to 'er 'ashes.'"

THE ONLY SAFE PLAN.—Mrs. De Pencil—"How does it happen you are never accused of misrepresenting eminent men in your reports of speeches and interviews?"

Mr. De Pencil (an experienced reporter)—"I don't print what they say, but what they ought to say."

THEORY AND PRACTICE.—A recently graduated Vassar girl having written a book on "A Maiden's Duties," a far Western critic wants to wager "large money" that the author will swing in the hammock, reading Amelia Rives' latest, while "ma" darns her stockings and irons her handsome Summer gowns.

AN INNING.—Mrs. Minkum—"How tired and worried you look Mrs. Winkum!"

Mrs. Winkum (wearily)—"Yes: it's the girl's day in."

HE KNEW THAT BEFORE.—Well, my dear, what did the magnetic physician say to you?

Wife—He says I am a sick woman, and that my nervous system is not in equilibrium. He says I am too positive.

Husband—Humph! I could have told you that and saved a couple of dollars.

CRUMBS OF COMFORT.—First Dame—What does the doctor say ails y'r husband?

Second Dame (sadly)—Bright's disease.

"Well, dearie, don't be so down hearted. Poor, afflicted John Bright lived to a good old age in spite of his disease.

GOODFELLOW'S MISTAKE. — First Clubman—"How does it happen that Goodfellow has such a hard time getting into society?"

Second Clubman—"Society found out that he wanted to get in."

KNEW THE FACTS.—First little boy—Papa was readin' somfin' about Mind Reader Bishop bein' killed, but I couldn't make out how it was."

Second little boy (solemnly)—"He had two doctors."

HUMOROUS.

WANTED TO GO FASTER.—"I was reading in a paper yesterday," he said, as he hailed a citizen in front of the Soldiers' Monument, "that a duck could fly ninety miles an hour. Do you believe it possible?"

"That is rather a strange question to ask me, sir!" replied the other, with considerable cold storage in his voice.

"Yes, I know, but I want to find out. There are occasions when I have to leave my house in a hurry, and if a duck can make this gait, and there is no patent on it, I'm going to catch on. Perhaps you never tried to outrun a flatiron, sir.

UNCLE RASTUS TWINS.—Twin boys having been born in Uncle Rastus house, the serious question rose what names should be given them. A counsel was called.

"Dar's one thing," said Aunt Lizzie, "dat's got ter be tended to. Dem boys mus' hab d ffrront 'nitials, lessen deir handkerchiefs gets mixed up."

"Dat's so," said Uncle Rastus, reflectively.

Then, after a pause, he added, "Well, I'll tell ye. We'll call them Edward an' 'Ugene."

SHE SUCCEEDED TOO WELL. "Nellie," said the mother to her four year-old one, who was sitting quietly in a distant corner of the room, "what are you doing?"

"Drawing a picture on my slate," replied Nellie.

"A picture?" rejoined the mother, glancing over her shoulder. "Yes, and a pretty one. What is it?"

"It's my kitty," said Nelly."

"But it looks more like a tree."

"Yes, I made it so that my left hand wouldn't know what my right hand done. And I guess it don't, do you?"

"WHAT if I were one of those husbands, my dear, who get up cross in the morning, and bang things about, and scold like anything just because the coffee is cold?"

"John," responded the wife, "I would make it hot for you."

John is still wondering whether she meant him or the coffee.

A THIEF'S IGNORANCE OF BRIC-A-BRAC.—A curious theft recently occurred at Prague. A burglar having gained access to the cabinet of a well-known collector, broke open a small but richly-chased steel coffre fort of antique workmanship, and, having taken out its contents (about $150 in Austrian currency) oblig ng left the casket, the worth of which, a a moderate computation, is said to be $12,000!

A GENTLE HINT.—Paterfamilias (serenely)—There was a young gentlemen with you in the parlor last night?

Sweet Girl (gently)—Yes, pa; Mr. Stayer.

"And it was after 11 before he went home, miss. I'd like to know what kept him so late?"

"Well, pa, you looked so angrily at me when you came in and saw him that I guess he thought I needed a protector, and so he stayed until he thought you were asleep.

DOUBTFUL.—Suitor (who has been out of town for a week)—"Is Miss De Pink in?"

New Girl (engaged that morning, and rather mixed up about her instructions)—"Sure I don't know; hether she be in or not; but if you pees the young man phat was here lasht noight till eliven o'clock, and was caught hugging an' kissin' her in the parlor, she ain't in."

Forced to Leave Home.

Over 60 people were forced to leave their homes yesterday to call for a *free* trial package of Lane's Family Medicine. If your blood is bad, your liver and kidneys out of order, if you are constipated and have headache and an unsightly complexion, don't fail to call on any druggist to-day for a *free* sample of this grand remedy. The ladies praise it. Everyone likes it. Large size package 50 cents.

The lustre of morocco is restored by varnishing it with the white of an egg. Apply with a sponge.

Don't you *want to save money*, clothes, time, labor, fuel, and health? All these can be saved if you will *try* Dobbins' Electric Soap. We say "*try*," knowing if you try it *once*, you will always use it. Have your grocer order.

A good furniture varnish is made of two ounces white wax, one gill of oil of turpentine.

"Weak and weary" describes the condition of many people debilitated by the warm weather by disease or overwork. Hood's Sarsaparilla is just the medicine needed to build up and strengthen the body, purify and quicken the sluggish blood, and restore the lost appetite.

Marble should always be washed with ammonia and water rather than with soap and water.

Frazer Axle Grease.

The Frazer Axle Grease is better and cheaper than any other, at double the price. Ask your dealer for it, and take no other.

When peeling onions keep your mouth closed and you won't have to cry.

Rupture cure guaranteed by Dr. J. B. Mayer, 811 Arch St., Phila., Pa. Ease at once, no operation or delay from business, attested by thousands of cures after others fail, advice free, send for circular.

Sand paper applied to the yellow keys of the piano will restore the color.

Nothing Cures Dropsy, Gravel, Bright's, Heart, Diabetes, Urinary, Liver Diseases, Nervousness, &c., like Cahn's Kidney Cure. Office, 811 Arch St., Phila. $1 a bottle, 6 for $5. At Druggists. Curesthe worst cases. Cure guaranteed. Circ'ls.

Salt pork sprinkled with red pepper is excellent