DOMESTIC ARRANGEMENTS THE WHITE HOUSE.

The China and Table Cutlery -The Cooks and the Kitchens—A Com-

After breakfast, which always occurs exactly at 8:30, Mrs. Harrison sees the steward, McKim, and gives him the orders for the day, says Miss Grundy in the New York World. This means that she tells him whether there are to be guests and make the standard with the same of and whether she wishes any changes made in the decorations of the private dining-room. He arranges the entire menu for the day, does the marketing and oversees the servants. Unless it is the housecleaning season that is all the time Mrs. Harrison gives to her kitchen. time Mrs. Harrison gives to her kitchen, but you may be sure she has just as much interest in everything going well as a young matron when giving her first dinner, and she says that the only difference between her cares now and when she was a private citizen is that she does not need vorry over the preparations for entertaining.

F She has introduced numberless changes which give a home-like air to the private dining-room. One of these is to have the table for breakfast and luncheon spread with napkins instead of with one room. One of these is to have large cloth. It gives the table, which is a large round affair of very light oak, a dainty effect. Every dish has a pretty and in the centre there is always a bowl of flowers.

I wonder if this country has any idea

where its china is kept. There isn't a gentleman's house in the land that has not better accommodations. There it is —all the elegant ware which the former mistress of the White House gathered with so much pride and in the face of so many growls from the Congressional Appropriation Committees which supplied the money—tucked, crammed and mmed into an unfinished closet which would hardly kennel two mastiffs. No wonder that so much of it is broken and nicked that each succeeding mistress of the White House almost sheds tears over the ruin of the thing most dear to a woman's heart, rare china. Until President Arthur's day there was not even this closet, all the valuable china being stored in the basement; but he had this closet cut from the little hallway by the ele-vator. There are two rows of shelves about three feet deep, and there the three sets which belong to the service are kept, one-third of them being on the floor. Mrs. Harrison says that of the 1000 pieces, made at so great an expense in the Haves Administration, there are not more than four hundred left. Wo-men all over the land know how it is not to have enough silver knives and forks to go round, and they have all felt the anguish of seeing the most distinguished guest get the plated one by mis-take. But who would dream that the White House would not have enough knives and forks to go around, and yet it is true. Every time fifty people set down to a state dinner there two of them take their bouillon from plated spoons, their terrapin from plated forks and cut the fillet of beef with plated knives.

It is a horrible thought, but there are only four dozen genuine silver knives, forks and spoons in the butler's pantry, and by the most skilful ingenuity they cannot be made to do duty for fifty people. There is one set of knives and forks in the sideheard which has a history for it the sideboard which has a history, for it cost a President his re-election. These are the gold knives and forks which Van Buren added, and when the people learned that the public moneys were being taken to put gold spoons in Presidents' mouths they promptly defeated him. Now, the truth of the matter is that they are not gold at all, and the people were hasty in their judgment. They are solid silver washed with gold, and it was only a few years ago—in President Arthur's day—that they began to wear off, and disclose the hoax. He had them rewashed, and they are still used on state occasions. They are small, fine-bladed and much more delicate than those commonly in use in this day. Many of the larger pieces of silver date back to Madison's day, although no memoranda have been kept. and it is hard to tell when things were

The busiest place in the whole Executive Mansion is in the basement, over which Dolly Johnson, the colored cook, presides. Dolly is a tall, fine-looking presides. Dolly is a tall, fine-looking woman, light of color and probably not much over thirty. President Harrison secured her a short time ago from Kentucky, and, from all accounts, Dolly knows how to suit a Presidential appetite much better than the former cook, Mme. Pelouard, whose fanciful French cooking was not at all to the plain American taste. Mary Robinson makes the pies bakes the bread and fries the crullers and is the assistant of Mistress Dolly Johnson, who confines her ambitions to brewing soups and basting meats. The two can get up a dinner that would put Phillipini, Nicolini and all the other \$10,000 chefs to the test. Delmonico has no more juicy meats than Dolly draws from her oven, and Vanderbilt's own com ner oven, and Vanderbilt's own chef cannot put up a better pastry than Mary. They both wear tidy dresses of Dutch-blue calico and big white aprons that cover them from head to foot, but neither of them wear caps, as the last suggestion of livery is unallowable at the White House.

There are two kitchens in which Dolly There are two kitchens in which Dolly Johnson can carry out her dream of cookery, one under the private diningroom and of the same size and the other under the serving-room and butler's pantry. The first is used when a state dinner is under way, and in the second the preparations for each day are made. The kitchens are as neat as a pair of pins, but they haven't the appointments of the kitchens that are now added to five thousand dollar houses, and one cannot help sand dollar houses, and one cannot help wishing that the people who do so adore the quaint, historic White House would get a peep into these dark, illy furnished rooms. The upper floors of the quaint, historic White House are bad enough, but the basement would be condemned by even a modern building inspector.

Acres the hall from the kitchen is the

steward's room, a large apartment under the state dining-room. It is tastefully furnished with carpet and chairs sent from the upper rooms, and contains a large desk, where Mr. McKim enters the marketing in books as large as it takes to enter the deposits at the Treasury. He comes in about 11 from the Centre Mar-ket, where everything in the way of comes in about 11 from the Centre Mar-ket, where everything in the way of meats and vegetables are bought for the White House, enters these purchases and each month draws up a summary of the month's expenditures, which I have heard are of a size to make an ordinary man whistle "Razzle Dazzle," with all the mournful intonations of that pathetic song. The walls of the steward's room song. The walls of the steward' are lined with closets which can be put under lock and key, for he has charge of every valuable in the White House and has to give a pretty sum as bail for their safekeeping. Beyond the steward's has to give a precy safekeeping. Beyond the steward's room are the sleeping rooms and on the opposite side the big furnace room, while at the extreme end of the hall is a billiard room where a President and his opponent frequently chalk the cue.

But the laundry—that is worth seeing, for a cleaner room cannot be imagined.

It is large and light and off one corner is a little carpeted ironing room. There is an old-fashioned New England fireplace there which was built in the wall as far back as the time when Abigail Adams came down from Boston and wrote back such gruesome accounts of the "barn-like" East Room, which she could put to no better use than to dry her clothes This fireplace is still used for heating the boiler for the Monday's wash, which oc-curs as regularly here as in the family of any orderly citizen. It is formed of hard-baked plaster and looks as though it would easily stand another century. A large laundry stove stands in the middle of the room covered by two terraces of "flats" which the three white women— Johanna, Mary and Miss Grass keep changing the live-long day. They are tidy, pleasant-faced women, and can outdo Ah Sing in the polishing business. There are thirteen regular house servants, although eight or nine more are em ployed about the grounds and conserva-

There is still another room where one can get an idea of Mrs. Harrison's house keeping. It is the linen closet on the second floor. The linen was formerly kept in the damp closets in the steward's room, but Mrs. Harrison noticed one day that there could be a closet amply large made behind the elevator and she had the space walled in, shelves built, and now the White House has a matchless linen closet. It is under the care of Josephine, Mrs. Harrison's maid, and a and and a whiff of it is like a breath from a meadow in May, for it is kept so clean and sweet. Everything is initialled with "U. S." in white linen, although one set of napkins has the initials in white, with a faint line of red. The napkins are all a yard square and of the finest damask. Mrs. Harrison has added to the stock since she has been in the White House, and there is one set of dinner linen that was used at the first state dinner that is as fine and soft as silk.

Japan's Staple Crop.

Rice is the staple crop of Japanese farmers, large and small, and consists of two varieties. The most popular is similar to that produced in our Southern States. The plants are started in hot beds, and when the seedlings are five to six inches high, along in May, they are transplanted into fields which have been flooded by irrigation or otherwise most of the time since the harvesting of the previous crop in October and November. After the plowing, which is done in the primitive style characteristic of that region, the plants are put in tufts of several plants about six inches apart, and the natives wade about in the water and mud in setting them out. The fields are hoed every two weeks. The grain is cut had in setting them out. The grain is cut with a sickle, made into bundles and left to dry in the fields. When dried, the rice is threshed by flails, separated from the chaff, and the hulls removed by pounding in a mortar. With the intro-duction of new machinery and more modern processes, it is expected that rice culture in Japan will become a lead-ing industry, and a source of consider-able wealth to the nation, instead of being, as now, raised almost wholly for home consumption.—American Agriculturist.

A Live Frog in a Rock. Many well authenticated stories of the finding of live toads and frogs in solid rock are on record, and that such things are possible was demonstrated here on Thursday afternoon, when a workman engaged in Varley & Everill's lime rock quarry, north of the city, broke open a large piece of rock, which had been blasted out, and a frog hopped out of a pocket in the centre of the stone. Of course, the occurrence created a tre-mendous sensation among the workmen and operations at the quarry were for the time suspended, and the movements of the frog were watched with great in-terest. The animal was somewhat smaller than the ordinary frog and was perfectly white. Its eyes were unusually large and very brilliant, but the frog was apparent ly blind. Where the mouth should have been there was only a line, and on the feet there was a dark, horny substance. Mr. Everill at once took charge of the currosity and put it in a tin can, but the frog died yesterday morning. He brought it downtown and it was examined with interest by a large number of people, and it was afterward presented to the museum, where it will be preserved in alcohol.—Satt Lake Herald.

An Old Confederate Shoe.

An Old Confederate Shoe.

The editor of the Greensboro (Ga.)

Herald-Journal has an old Confederate
shoe, manufactured for the Government
in 1862, just before the war ended. The
sole is fully three-quarters of on inch
thick and is made of poplar wood, evidently shaped with a hatchet or drawing
knife. The upper is attached to the sole
with a strip of rawhide, running entirely
around the shoe, the leather being held
to the sole with large carpet tacks. The
upper is of rough cowhide, dressed only
on the inside.—Atlanta Constitution.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

There is enough tin in the Black Hills, Dakota, to supply the country for ages. It takes about three seconds for a message to go from one end of the Atlantic cable to the other.

Black silks are often "weighted" with various chemicals to the amount of 100, 200 and 300 per cent.

Numerous companies are organizing in Kentucky to bore for gas and oil, to be piped long distances. Dr. Chamberland, Pasteur's chief as-

sistant, has discovered that cinnamon is fatal to the typhoid microbe.

The practice of dyeing Easter eggs is said to have led to the discovery of the value of albumen as a mordant. Oxalic acid dissolved in water and mixed, if desired, with a little tartaric

acid will remove ink stains from white paper. An electric ice cutter that will do better and quicker work than twenty-five horses, plow, men and leaders has been

invented. Of the 108 new roses produced during the year 1889, just seventy-three are credited by a Vienna journal to France, and only five to the United States.

The manufacture from pine needles of coarse cloth for cotton bagging, and of excellent matting are noted as rising industries in some parts of the South.

An Ansonia (Conn.) druggist has an electric bell in a cabinet containing poisons. When the door opens the bell rings, reminding the compounder that he is handling poisons.

An English naval officer has invented a pneumatic line-throwing gun, very light and portable, which fires a hollow shell bearing the cord to a wrecked vessel or into a burning building on dry

An enterprising Chinaman in Mnneap lis is arranging for an electric ironer in his laundry, and proposes before another year to cut down laundry rates so low, as to drive all his competitors out of the

It is claimed that wall paper can be made in such a way that the passage of low tension electric currents will heat it moderately warm to the touch and diffuse throughout the room an agreeable temperature.

A new red glass has been recently produced in Germany. Besides its use for for the manufacture of bottles, goblets and vases of various kinds, it is applicable in photography and in chemists' and opticians' laboratories.

An accepted authority says the spring An accepted authority says the spring onion is a great sleep inducer, and about equal to quinine for malaria. It is kept out of its most useful province by the prejudice against the odor. This may be overcome by hypnotism, and made a nasal delight.

A florist in London has adopted the pretty plan of hanging trails of moss over and around the electric lights in his window. The green and yellow tints of the delicate leaves form a graceful and dainty yell for the light which glimmers through them without being diminished.

The London Lancet recommends a beverage made from the new kolanut as substitute for tea and coffee. tains very little tannin, not much more caffeine, and its power of rehabilitating after fatigue and allaying the pangs of hunger are such that it might be an army on the march in place of regular rations.

The ographing of caves or other chambers underground, where a portable camera can be easily installed, offers no particular difficulty, and it is a comparatively simple matter to obtain curious and interesting views under such circum-stances, illuminating the bowels of the earth by burning magnesium tape, which gives a brilliant light by means of which surrounding objects can be photographed.

Gradual Extermination of Birds.

It is not necessary to tell any one who has any observation of the matter that the past six or eight years has witnessed so complete a destruction of bird life in this section as to amount almost to extermination. Let any one who remembers how our fields and forests ten or fifteen how our fields and forests ten or fifteen years ago teemed with the American and French mocking birds, thrushes, wrens, jay and catbirds, woodpeckers, yellow hammers, sparrows and the several game birds, take note of how few may be seen nowadays in the longest ride he may take along our roads, or longest stroll amid our woods. One cannot fail to see that there are no hirds compared to the numhere are no birds compared ber that existed a dozen years ago. Truly, the roads are lifeless, and the woods are silent so far as the absence of birds are silent so far as the absence of birds can make it so. A few years ago the mania for making egg collections prevailed among the boys from one end of the country to the other; simultaneously with this, fashion decreed that the thing to do was to decorate the ladies' hats: and between the two, what is the result?-

A Cure for Squinting.

A cure for Squinting.

A cure for squinting, which is not so unsightly as the method at present generally adopted—black goggles with a hole in the centre—is highly recommended. Let the person afflicted take any pair of spectacles that suit his sight, or even plain glass, and in the centre of one lens let him gum a small blue or black wafer (or spot of black photo, varnish or Brunswick black) about the size of a tencent piece. The result is that the double image vanishes, and the eye, without fatigue or heat, is forced to look straight, and with time and patience is cured.—

Courier-Journal. Courier-Journal.

Mighty Thin Leaves of Gold.

The gold beaters of Berlin at the The gold beaters of Berlin at the Paris Exposition showed gold leaves so thin that it would require 282,000 to produce the thickness of a single inch, yet each leaf was so perfect and free from holes as to be impenetrable by the strongest electric light. If these leaves were bound in book form it would take 15,000 to fill the space of ten common book leaves.—Jewelers' Review.

Twenty Million Stars in View

tronomers say that the fabulous per of 20,000,000 stars, all aglow. number of 20,000,000 stars, all aglow, can be seen with a powerful microscope. When we consider that the nearest of these is 200,000 times as far from us as the sun, and that it would take from three and a half to twenty-one years for the light which reaches us to cease if they were extinguished, we cannot grasp and hold the vast conception in our minds. Yet it is supposed that each of these is a central sun, with its own colony of planets circling round it, which in size are vastly superior to those of our own solar system, and are traveling through space with such speed that it of our own solar system, and are traveling through space with such speed that it is impossible for us to comprehend it. The star Sirius is said to be moving fifty-four miles a second, or 194,400 miles per hour, a flaming mass, leading its brood of planets through illimitable space.—New York Telegram.

A Daring Mountain Climber.

Dr. Hans Meyer, the German mountain explorer, intends to try to reach the top of Kenia, the second highest mountain in Africa. Kenia is about 19,mountain in Africa. Kenna is about 19,000 feet high, only 700 feet lower than
Kibo, the higher summit of KilimaNjaro, and is perpetually snow-crowned.
Dr. Meyer will be accompanied by Ludwig Purtscheller, and will go equipped
with ice axes, snow spectacles, Alpine
ropes, climbing irons, rubber coverings
and sheepskin sleeping bags and blankets.

New York Sun.

Mexico is crowding California with cheap fruit, especially oranges.

Among the passengers on the La begagne, which recently sailed for Europe, was nr. Alred B. Scott, of Scott & Bowne, proprietors of Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil. This is one of his periodical trips to attend to the affairs of the firm, which has branch houses in London, Paris, Barcelona, Milan and Oporto.

A SUBMARINE cable is to be laid this sum-ner, between Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Ber-

muda.

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