

THE DECORATING MANIA.

CHARLES and his wife... she's a smart girl... I own it's sort of a fashionable air.

CHARLES and his wife...

And said the soon could give our house a fashionable air. 'You needn't purchase things, says she, with a superior smile...

MARYLAND, MY MARYLAND.

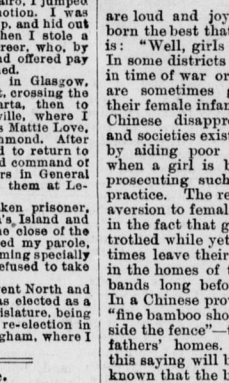
usually fertile, but these Dutch were bitter enemies of the South. I learned that Colonel Kibble had a brother there after swimming two swollen creeks and having two battles with Craig's soldiers...

ADVENTURES OF A SPY.

A STORY THAT READS LIKE A PAGE FROM A WORK OF FICTION. The Remarkable Career of Major W. C. Gorman, a Spy in the Service of the Confederates...

CHINESE CHILDREN.

HOW BOYS AND GIRLS ARE REARED AND EDUCATED. Character of Chinese Village Schools - Studies of the Young - Their Games and Amusements - Tales Which Edify the Embryo Mandarin - Selections from a Popular Chinese Story-Book.



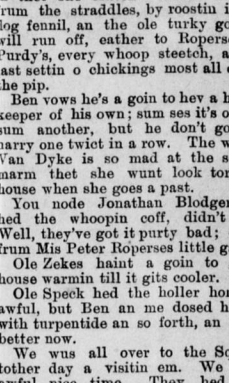
LAI-TSE AMUSING HIS PATIENTS.

LETTERS FROM THE CORNERS.

Letter from Grandmother. When George Washington kim up from the store for his supper, he fetched me a letter from the school marm's grammar; it red: "Dear Mis Scooper-I take my pen in hand to write you in a few lines to let you no that we air all well, an I hope these few lines will find you all the same."

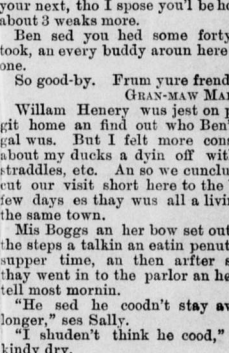
IN THE DARK.

When I kissed her that night in the hallway 'Twas so dark that nothing was plain; And my kisses were like the softest rain. Why, 'twas right I should kiss her again.



A CHINESE HOME.

useful plant which grows in the Flower Kingdom. Its young shoots, much like great asparagus plants, are used for food, and out of the wood of the tree are made kitchen and table utensils, chop-sticks, tables, chairs, and umbrellas, and mats, sails, and cordage of boats.



"PERFECTLY DUTIFUL" AND THE EMPEROR.

Editor-It's no use-I'm desperate! There's no support in this one-horse town for a live parer, anyhow! Editor-(twenty minutes later, writing)-Business is booming. Our pulp-ripped fellow-townsmen, Mr. Elihu Be-klots, has just left a gallon jug of prime hard cider, in payment for six months' subscription. Thanks, Elihu.



Fitted by Experience.

A Massachusetts avenue lady wanted a coachman, and one was recommended whom she interviewed. "I want very safe and careful driver," she said. "That's me, mum," responded the applicant, confidently. "I'm nervous about horses and I don't want to drive fast, and I don't want to go 'round the corners with a whiff."

Chief of Montana Regulators (nudging the prisoner)-"Some of the boys here just come in with the feller that really did steal the mule. You're honest, and we've give you this innocent 'pin' for nothing. I'm mighty sorry for the mistake, pard."

Prisoner (putting on his vest and coat)-"Don't mention it. It's nothing. I'm a Mormon missionary."

Love by Wire. Said a Maine telegraph operator to the writer the other day: "You wouldn't think that spoony lovers would resort to such public means of correspondence as the telegraph for the transmission of their sweet little messages of love and devotion, would you? They do, just the same."

Very often a certain young man in this place, if he does not regularly receive a letter from the future source of his joy and happiness, rushes here with a crestfallen countenance and files a message like this: "My dear, why did you not answer my last letter? Yours devotedly, 'Sophia.'"

"Perhaps you don't believe that such a message as this was ever sent, but I would show some of them to you if it wasn't against the rules. "We follow on the wire enjoyed quite an amusing incident not very long ago, in which Sophia sort of gave away John's brilliant scheme of popping the question by wire. We surmised that this brace of folly's victims had been conducting a correspondence for some time, which the artful John culminated with the following dispatch, which was evidently intended to draw forth an answer to an entirely different question: "SOPHIA: Did you receive my last letter?"

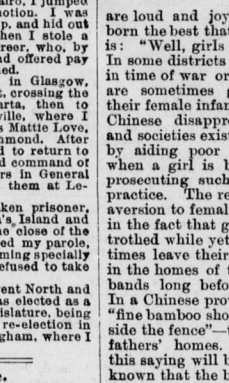
"JOHN: Yes. How about next Christmas? SOPHIA: "This gave the thing dead away, and John was much chagrined when he received it. It accomplished its purpose, and the couple are now the couple soaring in the rapturous realm of double bliss." -Leviathan Journal.

The Chatelaine Fad. The best of the new devices of belt and chatelaine show a great deal of antique silver and plenty of pretty ornaments. The chatelaine is a pretty device under any circumstances, and when suspended against the right style of a gown adds a great deal to its appearance. One of the ordinary articles is of antique silver, and has chains whereby to hang a velvet or leather bag with a silver snap, a note-book, pencil, scented-bottle, and watch.

Beauty is skin deep, that's why it doesn't show much on the rhinoceros. In the Chow dynasty there was a man named Lyon Lai-tse. When he was 70 years old he used to put on bright, many-colored clothes to attract the attention of his aged parents and play like a child to amuse them.

When I reached my room I found that I was a very old man.

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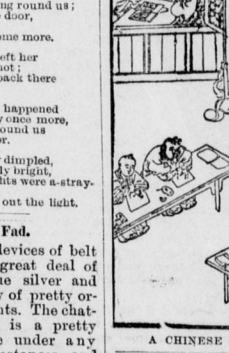


A CHINESE VILLAGE SCHOOL.

etc., which is written on the class-books and copy-slips. In the north of China the summers are very hot and the winters very cold. There, in summer time-especially in July and August-the children are scarcely clothed at all. Little cotton garments and sometimes gauze tunics compose their full dress.

most every village has a school which the sons of the rich and poor attend together. Rich people have private tutors for their elder boys and never allowed to attend the village school. The education of Chinese girls is comprised in learning to cook, sew, embroider, and sometimes to play the organ, read, and write. Their chief occupation while young is silk-

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