A Farewell.

Come not to my grave with your mournings,
With your lamentations and tears,
With your sad forebodings and fears·
When my lips are dumb,
Do not come!

Bring no long train of carriages,
No hearse crowned with waving plumes,
Which the gaunt glory of Death illumes;
But with hands on my breast
Let me rest.

If, in my fair youth time, attended
By hope and delight every day,
I could spurn the sweet baseness of clay,
Can you honor me, try
Till you die.

Insult not my dust with your pity,
Ye who're left on this desolate shore,
Still to suffer and lose and deplore—
'Tis I should, as I do,
Pity you.

For me no more are the hardships,
The bitterness, heartaches and strife,
The sadness and sorrow of life,
But the glory divine –
This is mine!

Poor creatures! Afraid of the darkness,
Who groan at the anguish to come.
How silent I go to my home!
Cease your sorrowful bell;
I am well.

RUMOR OF THE DAY.

Although an expert penman may rise to distinction he will never make "his mark."

The cultured no longer call it hash. Mosaic nutriment is the correct form. —*Transcript.*

A Milwaukee woman has kept a kettle of boiling water on the stove for the past twenty-two years in order to scald burglars.

A young lady of Missouri slashed an insulting fop with a knife. She probably wanted to cut a swell.—*Courier-Journal.*

A woman has suggested that when men break their hearts it is all the same as when a lobster breaks one of his claws, another sprouting immediately and growing in its place.—*Hartford Times.*

A trade journal gives directions for preserving harness. Preserved harness may be considered very palatable to those who like that sort of thing, but we don't want a bit in our mouth.—*Norristown Herald.*

A man advertised for a "helpmate, who shall be a companion of my heart, my head, my lot." A candidate for the situation wrote: "I don't care to know anything about your head or heart; but how big is your lot?"

The postoffice department has ruled that a husband has no control over the correspondence of his wife. But this decision will not prevent a man from carrying his wife's letter in his inside coat pocket three weeks before mailing it.—*Picayune.*

A poet wooed a beauteous maid,
And by his honeyed rhymes
Did win her heart; but when had passed
The tender courting times
He found her obstinate, and asked
The fair one to rehearse
The reason: she replied 'twas cause
He'd gotten her per verse.
—*Yonker's Gazette.*

Mrs. Yerger is one of the most extravagant women in Austin. On the recent occasion of her husband's birthday, she presented him with an elegant pocketbook, saying: "Now, my dear, whenever you take out this pocketbook, think of me." "You bet I will," he replied, with a vociferous heartiness that surprised her.—*Siftings.*

"Papa, what is a tornado?" asked a young hopeful. "My son," said the father, glancing cautiously around to see if the coast was clear, "did you hear your mother tell me this morning what she thought of a man who would stay out all night to see the comet?" "Yes, sir," replied the awe-stricken boy. "Well, that was about as near a tornado as a man can get without being hurt. But you needn't tell your mother I said so."—*New York Commercial.*

A well-known and eccentric minister of Newburyport was many years ago being ferried over to Ring island to see a sick brother. The night was stormy and the timid divine was praying audibly, when the ferryman said: "Parson, I shouldn't think such a good man as you are would be afraid anywhere." "Good gracious!" said the minister, with considerable display of temper, "You don't suppose I want to go to heaven by water, do you?"—*Boston Journal.*

The Manufacture of Tiles.

Tiles, being a thinner ware than bricks, have to be made of a purer and stronger clay. They also require more careful treatment, but the process of manufacture is not essentially different. There are many varieties of tiles, but for practical purposes they may be reduced to three, namely, paving tiles, roofing tiles and drain tiles. In weathering, the clay is spread in layers of about two inches thickness during winter, and each layer is allowed the benefit of at least one night's frost before the succeeding layer is put upon it.

Sometimes the process is affected by sunshine. The comminuted clay is next placed in pits and allowed to mellow or ripen under water. Then it is passed through the pug mill, and the tempered product cut in thin slices with a piece of wire fixed to two handles, in order to detect any stone, and then passed through the pug mill again, after which it is generally ready for molding. To take the case of pan tiles (hand molded) the molder turns the tile out of the flat mold on to the washing-off frame, on the covered surface of which, with very wet hands, he washes it into a curved shape. Then he strikes it with a semi-cylindrical instrument called the splaver, and conveys it on this to the flat block, where he deposits it, with the convex side uppermost, and, removing the splaver, leaves the tile to dry. The tile is afterward beaten on the thwacking frame, to correct any warping that may have occurred, and trimmed with the thwacking knife. In the kiln, which is constructed with arched furnaces at the base of a conical erection called the dome, the tiles are closely stacked in upright position, on a bottom of vitrefied bricks. The fuel used is coal, and burning continues usually about six days. In making pipe drain tiles, the clay is first molded to a proper length, width and thickness, then wrapped around a drum; the edges are closed together and the tile is carefully shaped by the operator's hand, sometimes assisted by a wooden tool. Tiles as well as bricks can be made by machinery; with suitable dies almost any form of tile may be thus had, which is producible by the advance of a given section of clay parallel to itself. In other machines pressure is exerted on the clay in a mold.—*American Pottery Reporter.*

Vaccination is henceforth to be compulsory in China. One cause for popular opposition to it is that it is the practice there to vaccinate children on the tip of the nose. A reward of half a tael, which the government has offered for every child vaccinated, has not been sufficient to persuade parents in easy circumstances to disfigure their children in this way; and a law has therefore been promulgated punishing the failure to vaccinate by fine and imprisonment.

One of the sweetest-looking girls in the State of Missouri dislocated her shoulder the other day by kicking a cat. Beauty is a mighty deceiving thing, young man.

The profits of Barnum's show last summer is stated to have been $600,000.

Wolf-Children.

In depicting the temper and disposition of the wolf, such adjectives as 'ruthless, cunning and treacherous" are invariably used, and with perfect justice. It would appear, therefore, at first sight almost incredible that there should be many instances on record where children have been carried away; and instead of being devoured, as would assuredly have been the case had the marauder been a panther or leopard, they have been suckled, tended and reared by them. Some of these have afterward been recovered, and at this moment there exists a specimen wolf-child at Secundra, a small missionary station a few miles from Agra; so that the story of Romulus and Remus may not be so entirely without foundation as we have hitherto been led to suppose.

Wolves as a rule prey upon the flocks and herds of the inhabitants of the villages in whose neighborhood they have made their dens, and upon such wild animals as they can hunt down and capture. Among these latter may be mentioned the gazelle-antelope and the black-buck; and many and ingenious are the devices they resort to in order to achieve their purpose. But in the northwestern provinces of India, as about Agra, in Oude and Rajpootana, they are also very destructive to children. Hindoos of all classes are exceedingly superstitious regarding the destruction of these predatory brutes, and consider the individual who has been unfortunate enough to shed a drop of wolf's blood doomed to suffer some grievous calamity. Hence, though a government reward of three rupees per head is offered, it is only the very lowest of all castes—the "Domes or Dungars," as they are called—who will take the trouble to snare and destroy wolves. These people lead a vagrant life and bivouac in the jungles, and have no superstitious dread of killing any living thing.

The following hypothesis may explain how it comes to pass that so cruel and relentless an animal as the wolf should sometimes be found enacting the interesting part of foster-mother to one of the human species. A female with cubs goes prowling about in search of food for its young, and succeeds in ravishing an Indian home of its infant for that purpose. The cubs, for some reason or other—not oversensitiveness, certainly, but because their carnivorous instincts are as yet comparatively dormant—merely lick the child all over. This probably, according to the code of wolfish etiquette, is equivalent to having eaten salt with an Arab, and the infant is henceforth adopted by the parent and suckled and brought up with the cubs. Although the human tendency is to go on two legs, we know that even among ourselves babies commence by crawling. Now, man is essentially an imitative animal, and seeing the wolves going on all-fours, the alien naturally tries the same method of progression. It would appear, however, that it has found the hands ill-adapted for use in lieu of forefeet, and as a rule the elbows are employed for that purpose; in consequence of this choice, the knees too have to be used instead of the feet, and hence horny excresences are usually found on both the knees and the elbows.

Perhaps the subjoined true narrative of a wolf-child that has been captured in India may prove interesting.

One morning many years ago Mr. H—, who happened at the time to be magistrate and collector of the Etawah district, was out riding, accompanied by a couple of sowars or mounted orderlies. They were passing over a portion of road that lay in the vicinity of the ravines of the river Junma, when two half-grown wolf-cubs crossed their path; and following them more slowly, came a very remarkable-looking creature, which shambled along on all fours in an extraordinarily uncouth fashion. This [illegible] wolf-child. Letting the [illegible] unmolested, the three men proceeded to hunt down the human cub, and succeeded in bringing it to bay. As they wished to take the creature alive, and were altogether unwilling to hurt it in any way, they found the greatest difficulty in attempting to secure it; for it fought, bit and clawed with extreme fierceness and pertinacity; indeed, having driven it into a corner, Mr. H— and one of the sowars had to mount guard, while the other native proceeded to the nearest village and got a stout blanket for the purpose of throwing it over its head; and it was by this means that the capture was at length effected. All the way home the wolf-child behaved like a mad thing, screaming and howling, now piteously, now in a paroxysm of impotent rage. It was, however, taken to Mr. H—'s house; but it would not be comforted, and for a long time refused all kinds of food, including raw meat. The creature was a boy of about nine years of age; and it may be here stated that no female wolf child has ever been heard of or seen. It is not easy to assign a sufficient reason for the fact that females have never been so discovered unless we suppose that, being less vigorously constituted, they have been unable to withstand the terrible hardships of such an existence, and have very soon sickened and died.—*Chambers' Journal.*

The Rag Business.

The rag business in any large city is one of no mean importance. In New York there are estimated to be 2,000 Italian rag-pickers, averaging in earnings about thirty-five cents per day each, and picking up $750,000 worth of rags in the course of a year. This class get their rags from ash barrels, gutters, etc., while there is another class that go from house to house with carts, buying, who do a business of $3,000,000 per year. Besides these there is the regular purchaser. Cotton rags are the only kind imported, there being no duty, and they come from almost every city in the world. This variety brings from one and one-fourth to six cents a pound, according to condition and quality. Those coming from foreign countries are more worn and dirtier than those got from home, and the latter bring the best prices. Last year's importations of cotton rags were $10,000,000, and the total business in this kind is placed at $22,000,000. Woolen rags, in which a business of $9,000,000 annually is said to be done in New York, are used in manufacturing shoddies, and are gathered from Eastern and Western cities. None are imported, the tariff amounting to twelve cents per pound, while the rags are worth from three to thirty-five cents. About eight hundred dealers, distinct from the Italians and purchasers of housewives, make New York their place of business, out of which number one hundred and fifty are large operators. Less than a dozen large houses are credited with being capable of controlling the rag market. Twenty-five years ago the rag business was unknown in New York.

A Weakness for Hats.

A man has just been convicted at a Paris police court for stealing a hat from a cafe. It appears that it was his practice to go into a cafe bareheaded and come out with the best hat he could lay his hands on. In this case he had taken the hat of a man who boasted that he had the biggest head in the city. At the prisoner's lodgings no less than forty-seven hats were discovered. The prisoner pleaded that he was absent-minded and had no head at all; the judge thought he had too many hats for a man with no head and gave him six months' imprisonment.

FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

Wash for Fruit Trees.

The object in applying a wash to trees is not so much to remove the rough and scaly outer bark as to destroy the parasitic plants which adhere to the surface of the bark and sap the vitality of the tree by a constant drain upon the circulating current. One form of wash is made by adding one pound of whale oil soap to three gallons of warm water, stirring well and applying with a stiff broom or brush. The trunk should be rubbed thoroughly and hard to remove as much as possible of loose bark, so that the liquid may reach every part of the surface. Another good wash is a weak lye from wood ashes. A third wash is made by adding two quarts of soft water to one gallon of common soft soap. Place these in a vessel over the fire, and when warm the soap and water are readily combined by stirring, and should be applied in the same manner as the whale oil application. The best results are obtained by washing the tree about three times during the season, applying the first in March or April, the second in June and the last in August. The insects as well as moss will be effectually removed, leaving the bark in a fine healthy condition.—*Western Farmer.*

How to Store Potatoes.

To store potatoes properly we have to guard against heating, for although the potato will not absolutely ferment by heat, as so much vegetable matter will, a heap becomes warm enough to excite any germ-fungus there may be in the tuber, and this exhalation may be sufficient to cause decay, which can be communicated to roots in which no symptom of rot exists. Moisture is favorable to heating and hence it is best to have the potato thoroughly dry before storing, if any considerable quantity is to be put away in bulk. Thus, if they are spread on a barn floor or other cool place out of the sun, before putting into a root-cellar, they will be safe against rotting. When potatoes are perfectly healthy there is not so much necessity for this care in drying. Hundreds of bushels are often taken at once from the field to the cellar without any damage whatever resulting, and it is only in view of the possibility of rot that we think it advisable to take the extra precaution in drying. It is well to note that a cool shed is best to dry them in, as the tubers will otherwise absorb more heat than when they come out of the ground, and this is what we try to avoid.—*New Hampshire Patriot.*

Slobbering Horses.

Says the Fredericks (N. B.) *Maritime Farmer:* Some horses will slobber nearly all they eat; others when they eat certain plants, usually in early summer, and others are never known to do so. Horses thus affected will, when their diet is much restricted, sometimes cease the habit. Clean timothy and red-top hay, and clean oats fed in the straw (clean meaning free from weeds or other plants,) will usually cause a confirmed case of slobbering to stop temporarily. A little clover, clover-hay, ragweed in the oats, and many other weeds, are liable to start it again, in fact will be quite sure to do so. Thus it is clear that the tendency is constitutional in the animal, that a cause that would excite slobbering in one animal, will not affect another, and that it is excited by different plants which the horse uses for food, either in the green or dry state. Besides, the habit is said to come from partial paralysis of the nerves of the face, or of one side of the face. Usually, however, it comes from some article of food, and it is more often caused by the second growth clover than anything else. Veterinarians have recommended astringents to be employed in solution, the mouth being washed with a decoction [illegible] a diet of clov[er] [illegible] salivary secretion most violently. [illegible] a few days a return is made to different food, with the hope that this sudden change would stop the excessive secretion of saliva, which it almost always does for a while.

Value of Sheep Manure.

Sheep manure, from its coldness, does not ferment like horse dung, and therefore retains its value much longer than the excrement of the horse or man. It ranks among the very best of the manures produced by animals, especially from those sheep that are fed with rich food for fattening purposes. As has been already stated, mastication of sheep is so perfect there is no danger of weed seeds coming up after having passed through the stomach of a sheep. Both the urine and the dung are very rich in fertilizing properties. Urea, the active principle of urine, has a very large quantity of nitrogen in it, and sheep's urine contains, according to one of our best analysists, twenty-eight parts of urea in every 1,000 parts and twelve parts of salt, among which is a large proportion of phosphoric acid. In 100 parts of the dung of sheep there are sixty-eight per cent. of water, 19.3 of animal and vegetable matter, and 12.7 per cent. of saline matters. This 19.3 per cent. of organic matter contains as much nitrogen, which is the value of manures chiefly, as forty-three parts of horse dung, sixty-three parts of hog manure, or 125 parts of cow dung, and is equal to 100 parts of the ordinary stable or barnyard manure. It is much dryer than other manures, having but little water, comparatively speaking. For instance, let a horse receive 100 parts of dry fodder, and he will defecate 216 pounds of fresh manure, which, being dried, makes forty-six pounds of dry manure, while the sheep, with the same food, would give but 123 pounds of fresh manure, making forty-three pounds of dried. This is manure made with the ordinary method of feeding, such as hay, fodder and such grass as they can pick up. But when sheep are fed with grain or other highly stimulating food for fattening purposes, with food rich in albumen and phosphates, the oil and starch only are assimilated and go to the formation of fat and flesh, while the remainder, including the larger part of the salts, goes to the manure heap, thus adding very greatly to its value as a land application. This fact has long been known and used to the improvement of land by the English farmer and must be learned and practiced by our people. The declining fertility of our soil calls loudly for all the aid we can give it, and it is time to recognize the fact that if we continue to draw from the land and never put anything to it it will after awhile cease to respond to our calls upon it.—*Killibrew's Sheep Husbandry.*

Lice on Cattle.

There is not a cattle owner in the land who does not know the great injury sustained by his stock when they are afflicted with the presence of cattle lice, nor how great are the difficulties when the vermin have once obtained a good hold, to completely dislodge them. During the current year there has been much discussion in the leading agricultural journals on this subject, in which many of the leading stock men have participated, in which nearly every writer has made the statement that his skill in effecting a riddance is candidly admitted. In some of our late exchanges we find the following remedy offered by Mr. C. W. Tenney, of Plymouth, Iowa, which with him has proved effective:

Take common larkspur seed and steep it, and wash thoroughly every part of the body. I have known one application to destroy every insect and egg. Two will suffice if done thoroughly. I give in addition two other remedies that I consider more efficacious than the other: mercurial ointment, kerosene and lard, tobacco smoke, a wash of tobacco (and, by the way, this is the only thing tobacco is fit for) or sulphur in salt. These all will sometimes injure the stock. It is this dry dust gathered from the road and sifted and put in a box for winter (nature's remedy); rub it well in, and as they hatch repeat. Also pulverized charcoal mixed with dust is still better. I have heard that fine Indian meal or shorts were good, used in the same way. I know they are good to apply inside. When an animal is affected it should be immediately removed from the other stock and thoroughly treated, and not allowed to run until the whole herd is covered.

The old-fashioned larkspur is the best, as it bears the most seed and is perennial. A small patch will supply all the seed you will or ought to need.

Breeding for Eggs.

D. Z. Evans, Jr., says in *American Agriculturist:* Aside from breeding poultry "to feather," to be sold as high class thoroughbred fowls at high prices, there is more profit in breeding poultry for eggs than for flesh. This is especially true for those near large cities, where buyers are willing to pay roundly for really fresh eggs. The prices for such eggs are from ten to thirty per cent. higher than the regular market rates; and where the producer can meet the consumer, deliver the eggs and collect the cash himself, without any expense for transportation, commission, etc., the profits are correspondingly large, and the risks of loss reduced to the minimum. There are multitudes who have large plots of ground not far from town, who could materially increase their incomes by keeping fair-sized flocks of good laying hens, and without requiring much time from their regular business. It is not good policy, however, either to keep too many birds on a single place or to attempt to make a living entirely from poultry, without having considerable experience in breeding profitably for market, and even then it is not wise to give up a comfortable salary to go into breeding poultry extensively. The best way is to "make haste slowly." The flocks can be increased with experience, until it is proved beyond a doubt that enough can be made from the poultry to warrant an entire dependence upon them for a living. This is the true way, not only with poultry, but in any calling, where work must take the place of cash, in part at least.

The profits in poultry depend mainly upon the buildings in which the fowls spend much of their time. The high prices eggs command during the winter months, and in fact all through the cold weather of late fall and early spring, make it an object to get as many eggs as possible during those times by care and good feeding. Good hens will lay just as well at such times, if the necessary food and warmth is insured. Elaborate and expensive houses for poultry are not necessary. All desirable and practical purposes are served by making them of common, rough inch pine boards. These can be jointed on the edges so as to fit up tightly, with strips nailed on the joints, outside. Upon the entire inside surface put the common roofing felt, which will make a wind and rain-proof finish, and will go far toward insuring freedom from lice, mites and other insect enemies; the tar in the felting is decidedly unpleasant to the parasites. If there is some near-by building, such as a barn, granary or shed, the poultry house can be built against it as a back, and thus serve a material saving in lumber and work. The roof can be treated, outside and in, with the same [illegible] covering, which [illegible]-proof. The floor can [illegible] earth, raised a few inches [illegible] outside soil, so as to insure [free]dom from dampness and save the expense of floor lumber. A ground floor has another decided advantage over boards, in that it is more healthful and does not engender ailments of the feet, which are often caused by running constantly on hard floors. For ordinary houses, six to eight feet high in front, four to six feet at the back, and eight to ten feet wide, and as long as is necessary, will be found the most suitable, and this will generally cut the boards to the best advantage. When short pieces of boards are left over, they can be used for making the nesting boxes, coops, etc., and nothing need be wasted. For very cold localities, or extreme weather, arrange for having a small coal stove in the house. A half a ton of coal will last an entire season, as it is necessary to have but little fire at any time, merely enough to prevent frost. A wood fire is dangerous, irregular, and requires too much attention.

Recipes.

JELLY ROLLS.—Three eggs well beaten, add a cupful of sugar and beat more; stir in slowly a cupful of flour in which has been sifted a teaspoonful of cream tartar and half a teaspoonful of soda. Spread on a long tin; bake quickly and turn bottom upward on to a damp towel; spread over with jelly; roll it up and wrap the towel about it to cool. Cut it up in rings and it is quite ornamental. It should not get stale.

POP-OVERS.—One cup of milk, one cup of flour, one egg, a little salt. This will make one dozen cakes, one tablespoonful to each patty pan. Bake in hot oven.

POTATO RISSOLES.—Mash potatoes, salt and pepper to taste. Roll the potatoes into small balls, cover them with an egg and bread-crumbs, and fry in hot lard for about two minutes. Serve with tongue or ham.

APPLES STUFFED WITH SAUSAGE.—Remove the cores from sour apples without breaking them, stuff them with highly-seasoned sausage meat, and bake them until the meat is done, in a moderate oven; serve them hot, on toast, with the drippings in the pan poured over them. Any other chopped meat, raw or cooked, may be substituted for the sausage meat.

CARROT SOUP.—Take six or eight full-grown carrots, scrape them clean and rasp only the outer rind or soft red part, and if you have a ripe tomato, add it, sliced, to the raspings, but use no other vegetable except onions. While this is being done the broth of any kind of fresh meat which has been got ready should be heated and seasoned with a couple of onions fried in butter, but without pepper or any other kind of seasoning except a small quantity of mace and a little salt; put the raspings into two quarts of the skimmed broth, cover the stewpan close and let it simmer by the side of the fire for two or three hours.

Household Hints.

Oil may be removed from carpets by laying a thick blotting paper over them and pressing a hot flat-iron on it. Use a clean paper each time the operation is repeated.

Oxalic acid is excellent for destroying ink and rust stains on white goods. Dissolve it in lukewarm water and dip the spot in it and let it remain for a moment, and then rub it with the fingers.

China of any color, excepting white, may be easily and quickly mended with shellac. Place a little shellac on the broken pieces and, keeping them close together, hold them to a lighted candle. When the shellac is melted sufficiently, let it cool and harden, and it forms a strong cement.

Iron rust can be removed from linen and cotton clothes by a solution of salts of lemon, which can be purchased at any drug store. The druggist will give full directions how to use the salts. It is poisonous, and must be carefully handled.

Writing.

The first method of presenting thoughts to the eye was the pictorial system. This mode of writing is quite profusely given in the Egyptian hieroglyphics, which the priests employed in a symbolical and allegorical manner. The eye, for instance, became a symbol of Providence, the bird an emblem of swiftness, the scaling ladder a representative of a siege. Champollion claims that the hieroglyphics are divisible into three distinct classes—the symbolic, the phonetic and the figurative signs. It is unknown when picture writing was invented. Some writers affirm that letters came into use when the abbreviations of pictorial signs became necessary as the system extended. For example, two hands and a bow took the place of an archer; an eye and scepter signified a monarch. In time even these curtailed signs were found to be inadequate to the wants of the people in giving signs to thoughts. Figures were employed to represent language and its separate organic elements. It is unknown when alphabetic or letter-writing was first discovered. It is supposed that Moses was acquainted with the art of writing, which proves that its existence was known at a very early period. The Greeks and Romans asserted that the Phœnicians were the inventors of letters. Some attribute the invention of letters to Moses; others believe that Abraham knew the art of writing, and we are also told by some learned historians that Abel knew the use of letters. The Jewish rabbis say, "God created letters on the evening of the first Sabbath."

A very singular invention of a syllabic alphabet is related of a Cherokee Indian, who was ignorant of the English tongue and could not read a word in any language. This poor savage succeeded in producing in 1824 an alphabet so complete that he was able to write a letter. The Cherokees were delighted; the youth of the band traveled a great distance to learn the art of writing and reading, which, from the peculiarity of the alphabet and language, they could acquire in three days sufficient to practice themselves and teach other. Types for printing in this character have been cast. The appearance of the language thus printed is singularly uncouth and barbarous.

The invention of marks for punctuation is ascribed to Aristophanes, the famous Greek grammarian. Abbreviations of words were not made in ancient writing except upon coins and inscriptions. There are extant some remains of an ancient system of writing, in which all the characters are formed by different combinations of one simple element. No satisfactory method of interpretation has ever been given of these writings. Of all books now in existence, the writings of Moses and the book of Job are considered the most ancient.

The Mexicans used the pictorial method of writing. It is related that "they apprised their king, Montezuma, of the landing of the Spaniards by means of a linen cloth, on which this event was represented by pictures of visible objects." The manner of reading the Mexican picture-writing is different from all others. It is in columns, beginning at the bottom to read. The Japanese and Chinese also write in columns, but they read from the top, going from right to left. The Germans first wrote in the Latin characters; their alphabet was not in general use until the thirteenth century. The "monastic" alphabet was used in Germany as early as the eleventh century. About the time of the Roman conquest writing was first practiced in Britain. The several forms of French writings derive their names from the different races of kings who have ruled that country.

The Greeks have ever manifested great enthusiasm in promoting knowledge. The first library that is known was collected by Pisistratus, who lived at Athens. King Attalus had a library that contained 200,000 books on rolls. The celebrated library of Alexander was founded by Ptolemy Philadelphus; it is said to have numbered 700,000 volumes. It was destroyed in 642 A. D. The first private library is supposed to be the one founded by P. Emilius, 167 B. C. The first public library was founded by Asinius Pallio, in the hall of the Temple of Liberty on Mount Aventine. Augustus founded the celebrated library in the Temple of Apollo on Mount Palatine. The Romans had several large private libraries. Tyrannio, a native of Pontus, who was taken prisoner by Lucullus and brought to Rome as a slave, and, receiving his freedom, taught grammar and rhetoric, invested much of his earnings in buying books, and is said to have collected a library of 30,000 volumes. Constantius established a public library at Constantinople. Its contents increased from time to time to 120,000 volumes. It was destroyed by fire in A. D. 477.

A Visit to Death's Valley.

With a train of five mules and two companions, one of whom was partially familiar with the country, I climbed the summit of Cerro Gordo. At last we stood upon the lofty ridge of the Telescopes, and beheld below us the fateful valley, which lies 280 feet below the level of the sea and extends for a hundred miles northeast and southwest, with a width of from thirty to forty miles from east to west. Upon no landscape can one look so deeply into the interior of the earth, for it occupies the lowest point of dry land upon the continent, and, so far as I am informed, of the earth itself. Before us it lies, a long, deep, wide, vast basin, its shining patches disclosing through the distance, its beds of soda, salt and borax, which cover thousands of acres and blaze and shimmer and burn in the steady blaze of light and heat which pours upon them from a cloudless sky. The valley's deep declension grows upon the senses and becomes more marked as the eye is held steadily upon it, and it is emphasized by the swift declivity of the inclosing mountains. Drear and desolate, it stretches its full length along in a frame of painted mountains which define, in strong and mighty lines, its aspects of terror.

Though leaving the summit at 3 P. M. and riding steadily down descending trails, night settled upon us before we escaped from the canyon and reached the borders of the valley. By the brilliant moonlight we were enabled to trace the trail along the rocky washes as we rode on into the night. At last, worn and weary with hours of riding, we reached the center of the valley, known as the "Big Hole," the point of greatest depression.

Though time and exploration have drawn from out the ancient story most of its fearful threads, this is still Death's Valley and is still and will remain a region of dread. Indians familiar with its face from infancy know its treachery and cannot be prevailed on to go into it beyond their time-worn trails. To the lost emigrant it was "the valley of the shadow of death." The daring prospector enters it with fear. He knows its terrors, and the bleaching bones of many a skeleton warn him to beware. Once lost within its embrace, and a man's doom is written. Without water to cool his fevered frame, the sweltering air drives him to agony and bewilderment. Confused, he wanders without aim. Reason, unseated by fantasy, gives imagination rein to play tricks with his judgment. Beholding heaven at last in the mocking waters of the mirage, he sinks to die in the flame of the desert.—*Letter to San Francisco Chronicle.*

It is estimated that Southern mills will use 400,000 bales of cotton this year, against 286,954 last year and 225,311 in 1880.

FOR THE FAIR SEX.

Indian Marriage Laws.

A paper on this subject, read by the Rev. J. Owen Dorsey before the American association, notices some remarkable customs in relation to marriage and kinship as prevailing among the Dhegitha Indians, particularly the Omahas and Poncas.

When a tribe is hunting it camps, by gentes or nations, in a circle, each gens bearing the name of some animal. All the members of one gens are relatives, and marriage between members of one gens is absolutely forbidden. Membership in a gens is by descent in the male line, not in the female. The relations of a man are denoted by colors; for example—black, grandfather or grandmother; blue, father or mother. His connections are denoted by mixed colors, such as a pink head and skirt, with light-blue triangle on the body, for sister-in-law. A man can marry his brother's widow, and her children call him father even before their father's death. His sister's children are only nephews and nieces. His mother's sister is always called mother for the same reason, and even his paternal grandfather's brother's son is his father. These, and many other distinctions, show that the terms of relationship are far more numerous and complicated with the Omahas than with us. A man may marry any woman belonging to another gens, whether connected with him or not: though marriage into his mother's geds is also forbidden. A man cannot marry any woman to whom he is related by the ceremony of the calumet-dance. Sometimes a man may take the children of his deceased brother without the mother herself. Sometimes the dying husband, knowing that his male kindred are bad, tells his wife to marry out of his gens. If a widower remains single for two, three or four years, he must remain so forever. Widows, however, must wait for four years before remarrying. The same system prevails among the Iowas, Otos and Missouris.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

Odd Wedding Rings.

"There is no jewelry about which women always show so much interest as the betrothal and wedding rings," replied a jeweler to a reporter's question. "The first has altered noticeably in shape and setting. A pure white diamond, the only suitable gem, is under-set in short claws so that the stone hides the setting completely. Polished gold is preferred to Roman gold. The shank is oval and tapers from the gem. There is neither enamel nor engraving on its surface, and inscriptions are cut inside as the purchaser may order. It is but an old fashion revived and one which will be liked. In the last thirty years wedding rings have changed twice in styles, from the narrow, double circlet to the polished oval, and lastly the plain, wide, flat band, which is now also preferable in polished gold. A fourth style, and one eminently in harmony with the present temper of romantic sentiment, might well revive the ornament which decorated a ring discovered long ago in Egyptian ruins. It represented two cats sitting back to back and between them the goddess of love, who smiles sweetly on vacancy, while they glare around at each other in genuine Kilkenny fashion."

"Would you make it to order?"

"Certainly!"

"I will bear that in mind. But meantime, can you tell me who invented the finger ring?"

"It is older than history. The ancients account for its origin by ascribing to Jupiter a sharp practice, which would be no credit even to a Four Court shyster. They say that, prompted by revenge, he had Prometheus chained to the frosty Caucasus, where a vulture banqueted the live-long day on the captive's liver. Jupiter eventually relented, and, to avoid breaking his oath, commanded his enemy when freed to wear perpetually on his finger an iron ring, to which was fastened a small piece of Mt. Caucasus, so that in effect he remained bound to the rock. I don't take much stock in that story. The ancients were some of them scaly fellows."—*St. Louis Post-Dispatch.*

Fashion Notes.

Ottoman silks should have flat, not round, reps.

Silks with full luster are restored to popular favor.

Jersey webbing is much used for waists of dresses.

Tucks for skirts and overskirts of dresses are revived.

Plain felt is more popular than plush felt or furry beaver.

The fish-wife poke with its pointed brim grows in favor.

The extravagance of dress this season is beyond all comparison.

Velvets bid fair to be more used for bonnet trimmings than plush.

Plain black silks are more fashionable than black satin or surah.

Three different fabrics in the same dress is the limit allowed by fashion.

Satin buttons of oblong form come on many handsome imported dresses.

The plush felts and furry beavers of last season have passed out of fashion

Red hats, red feathers, red gloves and red stockings are worn by the million.

Telegraph blue is a little deeper than cadet blue, so called from resembling telegraph blanks in Paris.

Velvet appliqued work is popular. The devices are various. A silk or metal braid adorns the edges.

Arabesque borders of cloth are neatly cut out and appliqued on other fabrics of contrasting shades.

Crocheted passementeries are brought out in rich patterns. Some of the designs show elaborate relief effects.

Satin boules and jets are seen in expensive fringes, a showy style of garniture, requiring a handsome heading of beaded passementerie.

Two things stout women should leave severely alone are the jersey and the bustle. The former makes them look like animated mealbags.

As many Rhine stones as diamonds are worn nowadays, and possessors of the former say that it takes a clever person to detect the difference, for a good Rhine stone is as brilliant as a true diamond.

In the new silver jewelry, darkened so as to resemble old silver, many humorous conceits appear. Comic faces are on the brooch, while others have Greenway children, owls, monkeys, doves and fighting cocks.

Dark myrtle green and royal blue redingotes of fine ladies' cloth, with shoulder capes and rever cuffs of plush or velvet a shade darker than the cloth, are much worn over plain skirts of silk or cashmere, trimmed around the bottom with a chicoree ruching.

Ingenious young ladies are making their own capes, muffs or cuffs by sewing together fancy feathers from the wings and breasts of native birds and chickens' throats. They fasten these feathers to thin silk or muslin, line the muff and cape with satin, and edge with a bordering of feathers arranged as a fringe.

Blue velvet or cloth coats and casaquins are now and then seen trimmed with narrow gold braid, in fine arabesque patterns. This bright and conspicuous trimming is very sparingly used, and should only be employed when the coat accompanies a skirt of a like color. There is a great improvement in the manufacture of this kind of trimming. Good qualities do not tarnish, and are guaranteed to resist the action of salt water or a salty atmosphere.

Toilets of Circus People.

If circuses would but permit the public entrance behind the scenes they would double their half dollars. It is a curious sight. The actors come from the ring, heated and tired with their last performance; the lady bareback rider, seated on a chest, in a loose wrapper; the clown's now sober face a mixture of red and white powder and perspiration; the actors who go on next call putting on the last touches of their toilet. Circus actors take more pains with their toilets than most people imagine. We watched one tall young man in tights as he dressed his hair before going out in the tumbling act. He oiled it and patted it down, he oiled it and patted it up, he sliced it back on the sides and carved it down in the middle, and he waxed his mustache into a most beautiful curl. It took him no less than ten minutes, and he stood, meanwhile, before an old, battered piece of looking-glass, supported on a stick, in the center of the dressing-tent.

The Richmond (Va.) *State* writes: Ex-Mayor J. A. Gentry, Manchester, this State, was cured of rheumatism by St. Jacobs Oil.

A lady at Branchville, N. J., one day fed a common brook turtle that had approached her door. Thereafter the turtle paid frequent visits. This season the animal brought a mate with it, and the two make frequent excursions from the brook to the house to obtain food.

We know from experience St. Jacobs Oil will cure rheumatism.—*Peoria (Ill.) Peorian.*

Guatemala's (South America) population numbers 1,224,602 persons. Of these, 189,536 men and 196,292 women are not Indians. The remainder, consisting of 421,518 men and 423,256 women, are all Indians.

A Fatal Mistake would be not to take Dr. R. V. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" if you are bilious, suffering from impure blood, or fearing consumption (scrofulous disease of the lungs). Sold by all druggists.

VIGILANCE committees have been organized in Des Moines, Iowa, to rid the city of the rough native and imported element.

Dr. Pierce's "Pleasant Purgative Pellets" are sugar-coated and inclosed in glass bottles, their virtues being thereby preserved unimpaired for any length of time, in any climate, so that they are always fresh and reliable. No cheap wooden or pasteboard boxes. By druggists.

AT three vegetarian restaurants in the city of London the dinners daily served average 1,550.

Functional derangement of the female system is quickly cured by the use of Dr. R. V. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription." It removes pain and restores health and strength. By all druggists.

MUSCATINE, Iowa, has a cornet band composed of young ladies of good social standing.

MENSMAN'S PEPTONIZED BEEF TONIC, the only preparation of beef containing its *entire nutritious properties.* It contains blood-making, force-generating and life-sustaining properties; invaluable for indigestion, dyspepsia, nervous prostration, and all forms of general debility also, in all enfeebled conditions, whether the result of exhaustion, nervous prostration, overwork or acute disease, particularly if resulting from pulmonary complaints. Caswell, Hazard & Co., prop'rs., N. Y. Sold by druggists

"Rough on Rats." Clears out rats, mice, flies, roaches, bed-bugs, ants, vermin. 15c.

MOTHER SWAN'S WORM SYRUP, for feverishness, restlessness, worms. Tasteless. 25c.

The Frazer Axle Grease Is the best in the market. It is the most economical and cheapest, one box lasting as long as two of any other. One greasing will last two weeks. It received first premium at the Centennial and Paris Expositions, also medals at various State fairs. Buy no other.

The successful man has many imitators in his line of business, but there is only one originator. So, also, the great petroleum hair renewer, Carboline, as now improved and perfected, holds the palm against all imitators.

ONE pair of boots saved every year by using Lyon's Patent Metallic Heel Stiffeners.

The Science of Life or Self-Preservation, a medical work for every man—young, middle-aged or old. 125 invaluable prescriptions.

TWENTY-FOUR HOURS TO LIVE.

From John Kuhn, Lafayette, Ind., who announces that he is now in "perfect health," we have the following: "One year ago I was, to all appearance, in the last stages of Consumption. Our best physicians gave my case up. I finally got so low that our doctor said I could not live twenty-four hours. My friends then purchased a bottle of DR. WM. HALL'S BALSAM FOR THE LUNGS, which considerably benefited me. I continued until I took nine bottles. I am now in perfect health, having used no other medicine.

DR. DEWITT C. KELLINGER'S LINIMENT is an infallible cure for Rheumatism, Sprains, Lameness and Diseases of the Scalp, and for promoting the growth of the Hair.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK.			
Beef cattle, good to prime l w	6	@	7¼
Calves, com'n to prime veals	7½	@	10½
Sheep	4½	@	5
Lambs	5¾	@	6
Hogs—Live	6¾	@	7⅝
Dressed, city	9¼	@	9⅜
Flour—Ex. St., good to fancy	4 45	@	6 75
West., good to choice	4 55	@	8 50
Wheat—No. 2 Red	1 08	@	1 08¼
No. 1 White	1 10	@	1 11
Rye—State	74	@	76½
Barley—Two-rowed State	81	@	81
Corn—Ungrad. West. mixed	80	@	85⅛
Yellow Southern	87	@	87
Oats—White State	44	@	51
Mixed Western	35	@	43
Hay—Med. to ch. Timothy	85	@	90
Straw—No. 1, Rye	60	@	60
Hops—State, 1881, choice	90	@	1 00
Pork—Mess, new, for export	22 50	@	23 00
Lard—City Steam	12 25	@	12 37
Refined	12 50	@	12 50
Petroleum—Crude	7¼	@	7⅞
Refined	7¾	@	8
Butter—State Creamery	34	@	38
Dairy	16	@	28
West. Im. Creamery	20	@	31
Factory	15	@	19
Cheese—State Factory	8	@	12¾
Skims	2	@	6
Western	5	@	12¼
Eggs—State and Penn	29	@	29½
Potatoes—State bbl	1 75	@	2 25
BUFFALO.			
Steers—Good to Choice	5 50	@	6 00
Lambs—Western	4 60	@	5 60
Sheep—Western	3 85	@	4 40
Hogs—Good to choice Yorks	7 00	@	7 15
Flour—C'y ground n. process	7 25	@	8 25
Wheat—No. 1, Hard Duluth	1 18	@	1 20
Corn—No. 2, Mixed	76½	@	77
Oats—No. 2, Mixed Western	40	@	41
Barley—Two-rowed State	78	@	80
BOSTON.			
Beef—Ex. plate and family	17 50	@	18 00
Hogs—Live	8¼	@	9¼
City Dressed	11¼	@	11½
Pork—Ex. Prime, per bbl	21 00	@	21 50
Flour—Spring Wheat patents	7 25	@	8 00
Corn—High Mixed	88	@	88
Oats—Extra White	55	@	56
Rye—State	80	@	85
Wool—comb & delaine, No. 1	46	@	50
Unwashed combing	25	@	35
WATERTOWN (MASS.) CATTLE MARKET.			
Beef—Extra quality	7 50	@	8 00
Sheep—Live weight	5	@	5¾
Lambs	5¼	@	6¾
Hogs—Northern, d. w	10	@	11
PHILADELPHIA.			
Flour—Penn. ex family, good	4 87	@	5 00
Wheat—No. 2, Red	1 10¾	@	1 10⅞
Rye—State	70	@	70
Corn—State Yellow	82	@	82
Oats—Mixed	69	@	69
Butter—Creamery Extra Pa.	34	@	34
Cheese—N. Y. Full Cream	12¾	@	13
Petroleum—Crude	6	@	7
Refined	7⅜	@	7⅜

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