THE DAILY RECORD-UNION.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Poet Scout. Being a selection of incidental and illustrative verses and songs by Captain Jack Crawford, better known as "The Poet Scout of the Black Hills." San Francisco: H. Keller & Co. 1 vol., 8mo. Illustrated.

This is a very neatly printed, prettily illustrated and attractive volume. "Captain Jack" may be styled a rough diamond. His poems are largely of the narrative order. As poems they are full of errors, crude, rough, and at times humorously odd from the suddenness of contrasts and startling examples of anti-climax. But despite the fact that many of the poems are mere rhymes filled with indescribably absurd comparisons and sudden transitions from the idealistic and poetic to the commonplace and ludicrous, there is through all a vein of real song, enabling the reader to look as through a dark, tangled undergrowth into the clear sunlight of the scout's soul and witness the beating of a poetic nature, a sympathetic heart, a gentle fancy and a rich imagination against the almost insurmountable barriers which lack of education and the misfortune of circumstances have raised. There are many evidences in this volume that Crawford has a soul which lacks only for a medium to manifest itself in poetic expression, and which in some instances does express itself in true poetic spirit. But considering Captain Jack as a backwoodsman, a man without the culture of education, whose mature life has been passed mainly upon the cheerless plains in contests with savages, and in the society of the Western barrack-room and the trapper's hut, and the judgment must be that he is no ordinarily gifted man; that he is indeed a phenomenal product of nature, possessed of native genius and natural abilities, which, had he been differently circumstanced, would have made him widely known in the literary world. We present some stanzas from the compositions of Captain Jack which serve to illustrate the style of the author's composition:

ON THE DEATH OF A VIRGINIA MINER.

Only a miner killed;
Oh, is that all?
One of the timbers caved;
Great was the fall,
Crushing another one
Shaped like his God.
Only a miner lad—
Under the sod.

* * * * * * *

EPITAPH ON WILD BILL.

Sleep on, brave heart, in peaceful slumbers,
Bravest scout in all the West;
Lightning eyes and voice of thunder,
Closed and hushed in quiet rest.
Peace and rest at last is given;
May we meet again in heaven.
Rest in peace.

* * * * * * * * *

AMONG THE PEAKS OF CARIBOO.

Oh, gentle breeze, from the sunny South,
With scent of fragrant flowers,
Warm again with heated breath
These sovereign hills of ours.

Burst forth in every mountain glen
Where streams no longer flow,
With sunny beams from azure sky,
To melt the crusted snow.

* * * * * * *

THE DYING SCOUT.

Comrades, raise me, I am dying,
Hark the story I will tell;
Break it gently to my mother,
You were near me when I fell.
Tell her how I fought with Custer,
How I rode to tell the news;
Now I'm dying, comrades, dying—
Tell me, did we whip the Sioux.

* * * * * * *

ON THE TOWN OF CUSTER.

A little city in the park,
Deep shaded by the trees,
Ye, gods! it is a cozy nook,
Where wafts the gentle breeze;
And here the pretty flowers of spring
Will greet us by and by,
While pleasure's cup we'll freely sip—
The miner boys and I.

* * * * * * *

FAREWELL TO BUFFALO BILL.

Farewell! the boys will miss you, Bill;
In haste let me express
The deep regret we all must feel
Since you have left our mess.
While down the Yellowstone you glide,
Old pard, you'll find it true,
That there are thousands in the field
Whose hearts beat warm for you.

TO HIS MOUNTAIN HOME.

Far beyond the rolling prairie
Is a home more dear to me
Than your grand and stately mansions,
Or your cottage by the sea.
In a little dell that's girdled
By the mountains, rocks and trees,
And the notes of Nature's songsters
Making music in the breeze.

* * * * * * *

Songs from the Published Writings of Alfred Tennyson. Set to music by various composers. Edited by W. G. Cusins. New York: Harper & Brothers. San Francisco: A. L. Bancroft & Co. One large quarto volume. Illustrated.

This work, on being opened, possesses every one who glances at its pages and has a particle of music in his soul with a strong desire to become at once the owner of the volume. It is an attractive book, one that promptly and most amiably introduces itself. The illustrations are by Winslow Homer, C. S. Reinhart, A. Fredericks and Jessie Curtis. There are printed in this quarto forty-five songs, and thirty-five of them are new and original works, composed expressly for the volume. "In accordance with a now all but universal custom," says the editor, "the songs have been printed in the treble clef." Some of the pieces, which were evidently better suited to polyphonous treatment, have been set as part songs. The music in nearly all cases is arranged with piano accompaniment. The composers, whose music frames the poems, are John Francis Barnett, J. L. Hatton, R. Jackson, W. G. Cusins, Ciro Pinsuti, Walter Macfarren, Joseph Joachim, Joachim Raff, Sir Herbert Oakeley, Francisco Berger, Florence A. Marshal, F. H. Cowen, Franz Liszt, W. H. Cummings, John Hullah, A. Randegger, Arthur Sullivan, Henry Leslie, Sir J. Benedict, George Henschell, C. Hubert, H. Parry, Xaver Schwarwenka, F. Corden, C. Villiers Stanford, Emily J. Troup, Ch. Gounod, Francis Hueffer, J. Massenet, Jacques Blumenthal, G. A. Macfarren, Joseph Barnby, Otto Goldschmidt, Camile Saint-Saens, E. Silas, Berthold Tours, Harold Thomas and A. Manns. The volume is an eminently fit one—it was a happy thought, indeed, which first conceived the idea of collecting gems from Tennyson and adorning them by the graces of music.

American Decisions. Volume XIV. Compiled and annotated by A. C. Freeman, of the Sacramento Bar. San Francisco: A. L. Bancroft & Co.

Bancroft & Co. have issued the fourteenth volume of this valuable work, the scheme and scope of which we have heretofore fully noticed and analyzed. The present number embraces 841 pages, and the cases re-reported will be found originally reported in the following State Reports: Littell's Kentucky Reports, vols. 3, 4, 1823-1824; Martin's N. S. Louisiana Reports, vols. 1, 2, 1823-1824; Greenleaf's Maine Reports, vol. 3, 1824-1825; Harris & Johnson's Maryland Reports, vol. 6, 1823-1825; Missouri Reports, vol. 1, 1824-1827; New Hampshire Reports, vol. 3, 1823-1826; Halstead's New Jersey Reports, vol. 3, 1825-1826; Cowen's New York Reports, vol. 2, 1823-1824; Hopkins' Chancery New York Reports, vol. 1, 1823 1825; Hawk's North Carolina Reports, vol. 3, 1824-1825; Sergeant & Rawle's Pennsylvania Reports, vols. 11, 12, 1824, 1825; Harper's Equity South Carolina Reports, vol. 1, 1823-1824; Peck's Tennessee Reports, vol. 1, 1821-1824; Randolph's Virginia Reports, vol. 2, 1823-1824.

The American L'Assommoir. A parody on Zolas' "L'Assommoir." by Joseph Sidney. Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Bros., San Francisco: Billings, Harbourne & Co.

The only surprise about this book is that Sidney should have written, and the Petersons should have published it. It is a miserable failure, without a particle of wit, a ray of humor, or a line of wisdom. It is in no sense a parody. It is poor in composition, trashy, unnatural, and by all odds the most worthless production of the day. It is pitiful to contemplate that in any one the greed of money is so great as to induce him to present such trash as makes up this volume for people to purchase. Sidney knows better than to claim merit for the book, and the Petersons know better than to offer it to their patrons with even the pretense of giving a consideration the price of the book exacts.

Hawthorne. By Henry James, Jr. New York: Harper & Brothers. San Francisco: A. L. Bancroft & Co. 1 vol.; 8vo.; muslin; boards.

Mr. James has given us in this little volume an admirable critical essay, with something of the character of a biography. Hawthorne's career was not an eventful one, and the matter for a copious biography of him is hardly to be gathered. But though his life was almost the extreme of simplicity, his works open a wide field for analysis. Mr. James has accomplished a good work; he has presented it in the diction of scholarly culture, with the positiveness of honest conviction, and with much of the art of the accomplished novelist. It is a welcome work, and while in not a few of his conclusions we cannot unite, the disagreement does not blind us to the worth and grace of the volume before us.

"Appleton's Journal" for March opens with the first installment of a novelette from the French, entitled "The Return of the Princess," which gives some striking inside views of harem-life at Cairo. The Duke of Argyll's second and concluding paper, "First Impressions of the New World," is given. There is a most interesting article on "Russian Nihilism;" a very striking satirical essay, under the title of "A Turkish Effendi on Christendom and Islam;" a biographical essay on Theophile Gautier, and two papers, respectively designated "Flesh Color" and "Life at High Pressure." The freshest feature of the number is a group of three poems, translated from the French poet Francois Coppee. One of the poems is likely to become very popular with American readers. The magazine is published monthly by D. Appleton & Co., and is No. 45 of the new series. It is a superior magazine of general literature.

From A. L. Bancroft & Co., San Francisco, we have several numbers of Harper & Bros.' Franklin Square Library, a series in which is given at remarkably low prices some choice novels and excellent papers on leading topics. The numbers at hand are "The Greatest Heiress in England," a novel by Mrs. Oliphant, a charming writer and well known; "Memoirs of Madame de Remusrt. 1802-1808—edited by her grandson, Paul de Remusat, a Senator," translated by Mrs. Cashel Hoey and John Lille. The memoirs are of a lady-in-waiting to the Empress Josephine, and are full of romantic interest. "Queen of the Meadow," a novel by Charles Gibbon, author of "In Honor Bound," "For the King," etc. "The Munster Circuit: Tales, Trials and Traditions," by J. R. O'Flanagan, author of "The Irish Bar." "Nell—On and Off the Stage," a novel, by B. H. Bustin. "Sir John," by the author of "Anne Dysart," etc. "The Bertrams," an excellent novel, by Anthony Trollope; "Sense and Sensibility," a very attractive story, by Jane Austen; "The Poems of Wordsworth," chosen and edited by Matthew Arnold; "Cousin Henry," a novel, by Anthony Trollope; "High Spirits, by James Payn, a collection of very entertaining stories; "The Fugitives," a novel, by Mrs. Oliphant; "The Parson o' Dumford," a tale, by Geo. Manville Fenn.

THE QUIET HOUR.

THE "TANGLER'S" PARADISE OF CHARADES, ENIGMAS, ETC.

[Contributions to this department should be addressed "Quiet Hour," Record-Union. Write upon but one side of the sheet. Accompany all contributions with the answers, the true name, and postoffice address. Contributors will receive advice and assistance, and are privileged to engage in courteous criticism of the productions published.]

Answers to February 7th.

562. Charles Dickens.

563. Bowing, owing, wing, ing, ng, g; Brash, rash, ash, sh, h.

564.
M
MAR
OATEN
MATADOR
MATAMORAS
REDOUND
NORNA
RAD
S

565. Stable, sable; shred, shed; cabin, cain; spine, sine; galloons, gallon; muster, muser; kiln, kin; loader, lader; plait, plat; tamper, taper.

566. Begin in the lower right hand corner and read, "If thou seekest a beautiful peninsula, behold it here;" motto of Michigan.

567.
A
ONE
ADDLE
ONERARY
ANDROMEDA
M
PAS
PACHA
DISHING
HOTTENTOT

568. "Good name in man and woman, dear my Lord, is the immediate jewel of their souls." The words are Rajah, mien, Wolfe, tears, gourmand, 0000, easel, My Wife and I, mine, muse, shine, Dana-ide, hilt.

569. Soltaire.

New Tangles.

584. Triple acrostic, by G. E. Orge:

A shine; fuss; to weary; alkaline. Primals: a narrow plank. Centrals: thirsty. Finals: to couple.

585. Enigmatical, by Sibyl:

Primals give the name of a poem; finals, its author. Calamity, a kind of musical instrument; a boy's name; merciless; a Scottish game; a climax; delineated; something we seldom find; an idol; to invest.

586. Inverted pyramid, by Amethyst:

Across: Early; a girl's name; an herb; an herb; in son.
Down: In cap; a musical note; town in Europe; part of the title of a popular waltz; girl's name; girl's name; girl's name; a musical note; in wren.

587. Beheadings, by F. M. S. (the word is of five letters):

A plundering vessel; behead and leave incensed; again, and leave to appraise; again, and leave corroded; the head reversed leaves a decoction; curtailed, leaves an abbreviation; behead and leave a vowel.

588. Word square, by Amy (four letters each):

A measure; a fruit of many varieties; an animal; artifice.

589. Simple problem, by T. Angler:

Two men met, each having sheep. One said to the other, "Give me one of your sheep, and then I will have twice as many as you will have?" "No," said the other, "you give me one of your sheep, and then I will have just as many as you will have." How many had each?

590. Charade, affectionately dedicated to Rose by Augusta Blake:

Oh, Rose! oh, blooming Rose! my first may you ever be;
The second never yet was worn when always given to thee;
A part of your frame for third a semi-vowel place in the rear;
The whole united will show what I wish thee, my dear.

591. Enigmatical double acrostic, by Marius:

My primals and finals read downwards will name two English authors.
My 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 is an English author.
My 4, 10, 12, 3, 4 is outlay.
My 5, 9, 10, 3 is a medicinal commodity.
My 6, 9, 1, 8, 7 is to compose.
My 1, 2, 12, 7, 9 is to bury.
My 2, 4, 5, 10, 11 is a knot.
My whole is the motto of a nation.

592. Conundrum by Rose:

Why is a fractured limb like one of an illustrious family?

593. Books described—Hattie Heath:

(1) Good to eat; (2) an obscure way; (3) solitary; (4) a pleasant person; (5) fierce flowers; (6) defeat; (7) nice to have; (8) what we repent of saying; (9) what all should strive for; (10) the enemy to be dreaded.

Answers to Correspondents and Correct Solutions.

Gus.—Your criticism is not courteous, however honest in conception, and hence cannot appear. We cannot undertake to reform it for you. The length of a charade or puzzle is no evidence of its merit—on the contrary, in this department, brevity is not only the soul of wit, but indicates oftenest special merit.

Lydia—542, 544, 560, 563.

J. C. G.—Certainly; and you will find it of mental benefit.

Ella—544, 563, 570.

M. L.—564 (nearly), 565.

C. D. F.—Well, try it.

Stephen—561, 563 (almost). Can give you that contributor's address only by his consent. If you wish it, we will ask him if he consents.

Myrtle—Oh, yes; Trinity's sex is known to us "by letter," but then we wouldn't "swear to it."

F. M. S.—564, 567, 569.

Trinity—571, 572, 573, 575 (6 and 8 only were correct, but the others were, singularly enough, all in the right direction—nearly synonymous), 576 (Trinity says: "Thanks! What for Rose? Prefer to remember a living wife, not a pickled one), 578, 579, 581, 582.

Hattie Heath—562, 563, 566, 568, 571, 572, 573 (in part), 576, 577, 578, 579 (hardly), 580, 581, 582, 583. No; it is not time to rest; rest not in doing good to your neighbors and yourself. Will examine for the lines. The birthday was February 1st. You have too many admirers of your contributions to desert them now. The reflection must be one of much pleasure that you have such a number of unknown (in one sense) friends.

Annie M.—571, 578, 583. Very good; continue.

OUTDOOR AMUSEMENTS.

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE LOVERS OF FIELD SPORTS.

[In this department, as the head indicates, we propose to make record of current sporting events. Communications to the paper concerning such matters should be addressed to the "Outdoor Amusement Department."]

What Shall We Call the Trout.—The Pacific coast is rich in the number of species of *Salmonidæ*, having, according to the revision of this family by Gill and Jordan, some five species of salmon and eight of trout, besides five more varieties of the latter which may swell the number to ten or more; the *Salmo stomias* being credited with three varieties, and the *S. clarkii* with two. Some of these trout have been sent to the Eastern States, and it is possible, in view of their rapid growth and general hardiness, that the United States Commission on Fisheries may send many of the eggs of some one of the species in great numbers to the East at some future time. A great mistake was made when the quinnat salmon was sent East that its name was not sent with it instead of allowing it to be called, as it is, the "California salmon," which is not its name in either Oregon or California, and would tend to confusion if any other species had been also sent. Now, before the trout come, we wish to call attention to this matter, which is more important than in the case of the salmon, because we may get several species, and we now wish to call the attention of Professor Baird and Mr. Stone to this matter, in which they can do much for the interest of correct nomenclature. Any name except "California" will do, and that is the name that will certainly be applied unless they give it one. If California had but one trout to give us it would not be so bad; still, it would not tend to make a name which would be recognized and understood in all parts of the country. Let us illustrate this: California has, or was to have, our common yellow perch, known in the South as ringed perch, raccoon perch, etc. They came from New York or New Hampshire. What idea would be conveyed to an Eastern man in California if the people spoke of "New York perch?" We can imagine that many persons are indifferent to the question of correct nomenclature; if so, then they surely cannot object to anything, but we consider it of great importance. Men of science find no difficulty in changing a name when shown that it is wrong, but in the matter of popular names an appellation once fixed takes root, even into the affections, as shown by the story told of an old Eastern fisherman whom Prof. Baird was questioning about the habits and seasons of the alewife, which in his locality was called a herring, without the g; said he: "I don't know nothin' 'bout them alewives; we allers called them herrin', and if I can't call 'em herrin', I don't want to eat 'em." Now, in the matter of this trout which it is proposed to send East, we have no desire to dictate, but merely suggest that it must have some local name by which it is known to the anglers and fishermen which could be used here; or better yet, its specific name, as irideus, spectabilis, etc.; or, should it prove to be the *Salmo henshawii, clarkii*, or *bairdii*, could be known as "henshaw's," "clark's," or "baird's trout," anything gentlemen, except "California trout," which is in no sense a distinctive name. We ask this, not for the sake of science, but for the angler, the fishculturist, the marketman, and all who will ever have occasion to talk or write about our fishes.—[Chicago Field.

When to Strike in Fly-Fishing. Much of the *finesse* of sportsmanship cannot be taught the novice by written instruction. There are certain indispensable points in the successful practice of the art of fly-fishing which must come to the expert only after long experience and discipline. We may talk of "the twist of the wrist," but to make that twist so neatly and effectively that each repetition of it means a fish hooked, is something which must be learned quite independently of the books. There, for instance, is the subject of striking in fly-fishing for trout or grayling. Veteran anglers who have fished in many of the best trout streams of the land, and who have deftly struck the grayling in Michigan and the salmon in the Canadian streams, hold and maintain very different theories on this point. One will tell you that he strikes as soon as he sees the fish move and before he feels the touch. Another claims that the only proper method is to wait until you feel the touch of the fish, and then, by a movement as quick as lightning, fasten him. Our own practice is to strike at sight; we admit that thereby fish may be missed and scared away, which perhaps would be captured if given a little more time; but the number so lost are, we believe, less than the scores of misses made by the contrary practice. As a rule, the fly-fisherman cannot strike too quick. We should be happy to have the experience of some of our readers upon this topic. There will be many weeks to intervene yet before we may actually put theory into practice; and meanwhile it is fitting to compare notes, and by discussion enlighten both ourselves and the novices who are just learning the rudimentary lessons in the school of angling.—[Forest and Stream.

Hare and Hounds.—On Saturday afternoon the Oroville Coursing Club repaired to the ranch of P. R. Welch, four miles below town, for a few hours' sport. P. O. Hundley acted as field director, R. W. Smith managing the hounds. Owing to a misunderstanding as to the time of meeting a majority of the dogs belonging to the association were not present. The first chase was an exciting one, the hare having 200 yards start of the hounds, but the latter speedily gained upon the fleet-footed game, and after an interesting dash of a mile or so Bovey's Nell gobbled the prize. The second, third and fourth hares made for the fence and succeeded in eluding the dogs. The fifth hare, however, was jumped up on the opposite side of the 200-acre field and made a bee-line towards the timber. When seen by the hounds the "jack" had a start of 300 yards. Then ensued one of the best-contested races we have ever witnessed. Smith's Henry Ward Beecher led the pack and picked the hare up on a dead run ere two-thirds of the width of the field had been crossed. This was the best catch yet made by the kennel of the Club. Hare are very plentiful in that section, and the Club intends having another bout on the same grounds in a few weeks, when it is expected a pack of fifteen or twenty thoroughbred dogs will be on hand.—[Oroville Mercury, February 13th.

Horse-trotting at Fairs.—A correspondent of the Maine *Farmer*, signing himself "W. O. B.," writes to that paper in defense of trials of speed at agricultural fairs. It appears that last year trials of speed were excluded at the fair held at Presque Isle, in Maine, and when the fair was over the white-cravated managers wondered how it was that the receipts during the fair did not amount to half enough to pay for the premiums and other expenses. "W. O. B." enlightens them on the subject, and tells them, moreover, that they are doing a positive injury to the farmer and breeder of the stock by prohibiting trials of speed at their fairs. "W. O. B." is right in his argument, but it is a waste of powder. Let the white-chokers alone, and they will die a natural death (morally). After a while the farmers will stay home, and the fairs will not command a corporal's guard; in fact, they will be literally played out, and then will come the revolution; agricultural fairs will be managed by farmers, and farmers will reap the benefit thereof.—[Turf, Field and Farm.

Care of Dogs.—"X-Perience," in the *Live Stock Journal*, says: Unless they are really asleep—and that, too, on a warm bed with well-filled stomachs—we do not like to see a litter of puppies all huddled up together in one corner of a kennel, looking shiveringly over each other's backs. Feed such, and feed them well; cow's milk, thickened with flour (boiled) of some kind, cocoa, and a little treacle, will make them very happy, especially if you give them one or two large bones to play with. The excitement and exercise that a large bone in a litter of puppies causes is just as exhilarating and as healthful as a game of cricket is to human-kind. Weakly puppies do well with a little soup every day—only do not put salt in it, as the salines dissolved in the meat are enough. Make this soup from raw bones broken fine and boiled for not less than ten hours, and thicken it with pea-flour or wheaten flour, adding a little bone-meal. These damp dews are very blighting to young pups, and soak through their coats almost as badly as rain. Dry them well when you see them damp, and if they are suckling do not let the mother get damp either. Tarpaulins can in a week or two be bought in the country for an old song, as the farmers will have done with them, and will rather sell than let them rot. By the way, it is often difficult to get sick dogs to touch beef tea. Here is one they will often lap when they will take nothing else: A pound of minced beef or fresh horse-flesh is steeped for an hour and a half in two pints of water, five drops of muriatic acid and a pinch or two of salt; then press through a sieve, and the residue may be boiled for any other dog. The soup should be given cold. Surplus and fallen apples may be boiled with sufficient sugar or treacle, and placed in jars in the usual way. A little of this in the dogs' or puppies' food through the winter, when vegetables are scarce, will be found valuable.

Puppies.—The practice of allowing puppies under twelve months of age to compete for so-called nursery stakes seems to be going out of favor. Several eminent breeders, who have given their views on the subject, denounce it as not only useless as a test of merit, but harmful to the future development of the puppies by overworking them. Neither is it an interesting sight to see young puppies at work after the older dogs, either singly or in braces, have finished their contest for the championship. Contests for nursery stakes, therefore, being prejudicial to the dog and uninteresting to the spectator, should be abolished. The only proper stakes, in the opinion of competent judges, are for puppies, braces and free-for-all.—[E. H. Gilman.

Professor David S. Jordan, of the United States Fish Commission, while at Santa Barbara, was fortunate enough to secure a specimen of the ground shark, or *Cephalocyllium laticeps*. The name, says the *Press*, signifies the large-headed, broad-headed shark. Until within the last few weeks the fish was supposed to be found only on the coast of Van Dieman's Land, and but three specimens were in the possession of any of the great museums of natural history. One was captured by Professor Jordan at Wilmington, and was considered a great prize. Since coming here the Professor has secured eight fine specimens, showing that the fish is quite plentiful here, and that the habitat of the species is not confined to the Antarctic Seas, as was supposed.

A Challenge.—A. H. Bogardus has challenged C. A. Loud to shoot for $500 a side from traps to be named by Loud, Loud to use three of the Bogardus traps, and adds: "Or I will shoot him a match from three of my traps, both to use the same traps, and let him shoot at 1,050 glass balls to my 1,000. The match to come off in any large city that we can mutually agree upon. Now, all Mr. Loud has to do, if these propositions are acceptable, is to forward $100, as forfeit, to your office, and I will cover it, and the balance of the money to be put up on the ground on the day of shooting."

Trap-shooting.—The Enos bill to prohibit trap-shooting is simply farcical. Why not prevent duck-shooting? Ten times more ducks are shot on the water than pigeons from traps. They are both food birds. Is it more cruel to shoot a pigeon from a trap than from a perch or on the wing? Certainly not. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in New York, after thorough inquiry, came to the conclusion that there is no reason for prohibiting trap-shooting. Trap-shooting teaches the hunter accuracy, and thus, in reality, lessens the pain incident to hunting.

Fishculture in Ohio.—The hatchery at Toledo under charge of Hon. E. D. Potter is reported to be one of the finest in the country. There are now in the troughs 7,000,000 white-fish eggs, 70,000 brook trout eggs and 30,000 schoodic, or land-locked salmon eggs, and something over 100,000 young quinnat salmon ready for planting. Our informant who visited it last week tells us that the temperature of the water there has averaged 40°, against 34° last winter, which will probably bring the hatching nearly a month earlier.

Sheepmen on the plains of Kern county are making loud complaints of the increase in the stock of coyotes. One of them dragged a dead carcass, making a circle of half a mile around his camp, then put pieces of poisoned meat on sticks about a foot long, stuck in the ground along the trail of the carcass, and waited for morning. At daylight he counted fourteen dead coyotes, most of which did not get more than five paces from the stakes.

The Folsom tournament, Washington's Birthday, will be a fine affair. Shooting will begin at 10 A. M., and will be at twelve single birds, twenty-one yards rise, no larger than a 12-gauge to be permitted. Entries will be limited to thirty, at $5 each, and the entrance money is to be returned in the way of cash prizes, ranging from $10 upward.

Foals.—J. H. Shorthouse, M. D., LL. D., in a communication to *Bell's Life*, condemns the present craze in England for early foals and in advocacy of a return to the old system by which the age of horses was counted from the 1st of May, contends that the present system is insensate, and has not a single point to be urged in its favor.

Carp put into ponds by the Fish Commissioners recently have been seen and appear to be thriving. It will be two years before the product of these fish can be scattered by the Commissioners into all the warm rivers and sloughs in the interior of the State.

Land-locked Salmon.—E. M. Stillwell, of the Maine Fish Commission, has placed 25,000 eggs of this fish in the new hatchery at Moosehead Lake, a gift from the United States Fish Commission.

Stanton, the bicycle rider, wants to come to California to engage in a six-days' spin. He proposes to induce several fine bicyclists to accompany him.

Whitney, of last year's Omahas, is to take Nolan's place as pitcher for the Knickerbockers in the spring season of base ball.

A black bear has been shot near the Centenela, Los Angeles county, which weighed 1,200 pounds.

A bill is proposed to prevent coursing during the breeding season of the hare. Good.

March 9th the spring coursing of the Pioneer Club takes place at Merced. Many dogs are now in training for the meet.

George Bird's fine greyhound Sallie has six puppies, two only being dogs. They were bred from White Cloud.

The shooting clubs of San Francisco urge the Sacramento clubs to arrange for a tournament State Fair week, 1880.

The Bumble Bee Base Ball Club has been formed at Woodland. It embraces some very fine players.

The Woodbridge Base Ball Club is reorganizing.

Archery in Sacramento promises to be very much engaged in this spring.

Ducks are plentiful on the overflowed lands northwest of Sacramento.

A small book just published contains two photographic views, of New York and Brooklyn respectively, taken from the two piers of the Brooklyn bridge. The "panorama" is for the use of new arrivals, or to be kept as a souvenir by visitors to the city.

CONCERNING THE POSTAL RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE OF CALIFORNIA.

Eds. Record-Union: I read, with a good deal of interest, an article entitled "Postal Defects," in your paper of January 8th; and while I agree with you that the postal cars upon the railroads running through this portion of our State are entirely inadequate to the service to be performed, and while your point made against the incompetency of the service in California is undoubtedly correct, still I am constrained to admit that the lack in your subscribers not always receiving their papers may not rest wholly upon the inadequacy of the means of the postal division. Having been connected with a department at Washington for many years, I had more or less intercourse with the Postoffice Department, and it came to my knowledge years before I came here to live that the postal authorities did not give that importance to the growing demands of California that they should. And it seems to me that the present time, when the whole country is aghast at the throwing away of millions of dollars on the "buckboards" of the Territories and the parsimonious withholding of a few tens of thousands to the railway mail service of our great and growing State, is the proper time to call the Postoffice Department to account. Every now and then the country is startled by developments of the general recklessness and extravagance of the administration of what is known as the "Star Mail Service" of the Postoffice Department—a sort of postal ambush, from behind which prodigious assaults are cunningly made upon the Treasury. These unprincipled raids have been made during successive administrations, although, as the facts elicited by General Brady, Second Assistant Postmaster-General, show, there has been no scandal in the management of the "Star Service" of the magnitude of the one now under investigation. It may be as well to state that the system for the transportation of mails is divided into three parts—"Railroad," "Steamboat" and "Celerity, Certainty and Security" (or "Star Service," as the latter is generally called.) This "Star Service" means all kinds of mail carriage other than by steamer and rail; and enough has been developed, through an unwilling witness, to show that the late raids upon the United States Treasury through the medium of the "Star Service" are both flagrant and gigantic in character. Indeed it would seem by the admission of the Second Assistant Postmaster-General, who must be, necessarily, a party to these seeming abuses, that great care is taken to protect the interests of the contractors and their shortcomings, and other questionable operations, at the expense of the public treasury. For instance, contractor Walsh, whose contract was raised from $18,000 to over $136,000, was really paid money for performing service on one route as a sub-contractor, when it was known to the Department that he had failed on several others, and for such failures was indebted to the Government in a sum equal to the amount paid him on the one route which he served according to the terms of his contract. Here is another case: On a certain route, let at $6,000, the bond was $15,000; Walsh became sub-contractor, got the pay increased to $150,000, yet managed to have no change in the bond. A contractor took a mail contract in 1878 for $6,330, and, through systematic nursing, raised it to $150,000. Patrick Brown accepted a contract for $11,767 per annum, and in a short time worked it up to $88,768. This is a sample of the "Star Service" methods; and on ten routes Assistant Postmaster-General Brady has allowed additional compensation to an amount exceeding $621,000 per annum, or nearly $2,000,000 in all.

What makes the continued existence of such prodigious official abuses in the department for the transportation of the mails more monstrous and unseemly, lies in the fact that the Postoffice Department, while engaged in nursing contracts to the effect that a few owners and managers of "buckboards," and other doubtful appliances of mail carriage, may appropriate hundreds of thousands of dollars, and even millions, it at the same time carries out its relations with the great railroad and steamboat routes of the country, to the furthest degree, in an unjust, unwise, niggardly and parsimonious manner—indeed, while the Department loses no opportunity in spending many hundreds of thousands of dollars upon a score or more of miserable stage lines, it deliberately quarrels with the great railways over a few tens of thousands claimed for greatly increased service not only authorized, but demanded—the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore, the Baltimore and Ohio, New York Central and Lake Shore, and other leading Eastern roads, may be particularly mentioned. And, if the Eastern railways are great sufferers, as is shown by this "Star Service" method, what may be said of the railroads upon the Pacific coast, or, to bring the matter nearer home, the railroads of California? There are at present 27 railroads, or, more properly, railroad routes, carrying mails for the Department. An examination of the annual amounts received by these 27 railroads; distance run by each; pay per mile per annum on each, and a few comparisons with the mileage and pay of "buckboard" contractors, and some comparisons regarding "celerity, certainty and security," even if it do not move the Department to provide for the more adequate payment for railroad service upon the Pacific coast and put to blush the manipulators of the Star Service frauds, will certainly prove to have been interesting reading. The following table, including number of route, name of road, corporate title of company carrying mails, distance, annual pay, annual cost per mile on each route, I take from page 110, Postmaster-General's Report for 1879 and 1880:

Number of Route.	Route.	Corporate Title of Company Carrying the Mail.	Distance.	Annual Pay.	An. Cost per mile on each Route.
46,004	Folsom City to Shingle Springs	Placerville and Sacramento Valley	26.50	1,264 05	47 70
46,006	Sacramento to San Francisco	California Pacific	86.72	7,102 37	81 90
46,009	Marysville to Oroville	California Northern	30.00	1,350 00	45 00
46,026	Santa Cruz to Felton	Santa Cruz and Felton	8.37	376 65	45 00
46,001	San Francisco to Ogden	Central Pacific	884.23	238,299 98	269 50
46,002	San Francisco to Soledad	Southern Pacific	143.80		57 60
	Branch—Gilroy to Tres Pinos		20.20	9,199 88	45 00
46,003	Roseville to Redding	Central Pacific	151.45	18,401 17	121 50
46,016	Saucelito to Duncan's Mills	North Pacific Coast	80.47		54 90
	Branch—San Anselmo to San Quentin		5.50	3,570 75	45 00
46,017	Los Angeles to Santa Ana	Southern Pacific	28.60	1,544 40	54 00
46,020	Colfax to Nevada City	Nevada County Narrow Gauge	22.81	1,129 09	49 50
46,010	Lathrop to Goshen	Central Pacific	144.91	10,433 52	72 00
46,013	Wilmington to Los Angeles	Southern Pacific	21.75	783 00	36 00
46,007	Davisville to Grafton	California Pacific	16.38	819 00	50 00
46,011	San Francisco to Cloverdale	San Francisco and North Pacific	90.00	6,075 00	67 50
46,012	Stockton to Milton	Stockton and Copperopolis	30.00		
	Branch—Peters to Oakdale		19.00	2,205 00	45 00
46,014	Huron to Yuma	Southern Pacific	539.29	23,863 05	45 00
46,015	Elmira to Madison	Vaca Valley	29.00	1,305 00	45 00
46,019	Visalia to Goshen	Visalia	8.37	376 65	45 00
46,021	Los Angeles to Santa Monica	Los Angeles and Independence	16.80	604 80	36 00
46,022	Santa Cruz to Watsonville	Santa Cruz	23.39	1,073 60	45 90
46,023	Woodland to Williams	Northern	39.72	1,787 40	45 00
46,024	Galt to Ione	Amador Branch	27.84	1,252 80	45 00
46,026	West Oakland to Martinez	Northern	53.58	1,511 10	45 00
46,027	San Francisco to Alameda	Central Pacific	13.54	609 30	45 00
46,028	Fulton to Guerneville	San Francisco and Northern	16.09	724 05	45 00
46,005	Sacramento to Folsom	Sacramento and Placerville	23.20	1,419 84	61 20
46,008	Napa Junction to Calistoga	California Pacific	36.00	1,620 00	45 00

It will be seen that the mileage of these 27 railways is 2,628 51-100 miles, at an annual compensation of $338,801 45-100—or an average of a little more than $128 per mile per annum. Among these roads is the Central Pacific trunk line, which I select as the first in length, first in importance and first in reliability. This road is about 884 miles in length, and receives $269 50 per mile per annum, and furnishes as complete accommodation and means of service as any railroad in the United States. On the other hand, a Star Service route—say the one between Rock creek and Echeta, Wy.—performed by stage or buck-boards, makes four trips a week—331 miles—for a yearly compensation of $88,768, or $268 per mile per annum—$1 50 less than the railway above-mentioned, with all of its perfect appliances, receives. The latter carries tons of mail, too, where the Star Service equipage carries 25 pounds. The star service route above referred to, with others, has had its compensation increased from the original contract calling for a service of 370 miles three times a week for $11,767 per annum to $88,768 a year, with distance decreased from 370 to 331 miles, under the pretense of increasing speed from 1 8-10 miles per hour to 3 6-10 miles and one additional trip per week. The Star Service system in operation throughout the entire Territory of Wyoming, 869 miles, receives $123,286, or an average of $141 per mile per annum, while for the extensive and perfect service rendered by the railroads in the State of California, the Government pays on an average but a little more than $128 per mile per annum for mail transportation.

It will be seen on page 257, Postmaster-General's report, that out of $17,050,000 called for the year ending 1880, for compensation for all railroads, steamboats, stages, railway Postoffice clerks, route agents, mail-route messengers, local agents, etc., *thirty-four (34) per cent.*, or $5,900,000, is called for by General Brady, Second Assistant Postmaster-General (now being investigated), for the "Star Service." It seems to me that the press of this State should rise in its might, and see that California has a more satisfactory postal service.

Marysville, February 15, 1880.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

HOME ADORNMENT AND DOMESTIC ECONOMY—ALL AROUND THE HOUSE.

[Correspondents of this department will not be limited in their epistles, but conciseness is preferable, and but one side of a page must be written upon. Questions pertinent to this department will be answered in this column.]

Some Hints on Cooking.

Pot-au-feu requires four pounds of beef, six quarts of water, eight ounces of carrot, eight ounces of turnip, same quantity of onions, and three ounces of celery and cloves. After once or twice making this soup, the cook will be able to judge by the size of the vegetables the required quantity, but weighing is advisable at first, as much depends on perfect proportion. The meat must slowly simmer for three hours, then add the vegetables, not before; simmer till done. The pot in which the bouillon is made should have a very closely-fitting lid. Quick boiling and careless skimming are the cause of cloudy boillon; supposing, as a matter of course, that all the vegetables have been perfectly cleansed. While on the subject of soups, here is an excellent receipt for a white soup, not well known and very delicious. To make celery cream soup: Boil a small cup of rice in three pints of milk, until it will pass through a sieve. Grate the white part of two heads of celery (three if small) on a bread grater; add this to the rice milk after it has been strained; put to it one quart of strong white stock; let it boil until the celery is perfectly tender; season with salt and cayenne, and serve; if cream is obtainable, substitute one pint of it for the same quantity of milk. It often happens that soup intended to be brown is not sufficiently so to be inviting without coloring. Caramel is generally used for this purpose; but onions cut in slices and left in a moderate oven until they are black chips (not charred, however) may be kept bottled for the purpose. They are preferable to burnt sugar, as a small quantity added to a stew or soup improves the flavor; or, they may be fried each time (in their own juice without grease) and added with other vegetables. For white stock, use veal or fowls instead of beef. Many a chagrined woman knows what it is to attempt a ragout from a receipt, and to fail signally; to see the rich creamy fricassee her fancy painted resolve itself into an insipid mess of broth and curdled eggs. The ideal brown ragout turns out an unsavory brown fact. In making brown stews, it is advisable to put the meat and onions in a stew-pan without water, cover closely, let them simmer until they are brown and the pan is covered with a rich glaze—be careful not to burn—then add a *little* water and any other vegetables your receipt may direct. Just before serving, skim off carefully all fat; then add a small piece of butter rolled in flour, and let it all simmer again in a few minutes. The above method will make a tough piece of meat tender, and if a dessert-spoonful of vinegar or lemon juice is put in with the meat and onions, the sourness disappears before the meat is done, leaving only the scarcely perceptible dash of acidity, which is the characteristic of most French dishes.—[Scribner.

A Knitted Rug.

There is nothing more pleasing to my womanly pride than to have accomplished the making of a beautiful and serviceable article from castaway and apparently useless material. I always feel under a debt of gratitude to the friend who instructed me in the art of knitting rugs, and wish to impart the information to those of my sisters whose inclinations may run in the same channels as my own. Gather from the old clothes closets all the worsted garments that can no longer be utilized as wearing apparel, cut the seams off, and remove grease spots. Cut in strips varying in width according to thickness of the material; heavy cloth from pantaloons should never be over one-quarter of an inch, while cashmeres and goods of that kind may be a full inch or even somewhat over, if thin. Scarlet, bright clear blue and grays are necessary for enlivening, while black, dark blue and all other dark colors form the basis of the work. Cross the strips about an inch, sew with strong black linen thread, and have the ends securely fastened. Sew about three yards of the darkest colors, then a strip of the brighter shade; the scarlet should not occur more than once in about nine yards, and must be short, say from four to ten inches in length. Wind in balls as for rag-carpet. The needles used are of hard wood, one-half an inch in diameter and eighteen in length. After making several rugs I find the following directions produce the most pleasing effect: Set forty-four stitches, knit five rows of very dark color only, then two rows of moroon, eleven of fresh clear scarlet, two rows of moroon, one of black, after that the miscellaneous assortment, taking care that no scarlet occurs very near the solid border. Be particular in putting in the second border that it starts upon the same side with the other. Always knit even and loose enough to have the work easy upon the needles; finish off with the dark color, as at the beginning. Sew securely to old Brussels carpet or other firm material. Then take cloth, that of pantaloons is better than other, cut in half-inch strips ten inches in length, double and knot through every stitch at the ends for fringe. A rug to be placed before a bed needs to be two yards in length. These rugs are really handsome upon matting on inlaid or a painted floor. The knitting becomes heavy work as the rug progresses in length, but can be done at odd moments, and will fully repay the effort expended.—[E. C., in the New York Tribune.

Receipts.

Beefsteak Stewed Without Water. Get three or four pounds of rump steak, cut about an inch thick; put an ounce of butter in a frying-pan large enough to hold your steak, and let the butter melt without browning; wash the steak quickly in cold water and put it in the frying-pan, covering closely. As soon as it is thoroughly heated, season with a teaspoonful of salt and a saltspoonful of white pepper; then push the pan back on the stove where it will simmer—not boil—keeping it covered all the time and a weight on the cover. It will be found to be cooked and perfectly tender in an hour and a half. Put on a hot dish, and add half a teacup of tomato or two tablespoonfuls of walnut catsup to the gravy in the pan, and pour it over the steak.

Baked Cabbage Balls.—Take a large, firm cabbage, boil whole in salt and water till tender enough to eat, but not to fall to pieces; then lay in cold water till ready for use, or until perfectly cold. Take the leaves from the stalk without breaking them, lay three or four together open on the table until you have a dozen piles. Fry an onion and chop fine with the remainder of the cabbage leaves; season lightly with salt and pepper, and mix in a pound of highly-seasoned sausage meat; make into balls and lay them on your cabbage leaves; roll the cabbage leaves around them, and tie firmly with a soft string; lay them in a baking pan with half a pint of stock or gravy, and bake for 20 minutes in a moderately hot oven.

To Boil a Ham.—Scrape well, and unless fresh enough, soak it for four hours, then wrap in a coarse towel and place it in a kettle of cold water. Add a handful of clean timothy hay, a carrot, two celery roots, two medium-sized onions, two bay leaves, six cloves, and a little parsley and thyme. If the kettle is of porcelain or granite, or even a bright tin one, put in a teacup of good cider vinegar, but do not use vinegar in an iron kettle. Bring the water to a boil, and do not let it stop for three or four hours, according to the size of the ham. Leave it in the water until a little cool, then skin, trim and sift a thin layer of finely rolled crackers over it. Bake for two hours in a moderate oven. A poor ham cooked in this way is made passable, and a good one is rendered four-fold better.

Potato Salad.—Boil and mash the potatoes fine; season highly with butter, pepper, salt, a little sweet cream; then have ready about three hard boiled eggs to one quart of the mashed potato; take off the whites and chop fine; mash the yellows and mix them according to your taste with some made mustard, a little sugar, salt, pepper, and just enough vinegar to moisten the preparation; mix well these ingredients; put a layer of the mashed potatoes in a flat pan, and with a spoon put the salad dressing in spots over the potatoes, another layer of potatoes, then the salad, and so on, putting the potatoes on top. Smooth over evenly, and set in the stove to brown.—[From "Housekeeping in the Blue Grass."

Cocoanut Pudding.—Grate a large cocoanut; mix with it half a pound of pulverized sugar, and stew in a pint of milk fifteen or twenty minutes in a double tin vessel, the lower one having water in it, counting the time after the water has boiled in the lower tin; butter, and then flour lightly a baking-pan; line it with stale sponge cake, cut in rather thin slices; put on a layer of the stewed cocoanut, then the cake, and so on till the dish is full, letting the cake be last; put in with the cocoanut a quarter of a pound of good butter, cut in small pieces; pour over the whole half a tumbler of wine, and bake an hour in a moderate oven; eat hot.

Plain Molasses Candy.—Two quarts of molasses in a two-gallon preserving kettle. Boil steadily over a slow fire for a half hour, stirring uninterruptedly. If it shows any inclination to boil over or burn, remove to a cooler part of the stove. Try by dropping a little in cold water; if it is brittle, it is done. Then add a teaspoonful of carbonate of soda thoroughly powdered. Take off the fire immediately, and pour into shallow buttered tins. If nut or flavoring are desired, they can be well stirred in after the candy is removed from the fire, or it can be pulled with well-buttered hands when nearly cold.

Boston Brown Bread.—Mix one pint of Graham flour and one pint of corn meal, half a pint of molasses, a pint of sour milk, and a teaspoon of salt into a stiff batter. Dissolve two teaspoons of soda in a very little hot water and stir it in thoroughly; then put the bread into a deep round pan, well greased, and steam for two hours and a half, after which bake for half an hour; or, it may be baked in ordinary bread pans and will require an hour or longer in a moderate oven. Rye flour may be used instead of Graham. If the bread is too sweet, take less molasses and fill the cup up with milk.

To Pot Red Herring.—Get 25 red herring, clean, take off the heads. Take a jar that will hold a gallon, pack the fish closely in the jar, take one quart best cider vinegar, one tablespoonful of salt, tablespoonful whole allspice, put on the stove until it begins to boil, pour it over the fish, set in a warm oven for four hours. If wanted very soon, pour off the vinegar and add fresh after four days.

Baked Hash.—Chop the meat very fine, and put in a pan with some water; add salt and pepper, butter and bread crumbs to taste; season with a little chopped onion, parsley thyme—all minced fine; half a cup of milk or cream with one egg beaten in; grate some crumbs over the top and bake till brown.

LITERARY NOTES.

The Italian translation of "Paradise Lost" is in the index.

Miss Iza Duffus is writing a novel to be called "Friend and Lover."

The "Recollections" of the celebrated Panslavist leader Aksakoff have already passed into a fifth edition at Moscow.

The latest monthly serial to be launched in London is Moxon's Magazine. It starts with an important list of contributors.

A new novel by Berthold Auerbach, entitled "Brigitta," will soon be begun as a *feuilleton* in one of the Boston daily papers.

There will soon be published a volume on pastoral history, by Bishop Bedell, of Ohio. It will be called "The Pastor."

A new edition of Prof. H. H. Boyesen's charming little idyl in prose, "Gunnar," is to appear presently.

A great deal of polemical writing has followed the appearance of a biting article in the *Rooski Retch*, by the witty Eugenie Markoff, on "Satire and Novels of To-day."

The preparation of the second volume of the "Life of Alexander Duff," to be brought out in the United States, has been unexpectedly delayed, but it will appear early in the year.

Tennyson is not the only one who has tried his hand on the dramatic sketch called "The Falcon," founded on Boccaccio's story. Barry Cornwall had a turn at it, but with no better success than has attended Tennyson's venture.

The issue of sermons preached in the leading Russian cities is becoming very popular. In December, 1,000 applications were received at St. Petersburg from various parts of Russia for the sermons recently preached in the St. Isaac's Cathedral.

"Japanese Ornamentation," a book of several hundred original designs in Japanese style, for sign-painters, decorators, designers, silversmiths and others, was issued early in February.

General J. H. Wilson gets the credit of having insisted upon the thorough organization of the cavalry in the Military Division of the Mississippi during the latter part of the war. So says Colonel Beaumont, United States Army, who publishes in the *United Service* an article on the "Campaign of Selma." The seven divisions were commanded by McCook, Long, Kilpatrick, Grierson, Hatch, Johnson and Knipe. Our commanders are criticised for making little use of cavalry, and scattering ineffectually what was to be had. Lieutenant Greely translates for the same magazine a paper on the military establishments of Prussia.

As forerunner of a work of large scope, Stephen C. Hutchins has had published a pamphlet of selections from the "Civil List and Constitutional History of the Colony and State of New York," now in press. Mr. Hutchins has consulted the modern authorities on constitutional history referring to this country and Europe, such as O'Callahan, Motley, Brodhead, Mommsen, Lecky and Maine. In the "Civil List" the growth of each department of government is traced with the purpose of showing the changes and development of the constitutional system of the Commonwealth. Mr. Hutchins proposes to demonstrate that the government of New York is the model system of organic liberty in the world.