

The Decline and Fall of Beecherism.

It is a significant fact of the altered sentiment of this community that not a daily paper in this city supports Beecher to-day, and some of the strictures and comments on him and his course have been terrible. His influence here is completely undermined.

House Plants.

In watering plants care is necessary. Under the treatment of people of limited experience in window gardening plants are apt to suffer from a lack of water or from a too abundant supply; they are either starved or drowned.

Morning seems to be the most suitable time for watering and luke-warm water should be used, applied to the surface of the soil. I have sometimes seen it poured into the saucers of the pots, to soak into the earth at its leisure; but Nature does not perform her operations by such a process, but sends the rain down from above, and probably her example will be safe to follow.

The plants should be watered thoroughly, so that the moisture will penetrate to their roots. Those who are constantly dribbling a small supply of water on their plants will not have them in a flourishing condition for any length of time. The reason is obvious: the surface of the soil is kept moist, but the roots perish from the want of water.

A plant should not be watered until it is in a condition to receive a liberal supply of the element, which being given, it only asks to be let alone for a season. Besides watering the roots the foliage requires nearly as much attention.

Warm baths, showering, etc., are necessary to remove dust and dirt, which are as injurious to the plant as they are to the human race.

A Talking Machine.

And now we have a machine that will really and actually talk—that is, it will repeat any words uttered in its presence. The instrument is so simple in its construction, and its workings so easily understood, that one wonders why it was never before discovered.

Messrs. Dun, Barlow & Co.'s report of the failures of the quarter ending April 1 is instructive reading. As a chronicle of commercial disaster it has not been equalled in the history of the country. The number of failures in this quarter exceeds that of the corresponding quarter of last year by 486; the amount of the liabilities exceeds that of the same period of last year by \$27,546,756, and of this increase in number the Western States furnish 249, or more than half—of the increase in liabilities \$10,458,683, or thirty-eight per cent; and this in spite of abundant crops and vast exports.

Dangerous Mischiefs.

Boys are improving rapidly in the art of originating dangerous mischiefs. Certain pupils in a district school were detected at various times throwing a base ball from one to the other. The teacher, therefore, announced that he would confiscate all balls he found in the possession of pupils thereafter.

How Far Off the Sun Is.

Light, which travels with amazing velocity, requires eight minutes to reach the earth. Sound would require fourteen years to travel from the sun to the earth, so that if we saw an explosion at its surface, it would be fourteen years before we could hear it.

For Home Occupation.

We recommend to the attention of our nimble-fingered girls a new method of ornamenting common pots, and one within the power of every one to accomplish, by means of various colored autumn leaves, with a few gilt ornaments and some strips of plain gilded paper, such as is sold by the yard.

The Beautiful Fern.

There is no tropical plant with which we are acquainted so delicious and so graceful in its form as our own native fern. This is now so largely recognized that ferns are becoming the favorite plant with many, and we read that a large fernery has been established in New Jersey to meet the growing demand for them.

Dropping Names of Pensioners.

On Thursday of last week State Treasurer Rawle issued an order to all the County Treasurers of Pennsylvania. He says that the act of Assembly granting pensions to soldiers and sailors of the war of 1812 and their widows provides that the annuity shall cease as soon as provision be made by the Congress of the United States.

Good Advice.

The following advice, especially intended, as it will be seen, for granges, will prove good in all meetings of associations alike: Leave internal canker and your vinegar aspect outside when you enter the grange room. Have a cheerful smile and words of comfort for the patrons and matrons who greet you.

A Brave Turk.

A story of notable daring by a Turk during the battles of the recent war has just been related. A very steep rock, 250 feet high, was to be stormed, and at its top frowned the Russian batteries. A Turkish colonel, desirous to set an example to his men, scrambled up first by the help of projecting bushes and pieces of rock, but when he reached the top he found himself entirely alone.

The Syndicate took another \$5,000,000 of United States bonds, making \$15,000,000 absolutely sold by the Treasury out of the \$50,000,005 bargained for on the 11th of April. Although some of the 4 1/2 per cents have been sent to London, the principal sales are in this country, at 102 gold and accrued interest, where also the sales of the 4 per cents are increasing.

List of Battles of the War of the Rebellion.

We continue in this number the publication of an alphabetical list of the Battles of the War of the Rebellion from authentic sources, to be continued hereafter. It will be pleasant, we hope, for the old soldiers to see again the names and dates of battles in which they or their friends took part.

Table with columns: PLACE, STATE, DATE. Lists battles such as Clarke's Hollow, Clarksville, Clay County, etc., with their respective locations and dates.