

THE CONCORDIA EAGLE.

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VIDALIA, - - - LOUISIANA.

HE WANTS TO BE A MUFF.

Beneath her chin, her bangle pin
Reflects each glancing wave of light,
As if some charm lay far within
The little dots of metal bright.
And faith they seem to take delight
In nestling there. Is envy a sin?
I'm sure that I am envious quite
To be the pin beneath her chin.

Her little muff is well enough
To grace a Paris doll's trossouau,
And yet her hand and snow-white cuff
Seem quite content in there to go.
It holds her hand quite tight, I know,
And when the wind is blowing rough,
As on we walk through drifting snow,
I wish my hand could be her muff.
—Washington Hatchet.

A STRAIGHT DIAGNOSIS.

An Attack of "Malaria," and What Caused It.

"The doctor says it is malaria."
"How did you get malaria?"
"Oh, Aunt Mary, just as if one could
tell anything about malaria! It is like
the wind. It cometh from no one
knows where, and bloweth where it
listeth;" and the invalid turned her
pretty flushed face on the pillow with a
movement of unmistakable irritation.
"Blanche, dear, have the kindness to
look at me a minute," said Miss Mary
Harrington, firmly but kindly. "We
don't want to make any mistakes to
start with. You know I am very blunt,
and you know that I have opinions."
"And I know there is nobody in all
the world like you when one is ill,"
the young lady interrupted; "and that
is why I begged and prayed mamma to
send for you."

"That is very pleasant and en-
couraging as far as it goes," said the
lady, "but I can remain, Blanche, as
your nurse, only on the condition that
you obey me. I am ready to unpack
and stay, or put on my hat and go."
Miss Harrington's gray eyes were
tender and smiling, and her whole face
was aglow with active benevolence; but
the broad brow and the firm mouth
had also much to say of careful study
and strength of character.

"Why, auntie, I should give up en-
tirely if you disappointed me now,"
the invalid replied, with quivering lips.
"I have just lived on the thought of
your coming."
"Well, will you obey me?"
"Yes, auntie, and I hope you'll re-
member that obedience is not my strong
point."

"But I have your promise, and that
will do," said the nurse, cheerfully;
"and now we'll see."
"Nineteen years old," Miss Harring-
ton said to herself, "and confined to
her bed eight weeks with malaria? Bosh!
A bad tongue, feverish, more emaciated
than I had expected to find her, pain
in her side, intermitting pulse, constant
oppression of the chest, backache,
acute headaches, cold extremities
and no appetite. And this is malaria?
Bosh again! I wonder what the doctors
did before the word 'malaria' came into
use. I must ask this physician his
reasons for calling this a malarial
attack."

Miss Harrington was as good as her
word, and forcing her opinions and her
doubts quite into the background,
started on her tour of investigation
with an appearance of implicit faith in
the ability of the medical man to answer
her questions.
"Is there anything the matter with
the plumbing?" the lady inquired.
"There isn't a sanitary precaution
that your brother has not taken," the
doctor replied.
"Do you know of other cases of
malaria in this locality?"
"Oh, yes; malaria is by no means a
rare product in this neighborhood."
"But it is very high and dry, and
constantly swept by sea-breezes."
"Yes; very high and dry."
"And very gay?" Aunt Mary sug-
gested, demurely.
"Yes; exceptionally gay."

There was a comical twinkle in the
gentleman's eye that told of a quick
appreciation of his companion's re-
mark.
"And late hours, and thin shoes, and
low necks, and salads, and souffles
sometimes induce malaria, I suppose?"
"Without doubt."
"Well, why don't you say so, then?"
Aunt Mary had kept her claws
sheathed just about as long as possible.
"A physician can not safely meddle
with the private life of his patients ex-
cept in extreme cases," was the un-
ruffled response. "If I were to take
the broad platform which you recom-
mend," the gentleman added, "I
should not only not do the least bit of
good, but I shouldn't have a patient
left. My reputation would be simply
that of an old busybody and an old
fool. But, madam, this is an excellent
field for you, and I am sure we can
work together with the utmost har-
mony."

"Perhaps you are right," said Miss
Harrington, thoughtfully, "but I don't
exactly see it. Of course, if your pa-
tients are all idiots, that settles it."
"You would scarcely call your niece
an idiot," said the doctor, "and she is
as fair a representative of the class as I
could name."
After a few days of Aunt Mary's
efficient nursing, her patient felt able
to sit up, and her maid was directed to
get together the necessary articles of
wardrobe. Among the first things
presented were a pair of black silk
stockings and a pair of kid slippers.
"What are these?" Miss Harrington
asked.
"Why, they are the newest style of
slippers, auntie," said her niece.
"Paper soles, and three-inch heels
tapered down to a cherry pin in the
middle of the foot. I presume you
wear these all the time you are in the
house?"
"Why, of course, auntie."
"In the dead of winter as well as in
the dog-days."
The young lady laughed merrily at
her companion's old fogyism. "Cer-

tainly. Just see how pretty they look with the silk stockings."

"How many corns have you,
Blanche?"
"Oh, only two or three little bits of
ones. I send for a chiropodist once in
a while, and then I'm all right for ever
so long."
"A girl of nineteen with her feet in a
chiropodist's hands!" said auntie, with
a wry face.
"That isn't anything. Why, almost
all the girls—"
"Not the slightest doubt of it," the
lady interrupted. "You have nothing
else, I suppose, to put on your feet but
these things?"
"No, auntie, and I wouldn't wear
any others if I had."

"I have now accounted for your
backaches, Blanche," said Miss Har-
rington, "and we will proceed to elimi-
nate the spinal column from the
charge of malaria; it is perfectly inno-
cent." And now the nurse examined the
other articles laid out for use. There
wasn't an inch of flannel to be seen;
nothing but the finest and most
elaborately beruffled and embroidered
linen.
"And do you not own a flannel pet-
ticoat, Blanche?"
"What in the world do I want with
flannels? You know I almost always
go out in the carriage, and there are
lots of warm robes."
"It is about as I supposed," Miss
Harrington remarked, sadly. "Your
break-down is due to perfectly plain
and natural causes. There is nothing
in the least mysterious about it. You
have deformed your feet, weakened
your spine, and consequently your
whole nervous system, by the shoes
you have worn. By a series of expo-
sures you have reduced your vital force
to such an extent that reaction was im-
possible without further prostration
and a complete cessation of irritating
causes. Here are your corsets. How
much do they measure, please?"
"Nineteen inches, auntie,"—the
young lady was almost ready to cry
now—"and they are a whole inch
larger than most girls of my size
wear."

"What is your size? Here is a tape
measure, and I will soon tell you. You
have lost considerable flesh, and I shall
have to allow for shrinkage. Twenty-
four inches just as you are, Blanche.
Think of it! A twenty-four inch waist
squeezed into nineteen inch corsets!
We will now clear the heart and lungs
from the charge of malaria. Your ir-
regular pulse, the cutting pain in your
side, your uneven and most inadequate
respiration can be traced directly to
tight lacing. Now I have this to say,
my child. I shall not permit you to
wear one of these articles as long as
you are under my care. If you will ac-
cept a pair of my quilted slippers, and
allow me to wrap you in blankets till
you have some clothes suitable for a
convalescent to wear, all right. If not,
you must find some one else to take
care of you. My time is altogether too
precious to throw away. This may
seem very cruel, Blanche; but I really
think it would be far better for you to
die now than to be nursed back to the
old shameful conditions. There is
nothing before you but a life of invalid-
ism if you decide to go on as you have
begun."

"But how can I wear horrid old shoes
and old scratchy flannels, and have a
waist like a washerwoman's?" the girl
inquired, between laughing and crying.
"You haven't said anything about gol-
doses and leggings yet, but perhaps
you'd like to have me wear those?"
"Shall I get the blankets and my
quilted slippers, Blanche?" Aunt Mary
inquired.
"Yes; bring the gun-boats and the
flannels," her companion replied.
"And if you can find a few hen's feath-
ers to stick in my hair, the resemblance
to a Sioux squaw will be still more
striking."

After this Miss Blanche had some
lessons in physiology and hygiene, and
very interesting and profitable topics
they proved to be. She learned the
reasons of things, and had sense
enough to accept and utilize them.
—Eleanor Kirk, in Harper's Bazar.

VIBRIONS.

A Curious Word, Signifying Spiritless,
Cold-Blooded People.

We meet them everywhere. They
are people who dress well, who are
seen in public places, and who glide
through life in an automatic way, that
in any one else would be attributed to
human numbness of nerves. They
never do anything but draw nutrition
from whatever they can attach them-
selves to. This peculiarity is the first
to strike the general mass of intelli-
gent people. The vibration takes every-
thing society or the community offers
in the way of profit, and gives nothing
in return but a narrow, petty, miser-
able, self-seeking existence. If he by
any means gets into the church he
absorbs all that religion has to offer, but
gives back nothing—perfectly willing
to take all religion has to give. The
pious layman vibration possibly pays for
a pew, attends church piously, picnics
solemnly, suppers sadly and banquets
with grief. The vibration has no nerves,
electricity would not shock him, nor
any one, male or female. The vibration,
unfortunately, is youthful, as a rule.
If he is in business the vibration takes
advantage of all circumstances, but
does nothing for the commercial inter-
ests. In politics he is a leech—willing
to accept office and emoluments, but
loath to contribute of his means toward
the common weal. As a curiosity the
vibration may be interesting, but as a
being in the semblance of a man he is
more dangerous to society than any
member of that class which is supposed
to demand the constant attention of
the police, and would be of little use
even to the doctors to dissect, as he is
deficient of heart and nerves. This is
given as a study of a class. It is ex-
aggerated to some extent, but there is
an approach to reality. It is a bad
remove from the masquerade.—N. Y.
Herald.

—Among the persons calling at the
office of the Register of Wills in Phila-
delphia recently was a determined-
looking young man, with a bridle and
some rope on his arm, who demanded
a mule and a cow which his uncle had
bequeathed him.—Philadelphia Times

KHARTOUM.

Description of the City in the Soudan For
Many Months Held by General Gordon.

On a barren, stoneless and wide plain
on the western bank of the Blue Nile,
and about a mile above its junction
with the White Nile, is situated the
now famous city of Khartoum. Its
river frontage is about one and a half
miles; its depth inward from the river
about a mile. As its site is somewhat
lower than the point reached by both
rivers when in flood, a dyke fifteen to
twenty feet in height has been made
along the banks of the Blue Nile, and
another somewhat lower, immediately
at the back of the town, to protect it
against overflow of the White Nile.
When at their lowest point both
streams are from six hundred to eight
hundred yards in width, and have sev-
eral islands, which are cultivated. The
White Nile is unfordable, except in one
or two places far up the river, but the
Blue can be forded in many places
above the town. When in flood, the
White Nile increases its width to a very
great extent, but not so the Blue Nile,
as its banks are much steeper. Around
Khartoum are several small villages.
Both above and below the town are
small plantations of date palms and
plantains, also a number of vegetable
gardens. According to the old custom,
or privilege, none of these gardens pay
any taxes. With the exception of the
river banks the country is bare and
treeless.

During the hot season, which lasts
from the beginning of April to the
middle of November, the heat is se-
vere, averaging in the shade from
ninety to ninety-five degrees Fahr-
enheit. The rains generally begin about
the middle of July and last till Sep-
tember. They are, however, said to be
very irregular, and sometimes there is
little or no rainfall. In the rainy sea-
son the barren ground stretching be-
tween the two rivers is covered with
grass, affording very good pasture.
The rivers begin to rise on the 1st of
June, and reach their highest point
about the beginning of September.
They remain stationary at that point
till about the 15th, and then begin to
fall. The cold weather begins about
the middle of December, and lasts till
the middle of February. From Novem-
ber to March high north winds pre-
vail, and during the remainder, south.
In the winter the thermometer some-
times goes down as low as forty-six
degrees Fahrenheit; except in the regular
rainy season there is no rain. The
unhealthy season is during the months
of June, July, October and November,
when typhoid fevers and dysentery are
prevalent. The winter is the healthy
season.

The resident population is generally
estimated at from fifty thousand to
fifty-five thousand souls, of which two-
thirds are slaves. There is also a float-
ing population estimated from one
thousand five hundred to two thousand
souls, and consisting of Europeans,
Syrians, Copts, Turks, Albanians and
a few Jews. The free resident popula-
tion are mostly Mahkass or aborigines;
Dongolawees, from Dongola; Shag-
hiyes, from a district along the Nile,
north of Khartoum, and the Rubat, a
district north of the Nuba, the
Dinka, Sook, Berta and other negro
tribes. Both the free population and
the slaves are Mohammedans of the
Maliki school of divinity, and are also
followers of either the Rufai, Kadri,
Hamdi or Saadi sect of dervishes. They
are very superstitious. Their political
 creed is to side with whichever side is
the strongest. The free inhabitants are
mostly engaged in trade or commerce,
and the slaves in agriculture, or else
hired out as daily laborers by their
masters. But few are employed as
domestic servants. It is said that a
master always makes a point of marry-
ing his slave as soon as possible. It
is also reported that slaves born in the
country improve greatly in appearance
as compared with the parent stock. Of
the floating population the Copts are
mostly employed in Government service
or trade. The Turks, Albanians, etc.,
are generally irregular soldiers or loaf-
ers. The European element is rep-
resented by about one hundred individ-
uals, mostly Greek. There are also
some Italians. The chief export and
import trade is in the hands of the
Europeans, Copts and Syrians.

Except the manufacture of mats, cot-
ton cloths, a rope made from palm
leaves and some filigree silver-work,
there is no manufacture worth speak-
ing of. The bazaar is of considerable
size, and is tolerably well supplied with
Manchester goods, cheap cutlery, etc.
The export and import trade is con-
siderable, and, besides numerous caravans,
is said to employ over three hun-
dred boats of various size. A con-
siderable trade in grain is also carried
on with Sennaar and Karkotsch. These
districts are practically the granaries of
the Soudan.

In shape Khartoum is very irregular.
Its appearance is also poor and miser-
able. Except the Government house
and one or two other buildings, there
is hardly a house worthy of the name.
The houses are mostly built of sun-
dried brick, generally without an upper
story, and nearly all surrounded by
court yards with mud walls.
To prevent these crumbling away
during the rains, they are every
year plastered over with dung
before the rainy season commences.
This plastering process is doubtless the
cause of a good deal of illness. As the
town is so low, there is no drainage,
and the consequence is that during the
rains the whole place is deep in water,
and it is almost impossible to move
about. As there is no stone through-
out the whole district, the streets are
full of dust during the summer, and
mud during the rains. The chief build-
ings are: (1) Government house and
office, large brick buildings on the
banks of the Blue Nile; (2) arsenal,
with smithy, carpenter's shop, smelt-
ing-furnaces, stores, etc., attached to
this arsenal are some fourteen steamers
for the navigation of the rivers, and
also boats of various kinds; (3) a large
commodious hospital built by Colonel
Gordon; (4) a mosque or jami built by
Kurshid Pasha; (5) a sibil or small
mosque provided with a well, and
some rooms for the convenience of
travelers and poor people; (6) a large
barrack of mud without an upper story

and a large barrack square; (7) powder
magazine and workshop for the re-
filling of cartridges; (8) a large Roman
Catholic missionary building, estab-
lished in 1848, a stone building with
garden, church, etc.; (9) a small Coptic
church.

As to the attitude of the population,
Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart wrote on
January 16, 1883: "Of the fifty or
fifty-five thousand inhabitants (includ-
ing thirty thousand slaves) of Khartoum,
if I am to believe what I hear, I
must consider the majority as un-
friendly to the Government. I have
been assured that many Government
employees, and nearly all the native
traders, are secret partisans of the
Mehdi, in the hopes that he will re-
establish the slave trade. It is ques-
tionable how far these statements are
justified, but perhaps I shall not be far
from the truth in saying that the ma-
jority will take whichever side they see
is the strongest.—Chicago Times.

FOREST CULTURE.

What Has Been Accomplished in Ne-
braska.

No reasonably intelligent person can
doubt the advantage and benefit to the
country at large of the maintenance of a
considerable area of forest. No one
can ignore the value of timber as a
material for use in various arts and for
the domestic supply of farmers and
others who require rough and cheap
timber for many purposes. It is quite
unnecessary to do more than refer to
these points or to the universally ad-
mitted advantages of the forests and
timber plantations in regard to climate
and water supply. All these things are
known and well understood. But they
are almost entirely ignored and
neglected and the positive necessity
for general action in regard to the
planting of waste lands with timber is
lost sight of in the noisy calls upon the
Government to step forward and "do
something." The old story of the car-
man whose cart was stuck in a mud-
hole, and who called upon Jupiter to
get him out of his trouble, applies to
this business. Farmers are the most
interested in this matter; they have
an abundance of waste land, or of land
that lies useless at present, that might
be very profitably planted with timber.
But because some other persons may
derive some benefit from the planting
of timber upon their lands and enjoy
some of the advantages with them of
it, this beneficial work is left undone.
A valuable lesson may be learned from
Nebaska in this regard. This young
Western State was almost wholly with-
out timber; a treeless waste of green
grass and blue sky which met at the
horizon all around the solitary traveler
who crossed its lonely prairies a dozen
or a score of years ago. Ex-Governor
R. W. Furnas, one of the pioneers who
settled this State and have covered it
with fruitful fields, blossoming or-
chards and gardens and leafy groves,
was one of the first to arouse popular
favor in regard to tree planting, and it
was, we believe, during the administra-
tion of his government that Arbor Day
was established as a public festival, of
which the planting of trees was the
chief object. This idea struck the
popular fancy, and it has spread into
other States, but flourishes most fruit-
fully in its birthplace, so much so that
during 1884 the amount of tree plant-
ing done consisted of 2,500,000 cotton-
woods, 400,000 box elders, 800,000 soft
maple, 250,000 ash, 175,000 elm, 85,000
sycamore, 225,000 other deciduous
trees, 1,850 bushels of walnuts, 250
bushels of acorns and 125 pounds of
catalpa seed. At this rate of progress
Nebaska will soon be melodious with
the varying music of the forest and be-
come a place of woods and groves,
while elder States will have unclothed
themselves and lie bare and barren to
the winds and sun. All this has been
done by private effort, stimulated by
an ambition and rivalry keenly sharp-
ened by a public spirit which has pre-
vailed all the people, until even the
children have their groves, planted by
tiny hands and nursed into growth by
generous care. Government has had
no hand in it. It is the outgrowth of
the true American idea of popular
sovereignty, and that what the people
want done the people must do for them-
selves. If only the people most inter-
ested in other States would follow this
bright example all that the State Gov-
ernments should do where there are
public lands would be quickly done,
and the remaining forests would be
preserved from the cruel axe and the
wasting fire.

Catching an "Express" Train.

Several men were at Wabaska the
other day to say good-bye to one of
their number who was going North.
Just as the train was fairly under way
the departing vaguero shouted back
that he had left his overcoat. A short
search resulted in finding the article,
and a hurried discussion arose as to
the best way of restoring it to its owner,
when it was suggested that, had they
been quick enough, one of them might
have caught the train on his horse.
The suggestion was like a flash of fire
to powder. One glance after the fast-
disappearing train and Dan Farley was
in the saddle, plunging both rowels in
his steed and away and away, over
ditches, through the sagebrush, up the
hills and down the hollows, riding as
though for dear life, like a madman or,
more reckless still, like a thorough-
blooded cowboy. It was a hard run,
but in a mile and a half Dan overhauled
the train and the conductor slackened
speed so that he could deliver the coat.
It is needless to say that Dan rode a
good horse.—Territorial Enterprise.

—The Big Horn (Montana) Sentinel
illustrates in the annexed paragraph
how the freedom of the press must be
upheld occasionally in territorial sec-
tions: Thomas Beecher, alias
"Kid," attempted last Saturday evening
to suppress the freedom of the press
by attacking our local scribe with a
deadly weapon, which resulted in the
"Kid" finding himself laid out under
the stars of the Star of the West billiard
tables.

—Old Liberty bell was cracked in
1826 while ringing in honor of a visit
of Henry Clay to Philadelphia.

OF GENERAL INTEREST.

—There were nearly twelve thousand
marriages last year in New York City.
—"Tiny conversation" is the modern
phrase for "small talk" in fashionable
circles in New York.

—There are now twenty-three cities
in Massachusetts. The most recently
incorporated is Waltham.

—A noted San Francisco thief was
sentenced to forty years imprisonment
a few days ago for robbing a man of
six dollars at the point of a pistol.

—A few days ago the proprietor of a
New York restaurant cut his hand with
an oyster shell, which caused his arm
to swell and pyemia setting in resulted
in death.—N. Y. Sun.

—A Government pensioner of Edg-
town, Mass., is the fourth of his line
in direct descent who have drawn pensions
from the United States by reason of
military service.—Boston Journal.

—All branches of the world's busi-
ness that amount to anything are seek-
ing for the best men that can be found
and employing them at whatever cost.
—Robert Waldensall, in Y. M. C. A.
Watchman.

—Major Brooke says, in the Rural
Home, that more cherries, berries,
peaches and grapes and less pie, cake
and meat would lessen pain, prolong
life, and greatly increase the mental
and physical vigor of the race.

—A statistical work reports that
there are in Nova Scotia 265 lawyers,
298 doctors and 468 clergymen. Ac-
cording to this, every hundredth full-
grown man in the province is engaged
in one of these professions, one in a
little over two hundred being a clergy-
man.

—The Palatka (Fla.) Herald says:
"A man and family arrived here one
day recently; the next morning he
paid four hundred and fifty dollars for
a lot, and that evening he had a shanty
erected, a stove put up, and he and his
family slept in it that night. This man
was from Maine."

—English people seldom hurry.
Twenty years ago the Mayor of Taunton,
Mass., forwarded the Mayor of the
City of London, a copy of the city charter
and of the proceedings of the City
Councils. The gift has just been ac-
knowledged by a receipt of a copy of
the history of Taunton, Eng.—Boston
Globe.

—Russia threatens to beat the United
States as an oil producer. As yet it has
but 115 wells in the Caucasian region,
against 20,000 American wells, but the
average product of a Russian well is
sixteen times as great as of an Ameri-
can well. The oil beds of the Caucasus
are said to be absolutely inexhaustible,
and are disposed in horizontal layers.
In 1872 their production of oil was 30,000
tons, and in 1882 1,000,000 tons.

—Mr. Thomas Barbour, thread-
maker at Paterson, N. J., who died
recently worth one million dollars, if
not several millions, was the son of a
threadmaker at Belfast and traveling
salesman in America. His father
wanted to trash him, big as he was,
for setting up a thread-mill in America
against the British manufacturer.
"Father," said the son, "I'll make
more money for you than I ever did,
and make money for myself, too." He
did.—N. Y. Graphic.

—By the recent Spanish earthquakes,
a village in Granada has been moved
bodily some sixty feet in a northward
direction, a deep semi-circular crevasse
appearing on its former site. The
course of the little river near which
the village stood has been blocked up,
and a lake is being formed. Many of
the sulphur springs with which the
region abounds suddenly ceased flowing,
but reappeared a day or two after in
a state of unusual heat, indicative, no
doubt, of the character of the force at
work below.

A gentleman who had courted and
married his wife in a full beard and
lived for ten years with her
endowed with the same hirsute adorn-
ment, quietly determined to have it cut
off. His wife found it difficult to recog-
nize him, and she sat staring at his
strange appearance for some time.
"Well," he exclaimed, have you got
nothing else to do but sit still? I sup-
pose you expect me to do all the work,
while you loaf, as usual," he snappishly
said. "Why it is you after all—I knew
you the moment you spoke," she re-
plied.—Pittsburgh Telegraph.

—In a recent lecture on the germs of
disease, Dr. Sternberg said that the
strips of flannel saturated with carbolic
acid hung up in the sick room, and the
chlorine saucer placed under the
bed, are wholly valueless in arresting
the progress of pestilence. Such
methods do harm, he thinks, by lead-
ing people to neglect the far more im-
portant measure of admitting an
abundance of fresh air, which sweeps
away the germs. Many antiseptics
and deodorizers are valueless for the
destruction of germs. For this purpose
he recommends the liquor of the chlori-
nate of soda.—Chicago Times.

—A Chinaman was caught in a cute
trick at a jewelry store in San Fran-
cisco a short time since. He bargained
for a one hundred dollar dia-
mond ring, and offered in payment
what appeared to be five twenty-dollar
rolls of silver. He took up the ring
and broke one of the rolls, which con-
tained half-dollars. He pushed over
the other four, but there being some-
thing suspicious in his movements the
storekeeper sent for an officer, who
took charge of the ring, money and
unopened rolls. When the latter
were undone it was discovered that
they were lead rolls, at each end of
which a half-dollar was placed.—San
Francisco Chronicle.

—A physician gives a suggestive in-
cident upon the treatment of the insane.
A patient who had been developed in
mental darkness for more than three
years was cured by occupation. At
first the insane man assisted on the
mangle. Then he set himself to
picking up buttons; and in a few
months had about two thousand on a
string, with which he ornamented the
wall of his room. He was then offered
a small bounty for every rat, mole or
muskrat he would destroy, and was
given the full liberty of the grounds.
He soon gave evidence of ability to take
care of himself, and was released from
the asylum.—N. Y. Herald.

—One of the latest contrivances: A
genius has invented a cushion with a
spiral spring, to be worn by skaters
where it will do the most good. When
a skater who wears one of the contriv-
ances sits down unexpectedly and in
italics, as it were, the spring throws
him right on his feet again before he is
fully aware that there has been an ac-
cident. The other night a young man
provided with one of these inventions
fell a little too hard, and the spiral
spring reversed him so violently that
he rebounded pitched him forward and
broke his nose. He will sue the in-
ventor for ten thousand dollars dam-
ages.—Norristown Herald.

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

—Did you know that milk which has
turned or changed can be sweetened
and made fit for use again by stirring
in a little soda?—Taleo Blade.

—It is worth recollecting that bar
soap should be cut into square pieces
and put in a dry place, as it lasts bet-
ter after shrinking.—Philadelphia Press.

—When the angles of the horse's
mouth become sore from the pressure
of the bit, apply pulverized alum and
honey, in equal parts, four or five times
a day, and use a wide bit.

—When it is desirable to promote the
growth of horses' hoofs, the best
method is to keep them frequently wet.
The simple application of water is all
that is necessary.—Turk, Field and
Farm.

—The elasticity of cane chair bot-
toms can be restored by washing the
cane with soap and water until it is
well soaked and then drying thorough-
ly in the air, after which they will be-
come as tight and firm as new, if none
of the canes are broken.

—The mulberry is a good tree to
raise in a poultry yard. It is hardy
and long-lived, and the fruit is popular
with the hens, besides being very nice
for the children. The leaves are large
and the shade it makes is dense, which
is desirable also in summer.

—Wherever, says the Massachusetts
Ploughman, a good, live Farmers'
Club exists, there is but little chance
for swindlers to succeed; in fact they
have learned, and so, as a rule, confine
their operations to farmers who stay
at home and do not read the papers.

—Two main points in a good farm
wagon are lowness, to save lifting, and
a cut-under, for convenience in turn-
ing. The latter, however, calls for
very low fore wheels, and the low
wheels call for springs, to modify the
suddenness of the lift over obstacles.—
N. Y. Times.

—A small currant cake, to be eaten
fresh for tea, is made of a half cup of
butter, one cup of sugar beaten to-
gether, two eggs, half a cup of sweet
milk, one and one-half cups of flour,
one teaspoonful and a half of baking
powder; stir in one cup of well-washed,
drained and dried English currants; if
they are not quite dry sprinkle a little
flour over them.—Detroit Post.

—A bread-crumbs omelet is excellent
if served with roast lamb or veal; one
pint of bread crumbs, a large spoon-
ful of parsley, rubbed very fine, half of
a tiny onion chopped fine. Beat two
eggs light, add a teaspoonful of milk,
a trace of nutmeg, and pepper and salt
liberally; also a lump of butter the size
of a small egg. Mix all together, and
bake in a slow oven, on a buttered pie
plate; when light brown, turn it out of
the plate, and serve at once.—N. Y.
Post.

—Good housekeepers are frequently
annoyed by oil marks on papered walls
against which careless or thoughtless
persons have laid their heads. These
unsightly spots may be removed by
making a paste of cold water and pipe
clay or fuller's earth, and laying it on
the surface without rubbing it on, else
the pattern of the paper will then likely
be injured. Leave the paste on all
night. In the moonlight it can be
brushed off and the spot will have dis-
appeared, but a renewal of the operation
may be necessary if the oil mark
is old.—Philadelphia Press.

WASTE IN ROOFING.

Economy in the Construction of Barns
Desirable.

There are many wastes on the farm
which do not seem to be understood by
farmers as such, but there is not any-
thing more palpably wasteful than the
numerous roofs on low buildings which
will be found upon a large proportion
of farms. Shingled roofs are expensive,
and should not be uselessly multiplied.
Our farmers have, probably, copied
much from the practice of English
farmers. In that country the farm
steadings covers a very large space.

Sheds and stables for stock are built
only just high enough to work in,
nothing stored above, but all these
roofs are maintained simply for the
stables; and after maintaining roofs
enough to cover barns to hold all their
crops, whether of grain or fodder,
they stack out all their grain and hay,
and then carry every feed by itself
from rick-yard to the stable, requiring
nearly four times the labor in feeding
necessary if the hay or fodder were
stored in the same building with the
animals. A low building requires the same
foundation and roofing necessary if the
buildings were made high enough for
large storage. Our farmers do a little
better than this, but the waste is large
here. Note the large number of low
buildings, where large roofs are kept
up simply for stables. It is not too
much to say that thousands of farms
can be found where one-half the roof-
ing used would accommodate the stock
and all the storage required by build-
ing one large barn of proper height.

Barns are also more economical to be
built wide instead of narrow and long.
Barns should never be