

CURRENT TOPICS.

Mr. Spurgeon says of Mr. Joseph Cook that he has strong convictions, the courage of his convictions, and force to support his courage.

All the nickel from which the five-cent coins are made come from a mine in Lancaster county, Pa. It has been worked now seventeen years, and produces from 400 to 600 tons of ore monthly.

New York Sun: Suppose all the Jews were to move out of Germany, bag and baggage, brains and gold, the Rothschilds leading off, would not the day after the completion of this modern exodus be a very blue day for Germany?

Mrs. Hayes has, it is reported, invited Mrs. Garfield to visit her at the White House this winter in order that she may see something of the responsibilities of the presidential household before she assumes them.

Governor Hawkins, of Tennessee, is a lawyer of ability and a useful member of the Methodist church. He was appointed by Brownlow a Judge of the Supreme Court. He is a large and handsome man, about fifty years old.

The little chapel which stands over the grave of M. Thiers is so filled with tributary wreaths and bouquets of immortelles that they overflow, and have to be hung about the walls outside. On the door of the chapel hang a photograph of the dead statesman and a short sketch of his life.

The Empress Augusta of Germany is reported to consider the match of her grandson, Prince William, with Victoria of Schleswig-Holstein as altogether beneath his just pretensions; and she is said to be wroth with the boy's other grandmother, Queen Victoria, for encouraging him in his courtship.

Minister John A. Carson has not a high opinion of diplomatic life, and gives not one, but many reasons for his dislike. There is nothing in the future of the service to tempt ambition, continued absence spoils one's political career at home, and it is not pleasant to stay away from one's own country. The Austrian climate is said to affect disagreeably the health of the Minister.

Cincinnati Gazette: Henry Ward Beecher gets \$20,000 a year; Dr. Hall, of Fifth avenue, and Dr. Dix, of Trinity, \$15,000; Dr. Stora, Dr. Potter, of Grace Church, Drs. Tiffany and Chapin, \$10,000 each. Of the leading actors, Booth earns \$100,000 a year; Southam, \$150,000; John E. Owens, in thirty weeks, \$90,000; Joe Jefferson, forty weeks, \$120,000; Maggie Mitchell, from \$20,000 to \$50,000; Dion Boucicault, \$3,000 every week he plays; and Fanny Havenport, \$4,000.

The population of the nineteen Massachusetts cities ranges from 232,235, the population of Boston, to 13,405, the population of Fitchburg. Two towns, Pittsfield with 13,367 inhabitants, and Brockton with 13,608, are larger than Fitchburg, and ten other towns have population enough to entitle them to apply for city charters if they wished to. There is, however, no movement in that direction at present except in Malden, which will probably apply to the next Legislature for an act of incorporation as a city.

The husband of Lucretia Mott is said to have abandoned his excellent cotton business because of his connections with slave labor. His comfortable income of course went with the business, and Mrs. Mott opened a school and maintained their family of four young children until Mr. Mott established himself in other employment, in which he finally acquired a competence. Of their children only one, Mrs. Edward Hopper, has died. Their son, Thomas Mott, spends his life between Newport and Europe. One daughter is Mrs. E. M. Davis, of Philadelphia; and the other is Mrs. G. W. Lord, of this city.

"When every peasant can have, as often as he pleases, a chicken for dinner," says Mr. Joseph Cook, "will not both the pauper and the millionaire be improved off the face of the earth? So thinks Socialism; and, if God thinks so, the result will be accomplished." One of the best things about Mr. Cook is the kind and familiar way in which he speaks of his Maker, whose identity he sometimes appears to be in danger of confounding with his own. Perhaps he will need to imitate the plan of the younger Mr. Daniel Lord, of New York, of whom it is said that he writes "Jr." after his name to distinguish himself from the Lord Almighty.

The Princess Augusta Victoria, the bride of the German Emperor's grandson and the future Empress of Germany, is not wealthy, having a dowry much smaller than many a merchant's daughter. But she is an excellent young woman, clever and sensible. Spiritually, it is said, she was nourished on rationalism of the kind which the Crown Princess inherited from her father. Her charitable qualities, the housewife grace with which she cuts bread and butter for the little boys and girls of Potsdam and Charlottenburg, her engaging manner, and her soft Teutonic cast of beauty, will endear her to her people.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF

West Point.

It is announced from Washington that Gen. O. O. Howard is to relieve Gen. Schofield in the command of West Point.

Newspaper Sold.

The Milwaukee, Wis., Daily News, the only English Democratic paper in that city, was sold the 13th, to a Republican syndicate headed by Hon. Horace Rublee. The new organization is said to have a capital of \$100,000, and to contemplate the publication of a first-class journal.

Minnesota Mounted Rangers.

Hon. Henry Pehler, representative in Congress from the Second Minnesota district, introduced a bill the 13th, giving bounties to soldiers who served in the First Minnesota mounted rangers, \$160 for one year's service and a proportionate amount for one year and six months' service.

Woman Horse Thief.

The novelty of a woman horse thief was developed at Quincy, Ill., the 13th, where Lizzie Barton was arrested for the theft of a horse and buggy, to which she confessed. Subsequent developments served to show that the girl belonged to an extensive gang of horse thieves operating in Illinois and Iowa.

Royal Forgers.

At Paris, France, the 13th, Baron de Friedland and wife were arrested, charged with forgery. The woman in the case is a granddaughter of Princess de Lamasowa, and a god-daughter of ex-Empress Eugenia, and the forgery was of her grandmother's acceptances amounting to 198,000 francs.

Coercive Measures.

A London telegram of the 13th, states that the result of a cabinet council to consider the situation in Ireland, was in effect that while parliament would not be summoned to sanction new laws, should there not be a material improvement by the 6th of January coercive measures, including the suspension of the habeas corpus act should be introduced.

Dual Office.

Secretary of the Navy Thompson having notified the President that he desired his resignation should take effect not later than the 20th, the President has requested Secretary of War Ramsey to also act as Secretary of the navy until Mr. Thompson's successor is named, which will probably not be until President-elect Garfield announces his cabinet.

A Society Event.

At Detroit, Michigan, Dec. 16, a brilliant society event took place. In the marriage of H. R. Newbury, son of Congressman Newbury, and Miss Harriet Dudgeon of this city. Bishop Harris officiated, assisted by Drs. Worthington, Clark and Peikin. The church was crowded with friends of the newly wedded couple, who are great favorites in this city.

Explosion.

On the afternoon of Dec. 14, at Louisville, Ky., a boiler in Fabel & Sons' soap and candle factory, exploded killing Phil Hemp, a carpenter; fatally injuring Conrad Spark and Lizzie Ottvsrly; and injuring Peter Botenberch, fireman. The explosion leveled the center of the building, a two story brick, which was nearly totally destroyed. Loss \$40,000. The machinery was valued at as much more. Uninsured.

Diphtheria.

The Walnut Station correspondent of the Red Wing Gazette of Dec. 16, says diphtheria is again spreading sorrow and desolation through the country. Mr. J. A. Bryan and wife, through the loss of their only child, a little girl aged sixteen months. Henry Cumber, five miles south of here, has lost four children out of a family of eight, and all buried since Saturday last. Mr. Cumber and two of the children are very sick.

A Possible Lynching.

On the forenoon of Dec. 17, the people of Ludlow, Ky., were terribly excited over the evidence, which seems next to unquestionable, that Major Hicks, a colored boy now under arrest, is the assassin of Henry Williams, the victim of the Wednesday night, Dec. 15, tragedy. When the conclusion is fully reached that he is the man, there remains scarcely a question that he will be instantly lynched.

Children Burned to Death.

On the 16th of December A. T. Tucker and wife, colored, living in Prince George county, looked their two children in the house and went out to pick peas. During their absence the building accidentally took fire and was entirely consumed, the two children perishing in the flames. On their return home Tucker found the house in ruins, and the skull of the eldest child was the only evidence left of their children.

Suicide.

A Cleveland, O., telegram of Dec. 17, has the following: It has been discovered that Mrs. Ewald, who was burned in her husband's barn this forenoon, committed suicide. She had a revolver with her, and is supposed she shot herself and set fire to the straw. A note was found from her saying she was tired of her troubles. She had been married but two months, had domestic trouble, and her mind was unsettled.

Polygamy in Idaho.

Gov. Neil in his message to the Idaho legislature says polygamy is being rapidly introduced from Utah. The statute is defective as it is impossible to prove any ceremony and expresses the hope that the legislature will adopt some measure to crush out the practice. He also advises the punishing of those who advise and practice the doctrine of polygamy and recommends that Congress be memorialized to amend the act of 1872 so as to make polygamy a criminal offense after marriage in Idaho a criminal offense.

Child Murder and Suicide.

A Dubuque, Iowa, telegram of Dec. 13, has the following: A horrible tragedy occurred here this morning. Hiram S. Holbrook of the American Express company, while lying in bed, fired a bullet into the brain of his sleeping daughter, 2 years old, who was in a crib at his side, and then shot himself in the head. He was in poor health and was naturally sensitive, which are the only causes known for his rash act. His wife had left him only fifteen minutes before in order to prepare breakfast. Holbrook died in three hours.

The Sheriffalty of Cork Declared.

The London Times of Dec. 16, publishes a letter from the authorities of Dublin to a person appointing him high sheriff of Cork for the year 1881, and a letter in reply states that the person declines the appointment because, owing to the state of the country his rental

is diminished he can't afford the expense of the office, adding that the government having allowed the country to verge on a state of anarchy and rebellion, the responsibilities and dangers of the office are more than he is willing to incur.

Irish Troubles More Urgent.

The London Times of Dec. 17, in a leading editorial on the Irish question, says the followers of the government are embarrassed and for the most part do not know what to say, while few are bold enough to express their regret at the line their leaders have pursued. Whitbros, one of the most respected liberals in the house of commons, speaking at Bedford last evening, described vividly the reign of terror, that had left no honest calling safe in a large part of Ireland and avowed his feeling that the time had come when the government might be compelled to use coercion.

Bad Fire at Willmar.

The village of Willmar, Kandiyoh County, Minn., was visited by a bad fire the morning of the 14th. The fire commenced in the Pacific Hotel, opposite the railroad depot owned by Hanson & Mountain, which was destroyed. From the hotel the fire spread to the drug store of Clark & Frost, the restaurant owned by a man named Chilson, the jewelry store of C. H. Hoyt, and the millinery store of Mrs. H. L. Frost, all of which were burned. The stocks of the burned buildings were mostly removed. The total loss is about \$13,000, of which between \$7,000 and \$8,000 falls upon Hanson & Mountain. Total insurance only about \$2,500.

A Lawyer in Jail.

A dispatch from Chicago of Dec. 14, says: Chas. H. Reed, a well known attorney, was committed to jail this afternoon by Judge Knickerbocker, of the probate court, on an attachment issued last week for failure to render an account as guardian in the Irwin estate, this delinquency constituting a flagrant case of contempt of court. Judge Wallace, attorney for the heirs, says Mr. Reed is probably deficient \$10,000 to \$15,000 in his accounts with the estate. Judge Anthony, of the superior court, to-night granted a writ of habeas corpus, upon which Reed was released by giving the required bail. The case excites much interest, on account of the proximity of the parties at interest.

About Money.

A New York dispatch of Dec. 14, has the following: Owing to the stringency in the money market, bankers are reluctant to buy bills of exchange which are drafts upon shipments of breadstuffs from the West to Europe. Strong representations have been made to the secretary of the treasury to induce him to make, as former secretaries have done, advances upon English gold and bullion deposited by bankers in the assay office. The amount now deposited there is \$11,000,000 and the hope is expressed that the secretary, who has heretofore declined to make the advances desired, will now accede to the request of the bankers, which will, by relieving the stringency of the money market, prevent large accumulations of grain and induce a steady and regular movement in breadstuffs.

War.

Advices of Dec. 16, say: The long-expected Chilean advance to Lima is at last an actual fact. On November 19, eighteen vessels of war, several armed transports and four sailing vessels, which were towed, appeared off Pisco Angamo, and three other vessels steamed into the harbor. The former approached Moico as near as possible and sent officers, who demanded the surrender of the place and was refused. They were then ordered from the ships and was repulsed by the Peruvian force on shore. Col. Pezand, on landing at Pisco, was resisted so heartily that most of the Chileans at Pisco about ten miles off immediately marched on Pisco, surrounding Leamedis, who retired after blowing up a large amount of property to prevent its falling into Chilean hands. The rolling stock of the Pisco railroad was burned. The Peruvians lost 150 men, and the Chileans three times that number.

Horace Thompson's Estate.

The appraisement and inventory of the estate of Horace Thompson, late President of the First National Bank of St. Paul, Minn., foots up a million and a half of dollars, as follows: The aggregate valuation of the real estate owned by deceased in Ramsey county is estimated at \$168,076. The total valuation of the personal property is put up at \$1,057,619.66, divided as follows: Stocks.....\$ 661,486 83 Bills receivable..... 146,807 87 Bonds..... 126,163 76 Accounts..... 63,801 35 Life insurance..... 43,727 00 Miscellaneous..... 515,929 66 Total.....\$1,057,619 76 The total of real and personal property in Ramsey county foots up the handsome sum of \$1,215,695.66. In addition to the above, there is real estate in seventeen counties in this State not heard from, viz: Carver, Blue Earth, Cottonwood, Dakota, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Le Sueur, Martin, Murray, Nobles, Otter Tail, Rice, Rock, Stearns, Watonwan and Wilkin counties. There is also property belonging to the estate in Sioux county, Iowa, the whole aggregating over 50,000 acres of land, worth about \$300,000, making the real estate aggregate nearly \$450,000, and the whole estate \$1,500,000.

Fire and Loss of Life.

A Buffalo, N. Y. telegram of Dec. 17, says, a serious fire attended by loss of life occurred here this evening. About 6 o'clock a fire was discovered in the third story of the five-story building owned by Geo. W. Teit, on Prairie street, and was occupied by Birge & Sons, wallpaper manufacturers. The building was eighty feet front by about 300 feet depth. One hundred and fifty men and boys were employed at the present time, the business demanding extra help; the whole number were at work and in less than twenty minutes after the alarm was given the building was a mass of flames, the walls crumbled and fell and probably burned twenty to thirty of the employees. The doors to different rooms were hung to swing in, and a heavy spring closing them, thereby retarding egress of the occupants. The building was without fire escape of any kind, and the terrified workmen jumped from windows and many of them escaped with broken bones and bruised bodies. Three in upper stories unable to escape appeared for a moment at the windows and then sank back suffocated in smoke and flames. Parents and friends of the dead and missing ones surrounded the ruins, and the streets are full of rumors, and probably a list of known to be killed will be more than doubled when the smoking bricks and ruins can be removed. Loss between \$300,000 and \$400,000.

XLVI CONGRESS.

[Second Session.]

SENATE, Dec. 13.—A resolution of enquiry in regard to civil service was adopted. A number of bills and resolutions on a variety of subjects was introduced. A message was received from the President transmitting a report from the agricultural commissioner on contagious diseases of cattle. Senator Randolph called up his bill for the relief of Fitz John Porter, and his restoration to the army without back pay, and the remainder of the session was spent in its discussion, and without reaching a vote the Senate went into executive session and afterwards adjourned.

HOUSE, Dec. 13.—The credentials of E. B. Taylor, Gen. Garfield's successor, were printed, and Hurd, of Ohio, objected to his being sworn in. After some discussion Taylor was sworn in and his credentials referred to the committee on elections. A resolution was introduced and discussed in regard to the oceanic canal. Referred to the committee on foreign affairs. Under the call of the States, numerous bills and resolutions were adopted. Mr. Bucknell called up the electoral count question, and the remainder of the session was consumed in the discussion, and without reaching a vote the House adjourned.

SENATE, Dec. 14.—Bills and resolutions were introduced. Senator Salisbury announced that on Thursday he would ask the Senate to take up the resolution declaring Kellogg, of Louisiana, not entitled to his seat. This led to a brief discussion, and the subject was dropped. The Senate took up the Fitz John Porter case. Senator Dawes moved an amendment to the amendment to Randolph's bill, that Porter be put on the army retired list, without back pay. The amendment was discussed, senators rising and Logan sharply opposing it. The amendment was adopted, yeas 36, Democrats, nays 21, Republicans, except Davis of Illinois. The bill was reported, and the bill appropriating for the military, Dec. 13, \$32,135 was reported and ordered printed.

HOUSE, Dec. 14.—After some comparatively unimportant business, Mr. Bucknell called up the electoral count resolution and demanded the previous question, and Republicans refusing to vote, left the House without a quorum. Mr. Bucknell then said that he would not press the matter, but would call it up again on January 3, as soon as he could find 137 members on his side of the House. A. W. C. Nowlar, of Virginia, was made postmaster of the House. The House went into committee of the whole on the funding bill. Amendment, which was offered and the bill discussed on its merits. The committee rose and the subject went over for the present. The consular and diplomatic appropriation bill was reported, appropriating for the military, Dec. 13, \$32,135 was reported and ordered printed.

SENATE, Dec. 15.—Bills were introduced, after which was resumed the bill providing for the proceeds of public lands to public education. Discussed and laid aside. The bill for the relief of Samuel A. Low was taken up and discussed for the remainder of the session. After executive session, adjourned. HOUSE, Dec. 15.—The Senate bill granting a pension to Mrs. Julia G. Tyler, widow of President Tyler, of \$100 a month, passed. The fortification bill appropriating \$1,000,000 was taken up, amendments were rejected, and the bill passed. Gibson, of Louisiana, reported a bill appropriating \$1,800,000 for improvement of the Mississippi river. Ordered printed. Adjourned.

SENATE, Dec. 16.—A bill was introduced to place Gen. Ord on the retired list, to receive the pay and emoluments of a major general. The fortification bill was received from the House, read twice and referred. A joint resolution of the House was received for the adjournment of Congress from Dec. 23 to the 1st of January. The bill was referred to the committee on public buildings and reconstructions. The bill appropriating \$350,000 to rebuild the public buildings at Pensacola, Florida, recently destroyed by fire, was reported. A bill for the relief of Gen. Grant, who had entered the number. A great many Senators, Democrats as well as Republicans, gathered around the ex-President, and there was a general cheering. Bills and resolutions were introduced. Senator How presented a petition in favor of woman suffrage in the Territories. The bill granting lands for educational purposes was taken up, and its discussion occupied the remainder of the session. Without taking any definite action on the bill the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE, Dec. 16.—A concurrent resolution was passed for a recess of Congress from the 22nd of December to the 5th of January. Yeas, 145, nays 74. The House went into the committee of the whole on the pension appropriation bill. After a protracted debate the bill passed. It appropriates \$50,000,000. Gen. Grant appeared in the House, was greeted with applause and general hand-shaking. He was introduced to everybody by Speaker Randall. Nearly all the members approached and shook hands with the ex-President. The few who did not were Northern Democrats. After the brief recess Mr. Black, of Missouri, offered a substitute for the funding bill. A resolution of enquiry was offered in reference to the Pacific Railroad. Ordered printed. Adjourned.

SENATE, Dec. 17.—Senator Wallace introduced a bill to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy. A resolution to increase the number of judges of the supreme court was referred to the judiciary committee. The pension appropriation bill was referred to the committee on appropriations. The House joint resolution providing for adjournment from Dec. 12 to Jan. 5 was disagreed to, 27 to 13. The educational bill was debated, amended and passed, yeas 41, nays 10. Adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE, Dec. 17.—Several pension bills were pending. A bill for the relief of the widow of Mrs. General Hild was taken up and passed. A resolution to increase the number of judges of the supreme court to sixty days sessions. A bill was introduced confining to the city of Chicago a title to certain public grounds. Adjourned.

Too Much Enterprise.

An eagle, flying down from his eyrie on a lofty rock, seized a lamb and carried him aloft in his talons. A jackdaw, witnessing the capture of the lamb, was stirred with envy, and said to himself: "Why, that looks to be as easy as starting a big newspaper," and he determined to emulate the strength and flight of the eagle. He flew around with a great whirr of his wings, and finally settled upon a large ram, with the intention of carrying him off, anyhow; but, his claws becoming entangled in the fleece, he was not able to release himself, although he flattered with his wings as much as he could. The shepherd, seeing what had happened, ran up and caught him, and clipping his wings, took him home for the children to play with. On their asking, "Father, what kind of a bird is this?" he replied, "To my certain knowledge he is a daw; but he will have it that he is an eagle."

This fable teaches a great many things, and, among others, that starting a big newspaper is an undertaking that should be seriously considered in advance. Galveston News.

Chapped Hands.

Some one writes to the American Cultivator as follows: "People whose avocations cause their hands to be much exposed to wet and dirt almost always suffer from severe chapped hands. I have used the following remedy for many years, having also tried every new patent cream that came before the public. These various medicaments will do well enough for chapped and roughened hands that are affected all over alike, but not one will affect the deep chops or chaps that come in the folds of the skin and at the corners of the finger-nails and other parts of the hand. It would seem as if the hardened skin could not heal or had not vitality enough in it to close these unsightly gaps. I have often had my hands dry up and chaps by one day's exposure to cold. I suppose mine are like some other people's in this respect, and crack or chaps by the action of our cold, dry weather contracting the skin. Whatever the cause, however, I will warrant the cure, which is simple, as follows: Take ordinary white resin, say one ounce; melt it in any convenient vessel (I use a patty pan); when melted add a little lard or oil until the resin is sufficiently softened, so that when quite cold, and in a temperature of 30 or 35 degrees, the thumb nail can be indented into it by using a little force. If the hands to be affected are to be used out of doors the consistency will be hard enough; if it is harder it will break or crack off and will fail; if softer the application will not adhere sufficiently to resist washing. When you have obtained the right consistency by means of the oil or lard mix the whole thoroughly, and put it by for use. When wanted, and your chaps are paining so much that to unbutton a button seems impossible, soften the wax at one spot by holding the patty pan over a lamp. Take an ordinary match, and with the end that has no phosphorus on it raise up a drop by dipping the match into the melted wax; hold it a moment to cool, but do not let it get cold; then touch the chaps with a drop of the melted mixture. You need not burn yourself, but the wax must be melting hot. At first you will find some difficulty in using it, but not enough to burn the flesh. Directly the drop of hot wax is applied as above, and before it cools, have ready a little piece of ordinary newspaper and place it at once on the chaps. The paper will adhere firmly, and if it does not do so warm it over a lamp until it does. Then moisten the paper with the saliva from the mouth or otherwise, and tear off all the outside projecting portions, leaving the wax alone. If properly done, the unsized newspaper will readily receive moisture—all but that part exposed to the wax—and when dried (which takes place in a few seconds) you will have the most comforting and healing plaster imaginable on the chaps, and in ten minutes you can go about your ordinary occupation comparatively free from pain. Do this at night and use no oil or grease first, and next morning your chaps will be vastly less inflamed and quite easy. Of course flesh will not heal in a minute, but two or three applications will altogether cure them so far as any pain from them is concerned. I often have daily eight or nine fingers restored in this manner, but my flesh will crack and bleed in one day's exposure."

PITH AND POINT.

SAID he, "Let us be one." And she was woe.

CAN a man intoxicated by music be said to be air-tight?

WHAT an irascible father says: "As the twig is bent, the boy is inclined to shoot out at the door."

JOSH BILLINGS: "Natur luvs phum; if she doesn't she never would have made a mummy."

LARGE months are now fashionable among women. They are worn open, of course, as heretofore.

"A KISS," said young Charles, "is a noun, we allow; but tell me, my dear, is it proper or common?" "Lovely Mary blushed deep and exclaimed, 'Why, I vow, I think that a kiss is both proper and common.'"

A DARKY who was stopping to wash his hands in a ditch didn't notice the peculiar actions of a goat just behind; so when he scrambled out of the water, and was asked how it happened, he answered: "I dunno 'xactly, but 'peared as if de shore kinder 'histed and frowd me."

"WE don't want all this, we don't want it," said a solicitor, to a voluble old lady in the witness box; "it is irrelevant." But the witness paid no heed, and talked on, finishing with, "There, you've got it, whether you want it or not; and it isn't irrelevant, either!"

A MEMBER of the North Carolina Legislature, dining at a Raleigh hotel, saw a pod of red pepper on a dish near at hand. He thought it was a new kind of fruit and took a bite. The tears streamed down his cheeks as he put the pod down, saying: "Dash you, lay there and cool."

"FATHER," said the elder heir, "is it proper to say 'we are rich,' or 'we are rich?'" The old man worked carefully down into the hollow of his boot under the instep, remaining a long time in thoughtful meditation, and then slowly replied: "Well, I should say it would come nigher to the truth to say we ain't rich."

"THRASING by steam," murmured a fond mother, as she glanced at an article in an agricultural paper. "What git-ups they do have nowadays. If I had four one of those steam thrashers for my four boys, my arms wouldn't have been as rheumatically as they are to-day," and she dreamily thought of the past as it might have been.

A FASHIONABLE Galveston young man thinks he is great as an elocutionist. His strong card is reading the ghost scene in Shakespeare. After hearing him recite, an elderly gentleman was asked what he thought of him. "Well," said the old gentleman, "I think he ought to have given up the ghost long ago."—Galveston News.

A RECIPE for making soap: Take a pail of water and wash it clean, then boil it till it is brown on both sides; pour in one bean; when the bean begins to sizzle, pour in more water; pour in more water; dry the water with a towel before you put it in; dry the water the sooner it browns. Serve hot.

RECORDED—"What excuse have you for climbing over this gentleman's garden and trespassing on his property?" Prisoner—"The best excuse in the world, Judge. I went over by mistake." "How so?" "Well, you see, I thought those oranges in his garden were sweet oranges, but after I had tried 'em I found they were the bitter kind, so you see I went over by mistake."—Galveston News.

A SAD-LOOKING man went into a Burlington drug-store. "Can you give me," he asked, "something that will drive from my mind the thoughts of sorrow and bitter recollections?" And the druggist nodded and put him up a little dose of quinine, wormwood and rhubarb, epsom salts and a dash of castor-oil, and gave it to him; and for six months the man couldn't think of anything in the world except new schemes for getting the taste out of his mouth.—Burlington News.

FOR broken pans the glazier comes. For inward pains the doctor. But none can the expertness show Of the bilious colic-curer.

"IS THERE a letter here in a scented envelope for my wife?" he asked the Postmaster, while the green fire from his eyes made the office look like a leafy forest. "Yes, sir," answered the Postmaster, as he handed it out. The jealous man tore it open at once, when, lo! and behold! it was the milliner's bill for \$100. The end.

A JENKINS, like a coat of mail. The slapsly form increases. And to a dainty waist can't fail To add developed graces: To draw a gun requires a knack Quite easy to attain. But what a business 'tis, good lack, To get it off again!

Confections from Rags.

The manufacture of glucose from rags, a novel industry, carried on in Germany, is regarded with much disfavor, and it is understood that the German Government will be likely to interfere with the business. The glucose is said to be chemically identified with grape sugar. The process, which is represented to be very cheap, is as follows: Old linen rags, which are composed of hard vegetable fibers, are converted into dextrine by the application of sulphuric acid, and the product thus obtained is then washed with milk of lime. Next it is treated with a stronger solution of the sulphuric acid than that first used, when the material is immediately transformed and crystallized into a glucose, from which appetizing jellies and tempting confections can be made.

A WRITER in Land and Water says: "What a mistake it is to put marble statues in the open air in London! There is an effigy of the Queen in the Royal Exchange. In fine weather the features are soot-begrimed, and on wet days the water flows in dirty furrows down the cheeks."

JEM MACE, the once well-known English pugilist, is keeping a large hotel in Melbourne. He is said to have become a "mode" moral man," and is, moreover, making money fast.