A Sonnet.

Like some shipwrecked mariner I stand;
Weak, wounded, weary; by the ocean thrown
Upon a rock, far out of sight of land,
With billows closing in on every hand.
My friends are going.—I am left alone;
My life is being swallowed up by graves.
And day by day my earthbas narrower grown
Before the spread of those green churchy-yard-waves.

Yet is my trust in Thee, O Lord, the more,
Knowing Thou garnerest this love for me;
And evermore my storm-worn spirit craves
The blissful land where there is no more sea.
Knowing full well, that on that happy shore
The love Thou hast absorbed, Thou wilt tenfold restore.

Tom Reed.

Farm, Garden and Household.

To Remove Grease from Coat Collars.—Wash with a sponge moistened with hartshorn and water.

Insect Stings.—Salt is a cure for stings; sweet oil, powdered mallows, or onions, or powdered chalk made into a paste with water, are also efficacious.

Look out for Storms.—Have the barns and sheds in readiness, and be careful not to let the sheep be exposed to severe rain. Nothing is more injurious.

To Extract Grease from Papered Walls.—Dip a piece of flannel in spirits of wine, rub the greasy spots gently once or twice, and the grease will disappear.

To Make Hard Water Soft.—Dissolve one pound of White Rock Potash in one gallon of water, and then use half a gill of the preparation to a tub of water.

Fattening Hogs should be pushed forward rapidly, and sold early. We shall probably be obliged to accept low prices this season. In our section we are feeding at a decided loss.

Milch Cows should on no account be suffered to decline in flesh at this season. A little bran and corn meal will keep them wonderfully, both in flesh and milk. Guard against cold storms on the one hand, and hot, close stables on the other.

Sheep.—There is an increased and increasing demand for sheep and wool, and it may pay better to winter a poor flock of sheep than to dispose of them. Better, however, sell the poor ones, and buy younger, healthier, and more thrifty sheep.

To Remove Starch or Rust From Flat Irons.—Have a piece of yellow beeswax tied in a coarse cloth. When the iron is almost hot enough to use, but not quite, rub it quickly with the beeswax, and then with a clean coarse cloth. This will remove it entirely.

Colorado Beets.—Gen. Cameron states that the yield of beets in Colorado is 175 tons per acre, and of cabbages 30 tons, which will sell at 5 cents per pound. Here is the Eldorado of market-gardeners, where cabbage produce $3,000 per acre, no manure being required—water is the only thing necessary.

Carrots wither up if kept in a loose heap in the cellar. A good plan is to put them in barrels or in a box or bin in the cellar, and put a layer of sand between each layer of carrots, and an inch or so of sand between the carrots and the sides of the bin. Put two or three inches of sand on top to prevent evaporation.

To Kill White Grubs.—Ground which is infested with white grubs or cut-worms should be turned over now. If it is possible to coax to the field a flock of poultry, they will take every worm that their sharp eyes can discover, and follow the plow very eagerly for them. Crows and skunks will more readily find these worms when the ground is turned up and loosened.

Tarred Paper upon Trees.—It is not necessary to use tacks to fasten the tarred paper around the trunks of trees to keep off rabbits. The lower edge of the paper should be an inch or so below the surface of the soil, and the upper part fastened by a string. Tacks would, however, do no appreciable harm. In the cases in which we have known of the use of the paper it has been left on all the year, that it might serve as a protection against borers in summer as well as against rabbits in winter.

Preparation of Desiccated Vegetables.—*The American Artisan* says:—"A convenient method of preparing desiccated vegetables, as practiced largely in some countries, consists in drying them for a short time and then exposing them to a slow heat in ovens. When soaked for cooking, peas, roots, potatoes, beets, corn and other substances, swell out and show very little change in their esculent properties. A modification of the process consists in placing the substances, after being sun-dried, in paper bags, which are pasted up at the mouth, and then covered with sand and heated until perfectly crisp, but not burned nor materially changed in color."

How to Cure Hams.—The following recipe for curing 1,000 pounds of pork hams is the one used by the gentleman who won the first premium of the State Agricultural Society of Maryland: Mix two and a-half pounds saltpeter, finely powdered, one-half bushel fine salt, three pounds brown sugar, one-half gallon molasses. Rub the meat with the mixture; pack with skin down. Turn over once a week, and add a little salt. After being down three or four weeks, take out, wash and hang up two or three weeks, until it is dry. Then smoke with hickory wood three or four weeks, then bag, or pack away in a cool place—not a cellar—in chaff or hay.

Care for Horses' Feet.—The foot is the most important part of the horse; when that is out of order the horse is entirely useless. At this period of the year a great deal of care and attention may profitably be turned to the feet of our horses. Mud, wet, slush and filth of any kind allowed to remain on a horse's feet will certainly injure them. When a horse is brought in from work the feet and legs should be washed free from dirt and rubbed dry. The hoof should be occasionally well tarred with common pine tar. If any injury occurs from "calking," the cut should be kept clean, and if it is at the junction of the hoof and skin, pains should be taken to heal it up at once, lest the hoof may become permanently injured as it grows downward. If it is kept soft and pliable there is little danger of this, but if it is allowed to become dry and brittle, bad sand-cracks or split hoof may occur.—*Hearth and Home.*

How to Fasten Cows.—Stanchions should be abolished as a cruelty to animals. Cows or oxen thus fastened have no opportunity of relieving themselves from their close, cramping position. A much more comfortable and equally safe fastening is the ring-and-chain cattle-tie. The ring slides up and down a post firmly founded in the floor of the stable, and let into the beam or joist above. The chain is fastened around the animals's neck by passing a small cross-bar through a ring; and by passing it through two or three of the rings, it is absolutely impossible to tie the creature fastened. A spring snaphook may be used in addition, which will add another perfect fastening if desired. With this fastening the cow can lie down in a natural position, and while sleeping can turn her head over towards her shoulder, as she will almost always do. The writer has used them for many years for cows, oxen, and bulls, without any accident, and with great satisfaction. Made of steel they are light, cheap, secure, and comfortable.

An Eighth Rib in Man.—Mr. Perrin makes a communication to *Nature* in regard to the occasional occurrence of an eighth true rib in man; although it has been generally considered that seven form the absolute limit. This eighth rib is sometimes found on one side only, still more rarely on both sides, and is suggested by Mr. Perrin that cases of this abnormal character possibly occur more frequently than has been suspected. The maximum normal number of sternal ribs appears to be ten, but in the higher primates the tenth, ninth, and eighth are successively lost in the transition from their lower to the higher forms. In the carnivora the sternal ribs are usually nine, although the Esquimaux dog, the arctic wolf, and the *proteles* have only eight. The common badger of Europe has ten true ribs.

Summary of News.

Reports from the far West state that many persons have been frozen to death.

Fifteen hundred sheep have been burned to death in the tule lands in the delta of the San Joaquin River.

The U. S. Treasury Department has suffered a loss of about $50,000 through a defalcation by dishonest clerks.

The Labor Reform State Convention, assembled at Concord, N. H., Nominated Samuel P. Cooper, of Croyden for Governor.

Gov. Campbell, of Wyoming, has sent a message to the lower branch of the Legislature vetoing the bill repealing the Women's suffrage act.

The Senate of Louisiana elected Mr. Pinchback (colored), President, by a vote of 18 to 16. The Constitution makes him Lieutenant-Governor.

The directors of the Western Union Telegraph Company emphatically declare their opposition to President Grant's proposed postal telegraph scheme.

Advices from Havana tell a terrible tale of the grief and terror occasioned in that unhappy place by the blood-thirsty miscreants who act under Valmaseda.

During the session of Congress the President will receive Senators and members of Congress from 10 to 12 o'clock in the forenoon, and other callers during the afternoon.

Ten persons were drowned by the wreck of the schooner Achilles, at Minas Basin. On the Coast of Prince Edward Island, great damage was done by the late gales.

The Cape Cod fishermen, believing that the operation of the treaty of Washington will seriously damage their interests, passed a resolution calling upon Congress to afford them liberal protection.

In Spain the Municipal Elections are over. Everywhere the Radical party has been successful. In Madrid the Radicals have elected seventy-five councilmen, the Republicans twenty, and the Ministerialists only five.

The Fijians who do not recognize the sovereignty of King Ebenezer I., recently made a raid on the plantations and killed several laborers. The whites from Levuka in retaliation burned one of their villages and killed fifteen natives.

Major Upham, commanding at Fort Scott, Kansas, has received orders from the War Department to remove all the white settlers from the Osage Reservation. There are about 600 families, or 3,500 persons on these lands.

In the House of Representatives of South Carolina, C. W. Bowen presented his credentials as a member from Charleston. Objection was made that he had been convicted of an infamous crime. Finally, he was admitted by a vote of 73 to 22.

Statistics show that the harvest of 1870 was the largest ever known in South Australia colony, producing nearly 7,000,000 bushels, being an average yield of eleven and a half bushels an acre. Wheat was 5s. 5d. per bushel; flour £12 per ton.

There are 1,000,000 members of the International in France who pay one sou per week. In England there are 180,000 members, of whom 30,000 are in London. The whole number belonging to this society in Europe is estimated at 7,000,000.

A Portugese, accused of shooting and killing a Chinaman, at Hawkinsville, Cal., has been discharged, because the only witnesses were Chinamen, whose testimony is not permitted against persons of the Caucasian race under the laws of that state.

The weak point in Roger Tichborne's case has been that he had not proved that after his shipwreck in the Bella in 1853 he was picked up by the Osprey. This missing link was supplied by the testimony of M. H. Sharpings, who met him at the time in Melbourne Harbor.

Mrs. Myra Clark Gaines, after incessant legal warfare of over a half century, with varying fortune, met a crushing defeat the other day, when a New Orleans Court declared that she was an illegitimate child of the father from whom her great possessions were to come.

Golddust, the famous stallion, whose death is announced, was a fine golden-chestnut horse, foaled in 1855, and was by Vermont Morgan, dam by Zilcadi, a pure Arabian, grandam by imported Barefoot out of a thorough-bred mare. He stood sixteen hands high, and was valued at $50,000.

Dr. Lankester asserts that the small-pox, which is now slowly departing from London, after slaying 5,000 persons, and maiming, disfiguring and pauperizing 100,000 more, must have cost the metropolis at least £100,000, a tenth part of which sum, judiciously expended, would have cut short the epidemic at its commencement.

Of the five colored members of the House of Representatives there are upon committees appointed, DeLarge, of South Carolina, on the Committee on Manufacturers; Elliott, of the same State, on the Committee on Education and Labor; and Rainey, of the same State, on the Committee on Freedmen's Affairs. Turner, of Alabama, and Walls, of Florida, are not members of any committee.

Murdered for Five Cents.—There was a fatal affray in Hoboken in a saloon on Willow and Second Streets. It originated in a dispute about five cents change, and resulted in the killing of Edward Clark by Michael Fitzgerald, the proprietor of the place. Clark boarded over the liquor store, and returning from New York late at night, stepped into Fitzgerald's. After taking a drink with a friend he disputed with Fitzgerald about the change, claiming that it was five cents short. Fitzgerald pitched him out of doors, and he received a severe cut on the back of the head. He was taken up in an insensible condition, and conveyed to his lodgings. Half an hour later he died.

The New Mrs. Sickles.—Miss Creak (pronounced Cra-ak), the lady to whom Gen. D. E. Sickles was married on Monday in Madrid, is twenty-two years of age. She was born in Spain, speaks English very imperfectly, and is represented as very beautiful and accomplished, but not wealthy. Her father is Assistant Treasurer of the Province of Andalusia. The family is of Irish descent, has long been settled in Spain, and occupies an enviable social position. Miss Creak was an intimate friend of Gen. Sickle's daughter, and accompanied her as companion in a recent tour in Europe.

Casualties on the Lakes in 1871.—The number of marine disasters on the Northern Lakes during the season of 1871, so far as known, is 1,167. Of this number 225 were caused by collisions, 200 vessels went ashore, 31 were burned, 26 capsized, 19 foundered, 162 sprung a leak, 65 waterlogged, 60 were dismasted, 110 lost deck-loads, and 10 exploded their boilers. There were other disasters of a minor character.

Could'nt Beatit.—The Superintendent of Sidewalks, has announced that the wooden sidewalks consumed by the fire would have reached from Lake Michigan to the Mississippi, and that their value was nearly $1,000,000. Whereupon Chicago boastfully asks if any other city has facilities for burning 122 miles of sidewalk at a single kindling. It is hoped not.

The Cuban cable was found crushed in numerous places in the depths where the great loggerhead turtles abound. The conclusion is that these creatures, with their powerful jaws, which so easily crunch the shells of the conches, on which they feed, have been playing with the cable.

Fruitful Accident.—A terrible explosion occurred in the powder and cartridge factory, in the fort of Agra, Calcutta. The men were at work at the time of the disaster and few escaped. Thirty-six were killed, among them two commissioned officers.

Brevity is in writing what charity is to all the other virtues. Righteousness without the one is worth nothing, nor authorship without the other.

A Career Full of Romance.

There died lately at Bright Star, Hopkins County, Texas, a typical Western American of a class now swiftly passing out. "Col. Jack Allen" was well known all over the South-west, and was the hero of many startling achievements. Bold, impulsive, and reckless, a crack shot and a superb horseman, capable of the most romantic generosity, and a perfect Corsican in pursuit of the *vendetta*, he was at once a terror and an admiration wherever he went. The fringe of civilization sweeps unceasingly on, and just as the forests and the red men melt away before it, so do adventurers of the type of Col. Jack Allen; men half savages, half fine gentlemen; men equally at home at war, field sport, the duel, the bar-room, and the gaming-table, but, as a rule, less presentable elsewhere. We would exempt from the latter qualification the singular hero we describe, for he added courtliness to his other graces, and has been credited with no little success with the fair.

Very early in life Allen was unlucky enough to kill a man in Shelby County, Kentucky. It is but right to say that the community regarded his act as one of self-defense, and that the jury, when he was tried for murder, acquitted him on that ground. The affair, nevertheless, embittered him, and he soon after started for Missouri. Subsequently, with a single companion, he went clear through the Indian Territory and thence into Texas. War was then going on with Mexico, and Allen plunged into it with characteristic daring. He was with Sam Houston at the battle of San Jacinto, which ended the struggle, and after this returned home. For a time he became a farmer. But the bugles soon sang on the banks of the Rio Grande, and beginning came of that end which saw Taylor the victor of many bloody battles, and Scott dictating peace from the "halls of the Montezumas." Allen straightway raised a company of cavalry, and, with a splendid body of followers, helped Humphrey Marshall to cut the enemy to pieces at Buena Vista. At the end of the war, Col. Allen was on his ears, and quite at a loss what to do. Like many other of the wild spirits of the South-west, he was too restless and fond of excitement for a life of mere agriculture or trade, and was soon casting uneasily about in search of adventure. We find him accordingly, soon after the peace, raising a band of Kentuckians, and becoming conspicuous among the leaders of the celebrated "first Cuban expedition." He got off with his men from a Southern port, and made his way to the island of Contoy, near the coast of Yucatan. The theory of this expedition was that the Cuban Creoles, in great numbers, were ready to revolt, and would rise at once on the advent of the "filibusters" from the United States. But when, after three weeks' stay at Contoy, Allen sailed to Cardenas, his rebel allies informed him that his force was too small to be effectual and he had better go back again. This Col. Allen would, doubtless, quietly have done. The Cuban authorities, however, had other views, and, advised of the plans of the invaders, came down upon them with a heavy force. Allen here gained undeniable laurels. He repulsed in handsome style every attack of a greatly superior command, and, with trifling loss, got away in safety. He then sailed for Key West, and when within a few miles of that place, was attacked by the Spanish frigate Pizarro. Again he succeeded in making his escape, and got unharmed into Florida. This was in 1850, and next year the Cuban fever was raging, and Col. Allen, operated under Lopez, was raising men and organizing a new foray. The fate of the Lopez Expedition is well known. Lopez was garroted, and poor Crittenden shot. Allen was in New Orleans at the time, and so was unharmed. Other expeditions were subsequently planned in which Gen. Goicouria was prominent and Allen always had a part—but they all fell through and Cuba for a time was left in peace.

Allen now turned his eyes to Nicaragua. Anything in the shape of "filibustering" had charms for him, and the ambitious designs of Walker found in him a ready sympathizer. He sailed for Nicaragua in May, 1856, with two hundred men, and joined Walker soon after. Allen did not however, appear to get on with the "grey-eyed man of destiny," or to believe in his success. At any rate he soon went back to Kentucky, and began getting up another Cuban expedition. He proposed to take his men from Nicaragua, to join in this new undertaking, in which Goicouria was also interest. The movement was prevented, and in October, 1856, Allen once more went back to his farm.

Why Workingmen Leave England.

Morris Phillips, Esq., of the *Home Journal*, writing from England, mentions the following:

"In the railroad station at Holyhead, on the Welsh Coast, I was witness to a scene painful to any one who believes all men are born free and equal. The mail service between Dublin and London, only carries first and second-class passengers. One of the splendid sea-going boats that cross the Irish Channel, took us safely, and, strange to say, pleasantly to Holyhead, where the train is 'made up' for London. It was Sunday, and only the first-class refreshment room was open. Into this nearly all the passengers hurried for a sandwich, cup of coffee, or a glass of wine, for we had started on our journey at six A.M.; it was then eleven o'clock, and we should not stop anywhere for refreshments until we reached the magnificent station and pretty town of Crewe, at two P. M.

Among us there were three respectable-looking but poorly clad members of the working classes, who stepped up to the bar, asked politely for a glass of ale, and met with a flat refusal. The pert and pretty barmaid answered that she would be pleased to serve them, but it was against the rules to deliver anything to workingmen. They expostulated with her; then applied to the proprietor of the restaurant; remarked that they were 'hungry and thirsty'; said 'the third-class refreshment room was not open,' and asked 'if their money was not as good as another people's?' But argument was unavailing. The barmaid was polite but firm her employer supported her, and the workingmen left the room unrefreshed and dejected. Here were three honest-looking, sober, well-behaved men, refused meat and drink because they were not arrayed in purple and fine linen. An American present proposed to obtain and convey to the men outside the refreshment-room some ale and sandwiches; but, before the excellent idea could be carried out, the whistle warned us to take our seats in the 'carriages.'"

An Unpleasant Shave.—A workman at Colt's armory who had a very long beard, flowing down upon his breast, was the other day at work upon a small lathe revolving rapidly. He said he "felt something tickling his beard," and looking down, saw some of the longest hairs touching the lathe. Quick as a flash, before he had time to think of his danger, the longest hair of his beard caught in the lathe and wound him up; the next he knew the lathe was nearly turning out the inside of his nose, cutting out the cartilage that separates the nostrils; then, with a mighty effort, he straightened up, saving himself from further operations on the lathe by pulling out a handful of beard a foot long and as large round as his wrist—which will be handy for his wife to use as a "switch."—*Hartford Courant.*

To Calculate the Heating Power of Petroleum.—H. St. Clair Deville of France gives the following rule for estimating the calorific effects of a given sample of oil, which, although it makes the theoretic amount a little larger than that found in practice, is near enough to ascertain the relative values of oils as fuel. First, the amount of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen contained in the sample is found by analysis. Second, subtract from the hydrogen one-eighth of the oxygen, then multiply the difference by 344.62, and add to the product the quantity of carbon multiplied by 80.8, and this sum will be the number of heat units in one kilogram.

Foppish young men use, it is said, as much rouge, powder and cosmetics as the most manufactured society belle.

A Desperate Fight.

A band of Indians, about sixty in number, made an attack upon two men at the ranches on Cienega de Sauz, about fifteen miles above an old San Simon station, and twenty-five miles from camp Bowie. There are two adobe houses there, situate some 200 yards apart. The men occupied one, the other vacant; and that morning one of the men, Richard Barnes, started to go from the house over near the vacant one, when he was fired upon by Indians from the inside of the house and shot through the body. His partner, R. M. Gilbert, was at the time in the house occupied by them, and upon his bed, being unwell with fever; but hearing the firing, he seized his Henry rifle, ran out and commenced firing upon the Indians, as they had run out and surrounded the fatally wounded and dying man. This intimidated them, and they backed a little, and Gilbert succeeded in getting the wounded man into the house, and all the time keeping up the firing upon the Indians. After this, quite a skirmish ensued, shooting through doors, windows and port-holes, in which Gilbert was quite painfully, but not dangerously wounded near the groin by a spent ball.

The Indians hit upon the expedient of setting fire to the roof to burn them out, and when the heat and smoke could be endured no longer, Gilbert tried to arouse the wounded man and get together out of door, but found him dying. He then took his rifle in one hand and his cocked pistol in the other, and knowing that an Indian was standing at the corner of the house watching for him (he being able to see the shadow in the morning sun), with a yell and a bound, sprang directly at the Indian, firing his pistol into the savage when within two feet, and rushed into the tall grass in the Cienega bottom amid a shower of balls.

This strategy, no doubt, saved the man's life, as the Indian fired but missed his mark—the pistol-ball in his own stomach probably rendering his nerves unsteady. The man lay in the tall grass and tules all day, the Indians not caring to risk three or four lives to get one; and during that night and the next day, he managed, in spite of his wound, to crawl into Bowie camp some nine miles off.

Saved by Salt.

The Platsburg (Missouri) *Register* gives the following: A few days ago William Hamilton, residing near the Missouri Pacific Railroad, went into the timber about a mile off to shoot squirrels. Nothing being heard of him all night several neighbors the next morning went in search of him. About three o'clock in the afternoon they found him up a leaning tree, thirty feet from the ground, fast and unable to extricate himself. After some trouble he was taken down, and it was seen that one foot and ankle were badly torn and bleeding.

He said that about three o'clock the previous day he came across a large black bear, and shot at but missed him. The bear made for him with all his might. He ran, and, finding the bear gaining on him, threw away his rifle, and partly climbed and partly ran up a leaning sycamore tree, with the bear following right at his heels. The top of the tree had been broken off and was hollow. He thrust one of his legs into the hole to keep himself from falling, but soon found that his leg was fast. He tried to extricate himself, but could not. The bear in the meantime had torn his boot off and was gnawing and eating the flesh from his foot and ankle. Mr. Hamilton took his pocket knife out and cut at Bruin's eyes; but with one sweep of his paw the bear struck the knife from his hand, with a part of two of his fingers.

Mr. Hamilton could now see no help, and gave up to die, expecting to be eaten up alive by the bear. But soon a happy thought struck him. That morning he had put some salt in his pocket to salt some cattle he had running in the timber. He took a small handful and sprinkled it in the bear's eyes. It had the desired effect. The bear shook his head, growled and went down. He soon returned, however, but a little more salt drove him away the second time, and to Mr. Hamilton's inexpressible delight he trotted off into the forest.

New York Post Office.—An idea of the immense amount of work that has been done upon the New York Post Office building, may be formed from the following statement of materials used, and labor expended to the present time, viz: 2,476,960 bricks, 15,701 barrels of cement, 144,387 feet of cube granite, 2,689 yards of rubble masonry, 5,206,443 pounds of wrought and cast iron, and the magnitude of the undertaking may be judged from the fact that there are now engaged at Dix Island 1,002 persons in the preparation of granite alone, of whom 704 are employed in cutting the granite for the government, and 298 in quarrying the stock and otherwise for the contractors. Three hundred and twenty-seven thousand one hundred and sixty-nine and one half days' labor have already been expended in cutting and boxing the granite after it has been quarried, and it is estimated that 300,000 days' labor will be required to complete that branch of the work. The first story of the building is yet a long way from completion.

Unkind Words.—Do the doctors know that half the wives in the world die of this complaint? "He never spoke an unkind word to his wife." Yes, but did he remember, now and then, to speak a kind one? Did he have any sympathy for her bodily or mental ails? Or was he blind and deaf to both, treating them with cutting indifference, which in time chills the most loving heart, and silences its throbs forever. Men are verily guilty in this regard. They take a young girl from the warm atmosphere of a loving, cheerful home; and after a few brief weeks of devotion, leave her to battle single-handed with new cares and new duties, and to bear sickness with what courage she may; and go their ways into the tangled paths of life, without a thought of the responsibility they are shirking, or the solemn vows they have really broken.

"The Little Darlings."—A man in New Hampshire, who had bought a pair of pups of rare breed, and had given them in charge of a dog-fancier in a neighboring State, was astonished recently upon returning home, after an absence of a few days to find his wife in hysterics, occasioned by the following telegram: "The little darlings are doing well, and looking quite pretty. Please send their board money."

Caution.—Cautiousness is an excellent enough quality, but a man may have too much of it. We think there was a superfluity in the case of the bashful person who went to Niagara by himself, and mashed his hat and mussed his clothes so that they would look old, and so that the guests would not mistake him for a bridal couple.

Winter Bonnets.—Stylish models have quite large crowns and fronts. Velvets of various colors, faille, Chantilly lace, or French trimming lace, ostrich tips and shaded flowers, are the materials which compose most of the handsome models. In many instances the crowns are of silk, while the front, the pipings and folds will be velvet.

Short.—When William L. Marcy was Governor of New York, one of his Thanksgiving proclamations ran in this wise:

In accordance with custom, I appoint Thursday, the 27th of November, as a day of public thanksgiving.

William L. Marcy.

Another Planet Discovered.—On the 14th of September last, Dr. Luther of Bilk discovered a new planet. It was equal in brilliancy to a star of the eleventh magnitude. The number of asteroids now known is 117.

Duluth wheat, or wheat graded at that place, brought in Buffalo four cents a bushel more than is paid for the same grades of Milwaukee wheat.

Report of the Secretary of the Interior.

The following is an abstract of the report of the Secretary of the Interior:—In Indian affairs, it seems that the tribes have raised agricultural products to the value of $10,500,000. There are 216 schools among them, and with 323 teachers and an average attendance of 8,920 pupils. The Indian population now under the jurisdiction of the United States is about 321,000, located on 228,473 square miles. During the past year 10,609,792 acres of public lands were disposed of, which shows an increase over the preceding year of 2,511,379. The cash receipts amount to $2,929,284. Public surveys have extended over 22,016,608 acres. The area yet to be surveyed 1,284,119,331. There were filed in the Patent Office 19,429 applications, 3,337 caveats and 181 extensions; 12,950 patents were issued and 147 extended. The fees amounted to $671,583; expenditures, $560,041, showing a surplus of $111,542. There are at present on the pension rolls the names of 534 widows of soldiers in the Revolutionary war; 1,214 names for wars subsequent to the revolution and prior to the rebellion. There are on the roll 91,290 regular military pensioners, whose pensions aggregate $8,141,734, and 112,428 widows, orphans and relatives, amounting to $14,212,551; making 203,718 army pensions, at an annual rate of $22,354,287. The grand total, including expenses of disbursement is $32,402,300. The receipts of the Union Pacific Railroad were $7,362,015; cost of road, $112,793,618; indebtedness, $74,653,512 of which $27,237,512 is due the United States. The receipts of the Central Pacific were $7,326,327, and expenses $3,735,766, leaving net earnings of $3,590,560.

The United States Army.

There is very little doubt but what the army, just at present, is in a bad way. The report of the Secretary of War makes the number of enlisted men 29,000, and of commissioned officers 2,105. But desertions are far more numerous than enlistments. Nor is this to be wondered at. Men were enlisted last June, say, for five years, with the understanding that they were to receive $16 a month, and after being in the service for three or four months, they found their pay reduced, without any warning, to the sum of $13 a month. True, the recruit agrees to accept such wages as Congress may see fit to give; but the principle upon the would-be soldier understands is the promise of $16 a month. This change looks a little like bad faith; and, besides, severe punishment, such as the articles of war prescribe for desertion, is seldom, if ever, inflicted in time of peace. Officers are, it is said, kept on the active list, instead of being retired, for fear that Congress may sweep away the retired officers from the pay-rolls. Promotion, always slow, becomes, therefore, exceedingly uncertain. Gentlemen whose "special mission" it is to "reform" the army, ought to have some regard for these little matters. We want a small army, but we want an effective one, and wholesale desertion does not help the service any.

Official Vote of the State of New York.

The State Canvassers of New York have declared the result of the late election as follows:

Secretary of State—Scribner, 387,119; Willers, 368,212.

Comptroller — Hopkins, 387,703; Nichols, 367,127.

Treasurer—Raines, 388,360; Bristol, 366,576.

Canal Commissioner—Barkley, 387,936; Chapman, 366,499.

Attorney-General — Barlow, 387,072; Champlain 367,754.

Inspector of State Prisons—Kirkpatrick, 387,359; McNeil, 365,658.

For State Engineer—Taylor, 387,284; Richmond, 367,615.

The aggregate vote cast was greater than ever before, except that for Governor in 1868 and 1870. The Democratic vote was the largest ever cast for Secretary of State, and exceeds the Democratic vote of 1869 by nearly 40,000. The Republican vote exceeds that of 1870 by 20,000, and has never been exceeded except in 1868. The Republican vote in the City of New York exceeds the highest vote ever cast by them there by more than 11,000, and the aggregate vote in New York City has never been exceeded except in 1868. The anti-dramshop vote is 1,820, and the scattering vote amounts to an average of little less than 1,000.

UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

IN THE SENATE.

A bill introduced for the establishment of a steamship line between New Orleans and Mexican ports.

A bill was introduced prohibiting the intimidation of voters.

Mr. Sumner presented petitions asking for the immediate passage of his Supplementary Civil Rights bill.

IN THE HOUSE.

Bills introduced granting pensions to the soldiers and sailors of the war of 1812 for forty days' service instead of sixty days as now provided.

Authorizing the Postmaster-General to issue one-cent correspondence or postal cards.

The President was requested to furnish information on Cuban affairs.

The new appointment bill was discussed, without definite action.

Bills were introduced to make Thanksgiving day a national holiday, and providing for paying pensions through the Post Office.

A Case of Cheerfulness in Adversity.—Mr. Charles Lempriere writes to the *Pall Mall Gazette* about what he saw in Virginia, thus: With their houses burned, their cattle driven off, their fences destroyed, their black laborers all gone, all the white labor migrated, the banks all broken, and all their money in Confederate bonds, what can people do? I was a month in daily communication with one man who had been educated as well as I had been. He had served as aide-de-camp throughout the war. His house and property were utterly wasted. He had a small shanty for himself, his wife, and boy, with one hunchback negro who refused to leave them. He worked as an oyster-dredger cheerfully, and his wife taught music and French. She had kept her piano. I never heard one murmur from either. I saw hundreds of like cases. They cannot leave their country, but they welcome Englishmen to their hearts as well as their homes.

Breach of Promise.—The great breach of promise and seduction suit of Miss L. K. Turner agt. Senor Caledonia Ortis, a banker of Hermosille, Mexico, divides public attention in San Francisco with the Horace Hawkes contested will case. Miss Turner was formerly a school teacher, and afterward an employee in the United States Branch Mint in that city. She was subsequently a clerk in the Treasury Department, at Washington. She is daughter of the late Admiral Turner of the United States Navy. Miss Turner claims that she was seduced by Ortis under a promise of marriage, while she was living in his family in the capacity of governess to his children, and that the criminal intimacy was continued for several years in that city. She asks for damages in the sum of $200,000.

The Postmaster General's Report.

Postmaster General Cresswell says: The ordinary revenues of this department for fiscal year, ending June 30, 1871, were $20,937,045 32, and the expenditures of all kinds, $24,390,104,08. The increase of revenue for the year 1871, was $1,157,667. There were in the service of the department on the 30th of June, 1871, 7,286 contractors for the transportation of the mails. There was an increase over the preceding years in length of routes of 7,127 miles in annual transportation, 10,547,798 miles, and in cost, $644,742.

A Snail's Teeth.—A western paper thinks the snail has a "right smart chance" for a tooth-ache. He has one hundred and ten rows of teeth, with one hundred and ten teeth in each row, or twelve thousand two hundred and ten in all.

Evergreens—merchants who expect to make money without advertising.

Report of the Secretary of the Navy.

Secretary of the Navy Robeson says:—Of the 179 ships remaining on the navy list, twenty-nine are sailing ships, and the remainder side-wheel steamers, or sailing vessels with auxiliary screws; fifty-three of them, armed with 601 guns, are in service, attached to the various fleets and stations as regular cruisers, despatch boats, hospital, stores, receiving and practice ships; these, with the tugs and small vessels in use at the various navy yards and stations, make the force to commission for all the purposes of naval service.

Of the remainder six are nearly ready for sea, and will join the various squadrons as soon as their crews can be enlisted and organized; fifty-two are monitors, only one of which is now in commission, the balance being laid up at the various stations, but principally at Lenague Island, where, in the fresh water of the Delaware, their iron bottoms deteriorate with far less rapidity than in the salt water of the other stations; seventeen are under repair at the various yards; thirteen are on the stocks, never having been completed and launched, and the balance of these whose names are on the list are laid up in ordinary.

The force on the North Atlantic station is under command of Rear Admiral S. P. Lee, who held that position at the making of the last report.

The South Atlantic station remains, as at the date of the last report, under command of Rear Admiral Lanman.

The fleet on the Pacific station, still commanded by Rear Admiral John A. Winslow, consists of the California, the Pensacola, the Narragansett, the Saranac, the Mohican, the Resaca, the Ossipee, the Onward and the St. Mary's—in all nine ships.

The European station is now commanded by Rear Admiral Charles S. Boggs, who relieved Rear Admiral Glisson on 28th of January last. The ships belonging to this fleet are the Brooklyn, the Plymouth, the Guerriere, the Wachusett, the Shenandoah, the Juniata and the Wabash, with the Congress about to sail—in all eight ships, with 139 guns.

On the Asiatic station, of which Rear Admiral John Rodgers is still the commander, we have the Colorado, the Benicia, the Alaska, the Ashuelot, the Monocacy, the Idaho and the Palos, with the Saco, now on her way through the Suez Canal, and the Iroquois, under orders to join the squadron—in all nine ships, mounting 97 guns.

The survey of the Isthmus of Darien, under Commander T. O. Selfridge, which had been interrupted by the advent of the rainy season last year, has been successfully conducted in spite of the great obstacles met in making way through a dense and almost impenetrable wilderness.

In the war with Corea five forts were captured and destroyed fifty battle flags taken, and 481 pieces of artillery fell into our hands. Upward of 240 Coreans were killed and a few captured. Our own losses were three killed and ten wounded. Among the former was Lieutenant Hugh W. McKee, a gallant and promising young officer, who fell at the head of his men, himself first inside the enemy's citadel.

Condemned to the Chain-Gang.—The Havana Students condemned to the chain-gang were called up, stripped of their attire, their money and their jewery being confiscated, as is also all their property, to the State, in accordance with the terms of their sentence, dressed in the common duck cloth of the regulation prison clothes, and forced into the streets to work on the repairing of them, breaking stones and carrying dirt. Thousands of persons—of course from different motives—have repaired to the places where the chain-gangs are engaged to bear witness to their sufferings, duly impelled thereto by the public announcement that the sentence had been executed in all its parts. Already many of the condemned are in the hospital, and unless some leniency is exhibited towards them death will end the sufferings of many before one quarter part of their sentence can be fulfilled.

The Magazines.

Arthur's Lady's Home Magazine.—The publishers of "Arthur" claim for it the high distinction of being "The Queen of the Lady's Magazines" and taking the December number now before us in all its essential features, pictorial and literary, as a specimen, we will not make bold to dispute their claim. "Kept In," "A Merry Christmas," and "Check," are full of rich humor, are illustrations of a high order, and address themselves to readers of taste and culture. Now is the time to send for this Magazine. Terms $2.00 a year, with a large reduction to clubs and splendid premiums. Specimen numbers 15 cents. Address, T. S. ARTHUR & SON, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Children's Hour.—In their December number, the publishers of this beautiful magazine say: "We will not promise to make the Hour as much better or handsomer than it has been in 1871, for we do not really know where to improve it. But we will promise to keep it fully up to its high reputation as "the best and purest and most attractive of the children's magazines." We close the year with a number of unusual richness." The illustrations in this number are remarkably fine. Price $1.25 a year; 5 copies for $5.00 with a beautiful chromo as a premium for clubs. Specimen copies 10 cents. Address, T. S. ARTHUR & SON, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Little Corporal was routed but not conquered in the great fire, and the December number has come to hand as fresh, sparkling and vigorous as ever. It contains a full-page illustration by Thomas Nast, the prince of artists, and among the articles we notice one from Horace Greeley, on "Art and Industry." This number contains many rich things and is beautifully illustrated throughout. The Publisher announces that in the next number will begin the $500 Prize Story, written by Helen C. Weeks, a noted writer for the young. This will no doubt be a charming story, and all the Boys and Girls will be delighted with it. Published by John E. Miller, Chicago, Ill.

The Investment of Savings.

There are thousands of persons throughout the country, who have from one hundred to one or two thousand dollars saved up which they do not wish to use in active business, but from which they desire to realize as large and steady an income as possible. Savings banks are once lost for temporary convenience, but they necessarily pay low rates of interest; government bonds are safe beyond question, but at present prices yield such a small income that most investors of moderate means prefer to wait a little.

Under these circumstances *first-class railroad bonds* are becoming a favorite investment among all classes. Many of them are preferably to such government bonds, which they yield an income much larger than Five-Twenties. Messrs. Jay Cooke & Co., the eminent bankers, who made such a grand success of the government loan during the war, and have recently succeeded in selling two hundred millions of the new U. S. 5 per cent. loan, are now offering to the American public a rail road bond that is probably the most attractive and desirable now on the market. Speaking of the first mortgage 7-30 gold bonds of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, the security referred to, a New York financial paper of the highest standing says:

"It is because these bonds are first-class Railroad security, and a Real Estate mortgage on lands worth twice the amount secured, that we commend them to those of our readers who desire an investment that is safe beyond question, while readily negotiable and bearing a good rate of interest. They are a first lien, not only on a great Railroad and its traffic, but in *addition* are a first mortgage on valuable lands at the rate of 50 acres to each $100 of the bonds issued. Add to this the fact that the rate of interest (7 3-10 per cent. gold) is more than 3 per cent currency, and that the bonds are always exchangeable at 10 per cent. premium for United States on which they are secured (practically giving the power of foreclosure at will); and it is easy to explain the high favor with which these securities are now regarded. Central Pacific R. R. Bonds, secured only on the Railroad itself, and bearing only six per cent. gold interest, are now selling at 105. In the light of this fact, it is not unsafe to predict that Northern Pacifics, bearing seven and three-tenths per cent. gold interest, secured both on the Railroad and on 23,000 acres of land to each mile of track, and now selling at par, and an accrued interest will at an early day be worth 1-10.

Superstition makes a man a fool—skepticism, mad. J. Monroe Taylor's Cream Ye