### Romantic Accidental Discoveries.

Many of our most important inventions and discoveries owe their origin to the most trivial circumstances; from the simplest causes the most important effects have ensued. The trial of two robbers before the court of assizes of the Basses-Pyrennes accidentally led to a most important archæological discovery. The accused, Rivas, a shoemaker, and Bellier, a weaver, by armed attacks on the highways and frequent burglaries, had spread terror around the neighborhood of Sisteron. The evidence against them was clear; but no traces could be obtained of the plunder, until one of the men gave a clue to the mystery. Rivas, in his youth, had been a shepherd boy near that place, and knew the legend of the Trou d'Argent, a cavern on one of the mountains with sides so precipitous as to be almost inaccessible, and which no one was ever known to have reached. The commissary of police, of Sisteron, after extraordinary labor, succeeded in scaling the mountain, and penetrated to the mysterious grotto, where he discovered an enormous amount of plunder of every description. The way having been once found, the vast cavern was afterwards explored by savans; and their researches brought to light a number of Roman medals of the third century, flint hatchets, ornamented pottery, and the remains of ruminants of enormous size. These interesting discoveries, however, obtained no indulgence for the accused (inadvertent) pioneers of science, who were sentenced to twenty years' hard labor. The discovery of gold in Nevada was made by Mormon immigrants in 1850. Adventurers crossed the Sierras and set up their sluice boxes in the canyons; but it was gold they were after, and they never suspected the existence of silver, nor knew it when they saw it. The bluish stuff which was so abundant, and which was silver ore, interfered with their operations and gave them the greatest annoyance. Two brothers named Grosch possessed more intelligence than their fellow-workers, and were the real discoverers of the Comstock lode; but one of them died from a pick-ax wound in the foot, and the other was frozen to death in the mountains. Their secret died with them. When, at last, in the early part of 1859, the surface croppings of the lode were found, they were worked for the gold they contained, and the silver was thrown out as being worthless. Yet this lode since 1860 has yielded a large proportion of all the silver produced throughout the world. The silver mines of Potosi were discovered through the trivial circumstance of an Indian accidentally pulling up a shrub, to the roots of which were attached some particles of the precious metal. During the Thirty Years' war in Germany, the little village of Coserow, in the Island of Usedom, on the Prussian border of the Baltic, was sacked by the contending armies, the villagers escaping to the hills to save their lives. Among them was a simple pastor named Schwerdler, and his pretty daughter Mary. When the danger was over the villagers found themselves without houses, food, or money. One day, we are told, Mary went up the Streckelberg to gather blackberries; but soon afterwards she ran back joyous and breathless to her father, with two shining pieces of amber, each of very great size. She told her father that near the shore the wind had blown away the sands from a vein of amber; that she straightway broke off these pieces with a stick; that there was an ample store of the precious substance; and that she had covered it over to conceal her secret. The amber brought money, food, clothing and comfort; but those were superstitious times, and a legend goes that poor Mary was burned for witchcraft. At the village of Stumen, amber was accidentally found by a rustic who was fortunate enough to turn up some with his plow.—*Chambers' Journal.*

### White Hair.

"Is it possible for a person's hair to turn within a short time?" There are so many instances now on record that there ought to be no longer any doubt upon the subject. In the late Arctic expedition nearly every man's hair became grayer, and in some cases white, but assumed its natural color when the men returned to lower latitudes. In many cases the human hair is said to have turned gray from grief, extreme care, or sudden fright. During an outward passtage to Australia (says a correspondent) the ship I was in suffered greatly in the British Channel; twice we were nearly wrecked, having lost three anchors and two cables. The pilot who had charge was constantly on watch, only snatching a few minutes' sleep here and there, as opportunity afforded. On the whole, he had a very anxious time indeed, and when he eventually left the ship off the Isle of Wight he certainly looked twenty years older. I thought his hair had decidedly turned grayer; this may, however, have been only imagination, and therefore ought rather to be considered as an impression than actual fact. Within the last few months a fresh case of the possibility of the color of hair changing has come under my notice. An old gentleman, aged eighty-nine, residing in my immediate neighborhood, lately died. For many years his hair has been perfectly white, but a fe days before his death some of his hair became black, giving the appearance of his having dark brown or black hair. Here it is interesting to note that in his younger days his hair was light. After the death of this gentleman the tips of his hair for about an inch assumed the original color, becoming white again. I have heard of another instance where after death the hair turned from white to black. Dogs seem to be affected with regard to their hair in like manner as human beings. I lately read of a case where a black Newfoundland dog became gray in a few weeks, and the writer declares that the only cause for this sudden conversion was grief.

### Discovery of a Lost Art.

A method of reproducing the famous, because rare, fire gilded glass of the Egyptians has been recently patented, and from the results attained, it would appear that the inventor, if he has not discovered the ancient process, has devised an excellent substitute. Fire-gilded glass is glass into which gold is so worked that many hundreds of years have failed to effect any change, or to tarnish the gold. The trustees of the British Museum, were so pleased with the results of the modern process, that they accepted from the inventor, M. D'Hussey, specimens of his recovery of a lost art. The process consists in introducing gold-leaf or platinum into the body of the glass, and amagamating the precious metal with the glass by means of a blow-pipe, an operation which also serves to produce a perfectly indestructible covering to the metal and the designs traced. The product so much resembles the ancient work that the method is likely to find a tolerably wide field of usefulness—or, at least, of profit to its inventor.

### Lucky Spanish Bull-Fighters.

Spanish bull-fighters find their dangerous calling a very lucrative profession. Thus the favorite matador of Madrid, Frascuelo, possesses a fortune of $400,000, a magnificent house, and a wife considered the prettiest woman in Madrid, and is a member of one of the most aristocratic clubs in the city. On the day of a bull-fight, he sends a messenger to his wife after each of his performances in the arena, the destruction of six bulls being his usual task, and twice he has been brought home seriously injured. Frascuelo took part in the late bull-fight before the king and queen, and his costume was literally covered with diamonds. Most interest was felt, however, in the amateur matadors cavalry officers chosen by the different provinces, and who showed themselves fully as skillful as the professionals.

Bound to occur—A muzzle.

The manufacture of ice by machinery is being so perfected that this luxury ought to be obtained very cheaply by and by. It can be manufactured for about one dollar per ton. Writers are beginning to consider the subject of cooling the temperature of houses in the heat of summer by the use of this manufactured ice.—*Dr. E. B. Foote's Health Monthly.*

## MAKING SILVER DOLLARS.

### The Processes of Minting—Progress of the Work from the Melting to the Stamping—How the Silver is Alloyed.

The capacity of the various coining Mints and Assay offices in the United States will be fully tested during the coming year. The law of Feb. 28, 1878, demands that between 2,000,000 and 4,000,000 of the new dollars shall be turned out every month. The officers of the Mints think that 3,000,000 will be the maximum of production for the present, and to coin as many silver dollars as that a month will require brisk work at the Mints. Most of the silver received at the Philadelphia Mint passes through the New York Assay office. There are two coining Mints besides the one in Philadelphia, one in San Francisco and the other in Carson City, and assaying and refining are done in Helena, Montana; Boise City, Idaho; Denver, Col., and a few other points in the far West. The Philadelphia Mint is capable of turning out about $1,500,000 in coined money a month; the San Francisco Mint $1,000,000, and the Carson City Mint $500,000. The Mints cannot, of course, be given over exclusively to the coinage of silver dollars. The subsidiary coins must be struck, and a certain amount of gold coinage goes on all the time. Gold is needed by the government to buy silver with, aside from all other purposes. It is coined mostly in the form of double eagles. During February month 21,210 double eagles were coined in Philadelphia, and twenty eagles, twenty half-eagles, twenty three-dollar pieces, twenty quarter-eagles, and twenty one-dollar pieces were coined in the same time. The other coinage of the Philadelphia Mint comprised 200 trade dollars, 375,000 half-dollars, 1,461,800 quarter-dollars, 200 twenty-cent pieces, 964,200 dimes, 600 five-cent pieces, 600 three-cent pieces, and 910,800 cents.

Silver is sent from the assay office to the Philadelphia mint pure, or 999 fine, which is about as pure as silver can be. It is sent in large bars, and, when received at the mint, is melted and alloyed with copper. Coin silver is 900 fine. After being melted and alloyed, the metal is cast into ingots, which are simply bars of a convenient size for handling. The metal is then assayed, to determine whether it is exactly of the standard fineness. Assaying is done by what is known as the dry or humid process. Samples for assay are taken while the silver is in a fused condition, and two assays are made of every specimen.

The silver ingots then go to the coiner. They are first rolled into strips, and, as the rolling process is apt to make the metal brittle, it is annealed to soften it. Silver is annealed simply by heating in an open wood fire, and then being allowed to cool gradually. The silver dollar strips are passed through the rolls nine or ten times before the first annealing and four or five times afterward. Then the process of annealing is repeated. After the last annealing the strips are run through cutters which divide them into drafts of the proper thickness for the coins; and these, in their turn, are run through a steam punching machine which cuts planchets the proper size for the coin. From 150 to 240 are cut in a minute. As the metal gets greasy during this process, the planchets are then dipped into a bath of diluted sulphuric acid, which is too weak to act upon the surface but effectively removes all foreign matter. The planchets are then adjusted; that is to say, they are carefully weighed, and all that are lacking in weight are cast aside; such pieces are called "lights," and the "heavies" are the pieces which weigh much and are filed off.

The adjusting is done by women. It is a process which requires much delicacy, and scales are used which are sensitive to one sixty-fourth of a grain. After the adjusting is finished, the next operation is the milling, which is done with a curious sort of machine. The edges of the coin are thrown up and grooved by this process. After another cleaning with sulphuric acid the coins are ready for the die. The stamping is done on a screw press, and both sides of the coin are stamped at the same time. The dies are cylindrical blocks of steel upon which are carved the designs to be transferred by pressure to the coins. Art of a high order as well as fine mechanism is conspicuous in this part of the coining process. The designer, in the case of the new silver dollar, Mr. Morgan, first draws his design on paper, from which is made a model in wax, of which a plaster cast is taken, and from this cast an electrotype is taken, upon which careful revision is made with the graver. This electrotype, like the model and cast which preceded it, is three or four times larger than the impression which appears on the dollar. The design is transferred to a steel die by using Hill's reducing machine, constructed on the principle of the pantograph. One arm of this instrument, with a blunt point, follows the lines on the electrotype, while the other arm, to which is attached a strong and rapidly revolving drill, reproduces the same lines on a smaller scale upon a steel block. By means of a press this impression is transferred to another block in itaglio and thence upon another block, which is the parent die. After each transfer the lines are carefully improved with a graver. Steel of the same quality as that of which the parent die is made is used for the coining dies. They are annealed, and trued on both ends. Two or three blows in the screw press, which is worked with a large wheel, secures a perfect impression, and both the obverse and reverse of a coin are struck at once. Machinery places the planchets between the dies, and afterward drops the completed coin in a box. Two or three pieces of each coinage are reserved for the annual government assay.

The processes of melting, refining, and assaying gold and silver are carried on in the Assay office, in this city, on quite as large a scale as at the Philadelphia Mint. Not only Government work is done here, but large deposits are made daily of gold and silver bullion by private individuals. Gold is always found alloyed with silver, and it is never found with any other alloy. To separate the silver from the gold, the bullion is boiled in sulphuric acid, which removes the alloy; the gold is then reboiled and reduced to a coarse powder resembling clay. Its purity then is 998 or 999. The silver, mixed with copper, is run into vats on a lower floor, and is purified and granulated, when it resembles pipe-clay. The granulated gold and silver are pressed into large cheeses in a hydraulic press. A cheese of gold, twelve inches in diameter and three inches thick, is worth $20,000: a silver cheese of the same size is worth $900. The sulphuric acid, after it is used, produces a sediment of blue vitriol, which is much prettier than either the gold or the silver seen in the Assay office. The vitriol and the weak acid are both sold for as much money as the original acid costs. The substitution of sulphuric acid for nitric acid has caused a saving to the New York Assay office alone of $100,000 a year. Depositors receive their gold and silver separately at standard purity, 900. Pure metal is also sent to the Assay office from the various refineries to be alloyed. From United States refineries silver is generally sent in large bars or cakes; and a small amount of Mexican metal is received in thin, irregularly-shaped pieces called disks. The fumes from the vats and furnaces in the Assay office are condensed and sold as weak acid. Only a small amount of the gas escapes into the atmosphere, and although it is slightly offensive it is not injurious. On the contrary, this gas is an excellent disinfectant, and acts upon dead matter rather than living. The same precautions are taken to prevent loss in the Assay office as in the great Mints. The ashes, the sweepings from the floor, the crucibles, and all the instruments which come in contact with the precious metals are washed and ground in a machine constructed for the purpose, and the stray particles of silver and gold are gathered together.—*New York Times.*

A correspondent writes from Helena City, Montana, that there is no city in the country more quiet and well-governed, and adds: "We have an active vigilance committee, plenty of rope, and a convenient pine tree always on hand. There have been seventeen men hung on that tree."

### Worth, the Man Milliner.

Kate Field gossips about Worth, the celebrated man milliner, of Paris, as follows: Worth is a tallish man, with a big clever head and a very prominent forehead. His brown eyes are singularly shrewd in expression, and their seizure of detail is surprising—that is for a man. As a rule, men have no more eye for detail than owls have for the sun. Worth takes you in at a glance, and knows what your style ought to be, which is such a comfort. When I go to a dress-maker, I don't care to "work my passage." I went to order my harmony in one or two colors, and to encounter brains equal to the occasion. Worth's taste, when allowed full play, is irreproachable. "I prefer simplicity to anything else," he says, "but there are women who don't believe in the value of a dress unless it is loaded with trimming. They drive me mad, for they can't take advice. Now, what is becoming to one person, is hideous when worn by another. I study to make the best out of a subject given me, as, unfortunately, we can't have people made to order, can we? If I had my own way all women should be slight, graceful and pretty. Then, dressing would be an artistic pleasure. A dress should never overpower the wearer. It should merely be an appropriate frame for a charming picture, bringing out the beauties of the picture but never detracting attention from it. So few women understand this. Why, when I find I can make a costume for less money than had been agreed upon, I actually annoyed clients by telling them so. They think it cannot be as handsome as it ought to be, and they would rather have more material added, however much the design might be marred, than pay less. I assure you this is a fact. Consequently, when I meet ladies who know that dressing is an art, I take very great satisfaction in them as patrons. It isn't every woman who knows how to wear a dress. When I have done my best, I try to make my client do her best by seeing her walk and sit down. To walk with style is rare enough; but when it comes to being able to sit down in a dress properly—well, there is not many equal to that I can tell you. Then, women think they ought to have a number of dresses, and would rather be seen every day in a new toilet, however hideous, than wear one dress however becoming. There never was a greater mistake. If your frame is appropriate, stick to it. Don't be getting out of it, and trying experiments. I have just made a dress for Madame Nilsson, in which she appears better than I ever saw her before, and I have begged her to wear that dress constantly in Russia, if she wants to produce a most charming effect. As she is sensible, I think she will take my advice, which, you perceive is against my interests, but, gracious me, money is not my only object. Art is intended to beautify nature, not to deform it."

You'd appreciate how fine an artist Worth is, by going to his villa at Suresne. It is one of the marvels of Parisian suburbs. I never saw such harmony of *ensemble*, every bit fitting into every other bit as though it were a mosaic. Worth has been his own architect, gardener, designer, upholsterer. There's not a carpet nor a curtain that he did not invent. Stuffs and chairs have been made for him, and for him only. The hangings in his library are works of art in the way of embroidery. The rare old china, which is Worth's particular frenzy, and with which many of the walls are inlaid, would drive Mr. Gladstone mad with delight. The eye is perpetually gratified, and when you step into the garden, the view of Paris, the Bois de Boulogne, and the country for miles around, is a dream of beauty.

This villa lies directly beneath Mont Valerin, the finest sight in the neighborhood of Paris. Then there are ruins in the garden, made out of stones, pillars and statuary, brought from the Tuilleries, and bought by Worth after the Commune had done its worst. Seated on a lovely terrace made out of the imperial wreck, listening to an Æolian harp, gazing at the city of splendor at my feet, and breathing air steeped in glorious sunshine. I passed one of the most charming afternoons of my life. Worth, in a quaint, flowing gown and skull cap, that made him look tremendously like Hogarth, entertained the Duchesse de ——— and ourselves with stories of the Commune, and when we left we were firmly convinced that one of the cleverest men England has produced in this century is Worth, the dressmaker.

### Hydrophobia Cure.

I can give some facts which may be of use to somebody, thereby saving life. The time between the biting of an animal by a mad dog and showing signs of hydrophobia is not less than nine days, but may be nine months. After the animal has become rabid, a bite or scratch with the teeth upon a person, or slobber coming in contact with a sore or raw place, would produce hydrophobia just as soon as though he had been bitten by a mad dog. Hydrophobia can be prevented, and I will give what is well known to be an infallible remedy, if properly administered, for man and beast. A dose for a horse or cow should be about four times as great as for a person. It is not too late to give medicine any time before the spasms come on.

The first dose for a person is one and a half ounces of elecampane root, bruised, put in a pint of new milk, reduced to one half by boiling, then take all at one dose in the morning, fasting until afternoon, or at least a very light diet after several hours have elapsed. The second dose the same as first, except take two ounces of the root. Third dose the same as last, to be taken every other day. Three doses are all that are needed, and there need be no fear. This I know from my own experience, and know of a number of other cases where it has been entirely successful. This is no guess work. Those persons I allude to were bitten by their own dogs, that had been bitten by rabid dogs, and were penned up to see if they would go mad; they did go mad, and did bite the persons. This remedy has been used in and about Philadelphia for forty years and longer, with great success, and is known as the Goodman remedy. I am acquainted with a physician who told me he knew of its use for more than thirty years, but never knew of a case that failed where it was properly administered. Among other cases he mentioned, was one where a number of cows had been bitten by a mad dog. To half of this number they administered this remedy, to the other half not. The latter all died of hydrophobia, while those that took the elecampane and milk showed no signs of that disease.—*R. C. Shoemaker, in Country Gentleman.*

### The Catholics.

The spiritual subjects of the Pope are scattered about as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Italy | 26,000,000 |
| Spain | 16,000,000 |
| France | 35,000,000 |
| Germany | 14,000,000 |
| Austria and Hungary | 44,000,000 |
| Belgium | 5,000,000 |
| Ireland | 5,000,000 |
| England | 2,000,000 |
| Portugal | 3,000,000 |
| Netherlands | 1,000,000 |
| Switzerland | 1,000,000 |
| Canada | 1,500,000 |
| Mexico | 9,500,000 |
| South and Central America | 24,000,000 |
| United States | 8,000,000 |
| Other parts of the world | 4,000,000 |
| Total | 198,000,000 |

The total, usually reckoned at 200,000,000, has undergone much change during the lifetime of the late pontiff. The church has gained most notably in the United States and England.

### Things Not to Do.

Never believe much less propagate an ill-report of a neighbor without good evidence of its truth; never listen to an infamous story handed to you by a man who is inimical to the person defamed, or who is himself apt to defame his neighbors, or who is wont to sow discord among brethren and excite disturbance in society. Never utter the evil which you know or suspect of another, till you have an opportunity to expostulate with him. Never speak evil of another while you are under the influence of envy and malevolence, but wait till your spirits are cooled down, that you may better judge whether to utter or suppress the matter.

### Russian Rural Life.

The following illustration of rural life in Russia has interest at this juncture: Nearly whole of the female population and about one-half of the male inhabitants are habitually engaged in cultivating the communal land, which comprises about 2,000 acres of light, sandy soil. The arable part of this land is divided into three large fields, each of which is cut up into long narrow strips. The first field is reserved for the winter grain—that is to say, rye, which forms, in the shape of black bread, the principal food of the peasantry. In the second are raised oats for the horses, and buckwheat, which is largely used for food. The third lies fallow, and is used in the summer as pasturage for the cattle.

All the villagers in this part of the country divide the arable land in this way, in order to suit the triennial rotation of crops. This triennial system is extremely simple. The field which is used this year for raising winter grain will be used next year for raising summer grain, and in the following year will lie fallow. Before being sown with winter grain, it ought to receive a certain amount of manure. Every family possesses in each of the two fields under cultivation one or more of the long narrow strips or belts into which they are divided.

On St. George's Day (May 5) the cattle are brought out for the first time, and sprinkled with holy water by the priest. The cattle of the Russian peasantry are never very fat, but at this period of the year their appearance is truly lamentable. During the winter they have been cooped up in small unventilated cow houses, and fed almost exclusively on straw; now, when they are released from their imprisonment, they look like the ghost of their former emaciated selves. All are lean and weak, many are lame, and some cannot rise to their feet without assistance. Meanwhile the peasants are impatient to begin the field labor. An old proverb, which they all know, says: "Sow in mud, and you will be a prince," and they always act in accordance with this illustrate of traditional wisdom. As soon as it is possible to plough they begin to prepare the land for the summer grain, and this labor occupies them probably to the end of May. Then comes the work of carting out manure, and preparing the fallow field for the winter grain, which will last probably till about St. Peter's Day (July), when the haymaking generally begins.

The annual life of the peasantry is that of simple husbandmen, inhabiting a country where the winter is long and severe. The agricultural year begins in April with the melting of the snow. Nature has been lying dormant for some months; awaking now from her long sleep, and throwing off her white mantle, she strives to make up for lost time. No sooner has the snow disappeared than the fresh young grass begins to shoot up, and very soon afterwaal the shrubs and trees begin to bud. The rapidity of this transition from winter to spring astonishes the inhabitants of the more temperate climes.

After the haymaking comes the harvest, by far the busiest time of the year. From the end of July, especially from St. Elijah's Day (Aug. 1), when the saint is usually heard rumbling along the heavens in his chariot of fire, until the end of August, the peasant may work day and night, and yet he will find that he has barely time to get all his work done. In little more than a month he has to reap and stack his grain—rye, oats, and whatever else he may have sown, either in spring or in the preceding autumn—and to sow the winter grain for next year. To add to his troubles, it sometimes happens that the rye and the oats ripen almost simultaneously, and his position is still more difficult than usual.

Whether the seasons favor him or not, the peasant has at this time a hard task, for he can rarely afford to hire the requisite number of laborers, and has generally the assistance merely of his wife and family; but he can at this season work for a short time at high pressure, for he has the prospect of soon obtaining a good rest and an abundance of food. About the beginning of October the field labor is finished, and on October 18 (1st, old style) the harvest festival begins—a joyous season, during which the parish fetes are commonly celebrated.—*Wallacq's Russia.*

### Words of Wisdom.

He is rich who is poor enough to be generous.

To extol one's own virtue is to make a vice of it.

About a pint of tears go to every pleasure, taking the world over.

Who has not known ill fortune never knew himself or his own virtue.

We must not contradict, but instruct him that contradicts us; for a madman is not cured by another running mad also.

Every man has something to do which he neglects; every man has faults to conquer which he delays to combat.

Have the courage to speak your mind when it is necessary to do so, and hold your tongue when it is prudent that you should do so.

Truth is a torch, but one of enormous size: so that we try to sling past it in rather a blinking fashion, for fear it should burn us.

Character is always known. Thefts never enrich; alms never impoverish; murder will speak out of stone walls. The least admixture of a lie—for example, the smallest mixture of vanity, the cast attempt to make a good impression, a favorable appearance—will instantly vitiate the effect; but speak the truth, and all nature and all spirits help you with unexpected furtherance.

It was finely said by Socrates that the shortest and most direct road to popularity is "for a man to be the same that he wishes to be taken for." People are egregiously mistaken if they think they can ever attain to permanent popularity by hypocrisy, by mere outside appearances, and by disguising not only their language but their looks. True popularity takes deep root, and spreads itself wide; but the false falls away like blossoms; for nothing that is false can be lasting.

### Spiders Traveling Around the World.

At a recent meeting of the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences, the Rev. Dr. McCook contributed an interesting essay on spiders. One species, *Sarotes venatorius*, is distributed with little variation in form or color, all around the world. From cabinet specimens, he could trace it, going Westward, from the extreme Eastern limit of this continent to the extreme Western coast of Africa. He has found the line of distribution to coincide with the belt of Northern trade winds. He thinks the spider migrated from point to point by throwing out fine threads and suspending themselves so as to be carried by the wind. So far as he has been able to prosecute the inquiry, there is a corresponding line of distribution for these spiders in countries swept by the Southern trade winds. The theory needs further facts as to the presence or absence of these insects on islands in the ocean, before it can be fully accepted; if verified it may help to determine the open questions as to missing continents, since it cannot be supposed that spiders could cross spaces of water.

### The First Step.

There is no step so long as the first step in any direction, especially a wrong one. Having once taken it, you are very likely to go farther. One who steals a penny will remember it when he thinks of stealing a sovereign. If he steals the sovereign first, when he is tempted by thousands he will remember he is already a thief. A perfectly innocent person dreads the soil of any sin upon his soul, but after the slightest smirch he cannot say, "I am clean." The vulgar proverb, "One might as well be hung for a sheep as for a lamb," means a great deal. Often the lamb was stolen years before, and now why not take the sheep? An idle word, half-oath, half-exclamation, leads the boy to swearing. Once having sworn, he will swear again. The first step may not be much in itself, but in its relation to our lives it is a giant's stride. It is well to remember it.

## SUMMARY OF NEWS.

### Eastern and Middle States.

A demonstration in opposition to the tariff bill pending in Congress was held at Allentown, Pa., over fifteen thousand persons taking part in the procession.

Commodore John Hodges Graham, of the United States navy, died suddenly on the 17th, at Newburgh, N. Y., aged eighty-four. He lost a leg in the war of 1812.

The other day, while the Lechmere National Bank, of East Cambridge, Mass., was in charge of the president, he was called to the door by a lady, who engaged his attention while two men entered the building and stole over $40,000. The woman and her accomplices escaped with their booty.

St. Patrick's day was celebrated in New York with the usual procession of Irish societies and annual dinner of the Knights of St. Patrick.

Wages of operatives in the Pacific mills at Lawrence, Mass., have been reduced ten to fifteen per cent.

A. S. Boyer and C. Sellers, late officers of the Dime Savings Bank, of Reading, Pa., have been held in $5,000 bail each on a charge of conspiracy to defraud.

The list of failures in New York has been swelled recently by several heavy suspensions, notably those of S. H. Mills & Co., prominent Wall street brokers and speculators in stocks, whose liabilities will reach nearly $300,000, and Henry S. Wells, a large contractor, who has been adjudicated a bankrupt upon his own petition, with liabilities amounting to $225,000.

The Democratic State executive committee of Pennsylvania met in Harrisburg and decided to hold the next convention in Pittsburgh, May 22.

A number of students belonging to Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, have been arrested for hazing. The faculty expelled or suspended several.

The Rhode Island State convention of the new National party was held at Providence. A ticket headed by William Foster for governor was nominated.

The Calais (Me.) Savings Bank has suspended.

Election returns from all the towns in New Hampshire for governor give Prescott, Republican, 39,377, and McKean, Democrat, 37,863. The House will stand: Republicans, 205; Democrats, 165.

A bill to grant female suffrage has been defeated in the lower house of the Massachusetts Legislature by 127 to 93.

James E. Goll, well-known in New York insurance circles, committed suicide by shooting himself in the head. He was at one time wealthy, but met with reverses, had family troubles and became dissipated.

The Rhode Island Republicans met in convention at Providence and renominated the present State officers by acclamation. Following the usual custom, no political resolutions were passed.

The Tarrytown (N. Y.) First National Bank has failed. The liabilities are estimated at $122,000 and assets $80,000. The Bank of Chemung, at Elmira, N. Y.—a private institution—has also suspended.

The Rhode Island Democratic State convention, held in Providence, resulted in the nomination of a ticket headed by Isaac Lawrence for governor.

### Western and Southern States.

Governor Holliday, of Virginia, has issued a proclamation offering $100 for the arrest of each of the parties concerned in the lynching of a colored woman named Harris, in East Buchanan county. The woman was taken from jail and put to death by unknown persons on suspicion of having instigated the burning of a barn.

Chess, Carley & Co.'s, oil refinery in Louisvill, Ky., the largest of the kind in the south, was partially burned, causing a loss of about $100,000.

The verdict of the jury who found General Thomas C. Anderson, of the Louisiana returning board, guilty of forging election returns, has been set aside by the Louisiana supreme court and the prisoner ordered to be discharged from custody. The decision states that the record of crime offered in evidence did not conform with that mentioned in the information; that the consolidated election returns, in regard to which forgery was charged, are not legal instruments by which frauds may be committed, and their alteration cannot be construed into a crime.

A house occupied by a farmer named Harley, living a few miles north of Adrian, Mich., was destroyed by fire, and his wife and two children were burned to death.

A building in Cleveland, Ohio, occupied by a non-explosive lamp company, was destroyed by fire, together with its contents, and a total loss incurred of $165,000.

A band of four expert counterfeiters, who have been operating extensively in the Northwest, were unearthed and arrested in Chicago by a special government detective. The whole of their apparatus and some of the spurious coin were captured.

Four men and a boy were drowned near Howardsville, Albermarle county, Va., recently, while attempting to cross a river in a frail canoe after dark. Two families, consisting of thirteen women and children, were left without a single full-grown male to support them.

An appalling disaster occurred in the sawmill of Hall & Alvis, about seven miles from Richmond, Va. Without a moment's warning an explosion took place which hurled the building lumber, sheds and persons standing around in every direction. The boiler had burst and five men were killed, and one was fatally and five dangerously wounded. Among the killed were two sons of the manager of the sawmill, Mr. Hall who was also injured.

Reports from Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia give flattering prospects of the wheat crop. The average increase over last year's crop is estimated at twenty-five per cent.

A large tobacco warehouse, several factories, a colored church and six tenement houses were destroyed by fire in Danville, Va., entailing a loss of $80,000, on which the insurance is $50,000.

### From Washington.

A bill has been presented in the House to erect a new mint at Indianapolis, Ind.

The bill to pay $375,000 for mail contracts made in the South previous to the war has been defeated in the House.

The nomination of Mr. Beard to be collector of the port of Boston has been confirmed by the Senate without opposition. Senatorial courtesy prohibits opposition to a nomination supported by both Senators from the state in which the appointment is made, as in Mr. Beard's case.

The House judiciary committee has, by a majority vote, decided to report a bill repealing the bankrupt law.

Secretary Sherman was sent for by the Senate committee of finance, the other day, to get his views in regard to the bill repealing the resumption law; and he informed the committee that specie resumption upon the day fixed was practicable and that the silver bill would be an aid rathe rthan an obstacle to resumption.

The national council of the Sovereigns of Industry met in convention at Washington and effected an organization. Delegates from a large number of States were present.

A majority report of the House committee on civil service reform says that Doorkeeper Polk, who was charged with making more appointments to office than was allowed by law should be removed. A minority report, signed by four of the committee, dissents from the views of the majority.

The number of bills introduced in the House up to the 21st is 3,290, and of joint resolutions 162.

The House Committee on Invalid Pensions has agreed to report a bill allowing pensions of $72 per month to soldiers who have lost either both eyes, both hands, or both feet, and of $24 to those having lost one eye, one hand or one foot.

The National Council of Sovereigns of Industry, in session at Washington, elected the following officers of the National Council for 1878: John Sheridin, Pennsylvania, president; S. S. Davis, Massachusetts, vice-president; M. W. Morton, Rhode Island, secretary; Clark Wethersby, New York, treasurer; W. H. Earl, Massachusetts, lecturer.

The commissioner of agriculture has made an elaborate report upon the diseases of domestic animals. According to a tabular statement, compiled from information received from 1,100 counties, the annual value of losses on all classes of domestic animals is nearly $47,000,000. As this statement is based on returns received from only one-half of the country, the annual loss from this cause may be placed at $30,000,000.

Leading New York bankers had a conference in that city with the House committee on banking and currency regarding the resumption of specie payments. General Ewing, of the committee, made inquiries to draw out the views of the bankers, who expressed the opinion that resumption was practicable. After the meeting General Ewing said that the statements of the bankers had strengthened his own opinion that the secretary of the treasury was not able to carry out the resumption act.

### Foreign News.

The ratifications of the treaty of peace between Russia and Turkey were exchanged at St. Petersburg. Meanwhile the Russians were strengthening their position around Constantinople.

An epidemic of measles has broken out in Lyons, France, and 6,000 persons have been taken down with the disease.

The Grecian insurrection against Turkey has been completely supressed. In the district of Chimara the entire expeditionary force of the Greeks has been killed, captured or dispersed in the mountains. Great excesses were committed by the Turkish irregulars, who burned or pillaged sixteen villages, the inhabitants of which fled or perished. The various consuls have represented the condition of affairs to their governments, and appealed for preventive measures.

England has refused to take part in the European congress unless Russia promises to submit the treaty stipulations in full.

O'Donovan Rossa, of New York, attempted to lecture upon Ireland in Montreal on St. Patrick's day, and the result was a riot in which four men were shot. The windows of the hall in which the lecture was held were riddled with stones and the lecturer was compelled to close abruptly and steal out of the building by a side door. The military were under arms, and the police came to close quarters with the rioters several times.

General Grant has arrived at Naples.

The Danube is again open to commerce.

The marriage of the Earl of Roseberry to Miss Hannah de Rothschild, only daughter of the Baron Meyer de Rothschild, was celebrated in London with great splendor. The bride's fortune is estimated at from $15,000,000 to $20,000,000. Among those present at the ceremony were the Prince of Wales, Lord Beaconsfield and others.

A new Italian ministry has been formed.

The printers of Paris are on a strike.

The famine in China is extending over the northern provinces.

The iron trade in South York hire, England, is in a most stagnant condition and large numbers of men are out of work.

## CONGRESSIONAL SUMMARY.

### Senate.

Numerous petitions against the revival of the income tax were presented.... The bill to permit women in practice in the highest court of any State to practice in the supreme court of the United States was reported upon adversely.... The bill prohibiting members of Congress from becoming sureties for contractors was passed.... The fortification appropriations bill was passed without amendment. It appropriates $275,000.... The bill granting an American register to a foreign built vessel for a scientific expedition around the world was discussed without action.... After receiving several amendments to the bill organizing a life-saving and coast guard service and discussing the Pacific railroad sinking fund bill the Senate adjourned.

The committee on railroads reported Texas Pacific and Southern Pacific railroad bills.... A bill to protect American purchasers of foreign acting plays and dramas was introduced by Mr. Blaine.... The bill granting American register to a vessel for the Woodruff scientific expedition was passed.... The bill to amend the act relating to the cultivation of timber was debated and then laid aside.... The Pacific Railroad sinking fund bill was discussed at some length without action.... The bill authorizing the employment of temporary clerks in the treasury and interior departments was debated for some time, and Mr. Blaine spoke upon his amendment providing that the government shall not expend money to force the collection of taxes on wood and lumber used by actual settlers taken from government lands which have not been surveyed or offered for sale, attacked the secretary of the interior, who was defended by Messrs. Dawes, Hoar, Christiancy, and others.... The West Point bill was received from the House, and the Senate insisted on its amendments and asked for a conference committee. Adjourned.

The bill amending the timber cultivation laws was passed. It provides that every person who plants, protects and keeps in a healthy growing condition for ten years ten acres of timber, the trees thereon not being more than four feet apart each way, on any quarter section of public lands, shall be entitled to patent for a quarter section.... A resolution to inquire whether Judge Whitaker, of Louisiana, who presided at the trial of General Anderson, is a defaulter to the government was introduced by Mr. Howe and ordered to be printed.... A resolution was introduced requesting the President to furnish information regarding the terms of surrender of the Cuban insurgents. Laid over and the Senate then adjourned.

### House.

Mr. Springer moved to suspend the rules and pass a bill authorizing the coinage of gold and silver on the same terms, and the issue of certificates of deposit on them. Action was delayed by opponents of the bill until the hour for other business and the matter went over.... Bills were introduced by Messrs. Vance and Elam providing for the payment of certain Southern mail contracts, and by Mr. Conger, repealing the law appropriating $375,000 for the payment of certain Southern mail contracts. Adjourned.

Bills were passed reducing the pay of United States jurors from $3 to $2, and limiting the pay of United States marshals to $5,000, of chief deputies to $2,500, and other deputies to $5 a day.... The Pension bill, appropriating $29,289,000, was reported.... The West Point appropriation bill was reported back, with recommendation to agree to some and dissent from others of the Senate amendments. The report was agreed to.... The General Deficiency bill was discussed in committee of the whole.... The Senate bill appointing General Sherman a regent of the Smithsonian Institute, instead of George Bancroft, resigned, was taken up and passed. Adjourned.

The bill regulating the advertising of mail lettings, was taken up. It provides that notices shall be published in one or more papers in each State interested, that proposals for mail lettings will be received at a certain date, and that all information pertaining thereto can be obtained on application to the second assistant postmaster-general. An amendment prohibiting the subletting of mail contracts was adopted, and the bill as amended was passed.... The deficiency appropriation bill was passed. Adjourned.

### Fashion Notes.

New velvet muffs are edged with black lace.

Leg-of-mutton sleeves have been revived.

Faille continues in favor for house dresses.

The novelty for bonnet trimming is dyed grebe.

The cut-away jacket supersedes the polonaise.

Beads have appeared on linen articles of apparel.

Butterflies are the new ornaments for spring hats.

Rows of machine stitching will trim summer dresses.

The novelties in spring fabrics are largely in linens.

Spring styles proclaim the fact that everything is beaded.

Colored pearl ornaments are on the new spring bonnets.

Embroidered and fringed ribbon will trim summer fabrics.

Princess dresses are remodeled for children's spring attire.

New foliage for hats is made of rubber without wire stems

Flower embroidery is the latest trimming for evening dresses.

New and beautiful grenadines have stripes and flowers of velvet.

Ladies' silk ties have ends of net heavily embroidered in colors.

Metal buttons will be profusely used on the "costume de fatigue."

Scotch plaids will be much worn this summer, especially for traveling.

Rich white satin fans with tracery of silver or gilt flowers are novelties.

Pearl buttons are shaded to match all the new shades of new materials.

The new spring colors are in subdued tints, such as drab, tan and silver.

A handsome gold slipper of unique design is the latest candlestick holder.

Chip hats and bonnets will be worn almost to the exclusion of other straws.

Exquisite pearl fringes and headings are shown for trimming hats and bonnets.

Spring wraps, called "Mantelets," are square in the back, with long ends in front.

As many as five rows of pearl beads are on the white chip bonnets just imported.

The old color, "ashes of roses," so long out of fashion, will be revived this summer.

The new wide collars and cuffs have a lace frill to stand up around the neck and wrists.

India cashmere is one of the prettiest materials, both for dresses and out