

STICKEEN.

The San Francisco Bulletin speaks very unfavorably about the new mining fields in British Columbia. It calls it "another British Columbia wild-cat excitement" and says: "There have been periodic gold-mining excitements in the Stickeen river region—the scene of the present one—for the last twelve years, but they have been invariably short lived, for the simple reason there was nothing to sustain them. Current reports from Stickeen river are no more encouraging than those circulated about every previous mining excitement in that quarter. The men whose names are mentioned in connection therewith are men whose names have been similarly associated with nearly every other 'wild-cat' excitement that has taken place in British Columbia during the last decade; their statements must consequently be taken with considerable allowance. Were the truth known, there is probably as little cause as ever for the hubbub just started about the wealth of these Cassiar-Stickeen mines."

The Olympia Echo, of the 23d ult., says: "A gentleman just down from the Dease creek, informs us that he regards that section as a great field, and he believes the whole Stickeen excitement will prove to be a scheme gotten up by interested parties."

ONE of the most remarkable escapes ever made was made by M. de Chateaubrun during the reign of terror in Paris. He was sent to execution with twenty other prisoners; but after the fifteenth had fallen the guillotine got out of order, and a workman was sent for to repair it. The six remaining victims were left standing in front of the machine with their hands tied behind them. A French crowd is very curious, and the people kept pressing forward to see the man arranging the guillotine. By degrees M. de Chateaubrun, who was in the rear of his companions, found himself in the front line of the spectators, then in the second, and finally behind those who had come to see his head cut off. Before the man could get the guillotine in working order night began to fall, and M. de Chateaubrun slipped away. When in the Champs Elysees he told a man that a wag had tied his hands and robbed him of his hat, and this simple individual cut him free. A few days later M. de Chateaubrun escaped from France.

STARTING TOMATO PLANTS.—As some persons may be in the same plight this spring that I was last as regards knowing how they are to start a few early tomato plants, and have their stalky and first-class plants in every respect, I will give the details of how I managed to start a few hundred to my entire satisfaction. I took a small box, 12x20 inches, 6 inches deep and filled it with good garden soil, and put it on the kitchen stove drum, and let it stay there till the dirt was thoroughly warmed through; then took a stick and made marks an inch apart, 4 1/2 inches deep in the dirt, cross-ways of the box; then scattered tomato seeds quite thick along the rows and covered them about 1/2 of an inch deep; then took a newspaper and wet it and covered the box to prevent the dirt from getting dry on top. The box was set on a bench near the stove after the seeds were sown, and the following day set on the stove drum again for the purpose of keeping up the heat in the soil, being careful not to let it get too hot. In forty-eight hours from the time the seeds were sown, they had sprouted, and many had broken the ground, a few were 1/2 inch high.—Cor. Rural New Yorker.

THERE was something pathetic in the position of the German flowerist who in the bitterness of his heart exclaimed: "I have so much trouble mit de ladies ven dey come to buy mine roses; dey want him hardy, dey want double, dey want him fragrant, dey want him nice color, dey want him abounding in one rose. I hopes I am not vat you call one uncallant man, but I have sometimes to say to dat ladies, 'Madame, I never often see ladies dat was beautiful, dat was rich, dat was good temper, dat was young, dat was clever, dat was perfection in one ladies. I see her much not.'"

THE other night a weak-eyed youth was sitting in Ames church wholly forgetful of his surroundings and lost in beatific contemplation of a certain young woman, touching whom he cherished violent designs, when suddenly a hand was laid upon his shoulder, and a deep contra-voice thundered in his ear: "Young man, you look as if you wanted to go to Jesus! Won't you come to Jesus?" Whereupon he was stuck all of a heap, as it were, and stammered: "I would—I want—that is, I should like to go, you know, but not this evening, thank you; I have an engagement."

THE editor of the Kansas City Journal of Commerce drops the following good note: "The Western papers that so greedily picked up the contraction arguments of the Eastern brokers, and argued against 'inflation,' will be somewhat puzzled to find their friends deserting them at this early day in favor of an inelegant issue of bank notes. The only difference was between inflation by greenbacks and inflation by bank notes. In the one way there was no interest paid by anybody. In the other way the government pays interest on the bond and the borrower pays interest on the bank note—all to the same party. And yet some Western papers were caught in the nice little trap. Let them hear the consequences."

THERE is a little anecdote apropos of the low-necked ball-dresses of the present season. "Good evening," says a lady dressed in the height, or rather depth of the fashion, to her partner in the German at one of the late Paris balls; "I am tired to death. I am going home to undress myself." "What—any more?" is the partner's answer.

THE IDEAL LOVERS.

A Nashville paper is publishing a thrilling romance, which is ascribed to one J. Bateman Smith, whose descriptions of the lovers deserve more extended publicity, and are therefore quoted as follows:

He was young, he was fair, and he parted his hair like the average bean, in the middle; he was proud, he was bold, but the truth must be told, he played like a fiend on the fiddle. But, aside from this vice, he was everything nice, and his heart was so loving and tender, that he always turned pale when he trod on the tail of the cat lying down by the fender. He clerked in a store, and the way that he tore off calico, jeans, and brown sheeting, would have tickled a calf and made the brute laugh in the face of a quarterly meeting. He cut quite a dash with a darling mustach, which he learned to adore and to cherish; for one girl had said, while she drooped her proud head, that 'twould kill her to see the thing perish. On a Sunday he'd search the straight road to the church, unheeding the voice of the scorners; and demurely he sat, like a young tabby cat, with the saints in the far amen corner. He sang like a bird, and his sweet voice was heard fairly tugging away at long meter; and we speak but the truth when we say that this youth could out-sing a hungry mosquito.

She was young, she was fair, and she scrambled her hair like the average belle of the city; she was proud, but not bold, yet the truth must be told that the way she chewed wax was a pity. But, aside from this vice, she was everything nice, and the world much applauded her bustle; and the Fayetteville boys, being charmed by the noise, walked miles just to hear the thing rustle. She cut quite a swell, did this wax-chewing belle, and the men flocked in armies to see her; but she gave them the shirk, for she loved the young clerk who sang like a hungry mosquito. So she hemmed and hawed, and she sighed and she "chawed," till her heart and her jaws were both broken; then she walked by his store, while he stood at the door awaiting a token. She raised up eyes with a pretty surprise, and tried to enact the proud scorn; but, to tell the plain truth, she grimaced at the youth who loved the devout amen corner.

A RATHER tough story, and one to be taken with many grains of allowance, comes from Oakland, California. A few nights ago the residence of Mr. Clark, the paying teller of the Bank of California, was the scene of an extraordinary ghostly demonstration. The family, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Clark and three young gentlemen boarders, retired about 11 o'clock. For a time everything was quiet about the house, and its inmates had fallen asleep. Suddenly from the lower part of the house came a long, loud wail of anguish, as of some one in terror or pain. Loud and louder grew the noise, until the infernal clatter had awakened every one in the house. A desire for companionship seized the boarders, and they all gathered together in one room, and were soon joined by Mr. and Mrs. Clark. The noises still continued, but changed in character very frequently. An exploration was at length decided on, and leaving Mrs. Clark in charge of one of the boarders, the party carefully descended the stairs. Each held a revolver in one hand, and with the other nervously clenched the banister. The hall was dark as Erebus, though when their eyes became accustomed to the dim light, they could perceive any object that might be in the rooms below. The noise continued, and now and then a note would be struck on the piano. Just as they reached the foot of the stairs, a chair came gliding out of the parlor, and took its position in the doorway, bowing and nodding as if to reassure their fears. Rushing past the chair, one of the party entered the parlor, and lit the gas. Here they saw a strange sight. Every article of furniture in the room was in motion. The chairs and tables moved about like animate things, and appeared to take no notice whatever of the intruders. Gradually the noise ceased, and the furniture became stationary. After waiting awhile, the party returned to their respective rooms. In a short time the noises began again, and again the boarders descended the stairs. To their inexpressible surprise, they found the parlor door taken from its hinges and deposited on the floor. After that there was no sleep in the house. In the morning the furniture was found to be disarranged and much strained. The outside bars and bolts were perfectly secure, and there was no trace to show that any one had entered the house. An explanation of the phenomena is awaited.

A VERY charming daughter of one of the "solid men" of Boston, being at a ball a few evenings since, was solicited by a combination of mustache, starch and broadcloth fit in the honor of her hand in a dance, to which solicitation she returned an affirmative answer. In a subsequent conversation the combination inquired her father's business. "He is a wood sawyer," she replied. The fellow aloof, feeling that he had let himself down a foot or two by the association. The lady's father was a wealthy dealer in mahogany, which occasionally has to be sawed.

The cattle trade of Texas, Colorado and Kansas is a source of enormous wealth; it is pouring millions of dollars yearly in the coffers of Kansas City, Chicago, St. Louis; altogether last year over \$44,000,000 were taken to the latter city, Chicago getting the bulk of the trade. St. Louis will control, if possible, this immense industry, and thereby add millions of dollars annually to its sales of groceries, dry goods, and other manufactured articles. It is estimated that notwithstanding the large losses caused by the severity of the last winter, Texas alone will send forward to market this year not less than 600,000 head of cattle.

SABBATH-DAY SUGGESTIONS.

As the rays come from the sun, and yet are not the sun, even so our love and pity, though they are not God, but, merely a poor, weak link and reflection of him, yet from him about them come. If there is mercy in our hearts, it comes from the fountain of mercy. If there is love in us, it is a ray from the full sun of love.—Charles Kingsley.

God hath given to mankind a common library, his creatures; and to every man a proper book, himself,—being an abridgement of all the other; if thou read with understanding, it will make thee a great master of philosophy and a true servant to the Divine Author; if thou but barely read, it will make thee thy own wise man, and the author's fool.—Quarles.

It is the nature of every artificer to tender and esteem his own work; and if God should not love his creatures, it would reflect disparagement on his workmanship, that he should make anything that he could not own.—God's power never produces what his goodness cannot embrace. God, ofentimes in the same man distinguishes between the sinner and the creature; as a creature he can love him while as a sinner he does afflict him.—South.

"We touch heaven when we lay our hand on a human body!" This sounds much like a mere flourish of rhetoric; but it is not so. If well meditated, it will turn out to be a scientific fact; the expression, in such words as can be had, of the actual truth of the thing. We are the miracle of miracles, the great inscrutable mystery of God. We cannot understand it, we know not how to speak of it; but we may feel and know, if we like, that it is verily so.—Carlyle.

For a man to do his work to the best of his ability, to put all his energy into it, of course, an obvious duty; to devote himself to it is a sin. A man who devotes or gives himself up to any work, to anything, to any name save One, in earth or heaven, is an idolater. The language of one man's idolatry is revolting to us, the other commands our respect; but the result is much the same in both; the soul can be smothered in a lawsuit as effectually as in a beer tankard; and fifty years hence the former, as well as the latter, will be gone, and the two men left equally bare, equally deep, equally unprofitable.—Oakfield.

THE WAY TO AVOID CAUTION.—"If any one speaks ill of thee," said Epictetus, "consider whether he hath truth on his side; and if so, reform thyself, that his censures may not affect thee." When Anaximander was told that the very boys laughed at his singing, "Ay," said he, "then I must learn to sing better." Plato being told that he had many enemies who spoke ill of him, said: "It is no matter; I will live so that none shall believe them." Hearing, at another time, that an intimate friend had spoken detractively of him, he said: "I am sure he would not do it if he had not some reason for it."—This is the surest, as well as the noblest way of drawing the sting out of a reproach, and the true method of preparing a man for that great and only relief against the pains of calumny—a good conscience.

To certain non-paying subscribers, who want to stop the paper, the Columbia Herald says, very pointedly but rudely, "pay up and then stop and be damned." So say we.

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Dissolution Notice.

THE CO-PARTNERSHIP heretofore existing between the undersigned, under the firm name of STROY & HOFFMAN, is this day dissolved by mutual consent, having disposed of our stock and trade to ELIAS STROY, whom all accounts due the late firm are payable, and who will pay all liabilities. W. H. HOFFMAN, ELIAS STROY, BOZEMAN, M. T., March 25, 1874-2072

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The most complete stock in the Territory. We keep always on hand The Latest Books, Music, Song Books, Newspapers and Periodicals, &c.

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