THE AVANT COURIER

THURSDAY. : : : OCT. 18, 1877.

Go and Learn a Trade.

I'll sing a little song to-night,
And every word is true,
You'll find that every line is meant,
Young gentleman, for you!
I've no intention to offend,
In what is sung or said—
The sum and substance of it is,
To go and learn a trade.

Chorus—The "coming man" is he who lives
To see his fortune made,
Whom everybody will respect,
Because he learned a trade.

Your education may be good,
But time is flitting by,
Instead of waiting, don't be fooled:
The old man may not die,
And if he should the chances are
His will may be mislaid,
Or you cut off without a cent,
So go and "learn a trade."

The country's full of "nice young men,"
Who from their duty shirk,
Who think 'twould crush their fam'ly pride
If you should go to work;
Take off your coat (your father did),
And find some honest maid,
Who'll help you make your fortune, when
You've learned an honest trade.

Be temperate in all you do,
Be faithful to your "boss,"
You'll find the more you do for him,
Will never prove a loss.
You'll find in fifty years from now,
When fame and fortune's made,
The best step that you ever took,
Was when you learned a trade.

ANOMALIES OF ENGLISH SPELLING.

How the Alphabet is Tortured to Give Over Forty Sounds.

One of the principal difficulties in learning the English language is the inexplicable manner in which most of the words are spelled, the twenty-six letters of the alphabet vying with each other to represent the forty or forty-two sounds of the language in the most bungling and disorderly manner.

Be the capacity of a child ever so good, yet he must spend years in learning these "curiosities of literature," while a foreigner can only master our noble language by a vast expense of labor, patience and time.

The Protean nature of the vowel sounds is familiar to all. A few amusing examples will show that the consonents are nearly as bad.

B makes a road broad, turns the car to bear and Tom into a tomb.

C makes limb climb, hanged changed, a lever clever, and transports a lover to clover.

D turns a bear to beard, a crow to a crowd, and makes anger danger.

F turns lower regions to flowery regions.

G changes a son to a song, and makes one gone!

H changes eight into height.

K makes now know, and eyed keyed.

L transforms a pear into a pearl.

N turns a line into linen, a crow to a crown, and makes one none!

P metamorphoses lumber into plumber.

Q, of itself, hath no significance.

S turns even to seven, makes have shave, and word a sword, a pear a spear, makes slaughter of laughter, and curiously changes having a hoe to shaving a shoe!

T makes a bough bought, turns here to there, alters one to tone, changes ether to tether, and transforms the pharse, "allow his own," to "tallow his town!"

W does well, e. g., hose are whose? are becomes ware, on won, omen women, so sow, vie view; it makes an arm warm, and turns a hat into—what?

Y turns fur into fury, a man to many, to to toy, a rub to a ruby, ours to yours, and *proh pudor*, a lad to a lady.—*Moses Patterson.*

Our Boys and Girls.

—A little Philadelphia girl: "Bless papa and mamma, and oh! please don't let the baby squall to-night. Amen."

"We had short-cake for tea," said a little girl to a neighbor's boy to whom she was talking through the fence. "So did we," he answered—"very short; so short it did n't go round."

—Nothing is flattering to boys as the society of their fathers, and nothing makes a man so popular with them as his joining in their amusements. Try to do this, and you will find your sons will try in turn to understand your cares and your troubles.

—"I want five cents' worth of starch," said a little girl to a grocer's clerk. The clerk, wishing to tease the child, asked: "What do you want five cents' worth of starch for?" "Why, for five cents, of course," she answered, and the clerk concluded to attend to his own business.

—At a Sunday-School a teacher asked a little boy if he knew what the expression "sowing tares" meant. "Courth I do," said he, pulling a part of his trousers around in front; "there's a tear my ma sowed. I teared it when I was sliding down hill."

A boy of five years was "playing railroad" with his sister of two and a half years. Drawing her upon a foot-stool, he imagined himself both the engine and conductor. After imitating the puffing noise of the steam, he stopped and called out, "New York, and in a moment after, "Patterson," and then "Philadelphia." His knowledge of towns was now exhausted, and at the next place he cried, "Heaven." His little sister said eagerly, "'Top! I des I'll dit out here."

Dull Boys.

Don't be discouraged. Slow growth is often sure growth. Some minds are like Norwegian pines. They are slow in growth, but they are striking their roots deep. Some of the greatest men have been dull boys. So were Goldsmith, Gibbon and Sir Walter Scott. Napoleon at school had so much difficulty in learning his Latin that the master said it would need a gimlet to get a word into his head. Douglas Jarrold was so backward in his boyhood that at nine he was scarcely able to read. Isaac Barrow, one of the greatest divines the Church of England has ever produced, was so impenetrably stupid in his early years that his father more than once said that if God took away any of his children he hoped it would be Isaac, as he feared he would never be fit for anything in this world. Yet that boy was the genius of the family.

In the Streets at Night.

"His father don't allow him to be in the streets at night," said Will Carson, in a mocking tone; "better tie the baby to the bedpost with his mother's apron strings."

John Mellen's face flushed at these taunts. No boy likes to be ridiculed, especially when a crowd of his playmates are standing by.

"Be a man, and come along with us," said Harry Jones. "You are old enough now to think and act for yourself."

"Come, John, with us," said another. "We shall have a grand time. It won't hurt you just for one time to have a little fun."

"No," said John, "I shall mind my father. The Bible says, 'Honor thy father and thy mother,' and I shall do it."

"Come on, boys," said Will, starting off. Don't stand there listening to his preaching."

John went home, and in preparing his lessons for the next day, and joining in the home pleasures, he had forgotten all about the boys. The next morning on his way to school he heard that the boys had been arrested and sent to jail for being drunk and disorderly.

Think how anxious their parents must have been all through the night, and then to be told that their boys were in jail. How it must have surprised and pained them.

Don't be wandering in the streets at night, boys. It is a bad habit, and nothing but harm comes of it. Hundreds of boys are ruined through being in the streets at night.

John Mellen made a happy and prosperous man. And so will every boy who loves God, stands up for the right, and honors his father and mother.

About the House.

ITEMS.

Pound flint glass as fine as it can possibly be made on painter's stone, and mix it with the unbeaten white of an egg. Rub the mixture on the clean edges of the broken glass, place them carefully together, and where it can be done, bind together with a string. Set aside for some days or weeks, and one can scarcely discern that there was ever a crack in your bowl or dish.

Receipt for making good gingerbread: Two cupfuls of New Orleans molasses, one cupful of melted butter, two eggs, two even teaspoonfuls of soda dissolved in hot water, one tablespoonful of ginger, a little salt, and flour sufficient to roll out; bake in two square tins; mark with a knife an inch apart on top.

Lard or butter to be used for pastry should be as hard as possible. If left on the ice for a while before using, the pastry will be lighter and better. It needs only to be cut through the flour with a chopping knife, not rubbed.

THE NEEDS OF HOUSE PLANTS.

One of our lady readers, remarkably successful with her house plants in the winter season, gives us two points in their management. Every gardener and florist knows the value of what is called "bottom heat." A warm atmosphere—especially if a dry one—is often insufficient to bring about a healthy growth, and is sometimes injurious. What is wanted for many kinds of plants and flowers, is moist heat at the roots and fibers where growth early starts, and from which the stimulus is conveyed to every other part of the plant. A thrifty growth below the ground is sure to be followed by fruit and flowers above.

Our lady friend accomplishes this by filling the saucers of her flower-pots with hot water. This is, of course, absorbed and carried up to the roots and fibers, giving the required bottom heat. Unthrifty plants, in addition to this, she places on the mantle-piece over the kitchen range, keeping them, of course, well watered. It supplies heat where it is most wanted—at the roots—and the benefit is marked. In warm rooms the temperature is at the top, and the coldest near the floor, where the pots are. This reverses the proper order, giving the roots of a plant the coldest place.

Another important matter in house-plants is to give them the morning sun. Windows where flowers are kept, should, therefore, face the east. The reasons are not known, perhaps, but the fact is patent to all whose business it is to develop a healthy growth in plants and flowers, that an hour of morning sun is worth three hours of afternoon sun. Every one observes this, and it may be owing to some electrical action at that time.

At this season the Calla will be growing vigorously, and will need water more abundantly. A saucer of water under the Calla is much relished by this plant. It is sub-aquatic in its nature. Other plants have saucers under them in order to keep the water from dripping on the floor; but the water should not be allowed to stand in them. The Calla flower is liable to the attacks of green fly, as indeed are many plants which grow in windows. There are many remedies which gardeners use in greenhouses that are inapplicable in rooms. The best thing for the room gardener is to take the pots to a back kitchen, or, if not frosty, to the open air, lay the pots on their sides, and syringe with warm soap-suds.

A covering of leaves, not more than three or four inches thick, affords the best winter protection for plants that can be given.

Around the Farm.

ITEMS.

In Mississippi and West Tennessee hogs are being fattened on peaches.

The man who exhibits live Colorado potato bugs in London has been ordered under arrest.

Farming does not pay some farmers, and it is all right. There are many pretended farmers who do not deserve pay.

Capt. King, of Santa Gertrudes, Texas, is making an addition of 63 miles to his pasture fence, which will inclose altogether, when completed, 160,000 acres of splendid land.

A Nelson county, Kentucky, man has just invented and perfected a new variety road wagon. It weighs about 3,500 pounds, and runs at the rate of 15 to 20 miles an hour.

A farmer, being poorly provided with materials of sustenance for his men, fed them on pork cooked with the rind upon it. A young man of the company, not liking that outer portion of the food, was observed by the host to be carefully removing the outside covering, wherupon the latter said: "Young man, we eat the rind and all here." To which the youth replied: "All right; I'm cutting it off for you."

TOO LONG WHIFFLETREES ON PLOUGHS.

Most ploughmen have so long whiffletrees that it is often impracticable to make any plough work satisfactorily. Excellent ploughs are denounced as worthless, and rejected simply because the double whiffletree or the ox yoke was too long. Yet the ploughman never suspects wherein consists the true cause of the difficulty. Our own practice from boyhood has been to make double whiffletrees for ploughing never more than two feet between the points of attachment of the singletrees, which were about 23 inches in length. When it was desirable to plough narrow furrow-slices, the singletrees were attached only 22 inches apart. Let a ploughman attempt to plough with a doubletree six feet in length, and he will readily understand why a plough will not run correctly when the doubletree is too long. The plough will be drawn too far from the furrow to the unploughed ground, unless the ploughman makes a constant effort to prevent the implement from cutting a furrow-slice wider than can be properly turned over.

KINDNESS TO ANIMALS.

It pays to treat domestic animals kindly. There is no animal so stupid as not to know the difference between kind and unkind treatment, and none so vicious or ungrateful as not to respond in kindness to the hand that pets and caresses it. The vicious horse has almost always been a timid colt, and required only kind and gentle treatment to drive away fear and establish confidence, to render him docile.

It is the nature of all animals to resent ill-treatment, even from one of their own species, and to fight when imposed upon. Thus, the horse will return a kick or a bite, while the horned animal will do battle with the arms with which nature has furnished it.

A timid and spirited colt is very naturally and rapidly changed into a vicious and unmanageable horse by rough and unkind handling; and the timid heifer, by the same treatment, becomes an ugly, hooking and kicking cow.

Domestic animals recognize kind words as well as kind acts, and a cross word at a critical moment will bring fight and determined opposition, where a kind word would have calmed fear and subdued anger.

In handling domestic animals, that man is the most successful who governs his own passions. With domestic animals, kindness begets kindness, and passion begets passion.

WOOL-GROWING IN WESTERN TEXAS.

Every year large flocks of sheep are being moved from the Southern and Southwestern part of Texas, where formerly all the great sheep ranches were located, to the high and rolling prairies of Northwestern and Western Texas, where the atmospher is drier, and clear streams of pure water are found. It is said that sheep thrive better on the shrubs, plants, saline-grasses and herbs, so plentiful in this region, especially that of black soils or low marshy bottom lands. It is believed that the finer-wooled sheep pay the best, and a great deal of expense is saved by being able to run them into large flocks. Men practically experienced in sheep-raising in Texas give it as their opinion that wool of the Merino and other large varieties can be raised here at 7 cents per pound. The sales last season ranged from 28 to 45 cents per pound. Large fortunes have been made at it, and the opportunities presented now are superior to any heretofore.

—A woman had her tongue paralyzed from playing the clarionet, and the next day, when it was generally known, every other married man in town bought a clarionet and took it home to his wife, and then went outside the house and stood on his head in the mud.

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"Dr. Holloway has cured my headache that was chronic."
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"My nausea of a morning is now cured."
"Your box of Holloway's Ointment cured me of noise in the head. I rubbed some of your Ointment behind my ears and the noise has left."
"Send me two boxes; I want one for a poor family."
"I enclose a dollar; your price is 25 cents, but the medicine to me is worth a dollar."
"Send me five boxes of your pills."
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I have over 200 such testimonials as these, but want of space compels me to conclude.

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In all diseases affecting these organs, whether they secrete too much or too little water; or whether they be afflicted with stone or gravel, or with aches or pains settled in the loins over the region of the kidneys, these Pills should be taken according to the printed directions, and the Ointment should be well rubbed into the small of the back at bed time. This treatment will give almost immediate relief when all other means have failed.

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No medicine will so effectually improve the tone of the stomach as these Pills; they remove all acidity occasioned either by intemperance or improper diet. They reach the liver and reduce it to a healthy action; they are wonderfully efficacious in cases of spasm—in fact they never fail in curing all disorders of the liver and stomach.

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IMPORTANT CAUTION.

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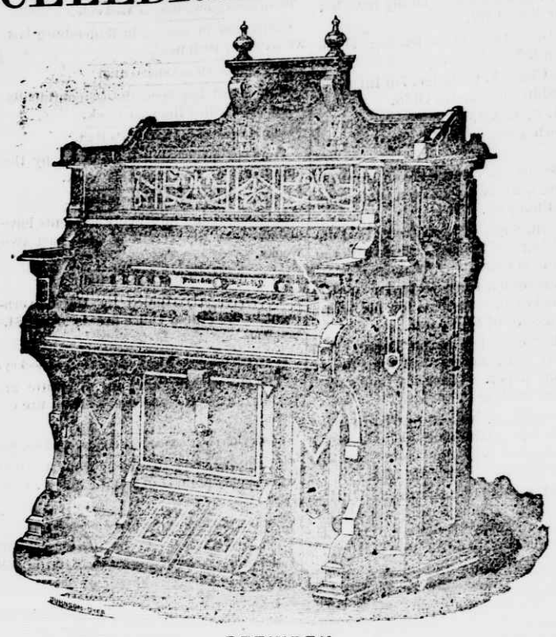

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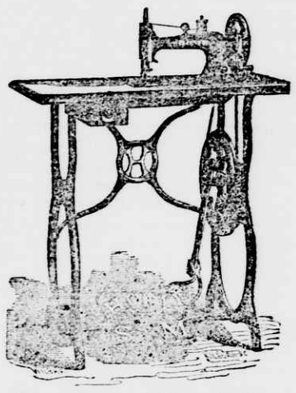

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