

Selected Miscellany.

GOOD-BY. Good-by, good-by! It is the sweetest blessing...

Why do we weep when the tears are starting? Why must a word be sweet but bitter...

Oh, may the gods and bless and keep you ever. Who is strong to battle with you ever...

Behold the earth's presence, O'en the desert. Is the great blessing that our parting brings...

Good-by, good-by! With latest breath we say it. A legacy of hope, and faith, and love...

Good-by! 'Till all we have for one another. Our love, more strong than death, is helpless...

For none can take the burden from his brother. Or shield, except by prayer, from any ill...

SOME IDEAS ABOUT THE MOON.

Thought poets, perhaps, may not like it. The veil of mystery is torn from the moon...

The mean distance to which the moon makes these circuits is, as formerly mentioned, 237,000 miles.

The moon, however, may sometimes be seen by the sun, and is seen from it from the earth.

By receiving and reflecting the sun's rays, the moon is obviously an opaque sphere, which by best computation is 2,160 miles in diameter.

From all this one is naturally led to speculate on the reasons for the moon's existence. To what good purpose was a spherical mass of volcanic rock sent spinning round the world?

These photographs can, of course, be executed only in a calm and clear atmosphere when the moon is at the full.

Looked at even with the naked eye, the moon is not a uniformly clear body. It has dusky spots, and is, in fact, a sphere of irregular surface.

The features of the moon's disc which rivet attention are prominences mostly in the shape of circular craters of volcanoes.

The picture-map of the moon contained in the work before us presents the outlines of 229 craters, and as these are only on one side, we may conclude that there is fully as great a number on the other.

The total value of dry goods imported into New York during the month of April amounts to \$3,905,351.

A Congressional Romance.

There is romance enough about the late marriage of the Hon. Omar D. Conger of Michigan, and Mrs. Sibley to fit out a half-dozen younger couples.

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A Modest Hero.

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Current Items.

A ST. LOUIS cat bit a boy and he is mad—the boy is.

A FOOLISH lady sent a bride a white satin pen-wiper as a gift.

READING, Pa., is catching dogs and measles with equal alacrity.

GRAY hairs seem like the light of a soft moon, silencing over the evidence of life.

DON PIATT says: "Humor is to a newspaper what a tail is to a kite—very absurd, but very necessary to its ascension."

WASHINGTON TERRITORY is agitated by the "Oriental magnificence" of the first brick residence ever erected within its boundaries.

HENRY WARD BEECHER says collecting autographs is an alarming literary intemperance, for which the only remedy is total abstinence.

The legislator who wanted to make kissing a misdemeanor probably never kissed a woman of seeing a miss deem herself under the operation of a law.

IF women would study housekeeping as their husbands study law, medicine and book-keeping, there would be less complaint of bad servants.

It is said that the essential oil in onions is so powerful that if a man were to die shortly after eating one his brain would exhale the odor of the onion.

MRS. SARA SPICER, of Tipton, Mo., aged seventy-eight, recently employed a mason to repair her chimney, and herself carried all the mortar and brick up a ladder.

The English sparrows which were introduced into Albany five or six years ago have become so numerous and annoying that they are pronounced to be an unmitigated nuisance.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., has a stone-yard, and requires each tramp soliciting alms to earn his food and lodging by breaking stone. Applications for charity have fallen off.

A FISH-FARMER in Illinois gets seventy-five cents per pound for his trout; thus a small cent of fish will bring as much as a sheep, and they require neither grain, hay nor stabling.

The snow-fence on the Kansas Pacific is being taken down for the purpose of giving a better view of the country.

In San Francisco, Judge Loderbach has just fined a man \$10 for insulting an editor.

A DETROIT gentleman prides himself on his fine fowls, and his neighbor is equally vain of a fine coach dog.

WHEN fuel is burned in an open fire place at least seven-eighths of the actual heat passes up the chimney.

A MAN about thirty-five years old died recently in Kentucky, who, since the termination of the war, has been making tri-weekly pilgrimages between two churches ten miles apart.

A LITTLE girl who fell off Long Bridge and nearly drowned was rescued by a young man.

A KENTUCKY Grange has had its little romance. Recently a young brother and sister of the Order walked to the front of the Master and were united in marriage.

A WASHINGTON man proposes that a suitable cannon be kept at all dangerous river reservoirs or dams.

A CHICAGO telegrapher, on a recent visit to Des Moines, wished to compliment one of the young ladies of that city by sending her a box of oranges.

A RECENT letter from Sargent, Kan., to the Topeka Commonwealth contains the following: "Large numbers of wild hares abound on the rivers."

A FORT DODGE (Iowa) man lived in this world of sin and deceit sixty long years before he found out that a stranger on a railway train, borrowing on the security of a bogus check for an immense amount, is a snare, a delusion, a fraud.

Thea-Tea.

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Alligators as Pets.

THE New York Times has an article on household pets, in which it playfully and somewhat sarcastically suggests pet alligators as a variety for the house.

Now, absurd as the alligator may seem for a pet, it is a creature that we have had some of them, and very pleasant pets they proved to be.

For several months a number of these lively little fellows occupied a great aquarium tank in the library window, where the sun shone on them.

They were as lively as little cats, and quite as playful. Equally happy in the water and out of it, they would frisk about as we would monkeys when they felt so disposed.

When they felt lazy (for alligators, like other folks, are subject to attacks of laziness) they would stretch themselves out, or lie in a heap, one on the other, and carry a dozen or two baby alligators and brought them in, his face ornamented with a broad grin of delight in anticipation of the dollar he had been promised for catching them.

When he was taken down for the purpose of giving a better view of the country, he was replaced in the fall, as usual.

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A Bee-Story.

THE following illustration of the power possessed by insects to communicate their experiences to one another is given by a lady correspondent of the London Spectator.

"I was staying at the house of a gentleman who was fond of trying experiments and who was a bee-keeper. Having read in some book on bees that the best and most humane way of taking the honey without destroying the bees was to immerse the hive for a few minutes in a tub of cold water, when the bees, half drowned, could not sting, while the honey was uninjured, since the water could not penetrate the closely-waxed cells, he resolved on trying the plan.

I saw the experiment being tried in the evening. He has not fully recovered from the effects of that full yet. He was aware that Mrs. B. never used a light when she went down cellar after dark, and he determined to take advantage of her oversight to carry out his own plans.

Accordingly he ranged himself in a sheet and a tall hat, went down cellar and took his position in the darkest corner. He had scarcely completed these arrangements when Mrs. B. appeared, carrying a broom, as Bangs soon afterwards learned.

She halted immediately in front of Bangs, and appeared to be regarding him with some interest, when Bangs, thinking this as favorable an opportunity as he would get, slowly raised himself on his hands and knees, and uttered what he considered a very unearthy groan.

Mrs. B. didn't faint, nor shriek, nor go into hysterics, as he had confidently expected. On the contrary she merely poised her broom for a moment in mid-air, and then let it descend on Bangs' head with a force that nearly captured him.

At first Bangs thought that he had suddenly died and been landed among the stars, from the immense number of them he saw shooting about through space; but a few more well-directed blows from Mrs. B.'s broom soon recalled him from the contemplation of this lofty theme to things of a more earthly nature.

He immediately gave up all idea of making any further attempt to frighten the wife of his bosom, and set about demonstrating the utter impossibility of dodging a broom-stick in the hands of an earnest and excited woman.

When the family next door got there Bangs was performing circles around the house at the rate of a mile a minute, and endeavoring to allay the irritation in his head by friction with his hands.

It was about the time that Bangs had expected to be splitting his sides with laughter, but the fun was impossible, even smile now under the circumstances.

Mrs. B. emerged from the cellar triumphantly, having about half a foot of the bald end of a broom-handle, and weeping because there were no more Bangs to broom.

It took two new dresses and twenty yards of ribbon to convince her that Bangs didn't mean to frighten her; but he has failed so far to explain the presence of the sheet and tall hat to her entire satisfaction.

Bangs has employed the services of his physician by the month to take the necessary repairs on his face and head.—John Oliver, in Danbury News.

This is said to be a remedy for cabbage-worms: Shorts and bran sprinkled over the cabbage.

The total Grange membership in the United States is estimated at 1,250,000.

London disposes of 130,000 bushels of clinders yearly.