The Democratic Advocate.

$2 PER ANNUM. WESTMINSTER, MD., SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1883. VOL. XVIII.-NO. 28.

DRY GOODS FOR SPRING OF 1883.

HAMILTON EASTER & SONS, of Baltimore, desire to call the attention of the readers of this paper to the advantage which they can present, as an inducement to parties to make their purchases from them.

First—They have had an experience of over 60 years in business, in which time, from a small concern they have built up their present large trade by fair dealing, without misrepresenting and without urging any one to buy. One Price, and that Price marked in plain figures on every article.

Next—The great advantage possessed by them of being themselves Large Importers of Foreign Goods: an experienced Buyer from their House visiting the various European Markets twice a year, and making their purchases direct from the manufacturer, thus saving to our customers the profit made by an Importer when he sells to the Jobber or Wholesale House, and also the profit made by the Wholesale Dealer when he sells to the Retailer. Whereas, in dealing with us, there is but one profit between the Manufacturer and our customers.

We keep on hand a very large and varied stock, embracing Goods of every class, from Low-Priced to the most expensive; but no article that would be "dear at any price"—only such as we believe will prove of good value for the price paid.

Our various Departments include Low-Priced, Medium and Fine Dress Goods, *Black Silks, Colored Silks, Mourning Goods, Linen Goods, and all Housekeeping Dry Goods, Blankets, Quilts, Comforts, Druggets, Mattings, Domestic Cotton Goods, and Domestic Fabrics of all kinds.*

THE WOOLEN DEPARTMENT. Includes Goods for Men's and Boys' Wear, in all the New Styles of Suitings—Cheviots, Cloths, Cassimeres, and also White and Colored Flannels. Hosiery, Gloves and Merino Underwear in all sizes, for Ladies, Misses, Boys and Men, of any kind and description. Ladies' and Misses' Wraps and Shawls, Ladies' Muslin Underwear, Laces, Edgings, Rufflings, Scarfs, Ribbons, Nets, &c. Ginghams, Calicoes, Chintzes, Cretonnes, Satins, White Muslin Dress Goods, Nainsook, Swiss and Cambric Embroideries, Buttons, Notions, &c. Samples will be sent to parties who give us plain and full directions of about the price wanted, colors preferred, &c.

HAMILTON EASTER & SONS,
199, 201, 203 Baltimore St.
mar 17-3m Baltimore, Md.

FLOUR! FLOUR! FLOUR!

Westminster Flouring Mills,

W. S. MYER & BRO. PROPRIETORS.

Manufacture and have on sale the following brands of Flour:

Oriole Family, No. 1 Family — Patent Process.
Westminster Family, Parr's Ridge Family, Westminster Extra — New Process.

Above Brands Flour on sale at Barrel Prices, in

Half Barrel Sacks, (98 lbs.)
Quarter " " (49 lbs.)
Eighth " " (24½ lbs.)
Sixteenth " " (12½ lbs.)

Have constantly on hand and for sale Bran, Middlings and Offall in general. Agents for

Standard Brands of Fertilizers.

For sale at Manufacturers' Prices.
feb 4 1882-1y

LUMBER, COAL, LUMBER.

I have just returned from the Lumber Regions—and am now receiving the largest selection of LUMBER ever offered at this place, at Reduced Prices, consisting of Yellow Pine, Spruce and Hemlock

JOIST AND SCANTLING

of all lengths and sizes, 4-4, 5-4, 6-4 and 8-4 White Pine Boards and Plank, Yellow and White Pine Flooring, Dressed and Undressed Weatherboarding, White Pine, Cypress and Chestnut Shingles, Walnut and Ash Boards and Plank, Plain and Headed Picketts, Shingle and Plastering Laths, prime lot of Chestnut Rails and Posts. Also all the

DIFFERENT KINDS OF COAL.

Thinking large sales with small profits better than small sales with large profits, I have concluded to adopt the former as my guide, and hope I shall be enabled to carry it out by persons in want of anything in my line giving me a call before purchasing elsewhere.

EDWARD LYNCH,
Near Depot, Westminster, Md.
feb 29-tf

BUGGIES!

Look to Your Interest and do not Miss the Main Chance.

We have just unloaded a car load of the finest

TOP BUGGIES

and

JUMP SEAT JAGGERS

Ever brought to this county for the price. They are good work and warranted, and will

BE SOLD AT LOW FIGURES,

in order to close them out at once. Those who call early will have best chance. Another car load of

OLIVER CHILLED PLOWS

received a few days ago. Also

A FULL LINE OF IMPLEMENTS

Constantly on hand at the Agricultural Implement Warehouse of J. Q. STITELY,
ap21-tf Opp. Depot, Westminster, Md.

SPRING OPENING FOR 1883.

J. T. ANDERS,

MERCHANT TAILOR, NEAR DEPOT,

WESTMINSTER, MD.

The largest, finest and best selected stock of Suitings, both foreign and domestic, ever offered to the people of this county, and at prices that defy competition. Suits made to order; first-class style; fit guaranteed; all goods as represented, at prices from $12 up to $50. A job lot of goods at 25 per cent. less than regular prices. My stock of Gents' Furnishing Goods always full and complete with all the latest novelties. Overalls a specialty, all grades and prices. A splendid line of Gents' Plated and Solid Jewelry at bottom figures.

☞ THE ARGOSY SUSPENDER ☜
A Specialty. A call is solicited.
JOHN T. ANDERS,
mar 31-3m. Westminster, Md.

TO THE PUBLIC.

Having withdrawn from the firm of M. Schaeffer & Co., with whom I have been for six years, I will open business for myself about the first of April in the room opposite J. T. Wampler's store, and will conduct a general stove, gas fitting, plumbing, tin roofing and spouting business. All kinds of pipe furnished and laid. Slate mantles of all styles furnished at the lowest price. Large stock of milk cans on hand or made to order; old ones repaired. Mending and repairing at the lowest price. Tools and machinery of modern patterns. An experienced tinner employed. Personal attention given to all work. Work done by us guaranteed. A liberal share of the public patronage solicited. ☞ Agent for the Splendid Fire Place Heaters. Other makes furnished to order. Estimates free of charge.

O. D. GILBERT,
mar 24 1883-1yr Westminster, Md.

ESTABLISHED 1860.

WILLIAM MOORE,

Watch Maker and Jeweller,

AT HIS NEW STORE,
Main St., (Adjoining Marsh's Hotel,)
WESTMINSTER, MD.

Repairing of all kinds attended to promptly and warranted.

A liberal share of the patronage of my friends and the public is respectfully solicited.
ap 12, 1879.

J. T. ORNDORFF,

AT HIS

☞ *DOUBLE STORE,* ☜

Is now ready to commence the season in earnest, having purchased from Philadelphia, New York and Manufacturers

PILES OF NEW GOODS,

And all the Novelties for Spring. Our new

Dress Goods are Spring Beauties.

Black and Plain Color Silks; Summer Silks in all latest shades at all prices.

CASHMERES IN ALL LATEST SHADES.

Dress Goods and Trimmings

At all prices. Nuns Veiling in all shades; White Goods, Indian Linen, Mull, French Nainsook, Victoria Lawn, Nainsook Checks and Stripes, Dotted and Plain Swisses.

CASSIMERES and COTTONADES

At extremely Low Prices.

CARPETS.

Brussels, 3-Ply, Extra Ingrain, and Flowered Carpet, nice styles at 25 cents per yard. Large stock of Plain and Fancy

Straw Mattings Cheaper then Ever.

We are loaded with all the latest cuts and novelties of Men's and Boys'

SPRING CLOTHING.

We have made prices that will unload.

We are always receiving the latest and best styles of Men and Boys'

HATS AT PRICES TO SUIT EVERYBODY.

We have purchased our large stock Ladies' Misses and Children's

SHOES AND SLIPPERS,

All Custom-Made of best manufactories; Mens' and Boy's

Boots, Shoes and Gaiters,

At Lowest Prices.

We carry a very extensive line

Gum Circulars and Newports

For Ladiess and Children, and

GOSSAMER COATS

For Men and Boys.

Where can we buy

DRY AND FANCY GOODS,

Stylish, durable and at a reasonable price is the question that many Ladies ask themselves. Our answer is

COME TO OUR STORE

And we will show you such a variety of goods at such low prices that will save you lots of money.

J. T. ORNDORFF'S DOUBLE STORE,
ORNDORFF BUILDING, NEAR DEPOT,
april 7 Westminster, Md.

CANS! CANS!

FOR FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.

SMITH & WICKS,

MILL AND BOWLY STS., BALTIMORE.

PATENT OUTSIDE SOLDERED

OR

OLD STYLE INSIDE SOLDERED

AS BUYERS MAY PREFER.

Having largest facilities in the country (150,000 per day) can insure

PROMPT FILLING OF ORDERS.

WE ALSO FURNISH

SOLDER, CASES,
SOLDERING IRONS, AND
HULL'S GASOLINE FIRE POTS

For Capping Purposes. Our Solder is exactly the same in quality as we use for making cans; made of pure pig tin and lead. No old lead, antimony or bismuth is used in its preparation.

☞ Correspondence solicited, and information about the canning business given on application. feb 24-6m*

MUTUAL

Fire Insurance Company

OF CARROLL COUNTY.

OFFICE, WESTMINSTER, MD.

J. W. HERING, President.
RICHARD MANNING, Secretary and Treasurer.
JOHN T. DIFFENBAUGH, General Agent, Westminster, Md.

DIRECTORS.—Dr. J. W. Hering, Alfred Zollickoffer, Edward Lynch, David Prugh, Granville S. Haines, Granville T. Hering, Dr. Samuel Swope, R. Manning, Charles B. Roberts David Fowble. jan 12-tf.

JOHN L. REIFSNIDER & SON,

WESTMINSTER, MD.,

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

Plug, Smoking and Fine Cut Chewing Tobacco,

CIGARS, CIGARETTS, SNUFF, PIPES, &C., &C., &C.

All Goods Guaranteed as Represented.
Prices as low as any House in the State.
March 1st, 1883—mar 3-tf

A. STORCK & SONS,

LUMBER,

DOORS, SASH, BLINDS, &C.,

of our own Manufacture,

77 E. Monument Street, and 259 N. Front St, Baltimore, Md., 1½ squares from Western Maryland Depot.

☞ Goods delivered to Depot free.
july 8, 1882-tf

SPRING 1883.

SHARRER BROS.,

HAVE NOW IN STOCK

THE

LARGEST LOT OF

☞ **SPRING CLOTHING** ☜

EVER OFFERED IN THIS

MARKET.

OVER 100 STYLES OF

CLOTHING

TO SELECT FROM.

PRICES GUARANTEED LOWER THAN

THE SAME GOODS CAN BE

BOUGHT ELSEWHERE.

Merchant Tailoring a Specialty.

A FIRST CLASS TAILOR.

FITS GUARANTEED.

CALL AND EXAMINE OUR

☞ **STOCK AND PRICES.** ☜

SHARRER BROS.,
mar 17 Westminster, Md.

GO TO

B. G. BLANCHARD

FOR

CARPETS, CARPETS, CARPETS!

THE LARGEST VARIETY in Westminster

AND THE

VERY LOWEST PRICES.

HANDSOME INGRAIN & THREE-PLY

AND

BEAUTIFUL BRUSSELS!

Ranging in price from 40 Cents to $2.00.

Call or send for circulars explaining our plan of selling Carpets, which is done through the medium of a most wonderful invention—

RICHARDSON'S CARPET EXHIBITOR.

By the aid of this device we are enabled to show you, *before purchasing*, precisely how your carpet will look when made up and laid upon your floor. Don't fail to call and see it before buying, as you can surely save money by buying in this way.

We also have full lines of goods usually kept in stock, such as

GROCERIES, QUEENSWARE,
BOOTS AND SHOES,
SILVERWARE, WOODENWARE,
CLOCKS, MIRRORS, &c.

Prices as low as any house in Westminster.
Very respectfully,
may 8-tf B. G. BLANCHARD.

PHILIP WALSH & SONS.

ALL KINDS OF

LUMBER & BUILDING MATERIALS,

AT

THE LOWEST MARKET RATES.

YARDS

Maryland Avenue and Oliver street; Harford Avenue and Hoffman street,

BALTIMORE, MD.

Convenient to Western Maryland Railroad.
july 1, 1882-1y

JOHN BEAVER,

MANUFACTURER OF

ITALIAN & AMERICAN MARBLE

Monuments, Headstones, &c.,

OF THE

MOST TASTEFUL DESCRIPTION

☞ Prices very Moderate. Westminster, Md. march 3-6m*

Select Poetry.

THE GLAD SPRING TIME.

When young Spring up mountain-peaks doth hie,
And the sunbeams scatter stores of snow—
When the trees put forth their leaflets shy,
And amid grass the first wild flower doth blow—
When in yonder vale
Fleeth in a gale
All the dolesome rain and wintry wail,
Rings from upland air
Forth to many a clime.
"Oh, how wond'rous fair
Is the glad spring-time!"

When the glaciers quail 'neath hot sunbeams,
And all Nature into life doth spring—
When from mountain-sides gush forth cool streams,
And with sounds of glee the forests ring—
Fragrant zephyrs too
Stray the green meads through
And the heavens smile, serene and blue,
While from upland air
Rings to many a clime,
"Oh, how wond'rous fair
Is the glad spring-time!"

And was it not in the days of spring
That thy heart and mine, O maiden fair!
Were united, while our lips did cling
In their first long kiss, so sweet and rare?
What the glad grove sang
Through the wide vale rang,
And the fresh stream from the mountain sprang.
While the upland air
Wafted forth its rhyme,
"Oh, how wond'rous fair
Is the glad spring-time!"

Our Olio.

Sponge-Fishing.

A letter from Nassau, Bahamas, to the New York *Evening Post*, says:—On the narrow strait between New Providence and Hog Island, forming the harbor of Nassau, can always be seen a large fleet of sailing-boats, each of about eight tons burden. They are curious, stubby specimens of water craft, broad of beam, rising several feet from the water-line, and impressing one both with their large capacity and seaworthy quality. On the center of their decks is a low box, half filled with dirt, which serves as a marine hearth on which the colored crew cook their food; and the crew themselves may usually be seen on deck, lying around in lazy, picturesque groups. These odd craft are the sponge boats, representing a local industry which gives steady employment here to 500 sailing vessels and 4,000 men. They are owned by ten local firms, who export sponges worth $300,000 every year to all parts of the world.

The living sponge, when first taken from these waters of the Bahamas, differs almost as much from the commercial article as a human body from its own skelton—for practically what reaches the market is partly the skeleton, partly the dwelling of a bunch of sea organisms. When first pulled from the rocks where it grows the sponge looks like a corrugated mass of putty. It is drab in color, exceedingly heavy, has a sickening odor, and is suffused by a stringy mucous which drops from it in long viscous lines. The external pores are partly closed by a sort of sea bug, which finds refuge in them and must be an annoying interloper to the sponge-builder; while often a red sea worm an inch or two in length is found far within the spongy fibers, whither he has worked his way. What is the exact function of the mucous fluid does not yet appear to be clearly settled. But it is certain that when taken from the sponge and placed on still bottoms, new sponges are propagated from it; and if two pieces of the same living sponge, or of different sponges of the same species, are laid side by side on the sea bottom they soon grow together. The vitality of the sponge, in fact, coupled with the decrease of the supply, suggests that ere many years artificial propagation may have to be used.

The negro sponge fishers who ply their trade here in the Bahamas are a race of seamen not too regular in habits or morals, and living a sadly monotonous life of exposure and privation. Their voyages to the sponge fisheries last each for six weeks, during which they live crowded on board their craft under conditions of hardship which in a clime less salubrious would be fatal to health and life. The sponge firms "find" for them the boats, supplies and equipment which they use on their six weeks' trip. The sponge bottoms most sought at this time are on the coral beds at the south side of Eleuthera Island, fifty miles east of Nassau. With a good wind the fisheries are reached in eight or ten hours from this port. Then the real toil begins. Lying on his chest along the boat's deck, the fisher with his water-glass—a pane set in a box fitted with handles—looks down forty feet into the clear depths. With one hand he grasps and sinks a slender pole, sometimes fifty feet in length, fitted at the end with a double hook. The sponge, once discovered, the hook is deftly inserted at the rocky base, and by a sudden jerk the sponge is detached to be brought up on deck. This curt description of what seems the simple work of sponge-fishing gives no idea of the real skill and exertion needed. The eye of the fisher has to be trained by long experience to peer into the sea and tell the commercially valuable sponges from those that are worthless. He must have a deft hand to manage the swaying hook forty feet down so as to detach the sponge without a tear. Above all, while doing this with one hand, he must manipulate with the other the water glass as the waves sway it sideways and up or down. The strain on eye and body is most intense, to say nothing of the cramped position and exposure to wind and wet which first and last make almost every sponge-fisher a victim of acute rheumatism. Yet with all his arduous toil, a faithful sponge-fisher earns not more than fifteen dollars a month beside his "keep" on the boat, which barely deserves the name of existence.

All the Bahama waters abound in sponges of great variety, but many of them worthless for the market. Those that are good for nothing else are often most beautiful for curiosities. They take most wondrous and striking shapes—now a cup, now an old-fashioned drinking-horn, anon a great bunch of mossy, cup-shaped growths, and frequently foliated, like the tree-coral. A cup-shaped sponge, found some years ago in Bahama waters, and said to be the second largest in the world, measured seven feet in circumference, and its walls from four to six inches in thickness. Up to two or three years ago the Bahama fisheries showed signs of exhaustion, but the discovery of the Eleuthera bottoms has proved a godsend to the fishermen, and are likely to supply the markets for some years to come at least.

Next comes the process of preparing the sponges for export. First they are either placed on deck under the tropical sun or hung in long festoons from the little vessel's mast. In either case the heat of the sun in a fews days kills all the living organisms within the fiber and loosens them for the next process. Then the sponges are dumped into a sort of water cage made by driving a circle of small piles a few inches apart from each other in the sand. Through these piles the tide plays violently, washing away from the sponge after a few hours the sand, dead animalculæ and other impurities with which the mass is clogged. During these operations the sponge naturally emits a most fetid and revolting odor, but the final washing leaves them with that not unpleasant flavor of the sea with which they reach our marts.

After the final drying sponges are assorted, baled, and then are ready for market. The grades and qualities are numberless. There are, beside others, the "sheep wool," selling for about $1.75 a pound; the Abaco velvet (so called from its velvety fiber), worth about $1.10 a pound; and the "glove," "yellow" and "grassy" varieties, all selling as low as fifty cents. Before being baled, it should be added, the rougher kinds of sponge are trimmed with shears and the big sponges cut in sections, each about as large as a cocoanut. The test of the best sponges is their soft woolly surface under the touch, and above all the toughness of the fibers which can readily be ascertained by tearing one or two of them apart. The Bahamas, though prolific in sponges, produce few of the highest qualities, which are used for surgery and other delicate work. These come from the Mediterranean sea, where divers bring them up, and some of the finest grades have been sold as high as $50 or $100 a pound.

NEW YORK NEWSPAPERS.

Some Figures About What it Cost to Make Them.

Interview with C. A. Dana in the Daily States.

"What does it cost to run a first-class New York newspaper?"

"It costs a great deal more than it did ten or twenty years ago. There is a great improvement in the intellectual quality of the newspapers of New York city. They are better furnished with talent in every department, and spend a great deal more more money for contributions than they used to spend fifteen years ago. The cost of white paper formerly made up fully one-half of the whole expense of the newspaper, now it makes up about one-quarter; then paper cost from twelve to fifteen cents per pound, now it costs from six to seven cents per pound. Owing to this great reduction in the cost of paper, the well-established newspapers in New York city are all of them making money, and even the *Tribune*, which has been weighed down by an immense investment in real estate, seems at last to have got through with the effect of this misfortune, and has commenced to do more than pay its expenses.

"A first-rate newspaper in New York will require about ten editorial writers, whose daily duty it is to furnish leading articles and editorial paragraphs. Many of these writers have their special duties, but there must always be five or six men who are able to turn their hands to subjects of any description as they happen to come up. A competent writer of leaders will be paid from $100 to $150 per week, and no man fit to supervise them and perform the functions of editor-in-chief can be had for less than $150 to $200 per week. The reporters are of two classes: first, those of the regular staff, who are paid by the week at rates varying from $20 to $60. These perform not only the routine duties of reporting, but are always prepared to be sent off upon special service, in which case their railroad fares, carriage hire, hotel bills and other expenses are paid by the office.

"Then there are a number of reporters attached to each paper who are paid according to the work they perform, without having any prescribed functions, and who must hold themselves in readiness to do whatever may be necessary. Some of these gentlemen are men of talent and learning, and in time will make their way into the front rank as writers and editors. I know men who, without having regular salaries, average from $50 to $75 per week. Of these two classes of reporters, taken together, a first-class paper must employ about fifty. Next there are the correspondents, both at home and abroad, and these are likewise divided into two classes, those who are employed upon regular salaries and those who are paid as their contributions are printed. In Washington, for instance, each newspaper has need both of regular correspondents or reporters and of occasional contributors, and the different papers differ as to the respective numbers of these two classes. In Albany each New York paper must have its regular staff devoted to its service, while in the other capitals of such states as New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Massachusetts, the papers are served by occasional correspondents, since the news of these more distant places is, for the most part, not important enough in New York to be constantly reported there. In Europe, also, every leading paper has its regular staff of correspondents in the chief cities. There must especially be a correspondent in London and one in Paris, who report constantly either by post or by cable.

"In the Sunday edition of most of the prominent papers of New York city there is always a cable dispatch summing up the news of the week and reporting interesting political, social, artistic or literary events on which the reporters of the Associated Press, whose telegrams are forwarded every day, do not ordinarily dwell. Thus the expenses of the sort of papers we are considering vary for the most part, mainly according as they print large or small editions, the chief difference being in their consumption of white paper. Of this, the *Herald* uses more than any other journal. On Sunday especially its advertising sheets are many, and on that day it will sometimes print 130 columns of advertisements alone, so that the amount of white paper it uses is enormous.

"But apart from this item, the expenses of one of these papers for the editorial department, including writers, reporters and correspondents, will be from $4,000 to $5,000 per week, and its ordinary telegraph bills, including the cost of special cables from Europe, will average perhaps from $700 to $1,000 per week; its composition bills will vary from $1,000 to 2,000; its publication department will cost from $1,000 to $2,000; its stereotyping will be perhaps $500, and its miscellaneous expenses from $1,000 to $2,000, making a total of from $9,000 to $12,000 a week. Of course these figures will be a little less in dull times when there is little telegraphing and no occasion for special expenditures than when there is a great public excitement, such as a presidential canvass or a great public catastrophe, when it is necessary to send many men out and spend a great deal of money in securing news; but the general average will be about what I have stated."

A DUDE DESCRIBED.—An "Anxious Inquirer," writing to an exchange says: "I have recently read considerable about a dude; now, then, can you enlighten me as to what they are?" The paper in reply, says: "Certainly; easiest thing in the world. A dude is a young man between 17 and 30 years old, wears his hair shingled, affects loud neckties and paper collars, has a lisp and a stammer, wears skin tight pants, and an extremely short coat, smokes cigarettes and ogles the ladies. In fact, a dude is a biped of the ja—mule order, only he cannot bray as loud, neither does he have as much sense."

It is easier to suppress the first desire than to satisfy all that follow it.

Self-Possession.

From the Philadelphia Ledger:

There is a certain feeling of calm power that always attends the fact of possession. When we are struggling and hoping for what we desire, we are eager, excited and in a measure unstrung; but when we finally obtain it, we become, as far as that one thing goes, restful and assured. Now of all possessions that can possibly be secured, there is none which gives this quiet and dignified sense of power so thoroughly as the possession of *self*. To feel quite sure that we truly possess any single power or faculty, that we have it under our control and can use it at our pleasure, is a source of great happiness and peace of mind, and those who are fortunate enough to have this sense of possession extended over many of their faculties are to be warmly congratulated.

Self-possession, however, is something apart from ability. It is more in one direction and less in another. Many persons of great abilities are painfully lacking in self-possession, and others of very small powers are rarely at a loss. It comes rather through a fair degree of self-knowledge and a practical exercise of those abilities, great or small, which we do possess. Our own experience shows us this. Most of us are self-possessed in at least one direction, and that we shall find to be the one in which we have had the most constant practice and the best opportunities of testing ourselves. The mechanic or business man, or artist or philosopher, may be undecided, vacillating, constrained and ill at ease in general society or in political circles, or in a hundred other situations, but in their respective employments or in matters closely connected with them, they at once assume a calm and assured manner that tells of their regained self-possession. The business partner who has charge of a manufactory will sometimes lose all his self-possession when obliged to attend to a customer, while the regular salesman will be utterly confounded if left to deal with the operatives. One woman will be cool, dignified and assured in her home, but timid and nervous in society; another is thoroughly self-possessed in the presence of strangers, but trembles before her own servants. One person hates to write letters, putting it off from day to day, afraid of his own handwriting, or of the blunders he may commit, while in conversation he is ready, fluent and self-possessed. Another writes easily, without fear or hesitation, but dreads to open his lips in company. An intelligent man of sixty years of age stood at one time stammering for five minutes before a number of waiting people, when all he had occasion to say was "Yes." His self-possession had left him, and had taken with it almost the very power of utterance. Some persons are cool and self-possessed in moments of emergency; when every one else is quivering with terror they know just what to do, and at once take command of the situation. Others, whose knowledge may be in no way inferior, lose all control of it in sudden exigencies. Most of the panics that occur in times of fire or accident, and that sacrifice thousands of lives, are due, not to ignorance, but to the utter loss of self-possession by the crowd. Could each individual obtain authority over himself, and do what he actually knows to be the best thing, the panic would cease, and the chief danger would be over.

Much of this valuable quality is gained by a sensible education in early years. There are certain things so sure to be needed in every life that they ought to command particular attention in youth. Every child should be accustomed to express himself freely and often, both in speaking and writing, and be taught the proper methods of doing both; he should become used to the presence of strangers, and the attentions due to them; he should be habituated to changes of scene and employment, and, above all, should be led to fix his attention upon things outside of himself, so as to save him from that self-consciousness which lies at the root of much painful bashfulness, timidity and nervous apprehensions. Thinking much about self, especially about the impressions we have made, or are going to make upon others, tends always to deprive us of self-possession. We grow anxious and perturbed, lose our simplicity and naturalness and fall into the very blunders that we dread. These frequent failures weaken our courage and make us shrink more and more from what we ought boldly to approach.

Of course, there is a vain self-confidence, which rushes unabashed into every scene and feels equal to undertake whatever is presented. This, however, is very different from the self-possession which comes from a true estimate of our own powers. He who possesses himself this latter sense will be as careful to abstain from what he is unable to perform; as to execute whatever rightly falls to his lot. He will be as modest and unassuming as he is energetic and unflinching, for he will know his limitations as well as he does his powers. The best practical way of securing this self-possession, where we feel its lack, is in continual practice. As we have said, there are certain things which every one should be prepared to do, certain scenes that every one should be prepared to enter, certain crises that every one should be ready to meet. These none of us must shrink from when they come, but do our best every time, manfully and resolutely, calling to our aid all the reason and good sense that we can command. Each time we force ourselves to this course the task grows easier, and at length we arrive at that condition of calm assurance with regard to our performance of them, which alone gives self-possession.

The Hair After Death.

Most people understand that hair does sometimes grow after death, but there are perhaps few who know that there is a very considerable growth in at least one-third of the cases where bodies are interred in the usual manner. A story was told by Oscar Wilde at a dinner party in New York which illustrated this fact. When Gabriel Dante Rossetti was very young—scarcely more than a boy—said Mr. Wilde, he was deeply in love with a young girl, and, having a poet's gift, he sang a poet's love in numerous sonnets and verses to her. She died young, and by her wish the manuscripts of these poems were placed in a casket and laid under her head, so that even in the last sleep they should be, as they always had been, kept beneath her pillow. Years passed by and Rossetti's fame grew until every line of his composition became precious, and some of those who prized his writings most asked him for copies of the songs that had been buried. He had kept no copies, or they had been lost. At all events he could furnish none, and when they asked him to rewrite the verses he declared that he was utterly unable to do so.

At last his friends importuned him for permission to have the original manuscripts exhumed. He consented after some hesitation, and all the necessary preliminaries having been complied with the grave which had been sealed for many years was opened.

Then a strange thing was found. The casket containing the poems had proved to be of perishable material and its cover had crumbled away. The long tresses of the girl had grown after death and had twined and intertwined among the leaves of the poet's paper, coiling around the written words of love in a loving embrace long after death had sealed the lips and dimmed the eye that had made response to that love.

There is nothing improbable in the story so far as it relates to the physical phenomenon. That hair grows after death is too well established a fact to be challenged, and is readily enough to be understood by any one who will give even a little study to its formation, it being an appendage to the human form, and not, strictly speaking, a part of it. It might indeed be almost called a friendly parasite.

A well known New York undertaker said: "A gentleman who had lost his little boy five or six years before came to the establishment where I was working and said he wanted the remains taken up and carried to Boston. He had moved to that city, where he had lost another child, and his wife was anxious that they should both be buried in the plot he had bought in the Laurel Hill cemetery. This gentleman was anxions to see for himself that everything was done right and went over with me to Greenwood. We had buried the child and there was not any trouble about finding the right grave and right coffin, but he was nervous about it. He insisted on having the coffin opened after it was taken up and seeing for himself that there was no mistake. I had it done and as soon as he saw the body he said "I knew it; that isn't my boy. His hair was cut short while he was sick, and look at that!" In this case there was a rather unusal growth. I should say the hair was a foot long. In cases where the body has been buried a good many years—say a hundred years—the hair is sometimes found a yard long on a man's head, and much longer, of course, on a woman's.

Another undertaker said that he was employed at one time to remove a great number of bodies that had been buried in a cemetry which had been sold. They had laid undisturbed for an average of about twenty-five years, and in nearly one-half the cases the hair on the heads of the men was from a foot to a foot and a half long. In cases of women it was evident enough from the arrangement of their hair that it had grown a great deal after death. There was no way, so far as he knew, of determining what causes the difference between cases, some hair growing and other apparently not growing or only growing a little, but he said he believed that in cases of fever there was apt to be such a growth.

It might be supposed that if a post mortem growth of hair is as common as has been indicated mention of the fact would have been made in the accounts that have been preserved of the remains of noted persons after burial but the only such instance that is recalled is that of Napoleon I. Of him it is said that when his body was removed from St. Helena to France it was found that the hair had grown to a great length.—*New York Herald.*

A LITERARY CURIOSITY.

The following very remarkable little poem is a contribution to the San Francisco *Times* from the pen of Mr. H. A. Deming. The reader will see that each line is a quotation from some of the standard authors of England and America. This is the result of years of laborious search among the voluminous writings of thirty-eight leading poets of the past and present. The number of each line refers to its author below:

1. Why all this toil for triumphs of an hour?
2. Life's a short summer, man's flower.
3. By turns we catch the vital breath and die.
4. The cradle and the tomb, alas! so nigh.
5. To be is better far than not to be,
6. Though all men's lives may seem a tragedy;
7. But light cares speak when mighty griefs are dumb,
8. The bottom is shallow whence they come.
9. Your fate is the common fate of all;
10. Unmingled joys here no man can befall.
11. Nature to each allots its proper sphere;
12. Fortune makes folly her particular care.
13. Custom does often reason overrule,
14. And throws a cruel sunshine on a fool.
15. Live well; how long or short, permit to heaven;
16. They who forgive most shall be most forgiven.
17. Sin may be clasped so close we cannot see its face—
18. Vile intercourse where virtue has no place.
19. Then keep each passion down, however dear,
20. Thou pendulum betwixt a smile and tear.
21. Her sensual snares let faithless pleasure lay.
22. With craft and skill to ruin and betray.
23. Soar not too high to fall, but stoop to rise,
24. We masters grow of all that we despise.
25. Oh, then, renounce that impious self-esteem!
26. Riches have wings and grandeur is a dream.
27. Think not ambition wise because 'tis brave,
28. The paths of glory lead but to the grave.
29. What is ambition? 'Tis a glorious cheat—
30. Only destructive to the brave and great.
31. What's all the gaudy glitter of a crown?
32. The way of bliss lies not on beds of down.
33. How long we live not years but actions tell—
34. That man lives twice who lives the first life well.
35. Make, then, while yet you may, your God your friend,
36. Whom Christians worship, yet not comprehend.
37. The trust that's given guard and to yourself be just,
38. For live we how we can, die we must.

1, Young; 2, Dr. Johnson; 3, Pope; 4, Prior; 5, Sewell; 6, Spencer; 7, Daniel; 8, Sir Walter Scott; 9, Longfellow; 10, Southwell; 11, Congreve; 12, Churchill; 13, Rochester; 14, Armstrong; 15, Milton; 16, Bailey; 17, Trench; 18, Somerville; 19, Thompson; 20, Byron; 21, Smollett; 22, Crabbe; 23, Massinger; 24, Cowley; 25, Beattie; 26, Cowper; 27, Sir Walter Devenant; 28, Gray; 29, Willis; 30, Addison; 31, Dryden; 32, Francis Charles; 33, Watkins; 34, Herrick; 35, William Mason; 36, Pill; 37, Dana; 38, Shakspeare.

Thumb Portraits.

From the World of Wonders:

If the "ball," or cushion-like surface of the top joint of the thumb, be examined, it can be seen that in the centre—as indeed in the fingers also—is a kind of spiral formed of fine grooves in the skin. The spiral is, however, rarely, if ever, quite perfect—there are irregularities or places where lines run into each other here and there. Examining both thumbs it will be seen that they do not exactly match; but the figure on each thumb is the same through life. If the thumbs of any two persons are compared, it will further be found that no two are alike. There may be, and generally is, a "family resemblance" between members of the same family, as in other features; there are also national characteristics; but the individuals differ. All this is better seen by taking "proof impressions" of the thumb. This is easily done by pressing it on a slab covered with a film of printer's ink, and then pressing it on a piece of white paper; or a little aniline dye, Indian ink—almost anything—may be used. The Chinese take advantage of all this to identify their important criminals, at least in some parts of the empire. We photograph their faces; they take impressions from their thumbs. These are stored away, and if the delinquent should ever again fall into the hands of the police, another impression at once affords the means of comparison. The Chinese say that, considering the alteration made in the countenance by hair and beard, and the power many men have of distorting or altering the actual features, etc., their method affords even more certain and easy means of identification than our plan of taking the criminal's portrait.

Never use the currycomb on a horse's legs below the knee and hock. A corn broom or brush is best, since it takes out the dirt and does not hurt the horse.

It is often said of the girls—rich but ugly; pretty but poor,—and this is indeed very often the case.

FAMOUS POPULAR SONGS.

Their Authorship and the Circumstances under which they were Composed.

From the St. Louis Republican.

"Auld Lang Syne" is popularly supposed to be the composition of Burns, but, in fact, he wrote only the second and third verses of the ballad as commonly sung, retouching the others from an older and less familiar song. "The Old Oaken Bucket" was written by Woodworth in New York city during the hot summer of 1817. He came into the house and drank a glass of water, and then said: "How much more refreshing it would be to take a good long drink from the old oaken bucket that used to hang in my father's well. His wife suggested that it was a happy thought for a poem. He sat down and wrote the song as we have it. "Woodman Spare That Tree" was the result of an incident that happened to George P. Morris. A friend's mother had owned a little place in the country, which she was obliged, from proverty, to sell. On the property grew a large oak which had been planted by his grandfather. The purchaser of the house and land proposed to cut down the tree, and Morris' friend paid him $10 for a bond that the oak should be spared. Morris heard the story, saw the tree, and wrote the song. "Oft in the Stilly Night" was produced by Moore after his family had misfortune. One of his children died young, another went astray, and a third was accidentally killed. "The Light of Other Days" was written to be introduced into Balfe's opera, "The Maid of Artois." The opera is forgotten, but the song still lives, and is as popular as ever.

Payne wrote "Home, Sweet Home," to help fill up an opera he was proparing, and at first it had four stanzas. The author never received anything for it, but though the opera was a failure when played in the Covent Garden Theatre, the song took, and over 100,000 copies were sold the first year. In two years the publishers cleared over $10,000 by the publication; and the variations, transcriptions, and imitations have been innumerable. The melody is believed to be a Sicilian air, and Donizetti has a variation of it in his opera "Anna Bolena." Payne was afterward appointed American Consul at Tunis, where he died, and whence his remains the other day were sent to America. Some of his miseries may be guessed from his own words: "How often have I been in the heart of Paris, Berlin, London, or some other city, and have heard persons singing or hand organs playing "Home, Sweet Home," without having a shilling to buy myself the next meal, or a place to lay my head. The world has literally sung my song till every heart is familiar with its melody; yet I have been a wanderer from my boyhood, and, in my old age, have to submit to humiliation for my bread." Foster's "Old Folks at Home" was the best song he ever wrote. Over 400,000 copies were sold by the firm that first published it, and the author is said to have received $15,000 for his share in its sale. Christy, the noted minstrel, paid $400 for the privilege of having his name printed on one edition of "Old Folks at Home" as the author and composer. The song is thus often erroneously attributed to him. "Rock Me to Sleep" was written by Mrs. Allen of Maine. She was paid $5 for it, and Russell & Co., of Boston, who had in three years gained $4,000 by its sale, offered her $5 apiece for any song she might write. Some years after, when a poor widow and in need of money, she sent them a song which was promptly rejected.

"A Life on the Ocean Wave," by Epes Sargent, was pronounced a failure by his friends. The copyright of the song became very valuable, though Sargent never got anything from it himself. "What are the Wild Waves Saying?" was suggested to Dr. Carpenter by a scene from Dickens' novel, "Dombey & Son," and the music was by Glover. "Poor Jack" was from the pen of Charles Dibdin, the author of the "Lamplighter." "Poor Jack" netted $25,000 for its publisher, and almost nothing for its author. "Stars of the Summer Night," a very famous song, especially for serenaders, was written by Alfred H. Pease, the noted pianist, whose sad death in St. Louis a few months ago was so greatly deplored by hi friends. "Love's Young Dream" was one of Moore's best, but the tune to which it is commonly sung is from an Irish ballad called "The Old Woman." Moore sang his own songs so well that both the auditors and himself were often moved to tears. Once when he was singing this song a lady who heard him implored him to stop. "For heaven's sake, stop; this is not good for my soul." "Auld Robin Gray" was the work of Lady Anne Lindsay, who tells a curious story of the circumstances of its composition. "I called to my little sister, the only person near, and said: 'I have been writing a ballad, my dear. I am oppressing my heroine with many misfortunes. I have already sent her Jamie to the sea, and broken her father's arm, and made her mother fall sick, and given her Auld Robin Gray for a lover, but I wish to load her with a fifth sorrow within the four lines, poor thing. Help me to one.' 'Steal the cow,' said the little Elizabeth. The cow was immediately lifted by me, and the song completed." "Kathleen Mavourneen" was sold by Crouch, the author, for twenty-five dollars, and brought the publishers as many thousands. "Bonnie Doon" was the only English song that the Emperor Napoleon liked. "I'll Hang My Harp on a Willow Tree" is said to have been written by a young English nobleman in love with the Princess (now Queen) Victoria. "Annie Laurie" is two hundred years old, and was the production of a man named Douglass, to celebrate the praise of a girl named Laurie. The lady afterwards deserted the man who made her famous and married a man named Ferguson. "Sally in Our Alley" was written by Carry, the dramatist.

Eight Follies.

To think that the more a man eats the fatter and stronger he will become.

To believe that the more hours children study at school the faster they will learn.

To conclude that if exercise is healthful, the more violent and exhaustive it is the more good is done.

To imagine that every hour taken from sleep is an hour gained.

To act on the presumption that the smallest room in the house is large enough to sleep in.

To argue that whatever remedy makes you feel immediately better is good for the system, without regard to ulterior effects.

To commit an act which is felt in itself to be prejudicial hoping that somehow or other it may be done in your case with impunity.

To eat a harty supper for the pleasure experienced during the brief time it is passing down the throat, at the expense of a whole night of disturbed sleep and a weary waking the next morning.

How many can adopt the dying words of Payson as their own living words: "I long to hand a full cup of happiness to every human being."

So much can be accomplished in a day, it is foolish to be discouraged while one day of life is left us.