Farm, Garden and Household.

Housekeeping Department.

NOODLES SOUP.—Proceed exactly as for vermicelli, with the exception that they require fifteen minutes to cook, and need to be stirred occasionally while cooking.

LEMON JELLY.—Take a paper of gelatine, and let it soak in a pint of warm water an hour, then add a quart of boiling water and the juice of two lemons, and a pint and a half of sugar.

PLAIN DOUGHNUTS.—One pint of rich butter and milk, one heaping teaspoonful of soda, half that quantity of salt, three tablespoonfuls of melted lard, flour to knead well.

BAKED EGGS.—A matron says: Beat up six eggs, one tablespoonful of flour, six of sweet milk; melt your butter in the frying pan; when hot, turn the whole in, well beaten, and bake in a hot oven.

BAKED TOMATOES.—Take them when fully ripe, cut off a slice from the stem side, scoop out the pulp of the tomato and salt. Fill the empty shell with the mixture, replace the slices, put them in a shallow pan, and bake an hour.

COLD SAUCE.—Four tablespoonfuls of sugar, two of butter. When these have been rubbed until very white and smooth, add the beaten white of an egg. Flavor it and mold it into some pretty shape.

ITALIAN PASTE SOUP.—The process, seasonings, etc., are exactly the same for Italian paste-soup as for vermicelli-soup, with the exception that some may require twelve or fifteen minutes to cook, instead of ten minutes, according to size.

EGG CAKE.—Two cups of sugar, one egg, a piece of butter the size of an egg, one cup of sour milk, one teaspoonful of soda, a little salt and nutmeg, one teaspoonful of lemon, three cups of flour; beat the white of an egg separately, the sugar and yolk and butter together; bake in a thoroughly heated oven.

BATTER CAKES.—The season is at hand for batter-cakes. The natural man hankers after them these cool mornings, just as in early spring he must eat something green or perish! There is a mystery in the way they are put together so as to be light and good. There is a positive fascination in watching the cook turn them on the griddle. It looks so easy—and is not, as we tried once, and found out. King Alfred the Great, too, is inextricably associated in our mind with griddle-cakes; there was a picture to that effect in the Child's History of England, and that much history we have always felt sure of, nearly all the rest being more or less uncertain, especially dates. Batter cakes, after that, mean something too wonderful for words.

Hay Fever.

Mr. E. Decaisne communicates to the French Academy of Science the following observations on what is called hay fever. This affection, says he, attacks not only those who are engaged in haying, but also those who have nothing to do with such work; not only those who are exposed to the emanations springing from forage plants, but also those who are preserved from such influences. In short, while the author does not go so far as to entirely discredit in all cases the belief that this malady is *aggravated* by these emanations, still he holds that they act a very secondary part. All the symptoms of hay fever occur, according to him, at every season of the year, and are the result of exposure to the sun and then to cold while the body is moist with perspiration, persons of emphysematous (bloated) habit being specially liable to attack, whether exposed or not to the action of the irritant emanations. The annual periodicity of the complaint, which is usually regarded as one of its characteristics, Dr. Decaisne holds to be not proven, most of the patients he observed having passed several years without any of the symptoms.

As for the dyspnœa (difficulty of breathing) which is usually regarded as one of the surest signs of the malady, the author considers it to be more or less pronounced extension of the irritation of the nasal and pharyngeal mucous membrane, as in the case of epidemic catarrh (*grippe.*) He would therefore erase from the catalogue of diseases the title "hay fever," which is nothing but a catarrhal fever influenced and modified in its causes and in its course, according to the patient's habit, by the atmospheric conditions which produce acute bronchial affections.

Cattle in Winter.

Speaking of men's duty to make warm barns, your paper reminded me of my "travail of spirit," over the miserable shelter too commonly afforded, even in New England, where they pride themselves on housing their cattle. I have heard a farmer say, "My cattle are always kept warm. I couldn't sleep myself if I thought they were not comfortable," when I knew that his barn was full of cracks that let in all the winds, and when I had seen the poor things shaking from head to foot with the cold. Men, even good, and, in the main, kind-hearted men, do not know what "comfortable" means, an applied to their horses and cattle. If they were shut in stalls in a barn whistling with wind, thermometer below zero, and not even a blanket over them, they would not call it comfortable.—*Our Dumb Animals.*

Pop-Corn at Dessert.

I think I need not tell how to pop corn, need I? It is the best way to have a corn-popper; then you can watch the progress of the corn and vary the degree of heat as seems necessary. Many imagine that the pop-corn is more tender and brittle if taken from the hot fire and shaken about in the cold air as quickly as possible. Children are apt to stuff themselves with pop-corn when they are not in the least need of a meal. Pop-corn is food, and such a crowded condition of the stomach produces discomfort, and so pop-corn is supposed to be unwholesome. It is quite the contrary if eaten as food with the regular meal and properly chewed. Try it with milk and apple-sauce, or any good fruit-sauce.

A Remedy for Damp Walls.

It is said that a solution of two-thirds of a pound of Castile soap to a gallon of water laid on a damp wall as a wash, and next day followed by another wash of alum water—two ounces dissolved in a gallon—will cure the inconvenience and prevent any further recurrence of it. It is so simple a thing that housekeepers troubled with damp places in their dwellings will be glad to try it for themselves.

A Mr. Kingan, of Indianapolis, has authorized the benevolent societies to draw on him for $100 per week for charitable purposes during the winter.

The Last Barrier Blown Down.

Scenes in the Hoosac Tunnel—The Mountain Pierced from End to End.

The Hoosac Mountain has been penetrated. The last barrier against an uninterrupted passage from one side to the other was completely removed, and a few minutes latter the parties which had entered from opposite sides were shaking hands on the western side of the breach. There was no ceremony whatever at the opening, and no public notice had been given by the contractor, although the announcement had indirectly found its way into the journals Fifty persons besides the miners were on the shaft side of the blast, and some twenty on the west side. The holes for the final blast had been drilled in the morning, and but for the previous determination to allow visitors to witness the operation, the whole thing might have been over at 10 o'clock. The old workman, who has faced death a thousand times in charging holes with nitro-glycerine, was sent down the central at about 1:30 o'clock, with his long cans of the explosive. All the glycerine for this final blast was carried down the shaft, and that for the west-end holes was passed through the hole already drilled. The most dangerous task connected with the work of the tunnel was accomplished, and word was brought up that nothing remained but to connect the wires of the battery. The cage was packed full half a dozen times, and the visitors were speedily dropped down the shaft into the dismal regions below. The hollow echoes of the walls, the dim and flickering lamps, the drip of water, and the reports of occasional explosions, where the workmen were engaged in trimming east of the shaft, were the only sights and sounds.

There was a long wait between the acts, owing to the lateness of the train which brought the gentlemen from Boston to the East End. At last, Mr. Shanly, who had started out to meet them, returned with the rest of the company, and word was at once dispatched to the man who had charge of the blast to connect the wires. This man was stationed only about 500 feet from the heading, and, from the effect at our distant station, 2,000 feet from the blast, the crash when the wires touched must have been terrific. The report of the explosion came first with a distinct crack followed instantly by a dull, prolonged boom, and accompanied by a very perceptible puff of wind. A shout was given by all present, and the company began to flock forward toward the heading in a general scramble, but this was soon stopped, for it would have been highly dangerous to have gone into the heading before it was known whether all the explosives had been discharged. A few hundred feet from the shaft, therefore, the visitors were stopped until two men, who had gone up to examine the holes, came running back with the information that a fine clean breach had been made. Then there was another pell mell scramble for the opening. The miners, however, were first, but they did not pass through the opening but prevented others from doing so. When the company had assembled, the miners made a passage-way between two lines, and Mr. Shanly, with Hon. Robert Johnson, of Boston, State Senator and Chairman of the Legislative Committee on the Tunnel, marched up the breach, the entire assemblage cheering them heartily. Just as they reached the aperture Mr. Shanly fell back and allowed Mr. Johnson to pass through in front of him. The general crowd very quickly followed, and on the other side of the opening not less enthusiasm was manifested.

The breach made was about five feet by four, large enough for two people to pass abreast quite easily. The explosion on the west side was much louder than on the other, and had a greater effect on persons in the tunnel. The work done was tremendous. One great rock, weighing fully a ton, was thrown a distance of 300 feet, where its momentum was still sufficient to break down the ponderous gates set up as a barrier. There was much picking up of relics for a short time, including, doubtless, many rock specimens of previous blasts. As there were still many chances to be first in something, those who went in at the west shaft were in haste to get to the central shaft and pass upward, while those who had come down the central shaft pushed for the west end. The western half of the tunnel differs greatly from the eastern half in the headings of the rock. It is nearly all quartz for upward of a mile, and then the material grows gradually softer, until at a distance of 2,000 feet from the portal it gets so soft that it was necessary to brick it the whole distance where it has been completed. Not less than 7,000,000 bricks will have been used in arching. The west end differs from the eastern half, also, in the amount of water, for almost the whole distance of twelve thousand feet the floor of the tunnel is composed of slimy mud, ground down by the feet of the mules and the miners, while through the whole length runs a considerable stream of water. The contractors, Messrs. Shanly, have used in the five years they have been at work 275,000 pounds of nitro-glycerine, 322,000 pounds of common powder, 48,500 pounds of giant powder, and 3,500 pounds of dualin, making in all nearly 650,000 pounds of explosives. Forty-three persons have been killed in and about the tunnel, of whom twenty-one met their deaths by premature explosions, four by explosions of nitro-glycerine magazines, nine by falling down the central shaft, eight by rock falling from the roof and similar accidents, and one by drowning.

The Island of Cuba.

The island of Cuba is the most fertile and the largest of the West India Islands. Columbus said it was the most beautiful land eyes ever beheld. Its length is about 750 miles, and its breadth about forty miles. The Island of Great Britain is about 650 miles long, with an average breadth of about 200 miles, which will give some idea of the comparative size of Cuba. Cuba contains some 30,000 square miles of territory, and is remarkable for its general salubrity of climate and great productiveness of soil. No land has ever suffered more from gross misgovernment. It has been the prey alike of the old buccaneers and the modern filibusters, not to speak of its own internal revolutions and fruitless uprisings; in fact, during the present century it has never known permanent tranquility. In spite of this, its natural resources have been such that at present its annual aggregate sugar and coffee crops are about $75,000,000, and its exports and imports together $130,000,000. The total population is about £1,500,000.

It is said that in Colorado, last year, 200,000 buffaloes were slaughtered for their hides.

Starvation in Iowa.

A Harrowing Story of Poverty and Suffering.

A citizen of Iowa has written to the Des Moines *Register* from Jefferson, that State, a sad story of the hardships and sufferings of many of the settlers in the North-western portion of that State. He says: "I have just had a long interview with a former soldier comrade, now a homesteader in Osceola County, and from him learn something concerning the present and future wants of the hundreds of good people making themselves homes in that and other counties. It will be remembered that in 1872 good crops were raised in that section, and that all had plenty and to spare. In the spring of 1873, every preparation was made for a great crop of small grain, and it prospered exceedingly until about the first of June, when the grasshoppers came, and the fields of waving grain were made desolate—entirely ruining the crop. A great many homesteaders at once left, realizing the coming of the present condition of matters. But hundreds of families had not the means at command to pay their expenses of travel, and hence were compelled to stay. A little corn was saved in some sections, but of very inferior quality. Plenty of hay was made, of the best grade, so the stock will at least have that much for support. But as to the people? My informant makes this statement: "Nearly every man is poor—very poor, and a great majority are ex-soldiers of the Union, with young families to support. When the grasshoppers took the crops, we did the best we could for the coming winter. We went to the lakes and caught barrels of fish, but we did not have the means to properly care for them; so they spoiled. Stock was sacrificed to the sharks that infest our section, at the next to nothing of a price, and many of us have thus eaten up and worn out the horses and work-cattle that had been our main stay. We could buy no fuel, and when I left, twisted hay and rank reed grass was the only fuel nine-tenths of the people were using. Much sickness prevails, brought on by a long abstinence from wholesome and nutritious food. One family I know of has the father down with the rheumatism, three out of six children were down with the measles, while the mother was about worn down herself. Corn-meal, grated from frost-bitten nubbins, was the only food in the house, if the sod and board shanty may be called such. The people bear with each other, and mutually extend aid as much as possible. One young man from Jasper County, who happens to be a good shot, has valiantly taken upon himself the task of keeping all invalid families supplied with meat, wild game, and the day I left brought some geese and ducks to the family I have mentioned. But that will soon end, with cold weather. You want to know what they need? They need everything—fuel, clothing, and provisions. The women and children are suffering greatly already for the want of clothing. I know of several women who died soon after giving birth to children because they could not have even the common luxury of a cup of tea, or anything nutritious to aid them in regaining strength, coupled with the want of proper bed covering. The most of the counties can extend no aid, for the reason that thieves have been running the affairs, and have stolen all, just as they did some years ago in Clay County. Many families will leave on foot, having sold their cattle or horses to keep them alive. Some general way of relieving those who must remain must be put in operation right away, else the first snap of real cold weather will send many a good man or women or child to death—frozen, because they will be so weak and emaciated that they cannot stand the rigors of winter, even in its weakest appearance." The person who makes this statement I know to be reliable. It will be seen from this, then, that aid cannot be sent too soon, and that a general plan of relief must not be delayed longer than necessary.

Indian Eloquence.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* doubts if one of Mr. Joaquin Miller's Indian acquaintances gave utterance to such inflated rhetoric as "The whites were as strong as the ocean, the red men like sand, helpless, silent, run upon, and swallowed up." But this sort of grandiloquence is familiar to Americans who have lived on the frontier of an Indian country. When the lawyers puzzled old Red Jacket about intricate questions of law in relation to land claims, he walked out in front of the judge, and with a piece of chalk drew two concentric circles on the floor of the Court House. Passing his walking club slowly around the outer circle, he said: "Within that bound is the white man's knowledge," and then describing the smaller one, he said, "Within that bound is the Indian's knowledge," and resting a moment on his club, he wound up his argument by saying, "And beyond those two bounds the Indian knows as much as the white man."

Indian morality is often of a strange order. A certain officer of United States dragoons was robbed and murdered many years ago by the Potawatamies. A trial at a civil tribunal failed to bring the offenders to justice, though every circumstance pointed to their chief, Dowagiac, as the principal offender. At last a bright young lawyer hit on a stratagem to get at the truth of the matter. Dowagiac was sitting gazing at the judge, counsel, and jury, by turns, in the most stolid manner, when Mr. W., of Detroit, sprang in an excited manner to the chief, and asked in a loud imperative voice, "Dowagiac, did you kill Capt. Jefferson?" "Yes," said the Indian solemnly, "Dowagiac *did* kill Capt. Jefferson, but Dowagiac *won't lie.*"

Indians can brag, too. Tipsy old Big Kettle, in the streets of Buffalo, once defied the rabble in this way: "Me's a great fighter; me's a big Indian; Lake Erie my farm, big Buffalo creek my father, Gen. Porter my aunt! White man can't fight Big Kettle; too much *squaw*; too much *darsent.*"

To Find Water.

Persons about to travel over great deserts or along a sandy seashore might take a lesson from the native African as to the best method of obtaining a drink in such places. The operation is described by Livingston as follows: "The women tie a bunch of grass to one end of a reed about two feet long, and insert it in a hole dug as deep as the arm will reach, then ram down the wet sand firmly around it. Applying the mouth to the free end of the reed, they form a vacuum in the grass beneath, in which the water collects, and in a short time it rises to the mouth."

Daring Robbery in Kansas.

Walter Grayson, a Creek Indian, farmer and stock dealer, living near Parsons, Kansas, was robbed of over $30,000, mostly in gold and silver, by a party of three white men. One of the robbers had been at Grayson's house and about the premises for two or three days, under the pretense of buying horses. His confederates arrived, well mounted and heavily armed, and Grayson was immediately seized and a demand made for his money. He refused to deliver it, whereupon he was hung to a tree until nearly insensible. He still refused to give up his money, and the hanging was repeated six or seven times, and not until the robbers threatened to hang his wife did he reveal the place of its concealment. There were several half-breed Indians about the house, but most of them were confined in upper rooms, and were all intimidated to such a degree that they offered no resistance. The robbers were traced to a point a few miles south of the Canadian River, where they separated, one going south and the other north. A nominal reward of $1,500 is offered for the apprehension of the robbers, which sum would doubtless be greatly increased if the men were captured and the money recovered. Grayson is an old man, nearly sixty-five, and is now lying very sick from the effects of his maltreatment. Since the withdrawal of the United States Marshals from the Indian Territory the number of murders are largely on the increase. The agents of the various tribes say that it is absolutely necessary that Congress should interfere and give the civilized Indians a government that will protect life and property. The assassinations in the Territory averaged twenty per month during the past summer, and there has not been one execution under the Indian laws. The Creek Council adjourned without doing anything excepting to pass a law forbidding any Indian to rent to or permit any white person to occupy any building on the territory of the Creek nation. They refused to allow the white railroad employees and others to build a house for school and church purposes at Muskagee.

The Centennial Buildings.

The Philadelphia *Press* says that the "area of ground appropriated at Fairmount Park for the Centennial Exposition is 450 acres, and is bounded by the Schuylkill river on the east, Girard avenue on the southeast, Elm avenue on the south, and Fifty-second street on the west—so that Girard avenue, when graded and paved, as is contemplated, will be the main approach to the buildings. Elm avenue and Fortieth and Forty-first street will also lead to the Park, and steps have been taken by Councils looking to the improvement of these thoroughfares, in order that they may be made available before the opening of the Exhibition. The ground plans, as approved by the Commission, provides for the erection of a machinery hall, agricultural hall, conservatory, art gallery, and the main Exposition building. All of these will be so located as to be within easy reach of each other, and upon the most beautiful portion of the park. The grand pavilion, or main Exposition building, will have a frontage of 2,075 feet on Elm avenue, or, in other words, will extend from Forty-first street, on the east, to Belmont avenue, and will have a depth of 1,000 feet. Immediately north, and near to the Lansdowne drive, it is designed to erect the art gallery. West of the Exposition will be the machinery and agricultural halls—the former to be 2,275 feet long, and the latter 1,420 feet. These are to be conducted with the main buildings by a covered passage-way, and will also be upon Elm avenue. A better idea of the immensity of the work to be performed and of the extent of the ground to be occupied will be had when it is stated that the grand pavilion will cover an area of 36.5 acres, which can be increased to 44 acres. Machinery Hall will occupy 9.5 acres, and Agricultural Hall 4.5 acres."

REPEAL OF THE BANKRUPTCY LAW.—Washington correspondents state that a strong pressure will be brought to bear at the opening of Congress for the repeal of some sections, if not the whole of the Bankruptcy law. Last February the House of Representatives, without much discussion or consideration, passed a bill to repeal the law. It was then late in the session; there was not time to bring the matter fully before the people, and the Senate was not disposed to sanction such hasty legislation.

A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN.—The perceptive faculty of women is usually keener than the same phrenological organ in men. Woman knows that beauty rather than genius is worshipped by the sterner sex. A man may talk with his lips of the latter to his lady-love, but the keenness of the woman knows that he is thinking of the former in his heart. All women have an innate desire to please their *beaux.* They are fond of admiration, hence one of their longings is to be beautiful. The grand secret of female beauty is health—the secret of health is the power to eat, digest and assimilate a proper quantity of wholesome food. Take VINEGAR BITTERS. It will cleanse the stomach, tone the vital organs, give a perfect digestion, purify the blood, clear up the complexion and produce a state of mental and physical electricity which gives symmetry of form, bright eyes, white skin, glossy hair and a genuine type of female loveliness which no cosmetic can compare with.—*Com.*

"Jury," said a Western judge, "You kin go and find a verdict. If you can't find one of your own, get the one the las jury used." The jury returned a verdict of suicide in the ninth degree.

American Manufacturers at Vienna.

The well-known Mason & Hamlin Organ Company have received honors at Vienna. At the Exposition they were awarded the highest medal for the best instruments of this class in the world, and the Industrial Society of Austria has awarded them its Grand Medal and Diploma of Honor for the extraordinary excellence of their productions. This distinction has never been conferred on more than five Americans. No other American manufacturer of cabinet or parlor organs has ever succeeded in obtaining any award in competition with European makers. This is the second time the Mason & Hamlin Organ Company have come out ahead in such comparisons, as they took the first medal in Paris in 1867. This company can now produce on an average one Cabinet Organ every fifteen minutes of working time, or about 10,000 per annum.—*New York World.*

LIKE LIGHTNING are the miraculous Cures effected with Flagg's Instant Relief. Aches, Pains, Sprains, Bowel Complaints, etc., *cannot exist* if this great medicine is used. Relief warranted, or money refunded.—*Com.*

Peerless Clothes Wringer.

L. Heyniger & Co., 18 Fulton Street, New York.—[Com.

We have used Perry Davis' Pain-Killer in the family and herd many years; always, if applied seasonably, with success. For allaying inflammation resulting from burns, bruises, strains, and other causes, it is a first-class remedy. For checking and causing a relaxed condition of the bowels, it is the best medicine of which we have any knowledge. Active cases of diarrhœa and dysentery yield to its healing power. It seems to possess a tonic and strengthening quality, and when used for summer complaints, does not produce constipation like laudanum and its preparations. We have used it many times, always with success, as a remedy for scours in calves and other young animals.—*Vt. Record and Farmer.*

A CONSUMPTIVE CURED.—Dr. H. James, while experimenting, accidentally made a preparation of Cannabis Indica, which cured his only child of Consumption. This remedy is now for sale at first-class Druggists. Try it; prove it for yourself. Price $2.50. Send stamp for circular. Craddock & Co., proprietors, 1032 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa.—*Com.*

CRISTADORO'S EXCELSIOR DYE is the most sure and complete preparation of its kind in the world; its effects are magical, its character harmless, its tints natural, its qualities enduring.

AN IRON TONIC—PERUVIAN SYRUP.—*Com.*

WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN! It is said for the dying consumptive to reflect on what might have been if HALE'S HONEY OF HOREHOUND AND TAR had been taken early enough.

Pike's Toothache Drops cure in one minute.—*Com.*

CHAPPED HANDS, face, rough skin, pimples, ringworm, salt-rheum, and other cutaneous affections cured, and the skin made soft and smooth, by using the JUNIPER TAR SOAP, made by CASWELL, HAZARD & CO., New York. Be certain to get the *Juniper Tar Soap*, made by us, as there are many imitations made with common tar which are worthless.—*Com.*

If your horse is lame, sore or galled, you should use *Johnson's Anodyne Liniment*; wash the part with castile soap and warm water, rub dry with a clean cloth, then apply the Liniment; rub in well with the hand.—*Com.*

Have the readers of this paper ever used any of *Parsons' Purgative Pills*? if not, why not? They are the best family physic, besides being the greatest anti-bilious remedy there is in the country.—*Com.*

A Neglected Cough, Cold, or Sore Throat, which might be checked by a simple remedy, like "*Brown's Bronchial Troches,*" if allowed to progress may terminate seriously.—*Com.*

Prices Reduced.

The Mason & Hamlin Co., whose Cabinet Organs are unquestionably the best in the world, have just reduced their prices to correspond with depreciated values of material and labor. They are also introducing this season, a number of exquisitely beautiful styles, containing improvements of much value, effected this season.

They now offer five-octave double-reed organs, for one hundred and ten dollars, and other styles at proportionate prices, being about half the prices at which peddlers are crowding upon purchasers organs worth not half as much.—*Com.*

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A COUGH, COLD, SORE THROAT Requires immediate attention, and should be Checked. If allowed to continue, Irritation of the Lungs, a Permanent Throat Affection or an Incurable Lung Disease, is often the result.

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will destroy Worms without injury to the child, being perfectly WHITE, and free from all coloring or other injurious ingredients usually used in worm preparations.

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