## SAFE.

Safe? The battle-field of life
Seldom knows a pause in strife.
Every path is set with snares,
Every joy is crossed by cares.
Brightest morn has darkest night,
Fairest bloom has quickest blight,
Hope has but a transient gleam,
Love is but a passing dream,
Trust is Folly's helpless waif;
Who dare call their dearest safe?

But thou, though peril loom afar,
What hast thou to do with war?
Let the wild stream flood its brink,
There's no bark of thine to sink,
Let falsehood weave its subtle net,
Thou art done with vain regret.
Let Fortune frown and friends grow strange,
Thou hast past the doom of change,
We plan and struggle, mourn and chafe—
Safe, my darling, dead and safe!

### The Hind Leg of a Mule.

Next to a shot gun in the night time there is nothing better calculated to disturb the serenity of a colored citizen's life than the sudden, uncompromising kick of a mule. The incoherence of that movement is productive of no ordinary crop of astonishment, while its surreptitious vehemence goes a long way toward convincing our colored friend that a mule concentrates all his energies and enterprise in his rear pedal.

The mule, as an ungracious kicker, stands without a respectable rival. He is monarch, absolute and supreme, of all his hind leg surveys. That nervous member is a combination of unadulterated cussedness, stupendous hurry, magnificent premeditation, dangerous liveliness and uncalculating lightning. It swoops down upon the colored community with the unbridled sweep of a cyclone and the recklessness of a shotgun. It shoots with the unfettered force of a pile-driver and the vengeance of an intimidated mother-in-law.

Yet we have a tender regard for its utility. Better than small pox, more destructive than the jim-jams, more terrific than returning boards, and more damaging than unconquerable poverty, it should command the admiration of all.

For the purpose of wreaking vengeance upon High handed Commissioners we know of nothing more effectual. As a means of defence in war, it possesses more virtue than a needle-gun. As a leveler of distinctions, as an obliterator of party lines, as a rubber-out of social inequalities, it is confessedly without a superior.

The world stands off with folded arms and gazes with unalloyed rapture at the march of science down the cavernous muzzles of levia than guns; nations sound their paeans of praise and sing glad songs of joy at every stride of progress; poets smother love and admiration in tuneful sonnets to new and beautiful strokes of the sculptor's chisel; and the people clap their hands in boisterous plaudits at every smile of fortune on our blessed land; but where can we see a monument in living verse or imperishable marble erected to the honor and memory of a mule's hind leg?

We feel as if it had been neglected, and feel the saline moisture perspire beneath our eye-lids as we touch upon the cruel treatment of so important a branch of industry. The world swings in its revolutions around the sympathizing sun and wears an air of regret as the pangs of bitter remorse shoot shudderingly through its vast body.

We enter a plea for it, and call upon the people to give it attention. Not that it needs cultivation, or that its acquaintance should be courted, but because we feel a deep interefrst in everything touching upon the energies of our country—and if there is a more developed energy than a mule's hind leg, we have as yet failed to discover it.

### Blessing the Waters.

The Belgrade correspondent of the London *Times* writes under date of Jan. 19 as follows: "Yesterday the annual ceremony of 'blessing the waters' was performed by the Archbishop on the bank of the River Save—a rite which is observed in all countries where the Greek faith predominates. About 9.3. in the morning the service wbs held in tne cathedral, at 10 the garrison of Belgrade, with the military band, marched down to the river side and formed in line opposite a stand erected on the quay; about half an hour afterward a processioe marcned frem the cathedral to the stand. The column bore four very large square banners with figures of the saints painted upon them a canopy, under which marched the Archbishop, and a number of rods surmounted by discs of metal surrounded with metallic rays. An improvised altar, with candles, was placed upon the stand, with a barrel of river water in front of it. The services at the altar were long, and were interspersed with chants and the firing of artillery from the old fortress. At the conclusion of the services the Archbishop stepped down from the stand, and with a large brush commenced sprinkling the water from the barrel over the adjacent crowd. His Grace then proceeded to sprinkle the Servian Army, and many of the populace ran to the edge of the river and filled bottles and jugs with the newly-consecrated waters. It is usual for several people to plunge into the river at this stage of the proceedings, but this year this feat was not performed, an omission which I suppose will be attributed by the ecclesiastical authorities to the 'progress of modern infidelity.' After the sprinkling was completed the procession marched back to the cathedral.

### Social Customs in New Ireland.

The more we know of savage life all over the world, the more certain it appears that, so far from behaving like "children of nature," as sentimental writers in the last century used to make out, the lowest savages are more hampered in every action of their daily lives by ridiculous and oppressive regulations than ever was a courtier of the Grand Monarque. The chief end, indeed, of most of their social arrangements seems to be to make life irksome to the strong and prosperous, and wellnigh intolerable to the weak and dependent.

The most recently discovered population of savages, the cannibals of New Ireland, in the South Seas, are no exception to this rule. There is in New Ireland a custom which requires that a chief's daughter shall be kept in a cage within her father's house until her introduction into society. The cage scarcely gives her room to move, and she cannot leave it during any part of the day, though she is allowed to take a stroll with near relatives after nightfall.

This sounds very bad; but the New Irish might, were one to animadvert too strongly on the folly of this custom, point out that "chiefs' daughters" elsewhere do all they can in the way of tight waistbands, thin boots and long and heavy skirts, to cripple their natural powers of locomotion, and in more ways than one to hamper themselves with unnecessary wirework of their own devising.—[*Pall Mall Gazette.*

The sting of a reproach is the truth of it.

## AGRICULTURAL.

Water-cress Culture.—Wherever there is spring water running in open ditches or small brooks water-cress may be grown. The most favorable conditions of its growth, says the Toronto *Globe*, are a gently flowing stream of water from three to six inches deep, with a gravelly bottom, underlaid with loam, and fed by springs of uniform temperature. On a neighboring farm rises a strong spring, in which, some four or five years ago, water-cress seed was sown. Now there is a complete mat of plants, not near the spring, only, but all along the stream for a mile or more, pieces of branches and roots having occasionally been torn off and carried down by the current to some quiet places where they took root. In the sheltered bays and nooks of this brook, when alternate layers of muck and gravel were washed on, the plants seem to luxuriate the most.

Where similar conditions exist naturally but little labor is neces-ary to establish a water-cress bed sufficient for home use, but when more extensive plantations, otherwise than along the margin of a brook, are to be made, considerable labor may be required. If the land to be devoted to this culture does not contain enough gravel or coarse sand, this element must be supplied before planting; a covering of from three to four inches will be sufficient. Where the land is entirely and constantly overflowed all that is necessary is to cut off rooted branches of old plants and set them out in places where the water is about six inches deep, and to place a stone on each root to prevent it from being washed away. A small stream running through marshy ground, however, offers the opportunity for a large plantation.

In this case ditches from three to four feet wide and as many feet apart should be dug rectangularly from the water-cress as far as the water will follow. The depth of the ditches must be arranged according to the medium level of the stream, in such a manner that the water in them stands at no season lower than six inches. By means of a dam with sluiceway the water can readily be kept at a uniform level. At the bottom of each ditch the cuttings are placed about two feet apart each way, or closer if enough roots can be had. Where old plants are not attainable seed may be sown in the shallowest parts of the ditches, and the plants grown therefrom used for propagation, but of course a year more time will be required to establish a plantation from seed than from cuttings. The month of September is the best time for sowing the seed as well as for planting.

Mr. Stewart, of Buffalo, is an advocate of soiling cattle. He finds that a quarter of an acre of clover will support a cow from 160 to 180 days. He had 100 acres, 90 of which was fair meadow and 60 in corn fodder, oats and clover. He put up twenty steers, three and four years old, eight cows and six horses. He began cutting the clover when eight inches high, of which there were five acres. Two acres were in oats, and three in corn-fodder, which was fed as needed, and grass cut from the ninety acres; but there were sixty-five tons of hay put into the barns. The grass was cut with a machine, raked with a horse, and drawn to the barn in a cart, one man being employed six hours each day in cutting and feeding and about two hours of horse labor. The total cost of the extra labor amounted to $75 for the season. The sixty-five tons of hay were sold at the barn for $9.72. The cost of cutting and putting this hay into the barn was $97.50, which, taken from the cash received for the hay, left a profit in favor of soiling over pasturing of $797.50. The twenty steers sold for $680, and the 100 loads of manure saved was worth double what it would have been if left on the pasture.

What the Birds Do.—Farmers should spare the birds. While it is undeniable that they are sometimes severe on the corn and sprouting grain, it is nevertheless a fact that they compensate for it by destroying insects that might do more damage. The swallow, swift and nighthawk are the guardians of the atmosphere. They check the increase of insects that would otherwise overload it. Woodpeckers, creepers, and chickadees, are the guardians of the trunks of trees. Warblers and flycatchers protect the foliage. Blackbirds, thrushes, crows and larks protect the surface of the soil; snipe and woodcock the soil under the surface. Each tribe has its respective duties to perform in the economy of nature; and it is an undoubted fact that if the birds were all swept away from the earth, men could not live upon it; vegetation would wither and die, insects would become so numerous that no living thing could withstand their attacks.

Horse Collars.—The *Valley Farmer* says collars are, or should be, so made, as to throw the chief force on the lower part of the shoulder. The horse can apply but little strength on the upper part, and for this reason breast collars are coming greatly into vogue, as the strength is exerted on the lower part of the shoulder. The collar should be purchased of the proper size. Just before putting it on the first time, immerse it in water letting it remain about a minute, and immediately put it on to work. The collar, by being wet, will adapt itself to the shoulder, and should dry on the horse. When taken off, it should be left in the same shape it occupied on the horse, and ever after you will have a snug fitting collar and no wounds.

White Holland Turkeys.—The *Poultry Journal and Record* says: "This variety of turkeys is becoming more popular as the public become better acquainted with their excellent table qualities and beauty; for certainly a large, clean, healthy white turkey is as beautiful a fowl as any one could wish to see. They are pure white in plumage, with pink legs, and of good size, though not so large as the bronze, and yet large enough for market; and we are told are as hardy, and stand our severe changes of temperature in winter better than any other variety. The feathers are nearly equal to geese feathers for sale, and will bring almost as much if carefully selected, and the large feathers stripped.

Canary Seed.—With the immense increase in the consumption of this commonly used seed, it seems strange that no steps are taken to grow it in our own country. It is as easily produced as wheat or oats, and yields prolifically. Forty or fifty bushels per acre can be readily produced, and while it may not be a hardy plant it will stand considerable frost, and our seasons will give ample time to plant and mature a crop. A few acres devoted to growing canary seed will return large profits, as it is now all imported and pays duty. Some enterprising farmer can set an example and not only demonstrate the fact, but put money in his pocket. Let us be producers instead of importers.

Standing Water.—A very important work is to let off any water that accumulates upon the surface. This requires constant attention and the use of a hoe or a shovel. Whether there is a crop in the ground or not, it is equally necessary to do this thoroughly, else the soil is soaked and dries very slowly. The amount lost through water remaining upon fields, would each year buy for every farmer who permits it, a good paper and more books than he could well study in a year.

Is it not a matter of doubt whether the best-plough problem has yet been solved so long as we have a thousand different kinds made, more or less, none of which seems entirely to satisfy either inventor or farmer that we have a perfect plough?

—An extra session of Congress in June is a boon the boarding-house keepers of Washington do not often enjoy. They indorse the new administration.

## DOMESTIC.

Gold Fish.—Fish kept in glass globes require a change of water about once a week. The fish should be lifted out of the globe into a pan of water by means of a small net; a piece of mosquito netting sewn around a hoop of cane or whalebone will answer the purpose. The globe should then be cleaned and filled with fresa water. Spring water is not so good as water from a stream. It is too cold, and is not sufficiently aerated. The fresh water should be brought to an even temperature with that which is removed before the fish are put into it. Every day air should be forced into the bottom of the water in the globe with a small pair of bellows or a rubber globe. The oxigen which sustains the life of the fish is derived from the air held in solution by the water. This is rapidly used up by the respiration of the fish, and if not replaced the fish will suffer and die. A worm cut into small portions, or a few fine shreds of lean meat, may be given every two days for food. What is not eaten should be removed from the water.

Blue Lamp Chimneys.—Noted oculists recommend either blue, bluish gray, or smoke-colored glasses as a protection for weak eyes against the unpleasant effect of red, orange and yellow light. On the same principle, the trying reddish yellow light of candles, lamps and gas, on normal eyes as well as weak eyes, can be pleasantly modified by the use of blue chimneys or globes (or at least of shades for the reflection of the light) colored a light ultramarine blue. A remarkably near approach to a light as agreeable as daylight is said to be produced by a petroleum lamp with a round wick and a light blue chimney of twice the usual length, the latter causing so great a draught that the petroleum burns with a nearly pure white flame.

How to Prepare Egg Toast.—A thinly cut slice of toast well browned, but not burned, and an egg or two dropped into boiling water in which one teaspoonful of vinegar has been poured and a little salt added to it. Pour a tablespoonful of boiling water over a bit of butter as large as a walnut, turn it over the toast and if it is very dry dip the whole of it into melted butter and water, soaking the crust completely. Skim out the eggs as soon as the whites are firmly set, put them upon the toast, edge the plate with a few sprigs of fresh green parsley or some sweet geranium leaves, serve upon a salver covered with a white napkin and an invalid will usually eat of it with great relish.

Directions for Packing Furniture.—To pack books, engravings, china, &c., get a large empty packing-box from the dry-goods store; pack carefully, using bedding, cloth, or old papers to keep firm and safe; to secure furniture or carpets against moth, sprinkle the carpets carefully with plenty of pulverized borax; then roll up; sew up the carpet in canvas or old cotton cloth, filling the same with borax; also sprinkle the furniture well with pulverized borax; then cover with canvas or cotton cloth; borax will not discolor the richest furniture or carpets, and, owing to recent discoveries of borax in Nevada, can be bought at any grocery for 25 cents per pound.

French Cream Cake.—Beat three eggs and one cup of sugar together thoroughly; add two tablespoonfuls of cold water; stir a teaspoonful of baking powder into a cup and a half of flour; sift the flour in, stirring all the time in one direction. Bake in two thin cakes; split the cakes while hot, and fill in the cream prepared in the following manner: To a pint of new milk, add two tablespoonfuls of cornstarch, one beaten egg, one-half cup of sugar, stir while cooking, and when hot put in a piece of butter the size of an egg; flavor the cream slightly with lemon, vanilla or pineapple.

A Delicious Soup.—Peel and slice six large onions, six potatoes, six carrots, and four turnips; fry them in half a pound of butter and pour on them four quarts of boiling water. Toast a crust of bread as brown and hard as possible but do not burn it, and put in, with some celery, sweet herbs, white pepper, and salt. Stew all gently for four hours, and then strain it through a coarse cloth. Have ready thinly sliced carrot, celery, and a little turnip. Add them to your liking, and stew them tender in the soup. If approved of, an anchovy and a spoonful of catsup may be added.

Dry Yeast.—In a pint of water boil a handful of hops till one-third of the water is boiled away; pour this, boiling hot, through a sieve on to two tablespoonfuls of sifted flour. Stir the mixture till smooth, and add a cup of fresh yeast. When it has risen, pour it into a bread bowl, and mix it with corn meal till it is a firm dough; cut into shapes and dry in the shade. When thoroughly dry, put them in a paper bag and hang in a dry place. For use, dissolve one of the cakes in a cup of water, stir in flour to form a batter, and when light, set sponge for bread.

French Polish for Boots and Shoes.—Mix together two pints of the best vinegar, and one pint of soft water; stir into it a quarter of a pound of glue, broken up, half a pound of logwood chips, a quarter of an ounce of finely-powdered indigo, a quarter of an ounce of the best soft soap, and a quarter of an ounce of isinglass. Put the mixture over the fire, and let it boil for ten minutes or more. Then strain the liquid, and bottle and cork it. When cold, it is fit for use. The polish should be applied with clean sponge.

Combination of Odors.—By the blending of primary odors, perfumers can obtain any desired odor they wish. Jasmine and orange flowers blended, give the scent of sweet-pea; jasmine and tuberose combined, will give the odor of hyacinth; violet and tuberose give the perfume of lily of the valley. Roses, orange blossoms, jasmine, violets, geranium, tuberoses, and jonquil, contain types of nearly all flower odors.

Stewed Maccaroni.—Cook one-fourth pound or more of maccaroni in water, or in strong beef stock, till tender, then drain nearly dry. If cooked in water, add two teaspoonfuls of condensed milk, butter size of an egg, sur grated cheese through it, and put some over it, and serve hot. If cooked in beef-stock, add the cheese only, or send the cheese around at the table.

Important Fact.—If you are very warm, perspiring profusely, and are, very properly, afraid of cooling off too quickly, fill a basin three parts full of warm water, and paddle the hands in and out; the layer of the water touching the skin is converted into steam the moment the hand is out of the water, thus causing a rapid carrying off of heat by way of evaporation.

Orange Salad.—Peel one dozen oranges, and cut in slices, put in layers, in a glass dish, sprinkling each layer plentifully with sugar. Squeeze over this the juice of six oranges, and pour over all a glass of wine or brandy. Sweet oranges are best for this dish with very little sugar, but Messinas are very good, well sweetened.

Iron work may be effectually secured from rust by treating it with melted paraffin whilst heated under pressure. If paint is used where heat is impracticable, it should always be mixed with the best linseed oil, and turpentine must be most carefully avoided.

Gold Cake.—Yolks of 5 eggs, 1¾ cups butter, ½ cup milk, 1¼ cups flour, 1 cup sugar, two spoonsfuls baking-powder.

## HUMOROUS.

A Minister from a neighboring town came to this city a few days ago. He was out late at night, and returning to his hotel, was suddenly met in a lonely part of the city by a highwayman, who thrust a pistol at the clergyman and demanded "His money or his life." The minister was startled, but his presence of mind did not forsake him, and he thus addressed the would-be-thief in the most solemn and affecting tone: "My good man, you shall have every cent I possess. I give it to you willingly, but I hope you will listen to me for a moment." The preacher then went to work and went over a whole sermon, and in the most melting terms besought him to forsake his present mode of making a living. The stars twinkled above in undimmed glory and the sad winds whirled around the adjacent corner. It was an impressive occasion, and the silent influences of night, in connection with the eloquent and sweetly modulated tone of the preacher, caused the robber to soften and grow penitent. The preacher saw this, and watching an opportune moment, exclaimed: "My friend, you have done me a wrong, though you shall have my money. But get down on your knees and ask forgiveness for your sins." The penitent thief got down on his knees, and when he had completely unhinged, the preacher kicked him in the stomach and then ran up street like a narrow-gauge engine.

"My dearest Fiducia," he said, as they stood beneath a tree in a flood of moonlight, "I have longed—oh so longed!—for this blissful opportunity; and even now I hardly dare to speak the swelling thoughts that struggle up for utterance. Not in the blistering glare of the noonday sun would I whisper to thee of the sweet love that has tinged my whole being with a celestial brightness, but in this soft silvery sheen of the constant moon would I syllable forth the ecstatic song of Eros. Oh, canst thou realize how like the radiance of heaven thy beauty beams upon me? And shall not the blessed boon be always mine? Wilt thou not henceforth, for all coming time, give me the right to shield thee from the rough contact and chilling blasts of an unfeeling world? Oh! if thy smiles could be mine while life should last they would shed—they would shed—a—a—Ah, dearest, they would shed—" While he hesitated and stumbled for a word,—Fiducia eagerly whispered, "Never mind the woodshed, Augustus, but go right on with your pretty talk."

Senior to Freshman, as they stroll along the street at midnight: "How wonderful are the heavens! Only think, it takes thousands of years for the light from some of those dim stars to reach us." Philosophic Freshman: "Yes, but I say, suppose a ray of light has just started from one of those stars, and after it has travelled a thousand years to reach the earth, supposed the earth to be suddenly annihilated; what a terrible disappointment not to find the earth after all! Or, suppose an astronomer traces up a ray of light and finds no star, but only a hole at the end of it, the star having 'gone out' a thousand years before—how unsatisfactory that would be!" Utter collapse of Senior.

Typical trees: For gouty people, the schecorn; for antiquarians, the date; for school boys, the birch; for Irishmen, the och; for conjurers, the palm; for negroes, see dah; for young ladies, the man go; for farmers, the plant'in; for fashionable women, a set of firs; for dandies, the spruce; for actors, the pop'lar; for physicians, sye a more; for your wife, her will, O; for lovers, the sigh press; for the disconsolate, the pine; for engaged people, the pear; for sewing machine people, the hemlock; for boarding house keepers, 'ash; always on hand, the pawpaw; who is this writen for? yew.

An old-fashioned clergyman, named Moore, was riding on horseback one stormy day, enveloped in a loose cloak of large proportions and having a broad scarlet collar. By the action of the wind the cloak was tossing about in all directions, when a gentleman rode up on a spirited horse, which shied and almost threw the rider. "That cloak of yours would frighten the devil," said the gentleman, "You don't say so!" replied Mr. Moore: "why, that's just my trade."

Another story of the wife of the late Dr. Lord, of Buffalo, is appearing in the newspapers. Her friends having objected to the marriage, it was decided to wed without their permission. When her absence from home was noted, there was found addressed to her relatives, a note from her chosen husband which explained matters briefly, as follows; "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."

A well-dressed woman, after inspecting with a look of mingled curiosity and awe the rare collection of statuary in the Corcoran gallery at Washington the other day, approached a couple of amateurs and astonished them with this question: "Are those," waving her hand in the direction of a group of torsos and other fragments of antique art, "are those—those limbless persons people who fell—in the Revolution?"

It was a country member who, falling asleep during a session of the "House," awoke just as an appropriation was to be made, and asked his neighbor what the object was. "Bridges and draws," was the reply, and the drowsy one stood up, and apologizing for inattention, asked nervously, "How much was to be spent for breeches and drawers?"

An old maid was heard to exclaim, while sitting at her toilet the other day: "I can bear adversity, I can encounter hardships, and withstand the changes of fickle fortune; but oh, to live, and droop, and die like a single pink—I can't endure it; and what's more, I won't."

Little Agnes, aged three years, heard for the first time the report of a cannon announcing the arrival of a steamship. "Hear the gun," said her sister. To which she replied: "Whose 'hat dun sootting? Is him tilling a wabbit?"

An inebriate Irishman on being kindly questioned in a very narrow lane, across which he was reeling, as to the length of the road he had travelled, replied, "Faith it is not so much the length of it as the breadth of it that tired me."

"Don't stand there loafing," said a professor in one of our colleges, to three students, standing where they shouldn't. "We are not loafing," responded Charley, "there are only three of us, and it takes 'leven to make a loaf."

Josh Billings wants to know who ever heard a rich man sing. Why should a rich man want to sing, when he can hire some one to do it for him so much better?

Wonder in what sort of a vehicle the man rode who was driven frantic?

The only suits that last longer than you want are law suits.

A good name for a fortune-teller—Prognostic-Kate.

Defunct: the expression "The centennial year."

A lock that burglars cannot pick—Wdiock.

Light at last—The Shoemaker's candle.

A thorough washerwoman—Sal Soda.

## SCIENTIFIC.

*Other Worlds.*—Viewing the universe of suns and worlds in the manner here suggested, we would adopt a theory of other worlds which would hold a position intermediate between the Brewsterian and Whewellite theories. (It is not on this account that I advocate it, let me remark in passing, but simply because it accords with the evidence, which is not the case with others.) Rejecting on the one hand the theory of the plurality of worlds in the sense implying that all existent worlds are inhabited, and on the other hand the theory of but one world, we should accept a theory which might be entitled the Paucity of Worlds, only that relative not absolute paucity must be understood. It is absolutely certain that this theory is the correct one, if we admit two postulates, neither of which can be reasonably questioned—viz., first that the life-bearing era of any world is short compared with the entire duration of that world; and secondly, that there can have been no cause which set all the worlds in existence, not simultaneously, which would be amazing enough, but (which would be infinitely more surprising) in such a way that after passing each through its time of preparation, longer for the large worlds and shorter for the small worlds, they all reached at the same time the life-bearing era. But quite apart from this antecedent probability, amounting as it does to absolute certainly if these two highly probable postulates are admitted, we have the actual evidence of the plants we can examine—that evidence proving incontestibly, as I have shown elsewhere, that such planets as Jupiter and Saturn are still in the state of preparation, still so intensely hot that no form of life could possibly exist upon them, and that such bodies as our moon have long since passed the life-bearing stage, and are to all intents and purposes defunct. But may we not go further? Recognizing in our own world, in many instances, what to our ideas resembles waste—waste seeds, waste lives, waste races, waste regions, waste forces—recognizing superfluity and superabundance in all the processes and in all the works of nature, would it not appear at least possible that some, perhaps a large proportion, of the worlds in the multitudinous system peopling space are not only not now supporting life, but never have supported life and never will? Does this idea differ in kind, however largely to our feeble conceptions it may seem to differ in degree, from the idea of the imagined creatures on a fruit that some or even many fruits excellently fitted for the support of life might not subserve that purpose? And as those creatures might conceive (as we know) that some fruits, even many, failed to come to the full perfection of fruit life, may not we without irreverence conceive (as higher beings than ourselves may know) that a planet or a sun may fail in the making? We cannot say that in such a case there would be a waste or a loss of material, though we may be unable to conceive how the lost sun or planet could be utilized. Our imagined insect reasoner would be unable to imagine that fruits plucked from their tree-system would be otherwise than wasted, for they would conceive that their idea of the purpose of fruits was the only true one; yet they would be altogether mistaken, as we may be in supposing the main purpose of planetary existence is the support of life.

*Artificial Paving-Blocks.*—The slag or scoriæ that results from blast furnace work has always been a troublesome by product, and various attempts have been made to utilize it. Run into blocks, it has been used for paving with more or less success, but a new process of casting and annealing is claimed to furnish a good and uniform material that resists wear, and gives a good footing for horses. This process consists in taking the slag as it flows from the furnace and running it into molds placed upon a circular table. As fast as the molds are filled, they are moved away, and left to cool down to a dull-red color. The molds are then opened and the blocks are taken out and annealed in a furnace kept at a particular temperature for twenty-four hours. They are then finished, and be used at once. The chief novelty in this process seems to be in the annealing of the blocks of slag.—*Scribner.*

*Evolution of the Brain.*—In a recen lecture at Glasgow on "Evolution of the Brain," Professor Allen Thompson stated that we have no direct evidence from anatomy, physiology, or pathology, of any mental act being performed apart from the brain; and as to the question whether the human brain had been directly formed, and was constantly maintained by an act of creative wisdom, or whether, according to the Darwinian view, it had gradually assumed its complex structure and lofty powers exhibited in presently existing man, he preferred the latter view because it was the one which was most consistent with all that was known of the coincident development of the mental powers and the cerebral organization.

*Aniline Water Colors.*—Aniline water colors are extensively used for tinting photographs, and are also being introduced for painting water color drawings. But as nearly all of these colors are altered by light, fade, and change, no honest artist will make use of them, unless he informs the purchaser by stamping some such notice as the following on the margin of the picture: "These colors, although pretty to look at, are good for nothing. They will soon fade."

*Compressed Air for Power.*—In using compressed air as a means of transmitting power, a velocity of about 40 feet per second for the air in its compressed state has been found to answer in practice. When the diameter of the pipe is so adjusted as to secure this velocity, the pressure expended in overcoming friction may be estimated at one per cent of the total or absolute pressure of the air, for every five hundred diameters of the pipe in length.—*Rankine.*

*Alcohol and Cold.*—At a meeting given to the Good Templars of the English arctic expedition, Mr. William Mailey, of the Alert, in relating his experiences, said that, among the few men who escaped scurvy, and did any sledging worthy of notice, were four teetotallers, who enjoyed perfect immunity from all sickness, establishing beyond the shadow of doubt that the intense cold of the polar regions could be well endured without stimulants.

*Intense Light for Taking Photographs.*—A very brilliant, perfectly white, and very actinic light, which may be used for taking photographs, is produced as follows: Place some perfectly dry powdered nitre in a suitable clay vessel, and in a cavity made in the middle of the powder place a piece of phosphorus and ignite it. While it burns, the nitre melts and a quantity of oxygen gas is given off, producing and intense light.

*Dyeing Light Rose.*—For 22 lbs. fabric use 10½ ozs. oxalic acid, 5½ ozs. tin crystals, ¼ oz. cochineal. Boil, cool, enter and dye at a boil. Both dark and light rose shades are much better produced with eosine. For dyeing chamois on flannel, dye as for light rose, and add for 22 lbs. fabric, from ¼ to ½ oz. flavin, according to shade.

*Dyeing Blue Grey on Gauze.*—For 22 lbs. stuff, take through a water containing 17 ozs. sulphuric acid, and rinse well; and then, at 176 deg. Fah., through a fresh beck of 3½ ozs. nigrosin and 2 lbs. 3 ozs. alum, and dry.

*Sapolio* contains (besides organic matter) soda, iron, alumina, lime, and hydrochloric, sulphuric, carbonic, and silicic acids.

Nobody likes to be nobody; but everybody is pleased to think himself somebody. And everybody is somebody; but when anybody thinks himself to be somebody, he generally thinks everybody else to be nobody.

—Whales and seals suckle their young.

### Costly Vases of Old Sevres.

In the drawing room of the Marquis of Durfort, at his chateau of La Felre Saint Cyr, a pair of vases with covers, of pink old Sevres, have stood on the same table for over a century. A bat not long since, happening to get into the drawing room and dashing round and round after the manner of those disagreeable creatures when they find themselves caught in any inclosure, threw down one of these vases and broke the cover, which was mended as neatly as might be. The incident attracted the attention of a visitor to these vases, which nobody had noticed previously. A few days afterward a dealer in curiosities called on the Marquis, bringing a letter of introduction from the friend in question, and told him that he had come from Paris expressly to see the two vases, which he was accordingly allowed to see, and which he examined with the air of a connoisseur. The dealer would fain have bought them, but the Marquis declined to sell them, remarking that he was not a dealer in porcelain.

A day or two afterward he received a letter from the man, entreating the Marquis to fix his own price on the two vases. Several other letters, repeating the same request, arrived at short intervals, until the Marquis annoyed at the dealer's persistence consulted his attendant on the subject, remarking: "We must really do something to discourage this persecutor; what reply had I better make to him?" "Tell him he may have them for 60,000 francs," said the intendant with a laugh. The Marquis, amused with the idea, replied accordingly to the persevering dealer, supposing that such a reply would put an end to the correspondence. But, to his astonishment, he received next morning a telegram: "The vases are mine. I am on the road to your chateau, bringing with me the 60,000 francs." "I wrote in joke," said the Marquis to the dealer when the latter arrived. "otherwise I should have replied to your propositions by repeating my refusal to sell these vases at any price. But I have never allowed my signature to be protested, and I cannot do so now. The vases are yours," he continued, as the dealer laid the roll of bank notes on the table before him, "but I hope you will explain to me why you have bought them." "Most willingly, M. le Marquis," replied the dealer. "Sir Richard Wallace's collection of old Sevres porcelain was incomplete. It lacked precisely the pink shade. These vases are just what he needs to complete his collection, and I have sold them to him for 80,000 francs."—*Montreal Herald.*

### Public Flogging as a Punishment.

A very few years ago—perhaps four or five—garroting became a terror to the London pedestrian. For assault and robbery, without intent to kill, the death penalty was too terrible, and and the other penalties failed to intimidate, as they generally do when the crime is lucrative, easily accomplished, and not immediately dangerous. It could not be trifled with, and something had to be done. A "barbarous" whipping of the bare back was resorted to, and garrotting subsided. The result was what the public wanted. Sentimental eyes may show their whites, horrified hands may go up, floods of twaddle may come forth in sympathy with the discouraged garroter, but men of common sense, especially if they have been garrotted themselves, will say the end was worth what it cost, and believe in the inhumanity that achieved it.

Nothing has been said of Delaware. No valuable lesson could be drawn from her without considerable investigation, and perhaps not then. She may do too much flogging, or she may not do enough. Her ministers of justice may be models of enlightenment, or they may be models of debasement. The lash there may be still a class instrument, or it may not. She has no great city—an exceedingly important consideration—and two portions of her people are jostling each other as nominal equals in the race of life, who but the other day held the relation of master and slave. She is probably not indifferent to a good name, and her retention of the whip under all the sneers she receives is some evidence that she at least regards it as still having a definsible use.—*The Galaxy.*


### E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron.

Has never been known to fail in the cure of weakness, attended with symptoms, Indisposition of exertion, loss of memory, difficulty of breathing, general weakness, horror of disease, weak, nervous trembling, dreadful horror of death, nightsweats, cold feet, weakness, dimness of vision, languor, universal lassitude of the muscular system, enormous appetite, with dyspeptic system, hot hands, flushing of the body, dryness of the skin, pallid countenance and eruptions on the face, purifying the blood, heaviness of the eyelids, pain in the back, frequent black spots flying before the eyes with temporary suffusion and loss of sight; want of attention etc These symptoms all arise from a weakness, and to remedy that use E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron. It never fails. Thousands are now enjoying health who have used it. Get the genuine. Sold only in $1 bottles. Take only E. F. Kunkel's.

Ask for Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron. This truely valuable tonic has been so thoroughly tested by all classes of the community, that it is now deemed Indispensable as a Tonic medicine. It costs but little, purifies the blood and gives tone to the stomach, renovates the system and prolongs life.

I now only ask a trial of this valuable tonic. Price $1 per bottle. E. F. KUNKEL, Sole Proprietr, No. 259 North Ninth St., Below Vine, Philadelphia, Pa. Ask for Kunkel's bitter Wine of Iron, and take no other. A photograph of the proprietor on each wrapper, all others are counterfeit.

Beware of counterfeits. Do not let your druggist sell you any but Kunkels, which is put up only as above represented. You can get six bottles for $5. All I ask is one simple trial.

**Tape Worm Removed Alive.**

Head and all complete in two hours. No fee till head passes. Seat, Pin, and Stomach worms removed by Dr. Kunkel, 259 North Ninth St. Advice free. No fee until head and all passes in one, and alive. Dr. Kunkel is the only successful physician in the country for the removal of Worms, and his Worm Syrup is pleasant and safe for children or grown persons. Send for circular or ask for a bottle of Kunkel's Worm Syrup. Price $1.00 a bottle. Get it of your druggist. It never fails.

Patentees and inventors should read advertisement of Edson Bros. In another column. 3-29-3t-e-o-w

Given Away.—In order that every one may see samples of their goods, J. L. Patten & Co., of 162 William Street, N. Y., will send a handsome pair of 6x8 Chromos, and a copy of the best 16-page literary paper now published, to any reader of this paper who will send them two 3ct. stamps to pay mailing expenses. 3-5-4t

NATURE'S REMEDY.
VEGETINE
THE GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER
**Becommend it Heartily.**
SOUTH B. STON.
Mr. Stevens:
Dear sir—I have taken several bottles of your Vegetine, and am convinced it is a valuable remedy for Dyspepsia, Kidney Complaint, and general debility of the system.
I can heartily recommend it to all suffering from the above complaints. Yours respectfully,
Mrs. MUNROE PARKER,
386 Athens Street.

POND'S EXTRACT.
POND'S EXTRACT.
The People's Remedy.
The Universal Pain Extractor.
Note: Ask for **Pond's Extract.**
Take no other.

**"Hear, for I will speak of excellent things."**

**POND'S EXTRACT**—The great **Vegetable Pain Destroyer.** Has been in use over **thirty years,** and for cleanliness and prompt curative virtues cannot be excelled.
**CHILDREN.** **No family** can afford to be without **Pond's Extract. Accidents, Bruises, Contusions, Cuts, Sprains,** are relieved almost instantly by external application. Promptly relieves pains of **Burns, Scalds, Excoriations, Chafings, Old Sores, Boils, Felons, Corns,** etc. Arrests inflammation, reduces swellings, stops bleeding, removes discoloration and heals rapidly.
**LADIES** find it their best friend. It assuages the pains to which they are **peculiarly** subject—notably fullness and pressure in the head, nausea, vertigo, &c. It promptly ameliorates and permanently heals all kinds of **inflammations and ulcerations.**
**HEMORRHOIDS** or **PILES** find in this the only immediate relief and ultimate cure. No case, however chronic or obstinate can long resist its regular use.
**VARICOSE VEINS.** It is the only sure cure.
**KIDNEY DISEASES.** It has no equal for permanent cure.
**BLEEDING** from any cause. For this it is a specific. It has saved hundreds of lives when all other remedies failed to arrest bleeding from **nose, stomach, lungs,** and elsewhere.
**TOOTHACHE, Earache, Neuralgia** and **Rheumatism** are all alike relieved, and often permanently cured.
**PHYSICIANS** of all schools who are acquainted with **Pond's Extract of Witch Hazel** recommend it in their practice. We have letters of commendation from hundreds of Physicians, many of whom order it for use in their own practice. In addition to the foregoing, they order its use for **Swellings** of all kinds, **Quinsy, Sore Throat, Inflamed Tonsils,** simple and chronic **Diarrhœa, Catarrh** (for which it is a specific), **Chilblains, Frosted Feet, Stings of Insects, Musquitoes, Chapped Hands, Face,** and indeed all manner of skin diseases.
**TOILET USE.** Removes **Soreness, Roughness** and **Smarting;** heals **Cuts, Eruptions** and **Pimples.** It restores, invigorates and refreshes, while wonderfully improving the **Complexion.**
**TO FARMERS**—**Pond's Extract.** No Stock Breeder, no Livery Man can afford to be without it. It is used by all the leading Livery stables, Street Railroads and first Horsemen in New York City. It has no equal for Sprains, Harness or Saddle Chafings, Stiffness, Scratches, Swellings, Cuts, Lacerations, Bleedings, Pneumonia, Colic, Diarrhœa, Chills, Colds, &c. Its range of action is wide, and the relief it affords is so prompt that it is invaluable in every Farm-yard as well as in every Farm-house. Let it be tried once, and you will never be without it.
**CAUTION!** **Pond's Extract** has been imitated. The genuine article has the words **Pond's Extract** blown in each bottle. It is prepared by the **only persons living** who ever knew how to prepare it properly. Refuse all other preparations of Witch Hazel. This is the only article used by Physicians, and in the hospitals of this country and Europe.
**HISTORY and Uses of Pond's Extract,** in pamphlet form, sent free on application to **POND'S EXTRACT COMPANY,** 14 Maiden Lane, New York.

ONLY THE BEST.
All who have a Garden should send for my Illustrated Catalogue, descriptive of the latest Novelties and choicest Varieties of Vegetable, Field, and Flower Seeds. Free to all on