Print Shows through

THE CLIMAX.

VOLUME I. RICHMOND, MADISON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1888. NUMBER 36.

NEW CLOTHING FIRM, NEW GOODS, NEW PRICES!

COVINGTON & MITCHELL

ANNOUNCE THAT THEIR GOODS ARE

NOW OPEN FOR INSPECTION.

The public is cordially invited to call and examine these goods and learn prices.

THEIR READY-MADE CLOTHING

consists of the latest patterns and best materials. Men, Youths and Boys of all sizes can be furnished with everything in the Clothing and Furnishing-goods line, from an Overcoat to a Necktie. Fat men and thin men need not fear that they cannot be pleased.

A Delightful Stock of Hats.

Every kind and style of Hat, from the finest silk to the cheapest felt.

Shirts in Profusion and Great Variety.

No house in Central Kentucky carries a better stock of shirts.

A SPLENDID LINE OF NECKWEAR.

MERCHANT TAILORING.

A FIRST-CLASS CUTTER of years of experience, and a competent corps of tailors, together with a

LARGE AND CHOICE STOCK OF SUITINGS AND TTOUSERINGS

in both Foreign and Domestic Goods, enables Covington & Mitchell to compete with all houses everywhere.

COVINGTON & MITCHELL.

T. M. LACKEY, Salesman.

feb.8-1y.

WONDERFUL SUCCESS.

ECONOMY IS WEALTH.

All the PATTERNS you wish to use during the year for nothing (a saving of from $3.00 to $4.00) by subscribing for

THE CLIMAX

—AND—

Demorest's Illustrated Monthly Magazine

With Twelve Orders for Cut Paper Patterns of your own selection and of any size.

BOTH PUBLICATIONS, ONE YEAR,

—FOR—

$3.00 (THREE DOLLARS).

DEMOREST'S THE BEST Of all the Magazines.

CONTAINING STORIES, POEMS, AND OTHER LITERARY ATTRACTIONS, COMBINING ARTISTIC, SCIENTIFIC, AND HOUSEHOLD MATTERS.

Illustrated with Original Steel Engravings, Photogravures, Oil Pictures and fine Woodcuts, making it the Model Magazine of America.

Each Magazine contains a coupon order entitling the holder to the selection of any pattern illustrated in the fashion department in that number, and in any of the sizes manufactured, making patterns during the year of the value of over three dollars.

DEMOREST'S MONTHLY is justly entitled the World's Model Magazine. The Largest in Form, the Largest in Circulation, and the best TWO Dollar Family Magazine issued. 1888 will be the Twenty-fourth year of its publication, and it stands at the head of Family Periodicals. It contains 72 pages, large quarto, 8½x11½ inches, elegantly printed and fully illustrated. Published by W. Jennings Demorest, New York.

And by Special Agreement Combined with the

CLIMAX AT $3.00 PER YEAR.

GANTER'S —CHICKEN— Cholera Cure!

Thousands of dollars worth of chickens die every year from Cholera. It is more fatal to chickens than all other diseases combined. But the discovery of a remedy that *positively cures it* has been made, and to be convinced of its efficacy only requires a trial. A 50-cents bottle is enough for one hundred chickens. It is guaranteed. If, after using two-thirds of a bottle, the buyer is not thoroughly satisfied with it as a cure for Chicken Cholera, return it to the undersigned and your money will be refunded.

STOCKTON & WILLIS.

aug 24 1y.

Library Lamps

AND

Rodgers' Silver-Plated Knives and Forks.

They can not be surpassed in style or workmanship at

The Prices We Quote.

Very best material employed in their manufacture.

You Will Like Them

if you see them, because you can't help it.

They Are Precisely What You Want.

Our stock of Queen's-ware and Glassware and especially our DECORATED DINNER and TEA SETS, is full and attractive.

BEST GRADES OF

COFFEES, SUGARS, TEAS

and other Staple Groceries, also Canned Goods.

L. E. & G. C. FRANCIS.

June22-tf

A REGULAR HURRICANE

—HAS STRUCK PRICES AT THE—

Busy Bee Cash Store.

In order to close out the following lines of goods we quote prices as follows:

Men's Full Stock Heavy Boots,	$1.50;	former price,	$2.25	Ladies' Newmarket Cloaks.....	$2.50;	former price,	$5.00
Men's Full Stock Heavy Boots,	1.75;	" "	2.75	Ladies' Newmarket Cloaks.....	3.50;	" "	4.50
Men's Full Stock Kip.....	2.25	" "	3.50	Ladies' Fine Newmarket Cloaks,	4.50;	" "	10.00
Men's Box Toe Side Lined Kip.....	3.00;	" "	4.50	Ladies' Short Wraps, (ball trimming) very fine.....	5.50;	" "	12.00
Boys' Full Stock Boots, all sizes,..	1.00;	" "	1.50	Good Overcoats for Men.....	2.00;	" "	3.50
Boys' Best Full Stock Boots, "	1.50;	" "	2.25	Better Overcoats for Men.....	3.00;	" "	5.00
Youths' Full Stock Boots, "	75;	" "	1.25	All-wool Overcoats for Men.....	5.00;	" "	10.00

Overshoes for Men, Women, Misses, Boys and Children at Cost; also Men's and Boys' Gum Boots.

All Winter Goods, such as Flannels, Canton Flannels, Jeans, Heavy Cassimeres, Blankets, Shawls, Underwear, Wollen Hosiery, Yarns, Gloves, etc., will be sacrificed at less than cost to manufacture these—to close them out at once. Don't fail to attend this sale, as everything in the house has been made A RED HOT BARGAIN.

This sale will continue day after day until all the above lines are closed out. So come at once and get first choice. Thanking you for your very liberal patronage, we are respectfully,

RAMSEY & OLDHAM,

Jun22tf. Proprietors "Busy Bee" Cash Store.

NEW HOUSE,

NEW STOCK OF HARDWARE, NEW PRICES, NEW STYLES, AS WELL AS A NEW YEAR.

Shackelford, Gentry & Co.

ask you to call and see them in their elegant new house on upper Main Street, site of the old one that was burned last August.

—THEY HAVE THE—

Most Complete Hardware House in Central Kentucky.

They have more room, more goods and more desire to sell than they had in their old quarters.

June 22tf

House And Lot For Sale!

House and Lot on Estill Avenue for sale. Apply to A. C. Clowers, or W. G. White at Drug Store.

jan25tf.

HARRISON MILLER

Has opened a Furniture Repairing and Upholstering Shop second door from the Post-office, next to Hunley's Livery Stable. All work done at reasonable rates. LAYING CARPETS A SPECIALTY. 7dec tf.

ASK FOR THE G. L. P. C. Remedy.

CUTHERSON & LEY,

LEXINGTON, KY.

STOCKTON & WILLIS,

Agents For Madison County.

sep28 1y.

Where Are You Going?

When do you start? Where from? How many in your party? What amount of freight or baggage have you? What route do you prefer? Upon receipt of an answer to the above questions you will be furnished, free of expense, with the lowest R. R. STEAMBOAT MINNEAPOLIS rates, also maps, time tables, pamphlets, or other valuable information which will save trouble, time and money. Agents will call in person where necessary. Parties not ready to answer above questions should cut out and preserve this notice for future reference. It may become useful. Address C. H. WARREN, General Passenger Agent, St. Paul, Minn.

MANITOBA RAILWAY.

Minnesota Leads the World

With her stock, dairy and grain products. LONGLOAN acres fine timber, farming and grazing lands, adjacent to railroad, for sale cheap on easy terms. For maps, prices, rates, etc., address, J. Bookwalter, Land Commissioner, or C. H. Warren, General Passenger Agent, St. Paul, Minn. Ask for Book H.

STEAMBOAT MINNEAPOLIS MANITOBA RAILWAY.

ILLUMINATING GAS.

How It Is Manufactured and the Products Created by Its Distillation.

The manufacture of coal gas consists of three distinct operations: (1) distillation, the driving off of the gases from the coal by heat; (2) condensation, the separation of the water, tar and other condensable vapors; (3) purification, the removal of the sulphur compounds and carbonic acid.

If the bowl of an ordinary clay pipe is filled with small pieces of bituminous coal, covered over with clay, and placed in a bright fire, smoke will at once begin to issue from the stem. The smoke soon ceases, when, if a light is applied to the hole in the stem, the gas then issuing will burn with a bright steady flame, while a thin, black tarry substance oozes out of the hole. This is on a small scale the distillation part of the gas-making process.

In the manufacture of gas on a commercial scale, coal is placed in long, horizontal ( ) shaped retorts, made sometimes of iron, but usually of fire clay, set in groups or benches of three, five, six or more, and heated from the outside by a fire, usually of coke. The coal being charged, say from 160 to 200 pounds, the mouth of the retort is closed with a lid held in place by a screw, the joints being made tight by luting with clay. As the retorts are usually red hot from previous charges, the gas begins at once to pass over from the coal to the condensing apparatus. In about four hours the retort is opened, the coke drawn and quenched with water, while a new charge of coal is introduced, and thus the process is a continuous one. The character of the products of distillation varies greatly with the coal charged and the heat applied. Too low a heat gives a large proportion of condensable vapors, which are lost in the tar; too high a heat injuries the quality of the gas by decomposing it into non-luminous marsh gas and hydrogen.

The products of distillation are, roughly speaking, four: gas, ammoniacal liquor, tar and coke. The yield of a ton of coal varies greatly. The products of Pittsburgh coal may be taken at 10,500 cubic feet of gas, 1,450 pounds of coke, 20 gallons of ammoniacal liquor and 140 pounds of tar. The gas goes to the condenser and purifier to be prepared for distribution to consumers. A part of the coke, say one-third, is used to heat the retorts, and the rest is sold. The ammoniacal liquor is made into sulphate of ammonia, a most valuable manure. 108 gallons of liquor making one ton of sulphate, while the tar is used to make an almost endless variety of substances, the most brilliant and varied colors, anilines, the most delicate perfumes, the most useful medicines, and the sweetest product, saccharine, known to man. A list even of the products derived from this black, ugly looking tar would fill this column. There is no fairy tale than in wonder or interest surpasses the story Sir Henry Roscoe tells of coal tar. From the tar of a ton of coal are obtained 71.6 pounds pitch, 17.92 creosote, 13.44 heavy oils, 8.96 yellow naphtha, 6.72 naphthaline, 4.48 naphthol, 2.24 alizarine, 2.24 soluble naphtha, 1.57 phenol, 1.12 autrine, 0.784 toluidine, 0.47 anthracine, and 0.896 toluene. From the toluene, saccharine, more than two hundred times sweeter than sugar, is made. These are again broken up according to Roscoe. Already there have been obtained sixteen distinct yellow dyes, two orange, thirty red, fifteen blue, seven green, besides a number of browns and an infinite number of blendings of all shades. From coal tar comes a product that quiets fever, that serves as the basis of the perfume of "new-mown hay," that takes the place of the heliotrope flower, the vanilla bean, the bitter almond, and stranger than all, that wonderfully sweet saccharine.

The process we have been describing is the coal gas process. A considerable proportion of the gas consumed, however, is known as water-gas. This is in reality a mixture composed of about two-thirds water-gas and one-third oil-gas, the former produced by the action of incandescent carbon on steam, and the latter by the distillation of petroleum or its products. Water-gas contains no illuminants, but has low specific gravity and a high heating power, while by almost any method of distilling oil, seventy cubic feet of seventy candle power gas can be produced from a gallon of oil. By diluting this oil-gas with water-gas an illuminating gas of excellent quality is obtained.—*J. P. Weeks, in Chautauquan.*

FRONIE AND EPHRUM.

A Devoted Couple Whose Dark Eyes Penetrated the Deepest Darkness.

Dark? That has only four letters in it. A house burned down, but people across the street didn't know of it. You could see further with your eyes shut than with them open. The darkness was four coats of pure black, fast colors. It quenched all sounds. All at once, and faintly, from either side of the street, one hundred feet wide, came:

"Fronie, am dat you'self?"

"Ephrum, am dat you'self?"

And the answers, simultaneously:

"Fronie, dat's me."

"Ephrum, dat's me."

Then they met in the middle of the street.

"Fronie, how you know dat was me?"

"I knowed it by yo' face, Ecbrum."

"An' I knowed you by yo' face, too, Fronie."

"Yas, Ephrum, I sawd a dahk spot gwine along ober dah, an' you couldn't fool me. I know dat face o' yourn."

"Dat's jis my fix. I sawd yo' countenance. It's cur'us how dis atmosphere do bring out de complexium."

"Wha's yo gwine, Ephrum?"

"Down to yo' house."

"Take my ahm. I'se gwine back wid yo', for fear yo' see annudder dahk spot gwine erlong an' take up wid some odder gal; it's gwine to git dahk dis ebenin; I presume."—*A. W. Bellaw, in Tid-Bits.*

She Agreed with Him.

"It seems to me," said a traveling man to a young lady upon whom he was trying to make an impression, "that men now-a-days waste too much time in words. They expatiate needlessly on any subject they may be talking about. That is something I never do. I can tell all I know on any subject inside of two minutes."

"Yes, I should think you could," was the demurely-spoken reply.—*Merchant Traveler.*

FULL OF FUN.

—An exchange says: "Never go into the water after a hearty meal." We don't. We go to the restaurant after it.—*Philadelphia Call.*

—Robbie—"Mamma, doesn't it make your hands warm to spank me?" Mamma—"Why, yes, Robbie, it does." Robbie—"Wouldn't it do just as well then, mamma, for you to go and hold 'em over the register?"—*Burlington Free Press.*

—"Have you heard of how Billhoover is attempting to rival Dr. Tanner? Hasn't eaten any thing for twenty days." "Is that so? He used to be a perfect glutton." "Yes, but his wife does the cooking for the family now."—*Lincoln Journal.*

—"What did you marry my son for?" fiercely demanded an old gentleman of a clergyman who had just united his runaway scapegrace in the holy bonds. "Two dollars, sir," meekly replied the dominie, "to be charged to you."—*Binghamton Republican.*

—An American tourist was offered a shillaleh for a shilling. "That's the thing we pay the rent with!" observed the dealer. "Chestnut!" said the American. "No; it's blackthorn," responded the Celt.—*Puck.*

—"Oh, ma!" exclaimed a little girl in the horse car, "just look at that man! What a dirty face!" "Sh! Kitty," replied ma; "perhaps the gentleman has an antipathy to cleanliness. We must always respect the feelings of others."

—She—"James, do you know you put three buttons on the plate in church to-day?" He—"I knew what I was about." She—"James, perhaps you don't know that I bought those buttons yesterday for my new dress and paid fifty cents apiece for them."—*Waverly Magazine.*

—Kansas City Man—"Why, our city is so crowded with strangers anxious to invest in real estate that it takes a man fifteen minutes to walk a block." Omaha Man—"Oh, that's nothing. The streets of Omaha are so jammed that the ladies have been compeled to give up wearing bustles."—*Harper's Bazar.*

—Two weighs of getting rich.—

The man who robs you on the road,
A highwayman is he;
The grocer giving you low weight,
A low-weigh man was he.

—*Tid-Bits.*

—"An unfortunate mistake occurred in last week's edition," plaintively mutters a Custer County paper. "We referred to Mr. Taken, candidate for sheriff on the opposition ticket as a 'rough-hewn diamond.' It should have been 'ruffianly demon.' We trust our readers will forgive the mistake."—*Omaha Bee.*

—"Ah, dearest," sighed a young man, kneeling at the feet of his owneat own, "dost thou know what of all things is nearest to my heart?" "Really, I can't say," she sweetly replied, "but in this cold weather I should think it was a flannel shirt." She was too practical, and it broke the engagement.

—An old woman unable to read, on receiving a letter from an absent son, asked a friend to read it to her. The writing was so bad that the friend, hardly able to make it out, read stammeringly: "Dear mot—mother, I—l—ta—tks"—whereupon the old woman cried out, gleefully: "It's from dear Jamie, sure enough! He always stuttered!"—*N. Y. Ledger.*

WELL-PAID MILLINERS.

A Pleasant Trade Where Success Invariably Crowns Ability.

"I should'n't think that would be a good business for you to engage in."

"Why not? It is better than going into a store and becoming a saleslady.'"

A young woman who has her living to earn by her unaided exertions was discussing her future plans with a friend in the hearing of a reporter.

"Yes, but there is no money in being a milliner. It takes money to start in that business. I always thought, and you can only make wages until you own your own establishment.'

"They are very good wages, though."

"How good?"

"To begin, I should say they will be two dollars or three dollars a week. The work, however, is simple—sewing wires on hats and such things as that."

"How long does that continue?"

"That depends entirely upon the girl. Some never raise above that, and some advance very rapidly. It generally takes, however, from six months to a year. The next step is the work on binding. This usually is paid from five dollars to seven dollars a week. Some houses pay more and a few less."

"Well, that is about all you can get, isn't it?"

"It is just a start. From binder one becomes a trimmer and designer. A good trimmer makes from fifteen dollars to thirty dollars, and a skilled designer from twenty-five dollars to seventy-five dollars a week."

"Yes, but every one can't reach that point?"

"I know that, but I intend to be one who does. The money is there to be earned, and I propose to earn it. I have been to a number of the leading millinery shops in this city, and learn that there is a constant demand for choice designers and skillful trimmers, at as good wages, too, as most men can command. I think the business offers as great advantages to an ambitious young woman whose tastes lie in that direction as any other, and I intend to prove it."—*N. Y. Mail and Express.*

The De Bange Gun.

It appears from the results of tests made at Christiania, Norway, that the DeBange gun is likely to prove a powerful rival of the famous Krupp weapon. The former guns have a calibre of 8.4 centimeters, and the number of shots fired, amounting to 1,000, have not effected the smallest trace of extension, the diameter, measured before and after the 1,000 shots, agreeing to a hundredth part of a millimeter. The accuracy and the range of the firing have also been entirely satisfactory. Some minor drawbacks in connection with the gun carriages and the regulating screws, both of which suffered somewhat from the powerful recoil, have been removed, and those now used have stood the last 600 rounds without the least hitch.—*N. Y. Sun.*

—High-school Girl—"Jennie, do you still believe in Columbus as the discoverer of America?" Jennie—"I don't know and, I don't care; I've been bored to death about it. I'd just as Leif think it was a Norseman as an Italian."—*Boston Beacon.*

THE GERMAN ARMY.

Some Interesting Particulars Concerning Its Discipline on the Frontier.

Metz is one of the most strongly fortified cities in Europe. It is impregnable to-day against any army that France could bring against it. I have been all around this city, and have been able to pass along under the fortifications, and to note their multiplicity and strength. No civilian has the right to ascend even one of the lowest battlements. Only the most trusted of the German superior officers have the privilege of moving around freely through these breastworks. There are but few, even among the German officers at Metz, who know the exact character and extent of these defenses. Metz is entirely surrounded by tremendous walls of earth and masonry, varying in thickness from thirty to sixty feet. The principal wall passes entirely around the town in an unbroken line, being pierced only by passages which can be closed completely by massive steel gates. These walls are strengthened by deep moats. There are three moats passing entirely around the city. These are from twenty to thirty feet wide, and are filled with water. In the front of each moat is a frieze of jagged wood, and a hedgerow of such strength as to make an impassable barrier without cutting. The capturing of one line of fortifications could only be done under the concentrated fire of the forts in the neighborhood and the further in-lying defenses. The passing of one barrier would be merely a beginning.

The great heights around Metz are covered with forts. There are nine in the immediate neighborhood. The greatest height is occupied by Fort St. Quentin. This is absolutely as impregnable as the heights at Ehrenbreitstein, on the Rhine. This fort stands upon a high peak, which rises alone from a wide stretched plain. The plain is undulating and luxuriant in color. The height rises abruptly from this, a rocky mass, as if it were specially prepared by the hand of nature for a fortress to command the plain. With the tremendous armament attached to this fort, no army could approach Metz from France without being utterly destroyed, unless St. Quentin could be first silenced or captured. It commands the country to the River Moselle. Upon its right, between it and Metz, is the tremendous fort of Friedrich Karl, and upon its north is Fort Prappeville. In addition to these forts, which absolutely bar the road leading to Germany, there is no elevation near the city which is not occupied by strong modern military defenses.

Once inside the city you find discipline, hard work, and the results of a perfect military system. Fully half the people you see on the streets are soldiers. In the city of Metz to-day there are twenty-six thousand men. Along the frontier, in positions where they can be concentrated upon the border within twenty-four hours, there are two hundred thousand men. In Metz, private soldiers are turned out at four o'clock in the morning. It is drill, drill, from morning till night. They are exercised in every form of evolution which could be employed in actual war. The officers wear their uniforms constantly. It is a breach of discipline, and of the most serious character, for them to appear in public in civilian dress. These officers have no time for social hospitalities. They are too occupied with their military duties. In the perfecting of this tremendous military machine which each day grows more and more formidable.

The perfection of the discipline of the German army can only be understood by witnessing its actual operation. To begin with, the private soldiers are thoroughly trained physically, as well as in the mental details of the military profession. They are all accomplished gymnasts. The German army is perfectly democratic in the placing of its men. The sons of the best families, who wish merely to serve their three years' term, have to begin in the ranks as common soldiers. I heard, when I was in Metz, of a young nobleman who was placed in the ranks as a private and under the command of his servant, a gardener.

The respect which a subordinate must pay to his superior extends throughout every hour and minute of the day. The first night of my arrival in Metz I was dining at the table d'hote, when a heavy, thick-set German officer entered the room. A slight, aristocratic-looking German officer, also in uniform, was leisurely eating his dinner and talking to a friend when the officer entered the room. The moment the latter entered the young officer stood up from the table and saluted. He stood with his hand at the side of his head, in the attitude of salute, until the advancing officer returned the salute and told him politely to sit down. In this particular case I afterward learned that the officer superior in rank was a former tradesman in the town where the younger officer, the only son of a noble family, was one of its social leaders. The two men in social life would not know each other socially. But in the army the tradesman's position commanded the absolute respect and obedience of the nobleman.—*T. C. Crawford, in N. Y. World.*

His Nerve Weakened.

Mrs. Skyskooper, who has been presented with a scavenger man's bill—"My goodness, young man, isn't fifty dollars an outrageous charge for two hours' work on that sewer?"

Scavenger Man—"Well, it mought be just a least bit stiff, but the policeman who put me onto the job said as hoow you wuz rich and to tuck the price on."

"Well, you just present that bill to my attorney, and if he pays it, all right."

"Naw, I don't want to take all that trouble—jest give me a dollar and a 'alf and call it square."—*Nebraska State Journal.*

—A writer in the New York *Observer*, describing life in Russia, says there the priesthood is divided into two classes—the white and the black clergy. The white clergy are the parish priests, are obliged to marry, and have duties corresponding to those of pastors in this country. The black clergy, or, as they are called, "the black monks," hold the places of power in the church, are celibates, and live in monasteries. Their dress gives their names to the priests. Not unnaturally, the white priests and the black monks are any thing but friends.

EXAMINATION INCIDENTS.

Students Who Were Unjustly Accused of Copying Answers.

The solemn nature of an ordination examination is sufficient to insure a happy freedom from all attempts at untruthfulness or imposition, and consequently an affectionate confidence takes the place of that suspicion which usually forms so painful an element in examinations. Unpleasant incidents have, however, been known to cast a passing shadow upon such occasions even in the best regulated dioceses. It is said that a well known Bishop was once informed by his examiners that they had reason to think two of the candidates had been guilty of collusion. The Bishop looked at the papers and saw that several of the questions had been answered by both candidates in identical words. Feeling convinced that this was sufficient evidence of copying, he addressed all the candidates, and told them with what sorrow he had found that two gentlemen had been guilty of a deed so dishonorable as to disqualify them for holy orders. As, however, he wished to spare himself and them the pain of any investigation, he would leave it, he said, to their consciences, and he trusted that no gentleman who had copied would present himself again that afternoon.

In the afternoon, however, it was found that no candidate was absent, and the Bishop again addressed them, saying that he feared he had not made his meaning clear, and now he would only say he hoped that the gentlemen who knew they had copied would think over what happened, and withdraw from the examination next day. It is needless to say that some anxiety was felt among the candidates that night as to the effect of the Bishop's words, and it was with surprise that the next morning again it was found that all were present. Then the Bishop, feeling himself unable any longer to refrain from action, said: "I regret that my kind intention to show consideration to the candidates has not been appreciated, and my suggestion has not been acted upon. It becomes impossible for me, therefore, to spare you any longer. Mr. —— and Mr. ——, stand up."

The two candidates on being named did stand up, and most indignantly protested their entire innocence of such a charge. On being confronted with their papers they explained the strange similarity of their answers by the fact that both had been taught by the same tutor, and had been made by him to learn by heart certain sentences which he had dictated for the sake of accuracy, and they had thus incurred suspicion most unjustly.

Examiners ought to be very careful lest they should be tempted to pronounce lightly upon *prima-facie* evidence as to copying. I have been assured by one of Her Majesty's inspectors that upon one occasion he was looking through some papers sent by candidates in Scotland, when he came upon a very singular answer. The question was: "Describe any remarkable ruins with which you may be acquainted, and mention any particulars relating to their history." To this a girl had answered: "The most remarkable ruin of which I have heard is that of the South Sea Bubble, as it was called," and she then went on to give particulars of it. The examiner was amused at this, as he thought, Scotch limitation of the idea of ruin, but went on with the papers. Presently he came upon the paper of another girl who had answered the question in exactly the same words. "Here," he exclaimed, "is a clear case of copying." To his surprise, however, he found on further investigation that one girl had written her paper in Edinburgh and the other in Glasgow at the same time.—*Temple Bar.*

Contents of a Ton of Coal.

A careful estimate made by an English chemist of the contents, or constituents, of a ton of coal presents some interesting facts not familiar certainly to unscientific minds. It is found that besides gas, a ton of ordinary gas coal will yield 1,500 pounds of coke, 20 gallons of ammonia water and 140 pounds of coal tar. Now destructive distillation of this amount of coal tar gives about 70 pounds of pitch, 14 pounds of creosote, 14 pounds of heavy oils, about 9½ pounds of naphtha yellow, 6 3-10 pounds of naphthaline, 4½ pounds of naphthol, 2.25 pounds of alizarine, 2.4 pounds of solvent naphtha, 1.5 pounds of phenol, 1.2 pounds aurine, 1.1 pounds aniline, 0.77 pound of toludine, 0.46 pound of anthracine, and 0.9 pound of toluene—from the last named substance being obtained the new product saccharine, said to be 230 times as sweet as the best cane sugar.—*N. Y. Sun.*

Preparing for the Show.

Young Perkins had been paying court to a bill poster's daughter for some time, but no engagement seemed to come of it. The father, becoming impatient, said to Perkins, finally.

"Young man, when does your show open?"

"I haven't any show," said Perkins.

"I thought you had, for you and Sue have been billing for some time back."

Perkins took the hint, proposed and was accepted, and the show commenced not long after.—*Texas Siftings.*

—Georgia has one fortune-teller who can be depended on. She is a young girl, and was recently thought to be a gypsy by a widower who is looking for a young wife, and was therefore anxious to know the future. The girl said she'd tell the past and the future, and, having first received a good fee, she told the man to take off his hat. He did. Then she said: "You took off your hat; you will put it back on. God love you, and if you don't look sharp the devil will get you." The fortune-teller then walked away and left him standing looking "like the boy the calf ran over."

—In a Western paper an item relating to the killing of a brakeman got mixed up with an account of a fashionable wedding and the subscribers were somewhat mystified on reading the following: "A brakeman on the West bound freight, No. 6, was instantly killed yesterday near Grady's crossing. He fell from the car and was run over by Miss Belle Downs, a beautiful young lady, who wore a handsome garnet-colored silk, and carried a large bouquet of white roses."

—Ability involves responsibility. Power, to its last particle, is duty.—*Alexander Maclaren.*

M. Revillout, in conjunction with his brother, has given the results of his researches into Babylonian law, as embodied in the multitudinous contract tablets that have been brought from Babylonia. He points out that in Babylonia and Egypt we find most of the germs and principles of Roman law, and that on this account, if on no other, the legal documents of the valleys of the Euphrates and the Nile well deserve study. The Chaldean banks were already acquainted with the principle of the check, and the Babylonian could either open a credit at his bank or deposit his capital in it for the sake of security. Mortgages had been known from an early period, and the legal rate of interest was twelve shekels a year on each mina—a mina consisting of sixty shekels. The married woman whose father was dead had a guardian to manage her affairs and see after her rights; but, besides the lawful wife, the Babylonian might possess another of inferior rank whom he had purchased from her parents at a given price. His rights over the latter, however, were never complete, and ceased as soon as the parents repaid the sum given to them. Companies and associations of all kinds existed in Babylon, and a prisoner could be released on bail if his friends became sureties for him. It may be added that wealthy people employed agents to manage their estates; indeed, most matters of business could be transacted by a responsible mandatary or agent.—*Contemporary Review.*

Facts About the Moon.

During a long storm, persons who are well versed in weather lore are often heard to console themselves with the prediction that there will be a change of weather when the moon changes. Nasmyth and Carpenter characterize as a popular error, in its most absurd form, this belief that the gradual turning of the moon's face toward and away from the sun could, at certain points, upset the existing condition of our atmosphere, generate clouds and pour down rains. In England (and the same may be said of America) the weather changes about every three days, and there is a change of the moon every seven days, so that many coincidences must occur. Those who believe that "the moon rules the weather" always credit such coincidences to lunar influence. But the theory is untenable unless it applies to every case, and unless the same effect is always produced by the same cause. To suppose that a change of the moon will turn dry weather to wet or wet to dry is the merest childishness and go trary to all meteorological records.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

Entirely Too Previous.

Lady Patron—"I want to get some good rat poison."

Druggist (with embarrassment)—"Really, you are in great haste, aren't you?"

"Haste! I don't see it. What do you mean?"

"Well, you know you've only been married to your fourth husband two months, and"—

"And!"

"For the sake of appearances you ought to wait awhile. I am afraid you will have to go elsewhere for it."—*Nebraska State Journal.*