

IT WON'T WORK.

A blue-bird perched on an aspen limb
In the February glitter,
You can't fool me with your siren hymn
Or the twit of your tunesome twitter;
I know, while of vernal things you blab,
That the buds don't burst nor the brook-
lets bab,
And that 'neath your promissory gab
There's an ornithological titter.
It's a chestnut, birdie, so it is—
This little toot you're tooting:
You seem to make it your annual "biz"
To come at the first saluting
Of genial air, and chirp about
The dandelion's coming out,
And the rhubarb's readiness to sprout,
And the verdure's general shooting.
But, the blue-bird perched on an aspen
limb!
This spring you sing's a spectre,
You can yawp the thing till your senses
swim
In the sea of a god-kissed nectar,
But you can't inveigle a chap that's cute
To shuffle his four-ply flannel suit,
Or, in a moment of rashness, "shoot"
His all-wool chest-protector.
—*Yonkers Gazette.*

BE CAREFUL.

There are two kinds of perspiration, sensible and insensible. When we see drops of water on the surface of the body as the result of exercise, or subsidence of fever, that is sensible perspiration—perspiration recognized by the sense of sight. But when perspiration is so gentle that it cannot be detected in the shape of water drops, when no moisture can be felt, when it is known to us only by a certain softness of the skin, that is insensible perspiration, and is so gentle that it may be checked to a very considerable extent without special injury. But to use popular language, which cannot be mistaken, when a man is sweating freely and it is suddenly checked, and the sweat is not properly brought out again in a very few moments, sudden and painful sickness is a very certain result.

What, then, checks perspiration? A draft of air while we are at rest, after exercise, or getting the clothing wet and remaining at rest while it is so. Getting out of a warm bed and going to an open door or window has been the death of multitudes.

A lady heard the cry of fire at midnight; it was bitter cold; it was so near the flames illuminated her chamber. She left the bed, hoisted the window and the cold wind chilled her in a moment. From that hour until her death, a quarter of a century later, she never saw a well day.

A young lady went to a window in her night-clothes to look at something in the street, leaning her unprotected arms on the stone window-sill, which was damp and cold. She became an invalid for life.

Sir Thomas Colby, being in a profuse sweat one night, happened to remember that he had left the key to his wine cellar on the parlor table, and fearing that his servants might improve the inadvertence and drink some of his wine, he left his bed, walked down stairs, the sweating process was checked, from which he died in a few days, leaving \$6,000,000 in English funds. His illness was so brief and violent that he had no opportunity to make his will, and his immense property was divided among five or six day laborers who were his nearest relations.

The great practical lesson which we wish to impress upon the mind of the reader is this: When you are perspiring freely keep in motion until you get to a good fire or to some place where you are perfectly sheltered from any draft of air whatever.—*Hall's Journal of Health.*

HERBS AND THEIR USES.

DANDELION.—This is a well known herb growing in all parts of the country, in fields, yards, meadows, along the roadsides, on the banks of creeks and hillsides. It is an early Spring plant, its leaves remaining green throughout the season. The young leaves are used on the table as greens, and are both agreeable and healthy. The flowers are of a bright yellow color, attached around a sort of head, about an inch in diameter, at the end of a smooth, round, light colored hollow stem about the size of a large goose quill, which rises from the center of the leaves to the height of ten inches.

The root is the part used as medicine.

Medicinal Uses.—Dandelion root is laxative and somewhat tonic. Dandelion seems to act especially on the liver. Half a pint of the root steeped and drank is good for diseases of the skin and kidneys.

DOG TOOTH VIOLET.—Known most commonly, perhaps, by the name of Adder Tongue. It is a small plant, having but two leaves, which are smooth, lace-shaped, five or six inches long, and covered with dark purple spots, giving them a peculiar appearance.

Medical uses.—Both the root and leaves are used, and mainly as a poultice applied to scrofulous ulcers. The fresh root and leaves are to be stewed in milk, and then applied to the sores. A decoction of the article may also be drank.

DOGWOOD.—This is a small, common, and when in blossom, a most beautiful tree, well known throughout the United States. The flowers which appear early in the Spring are white.

Medical Uses.—The bark and root is the part used, being an excellent tonic and somewhat astringent. Dose of the powdered bark, from half to one teaspoonful.—*Health and Home.*

TELL YOUR WIFE

If you are in any trouble or quandary, tell your wife, that is, if you have one, all about it at once. Ten to one her invention will solve your difficulty sooner than all your logic. The wit of woman has been praised, but her instincts are quicker and keener than her reason. Counsel with your wife, your mother, or sister, and be assured that light will flash upon your darkness. Women are too commonly adjudged as veridant in all but purely womanish affairs. No philosophical student of the sex thus adjudges them. Their intuition, or insight, is the more subtle, and if they cannot see a cat in the meal there is no cat there. In counselling one to tell his trouble to his wife, we would go further, and advise him to keep none of his affairs secret from her. Many a home has been happily saved, and many a fortune relieved, by a man's full confidence in his better half. Woman is far more a seer and prophet than man, if she be given a chance. As a general rule, wives confide the minutest of their plans and thoughts to their husbands, having no involvements to screen from him. Why not reciprocate, if but for the pleasure of meeting confidence with confidence? We are certain that no man succeeds so well in the world as he who, taking a partner for life, makes her the partner of all his purposes and hopes. What is wrong in his impulses or judgment, she will check and set right with her almost universally right instincts. "Helpmeet" was no insignificant title, as applied to man's companion. She is meant to help him in every darkness, difficulty and sorrow of life; and what she most craves and desires is confidence, without which love is never free from a shadow.—*Arkansas Traveller.*

A PATENT BED.

A Parisian millionaire, M. Lang, has recently had made for him a wonderful bed, which is certainly one of the most luxurious pieces of furniture we have yet heard of. If it could only become universal what a boon it would be to early risers! The description makes one envy the fortunate possessor. The bed itself is a model of comfort and the following devices have been adopted to render rising from it as pleasant as possible. When it is time to get up a chime of bells ring. The occupant continues to sleep. Suddenly a candle is lit by a clever mechanical arrangement. The sleeper rubs his eyes and an invisible hand proceeds to divest him of his nightcap. By means of electricity a spirit lamp with coffee-roasting apparatus affixed next begins to burn. The water soon boils and the smell of coffee fills the room with a delicious fragrance. Luxuriously revelling in a crowd of agreeable sensations the occupant, now just beginning to awake, is soothed by sounds proceeding from a costly musical box. At length the bells ring out another merry peal and at the foot of the bed a card with "Levez-vous" ("Get up") inscribed on it appears. If this invitation is without effect a powerful mechanism lifts the occupant bodily from his bed and deposits him on the floor.

GEMS OF THOUGHT.

There is not so contemptible a plant or animal that does not confound the most enlarged understanding.—*Locke.*

To-day is a king in disguise. To-day always looks mean to the thoughtless, in the face of an uniform experience, that all good and great and happy actions are made up precisely of these blank to-days.—*Emerson.*

The moral perfections of the Deity, the more attentively we consider, the more perfectly still shall we know them.—*Atterbury.*

Our happiness in this world depends on the affections we are enabled to inspire.—*Duchess De Praslin.*

It is the talent of human nature to run from one extreme to the other.—*Swift.*

Whoever is a hypocrite in his religion mocks God, presenting to him the outside, and reserving the inward for his enemy.—*Jeremy Taylor.*

There is but one thing without honor; smitten with eternal barrenness, inability to do or to be, insincerity, unbelief. He who believes nothing, who believes only the show of things, is not in relation with nature or fact at all.—*Carlyle.*

A lie has no legs, and cannot stand; but it has wings and can fly far and wide.—*Bishop Warburton.*

It is wilful deceit that makes a lie. A man may act a lie, as by pointing his finger in a wrong direction when a traveller inquires of him his road.—*Paley.*

No sophism is too gross to delude minds distempered by party spirit.—*Lord Macaulay.*

All the crimes on earth do not destroy so many of the human race, nor alienate so much property, as drunkenness.—*Lord Bacon.*

The virtue of justice consists in moderation as regulated by wisdom.—*Aristotle.*

That which causes us to lose most of our time is the repugnance which we naturally have to labor.—*Dryden.*

RATS WILL LEAVE.

A correspondent of *Chamber's Journal* says that chloride of lime will drive rats away. He first made this discovery on board ship, and says also: "On my return to England I took a house and furnished it. After being in a short time, I found that it was infested with rats. They would get through every part on the ground floor. On examination I discovered that a drain ran under the house, emptying into the harbor. I here again used the chloride of lime freely, and in less than a week every rat had taken its departure. I have recommended this remedy to many shipmasters and friends on shore; and in all cases it has proved a success. I have occupied my present residence for five years, and we have neither rat nor mouse on the premises. I attribute this to the free use of the above mixture, which is also effective as a deodorizer and disinfectant."

MAKING A ROOST.

There is no better roost than one made of 3x4 scantling, the edges being rounded off slightly to prevent cutting of the feet, with the narrow side up. Such a roost is strong, solid and will hold any weight that may be placed upon it. Nor should the roosts be placed one above the other, or inclined so that they will be higher at the rear than at the front, as the fowls will all crowd to the higher roosts. A roost should be detachable, so as to be taken outside and cleaned, kerosene being freely used. The roosts should also be so arranged as to permit of easy access in removing the droppings.—*Farm and Garden.*

HARD AND SOFT BRISTLES.—The wild hogs of southern Spain are clothed in fine, curly black hair, and thus the proverb, "Never did a Spanish hog's bristle pierce a shoe." The fineness of hair and absence of bristles are attributed to the hot climate, for in those provinces of Spain where this black breed prevails, winter frosts and especially snow, scarcely ever appear. On the contrary, in those parts of Russia where the winters are long and severe and the summers short and cool, the swine produce extra long and stiff bristles in great abundance, like the okatska, which are exported in considerable quantities and sell at a high price in foreign markets.

Science and Industry.

—Large lots of American dried apples are sold in China and Japan.

—The number of hogs packed in the United States for the year ending March 1st, reaches the enormous sum of 11,263,567.

—It is said that 15,000 workmen are engaged in the production of petroleum in Pennsylvania, and about 10,000 in refining it.

—Let keepers of apiaries be on their guard against toads, for they are determined bee eaters. They lie in wait at the foot of hives to seize their prey.

—The average price of orange groves in California is said to be \$1,000 an acre, that contains seventy-five trees, the best producing about ten boxes of fruit each.

—It is stated that at least fifteen cars per day for four months will be required to move the orange crop out of Southern California. Seventy-five per cent. of the crop will come East.

—That agriculture is depressed in Scotland may be judged from the fact that in a recent issue of a Scotch paper forty-seven country mansions with about 245,000 acres attached were advertised for sale.

—A Missouri farmer who has been testing seed corn from the butt, the tip and the middle of ears for three years, finds that the corn from the tip of the ears will ripen first, that from the middle next and that from the butt last.

—Canadians are beginning to worry over the loss of their forests. In the more thickly settled portions of Ontario only 10 per cent. of woodland remains, and wells must now be dug to the depth of forty or fifty feet where formerly water could be reached at six.

—The *banf gras*, or fatted ox, at the New Orleans festival this year was a remarkable animal. He was the purest white, 3,600 pounds in weight and appeared ready for sacrifice, with hoofs and horns gilded and neck and shoulders garlanded.

—In a late lecture at Yale, Prof. Arthur T. Hadley stated that no less than 15,000 persons were injured annually in the United States from the single duty of coupling cars. This estimate is made from statistics of surgical aid given in such cases.

—The immigration to this country shows a great falling off for 1885, the total number of foreigners landing in New York aggregating but 291,066 against 354,702 in 1884. This is the smallest number since 1879. Germany sent 97,913 immigrants, Ireland 35,277, England 25,657, Russia 16,835, Sweden 16,045, Italy 15,740, Hungary 11,665, Austria 10,882, Norway 9,974, the balance being natives of other European States. It is a singular fact that nearly 84,000 of these foreigners remained in New York. The percentage of agricultural laborers was comparatively small.—*American Cultivator.*

THE PRESIDENT'S HABITS.

A great deal has been said about President Cleveland's belief in fatalism and in luck derived from certain habits. Many great men have had these eccentricities, as Dr. Johnson, who could not pass a gate-post without touching it. It is probably not true, as has been stated, that the president welcomes all fortune-tellers to the White House. But it is true that he does believe in a certain amount of fate. His peculiarity takes shape in the direction of Spiritual mediums. It is a common story that while he was Sheriff in Buffalo a medium told him that he would be president. This prophecy made a great impression on the President, and, although a practical business man, he has had a permanent faith in mediums ever since. According to creditable testimony, Mrs. Sawyer, a noted medium, visited the White House several times last year and administered to the spiritual wants of the President. She assured him that he would be elected President again. It is a matter of common talk that this medium warned Mr. Cleveland that he must be very particular with himself, and that this will account for the extraordinary care with which the Chief Magistrate exercises with reference to himself. It is a singular fact that while Mr. Cleveland claims to be

of excellence the President of the people and one of the masses, he has never appeared on Pennsylvania avenue—down which Grant and Hayes used to walk every week—and that he has never exposed himself to public view except in a vehicle in company with Col. Lamont.—*Washington Letter in Baltimore Herald.*

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