

mountains, is really an undulating country, with an average elevation of from 600 to 700 feet, and in which the loftiest hill does not exceed 1,250 feet in height.

The acquisition on the part of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York of the valuable collection of curiosities gathered in Cyprus by General Di Cesnola, is a fact of much note, especially as great efforts were made to retain it in Europe.

COAL GAS.—A practicable means of obtaining coal gas by a method other than the decomposition of coal has long been a desideratum, and one has lately been proposed by Mr. Rueck, which promises well.

CHOCOE-DAMP EXPERIMENT IN THE PARIS CATACOMBS.—Captain Donarrouze is proving to us savans of Paris, that if miners henceforth perish from choco-damp it will not be through the fault of science.

THE APPROACHING TRANSIT OF VENUS.—On Dec. 8, 1874, and again on Dec. 6, 1882, the planet Venus will cross the sun's face, and no like phenomenon will occur after 1882, until the year 2004.

FAMILY MATTERS.

MOCK CREAM.—Boil the milk in a tea-kettle boiler; stir up the egg, corn-starch and butter together; add to the milk when hot.

CORN CAKE.—One cup of Indian meal, one cup of sweet milk, one tablespoonful of flour, half a tablespoonful of brown sugar, one egg, a little salt, and one teaspoonful of yeast powder or azoume.

CELERY.—Cut off the leaves, and cut the stalk into pieces two inches long; boil it in a little water ten minutes, and then add a piece of butter rolled in flour; add salt and pepper. If you wish it richer, boil the celery in a little veal gravy; add cream, beaten eggs, nutmeg and a bit of butter.

SHORT CAKE.—Four cups of sifted flour, one teacupful of cream, one pint of milk, one even tablespoonful of butter, one teaspoonful of salt, one teaspoonful of soda, two teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, sifted with flour. Roll as soft as possible; cut small thick cakes with a form, and bake on a griddle.

The sulphate of ammonia is excellent manure liquid to apply to verbenas or any other flower, giving to the foliage a dark-green, luxuriant and healthy appearance. It is economical, clean and easily applied. Prepare it in the evening, before using, by dissolving one ounce of ammonia in two gallons of water. It may be applied once a week with safety.

To BOIL POTATOES.—In Ireland potatoes are boiled to perfection, the humblest peasant places his potatoes on his table better cooked

than could half the cooks in this country by boiling their best. Potatoes should always be boiled in their "jackets;" peeling a potato before boiling is offering a premium for water to run through it and go to table waxy and unpalatable; they should be thoroughly washed and put into cold water. In Ireland they always nick a piece of the skin off before they place them in the pot; the water is gradually heated, but never allowed to boil; cold water should be added as soon as the water commences boiling, and it should thus be checked until the potatoes are done; the skins will not then be broken or cracked until the potato is thoroughly done; pour the water off completely, uncover the pot and let the skins be thoroughly dry before peeling.

COOKING VEGETABLES.—Why should vegetables be washed in warm water first, then cold, to cleanse them from sand and insects? The hot water, which must be hotter than tepid, causes the insects and sand to fall out at once. Insects do not always dislike cold water and salt, but hot water kills them.

It must be understood that only a small handful of greens or one head of cabbage at a time must be washed, and then instantly thrown into cold water, which crisps and thoroughly cleanses them. Spinach, leeks, celery and sea-kale, are thus rendered very clean, and, moreover, are very rapidly cleansed.

It is worse than useless to attempt to cleanse vegetables in salt and water. The hardness which salt creates in the water prevents all cleansing properties. The salt may kill the insects (it does not always do this), but they stick on hard and fast; the hot water makes them fall out at once, and the cold water crisps and also blanches the vegetables.

GOLDEN GRAINS.

FAME is a flower upon a dead man's heart. GOOD humour is the gridle that blinds friendship to love.

We should so live that none will believe those who speak ill of us.—PLATO.

No snow falls lighter than the snow of age, but none lies heavier, for it never melts.

We ought not to judge of men's merits by their qualifications, but by the use they make of them.

No good that the humblest of us has wrought ever dies. There is one long, unerring memory in the universe, out of which nothing fades.

"No," is a useful word—be not afraid to use it. Many a man has pined in misery for years, for not having courage to pronounce that little monosyllable.

ARTIFICIAL wants are more numerous and lead to more expense than natural wants; from this cause the rich are oftener in greater want of money than those who have but a bare competency.

It is necessary sometimes to refrain from questioning our friends, that we may not draw from them what we ought not to know, and especially that we may not tempt them to deceive us.

A MAN is by nothing so much himself, as by his temper and the character of his passions and affections. If he loses what is manly and worthy in these, he is as much lost to himself as when he loses his memory and understanding.

If there be a lot on earth worthy of envy it is that of a man, good and tender-hearted, who beholds his own creation in the happiness of all those who surround him. Let him who would be happy strive to encircle himself with happy beings.

HAPPINESS is like manna; it is to be gathered in grains, and enjoyed every day. It will not keep; it cannot be accumulated; nor need we go out of ourselves, nor into remote places to gather it, since it has rained down from heaven, at our very doors, or rather within them.

AMBITION.—Never expect a selfishly ambitious man to be a true friend. The man who makes ambition his god tramples upon everything else. He will climb upward, though he treads upon the hearts of those who love him best, and in his eyes your only value lies in the use you may be to him. Personally, one is nothing to him, and, if you are not rich, or famous, or powerful enough to advance his interests, after he has got above you, he cares no more for you.

LEARN A TRADE.—One man with a trade is worth a thousand without one. A return to the old plan of apprenticing boys to trades is being advocated. The hosts of young men in every large city who apply for employment and fail to get it, for the reason that they cannot truthfully affirm that they are educated or especially fitted for any particular business, constitute a potent argument in favor of reform. Under the apprentice system we should have fewer ignorant mechanics and incompetent business men. A trade is half a man's fortune.

GOOD-BYE.—It is a hard word to speak. Some may laugh that it should be, but let them. Its hearts are never kind. It is a word that has choked many an utterance, and started many a tear. The hand is clamped, the word is spoken, we part, and are upon the great ocean of time—we go, to meet—where? God only knows. It may be soon, it may be never. We must then separate. Tear no, yourself away with careless boldness that defies all love, but make

your last words linger—give the heart full utterance—and, if tears fall, what of it? Tears are not unmanly.

FAITH.—I can conceive (says Lord Erskine) a distressed but virtuous man, surrounded by his children, looking up to him for bread when he has none to give them, sinking under the last day's labor, and unequal to the next, yet still supported by confidence in the hour when all tears shall be wiped from the eyes of affliction, bearing the burden laid upon him by a mysterious Providence which he adores, and anticipating with exultation the revealed promises of his Creator, when he shall be greater than the greatest, and happier than the happiest of mankind.

THINGS TO FORGET.—A LESSON FOR GIRLS.—It is an excellent thing to have a good memory, as a rule; but it is quite as good to have a poor one sometimes. There are some things it would be such a blessing to forget. Angry remarks and bitter retorts are amongst them; a thousand good words are forgotten, while the bad one is remembered for ever. It is far easier to burn an idle, senseless jingle of rhymes, than a beautiful hymn or poem. Slanderous words are far better forgotten than remembered. One of the best helps to forgetting is never to speak of them. If you hear a playmate say something unkind of another, keep it to yourself. She will forget it pretty soon, and feel as kindly as ever towards the person. But if you tell of it, then what a storm you will raise! What would you think of a person who went along picking up all the old bars and thistles he could find, and then fastening them on to people? Just such nuisances are those malicious, thoughtless words. Don't pick them up, and they will do but little hurt.

HUM ROUS SCRAPS.

WHAT is to be? Why, a verb. WHAT do little folks do before going to sleep? Shut their eyes.

ADVICE TO YOUNG MEN.—Love not, love not! the thing you love may dye.

MRS. PARTINGTON thinks that the grocer ought to hire a music-teacher to teach them the scales correctly.

WHY were Grecians the quickest ship-builders? Because, whenever Greek met Greek, they came the "lug of war."

FAMILY JARS.—Somebody says there are two kinds of family jars; into one you put your sweat-soats, into the other you put your foot.

A BOARDER, of a Shakesperian turn, says that his bed reminds him of Richard III., because it is "deformed, unfinished," and "scarce half made up."

A FRIEND, peeling phannily pigurative, punnishes the phooling: "4ty itunate testers stultously 4tifying 44lorn 4tresses 4elibly 4bade 4ty 4mildable 4olgners 4zing 4aging 4icos."

A LITTLE boy who sang, "I want to be an angel," in Sunday-school with so much energy that he almost choked himself, confessed to an enterprising reporter that he really wanted to be a captain on a canal-boat.

A LOAFER'S LOGIC.—Worthy Pastor: "My boy learn to be contented; mouths are never sent without the bread to feed them."—"Practical Boy: "Oh, ah! but the mouths is sent to our house and the bread to yourn!"

A GALLANT was sitting beside his beloved, and being unable to think of anything else to say, asked her why she was like a tailor. "I don't know," said she, with a pouting lip, "unless it is because I'm sitting beside a goose."

AN Indiana paper describes the feast of a legislative delegation at a railroad dinner. The reporter is a little reckless in his language, but narrates the facts in the case very pointedly: "The delegation set at 2 p. m. They upset at 5."

OH, LAW!—One hundred women are said to be studying law in American colleges. This is a terrible prospect! Cannot they be persuaded to choose medicine instead. We would rather have them look at our tongues, than have to listen to theirs.

HONOUR seized the hearers on being told by a German soldier of the recent war that he had captured a French spy and swallowed the same; but the sensation was modified when it was explained that it was a French pie which had been thus disposed of.

A POLITICAL orator, speaking of a certain general whom he always admired, said he was always on the field of battle, where the bullets were the thickest. "Where was that?" asked one of the auditors. "In the ammunition-wagon," responded another.

THE MOST DELICATE SENOR.—Scene: Recitation in Metaphysics.—Professor: "Which is the most delicate of the sense?"—Senior: "The sense of touch."—Professor: "Give me an example?" Senior: "My friend, Brown, can feel his moustache, but no one can see it."

A MATTER OF TASTE.—(Never said, but thought of as we lit the cigar, to go home.)—"Do you like Browning?" asked a reading man of a young lady whom he had taken down to dinner. The fair creature by his side (who was no bookworm) answered, "Yes. That I like crackling."

A SMART boy having been required to write a composition on some part of the human body, expanded as follows: "The Throat.—A throat is convenient to have, especially for roasters

and ministers. The former eats corn and crows with it; the latter preaches through his'n and ties it up."

A GENTLEMAN whose memory is not quite so good as it used to be, when he has anything particular to remember next morning, makes a practice of turning one of the pictures in his bedroom with the face to the wall. He finds it very amusing next day trying to recollect what he turned it for.

"WEARY."

Weary of dancing, so weary, Longing to sit down and nap; To find for this sad heart and dromy, The solace of cool claret-cup.

Weary, so weary of wishing For a partner that's gone from my sight, For a hand to be placed on my shoulder, By a fair form enveloped in white.

Weary, so weary of flirting, Waiting for something to eat; For something to soothe and sustain me— Say, Bass, lobster salad, cold meat.

For a hand that would lay close beside me My meerschaum, birdseye, and suzee, For a step that would be such sweet music, If it only brought Soda-and-B.

Wishing and waiting so sadly For my carriage, that isn't in sight; Willing to walk, oh! so gladly, But 'tis such an abominable night.

OUR PUZZLER.

43. DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

If one wishes to enjoy himself, the best thing he can do is to go to both the places which are given here to view.

- 1. A thing that's scarce this word implies. 2. A waste or space of any size. 3. The sweetest word in England's tongue. 4. The bravest man this phrase has sung. 5. This shows a thing is much enjoyed. 6. French for "a wood" is here employed. 7. At tea or breakfast this is made. 8. And now I think my last's been told.

W. FIELD.

44. HIDDEN POETS.

Said Stewart one day, "These curious pens ere long grow all eroded in the inkstand. Yo rebels," said he, "Go! we remember your betters. You carry no ink, but make only dry dots in the paper, which even magic owl eyes fail to discern aright. I'll burn steel pens and use quills, cottony and rough though my paper be. But, by rondeau, sonnet, and serenade, I'll win my Mary's love."

G. F. P.

45. LETTER PUZZLE.

In alphabetical order place A row of letters four, And in the centre them to grace, An R, but not one more. I've named each letter of these five, And hope you do not doubt it; At archery f to it must arrive, They could not do without it.

R. A. IGGLESDEN.

46. REBUS.

- 1. A color, and a fish. 2. An ordinal, and a denizen of the air. 3. A consonant, and a reptile. 4. Two thirds of a color, and a favorite game. 5. A mineral, and a dwelling place. 6. A human being, and a bird. 7. A vowel, a weapon, and a weight. 8. A consonant, a spirit, and a favorite. 9. A celebrated poet, and a weight.

If you the initials downwards read, a favorite poet is before you.

R. CROSSLEY.

47. DECAPITATION.

If you a gale of wind behold, you'll then perceive a shoemaker's tool.

R. C.

48. LITERAL CHARADE.

First's seen in man, but not in his wife. Second in striving, yet not in strife. Third in the spoon, but not in a fork. Fourth in a bottle, though not in the cork.

Fifth in the color of crimson is seen. Though not in purple, or yellow or green. My whole's a girl's name I know very well. Now, friends, I may endeavor the answer to tell. E. P. MERRITT, Kensington, South Australia.

ANSWERS.

39. DOT-BLA ACROSTIC.—Cloth, Leeds, thus Corn, Oshie, Lin E, Tweed, Happiness.

40. CHARADE.—Mount-bank.

41. LOGOGRYPH.—1. Whale, hale, ale. 2. Lady, lad, day.

42. TRIPLE ACROSTIC.—Aquatic, Regatta, Sea side, thus. Aballactis, Quar Esome, Upper Geneva, Accusations, Tutu, Illustrated Grand.