

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Letters intended for the Editor, should be addressed "Editor Saturday Reader, Drawer 491 and communications on business to "R. Worthington, publisher."

In resuming our correspondents' column, we would observe that we hope to make it more than ever a medium for bringing editor and readers generally into closer, and more confidential intercourse. We shall welcome communications on all subjects which come fairly within the scope of this journal, and shall, in return, be always happy to afford any information in our power to our subscribers. In framing our replies, we will endeavour to make them as far as possible, generally interesting, and with a large circle of correspondents, we think there will be no difficulty in effecting this. We wish every reader of this periodical to feel that the Editor's letter-box is open to him, and that the editor's services are at his disposal.

A. B.—The H. should be sounded in "humble;" authorities to the contrary may be quoted, but to omit it sounds pedantic and smacks too much of Uriah Heap.

Mary H.—The following is an excellent recipe for modelling wax.—Take $\frac{1}{2}$ lb beeswax, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb lard, and $\frac{1}{4}$ stone of whiting. Pound dry and sift the whiting, warm the wax and lard together, and pour them into the whiting. Mix well, and roll well, a rolling-pin like dough. Warm before rising.

A. S. L.—Your suggestions respecting the introduction of new features in the READER, will receive our careful attention.

FERGUS.—Your anxiety respecting "The Lion in the Path" will be relieved when you receive the present number, and we are pleased to be able to assure you that the story will in future appear regularly.

WYVANT.—The MS. is not in our possession. It was delivered to a gentleman who undertook to forward it, as well as several others to the addresses of the respective authors. The gentleman is not now in town, on his return we will ascertain if the MS. was mailed to you, and, if not, will see that it is forwarded. We shall be happy to receive your contributions on the same terms as formerly.

J. E. D.A.—You are correct, the omission was an error on the part of the printer.

W. P. B., West Troy.—Will reply to your communication per mail.

POLLY.—"A thing of beauty is a joy forever," is the first line of Keats' celebrated poem of "Endymion."

MISCELLANEA.

CURE FOR CHILBLAINS.—It is said that speedy relief is obtained by simply rubbing the parts affected with kerosene oil, two or three applications being generally sufficient to perform a cure.

THERE has been a very large white turnip exhibited at Sydney, New South Wales. It weighs 43 lbs., and measures 3 feet 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference. When cut it was found to be perfectly solid.

IN the twentieth year of Queen Elizabeth's reign, a blacksmith of London, named Mark Scalliot, made a lock of iron, steel, and brass, of eleven pieces, and a pipe key, all of which only weighed one grain.

CURIOS FACT.—There exists a spot in the German Ocean which is the central point of an area of rotation produced by the meeting and mutual action of two opposite tides, and where, consequently, no rise or fall of tide could occur.

AT the Paris Exhibition will be shown a mechanical horse, which trots, gallops, or walks, as may suit the pleasure of the rider. He even prances after the most approved style, and neighs when that sound is agreeable to his possessor.

A widow and her two daughters have just been poisoned in France from eating a stew made in a copper saucepan which had been allowed to stand without being cleaned, and in that way had generated a quantity of verdigris.

DISTANCE OF THE EARTH FROM THE SUN.—To make the distance of the earth from the sun intelligible, M. Guillemin states that a railway train leaving the earth and going at the rate of thirty miles an hour, would require rather more than 347 years to reach it; so that if such a train had started on January 1st, 1860, it would be A. D. 2213 before it arrived at its destination.

SCIENTIFIC AND USEFUL.

A safety net, for the purpose of arresting the fall of workmen while engaged at a height from the ground, has been patented in England.

Mr. John Holly, of Blackwall, lately exhibited at the office of the Board of Trade, Whitehall, his model of a new brake for railways, giving the power to the driver as well as to the guard.

Russia leather derives its well-known odour, and its power of withstanding the attacks of insects, and the progress of decay, from its being manufactured with oil obtained from the destructive distillation of the bark of the birch.

Astronomical observers of the sun will be interested to know that M. L. Foucault has discovered a method of diminishing the effect of the sun's rays on the focus of telescope lenses. By means of an extremely thin layer of silver placed on the object glass, the sun can be observed without injury to the sight. M. Foucault has communicated the particulars of his invention to the Paris Academy of Sciences.

A scientific way of lighting pipes and cigars has been recently introduced in Paris under the name of *poudre de feu*. It consists of pyrophorus, which is preserved in a small tin case with a narrow orifice. When a little of this black powder is poured out on the end of a cigar, or on the tobacco in a pipe stem, and then gently breathed upon, it becomes incandescent, and is in a condition to light the said pipe or cigar.

IMPROVED TAP.—According to the general method of constructing taps there is a plug which fits into the body of the tap, but it is difficult to make this plug fit with exactness, so that sooner or later leakage ensues. Another fault is, that from their general construction the water-way is necessarily inconveniently small, by reason of the bearing being generally only about one-quarter or one-half the size of the shank of the tap. A further inconvenience which is also inseparable from their construction is, that upon driving the tap into a barrel a false blow frequently carries away the plug. According to an invention which has been patented by Mr. Samuel Mason, of Birmingham, the plug is dispensed with altogether, and instead thereof a valve is provided. Leakage is impossible, and from its constructing the water-way may be either the same size or the shank or if needful larger than it.

WITTY AND WHIMSICAL.

ROMANTIC DEATH.—A young lady drowned in tears.

WHAT are you always to-morrow, though you can't be to-day?—Older.

A FAIR INFERENCE.—If you jump at conclusions, you may take a leap in the dark.

"SHORT visits are always the best," as the fly said when he alighted on a hot stove.

THE speaker who was "drawn out" measured eighteen inches more than before.

"MIND your eye," as the arrow said to the target.

WHAT is 't we frequently say we will do, and no one has ever yet done?—Stop a minute.

HAPPY LADIES.—At what age are ladies most happy?—Marriage.

Why is a selfish friend like the letter P?—Because, although he is the first in pity, he is the last in help.

"GOOD blood will show itself," as the old lady said, when she was struck with the redness of her nose.

GOOD ADVICE.—Husband: Mary, my love, this apple dumpling is not half done. Wife: Well, finish it then, my dear.

"THOU roughest in this bosom," as the chap said, when a basin of water was thrown over him by the lady he was serenading.

A CHRISTIAN DUTY.—A lazy young dandy of our acquaintance says that he is a model of "one's duty to one's neighbour," he loves both ease and shies.

TOO TRUE.—He who pokes his nose everywhere, will sometimes put it between a thumb and finger.

A SPEAKER at a meeting in Preston the other day caused great laughter by declaring that he had been a working man ever since he was a boy.

Why is it impossible for a young lady to be suitably married?—Because she is sure to be mismatched (mis-matched).

A young lady says the reason she carries a parasol is, that the sun is of the masculine gender, and she cannot withstand his ardent glance.

AN American newspaper, in publishing the marriage of an old man with a young girl, appends the following:—"Friends will please to accept of this infatuation."

AN Irish servant being asked whether his master was within, replied "No." "When will he return?"—"Oh, when master gives orders to say that he is no. at home, we never know when he will come in."

ON two Prussians of the same name being accused of the same crime, it was remarked as curious that they were not in any way related to each other. "A mistake," said Charles Lamb, "they are cozens german."

"DO you consider lager beer intoxicating?" was lately asked of a German witness. "Vell," replied the witness, "ash, for dat, I gant zay. I trunk feefty to seexty classes a tay, and it took not hurt me, but I don't know how it would po if a man vash to make a hog of hisself."

A DEEP LAKE.—A land speculator in America, in describing a lake on an estate in Cumberland county, says it is so clear and deep that by looking into it, you can see them making tea in China.

EFFECT OF A LECTURE.—An anti-tobacco lecturer spoke so powerfully against the use of tobacco, that several of his audience went home and burned their cigars—holding one end of them in their mouths—by way of punishment.

A DEFINITION.—"John, can you tell me the difference between attraction of gravitation and attraction of cohesion?" "Yes, sir," said John, "attraction of gravitation pulls a drunken man down, and attraction of cohesion prevents his getting up."

WESTERN ETIQUETTE.—The Yankee traveller who saw the live hoosier has again written to his mother, telling her his experience, as follows:—"Western people are death on etiquette. I can't tell a man here he lies without fighting. A few days ago a man was telling two of his neighbours, in my hearing, a pretty large story. Says I, 'Stranger, that's a whopper.' Says he, 'Lay there, stranger.' And in the twinkling of an eye I found myself in the ditch, a perfect quadruped. Upon another occasion, says I to a man I never saw before, as a woman passed, 'That isn't a specimen of your Western women, is it?' Says he, 'You are afraid of fever and ague, aint you?' 'Very much,' says I. 'Well,' replied he, 'that lady is my wife, and if you don't apologise in two minutes, by the honour of a gentleman, I swear that these two pistols which he held cocked in his hands, shall come you of that disorder entirely.' So I knelt down and politely apologised. I admire this Western country much, but darn me if I can stand so much etiquette, it always takes me unawares."