

than his head, and proceeded to think. After about five minutes of vigorous thought he brought them down with a decided emphasis and exclaimed:

"By Jove! I have hit it! You must disguise yourself, you must change the irresistible James Cameron into a middle aged man, with a lame leg, humped back, and a deathly cough. All this can be done by the means of a gray wig, false beard, spectacles, cane, &c. You must cough consumptively, talk pathetically of three dead wives, weep profusely, refer to your ten helpless children, and most important of all, talk of your poverty, and before the interview is ended, papa or some big brother, will help you to leave the house, if you aren't remarkably active."

"I bet you my new hat that you won't be troubled with any attentions from this woman, be she handsome as Venus or homely as a porcupine. By the way, where does Miss Somers reside?"

"Bloomingdale is the P O address. Fred, you are a trump."

Here James was interrupted with "Capital! I received an invitation from that aunt of mine, who considers me such a prodigy, to attend a party at her new country residence a few miles from Bloomingdale, early next week. I will take you down as a friend, any friend of mine is perfectly welcome at aunt Griswold's, agreement, get rid of her, come back and attend the party, and fall in love with some half dozen of the Bloomingdale belles. You will thank your stars some day that it happened, if you should happen to win a wife at the party." James waited to hear no more, but rushed frantically off in pursuit of wig, snuff box, &c.

On Friday afternoon of this same week, a middle-aged man, apparently fifty years of age, dressed in seedy black, wearing a large woollen comforter wrapped carefully around his neck with a slight limp, might have been seen wending his way up Mr. Somers' lawn, coughing consumptively as he approached the door.

In answer to his ring, he was shown into the parlor, and told to wait Miss Somers' coming.

Kate who had been laughing herself into conversation as Millie sent her to survey herself in the mirror at every new addition to her toilet, exclaimed as the servant announced his arrival:

"O, Maggie, how does he look?"

"Sure ma'am, he's a sickly looking man, every bit as old as Mr. Somers," was the reply of the grinning domestic.

"Now, Millie, for some fun. I tell you I am desperate. You slip down into the closet and secret yourself," and then Kate wandered her way down stairs as rapidly as her ample proportions would allow.

Imagine James Cameron's feelings as the door opened and a woman weighing apparently two hundred pounds attired in deep orange, with bright red hair wearing a glass over one eye, which she afterwards informed him was to cover an empty socket, and a freckled face, approaching him.

She carried a smelling bottle in one hand, together with a volume of Watt's Hymns, in the other was an immense peacock tail, which she used vigorously as a fan.

She opened her arms to embrace him, but he was seized with a violent fit of coughing, and evaded the embrace. Without seeming to notice this, she exclaimed:

"Beloved of my heart, do I at last behold you?"

She proceeded to compliment him on his personal appearance.

He told her how much she reminded him of his dear, dear Melinda and expressed great fear that she would go just as Melinda did; here he was overpowered with great emotion, and applied the ample folds of his handkerchief to his face in a touching manner.

He enquired if she wasn't very delicate? she replied that she was, her heart troubled her fearfully; she was then seized with a slight fainting fit, but applied the smelling bottle to her nose, and recovered.

He referred pathetically to his ten innocent children at home, and said for their sakes he must select a healthy woman for his next wife, he couldn't deprive them of a mother's care for the fourth time. He referred, in a delicate manner, to his poverty; she told him that would be no barrier between them, as she had recently lost her fortune.

He coughed in a consumptive manner, and told her, in a dejected tone, that he was sure his days were numbered.

She then enquired what he thought of her letters; said she thought they were real good, her niece was such a good hand at composing. He groaned at this. She sang in a pathetic manner from her favorite Watt's.

"This is the way I long have sought to soothe his pain."

He evidently wished to bring the interview to a speedy close. She urged him to name the wedding day, then seeing his reluctance to do so, she called him a villain, a swindler, a base deceiver, to thus trample on a maiden's heart. She fainted away, threw herself into his arms; he rushed frantically for the door, she followed after, heaving the hymn book at his head, and threatening him with a breach of promise suit.

He rushed frantically down the lane, entirely forgetting to limp, and Kate ran back into the parlor to find Millie convulsed with laughter, and the old house fairly rang with their merry peals.

The night of the party came at last, and

James Cameron and Fred Morton were ushered into Mrs. Griswold's elegant parlor.

"Say, Fred," James exclaimed, as they both stood watching the beautiful ladies that filled the room, "who is that charming little brunette, elegantly attired in corn-colored silk, with the point lace overdress? How beautifully she waltzes! Isn't she grace itself? Look! she is coming this way, isn't she a beauty?"

"She looks well enough," was Fred's provoking reply; "but for my part, that lovely blonde in azure robes is much more to my taste," and Fred moved away.

To James' delight, Mrs. Griswold and the charming brunette approached him, and they were standing face to face.

"Miss Kate Somers, Mr. James Cameron," so Mr. Griswold introduced them.

He looked at her, and she looked at him; the truth burst upon them, and they joined in a hearty laugh.

"Why, Mr. Cameron, how is your cough?" was Kate's laughing enquiry.

"Much better, Miss Somers. I hope your heart doesn't trouble you this evening, and I observe you have dyed your hair," was the gay rejoinder.

"And I notice you have recovered entirely from your lameness," and Katy glanced down at the polished patent leather.

Before the evening was over, James Cameron had determined to hold Kate Somers to her engagement—and he did.

At a double wedding not long after, when Miss Kate Somers becoming Mrs. James Cameron, and Miss Millie Winthrop, changed her name to Mrs. Fred Morton, Fred Morton related in this graphic manner, for entertainment of the guests the history of the "Plot and Counterplot."

TO-MORROW.

Loud chilling winds may hoarsely blow
From off the distant mountain,
And winter, on his wings of snow,
May hush the crystal fountain,
Sere, withered leaves, on every hand,
May tell of earth in sorrow,
Again will spring time warm the land
And bring a glad to-morrow.

The storm may gather loud and fast,
Sweeping o'er the angry sky;
Rough winds may rock the stubborn mast,
And waves pile mountain high;
Darkness may deepen in her gloom,
Nor stars relieve her sorrow,
Light will come trampling from her tomb
In golden-haired to-morrow.

The sun may chase the far-off cloud,
And leave the world in sadness,
Still will her smile break through the shroud
And fill the air with gladness;
The day may lose her golden light,
Her tears the night may borrow,
Yet with her parting, last good-night,
She brings us fair to-morrow.

The hills, once green with verdure clad,
May sing their plaintive story,
Full robed again, in echoes glad,
Will boast their former glory;
The rose may linger on the stem,
Its fragrance breathes of sorrow,
'Twill yield to earth its vital gem
And bloom again to-morrow.

THE SOURCES OF OUR MODERN KNOWLEDGE.

In the uncertain prehistoric ages during which the ancient human civilization was evolved, Science, which regulated the social relations, did not rise above the purely material purposes which occupied the minds of men. The small number of truths, of which Science then consisted, were only empirical deductions from facts; but she advances with the progress of humanity, and from Thales to Archimedes immense scientific labors extend her limits and tend to generalize human knowledge.

Thales, who lived twenty-six years ago, is one of the first philosophers known to us, who brought his knowledge to a systematic whole. He was the founder of the Ionic school in Greece, and was equally successful as a mathematician and an astronomer. The school founded by him was afterwards split up into different sects, which embraced in their researches all branches of human knowledge.

Pythagoras then appeared; this philosopher, who by grateful mankind of his age was called "divine," extended the domain of the mathematical science, and the tradition that he sacrificed one hundred oxen to the gods, from gratitude for the discovery of the famous problem which bears his name, is a proof of his trust in the guidance of a superior power. He had clearer notions than his successors; he taught the globular form of the earth, of which Anaximander had not the least idea, and he described the earth's motion round the sun; but mankind was not yet able to grasp this truth, and it had to be elaborated for two thousand years before general recognition of it was obtained.

After Plato, who 2,200 years ago, had above the doors of his lecture room the words "Nobody can enter here who is no geometer," came from the great Euclid, and then the illustrious Archimedes, the greatest philosopher of his time, who solved the most advanced problems with all the might of genius. The works of Apollonius, Hipparchus, Ptole-

my, Diocletian, etc., fill up this period of scientific history; but the authors are more specialist than universal philosophers; however, they contributed powerfully to the progress of knowledge.

At the beginning of a second period, Science seems to have been suddenly arrested, and ceases to appear as an element in the regeneration of humanity. She sheds, however, some of her light in the school of Alexandria; but after Diophantes her light appears to be everywhere extinct. Several centuries later, Science revives and is given back to the world by the same people that once slew her in her last asylum and surrendered the celebrated library of Alexandria to the flames, a library which contained all the philosophical works of preceding ages.

If the Arabs gave back to Europe, during the middle ages, some of the sciences, the records of which they destroyed in Alexandria, Europe in her turn became not only a rival, but a far superior master in the advancement of philosophy. It was then that Science took possession of certain grand theories, of which the preceding ages had scarcely any presentment; the war which thus far had only existed in the moral world was carried into the scientific field; and human intelligence had begun to crave the discoveries developed by examination and discussion in the realm of positive sciences. It was then that Luther defended freedom in the examination and discussion of moral principles, and Copernicus defended freedom in scientific research, and established the true astronomical system.

Then a galaxy of great men appeared: Italy produced Galileus Galileo; Germany, Gottfried Leibnitz; Holland, Christian Huyghens; England, Isaac Newton; and France, Rene Descartes. Since that time discoveries have succeeded discoveries with the most unexampled rapidity; and thanks to their practical tendency, the appearance of the surface of our earth has changed during the two centuries since the time of these great men more than in the two thousand years previously. The number of discoverers and promoters of progress of the present day is indeed too great to enumerate, and what is a most striking fact, it has been steadily increasing during this century. In regard to the discoveries themselves, it appears to be reserved for the end of this century to place the crown on the now magnificent edifice of human knowledge, the labor of so many centuries, by a mighty doctrine which reunites all the isolated and various phenomena, by deducing from them a single absolute principle, the main object of modern research: The conservation of force or motion, which is founded on the principle of universal gravitation.—Scientific American.

COLORED DRESSES—AN ITEM FOR THE LADIES.

It is not often that we find scientific items of any especial degree of interest to the members of the fair sex who may, perchance, glance over our pages; but now we believe we have got one which must be simply absorbing. Probably, madame or miss, you are the possessor of a summer dress, made from some white diaphanous material; and it may also be imagined that during your shopping you have inspected goods of similar nature, only of varying colors, from which you have purchased sufficient material to construct a number of those bewitching garments, in comparison with the intricacies of which the elaborate works of modern engineering furnish no parallel. Now, a learned German professor has invented a plan whereby your single white dress may be changed as often as you desire to any color you fancy, and this in your own laundry, so that hereafter the money which you would devote to several robes of varying hues may be entirely saved, while you may appear daily, if you choose, in toilettes of totally different complexion.

The process is very simple, and consists in merely coloring the starch used in the "doing up." Suppose a white dress is to be tinted a beautiful crimson: three parts of fuchsine, an aniline color which any chemist can readily procure for you, are dissolved in twenty parts of glycerine, and mixed in a mortar with a little water. Then ordinary starch, finely pulverized, is stirred in, and the thick mass obtained is poured out and dried on blotting paper. The powder thus obtained is used just the same as common starch, and so applied to the fabric. When the latter is dry, it is slightly sprinkled and pressed with a moderately warm iron.

By means of other coloring materials, mixed as above described, any desired tint may be obtained. We should counsel, however, an avoidance of damp localities, and strongly deprecate going out in the rain, as we doubt the "fastness" of the dye, and would not be at all surprised to behold the garment shortly assume a rather streaked and zebra-like appearance.

WHAT THE LEAF DOES.

It pumps water from the ground through the thousand of tubes in the stem of the tree, and sends it into the atmosphere in the form of unseen mist, to be condensed and fall in showers; the very water that, were it not for the leaf, would sink in the earth and find its way, perchance through subterranean channels to the sea. And thus it is that we see it works to give us the "early and the latter rain." It works to send the rills and the streams, like lines of silver, down the moun-

tain and across the plain. It works to pour down the larger brooks, which turn the wheels that energize the machinery which gives employment to millions—commerce stimulated, wealth accumulated and intelligence disseminated through the agencies of this wealth. The leaf does it all. It has been demonstrated that every square inch of leaf lifts 3,500 of an ounce every twenty-four hours. Now, a large forest tree has about five acres of foliage, or 6,272,630 square inches. This being multiplied by 3,500 (the amount pumped by every inch), gives us the result—2,252 ounces, or 4,176 pints, or 274 quarts, or 8 barrels. The trees on an acre give 800 barrels in twenty-four hours. An acre of grass, or clover, or grain, would yield about the same result. The leaf is a worker too, in another field of labor, where we seldom look—where it works for the good of man in the most wonderful manner. It carries immense quantities of electricity from the clouds to the earth. Rather dangerous business transporting lightning; but it is particularly fitted for the work. Did you ever see a leaf entire as to its edge? It is always pointed, and these points, whether they be large or small, are just fitted to handle this dangerous agent. These tiny fingers seize upon and carry it away with ease and wonderful dispatch. There must be no delay, it is, "time freight." True, sometimes it gathers up more than the truck can carry, and in the attempt to crowd and pack the baggage the trunk gets terribly shattered, and we say that lightning struck the tree. But it had been struck a thousand times before. This time it was overworked.—American Entomologist.

WONDERS OF THE WORLD.

The "seven wonders" of the world are among the traditions of childhood, and yet it is a remarkable fact that ninety-nine persons out of one hundred who might be asked the question could not name them. They are the Pyramids—the mystery of the past—the enigma of the present—and the enduring for the future ages of this world. The temple, the walls and hanging gardens of Babylon, the most celebrated city of Assyria, and the residence of the kings of that country after the destruction of Nineveh. The Chryselephantine statue of Jupiter Olympus, the most renowned work of Phidias, the illustrious artist of Greece. The statue was formed of gold, and was sitting on a throne almost touching the summit of the temple, which was seventy feet high. The Temple of Diana at Ephesus, which was two hundred and twenty years in building, and which was four hundred and twenty-five feet in length and two hundred and twenty in breadth, and supported by one hundred and twenty-seven marble columns of the Ionic order, sixty feet high. Mausoleum at Halicarnassus, erected in the memory of Mausolus, the King of Caria, by his wife Artemenia, B. C. three hundred and fifty-three. The Pharos at Alexandria, a lighthouse erected by Ptolemy Soter at the entrance of the harbor. It was four hundred and sixty feet high, and could be seen at a distance of one hundred miles. Upon it were inscribed, "King Ptolemy, to the gods, the saviours, for the benefit of sailors." Lastly, the Colossus at Rhodes, a brazen image of Apollo, one hundred and five Grecians feet in height, which was located at the entrance of one of the harbors of the city of Rhodes.

MAKE YOURSELF WELCOME.

That it is quite a possible thing to "wear out one's welcome," when invited to partake of a friend's hospitality, is a fact which needs no demonstration. Too many guests—particularly among young ladies—fail to accommodate themselves to the habits of their entertainers, thus making the extension of hospitality a labor rather than a pleasure. There are guests who always bring a welcome with them, and are regretted when they go. There are others who are burdensome, and who never have the pleasure of feeling that their visits have been sources of satisfaction to anybody. To avoid this calamitous state of feeling is easy enough if you make a point of accommodating yourself to the ways of the household of which you are temporarily a member. For instance: young lady, if you find that they have prayers at half-past seven and breakfast at eight, and that a bell is rung early enough for every one to be up and dressed, do not come down just at the last verse of the chapter is being read and they are about kneeling for prayer. You ascertain that dinner is at one, or that tea is at six: it is polite to return from your morning shopping or your evening walk at half-past one or at a quarter-past six? It is almost certain that, by doing so, you will cause annoyance to your cordial hostess, though she may not let a shadow of it show on her pleasant face, and you may be sure—which is not a little thing either—that Bridget, in the kitchen, is muttering about the delay, and will be cross for an hour over what was simply, on your part, a trifling neglect. Again, do not appropriate to yourself the best of everything. Pay becoming attention to the comfort of host and hostess. Be obliging, but unobtrusively so. Never intrude yourself into the kitchen, with offers of assistance in the culinary department, unless especially invited to do so. Never cite any instance of the superiority of any cooking over that which is perfected under the auspices of your hostess. These are the viciest trifles,

but in this world, happiness, often more than we think, hinges upon trifles. Again, be pleased, and show it. About the most pitiable person to be found is a young gentleman or lady who has become or affected to become *blase*. It is very discouraging, when one has taken extra pains to give a pleasure, to see it received with serene indifference, as though it mattered little whether thanks were expressed or not. But there is delight in doing attentive things to those who are honestly and easily delighted. So, wherever your friends take you, to ride or to walk, to the top of a hill to see the sunset, or to the roof of a building to see Broadway and the harbor, or to a cascade or a concert, let them see that you are pleased, and appreciate their kindly efforts. And last—don't stay too long. Go home while you are still a welcome guest, and invite your entertainers to visit you, that you may renew the pleasure you have had together.

MASSACHUSETTS BUREAU OF STATISTICS OF LABOR.

A voluminous report has been presented by the Commissioners appointed by the State of Massachusetts, and at the conclusion are the following recommendations:—

The experience of the year just passed corroborates that of the three previous years of the existence of the Bureau, and urges us to renew the recommendations made in our former report.

But little legislation is demanded, and but little in variety can be directly effective.

Legislation, at present, is almost wholly devoted to the purpose of aggregated wealth, whether in the form of railroads, of manufacturing, or of numerous other great monetary interests.

The time of Legislatures, National and State, is occupied, all but exclusively with the consideration of questions of how to increase the facilities by which capital may be accumulated, while very little time or thought is given to the question of how the laborer can, by lessened work-time and increased means, achieve that education which shall elevate him to a truer manhood. With this added leisure and their increased means, and this better education, he will be able to think out and to work out the methods by which co-operation may safely take the place of wage-labor. For to this he looks as the end of the solution of the absorbing question at issue between capital and labor.

As we said in our last report, legislation that tends to make men better and more valuable, is in favor of labor, while legislation in the interest of protection solely, is not in favor of labor. So, too, any legislation giving additional power to capital, is against labor, capital being strong, and having the necessary knowledge and power can take care of itself, while labor is poor, and ignorant, and, therefore, powerless.

We, therefore, recommend that the Commonwealth, in its employing capacity, adopt the example set by the United States, and by some of the individual States, of abridging the labor day for all manual laborers in her employ, either by contract or otherwise, so that the experiment may be tried, at public expense, whether a reduction of hours, is or is not, an increase of wages. We further recommend that a law be enacted, similar to the Factory law of Great Britain, limiting the hours of labor in all manufacturing, mechanical or other establishments in the State, ten hours in any one day, or sixty hours in any week; and that no child under 13 years of age, shall be employed in any such establishment; nor at that age, unless such child has received the elements of a common school education, and shall be physically qualified for such labor; age, education and physical condition to be matter of due certificate provided for by law; and further, that all children, between 13 and 15 years of age, so employed, shall not be employed more than five hours in any one day, and that no child under 13 years of age, shall be employed in any such establishment; and that they shall attend school, vacation excepted, three hours on each and every day; the same law to compel protection against accident by unguarded belting, machinery, elevator, or hoist-ways, and to erect proper fire escapes; this law to be enforced by specially appointed inspectors, who shall have power to enter the premises of any establishment when in operation, to make research, and to enforce the law.

We further recommend the establishment by law in factory towns, and all cities, of a system of half-time schools or half-time classes for such children, between the ages of 10 and 15 years, as are unable, from any cause, to attend full time schools.

And lastly, we recommend the authorization by law with methods of carrying it into effect, of a thorough and exhaustive system of statistics, to be gathered by the parties employed in taking the next State census in 1875, covering the subject of the wages, earnings and savings of time employed, and last, of all classes of working people, the number of persons (men, women, young persons and children), employed in the several industrial occupations in the Commonwealth, and all other matters connected with the subject of labor and capital in the State.

Cards, Programmes, Bill-Headings and Mammoth Posters, (illuminated plain), executed at this office, 124 Bay