

## A TOAST FOR LABOR.

Here's to the man with horny hand,  
Who tugs the breathing bellows;  
Where anvils ring in every land,  
He's loved by all good fellows.

And here's to him who goes a-field,  
And through the world's ploughing;  
Or with stout arm the axe doth wield,  
While ancient oaks are bowing.

Here's to deliver in the mine,  
The sailor on the ocean,  
With those of every craft and line  
Who work with true devotion.

Our love to her who toils in gloom,  
Where cranks and wheels are clanking;  
Bereft is she of nature's bloom;  
Yet God in patience thanking.

A curse for him who sneers at toil,  
And shuns his share of labor,—  
The knave but robs his native soil,  
While leaning on his neighbor.

Here may this truth be brought on earth,  
Grow more and more in favor;  
There is no wealth but owes its worth,  
To handicraft and labor.

Then pledge the founders of our wealth;  
The builders of our nation,—  
We know their worth and now their health  
Drink we with acclamation.

## A PITMAN'S DINNER.

The number of hours a pitman regards as a working day is eleven; and since it would be a waste of time to raise so many cages full of men and lads at dinner-time, they take their mid-day meal in the bowels of the earth. The food is good, abundant, and substantial. At mid-day the pitmen's wives or some members of their families hurry to the shaft, each the bearer of a capacious basin tied in a check handkerchief, and very unmistakably labelled with the name of the individual to whom it is consigned. It is sure to hold something hot, with potatoes and a hunch of bread. As for beer, that is supplied on the premises, every pitman being entitled to the very liberal gratuitous allowance of two quarts daily. The dining-room is "a chamber" cut in the coal, and the seats and "bunks" are for the most part of the same material. The check pocket-handkerchief serves as a table-cloth, and the pocket clasp-knife, with a spoon, completes the array. The "butty" finds candles, so it does not do to indulge in a very extravagant illumination; but the dismal dips stuck against the wall, as though handy lumps of clay hurled at them had caught them flying and pinned them there, yield sufficient light to reveal the hearty dinners, some with their jackets properly adjusted, some with the sleeves of the garments tied about their necks comfortably, and a few—a very few—with their broad shoulders and chest and arms naked as those of savages, and as black. There is another good sign, too, which goes far to disprove the dismal forebodings of those mine-owners who, when the law was enforced prohibiting the employment in coal-pits of children under thirteen, foresaw the extinction of miners of the "proper sort." In most pits swearing is strictly declared against, both while the men are at work and while they are in the dining-room—a forfeiture of the day's beer being the penalty. Nor is it at all uncommon to find, after dinner and during the "rest," that some pious old pitman has produced a Bible, from which he gives forth wholesome lessons for the good of such as choose to listen.

## EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT OF GIRLS.

Nothing so tends toward the degeneracy of womanhood as a life of laziness and indulgence—an aim for a wealthy husband, and then life with no object nor aim beyond raising a family, whether taste lies in that direction or not. It is not only bad for physical health, but is for moral also. A very serious and common mistake in the training of our girls is the neglect definitely to provide against the vicissitudes of life with the faculty of noble self-support. Just to think of your daughter, well born and bred, and rocked in the lap of luxury, coming one of these days to sewing or keeping boarders for a livelihood. Yet thousands of girls, upon whose girlhood Fortune lavished her gifts, have come to that. It seems to us that every rich man who has daughters, should provide for them with visions of the almshouse continually floating before his eyes. No amount of pecuniary endowment will be a sure defence against the demons of pauperism. The fires may burn it up; the winds may scatter it; the waves may engulf it; prodigal scoundrels of husbands may waste it, rascally trustees and executors may pillage it. These and a thousand kindred contingencies, considered beside the proverbial helplessness of woman, are almost enough to make a thoughtful and cautious man pray that daughters may not be born unto him. So, then, we say, Let the education of our girls provide for the possible problems of self-help in the noblest possible way. The daughters of millionaires and mechanics alike should be made distinctly to understand that all the love romances lie, and that there is no such thing as making a compact with Fortune to avert the necessity of honest toil. Nay, more, we would have the girls taught that labor, especially brain labor, for the benefit of the world, is too noble to be undertaken for mere mercenary ends, albeit the world must and will pay for it. Our American girls need a great deal of discipline in this respect, and their fathers and mothers need to have a

great many of their foolish notions of propriety about toil, and the wicked caste idea it encourages, killed as the rank social weed it is. You will hardly find a girl who will teach school, or a parent who will allow it, except under the compulsion of a scanty purse. "What a shame to our Christianity is this! A fine lady, rustling in her silks, boasts that she has had all masters in literature and art, has seen all the galleries of Europe, speaks three languages, can draw from nature, and we know not what else; and yet she would not soil her respectability by teaching a child of ignorance the alphabet, or hammering the multiplication table into a class of little know-nothings in calico! Sure enough, the millennium has not come yet.—*Waverley Magazine.*

## MR. BEECHER ON THE DARWINIAN THEORY.

Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, yesterday morning, in the course of his sermon, thus expressed himself in regard to the Darwinian theory:—  
It is of little consequence to me where I came from; it is of a great deal of consequence to me to know where I am going. There are a great many men at the present day investigating the road which has brought man up to the present state, and I confess to a curiosity in the matter, and I do not say that these researches may not be of benefit. I regard the labors of Mr. Darwin with profound interest, believing that the world will in time accord him a great deal of credit. Although I am not prepared to accept all his speculations, I thank him for all his deductions of fact. I do not participate a particle with those that dread the idea of man's having sprung from some lower form of existence; all that I ask is that you show me how I got clear from monkeys, and then I am quite satisfied to have had one for an ancestor fifty centuries ago. (Laughter.) Only make the difference great enough, and I am content. I had just as leave spring from a monkey as from some man I know around here. (Renewed laughter.) I look upon the Patagonians or the miserable crawling Esquimaux, and I don't see much to choose between them and any latent animalhood. I don't care so much about that thing, for I have never been there. I had no early associations a great while ago. I have not the least recollection of what happened a million years ago. All my life is looking forward. I want to know where I am going; I don't care where I came from.

## HOW ANIMALS UNDERSTAND.

It has been suggested, in regard to the intelligence exhibited by dogs and other animals in regard to our meaning when we address them, that they catch it sometimes from the expression of the speaker's face or from the tone in which the words are spoken. When we speak to our dog we often see him watch our countenance with the utmost earnestness, apparently for the purpose of discovering our meaning; and, without speaking to him at all, we see that he comprehends very often the meaning of the very slightest and most simple modifications of the expression of our face. There is every reason to apprehend that the dog, as well as most animals of the higher orders, instinctively understands something of the meaning of all the natural signs we employ—our motions, gestures, and looks—just as they understand them when they are employed by their own species. Still it is evident that they come to attach some definite meaning to particular words. The horse and the ox understand what the driver says to them, the shepherd makes himself understood by his sheep, and Bougeant declares that the cows understand all the milkmaid says when she talks to them. And it is a well-known fact that all animals comprehend words much more readily when spoken by a voice they are accustomed to hear, than when spoken by a strange voice; and if we speak to them in another language, they apprehend at first very little of what the new words they hear signify; but after a while they come to understand them, and to act in obedience to them. Words or voices which they have once been accustomed to hear, they sometimes recognize even after an interval of years. The poet Campbell tells a legend of a parrot which was brought when young from the Spanish Main to the cold climate of England, where he lived and chattered many a day till he had grown gray with age.

"At last, when, blind and seeming dumb,  
He scolded, laughed, and spoke no more,  
A Spanish stranger chanced to come  
To Mull's shore.

"He hailed the bird in Spanish speech:  
In Spanish speech the bird replied,  
Flapped round the cage with joyous screech,  
Dropped down and died."

A LUCKY FELLOW.—It is stated that a day or two ago a laborer in the mechanics' shop at a cotton-mill in Preston received quite unexpectedly, a check for £100 by post; and as he had no idea whence the windfall came, or who was his benefactor, he instituted inquiries. It was discovered that a gentleman (now deceased) some time ago purchased some shares in a rather doubtful concern, and entered them in the name of the laborer, that he might escape liability in case of failure. The concern, however, has turned out to be a prosperous one; and as the gentleman, perhaps through forgetfulness, did not get the shares transferred before his death, his substitute has received to the amount named above, and stands the legal possessor of the shares.

## SCOTCH AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

A special correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* in an interesting account of his observations throughout the Lothians generally, describes the condition of the agricultural laborers in these districts as highly favorable compared with their English counterparts. "As a general rule," he says, "the cottages of the farm laborers are good-sized, well lighted and ventilated, and have finely cultivated gardens attached. This improvement has taken place, I am told, within the last thirty years, and in out-of-the-way corners one comes upon a specimen of the old cot, wherein the ploughmen of the past generation, were content to live and vegetate. When improved laborers' dwellings have been erected, it has been done principally by the landlord, and sometimes by the tenant, with compensation at the end of the lease. In other cases it has been done by the landlord, the tenant paying so much per cent on the outlay. The cottages are of various styles of architecture, some of them neat and pretty, others the opposite; some evidently run up for cheapness, and others again carefully and substantially built and tastefully finished. There is one difference between the cottages of Scotland, even those most lately erected, and those of England. I have observed only one instance of agricultural cottages—I refer to those at Niddry Mains, west of Edinburgh—having more than one storey or flat. This at once strikes a stranger. Myne's cottages at Niddry Mains are picturesque houses, comfortable, lofty in the ceiling, with the kitchen and the back kitchen on the ground floor and two bed-rooms upstairs. At Fenton Barns, Mr. George Hope's famous farm, there are a number of extremely well-built commodious cottages, containing three apartments, while there are outhouses for the cow and pig, whose keep in East Lothian constitutes an important item in the thrifty economy of the hind. Another style of cottage may be seen at Liberton Mains, about three miles from Edinburgh, comfortable and roomy enough for a small family, and with neatly tended garden plots."

## ANIMAL SAGACITY.

The workmen in the engine-house of the New Haven Railroad were greatly amused, a few days ago, by the movements of a weasel that had killed a rat nearly as large as himself in one of the engine-pits. The side of the pit being perpendicular, and the rat too heavy for the weasel to carry up in his teeth, the question arose how he should get him out. It looked like a difficult task, but the weasel was equal to the emergency. After several unsuccessful attempts to shoulder the rat and climb up the side, he laid him down and went about to the different corners of the pit on a tour of inspection. Finally selecting one in which sufficient dirt had accumulated to make an elevation of several inches, he went back, dragged the rat to the corner, and stood him upon his hind legs. He then clambered out of the pit, and going to the corner where he had left the rat, let himself down by his hind feet from above, clasped the rat around the neck with his fore paws, pulled him up and trotted off with him to his hole. The weasel is one which made his appearance at the shops some time ago, and which, by being unmolested, has become quite tame.

## RARE DUNNING.

A ludicrous incident occurred at Louisville recently. A young man of fashionable habits and gorgeous appearance was waited upon by his landlady for the amount of a little bill long overdue. He affected indignation at being dunned, but the woman shrewdly guessed his real character, and became indignant herself. She seized a broom and made for the exquisite, and the exquisite made for the door and bolted into the street, dropping one shoe and his hat as he ran. The landlady following close at his heels, striking him at every bound, and making him fairly yell with pain and rage. The race continued for several squares, when his superior endurance began to tell, and the pursuing Nemesias was from mere want of breath obliged to finally give up the chase. The shoe, the hat, and other articles of clothing, are now kept as collateral security for the payment of the bill.

A TWO-HEADED SNAKE.—Professor Halford has furnished to the *Melbourne Argus* the following account of the two-headed snake recently captured:—"Each head was perfect in its own anatomy—muscles, bones, poison glands, and fangs. Each neck was perfect for about ten vertebrae, when they blended with one body and tail of the snake. There were two gullets, two windpipes, and two breasts, of which the right was the largest, as was the right head. The distribution of the blood vessels I have not yet traced. There were two intelligences belonging to one progressive apparatus, and the result was very interesting to witness. The right head wished to go one way and the left the other; as the neck vertebrae of each departed from the other at a very acute angle, the result was a simple onward movement of the common body. When a common danger threatened, then the left head twisted itself round the right one so as to be in the same line, and then progression was tolerably quick." A correspondent mentions that since this snake was caught another of the same tribe with two heads has been captured,

## SCIENTIFIC.

Every human being in the United Kingdom, man, woman and child, uses on an average seven lucifer matches a day, about twenty-one million a day for London alone.

A COMPOUND FOWL.—Of all extraordinary living creatures which have made their appearance upon this earth, the most extraordinary is what is called a Compound Fowl, now to be seen in Norfolk, Va. Its head and feet are those of a chicken; its body of a penguin; it is duck-legged, and has a bear's tail; it crows like a rooster, waddles like a duck, but stands erect like the penguin aforesaid. Whether, if cooked, it would combine the flavor of chicken, duck, and bear, we shall hardly know at present. It is too valuable a creature to kill for the mere gratification of gastronomical curiosity.

THE DILUVIAL AGE.—According to a communication to the Geological Society of Hungary, the remains of a man, associated with post-tertiary remains of mammalia, together with a stone hammer, have lately been discovered in the loess deposits of Hungary, in the neighborhood of Brax, in Bohemia. These were nearly in a complete condition. The cranium strongly resembles in its characteristics the well-known fragments from the Neanderthal, although differing in certain peculiarities mentioned in the articles. The skeleton was found lying with the head raised, in a sand-bed of diluvial age, at a depth of two feet from the surface.

WATERPROOF GLUE.—We have recently met with a very useful form of cement for wooden or other similar articles which are employed for holding water or non-alcoholic liquids. Although the formula is not a very novel one, we know it to be useful and likely to suit the requirements of some of our readers. It stands as follows:—Alcohol (spirit of wine), one pint; sandarac, one ounce; mastic, one ounce; common white turpentine, one ounce; glue and isinglass, sufficient; water, sufficient. Dissolve the two resins—sandarac and mastic—in the spirit, and then add the turpentine to the solution. Make some very strong glue, and add to it a good pinch of isinglass. Now heat the alcoholic varnish until the liquid begins to boil, and then very slowly stir in the warm glue. The amount of liquid glue to be added is determined by noting the point at which, after thorough mixture, a magma or thin paste is formed capable of being easily strained through cloth. When required for use, the strained mixture is to be warmed and applied like ordinary glue to the articles to be united. A strong junction is effected, which is not destroyed by cold water, and only after a comparatively considerable time by hot water or ordinary saline solutions.

NEW INVENTION.—Recently a number of gentlemen connected with the Iron and Steel Institute, and from most of the leading works in the north of England, assembled at Messrs. Hopkins, Gilkes & Co.'s Deeside Works, Middleborough, to inspect the new American machine of Mr. Danks, which supersedes puddling by the hand operation. The machine has just been erected, and works admirably. There is a saving of weight over the hand process, but as the charges were not weighed this fact was not shown. Mr. Danks was present, and explained the nature of the machine to inquiries. The charge, when put into the furnace, is carried round by a revolving cylinder whereby it is worked sufficiently in about three-quarters of an hour, and then withdrawn by mechanical contrivances. Between 600 lbs. and 700 lbs. was generally the weight of the charge, but it has been in most cases greatly enlarged. The trials were mostly made with molten metal-pig-iron taking a considerably longer time, generally about an hour and a half. The quality of the iron produced, which was from Cleveland pig, was very highly spoken of by practical men. The importance attached to the invention by the trade is shown by the fact that several ironmasters of the United Kingdom have combined together and arranged to give Mr. Danks £50,000 for the right to erect and have the full use of 200 of his machines.

ANCIENT AND MODERN INVENTIONS.—It is a singular fact, when we take into account the modern light thrown on mechanical inventive genius generally, and the comparative darkness settling over the past, that one of the most marvellous machine processes which English manufacturing skill boasts of is surpassed in the wonderful beauty of the fabrics produced by many of her native subjects in far-off India. (An example of this is the fine Dacca muslin, or "woven wind," as it has been called. So fine is this material that when laid upon the grass to bleach the dew renders it invisible. This used to be spun by native females, who had been trained to it from their earliest years. So nice was the sense of touch required for the spinning of this yarn that they were constantly waited upon by a retinue of servants, whose duty it was to relieve them of all menial offices which might endanger the fine tactful faculty which long practice and seclusion had bestowed on their delicate finger-tips. Singularly enough, although the steam engine and spinning machine can produce far finer yarn than any that the fingers of the Hindoo maidens have ever spun, the English looms, in other respects so perfect in their capacities and achievements, cannot weave the Dacca muslin. The fine yarns of Britain require to be taken back to India to be woven by hand into the subtlest of tissues by the rudest and most primitive of all

looms. Here is another item for Wendell Phillips to weave into his eloquent lecture on "The Lost Arts."

An ingenious Californian has, after several years of labor and expense of many thousand dollars, succeeded in producing a machine for grading railroad tracks, turnpikes, and other embankments. It consists of a common plow, with a somewhat extended mould-board, which may be raised or lowered at pleasure. A circular table or wheel, twelve feet in diameter, inclines at an angle of twenty-five degrees toward the plow. Within the outer edge of the wheel is arranged a series of scraper-shaped buckets, with adjustable bottoms. To avoid friction this wheel or table is geared to a centre shaft, at the top of which is a cam attachment, with rods leading to each bucket, for the purpose of emptying. This circular table receives its motion by means of a driving wheel similar to that used in a reaping machine. There is a steering apparatus at the rear. To do the work thoroughly it takes sixteen horses, four abreast. It is claimed for the machine that it will do the work of one hundred and twenty-five men with shovels.—*The Sun.*

## Sawdust and Chips.

A western publisher lately gave notice that he intended to spend fifty dollars for "a new head" for his paper. The next day one of his subscribers dropped him the following note:—"Don't do it—better keep the money and buy a new head for the editor."

Josh Billings says that the difference between a blunder and a mistake is this: When a man puts down a bad umbrella and takes up a good one, he makes a mistake; but when he puts down a good one and takes up a bad one, he makes a blunder.

A lady, who has a great horror of tobacco, got into a railway carriage the other day and inquired of a male neighbor, "Do you chew tobacco, sir?" "No, madam, I don't," was the reply, "but I can get you a chew if you want one."

"Papa, why don't they give the telegraph wires a dose of gin?" "Why, my child?" "Because the papers say they are out of order, and mamma always takes gin when she is out of order."

A horse recently drew one wheel of a not very heavy wagon over a boy, crowding him pretty well into the mud. "You are in a pretty business," remarked a by-stander. "Yes," replied the boy, "overrun with it."

A Rochester lady says that the mortality among the Masons must be unusually great this year. Every time that she asks for recreation, her husband finds he is obliged to attend a brother's funeral.

A printer out West, whose office is half a mile from any other building, and who hangs his sign on the limb of a tree, advertises for an apprentice. He says:—"A boy from the country preferred."

A carpenter, being asked for a riddle, propounded the following:—"I picked it up; I couldn't find it; I put it down and went along with it." No one could guess it. It was a splinter in his foot.

A young lady was looking at a picture representing a pair of lovers in a boat, with the arm of the lover gently enfolding the waist of his dulcinea, when she innocently remarked, "How natural!"

A tipsy fellow, who mistook a globe lamp, with letters on it, for the queen of night, exclaimed, "I will be blest if somebody hain't stuck an advertisement on the moon."

An exchange says a young lady at Keokuk, Iowa, has had her under jaw amputated and her occupation is gone. She is in great demand among young men who want to marry.

A father was winding his watch, when he said playfully to his little girl, "Let me wind your nose up." "No, papa," said the child, "I don't want my nose to run all day."

"Your dress," said a husband to his fashionable wife, "will never please the men." "I don't dress to please the men," was the reply, "but to worry other women."

"Why don't you take a seat within the bar?" said a lawyer to his client. "My father advised me to keep out of bad company," replied the other.

TEACHER.—"Why was Joseph put in the pit?" Thomas (who goes to the theatre on week days), "Because there was no room for him in the family circle."

A young lady about to be married, says she will not promise to "love, honor, and obey," but instead, "love, honor, and be gay."

A lady widowed by the Chicago conflagration has been recently re-married. Her second husband calls her his relic of the great fire.

An Alabama young lady, caught smoking a cigar, gave as her reason that "it made it smell as though there was a man around."

A Saratoga belle who dresses nineteen times a day, has gone into a decline. So has her father. He declines to pay his notes.

A tombstone in Maine, erected to the memory of a wife, bears the inscription:—"Tears cannot restore her—therefore I weep."

The storm of time rolls rapidly away into the ocean of eternity, sweeping off in its impetuous course all human things. Beauty, fashion, genius, accomplishment, wealth will be no more. Religion alone is destined to survive the ruin.