

ways will disappear before the child is really aware that he possesses them. To be told that we are more awkward, or more stupid, or more generally unattractive than our neighbors, does not create in us a spirit of emulation, which leads us to overcome our failings; but rather fosters a spirit of obstinate and dogged resistance, which leads us to settle down in a gloomy state of quiescence, without an effort to improve. In many families, there is a perceptible difference made by the parents in their treatment of the several children. One may be a favorite; or another, owing perhaps to the absence of personal charms, to a less winning disposition, the want of attractive manners, or to some other reason, is the object of more frequent rebuke, punishment, or even sneers, than are the other members of the same family. Few parents are aware that they show or feel any difference towards their children, and would stoutly deny it, if accused of it; but, in most families, a stranger can readily tell which is the favored one, and which the scape-goat. This does not escape the keen, observing eye of the little one, although it frequently happens that no visible notice is taken of it; yet it is, nevertheless, seen and felt by the child-victim; and the little heart, too proud to betray its feelings, broods over it in silence, and looks back upon it, with bitterness, in after-years, realizing more fully and understandingly the injustice which was so keenly felt in the days of childhood. In some families, it is customary to give the eldest daughter the rule over the younger children. In some rare instances, this may do very well; but there are very few young girls who can be trusted with the entire control of little children, without domineering; and this will create a bitterness and hatred towards the older one, which time will seldom wholly obliterate; and will foster, in the other, an unamiable and tyrannical spirit. A mother loves her children; and, in a spirit of love, she can exact obedience from them. Sometimes we see a sister's love pure, unselfish, and almost maternal in its absorbing earnestness, ready to forget self, in its perfect devotion to the little ones clinging so lovingly about her. This sight is truly beautiful—and, when we meet it, we bow reverently and acknowledge its sacredness; but, alas! this is the exception, and we contend that it is a rash experiment for a mother to delegate her authority to a girl who has not yet reached maturity, with her quick impulses, lack of experience, and, frequently, untrained temper. Parents cannot be too particular about showing partiality towards any of their children, to the exclusion of others. Let the child's home be the place where she can come for sympathy in all her trials; do not dwell upon her weak points, but rather bring to light her attractions; let her feel that, if others slight her, she may find admiration, appreciation and love, at home. If the child evinces a disposition to talk, do not constantly snub her, repelling the well-worn adage, "Children should be seen, and not heard;" but encourage her by listening to her opinion, as if it were of some consequence.

### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

PUNCTUATION was first used in literature in the year 1520. Before that time words and sentences were put together like this.

A CORRESPONDENT in the *Medical Times and Gazette* recommends, as a protection against the sun in tropical climates, an ordinary alpine umbrella, covered on the outside with white calico. He says that the "solar hats" sold in London and elsewhere are a delusion, and are mere expensive shams.

In a great bog near Omagh nearly the whole skin of a man has been discovered. The continued action of the peat has completely tanned it. No bones have been found, but the hands are attached with the finger nails. It is stated that the remains have probably been for more than a hundred years in the bog.

THERE is a movement on foot in Paris to do away with the wearing of gloves. It is argued that as a small hand, like a small foot, is generally the sign of aristocratic descent, there is no reason why it should be concealed within a vulgar interment where the fingers of the Faubourg are on equal terms with the horny ones of Belleville and Montmartre.

An English lady has just accomplished a feat. Having a son suffering from consumption, she decided to take him to Janja, in Peru. She started from England, crossed the Straits of Magellan, went from Lima over the Andes on muleback, stayed at Janja—anciently Xauxa—some months, and has now returned, partly by mule, partly on men's shoulders, and from Surco by rail, safe and sound to Lima. Janja is said to be the finest place in the world for consumption.

A GENTLEMAN of "elegant leisure," and a bachelor at that, has been amusing himself with matrimonial statistics, and out of two hundred marriages published in New England journals last week, only two of the ladies had old-fashioned names, such as Mary and Susan. All the others were Mollies, Dollies, Pollies, Libbies, Tibbles, Biddies, Hatties, Patties, Matties, Lizzies, and so on. He says if he can hear of some girl with a familiar "Christian name," he shall "start for her."

A CURIOUS piece of statistics has just been published. It is that of the number of letters which arrived daily at the Elysée addressed to the President of the French Republic. The total is about 700, and may be thus divided: Applications for assistance, 250; petitions having

a political object, 150; others against some prejudice suffered, 100; complaints against functionaries, 100; abuse, 80; menaces of death, 20. The insults are of the most vulgar kind. Many are signed "A Radical Republican," or "An Ex-Federate."

THERE was lately sold by auction by the manager of a Paris theatre the following meteorological paraphernalia, amply sufficient to set the clerk of the weather up in business—viz., a dozen and a half black-bordered clouds in good condition, a brand-new rainbow, an excellent snowstorm, consisting of flakes of fine paper, and two other snowstorms of inferior quality, three bottles of lightning powder, a setting sun of great value, a new moon, and also a perfectly new thunder. There were, besides, a sea consisting of twelve big waves, the tenth of which is rather bigger than the rest and a little damaged, an elephant, a crocodile, three dragons, and several phials of alcohol suitable for apparitions and for producing blue flames.

SNEEZING.—The custom of invoking a blessing upon persons who sneeze is, says Dr. Seguin, in a recent article on sneezing, a most interesting one. Several old medical authors state that the custom dates back from the time of a severe epidemic (in which sneezing was a bad sign) during the pontificate of Gregory the Great. Brand, however, and the author of an article in "Rees's Cyclopedia," states that the phrase "God bless you," as addressed to persons having sneezed, is much more ancient, being old in the days of Aristotle. The Greeks appear to have traced it back to the mythical days of Prometheus, who is reported to have blessed his man of clay when he sneezed. In Brand the rabbinical account is given, that the phrase originated in the alleged fact that it was only through Jacob's struggle with the angel that sneezing ceased to be an act fatal to man. In many countries, sneezing has been the subject of congratulations and of hopeful augury. In Mesopotamia and some African towns, the populace is reported to have shouted when their monarchs sneezed. Sometimes, moreover, it is very important not to sneeze; and Dr. Seguin has discovered what had been discovered before, but is insufficiently known, that sneezing may be prevented by forcibly rubbing the skin below and on either side of the nose. And on this observation of himself, and of Marshall Hall, Diday, and the world generally before them, he bases an exceedingly interesting study of the physiology of sneezing in health and disease.

### FAMILY MATTERS.

HOUSEHOLD BEER.—Two gallons water, 2 lb. treacle, 1 oz. hops, 1 oz. linseed, 1 oz. ginger, boiled all together for two hours; add  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. of yeast when nearly cold.

SPICE FRUIT.—6 lb. of fruit (plums, cherries or peaches), 3 lb. of sugar, one pint best vinegar, and spice to suit (nutmegs, allspice, or cloves); boil altogether for fifteen minutes, then put up tight in cans or jars. This is delicious to eat with meat either hot or cold.

BAKED EGG PLANT.—Wash the vegetables clean, and bake in the oven as you would potatoes. Remove the skins while hot, mash to a paste, and season with butter, pepper and salt. A raw onion chopped fine and a small pepper, are considered great additions to this dish.

GERMAN GRUTZ.—Boil two pounds of fruit in a quart of water, and when tender pass it through a sieve. Then boil and sweeten it with white sugar. Add half a pound of sago, well soaked in cold water, stirring the whole over the fire, until the sago is dissolved. Pour it into a mould. When cold turn it out, and serve with cream or custard.

TO PRESERVE STRAWBERRIES.—Take equal weights of the fruit and loaf sugar; lay the strawberries in a large dish, and sprinkle half the sugar in fine powder over; shake the dish that the sugar may touch the under side of the fruit. Next day make a thin syrup of the remainder of the sugar, and instead of water allow one pint of red currant juice to every pound of strawberries; in this simmer them until sufficient jellied. They eat well served in cream in glasses.

DRIED OR KIPPERED SALMON.—Gut, cleanse, and scale a large salmon, but do not wash it; divide it, and remove the backbone; mix salt, sugar and a little saltpetre together, and rub the fish all over with the mixture; let it remain thus covered for forty-eight hours, tightly pressed between two pieces of board; then open the fish, stretch it out flat, and keep it extended by means of thin laths of wood secured across the back; hang the salmon from the kitchen ceiling to dry, or, if preferred, in the chimney of a wood fire. To be dressed, the slices should be cut slanting, and broiled over a clear fire.

GINGER BEER.—Five pounds of loaf sugar, three ounces of powdered ginger, three gallons of water, five lemons, a quarter of a teacupful of yeast, and a slice of toasted bread. Boil the sugar and ginger in three gallons of water for one hour. When it is cold, add the juice and peel of the five lemons, and the teacupful of yeast on the toasted bread. Let it stand in a tub covered with a thick cloth for two or three days; then strain it through a thick cloth, and bottle it. It will be ready to drink in four or five days after it is bottled. If it is wished to be very strong of ginger, more may be added.

TO MAKE ICE-CREAM.—Take two quarts of new milk, put in a tin pail, and set in a kettle of boiling water. Add 12 heaping tablespoonfuls

of white sugar; beat yolks of ten eggs and whites of seven, and stir in the boiling milk for five minutes; then take off, strain and cool. Flavor with anything that suits the taste. This makes a plain and nutritious ice-cream, and if slowly eaten, is as innocent as nine-tenths of the food we eat. To make a rich cream use the same number of eggs, and one quart of milk and one of cream, or two quarts of rich milk and 14 yolks and 7 whites. Sugar and flavor the same.

### GOLDEN GRAINS.

FILIAL PIETY.—There is no greater human excellence than filial piety, and no better assurance of success in life than honor to the father and mother.

PROPENSITIES.—Whenever an indulged propensity becomes a passion, and the will is enslaved by blind impulse, the question of insanity is only one of time.

KEEP THE END IN VIEW.—It is of the first importance in undertaking any enterprise to form a correct idea of the end to be accomplished. Every occupation in life has some distinct purpose, and only as it is thoroughly kept in view can the efforts put forth prove successful.

HAPPINESS AND VIRTUE.—Not happiness alone, not even virtue alone, is the chief end for man, but rather a condition that springs from both combined. Each in its highest form includes the other, and they are as inseparable as the sun from the light with which he blesses the world.

THE WORRIES OF LIFE.—The great worries of life are the so-called "little things" which are from day to day left unadjusted, till they fasten their victim like a net. The men who die of "overwork" are not so much destroyed by their great and useful labors as by the vexatious trifles which accumulate till they produce a condition of chronic fever and unrest.

"IS IT RIGHT?"—So long as any person seriously asks this question of himself in regard to all his acts the danger of any great departure from the path of rectitude must be small, and we wish that a system of education might be devised and adopted in this country, which might make it as common and controlling among our people in after-years as it now appears to be in youth.

### HUMOROUS SCRAPS.

CHOLERA NOTE.—A Memphis man insisted on having new cabbage for supper the other night, and cooked it himself, while his wife talked about the prevailing disease. Three hours after she was wondering whether she should wear black cashmere or bombazine for second mourning.

A DANBURY man thought it would be pleasant to have his wife make wax flowers. He said there were things to cultivate besides the body, and what we live for was not bread alone, and so he got her some moulds and a couple hundred sheets of wax, and she went to work. After a while he commenced to find some difficulty in drawing on his clothes, and experienced a mild sort of vexatious trouble in getting a comb through his hair. He didn't mind this so much, but when he walked around, stocking feet, and couldn't pull his boots on, and drew a chair into the air when he started to rise from it, he lost his interest in art, and kicked the entire wax establishment into the street.

ROFF, who keeps the news stand in the post-office building, turns many an honest penny with a root-beer fountain. The fountain has two escapes, and at each of these he keeps a glass standing to catch the dripping. He noticed, recently, that a couple of elderly men, who lounged in the post-office in the evening, drained these glasses as soon as they were partly filled. Great and mighty results frequently grow out of slight causes. When Roff detected them an idea struck him. Before setting the glasses the next time, he dropped a teaspoonful of catarrh snuff in each one. It was a new kind of snuff, and Roff was glad of the opportunity to test it. He wasn't confident these men had the catarrh, but that was really no business of his (it wasn't anything he could help) and, besides, science must be attended to, so he entered upon the experiment with all the hopefulness and expectation of a young and ardent nature. About eight o'clock the old buffers came around, and having listlessly examined the periodicals, watched the opportunity which Roff was quivering to give them, and raised the glasses hurriedly to their lips, and as hurriedly absorbed the contents. Then they lounged about two minutes. At the expiration of that time, one of twain commenced to look surprised. The other man also looked as if he had received unexpected intelligence. Then their faces simultaneously appeared gripped, and the first man remarked, "Oh! oh!" and struck for the wall. Whereupon the second man made a similar statement, and also started for the same destination. Roff hurried after them. He didn't go out on the walk where they were, because they didn't appear to want to engage in any business, and Roff had just put on a clean linen suit. So he stayed on the step, and watched those aged people as they swayed on the curb, and bombarded the gutter with root beer, and catarrh snuff, and pieces of liver, and such things as were handy at the time. He hasn't seen them since. He regrets this as he wants to get their certificate to put in a circular.—*Danbury News.*

### OUR PUZZLER.

#### 27. CHARADE.

Behold my first before the altar bending,  
While from her soul the fervent prayer's ascending  
Asks for the loved one blessing from above,  
But for herself asks only for his love.

My second is both dark, and still, and deep;  
It lies where murmuring waters idly sleep.  
Its name is written on the sacred page,  
And linked with tales of love, of youth, and age.

My whole to many a heart hath struck despair,  
For joy or freedom may not enter there;  
And none can say the depth of woe unfold,  
Of those who writhe beneath its fetters cold.

#### 28. CROSS PUZZLE.

A lake in Scotland; reserved; an English dramatic writer; a town in England; a distinguished musical composer; a town in France; a Dutch dramatic poet; a female name; a river in Spain.

#### 29. LOGOGRAPH.

Me no brave soldier ought to know  
Upon the battle field;  
But with stern courage face the foe,  
And never think to yield,

Transposed you often pay me down  
When travelling anywhere.  
Transposed again, a Latin noun  
Doth to your view appear.

Behead this last, there will remain  
A space of time, I ween;  
Transposed, a verb; transposed again,  
A useful organ's seen.

#### 30. ARITHMETICAL QUESTION.

The largest square possible is described within a circle whose diameter is equal to the longest straight line that can be drawn within a house whose length, breadth, and depth are 25, 35, and 40 feet respectively. What will be the cost of glazing one side of the square, at 5s. per square foot?

J. T. COWIN.

#### 31. CHARADE.

If you should give, that's if you can,  
The name that is my first,  
'Twill be a certain fruit you know—  
Not, certainly, the worst.  
If you another fruit should seek,  
And add its name thereto,  
'Twill be my second, as you'll see,  
As surely known to you.  
If you the both unite, with them  
Another yet you find.  
Most singular, three fruits in one  
Thus perfectly combined.

#### 32. SQUARE WORDS.

1. An Austrian town; class; mad; a river of Italy; a tragedy.
2. A province of Italy; a brotherhood; a famous enchantress; birds; a bird's home.
3. A city of Guzerat; to bind; rivulets; a range of mountains; a tress (transposed).

#### 32. CHARADE.

My first's a simple element;  
My second is a game;  
My whole, a foreign field which bears  
Undying British fame.

#### 34. HIDDEN TOWNS.

1. Bring the card, if Fred comes.
2. They have a new bolt on the door.
3. Your bridge is not the best; our bridge is the best in the city.
4. Shall you pay Robert?
5. Is that water for Dan's mother?

### ANSWERS.

#### 5. DIAMOND PUZZLE.—

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#### 6. PUZZLE LOVE-LETTER.—

Once more I take my pen in hand,  
To show my love to you, my dear;  
Because I promised when we parted—  
Leaving me all broken hearted—  
That when you had gone across the sea,  
I would not forget to write to ye.  
When will you come home to Molly, your treasure?  
'Tis a long while you're absent. 'Twould fill me  
with pleasure  
Could I once more but see your dear face, my boy—  
'Twould make me too happy, I would be dying  
of joy.

#### 7. ENIGMATICAL REBUS.—Live, evil, vile, lie, Eli, Lie, I.