

Miscellaneous.

LIKE THE EVERGREEN, SO SHALL OUR FRIENDSHIP BE.

Some liken their love to the beautiful rose,
And some to the violet sweet in the shade;
But the Flower Queen dies when the Summer-day goes,
And the blue eve shuts up when the Spring blossoms fade!
So we'll choose for our emblem a sturdier thing,
We will go to the mountain and worship its tree;
Then a health to the Cedar—the Evergreen King,
Like that Evergreen so shall our Friendship be!

The perfume it carries is deeply concealed,
Not a breath of rich scent will its branches impart;
But how lasting and pure is the odour revealed
In the inmost and deepest recess of its heart!
It groweth in might and it liveth right long;
And the longer it liveth the nobler the tree;
Then health to the Cedar—the true and the strong,
Like the Evergreen so shall our Friendship be!

It remaineth unseared in the deluge of light,
When the flood of the sun-tide is pouring around;
And as firmly and bravely it meeteth the night,
With the storm-torrent laden, and thunder-cloud crowned;
And so shall all changes that Fortune can bring,
Find our spirits unaltered and staunch as the tree;
Then a health to the Cedar—the Evergreen King—
Like that Evergreen so shall our Friendship be!

ELIZA COOK.

SIGNS OF RAIN.—It has been generally observed by meteorologists of the present day, that rain is indicated when the sun rises pale and sparkling and soon becomes covered with clouds—when it rises among ruddy clouds—when it sets under a dark cloud—when the edge of the moon is ill defined—when the moon appears as if seen through a mist—when the stars are not as bright as usual—when the sky is of a deep blue colour—when distant objects are seen clearly, and as if near at hand—when sounds from a distance, as the tolling of bells, &c., are heard distinctly—when there is no dew after a hot day—when there has been a superabundant hoar-frost—when a cloud increases in size—when a cirro stratus occurs on high as a thin covering through which the sun is visible, and the cumulo stratus, as a massive cloud, is at the same time seen on a lower level. And that fair weather may be anticipated when the sun sets red or cloudless—when the edges of the moon are well defined, and the horns, best seen on her fourth day, are sharp—when the stars shine brightly—when the smoke rises in the air—and by the web of the spider being thickly wove on the hedges and pastures. To some extent, I place reliance on the above remarks—at least, so far as to enable me to affirm that the appearances before mentioned as denoting rain, will, if not followed by rain, almost invariably be succeeded by damp weather. But that which is of most importance is the knowledge of whether the vapours are increasing or decreasing in density; for the same state of the atmosphere is assumed whether they are on the increase or decrease. I think every one who has attended to the state of the atmosphere will agree with me in considering that the prognostics above alluded to, as indications of rain, will be succeeded by a dense state of the atmosphere, but that it is not absolutely necessary that this state should be heavy enough for rain to fall.—*Lowc's Atmospheric Phenomena.*

HOW TO CLEAN A FOWLING PIECE.—Sir Astley Cooper seemed to be innately philosophically disposed, and always had some object of practical utility in view. In his scientific inquiries, he had a remarkable faculty of applying his knowledge to the daily concerns of life, and delighted in suggesting improvements for matters which might almost appear too trifling to attract his notice. I remember upon one occasion saying in his hearing, "I must send my gun to town to have it cleaned, for it has become so much leaded that it is unfit to use." "Pooh!" said he, "send it to London! there is not the least occasion for it. Keep a few ounces of quicksilver in the gun-case, and then you can easily unlead your gun yourself. Stop up the touch-holes by means of a little wax, and then pouring the quicksilver into the barrels, roll it along them for a few minutes. The mercury and the lead will form an amalgam, and leave the gun as clean as the first day it

came out of the shop. You have then only to strain the quicksilver through a piece of thin wash leather, and it is again fit for use, for the lead will be left in the strainer." I have since adopted this plan, and with perfect success.—*Life of Sir Astley Cooper.*

RHEUMATISM, &c.—A person troubled with the rheumatism, lumbago, or even the gout, will find great relief by taking a wine-glass full of brimstone and milk, the first thing in the morning, and one on going to bed, for a week. If brimstone was a guinea an ounce, its value would be more appreciated.

A SHORT SERMON FOR YOUNG MEN.—Text: *Owe no man anything.*—Keep out of debt. Avoid it as you would war, pestilence, and famine. Shun it as you would the devil. Hate it with a perfect hatred. Abhor it with an entire and absolute abhorrence. Dig potatoes, break stones, peddle in tin-ware, do anything that is honest and useful, rather than run in debt. As you value comfort, quiet, independence, keep out of debt. As you value good digestion, a healthy appetite, a placid temper, a smooth pillow, sweet sleep, pleasant dreams, and happy wakings, keep out of debt. Debt is the hardest of all taskmasters, the most cruel of all oppressors. It is a millstone about the neck. It is an incubus on the heart. It spreads a cloud over the whole firmament of a man's being. It eclipses the sun, it blots out the stars, it dims and defaces the beautiful blue of the sky. It breaks up the harmony of nature, and turns to dissonance all the voices of its melody. It furrows the forehead with premature wrinkles, it plucks the eye of its light, it drags all nobleness and kindness out of the port and bearing of a man. It takes the soul out of his laugh, and all stateliness and freedom from his walk. Come not under its accursed dominion. Pass by it as you would pass by a leper, or one smitten by the plague: touch it not. Taste not of its fruit, for it shall turn to bitterness and ashes on your lips.—Friendly, I say to each and to all, but especially to you young men, keep out of debt.—*London Mercury.*

ANALYSIS OF SOILS.—The following is a method of analysing soils for ordinary agricultural purposes: Weigh a convenient quantity of the earth to be analysed, say 1,000 grains dried in the open air; dry the same before a fire on paper, so as not to scorch the paper; re-weigh, and the difference will be the moisture. Roast the residue; re weigh, and the difference will be the organic matter. Pour a quantity of muriatic acid on the remainder; when stirred and settled, pour it off, and add oxalate of ammonia; the precipitate will be the lime; mix remainder with water, and stir it well; when a little settled pour off the turbid mixture, and the suspended contents are argillaceous, or clayey, and the deposit silicious, or sand.

TIME DEAD BEAT.—*Intelligence of an Occurrence 40 minutes before it happens.*—In a letter received by a gentleman of Manchester, from a friend in Indiana, United States, is the following passage relative to the electric telegraph in that state:—"That wonderful invention, the magnetic telegraph, passes through our country from the Eastern cities, communicating intelligence almost instantaneously. News has been transmitted from Philadelphia to Cincinnati, a distance of 750 miles, on one unbroken chain of wires. Of course, as Cincinnati is ten degrees west of Philadelphia, or forty minutes of time later, the news is that much ahead of time."

CHLOROFORM APPLIED TO PIG KILLING.—A few days ago, Mr. Horace Watson, a druggist, near Grimsby, wishing to give "his greasiness as little uneasiness" as possible en route to the salting tub, caused our friend the butcher to administer quantum sufficit of chloroform. "Grunt," naturally fond of sleep, was soon in the land of forgetfulness, when our hero (of the blue frock) very conveniently extracted the requisite portion of vital fluid, leaving the pig, after being scalded, cut up, and salted, apparently none the wiser for what had passed.

Why is a mouse like clover? Because the cat'll (cattle) eat it. Why is a thought like the sea? Because it's a notion—(an ocean.) Why is a whirlpool like a donkey? Because it's a neddy—(an eddy.)

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