

IS THERE A MAELSTROM?—This question is thus answered by a contemporary. Every school-boy of the last century has been taught to believe that there is a wonderful vortex on the coast of Norway, with an eddy of several miles in diameter, and that ships, and even huge whales, were sometimes dragged within its terrible liquid coils, and buried forever "in ocean's awful depths." A correspondent of the *Scientific American* says;

"I have been informed by an European acquaintance that the maelstrom has no existence. A nautical and scientific commission went out and sailed around and all over where the maelstrom was said to be, but could not find it: the sea was as smooth where the whirlpool ought to be as any other part of the German ocean."

We presume the above is correct. The latest geographers and gazetteers barely allude to the maelstrom, Colton, in his large atlas, gives the site upon his map, but does not allude to it in his description of Norway. Harper's Gazetteer, in his article on Norway, says that, "among the islands on the west coast there are violent and irregular currents, which render the coast navigation dangerous. Among these is the celebrated *Mael-Strom*, or *Meskenaes-Strom*, the danger from which has been greatly exaggerated, since it can, at nearly all times, be passed over even by boats."—The romance of the maelstrom has been pretty effectually destroyed.

RECIPE FOR PROSPERITY.—A gloomy correspondent who signs himself "Merchant's Clerk," writes to the *Journal of Commerce* that he believes we are on the eve of a general grand financial smash-up. The editors endeavour to soothe his apprehensions, and add the following excellent suggestion:—

"Merchant's Clerk does well to keep a bright look-out for the future; but if he will eschew stock speculations, fast horses, fast women, costly segars, mixed drinks, the theatre and billiard rooms; will dress economically, spare a portion of his surplus earnings for the gifts of a true charity, and deposit the remainder in a savings bank; avoid unprofitable companions, keep the Sabbath, go to bed early, and devote his time, his thoughts, and his energies, to the interest of his employers, we will insure him against the effects of the most severe commercial revolution."

No person ever planted a tree, without feeling that he had rendered an important service to the community.

Nature, where she plants a vegetable poison, generally provides an antidote, so in the moral world, she causes sympathies to spring up by the side of antipathies.

Outward politeness can be learned in set forms at school, for, at the best, it will be hollow and deceptive; genuine politeness, like every thing else genuine, comes from the heart.

GENIUS.—A contemporary, in dilating on genius, thus sagely remarks:—The talents granted to a single individual do not benefit himself alone, but are gifts to the world; every one shares them, for every one suffers or benefits by his actions. Genius is a light-house, meant to give light from afar: the man who bears it is but the rock upon which the light-house is built.

LAMPASS.—All young horses are subject to the lampass, and some suffer extremely before it is discovered.

It is a swelling or enlarging of the gums on the inside of the upper jaw; the growth is sometimes so luxuriant as to prevent a horse from eating with any comfort. The cure is simple; and after being performed, a horse will improve in his condition with great rapidity.

Take a hot iron, flat, sharp, and a little crooked at the end, burn the lampass out just below the level of the teeth, using great care to prevent the hot iron from bearing or resting upon the teeth. After the operation is performed, the horse should be given a little bran or meal, with a small quantity of salt in it.

Some farriers have recommended cutting for the lampass, which only gives momentary relief, and would require the same operation to be performed every three or four months; but when it is once burnt out, it never again makes its appearance.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HORSE.—JOHN WALL'S RECIPE.—Take half a pound of saltpetre, half a pound of alum, and half a pound of alum salt; pulverize and mix them well together, and every eight days give him a table spoonful in his food; his coat, flesh, and spirits will soon reward his master for his care.