

MISCELLANY.

NEVER TOO LATE.

It is too late! Ah, nothing is too late. Till the tired heart shall cease to palpitate. Cato learned Greek at eighty. Sophocles Wrote his grand "Oedipus" and "Antigone" bore off the prize of verse from his competitors. When each had numbered more than fourscore years. And Theophrastus at fourscore and ten had begun his "Characters of Men." Chaucer, at Woodstock with the nightingales. At sixty wrote the "Canterbury Tales." Goethe at Weimar, toiling to the last. Completed "Faust" when eighty years were past. These are indeed exceptions, but they show how far the Gulf Stream of our youth may flow into the arctic regions of our lives. When a little else than life itself survives. — Longfellow.

If you have suffered a loss don't try to retrieve it by playing the Chinese lottery.

When you get into a game where Speculation deals you are certain to get a poor hand.

Vinegar is mentioned in the Egyptian records as a medicine in the tenth century B. C.

The tea with which Li Hung Chang regaled Col. Cockerill is said to have been worth \$75 a pound.

In the past 35 years there has been a shrinkage of 29 per cent. in the average prices of all commodities.

Spasmodic dunning of customers makes them mad. Have a system of sending out statements and stick to it.

A firm of wholesale grocers in Mansfield, Ohio, has been convicted of selling ketchup containing salicylic acid.

It is easy enough after the ramparts are carried, to find men to plant the flag on the top-most tower. The difficulty is to find men who are ready to go into the first breach.

Divide your work into departments. Give each clerk his department, make him responsible for its proper conduct, and don't interfere with him nor allow others to do so.

There is real satisfaction for business men in the present advancing market. For so long they have done business in the face of continually shrinking values, that they turn with relief to the opposite state of affairs.

Formosa tea is more popular in the United States than in any other part of the world. Tamsui, on the west coast of the island, exports about 20,000,000 pounds yearly, and three-quarters of the product comes to this country. The tea has a flavor different from any grown in China. It has hitherto been shipped by the way of Amoy, China, but the Japanese will hereafter control the trade.

Figs grow freely in Greece, but as the quality of the fruit is inferior the bulk of the production is shipped to Trieste and roasted, ground into powder and sold as a substitute for coffee under the name of fig coffee.

One of the most encouraging signs, and a sure indication of returning prosperity, is the gradual improvement in the bank clearances of the country. According to Bradstreet, the showing in April was the most favorable in any month for years.

Don't expect an advertisement to bear fruit in one night. You can't eat enough bread to last a year, and you can't advertise on that plan either. People who advertise only once in three months, forget that most folks cannot remember anything longer than about seven days.

An Auburn, N. Y. man has just patented a new automatic aluminum bottle stopper. It is air-tight and dust-proof, and does away with the cork entirely. When the bottle is held in a pouring position, the stopper opens automatically, and closes instantly when the bottle is placed in an upright position.

Messrs. Clapp & Company, the New York bankers and brokers, say, in their weekly circular: "The silver fallacy is less seriously considered, now that curtailed production and increasing demand is improving the commercial value of that and other products. Perhaps attention may now be turned to developing home industry and foreign trade."

The Baltimore Sun estimates that every year 2,000 sailing vessels of all kinds disappear in the sea, carrying down 12,000 human beings, and involving a loss of \$100,000,000 in property. It is only the great disasters like that of the President, the Boston or the Elbe, that attract general attention, but the real perils of the sea are shown by the multitude of small losses.

An Italian officer, Capt. Cei, has invented a rifle which, if reports of its performances are true, will certainly cause the Italian army to be re-armed, or its number can be diminished, greatly to the welfare of the people, who are so heavily taxed. The new weapon permits a soldier to utilize twenty cartridges of the magazine without changing his position, the opening and shutting of the covering obstruction being automatic, as is also the ejecting of the empty cartridge case; the firing can be either continuous or intermittent. On the occasion of the test twenty shots were fired in two seconds, and all the bullets struck the object aimed at.

John Bull is working to get the lion's share of the Japan trade, which naturally belongs to the United States. The British Trade Journal has arranged to print a quarterly edition in Japan, in the native language, for the sole purpose of "fostering British commerce in that part of the world." England is aggressive in a commercial way and this country should be equally so. — Seattle Truth Register.

The Patent Transportable Buggy and Coupe manufactured by T. J. Kluegel, of St. Louis, is a neat combination without attachment, it is an open buggy for summer use or in fairweather. The same vehicle can be transformed into a closed coupe for rain or cold weather. There are many business and professional men who do not care to own two vehicles, and by using a combination like this that trouble is overcome.

The St. Louis Fruit and Produce Exchange has adopted a new code of rules, which went into effect on the 15th inst. All bills sold by Exchange members on credit to St. Louis merchants shall be in every case payable on the Monday after such sale, or the merchant shall be reported as a delinquent. The bills of transient customers shall be payable on the 1st and 15th inst. next succeeding the day of sale. Sixty-seven commission houses have signed the rules.

Higher prices are materializing, and mere cheapness will not long hold its devastating grip on trade. Many of the adulterations and frauds which have for a time flourished will soon be exposed and relegated to deserved neglect and obscurity: and skill, taste and honest service will regain something of their old supremacy. There will be a decided shaking up in these matters before the completed harvest ushers in the full tide of fall trade. — St. Paul Trade Journal.

After the Defalcation.—Bank President—"No, really, I cannot say that there is any one against whom we can bring a charge. But there is Adderton, come to think of it; we have always been more or less suspicious of him." Police Officer—"But I don't know as I care to see Adderton. Isn't there somebody about the place in whom you have always had the most implicit confidence and whom you have always trusted? Yes? Well, that's the man I want to see." — Boston Traveler pt.

Pipkin—There is one debt Brace won't be able to stave off.

Potts—What?

Pipkin—The debt of nature.

Potts—No; but I'll bet he dies of something lingering.