

SELECTIONS.

DELICATE HANDS.—Girls sadly miss it, who expect to win good husbands by showing their delicate hands and speaking contemptuously of culinary employments. Who had not rather see clean pots and kettles, bright tins and clean floors made so by tough hands, than greasy walls, black plates, dirty floors, and hands too delicate for the sunshine to play upon?—*N. Y. Tribune.*

HINDOO FABLE.—THE THIEF'S EXPEDIENT.—There is a fable among the Hindoos that a thief having been detected and condemned to die, thought upon an expedient by which he might be rescued from death. He sent for the jailor, and told him he had a secret to disclose to the King, and when he had done so he would be ready to die. The King sent for him to know what this secret was. He told him that he knew the art of producing trees that should bear gold. The King, accompanied by his prime ministers, courtiers, priests, came with the thief to a certain spot, where they began their incantations. The thief then produced a piece of gold, declaring that if sown it would produce a tree, every branch of which should bear gold; 'But,' added he, 'this must be put into the ground by a person perfectly honest. I am not so, and therefore pass it to your Majesty.' The King replied—'When I was a boy, I remember taking something from my father, which although a trifle, prevents my being the proper person. I pass it, therefore, to my prime minister. The latter said—'I receive the taxes from the people, and, as I am exposed to many temptations, how can I be perfectly honest? I therefore give it to the priest.' The priest pleaded the same as to his conduct in receiving sacrifices. At length the thief exclaimed—'I know not why we should not all four be hanged, since not one of us is honest.' The King was so pleased at the ingenuity of the thief that he granted him a pardon.

THE DOMESTIC RELATION.—We can conceive of no more heaven-like circle than is embraced within the limits of a virtuous and happy family. There is nothing beneath the skies more ennobling to human nature than such a household—where mildness and virtue go hand in hand together—where a contented and cheerful spirit chases away the gloom of the world, and Religion, with her sweet lessons of philosophy, softens and purifies the heart. Where the head of the family is recognised and respected as such—the greatest happiness within the circle is derived from his approving smile. Where the low sweet voice of Woman is seldom heard but in accents of gentleness and love, and the name of Mother is never uttered unassociated with some endearing epithet. Such a family can only be collected together under the influence of a happy marriage—a union of hearts as well as hands—a tie consecrated by pure and chaste affection—an engagement formed on earth but sanctioned in Heaven. On such an union the angels, who dwell in the bright abodes of the blest, must downward turn their spiritual eyes, and while they gaze with looks of interest and love, delight in and rejoice over the same.

MOURNING STORES.—Among the improvements of the times, we find in England mercer shops, in which articles of mourning are exclusively sold, and to be consistent the storekeeper and his clerks are all clad in the habiliments of woe. A gentleman who called in to inquire if he could have a pair of dark grey gloves, was requested to step into "mitigated affliction department," an inner room, where second mourning was kept.

CRUSHED AFFECTIONS.—How many suffer by unreturned affection! They are attached so, sometimes strongly to those who return their cold words, indifferent looks, and even avoid their presence. A word, that might not otherwise be noticed, often sinks deeply in the heart of one whose life is bound up in another. Where an object is cherished, each motion is watched with solicitude, and a smile gives exquisite pleasure, while a frown sends a dagger to the heart. There is no greater sin than to crush the warm affections gushing freely from a generous heart. It dries up the fountain of the soul—fades the smile on the cheek, and casts a shade over every bright and glorious prospect. Draw near to the heart that loves you; return the favours received, and if you cannot love in return, be careful not to bruise or break it by a careless word, an unkind expression, or an air of indifference.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHRISTIAN ELECTORS.—There are duties arising from the possession of the political franchise, and intelligence and business arrangements are necessary for the due discharge of these duties. Only, let us take heed that we be not hurried away by political fervour, into a neglect of what, even in a political point of view, is infinitely more important, namely, the wider diffusion of the truth, and the more extensive establishment of sound religious principle; in the hearts of the people. Without this, all political agitation will be of little avail; and while, therefore, we give due attention to the lesser duty,—let us remember that, after all, it is but secondary and subsidiary,—and that our first and main business must ever be, by God's blessing and by the means of his appointment, to spread the dominion of His truth, and thus establish that righteousness which alone exalteth a nation.—*Scottish Guardian.*

RESPECTABILITY OF MARRIAGE.—Arrived at the age of twenty-five, and possessed of a moderate sum, a young man will naturally turn his thoughts to marriage. Should his choice of a companion for life be made with reference more to industry, cheerfulness, and a good temper, than to mere beauty of person, or to the possession of a few pounds, misnamed a fortune, he will enter his new, his own home, with every prospect of peace and happiness. To expect uninterrupted

ed sunshine would be unreasonable; clouds will occasionally pass over all; but what can tend to mitigate their gloom more effectually than the cheerful welcome and consoling voice of her who is to share them? If a man has acquired the respect of his comrades, and the confidence of his employers, when single, he will certainly lose nothing of either by marriage; his family is a security to society at large, not only for the continuance of good conduct, but for the exercise also of the higher duties of charity and urbanity; he may often be enabled to turn an erring youth from wrong; his persuasion will have more weight, and his example will be undeniable evidence of what good sense can effect. Who shall say that he has not attained a position in society? Who can deny that he is one of those pillars, minute though it be, by which the greatness and prosperity of his country are supported?—*Dr. Beecher.*

PRIVATE FORTUNES OF SOME OF THE GREAT PERSONAGES OF ANCIENT TIMES.—Cæsus possessed in landed property a fortune equal to £1,700,000, besides a large sum of money, slaves, and furniture, which amounted to an equal sum. He used to say, that a citizen who had not a fortune sufficient to support an army or a legion, did not deserve the title of a rich man. The philosopher Seneca had a fortune of £2,500,000. Tiberius, at his death, left £23,125,000, which Caligula spent in less than twelve months. Vespasian, on ascending the throne, estimated all the expenses of the State at £3,000,000. The debts of Milo amounted to £600,000. Cæsar, before he entered upon any office, owed £2,995,000; he purchased the friendship of Curio for £500,000, and that of Lucius Paulus for £300,000. At the time of the assassination of Julius Cæsar, Anthony was in debt to the amount of £300,000; he owed this sum on the Ides of March, and it was paid before Kalends of April; he squandered £117,000,000 of the public treasures. Apicius expended in debauchery £500,000; and finding on examination of the State of his affairs, that he had no more than £80,000 left, he poisoned himself, because he considered that sum insufficient for his maintenance. Julius Cæsar gave Servilla, the mother of Brutus, a pearl of the value of £40,000. Cleopatra, at an entertainment, gave to Anthony, dissolved in vinegar, who swallowed it, a pearl worth £80,000.—Claudius, the son of Esopus, the comedian, swallowed one worth £8000. One single dish cost Esopus £80,000, Caligula spent for one supper £80,000, and Heliogabalus £20,000. The usual cost of a repast for Lucullus was £20,000. Messala gave £40,000 for the house of Anthony. The fish from Lucullus' fish-ponds were sold for £25,000. Scaurus' country-house was destroyed by fire, and his loss was estimated at £850,000. Otho, to finish a part of Nero's palace, spent £487,500.

A newspaper in a family is equal to three months time spent in school each year. Go into the families where a newspaper is taken and into those that cannot afford it, and mark the difference in the intelligence of the children and be convinced.

FOSSIL REMAINS OF MAN.—According to the *United States Gazette*, a very remarkable discovery has recently been made, of fossil remains of the human species. They consist of the bones of the pelvis, and were discovered by Dr. M. W. Dickerson, in the mammoth ravine, near Natchez, Mississippi. In the same stratification with the bones of the megatherium, milodon, megalonyx, the tapia, castroides, zebra, bison, elk, a gigantic horse, and a nondescript animal, discovered also by Dr. Dickerson, and below those of the mastodon, and a stratum containing marine shells. This discovery is perhaps the most remarkable one that has lately characterized the progress of modern geology. These curiosities have been deposited in the rooms of the Academy of Natural Science in Philadelphia.

PRODUCE PRICES CURRENT—MONTREAL, NOV. 9, 1846.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.		
ASHES, Pots, per cwt	22	0	a	00	0	PEAS,	4	3	a	4	6
Pearls,	22	3	a	22	6	BEEF, Prime Mess,					
FLOUR, Canada Superfine, per brl.						per brl. 20½lbs.	47	6	a	0	0
196 lbs.	33	6	a	34	0	Prime,	42	6	a	00	0
Do. Fine,	31	6	a	32	0	Prime Mess, per					
Do. Sour,	00	0	a	00	0	tarc, 30 lbs.	00	0	a	00	0
Do. Middlings, ..	none					PORK, Mess, per brl.					
Indian Meal, 168½lb.	15	0	a	00	0	200lbs	72	6	a	75	0
Oatmeal, brl. 22½lb.	29	0	a	00	0	Prime Mess,	55	0	a	60	0
GRAIN, Wheat U.C.						Prime,	50	0	a	52	6
Best, 60lbs. ..	5	6	a	5	9	Cargo,	40	0	a	00	0
Do. 1 C. per min.	0	0				BUTTER, per lb. ...	0	7½	a	0	7½
BARLEY, Minot, ...	3	0	a	3	3	CHEESE, Am. 100½b	30	0	a	40	0
OATS, "	do.					LARD, per lb.	0	5	a	0	6
						TALLOW, per lb. ...	0	5½	a	0	5½

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