

through the good offices of Lord Stanley. France had to pay for the inconsiderate conduct of her rulers 107,000,000 £, which war preparations cost her, without counting the supplementary bills presented later to the Chamber.

It will be remembered that on July 15 M. Ollivier refused M. Thiers's request for the publication of the despatch relative to the insulting conduct of the King of Prussia at Ems, which was said to be the cause and justification of the war. The despatch was, however, submitted to a committee of nine deputies, of whom M. Thiers was one, and it is asserted in this pamphlet that M. Benedetti's report gave textually what passed between him and the King, who handled the Emperor and Empress severely. "The Emperor was completely carried away by a violent sentiment of anger in reading this despatch; this was the cause of his resolve to declare immediately a war which, as we have seen, neither had its source in an attack on the dignity of France nor in French interests being menaced, but in the *amour propre* of the Emperor, who was personally wounded by what the King of Prussia said against him and the Empress to M. Benedetti."

DISAGREABLE TRUTHS.

A New York paper thus bewails the moral degradation of the rising generation:

"The *Scientific American* calls attention to some striking deficiencies in the make up of our City. It says:

"There is, perhaps, no large city in the civilized part of the world in which such utter scientific destitution prevails as in New York. However much the citizens may hunger and thirst after scientific knowledge, we have no public place in the City where their wants can be supplied. There is no museum of natural history, no collection of mineralogy and geology, no accumulation of models of machinery, no zoological garden, no technological collection for the free use of the people."

"True as the above is, it seems to us less remarkable and far less deplorable than a kindred deficiency. Our boys, for the most part, are not learning trades, nor qualifying themselves for any practical, productive career. We believe more of our youth are tending bars and billiard rooms than are learning mechanical trades. Quite a number are trying to be clerks and book-keepers—at least twice as many as can ever find steady employment in those pursuits—but the men who dig our cellars, lay our brick, do our carpenter work, finish and furnish our houses, were nearly all born in Europe and are regularly recruited from that Continent. It seems to us that fewer Americans by birth are working as mechanics in our city than there were twenty or thirty years ago, and that far fewer of our boys are serving an apprenticeship.

"But the gravest aspect of our social condition is the multiplicity and rapid increase of youth who have no regular pursuit, or, at least, follow none. They hang about grogshops and billiard-rooms, drinking and smoking, and avowing their purpose to become politicians. Some of them have been set to work at trades, but have thrown down the trowel, the adze, the jack-plane, and deliberately addicted themselves for life to what they consider politics. They are always ready for a horse-race, a game of ball, a target excursion; but they do not average an honest day's work each per month, and seldom achieve a new suit of clothes save on the eve of a contested election. In short they are a bad lot of loafers.

"Though they expect to live out of the public, not one of these fellows ever suspected that it might be necessary for him to seem honest, moral, and decent in order to succeed in his chosen career. On the contrary, they are universally libertines, gamblers and tipplers, or only fail to be for lack of means. They glory in target excursions; they swell Democratic processions; they begin to vote at sixteen or seventeen years of age; and are re-elected repeaters by the time they are twenty. If there is any vice with which one of them is not familiar, be sure that he is intent on its early acquirement. It was from such a crew that Catiline mustered the forces with which he advanced to sack and devastate Rome.

"What shall be done to transform these young reprobates into honest, virtuous, useful, respected citizens? What must be our future if our future Tweeds are to be backed by thrice the number of these embryo ruffians that afflict us to-day?"

Thus profanely does the *Pall Mall Gazette* discourse concerning certain Ritualistic practices now under discussion in England:

Mr. Charles Walker, who announces himself as "Acting Cæremoniarus," meaning, we suppose, stage-manager, of St. James' Chapel, Brighton, is very anxious that Mr. Purchas's reasons should be known for wearing the "biretta," that mysterious little cap about which an important lawsuit is now being carried on. Mr. Walker is author of the "Ritual Reason Why" and has paid great attention to these subjects. The result of his researches is a conviction that there is nothing symbolical of "the glory of the priesthood" in the biretta, the great object of which is to keep the clergyman's head warm. Mr. Walker, however, does not explain whether the biretta is superior in this respect to all other kinds of head-gear, or why, if no special meaning is attached to it by Mr. Purchas and his friends, they should not try a glengarry or one of those nice travelling caps with flaps for the ears, by way of change. Hitherto many credulous persons have been labouring under the delusion, which Mr. Walker now explodes, that Dr. Stephens knew something about ecclesiastical law, vestments included. It appears Dr. Stephens does not know what the "zucchetto" is. It is not, as he supposes, the external framework, but the inner skull-cap which fits the head, and which is not necessarily or by any means universally buttoned to the biretta which encloses it. These are certainly tremendous issues, and we hope the great button question will be fully considered by the Privy Council.

MACHINE FOR MICROSCOPIC WRITING.—A correspondent of the *London Times* writes:—"The most extraordinary machine in the exhibition is the one for microscopic writing. This enables a person to write in the usual way, and to duplicate his writing so small that it is invisible to the naked eye, yet with a powerful microscope every line and dot can be seen. The inventor claims that with his instrument he can copy the entire Bible twenty-two times in the space of an inch. With one of these machines, a private mark can be put on bills, that the forger can neither perceive nor imitate, but that the bank clerk, knowing where to look, can at once detect."

WHY WIVES FADE.

How many pale, lifeless women you see in the West—and in the East, too, for that matter. Young, fresh looking women marry, and in five or ten years you can scarcely recognize them, while their husbands look as well as on the day of their wedding. One cause of this is complicated house-keeping. When a man undertakes a business, he finds learned men ready to assist him: he knows what there is to do, and secures help accordingly. A young woman goes to house-keeping very often without any help at all, or perhaps with one awkward girl, like the wife in this respect. There are three meals to get every day—that means cooking—and then comes the dishes to be washed after each meal. It would take about forty-five pieces for breakfast and supper, and seventy for dinner for a family of five—one hundred and sixty-five pieces to be carried from the kitchen to the dining room every day, washed and carried back. If you have six rooms in your house there is one to be thoroughly swept and cleaned daily, besides brushing up the others, making beds, bringing in wood and carrying water.

Twice a week there is a bread-baking, twice a week yeast-making, one day washing, one day ironing, pantries and safes to be washed out once a week, dairy work to be attended to, besides innumerable jobs in the way of preserving, jellymakings, picklings, curing hams, putting down pigs' feet, looking over apples twice in the winter, and making hoghead cheese, mince-meat, a thorough house cleaning twice a year, then sewing on dresses, aprons, shirts, drawers, gowns, &c., by the dozen.

Then supposing the housekeeper has a baby—an average six months old baby, that weighs about eighteen pounds. Suppose she has this child in her arms thirty times a day (a cross infant is taken up more frequently), and often she is obliged to work with the right arm whilst carrying the burden of a baby about with the left. Who is it that says there is nothing in gymnastics equal to the endurance of a mother's arms. Even when the day's labour is accomplished, and she goes to bed, she still holds her baby, and does not sleep soundly for fear of rolling on it or its getting uncovered; she must attend to its wants several times in the night, and must be in a constrained condition for fear of disturbing it.

I have heard women say they would give almost anything for a night of undisturbed sleep, "with no care on the mind." Then in the morning up and at it again. Don't you see why women get pale, and why sometimes a little cross, and how their husbands wonder that their wives don't look pretty and dress well and entertain them as they did before they were married?

The wives don't reason on the matter; they think it all men's fault, and then they turn cross, so things go at sixes and sevens—and this is the place where woman's rights should be taken hold of. I don't think voting would help that very much; woman's labour should be made a study. In the first place, men must realize that it is a great labour to keep house. A great many women sink down under the weight; then every body says:—"Poor thing! she always was a weakly, good-for-nothing creature!" and the "poor thing" has been doing more for the past ten years than two women ought to have done.—*Et.*

HOW TO CHOOSE TEAS.

Tea being so important an article in a grocer's stock, if, indeed, it is not the article upon which his success in business depends, the question, "How to Choose Teas" must be one of peculiar interest, not only to the wholesale and retail dealer, but also to the consumer. There are various methods employed in choosing teas: the eye, the nose, and the taste must all be used to form a correct opinion of the sample before you. Every grocer is presumed to know the tastes of his own trade, and in choosing teas this must always be borne in mind. A good tea shows evidence of a careful preparation after picking; it should be nicely rolled and delicately dried; when infused, the leaf should unroll itself with freedom, and show fresh and green—not a yellowish or dark brown hue, which is a sign of old tea. The infusion should be clear, without any floating scum, the appearance of which denotes adulteration.

To judge of teas in their dry state, place the samples upon pieces of tea paper; breathe deeply upon them, then apply the nose and take a long inhalation. A choice article will have a rich, sweet, aromatic odour; if damaged, a musty smell. By continued practice, the different peculiarities of the samples can easily be distinguished.

Tasting is the only reliable and satisfactory manner of testing teas. Use as many cups as there are samples to be tested, then weigh equal portions of each and place in the cups; next fill them up with water just brought to the boiling point. The usual time allowed for drawing is from three to five minutes; the manner in which the leaf unrolls itself should be carefully noted. The leaf of a good tea should be bright, tender, and of a soft feeling; that of inferior qualities is dark and tough. When sufficiently cold, begin at the end, and proceed in rotation with the tasting process. This is done with a spoon, by sucking in the liquid sharply against the palate, and then expectorating the same. As the taster proceeds, he discovers some which he thinks will suit the tastes of his customers; these are pushed beyond the range of the others, and with these he proceeds in the same manner. Some teas will have a fine flavor and yet lack strength, while others, possessing strength, are devoid of the requisite flavor; by mixing the two, the result will combine both strength and flavor. A good quality of tea should feel firm, crisp and hard; an inferior quality, soft, spongy, light, and bulky for their weight. Evenness in size of leaf is desirable, as is also freedom from stock and dust, the less dust in tea the better it is, and the fine grades should be entirely free of it.—*Am. Grocer.*

LEMON JUICE IN DIPHTHERIA.—Dr. Revillout, in a paper presented last summer to the French Academy of Medicine, asserts that lemon juice is one of the most efficacious appliances for diphtheria, and he relates that, when a dresser in the hospital, his own wife was saved by this timely application. He got three dozen lemons and gargled her throat with the juice, she swallowing a little at the same time, in order to act on the more deep-seated parts. The doctor has noted numerous cases of complete success obtained by this method of treatment.

A Chinese thief having stolen a missionary's watch, brought it back to him the next day to be shown how to wind it up.

VARIETIES.

The beautiful Fountain des Innocents, in Paris, has been bomb-proofed with clay and plaster to protect it from Prussian shells.

A Coroner in Massachusetts says he is called upon to hold more inquests upon bodies of persons run over by railroad trains, in the month of November, than in any other month in the year.

Among the regimental flags captured by the Germans at Metz, and which are now deposited in the arsenal at Berlin, are several bearing the inscriptions of Marengo, Wagram, Lutzen and Solferino.

The *New York Commercial Advertiser* says:—"The cable of 1866 is stuttering badly, and the cable of 1865 has entirely ceased working. Ananias was struck dead for lying, but the cable is only struck dumb."

There are 11,000 diamond diggers in South Africa. The diggings continue to yield profitable results. One diamond recently found weighed 88 carats, and the owner was offered for it \$110,000 on the spot.

The Duke of Norfolk, premier Duke and Earl Marshal of England, has become engaged to be married to the Princess Margaret of Orleans. The Princess, who is but twenty-four years of age, is a daughter of the Duke of Nemours.

A couple of men, brethren of the same secret society, were travelling together, and the purse of one of them giving out, he nonchalantly proposed to share that of his comrade, but met with a flat refusal. "Why not share your purse with me? Ain't we brothers?" he asked. "O yes; but then, you see, our purses ain't sisters."

A correspondent at Glass, Aberdeenshire, states that there are in that parish a son, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, and great great grandmother, being five generations all alive together. Not long ago there were other five individuals here related as above, and a photograph of them was taken in one group.

The *Rocky Mountain Herald* publishes a long account of the ruins of an ancient city just discovered in the mountains by an exploring party, and believes that the relics date back many thousand years. It says that the ruins are almost impossible to get at, which probably accounts for the fact that none of the ambitious Indian agents have heretofore stolen all that were worth anything as curiosities.

The City Fathers of Louisville passed an ordinance, entitled "An Ordinance to protect Ladies on the Street." It is a rather remarkable kind of a law. The young fellows who gaze at women on the street, either out of sentiment or impudence, are to be fined by the worthy magistrates of that extraordinary city. No provision, however, seems to be made for the punishment of ladies who look at gentlemen. The Mayor of the city vetoed the ordinance on the ground that it is rather the man who does not admire female beauty on whom the vengeance of the law should fall, and that if such an ordinance should be enforced the city government would have to be indicted under its provisions.

It is reported that great "hilarity" was manifested at Prussian head-quarters at the defeat of Von der Tann and the Bavarians. The poor Bavarians and the Austrians have ever been a standing joke for the Prussians, who consider themselves so much smarter. The idea has, however, it appears, come into the minds of the Bavarians that they were let in for the thrashing they got, and it was an arranged thing to leave Von der Tann in the midst of the mass of troops, which it was well-known at Prussian head-quarters existed round Orleans. It may, however, be an expensive game to play, for the Bavarians were before disgusted at much that they were made to suffer, and the last report is that Count Beust has gone to Munich to talk over the future attitude of Bavaria. Very significant of what will be the issue.

The *Iberia* informs its readers that the Duke of Aosta is descended from the Great Jaime I, the Conquistador, King of Aragon, and therefore entitled to be considered a scion of the true blood royal of Spain. The descent is thus traced:—Jaime I, King of Aragon; Isabel of Aragon, 1262, married to Philip III, of France, whose son Charles, Count of Valois, died in 1325, leaving his son Philip IV, of France, deceased 1350. His son, John II., died in 1364. John, Duke of Berri, his son, died in 1416, his daughter having married Amadeus VII., Count of Savoy. The remainder of the genealogy is simply through the counts, dukes, and kings of Savoy and Piedmont to the present time.

The clever correspondent of the *Sheffield Times*, at Versailles, writes of the English that have been able to leave Paris:—"And finally, although I give this last information 'under all due reserve,' one and all, simple, gentle, bagman, barrister, artist, banker's clerk, and groom, all agreed that the incivility and incapacity of the British officials in Paris was something fearful to behold. If it had not been for the kindly intervention of Mr. Washburne, who had sufficient tact to persuade the French that it was well to let a hundred or so hungry Englishmen leave a place where their services could only be applied to the diminution of the stores, our countrymen would never have got away from the besieged city at all. As it is, it is not pleasant to think that they have had to come with American passports.

A rather unusual, if not an altogether unprecedented, coincidence occurred in connection with a marriage ceremonial celebrated at Loith, Scotland. In the registrar's certificate, attested by the minister performing the ceremonial, the following names, identically the same, and yet all describing distinct individuals, are recorded, viz:—

- Bride's name..... Robina Robertson.
- Bridegroom's name..... Robert Robertson.
- Bride's father's name..... Robert Robertson.
- Bridegroom's father's name..... Robert Robertson.
- One of the witnesses, a cousin of the bride's..... Robert Robertson.
- The other witness, a nephew of the bride's, being..... Robert Robertson Mearns.

Thus there are the six usually requisite names essentially the same, and the distinctive family addendum of the latter name may perhaps only serve to make the similarity the more marked. It may be stated that there is no relationship between the family of the bride and that of the bridegroom.