

FAMILY MATTERS.

REMOVING STAINS.—If you have been pickling or handling any acid fruit, and have stained your hands, wash them in clear water, wipe them lightly, and while they are yet moist strike a match and shut your hands around it so as to catch the smoke, and the stains will disappear.

BOILING VEGETABLES.—Why should soda be boiled with greens, cabbages, broccoli and turnip greens? Because the oil which all these vegetables contain, more or less, the soda extracts, and leaves the greens sweet and wholesome; but the water is, after boiling the greens with soda, most unwholesome, perhaps poisonous.

HOW TO WASH SUMMER SUITS.—Summer suits are nearly all made of white or buff linen, pique, cambric, or muslin, and the art of preserving the new appearance after washing is a matter of the greatest importance.

HINTS TO FARMERS.

FLAX.—Some of the Oregon flax was some time ago forwarded to be tested at the Belfast manufactories, Ireland. It has just been returned in the shape of a hatched flax ready for the spinner.

RASPING HORSES' FEET.—A correspondent of the Canada Farmer says: "Rasping down the feet nicely, as they call it, is quite a passion with some people. I have often rasped the hoof, and the owner of the horse standing by to tell me when it would suit him.

WATER AS A PRESERVER OF BUTTER.—After being duly packed water-tight, the packages may be placed in good, cold water, such as is found in good wells and springs anywhere.

years as good as when packed. Possibly lard and some other articles of food may be stored in this way.

THE POULTRY YARD.—The great value of the poultry is for the family use, and not in its market value. And the family should have it. Better be short of sugar, tea and coffee than to be short of eggs and poultry.

Notwithstanding all that is said against the inordinate use of pork and lard, they continue to be largely used on the farm, and among nearly all the laboring classes.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

A St. Louis lady is opposed to female clerks, because it destroys the romance of shopping.

An Illinois couple, who were divorced nearly half a century ago, were re-married last week, the husband having been twice made a widower in the meantime.

At the recent wedding of a Bavarian army officer, 181 of his brother officers claimed the right to kiss the bride.

WHEN one learns that the United States contains 14,000 drug stores, each of them dispensing on an average a score of prescriptions a day, the only wonder is that so many people die natural deaths.

BARNUM is in Boston, and a paper there says: "When you overtake an acquaintance drifting down Columbus avenue with his coat tails full of pine splinters, it is safe to ask him how he liked the circus."

MULTITUDINOUS matrimonial engagements in the senior class at Utica are rendering prudent parents and guardians doubtful about the advantages of admitting students of both sexes into the same college.

THE "wild man" has made his appearance in Florida. He has been chased to a cave in Ocoola, where he bids defiance to his pursuers. He is described as a man of gigantic proportions, ranging apparently from six to seven feet in height, covered with long, whitish hair of bristly stiffness, and so singularly thin as to still have the pursuers in doubt as to whether he is man or beast.

PIES.—These grand promoters of indigestion may be considered an "institution" in America. A single New York bakery claims that it produces nine hundred pies an hour from one of its ten capacious ovens, and a total of fifty thousand pies daily, the year round, forcing the supply occasionally up to sixty-five thousand—probably on Fourth of July or other festive occasions.

THE VALUE OF TIME.—Hang this in your library, parlor, office, store, shop, or some other place where it will be seen:—"What does it matter if we lose a few minutes in a day?" Answer.—Time-table (days in a year, 313; working hours in a day, 8).

Days, h. m. 5 minutes lost each day is, in a year... 3 2 5 10 minutes lost each day is, in a year... 6 4 10 20 minutes lost each day is, in a year... 12 8 20 30 minutes lost each day is, in a year... 19 4 30 60 minutes lost each day is, in a year... 39 1 00

We trust that the above will touch the hearts of those who call in to see you "just for a minute."

GOLDEN GRAINS.

THE love of women is gold that is tried in the fire. The love of man is too often alloyed with baser metals.

SATISF.—In fashionable circles, general satire, which attacks the fault rather than the person, is unwelcome; while that which attacks the person and spares the fault is always acceptable.

It will afford sweeter happiness in the hour of death to have wiped one tear from the cheek of sorrow than to have ruled an empire, to have conquered millions, or to have enslaved the world.

HABITS influence the character pretty much as under-currents influence a vessel, and whether they speed us on the way of our wishes or retard our progress, their power is not the less important because imperceptible.

OUR world has been called "a vale of tears," and human life a bubble, raised from those

tears and inflated with sighs, which, after floating a little while, decked with a few gaudy colors, is touched by the hand of Death, and dissolves.

If you cannot be a great river, bearing great vessels of blessings to the world, you can be a little spring by the dusty wayside of life, singing merrily all day and all night, and giving a cup of cold water to every weary, thirsty one who passes by.

THAT man who attempts to bring down and depreciate those who are above him, does not thereby elevate himself. He rather sinks himself, while those whom he traduces are rather benefited than injured by the slanders of one so base as he.

THINK are cases in which a man would be ashamed not to have been impressed upon. There is a confidence necessary to human intercourse, and without which men are often more injured by their own suspicions than they could be by the perfidy of others.

God's word is like God's world—varied, very rich, very beautiful. You never know when you have exhausted all its secrets. The Bible, like nature, has something for every class of mind. Look at the Bible in a new light, and straightaway you see some new charms.

DESPAIR is a sin exceedingly vile and contemptible; it is a word of eternal reproach, dishonor and confusion; it declares the devil a conqueror, and what greater dishonor can be done to Christ than for a soul to proclaim, before all the world, the devil a crowned conqueror.

THERE are many fruits which never turn sweet until the frost has lain upon them. There are many nuts that never fall from the boughs of the forest tree until the frost has opened and ripened them. And there are many elements of life that never grow sweet and beautiful until sorrow comes.

EDUCATION begins with a mother's or a father's nod, with a sister's gentle pressure of the hand, or a brother's noble act of forbearance; with pleasant walks in shady lanes; and with thoughts directed, in sweet and kindly tones and words, to nature, to beauty, to acts of benevolence, to deeds of virtue, and to the source of all good, to the Almighty himself.

LOVE-MAKING.—Young love-making—that gossamer web! Even the points it clings to—the things whence its subtle interlacings are swung—are scarcely perceptible; momentary touches of finger-tips, meeting of rays from blue and dark orbs, unfinished phrases, lightest changes of cheek and lips, faintest tremors. The web itself is made of spontaneous beliefs, and indefinable joys, yearnings of one life towards another, indefinite trust.

HAPPINESS between husband and wife can only be secured by that constant tenderness and care of the parties for each other which are based upon warm and demonstrative love. The heart demands that the man shall not sit silent, self-absorbed, and silent, in the midst of his family. The woman who forgets to provide for her husband's tastes and wishes, renders her home undesirable for him. In a word, ever-present and ever-demonstrative gentleness must reign, or else the heart starves.

HUMOROUS SCRAPS.

WHAT the young lady said to the dentist—Dr. W. it mild.

It is suggested that Poe's bird must have had the delirium tremens, as he was raven on a bust.

It is said that iron is a good tonic for debilitated young ladies. That may be so, but ironing is a better one.

A COUNTRYMAN at Dyersburg, Tenn., was notified the other day gravely setting his watch by a painted sign in front of a Jeweller's.

THE confectioner who a few years ago taught his parrot to say "pretty creature" to every lady who entered his store, is now very rich.

A WATERFALL 2,000 feet high, or more than twelve times the height of Niagara, has been discovered in British Guiana. The lady's name is not given.

A NEW YORK minister, preaching the funeral sermon of a famous skater, the other day, said he had "gone where there is no ice." That was capable of a very serious interpretation.

THE reason an urchin gave for being late at school, on Monday, was that the boy in the next house was going to have a dressing down with a bed-cord, and he wanted to hear him howl.

A NEW JERSEY man has succeeded in raising some very fine bananas—from the cellar of a neighboring fruit dealer, and says the climate of this country seems well adapted to this fruit.

A YOUNG man, searching for his father's lost pig, accented a man as follows:—"Have you seen a stray pig about here?"—To which Pat quickly responded, "Faith, and how could I toll a stray pig from any other!"

A MAN out West, who married a widow, has invented device to cure her of "eternally" praising her former husband. Whenever she begins to do so on his noble qualities, this ingenious No. 2 merely says: "Poor dear man! How I wish he hadn't died!" and the lady immediately thinks of something else to talk about.

A YOUNG couple went to a Yankee clergyman noted for his waggishness, to get married. By an innocent mistake he began to read the Prayer

Book as follows: "Man that is born of woman is full of trouble, and hath but a short time to live." The astonished bridegroom suddenly exclaimed, "Sir, you mistake, we come to be married." "Well," replied the clergyman, "if you insist I will marry you; but believe me my friend, you had better be buried!"

PRESENCE of mind is a good thing to have in cases of emergency. Our friend Atkinson had it in an alarming form. He was out sailing one day in a skiff with another man, and a storm came up. The other man accidentally fell overboard. "He swam up and seized the side of the skiff," said Atkinson, "and made violent efforts to climb in. I was in momentary danger of being upset, but fortunately I had the presence of mind to crack him over the fingers with an oar, and so he let go and sank, and I got in to shore all safe and sound." A very little of that kind of presence of mind would satisfy most people.

OUR PUZZLER.

95. CHARADES.

1

A young man courts a pretty girl, He don't wish to offend her, But asks her to become his wife A week before December.

But when the question's put to her, A blush runs o'er her cheek; She evidently feels my first, And therefore cannot speak.

My second on most doors is found, For safety I would say; My whole will name a character In one of Shakespere's plays.

2

My first is dazzling to the eye, So rich, superlative, and grand; And every one has felt its power, In this and every land.

My second may be termed a veil, Which overspreads the earth; It renders everything obscure, And hide's true nature's worth.

My whole it is a canopy, Oft borne by ladies fair, When they go out to promenade, Or pleasure any where.

W. TYRRELL.

96. ENIGMA.

Three Irish boys, Mick, Pat, and Bill, Were standing close beside a hill. The top of which was very high, And looked as though it reached the sky.

Pat made a bet with Mick and Bill To have a race right up the hill, And he who first on me should sit, Would win the prize—and I was it.

They started off, when down fell Pat, And Bill went tumbling o'er his hat; But Mick, the luckiest of the three, Got up the hill, and sat on me.

And now bold Pat and luckless Bill, Have managed to get up the hill; On me sits Mick so full of glee At his success in winning me.

Although you'll find me on the hill, You'll find me with Mick, Pat, and Bill; And now, a little more to tell, Poor Paddy's hat upon me fell.

THOMAS LIDGERTON.

97. QUARTETTE OF IRISH TOWNS.

- 1. A month and a vowel. 2. A proposition, and a man's name. 3. An industrious insect, and the edge. 4. A female name, and a place with a corporation.

SHYLOCK.

98. METAGRAM.

Whole, I am found on every shore, And seen in every street; Put head to tail, I go before Brave armies when they meet Behead, curtail, and now confess A heavy weight you've got; Reverse that weight, what'er you guess, You'll find that it is not Five letters whole; of two bereft, How strange that only one is left.

B. A. GOLESBERG.

ANSWERS.

- 95. CHARADES.—1. MARRIED. 2. VEIL. 3. CANOPY. 96. ENIGMA.—MICK, PAT, BILL. 97. QUARTETTE OF IRISH TOWNS.—1. MAY. 2. PROPOSITION. 3. ANT. 4. MARY. 98. METAGRAM.—SHYLOCK.