

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

LIZZIE F.—We are sorry that our answer must be "no." Whatever may be said to the contrary, we believe that it is impossible to remove them. Leave it to time.

J. R., CANADA EAST.—Respectfully declined in its present form. The subject is a good one; but the article is susceptible of considerable improvement.

R. T. B.—Always acceptable. You will find an answer to your question in the previous page, or rather an illustration of what we meant.

S. J. C.—We overlooked the request in the concluding paragraph of your letter, when acknowledging its receipt in our last issue. We have not seen the lines before, but from internal evidence believe that you are correct in your supposition. If they are original, we have a true poet in our midst, and one whom we should delight to know.

N. A. S.—Will you favour us with an article on a less hackneyed subject? It is difficult to write anything new upon the one you have selected.

E. H.—Not at all too presuming, and we do feel flattered, but unfortunately an objection was raised. Can you guess from what source? It is too bad is it not? The popular version is that a learned Yankee Custom House officer was in the habit of marking the packages he passed "Ori Korrek;" all correct—hence the abbreviation O. K.

G. W.—We have, indeed, good reason to be proud of our gallant volunteers; and we doubt not that every young Canadian, were it necessary, would emulate the alacrity of the young men of England upon the occasion you refer to. English pluck forced the "Little Corporal" to forego his darling project, and Canadian promptness has undoubtedly chilled the ardour of our friends, the Feuians. Although we cannot publish your communication, we respect the feeling which prompted it, and are proud to reckon amongst our correspondents one who carried arms in the Volunteer Militia of Great Britain from 1798 to 1812.

J. H. Y.—Declined with thanks. Will mail as requested.

ARTIST.—We have only been able to glance at your last communication; if accepted, will endeavour to give it an early insertion.

NOVICE.—The first requisite is practice, the second practice, and the third practice. Confidence will come in good time. Join the Mercantile Literary Society, and take an active part in its weekly meetings.

HOUSEWIFE.—One method of freeing a house from Cockroaches is to sprinkle Scotch Snuff into the holes and crevices which they frequent. This is the best use to which snuff—so far as we are aware—can be applied.

J. C.—Your contribution will appear in an early issue. Please accept our thanks.

PHILO.—We have met with the following statement as to the origin of the word "Tee-total," but cannot vouch for its correctness. "One Dick Turner a faithful but illiterate abstainer was once stammering through a speech when he said, 'm-m-moderation is n-n-no g-g-good—we must have t-t-tee-total!'" (meaning the total). There had previously been a dispute as to the designation of the total abstinence body, but Dick Turner's eloquence settled the point, and the word "tee-total" was selected by the early abstainers as their distinctive name.

G. Y.—Yes, at your convenience.

A. B.—We know of no better method than the one suggested in the article referred to.

LEX.—Not in the present volume.

MISCELLANEA.

A PETRIFIED Australian male aborigine has been brought to England. This singular specimen of petrification was, it is said, found in one of the stone caverns which abound at Musquito Plains, South Australia. It was lying in a natural position, as if having fallen asleep.

VANITAS, VANITATUM!—A gold coffin set in precious stones now encases the body of the se-

cond King of Siam, aged thirty-seven, brother of the reigning sovereign. It is deposited on a throne, to await the day of the solemn funeral, which, according to the customs of Siam, will not take place for a year.

CHARCOAL put to the roots of dahlias and other flowering plants, will redder them vividly; flowers nearly white being thus turned to a deep red, sometimes altogether, and sometimes mixed with the lighter hue in half a dozen varieties from one and the same root.

CLASSIC THEATRE.—A new theatre is about to be erected at Paris, in which the works of Greek and Latin authors will alone be performed—such as those of Euripides, Sophocles, Æschylus, Terence, and others. Something like 3,000,000 francs have already been subscribed in shares, and the architect has completed his plan for the building.

HORSE FLESH.—A letter from Berlin states that great success has attended the introduction of horse-flesh in that capital as an article of human food. The meat is perfectly wholesome, and very tolerably palatable, resembling rather coarse beef. Grand dinners have been given by a society interested in its introduction, at which horse-flesh alone was produced, though prepared in various ways.

By the death of the Earl of Harrington, the title and estates, worth £30,000 a year, and which, before long, will, it is said, be worth £50,000, have gone to a cousin who was in possession of an income that would be considered narrow even for a London clerk, and on which he has brought up a family of thirteen children, the eldest son now Viscount Petersham, and heir to the title, having been educated as a civil engineer. The new earl is a man of considerable ingenuity, and known as the builder of many handsome yachts.

SCIENTIFIC AND USEFUL.

MR. A. de Lentilhac, of Tomaqua, Pa., has patented an artificial fuel composed of fine coal dust, vegetable gluten, and coal tar, pressed into bricks or blocks, dried, then placed in hermetically sealed iron boxes, and baked or cooked in a hot oven.

The latest wonder in chemical science applied to amusement is the new article vended as "Vesuvian tea." A few grains placed in a small tray, over a light for a few moments, ignite, and transmute themselves into a shower of particles exactly resembling ordinary tea.

In a lecture lately delivered by professor Frankland, at the Royal Institution, he stated that the alleged presence of ozone in the atmosphere cannot be proved. Thus, there is no evidence that atmospheric ozone has any effect on the prevalence or absence of infectious diseases, as commonly supposed.

It was an observation made by Scheele, but the fact has recently been published as a new discovery, that ordinary brown vinegar will keep bright and clear for any length of time if heated to the boiling-point for a few minutes.

A **SPRING** of natural ink—a mineral substance resembling crude Petroleum, but without any smell, and possessing all the qualities of the finest writing fluid—has been discovered in Les Angles, in the vicinity of Buena Vista Lake California.

THE ABUNDANCE OF MAGNESIUM.—It has been estimated, says the American *Gaslight Journal*, that the ocean contains 160,000 cubic miles of magnesium,—a quantity which would cover the entire surface of the globe, both sea and land, to a thickness of more than 8 feet. In obtaining salt from sea-water, the residuum is largely magnesium. It constitutes 13 per cent, of magnesian limestone,—a rock found in all parts of the world in enormous quantities. Three years ago all the chemists who had obtained magnesium at all had probably not obtained an ounce among them. One year ago its price was 112 guineas per pound. Now, owing to improvements recently introduced, magnesium wire is sold at

3d. per foot. It has been suggested that, when it shall be cheap enough, vessels of war should be built of it; for whilst but little heavier than heart of oak, it is as strong and tenacious as steel.

WITTY AND WHIMSICAL.

SOME of the young ladies up West are so economical that they resort to tight lacing in order to avoid being waistful.

IN the midst of a stormy discussion, a gentleman rose to settle the matter in dispute. Waving his hands majestically, he began—"Gentlemen, all I want is common sense."—"Exactly," interrupted Jerrold; "that is precisely what you do want."

THE friends of a celebrated wit expressed some surprise, that, at his age, and with his fondness for the bottle, he should have thought it necessary to marry. "A wife was necessary," he said. "My acquaintances began to say that I drank too much for a single man."

NEGATIVES AND POSITIVES.—Mr. Pitt was disputing at a cabinet dinner on the energy and beauty of the Latin language. In support of the superiority which he affirmed it to have over the English, he asserted that two negatives made a thing more positive than one affirmative possibly could. "Then," said Thurlow, "your father and mother must have been two complete negatives to make such a positive fellow as you are."

IN an action for a breach of promise of marriage the defendant's counsel asked the plaintiff, "Did my client enter into a positive agreement to marry you?"—"Not exactly," she replied; "but he courted me a good deal, and he told my sister that he intended to marry into our family."

GALLANTRY AND INGENUITY.—Of all the declarations of love, the most admirable was that which a gentleman made to a young lady, who asked him to show her the picture of the one he loved, when he immediately presented her with a mirror.

CAUGHT.—A man who was boasting that there never was any rope or cord, whether made of hemp, wire, or anything else, in which he could not tie a double bow knot, was summarily put down by being requested to tie a knot in a cord of wood.

THE FRASE OF IMAGINATION is described as follows:—"When your stomach is empty, and your pocket ditto, sit down and read a cookery-book."

A WINDFALL.—A jolly farmer, who resided near the foot of the Grampians, was wending his way to Forfar market, accompanied by his wife and daughter. Having some business to transact in Kirriemuir, they halted at one of the inns, where they left their vehicle for some time. After they had got their business transacted, and the farmer had carefully put in the right-hand side pocket of his coat some money that he had got in exchange, they again took the road, and had proceeded a little to the south of the bridge at the gasworks, when the daughter, who was seated on the back seat of the vehicle, with her back to her father, thought she saw a piece of money on the road, and told her father. He stopped the vehicle, dismounted, and went back to the place indicated by his daughter, when he discovered it to be a half-crown. After picking it up and showing it to his daughter, he put it in his pocket among the rest of his money, mounted his vehicle and drove off again. He had several times to stop and pick up money before they had got half-a-mile out of town, the daughter keeping a sharp look-out, and the farmer, as he picked up the other half-crown, remarking, "Odd, lassie, they're surely sawen the ground with siller hereabouts." When they had reached near to the west end of the fens, the daughter intimated that there was a knife and some money lying together. The farmer was not long in picking it up, when he remarked that the knife was very like his own; so, after turning it over in his hand to look at it, he thrust his hand in his vest pocket where he thought he had it and his money, when, to his utter astonishment, his fingers went through the bottom