

than a circle of grown-up sons and daughters, with their mother as the chief centre, not merely of physical comfort, but of intellectual and spiritual companionship? She must have brains, you say, to be this. Of course she must; and most women do have more brains than they get credit for, the trouble being that they do not know how to use or cultivate what they have. Sue must love her reading and study, that she may have enthusiasm to arouse and tact to sustain the children's interest in these things. If she is musical, the practice hour under supervision will no longer be a distasteful drudgery. If she loves history, mamma's true stories of Columbus and Arthur, Hannibal and Alexander, will be better than fairy tales. If she is fond of poetry, the "Lady of the Lake" and the "May Queen," to the melody of Longfellow, and the ballads of Whittier. If she enjoys scientific studies, she will set the boys, armed with hammers and baskets, to turning over every stone wall in the country, not after chipmunks, but after minerals for their cabinets. They will shut up and feed great ugly caterpillars, and eagerly watch them turn into gorgeous moths and butterflies. The girls will come to her with flowers from every ramble, as I saw a four-year-old "tot" last spring go running to her mother with a little basketful of dandelions and pussy-willows, to ask for her "atomy" (botany) lesson.

A SICILIAN BREAKFAST.

We found at Syracuse another Sicilian hotel worthy of mention. This is the Locanda del Sole. We did not understand at first why there were no bells in any part of the dirty house, but we soon discovered that there was nothing to be had if we could have rung for it. It is a very old and not uninteresting sort of barracks, and its rambling terraces give good views of the harbour and of Aetna. The rooms, too, are adorned with quaint old prints which give it an old-time air. It can be fairly said of its management that the attendance is not as good as the food. I do not know how long it would take to starve a person to death there, or to disgust him with victuals so that death would seem preferable to dining, but we touched close upon the probable limit of endurance in five days.

It was a lengthy campaign of a morning to get a simple early breakfast. It was a work of time, in the first place, to find anybody to serve it. When the one waiter was discovered and coaxed into the dining-room, I ordered coffee and the usual accompaniments. In about fifteen minutes he brought in a pot of muddy liquid, and a cup. I suggested, then, that in reason a spoon ought to go with it. A spoon was found after some search—sugar also I got by importunity. The procuring of milk was a longer process. Evidently the goat had to be hunted up. By the time the goat came to terms, the coffee was cold. I then brought up the subject of bread. That was sent out for and delivered. Butter also was called for—not that I wanted it or could eat it when it came, but because butter is a conventional thing to have for breakfast. This butter was a sort of poor cheese gone astray. The last article to be got was a knife. The knives were generally very good, or would have been if they had been cleaned. By patience, after this, you could have a red mullet and an egg, and some sour oranges. All the oranges in Sicily are sour. The reason given for this, however, is that all the good ones are shipped to America. The reason given in America why all the Sicily oranges are sour is that the good ones are kept at home. We left at 10 o'clock at night to take the boat for Malta. We procured a facchino outside to move our luggage, and not a soul connected with the hotel was visible. The landlord had exhausted himself in making out our bills. There was some difficulty in separating our several accounts, and when the landlord at last brought a sheet of paper on which the various items were set in order and the figures were properly arranged, he regarded his work with unjustifiable pride, and exclaimed, "It is *un conto magnifico*." We agreed with him—in some respects the account was magnificent.—Charles Dudley Warner.

PERSONALITIES AND ILL REPORTS.

Keep clear of personalities in general conversation. Talk of things, objects, thoughts. The smallest minds occupy themselves with personalities. Personalities must sometimes be talked, because we have to learn and find out men's characteristics for legitimate objects; but it is to be with confidential persons. Do not needlessly report ill of others. There are times when we are compelled to say, "I do not think Bouncer a true and honest man." But when there is no need to express an opinion, let poor Bouncer swagger away. Others will take his measure, no doubt, and save you the trouble of analyzing him and instructing them. And as far as possible dwell on the good side of human beings. There are family boards where a constant process of depreciating, assigning motives, and cutting up character goes forward. They are not pleasant places. One who is healthy does not wish to dine at a dissecting table. There is evil enough in man, God knows! But it is not the mission of every young man and woman to detail and report it all. Keep the atmosphere as pure as possible, and fragrant with gentleness and charity. Dr. John Hall.

WHY EGYPTIANS LACK PATRIOTISM.

During my visit to Egypt—some seven or eight years ago—there was certainly no national feeling among the Egyptians. Neither they nor their ancestors for nearly two thousand years had known native rulers. During all these long centuries they had been the spoil of Roman, Arab, Turk, and Mameluke in turn; from none, since the Roman time, had they received protection of life and property, or any national benefits, and it was impossible that patriotism should exist among them, for there is no patriotism save in a country worth loving. The conduct of the Egyptian troops in the late Russian war is a proof of this. The few battalions I saw in Egypt were fine-looking troops—well armed, instructed, and equipped, with intelligent faces and excellent

physique; yet they proved utterly worthless, as it seems to me, because they were destitute of that pride which is inspired by patriotism; for them their flag had no meaning—its honour was no concern of theirs. Their conduct in Abyssinia and the Soudan was similar, and no doubt from the same cause. How can valour and patriotism be expected from men whose only knowledge of their Government is that derived from the tax-gatherer, the bastinado, and forced labour? The achievements of that great soldier, Ibrahim Pasha, are not in contradiction with this conclusion, because few of his troops were Fellahs. His conquering armies were mainly composed of Arabs, Syrians, Nubians, Arnauts—in fact, of fighting men from all the neighbouring parts of the East, who were reduced to discipline by his stern will, and guided to victory by his great military genius.—Gen. George B. McClellan, in *September Century*.

ONE OF THESE DAYS.

Curled in the window-seat,
Watching the leaves
Whirling, whilst raindrops beat
Down on the eaves.
Dark seemed this world that day,
We two alone,
Chancing to gold the gray,
Lived in our own.
Dreaming as childhood dreams,
Life must be good,
Whispering of nobler themes
Scarce understood.
Dreaming all love was true
Eager with praise,
Smiling at all we'd do
"One of these days."

Here to the window-seat
Came you and I,
Whilst with his noiseless feet
Time hurried by—
Here as in childish days
Used we to dream,
Careless of wiser ways,
Love was our theme.
Sometimes I wondered, dear,
How it should last,
But the next moment, dear,
Doubts were all past.
Past as you answer me,
"Love never strays,
Happier still we'll be
One of these days."

Now by the window-seat
Stand I alone,
Whilst the wind drives the sleet
Making its moan.
Clouds might obscure the sun,
Sometimes of old,
But while Hope's sands do run,
Hearts find the gold.
Love, when the angel band
Called you away,
When in my clasp your hand
Passively lay,
Faintly your whisper then
Answered my gaze,
"Love, we shall meet again
One of these days."

—New York Tribune.

THE SCOUTS OF CIVILIZATION.

Charles Dickens once said that the typical American would hesitate about entering heaven, unless assured that he could go farther west. Going west is still a potent phrase to stir the blood of the enterprising and adventurous, and the further west you go the greater seems to be its power. The men who lead the advance of the army of civilization on the frontier skirmish-line do not come from the rear. They are always the scouts and pickets. The people of the six-weeks-old towns do not come from the east. As a rule they are from the one-year-old and two-year-old towns a little farther back. Most of the men I met in the Yellowstone country were from Eastern Dakota, or the Black Hills region, or from Western Minnesota. When asked why they left homes so recently made in a new country, their reply was invariably that they wanted to get farther west.—E. V. Smalley, in the *September Century*.

A CAMEL'S KICK.

The camel's kick is a study. As it stands demurely chewing the cud, and gazing abstractedly at some totally different far-away object, up goes a hind leg, drawn close into the body, with the foot pointing out, a short pause, and out it flies with an action like the piston and connecting-rod of a steam engine, showing a judgment of distance and direction that would lead you to suppose the leg gifted with perception of its own, independent of the animal's proper senses. I have seen a heavy man fired several yards into a dense crowd by the kick of a camel, and picked up insensible.—"My Journey to Medina," by Krane.

THE Supreme Court of California has granted a new trial in the case of a man convicted of murder in the second degree, on the ground that the jury drank so much beer, etc., during the trial as to unfit them for proper and serious deliberation of the evidence. The trial lasted eight days, and it was shown that during that time four five-gallon kegs of beer, five gallons of wine, ten bottles of claret, and considerable whiskey, were purchased by the jury, at their own expense, and consumed by them without the knowledge of the court.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

ACCORDING to current report, the Pope is suffering from want of change of air, and is subject to fits of giddiness and loss of appetite.

"ENGLAND," says Lord Shaftesbury, "is head of all religious movements on the face of the earth, the grand depository of religious truth."

DR. JAS. PETRIE, the son of a clergyman of the Scotch Episcopal Church, is shortly to leave England for Central Africa, as a medical missionary.

OF the new French version of the New Testament, published at three half-pence, 100,000 copies were sold of the first edition, and 50,000 of the second.

THE English Church is about to provide a sanatorium for its China missionaries on Double Island. Some rich friend is asked to furnish the required £500.

THE presidency of the Health Department at the forthcoming Social Science Congress at Nottingham has been accepted by Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B.

THE New Yorkers are glad that they got their obelisk when they did. Its old site at Alexandria was in the direct line of the hottest fire from the British guns.

AN eminent German surgeon has published a paper, in which he attempts to show that Gen. Garfield might have lived but for improper medical and surgical treatment.

CONSUL TANNER, of Liege, Belgium, says the protracted wet weather has ruined the crops in that country. The wheat yield will be but a half crop, and potatoes are very scarce.

A MISUNDERSTANDING has occurred between the French and American authorities in Madagascar, and much tension exists. The French await instructions from their Government.

A FRENCH priest has been convicted at Perpignan of the murder of two sisters over whom he had acquired great influence, and he has been sentenced to imprisonment for life.

MR. REID, a gentleman connected with the cultivation of tea in India, has reported to the Acclimatisation Society of New Zealand that tea can be most successfully grown in Auckland.

CHINA has erected a new fortress on the Russian frontier.

IN Switzerland the Compulsory Vaccination Bill and the Bill for the Protection of Inventions have been rejected by the popular vote.

THE tide of Dutch immigrants has turned from the United States, and is setting in for South Africa. A line of steamers will be established between Amsterdam and the port nearest the Transvaal.

BEFORE the dreadful ophthalmia can make havoc with the English troops in Egypt it will have to overcome the resistance of blue spectacles, of which 25,000 pairs have been ordered by the Government at five cents a pair.

THE proprietor of the Tuam "Herald" has been served with a summons, under the Prevention of Crimes Act, for publishing an article inciting to murder. This is the first prosecution under the Press clauses of the Act.

THE United States National Board of Health have asked to be placed in charge of the work of suppressing yellow fever in the south, and the President has referred the matter to Secretary Folger. The President has \$100,000 available for the suppression of the plague.

TWO THOUSAND Indian warriors are in the Mazatlan mountains, near Ures, and are burning the crops and murdering the inhabitants. In twelve days forty-five persons have been killed within a radius of twenty-five miles of Ures. Mexican officers are among the number.

THE United States Minister at St. Petersburg has been advised that Congress has made provision for bringing home the remains of Lieutenant DeLong and his companions, and Lieutenant Harber has received orders to bring the bodies on sledges to Orenburg, where metallic cases will be in waiting.

DR. MUDD, who dressed the leg of Wilkes Booth after the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, for which he was sent to the Dry Tortugas for implication in the conspiracy, has presented to the House a petition for compensation for attending soldiers and Government employees stricken by yellow fever.

IN the financial statement of the Colonial Treasurer of New Zealand to the House of Representatives, on the 16th June, he announced the intention of the Government to introduce a measure for establishing in the colony a national compulsory insurance against destitution in sickness and old age.

A NEW use for glass has recently been developed in its substitution for marble tops of tables and dressing cases. A Pittsburgh firm has turned out slabs of glass that are said to be a perfect imitation of the latter material, while they admit of decorations of various designs, both in form and colour.

SOME rioting has occurred in Trieste arising out of the action of the Italian Irredenta party. While an Austrian procession was going through the Corso, a petard was thrown into its midst and exploded, injuring several persons. Thereupon some houses frequented by Italians were attacked and damaged.

THE temperance people are organizing for a campaign in Indiana this fall, and will soon have a host of speakers in the field. Among them will be Luther Benson, who has cancelled his lecture engagements in the other States, and Chaplin Lozier, who has recently aided in securing a prohibition victory in Iowa.

FOR the first time in the history of pork packing the mammoth Chicago Stock Yards and packing provision companies are shut down through scarcity of hogs. Over 2,500 men are out of employment. The cause is attributed to the high price of corn the past few months, farmers selling grain instead of feeding it to their stock.