MARRIED OR LEASED.

A CONVENIENT SORT OF ARRANGEMENT IN PERSIA.

There You Can Get Your Wife For a Long or Short Period, Just as You Wish —You Pay so Much For Dresses and so Much for the Divorce in Advance.

The marriage customs in Persia are extremely odd, and the age at which Persian ladies are supposed to think of matrimony is when 11 or 12 years old. The marriages are arranged by a broker who calls upon the father of the lady and endeavors to strike a bargain for her. A recent writer gives the following interesting account of Persian customs in regard to matrimony:

"The broker, generally a moolah or priest, will, perhaps offer 200 or 400 tomauns, or, say, from $500 to $10,000 as a fair price for a young lady. The bargin completed, the girl probably becomes the wife of some Khan, rich enough to afford himself such a luxury, and to give the broker a handsome profit on the transaction. It is usually all a matter of business. It is seldom that either of the parties has previously seen the other, so that the lifting of the veil upon the wedding day may be a delightful surprise, or a glum disappointment, according to circumstances. A Persian bride, when first bought, is a queer little body, fattened up with rice and sweetmeats for the occasion, and sadly besmeared with cosmetics. Collyrium has been put into her eyes, to make them dark and languishing, and they are also ellongated by some means, so that they may have the shape of almonds. Her hair is dyed a coal black or reddish brown, according to her own fancy or that of the broker. Her eyebrows are plastered, and painted so thickly that they look like a large piece of court plaster, cut into arches, stuck upon her face. I say a large piece, because they are joined artifically by a thick line across the nose. Her cheeks are painted in excessively bright colors, and two shiny locks of hair, gummed together, are stuck flat on each side of them in the shape of number sixes, upside down. Her hands and feet, finger and toe nails, are dyed a light mahogany color with henna. She has no more shape or figure than a bolster. Poor little thing! She plays such tricks with herself generally that at 20 she is an old woman, with her skin all shriveled and burned up by caustics and poisoned pricks of needles.

"This odd, undersized creature waddles about the apartment of her new lord in the finest and largest trousers possible. She puts on a great many pairs of them in the course of her life. She wears a smart embroidered jacket with short sleeves, and a pretty chemisette of some light white silk material, embroidered with gold threads, but her arms and legs and neck are bare. She hangs upon her little person as many jewels, gold coins, and trinkets as she can possibly acquire. She is especially fond of pearl and diamonds, but is not particular as to their beauty or value. A diamond is a diamond to her, whatever flaw it may have. A pearl is a pearl, whatever its shape or color may be.

'She is very fine, but never elegant. Her mind is entirely uncultivated. She has neither education nor accomplishments. But she has a good deal of flowery talk about roses and nightingales, with an undercurrent of strange roundabout wit and drollery. There is an utter want of delicacy and modesty in her conversation. She knows a great many things which she ought not to know, and child as she is in years, she would outwit the wisest man who ever wore a gray beard. One of the first visits she receives after her marriage will most probably be from her father, who will tell her that his home is cold and cheerless since she left it, and that her mother is getting old. This pathetic appeal is certain to touch her heart, and she wil employ the first money she can coax out of her husband to buy her father a new young wife. All Persia seems wife-mad according to our ideas. A beggar asking for alms in the street will found his strongest claim to your charity on the startling fact that he has five wives at home, and has just married a young one. You take a servant from rags and hunger and he spends the first few tomauns he can scrape together in your service in buying a brand-new wife. But the eldest, or first married wife is usually housekeeper and mistress. She even distributes rations of food to the rest, who hold her in much respect and some awe. The number of marriages is undoubtedly increased by the strange conditions under which some of them take place. A marriage contract is seldom intended to last the life of either party. A lady may be taken on lease, like a house, for a definite period and this species of matrimony is much encouraged by the moolahs, who derive liberal fees from it. Indeed, the proceeding or custom of taking a lady on a short lease is common even among Christians residing in Persia. A friend of mine informed me that he visited Vannek, a village near Teheran. some years ago, for the purpose of making a marriage of this kind. He and a companion sat down under a tree, smoking kaleons, while the village damsels under command of the priest filed past for inspection. When he had made his choice the lease was drawn out in due form. Forty tomauns (a high rent indeed about £20) was paid for dresses and fine clothes, and 30 tomauns more were agreed upon as the price of divorce. The average price of an Armenian lady is from 10 to 15 tomauns.

"Boys usually marry between 12 and 15. They frequently marry their cousins, but the race does not degenerate in consequence, as it has ben clearly ascertained to do in other countries. Children are not the source of embarrassment, even to poor people, that they are supposed sometimes to be in more civilized countries. There need be no anxiety at all about them, indeed. They can always pick up enough rice to live somewhere, and the family of a rich man is often far too numerous for his children to expect to be rich men too. Hence, it happens that poverty, far from bringing contempt on a man in the East, seems even to invest him with a kind of majesty. All men, therefore, think that they have Nature's own right to marry, and few trouble themselves at all about the care of a family. 'The world is wide enough for everybody,' they say.

"The Shah, however, is under some difficulties in finding a new wife. A Shah sent to one of the great Khans to propose for his daughter, a very beautiful woman. But her father begged that she might be excused so inconvenient an honor, for that when His Majesty had enjoyed her society for a month he would probably forget all about her and she must then, according to custom, remain in a state of widowhood the rest of her life. His Majesty is said to have expressed such resentment at being thus crossed in his caprice that for a long time the Khan did not dare to marry his daughter to anyone else.

"There appears to be no such event as a mesalliance in Persia. One of the innumerable sons of Fat-ali-Shah fell in love with a very old and ugly woman. In humble life. The King tried to join the young man out of his strange fancy. 'Ah, sir,' replied the Prince, 'if you could only see her with my eyes!' This vague answer of sententious Oriental flavor was considered to settle the affair completely, and to reply to all objections, which, perhaps, it did. A late Shah has illustrated this sentiment very prettily. His Queen and favorite wife, Ceiran, or 'the antelope,' was a peasant's daughter who attracted His Majesty's eye one day as he rode through a village and whom he loved until he died with an unchanging affection and most manly tenderness. His passion for her was the master feeling of her life. Once, upon a great day, when her son was proclaimed heir apparent to the throne and when all his womenkind appeared before him arrayed in their best apparel his quick eye saw at once that she was not among them. Turning quickly away from the rest, he asked, 'Where is the Khanum?' No festival could be a festival for him without her, and there was no light for him in his palace or his court until she came."

BUSY DAYS AT THE HATCHERY.

Fry by the Car Load to be Placed in Ontario's Waters.

Monroe A. Green, superintendent of the state hatchery at Caledonia, is busy as a bee with the plans for the spring work of the hatchery. He said the hatchery is full to overflowing with fry and the time for its distribution is just upon us. He said:—"We have begun the work of placing 24,000,000 young white fish in Lake Ontario. I have been in correspondence with people interested in fish culture all along the lake, and they all pledged to help me in placing the little fellows in the water. Mr. Matthews is going to aid in placing 1,000,000 in the water at Manitou Beach; 2,000,000 will be placed at Wilson and 1,000,000 at the mouth of the Genese River; 1,000,000 at Oswego, and, if we can reach the shore, will turn a car load loose at Sodus. The remainder will be turned into the water at points farther down the lake. There is no reason in the world," continued Mr. Green, "why the lake should not become, in a few years, as prolific a source of fish supply as it was twenty years ago. The fish have simply been netted out. The water is as good as it ever was and there is as good fishing on the north shore as there used to be on this side. All we need to do is to keep on stocking and stop the poaching but unless we do stop the poaching, there is little use in stocking. Week after next we shall place 1,000,000 of siscoes in Hemlock Lake to feed the game fish. We put them in for this purpose, but it is a fact that there is no more delicious pan fish than the sisco, in any of our lakes, and it is well worth cultivating for its own sake. Just now our house and creek are full of brook trout fry, and the work of shipping them to the southern tier is in the vicinity of Salamanca, will begin next week. It won't do to plant them in the streams where there is heavy ice and the prospect of a freshet, like those of the Genesee Valley, until after the break-up. There is just one thing more to say, and that is that the talk about the extermination of the trout in this state, is all nonsense. There were never so many good sized and choice trout waiting for the hook in New York since your father was a little boy and used to catch them with a bent pin."—Elmira Telegram.

A Parachute Leap.

"Go!" suddenly exclaimed the aeronaut. Closing my eyes, I made a great leap out from the balloon into space, and could feel myself rapidly shooting downward. Then the trapeze line tautened with a slight jerk that indicated the release of the closed parachute, and I looked up just in time to catch a fleeting glimpse of Norcross' smiling face peering over the side of the car far above me. But the parachute did not open. The seconds passed into a minute, and then into three, four, five minutes. Would the parachute never open? Must I be dashed to death on the ground a thousand feet below?

Suddenly there came a sharp click from above, and my speed perceptibly slackened. Ah, the parachute had opened! My life was saved! With an intense feeling of satisfaction I felt myself deliberately descending, and, looking about, though not directly beneath me, took in the scenic beauties of my journey on every hand. But there came over me a grave fear. Suppose in my descent I should strike the top of a church steeple, or one of the many chimneys with which that section of the country abounded. Common sense, however, came to my rescue.

Norcross, I was convinced, knew his business, and had the balloon directly over a clear space when I made the leap, so where was the sense of such foolish fears and baseless apprehensions? Finally I mustered courage and looked directly below. The earth was approaching rapidly. The fences, trees, houses and barns became more and more clearly outlined, and roofs seemed to rise directly out of the ground. Horses, cattle and men rose rapidly from pigmy proportions to their normal size. I saw that I would land in a broad pasture field about a half mile from where we had ascended, and there was not a chimney, roof or tree within 100 yards. There was nothing to fear.

I saw a crowd of men and boys hastening toward the field to welcome me. Then, a few seconds afterward, to my delight, my feet struck the ground, and the most thrilling journey of my life was ended.

Calmly I folded up the parachute, and then looked up for the balloon. I saw it gracefully swinging to the earth in an adjoining field, and a few minutes later had the satisfaction of receiving the hearty congratulations of the aeronaut, who told me, to my great surprise, that the parachute opened within three seconds after I leaped from the car.—Philadelphia Times.

United States Ambassador Beyard made an eloquent speech on Thomas Carlyle at the meeting of the committee in London organized to convert the great author's house into a museum.

The Japanese are now getting used to glass. At first the glass in railway car windows had to be smeared with streaks of white paint to keep passengers from poking their heads through it.

Amateur photographers are not happy in Russia. They have to secure licenses, and if they chance to take a snap-shot or a view near a fortress they are liable to be whirled to Siberia as spies.

The hay barges on the Swiss lakes rowed by women standing, and the small sail boats, with tail brown sails standing very high to catch fickle winds, are among the most picturesque of craft.

The widow of Herr Reis, who Germans say was the inventor of the telephone, died in Friedrichdorf, near Homburg, the other day. She drew a pension from the Government owing to the services of her husband.

Wall covering of an exceeding novel description is becoming fashionable in Berlin. Sheets of whitish opaque glass about three-eights of an inch thick, are stuck to the wall with cement, and are secured in place.

THIRTY WOMEN KICKERS.

THEY FORM THE "BRITISH LADIES FOOTBALL CLUB."

Lady Florence Dixie Leads—Match Games to Be Played for Prizes—Not at All Afraid of the Spectators—The Sporting Sensation of the Hour in the Old Land.

We live in an age of progress, and the new woman is the latest evidence of the advancement. Anybody who had predicted the appearance of ladies "between the lines" would have been looked at more in sorrow than in anger. Yet are we already in possession of a group of fair performers, styled "The British Ladies' Football Club," with Lady Florence Dixie as the president, says The London Sketch.

Miss Nettie J. Honeyball is the secretary and captain of what may be fairly described as the sporting sensation of the hour, and, if energy and enthusiasm can command success, then surely is the association already preassured of victory. As I saw her in her pretty little study in Crouch End, a thoughtful-looking young lady, with a strong personality, I at once dispelled the suspicion of burlesque that came into my mind.

"You are quite right," said Miss Honeyball, putting aside a batch of correspondence to give me some details; "there is nothing of the farcical nature about the British Ladies' Football Club. I founded the association late last year, with the fixed resolve of proving to the world that women are not the 'ornamental and useless' creatures men have pictured. I must confess, my convictions on all matters where the sexes are so widely divided are all on the side of emancipation, and I look forward to the time when ladies may sit in Parliament and have a voice in the direction of affairs, especially those which concern them most."

"Then, I may take it, you also anticipate a time when big league football clubs will be composed of players both male and female?"

"Such a consummation is, of course, very far distant, but it is possible. You must remember we do not profess to the strength of men"—Miss Honeyball did not mention "brute force," like the lady in "Rebellious Susan"—"but we claim the science, and, in my opinion, football is just the exercise to promote health and grace among women."

"But have all your members the moral courage to face public attendances on the field?"

"Why not? There is nothing at all questionable in our costume. When Lady Florence Dixie consented to become president she especially stipulated that if the club were to attain its end the girls should enter into the spirit of the game with heart and soul. 'I will have nothing to do with balloon sleeves and trained skirts, and anything like that,' she says; 'don't court ridicule by ridiculing yourselves.' Accordingly, we all have our costumes of divided skirts—a sort of a blue knickerbocker—and the teams will be distinguished by wearing, respectively, cardinal and pale blouses. You will detect no nervousness in the girls when they make their first public appearance. We practice twice a week."

"I suppose you had a good deal of trouble in obtaining members?"

"Not at all. I have players from all parts of London and a few even have to travel from the farther suburbs. They number close upon 30 and three or four are married, the ages varying from 15 to 26. Of course, when we first began complaints were made of stiffness and soreness, but that soon wore off and you would be surprised to see the energy thrown into the game. Our original idea was to play our first match on Jan. 12, but a good many difficulties stood in the way, so we decided to postpone it till the end of this month, on the Crouch End ground, and we will call it North v. South. Then, if we attain any sort of success, we hope to visit a few of the provinces and endeavor to foster the game among the ladies there."

"You may expect an amount of adverse criticism."

"I know it. Already the comic papers have burlesqued the notion right and left. All the members are of the middle class, else how could they spare the time and expense to indulge in practice."

"How did you go about getting the team together?"

"Well, in the first instance I advertised, and, as you can guess, I received a few bogus applications from young men. However, I called all the ladies to a meeting, and we soon proceeded to business. None of them, of course, had previously played, but, like myself, had gained all their experience and love for football from frequent onlooking. Then came the question of ground. The committee of the Oval refused to allow us the use of that ground, and eventually we made arrangements with Mr. C. W. de Lyons Pike to practice and play on the Nightingale Lane inclosure. We have been out so far very regularly, no matter what the weather, and each time the improvement in style is more marked. Mr. J. W. Julian, the well-known half-back, is acting as coach, and rendering valuable assistance."

"Then I may take it there will be no withdrawal—that the club has come to stay and astonish creation?"

"You need have no fear of the collapse of the association," said Miss Honeyball, confidently. "I told the girls plainly at the outset—they were all strangers to me, except my sister—that if they ever wished to give up to tell me at once, and I would get others to take their places; but, so far from that, the attendance at practice is astonishingly good. We had a little test game one day, and one side won by eight goals to six; but, of course, all interest is being centred on the day we admit the public, for, as you may guess, our practice is strictly private. Lady Dixie, who has evinced great interest, will doubtless be present, and has offered to present the winning eleven with copies of her 'Gloriana,' a work which will appeal to us all. In addition a weekly paper has offered timepieces to the successful ones also, so a hotly contested sixty minutes can be promised."

GREAT SHOW AT THE TORONTO.

Manager Small Has One of the Best Attractions of the Season.

During the last few years a craze for specialty performances has characterized the fickle theatre-going public of America, the higher-class or better entertainments of that order having been the most successful in the theatrical profession. For this reason several managers have entered into competition for the purpose of securing the most noted trans-Atlantic performers, and the most novel and sensational acts of that class which are chiefly used in vaudeville entertainments, and in organizing their companies they have, evidently, realized the fact that the world has reached that stage where it sits an impartial judge upon all theatrical questions arising within its jurisdiction. It is no longer the motherly arbiter that smiles alike upon the good and the bad. In fine, the public is critical and exacting. When a good attraction comes along it makes money—it does so, hand over fist, whether the performance be vaudeville, spectacular, legitimate, or what not. If, on the other hand, the attraction be weak, it may as well save itself the trouble of unpacking its stage paraphernalia.

Mr. F. W. Stroh, the proprietor and manager of the famous vaudeville company bearing his name, and which begins a week's engagement at the Toronto Opera House to-morrow (Monday) night, has recently augmented his already strong company by the engagement of Mlle Fougere, the renowned French chansonette, at the enormous salary of $500 per week. She comes direct from her great triumph in New York, where for two long years she won the most reverberating praise at Koster and Bial's. She has many imitators in her Parisian specialty, but there is only one Fougere, as the audiences will readily understand after seeing her clever act. Fortunately Fougere is not the only artist of note in the company, and even with her absent from the stage the performance of Stroh's vaudevilles would be one quite out of the common, and much to be praised. Stroh, a new champion for honers as a strong man, is another prominent feature of the bill. Although weighing less than 125 pounds, he elevates dumb-bells ranging from 56 to 200 pounds, and winds up by lifting a 2000 pound bell, the largest in the world, and of which Stroh is the inventor and patentee. This is just 300 pounds less than Sandow's lift. Perhaps the strongest act of the long program is that of the Bicketts, who are universally conceded to be the peers of any aerial artists now before the public. Their mid-air swinging and jumping is exceedingly daring, to say nothing of Miss Minnie Bickett's thrilling dive from the dome of the theatre. Among the other specialists are the Valdares, a troupe of trick bicyclists, unicyclists and buggy wheel riders; Thomson and Burrell, the musical comedians; Ed. and Jose Evans, a comedy duo; Harris and Walters, sketch artists; the Vedder sisters, acrobatic dancing wonders; Richie Foy, comedian; Ward and Lynch, Irish comedians; and Marguerite Thornton, serio comic.

Nine performances will be given by Stroh's vaudevilles, including the regular Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday matinees.

OPERA HOUSE "TORONTO" OPERA HOUSE

EVERY EVENING THIS WEEK. | STARTING MONDAY, MARCH THE 25th. | MATINEES TUESDAY, THURSDAY, SATURDAY. | POPULAR PRICES. ALWAYS THE SAME.

STROH'S VAUDEVILLES

THE GREAT 'FOUGERE' French Chansonette. | THE ONLY STROH "Lilliputian Giant." | THE MARVELOUS BICKETTS Aerial Artists.

THE VALDERES, Trick Bicyclists. | THE VEDDER SISTERS, Acrobatic Dancers. | THOMSON & BUNELL, Musical Comedians. | WARD & LYNCH, Irish Comedians.

HARRIS & WALTERS, Sketch Artists. | ED & JOSIE EVANS, Comedy Duo. | RICHIE FOY, Comedian. | MARGUERITE THORNTON Serio Comic.

FIRST AND ONLY APPEARANCE IN CANADA OF THIS GREAT COMPANY.

Whisky Trust Receivers Resign.

Chicago, March 23.—General McNulta, John Mitchell and Edwin F. Lawrence, the Whisky Trust receivers, tendered their resignations, and Judge Grosscup has accepted two of them and has continued General McNulta as sole receiver of the whisky trust.

When the blood becomes impoverished and sluggish, Ayer's Sarsaparilla is the best remedy. 267

ABOUT TOOTHPICKS.

The Orange Wood are Brought From Europe and They are the Best.

"I wonder how many of the men who come in here and use these orange-wood toothpicks," said a man in an uptown hotel, "know where they come from and how they are made? They are made by the cleverest whittlers in the world, and every one of them is of hand manufacture. The peasants in Spain and Portugal make them, and they first found their way into this country through the medium of steamship officers. It is a fact that hotels in all parts of this country are using these orange-wood slivers now in preference to either quills or the old-fashioned toothpicks, and the demand for them here has been a perfect godsend to the peasants who make them on the other side.

"A year or so I was in Spain and saw the peasants making them. They could turn one out with three slashes of the knife, and it was their custom to do them up in packagesof twenty and sell them to tourists and steamship officers for the equivalent of 1 cent of our money. At that time the peasants made them in their leisure moments, but now I am told many peasants make their living manufacturing toothpicks. You see the demand for them has increased to such an extent that the peasants can sell all they can make. The steamship officers sell them here at a profit of about a cent on each package, which amounts to considerable when a large number are sold.

"A peculiar phase of the matter is that not a cent of duty is asked for or paid on them. They were formerly received in such small quantities that no attention was paid to them, and the steamship officers are still able to get them in free, because toothpicks are the last things customs officers are looking for. And as toothpicks they are really excellent. They are strong and flexible, and instead of breaking, tear, so that there is no danger of the end suddenly breaking off and remaining in the tooth, a characteristic of the old brittle toothpicks. It is a wonder to me that some one doesn't make a busines of importing them. I believe that steamship officers have a monopoly of the business up to date, and I am sure that there would be money in it for somebody if he snatched the business out of their hands.—N. Y. Sun.

A Tale of Two

The sale of Pixley and Monbars in New York last week carried with it a bit of turf history and a moral. Two years ago these horses were offered at auction in New York. The mare had a record of 2.16 at that time, while Monbars had the fall before trotted to a record of 2.11 3-4. He brought $13,000, an Eastern man of little prominence in the harness world being the buyer. Pixley sold for $3000, the purchaser being the only Coxey. Horsemen were quick in discovering that both had been bought in. In fact a well-known New Yorker, who has done more to make the New York horse market a success than any half dozen horsemen, noticed that all was not on the square while the sale was on, and he stopped bidding on Monbars at $12,000. He announced that he would bid no further, but the owners of the black colt assured him that nobody interested in the horse had caused to have a bid made. Nevertheless when the purchaser of Monbars was questioned as to whom he was acting for he mentioned a well-known New York horseman, and when that gentleman denied that he had commissioned any person to bid on either trotter, the purchaser came out with the story that he had at an advance of $2500 returned Monbars to his original owner. Pixley soon found her way to her Michigan home, and in 1893 she was a member of the Doble stable. She was one of the best campaigners of the year and earned $10,950, and all the owner got out of it was a record of 2.08 1-4. Mr. Doble having arranged to campaign her for her winnings, her owner to pay no bills. Last season Pixley's owner stood in on the campaign, but she was a disappointment. She did not win a race and she did not win a heat Monbars was out as a pacer last year, when he won money in four races and was unplaced three times. At the sale last week he brought $3500, while Pixley went for $3000, the pair bringing a total of $6500. Two years ago they would have brought $17,000, and their owners would have netted a neat profit, but instead they have incurred feed and training bills and have finally realized $6500. It seems to be a more difficult matter for some men to learn when to sell than it is to know when to keep away from the sale ring.—The American Sportsman.

Ex-Manager Clayburg Dead.

New York, March 23.—Edward Clayburgh, at one time a well-known theatrical manager, died yesterday at the Bloomingdale Asylum for the Insane.

TOOTH WORMS.

The Chinese Dentist Looks for Them when the Teeth Ache.

It would seem that in dentistry as well as in ways that are dark "the heathen Chinee is peculiar," and in the Journal of the British Dental Association for January, Mr. C. Robins has communicated some curious essays on the subject written in English by Chinese students at the Anglo-Chinese College, Foochow. They describe in quaint language the performances of the dentists, who are usually itinerants of the Sequah order.

They appear to have three methods of treatment:—(1) Extraction, the patient's attention being distracted and his lamentations overpowered by the beating of a loud gong. (2) The application of arsenic to kill an exposed pulp; and 3, the extraction of "tooth worms." This latter operation, usually performed by women, is very frequently resorted to, and undoubtedly worms are produced from the tooth, as these amateur dentists adopt the same principle as the lithotomist in the story—who used always to provide against finding his diagnosis had been mistaken by taking a pebble of suitable size in his waistcoat pocket—and themselves introduce these worms, which are usually concealed under their long finger nails. A Chinese student describes the operation to us (we give his own words).—

"Now let me advert to the practice of arresting the tooth worms. One of my relatives was once attacked by a severe cold, and after the cold was broken up by restoring activity to his skin he had neuralgia, which gave him such an intense suffering that he could neither eat nor repose, but moaned with a voice so audible and so plaintive that it sent a thrill to the heart of every one in the house. On the second day his suffering increased to a remarkable degree; indeed, it is impossible even at this distant period to reflect without horror on the miseries of his toothache state. Finally he submitted to the operation of a woman dentist, whose agency was to arrest tooth worms. Her general operation is as follows:—A chopstick and a silver pin are the only instruments she requires in her normal act. She is willing to exhibit them to any one who conceives an inclination of discerning her trickery. She brings the chopstick in contact with the diseased tooth and cautiously pokes it through with a pin in search of the idious worms; after a while scrapes out a lump of yellow minute worms on the chopstick and immerses it in a cup of water. Each lump consists of from ten to fifteen worms, and sometimes two or three hundred worms are scraped if the patient makes an exact bargain at first that the fee should be defrayed according to the number of worms scraped. The general fee is 400 cash (1s 2d). and only the poor may take advantage of being in penury to pay 200 cash.—London Public Opinion.

The Queen's Pets.

The Queen has a most wonderful metendency is noter in the short stories of nnory, and never forgets any of her pets; and although there are one or two, like Spot, the fox-terrier, and Marco, the red Spitz dog, who accompany her Majesty on all her travels, the larger number, who reside at the kennels and on the various farms at Windsor, are never overlooked. The keepers of the animals are liable at any moment to be asked after, or to be called upon to produce for inspection, any one of their charges. At the Windsor kennels, situated about a mile from the Castle, there are upwards of sixty dogs of various breeds, ages and sizes. Each one has its own residence—a little chamber from fourteen to fifteen feet square, with a neatly-tiled yard in front of about the same dimensions. A comfortable bed of clean straw, renewed every day; a tap of water in the front yard, always dripping; two good meals per diem; an attendant to take them for walks—how are the Royal dogs to be envied by their plebian brethern! Opposite the kennels, and separated from them by a tiled walk—"The Queen's Walk," if you please—is a large paddock, in the centre of which is a bath wherein the animals perform their ablutions. After the bath is over, the pets adjourn to a drying tent in the corner of the paddock. In another corner is a rustic summerhouse railed off, and known as 'the Apron Piece," where their Royal mistress used in former days to sit and watch the animals disport themselves. The dogs are taken out for their constitutional in two batches, and it is a curious sight to watch them, on their return, march solemnly off, each to its own particular kennel, for all the world in the manner of the occupants of a row of almshouses. One wonders do they gossip in their doggy way about the Castle folk, and talk scandal of the Dogs-of-Honor-in-waiting to her Majesty—the more fortunate Spot and Marco, her Majesty's personal dog attendants? It was the latter, by the way, who figured in the picture painted by the late Mr. Burton-Barber, and exhibited at the Royal Academy a year or two back, standing upon her Majesty's breakfast table.—From "Cassell's Family Magazine."

Well-Known Regiments.

The origin of the famous Forty-second or Black Watch is familiar to many. After the rebellion of 1715 the Government, with the view of bringing the Highlanders more into touch with the rest of the people, caused six companies of them to be raised. The command of each company was given to the chief of a clan. Their duties at first were not strictly military, but more those of an armed police, disarming the Highlanders, and preventing depredations on the lowlands. They executed these duties so much to the satisfaction of the Government that in 1739 the companies were formed into one regiment and enrolled in the line.

The name "Black Watch," by which this distinguished regiment has ever since been known, arose from the dark color of their uniform tartan. How the regiment would have behaved during the rebellion of 1745 it is difficult to conjecture, but, fortunately, it was abroad at the time.

Most of the other Highland regiments were raised in 1793 and the folowing year. Two well-known Irish regiments were also raised at this time—the Eighty-seventh (Royal Irish Fusiliers) and the Eighty-eighth (Connaught Rangers). The Rangers, from their plundering propensities in the Peninsula, were styled by Gen. Picton "the greatest blackguards in the army."—Chambers' Journal.

Art Is Not Immorality.

New York, March 23.—The bronze statutes at the Casino have shocked Superintendent Byrnes, and as a result Manager Rudolph Aaronson and his assistant A. Curtis Bond were practically arrested last night. "Its an outrage," said Mr. Aaronson of Mr. Brynes action. "This exhibition is art, not immorality."

Manufacturers Refuse to Recognize Labor.

San Francisco, March 23.—The California Manufactuers' convention has refused to adopt resolutions favoring organized labor.

AFTER THE CRIMEAN WAR.

Two Years Hostilities and What They Cost England in Men and Money.

On July 12, 1856, the Crimea was finally evacuated by the British forces, after a war of over two years. All the remaining stores and the establishments having been embarked, a company of the Fiftieth British regiment was posted outside the Town of Balaklava to receive the Russian troops, and on their approach marched in with the Russian guard, which was composed of about 50 mounted Cossacks and a similar number of Cosack infantry. The usual salutes took place, the Russians placed sentinels where they wished, and the English troops marched on board H.M.S. Algiers. General Sir William John Codrington, who was chief in comand of the forces in the Crimea, and who died in 1884, embarked with his personal staff at the same time.

During this war the British lost 3,500 killed in action or died from their wounds, 4,244 of cholera, and nearly 16,000 who succumbed to other diseases, making a total of 23,744, of whom 270 were officers; and besides these 2,873 were disabled. The loss of the French allies was estimated at 63,500 men, while the loss of the Russians on the opposite side was reckoned as high as 500,000 men. The war added to the British national debt £41,041,000.

Notwithstanding the enormous amount expended, Britain asked from Russia no pecuniary compensation, nor gained one inch of land, but the defeat of the Russians kept them out of Constantinople, and made the way to India and the East clear. The memoirs of Earl Rusell show that it would have secured for the Turkish empire much internal benefit if the French had been as disinterested as the British and not required in that case some territory for themselves.—Spare Moments.

Scholarly Politicians.

The Right Hon. Arthur J. Balfour, M.P., leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons of England, has just issued a powerful book on the "Foundations of Belief." This volume reveals the interest in philosophical questions which share with golf the leisure of that eminent statesman. There are many other active politicians in England who have shown a bent towards serious work in philosophy and literature. Mr. Gladstone's record is known. The Duke of Argyll is a copious writer on theological and historical subjects. Lord Salisbury is well versed in chemistry and physical science. Prof. Jebb is a profound Greek scholar. Sir John Lubbock is a universal genius, but is best known as an authority on bees, ants and wasps, as well as by such books as the "Pleasures of Life." Mr. Haldane is a competent exponent of the transondental philosophy of Hegel. Mr. Bryce is author of "The American Commonwealth." Sir Henry Roscoe is one of the first of living chemists. John Morley has a high reputation as a man of letters. Sir George Trevelyan is the biographer of Macaulay, and there are many others of lesser note. When will our Canadian politicians add to their politics, culture?—Ottawa Citizen.

SATURDAY'S MARKETS.

The Speculative Markets Are Active and Close at an Advance.

New York stocks closed with a hurrah to-day.

Missouri Pacific was bought freely.

The Coal stocks are the leaders in the speculative rise.

New York Stocks.

The fluctuations on the New York Stock Exchange to-day were as follows:

STOCKS.	Opening.	Highest.	Lowest.	Closing.
Am. Sugar Ref. Co.	98⅛	99¼	98⅛	99⅛
American Tobacco	93¼	94	93¼	93⅞
C. & O	17⅛	17⅝	17¼	17⅝
Cotton Oil	26	26¼	26	26¼
Atchison	5	5¼	5	5¼
Chi., Burlington & Q.	73	73⅝	72⅝	73⅝
Chicago Gas Trust	73	73¼	73⅛	73⅛
Canada Southern	49⅛	49⅞	49⅛	49⅞
C.C.C. & I.	38	38⅝	38	38⅝
Del. & Hudson	127¾	128¾	127¾	128¾
Del., Lac. & W.	161⅞	163⅛	161⅞	163
Erie	8¾	9⅛	8¾	9⅛
Lake Shore	137¼	137⅛	137¼	137⅛
Louisville & Nashville	50⅝	51⅝	50⅝	51⅝
Manhattan	108⅛	110	108¼	109⅝
Missouri Pacific	21⅞	24	21⅞	24
U.S. Cordage Co.	4¾	5¼	4¾	5⅛
New England	34⅝	35⅞	34⅝	35¼
N.Y. Central & Hud.	94¾	95¼	94⅝	95¼
Northern Pacific Pref.	15¾	16¼	15¾	16¼
Northwestern	91	92	90⅝	91⅞
General Electric Co.	35⅛	37	35	37
Rock Island & Pac.	64⅛	64⅛	64⅛	64⅛
Omaha	32	32	32	32
Pullman	....	....	....	....
Pacific Mail	21⅛	22⅝	21⅛	22⅝
Phila. & Reading	10⅛	11⅛	10⅛	11
St. Paul	56¼	57¼	56¼	57¼
Union Pacific	9⅛	9⅛	9⅛	9⅛
Western Union	88⅛	88⅛	88⅛	88⅛
Distillers	14⅛	15	14⅝	15
Jersey Central	95	97	95¼	96¼
National Lead	32¼	33¼	32¼	33¼
Wabash Pref	13⅞	14⅛	13⅞	14⅛

Cash wheat at Chicago 54c.

Puts on May wheat 54 5-8c, calls 55c.

Puts on May corn 46c, calls 46 1-2c.

Estimated hogs at Chicago for Monday 31,000.

Chicago Markets.

McIntyre & Wardwell report the following fluctuations on the Chicago Board of Trade to-day:

	Open'g	H'h'st	L'st	Close.
Wheat—May	54⅝	55⅝	54⅝	55⅝
" —July	55⅝	56⅛	55⅝	56⅛
" —Sept	56⅛	57¼	56⅛	57¼
Corn—May	45⅞	46⅜	45⅞	46⅛
" —July	45¾	46¼	45¾	46⅛
Oats—May	29	29¼	29	29¼
" —July	28	28⅛	28	28⅛
Pork—May	12 07	12 25	12 02	12 20
" —July	12 25	12 45	12 25	12 40
Lard—May	7 00	7 02	6 93	6 97
" —July	7 10	7 15	7 10	7 15
Ribs—May	6 10	6 15	6 05	6 15
" —July	6 25	6 30	6 25	6 27

City Hall Notes.

City Engineer Keating, in his fortnightly report to the Board of Works, informs the committee that he has requested the Aqueduct Company to furnish him with particulars of the project, so that he will be enabled to report upon the practicability of the undertaking.

Cedar block pavements are recommended for Sullivan-street and Bellevue-avenue, a brick pavement for St. Patrick-street from Spadina-avenue to McCaul-street.

To construct a six-foot wooden sidewalk along the Lake Shore Road, from the railway crossing to the westerly entrance to High Park, and place 50 wooden seats along the beach would cost $950, and to extend the sidewalk to Humber bridge would entail an expenditure of $2000. A four-foot sidewalk would cost $850 and $1600 respectively.

Prices are furnished for the cost of laying brick pavements as follows: On a 4-inch concrete foundation, $2 per square yard; on a foundation of building brick laid flat, $1.80; on a broken stone foundation, $1.75; on a gravel foundation, $1.65.

These interim appropriations are asked for: Street cleaning, $10,000; scavenging, $7000; culvert cleaning, $1200; engineering and expenses, $3000.

Building permits issued Saturday: Wm. Booth, two-story and attic brick dwelling at 138 Bedford-road, to cost $3000; Mrs. John H. Clarke, two-story and attic brick dwelling, 352 Huron-street, to cost $2000.

The Strathgryve Not Damaged.

London, March 23.—The British barque Strathgryve, from San Francisco for Barrow, which grounded at the latter port yesterday, has been floated and docked. She is apparently not damaged.

New Companies.

Among the new companies incorporated are The Guelph Heading and Stave Company, with a capital stock of $3000; and the Facer Solid Steel Car Wheel Company of Perth.