

HEARTH AND HOME.

SYMPATHY.—Where husband and wife really love each other, they get along well through all the vicissitudes of life, because one immeasurable source of happiness always remains to them, whatever disaster betide—and that is their unflinching sympathy with each other. Nothing less than this enables a couple to endure with equanimity all the cares and disappointments of married life.

OUTSIDE HELP.—We should gladly welcome all assistance, eagerly grasp it, and earnestly strive to profit by it, only remembering that it can never supplant, but only supplement and invigorate, our own exertions. Just as the warm sun-rays and refreshing rain-drops descend to bless the plant that is charged with vitality, but fall powerless on one without root or sap, so outside help is invaluable to the energetic living worker, but impotent to one who lacks brains or energy, or the will to exert either.

DESPONDENCY.—The most perilous time of a person's life is when he is tempted to despond. The man who loses his courage loses all; there is no more moral hope for him than of a dead man; but it matters not how poor he may be, how much pushed by circumstances, how much deserted by friends, how much lost to the world, if he only keeps his courage, holds up his head, works on with his hands, and with unconquerable will determines to be and to do what becomes a man, all will be well. It is nothing outside of him that kills, but what is within, that makes or unmakes.

CALM MIND.—Enjoy the present, whatever it may be, and be not solicitous for the future; for if you take your foot from the present standing and thrust it forward to to-morrow's events, you are in a restless condition; it is like refusing to quench your thirst by fearing you will want to drink next day. If to-morrow you should want, your sorrow would come time enough, though you do not hasten it; let your trouble tarry till its own time comes. Enjoy the blessings of to-day, and the evils of it bear patiently and sweetly, for this day is ours. We are dead to yesterday, and not yet born to to-morrow.

"HARDENING" CHILDREN.—The system of "hardening" children, by allowing them to go thinly clad and exposing them to all sorts of weather, is a delusion from which the minds of some parents are even now not altogether free. It is thought that, if the little ones' chests are kept warm, there is no need of caring about their arms and legs. But that is a great mistake. In proportion as the upper and lower extremities are well clothed will the circulation be kept up and determined to the surface of those parts, and in proportion to the quickness and equable distribution of the circulation will be the protection against those internal congestions which are but the first stage of the most fatal diseases of childhood. The same observation holds good with respect to grown-up people who are predisposed to pulmonary complaints.

SMILES.—Nothing is so certain to bring genuine happy smiles to our own faces as to watch such smiles grow in those of others as the result of our sympathy, our gentle words or helpful deeds. Who ever did a real kindness for another without feeling a warm glow of satisfaction creep into some shady corner of the heart and fill it with sweetness and peace? It is like fastening a knot of violets and mignonette in the button-hole, just where the perfume may rise deliciously to our sense all day. And what a pleasure it will be, when the present trouble is over, to remember that even in darkest days we found time and inclination to give to others some portion of that tenderness or practical helpfulness which was the overflow of that generous spirit which finally bore us through it all to a happy and peaceful ending!

TO ATTAIN LONG LIFE.—He who strives after a long and pleasant term of life must seek to attain continual equanimity, and carefully to avoid everything which too violently taxes his feelings. Nothing more quickly consumes the vigour of life than the violence of the emotions of the mind. We know that anxiety and care can destroy the healthiest body; we know that fright and fear, even excess of joy, become deadly. They who are naturally cool and of a quiet turn of mind, upon whom nothing can make too powerful an impression, who are not wont to be excited by either great sorrow or great joy, have the best chance of living long and happily after their manner. Preserve, therefore, under all circumstances, a composure of mind which no happiness, no misfortune can too much disturb. Love nothing too violently; hate nothing too passionately; fear nothing too strongly.

FAMILY QUARRELS.—Avoid family quarrels. Such quarrels possess great vitality; indeed when once healthily established, they generally last at least one generation. The difference invariably springs from one of two causes—money or marriage. Probably few are implicated in the quarrel at first. The father and his son, then the married brother, are drawn in; the sisters espouse sides, and all is in train for a fine old-fashioned dispute. Indeed a family quarrel resembles a cyclone; it continually moves in wider circles, and involves even distant branches of the stock in the affray. Daughters-in-law and connections who would fain avoid all complicity are compelled, sooner or later, to take sides and wrangle. Indifference and neutrality only draw down the hatred and contempt of both contending factions, just as no one suffers

so much in a revolution as those who refuse to join the extreme parties. A quarrel with a neighbour, when once patched up, does not forbid the two becoming cordial in future. But a family quarrel never again admits of intimate and trustful relations. Both sides in it have their pet skeletons; and, though these may be locked up in dark closets, still their remembrance lives and is cherished.

THE GLEANER.

A NEW HAVEN woman recently applied for a divorce the day after she was married.

It is understood that there is no truth in a rumour that Rear-Admiral the Duke of Edinburgh will shortly hoist his flag.

It is said that the Queen is about to have a monument erected to the memory of the Princess Alice in Whippingham Church.

JEWELLERY is being made in Germany from the pure blood of the ox. The blood is dried, reduced to powder, and then moulded and polished.

THE door of the Wittenberg Church on which Luther nailed his famous thesis has been removed to Berlin, where it is in use at St. Bartholomew's Church.

THE Pope, the Bishop of Bayonne being his proxy, has become godfather to the infant daughter of ex-Duchess of Parma, who has been named Beatrice.

AN adventurous American proposes to run across the Atlantic, double the Cape of Good Hope, and cross the Indian Ocean to Australia in a boat 19 feet over all.

MR. VAL PRINSEP has made considerable progress with his large and important picture designed to represent the proclamation of the Empress of India before Lord Lytton.

A PHILADELPHIA dry goods merchant has added a children's room to his store, where mothers may leave their children to be amused with rocking-horses, pictures, and toys, while they do their shopping. Babies in arms are not admitted, lest they should not be called for.

MISS LEE, the eldest daughter of the late Confederate General, is said to be an energetic traveller. She was not long ago entertained by Lord and Lady Napier, at Gibraltar, and a few weeks before was within the Russian lines in Turkey.

A BLUE sapphire of marvellous size has been recently found in the gem district of Colombo, in the island of Ceylon. It weighs 2lbs. in the rough, and was discovered by two boys, who sold it for a trifle, not aware of its nature. It is said to be worth £10,000.

THE most important piece of foreign news that has reached us since the dawning of the new year, is the announcement that Paris belles are wearing black silk stockings with white satin clocks. This information should go far toward dispelling the remainder of the gloom resting in business circles.

A NEW YORK journalist has seen the minut dancier. He thus describes it: You take four steps in a solemn manner, squint over your right shoulder at nobody in particular, and then walk in a funereal way back to the point you started from. Our great-grandfathers probably enjoyed it. We wouldn't.

GENERAL TOM THUMB died last week, at his native place, Bergen, in the Province of West Friesland, in Holland, whither he had only recently retired after realizing a handsome fortune from exhibiting himself in the chief countries of Europe and America. The cause of death was dropsy. The real name of the general was Haneman.

THE subscription in Hong Kong for a statue to Lord Beaconsfield is making considerable progress. Upwards of £1,000 has already been placed in the hands of Governor Hennessy for this purpose. The statue, which is now being executed in England, will be placed on a site overlooking the parade ground at Hong Kong.

WHERE are our great-guns to stop? The "Woolwich infants" were considered frightful monsters in their day; but they were eclipsed by the 80-ton gun, which in its turn was thrown into the shade by the Armstrong 100-ton gun. Now, however, it is said, we are to have a 160-ton gun, a monster lathe for constructing which is now being manufactured at Woolwich.

AMONG the latest novelties are some very odd designs in ladies' and gentlemen's pins. The scarfpins are very quaint corkscrews, shoe-buttoners, jack-knives imbedded in apples, and many other designs are found among the newest. For ladies there is a pretty pattern of four-leaved clovers or shamrocks set on the horizontal barpin, but every possible combination and ideas which are odd beyond description are found in the silver jewellery which is now so much in vogue; and the selection in gold is not less limited.

THE marriage of the Duke of Connaught will, it is expected, take place at Windsor Castle early in the month of March. Several of the State apartments of the palace have already been got in readiness for the Royal nuptials, and other preparations will be made prior to the ceremonial. The Queen and Princess Beatrice, attended by the lords and ladies of the Court, are expected to leave Osborne towards the close of next month and return to Windsor Castle in order to attend the marriage.

THE two sons of the Prince of Wales—Prince

George and Prince Victor—have made a highly creditable examination, and returned last month to their mother, laden with prizes. They are immensely popular with the people of Dartmouth, where their ship, the *Bullania*, lies. The two boys on joining, were at once christened "Herring" and "Sprat," and by these sobriquets are known to this day. The princes respond to their nicknames with jaunty frankness and sailor-like good humour.

THE German army horses are now fed on biscuits of three parts each of rye flour, oat flour and dextrinated pea flour, and one part of linseed flour. The biscuits are made with a hole in the middle of each, so that they can be strung on a cord and hung to the saddle bow, or hung by the trooper around his waist. Each biscuit weighs about two ounces, and seven of them are broken up and given to the horses night and morning, and twelve at noon. Officers generally agree that these biscuits are better than oats, and each trooper can carry thirty pounds' weight, which will furnish his horse with full rations for eight days.

ACCORDING to a London paper one of the most eminent pianists having suffered much from the irrepressible conversation of drawing-room audiences, devised the other day a means of giving a lesson to the town. He arranged with his violin, his violoncello and the rest that the music should come to a sudden stop in the midst of the loudest passage of the piece at a given signal from him. It was done. The bawling and shouting voices were left, in the twinkling of an eye, high and dry, as it were, upon a shore of silence. Joyous, clear and distinct above them all rose a voice from the foremost seats, the voice of Lady: "We always fry ours in lard."

THE Princess Louise is reported to be very sympathetic and considerate of all who are in any way connected with her household. The other day, while at Niagara, she noticed that one of her servants frequently placed his hand upon his face, and learned that he had a raging toothache. Placing her hand upon his cheek she prescribed as follows:—"Now George, you go directly and get a great, large fig; cut it open and heat it as hot as you can; place it upon your face over the ache, and in a little time I am sure you will feel much better." George was overwhelmed with her highness' kindness and declared positively that when her hand rested upon his face every bit of the pain was driven away.

BURLESQUE.

A MYSTERY OF LIFE AND DEATH.—"It's berry singular," remarked Uncle Joe Johnson, as he laid down the morning paper and reflectively surveyed the toes of his list slippers as they reposed on the guard-bar of the cylinder stove. "It's berry singular det of a man lives to be over fifty, an' cumulates stamps, and dies gen'ally admired and 'spected, dat one-half ob his survivin' friends is a'most sartin to prove in de courts dat he was of unsoun' min', an' dat he wasn't fit in his later years to plan out a v'y'ge for a mud-scow. But you'll fin' de papers full ob stories ob ole fellars dat die about a hundred years ole in de poorhouse, an' dey is al'ays senserbul to de las'!" and Uncle Joe shook his head solemnly, as if there were some things in this world which modern science has not yet investigated.

A HEALTHY APPETITE.—About six o'clock last evening an able-bodied man entered a restaurant on C street, and telling the waiter that he felt a trifle hungry, ordered and disposed of, with evident satisfaction, the following articles: A plate of soup, 9 dozen oysters, 1½ pounds of porterhouse steaks, 3 cups of coffee without milk, 2 small cups of coffee, with milk 1 bottle of ale, 1 cigar, 2 tumblers full of celery, together with entrees. When he had finished he threw a \$20 gold piece on the counter and was given back \$3.25 change, his meal costing him exactly \$16.75. As he was going out the door he asked the proprietor: "What time do you close up? I may want another little snack when the theatre is out." Hotel and boarding-house keepers are warned to look out for this man, as he may try to engage board by the week.

THE STATISTICIAN.—A city man is writing a sonnet to me, the darling, thought the maiden, but her ideas were somewhat disarranged by the following strange question, while his pencil placidly caressed the tip of his nose: "How many meals do you eat every day?" "Why, three of course; but of all the oddest questions—" "Never mind, dear; I'll tell you all about it in a moment." And still his pencil was rapidly at work. At last, fondly clasping her slender waist, "Now, my darling, I've got it, and if you wish to know how much has passed through that adorable little mouth in the last seventeen years, I can give you the exact figures." "Good gracious! What can you mean!" "Now just listen," says he, "and you will hear exactly what you have been obliged to absorb to maintain those charms which are to make the happiness of my life." "But I don't want to hear." "Ah, you are surprised, no doubt; but statistics are wonderful things; just listen: You are now seventeen years old, so that in fifteen years you have absorbed—oxen or calves, 5; sheep and lambs, 14; chickens, 327; ducks, 304; geese, 12; turkeys, 100; game of various kinds, 824; fishes, 160; eggs, 3,120; vegetables (bunches), 700; fruit (baskets), 603; cheese, 173; bread, cake, &c., (in sacks of flour), 40; wine (barrels), 11; water (gallons), 3,000."

HUMAN NATURE IN A LOAD OF WOOD.—There is a better, more truthful portrayal of human nature in a load of wood, i. e., in the way it is loaded, than in half the "plays" we see, and for fear that some will not read the signs aright, an unerring guide is given. When the outside of the load is straight, body oak, and the inside crooked basswood and elm, you may know the man who loaded it is an honest confiding soul, who wouldn't cheat his own mother if the old lady watched him too closely. Then there is the load of solid oak; oak clear through—except about sixty cubic feet of daylight which the ingenious owner has incorporated by a fanciful arrangement of the less ethereal element of his load. The business of this man's life is to sell three-quarters for four, and he most always succeeds. The arrangement of this load indicates rock-bottomed integrity on the part of the owner. There are many other kinds of loads, and the owner never fails to hold the mirror up to his own nature when he piles it on, but we skip them all except one; a scarce variety it is, and probably always will be. It is composed of good honest wood, and there is just as much of it as the owner claims. This indicates an entire lack of knowledge of the wood business on the part of the owner, but such dense ignorance is seldom exhibited here.

FINDING A SEAT.—Genesee. A woman with three bird cages and a little girl, has just got on the train. She arranges the three bird cages on a seat, and then she and the little girl stand up in the aisle and she glares around upon the ungallant men who remain glued to their seats and look dreamily out of the window. I bend my face down to the tablet and write furiously, for I feel her eyes fastened upon me. Somehow or other, I am always the victim in cases of this delicate nature. Just as I expected. She speaks, fastening her commanding gaze upon me.

"Sir, would it be asking too much if I begged you to let myself and my little girl have that seat? A gentleman can always find a seat so much more easily than a lady."

And she smiled. Not the charmingest kind of a smile. It was too triumphant to be very pleasing. Of course, I surrendered. I said:

"Oh, certainly, certainly. I could find another seat without any trouble."

She thanked me, and I crawled out of my comfortable seat, and gathered up my overcoat, manuscript, my shawl strap package, my valise, and my overshoes, and she and the little girl went into the vacant premises as soon as the writ of ejectment had been served, and they looked happy and comfortable.

Then I stepped across the aisle; I took up those bird cages and set them along on top of the coal box, and sat down in the seat thus vacated. I apologetically remarked to the woman, who was gazing at me with an expression that boded trouble, that "it was much warmer for the canaries up by the stove." She didn't say anything, but she gave me a look that made it much warmer for me, for about five minutes, than the stove can make it for the canaries. I don't believe she likes me, and I am uncomfortably confident that she disapproves of my conduct.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

JEFFERSON will shortly drop "Rip Van Winkle" and try a new rôle.

LONDON is looking forward with interest to Henry Irving's promised revival of Otway's Venice Preserved.

THE Villa Rossini, at Passy, formerly the residence of the great composer, is offered for sale at the price of 300,000 francs.

THE fourth anniversary of the production of "Our Boys" at the Vaudeville, occurred lately. Large audiences were attracted by its performance.

SEVERAL English managers have recently visited Paris to look after the novelties, particularly *Les Enfants du Capitaine Grant*.

RUBINSTEIN is threatened with total blindness. He is in Dresden, where one of his operas will soon be performed.

It is announced that Mme. Christine Nilsson has signed an engagement of two months for Spain, at the rate of 40,000 francs a month.

OFFENBACH and Lecocq both have three operas playing at the present time. Lecocq's productions are *La Camargo* at the Renaissance, *Le Grand Cuirassier* at the Variétés, and *Le Mari de la Débutante* at the Palais Royal.

A NEW "alto flute," the pitch of which is an octave below that of the ordinary instrument, has just been invented by F. Wallner, of Vienna. The tone is said to be very rich, full, and, according to the *Neue Zeitschrift für Musik*, of a "highly mysterious quality."

THE drama written for the proprietors of the Boston Theatre by M. Victorien Sardou is entitled "André Fortier, the Hero of the Calaveras," and its scenes are laid in California and Mexico. It is said to give opportunity for fine acting, and to require the most elaborate setting, and the management promise it shall have both.

THE wife of the celebrated tragedian, Salvini, recently died at Florence, in her twenty-fourth year. The couple first met in London. Madame Salvini was an accomplished linguist, and was in the habit of translating *viva voce* the newspaper articles in different languages collected by her husband during his travels. A short time before her death she had commenced a translation of one of Schiller's plays for Salvini's repertoire.

MISS EMMA ABBOTT, the prima donna is said to have recently come into possession of a necklace that once belonged to an old French family. It is composed of 357 diamonds, made first into a plain chain set in square blocks of gold. Through the centre of this runs a large coil of the precious stones, supplemented by other coils diminishing in size, and from their lower edge falls a shower of pendants, long and swinging, giving, when on, the effect of a rope of fire around the throat, radiating in every direction. This is worn with a heavy diamond cross, in which the gems are of unusual size.