

**VARIETIES.**

**UNHEALTHY WORKROOMS.**—The Illustrated *Carpenter and Builder* observes that workrooms seldom contain the necessary quantity of air for those engaged in them; and in addition to the air vitiated by the lungs of the inmates, there are generally gaslights employed, and each of these may be considered to spoil as much air as a pair of lungs. An extra supply of air will therefore be required where these burners are used. But the principal precaution is to provide means for carrying away the vitiated air without letting it mix with the air of the apartment. The flame should be enclosed in a glass chimney, and this chimney should communicate with the spoilt-air flue or chimney. If this be skilfully treated, it will materially assist in extracting the vitiated air, and entirely remove all the evil created by the burner. Stoves also consume a quantity of air, and apartments in which they are used require an extra quantity.

The *Evening Mail* shows a simple method of getting rich. The following table gives the result of saving a certain amount each day for fifty years, and putting it at interest at six per cent:

DAILY SAVING.	THE RESULT.
One cent.....	\$950
Ten cents.....	9,504
Twenty cents.....	19,008
Thirty cents.....	28,512
Forty cents.....	38,015
Fifty cents.....	47,520
Sixty cents.....	57,024
Seventy cents.....	66,528
Eighty cents.....	76,032
Ninety cents.....	85,537
One dollar.....	95,041

**AN AUTOGRAPH ALBUM.**—Mr. Browning's handwriting is, like Mr. Tennyson's, a little shaky, but it is neater—that is to say, more regular and, so to speak, more clear. It is the reverse of Mr. Tennyson's in that it looks like the hand of a man who writes a good deal. Mr. Longfellow's is round and plain with a backward turn to it throughout—the slope of the letter being opposite to that usually adopted. Mr. Arnold's is neat and masculine at the same time—firm and decided, without a trace of the effeminacy which some critics have seen in his poetry and prose. Mr. Gerald Massey's is bold, straggling, and not particularly legible; it is a large handwriting, and requires a good deal of space to move it. Dr. W. C. Bennett's is very much of the same description, but perhaps more illegible. Mr. Robert Buchanan's has no particular manner of its own; it is fairly regular, but that is all one can say for it. The letter in the album I am looking through is in blue ink, and is not intrinsically interesting. Very similar to Mr. Browning's is Mr. Frederick Locker's style, Mr. Locker's being the more free and easy of the two. Mr. Austin Dobson's is very neat and flowing, but so small and sometimes so indistinct as scarcely to be decipherable with ease. Clearer and firmer in touch is Mr. Courthope's hand, which is perhaps the most distinct and beautifully formed of all the poet's with which I am acquainted.

**A SUBMARINE VESSEL.**—A correspondent sends from Constantinople a description of a submarine vessel building for the Turks for picking up torpedoes. He says:—"According to the description I received from her designer, a distinguished British naval officer on the retired list, she is about 25 feet long, and in shape something like the sea hedgehog. Her greatest beam is 10 feet, and the thickness of her skin plates three-eighths of an inch. Strong traverse frames will enable her to support the pressure at considerable depths, and in this respect assistance will also be rendered by the sides of the tanks intended to admit the sea water for the purpose of submerging her. Large 'bull's-eyes' of thick glass, placed on the top and sides, will enable the operators, by means of an electric lamp, to see well for a considerable distance in any direction outside. Her power of progression is to reside in a screw placed aft, in the tail, as it were, of this fish-like craft, and worked by hand and foot. In the bows will be a very powerful nipping arrangement for severing torpedo cables, as her principal duty will be that of clearing the approaches to the enemy's ports. The atmospheric air necessary for the sustenance of the bold men who are to make use of this novel craft will be kept in its normal condition and fit for breathing by the gradual admission of oxygen contained in tanks, and the absorption of the carbonic acid gas by properly prepared chemicals."

**JEREMY BENTHAM'S SKELETON.**—The skeleton of Jeremy Bentham is preserved among the curiosities owned by University College, London. Dr. Southwood Smith relates in *Notes and Queries* the manner in which so queer a disposition of the eccentric Philosopher's body came to be made. "Jeremy Bentham," he says, "left his body with me for dissection. I was also to deliver a lecture over his body to medical students and the public generally. The latter was done at the Well Street School. After the usual anatomical demonstration was over, a skeleton was made of the bones. I endeavored to preserve the head untouched, merely drawing away the fluids by placing it under an air-pump over sulphuric acid. By this means the head was rendered as hard as the skulls of New Zealanders, but all expression was gone, of course. Seeing this would not do for exhibition, I had a model made in wax by a distinguished artist. \* \* \* I then had the skeleton stuffed out to fit Bentham's own clothes, and this wax likeness fitted to the trunk. \*

\* \* The whole was then enclosed in a mahogany case with folding glass doors, and ultimately I gave it to University College, where it is now."

**GRADATIONS OF GUILT.**—The wisdom of peoples of all ages ordains for the punishment of the same act various degrees of severity, according to the influence of circumstances on the offenders. Thus, homicide may only be killing by misadventure, or wilful murder, or high treason as the case may be. It is, therefore, strictly on principle that the act of converting to one's own use the money another exhibits, in the light of our lofty civilization, various gradations of guilt, which, after the manner of criminal statutes, are signified by appropriate names, the amount of the spoliation being in this case the principal criterion.

Thus:—  
Taking 1,000,000 dols. is called a case of Genius.  
Taking 100,000 dols. is called a case of Shortage.  
Taking 50,000 dols. is called a case of Litigation.  
Taking 25,000 dols. is called a case of Insolvency.  
Taking 10,000 dols. is called a case of Irregularity.  
Taking 5,000 dols. is called a case of Defalcation.  
Taking 1,000 dols. is called a case of Corruption.  
Taking 500 dols. is called a case of Embezzlement.  
Taking 100 dols. is called a case of Dishonesty.  
Taking 50 dols. is called a case of Thievery.  
Taking 25 dols. is called a case of Total Depravity.  
Taking one ham is called a case of War on Society.

**THE SORROWS OF GENIUS.**—Homer was a beggar; Plautus turned a mill; Terence was a slave; Bœthius died in jail; Paul Borghese had fourteen trades, and yet starved with them all; Tasso was often distressed for five shilling; Bentivoglio was refused admittance into an hospital he had himself erected; Cervantes died of hunger; the celebrated writer of "Lusiad" ended his days, it is said, in an almshouse, and at any rate was supported by a faithful black servant, who begged in the streets of Lisbon for the only man in Portugal, on whom God had bestowed those talents which have a spirit to erect the tendency of downward age; and Vaugelas left his body to the surgeons to pay his debts as far as the money would go; Bacon lived a life of meanness and distress; Sir Walter Raleigh died on the scaffold; Spenser, the charming, died in want; the death of Collins came through neglect first causing mental derangement; Milton sold his copyright of "Paradise Lost" for fifteen pounds, at three payments, and finished his life in obscurity; Dryden lived in poverty and distress; Otway died prematurely, and through hunger; Lee died in the street; Steele lived a life of perfect warfare with bailiffs; Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield" was sold for a trifle to save him from the law; Fielding lies in the burying ground of the English factory at Lisbon, without a stone to mark the spot; Savage died in prison at Bristol where he was confined for the debt of eight pounds; Butler lived in penury and died poor; Chatterton, the child of genius and misfortune, destroyed himself.

**REVOLUTION IN OPERA SINGING.**—Paris has now a professor who is, we think, destined to create a revolution in the world of song. He is a Spaniard by birth, by name Emilio Belari, and is himself a singer of note, having been the leading tenor at Les Italiens a few years ago. Though still in the prime of life and of his vocal powers, he quitted the stage in order to devote himself to the development of his theory, and its basis is common sense. Having studied the throat, its conformation and its maladies as a physician, M. Belari comprehends perfectly the art of emission of sound and the methods by which weak or defective voices may be developed and improved. The progress made by his pupils is something really marvellous. In six weeks the organ is completely changed, as a first-class piano manufacturer might change a piano by a careful and scientific tuning and by replacing every imperfect string or key. Under his training the singer never becomes fatigued, never pants for breath, and in some instances where the pupil was delicate, the expansion of the chest and the consequent improvement in health was really remarkable. It is very interesting to see him give a lesson. He stands with his keen, intelligent eyes fixed upon the scholar, correcting every injudicious manner of drawing the breath, of opening the mouth or of holding the arms, as well as the style and manner of singing. So rapid is the progress of the pupil under his method that he declares he can train a perfect novice for the operatic stage in eighteen months, time usually required being three years. He has had wonderful success in repairing and setting to rights the voices damaged by other professors.

**THE AIR.**—Go out of doors and get the air. Ah, if you knew what was in the air! See what your robust neighbour, who never feared to live in it, has got from it: strength, cheerfulness, power to convince, heartiness and equality to each event. As the sea is the receptacle of all rivers, so the air is the receptacle from which all things springs, and into which they all return; an immense distillery, a sharp solvent, drinking the oxygen from plants, carbon from animals, the essence and spirit of every solid on the globe; a menstrum which melts the moun-

tains into it. All the earths are burnt metals. One half the avoirdupois of the rocks which compose the solid crust of the globe consists of oxygen. The adamant is always passing into smoke; Nature turns her capital day by day. All things are flowing, even those that seem immovable. The earth burns, the mountains burn, slower but as incessantly as wood in the fire. The marble column, the brazen statue, burn under the daylight, and would soon decompose, if their molecular structure, disturbed by the raging sunlight, were not restored by the darkness of night. Plants and animals burn or perpetually inhale their own bodies into the air and earth again. While all thus burns, the universe is in a blaze, kindled from the torch of the sun, it needs a perpetual tempering, a phlegm, a sleep, atmospheres of azote, deluges of water, to check the fury of the conflagration; a hoarding to check the spending, a centripetence to the centrifuge. And this is uniformly supplied. Nature is as subtle as she is strong, and like a cautious testator ties up her estate so as not to bestow it all on one generation, but has a forelooming tenderness and equal regard to the next and the next and the fourth and the fortieth. The winds and the rains come back a thousand and a thousand times. The coal on your grate gives out in decomposing to-day exactly the same amount of light and heat which was taken from the sunshine in its formation in the leaves and boughs of the antediluvian tree.

**COLOURS IN HERALDRY.**—The imports of the several heraldic metals and tinctures are described by the ancient French writers. Much is to be found on this subject in "La Palais de l'Honneur" of the Père Anselme. The association of the heraldic colours with the planets, to such a degree that the names of the planets were at times used, in blazoning the arms of sovereign princes, to denote the tinctures, gives weight to the attribution in question. The chief symbolizations of the tinctures were as follows:—Or, gold, in the language of heraldry; Sol, the sun, in the coats of princes; topaz in those of great nobles, which is represented graphically by dots over the surface of the field, symbolized faith, justice, charity, honesty, prosperity, constancy, or wealth. Argent, silver; Luna, the moon, on royal coats; pearl, as a gem; a white field; signifies purity, hope, truth, conscience, beauty, gentility, frankness, and candour. Azure, blue, the colour of the planet Jupiter, and of the gem sapphire, signifies chastity, loyalty, fidelity, and good repute. It is denoted by the engraver by parallel horizontal lines. Gules, red, the colour of the planet Mars, and of ruby among gems, signifies love, valour, hardihood, courage, and generosity. It is denoted by vertical lines. Sable, black, the colour of Saturn among planets, and of diamond among gems, denotes prudence, wisdom, and constancy in adversity and in sorrow. It is denoted by vertical, crossed by horizontal lines. Vert, or synople, green, the colour of the planet Venus, and of the emerald, is held to denote courtesy, civility, love, joy, and abundance. It is denoted by diagonal lines drawn from left above to right below. Purpure or purple, a rare and probably a lately-introduced heraldic colour, has no planetary equivalent. It is held to denote devotion, temperance, liberality, and (as the colour of the Imperial robe) sovereign authority. It is denoted by diagonal lines, in the opposite direction to those signifying vert. Ermine denotes purity, chastity, and immaculate honour. The ermine shield, plain, or uncharged, with the motto "Malo mori quam foedari," was assumed by Jean V., dit le Vaillant, Duc de Bretagne, in 1255.

**ECHOES FROM LONDON.**

The Empress of Austria, we understand, will honor the Pytchley hunt with her presence during the ensuing season, her Royal Highness being expected at Cottesbroke early in the ensuing year. We also understand that other distinguished foreign visitors have made arrangements for staying in the neighborhood of the hunt.

Experiments are being made at the Royal Arsenal, under authority from the War Office with a series of singular looking kites, designed by the inventor, Mr. Dudgeon, engineer of London and New York, as a means of raising heavy weights. The kites are very successful in rising with the least breeze, and they float horizontally with considerable buoyancy, but being merely models the practical usefulness of such appliances has still to be demonstrated.

Mr. Mapleson has announced the opening of Her Majesty's Theatre for a short series of performances of opera in Italian. This will probably be followed by a season of opera in English, commencing on December 26. It is intended to produce an entirely new English opera during the season, one designed to enlist popular sympathies and a general interest in English opera.

Should the introduction by the Post Office of what is really a new bank note become popular—and this hardly admits of a doubt—it is a safe prediction that the Scotch one-pound note and all its corollaries will be entirely eclipsed, and the name of Lord John Manners remain linked with one of the greatest currency experiments of the country.

According to the latest arrangements, her Majesty the Queen, with her Royal Highness Princess Beatrice, attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, will leave Balmoral and return to Windsor Castle on the 21st of November. The Queen will remain for about a fortnight at the Castle, and will then it is expected leave Windsor, in order to spend Christmas in the Isle of Wight.

A BAND of sixteen Hungarian instrumentalists, under the direction of Herr Aaras Miska, will shortly visit London. These artists were very successful in a programme chiefly consisting of dance music, but also comprising the overtures to *William Tell* and *Semiramide*. One of them gives a solo on an instrument called a cimball, consisting of strings, like those of a violin, stretched on a frame the notes being produced by striking the strings with small hammers.

AN OFFER has been made by a Jersey mechanic to the Turkish Embassy in London of a new explosive machine which, he says, has powers far surpassing anything hitherto known, and which can be used with equal effect on land and water. He has received a reply acknowledging the value of the invention; but intimating his offer of it to the Turkish Government could not be accepted till the matter had been brought under the notice of Her Majesty's Government.

The new and palatial police court in Bow-street, for which an endless number of houses have been pulled down, will be finished for business by May next. The visitors to sensational trials will be much pleased with the spacious arrangements. The law court building is at a dead stand still. It looks almost in chancery already. It is to be hoped that the strike will not long interfere with the work. As far as can be judged it will be a magnificent structure.

Further changes are intended in the dress of our army. The War Office has ordered the Militia to return their shaks at once, and has intimated that in future they are to appear on parade in Glengarry caps—a most unmilitary article of attire. Against this the Militia, not un-naturally entered a mild protest; and applied to the War Office for leave to wear the new helmet that is to be served out to the line regiments. Their request met with a curt refusal, so that in future Scotch caps will be the order of the day.

A SINGULAR rumour has gained considerable currency to the effect that a titled cavalry officer who was supposed to have fallen in the Crimea, did not meet that fate which was generally, if not absolutely, believed, but that, on the contrary, he is at this moment on his way home. It is now stated that when last seen he was leaning, apparently wounded, on his horse; that he was taken prisoner by the Russians, and was shortly after for some insult alleged to have been given to a Russian officer, transported to Siberia, whence, his term of exile having expired, he is returning to Ireland.

THE Primate is anxious to see all parties represented at the Church Congress, to be held at Croydon, and has, it is said, induced Dean Stanley, at last, to give way and enter an appearance at this Church Congress. It is expected that this will bring a following of the Broad Church party, who at first might be thought to exercise a moderating influence between the High and the Low. But the result will in all probability be the very reverse of this, and the strife of parties will be keener than ever. The attendance will, in any case, be very great, and the Archbishop will have a lively time of it.

**MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.**

LISZT has composed an opera called "Luther." RAYMOND, the comedian, neither drinks nor smokes.

CAMILLA URSO is renewing her former successes in New England.

JOS. JEFFERSON gets \$700 certainly per night when he plays in Boston and New York.

LYDIA THOMPSON, it is reported, will take her farewell of the stage next January.

VIEUXTEMPS has recovered his health, and is again on active duty at the Brussels Conservatory.

DION BOUCICAULT has arranged to produce his new comedy of *Marriage* at Her Majesty's Theatre.

TITIENS was once very slender. The fatal tumor was produced by some of her heavy falls on the stage, in the excitement of the play.

PATTI, according to a correspondent, instead of being slight and girlish in her appearance, is as fat as an ortolan.

Mlle. TITIENS has left £30,000 to her sister, Mrs. Kruls, with the reversion to her two nieces, one of whom is married.

AN Italian paper states that our Queen so much admired an organ transcription of themes from Verdi's *Mass*, performed at her private chapel, that she has expressed a wish to hear the entire work.

The highest price ever given for a pianoforte performance was probably that paid to Mme. Arabella Goddard, who is said to have been given £1,000 (besides all expenses) for playing one piece at the monster Musical Festival at Boston.