Miscellaneous.

PASSES IN THE BALKANS.

It is now known that the Russians have followed a secret pass over the Balkans. Their cavalry advancing along a bridle path leading from Dranova south-east to a little village called Ivarditza, from twelve to eighteen miles north-west of Jeni Saghra. The country which they had traversed is, however, indicated by that of the neighboring passes. After leaving Tirnova the road ascends the Schipka Pass, descending from its summit steeply to the village of the same name, whence it follows along the valley of the Kasanlik. This latter district is described as being exceedingly fertile, the stream being bordered by rows of nut trees, and the village surrounded with orchards and rosegardens. On the third road—namely, from Osman Bazar by Kasan to Silvno—are two old intrenchments, which of late have been partially repaired. Kasan itself lies in a deep hollow, and thence the way runs through a narrow cleft in the rocks, a pass which, owing probably to the great difficulty which an enemy would experience in forcing his way through has received the name of the Iron Gate. This narrow gorge may, however, be avoided by taking a circuitous path which leads from Kasan to Selimno. Here the descent from the highest point of the mountains to Selimno, and thence either to Karin or Dobroll, lies through a district very different in its character from the barren slopes on the north. Fruit-trees, rose gardens, cotton fields diversify the scene; and while snow still lies on the Bulgarian slopes, the southern are covered with luxuriant vegetation.

The pass from Schumla to Tlalikavak and Dobroll is, so far as natural difficulties are concerned, easily practicable as far as Tjalikavak. Thence to Dobroll, however, the route runs through a narrow pass, bordered on either side by steep rocks. Intrenchments also have been constructed, which if obstinately defended, would render the passage of an invading force along it an extremely precarious enterprise. From Dobroll again the road descends steeply through a long and defensible defile to Delhi Kamtijk.

The pass from Kosladji by Pravadi, Jenikos to Aidos, is barred near the small town of Pravadi by a ridge of rock, which offers a natural fortification. This obstacle may, however, also be avoided by following a path through the Kirk-Getjin Pass, or "pass of forty fords," so called because the road frequently crosses and recrosses a small stream which flows through the pass, or by taking the Jenikoi road. Both these routes unite again on a height free from wood and cover, and which consequently lends itself to defensive arrangments. These were the passes taken by Diebitsch in the campaign of 1829.

The defence adds the *Pall Mall Gazette* of a lengthened mountain chain, through which are several passes, is, like the defence of a long line of river on which there are several points of passage, recognised to be a difficult undertaking; but it is pointed out by a writer in a German military paper, that if the mass of the defensive force is kept concentrated at some convenient and central point, with corps of observation only pushed forward into the mountains, it ought, if capable of manœuvering in the field, to be able to fall with the greatest success upon the heads of columns debouching from defiles, and that, therefore, especially as long as Schumla and Varna, or even only one of these fortresses, remain in the hands of the Turks, the passage of the Balkans will be a critical enterprise for the Russians to undertake.

TWENTY-TWO YEARS IN PRISON.

Here is a little story: Twenty-two years ago a young man in New Haven was engaged to marry a woman there. For some reason she had transferred her promise to marry, if not her affections, to another person. The first suitor who was a respectable mechanic, dissaproved of the match, and declared that he was a disreputable person, who would lead his affianced a miserable life, and that while he could surrender her himself, he would rather she should die than marry that man. Accordingly, and as he said, solely to save her from the awful fate of such a degrading marriage, he killed the girl. He did not attempt to conceal his crime; he justified it, and regarded himself as the saviour of the girl's happiness.

He was tried for murder, and acquitted on the ground of insanity, although he stoutly denied that he was insane, and said that he acted on the cool conviction of what was best for the girl, and was ready to suffer the penalty of the law for the homicide. Acquitted, he was remanded to the county jail by the court. He remained there seven or eight years, all the time protesting that he was in his right mind, and that the state should either release him or hang him for murder. He was then transferred to the State prison at Wethersfield, by what authority it does not appear, under no sentence. There he has remained until this day in the same state of mind, apparently rational on all subjects except that he insisted that he had a right to save her from dishonor; and that if the State thought otherwise, it should have him punished for a murderer.

This is the story of Willard Clark, who has now petitioned the Assembly to remove him from the State prison to the Insane Asylum at Middletown.—*Lowvill, N. Y., Times.*

LAFITTE'S TREASURES.

The buried treasures of Lafitte, the pirate, periodically stimulate to search the fools of the Gulf coast in the same way that Captain Kidd's hidden wealth does their credulous brethern of the Northern Shore Line. Ten years ago a New Orleans pirate had in his possession a map that had been left him by a relative, which pointed out a spot on Cat Island, on one of the sand mounds there, where chests of treasure were to be found. John Newell, for that was his name, started four times to make the search, but by some strange and mysterious coincidence each time he and his party came to grief just as the island was almost in reach. On the last trip Newell went by himself, and when outside, his little yacht, appropriately named the "Reckless Babe," foundered and her owner drowned. For the last fifty years these stories about wealth have been current at New Orleans, especially among the Creole families, and to-day there are many who believe in the story and have full faith in these old traditions. As a sample of this confidence, it is learned that since the publication of the recent organization of a stock company at the North, to search for Captain Kidd's buried gold, there is on foot in this city an expedition to go after Lafitte's, and a schooner is to be chartered soon to carry the adventurers and their implements.

☞ A man who had been arrested for stealing a lot of beans was brought before the magistrate. "What was this man a doing?" said the justice. "Bean stealing, your honor," answered the clerk.

☞ When a woman faints what figure must you bring her? You must bring her 2.

PRETTY PETS.

A lady noted for her fondness for pets, became possessed of two butterflies of different species in a chrysalis state, and resolving to try how far they would be amendable to kindness, placed them for security in a glazed cabinet in her well-warmed bedroom.

One bright day in Spring she was delighted by the appearance of a little yellow butterfly, but was puzzled to cater for the delicate creature.

Taking a little fairy rose then in blossom she dropped a little honey and rose water in a blossom, and put the plant in the cabinet, and soon had the satisfaction of seeing the butterfly make its first meal.

In a fortnight it would leave the rose to settle on her hand, when she called it by its name, Psyche.

By and by a peacock butterfly emerged into active life from the other chrysalis.

The newcomer accepted the sensation of active life at once, and, like its occupant, delighted in being talked and sung to, both especially enjoying being waved in the air and danced up and down while quietly resting upon the hand of their mistress.

Upon the coming of summer the cabinet was moved close to the window, and its doors thrown open.

For some days neither of the tenants cared to venture beyond the window sill, but one bright afternoon their protectress beheld them take wing and join some wild companions in the garden; at night, however, they returned to their lodgings.

Next day they took the air again and were gone some time.

One afternoon there came a heavy thunder storm, and when it was over a yellow butterfly was found stone dead on the window sill, which the lady, with some warrant, lamented as her own particular one; the "peacock," too, would seem to have met a like fate, for it never was seen again.

HOW IT HAPPENED.

The derivation of many words in common use is exceedingly curious and interesting. Probably few people have any idea whence comes the word "tramway," by which the English denote a horse-car track. It is derived from the second syllable of the name outram. The ancestor of Sir James Outram, a very distinguished general, who died a few years ago, took a leading part in extending horse railroads for drawing coal, etc., and his roads were called Oltram ways, and gradually the first syllable was dropped. Another curious derivation is that of the word "wallop," meaning to beat." "I'll wallop him" is still a frequent expression in rural England. It arises from a complete naval victory of Admiral Wallop, a member of a very ancient family of which the Earl of Portsmouth—who also has the honor to represent Sir Isaac Newton—is now the head.—*Christian at Work.*

☞ London is very proud of its fire brigade. The number of men in the brigade is now 400; it will probably be raised to 600. There are 49 engine houses on land, and 4 afloat in the Thames. Instead of having its fire engines of a uniform character, London has 2 large and 21 small steam fire engines, and also 82 hand engines of various grades. The English theory about hand engines is that they can be set to work quicker than the steam machines. In one paticular the London system has an unquestionable superiority; there are 107 fire escape stations and 136 fire escapes, and hence while 123 persons were in banger of being burnt last winter, 88 of them were rescued. The facts about the water supply are curious, the Thames furnishing directly or through canals or docks three fifths of the 21,000,000 gallons used by the fire engines in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-six.

PUZZLES.

We intend giving a puzzle or two each week for our little readers, and shall be pleased to publish the names of those who send us answers to them. We also invite conundrums, puzzles, charades, &c., from old or young. Write plain, be sure you are correct, and send them along.

(No 1.)

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

Upon the margin of the sacred first
My weary second was prone to lie,
And cool his feverish, burning thirst
With a draught from the stream flowing slowly by.

1. To add fresh knowledge to his store,
He traveled many countries o'er;
Compelled by want, he played, 'tis said,
His mellow instrument for bread.

2. A point of law urged in defense,
Which, proved, acquits of the defense.

3. A little vessel made of wood,
Now falling into desuetude.

4. A famed Round Table Knight was he—
A very flower of chivalry.

5. By many a swarthy son of Spain
This fabled land was sought in vain.

6. A wind which blows o'er Libyan sands;
No man nor beast before it stands.

(No. 2.)

ENIGMA.

I'm a star that shines afar
Amid the heaven's blue,
In storm and wind, a noble mind,
And in the pearly dew;
I'm in a flower, a ray, a shower,
In the lightning's vivid flash,
The sun, the moon, a pleasure tune,
And in the battle's crash.
I'm in a cold, a tale well told,
I dwelt in poor Grimaldi;
I've been admired, and e'er desired
By General Garibaldi;
I'm in the law, in whisky raw,
In elephants and apes.
One other view—I have to do
With cucumbers and grapes.

(No. 3.)

ENIGMA.

We adorn a sweet face,
Are in old-fashioned rooms,
Many scales also grace,
And we're found with new looms;
From the bright stars and moon,
In eternal blue,
For ages we've shone,
And may yet fly. Adieu.

(No 4.)

SQUARE WORDS.

A favorite dish; command; farewell; behold, and a pronoun; eternally abides.

(No. 5.)

ANAGRAM.

1. Many cried eat pain; 2. Anon the Tory poll; 3. He reads clear; 4. We Hat, lazy Annie; 6. Mind some bards; 6. We adapt W. H. Henry's; 7. I will like cons.

SQUARE WORDS.

The vital part; zealous; in times past lacerations; a lock of hair.

THE PETRIFYING SILICATE PAINTS,

As supplied to the Admiralty, Board of Works, Austrian Lloyd's, Woolwich Arsenal, Cunard Company, &c.,

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A Liniment for Man and Beast.

"Whether for use on man or beast, Merchant's Gargling Oil will be found an invaluable Liniment, and worthy of use by every resident in the land. We know of no proprietary medicine or article now used in the United States which shares the good will of the people to a greater degree than this. Yellow wrapper for animal and white for human flesh."—*N. Y. Independent.*

Extract from a letter from G. H. Simmonds, Unionville, Ia., July 24, 1873.—"I am selling more Gargling Oil than all the liniments put together, and I am keeping twelve different kinds. I think it is the best remedy for horseflesh in existence, and can say it without fear of successful contradiction."

Extract from a letter from Shoemaker & Co., Bloomington, Ind., Sept. 17th, 1873.—"It is the popular horse liniment in this country."

Extract from a letter from Geo. A. Snell, Braman's Corners, N. Y., Aug. 9th, 1873.—"I sell more of your Gargling Oil than of all other liniments combined, and have seen it used on horses and cattle with good effect when others have failed."

Extract from a letter from Pattee & Co., Derry, N. H., Aug. 26th, 1873.—"We think your Gargling Oil one of the best articles for what it is recommended that we have ever used or sold."

Extract from a letter from Snowden & Gibbs, Concordia, Kan., July 28th, 1873.—"We sell more of your Gargling Oil than of any liniment we keep."

Merchant's Gargling Oil as a Family Liniment.

We are now, and have been for some years, preparing the Oil free from stain, to be used as a common liniment for human flesh, extracting the coloring ingredient which has heretofore rendered it objectionable. This Oil possesses all the medicinal properties of that prepared with the dark tinge for horses and cattle, and will be found one of the best remedies for all purposes where a liniment is required that has ever been manufactured.

From J. K. Fisher, Uniontown, Pa., Jan. 31, 1857.—"Your Gargling Oil is doing much better here than formerly, since its virtues have become known; and the bottles put up for family use, without stain, are much sought for."

☞ The Gargling Oil called "Family Oil," although prepared intentionally for human flesh, answers as well for beasts; *vice versa*, the dark Oil answers as well for human flesh, only it will stain and discolor the skin, but not permanently. Yellow wrapper for animal and white for human flesh.

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Merchant's Gargling Oil is a diffusible stimulant and carminative. It can be taken internally when such a remedy is indicated, and is a good substitute for pain killers, cordials and anodynes. For Cramps or Spasms of the Stomach, Colic, Asthma, or Internal Pain, the dose may be from fifteen to twenty drops, on sugar, or mixed with syrup in any convenient form, and repeated at intervals of three to six hours. Yellow wrapper for animal and white for human flesh.

MERCHANT'S GARGLING OIL is the Standard Liniment of the United States. Established 1833. Large size, $1; medium, 50c.; small, 25c.; small size for family use, 25c. Manufactured at Lockport, N. Y., by M. G. O. Co., and sold by all druggists.

JOHN HODGE, Secretary.

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The following NEW GOODS opened to-day:

COLORED Hamburgs and Laces for Trimming, Grass Cloth Dress Materials, New Braids, Trimmings and Wool Fringes, New Umbrellas and Sunshades, New Frillings for the neck in enormous varieties, New Slipper Patterns and Working Canvas, New Regattas and Prints, and a large variety of other Goods, making the largest and most complete assortment in the city.

AT OUR USUAL LOW PRICES.

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MRS. L. C. WHEELOCK, has just opened a fresh assortment of

DRESS GOODS,

Gloves, Hosiery, Haberdashery, Laces, Trimmings, Hats, Bonnets, Flowers, Feathers, Grey and Bleached Cottons, Window Nets, &c., &c.

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Jokers' Corner.

SHE GOT MAD.

A tall woman with a sharp nose was raking up a yard on Masonic street, Rockland, one day last week. She had her dress tucked up, a ridiculous hand kerchief tied over her head, and looked like a fright generally. A cross-eyed man dressed in a suit of light clothes came up the street, and noticing the woman leaned over the fence and remarked:

"How sweet is the rosy-posy."

"Eh! what's that?" exclaimed the tall woman, looking up.

"How charming appears the little popsy-wopsy with its dress tucked up," replied the cross-eyed man.

"Who are you a talking to, any way?" said the tall woman, in great surprise, and turning red in the face.

"My own luckey-duckey is exquisitively transcendental with the handkerchief," observed the cross-eyed man winking mysteriously with his straight eye.

"It's my opinion you're drunk," exclaimed the tall woman, in a rage; "clear out, or I'll call the police."

"And would my own sweet cherry-blossom set the wicked police on her own lovey-povey?" said the cross-eyed man.

"Clear out, you great overgrown windmill," screamed the tall woman, wrathfully, "or I'll claw you with this rake."

"Would my pinkey-winkey claw her darling tootsy-wootsy with a kerewel rake?" continued the cross-eyed man; "I never thought"—

Here the tall woman threw down her rake in a great passion, and rushed into the housy, slamming the door so hard that it broke the knob. And the cross-eyed man moved softly off, muttering;

"What dreadful tempers some sweet looking women have."

THE SABLE MOTHER'S WARNING.

"Ephrahem, come to your mudder, boy. Whar you bin?"

"Playin' wid de white folks' chillum."

"You is, eh? See hyar, chile, you'll broke your old mudder's heart, an' bring her grey hairs in sorrow to de grave with your recklumness an' carryins on wid evil assoyashuns. Habn't I raised you up in de way you should oughter go?"

"Yethum."

"Habn't I bin kine an' tender wid you an' treated you like my own chile, which you is?"

"Yethum."

"Habn't I reezened wid you and prayed wid, an' deplored de good Lord to wrap you in his buzzum!"

"Yethum."

"An' isn't I yor nater'l detector an' gardeen fo' de law?"

"Yethum."

"Well, den, do you s'prose I'se gwine to hab yer morals ruptured by de white trash? No, Sah! Get in the house this instep; and if eber I cotch you 'municatin' wid de white trash any mo', fo' de Lord, nigger, I'll break your brack head wid a brick!"

"HANGING ON."

One was a parcel boy and the other a cash boy, and as they halted under an awning for a minute the parcel boy asked:

"Do you get the same old wages yet?"

"Yes just the same."

"Haven't you been presented with a watch or a cane, as a token of esteem?"

"No—not a thing."

"Don't the boss ever ask you up to a Sunday dinner?"

"Not a one."

"Never comes around and asks your advice about the markets?"

"Never."

"And hasn't he got a daughter to fall in love with you and commit suicide if she cannot marry you?"

"No."

"Well, I don't see why you stay there, it must be awful humiliating to a boy of your temperament."

"So it is—it's just awful on me, but I'm hanging on in hopes of finding a five dollar bill on the floor and buying all the rock candy I can eat. Seems as though I could taste it now—youm—good-bye. Few people know how we boys suffer day by day."

A farmer was yesterday, walking around the market, trying to find some chap willing to go into the country and do a little work for good pay, when a colored man accosted him, asking—

"Ross, does you want some one to husk corn?"

"Yes, I've been looking all the morning for some one."

"What's de pay?

"I'll give $1 a day."

"And board?"

"Yes."

"An' chickens an' puddin' for dinner?"

"Y—Yes."

"An Havana cigars to smoke?"

"I—I guess so," stammered the farmer.

"An' a cole stove right close around dar, whar de corn is?"

"No, I never heard of a stove in a corn field."

"Well if dar's no stove out dar, you can't coax dis chile along! Ize got to take care of my health, even if there isn't a bushel of corn raised in dis country!"

"Dan," said a little four year old, "Give me sixpence to buy a monkey."

"We have got one monkey in the house now," replied the elder brother.

"Who is it, Dan?" asked the little fellow.

"You," was the reply.

"Then give me sixpence to buy the monkey some nuts."

The brother could not resist.

"Where was Bishop Latimer burned to death?" asked a teacher in a commanding voice.—

"Joshua knows," said a little girl at the bottom of the class.

"Well," said the teacher, "if Joshua knows he may tell."

"In the fire," replied Joshua, looking very grave and wise.

A shrewd old Yankee said he didn't believe there was any downright cure for laziness in a man.

"But," he added, "I've known a second wife to hurry it some."

Always ending in nothing.—G

Agricultural.

NOW FOR BUDDING.

It is to be taken for granted that every farmer, or one of his sons, or even daughters—for we have known daughters to graft—knows how to graft, and large numbers employ that knowledge in spring-time to put a good head on a wild tree, or to change the character of one to something more desirable. But the spring is generally crowded with work. Few get done what they desired or intended to do; and among the put-off things very likely of all others will be the grafting. Something of this can be made up at this season by budding or inoculation, as it is sometimes called. It does not find the same favor with farmers as it does with nurserymen, because no time seems to be gained over grafting the following spring, for the buds put in now do not push into growth till the next spring season. If grafts are put in next year they grow immediately, and make stronger growths and form a good head much sooner than buds put in at this season will. But then this is the question of time. If one waits for spring it may never be done. This is comparatively a season of more leisure, and a tree budded now is done with. It will keep on growing, and certainly will beat the tree that never is done.

Budding is so simple an operation, and has been over and over again described in our columns, that most persons who are likely to be benefitted by this article know how it is done or ought to know. A piece of bark containing a leaf stalk and the eye at its base is simply put under the bark of the stalk to be improved, and which has been slit and lifted or loosened by the back of a knife for the purpose. After insertion the bud is tied firmly in. Anyone can understand this, and only experience will teach more. But there is one thing which all budders do not understand, and we will explain why even some good hands fail in their work. The branch on which the bud is to go must be thrifty, vigorous, and in every way healthy, or the buds will not take. Failure in most cases comes from this. It does not make much difference whether the branch to be operated on is more than one year old, so that the bark separates readily from the wood—as the budders say "runs freely" — but it is essential that it should be in perfect health. The bark generalily loosens freely during the latter part of the summer, if in the condition we have described. In regard to the bud it must not be too young. Failure generally comes from this. There is far less chance of failure with very old buds than with young eyes. All the buds must be of this season's growth.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

A FACT FOR FARMERS.

It may not be generally known that the seed of the sunflower is the most infallible remedy yet discovered for the speedy cure of founder in horses.

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