

veller, thus writes:—"I believe that I have found the real Opbit, in lat. 20 deg. 15 min N., long. 20 deg. 30 min. E., and I think I possess proofs of the fact. The ruins which have been so often spoken about are composed of two masses of masonry, in a tolerably good state of preservation. The first is on a mountain of granite; and amongst other constructions, is to be remarked one which is an imitation of the Temple of Solomon, being fortress and sanctuary at the same time, the walls of which are built in wrought granite, without mortar, and all being more than 80 ft. high. Beams of cedar served as ceiling to the narrow and covered galleries. No inscription exists, but only some special designs of ornamentation which announce a great antiquity. The whole western part of the mountain is covered with blocks of great size, which seem to indicate terraces. The second mass of ruins is situated to the south of the mountain, from which it is separated by a low valley; it retains a well-preserved circular form, with walls constructed as a labyrinth, also without mortar; a tower still exists, 30 ft. high, 17 ft. in diameter at the base, and 9 ft. at the top. The circular edifice is accompanied by a large number of others situated in the front, and which doubtless served as the habitation of the Queen of Sheba's suite. I have drawn, not without difficulty, a general sketch and a plan of this place. I was confirmed by the natives themselves in the idea that these ruins date from the Queen's time. Forty years since sacrifices were still offered up on the mountain. The natives still call the circular building the House of the Great Princess."

FAMILY MATTERS.

TO EXTRACT STAINS FROM SILVER.—Salt ammoniac, one part; vinegar, sixteen parts. Mix and use this liquid with a piece of flannel, then wash the plate in clean water.

RAILROAD CAKE.—One cupful of sugar; one cupful of flour; two tablespoonfuls of melted butter; two tablespoonfuls of milk; three eggs; one tablespoonful of cream tartar; and one half teaspoonful of soda. Flavor with lemon.

BAKED CUSTARD.—Boil one pint of cream and half a pint of milk with mace, cinnamon and lemon-peel—a little of each. When cold, mix the yolk of three eggs; sweeten, and make your cups of paste nearly full. Bake them ten minutes.

MOLASSES DROP CAKE.—One cupful of molasses, half a cup of butter or lard, half a cup of water, three cups of flour, two teaspoonfuls of ginger, one teaspoonful of soda. Beat well together, and drop with a spoon on a buttered pan or in muffin-rings. Bake quickly.

TO CLEAN AND RESTORE THE ELASTICITY OF CANE CHAIR BOTTOMS.—Turn up the chair bottom, and with hot water and a sponge wash the cane-work, so that it may be thoroughly soaked. Should it be dirty, use a little soap. Let it dry in the air, and it will be as light and as firm as when new, provided the cane is not broken.

SHORT CAKE.—Three pounds of flour, half a pound of butter, half a pound of lard, a teaspoonful of soda, and two of cream of tartar; mix with cold milk. For strawberry cake, omit the soda when first baked, take out some of the crumbs, and fill the inside with ripe strawberries, sugared; close and bake the cakes five minutes longer.

TO DESTROY MOTHS IN CARPETS.—Writing a course towel out of clean water; spread it smoothly on the carpet; iron it dry with a hot iron; repeat the operation on all parts of the carpet suspected of being infested with moths. Do not press hard, and neither the pile nor the color of the carpet will be injured, and the moths will be destroyed by the heat and steam.

TO JUDGE THE AGE OF FOWLS.—If a hen's spur is hard, and the scales of the legs rough, she is old whether you see her head or not, but her head will corroborate your observation. If the underbill is so stiff that you cannot bend it down, and the comb thick and rough leave her, no matter how fat and plump, for some one is particular. A young hen has only the rudiments of a spur; the scales on the legs are smooth, glossy and fresh colored, whatever the comb may be, the claws tender and short, the bills sharp, the underbill soft, and the comb

HINTS TO FARMERS.

If worms infest your flower-pots apply water to which a little fresh lime has been dissolved.

A MINNESOTA dairy produced 27,434 pounds of cheese last season, without putting itself out of the whey.

Dr. WYLLISTER says he has no doubt that healthy trees may be infested by the poison of diseased ones, conveyed upon saw or pruning shears, and he advises that these implements be carefully washed in a solution of carbolic acid after being used about a blighted pear, or a peach with the following.

MANY practical fruit-growers maintain that it is absurd to assume an arbitrary limit; and say below that, if the mercury falls, we shall have no poschies, for the power of resistance to a very low temperature depends on the more or less thorough ripening of the wood and buds the previous season. If the buds go into winter quarters badly developed and on half-ripened wood, their zero may kill them, or 85 or 100

below; but if the season was favorable then there is no knowing how low a temperature peach buds even may endure with impunity. A correspondent of the Country Gentleman reports Dr. Hull as saying that the best crop of peaches he ever grew was the summer following one of our coldest winters. If, however, during winter there occur eight or ten days of mild weather, so as to start the buds, then follows a sharp spell, destruction is pretty sure.

PLANT TREES FOR PROFIT.—A good deal of needless alarm exists at the prospect of great droughts appearing upon our forests shall have been out away. The statements made by Bayard Taylor, Humboldt, and others to prove this are of doubtful application. It is true that a country is more moist where forests abound, but the amount of rainfall of a country cannot depend upon the presence nor absence of trees. The whole country from Indiana to the Missouri River is mainly a vast prairie, and yet the rainfall is equal to what it is in the timbered regions of the Atlantic States, or even of Canada and Maine, where there are unbroken forests. If there were not a tree on the whole of the British Islands, they would still be drenched with showers condensed from the warm and damp winds of the Gulf Stream. The Rocky Mountain region is far from being destitute of trees; indeed, there are vast forests; and yet along the borders of the mountains, upon the plains, there, six, and sometimes nine months pass and not a drop of rain falls. Rainfall depends upon climatic conditions, which trees cannot affect, though forests retain water long when it does come.

Trees should be planted for quite another reason, and this for their commercial value. Timber of all kinds is growing scarcer and dearer; and fruit growing is becoming more difficult for want of the shelter which forests would afford. Of late years many farmers have made commendable efforts in tree planting, and not one has the least regret that labor and money have been expended to this end. On the contrary, every man looks with pride upon even half a dozen trees of his own planting.

The encouragement offered by Congress for tree planting by making the terms of payment on Government land easier and a trifle less, can have but a slight influence, because the owners of such land are poor, and they never will nor can they engage in labor that is without immediate reward. Men of means and such persons as are getting somewhat fore-handed will engage in tree-planting, and even those require much urging and argument to be convinced that tree planting will pay. The greatest help is the example, and one man only in a county may, by setting out an acre, even if only cottonwood, induce hundreds of other farmers to do likewise.—N. Y. Tribune.

GOLDEN GRAINS.

We can do more good by being good than in any other way.

He who will not take cheap advice will have to bear dear repentance.

Never marry a woman till you know where her dress ends and her soul begins.

Make an impartial estimate of your revenue, and, whatever it is, live upon it. Do this, and you will never be poor.

Many run about after happiness, like an absent minded man hunting for his hat while it is on his head or in his hand.

Give us sincere friends or none. This hollow glitter of smiles and words, compliments that mean nothing, is worthless.

It is far better to be sure of something, and to rest content with it, than to risk all for some mere possibility of great gain.

The longer we live and the more we think the higher value we learn to put on the friendship and tenderness of parents and friends.

Stun your sentiments with diffidence. A dictatorial style, though it may carry conviction, is always accompanied with disgust.

Sincerity is speaking as we think, believing as we pretend, acting as we profess, performing as we promise, and being as we appear to be.

Restrain thy cholera, hearken much and speak little; for the tongue is the instrument of the greatest good and the greatest evil that is done in the world.

Those who retire from the world on account of its sins must not forget that they have yet to keep company with a person who waits just as much watching as anybody else.

True glory consists in doing what deserves to be written, in writing what deserves to be read, and in so living as to make the world happier and better for our living in it.

If young people are induced—led, not forced—to begin their reading aright, the chances are largely in their favor that their critical knowledge will make them poor good judges afterwards.

One should not be downcast at failures. They are often far better for the student than success. He who goes to school to his mistakes will always have a good schoolmaster, and will not be likely to become idle or conceited.

The great high-road of human welfare lies along the old high-road of steadfast well-doing; and they who are the most persistent, and work in the truest spirit, will invariably be the most successful; success trails on the heels of every right effort.

One's good mother, said George Horbert, is worth a hundred schoolmasters. In the home she is "loadstone to all hearts, and loadstar to all eyes." Imitation of her is constant—imitation which Bacon likens to "a globe of precepts." But example is far more than precept. In its instruction is action.

ALWAYS avoid the company in which you are willing to tell a coarse jest, because for you it is a demoralising company. Grossness is never humorous; profanity is never admirable; and if your manner and speech once begin to revel out upon that edge, all their manliness and charm are in danger.

TRIALS are more ballast that often prevent our capsizing. When we have much to carry, Heaven rarely fails to fit the back to the burden. Where we have nothing to bear, we can seldom bear ourselves. The burdened vessel may be slow in reaching the destined port, but the vessel without ballast is in imminent danger of not reaching it at all.

THE SABBATH.—This is the loveliest, brightest day in all the week to a spiritual mind. These rests refresh the soul in God that finds nothing but turmoil in the creature. Should not this day be welcome to the soul, that sets it free to mind its own business, which has other days to attend to the business of its servant, the body? And those are a certain pledge to it of that expected freedom when it shall enter on an eternal Sabbath, and rest in Him for ever who is the only rest of the soul.—ARCHBISHOP LEIGHTON.

ENVY is a displeasure for some supposed advantage in another. The object of this passion is something more desirable; and although excellence, precisely considered, cannot occasion dislike, yet excellence misplaced may. The envious man believes himself eclipsed by the lustre of his neighbor; that which is good in itself becomes an evil to him, and makes him wish it either removed or extinguished. Envy, like a cold poison, benumbs and stupefies; and thus, as if conscious of its own impotence, it folds its arms in despair, and sits cursing in a corner. Envy is no less foolish than detestable; it is a vice which they say keeps no holiday, but is always working upon its own disquiet.

HUMOROUS SCRAPS.

THE WORST BATTLETRAP GOING.—The dice box.

A CINCINNATI editor asks, "Are we fire-proof?" We hope so.

WHAT is that which a blind man can very often see as well as any one who has eyes?—A joke.

A CAROLINA negro, on being examined, was asked if his master was a true Christian.—"No, sir; he is a politician," was the reply.

A somewhat illiterate gentleman up town has named his dog "Michael Angelo," on the supposition that M. A. was one of the old masters.

BLACKY LESS.—A negro lately died. The neighbors said he was a blackamoor. We contend that he was not a blacky more, but a blacky less.

A MAN advertises for a competent person to undertake the sale of a new medicine, and adds that "it will prove highly lucrative to the undertaker."

WESTERN women are grumbling terribly because the managers of agricultural fairs don't give at least a year's notice when they offer prizes for the finest babies.

A YANKEE has just invented a new kind of braces, that contracts on your approach to water, and the moment you come to a puddle it lifts you over, and drops you on the opposite side.

THEN party (to street urchin)—"Boy, what do you suppose that dog is following me for?" The youngster casts a knowing look at him and readily replies: "Guess he takes you for a bone!"

ONLY NATURAL.—A certain city was about to be destroyed. The women were allowed to leave, and were told that they might carry away on their backs whatever they most prized. Each woman took a man.

A YOUNG MAN at Niagara having been crossed in love, walked out to the precipice, took off his clothes, gave one lingering look at the gulf beneath him, and then went home. His body was found next morning in bed.

MARK TWAIN said in his late lecture, that "in the Sandwich Islands everything was done in an 'upsidedown' manner. Among other foolish things that they do is to elect the most incorruptible men to Congress."

A LITTLE GIRL was one day reading the History of England with her governess, and, coming to the statement that Henry I. never laughed after the death of his son, she looked up, and said, "Whatever did he do when he was tickled?"

SLOWLY, but surely, the great of the world are passing away, and none remain to fill their places. To the long array of brilliant and famous men lately deceased we are now obliged to add that of Mr. Ephraim O. Mitchell, the "champion clam-digger," of Bridgeport, Ct.

A PHILADELPHIAN traveling in Texas lately made up his mind to give a public library to a town to which he took a fancy. His intention becoming known to the inhabitants, they held

a public meeting and voted to "take shot-guns and break-shot instead of the books," if it was all the same to him.

"THAT's a very stupid brute of yours, John," said a Scotch minister to one of his parishioners, a post-dealer, who drove his merchandise from door to door in a small cart drawn by a donkey. "I never see you but the creature is braying."—"Eh, sir," said the post-dealer, "ye ken the heart's warm when friends meet."

NOTHING makes a Minnesota husband so mad as to fill his boots with buckwheat cakes in the raw, and then laugh at him when he pulls them on. Mrs. Smith, of Winona, will endorse this statement as soon as the swelling in her nose subsides sufficiently to enable her to read; for he had battered her head as effectually as she had battered his feet.

AN agricultural paper says strawberry beds may be protected from birds by running a wire along the walk to which a cat is chained. Her movements up and down the length of the wire will keep the birds away. Where there is no chain, the wire can be run through the cat, and heated with a temperature that will fill the cat with a longing to keep moving.

A 'CUTE LADY.—Lady Browne and I were as usual going to the Duchess of Monroes at seven o'clock. The evening was dark. In the close lane, under the park pale, and within twenty yards of the gate, a black figure pushed by between the chaise and the hedge on my side. I suspected it was a highwayman, and so I found did Browne, for she was speaking, and stopped. To divert her fears, I was going to say, "Is not that the apothecary going to the duchess?" when I heard a voice cry "Stop!" and then the figure came back to the chaise. I had the presence of mind, before I let down the glass, to take out my watch and stuff it within my dress under the arm. He said, "Your purse and watches?" "I have no watch," I replied. "Then your purse." I gave it to him; it had nine guineas in it. It was so dark that I could not see his hand, but I felt him take it. He then asked for Lady Browne's purse, and said, "Don't be frightened; I will not hurt you." "No, you won't frighten the lady," I said. "No, I give you my word I will not hurt you," he replied. Lady Browne gave him her purse, and was going to add her watch, but he said, "I am much obliged to you; I wish you good-night," pulled off his hat, and rode away. "Well," said I, "Lady Browne, you will not be afraid of being robbed another time, for you see there is nothing in it." "Oh, but I am," she said; "and now I'm in terror lest he return, for I have given him a purse with bad money that I carry on purpose."—LADY WALFORD.

OUR PUZZLER.

31. ANAGRAM.

(The italicized words give the name of a famous play.)

Artful Bell to the card-room dispatch'd grand-mamma, And in similar fashion got rid of papa: Toen sly puss, 'hind the curtain was secretly kiss'd, While grannie was playing her tenth game of whist!

32. ENIGMA.

Very oft in the shop of the chemist I'm seen, And blazing with heat in the furnace have been; Whenever I speak it is with a loud roar, The doctor's boy bumps me about very sore; His filthy concoctions pollute me inside, And had I been mortal, ere this should have died. What though I am stone dead, I'm proud of my birth; I'm Adam-like, form'd from the dust of the Earth. I am often united, and well known to stick To my partner, who is a rosy-cheek'd brick, Together we strengthen both cottage and hall, And miles off I've knock'd down an enemy's wall.

33. CHARADE.

Divide the Earth, withdraw one-fifth, My first you then will see; From second Abraham went forth; (Its language was Chaldee.)

Oh, had I the immortal pen Of Tennyson the great! The deeds of him, my wondrous whole, Right well I could relate.

34. REBUS.

A fish found chafed in ponds; a well-known heathen god; what would not be pleasant at sea; what we have to pay if we take a drive; a town in Prussia, on the Oder; and a flowing buck. The initials and finals will give two brothers celebrated in heathen mythology.

ANSWERS.

- 27. RIDDLE: Fowl; owl.
- 28. ENIGMA: An Oyster.
- 29. CHARADE: Pao-Tom-I-Me.
- 30. GEOGRAPHICAL REBUS: Naples; Ocean; Waterford; Aceh; Yucatan; Norway; Sweden.