

## LITERARY LINKLETS.

"Honor to the men who bring honor to us—glory to the country, dignity to character, wings to thought, knowledge of things, precision to principles, sweetness to feeling, happiness to the friends—Authors."

Mr. Thomas Hughes is expected at Rugby, Tenn., the coming autumn.

The Polish novelist J. J. Kraszewski is probably the most voluminous of living writers. He has written and published 490 novels.

The editor of *Land and Liberty*, a Russian periodical, has written a book entitled "Underground Russia: Revolutionary Profiles and Sketches from Life." It will be published shortly in London, Eng.

A portrait of Longfellow engraved in pure line by Mr. Charles Burt, is said to be the most satisfactory portrait extant. It is based on a photograph preferred by Longfellow's family above all others.

The author of a new novel, "My Trivial Life and Misfortunes; by a Plain Woman," which has just been printed by the Blackwoods and is to be reprinted by the Putnams, was so anxious to secure her anonymity that all her negotiations with her publishers were carried on by advertisements in the *London Times*.

John Richard Green, the English historian, died at Mentone on March 7. Mr. Green was a clergyman of the Church of England. He was a friend and pupil of the historians Stubbs and Freeman, and had been an examiner in the School of Modern History at Oxford. His "Short History of the English People" appeared in 1874, and met with such success that he expanded it into a work on the same plan in four volumes (1878-80). In 1882 he published a history of England to the time of Egbert called "The Making of England." He collected a number of his essays on various subjects into a volume entitled "Stray Studies from England and Italy." "A Short Geography of the British Isles" and a series of primers of history and literature were edited by him.

## Fame.

The following poem, not included in any edition of Emerson's works, was written when he was twenty-six years old. Mr. Joel Benton, in his recently published work, "Emerson as a Poet," speaks of it as piquing curiosity, as exhibiting "the early groping of the author's mind toward its present mould of form."

Ah Fate! cannot a man  
Be wise without a beard?  
From East to West, from Bersheba to Dan,  
Say, was it never heard  
That wisdom might in youth be gotten,  
Or wit be ripe before 'twas rotten?

He pays too high a price  
For knowledge and for fame  
Who gives his sinews to be wise,  
His teeth and bones to buy a name,  
And crawls through life a paralytic  
To earn the praise of bard and critic.

Is it not better done  
To dine and sleep through forty years,  
Be loved by few, be feared by none,  
Laugh life away, have wine for tears,  
And take the mortal leap undaunted,  
Content that all we ask was granted?

But Fate will not permit  
The seeds of gods to die  
Nor suffer sense to win from wit  
Its guerdon in the sky;  
Nor let us hide, what'er our pleasure,  
The world's light underneath a measure.

Go, then, sad youth, and shine!  
Go, sacrifice to Fame!  
Put love, joy, health, upon, the shrine,  
And life to fan the flame!  
Thy hapless self for praises barter,  
And die to Fame an honored martyr.

## CURIOUS AND SCIENTIFIC.

The *London Lancet* says it is dangerous to wear red stockings. It finds that a thin salt is used as a mordant to fix the dye. Becoming more easily soluble at each washing, it forms, with acid excretions from the feet, an irritating fluid, which, often produces dangerous trouble.

It is reported that a company has been formed in Iowa for the purpose of manufacturing sporting shot from iron. It is stated that the trials which have been made of the shot have proved it to be fully equal, and in some respects superior, to the lead shot. Ovens are now being put up to anneal shot.

It is estimated that there are five times as many kinds of insects as there are species of all other living things put together. The oak alone gives shelter and support to 450 species of insects, and 200 kinds make their home in pine trees. In 1849, Alexander von Humboldt estimated that the number of species preserved in collection was between 150,000 and 170,000; but scientific men now say that there must be something like 750,000 species.

A new method of recognizing blood-stains where they have been partly washed out or altered by decay has been recommended by Signor Filippi. It depends on the iron in the blood. The suspected parts of the tissue are macerated twenty-four hours in alcohol of ninety-five per cent. strength to which one-twentieth of sulphuric acid has been added. The liquid is poured off, and made strongly alkaline by adding an alcoholic solution of ammonia; then it is heated to boiling in a water bath and filtered. On the filter remains a precipitate and sulphate of ammonia, which is washed with alcoholic ammoniacal liquid. The liquid is vaporised and the residue calcined. If hæmatin is present, red spots appear on both sides of the porcelain dish, and these, dissolved in a drop of nitromuriatic acid, give the well-known iron reactions with ferro or sulpho-cyanide of potassium. It is advisable to make a testing experiment with a stainless part of the same tissue.

Mr. Mattieu Williams recommends sulphate of copper (blue vitriol) as a cheap and effective domestic disinfectant. "I have lately used it," he says, "in the case of a trouble to which English householders are too commonly liable, and one that has in many cases done serious mischief. The stoppage of a soilpipe caused the overflow of a closet, and a consequent saturation of floor-boards, that in time would probably have developed danger by nourishing and developing the germs of bacteria, bacilli, etc., which abound in the air, and are ready to increase and multiply wherever their unsavory food abounds. By simply mopping the floor with a solution of these blue crystals, and allowing it to soak well into the pores of the wood, they (the pores) cease to become a habitat for such microscopic abominations. The copper salt poisons the poisoners. The solution should not be put into iron or zinc vessels, as it rapidly corrodes them, and deposits a nonadherent film of copper. Stone-ware resists it, and it may also be safely kept in wooden buckets."

## How to Take Out Screws from Woodwork.

One of the simplest and readiest methods for loosening a rusted screw is to apply heat to the head of the screw. A small bar or rod of iron, flat at the end, if reddened in the fire, and applied for a couple or three minutes to the head of the rusted screw, will, as soon as it heats the screw, render its withdrawal as easy by the screw-driver as if it was a recently inserted screw. As there is a kitchen poker in every house, that instrument, if heated at its extremity, and applied for a few minutes to the head of the screw or screws, will do the required work of loosening, and an ordinary screw-driver will do the rest, without causing the least damage, trouble or vexation of spirit. In all work above the common kind, where it is necessary to use screws, and particularly in hinge work and mountings, fancy appliances affixed to joinery or furniture works, we would advise the oiling of screws or dipping their points in grease before driving them. This will render them more easy to drive and also to withdraw, and it will undoubtedly retard for a longer time the action of rusting.