

serious inconvenience, how their husband is one of the most extraordinary men in existence and possesses the rare virtue of entertaining due affection and respect for his wife; and other similar matters of an equally important and interesting character. But these elderly friends make no pretence of being bound up in one another; they steer clear of lengthy correspondence; and they do not mourn—that is to say, beyond indulging in a few hackneyed conventionalities—when they fail to see each other except at rare intervals. Having their own families and interests to look after, they virtually concede that they have no time for elaborate friendships. This is, of course, when they are married. When they are single, the case is slightly different, and it not unfrequently happens that spinsters knock up a species of lasting friendship. They go nowhere except in each other's company, and they co-operate in each other's schemes, whether it be one for the founding of a blanket club or one for the advancement of the principles of the Women's Rights Association. They, perhaps, say hard things of each other, they probably repeat those matters with sundry elaborations behind each other's backs, but they never regularly quarrel. If Miss A is incensed, Miss B is quick to resent the affront, and let Miss A know what has been said of her, which last act is, however, a somewhat questionable kindness. The two keep together, and that is the main thing. It is a small matter that their motives for so doing are found, when fairly analyzed, not to be purely disinterested, but that they cultivate each other's society for the want of better, and because it is among the necessities of their nature that they should have some willing ear to pour scandal into, and some ready tongue to amuse them in like manner.

There is, then, very little really genuine friendship. The present constitution of society is unfavorable to its growth. When everything is artificial, and everything is conducted upon the high pressure principle, it is impossible for it to flourish. We may regret this, but the best thing is at once to admit the truth.—*Liberal Review.*

SCIENTIFIC AND USEFUL.

A GERMAN botanist claims to have ascertained that the "Garab" trees on which the captive Israelites hung their harps at ancient Babylon, were not willows at all, but poplars.

THE plan of plunging diseased meat into carbolic acid, so as to unfit it for butchers' purposes, has been adopted by some of the London health officers in the case of seizures made at the markets.

LIGHTNING and lightning conductors were the subject of discussion at a recent meeting of the Society of Telegraph Engineers. In the course of the debate, a gentleman present said that for the purpose of attracting lightning from a passing cloud, a gas jet, flaming from the mouth of a tall pipe, is far more effectual than a pointed metallic rod.

SEVERAL actual glaciers exist in the Merced group of mountains adjacent to the valley of the Yosemite in California, and have been examined by Mr. John Muir, who describes them in the *Overland Monthly*. The largest, near Mount McClure, is half a mile long, and about the same distance in width at the broadest place. It has a progressive motion of one inch per day.

THE comparative merits of chloroform and other anæsthetic agents being recently before the Surgical Society of Ireland for discussion, it was stated by one of the members that while only one death had occurred in 23,204 cases of ether inhalation, one death in 2,600 cases was reported from chloroform. A well-known practitioner was quoted as having stated that although he had himself chloroformed upward of 6,000 cases nothing would induce him to submit to its influence.

MOSAIC PAVEMENT.—A large portion of this material is made by female convicts, thus: A pattern is traced on a square of wood the desired size, this is then dropped into a closely fitting frame; fragments of marble, such as are chipped from larger pieces in the working, are now arranged on the pattern; when completed the interstices are filled up with cement, a tile being placed at the back for greater strength. After the pavement has thoroughly dried and set, it is removed from the frame, and the face is polished with a piece of York stone.

CORAL.—Respecting the growth of corals, an interesting fact has recently been observed. Somewhat less than two years ago Captain McGregor, of the steamer Klatska, moored a buoy in Kealakekua Bay. A short time ago he was ordered to hoist the anchor and examine the condition of the chain. The latter, which is a heavy two-inch cable, was covered with corals and oyster shells, some of which are as large as a man's hand. The large corals measured four and a half inches in length, which represents their growth during the period of two years that the anchor and cable had been submerged. The specimen which we have seen shows the nature of its formation by the little coral insects more distinctly than any we have before examined. When taken out of the water it had small crabs on it. A query arises whether these crabs live on the coral insects or whether they seek the branches of the coral for protection. The popular supposition is that corals are of extremely slow growth. Here we have a formation equal to more than seventeen feet in a century.

GOLDEN GRAINS.

THOROUGH interchange of opinions corrects error and establishes truth. Whoso secret convictions, whether false or true, are fearlessly proclaimed, they will soon find their true level. The truth that is in them will be confirmed and disseminated, and the error blown away like chaff before the wind.

EDUCATE YOURSELF.—Thoroughly well educated people who keep sober seldom starve. A man of information must be needed somewhere. If you cannot do something for somebody with brain or limb, the world has no use for you. It is a selfish world, and the only people it can endure are the rich ones. And if you are rich one day in your life, you may be poor the next.

NO PLACE.—A great many boys complain that there are no places. Perhaps it is hard to get just such a place as you like. But when you get a place—and there are places—this big country, we are sure, has need of every boy and girl and man and woman in it—when you get a place, we say, make yourself necessary to your employers; make yourself so necessary by your fidelity and good behavior, that they cannot do without you. Be willing to take a low price at first, no matter what the work is, if it be honest work. Do it as well as you can. Begin at the very lowest round of the ladder, and climb up. The great want everywhere is faithful, capable workers. They are never a drug in the market. Make yourself one of these, and there will always be a place for you, and a good one, too.

THE BURDENS OF LOVE.—The possibility of husband and wife falling out is in some way to be expected; in what way, we cannot well foresee, and it is not best we should. It may be health, or temper, or habit—it is no matter; there must be a trial of our faith in each other, as there is of our faith in religion. No man or woman has any business to enter into this intimate oneness of life and soul without such an expectation. Wise old Bishop Taylor says, "Marriage has in it less of beauty than single life, but more of safety. It is more merry, but, alas! more sad. It is fuller of joy, but also of sorrow. It lies under more burdens, but is supported by the strength of love, so that these burdens become delightful."

HOW TO MAKE YOURSELF UNHAPPY.—In the first place, if you want to make yourself miserable, be selfish. Think all the time of yourself and your things. Don't care about any thing else. Have no feelings for any one but yourself. Never think of enjoying the satisfaction of seeing others happy; but rather, if you see a smiling face, be jealous lest another should enjoy what you have not. Envy every one who is better off in any respect than yourself, think unkindly toward them and speak unkindly of them. Be constantly afraid lest some one should encroach upon your rights; be watchful against it, and if any one comes near your things snap at him like a mad dog. Contend earnestly for everything that is your own, though it may not be worth a pin, for your rights are just as much concerned as if it were a pound of gold. Never yield a point. Be very sensitive, and take everything that is said to you in playfulness in the most serious manner. Be jealous of your friends, lest they should not think enough of you; and if at any time they should seem to neglect you, put the worst construction upon their conduct you can.

HINTS TO FARMERS.

PLASTER may be sown at any time when most convenient—from one to two bushels per acre is enough. It will do no good on low, wet land.

Sow grass and clover seed on wheat early in the spring, unless you propose to harrow the wheat. It is seldom that the seed is injured by the frost. Do not spare the seed, and be careful not to miss any land.

Ewes heavy in lamb should be allowed plenty of exercise, but they must not be driven through drifts of snow, or allowed to slip on ice, or jump fences or ditches; and especially avoid crowding at doors or gates. Treat them gently. If for any reason you have to catch a ewe do not frighten her, and if possible do not turn her on her back.

At lambing time have plenty of separate pens for the ewes and lambs. Let them be warm and well-ventilated, and above all let them be dry. If all goes right, if the ewes are healthy and the lambs strong, there is no trouble; but there is no greater test of skill, patience, good judgment, and ingenuity, than to have a number of weak lambs come during wet cold weather in the early spring. A few little lamb-blankets made of flannel and tied on with tape will be found very convenient. See that the lambs suckle frequently. This must be attended to. There is no chance for the lamb if it does not get plenty of milk.

EARLY lambs intended for the butcher should be allowed anything and everything they will eat in little troughs, placed where the lambs can, but the ewes can not get at them. Bran, oatmeal, oats, oil-cake, corn-meal, and sliced Swede turnips or mangolds, are all good—these are oat of which the lambs will eat the most. At two weeks old a lamb will generally commence to eat a little bran with its mother, and after that it should be encouraged to eat as much as possible. Food the ewes will, and see that they have plenty of water. A few roots for the ewes are of great value. Feed plenty of bran and clover hay.

FAMILY MATTERS.

TO DESTROY OR PREVENT BUGS.—Tar water washed into the parts of the bedstead, &c., infected.

FOR A SPRAIN OR WEAKNESS.—Take the well-beaten white of an egg, add a teaspoonful of salt, and rub it well over the sprain once or twice a day.

CORNEB BEEF.—Corned beef should never be boiled. It should only simmer, being placed on a part of the range or stove where this process may go on uninterruptedly from four to six hours, according to the size of the piece. If it is to be served cold, let the meat remain in the liquor until cold. Tough beef can be made tender by letting it remain in the liquor until the next day, and then bringing it to the boiling-point just before serving.

TO PROTECT CLOTH AGAINST MOTHS.—Reimann, the celebrated German chemist, recommends for this purpose steeping the cloth for twelve hours in a solution prepared in the following manner: Ten pounds of alum and twenty pounds of sugar of lead are dissolved in warm water, the mixture being left undisturbed until the precipitate of lead sulphate is deposited. The clear liquor, now consisting of acetate of alumina, is then drawn off and mixed with 180 gallons of water, in which a little isinglass has been dissolved. When well steeped, the goods are dried and finished by pressure or otherwise.

TO REMOVE STAINS FROM THE HANDS.—Ink stains, dye stains, &c., can be immediately removed by dipping the finger in water (warm water is best), and then rubbing on the stain a small portion of oxalic acid powder and cream of tartar, mixed together in equal quantities, and kept in a box. When the stain disappears wash the hands with fine soap or almond cream. A small box of this stain-powder should be kept always in the washstand-drawer, unless there are small children in the family, in which case it should be put out of their reach, as it is a poison if swallowed.

GOOD COOKING.—It has been practically demonstrated that the good health of the community depends more upon good cooking than upon anything else, and yet cooking is the only art that is nowhere systematically taught. More of practical lessons in our private schools for girls in this line would be an advantage. Home education by competent heads of families on the subject is also very desirable. If a large portion of the attention which is given to dress, which there is now an over and silly abundance, was directed to the careful study and practice of cooking, so as to attain to excellence and economy in the art, good health would be promoted. Good dispositions would naturally follow; for dyspepsia engendered from badly cooked food, would no longer beget bad temper, and the peace of the household and happiness of the family would be greatly improved.

GRAHAM BREAD.—Make a sponge by boiling four good sized potatoes; when soft, mash fine; then stir in a cup of flour; pour on the water in which the potatoes were boiled scalding hot, and if not sufficient to make three pints of the mixture, add cold water. When the milk is warm put in a teaspoon of soft yeast, and set in a moderately warm place to rise. After it becomes light, put in a teaspoon of good brown sugar (white is not good), and stir in Graham flour until thick enough to drop heavily into the greased baking-pans. Set it to rise again, and bake in a moderately hot oven forty minutes. This quantity will make two large loaves, and when taken from the oven should be allowed to stand five minutes before removal from the pans. Sheet-iron bread-pans are much to be preferred to tin for any bread, but especially for Graham, baking more slowly, but much more evenly. If the sponge seems at all sour, add a little soda.

HUMOROUS SCRAP.

THE CONTROLLER GENERAL.—Cupid. WHY is an overworked horse like an umbrella?—Because it is used up.

A PARTY hearing of "a dog after Landseer," wanted to know what he was after him for?

WHY is a prima donna like a jeweler?—Because she may be called a dealer in precious stones.

WHAT is the difference between a forward minx and a shot rabbit?—One's over-bold and the other's bowled over.

A DOWN EAST EDITOR announces through the columns of his paper the loss of a "cloth cloak, belonging to a gentleman lined with blue."

"SIX feet in his boots!" exclaimed Mrs. Beeswax; "what will the impudence of this world come to, I wonder! Why, they might as well tell me that the man had six heads in his hat."

A DARNY widow keeps the skull of her deceased husband in a glass case. She once remarked to a friend who was viewing the remains, "Alas, how often have I banged those bones with a broomstick!"

THE Detroit Tribune says: "A very common epitaph in Arkansas cemeteries is, 'We will meet in Heaven, husband dear.' This may explain why the men of Arkansas are generally conducting themselves so as to go to the other place."

A SHREWED little fellow was entrusted to the care of his uncle, who fed the boy very poorly. One day he happened to see a greyhound, whereupon he asked the little fellow if he knew what made the dog so poor. The reply was, "I expect he lives with his uncle."

SEWING-MACHINE agents do not seem to do well in Japan yet, owing to the people not

being educated up to the standard of patience required to endure the efforts of this class. Recently the body of an agent was found in four pieces nailed to trees, with his sample machine converted into kindling-wood near by.

A TRAVELER in Texas was invited to drink at a small town where he had stopped. He says: "I woke up next morning and found myself on top of a hay-stack, my horse eating from said stack, with my coat on, and myself with both arms inserted through the stirrups of my saddle, and the strolche around my neck as a neck-tie."

GRUVINE ENTHUSIASM.—Practical Person (who fondly imagines that Fiddles were made to be played upon): "Well, but what sort of tone as it got?"—Real Connoisseur (who knows better): "Tone be hanged? What's that got to do with it? Look at the varnish, man! Look at the double purdling! Look at the exquisite curves of the back and belly! Why, I could gaze at that violin for hours, and I wouldn't part with it for a hundred pounds!"

An enthusiastic Berliner, residing on the coast of Guinea, obtained a bust of his well-beloved Emperor to present to a friendly chief in the slave line of business. It was a plaster of Paris production, and, in order to give the effect of a bronze work of art of high value, the Berliner bestowed a few artistic coats of black upon it. The chief received the bust with pleasure, and remained in contemplation of it for some time. The Berliner was astonished at this marked effect, and asked for an explanation of the long and mute wonder, believing it to be due to his artistic efforts. The reply was the following question: "And is this really the great Emperor who conquered his no less mighty neighbor?" "Indeed it is," replied the Berliner. "Then," responded the Negro ruler, "I am indeed delighted, for I see that the great conqueror, the mighty Emperor Wil lam, is, as I am, a Negro!"

OUR PUZZLER.

49. DECAPITATIONS.

I.

Complete, I'm a gallant and brave cavalier,
Behold me, I'm a season, but not of the year;
Curtail me, you'll find, I'm now close to hand;
Curtail, and transpose me, I'm a curse in this land.

II.

Complete, I'm an officer, commissioned to rove;
Behold me, I'm raging—strong as the bolts of Jove;
Curtail me twice, then transpose me, you'll see,
I'm a useful animal, to both you and me.

III.

Complete, I'm a weapon, used in days of yore;
Behold me, I'm a name, used by both rich and poor;
Curtail and transpose me, I roar; sometimes
below;
Behold and transpose me, I'm then a rich fellow.

J. G. PENNY.

50. CHARADES.

I.

Poor pussy, she sits in front of the fire,
And my first slugs lowly and sweet;
The urea-bell rings, the butcher-boy brings,
My second a joint of meat;
My whole is what many a sad rogue does,
 Oftimes in the open street.

II.

My first, though not half a rod in size,
Is three parts of a pole;
My second, o'er a river, and pond, and brook,
In winter has control;
Deprived of my third, this earth would soon
Be desolate and undone;
My whole, both day and night you'll see
About the streets of London.

ARTHUR BENTLEY.

51. CONS.

1. My first is company, my second shuns company, my third calls company, and my whole amuses company.
2. If the walls of an unfinished house could speak what two historical names would they utter?

52. CHARADE.

My first is a domestic animal; my second an article; my third an article of the toilette; and my whole is a grim receptacle.

ANSWERS.

43. DOUBLE ACROSTIC.—Ramsgate, Yarmouth;—1, RARITY; 2, AREA; 3, MOTHER; 4, SARCASMS; 5, GUSTO; 6, ACAJOU; 7, TOAST; 8, ENOUGH.

44. HIDDEN POETS.—Warton, Spenser, Waller, Dryden, Gower, Dryden, Cowley, Burns, Scott Byron.

45. LETTER PUZZLE.—Ar Row, arrow.
46. REBUS.—Goldsmith thus:—1, Grayling; 2, Ox-bird; 3, L-adder; 4, Dunghouse; 5, Stone-house; 6, Mau-drake; 7, I-illing-ton; 8, T-rumpet; 9, Homerton.

47. DECAPITATION.—Blas, last
48. LITERAL CHARADE.—AGNES (Agnes).