

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**WYVANT.**—Please forward your Post Office address. Your former letters were destroyed.

**MIGNONNE.**—*Drawer*, 401 is correct. Communications addressed to box 401, would, probably, not reach us.

**H. K. C.**—Please prepare the article, but do not let it extend over more than three or four columns of the READER. If accepted we will remit.

**FANCHON.**—We are very happy to oblige Fanchon by explaining the mystery. The letters P. P. C., written on a visiting card, are simply the initial letters of three french words signifying "to take leave," *pour prendre congé*.

**V. R.**—The article is in type, but we could not possibly insert it in the present issue.

**F. B. D.**—The paper on "Oricket" is respectfully declined. Will write you in the course of a few days.

**T. W.**—We advise you to follow Mr. Punch's celebrated advice to persons about to marry.—"Dont."

**GEORGE.**—Is George poking fun at us or does he seriously imagine the following lines to be poetry?

"I love the dear rose  
That smells so sweet  
Under my rose  
But ah! When autumn cometh  
And the wind blows  
Its fair blossoms fall  
Down about our toes."

We assure George that his "Lines to a Rose" have fallen down to our toes—or rather into the waste basket.

**UNDINE.**—It would have been wiser to have waited until you had written a better tale, as you say you believe you can do so. Those who are desirous of becoming contributors to the READER should forward their best efforts at the outset. We return the M. S. as requested and will add that we think there is sufficient promise in the story written "years ago" to warrant you in the belief that you can do better now. Try.

**NELLIE.**—We are much obliged to Nellie for the trouble she has taken and if we find upon examination that we can insert the sketches shall be glad to do so.

**MEDICUS.**—Writing from New York, says, "Do you insert in the SATURDAY READER such advertisements as the accompanying one?" If you do please give me the terms for one or more insertion? As Medicus gives his name, or at least a name—and states that he can furnish Montreal references if required, we will be generous, and give his advertisement one insertion gratis. Here it is:

**MATRIMONIAL.**—A young man, a Canadian and student of medicine, now studying in New York, and who hopes to graduate this fall, desires to correspond with a lady between the ages of 18 and 24 with a view to matrimony. He is plain of face, but warm of heart; a sixfooter using neither spirituous liquors nor tobacco—tea or coffee. The requisites on the lady's part, are good common sense, sound health, and in religion a protestant for further particulars, address in perfect confidence, *post paid*, MEDICUS, care of Box P. O. New York City.

We are glad and sorry over Medicus. Sorry he is a Canadian, and glad for obvious reasons that he is a young man. Still we admire candour, and Medicus is candid. "A student of medicine who hopes to graduate this fall." No attempt to entrap the unwary into matrimony, under pretence of a "large establishment" in that. He is "plain of face," but, oh! better than all, he is "warm of heart." Medicus uses "neither spirituous liquors, nor tobacco—tea or coffee." We are fairly puzzled, what does he use? perhaps lemonade and cocoa, they are both good temperance drinks; the former especially so, in warm weather. We cannot but fear "Medicus" is doomed to disappointment for where will he meet with the "good common sense," that is a requisite on the "lady's part?" In our opinion the young lady

between 18 and 24, who would reply to his advertisement would forfeit all claim to the possession of that commodity. Then again there is something refreshingly considerate in the statement that candidates anxious for further particulars may apply in perfect confidence." Of course they may if their letters are only "*post-paid*." We considerably withhold the number of the box lest some over anxious and not over wise, spinster in the flutter of budding hopes should omit the ten cent stamp, and so unfairly tax the resources of "Medicus" the medical student.

## MISCELLANEA.

The latest *bon-mot* about Bismarck is, that his fate depended not upon a thread, but upon a needle.

By some curious coincidence it appears that the coming year, 1867, has been fixed upon by Mahomedans, Brahmans, and various other sects, as a period in the history of the universe, to be marked by some great and marvellous change.

The proprietor of Lloyd's Newspaper in London, has imported two hundred and seventy tons of Esparto grass from Algeria, for the manufacture of paper for that journal. The cost of this kind of paper is one-half that of the linen fabric.

AIM at perfection in everything, though in most things it is unattainable, however, they who aim at it, and persevere, will come much nearer to it than those whose laziness and despondency make them give it up as unattainable.

PROFESSOR AGASSIZ says the general impression in regard to the Amazon river is very erroneous, not only in regard to the climate of that region, which he had been informed was unhealthy, but also as to its fertility. He found the valley of the Amazon uncommonly fertile, and its climate very healthy. It is his opinion that it will one day become the mart of the world, supporting in comfort 20,000,000 of inhabitants.

## SCIENTIFIC AND USEFUL.

An ingenious mode of getting a correct representation of an actual battle, landscape, &c., in a panoramic form, has been suggested in Paris. The main feature of the arrangement is a revolving cylinder, with a vertical slit in it, through which the images, &c., enter, and are thrown on a photographic medium properly sensitised.

At one of the sittings of the French Association for the Advancement of Science a new instrument called a liquometre was exhibited. It is intended for estimating the amount of alcohol in wines, and is based on the principle of capillary action. It consists essentially of a very fine graduated tube. The instrument is said also to give separate indications of the amount of tartar and extractive matter.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR COAL.—In contradiction to the opinion that no substitute can ever be found for coal, Mr. Richardson has taken out a patent for burning petroleum and paraffin by the means of a porous and incombustible material, such as fire-brick, etc.; and in a hollow chamber, such as a gas retort, he can keep up a continuous supply of these substitute appliances, and at less cost, without smoke. No stokers or pokerers are required to keep up his fires, and there is in every way an "economy of fuel" and of labour.

TO DESTROY ANTS IN A GREENHOUSE.—Mix a little arsenic with some water and sugar, place it in a saucer, and cover the saucer over with a slate, leaving sufficient room for the ants to creep under the slate by putting two pegs between the saucer and the slate to prevent its fitting close. A heavy stone on the top of the slate will be necessary, lest some other creature besides the ants finds its way to the poison cup. Lime water poured freely into their nests and runs will dislodge them; and honey and water, should arsenic be objected to, will entrap them.

## WITTY AND WHIMSICAL.

THE ladies sometimes get up bonnets of diminished size, but never of diminished cost.

WANTED TO KNOW.—If two hogsheds make a pipe, how many will make a cigar?

WHAT kind of a plant does a "duck of a man" resemble?—Mandrake.

WHEN does a boy begin bird-keeping?—When he first sets up a (h) owl.—*Punch*.

"A-LAS I am no more!" as Miss Susan Moore remarked, after becoming Mrs. Jones.

"OUT of sight, out of mind." We don't see it. We lost our purse the other day, and it hasn't been out of our mind since.

SNOOKS was advised to get his life insured. "Won't do it," said he; "it would be my luck to live for ever if I should."

THE most laconic will on record is that of a man who died in 1792. It ran thus: "I have nothing; I owe a great deal—the rest I give to the poor."

A QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE.—Might a Member of Parliament speak of his wife as the Eve of his election?

MUSICAL NOTE.—Just published, a sequel to the effectation Song, "O ye Tears," entitled, *O ye Pockethunderchiefs*.

WHY is a policeman like a good conundrum?—Because you must look sharp to find him out.

A LADY, last week, had her likeness taken by a photographer, and he executed it so well that her husband prefers it to the original.

WHY should young ladies make good rifle volunteers?—Because they are accustomed to "bare arms."

WHAT is the difference between an auction and sea-sickness?—One is a sale of effects, the other the effects of a sail.

WONDERFUL WORK.—The man who made a shoe for the foot of a mountain is now engaged on a hat for the head of a discourse; after which he will manufacture a plume for General Intelligence.

WHOLESALE INFANTICIDE.—"Those crying nuisances," said a sanitary reformer, "at a time like this ought to be abated."—"Then," observed a horrid old single gentleman, "we shall have to kill all the babies."—*Punch*.

A MAN has published a book, advising all men to "mind only their own business." A reviewer asks, "Why doesn't he mind his, instead of talking other people what to do?"

A DOWN-EAST editor said he was in a boat when the wind blew hard, but he was not at all alarmed because he had his life insured; "he never had anything happen to him by which he could make any money."

JAPPING NUTS.—We see that an American patent has been taken out for "tapping nuts." We don't know what it means, but a Hibernian friend thinks a shillelagh will answer the purpose.

QUITE correct, my dear; the natives of South Africa do not require clothes to keep them warm, because they are Hot-tentots, don't you see? The Coolies are a different sort of people altogether.

THE gentleman who attempted to cut his throat with a sharp joke, a few days since, has again made a rash attack upon his "victim" department, by stabbing himself with a point of honour.

By a married man, whose better half is a long time putting her things on—

"Hope springs eternal in the husband's breast, Wives never are, but always to be dressed."

AN attorney named Else, rather diminutive in his stature, and not particularly respectable in his character, once met Jekyll. "Sir," said he, "I hear you have called me a pettifogging scoundrel. Have you done so, sir?" "Sir," replied Jekyll, with a look of contempt, "I never said you were a pettifogger or a scoundrel, but I said you were little Else."