

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

THE Dover Chronicle states that a steamer is being built having six keels, placed at equal distances on her flat bottom, intended as a Channel steamer, her sides being perpendicular without any curvature.

A REMARKABLE FLOWER.—A flower has been recently described by an eye-witness at Constantinople, which is so great a rarity that one is apt to treat it as a fable, and wait for the confirmation of one's own eyesight.

THE census returns for 1871, which are now appearing in England, show that the residents in London proper are fast leaving it, and that it is year by year becoming more and more of a business resort and less a place of habitation.

DENSITY OF POPULATION IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE GLOBE.—Some statistics published by a French paper show the density of population in the great centres of humanity throughout the globe.

GOLDEN GRAINS.

A MAN proves himself fit to go higher who shows that he is faithful where he is.

A FINE coat is but a livery when he who wears it discloses no higher talents than a footman.

He that does a base thing in zeal for his friend, burns the golden thread that ties their hearts together.

THE truly illustrious are they who do not count the praise of the world, but perform the actions which deserve it.

FAITH AND WORKS.—Men will never know us by our faith, for that is within us; they know us by our works, which are visible to them.

THE foundation of domestic happiness is faith in the virtue of woman; the foundation of political happiness, is confidence in the integrity of man; the foundation of all happiness, temporal and eternal, is reliance on the goodness of Providence.

A PEACEABLE TEMPER.—How calm the mind, how composed the affections, how serene the countenance, how melodious the voice, how sweet the sleep, how contentful the whole life of him who neither devises mischief against others, nor suspects any to be contrived against himself; and contrariwise, how ungrateful and loathsome it is to abide in a state of enmity, wrath, dissension, having the thoughts distracted with solicitous care, anxious suspicion, and envious regret.

BE FIRM.—Let the winds blow, and the waves of society beat and frown about you, if they will; but keep your soul in rectitude, and it will be firm as a rock. Plant yourself upon principle, and bid defiance to misfortune. If gossip, with

her poisoned tongue, maddles with your good name—if her disciples, who infect every town and hamlet, make you disgrace the burden of their sin, heed them not. It is their broad and their moist to slander. Treat their idle words as you would treat the hissing of a serpent, or the buzzing of many insects. Carry yourself erect; and by the serenity of your countenance, and the purity of life, give the lie to all who would berate and belittle you.

No, friend, fear them not! Build up your character with holy principles, and if your path be not strewn with flowers, let it be beautiful with the light of divine life, and you will leave behind you a noble example, which will be to the world a perennial flower, whose leaves will be healing to the nations, and its fragrance the panacea of the soul.

HEALTHY AMUSEMENT.—Fun at home is one of the good things which every one can enjoy. Therefore, don't be afraid of a little fun at home, good people. Don't shut up your houses lest the sun should fade your carpets, and your hearts lose a hearty laugh should shake down some of the musty cobwebs there.

ELEGANT LANGUAGE.—The proper use of words in expressing thoughts is language—a perfect picture of the mind. When the language is perfect the picture is perfect. Bad language is like a distorted photograph, showing only an unsymmetrical shadow of the object; and when we look at it we can scarcely realize that it is intended as an image.

FAMILY MATTERS.

IN cleaning tea-trays, brass-pans, candlesticks and other articles made of japan-ware, hot water should not be used, as it will produce fractures and cracks; lukewarm water is the best to use.

BAKED GINGER PUDDING.—One cup of molasses, one cup of sugar, one egg, one cup of milk, one teaspoonful of saleratus, spice to taste, and any kind of fruit preferred. Mix about as stiff as soft gingerbread, and bake it about an hour.

SURPRISE CAKE.—One egg, one-half cup of butter, one teaspoonful of soda, two teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar, one cup of sweet milk, spice to taste, and flour enough to make the batter thick after boiling up well. Bake in a moderate oven.

BAKED BATTER PUDDING.—To one quart of milk add four well beaten eggs and one cup of flour; stir well together and set it on the stove, and continue stirring until it begins to thicken, then set in the oven and bake twenty minutes. To be eaten with hard or liquid sauce.

NICK BROWN BREAD.—Two and one-half quarts of Indian meal, three pints of wheat flour, one quart of stewed pumpkins, one teaspoonful of ginger, one and one-half cups of molasses, and two teaspoonfuls of soda. Mix with sweet milk or water, and bake over night in a brick oven.

To remove ink-stains from mahogany, put a few drops of spirits of nitre in a teaspoonful of water; touch the stain with a feather dipped in the mixture, and on the ink disappearing, rub it over immediately with a rag wetted in cold water, or a white mark will be left which will be difficult to efface.

To silver ivory, immerse it in a weak solution of nitrate of silver, and suffer it to remain until it has acquired a deep yellow color; then take it out, wash it with water and expose it to the sun's rays, which will turn it black in about three hours; the ivory will, on being rubbed, assume a silvery appearance.

FRUIT SYRUP.—Frequent and alarming cases of poisoning have recently been noticed in Brussels, and on investigation the causes were discovered to be the use of raspberry, currant, and other fruit syrups. The Belgian chemists

have analyzed these syrups, and assert that none of them contained a trace of the fruit of which the syrup is named. Many consisted of a solution of glucose, covered with aniline red mixed with tartaric or citric acid and a few drops of fruit essences. Fuchsin, the form of aniline red used, it is stated, is frequently combined with arsenic.

HOW TO CLEAN LAMP CHIMNEYS.—Hold a linen cloth against one end of the chimney and place the other end to your mouth, breathe in it until it is covered inside with moisture, push the cloth into the chimney with a smooth slender stick and rub it around until the moisture is absorbed, repeat the process and breathe over the outer surface also. Rub this with the cloth until dry and you have a clean, bright chimney as the result.

IMPERISHABLE INK.—The best indelible inks used for marking clothing consist chiefly, as every one knows, of nitrate of silver, and are best applied with a glass or quill pen. The silver, being reduced in the fibre of the goods by the action of sunlight or artificial heat, is in no danger whatever of being destroyed by any ordinary process of washing.

HUMOROUS SCRAPS.

RULED paper—the French press. ALWAYS "hard pressed"—bricks. DRAWING paper—the dentist's bill. PAPER for the roughs—sand paper.

A QUERY.—Does a starling joke ever require a seat?

A BAD style of arithmetic—Division among families.

PAPER containing many due points—the paper of needles.

WHEN a captain in his heaviest attire?—When he wears his ship.

"So dark, and yet so light," as the man said when he looked at his tin of coal.

VAIN attempts at high art—painting the weathercock on a church steeple.

A WOMAN is generally more economical than a man, because her "waist" is smaller.

WHY has a barber a more extensive business than any other man?—Because it extends from pole to pole.

A YOUNG lady at Princeville has sent off her lover with instructions not to return until he "means business."

"I wish you would pay a little attention to what I am saying, sir," roared an irate counsel at an exasperating witness.—"Well, I am paying as little as I can," was the reply.

EIGHT FURLONGS MAKE A MILE.—The Grand Rapids Times (U.S.) says there is a farmer near Jackson who has a mile of young ones. He has four boys and four girls. His name is Farlong.

UNCOMMONLY intelligent are the coroner's juries in Mississippi. Twelve men in Warren county, in that State, returned a verdict that "The deceased died by the will of God or some other disease unknown to the jury."

BUSINESS AS USUAL.—Charles: "Well, James, I suppose as how you'll be able to take it easy this season, now that your oldest young lady's turned off?"—James: "Ah! but there's the youngest a coming out; so we're much as we was."

"UNCLE CHARLES," said Jimmy, "can you tell me why the sun sets in the west at night, and rises in the morning?"—"Pshaw!" said Uncle Charles; "the first fool you meet can tell you that."—"Yes, uncle," replied the sweet boy; "that's why I asked you."

A TREMENDOUS HEAD.—A person threw the head of a goose at an actor of a small provincial theatre.—"Gentlemen," exclaimed the actor, coming to the front, "don't be uneasy; if any one among you has lost his head, I will restore it at the end of the performance."

"GIRLS," said a worthy old lady to her granddaughter, "whenever a fellow pops the question, don't blush and stare at your feet. Just throw your arms round his neck, look him full in the face, and commence talking about the furniture. Young fellows are mighty nervous sometimes. I lost several good chances before I caught your fond, dear grandfather, by putting on airs, but I learned how to do it after awhile."

MR. SMITH lately sought to remove a green spot from his coat tail by the use of benzine, and then stood close to the stove that the odor might evaporate more quickly. He was quite correct in his theory but unfortunate in his practice, for he was soon turning cartwheels

through the window, and there was not enough coat-tail left to make a "weekit" for a doll baby. He does not ride horseback now, and sleeps on all fours like a mule.

AN unimaginative individual, on visiting the Falls of Niagara, was greatly perplexed at the astonishment expressed by his companions, and on one of them exclaiming to him, "Is it not a most wonderful fall?" replied, "Wonderful, no; I see nothing wonderful in it. Why, what's to hinder the water from falling?"

A MATRIMONIAL SKEWNADE.—Bill Stoker resided in the town of C—, on the coast of Maine. He was known as a man of few words, and a crusty old bach. Finding an ancient maiden lady suited to his year, Bill quietly married and took her home. There were game young men in C—, and ere the news was fifteen minutes old, bells, tin pans, ram's horns, and such like euphonious instruments, were heard approaching Bill's cabin from all directions. It was late in the evening when the news got out. An old forty-pounder, dragged from the fort by, with its shocking explosions, capped the climax of the horrible din, while rattling glass indicated mischief, as well as fun. However, a treat they must have. But hour after hour passed, and the house gave no more sign of life than a last year's tombstone. Of a sudden Jack Whipple started for the nearest apothecary's shop, saying—

"I'll start 'em!" Back in a trice, he began blowing noxious smoke through the keyhole! Meantime bang, toot, toot, rattle, rattle, rattle went gun, horns and pans, as though no side play was being enacted. At last the door opened, and Bill Stoker appeared. All was hushed as the grave.

"Gentlemen," said he, addressing the crowd, "your music is charming, but d—n your perfumery. Here is a V, I'm bent."

OUR PUZZLER.

66. DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

Many a noble deed was done, And many a knight was slain; Many a hard-fought field was won, But my second they could not gain; For more men by disease in my first were lost, Than were slain in fight 'gainst the infidel host.

- 1. In furious fight by Trojan hero slain, Thy death his ruin, and his country's bane.
2. The flower which the goddess caused to grow, From the blood of a mouth whom a box laid low.
3. Of different shapes and sizes suitable to all, It shed its rays on occupants of cottage or of hall.
4. That heedless youth who for a trifle sold A heritage more precious far than gold.
5. One of a race who, ancient writers say, Revealed the future in prophetic lay.
6. A garment, the name of which is often seen; The dress of both sexes in the East it formerly has been.
7. Birthplace of one who, in Eighth Henry's reign, Did step by step the highest honors gain.
8. The Grecian hero who was so renowned For wisdom, virtue, knowledge, skill, profound.
9. A lonely wanderer on some foreign strand, Banished forever from his native land. A. TONBRIDGIAN.

67. CONUNDRUM.

What article in a grocer's shop expresses a doubt as to a man's power of walking?

68. CHARADE.

Now grove and mound are clothed in green, Full many of my first were seen In blooming garden, and the same, A well-known kind of pulse will name.

And when my second is disclosed, You'll find to spirit 'tis opposed; While for a person it may pass And likewise a collective mass.

Behold, a vessel leaves the strand, Bound to a distant foreign land: A form upon the deck appears, Who greeted is with denfening cheers. It is my whole, and may be so By providence attended, And, whether upon land or sea, From every ill defended. IAGO.

69. BIBLICAL QUESTIONS.

- 1. Where dwell the men who brought fish and all manner of ware, and sold on the Sabbath to the children of Judah?
2. Where is it mentioned that King Ahaz sent an altar pattern, and to whom did he send it?
3. The name of the man and the place where he made engines, invented by cunning men to be on the towers?
4. Whom did Job take aside in the gate to speak with him quietly, and smote him there under the fifth rib that he died? CADMUS.