

axe. On coming to one of the trees, a portion of soft clay is formed into a cup and stuck to the trunk. The black then striking his pick over the cup, the sap oozes out slowly, a tree giving daily about a gill. The tapper continues in this way, tapping perhaps fifty trees, when he returns, and, with a jar, passing over the same ground, empties his cups; so by seven o'clock the blacks come in with their jars, ready for working. The sap at this stage resembles milk in appearance, and somewhat in taste. It is also frequently drunk with perfect safety. If left standing now, it will curdle like milk, disengaging a watery substance like whey. Shoemakers now arrange themselves to form the gum. Seated in the shade, with a large pan of milk on one side, and on the other a flagon, in which is burned a nut peculiar to this country, emitting a dense smoke, the operator having his last, or form, held by a long stick or handle, previously besmeared with soft clay (in order to slip off the shoe when finished,) holds it over the pan, and pouring on the milk until it is covered, sets the coating in the smoke, then giving it a second coat repeats the smoking; and so on with a third and fourth, until the shoe is of the required thickness, averaging from six to twelve coats. When finished, the shoes on the forms are placed in the sun, the remainder of the day, to drip. Next day, if required, they may be figured, being so soft that any impression will be indelibly received. The natives are very dexterous in this work. With a quill and a sharp pointed stick they will produce finely lined leaves and flowers, such as you may have seen on the shoes, in an incredibly short space of time. After remaining on the forms two or three days, the shoes are cut open on the top, allowing the last to slip out. They are then tied together, and slung on poles, ready for the market. There pedlars and Jews trade for them with the country people; and in lots of a thousand or more they are again sold to the merchants, who have them stuffed with straw, and packed in boxes to export, in which state they are received in the United States. In the same manner, any shape may be manufactured. Thus toys are made over clay forms. After drying, the clay is broken and extracted. Bottles, &c., are made in the same way. According as the gum grows older, it becomes dark in colour and more tough. The number of caoutchouc trees in the province is countless. In some parts whole forests of them exist, and they are frequently cut down for firewood. Although the tree exists in Mexico and the East Indies, there appears to be no importation into the United States from these places. The reason I suppose must be the want of that prolificness found in them here. The caoutchouc tree may be worked all the year; but generally in the wet seasons they have rest, owing to the flooded state of the woods; and the milk being watery, requires more to manufacture the same article than in the dry season."

TEN RULES OF LIFE.—The following rules of practical life were given by Mr. Jefferson:—1. Never put off till tomorrow what can be done to day. 2. Never trouble others to do what you can do yourself. 3. Never spend your money before you have it. 4. Never buy what you do not want because it is cheap. 5. Pride costs as much as hunger, thirst, and cold. 6. We never repent of eating too little. 7. Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly. 8. How much pain those evils cost us which never happen! 9. Take things always by their smooth handle. 10. When angry, always count ten before you speak.

ADVERSITY.—Adversity exasperates fools, dejects cowards, draws out the faculties of the wise and ingenious, puts the modest to the necessity of trying their

skill, awes the opulent, and makes the falling industrious. Much might be said in favour of adversity, but the worst of it is, it has no friends.

THE HARVEST MOON.—As there is an erroneous opinion prevailing amongst many persons unacquainted with astronomy, who are in the habit of denominating that the harvest moon which occurs at the time of harvest, let that happen when it may, the following may not prove unacceptable to some of our readers. The moon during the week in which she is full, about the time of harvest, rises soon after sun-setting, and with less difference between the times of two successive risings than she does in any other full moon week in the year. By these means she affords an almost immediate supply of light after sun-set, which is very beneficial for gathering in the harvest and fruits of the earth; hence this full moon is distinguished from all others in the year, by the appellation of the *Harvest Moon*. To conceive the reason of this, it may first be considered that the moon is always opposite to the sun, when she is in full; that she is full in the signs *Pisces* and *Aries*, in our harvest months, those being the signs opposite to *Virgo* and *Libra*, the signs occupied by the sun in that season; and that those parts of the ecliptic (in which the moon then is) rise from the horizon in northern latitudes in a smaller angle, and, of course, equal spaces, in shorter intervals of time than any other points, as may be easily shown by the celestial globe: consequently, since the moon's orbit deviates not much from the ecliptic, she rises with less difference of time and more immediately after sunset about harvest, than when she is full at other seasons of the year. The sun enters *Libra* on September 23, and the full moon which is nearest that day is, properly speaking, the *Harvest Moon*.

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.—The number of newspapers published in the United Kingdom, in the year 1843, the returns of which can be obtained, with the greatest accuracy, through the stamp-office, was 447. The stamps consumed by them, in that year, were 60,592,001. Their proportions are as follows:—

	1843.
79 London newspapers,.....	31,692,062
212 English provincial,.....	17,058,056
8 Welsh,.....	386,500
69 Scotch,.....	5,027,589
79 Irish,.....	6,474,794
447	60,592,001

EVE'S APPLE TREE (*kaduro-gaha*) is a tree of the middle size, and is found in great numbers. Its leaves are nine inches long and three broad, with about twenty strong fibres branching off on each side of the centre one. Its fruits hang down in pairs from a long stalk. Its appearance is very peculiar, being like an apple, with about one-third cut or bitten out. It is a deadly poison, and the milk that flows from it is so acrid, that a drop falling on the hand raises a blister. The outside is of a bright yellow colour, and the inside is of a deep crimson. It contains a large quantity of small black seeds, like the pips of an apple, embedded in a quantity of scarlet coloured pulp. I have counted fifty-eight of these seeds in one fruit. When ripe, the fruit bursts and the seeds fall out, and the outside shrivels up, and still adheres to the stalk for a considerable time.—*Selkirk's Recollections of Ceylon.*