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NO. 31.

## Catching the Cat.

The mice had met in council;  
They all looked haggard and worn.  
For the state of affairs was too terrible  
To be any longer borne.  
Not a family out of mourning—  
There was craps on every lot.  
They were desperate—something must be  
done,  
And done at once, to the cat.

An elder member rose and said:  
"It might prove a possible thing  
To set the trap which they set for us—  
The one with the awful spring!"  
The suggestion was applauded  
Loudly by one and all,  
Till somebody squeaked: "That trap would be  
'About ninety-five times too small!"

Then a medical mouse suggested—  
"A little under his breath—  
They should concatenate the very first mouse  
That died a natural death,  
And he'd undertake to poison the cat  
If they'd let him prepare that mouse."  
"There's not been a natural death," they  
shrieked,  
"Since the cat came into the house!"

The smallest mouse in the council  
Arose with a solemn air,  
And, by way of increasing his stature,  
Robbed up his whiskers and hair.  
He waited until there was silence  
All about the pantry shelf,  
And then he said with dignity,  
"I will catch the cat myself!"

"When next I hear her coming,  
Instead of running away,  
I shall turn and face her boldly,  
And pretend to be at play;  
She will not see her danger,  
Poor creature! I suppose;  
But as she stoops to catch me,  
I shall catch her, by the nose!"

The mice began to look hopeful,  
Yes, even the old ones, when  
A gray-haired sage said slowly,  
"And what will you do with her then?"  
The champion, disconcerted,  
Replied with dignity, "Well,  
I think if you'll all excuse me,  
'T would be wiser not to tell!"

"We all have our aspirations—"  
This produced a general snicker—  
"But we are not all at liberty  
To explain just how they'll work.  
I ask you then to trust me;  
You need have no further fears—  
Consider our enemy done for!"  
The council gave three cheers.

"I do believe she's coming!"  
Said a small mouse, nervously,  
"Run, if you like," said the champion,  
And sure enough she was coming—  
The mice all snuggled away  
Except the noble champion,  
Who had made up his mind to stay.

The mice had faith, of course they had—  
They were all of them noble souls—  
But a sort of general feeling  
Kept them safely in their holes,  
Until some time in the evening;  
"Then the boldest ventured out,  
And saw, happily in the distance,  
The cat prance gaily about!"

There was dreadful consternation,  
Till some one at last said, "Oh,  
He's not had time to do it,  
Let us not prejudice him!"  
"I believe in him, of course I do,"  
Said the nervous mouse with a sigh,  
"But the cat looks uncommonly happy,  
And I wish I took know why?"

The cat, I regret to mention,  
Still prances about that house,  
And no message, letter or telegram  
Has come from the champion mouse.  
The mice are a little discouraged;  
The demand for craps goes on;  
They feel they'd be happier if they knew  
Where the champion mouse has gone.

This story has a moral—  
It is very short, you see;  
So, no one, of course, will skip it,  
"For fear of offending me."  
It is well to be conspicuous,  
And valiant, and all that,  
But—if you are nice—you'd better think  
twice  
Before you catch the cat.  
—Margaret Vandegrift, in St. Nicholas.

## MASTERS BY PASSION.

THE STORY AUNT ANNIE TOLD.

"I admit that Ruth is quick-tempered,  
and that she often says things that she does  
not mean."  
It was Hannah Cleaves who spoke, and  
she was defending her young and pretty  
cousin, who had been not quite two years  
the wife of Charles Gray.

"Still," said Susan Adams, another  
cousin, "I must say that she is much to  
blame. Her husband is one of the kindest  
and best of men, and I know that she often  
makes him unhappy. She might do differently  
if she would."

"I am not sure of that," returned Hannah.  
"She is not to blame for the disposition  
which was born in her. She cannot help  
her own nature. No two of us are exactly  
alike in all our feelings, and we are all apt  
to act about as we feel. It is unfortunate  
that some people are diseased; but I cannot  
say that those are to blame who have in-  
herited their disease from their ancestors.  
And so it is with our disposition."

"But," suggested Susan, "that person who  
has inherited a disease which works mis-  
chief not only to herself, but all around her,  
is certainly to blame if she does not make  
any exertion to get rid of it."  
"Ay," cried Hannah, "but there are dis-  
eases which cannot be got rid of; and I say  
that cousin Ruth cannot be blamed for her  
feelings, because they come in spite of her;  
and when they have come she cannot hide  
them."

Aunt Annie Dinsmore laid her knitting-  
work aside and gravely shook her head.  
"Hannah," she said, with deep solemnity,  
"you may at some time be a mother;  
and when that time comes, let me urge you  
not to teach your children the doctrine you  
are upholding here."

Aunt Annie was such a good, kind woman,  
and she loved us all so well, and did so  
much for our happiness, that even Hannah  
Cleaves was respectfully silent beneath the  
gentle reproof.

"A little while ago," our aunt went on,  
"you were speaking of willful people. Now,  
I admire strong self-will when it is bent in  
the right direction. The noblest of God's  
children are those who have strong wills.  
The Christian martyrs were extremely self-  
willed. Self-will is a beneficent force when  
it is made to uphold virtue and goodness.  
So cultivate self-will as much as you please,  
but make it subservient to right. I fear the  
trouble with Ruth Gray is, that she has no  
self-will. What you call self-will in her is  
only perverseness and inconsistency. She  
exercises no will at all, but is the creature  
of circumstance, suffering herself to be  
swayed to and fro by every gust of passion  
that sweeps across her path."

When Aunt Annie laid her knitting-work  
upon the table, and folded her hands in her  
lap, we knew she had something of interest  
to say to us, for she was not a woman who  
talked for the sake of talking.

"I tell you, girls," she said, "we can if  
we will! If we will do right, we can do  
right. She who practically denies this  
casts aside the very foundation of virtuous  
character, and erects her structure of life  
upon a base of sand. I am going to tell  
you a story of my own life. You call me  
good; and I think I am good to you. At  
all events, I try to be so. But my goodness  
of temper came to me through a mighty  
effort of will, as you shall see. When I  
was young I was more perverse than your  
cousin Ruth ever was. My temper was  
quick and high; I was subject to fits of de-  
pendency that made all around me mis-  
erable; and I excused myself upon the plea  
that such was my nature—I could not help  
it. When I became the wife of Jacob  
Dinsmore I was very happy, and I thought  
myself very fortunate, for I knew that I  
was for a husband one of the best young  
men in the town. Your uncle Jacob was  
then just what he is now—kind, generous,  
loving, forbearing and faithful to a fault.  
For the first six months of our married life  
I did not allow my bad temper to show its-  
self much; but at length my honeymoon  
waned, and my old feelings began to man-  
ifest themselves. I became, in short, just  
what I was before I was married. People  
called me self-willed; but I had no self-  
will. I did not will to be cross and petu-  
lant. Oh, when would the firing cease, and when  
would my husband come home, that I  
might fall upon his neck and ask his par-  
don for all the wickedness I had done!"

"The firing ceased at length, but instead  
of hopefulness, the dread became heavier  
and more heavy. I was hunting for any  
bonnet, intending to go out and meet my  
husband, when I heard heavy feet in the  
garden. The cloud had settled down and  
the thunder crash had come. Men came in  
and told me not to be frightened—my hus-  
band was hurt, but they hoped not seriously.  
Perhaps they thought I was calm; they did  
not know that my heart was frozen, and that  
the fount of my emotion was shut up. Then  
other men brought my husband in upon a  
wide board, and I saw that his limbs were  
limp and lifeless, that his face was like  
marble, and that there was blood upon the  
board—blood trickling down upon the  
floor. And I heard them talk; they told  
me that he had been run over by the heavy  
gun-carriage—that in coming down the hill  
from where the salute had been fired men  
and boys, in wild confusion, had seized the  
rail-road, and that my husband, in attempt-  
ing to prevent the rush, had been knocked  
down and run over."

"Two doctors came. I heard them talk  
of a broken leg, of broken ribs, and of other  
injuries, and during all this time I was  
as one in a horrid dream, unable to move or  
to speak, and almost suffocating. By-and-  
by I heard one of the doctors say that he  
would live, and then I sank down senseless.  
"When I came to myself it was night,  
and one of the neighbors sat at my bedside.  
I told them I wished to see my husband,  
but I was informed that he was asleep, and  
that I must not disturb him then. In the  
morning I went to him, and he put up his  
well arm and drew me down upon the pil-  
low and kissed me. And he told me not to  
worry myself; he was badly hurt, but if I  
would nurse him and love him he would  
soon get well."

"Love him! Oh, my soul, how strong I  
felt then!—how strong in my love, and in  
my determination to be a true and faithful  
wife!"

Aunt Annie took off her spectacles and  
wiped her eyes, and presently she added:  
"Girls, that was forty years ago, and  
from that day to this I have not spoken  
mistake of inexperienced and careless per-  
sons, and he could not feel right to neglect  
the duty he had promised to perform."  
"That was in the afternoon. At six  
o'clock it was time for me to start for the  
landing place, if I meant to go; but I would  
not use it. I shrank away in a fit  
of the sulks, and so remained until it came  
time for Jacob to go away with his gun. As  
he was putting on his hat my temper burst  
forth into a wild flame, and his calm an-  
swers only maddened me. At length I  
pushed him beyond the bounds of human  
endurance, and he turned upon me more  
sternly than he had ever before done. He  
did not speak angrily, but he spoke as an  
offended parent might have spoken to an  
offending child. This set my blood com-  
pletely afire, and I cannot tell you all the  
wicked things I said."  
"Annie," he said to me, as he stood near  
the door, "it might have been better for  
both of us if we had never met."  
"I answered him hotly and passionately  
that I hoped we might never meet again.  
'If you were dead,' said I, 'I should be  
happier than I am now!'"

"No, no, Annie, you do not mean that,"  
he replied to me.  
"And I cried out that I did mean it, and  
I declared that I hoped I might never see  
him again alive. And he went away as I  
said those words."  
"My dear girls, do you think such words  
could ever have come from my lips? Ah,  
you do not know to what wild and wicked  
results of language a course of unbridled  
license will lead. If, when Ruth Gray is  
angrily disputing with her husband, some  
short-hand writer could take down her  
words just as they fall from her lips, and  
should afterward show them to her, she  
would honestly declare that she never, never  
spoke such things. And so, when many  
women are fretfully disputing with their  
children, could they hear themselves as  
others hear them, they would be shocked  
beyond measure. When passion becomes  
our master we are blind as well as insane,  
and the sin is not in what is then said, but  
rather in allowing the adversary the first  
foot-hold."

"My husband went away and left me  
alone, and when he had gone, I sat down  
and cried till I was tired. By-and-by I  
heard the report of the cannon, and I  
thought, suppose some accident should  
happen to Jacob! Suppose he should be  
killed! Suppose they should bring him  
home dead! As these thoughts came to  
me, I remembered that a good, kind hus-  
band he had been, and I also remem-  
bered how cruel and unjust I had  
been. Again and again came the boom-  
ing report of cannon, and at each re-  
port the dread grew stronger and stronger  
upon me. Oh, what would I have then  
given could I have recalled the wicked  
words I had spoken! But they had gone  
forth, and I must abide the result. Heavier  
and heavier grew the weight upon my  
heart, until at length I thought I should go  
crazy if Jacob did not soon return. My  
crime loomed up before me darkly and  
threateningly, and it seemed to me that my  
husband's death was to be my punishment.  
Oh, when would the firing cease, and when  
would my husband come home, that I  
might fall upon his neck and ask his par-  
don for all the wickedness I had done!"

"The firing ceased at length, but instead  
of hopefulness, the dread became heavier  
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my determination to be a true and faithful  
wife!"

Aunt Annie took off her spectacles and  
wiped her eyes, and presently she added:  
"Girls, that was forty years ago, and  
from that day to this I have not spoken

one cross word to my husband. My nature  
is not changed at all; but I have gained  
control of my will and set it in the right  
direction; and when once I found how  
much pure joy there was in doing right  
it came very easy to do it."

"Ah! here comes your uncle Jacob now.  
See how good he looks. You can see his  
gray hairs, and note the wrinkles upon his  
brow; but to me he is as young as ever,  
and I know that our love was never more  
fresh and fervent than it is now."

Just then Uncle Jacob came in; and  
when, an hour later, we saw him and Aunt  
Annie in the garden together picking flow-  
ers like two young lovers, we were forced to  
the conclusion that they were really and  
truly a happy couple; and Hannah Cleaves  
had no more reason to defend cousin Ruth  
against the charge of folly and wickedness  
in allowing her own ill-temper to make  
herself and her husband miserable.

**Neglect of the Eye.**  
Whatever an ounce of prevention may  
be to other members of the body, it cer-  
tainly is worth many pounds of cure to  
the eye. Like a chronometer watch, this  
delicate organ will stand any amount  
of use, so long as it is kept in its bal-  
ance, but when once it is thrown out of  
its original perfection of action, or, if it is,  
it becomes ever after liable to a return of  
disability of function or the seat of actual disease. One  
would have supposed from this fact, and from  
the fact that modern civilization has im-  
posed upon the eye an ever-increasing  
amount of strain, both as to the actual  
quantity of work done and the constant  
increasing brilliancy and duration of the  
illumination under which it is per-  
formed, that the greatest pains would  
have been exercised in maintaining the  
organ in a condition of health, and the  
greatest care and solicitude used in its  
treatment when diseased. And yet it is  
safe to say that there is no organ in the  
body the welfare of which is so persistently  
neglected as the eye.

I have known fond and doting mothers  
take their children of four or five years  
of age to have their first teeth filled, in-  
stead of having them extracted, so that  
the jaw might not suffer in its due de-  
velopment, and become in later years  
contracted, while the eye, the most intel-  
lectual, the most apprehensive, and the  
most discriminating of all our organs,  
receives not even a passing thought,  
much less an examination. It never  
seems to occur to the parents that the  
principal agent in a child's education is  
the eye; that through it it gains not only  
its sense of the methods and ways of ex-  
istence of others, but even the means for  
the maintenance of its own; nor does it  
occur to the parents for an instant that  
many of the mental as well as bodily at-  
tributes of a growing child are fashioned,  
even if they are not created, by the con-  
dition of the eye alone.

A child is put to school without the  
slightest inquiry on the part of the  
parent, and much less on the part of the  
teacher, whether it sees objects sharply  
and well defined, or indistinctly and dis-  
torted; whether it be near-sighted or  
far-sighted; whether it sees with one or  
two eyes; or, finally, if it does see clearly  
and distinctly, whether it is not using  
a quantity of nervous force sufficient  
after a time not only to exhaust the  
energy of the visual organ, but of the  
nervous system at large.—Dr. Edward G.  
Loring, in Harper's Magazine.

**Dimes and Dollars.**  
Wm. S. O'Brien, the California mil-  
lionaire, declared on his death-bed that  
his only brother had passed from earth  
in the city of Baltimore as long ago as  
1851. Nevertheless, the will of the  
bonanza king showed a bequest of \$900,-  
000 to Pauline O'Brien, a beautiful girl,  
whose undefined relations to the rich  
man under whose roof she dwelt had  
been a matter of much gossip in San  
Francisco. Pauline had been accus-  
tomed to speak to the millionaire as Uncle  
William, and when it became known  
that her share was the same as those re-  
ceived by the recognized nieces, the  
mystery deepened. After the death of  
O'Brien, Pauline, in company with an  
aged woman, who proved to be her  
mother, took a flying trip to Raleigh,  
North Carolina, returning thence to San  
Francisco with an old decrepit man.

Arrived again at the Golden Gate,  
Pauline locked the old couple in rooms  
at the Palace Hotel and announcing to  
the O'Brien heirs that she had found her  
father, P. H. O'Brien, who had never  
been worth a dime, claimed for him  
\$1,000,000. Her lawyer furnished the  
trustees of the estate with indisputable  
proof that William S. and Patrick H.  
were brothers. Months passed and the  
matter had nearly reached the courts,  
when a compromise was effected. Under  
the compromise the trustees paid over to  
Pauline and her mother \$600,000. This  
payment was made on last Wednesday  
week, but old Patrick never saw his  
thousands, he having died on Tuesday,  
the day before the payment.—San Fran-  
cisco Post.

Eight young men have been con-  
demned at Bazas, in France, to ten days'  
imprisonment for seeking to evade the  
conscription by applying drugs to their  
eyes, the quack doctor who supplied  
them incurring forty days' incarceration.

The following-named persons are  
advised by a Western journal to study  
the thermometer in hot weather and to  
take their ease as much as possible:  
Persons past the prime of life; persons  
addicted to the free use of liquor; dys-  
peptics, especially dyspeptics with over-  
worked heads and the whole order of  
men and women with shaken nervous  
systems, whether from the presence of  
chronic diseases, especially heart dis-  
ease, or from any other cause."

A new patent secured in England in-  
volves the mixing of paints and var-  
nishes with phosphorescent salt or a  
mixture of lime and sulphur. This  
composition is to store up daylight and  
give it out by night. Practically the  
patentee applying it to clock faces, so that  
at night the hands may be seen dis-  
tinctly; but his patent claims its use for  
all kinds of lighting purposes. Rooms  
may be painted with it, and streets so  
coated as to become self-luminous; also  
ships, buoys and the other objects used  
in the signal service.

The Arctic exploring ship Resolute,  
which formed a part of Captain Austin's  
expedition in search of Sir John Frank-  
lin in 1850, is to be broken up at Ches-  
ham dockyard. Ornaments and pieces  
of furniture will be made from the best  
timbers, which the admiralty intend to  
present to the President of the United  
States as a souvenir of the occasion when  
the Resolute was found by American  
whalers abandoned in Yoa, and the gov-  
ernment of the United States had her re-  
paired and refitted and presented her to  
the British admiralty.

The Association of "Housekeepers"  
in Vienna now numbers 1,543 members,  
among whom are ladies of the best  
houses of the city. Nineteen officials  
(women) look after the storerooms, the  
bookkeeping and the sales. The super-  
vision of the whole is done voluntarily  
by the ladies whom the association ap-  
points. In the shops all is activity and  
order; the work in the register office is  
no less brisk; everywhere there is evi-  
dence of women learning to live honestly  
and independently by their own labor,  
whether as servants, artists, workwomen  
or teachers.

Robert G. Pillow, a son of the late  
General Pillow, lives on an Arkansas  
plantation. A short time ago he and  
one of the colored men were out hunting  
a wild hog. Pillow had a gun and the  
negro had armed himself with a pint  
bottle of whisky. The hog was shot,  
and just as Pillow went up to the  
writhing animal an immense "cotton-  
mouth" snake, whose bite is as fatal as  
that of a rattlesnake, fastened its fangs  
on the calf of his leg. Pillow turned to  
his companion and remarked: "I think  
I'll try a little of that whisky now!"  
whisky being considered a remedy. He  
poured every drop down his throat.  
Then he rapidly walked to the house,  
half a mile distant, where he drank three  
tumblers more of whisky. He was soon  
in what he calls a "Niagara Fall of per-  
spiration," which rapidly expelled the  
poison and saved his life.

Speaking of the vast forests of Eastern  
Texas and their conversion into lumber,  
the Charleston News says: "The man-  
ufacture of doors, sash and blinds by  
machinery is an American invention,  
and two years ago the United States en-  
tered on the business of shipping such  
articles to England, although that coun-  
try was largely supplied with rough  
lumber from Canada and her other  
American possessions. In 1857 19,000  
doors and 6,284 pairs of sashes and blinds  
were shipped from New York, via Eng-  
land, to Australia and New Zealand,  
California, finding that there was money  
in the business, has entered upon it and  
shipped 27,000 doors to Australia last  
month, with a corresponding supply of  
sash and blinds, while New York shipped  
5,000 doors, with the usual complement  
of the other articles. In 1875 45,000  
doors were shipped from the United  
States to England and Scotland, against  
2,800 the year before. These figures  
show the rapid growth of the trade, and  
indicate to some extent the demand  
abroad for the products of our forests  
and lumber factories."

**Corn Sugar.**  
Mr. F. L. Stewart intends to exhibit  
at the Pennsylvania Agricultural Fair  
this fall, to be held in the Permanent  
Exhibition building on the Centennial  
grounds, his process for making  
corn sugar, at a cost of from two and a  
half to three cents per pound. He pre-  
fers corn to beets for the production of  
sugar because corn only requires three  
months to perfect the green stalks, and  
as the culture is familiar to all farmers,  
as it can be grown over such a width of  
latitude and in every soil, and as there  
can be more sugar produced from corn  
than from beets, which take eight months  
to perfect, and can only be raised in a  
comparatively restricted area of soil.  
The difficulties that frustrated previous  
experiments in making sugar from sorg-  
hum are obviated by his new process,  
as he designs to practically demonstrate  
at the coming exhibition.

## TIMELY TOPICS.

The following-named persons are  
advised by a Western journal to study  
the thermometer in hot weather and to  
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States as a souvenir of the occasion when  
the Resolute was found by American  
whalers abandoned in Yoa, and the gov-  
ernment of the United States had her re-  
paired and refitted and presented her to  
the British admiralty.

The Association of "Housekeepers"  
in Vienna now numbers 1,543 members,  
among whom are ladies of the best  
houses of the city. Nineteen officials  
(women) look after the storerooms, the  
bookkeeping and the sales. The super-  
vision of the whole is done voluntarily  
by the ladies whom the association ap-  
oints. In the shops all is activity and  
order; the work in the register office is  
no less brisk; everywhere there is evi-  
dence of women learning to live honestly  
and independently by their own labor,  
whether as servants, artists, workwomen  
or teachers.

Robert G. Pillow, a son of the late  
General Pillow, lives on an Arkansas  
plantation. A short time ago he and  
one of the colored men were out hunting  
a wild hog. Pillow had a gun and the  
negro had armed himself with a pint  
bottle of whisky. The hog was shot,  
and just as Pillow went up to the  
writhing animal an immense "cotton-  
mouth" snake, whose bite is as fatal as  
that of a rattlesnake, fastened its fangs  
on the calf of his leg. Pillow turned to  
his companion and remarked: "I think  
I'll try a little of that whisky now!"  
whisky being considered a remedy. He  
poured every drop down his throat.  
Then he rapidly walked to the house,  
half a mile distant, where he drank three  
tumblers more of whisky. He was soon  
in what he calls a "Niagara Fall of per-  
spiration," which rapidly expelled the  
poison and saved his life.

Speaking of the vast forests of Eastern  
Texas and their conversion into lumber,  
the Charleston News says: "The man-  
ufacture of doors, sash and blinds by  
machinery is an American invention,  
and two years ago the United States en-  
tered on the business of shipping such  
articles to England, although that coun-  
try was largely supplied with rough  
lumber from Canada and her other  
American possessions. In 1857 19,000  
doors and 6,284 pairs of sashes and blinds  
were shipped from New York, via Eng-  
land, to Australia and New Zealand,  
California, finding that there was money  
in the business, has entered upon it and  
shipped 27,000 doors to Australia last  
month, with a corresponding supply of  
sash and blinds, while New York shipped  
5,000 doors, with the usual complement  
of the other articles. In 1875 45,000  
doors were shipped from the United  
States to England and Scotland, against  
2,800 the year before. These figures  
show the rapid growth of the trade, and  
indicate to some extent the demand  
abroad for the products of our forests  
and lumber factories."

**Corn Sugar.**  
Mr. F. L. Stewart intends to exhibit  
at the Pennsylvania Agricultural Fair  
this fall, to be held in the Permanent  
Exhibition building on the Centennial  
grounds, his process for making  
corn sugar, at a cost of from two and a  
half to three cents per pound. He pre-  
fers corn to beets for the production of  
sugar because corn only requires three  
months to perfect the green stalks, and  
as the culture is familiar to all farmers,  
as it can be grown over such a width of  
latitude and in every soil, and as there  
can be more sugar produced from corn  
than from beets, which take eight months  
to perfect, and can only be raised in a  
comparatively restricted area of soil.  
The difficulties that frustrated previous  
experiments in making sugar from sorg-  
hum are obviated by his new process,  
as he designs to practically demonstrate  
at the coming exhibition.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST.

About 9,000,000 tons of coal are an-  
nually consumed in the city of London.  
"Too much of a good thing, as the  
kitten said when it fell into the milk-  
pail."  
Why is it the merchandise? Because  
he doesn't advert-eyes?—Yonkers States-  
man.

More than eighteen thousand persons  
live by rag-picking in Paris and its  
environs.  
China merchants never have to invite  
sea captains to die, as they always come  
in after tea.

A young man who sows his wild  
oats trusts to the grasshopper of forget-  
fulness to destroy the crop.—Steubenville  
Herald.

Nothing surprises a young man more  
than the shape of his head as he sees it  
for the first time after his hair has been  
cropped close.

Two naked cherubs, over the portal of  
a new court-house at Rockford, Ill., so  
offended the moral sense of the city that  
they were chiseled off.

When Patrick was told that the price  
of bread had fallen, he exclaimed:  
"That is the first time I ever rejoiced at  
the fall of my bird friend."

One of the latest western notions is  
the substitution of bats for pigeons in  
shooting matches. Would it not be  
still more beneficial to substitute potato  
bugs.

A physician at Salem, Ind., was ad-  
dicted to opium-eating, and his neigh-  
bors tried to cure him by tying him to a  
tree, whipping him severely, and making  
him take a vow of reformation.

The Rockland Courier has named its  
candidate for 1880. He must be a man  
who can design a railroad time-table that  
a common traveler may understand with-  
out wrenching his intellect entirely out  
of running order.

Vanderbilt controls an aggregate  
length of 3,000 miles of railroad, com-  
prising 6,102 miles of track. On these  
are employed 27,706 men, who receive,  
in round numbers, \$1,178,000 a month,  
or \$14,136,000 a year.

The sporting season has arrived when  
the amateur hunter goes into the forest  
and shoots the farmer's \$10 cow under  
the impression that it is a deer, and after  
ward pays the farmer \$25 to settle the  
matter and keep it quiet.—Boston Post.

**About the Zulus.**  
The Zulus live in a beautiful and  
fertile land in which they have two har-  
vests in every year, and need scarcely do  
more than scratch the soil and sow their  
seed to secure an abundance of vegeta-  
ble food. There are rich pastures on which  
large herds of cattle feed, so that beef is  
plentiful; and as the bush, or "hlanzi,"  
as they call it, is full of antelope, wild  
beasts and buffaloes (to say nothing of  
larger game), and as many of the men  
are keen hunters, they are particularly  
well off for meat.

They are also great lovers of beer  
which has been compared to thin gruel  
made with weak hock, and though the  
leverage is not very intoxicating, the  
drink such quantities of it in the course  
of the day that they are sleepily stupid  
by night.

The Zulu idea of perfect happiness is  
plenty of beef, beer and nothing to do  
but sit still, eat, drink and listen to  
whatever news and gossip any one may  
be able to tell them. The women do  
the field and garden work, with the  
exception of hoeing the king's corn, which  
is done by the men who present them-  
selves at the royal kraal every spring for  
this purpose. There is, however, no  
particular office which women are for-  
bidden under pain of death to perform  
and that is, milking the cows, which  
always done by men and boys.

They are a remarkably superstitious  
people, and believe devoutly in signs,  
omens and dreams. A man will not go  
out hunting if he has had a dream of ill  
success on the previous night; and if he  
has a wonderful escape from danger or  
accident, always attributes it to the care  
of his Ehlose or guardian angel. The  
ideas of a Creator are very indistinct  
and consist merely in a tradition that  
the "big one of all" brought their na-  
tion originally "out of the reeds," as  
missionaries have not been welcomed  
among them, because King Cetewayo  
has always thought that if he once ac-  
mitted them a foreign army would so  
follow, and to use his own expression  
"eat him up."

**A Grain of Wheat.**  
If, says a writer in a German contem-  
porary, we reckon that a single grain  
wheat produces fifty grains, and that  
these fifty will each produce fifty grain  
more, and so on, we find:  
In the second year ..... 2,500  
" third " ..... 125,000  
" fourth " ..... 6,250,000  
" fifth " ..... 312,500,000  
The third year's crop would give 3  
men one meal, leaving enough for 2  
men and eight pigs for one day. The pro-  
duce of the single grain in the fourth  
year would suffice to supply all the  
habitants of the earth with food during  
their lifetime.

DISEASES  
CAUSABLE BY USING  
TANG  
MENT.

OF ANIMALS.  
Scratches,  
Sores and Galls,  
Spavin, Cracks,  
Screw Worm, Grub,  
Foot Rot, Hoof Ail,  
Lame Horses,  
Switney, Founders,  
Sprains, Strains,  
Sore Feet,  
Stiffness,  
and every hurt or accident  
to, stable and stock yard in  
ST-OF-ALL

MENTS