

dinner to the rooms of a friend. There is no importance in the words "after dinner." College beer is very small beer, nor do I know of any instance on record in which a man who had partaken freely was visited by ghosts. The four friends were standing round the fire, which flickered brightly, so that every part of the room could be seen. Its shape was of this kind. The door from the staircase was at one corner; directly opposite to that was another door, which led into the bedroom. There was no other approach to or exit from the room. The fireplace was at the side of the inner door. The friends were standing round the fire chatting together, when they distinctly saw the outer door open gently, and a figure pass in. It crossed the room, and passed through the opposite doorway into the bedroom. Three of the young men rushed at once into the room, examined every part of it together, but there was no trace or sign of anything. The other had fainted on seeing the apparition. What is curious about this tale is that it forms, so far as is known, the only instance in modern times of a ghost being seen by several people simultaneously. As a general rule, if the apparition appears to more persons than one it does so successively, as in the French story just told. Another circumstance that is remarkable in this case is that each one of the four persons seems to have arrived immediately at the idea that the visitor was a ghost. The spirit was, indeed, known to two of them—that is to say, two of the party said it was the ghost of their brother. But the other two were quite strangers to the fact, and yet, without a word said, seeing the entry, they seem to have felt instinctively and unhesitatingly that it was a ghost. The tale is told as a thing that happened. There was no dowager-duck or guardsman present to command the respect of the *Times*, but then—every one is not so strong-minded and naturally incredulous as that journal.—*Globe*.

#### THE SIGNIFICANCE OF DRESS.

On dress, as a mark of individual character, much has been written; and in a clever article in the *Quarterly*, the writer wittily described how coquetry or shyness, conceit or diffidence, strength or weakness of will, and every other quality lovable or unlovable in woman—nay, more, the very tone of her religious opinions, were to be expressed and deciphered in the color, the shape, and the quality of her apparel. It is not, however, with dress as significant of personal character that we are at present concerned,—dress, as the mirror of the character of nations and of periods, is the still loftier theme we would suggest for the consideration of our readers. The remarkable connection which exists between the dress of a people and their leading ideas was noticed by Alison in his French Revolution; and he mentions, as an example, the coarse, almost plebeian stuffs, such as shepherd's tartan for gentlemen, and Scotch winceys for ladies' dress, which became fashionable during the passing of the Reform Bill, in deference, conscious or unconscious, to the Radical spirit of the times. History, however, affords even better illustrations of this theory. For instance: the picturesque but fanciful costume worn in the reign of Charles II. of England, is it not symbolical of a class rich in the refinement, the wit, and the graces of manner which flourish in the opulent leisure of aristocracies, but tainted deeply, at the same time, with the effeminacy, the moral enervation, and the spiritual torpor to which such leisure and such opulence are only too favorable? And the very different dress of a very different class, to which the same era gave birth; in their close-cropped locks, and sad-colored garments, in their stern abjuration of anything like gaud or ornament, you may read asceticism, bigotry, superstition if you will; but they are equally the expression of an almost sublime contempt of the idols of appearance and worldly glitter, and an austere self-discipline, which gave the Puritan character a rugged grandeur which all its foibles cannot hide. Again, the dress which was worn at and after the time of the French revolution, and which excites our mingled horror and amusement in the portrait of our grandmothers, grotesque as we now esteem that strange combination of short waist and skirt, is it not eminently characteristic of the people who gave it to Europe? It was the melancholy result of an unsuccessful attempt to recover the majestic simplicity of classic ages, and was singularly appropriate to a people who, amidst the anarchy that followed their great revolution, strove so ardently after the dignity of the Roman and Greek republics, and succeeded in grasping of them nothing but the bare letter. But neither ancient nor modern times can offer any more remarkable dress than that which at this very moment is everywhere before us. It is often said that this century must be a remarkable one, when it excites the wonder even of those who are living in it; and it may equally well be said of the present style of dress, that it must be worthy of note when even those who are wearing it constantly express surprise at it. Yet, if there be any truth in the theory we support, it is only natural that an age different in every way to any that preceded it should produce a style of dress equally original. Perhaps the most striking characteristic, and the one which provokes most remark, is the wonderful degree of freedom it accords to individual taste. Of old, fashion was proverbially accounted the most despotic of monarchs, none defined so narrowly the duties of her subjects, or more stringently enforced them; and very narrow

was the list of colors and forms, by a rigid adherence to which alone one might hope to be numbered amongst her loyal subjects.—*Et Cetera*.

#### HOW THEY LIVE IN SWEDEN.

The houses are strong, being built of strong thick walls, generally of brick, with high stone foundations. They are small, generally of one story, and meant but for one family. Their houses are not so very simple, but they are simply furnished, there often being, especially in the northern part, where the houses are frequently of logs, and covered with turf or straw, no more than one room in the house, and in that only the coarsest home-made furniture. The sleeping-room (there is rarely more than one) is provided with ranges of beds in tiers, one above another, the women, generally, sleeping below, and the men above. You rarely see any carpet, but the floors are sprinkled with a clean white sand, which dries up moisture, gives off no dust, and may easily be removed. Sometimes the floors, as in Germany, are painted, or of wood mosaic, though this luxury, except in large mansions, is very rarely indulged in. Occasionally, the best rooms will have a little carpet, but never more than two strips, which cross each other in the centre. The land is, generally, good, and four-fifths of all the people subsist by agriculture. Great quantities of wheat, rye and barley are raised; the stubbled fields being now seen stretching out in every direction. Much of this grain is exported to Germany and Great Britain. Large droves of cattle, sheep, geese and ducks, may also be seen in the field, though the stock is far inferior to that of Denmark, where it was a real pleasure to see the magnificent droves in their pastures. The cattle and poultry are, commonly, kept in the same field; the ducks and geese being scattered through the meadows, a shepherd boy commonly sleeping in some fence corner. In the evening, these flocks are all driven to the barn-yard, where they present a lively scene for a few hours after sunset. I spent a little time at the country residence of a large landowner in this neighborhood, where the noise of ducks and geese, in his barn-yard, was like a perpetual horse-fiddle serenade.

#### GOLDEN GRAINS.

It is much more easy to be wise for others than for ourselves. No denunciation is so eloquent as the silent influence of a good example. ALL people find fault with their memory—but few accuse their judgment. In conversation, a wise man may be at a loss where to begin, but a fool never knows where to stop. A Wise man may be pinched by poverty; but only a fool will let himself be pinched by tight shoes. POLITENESS is the outward garment of good-will; but many are the nutshells in which, if you crack them, nothing like a kernel is to be found. Our minds are like ill-hung vehicles; when they have little to carry, they raise a prodigious clatter; when heavily laden, they neither creak nor rattle. BLISS are they who ever keep that portion of pure, generous love with which they began life! How blessed those who have deepened the fountains, and have enough to spare for the thirst of others. NEVER laugh at a child when it asks a "foolish question." It is not foolish to the child. If a child is sensitive, one instance of laughing and ridicule, in such a case, might for ever chill its aspirations after self-education. No matter how trivial a child's question may seem to be, it is entitled to a prompt and kind answer. A DEAR and profound knowledge of ourselves will never fail to curb the emotions we may feel at the foibles of others. We shall have learnt the difficulty of correcting our own habits too well to suppose it easy in them; and instead of making them the objects of our sarcasm, they will become the objects of our pity and our prayers. WHEREVER unselfish love is the mainspring of men's actions; wherever happiness is placed, not on what we can gain for ourselves, but on what we can impart to others; wherever we place our highest satisfaction in gratifying our fathers and mothers, our brothers and sisters, our wives and children, our neighbors and friends, we are sure to attain all the happiness which the world can bestow. PLATO, one of the wisest men of ancient Greece, observed that the minds of children were like bottles with very narrow mouths; if you attempted to fill them too rapidly, much knowledge was wasted and little received; whereas with a small stream they were easily filled. Those who would make young children prodigies act as wisely as if they would pour a pint of water into a pint measure. True happiness does not imply satisfaction, but continual development. The student loses knowledge for its own sake, and can never cease acquiring; and when men live goodness and truth for their own sake, they shall have the untold happiness, not only of satisfying the ever-unfolding needs of their own nature, but of ministering also to those of all others who come within the sphere of their influence. THE female form excels in symmetry, gracefulness, and beauty, but it is less muscular and robust, and less capable than that of man. As the female form may excel in gracefulness and beauty, so her mind may excel in those qualities which are amiable and attractive. Taste, vivacity, quickness of perception, a keen sense of propriety, and elegance of diction, may be her characteristics; but the power of analysis and generalisation, and the capacity to draw a conclusion from a consecutive chain of ideas, is the more exclusive prerogative of man. For the man and woman who purely and truly love each other, and are guided by the law of justice, marriage is not a state of bondage. Indeed, it is only when they become, by this outward acknowledgment, publicly avowed lovers, that freedom is realized by them in its full significance. Therefore they can be openly devoted to each other's interests, and avowedly chosen and intimate friends. Together they can plan life's battles, and enter upon the path of pro-

gress that ends not with life's eventide. Together they can seek the charmed avenues of culture, and, strengthened by each other, can brave the world's frown in the rugged but heaven-lit path of reform. Home, with all that is dearest in the sacred name, is their peaceful and cherished retreat, within whose amatory bloom the virtues that make it a temple of beneficence.

Each one of a thousand acts of love costs very little by itself, and yet, when viewed all together, who can estimate their value? What is it that a man does for one the name of a kind neighbor? Not the doing of half a dozen great favors in as many years, but the little everyday kindnesses none of which seems of much consequence considered in itself, but the continued repetition of which sheds a sunlight over the whole neighborhood. It is so too in the family. The child whose good offices are always ready when they are wanted—to run up-stairs or down, to fetch the cradle, or to run on an errand, and all with a cheerful look and a pleasant temper—has a reward along with such good deeds. If a little girl cannot take her grand-father on her lap as he takes her on his, she can get his slippers, or put away his books, or gently comb his thin locks; and, whether she thinks of it or not, these little kindnesses that come from a loving heart are the sun-beams that lighten up a dark and woeful world.

#### SCIENTIFIC AND USEFUL.

TELEGRAPH posts and columns manufactured in Manchester are formed of spirals of iron-ribbands, in fact, supported on a cast-iron base, and surmounted with a capital of the same material. A slender rod forms the axis of the column, or, as it really is, a trelliswork tube. Compared with cast-iron columns, these structures are little more than one-third either in weight or cost, while in appearance the gain is decidedly great. For conservatories or other horticultural purposes the trellis column is very suitable. Such a pillar, eleven feet high and eight inches in diameter, is guaranteed to support a vertical pressure of one ton.

THE English expedition now being fitted out for the circumnavigation of the globe is to visit the most remote and unknown regions, including the icy coast of the South Pole, Kerguelen's Land, or the Island of Desolation, in the Southern Ocean, and the large and unexplored islands of Papua, or New Guinea, which lies north of Australia. The scientific staff, which will be under the direction of Prof. Wyville Thomson, comprises competent foreign, as well as British naturalists. The voyage is expected to occupy about three years and a half. The forward magazine of the  *Challenger*, the government steam corvette designated for the use of the party, is completely stowed with spirits and stoppered bottles, for the preservation of natural history specimens.

An interesting fact has just come to light concerning the outflow of the waters of the Black Sea into the Mediterranean. A strong surface current runs from north to south through the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus. It has been found that this proverbially rapid flow is only superficial. Twenty fathoms down, a current of extraordinary force sets in the opposite direction—that is, toward the Black Sea—with a velocity much greater than that of the outflowing surface water. This discovery was made by the officers of the British government surveying ship *Shearwater*. We are told that a special apparatus was attached to the ship's boats, to test the strength of this under-current, when, to the surprise of all, the boats were in many places driven along against the upper current at a speed greater than that of the steam launch of the *Shearwater*.

#### HINTS TO FARMERS.

ANIMALS must receive regular, and irregular, attention. They can not help themselves. Their daily wants must be supplied—and these vary somewhat according to the weather. It is here that the intelligence, promptness, and experience of the farmer manifest themselves. Where there is much stock to attend to, and only say two persons to do the work, it is important to know what to do first. This will vary according to circumstances. In our own case, commencing say at half-past five in the morning, the horses are first attended to, the stable cleaned out, and the horses fed and watered. Then feed and milk the cows. Then breakfast. The first thing after breakfast, or about sunrise, feed the sheep their grain, clean out the racks, and give fresh straw or hay. Then feed the pigs, attending to the youngest first; and then feed the poultry a little grain. After this, clean horses, pump water for the sheep, clean out the cow-stables, and water the cows, clean out the pig-pens, and do whatever is necessary to make them comfortable. Cook food for pigs, slice turnips for the sheep and mangels for the cows and pigs, and get everything ready for next morning's feeding. This is a great point. Much work can be done before breakfast, provided everything is ready to your hand.

WARM STABLES VS. BLANKETS.—The health of a horse, like that of a man, depends very much upon a natural system of life. Artificial systems require double the care, and however sleek the horse may look under a heavy coating of blankets and an occasional medical "dose," his capacity for endurance is much less than that of a horse, which, however rough he may look, has nerves and endurance built only upon regular, natural food and exposure to the varied changes of the atmosphere. It may be all very well for the fancy to clip the hair all off from the horse, and then cover him with clothing in order to have his coat look fine and smooth, but it will not do for the horse of all work. Nature has provided a covering, and where use is designed, the horse needs only that with good grooming and a warm stable; or if a blanket is ever used let it be done whenever the horse is left standing out of doors in harness. Make the stable as warm as a dirt floor or battened boarding will permit; give plenty of bedding; and with abundance of food the horse is better able to stand labor and exposure than if kept on a board floor where cold air circulates underneath and covered with blankets. Our experience is in favor of dirt floors without blankets. Dirt floors well littered are no more trouble to keep neat and clean than board floors, and no stable with a dirt floor and decently boarded up will ever be cold enough to cause a horse to shiver.—*Ohio Farmer*.

BEST METHOD OF MANAGING MANURE.—Hardly any question has been more thoroughly discussed in the New York State Agricultural Society during the last ten years, than the one above indicated, and the general opinion of the practical men who have taken part in the discussions has been that, all things considered, there is no plan so good as to draw the manure directly from the stables as it is made to the grass lands of the farm—pastures rather than meadows, thus, by one handling, doing all the labor, and in the Spring, after the frost is out, going over the field and breaking and spreading any lumps that

may require it. If the manure is coarse, having considerable straw or butts of corn-stalks in it, and is put on ground which is to be mown the next season, this coarse matter will be in the way, and some of it will be drawn by the rakes into the hay, to its injury. If there is no such coarse stuff in the manure, and it can be well spread, then put it on the meadows. By this plan of handling barn-yard or stable manure, the greatest good possible is derived from it, and that, too, by the least amount of labor, where the circumstances are favorable to this plan of management. All about frozen ground and snow drifts, has been taken into consideration, and allowed for, and the only caution suggested is this: When the ground is frozen hard, and there is snow on it, do not apply this raw manure to very steep side hills, lest its virtues may be carried off the ground when the snow thaws. If the manure is applied to the ground itself, having no snow on it to keep it away from the ground, only in very rare instances will the manure be carried off when the thaws come. A little good common sense will decide as to this point. The benefits derived by grass lands from manure so applied are very great. The first effect that will be observed will be the greatly increased crop of grass, above ground and the earth will be filled with roots. When land so treated is plowed for corn or other grain, it will be found that the benefits to the grain are the most marked. The time to manure land on which a regular five-year rotation of crops is raised, is when it is in grass or wheat, and in either case the manure should be applied on the surface.

#### FAMILY MATTERS.

TOASTED BACON.—Medical men say that well-cured bacon toasted before the fire may be eaten by delicate people, but not any other description of the pig's flesh.

ONION PEELING.—As long as a cook can get a basin of clear water and a small-sized knife, she may peel onions with impunity. Onions so treated under water will not affect the eyes, or but very slightly so.

SNOW BALLS.—Take fine large apples pared and cored; then have ready some whole rice steeped in milk; roll your apples in the rice so as to cover them, and tie them up close, half an hour will boil them. When cooked, have a custard ready to pour over them.

SAGO JELLY.—Take a teaspoonful of sago, and boil in three pints and a half of water. When cold, add half a pint of raspberry syrup. Pour the whole into a shape which has been rinsed in cold water, and let it stand until sufficiently set to turn out well. When disengaged, pour a little cream round it, if preferred.

A TROPICAL DISH.—Select a large mature and firm cabbage, from which the coarse outer leaves have been detached and the stalk chopped off; scoop out the heart, fill up with minced meat, bread crumbs, onions and seasoning; fasten up in a cloth, plunge into boiling water, and boil for half an hour.

APPLES AND TAPIOCA.—Peel four or six good-sized apples, take out the cores, and fill up the cavities with sugar and powdered cinnamon, putting a small piece of butter on the top of each. Place the fruit in a baking dish, and strew round them about a cupful of tapioca (raw), mixed with sugar and some grated lemon rind; fill the dish with water, and put in a gentle oven until both apples and tapioca are done.

ANTS IN HOUSES.—The *Scientific American* says, in reply to a question as to getting rid of ants in houses:—"Mix a teaspoonful of crystal of carbolic acid with an ounce of lavender water, or any perfume, and sprinkle well on your shelves, and the ants will undoubtedly 'skedaddle.' An occasional sprinkle will keep you free from the pests. The perfume is not necessary, but is used to cover the unpleasant smell of the acid."

TO BOIL CHICKEN.—Plain artless boiling is apt to produce a yellowish, slimy-looking chicken. Before cooking, the bird should always be well washed in tepid water and lemon juice, and to insure whiteness, delicacy, and succulence, should be boiled in a paste made of flour and water, and after being put into the boiling water, should be allowed to simmer slowly. This method is very effectual in preserving all the juices of the fowl, and the result is a far more birdy and nourishing morsel than the luckless fool which has been "galloped to death" in plain boiling water. Mutton is also much better for being boiled in paste.—*Lancet*.

NEW MODE OF WASHING.—The ill effects of soda on linen have given rise to a new method of washing which has been extensively adopted in Germany, and introduced in Belgium. The operation consists in dissolving two pounds of soap in about three gallons of water as hot as the hand can bear, and adding to this one tablespoonful of turpentine and three of liquid ammonia; the mixture must then be well stirred, and the linen steeped in it two or three hours, taking care to cover up the vessel containing them as nearly hermetically as possible. The clothes are afterwards washed out and rinsed in the usual way. The soap and water may be re-used, and used a second time, but in that case half a tablespoonful of turpentine and a tablespoonful of ammonia must be added. The process is said to cause a great economy of time, labor and fuel. The linen scarcely suffers at all, as there is little necessity for rubbing, and its cleanliness and color are perfect. The ammonia and turpentine, although their detergent action is great, have no injurious effects upon the linen; and while the former evaporates immediately, the smell of the latter is said to disappear entirely during the drying of the clothes.

#### HUMOROUS SCRAPES.

A REVOLVER.—The earth.  
A SPRING BED.—A bed of radishes.  
A MAN OF LOW EXTRACTION.—A cheap dentist.  
WHAT A BARBER MUSTN'T DO.—Lauder his wife.  
WHEN is a house like a bird?—When it has wings.  
THE most tasteful hare-dresser in the world.—The cook.  
HOTEL keepers are people we have to "put up with."  
THE trade that never turns to the left.—A wheel-(w) right's.  
MUSIC is the food of love.—Beef and mutton that of matrimony.  
LONDON underwriters refused to insure a vessel because it was named "The Devil."  
WHY is a man who marries an heiress a lover of music?—Because he marries for-tune.  
SOMEBODY proposes that every bald-headed man should have his monogram painted on the exposed spot.