

before it became common amongst farmers, that though Mr. Biltb wrote of it in Cromwell's time, yet thirty years ago (about 1770) when any farmer in the country was advised to sow clover, he was certain to say, "Gentlemen might sow it if they pleased; but they (the farmers) must take care to pay their rent." And now the case is so much altered, that, though rents are increased, and the profit of clover is less since it has become common, they cannot pretend to pay their rent without sowing it.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AUSTRALIAN FLOWERS.—The native rose has the color but no other resemblance to the European queen of flowers. It is one of the few field flowers possessing any odor. Wafted on the passing gale, it commends itself pleasantly to the senses; but strange enough, on closer acquaintance, there mingles with the rich perfume an undoubted smell of fox—a scent which, however productive of rapture in "the field," is hardly adapted to the boudoir. In the low lands of the Botany scrub I noticed a crimson and orange flower, like the foxglove in form, very handsome, but so hard and horny in texture, that the blossoms actually ring with a clear metallic sound as the breeze shakes them. It might be the fairies' dinner-bell, calling them to dew and ambrosia! But alas! there are no "good people" in Australia! no one ever heard of a ghost, a bogle, or a fetch, here.—*Mundy's "Our Antipodes."*

THE HAPPY FAMILY.—Conversing with the proprietor of the "Happy Family," which stands on Waterloo Bridge, London, I was informed that this exhibition had been in his family upwards of thirty years; and that the mode he got the animals to agree was by placing always young ones in the cage in the place of those who died. The magpie was the patriarch of the cage: he had had this bird five years, hopping about and chattering. The next to the magpie was the starling; he had been in the cage two years. He left all the creatures in the cage together regularly every night—owls, rats, rabbits, jackdaws, dogs, &c.; but he was obliged always to take the monkey out, and put him in a different place, he was so very mischievous, and kept all the other animals awake, teasing them when they were asleep. "Ah," said he, "them monkeys is awful blackguards."—*Buckland's Curiosities of Natural History.*

A HARD AND DURABLE SOAP.—A patent has been granted in England for an improvement in the manufacture of soap, by the addition of sulphate of lime to the usual ingredients employed in its manufacture. The sulphate may be added with any of the usual ingredients employed in the manufacture of soap. The proportions of the sulphate which it is best to employ, vary according to the article manipulated upon, and the quality of the soap to be produced. Thus about twelve ounces of dry sulphate is sufficient for one ton of best soap, whereas, in common or highly liquored soap, six or eight pounds may be used with advantage. Soap, made with the addition of sulphate of lime becomes hardened, keeps dry, and is not liable to shrink while in water, its durability is increased, and it does not wear or waste away before its cleansing properties are brought into action.—*Scientific American.*

SCOTCH SNUFF VS. GREEN-FLY AND THRIPS.—I find accidentally that a slight powdering of common Scotch snuff destroys green-fly and thrips. I should feel obliged if you would say whether there is any objection to the use of it generally. [None, except expense.] I ask because so much has been written lately about the aphid powder that I conclude there must be some good reason against