

The Cincinnati Commercial Gazette facetiously says: "Many persons, including some of our own correspondents, are determined that the English sparrows 'must go.' The chief fault with him, we have thought, was that he did go everywhere he had a chance."

The story of Ireland is best told by the following figures furnished by Mulhall, one of the most reliable statisticians of the day. He says that during Victoria's reign there had died of starvation in Ireland 1,255,000 people; there have been evicted for non-payment of rent, 13,365,000; and there have emigrated, 4,185,000.

Mr. Colman, United States Commissioner of Agriculture, speaks hopefully of the new method of obtaining sugar from sugar cane by diffusion. On returning from a recent trip to Louisiana to investigate the operation he is convinced that the process will prove successful. Cane which under ordinary circumstances and methods will yield eighty pounds of sugar to the ton yields 140 pounds under this process.

A Providence man is issuing some tens of thousands of fac-similes of the Vicksburg daily paper which was issued by Grant's soldiers after the capture of the city, having already been put in type by the regular printers. It was printed, as Southern papers were in those days, on the plain side of wall paper. This would not be worthy of note but for the fact that in a quarter of a century or less the people who find these forgeries in their attic will be claiming that their fathers were at Vicksburg, and got one of the only dozen or two copies of the Citizen which were printed.

Every year increases the importance of the cotton production of Mexico, especially in view of the fact that vast tracts of land hitherto inaccessible, and rendered unusable through the presence of hostile Indians, are being opened up to immigration by the railroad. At present it is cultivated in only twelve States, and the amount produced is not sufficient for home consumption, large quantities being imported from the United States. One district, containing about 1,200,000 acres, lying partly in Coahuila and Durango, produces a perennial cotton plant, which does not require to be planted often than once in ten years.

A newspaper printed at Dolores, Argentine Republic, which is situated near the volcanic region, gives an account of a mysterious shower of stones which fell near that city a few weeks ago. The stones are said to have fallen as thick as hail, and varied in size from a pebble to a very respectable boulder. Incalculable damage was done to the crops, tall trees were shivered to atoms, barns and out-houses were demolished and many domestic animals were killed. In some localities the ground was covered with the bodies of wild geese and hawks, which appeared to have been killed during their flight in the air. Several persons were struck and badly injured while at work in the fields; and in the city itself, which missed the violence of the shower, one dwelling was wrecked. The stones are said to have fallen continuously for more than a minute.

Clocks, says the New York Times, are now not only useful but very ornamental, and so very cheap, too. A very pretty antique pressed brass mantel clock, (American make), with a deep-toned cathedral gong of a far-away sound, can be had for \$10. A good-time keeper, nickel-plated, costs but 50 cents. The prices fall in this wide range, and selections can be made from varied thousands of office clocks, alarms, cuckoos, hawks, and striking or silent recorders of the flight of precious hours. Clocks that tell the state of the weather and are also calendars; clocks that tinkle the half hours and chime the full; clocks that work like watches or swing the faithful pendulum, and, in fact, clocks of all kinds, matching all dispositions, are abundant and cheap, and there seems to no excuse for even the occupant of an east side flat not having one. These Yankee clocks are appreciated abroad and below, for the exportations to Europe, Mexico, and South America number a thousand a day.

The Grant relics, which have been for several months safely guarded in one of the private rooms of the National Museum, in Washington, are now on public exhibition. Recently two handsome pushed lined cases, filled with articles from the collection, were placed in the north hall of the museum, near the main entrance. They contained the presentation sword, gold headed cane, spectacles, medals and many other costly and elegant articles presented by different people at different times to General Grant. Many of these articles are souvenirs of his trip around the world. There is a splendid collection of Japanese coins, one series of seven pieces, old Japanese gold coins of huge size, being valued at \$5,000. There are also invitation cards, menu cards, and reminders of entertainments given in his honor, engraved on gold plates. One invitation card to a masked ball, given at San Francisco upon General Grant's arrival at that city, on his return from his famous tour, is engraved on solid gold, and was inclosed in a silver envelope, with the address engraved upon it. In the right hand corner is a two cent stamp, and in the left the usual: "If not delivered in ten days return to," etc. The articles shown, besides their historical interest, are of great intrinsic value.

SOME DAY. Some day I shall be dead, Some day this tired head, With all the anxious thoughts it now doth know, Shall be laid low. This body, pain-racked, ill, Shall lie at length, and still, Under the clover and the wind-swept grass, Nor hear you pass. That were indeed strange sleep: What—even you—might weep, And come and go—seven you—unheard of me As bird or bee! Nay, sweetheart, nay!—believe There is no cause to grieve; One so wayworn, so sore oppressed, Is glad to rest. Perchance when that release Hath wrought its spell of peace, Or this unquiet heart long vex'd with woe— Hearts—easy may grow.

Who lov's a me will not weep, But rather joy to think each sorrow may Have end some day. —Helen Hunt.

TRUE AS STEEL.

"I do wonder why little savages are all so afraid of making a crossing bill of the public highway," grumbled an uncommonly pretty girl, as she hesitated in great perturbation half way up the improvised stile mentioned.

"It is quite too bad, and my very nicest dress, too," she complained, mentally, as she stepped to draw back and pin up the damaged bit of drapery. In the annoyance of the moment she did not reflect that something more unpleasant was quite possible if she were not vigilant.

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nacha braid I wanted at the store—or did you forget your errand, and stay all this time gossiping with that simple old Mrs. Merron?"

"The rose tint deepened in crimson on Dodo's pretty cheeks, but she did not choose to explain what had deterred her at Mrs. Merron's cottage on the hill.

"I ought to have gone before," he continued, uneasily, as if he were dreading some reproach from Dodo herself.

One of the rarest, and certainly one of the most interesting, in the library of the British Museum is what our ancestors called a "horn-book." It was, in fact, their primer, the ordinary means by which they began their education.

"Yes, gentlemen," said one of the few yet unboycotted liars of the Bohemian Club, who, by the way, is a shooting story; "that was the most remarkable gun I ever saw. Wouldn't take a thousand dollars for it."

"How much better give me three or four bass. Make it look decent in quantity without appearing to exaggerate, you know." "Oh, you'd better take white fish, hadn't you?"

"How to Tell the Age of a Horse." The age of a horse is indicated by the teeth in the following manner. When the colt is three years old it sheds four of the front teeth, and permanent teeth take their place, two above and two below.

It takes a great deal of work to make type, says the Atlanta Constitution. Every letter is handled by five persons after it is cast. The first thing done is cutting the letter on the end of a piece of steel forming a punch.

little love, what is this?" he finished in surprise. For Dodo had suddenly flung herself face downward on the sofa, and was crying.

"It is a good rule to be deaf when a slanderer talks. Those are the most honorable who are the least known and reciprocal threats. Inordinate demands should be met with bold denial.

"The vulnerable point of one's character is much more speedily discovered by our inferiors than by our equals. Real friendship is a slow grower, and never thrives unless nurtured upon a soil of mutual respect and reciprocal threats.

"Constance is a very young, but she is also better worth quoting than most of the old ones," he said, somewhat aroused by the fact that a wedding was about to take place in the family of her little playmate, and that the playmate thereby had the advantage of her, so she remarked very complacently, to her little friend's mamma:

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BUDGET OF FUN.

HUMOROUS SKETCHES FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Rather Confusing—The Same Old Place—Wanted a Change—Early Marriage—What the Gun was Good For, Etc.

In a barber shop. Customer—"You say the black horse won?" "Yes, sir."

"Where do you expect to go this season?" asked the lady. "Oh the same old watering place—the town pump."—Carl Pretzel.

"Got the cholera in town?" asked a Nankin farmer who was on the market yesterday. "Why, no," answered the person interrogated.

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At a recent dinner, by the way, a story was told of Barnum. "He is a tougher man now," said one of the party, "but remember when he set up the drinks for a distinguished crowd. He didn't do it out of pure good nature either. It was twenty-six years ago, at the Profile House, in the Franconia mountains. Barnum was feeling pretty smart those days, and he had been playing his jokes and cute tricks rather freely about the house. A lot of guests sat on the piazza of the hotel. Among them were Commodore Vanderbilt, William H. Vanderbilt, another of the family, Governor Gilmore's son, John Hyde, the artist, Barnum and a number of others, including myself. Young Gilmore was a lively young chap then, but he has deteriorated and become a minister since. Gilmore put up the job and let us all into it. He twisted the talk around to physical prowess, and got Barnum to brag about how fast he could run. Across the piazza in front of the hotel was a rail to which horses were tied. Gilmore proposed that we all start from the piazza and run to the rail and that the last man to touch the rail with his hand pay for the drinks for the crowd. Everybody agreed, and we got into line, all except the Commodore, who never took the bait. He was in a T, was lively and confident, and waited impatiently for the word. The Commodore said 'Go!' and away went the greatest show on earth like jumbo in a sprint across the piazza and gave the rail a tug. Everybody else pretended to run for all that was in them, but took care not to get ahead of P. T. The showman got there first, and ran to the rail with his hand pay for the drinks for the crowd. Everybody agreed, and we got into line, all except the Commodore, who never took the bait. He was in a T, was lively and confident, and waited impatiently for the word. The Commodore said 'Go!' and away went the greatest show on earth like jumbo in a sprint across the piazza and gave the rail a tug. 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