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OBSERVATIONS.

Girardin, the great French editor, died with perfect unconcern. He had made arrangements to have suppressed any resolutions that might be passed upon his death.

Just because a man goes through the rain without an umbrella it doesn't prove that he is a philosopher. It only shows that somebody has appropriated his water shed.

Conkling's 'sarkassum" pricks like a pin when he says of Mr. Garfield and his cabinet: "What could you expect of an administration which draws its religion from Bob Ingersoll, its patriotism from Mahone, and its truthfulness from itself?"—Hartford Times.

"Mr. ——, you seem to be evolving that translation from your inner consciousness." "Well, professor, I read in my devotions last night that 'by faith Enoch was translated,' and I thought I would try it on Horace."—College Journal.

Be kind to the lightning rod man. He has a father, perhaps, and a mother, who knew him in his innocent youth. Perhaps even now, in some Western village, fond hearts are beating for him, and sweet lips breathe love's dearest prayers for his welfare. Therefore lay him down tenderly, fold his hands peacefully on his breast, and close his eyes gently as you put him to rest under the branches of the weeping willow, where the birds carrol all through the summer days their softest songs. But plant him deep—plant him deep.

If you want to get even with a man who is always cramming reason into your ears for the purpose of suppressing your feelings, watch him during a thunder storm like that of Sunday. The celestial racket, which means no more than one of Garfield's pledges, does not begin until the lightning has finished whatever business it had on hand, but the "pure reason" fiend trembles under it as noticeably as the boy who has not outgrown his first trousers.—New York Herald.

One of the news boys of the Cleaveland (O.) Press is a little cripple, whose legs were cut off by the cars. He had a three-wheeled velocipede, on welch he would go around to sell his papers. This gave out the other day, and the little fellow was compelled to drag himself about as best he could, until he met a sympathetic gentleman, who took him to a store, bought him a new velocipede, lifted the little fellow on it, and sent him on his way rejoicing. The man refused to give his name, but the angels turned to the book and scored a few big marks alongside of it.

Facts About Coral.

Naples Letter to New York Times.

There are from 10,000 to 12,000 persons actually employed in the town of Torre del Greco in the manufacture of coral. Only a portion of these are seen in the factories, for the engravers and those who mount the oraments, work mostly at their houses. The number employed by Signor Gagliardi is 200, outside the factory, and 80 within. In the branch factory that he has established at Bosiotrecase, near the once buried city of Pompeii, there is about the same number of persons at work. One-third of these are children ranging from twelve years upward. The rate at which these people are paid, though small in comparison to the sums given in the United States, is not so low as might be expected, when the number of unemployed persons and the cost of living among the lower class of Italians is considered. The engravers are, of course, paid according to their ability. The captain of a coral boat will receive for his season's work the sum of 500f. An ordinary workman, one whose business it is to file the beads, and who does his work satisfactorily, will make about a dollar a day, while the women and children earn from 60 cents to $2 a week. Each operative has by his or her side a small earthern vessel, in which the beads are thrown as soon as the special operation for which they are employed is performed. When a certain number are ready, the beads are taken to the desk and the operative is paid accordingly. The sum paid for drilling 1,000 beads is about 5 cents, and the number per day that can be drilled by one girl with the awkward instruments they use is about 5,000. The grinding is paid at the same rate, but the filing, being a more difficult operation, brings the operative a larger return for his labor. The amount of coral sent from Torre del Greco to different parts of the world varies greatly. In certain countries there is an excellent market for it, while in others it is appreciated only to a small extent. France, for instance, takes a very small proportion, the finest and most expensive coral ornaments being sent to Germany, England and America. The Chinese have but very little fancy for coral, while in India and Africa it is a favorite ornament, and worn in profusion by women of all classes. The coral trade between Torre del Greco and the East Indies amounts to some $1,400,000 per year. The largest manufacturer and exporter is Signor Giuseppe Massa, who sends out forty-four boats and employs about a thousand persons. After him come several houses, the heads of which are Signori Perrara, Sautoponte, Asbione and our kind entertainder, Signor Gagliardi. The great mass of coral is sold by weight, the scale of prices being fixed according to the size and color of the beads. The coral market is subject to very little fluctuation. Pieces of special size and beauty command very high prices. There is now exposed in one of the larger coral shops of Naples a ball of coral about the size of a hen's egg, and of a beautiful rose-color, for which the sum of $700 is demanded. Among the more expensive ornaments, the fineness and delicacy of the arrangement influence greatly the price. Nearly all the coral engravers live in Naples, where the carving and mounting of coral ornaments form almost a distinct branch of business.

Corn and Pork.

We produced 1,537,000 bushels of Indian corn in the United States last year. In the four years, ending with 1880, our total product of this king of cereals was 5,020,000,000 bushels. The bare production of this corn requires a well-cultivated area of 60,000,000 acres; which means not less than 2,000,000 farms, and gives employment in agriculture alone to 5,000,000 workmen, representing a population of not less than 25,000,000. The chief uses of this article are for bread, feed and the manufacture of whiskey. We export in the grain condition about 90,000,000 bushels, and there is about as much converted into spirits. We export, of corn converted into pork, lard, beef, mutton and dairy products, not less than the value of $320,000,000 a year, representing say 600,000,000 bushels of corn. This accounts for just about one-half the annual crop. The other half is consumed by the producers. The annual hog crop, converted into pork, lard, hams, bacon, etc., for export and for consumption in the urban and manufacturing districts of the United States, may be moderately stated at about 1,235,000 tons, or 2,470,000,000 pounds. This is the smaller part of the total production. The larger part is consumed by the producers, and enters to a greater extent than any other food supply—including both corn and pork in all forms—into the daily subsistence of the domestic population of this country.

A Luminous Comet.

Out in Laramie the papers publish nice little personal notices. Here is one from the *Boomerang*: "Has any goggle-eyed astronomer noticed recently, floating through space, a bald-headed planet, with apparently no regular orbit and evidently drifting sou'west by sou' like a bob tail comet looking for a drink? The luminous comet Henry R. Crosby has drifted into space, and those who have from 50 cents to $5 stock in him would like to know where he went to."

NEWS OF INTEREST.

A contemporary corrects our statement, made on what we thought good authority, that the postoffice has not paid its way since 1828. It says that eight years since that date, the last being 1865, the revenues have exceeded the expenses, and that in 1852 the surplus was nearly a million and a half. Mr. James, we observe, has already reduced expenses by cutting off star routes to the extent of $400,000.—*New York American.*

Senator David Davis has written a letter to a friend in Illinois, in which he says, among other things, that "new parties are not organized in a day, but the next presidential election is nearly four years distant, and there will be abundant time for the people to take the matter in their own hands and create a great organization to protect their interests, now held in the grip of great organizations and monopolists."

A box turtle was found in a field at Baiting Hollow a few days since with the following marked on its bottom shell: "B. F. Y., 1826; B. F. Y., 1841; B. F. Y., 1851." B. F. Youngs, of Riverhead, marked the turtle first forty-five years ago, and also the second and third times. After marking it for the fourth time "B. F. Y., 1881," he let it go again.—*New York Sun.*

A gentleman of Hanover county, Va., has in his possession an autograph letter of George Washington, dated August, 1877, addressed to Thos. Nelson, Jr., (not the general of that name,) granting the latter a leave of absence from the Continetal army to get married to "Miss Cary," and congratulating him on the occasion. Gen. Washington was rejected by Miss Cary's aunt before he courted the widow Custis.

The numerous gang and circular saw mills in and around and directly tributary to Pensacola, Fla., is wonderful, both in number and capacity. They are about fifty, with a cutting capacity of about 300,000,000 ft. per annum, but they have never worked up nearer than about two-thirds of their capacity, and cut some 200,000,000 feet per annum.

The latest statistics show 41,678,000 school children in the world, so far as the census takers were able to ascertain. These have about 1,000,000 teachers. First in proportion to population comes the United States, with 9,373,165 pupils and 271,144 teachers.

The number of immigrants arriving at New York last week was 9,200; the total for the month being 41,611, and since January 1, 146,902. The arrivals for May are now estimated at 70,000, and for the year at 750,000.

Since December 1st, 1880, over $60,000,000 of British capital has been advanced for the promotion of American railroad enterprises.

SMOKING CIGARETTES.

Likewise Some Other Substances That Are Not so Palatable.

Philadelphia Times.

There are few current delusions that have become so firmly fixed as the trade trick which claims that the only original cigarette, warranted not to kill or ruin the larynx, is the one wrapped in rice paper. During the last ten years cigarette smoking has grown apace in this country. At the beginning of the war the cigarette was the mark of a foreigner, the Spaniard especially. All the continental nations, however, do most of their smoking in this way. The ready-made cigarette is only a comparatively late invention. It was created in deference to the impatient spirit of the American, who cannot give the time or possibly acquire the skill necessary to roll a cigarette. The address with which this job is done abroad elicits admiration. So great an adept was Napoleon III. in the making of this small solace that with one hand, the left, he could arrange the tobacco and roll the paper into a condition fit to smoke. This, however, is a by no means rare accomplishment in France, Spain or Italy. It was the American who invented the patent cigarettes, not so much to save the consumer the trouble of making the article as to get a good chance to adulterate them. There is cigarette made in America that any man, boy or woman would smoke if the making and mixture of them could be seen. Every brand makes a loud boast of using rice paper, whereas any one who takes the trouble to examine the rice plant will see at a glance that there is no fibrous consistence in it to make paper of the sort used in cigarettes. Prodigious fortunes have been made and are making, and millions of people are slowly ruining their digestive organs by inhaling the foul stuff wrapped up in the various brands that claim to be pure. Let any smoker of cigarettes subject his tongue and throat to a medical examination after smoking a package of cigarettes. Vitrol itself leaves no more sinister impression on tongue, throat and palate. If the cigarette were made of pure tobacco and fairly good paper it would be no more harmful than a cigar, which the world has come to agree substantially is not harmful at all. But the greed of the trade enters this, like all other enterprises that spring up to supply sudden demand. A package of twenty cigarettes, which may represent an outlay of from three to five cents, the manufacturer exacts twelve to sixteen cents for. There is rarely in a package of twenty as much genuine tobacco as a smoker consumes in one honest pipeful. It may be safely said that, with perhaps one or two exceptions, every cigarette made is a source of violent physical reaction, destructive of vital tissues and the active principle of lurking and insidious diseases, and that it is better to smoke a pound of tobacco in any other form than the pinch mingled with poison that makes up the ridiculously expensive and utterly worthless article of cigarette that holds the market.