

THE SADDEST THINGS.

The saddest things to see or hear.
To waken a sigh or draw a tear.
Is an evil look on a fair child's face;
A young man running a sinful race;
An old man bent beneath a load of crimes;
A maid forgetting to blush at times;
A sinner wearing a saintly dress;
A mother robbed of her tenderness;
A miser making a god of gold;
A lamb that has strayed from the human fold;
Two hearts estranged that have beat as one;
Twelve hours wasted when the day is done;
A homestead ruined by sad neglect;
A parent treated with disrespect;
A faithful wife with a cruel mate;
A poor man driven from his brother's gate;
A sweet dove caught in a cunning trap;
A Samson shorn in Delilah's lap;
A living drone in a busy hive;
A half-starved nag on the daily drive;
A mortal going the downward road;
A man blaspheming his maker, God;
All these, and many more we see,
Are the saddest sights in earth's history.

ODDS AND ENDS.

A Texas family attended the circus at Sherman the other day. The husband sold a load of wood for \$1, and the wife a jar of butter for \$1.25; then they were 75 cents short but the father pawned his boots, and barefoot led the way to the splendours of the arena.—Exchange.

Miss Susie King, of Harlem, recently saw the following advertisement in a newspaper: "How to get rich—A rare secret. Send 25 cents to Geo. Fullerton, box 413, Portland, Me." Prompted by curiosity, she forwarded the money and received the following reply: "Work like the devil and never spend a cent."

One of the passengers on the Burlington and Quincy railroad last evening was a man from New Hampshire, going to Colorado for his health. The man weighed one hundred and ten pounds, his trunk weighed eighty-six, and his lunch-basket was four feet high and weighed one hundred and twenty-eight pounds. He was awful sick.

The dinner-horn is the oldest and most sacred horn there is. It is set to music and plays "Home, Sweet Home" about noon. It has listened to more rapturous delirium than ever any band has. You can hear it further than you can one of Rodman's guns. It will arrest a man and bring him in quicker than a sheriff's warrant. It can out-foot any other noise. It causes the deaf to hear and the dumb to shout for joy. Glorious old instrument! long may thy lungs last!—Josh Billings.

A lady was the mother of a bright little boy about three years old. The whooping-cough prevailed in their neighborhood, and the mother became very much alarmed lest her boy would take it. She had talked so much about it, and worried over it, that she had infected the child with her fears to such an extent that he would scarcely leave her side. One night, after the little fellow had been put to bed and to sleep, a jackass was driven past the house, and when just opposite set up his he-haw, he-haw, he-haw. With a shriek the little fellow was out of bed, screaming at the top of his voice. "The whooping-cough is coming, mamma; the whooping-cough is coming." He didn't catch it that time.

A colored man living in Greene Street, New York, having admired a colored widow living in the next block above, but being afraid to come out boldly and reveal his passion, went to a white man of his acquaintance the other day, and requested him to write the lady a letter, asking her hand in marriage. The friend wrote, telling the widow in a few brief lines, that the size of her feet was the talk of the neighborhood, and asking her if she could not spare them down a little. The name of the colored man was signed, and he was to call on her on Sunday night for an answer. The writer of the letter met the nigger limping along the street, and asked him what the widow said. The man showed him a scratched nose, a lame leg and a spot on his scalp where a handful of wool had been violently jerked out, and answered in solemn tones: "She didn't say nuffin, and I didn't stay dar more'n a minute."

AGRICULTURAL.

EXAMINE THE COMBS.

It is the easiest thing in the world when you know how 'tis done—to tell when your fowls are in ill health, even in the incipient stages of any disease or ailment, if you but examine your flock carefully. The comb of each fowl is a true index to the workings of their systems. If they be in ill health the comb will lose color and will become far less firm in texture; as the malady increases, the color decreases, till a very sick bird will show a comb almost devoid of scarlet color, being of a livid dull crimson or else pale or ashy in appearance. If the cholera or any disease should come into the flock, carefully examine the combs of each bird, morning and night, and all those which are wanting in that bright, rich color which denotes perfect health, remove at once from the flock to a place remote, where they should at once be put under medical treatment. The comb of the fowl is an honest index of the true inwardness, and should daily be consulted by the fancier who values the health and well being of his flock. Look at the comb of a laying hen or pullet! She is in the height of health and strength and carries her unfailing sign of healthfulness on her head, in the shape of a blood-red, bright and full comb. A vigorous cock or cockerel will carry the same sign, though not, perhaps, in so eminent a degree.

HOW TO MAKE COWS GIVE MILK.
A writer in the *Southern Farmer* says that his cow gives all the milk that is wanted in a family of eight, and that from it, after taking all that is required for other purposes, 260 pounds of butter were made last year. This is, in part, his treatment of the cow: If you desire to get a large yield of rich milk, give your cow every day water slightly warm and slightly salted, in which bran has been stirred at the rate of one quart to two gallons of water. You will find, if you have not tried this daily practice, that your cow will give twenty-five per cent. more milk immediately under the effects of it, and she will become so attached to the diet as to refuse to drink clear water unless very thirsty. But this mess she will drink almost any time, and ask for more. The amount of this drink necessary is an ordinary water-pail full at a time, morning, noon and night.

[Raleigh News, Dec. 29th.]

DEATH OF JAS. M. TOWLES.

After an illness of some weeks, the death of this gentleman occurred on Thursday evening. At the time of his demise he was in his 71st year. He had been a resident of this city some 55 years, coming here from Virginia. He first entered business as a clerk for William Shaw, then one of the leading merchants of the place, who had come here early in the century. Mr. Towles afterwards was a clerk in Turner & Hughes' book store. After this he went into business for himself on Fayetteville street. There he conducted a good trade for some 40 years. A few years past he went into the auction business, in which he was engaged up to the time of his last illness. Soon after Mr. Towles made this city his home, he connected himself with the Presbyterian church, of which he was always an earnest member. He was elected a ruling elder during the ministry of Dr. Lacy, and afterwards served in the same capacity in the Second church. He was for many years teacher and superintendent of the Sabbath school. About the year 1836 he married Miss Mary A. Callum, of Milton, Caswell county, who survives him. Mr. Towles had many friends here, and knew almost every person by name, and he will be missed in the community. His funeral was held from his residence on Wilmington street yesterday afternoon, at 3 o'clock. The services were conducted by Rev. J. M. Atkinson, D. D., assisted by Rev. J. S. Watkins. The remains were interred in the old (or city) cemetery, and were attended to their last resting place by the family and a number of friends.

Care and diligence bring "luck."

DOMESTIC.

TO PRESERVE THE HAIR.—Wash it in cold sage tea.

LINIMENT.—A good liniment for cuts, bruises, etc., can be made by soaking common Maywood leaves in Alcohol.

QUINCE SEED.—Quince seed is good for sore or inflamed eyes. Take about one-half dozen quince seeds, put about a tablespoonful of scalding water on them; let it stand till cool, and bathe the eyes just before going to bed and at morning.

About one pound of copperas (sulphate of iron,) at a cost of a few cents put into a water-closet, will entirely deodorize it, five pounds in a bucket of water, thrown down a cesspool will have the same effect. There is no unpleasant odor from it as there is from chloride of lime or carbolic acid. Worth knowing.

For washing silver put a half teaspoonful of hartshorn down into the suds in which the silver is washed; have the water hot; wash quickly, using a small brush; rinse in hot water and dry with a clean linen towel; then rub very dry with a chamois skin. Washed in this manner silver becomes very brilliant, and requires no polishing with any of the powders of whiting usually employed, and the silver does not wear out.

FOR THE CURE OF NEURALGIA.—Take two ounces of chloroform, two ounces of chloral hydrate, one and one-half ounces of alcohol, one ounce of camphor, one ounce of sulphuric ether, six grains of sulphate morphine and two drachms of oil of peppermint. Put the mixtures into a bottle sufficiently large to hold it tightly, shake it thoroughly, and bathe the part afflicted frequently. The above is intended for outward application only.

RULES FOR HOME EDUCATION.

1. From your children's earliest infancy, inculcate the necessity of instant obedience.
2. Unite firmness with gentleness. Let your children always understand that you mean what you say.
3. Never promise them anything unless you are quite sure you can give them what you say.
4. If you tell a little child to do something, show him how to do it, and see that it is done.
5. Always punish your children for wilfully disobeying you, but never punish them in anger.
6. Never let them perceive that they vex you, or make you lose your self-command.
7. If they give way to petulance or ill-temper, wait till they are calm, and then gently reason with them on the impropriety of their conduct.
8. Remember that a little present punishment when the occasion arises is much more effectual than the threatening of a greater punishment should the fault be renewed.
9. Never give your children anything because they cry for it.
10. On no account allow them to do at one time what you have forbidden, under the same circumstances, at another.
11. Teach them that the only sure and easy way to appear good, is to be good.
12. Accustom them to make their little recitals with perfect truth.
13. Never allow of tale-bearing.
14. Teach them self-denial, not self-indulgence of an angry and resentful spirit.

A wolf, clothing himself in the skin of a sheep, and getting in among the flock by this means, took the opportunity of devouring many of them. At last the shepherd discovered him, and cunningly fastening a rope about his neck, tied him up to a tree which stood hard by. Some other shepherds happening to pass that way, and observing what he was about, drew near, and expressed their astonishment at it. "What, brother," said one of them, "do you like hanging sheep?" "No," replied the other, "but I like hanging a wolf when I catch him, though in the habit and garb of a sheep." Then showing them their mistake, they applauded the justice of the execution.

United States District Attorney J. W. Albertson, having secured a residence in Raleigh, will make that place his home.

FIRST THINGS.

Envelopes were first used in 1839. The first steel pen was made in 1830.

The first air pump was made in 1650.

The first steamship was built in 1830.

The first lucifer match was made in 1829.

The first balloon ascent was made in 1783.

Coaches were first used in England in 1569.

Ships were first "copper-bottomed" in 1782.

The first steamer plied the Hudson in 1807.

The first horse railroad was built in 1826—7.

Gold was first discovered in California in 1848.

The entire Hebrew Bible was printed in 1488.

The first watch was made in Nuremberg in 1477.

The first newspaper advertisement appeared in 1652.

Omnibuses were introduced in New York in 1839.

The first copper cent was coined in New Haven 1687.

Kerosene was first used for lighting purposes in 1826.

The first almanac was printed by G. V. Parback in 1450.

The first telescope was probably used in England in 1608.

The first use of a locomotive in this country was in 1829.

The first chimney was introduced in Rome from Pauda, 1229.

The first saw maker's anvil was brought to America in 1819.

Glass windows were first introduced into England in the eighth century.

The first steam fire engine on this continent was brought from England in 1853.

The first complete sewing machine was patented by Elias Howe, Jr., in 1846.

The first society for the promotion of Christian knowledge was organized in 1698.

The first attempt to manufacture pins in this country was made after the war of 1812.

The first algebra originated with Diophantus in either the fourth or sixth century.

Gas was first used as an illuminating agent in 1702. Its first use in New York was in 1827.

The first national bank in the United States was incorporated by Congress, Dec. 31, 1781.

Glass was early discovered. Glass beads were found on mummies over 3,000 years old.

Organs are said to have been first introduced into churches by Pope Vitalianus, about A. D. 1670.

The first glass factory in the United States of which we have definite knowledge was built in 1780.

The first temperance society in this country was organized in Saratoga county, N. Y., in March 1808.

The first machine for carding, roving and spinning cotton made in the United States was manufactured in 1786.

The first compass was used in France in 150, though the Chinese are said to have employed the loadstone earlier.

The first society for the exclusive purpose of circulating the Bible, was organized in 1895, under the name of "British and Foreign Bible Society."

The first telegraph instrument was successfully operated by S. F. B. Morse, in 1835, though its utility was not demonstrated to the world until 1844.

A keen lawyer, who always made it a point to get his case, was applied to by a fellow who had stolen some pork, to defend him. Accordingly in his usual way he ruined the evidence on which the plaintive relied, and the jury brought in a verdict of not guilty. After the verdict was declared, as the fellow was leaving the court-house, he whispered to his attorney thus: "Squire, what shall I do with the pork, for I have got it yet?" "Eat it," said the lawyer, "for the jury say you did not steal it."

In one second of time—in one beat of the pendulum of a clock—light travels two hundred thousand miles. Were a cannon ball shot toward the sun, and were it to maintain full speed, it would be twenty years in reaching it—and yet light travels through this space in seven or eight minutes.

IT IS NOT BIRTH, RANK NOR STATE,
IT'S GIT UP AND GIT THAT MAKE MEN GREAT.

HEADQUARTERS!



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Everything and Anything you want, at Prices bound to please, at
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The Best 5 cent cigar in the State.

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Shaving, - - - - - 15cts.
Hair Cutting, - - - - - 25cts.
Shampooing, - - - - - 25cts.

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ENVELOPES, PAPER,

PENS, INK, PENCILS

and COPY BOOKS

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PERFUMERY, TOILET AND

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WASH BRUSHES

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