

ODDS AND ENDS

A workman in a Troy mill was guiding a red-hot rod of iron between two rollers. He stumbled forward, and the rod entered his mouth, passed out through his cheek, and coiled round and round his body. He was frightfully burned yet he will recover.

Bagdad has lately been visited by an epidemic fever, which is attributed to the general impurity of its sanitary arrangements. Fever is indeed almost constantly raging among the poorer classes of Bagdad, who die in large numbers, being unable to pay the exorbitant demand by the native druggists for quinine.

The Idaho Legislature four years ago offered a bounty of two cents a pair for rabbit ears, in view of the fact that the country was overrun with these animals. The result in one county is shown by the huge sackful of rabbit ears, representing 19,968 rabbits which now lie in the office of the county commissioners, whom are at a loss how to dispose of them.

The Texas Legislature is variegated by five colored Democrats. There are two colored Republicans in the Alabama Legislature, one of them has been arrested for stealing from the other. The Georgia Legislature contains two negroes, one of whom was seated by a Democratic House over a Democrat. They voted for Gordon as most of the colored legislators in South Carolina voted for Hampton.

A desperate attempt was made by a large body of men to recapture one of their friends, "Red Leary," who had been taken into custody on the charge of complicity in the Manhattan bank robbery, and after his discharge was re-arrested for robbing the Northampton (Mass.) bank. As he was about to be taken from the prison to a carriage, several of his companions made a dash to release him, but were confronted by the pistols of Detective Pinkerton and aids; and after a short but severe struggle the prisoner was left in the hands of the officers, while one of his would-be rescuers was arrested.

Among the young ladies who sat at the recent church fair, and retained kisses at the nominated value of ten cents each, was a vinegar-visaged old maid, who had crowded herself in on the gauzy pretense that she felt it her duty to do her share toward helping along the good cause. When it came time for closing, the young ladies turned over to the church treasury from \$5 to \$10 apiece, while the ancient female handed in a solitary dime, the value of one kiss that she received from a blind man whose taste was so vitiated by tobacco-chewing that he was unable to detect the imposition.

A writer in the Art Journal believes that American women are degenerating. The woman who lives next door furnished a sad example of this fact one day lately. She got up at four o'clock and built two fires, heated four hods of coal from the cellar, did the week's washing for a family of six, before seven o'clock, prepared the morning meal, impartially licked three children and got them ready for school, potted several choice plants, let a black patch into the capola of her husband's grey pants, read four chapters of a New York Ledger continued story, visited a neighbor and learned how to cut her new cloak in the latest style, cooked a boiled dinner, and chased a book agent out of the yard with a broom, all before 12 o'clock. The American woman is indeed degenerating.

An appalling tragedy has taken place near Thornhill, Tenn. In spite of a large family, Mr. J. N. Epperson and wife could not live pleasantly together in their old age, and separated. The husband left the house, but returned a few days ago, and it was not long before he quarreled and came to blows with his wife. John Epperson, a one-armed son, attempted to interfere, when his father stabbed him four times with a pocket-knife. After a fearful struggle John wrested the knife from his father and killed the old man with one lunge. Soon after, another son, Thomas, arrived, and seeing his father lying dead on the floor, became enraged, drew a pistol, and fired without effect upon his brother John, who fled into the house. Then Thomas turned the pistol upon his mother, whom he killed with one shot. Continuing his bloody work he shot a third brother, George, in the thigh, and shattered a sister's knee with a bullet, inflicting a probably fatal wound. After committing these atrocious deeds, Thomas Epperson fled. John Epperson was acquitted by a coroner's jury.

AGRICULTURAL

THE FIRST LESSON IN DRIVING.—The young horse should be driven a few times in the harness—the trainer in front—and taught to turn to the right and left, to rein back, etc., before attaching to a wagon; use long reins and possibly an assistant might be useful to show him what the reining means. A "kicking strap" should be fastened over his rump from one shaft to another. If a colt hits nothing when he kicks, he will soon stop kicking. In starting off, some one should lead the colt a few hundred yards, to encourage him, and he should be patted when let go. When training, remember that "a light hand makes a light mouth and a pleasant driving-horse." The well-known important rule of practice, to start a horse by word of the mouth, rather than by a touch of the whip, applies especially to the training period.

WATERING HORSES AFTER FEEDING.—Another common fault in the alimentation of horses is the leading to water just after a full feed of grain. The first effect of this is to largely distend the stomach; and the result may be as serious as if the material were masticated grain and saliva. But should this danger be avoided, matters are not necessarily in a better state. The sudden and incessive influx of water is likely to wash much of the contents of the stomach into the intestines before the nitrogenous principles have been digested and a fermentation, extrication of gases, over distention, colics, and inflammations result. Even that is not all. The application of an excess of cold water on the mucus membrane of the stomach and intestines causes vascular contractions, so that all tend to digestive disorders of a dangerous nature. Copious draughts of ice water are dangerous alike to man and beast. If it must be taken, it should be taken in small quantities only, and frequently. But a drink of water of moderate temperature, just after a feed of grain, is full peril to the animal. Thirst should be allayed before the feed is given; and if any water is allowed after, it should be merely a mouthful, and not until the lapse of two or three hours' time has been given for gastric digestion. After a feed of hay there is comparatively little danger. From the excessive salivary addition to the hay, and comparatively small amount of its albuminoids, these are rapidly dissolved out and digested, and the further addition of water is rather favorable than otherwise in hastening its progress into the bowels, where the digestion of the starch, sugar, fat and other respiratory elements may be completed.

FASHION NOTES.

White and gold is the fashionable combination this winter. Bullet-shaped glass buttons are worn with colored dresses. Rows of gilded pearls, like small combs, are worn on bonnets. Gloves contrasting with the dress are worn with all the new colors. Tucks and Valenciennes trimming are used on the best underclothing. Feather trimmings are embroidered through the center in chain stitch. The bands of fur used for trimming this season are invariably narrow. Small black satin buttons are used on the waist of the nicest dresses by fashionable makers. The "Chesterfield," a new coat for street wear, is shaped like an ulster, but has a jacket-back.

Pearls are now more fashionable than diamonds, and the price has consequently advanced. Plain ruching set edge to edge with insertion between, is a pretty trimming for the neck of a dress.

New combs, in shell and silver, consist of three pins, which may be arranged in a straight or curved line or worn separately.

Belts are very fashionable, and are worn very broad. Some have appeared in Paris of white enameled leather, with steel buckles.

A big story, says the Raleigh Observer, comes from the Shenandoah Valley. It is all about a peddler who, for three successive nights, dreamed of finding a great quantity of money up a particular tree. Assisted by a farmer, he felled the tree, the agreement being that the spoils were to be divided. Down came the tree; a cavity was discovered, and within it \$5,000 in silver. The peddler expressed his unwillingness to carry about so much silver; so the farmer took the whole amount, paying the peddler \$2,500 in good greenbacks. The peddler vanished into infinite space, but when the farmer tried to pass the dollars he found that they were counterfeit; and he begins to doubt whether the peddler dreamed any such dream at all.

DOMESTIC

MANAGING OLD BRINE.—To every five gallons add one egg, broken and stirred in. Now bring to a gentle boil and skim and cool for use. Saltpetre added to brine at the rate of two to four ounces to a hundred pounds of meat, gives it a fine reddish color. The addition, too, of a little brown sugar, serves to give a nice and agreeable flavor, both to beef and pork particularly for smoking.

FRIED POTATOES WITH EGGS.—Slice cold boiled potatoes and fry in good butter until brown; beat up one or two eggs and stir into them just as soon as you dish them for the table. Do not leave them a moment on the fire after the eggs are in, for if they harden, they are not half so nice. One egg is enough for three or four persons, unless they are very fond of potatoes; if they are, have plenty and put in two.

A RELISH FOR BREAKFAST.—Take one-fourth of a pound of fresh cheese and cut it in thin slices, put it in a frying pan turning a cup of sweet milk over it; add one-fourth of a teaspoonful dry mustard, a pinch of salt and pepper, and a piece of butter about the size of a butternut; stir the mixture all the time. Roll three Boston crackers very fine and sprinkle in gradually, then turn it once into a warm dish; send to the table immediately.

TO GET RID OF MOLD IN CELLARS.—A correspondent recently asked for a simple and effectual remedy for fungus and mold in cellars. A German agricultural journal gives the following: Put some roll brimstone into a pan, and set fire to it; close the doors, making the cellar as near air tight as possible for two or three hours, when the fungi will be destroyed and the mold dried up. Repeat this simple and inexpensive operation every two or three months and you will have your cellar free from all parasitical growth.

[New York Herald.]

A HORROR FROM BRAZIL.

Ceara, one of the northerly provinces of Brazil, is experiencing one of those visitations of famine and pestilence which make the blood run cold to read of. The province has an Atlantic coast line where the climate is moist and comparatively cool; out back in the interior where the land is mountainous, it is hot and dry. Deluged by heavy rains from February to June, it bakes beneath an unclouded sky for the remainder of the year; the streams dry up, and if famine comes, then the consequences can be but faintly pictured. The inhabitants flock to the cities, to the capital, on the coast, if they have strength. We are informed that they have flocked this year to Eortless, and there the small-pox has broken out among the starving refugees. The loathsome disease claims, it is reported, 300 victims a day. In the interior the condition of those left behind is appalling. Stories of human beings feeding upon what, in Brazil, is left for the vultures and even corpses, are told, recalling the worst experiences of the famine in British India and China.

YOUNG FOLKS' DEPARTMENT.

HIS HAND HELD UP.

A story, was told of a street boy in London who had both legs broken by a dray passing over them. He was laid away in one of the beds of the hospital to die, and another little creature of the same class was laid near by, picked up sick with famine fever. The latter was allowed to lie down by the side of the little crushed boy. He crept up to him and said: "Bobby, did you never hear about Jesus?" "No, I never heard of him." "Bobby, I went to Mission School once, and they told us that Jesus would take you to heaven when you died, and you'd never have hunger anymore, and no more pain, if you axed him." "I couldn't ask such a great big gentleman as he is to do anything for me. He wouldn't stop to speak to a boy like me." "But he'll do all that if you ax him." "How can I ax him if I don't know where he lives, and how could I get there when both my legs is broke?" "Bobby, they told me at Mission School as how Jesus passes by. Teacher says as he goes around. How do you know but what he might come around to this hospital this very night? You'd know him if you was to see him." "But I can't keep my eyes open. My legs feel so awful bad. Doctor says I'll die." "Bobby, hold up yer hand, and he'll know what you want when he passes by." They got the hand up. It dropped. Tried again. It slowly fell back. Three times he got up the little hand, only to let it fall. Bursting into tears, he said: "I give it up." "Bobby, lend me yer hand; put yer elbow on my pillar; I can do without it." So one hand was propped up. And when they came in that morning, the boy lay dead, his hand still held up for Jesus.

THE VALUE OF ANIMALS.

In a recent address, Dr. Bergh, the friend of dumb animals, showed that the connection of animals with the affairs of mankind had been a remarkable one. He said:

The protest of Balaam's ass prevented the commission of a great crime against Heaven, and the cackling of geese saved Rome. When the armies of James II. and William were confronting one another, the noise made by a wren picking up some crumbs from the top of a drum awoke the sleeping drummer, and thus saved the army of William.

Scott tells us that the most splendid event in the history of Scotland—viz: the ascent of Bruce to the throne—was owing to a simple spider, and one of the greatest naval victories of England resulted from the crowing of a cock.

The St. Bernard dog, named Barry, during twelve years of service on the mountains, saved the lives of forty travelers. Grayfriar's Bobby lay upon the grave of his master nine years, and his unparalleled devotion has been perpetuated by a monument, erected by the Baroness Burdett Coutts.

A young man once rode out into the middle of a river with a dog and then threw him overboard. The faithful animal clung to the boat, but was driven off by his cruel master, until at length, during his efforts, he lost his own balance and fell into the stream. Did the dog desert him? No; he seized him by his clothes and held him above water until succor arrived.

One of those cruel enthusiasts known as dissectors of living animals, being once in need of a subject, actually took his own dog, which had been for years in his own family, confined him to a table, and ripped him up as though it had been a senseless object. The suffering creature groaned and howled in his agony, and just before dying raised his head and licked the hand of the savage tormentor.

WOULD NOT TELL A LIE.

Two boys were in a school-room alone together, when some fire-works contrary to the master's prohibition, exploded. The one boy denied it; the other, Bonnie Christie, would neither admit nor deny it, and was severely flogged for his obstinacy. When the boys got alone again—"Why didn't you deny it?" asked the delinquent.

"Because there were only we two, and one of us must have lied," said Bonnie.

"Then why did you not say that I did it?"

"Because you said you didn't, and I would share the lie."

The boy's heart melted; Bonnie's moral gallantry subdued him. When school resumed, the young rogue marched up to the master's desk and said:

"Please, sir, I can't bear to be a liar—I let off the squibs," and burst into tears.

The master's eyes glistened on the self-accuser, and the unmerited punishment he had inflicted on his schoolmate smote his conscience. Before the whole school, hand in hand with the culprit, as if the two were paired into the confession, the master walked down to where young Christie sat, and said aloud:

"Bonnie, Bonnie, lad, he and I beg your pardon—we are both to blame!"

The school was hushed and still, as older scholars are apt to be when something true and noble is being done—so still, they might have heard Bonnie's big boy tears dropping proudly on his book, as he sat enjoying the moral triumph which subdued himself as well as the rest, and then for want of something else to say, he gently cried:

"Master forever!" The glorious shout of the scholars filled the old man's eyes with something behind his spectacles, which made him wipe them before he resumed the chair.

THE WONDERFUL PLANT.

Mary and Kate were both traveling to the next market-town, each laden with heavy baskets of fine fruits and vegetables. Kate murmured and sighed at every step, while Mary joked and laughed as she plodded steadily forward.

"How can you laugh so?—your basket is as heavy as mine, and I am sure you are no stronger than I," said Kate.

"Why," replied Mary, "you see that I took care to put on the very top of my basket a certain plant, and I scarcely feel any weight at all. You should have done the same."

"Oh," cried Kate, "that must be a wonderful plant indeed! I would gladly lighten my load with it; do tell me what it is?"

Mary answered, "The precious plant which lightens every burden is called Patience."

When is a boat like a heap of snow? When it is a drift. What comes after cheese? The mice.

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