

**The Bible and the Flowers.**

On a fine summer day, an unexpected shower drove two or three little parties into a cottage for temporary shelter. A bible and a bouquet of flowers lay upon the table. A shrewd-looking man, one of the company approached the table. He opened the Bible, then closed it again with a smile that was mingled with derision. He took up the bouquet. "This suits me best," said he with an exulting air, for it has no mystery; I can understand it. Its colors are fair and its scent delightful. Saying this, he pulled a flower from the bouquet and stuck it in his bosom. A pause succeeded; but it was soon broken by an old gentleman whose meek and merciful face was grateful to look upon, and whose gray hair entitled him to respect. He had heard the observation of the infidel, and felt anxious to counteract its influence. Advancing to the table he took up the bouquet. "How beautiful in His gifts," said he, "is the Father of mercies! How delicately formed are these beautiful flowers! How rich are their varied tints, and how sweet is the fragrance they exhale! But shall we forego the joy of inhaling their fragrance, and the delight of gazing upon their beauty, because we cannot explain the hidden mysteries of their existence? We know not how the dry, husky, unsightly seed when set in the ground, could start up in such glorious forms; we cannot tell how it is that from the same soil such different stems should spring, and on the same flower such varied tints appear; nor know we why some of the fairest and sweetest of flowers should be thickly pointed with thorns. These things are mysteries; but if we wait till we can comprehend them, the flowers will fade away, for their life is short. "And why should we not?" continued he, putting down the bouquet and taking up the Bible, "why should we not use the work of God in the same way! Mysteries it has, which its Almighty Author alone can explain. But shall we waste our short lives in brooding over them, and the part which is quite plain, and overlook the manifold mercies it proffers for our acceptance? Let us leave, then, all mysteries both of nature and growth, till it shall please God to unravel them to our understanding; and in the meantime, let us, while rejoicing that God's works and word both show that

He is "the wonderful," gratefully place the glowing beauties of the bouquet in our bosoms, and the gracious consolations of the Bible in our hearts."

**ADVANCES IN PHOTOGRAPHY.**

In a review of recent discoveries in photography, Meldola states that, since the year 1842, when Becquerel photographed the whole solar spectrum, and Dr. Draper the violet blue, and ultra red, no successful attempts have been made to photograph the red end of the spectrum. Becquerel's result was obtained by a film of silver iodide first exposed to diffused light, and then to the action of the spectrum, by which processes he was able to photograph the entire spectrum from the ultra violet to the ultra red. During the past year Dr. Vogel has demonstrated that, by varnishing the ordinary bromide of silver plates with a dye of coralline, we get the maximum of photographic action in the indigo and the yellow; and by using aniline green the maximum of activity in the indigo and red. Again, Becquerel has dissolved coralline in the iodized collodion film, and obtained similar results. The most remarkable action was observed in the case of chlorophyll, by the use of which a spectrum image of great length was obtained from the ultra violet to the green, with a weaker impression from the green to the red. Continuing these observations in connection with what has more recently been published by Lockyer, we find every reason to announce, as a probable law, that the optical observation of the bands of any chemical show the active rays for that chemical; and that, therefore, by a proper selection of dyes, a sensitive plate may be prepared especially adapted to any or to all operations on the spectrum.

**A WORKING TABLE.**—An old housekeeper says: "I have a table in my kitchen, 25 inches high. I can sit while I iron, bake, and do a variety of other work which I could not do standing, on account of a lame back. I know many others thus afflicted, who, while doing these chores, stand in misery; if they had a low table their burdens would be much eased."

**CIDER CAKE.**—One cup of butter, three cups of sugar, three eggs, one cup of cider, five cups of flour, one-half cup of milk, one-half teaspoonful of soda. Nutmeg, cinnamon and cloves to suit the taste. A cup of chopped raisins improves.

**TO SAVE MONEY.**—Save all the manurial productions of the farm. This may be considered a trite theme by some of our readers; but the best agriculturists and horticulturists of the country agree in advising all who cultivate the soil to use every means possible to save stimulants, no matter how much of natural fertility there is in it. No pound of manure should ever be suffered to wash away in waste from the stable, hog pen, hen roost, or even from the back door of the kitchen. Every farmer who is not more fastidious than wise, will spread the waste matter from the kitchen door, which so often makes the back yard a damp, unsightly place, frequently forming a nidus for the propagation of miasma. Friends, if you want your homes healthful and pleasant ones, and also to increase your receipts, give this your attention, and remember whatever increase of production you secure, is so much clear gain, because it will cost you no more to cultivate nor to harvest the same than it does without. Put what the house produces on the garden, and what the stable and hog pen produce on the farm.

**KEEP UP THE INTEREST NOW.**

Do not neglect your Grange meeting now. It is the busy season, rainy weather has kept the ploughs idle, the corn is weedy and harvest is coming on apace, time is short and work pressing. If there was ever an excuse for neglect it is not now, but even neglect is not the part of wisdom. To maintain the Grange in its highest efficiency requires the prompt attendance of the members, attendance without fail, attendance that can be relied on. Another suggestion: Let the work of the Grange begin promptly at the hour, even though the attendance be small. Prompt and sure attendance of a few members will enliven all the rest, and the Grange become what it should become—an embodiment of the united strength and wisdom of all its own members and a live member of the whole great Order.—*Patron's Helper.*

**APPLE FRITTERS.**—Make a batter, not very stiff, with one quart of milk, three eggs and flour to bring it to a right consistency. Pare and core a dozen apples, and cook them to about the size of small peas, and mix them well in the batter. Fry them in lard, as you would doughnuts. For trimmings use powdered white sugar.

**HOW TO SUCCEED.**—If your seat is too hard to sit on, stand up.

If a rock rises up before you, roll it away or climb over it.

If you ever want any money, you must earn it.

If you wish for confidence, prove yourself worthy of it.

It takes longer to skin an elephant than a mouse, but the skin is worth something.

Do not be content with doing what another has done; surpass it.

Deserve success, and it will surely come.

The baby was not born a man.

The sun does not shine like a rocket or a bullet fired from a gun; slowly but surely it makes its round and never is tired.

It is as easy to be a leader as a wheel-horse.

If the job be long the pay will be greater.

If the task be hard, the more competent you must be to do it.

**FRENCH METHOD IN ENGRAVING ON WOOD.**

A French method consists in first covering the block with a layer of gelatin (0.39 grams to 31 grams of water) by means of a soft brush. When this coating is dry it is covered, in the dark, with a solution prepared of (1.) red prussiate of potash, 7.80 grams; water, 62.20 grams; (2.) ammonio-citrate of iron, 9.10 grams in 62.20 grams water. These solutions are mixed and filtered, and the mixture is kept in the dark. After the layer is dry it is exposed under a negative from 10 to 12 minutes, and washed with a soft sponge, when a blue image appears. If thus prepared the coating does not shell off under the graver.

**EGGS IN CASE OF TROUBLE.**

The white of an egg is said to be a specific for fish bones sticking in the throat. It is to be swallowed raw, and will carry down a bone easily and certainly. There is another fact touching eggs, which it will be well to remember. When, as sometimes by accident, corrosive sublimate is swallowed, the white of one or two eggs taken will neutralize the poison, and change the effect to that of a dose of calomel.

**WOOD ASHES.**—To the question about wood ashes being beneficial to land possessing an excess of alkali, we say, emphatically, no. If you have on your place any land of the opposite character, that is, if it is clayey, stiff and heavy, you can use a large amount of ashes upon it to advantage, both immediate and permanent; even coal ashes may be turned to good account there.—*Rural Press.*