

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

Earl de Grey, of India, is a great hunter, and keeps a record of all his killings, which lately footed up to 1863. It includes four tigers, forty-seven buffaloes, 280 pigs, 467 deer, and the rest small game. But the Anglo-Indian people not entirely given over to sport condemn this wholesale killing, and particularly as no respect is shown to the breeding season.

Six Algerian engineers who have been consulted by M. de Lesseps on the inland sea in the great Sahara desert scheme, report that the cutting could be made within five years at a cost of \$50,000,000. An average width of eighty or one hundred feet would be sufficient, and the current would widen the canal, and since it would be nearly in a straight line the navigation would be devoid of difficulty. A vast tract of country, lacking only moisture to become very productive, would thus be brought under cultivation.

It is not strange that the farmers of Great Britain are excited over the 1882 outbreak of the disease, most of them apparently of immediate native origin, though the primary source of infection may be traced to the French now imported in 1880; 185,000 animals were attacked, and, though their value was reduced for a time and the farmers suffered severely less in consequence, it may be assumed that most of them recovered, since the disease is not very often fatal. In 1882 there were 157 outbreaks and 47,750 animals attacked.

The women's silk culture association of Philadelphia is composed of a number of wealthy and philanthropic women of that city, who desire to introduce and encourage the industry among American women and girls. They are glad to furnish all needful information concerning the business application and will appreciate at about five dollars an ounce—the ounce containing 10,000 eggs. In former years a good deal of disappointment resulted from the attempt to grow silk in this country. Recent experiments have, in many cases, met with better success.

For the purpose of keeping pension certificates out of the hands of pawnbrokers, a law was enacted last winter which declares that any pledge, sale, assignment, or transfer of any right, title, or interest in a pension shall be void, and that any person who shall make or receive such a pledge or assignment, or shall hold the same as collateral security for a debt, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be confined in jail, or fined not exceeding \$100 and costs. Those who are enforcing the law and hundred of pension certificates in pawn shops. More than four estimates have been received from pawnbrokers and salaried keepers in Philadelphia. Pension certificates recently granted before the new law printed in red ink as a warning to pensioners, but many of those who sold certificates granted before the enactment of the law are probably ignorant of its provisions.

A monster procession has not been brought to a close in Mississippi. Thirty-eight men stood charged in the criminal court with having tried to free themselves, or having given assistance to free others unlawfully from the military service of the German empire. Some \$100,000 were heard, and the sittings of the court occupied the greater part of three weeks. Not less than six military men held officers were accused of having improperly given free certificates, and of these six, not less than four are said to have died suddenly of "paralysis of the heart." The prisoners, partly of very wealthy parents, were sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from three months to three years, without the option of a fine. They all belonged to districts formerly French and gave as their defense that they had done nothing unlawful in the matter, and that they would have preferred self-sacrifice if they had been allowed to do so.

The varieties of apples and pears have become so very numerous, and they resemble one another so closely, that pomologists find it nearly impossible to give many of these accurate descriptions by which they may be always distinguished. The color, shape and size of the fruit vary so much that they can seldom be depended upon for permanent characters. Recent investigators have determined that the flowers of the different varieties give permanent and well-marked characters which can be used for distinguishing them. This subject has been well studied by Professor W. J. Boal, of Michigan. The blossoms of fruit trees contain two sets of essential organs, the pistils, which ripen into the fruit, and the stamens, or male organs, which bear the pollen. It is found that the pistils and stamens vary in size and shape and hairiness in nearly every variety, and that these characters can be important aids in pomological descriptions.

The miracle of "Ride Britannia," which is usually ascribed to St. Arne, is said to have been taken from an air in Handel's "Obsequious Oratorio," composed in 1746.

SAVINGS AND WHO SAID THEM.

Familiar Maxims that are Used Without Knowledge of their Authorship. Many of our common sayings, so trite and pithy, are used without the least idea of whose mouth or pen they first originated. Probably the words of Shakespeare furnish us with more of these familiar maxims than any other writer, for to him we owe—"All is not gold that glitters," "Make a virtue of necessity," "seize your courage to the sticking place" (not point), "They laugh that win," "This is the short and long of it," "Comparisons are odious," "As merry as the day is long," "A Devil's own judgment," "Finally, thy name is woman," "Make no man exactly sure," and a host of others. Washington Irving gives us "The Mighty dollar." Thomas Morton's proverbial long ago "What will Mrs. Grundy say?" while Goldsmith answers, "Ask me questions and I'll tell you no lies." Charles Pickney gives "Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute." "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his fellow-citizens" (not countrymen) appeared in the resolutions presented to the House of Representatives in December, 1799, prepared by General Henry Lee. From the same we call "Christmas comes but once a year," "Swamp their chickens, or they are hatched," and "Look before you leap." Thomas Tasso, a writer of the sixteenth century, gives us "It's an ill wind turns no good," "Better late than never," "Ask, or they will not," and the one that is rolling can gather no moss. "All cry and no wool" is found in Butler's "Hudibras." Deveney says "None but the brave deserve the fair." "Men are but children of a larger growth," and "Through thick and thin." "When Greeks join Greeks there was the fur of war." Nathaniel Lee, 1682, "Of two evils I have chosen the best," and "The end must justify the means," are from Matthew Prior. We are indebted to Colley Cibber for the agreeable intelligence that "Richard is honest" again; Johnson tells us of "A good letter," and Macfarlane in 1791, the phrase often attributed to John Randolph, "Wise and moderate men live to be useful to the world," "No man is a prophet in his own land," and "Not much the worse for wear" (comp. "Man proposes, but God disposes") Thomas Kempis, Christopher Marlowe gave faith the imitation scattered repeated by his brothers in a less noble way, "Love me, little, love me long." Edward Coke was of the opinion that "A man's house is his castle," To Milton we owe, "The pen is mightier than the sword," "A wilderness of sweets," and "Shaping melanoly and monstrosities." Edmund Young tells us "Death leaves a stinging nettle," "A fox in a hole is a fool indeed." From Baron Coxe, "Knowledge is power," and Thomas Southern, remains is that "Play's akin to love." Dean Swift thought that bread is the staff of life." Campbell found that "Landing events cast their shadows before," and "The distance lends enchantment to the view." "A thing of beauty is a joy forever," is from Keats. Franklin says, "God helps those who help themselves," and Lawrence Sterne comforts us with the thought, "God whispers the wind to the shore lark."

Honorable Scars. There is one member of the present United States government whose face is so scarred as to be painful to look upon; but the story of these scars is a record so honorable that no decoration of the Legion of Honor seems more glory than do these scars and pain.

When this man of whom we write was born, he was sitting with his younger sister before the fire of a country house, where they were spending the Christmas holidays. Did a spark snap from the blazing wood that crackled so merrily upon the hearth, or did some incontinent movement on the girl's part bring her dress too near the blaze? At any rate, in an instant her clothes were all aflame.

Mississippi "Skeeters." The railroad station at Mississippi city, says the Detroit Free Press, is located among the pines and the way the mosquitoes were biting there, even in April, was enough to keep a man moving. After a while we got to talking about the insects, and I asked a native of the country.

Cut Flowers. One of the safest and best ways to send a few choice cut flowers to a distance is to put stints in potatoes and insert the flower stems, taking care that they are firmly fastened in and supported by a thin cut of paper. An ordinary potato will keep most flowers fresh for two weeks or more in a moderate temperature. Potatoes can also be used in floral decorations through being disguised by leaves and flowers.

CHILDREN'S COLUMN.

Nelly's Tea-Party. Nelly Ray lives in a brown cottage down by the river. There are not many houses near, and no little children to play with her. One day her mamma took her to the city to visit her cousin. She was older than Nelly, and had a good many playmates.

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Evening Amusement. I. To apparently burn water, fill a glass lamp with water, and put into it for a wick a piece of gum-sulphur. The lamp should not be quite full, and the sulphur may be left to float upon the surface of the water. On touching a lighted match to the sulphur, it shoots up a clear, steady flame, and seems to sink below the surface of the water, so that the flame is surrounded by the liquid. It will burn for a long time. If the sulphur be ignited in a large dish of water, it will commonly float about a piece of butter.

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CLIPPINGS FOR THE CURIOUS.

Quack medicines have been taxed in England since 1783. Fulton's first steamboat began running between New York and Albany in 1807. Until 1885 the punishment for sorcery in England was death. At that date it was changed to transportation for life. The first Thanksgiving Day was in 1821, and was appointed by Gov. Bradford, in gratitude for the season's harvest.

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A MALARIAL VICTIM.

The Tragic Experience of a Prominent Minister in the Tropics and at the North. The following circumstances, drawn from my personal experience, are so important and really remarkable that I have felt called upon to make them public. My truth can be amply verified.

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PSALMS.

Hear this, all ye people, and give ear all ye inhabitants of the world. Hop Bitters will make you well and to rejoice. 1. It shall cure all the people and put sickness and suffering under foot. 2. Be thou not afraid when your family is sick, or you have Bright's disease or Liver Complaint, for Hop Bitters will cure you. 3. Both low and high, rich and poor, know the value of Hop Bitters for bilious, nervous and Rheumatic complaints. 4. Cleanse me with Hop Bitters and I shall have robust and blooming health. 5. Add disease upon disease and let the worst come, I am safe if I use Hop Bitters. 6. For all my life I have been plagued with rheumatism and sores, and not until a year ago was I cured by Hop Bitters. 7. He that keepeth his bowels from clogging from Rheumatism and Neuritis, with Hop Bitters, doeth wisely. 8. Through them I had sores, pimples, freckles, salt rheum, erysipelas, blood poisoning, st. rheumatism, and they will remove them all. 9. What woman is there, feeble and sick from female complaints, who deserveth not health and mirth Hop Bitters and is not well. 10. Let not neglect to use Hop Bitters bring on serious Kidney and Liver complaints. 11. Keep thy tongue from being furled, thy blood pure, and thy stomach from indigestion by using Hop Bitters. 12. All my pains and aches and disease will be healed before the wind when I use Hop Bitters. 13. Mark the man who was nearly dead and given up by the doctors, after using Hop Bitters, and becometh well. 14. Cease from worrying about nervousness, general debility and urinary troubles, for Hop Bitters will restore you.

DR. WORTHINGTON'S Cholera and Diarrhoea Medicine. THE GREAT CHOLERA AND DIARRHOEA CURE. Payno's Automatic Engines. STOMACH BITTERS. OPIUM HABIT Cured Painlessly. FRAZER AXLE GREASE. PATRICK'S SALES USE IT. CONSUMPTION. KIDNEY-WORT. KIDNEY-WORT. KIDNEY-WORT. KIDNEY-WORT. KIDNEY-WORT. KIDNEY-WORT.

MAGNOLIA BALM. SOMETHING EVERY LADY OUGHT TO KNOW. There exists a means of securing a soft and brilliant complexion, no matter how poor it may naturally be, which instantly removes Freckles, Tan, Redness, Roughness, Eruptions, Vulgar Flushings, etc., etc. No delicate and natural are its effects, that its use is not suspected by anybody. No lady has the right to present a disfigure face in society when the Magnolia Balm is sold by all druggists for 75 cents.

WOMAN CAN HEALTH OF WOMAN. LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND. A Sure Cure for all Female Weaknesses, Involuntary Leucorrhoea, Irregular and Painful Menstruation, Inflammation and Ulceration of the Womb, Flooding, Pro-LAPSUS UTERI, &c.

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KIDNEY-WORT. IS A SURE CURE for all Diseases of the Kidneys and LIVER. KIDNEY-WORT. FOR THE PERMANENT CURE OF CONSTIPATION. KIDNEY-WORT. KIDNEY-WORT. KIDNEY-WORT. KIDNEY-WORT. KIDNEY-WORT. KIDNEY-WORT.