SWELL DINNER PARTIES.

What It Costs to Give One in the Metropolis.

Fashionable Entertainments Which Cost Many Hundred Dollars.

"Clara Belle" says in a letter to the Cincinnati *Enquirer*: A dinner party in New York's fashionable quarter means something more than merely putting food before your guests and letting them eat and run off somewhere else. It involves, if the dinner be up to the standard, a profuse decoration of the rooms with flowers and confection pieces, the distribution of bouquets and favors to each guest, and the general entertainment of the party until such time as it breaks up. So much of preparation does it involve that many persons prefer to take guests to Delmonico's or the Brunswick, or to some of the other places where they are in the business. Or it may be that the Fifth-avenue resident may decide to give his entertainment at his own home, and may put the entire charge of it in the hands of Delmonico, who will furnish every thing that is to be used, and will cart it all away next day. He limits the expense to so many hundred dollars, and Delmonico's assistants do the rest. Often, however, the Fifth avenue man has a chef to whom he gives a large salary, and of whom he is very proud, and he takes an especial pride in the dinner and its surroundings. He loads the table with flowers, and he puts them on the walls in the greatest profusion. There is a trick in setting a wide dining-table by laying a strip of mirror lengthwise down the center and fringing it heavily with flowers. It has then the appearance of being a miniature lake, and the gaslight shining on it gives off most beautiful effects. Then there are half a dozen confection pieces, worth $10 each, either on the table or looking down upon it from brackets on the wall. They, too, are decorated with flowers, indeed, in modern dining-rooms, the flowers form the chief item of expense so lavishly are they used. Nine times out of ten when the guests march into the banquet hall they do so to the soft strains of an orchestra stationed in an anteroom or hidden behind shrubbery in the back hall or the parlor extension. Then comes the two or three hours required to do justice to the twelve courses and the ten kinds of wine. The party gets very merry and confidential at the end of the first hour, and quite hilarious and noisy at the end of the second, and almost paralytic and incoherent at the close of the third. All hands, from the host down, are convinced that it is the finest dinner of the season, and a fresh supply of champagne is ordered to clinch the conviction. At midnight the orchestra is yet at work. Half a dozen persons are trying to waltz in the parlor, and the host is urging the gentlemen to slip back to the table for just one more taste of benedictine or brandy. The flowers are torn down to be taken away as favors, the confections have been smashed to pelt one another with the pieces. By one o'clock they have all gone. The host surveys the wreck and goes to bed. Next day he gets his bill. It looks something like this:

Florist, for flowers and services in decorating,	$200
Orchestra, ten pieces,	50
Confections,	60
Dinner for fifteen, with wine at $20 a plate,	300
Extra waiters,	15
Extra wine,	25
Miscellaneous expenses,	20
Total,	$670

And to the furnisher of every thing save the house the profit is more than 100 per cent. But the host cares not. He has given a successful dinner, and his guests will talk about it and about him for a day at least.

Grant and His Troops.

From an article on Grant by General Badeau, in the *Century*, we quote the following: "His relations with troops were peculiar. He never made speeches to the soldiers, and of course never led them into battle after he assumed his high commands. But in every battle they saw him certainly once or twice far to the front, as exposed as they; for there always seemed to come a time in each engagement when he was unwilling to use the eyes or ears of another, but must observe for himself in order to determine. The soldiers saw all this; they all knew, too, that when he rode around in camp it meant action, and the sight of his blue overcoat, exactly like their own, was a signal to prepare for battle. They found out his character and respected his qualities. They felt that he meant well, although when the time came he spared them not, for the cause. Thus, though so undemonstrative, he awoke a genuine enthusiasm. After the battle of the wilderness he rode at night along the road where Hancock's veterans lay, and when the men discovered it was Grant, and that his face was turned toward Richmond, they knew in a moment they were not to retire across the Rapidan as so often before; and they rose in the darkness and cheered until the enemy thought it was a night attack and came out and opened fire. When the works were carried at Petersburg, their enthusiasm was of course unbounded; and whenever they caught a glimpse of him in the Appomattox campaign, the cheers were vociferous. After the surrender of Lee they began without orders to salute him with cannon, but he directed the firing to cease, lest it should wound the feelings of the prisoners, who he said, were once again our countrymen.

"This sentiment he retained. Soon after the close of the war I was present when a committee of Congress, headed by Charles Sumner, waited on him to propose that a picture should be painted of the surrender of Lee, to be placed in the Rotunda of the Capitol. But he told them he should never consent, so far as he was concerned, to any picture being placed in the Capitol to commemorate a victory in which our own countrymen were the losers."

PEARLS OF THOUGHT.

A good beginning is half the work.

Little things console us because little things afflict us.

The sound of sweet bells is the laughter of music.

An ounce of good cheer is worth a ton of melancholy.

A mind once cultured will not lie fallow for an hour.

Work with all the speed and ease you can, without breaking your head.

The thing most desired is not how to avoid the existence of parties, but how to keep them within proper bounds.

Money is not Mammon. Give it plenty of air and it is sweet as the hawthorn; shut it up and it cankers and breeds worms.

Happiness is not outside but inside. A good heart and a clear conscience bring happiness, which no riches and no circumstances alone ever do.

The common man is the victim of events. Whatever happens to be much for him, he is drawn this way and that way, and his whole life is a hurry.

The water that has no taste is the purest; the air that has no odor is freshest, and of all the modifications of manner, the most generally pleasing is simplicity.

As we are bound not to inflict unnecessary suffering of animals, so we are obliged to avert all that tends to add to the sorrow and trials of our common humanity.

Tamed with Electricity.

Nearly every day some new use is found for electricity, and one of the most recent applications of this power is in the interest of the professional tamers of wild animals. The inventor is a tamer himself, and his instrument is an apparatus shaped like a stick and highly charged with electricity. When the animals become unruly, he gives them shocks from this battery, and the effects are said to be instantaneous.

Three of his lions immediately showed signs of the greatest terror. They were seized with trembling, and growled sullenly. The tiger was more quickly subdued, became stupefied, and crouched in a corner of the cage. Brum was more refractory to electricity, which he seemed scarcely to affect him. He would growl and show his teeth, but was subdued after a repeated discharge.

The most astonishing effects, however, were perceptible in the boa constrictor. On receiving the discharge the specimen from Cayenne, nearly twenty feet in length, became at once paralyzed, and remained motionless for six hours afterwards. When he recovered, he showed signs of help lessness for three whole days. Finally the elephant, on being electrified by a touch of the stick upon the tip of his trunk, set up a series of wild cries and became so frantic that the tamer feared he would break his heavy iron chain.

A Shovel as a Makeshift Sled.

William Martin can travel faster than an avalanche. His trip down the mountain into Burn's Basin was a quick one, indeed. Mr. Martin was going to work on a new location a few hundred feet from the crest of the mountain, when looking up he saw a snow-slide coming directly toward him. To run either way was almost sure death. His only chance for escape was to outrun the slide. So sitting on his shovel an old trick of miners he fairly dropped down the steep mountain like a bullet for nearly half a mile distancing the slide into the timber at the first heat.—*Butte (Mont.) News.*

One Ahead.

Alma Tadema said a good thing the other day. It was at a dinner party when the guests were talking of the exchange of genius between England and America. For every actor, singer, lecturer or person of note sent here by England the United States made a return. There was Booth for Irving, Mary Anderson for Ellen Terry, Patti for Nilsson, as really Patti belonged to us first; Joe Jefferson for Sothern, and so on. Alma Tadema said "England is one ahead of the United States. We sent Oscar Wilde over there but she had no fool to send back."

What he Struck.

"How did you get in?" asked Guale.

"I rang the bell," replied Auger.

"It must have been very dark. Did you strike a light?"

"No," replied Auger, "it felt more like a door."—*Puck.*

ON THE FARM AND HOME.

Celery.

Joseph Harris says that celery seed is cheap, and that an ounce will produce 2,500 plants. He recommends the following treatment for autumn use: On a rich piece of ground, very early in spring, mark rows eighteen inches apart, and drill in two rows of radish, lettuce or anything else which will be cleared off before midsummer. Sow the third row celery, and so on, two or something else which ends its career before midsummer, repeating two and one, two and one. Sow the celery seed thick, a dozen to an inch. The early spring rain will cover the seed. In three or four weeks the plants will come up. Weed and hoe them thoroughly, right on. When the plants crowd, hoe them out first three and then six inches apart. Hoe and cultivate well, and keep them perfectly clean, and as soon as the other plants are removed give them the whole clean ground and earth them up gradually. The advantages are—no transplanting, no hot bed.

Feeding Corn and Meal.

Corn is very readily digested and is rich in oil, which in cold weather is a most valuable factor, as it serves to keep up the heat of the body more directly than starch and similar substances. With oats and barley it may form one-third of the grain ration of hard-worked draft horses, and will keep their coats glossy and be in every way a benefit, certainly worth more than its weight in oats. Fed alone or in larger proportion it has a tendency to make horses sweat easily, and it is said to become quickly exhausted. It is not safe to feed it as freely as oats or barley, as there is danger of impaction, just as there would be if wheat were so fed. No doubt it is best fed ground with oats, and the proportions already indicated are probably the most satisfactory, the meal being fed upon cut hay.

For cows in milk, corn meal may form, with bran, the exclusive grain ration and may be fed at the rate of one pint of corn meal to each 100 pounds of the cow's live weight. No doubt it will be found just as good in Great Britain as here. It gives quality and richness to the milk, color to the butter and abundance to the flow if the cow is a good one; but if she is inclined to lay on fat such feeding will cause her to fatten, even though in full milk, and if she gets too fat she will go dry.

For sheep, corn is excellent, but should be fed whole and a little at a time. For swine, the universal experience from Maine to Oregon, and from Canada to Mexico, is that it will make more and better pork than any other food. For poultry it is in this country the universal grain, but it is not always the best. It is admirable for its fattening properties, but for laying hens and growing fowls it is not well to use too much. "Corn-fed" fowls, ducks and geese are firm fleshed and yet tender. They bear transportation alive with little shrinkage. True yellow corn makes yellow butter and yellow fat in fowls. English and French tastes demand white fleshed poultry with pale, lardy fat, and so they fatten poultry on rice and their fancy market fowls have about as much flavor as boiled rice. The American market demands yellow fleshed fowls, with fat as yellow as June butter, and corn is the food to produce this in all poultry.

Household Hints.

Well ventilated bedrooms will prevent morning headaches and lassitude.

Pennyroyal, strewn under carpets and in the drawers of furniture infested with cockroaches and fleas, will destroy the vermin.

Blue is rather pretty in a bedroom, and the idea can be nicely carried out by means of blue and white china toilet sets and mantle piece ornaments.

In most cases of stewing vegetables, the least bit of sugar will be an improvement, but it must be used as carefully as if it were cayenne pepper, lest the flavor of the dish be spoiled.

Infected mattresses cannot be thoroughly disinfected. The ticking may be rendered safe by boiling in a solution of lime, or by fumigation and dry heat, but the straw, hair, etc., with which they may be stuffed had better be burned.

Burdette on "Home."

The song of home grew out of a homeless life, as Milton sang of light when he was blind and Bunyan wrote of the pilgrim's progress when manacled in a prison. There is no place like home. People who live in boarding houses sing it. If the daughter of a Methodist minister remembers the home of her childhood, her memory must be a polyglot. Home is woman's temple. There she is goddess and vestary both. She is also usually janitor. A man loves his home because it is a refuge. He also loves it because there he is a great man: there he is governor, or at least he is lieutenant-governor. And anyhow he is certain to be secretary of the treasury. The world forgets us when we pass away, but the home love forgets our vices; exaggerates our virtues until they outnumber the stars in the heavens, and hands our names down, as long as the estate holds out.

There are sixty elephants in the United States, ranging in price from $600 to $20,000.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

The imitation of imported sardines can go no further. The packing-box is made in Jersey City, the wrapper is printed in New York, the tin cans are manufactured in Boston, the fish are caught on the Maine coast, and the oil is extracted from cotton seed in Georgia.

English farmers generally have to pay an annual rental larger than the value of the average American farm, yet they make money by keeping the land in the highest state of cultivation. If thorough farming produces such results there, it will certainly pay here.

Miss Julia Peace, a graduate of Vassar college, cultivates 6,000 acres of land in Texas. But the higher education of woman will be proven a failure if she doesn't know any better than to carry a red parasol when she goes into the pasture lot where the gentleman cow is grazing.

The traditional trousers of seamen have been done away with. The new garments ordered by the department do not differ materially from those worn by civilians. In the headwear there is also a change. Instead of the familiar brimless cap, one with a brim is provided, looking like a soft hat sometimes worn by civilians.

How great an evil a small nuisance can become is well shown by the fact that certain portions of Southern Wisconsin have been well nigh ruined by an invasion of mice. In Grant County they fairly swarmed. Fruit trees, vines and hay have been the chief sufferers. In some counties the destruction has been almost complete.

England is the largest importer of wood in Europe, requiring 250,000,000 feet per annum more than she produces. Inasmuch as neither Canada nor the United States can much longer spare large quantities, and since no European country can now produce much more than is required for home consumption, while almost all of them are importers, Great Britain must ere long depend on her own resources. There are extensive tracts of land in Ireland and Scotland that might be profitably devoted to forest culture.

A Pittsburgh writer makes the assertion that in fifty years, or perhaps in half that time, coal will not be carried from the mines to its place of destination in bulk, but only its actual heat energy will be transported, and that by wire, a process which, he says, can be accomplished by converting the coal into heat, the heat into motion, and the motion into electricity; a storage battery at Cincinnati would take it up as fast as generated at the mines, and from this battery it could be taken and converted back into motion and heat, or changed into light.

A Philadelphia physician says that a great deal of what passes for heart disease is only mild dyspepsia, that nervousness commonly is simple bad temper, and that two-thirds of the so-called malaria is nothing but laziness. Imagination, he says, is responsible for a multitude of ills, and he gives as an instance the case of a clergyman who after preaching a sermon would take a teaspoonful of sweetened water, and doze off like a babe, under the impression that it was a *bona fide* prescription of morphia, whereas, if back of this harmless little dose, he would toss about restlessly for hours.

The value of ox-bones is considerable. The four feet of an ordinary ox will make a pint of neatsfoot oil. The thigh bone is the most valuable, being worth $80 per ton for cutting into toothbrush handles. The fore leg bones are worth $40 per ton and are used into collar buttons, parasol handles and jewelry. The water in which the bones are boiled is reduced to glue, the lime which comes from sawing the bones is fed to cattle and poultry, and all bones that cannot be used as noted or for bone black used in refining sugar, are made into fertilizers and help to enrich the soil.

Telegraphers' Paralysis.

Telegraphers' paralysis is an ailment the most dreaded of all by telegraphers. It comes on very suddenly sometimes. On the night of the election when the returns came pouring in one of the best men in the New York office was struck and compelled to give up. There is hardly an operator of any experience in that city that has not had a touch of it. Many telegraphers, after serving for years, are forced to throw up their positions on account of this form of paralysis. Apart from the evil effects, physically speaking, arising from the ailment, operators trace many mistakes they make in sending messages, to the same source. The slightest pressure on the key will oftimes produce other than the letter the operator wishes to indicate. Mistakes are often the cause of much annoyance, and frequently loss, in a pecuniary way, as many operators can attest to their sorrow, as they are held responsible for mistakes. When an operator is attacked he soon finds that his keen sense of touch has disappeared.—*New York Telegram.*

The Right Reverend Bishop Gilmour, Cleveland, Ohio, is one of the many eminent church dignitaries who have publicly added their emphatic endorsement to the wonderful efficacy of St. Jacob's Oil in cases of rheumatism and other painful ailments.

Without economy none can be rich with economy few need be poor.

A Wonderful Freak of Nature

is sometimes exhibited in our public exhibitions. When we gaze upon some of the peculiar freaks she has done, nature occasionally indulges in, our minds revert back to the creation of man, "who is so fearfully and wonderfully made." The mysteries of his nature long been unraveled by Dr. R. V. Pierce of Buffalo, and through his knowledge of those mysteries he has been able to prepare his "Golden Medical Discovery," which is a specific for all blood taints, poisons and humors, such as scrofula, pimples, blotches, eruptions, swellings, tumors, ulcers and kindred affections. By druggists.

High water Mark.—City milk prices.

$500 Not Called For.

It seems strange that it is necessary to persuade men that you can cure their diseases by offering a premium to the man who fails to receive benefit. And yet Dr. Sage undoubtedly cured thousands of cases of obstinate catarrh with his "Catarrh Remedy," who would never have applied to him, if it had not been for his offer of the above, unheard of, unmeasurable case. Who is the next bidder for cure or cash?

Goat's milk ought to make good butter.

* * * Ruptures, pile tumors, fistulas and all diseases except cancers of the lower bowel radically cured. Book of particulars free for stamp. World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y.

There is nothing in the power that heals.

Mr. A. Nugent, of this place, says he suffered from Catarrh for years. He purchased a bottle of Ely's Cream Balm of us. He is now almost cured, and says you can not recommend it too highly. We are selling more of Ely's Cream Balm than of all other catarrh remedies, can hardly keep a supply on hand. Eyster Bros., Druggists, Independence, Iowa.

"Rough on Catarrh."

Corrects offensive conditions at once. Complete cure of worst catarrhal cases, also unequaled as gargle for Diphtheria, Sore Throat, Foul Breath. 50c.

A highly perfumed Soap will not heal or cure skin diseases, neither will it beautify and soften fair and humid skin. "Beecham's Aromatic Alum Sulphur Soap." 25 cents by Druggists, or by mail, Wm. Dreydoppel, Phila., Pa.

The Hope of the Nation.

Children, slow in development, puny, crawny and delicate, use "Well's Health Renewer."

If afflicted with sore eyes use Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye Water. Druggists sell it. 25c.

Catarrh of the Bladder.

Stinging, irritation, inflammations, all Kidney and Urinary Complaints, cured by "Buchu-Paiba." $1.

The purest, sweetest and best Cod Liver Oil in the world, manufactured from the fresh, healthy livers, mean the seashore. It is absolutely pure and sweet. Patients who have once taken it prefer it to all others. Physicians have decided it superior to any of the other oils in market. Made by Caswell, Hazard & Co., New York.

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"Roach-on-Bugs," clears them out, also Bedbugs, Ants, Insects, Rats & Mice. 15c & 25c boxes.

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hurts and many sorts of ails of man and beast need a cooling lotion. Mustang Liniment.

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Says that when a customer asks for THE BEST Spring Medicine he confidently recommends

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I have been in the drug and prescription business in Nashua over forty years and am the oldest druggist here. I was the first to introduce your valuable medicines in this city. I believe in them. Ayer's Sarsaparilla I take pleasure in recommending to my customers, well knowing it to give satisfaction. In all my experience, as a druggist, I have yet to hear the first complaint against it.

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We have sold Ayer's Sarsaparilla for years, and our customers are much pleased with its effects. We believe it to be one of the best medicines in the market.

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Friend of Woman.

This title is often applied to Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, of Lynn, Mass., by happy wives and mothers who have been cured of distressing disorders and relieved of pain and suffering by Mrs. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Mrs. L. H. ——, of Strother, S. C., says in a recent letter: "Your medicine has done me so much good that I don't think I can stop taking it until I am entirely well. I owe all my good feelings to you. The doctor can't get any credit for curing me, it is your medicine that has done me more good than anything I have ever taken." A dressmaker in Findlay, O., says: "I have derived so great a benefit from the use of your Vegetable Compound that I recommend it in the strongest terms, with the utmost confidence and am sure it will cure the most stubborn cases. I consider it *very much better* than any other preparation made for all Female Complaints."

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For Weakness, Lassitude, Lack of Energy, Age, it is a Tonic, Stimulant and Strengthener. It is not injurious. It Enriches the Blood, Invigorates the System, Restores Appetite, Aids Digestion.

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