Chivalry and Horses.

An English lady of rank and wealth, now in Egypt, writes home as follows:—"I fear you may deem me rather boastful of my horsemanship, when I tell you that two Arab horses which threw their cavaliers did not throw me. The cause, however, was not in my skill, but in the very remarkable predilection these intelligent animals feel towards the weaker sex. Let the wildest and fiercest Arabian be mounted by a woman, and you will see him suddenly grow mild and gentle as a lamb. I have had plenty of opportunities to make the experiment, and in my own stable there is a beautiful gray Arab, which nobody but myself dare ride. He knows me, anticipates my wishes, and judiciously calculates the degree of fatigue I can bear without inconvenience. It is curious to see how he manages to quicken his pace without shaking me, and the different sort of steps he has invented to rear gracefully. Horses being as liable to forgetfulness as other organized beings, my incomparable gray would allow no natural antipathy to overcome his gallantry, and if another horse interfered to pass him, would start off with the speed of a whirlwind. Wise to me, if, under such circumstances, I were to trust to the strength of my arm, or the power of the curb. I know the gallant charger better. Leaving my hand loose, and abandoning all thoughts of compulsion, I would take up persuasion at first on the neck, call him by his name, beg him to be quiet, and deserve the Never once resorting to means failed. Instantly jobbing—of waiting for him at home, would check his pace, prick up his ears as if comprehending his error, and come back to a soft, amiable, gentle neighing, as if to crave pardon for his momentary offence."

Capture of the Sea Serpent.—The Port Elizabeth Mercury, Cape of Good Hope, relates that the serpent has actually been captured in Algoa Bay by Mr. Capper, the proprietor of the Sunday Island Ferry, assisted by Mr. Newcome. It was thrown ashore near Cape Padrone, and was supposed by colored people who found it, to be an immense fish. It proved, however, to be a creature with a long serpent-like body, about eighty or ninety feet in length, with an enormous head, possessing properties of the reptile species, and a mouth furnished with a formidable row of serrated teeth on both jaws, which, when closed, dove-tailed one into another." The animal was dead, and decomposition was already going on.—The head was cut off and placed in a wagon, which could scarcely contain it, and taken to a neighboring house, "where it now remains."

Yes, we agree with that old poet who said that a low, soft voice was an excellent thing in woman. Indeed, we feel inclined to go much further than he has on the subject, and call it one of her crowning charms. How often the spell of beauty is cruelly broken by coarse, loud talking! How often you are irresistibly drawn to a plain, unassuming woman, whose soft silvery tones render her positively attractive! In the social circle, how pleasant it is to hear a woman talk in that low key which always characterizes the true lady. In the sanctuary at home, how such a voice soothes a fretful child and cheers the weary husband!

Some three years since, a letter was received in New Orleans, directed to "the biggest fool in New Orleans." The postmaster was absent, and on his return, one of the younger clerks in the office informed him of the receipt of the letter.

"And what became of it?" inquired the postmaster.

"Why," replied the clerk, "as I did not know who the biggest fool in New Orleans was, and so *I opened the letter myself.*"

"And what did you find in it?" inquired the postmaster.

"Why," replied the clerk, "nothing but the words *'thou art the man.'*"

POWER OF THE SUN.

A distinguished Chemist, in a recent lecture, while showing that all species of movable power have their origin in the rays of the sun, stated that "if the whole tubular railroad bridge over the Menai straits in England, four hundred feet long, were up for an inch under the influence of steam, it would hold up an inch and a half from its usual horizontal line, when the sun shone upon it for six hours. He stated that the Britannia Bridge would be lifted to the evening's chat on the subject, and all the children were quiet, and deserved the Never once resorting to means failed. Instantly [illegible] of waiting for him at home, would check his pace, prick up his ears as if comprehending his error, and come back to a soft, amiable, gentle neighing, as if to crave pardon for his momentary offence."

Approaching War Between Spain and Mexico.—A letter from Paris, in the Independence Belge, affirms that the step now resolved upon by the Spanish Government—of sending vessels of war into the roadstead of Vera Cruz—has recieved the approval of the Governments of England and France, which have at the same time instructed their representatives at Madrid to prevail upon the Mexican Envoy Extraordinary, Señor Lafragua, to satisfy in the name of his Government, the just demands of Spain.

A long conference that took place on the 17th inst., between Senora Pidal and Lafragua, does not appear to have greatly improved the chances of a settlement of the dispute between Spain and Mexico. There is no reason to believe that this Government is otherwise than pacific in its wishes, but it is pressed from without, and dares not, perhaps, be as conciliating and yielding as would be desirable, or as it could wish. Opinions here are very divided as to whether the quarrel will be settled amicably or the reverse. The situation at this present moment is critical, and it is difficult to form a judgment as to how things will turn out. The English and French ambassadors are doing every thing in their power to bring about a reconciliation. According to present appearances not many days can pass without the question assuming a more decided aspect for better or for worse.

(Cor. London Times.)

Madrid, June 20.—As I yesterday informed you, the last interview between Senor Lefragua and Pidal had no satisfactory result—in fact, might as well not have taken place. The Spanish Government still insists upon the claim for compensation to the Spaniards, who were ill-treated and plundered, being at once admitted; the Mexican Envoy refused this until the result of the judicial proceedings now going on shall show whether, as Spain affirms, the outrages in question, were the work of, or instigated by Government agents, or whether, as Mexico positively maintains, they were the crimes of lawless banditti. As long as there can be a dispute on this point the Spanish Government is not justified in driving that of Mexico to the wall, and saying, "pay first and prove afterwards."

The prospects of amicable arrangement are certainly not bright just at present; at the same time all hope is not abandoned. What is pretty certain is, that the affair will not drag on much longer. It is not positive that Senor Lafragua proposes leaving Madrid in the course of next week, unless he is enabled to inform his Government, by the mail which leaves in four or five days, of its recognition as Minister Plenipotentiary. His instructions from the Mexican Government were not to come to Madrid at all, unless so received; but he yielded to the wishes and urgent representations of Marshal Serrano and of the French and English Governments.

The First Twenty Years.

Live as long as you may, the first twenty years form the greater part of your life. They appear so when they are passing; they seem to have been so when we look back to them; and they take up more room in our memory than all the years that succeed them.

If this be so, how important that they should be passed in planting good principles, cultivating a taste, strengthening good habits, and fleeting all those pleasures which bring up bitterness and sorrow for time to come! Take good care of the first twenty years of your life, and you may hope that the last twenty will take good care of you.

The following, which is said to be reported in an Irish graveyard, is excellent in its kind:

"Here lies the body of John Mound,
Lost at sea and never was found."

The following is better in its kind, however, as a specimen of sharp shooting between a coquette and her lover:

You know we are ungrateful when you wear the maid,
But decide when the [illegible] now is said
The lover, not to be outdone, replies as follows:
The sky we gaze at [illegible] easily forgiven
We look ourselves [illegible] instead of stars.

Mules Instead of Horses.

They are substituting goumles for the more delicate horse, [illegible] useful for a city wagon in Cincinnati. The Commercial says they are equally tractable, not handsomely but well enough, their first cost is twenty to forty per cent. less than that of horses; they consume forty per cent. less food; are thirty-three per cent. more durable; are precisely adapted to the boulder pavements, and move with a steady, unyielding activity [illegible] another especially—that recommends the factor gay to all who have tested it most promptly. Drawing and teamsters are unanimous in favorably impressed with them, and are beginning to [illegible] many of [illegible] them for their use.

Make a Beginning.

Remember all things that if you do not engage you will never come to accomplish. The first step is the hardest. It is to the [illegible] the first mile trudged on a journey, just as important as any step in the whole journey, and the first [illegible] a person [illegible] an assertion that you are determined with what you have undertaken? How many a poor, aspiring, heroic young man has been stopped and crushed in his way through life because he never could have speed up his courage to make the first step! Instead of pulling off his clothes, and [illegible] and [illegible] he made a beginning.

A Hoax.—[illegible] Court, in New York, a few days since, [illegible] Court, in New York, a few days since, [illegible] Court, in New York, a few days since, [