

## THE PINE KNOT.

### SOUTHERN PINES. N. C.

According to *Science*, it would appear that the "bogus butter issue" is not confined to the United States. A similar agitation is taking place in India, and a bill dealing with the adulteration of ghee, or clarified butter, introduced in response to the urgent demands of the native community, has recently been passed by the Bengal Council.

Rutherford B. Hayes is now the only living ex-President, and Hannibal Hamlin and William A. Wheeler the only living ex-Vice-Presidents. Fremont and Blaine are the only living ex-Presidential candidates of great parties, and Pendleton, English and Logan the only living Vice-Presidential candidates. The ranks of these prominent gentlemen have thinned greatly by the death within eighteen months of Grant, McClellan, Hancock, Tilden, Seymour and Arthur. A more noted group has hardly ever before passed off the stage of life so nearly together.

Some idea of the value of water in Southern California may be gained from the opening of the Gage Irrigating Canal near Riverside. Three years ago land sold above Riverside for \$5 an acre. It was without water and was counted valuable only for grazing. Mr. Gage made a contract with a large number of owners of land to furnish them abundant water at \$100 per acre. Then he dug an eleven-mile canal, supplied with water partly from Santa Ana River, but mainly from artesian wells. Recently water was turned into the canal, and land which sold for \$5 now sells readily for \$300 an acre.

A rock which the Sioux Indians near Fort Yates, Dakota, have worshiped for generations as the petrified form of a young squaw was formally unveiled the other day and dedicated to peace and plenty. It appears that the white settlers in the vicinity have long supposed that this strange specimen of nature's art work exerted a retraining influence on the Indians, but of late the rock has been removed from its original resting place, and it was feared that with its removal its charm had disappeared. So the suggestion was made to Sitting Bull that the statue be placed upon a permanent pedestal and unveiled with appropriate ceremonies. This pleased the chieftain, and 5,000 Indians assembled to take part in the strange medley of Christian and Pagan rites by which the unveiling was accompanied. Now the superstition of the whites is satisfied and the scepticism of the savages—the first sign of civilization—is checked.

A Boston man tells how few in England understand American English. "I had not been in Liverpool an hour," he says, "when I became convinced that I had much to learn about the English language. When I entered my hotel I asked the young woman who received me, 'What are your terms?' and had I spoken Choctaw she could not have understood me less. 'What do you charge a day?' I next ventured. 'Charge!' she replied, vaguely, and I tried again. 'Ah! you want the tariff?' she said at last, and sure enough I did. Now, if I had used the word 'tariff' in that sense in Boston it would have been considered slang. I tried in vain to get a pair of suspenders, as they would show me none but those for stockings, but succeeded finally in buying some 'braces.' I might prolong the list ad infinitum, but enough is shown to warrant the publication of an English-American dictionary of synonyms for the use of travelers."

A drove of a hundred hogs that were being driven through Allegheny, Penn., became frightened and stampeded. About a dozen ran into a drug store bleeding and covered with mud. Two ladies who were waiting for prescriptions screamed with fear. One of them sprang on the counter and the other clambered upon the soda fountain. After upsetting every article of furniture in the store, the fattest of the affrighted hogs tried to get behind the prescription counter and overturned the stove. The stove was heated by natural gas, and when it was upset the pipe was broken and a sheet of flame shot up almost to the ceiling. A disastrous conflagration would have been the result but for the prompt action of the proprietor, who turned off the gas. Two of the hogs were badly burned. The owners of the swine were compelled to carry them out.

Professor Charles A. Ashburner, geologist in charge of the Pennsylvania Survey, according to the *Pittsburg Commercial-Gazette*, is of the opinion that the practical application of natural gas has opened up a new era in fuel economy, and the development of heat and mechanical power. "There is no doubt in my mind," says he, "but that the greatest advance to be made in the practical arts and sciences during the next two decades is to result from a practical consideration of the question of the manufacture and utilization of gaseous fuels and the adaptation of plant and machinery to the new fuel relations that I believe we are bound for economy's sake to establish." As to the probable duration of the present gas supply in the Pittsburg region, the Professor ventures the belief that, although two-thirds of the product has been going to waste, "very little alarm should be entertained as to the exhaustion of the gas sands of Pennsylvania and the prostration of the manufacturing interest that become dependent upon its use."

#### Chinamen on their Travels.

"People have little idea," said Mr. A. R. Shattuck, who arrived in this city from Canton last week, "how rapidly the passion for emigrating is growing in China. The whole southern Asiatic coast and many of the Pacific Islands are filling with Chinese. In spite of our prohibitory law not a few Chinese still manage to smuggle themselves into our country, and they are fairly swarming in many places where nothing is done to keep them out.

"In 1871 only a few thousand Chinese lived in Singapore. To-day the new China town is the feature of the place. Singapore now has 86,000 Chinese residents, and last year 150,000 Chinese landed in the city on their way to other parts of the coast. Cochin China, which is now a French province, is rapidly filling with Chinese. Here, as in all other parts of the south coast of Asia, the Chinese excel the natives in intelligence, education, and business qualifications. They assert their superiority in many ways, and treat most of the natives as their inferiors. In Cochin China the Chinese merchants have absorbed the greater part of the trade. They can beat the natives selling their own products, and many of them are rich.

"In Australia the Chinese are growing in numbers. They control the trade of the Gilbert Islands and are gaining ground in Hawaii. In many of the Pacific islands, like Fiji, where there is considerable trade, a visitor is likely to see a group of Chinese before his eye lights on a native. The Chinese are overrunning Burmah and there is a large colony of them at Mandalay. A large party of traveling Chinese merchants who were on the road in Burmah a few weeks ago were mistaken by the British troops for dacoits. The soldiers fired upon them, and several of the poor fellows were killed.

"This increasing migration among the hordes of China is one of the most interesting signs of the times. The Mongolians are gradually diffusing themselves over a large part of the world—a fact that deeply concerns many nations, and is also indicative of the great changes going on in China, from which emigration would have been impossible years ago."—*New York Sun*.

## WOMAN'S WORLD.

### PLEASANT LITERATURE FOR FEMININE READERS.

#### A Woman's Year.

We wandered in May, when the blossoms  
In every zephyr were blowing,  
When down from the branches the blossoms  
Like delicate snow-flakes were snowing.

Our hearts were as young as the blossoms  
That blew all about us so lightly,  
Our thoughts were as sweet as the blossoms  
That drifted our pathway so whitely.

But May-time has fled with its blossoms—  
The blossoms I fondly remember;  
But dearer the pale orange blossoms  
That blossom for me in December.

#### She'll Cut a Dash.

The Empress of Japan will shortly be the envy of every lady of her court. A firm of Berlin jewelers has just furnished a superb diamond diadem and necklace, worth many thousands of dollars, which her Majesty ordered for herself. The surprise that the ornaments will excite is accounted for by the fact that this will be practically the first introduction of diamonds into that kingdom. Her Majesty has also sent an order for dresses to a Paris milliner to the amount of \$75,000. She has authorized the ladies in her court "society" to adopt the European garb, and has herself appeared on a public occasion in a Parisian toilet.

#### A Scene in a Restaurant.

Some girls in a restaurant are funny enough to repay observations. A marvel of a young lady was at the table next to mine, and she was eating oysters on the half shell. Horrid way, isn't it? The process of eating raw oysters from the shell is well adapted to display all the possibilities for awkwardness to the worst advantage. It reduces the essentially unesthetic performance of eating to its barbarous simplicity. In the midst of such reflections the marvel finished her last oyster with the inevitable gulp and suddenly became interested in the shell. Land sakes! thought I, is she going to eat that, too? She picked it up by the neck delicately, poised it in the air critically, and, while I shuddered at the expectation of seeing it enter her mouth next, she dipped it into her glass of water. With her fork and a corner of her napkin she cleansed its surface of all trace of oyster and salt sea lime, and, after another intense survey of the smooth interior, carefully wrapped it in a piece of tissue paper taken from a parcel at her side and hid it in her pocket. I wish I could see the mantel or bookcase or picture frame on which that same oyster shell, nicely ornamented with a blue ribbon, with, perhaps, a marine view painted on the parly sur ace, will rest. Oh, art, how manifold are thy instruments!—*Clara Bell's New York Letter*.

#### Some Royal Costumes.

A celebrated English firm has just completed some lovely costumes for a Princess of Russian birth who has been spending some months in the Isle of Wight. Among others is a traveling gown of gray knotted tweed, arranged with long draperies bordered with Astrakhan some three inches wide, this being used round the bottom of the plain underskirt. The in-door bodice is close-fitting, but has a simulated blouse vest of soft black surah. The outer coat is loose-fronted, with collar, cuffs, revers, and buttons of Astrakhan to match the skirt. A pretty little bonnet and muff from the same cloth, both suitably trimmed with Astrakhan, serve to complete this elegant toilet. The same lady also intrusted the firm with an order for a beautiful evening gown, which is arranged with a train of rich black Rhadam's silk, the underskirt being of handsome jetted net, caught up sharply on the right hip, and slightly so half-way up the skirt on the left side. A wide scarf of the silk crosses from the right hip to the left side of the skirt in a slanting direction. The bodice is of low V-shape, with scarfs of the jetted net crossing from each shoulder, and meeting in a point at the waist. A rich plume of black ostrich feathers is used on the left shoulder, and at the head of the train on the right side just below the waist. A third toilet is intended for afternoon tea wear, and is made of rich black plush, the train being joined to the bodice at back; but in front a loose bodice of quaint design is simulated, both it and the skirt opening over a vest and petticoat of pale heliotrope satin Merveilleux, draped over silk cream lace net, a scarf of which is fastened on the left shoulder by a beautiful old diamond buckle. A balayade of cream lace is used under the train of plush.

### Fashion Notes.

Dress collars are as high as ever. Beads still furnish a popular trimming.

Velvet is a favorite material for winter bonnets.

There is an increasing fancy for large cluster rings.

Unique brocades, satins, gros grains, tulle and gauze are the materials most favored for evening dresses.

Bright colored plushes in what are known as chess-board checks are used for cloak linings instead of fur.

New lace pins are in flower designs, the corymbium being especially favored as appropriate to the season.

Underskirts of plain velvet are revived, to be worn with a basque and drape or polonaise of camel's hair, either plain or fancy.

In spite of the discouragement of the Princess of Wales, jerseys have grown in favor until now they are in universal use for all young women.

The fashionable coiffure is a simple double coil on the top of the head, with two fluffy curls on each side of the neck. The hair is left loose instead of being pulled up from where the coil starts.

French modistes have adopted a new open sleeve which has but one seam. It fits easily at the top and terminates just below the elbow, where it is sloped to the width of three-eighths of a yard.

This is a wool season. No dress is complete without at least an admixture of that material. Even dresses of faille, velvet or plush, intended for ceremonious occasions, are combined with fine vicuna, cashmere or lady's cloth.

Redingotes of self-colored cloth have linings of bright-colored satin, which are turned back and serve as facings for the fronts and sleeves. Braid, tassels, passementerie or fur are used as a finish for these garments.

Hats, the crowns of which are made in an open work design from silk cords, are very stylish. A lining of white or colored velvet makes a bright and pretty effect, and a bright trimming of plumes or ostrich tips is quite the thing on such hats.

#### A Costly Breakfast.

A costly breakfast was the one related of, as follows, by the *Independence Belge*: Two gentlemen, Mr. Stanhope and Mr. Colvin, were recently having a game of cards at the London Jockey Club. The stakes were important. The loser was to give the winner "a breakfast such as no one had ever had." Mr. Stanhope lost. He invited his adversary to come and see him on the following day at Hyde Park for the famous breakfast. At the appointed hour Mr. Colvin betook himself to the rendezvous, where he found Mr. Stanhope awaiting him near an inflated balloon, in the car of which was an aeronaut preparing for a voyage. The two gentlemen took their seats, and were presently joined by a cook, who was all breathless with running and carrying her utensils. Mr. Stanhope invited her to bring her portable stove into the car. This done, he shouted: "Leave go!" and the balloon majestically ascended. The cook, who had not counted upon this aerial flight, shrieked with terror. But Mr. Stanhope, as calm as a veteran sea captain in a storm, cut her screams short with: "Now cook these two beef-steaks, and be careful above all things that no spark escapes from the stove, or the balloon will explode." The frightened cook set herself to the task, and Mr. Stanhope, turning to Mr. Colvin, more dead than alive, said: "I have kept my word; this will be the dearest breakfast either you or I ever had. There's £100 to pay for the balloon, and £200 indemnity to the cook."

#### A Cure for Laziness.

The following singular treatment was formerly applied in Dutch workhouses to indolent and apathetic individuals: The patient was placed in a sort of large tub, into which water was kept constantly flowing through a pipe, so that in order to keep himself from drowning he had to turn a crank which pumped the water out again. The water supply and the hours of working were nicely adjusted to his strength and endurance, and the amount gradually increased every day. In one report it says: "The inactive limbs are soon brought to the required degree of suppleness, and the men very soon begin to ask for some less irksome labor, which they afterwards perform in a most satisfactory manner."

The combined Vanderbilt wealth is about \$300,000,000.