VOL. III.

PLYMOUTH, N. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1892.

NO. 42.

Ought we not to be profoundly gratefui to Mexico, asks the New York Press, for solving the Mormou problem for us by offering inducements to the men of many wives to emigrate to that country?

The Civil Service records of the past three years show that out of the number of men applicants examined for Government offices only a little over one-half passed, while four-fifths of the women applicants passed.

Lieutenant G. L. Cardon says the recently accomplished voyage of the United States revenue cutter Morrill through inland waters from Charleston, S. C., to Fernandina, Fla., is of an importance not easily to be estimated from a military point of view. He thinks it demonstrates the ability of a war vessel drawing not over ten feet of water to communicate along 155 miles at least of the Atlantic coast between torpedo fleets and gunbouts guarding against a blockade. Lieutenaut Carden doesn't say so, adds the New York World, but there are naval experts who believe that in a brief period, by means of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal and other waterways, such communication can be established and maintained inside the bar and breaker lines between the National Capital and the ports of the whole South Atlantic coast.

There never was a more hopeful sig than the report of the recent Agriculturas Department which makes the aggregate cereal crop for the last year 1,000,000,-000 bushels bigger than the previous year. The figures for three years past in thousands, 000s omitted, are:

Production, 1891. Bush. 1,489,970 Corn2,060,154 2,112,892 Wheat 611,78) Oats 733,391 523,361 721,515

Total....3,410,328 2,412,558 The cotton crop last year was 8,655,518 bales, or 1,341,792 bales larger than the year before. The production of authracite was 5,000,000 tons more than the year before, and of bituminous at least 10,000,000 tons more. The run of petroleum was 5,000,000 barrels more in 1891 than 1890. The output of copper was 30,000,000 pounds more; of lead, 26,000 tons more; of zinc, 10,000 tons more, and of silver, 4,000,000 ounces more. With the exception of pig iron, estimated at 8,976,000 tons in 1891, against 10,307,028 tons in 1890, the entire production of the country took a great step forward in 1891. This means higher prices sooner or latter.

M. de Variguy gives in the Baris Revue des deux Mondes a clear, succinct account of the events of the Chilean war, which the conflicting reports of newspaper correspondents have left vague in most minds. While he blames the conduct of Balmaceda, he regards much of what has happened as the almost inevitable outcome of the opposition of English and American ideas and influence, which, working as they have worked together in the evolution of the Chilean Republic, had created a condition of things under which it was impossible for a people so naturally vigorous to continue. Chilean psrliamentary institutions are impregnated, according to M. de Varigny, with the monarchical spirit of England, from which country they were copied. But this monarchical system has for its own crown an autocratic President, whose powers were granted to him under American influence, and whose position in the Constitution was copied from that of the President of the United States. - The two institutons cannot work together. Balmaceda only followed in his unconstitutional practices the "deplorable deviations" of all his predecessors, and one of the results of the war is likely to be a revision of machinery of Government which may bring the powers of the President and the Parliament into a more logical relation to each other. The Chilean war, in fact, has been, in M. Varigny's reading of it, a war between the force which made for closer union with the United States and those which made for the supremacy of English influence; the English forces have won, and with their victory the dreams of the three Americas united against the world loses all chance of realization. The indignation of Chile, he continues, has been stirred against the United States, and too deeply for the breach to be easily healed, and the ambition of the Republic will for the future be to maintain its independence until it takes, in the southern continent, the position of supremacy which the United States holds in the north.

AT BAWN.

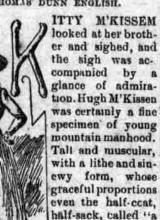
Each leaf, another wakening, sighs, "Sweet sister, it is day! The last night-blooming glory dies, And wheresos'er a petal lies, The east grows warm and grav.

"The bir is are still asleep; and yet, Amid the silent throng. Like dusky vapors that beget

The dew, dream-winged shades have set The germs of heavenly song." -John B. Tabb, in Lippincott.

A HILL COUNTRY IDYL.

BY THOMAS DUNN ENGLISH.



hunting-shirt," could not disguise; a frank and pleasant expression, and a voice that, in spite of a rather nasal tone when its owner was excited, was full and musical-Hugh was worthy of feminine admiration. He was singularly ignorant of his attractions, and, though bold in paril, fearing peither man, bear nor catamount in single fight, was timid in the presence of women, his mother and his sister excepted. The owner, subject to his mother's life-right, of a thousand acres of mountain land, of which one-third was rich "bottom," or level land, with horses in stall, cattle in meadow and steers on the hill-range, he was at sevenand-twenty a bachelor, while his fellows were heads of families by the time they had come to manhood. He loved his mother and sister, who worshiped him, and he was content.

Kitty M'Kissen was not his sister, however, nor was she his kinswoman. Eigheen years before, John Markham came there from the East, and bought a little bottom patch" of sixty acres, and settled on it with his wife. He built a logcabin, set to work awkwardly to cultivate a few girdled acres, and tried to accommodate himself to an unusual position. Folk around, naturally suspicious of strangers, thought he must have done something wrong to make him leave home. He brought books, not over a hundred in number, which the neighbors deemed to be a great library. His house was neat, owing to his young wife's taste. The neighbors said: "It's stuck roun" with thing-a-majigs till it's a plom

Markham worked hard, and so did his wife, and, soon after their coming Kitty was born. She was christened Catharine Burnett. Three months after her birth her mother died, and Mrs. M'Kissen, who had just lost a child of nearly the same age, offered to nurse Kitty-an offer thankfully accepted. But John Markham caught cold by exposure, it settled upon has lungs, and in less than a year he died, leaving his little possessions to his child. Kitty thrived and soon became known as a M'Kissen, the circuit-rider's baptismal certificate to the contrary notwithstanding. She and Hugh, who was a nine-year-old boy when she came, had been brought up together. When she was half-grown, . Peter M'Kissen was killed by the fall of a girdled tree, and Kitty became the mainstay of the house, for old Mrs. M'Kissen, who was ten years seniof to her husband, had been half paralytic for years, and passed her time in hobbling between her bed, the kitchen-table and the fire-

Frank and good-natured, as well as athletic. Hugh was a popular young man -his fellows accepting his lead and young women receiving his attentions courteously. But he never threw the handkerchief at any particular fair one, treating all with a shy deference. They did not come up to the standing of Kitty, who had inherited some of the refinement of her mother; and who, having read her father's books over and over again, was credited with a vast amount of learning. That kind of knowledge did not interfere with her housewifely qualities, for she was known to be the best cook and baker as well as the best buttermaker and neatest housekeeper in the county. Huge measured all other girls by her Procrustean standard. Beside, Hugh was not matrimonially inclined. His home was too comfortable, and he was in no hurry to bring a strange woman there.

But Mrs. M'Kissen thought it high time for her son to marry, and spoke to him about it.

"What's the need, mother?" he responded. "I'm comfortable, and so are ou. Why should I bring a strange girl here—one that ain't used to us and our ways, upsetting things?"

You needn't do that neither," said his mother. But Hugh was too obtuse to take the

hint and went out to salt the cattle. But he communed with himself as he went. "I might spark Lucy Campbell," he thought. "She's been East to school, and she's a sort of high-fiyer, but she's pretty. Old Jim Campbell's well off, and he has only young Jim and Lucy. I dunno. I'll speak to Kitty about it. And there she is at the cows, now,"

Hugh broached the subject at once. She looked up, blushed a little and then looked down, and listened.

"Lucy Campbell!" she cried. Boss! Why don't the cre'tur' keep still? Lucy Campbell's a nice girl; a little sharp-tempered, but you're not; and she never turns a hand to anything around the house; but you're not looking for a housekeeper. Give down,

"Well, there's Nancy Stallins. Nancy's people are not so well off as Lucy Camp-bell's; but they do say that Nancy is the most industrious girl in the neghb'r'd."
"Yes," said Kitty; "yes, she's a

worker. She never cleans up her dirt, though; and she-she chews snuff. You don't like tobacco in that way, do you, Hugh?"

"M-mph!" ejaculated Hugh. "Well, dunno what to do. Mother, she's at me to marry, and I declare, except the two, I can't think of a girl I'd like to have, unless-well, there ain't one." "You stupid!" said Kitty, pettishly.

"This Boss is the most stupid cow l

ver saw. Now, Bullface!" And Kitty stooped at her pail, and

began a fresh milking.
"See here," said Hugh: "Did you ever see such an uncertain chap as that Si Doss? He's been here four times this week about buyin' a cow, stays around hours at a time, and ain't made up his mind yet. 'Pears to me he don't know a good thing when he sees it."

"There are a good many young men in the same fix, I allow," said Kitty. "Si Doss appears to me not to be one of that kind. He knows what he wants, I

And then, with her filled pail, Kitty moved off to the spring-house.

Hugh stood a minute, salt-bag in hand, forgetful of his cattle, when he saw Si Doss riding up and then dis-mounting. Si tethered his horse to the pendant limb of a peech tree, and then strode forward. He had the reputation of being the most forward young man in the country; but he had a wary embarrassed air now.

"Howdy, Hugh." "Howdy, Si." "Folks all well?"

"Yes. Your'n?"

"Fus'-rate, thank y." Our best brood sow's sort o' limpish. I allow she's been eatin' somethin' afore we brought her outen the woods." "Likely." And then the two stood like ex-

hausted receivers. At last Doss broke "I've been allowin' to git married."

"Yes?"

"I'd like you to put in a word for

"Me? Who's the girl?" "Kitty M'Kissen."

"Not-our-Kitty!"

"Yes. I'm not quite sure whether she favors me or not. I've been aroun' some, but someho v I ain't got the nerve to speak out. Couldn't you soun' her an' find out?"

"Our Kitty! Why, Si, she's a little girl. She's too young.' "She's eighteen year old. I hearn Miss M'Kissen say so. You know, one to keep her word." though, I'm tol'rable well-to-do, an'

don't owe no man a dollar. I love the very ground she walks on." "Well," said Hugh, after a pause, we'll see about it. Anything new?" "There just is. There's a fellow down

to the town-a furriner from the Eastgot up in store clothes an' mighty sassylookin', an' he's been inquirin' about John Markham's folks. Sez he's a kin to 'em an' 's gwine to come and hunt up | confused and indignant. Kitty." "No! What's his name?"

"Calvin Burnett. He's a lawyer Kitty's money. Kitty marry him!" where he lives." "Burnett? Must be kin to Kitty's

mother. You told him whar she is?" "Yes; and thar he comes now, on Sol Dingess's clayband mar'." It was a sprucely dressed stranger who

rode up, and, leading his mare, came toward them. It was not necessary to tell his kinship, for he "favored" Kitty, as they say in the hills. The same eyes and forehead, but he had a square chin. He explained his business.

"Come into the house, Mr. Burnett," said Hugh. "Kitty will be back from the spring house, presently."

Doss was anxious to learn everything, but as no one asked him to remain, went off reluctantly. Presently Kitty came in, and the newcomer introduced himself as her first cousin, the son of her mother's brother.

"Of course," said Burnett, "I am very glad to know a near relative, especially when she's a pretty girl; but I did not come for that. I am here on business. Do you know anything of your father's history?"

"No, sir." "Oh, don't 'sir' me, Kitty; we are own cousins. Call me 'Cousin Cal.' Your father ran off with my aunt, having married her against grandfather's command. Grandfather disowned her, and was very bitter. But when he died, he left one-half of his property to father absolutely, and the other half in trust. The nature of the trust was explained in a sealed paper, not to be opened until after father's death, and to be carried out by his executor. I believe father knew its nature. The trust money increased under my father's prudent management, and that share of the estate amounts to more than what I inherit. It is nearly twice as much. I opened the paper, and the instructions are that I presume Miss Burnett will have the ap-

inquiry, that you are the heir, Kitty, and I am ready to transfer to you, under the proper legal form, nearly ninety thousand dollars. I congratulate you. Kitty. You will be able to live East, as comfortably as possible, on an income sufficient, I suppose, for a single gentlewoman.

Ninety thousand dollars! The amount dazed Kitty, and struck the M'Kissens dumb. It was a fairy tale, and the young lawyer looked like an enchanter. Hugh was considered rich there, with less than a fifth of the sum; but ninety thousand dollars!

At last Kitty asked: "Mr. Burnett-Cousin Calvin-must I live there to get the money?"

"No. You can live where you like; but if you want to enjoy life, the East is the place for you. You are your own mistress, or, at least, will be at twenty-one. In the meanwhile, the court here will probably let you name your own guardian and trustee.'

"Thank you, cousin. I am glad to know you; glad to have this unexpected fortune, and would be glad to see a place that I have heard so much of. But the only kin I ever knew, though not of my blood, are dear to me. This is my only home. I may visit the East, but I could not stay there.'

The news of Kitty's wonderful inheritance soon spread. Rumor increased it by an additional cipher. It was heard of with a thrill of awe and envy. It was said that the dashing "furriner" was to marry Kitty, and take her away immediately; and Josiah Doss was in the gulf of despair. Hugh knew better, so far as Kitty's views went, but he felt a sinking at the heart. Kitty, would stay, but with such a fortune in possession she seemed out of the common sphere.

Burnett, while the legal forms going on, amused himself by studying this cousin, who was so readily accommodating herself to circumstances and the M'Kissens, especially Hugh. It required no penetration to see that the latter was in love with Kitty, but seemed not to quite realize his own feelings; and that Kitty loved Hugh and knew it.

"That young man is bright enough in some things, but very stupid in this," said the lawyer to himself. "I'll play the good genius, for the fun of the

The court at Kitty's instance, appointed Hugh M'Kissen her guardian and trus-tee, to the scandal of the young folk, who thought she should have chosen some older man. Hugh and Burnett had divers conferences, before affairs were over. At one of these the lawyer said: "What a very pretty girl Cousin

Kitty is! Don't you think so Mr. M'Kissen? "Ye-es."

"She'll make a figure when she gets into society, too. She is one of the rough gems that take to polish kindly." "M-m.

"The fact is, I admire her the more the more I know her. I must try and persuade her to leave the mountains." "Kitty M'Kissen isn't one of that kind," said Hugh. "You heard her say that she would stay here, and she is the

"I beg your pardon, Mr. M'Kissen," said Burnett. "Her proper name is Catherine Markham, and she is not likely to change it-in this place. No offense to you; but the name is a good one, and sounds well; but it would sound better if it were changed to Burnett, in my judgment."

And then Burnett walked off, to take a stroll through the hills, lcaving Hugh

"Confound his impudence!" Hugh. "Mrs. Burnett! He's after

Hugh walked out to cool himself and met Kitty coming from the springhouse; for Kitty was born to love cows and chickens, and her money had not changed her ways. She nodded. Hugh kept at her side, and as she reached the porch he said:

"I-I want to have a talk with you, Kitty."

"All right. Sit down on the porch, then, and I'll listen."

"Kitty-I-the fact is-" "Yes?"

"The fact is- You don't care for

Burnett, do you?" "Care for him? Of course I do. He brought me good fortune; he's my own cousin, you know, and he's a very nice man; too.' "Are you-going-to marry with

"What a question! I suppose you can ask it as you're my guardian. I don't see how I could; he's not a Mor-

nom, and he has a wife already." "Oh, Kitty, you know I-"Well, I don't know, till I know

what it is I know." "Kitty, I love you." "Of course you do; we were brought up together.

"It's not that, Kitty; but why can't we marry?" "You never asked me, Hugh."

Hugh asked then with a vengeance. He poured out his feelings in a flood of words, Kitty didn't interrupt him. She liked it. But when he paused for sheer want of breath, she quietly put her hand in his, and said:

"You ought to have known that I loved you, Hugh." When Burnett came back he divined

the state of affairs at once. "Mr. M'Kissen," he said, dryly, "I

Kitty was there with her milk pails, and am to pay it over to the heir or heirs of proval of her guardian in this matter."

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Kitty was there with her milk pails, and am to pay it over to the heir or heirs of kitty did go to the East, but it was as Kitty did go to the East, but it was as Kitty M'Kissen, and with her husband. After their return there was a house put up on the M'Kissen place which was the wonder of the neighborhood, both

of itself and furnishings.
"Such doings!" said Nancy Stallins
to a gossip. "You know the house, built outer bricks and rocks-a sorter cross atwix' a co't-house an' a meetin' house; an' enough rooms in it for a tavern. But I was inside; six wagonloads o' things was put in; the floors are kivered all over. Yes!" continued Nancy, with the bitterest climax, "kivered with kiverlids!"—The Ledger.

SELECT SIFTINGS.

Oregon has a fifteen pound turnip. The latest location for a watch is in loor handle.

The largest quadruped of California is the grizzly bear.

A Texas man has three buttons worn ov Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, Va. Willam Hanks, of Los Oros, New

Mexico, has three well defined tongues. There are 208 students from North America at the Berlin (Germany) Univer-

A Texan's pony found the watch his master had lost and brought it to him in his mouth.

A novel Viking ship, supposed to be one thousand years old, was unearthed recently from a mound in Sweden.

An Oil City (Penn.) snake's eyes, on being photographed, showed an exact reproduction of the face of the farmer who had killed it.

A Californian is going to start an ele-phant ranch. He intends to train the elephants to pick oranges and hire them out to orange growers.

The flat pieces of iron shaped like the letter S which are frequently seen on the walls of old brick buildings is the ancient symbol of the sun.

The savant Tremer has asserted his belief that the celebrated library of Ivan the Terrible was not destroyed in the burning of Moscow, Russia.

The women in Bridgeton, Penn., have formally petitioned the Mayor for permission to carry red pepper with them when they go out after dark.

The month of February, 1886, was known among the lovers of the rare and curious in nature as the "moonless month" from the fact of it having no full moon. This can only occur eight times in a century.

The finest white pearls are from India, the Persian Gulf and Panama; the finest black and gray pearls from the coast of Lower California. Beautiful pink and red pearls are often secreted by the common creek mussels.

The deepest trustworthy sea-sounding ever made was 26,850 feet, this depth being found twenty-three miles due north of New Guinea. Deeper soundings have been reported, but geographers do not consider them reliable.

Albinus, one who contended with Severus for the Roman Empire, was the greatest glutton of antiquity. For one breakfast he ate 500 figs, 100 peaches, ten melons, twenty bunches of grapes, 100 small birds and 400 oysters.

Parting the Hair in the Middle.

The number of men who part their hair in the middle is increasing every day. The fashion has grown in the matter of dressing hair so rapidly that it would not be out of the way to say that fully one-half the men who formerly derided this once much-condemned fashion are gradually getting around to it.

"They begin," said a well known bar-

ber yesterday, "by parting the hair a little higher up on the head by degrees, until they finally get it exactly in the centre. I remember very well when it was a very rare thing for a man to part his hair directly over his nose, but all of the contempt and fun which such a proceeding evoked are now replaced by indifference as far as the public is concerned. Twenty years ago a politician who parted his hair in the middle courted disaster at the polls. Now no end of statesmen, prominent or otherwise, wear their hair in a daudified fashion and it does not even call for a remark. The only thing that the rank and file strenuously and positively object to is a masculine bang. They won't have that at any price."—National Bar-

Manufacture of Dyestuffs. Few instances of modern industrial

growth in any one specialty are more surprising than that of the manufacture of artificial dyestuffs. In England, France, Germany and some other countries, but especially in Germany, this industry has attained such prodigious growth that in some cases the extensive works resemble a small town or village. This appears from the published statistics that one of these plants—that of the Farowerke, at Hoechst-on-Nain, where are employed some 1900 workmen, fifty foremen, nine engineers, besides eightysix clerks and fitty-seven chemists. The works cover an area of 726,000 square yards, and from one end of the works to the other the distance is 3300 feet. Besides a great variety of dyestuffs, the acids employed in their production are also manufactured, amounting in one year to 23,108,000 kilegrams of sulphuric acid, 12,800,000 of other acids, and 3,624,000 of coal-tar products.-New York Telegram.

TEACHING BIRDS TO SING.

ENLARGING NATURE'S GIFT TO THE FEATHERED FOLK.

Canaries May be Taught a Variety of Notes-Best Methods of Teaching Them to Sing.

To think of music lessons for a bird seems rather odd, for song is nature's gift to the feathered folk. Undoubtedly, says Olive Thorne Miller in the New York Recorder, a bird hatched in solitude, and never allowed to hear the voices of his kind, would express his emotion in some sort of musical fashion. But, as a matter of fact, many, perhaps all, birds are taught to sing. I have myself heard several birds at what I believe to be their singing lessons, notably the American robin and the whip-poor-will. In both these cases the old bird sang his full song and waited while the little one with more or less success imitated it. Over and over the parent repeated the notes and the infant tried to copy

These are the native teachers, but birds destined to the life of parlor musicians, as the bullfinch and some others, have human teachers, when their music lessons are as regular and their instructors as painstaking as the professors who teach our daughters.

The canary, our most famillar house companion, is usually imitative and intelligent, and a wonderful capacity for song dwells within his tiny frame. I may say hers also, for his pretty little mate can sing, though not everyone

knows this. There are three distinct ways in which a bird may receive a musical education. He may be taught to sing our tunes, opera airs or negro melodies, as is generally done with the bullfinch; or, second, he may be instructed in the notes of another bird, as a lark or a robbin; or, thirdly, his capacity may be developed, his powers of voice cultivated and his song remain the canary song

through all. A seed diet gives the muscles compactness, therefore, according to this system, anot be the principal diet until he "go mates," but a soft food of hard-boiled egg grated with cracker or bread, and boiled in milk to the consistency of stiff paste. Some seed may be added, and this may be varied by bread and crackers in milk, and grated egg, or a little lean beef chopped very fine. He should have variety of food and plenty of it, for he is growing and must be well nourished. It is good also to let him fly about, for this helps to expand the chest.

Now to teach him. If he is to sing "Annie Laurie" or "The Last Rose of Summer," he must be placed in a quiet room, with the cage covered. Then a few notes of the chosen air should be whistled, or played on some instrument. flute, bird organ or piano. They must be played slowly and distinctly, in correct time, and over and over till the bird begins to try it himself. He must not see the teacher, nor hear the least noise to distract his attention from the notes so constantly repeated. The instructor may have to spend hours, it may be twelve, before the bird learns his lesson, but he must persist in reiterating those few notes and no others till the pupil repeats them. When he sings his notes he should be rewarded with something he likes, for one a bit of food, for

another a little praise. No matter how well the bird has learned his artificial song, he will forget it the first time he moults, unless it is carefully repeated to him every day

while moulting. If the bird's owner wishes her canary to sing like a lark or robin, she must put him under native instruction. He is to be placed, with his cage covered closely, in a room alone with his teacher, whose cage is in a light, sunny window. The lark sings for his own pleasure, and the canary, in his darkened cage, forced to pay attention to it, learns to imitate it.

One man, who kept a large number of canaries, tells of having one of them trained by a wild English robin. Her cage-for it was a female, a year oldhung alone near the window, outside which was the robin's favorite singing perch. The cage was uncovered, for he never thought of training her, and for weeks she uttered no sound, but listened and looked at the singing bird, and one day she surprised her master by giving the robin song perfectly. Treated in the way described, a canary will learn to imitate almost any bird song.

The third method, and the most natural, is to have the young bird trained by a fine singer of his own family-a canary-and all that is needed to do this is to keep the young one during the learning period in the room with the fine singer alone, when he will follow his copy so far as his powers allow.

The things to remember are that he should not be disturbed by other sounds, especially other singing, and that he learns more quickly if his cage is covered, so that his attention may not be distracted by seeing anything.
One caution should be heeded. How-

ever annoying or untimely a bird's song may be he should never be stopped by violence, throwing something at him, scolding or shaking the cage. These little creatures are exceedingly sensitive. and they are by terror sometimes thrown into an epileptic fit, and occasionally killed. If too noisy, his cage should be quickly covered, while a kind word is spoken to sweeten the imprisonment in darkness which he must suffer that his mistress may talk.