

LITERARY NOTES.

Still there is a difficulty in connection with horizontal pipes that every builder faces, and no one can say he has thoroughly conquered. The only remedy is the appropriation of a certain vertical passage in the house to purposes of plumbing, and the confinement of all plumbing to that shaft. In the old Parker house, in Boston, there was a shaft perhaps twenty feet square—a great room with brick walls and a skylight at the top, which was as many stories high as was that wing of the hotel. Opening upon this were the bath rooms, and in some cases bath rooms or wash closets were bracketed out into the shaft like bay windows from the outer wall of the house. Against the walls of this lofty room all the upward supply and downward waste was conducted in vertical pipes, the horizontal connections being of the very shortest, so far as concerned bath rooms, water closets and the dressing closets which were immediately adjacent to the shaft. This being a public hotel, horizontal supply and horizontal waste had to be furnished to bed rooms at a distance from the shaft. That is a problem which is inseparable from hotel plans and hotel plants. In a dwelling house, however, things are different. Many a builder refuses to have plumbing connection in the rooms above his decorated ceilings, and his objection is perfectly reasonable. Why should he not carry it a little further and refuse to have his vestibule or pantry come down by the run? If somewhat less expensive, it is still a serious annoyance that an indefinite quantity of water should be let loose to soak through the flooring and trickle down between the beams.

Bedrooms not adjacent to this vertical plumbing shaft would have to be supplied with hot and cold water by hand, and would of course be limited to the old-fashioned furniture-maker's wash stand. In England and on the continent, where the standard of comfort is, on the whole, so much higher than in America, even the most luxurious establishments do not have running water throughout. Every one who has travelled much in England knows how the hotels, badly supplied with food and table appointments, according to American standards, have yet in their bed rooms a display of washstands, basins of two sizes, ewers to match, soap dishes, sponge cups, cans for hot water and portable bath tubs. Even more notable is this display in a well appointed English private house. The wash stand is a handsome table four feet long at least, with a parapet or baluster around three sides of its top, a shelf sustained by the legs a few inches from the floor, and two or three drawers; and every part of this large piece of furniture is occupied by the neat and somewhat elegant piece of crockery, glass and metal supposed to be needed for the toilet. The disadvantage of such an arrangement is that it necessitates more service; but in addition to the great virtue that it makes possible the vertical arrangement of plumbing, it has one supreme advantage, namely, cleanliness. No device has yet been invented which makes the fixed basin with running water at once convenient, inexpensive and cleanly. It may, indeed, be said that no device has yet been discovered which is simply cleanly; at least the writer has never seen a fixed basin about which it was not easy to get up a squeamish horror. The arrangement by which a bath tub or basin used to be filled through the opening which led to the waste pipe seems to have gone out, and fortunately so, for this was the filthiest of all the appliances; but the ideal form for cleanliness has not yet been introduced. In point of fact the present tendency among the most intelligent housekeepers in America is to

discard the idea that running water is necessary in all the rooms of a house. The plumbing shafts are so arranged as to bring as many rooms as possible adjacent to them. The rest of the rooms of the floor, which are usually the least occupied, are supplied with water by hand.—In Harper's magazine for April.

When Lieutenant Hobson and his men sank the Merrimac in the channel of Santiago Harbor the deed was almost everywhere hailed as the bravest of the war. This was as it should have been, but to our mind a deed equally brave was that represented in our illustration taken from the current issue of Harper's Magazine, "Cutting the Cables at Cienfuegos." The illustration was drawn by R. F. Zogbaum for the third part of the "History of the Spanish-American War," by the Hon. Henry Cabot Lodge, senator from Massachusetts, who in this instalment of a most notable history discusses "The Blockade of Cuba and the Pursuit of Cervera," and gives an admirable description from an historical point of view, of the operations around San Juan, of Guantanamo Bay, of the bottling up of Cervera's fleet and of Hobson and the Merrimac. The gallant work of the men who under a galling fire cut the cables at Cienfuegos has been in the main lost sight of by reason of the more important and decisive battles. A brief resume of it will certainly not be out of place.

The same day that the Winslow, the Hudson, and the Wilmington were having their action at Cardenas, far away



Cutting the cables under fire at Cienfuegos. After a drawing in Harper's Magazine. Copyright, 1899, by Harper & Brothers.

on the southern coast of Cuba another fight was taking place, in the progress of the work of separating the great island from the rest of the world. On the night of May 10, Captain McCalla of the Marblehead called for volunteers to protect the cable-cutters in their work. The roll was soon filled, and the next morning the steam-launches of the Marblehead and Nashville, towing the two sailing-launches under command of Lieutenants Winslow and Anderson, started into the harbor of Cienfuegos about a quarter before seven. They carried a squad of marines picked for proficiency as marksmen, and a machine-gun in the bow of each boat. The Nashville and Marblehead then opened fire on the Spanish batteries, and under cover of this, and that of the steam-launches, the crews of the other boats went to work. It was a perilous business, but the sailors grappled and cut successfully the two cables they had been ordered to destroy. They also found a small cable, but the grapnel fouled the bottom and was lost. Meantime the Spanish fire grew hotter and hotter, pouring out from the batteries and machine-guns, and the boats began to suffer. The well-directed fire from the rifles of the marines and from the 1-pounders kept the Spaniards from reaching the switch

SEND NO MONEY

WITH YOUR ORDER, out this ad. out and send to us, and we will send you our HIGH GRADE DROPPING CABINET BURDICK SEWING MACHINE by freight C. O. D. subject to exam- nation. You can examine it at your nearest freight depot and if found perfectly satisfactory, exactly as represented, equal to machines others sell as high as \$90.00, and THE GREATEST BARGAIN YOU EVER HEARD OF, pay your freight agent Our Special Offer Price \$15.50 and freight charges. The machine weighs 130 pounds and the freight will average 75 cents for each 100 miles. GIVE IT THREE MONTHS' TRIAL in your own home, and we will return your \$15.50 any day you are not satisfied. We sell different makes and grades of Sewing Machines at \$5.50, \$10.00, \$11.00, \$12.50 and up, all fully described in Our Free Sewing Machine Catalogue, but \$15.50 for this DROPPING CABINET BURDICK is the greatest value ever offered by any house.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS by unknown concerns verifications, offering unknown machines under various names, with various inducements. Write some friend in Chicago and learn who are RELIABLE AND WHO ARE NOT.

THE BURDICK has every MODERN IMPROVEMENT EVERY GOOD POINT OF EVERY HIGH GRADE MACHINE MADE, WITH THE DEFECTS OF NONE. MADE BY THE BEST MAKER IN AMERICA. FROM THE BEST MATERIAL.



NO MONEY SOLID QUARTER SAWED OAK DROPPING CABINET BURDICK SEWING MACHINE. One illustration shows machine closed, (head dropping from right) to be used as a center table, stand or desk, the other open with full length table and head in place for sewing, 4 fancy drawers, latest 1899 skeleton frame, carved, paneled, embossed and decorated cabinet finish, finest nickel drawer pulls, rests on 4 casters, ball bearing adjustable trestle, genuine Smyth iron stand. Finest large High Arm head, positive four motion feed, self threading vibrating shuttle, automatic bobbin winder, adjustable bearings, patent tension liberator, improved loose wheel, adjustable presser foot, improved shuttle carrier, patent needle bar, patent dress guard, head is handsomely decorated and ornamented and beautifully NICKEL TRIMMED. GUARANTEED the lightest running, most durable and nearest solution machine made. Every known attachment is furnished and our Free Instruction Book tells just how anyone can run it and do either plain or any kind of fancy work. A 30-YEAR'S BINDING GUARANTEE is sent with every machine. IT COSTS YOU NOTHING to see and examine this machine, compare it with those your storekeeper sells at \$40.00 and if you are convinced you are saving \$25.00 to \$26.00, pay to \$20.00, and then if convinced you are saving \$15.00 to \$16.00, pay \$15.50 if at any time within three months you say you are not satisfied. ORDER TO DAY. DON'T DELAY. (Sears, Roebuck & Co. are thoroughly reliable.—Editor.) Address, SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO. (Inc.) Chicago, Ill.

A PROTECTOR THAT IS FELT



If defective parts are found in the Wittman Bicycle we will replace free and pay all transportation charges.

A guarantee worth your attention. Get a copy of Healthy Hints free for the asking.

We are also western headquarters for the

GENUINE EDISON PHONOGRAPHS RECORDS and SUPPLIES

H. W. WITTMANN & CO. (Established 1870.) Harness, Bicycles, Phonographs. 143-145 So. Tenth street, Lincoln, Nebr

house which controlled the submarine torpedoes, but launches could not contend with batteries at close range, and when the work for which they came, and which had all been performed under a heavy fire, was done, they withdrew to the ships. Nine men, including Lieutenant Winslow, and been wounded some seriously, and three, as was reported later, mortally. It was a very gallant exploit, coolly and thoroughly carried through, under a galling fire, and it succeeded in its purpose of hampering and blocking in the enemy at the important port of Cienfuegos, which was the road to Havana from the south coast. It was another twist in the coil which the United States was tightening about Cuba.

The biography of Elizabeth, recently published by Harper & Brothers under the title, The Martyrdom of an Empress, contains many interesting incidents and adventures of which the empress was the heroine during her long and eventful life. Elizabeth and her constant companion, the author, used to disguise themselves and visit the slums of the cities, nursing the sick and comforting the afflicted. One night they were riding through the outskirts of Pesth when they heard a woman's screams from a rickety hovel.

"On the impulse of the moment," says the author, "we both leaped from our horses, and rushing to the door and pushing it open we found ourselves in a villainously dirty room where a huge ruffian of a man was dragging a woman about the floor by her luxuriant, unbounded hair, kicking her vigorously as he did so. Before I realized what was happening the empress had laid her heavy hunting crop about the fellow's face, and so surprised was he at our unexpected appearance, and at this vigorous onslaught, that he dropped his victim and stared at us in blank amazement. His astonishment was, however, as nothing to ours when the illused dame sprang to her feet, and, putting her arms akimbo, demanded, in her shrillest Hungarian, and with a torrent of invectives, what 'we hunsies' meant by interfering with her husband. The empress burst into a peal of laughter, and taking from her habit a couple of gold ten gullen pieces, she handed them to this model benedict, exclaiming, 'Beat her, my friend; beat her all she wants. She deserves it for being so loyal to you.'"

Mrs. Browning, according to one of her letters to Robert Browning, in the volumes recently published by Harper & Brothers, had troubles of her own with autograph collectors and others of the same ilk. In a letter dated May 22, 1846,

(Continued on page 10.)