Boston's Girl Sculptor.

Among New England's fair daughters who woo the goddess art, no one is bidding closer to fame than Miss Theo Alice Ruggles, Boston's girl sculptor.

Whatever may be the decision of the judges in the competition at Providence for the statue of Shakespeare which that city is going to erect, Boston is proud to have submitted one of the best models, and that at the hands of a woman, and a very young woman besides. Miss Ruggles has chosen for her Providence model to represent the Bard of Avon as he might have been seen in his library had one chanced there upon an afternoon 200 years ago, and been a visitor interesting enough to engage his host's attention. Shakespeare, without hat or mantle, clad in doublet and hose, is seated upon a crosslegged stool in a natural, easy pose that is withal alert with vitality The right hand, resting upon his right knee, holds a roll of manuscript. The left hand is upon his hip, the left foot and leg being drawn back in an unstudied position.

She is a daughter of C. W. Ruggles, one of Boston's well known business men. Miss Theo's home is with her family in artistic apartments at 165 Falmouth street, on the Back bay, her studio being, as it has been from the first with her teacher, H. H. Kitson, the prominent Boston sculptor, whose "Christ" is one of the latest and one of the best examples of his art.

In clay by summer and in snow by winter Miss Ruggles childish bent for modeling unfolded itself till the small maiden's unmistakable talent won the attention of her parents. It is six years since those who were in the open secret trooped out to Brookline to see and remained to admire the wonderful snow statue of the reclining horse made by the little girl of fourteen years. It was but a bit of play work in the yard of what was then the family residence, but it served to emphasize the childish admiration for form and beauty and led to Theo's introduction to Mr. Kitson.

Four years ago she went to Eurode, accompanied by her mother, settling down in Paris for work and study. In the spring of 1888, after a few months on the other side, Miss Ruggles, then but seventeen years old, sent two pieces of sculpture to the Paris salon, and both were accepted. One, "The Shepherd Lad," was especially complimented by the critics, who referred to it as the work of Mr. Theo Ruggles, a mistake that was afterward corrected with a reiteration of the compliment earned by the work.

To the salon of 1889 Miss Ruggles sent her beautiful work. "On the Banks of the Oise," representing a nude boy gazing seemingly into a stream This received "honorable mention," the first ever conferred by the salon upon a woman sculptor

Other honors have fallen upon the young sculptress, who is now barely twenty years old and working away as industriously still and as unpretentiously as if her first laurels were yet unwon.

A beautiful girl, dark complexioned graceful by nature and untrammeled by inartistic "smear" frocks or coats, fond of all out doors devoted to her beautiful greyhound, Glaucus, quiet at her work, which she does swiftly talking little about it, loving it—it is but a faint sketch these outlines make of the young sculptor.

'Unspoilable' is what her friends say of her. It must be so else the glamour of success already so pronounced as hers would not discover her now the gracious, sweet, strong, womanly personality it found her.—Boston Globe.

Plastic Cement for Gowns

The latest novelty for women's gowns is plastic cement, which is to be used for ornamentation. The cement is put on the gowns with a pencil in any pattern desired. Embroidery can be counterfeited so cleverly that the cement will be mistaken for the genuine article. It is possible by this process, which is, by the way, the invention of an American to reproduce tapestries, passmenterie, and, in fact any decoration desired in any one or a dozen lines.

The cement is put on in very thin layers, and after it is has dried and become woven into the fabric cannot be told from handwoven ornamentation. For light textile fabrics, gauzes and netting the cement is of great value, and some of the specimens of the work shown us are marvelously attractive.

The new process has a great deal to recommend it to women as an ornament of dress and for household decoration. It does not injure the material upon which it is used; it can be removed or changed at will, and it is cheap. Its use will enable a woman to change the pattern of a dress as many times as she likes and at very small cost.

A dress ornamented with real ornamentation would cost several hundred dollars, whereas the cost of a gown done in plastic cement will not exceed fifty dollars. From ten to fifty dollars will be the tariff for the work when it becomes better known.

Competent operators are now engaged in experimenting with the cement and cutting the stencils, which will make it possible to reproduce the most difficult of embroideries and tapestries.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

An Improvement in Valve Packing.

For a considerable time the Old Colony railroad has had in use a piston valve packed with Tripp's packing, this device, according to the report, giving no trouble from leakage, which is the great objection to the plain piston valve. The port does not have to be bridged, the packing being such that it cannot fall out or catch on the edges of the port, and to give a still large, area of port opening with the same travel of valve, a square piston valve has been devised.

The latter is sixteen inches wide and about three inches high, and for a certain width of opening admits steam past the upper and side edges as the seat opening, thus more than doubling the area of opening for the same travel of valve. This applies as well to the exhaust as the steam edge, giving a quick release as well as admission of steam.

Being of the piston type, the valve is balanced, and, to keep it steam tight, is packed on top and at the sides. The packing is an inch thick all around, and, as it is held out by springs, an excess of pressure in the cylinders will cause the valve to lift from the seat acting as a relief into the chest. This device, therefore, is said to possess all the advantages of the simple slide, valve, and in addition practically double ported and balanced.—New York Sun

Instinct in Roots.

There seems to be an orderly instinct in roots that cannot be accounted for. When the seed sprouts and the stem starts upward to make the trunk, one bud pushes down into the earth to form a top root. What it is that gives the order for one to push up and one to push down is incomprehensible. But, more than this, while the top root is descending deep into the ground, as it to anchor the tree securely against wind and storm, other roots start to grow horizontally just beneath the surface of the ground. These surface roots are at first but mere fibers. When the autumn arrived, and the leaves fall, most of these fibers die also leaving only a few to live over, and these become permanent surface roots. We know why some live to become permanent roots, as against the thousands which die. We say they are gifted with greater vital power. They were able to get more nutrition than the other, and nutrition to some extent means vigorous life—but in what way this ordering of some roots to go down as anchors, and the others to spread out near the surface where food is to act as feeders, is just as deep an unsolved problem as it was hundreds of years ago.—Thomas Meehan in Philadelphia Ledger.

Norwegian Cheese.

Arranged in a series of little dishes around us were sardines, sausages, raw smoked mutton—which is really very good—and several kinds of cheese. There is a terrible kind of native cheese called "mysost," which is made of goat's milk; it is brown in color, and served in the shape of bricks, done up in silver paper The initiated shave this into thin films and make it into a sandwich with black bread and butter. This cheese is really made from the whey after proper cheese has been manufactured. All the water is then boiled out, and the remainder is compressed into these brown bricks, which taste sweet and gritty.

Love of this chees would take some time to acquire; the opportunity is not lacking, for it appears at every meal, from breakfast onward. There are several native cheeses. Another terrible one, "pultost," is made with caraway seeds, and always smells as if it had gone bad. Mysost has no smell, fortunately, only a terrible aspect and taste.

Dr. Julius Nicholyson told us he wanted to send a few Norwegian delicacies to a friend in Germany, and among others he put in a piece of the native mysost. His friend wrote and thanked him for the salmon, etc., and then continued, "The soap is very nice; but we find great difficulty in making the lather." This was the cheese!—Merray's Magazine.

Bombay's Big Dam.

The distinction is now said to belong to Bombay of possessing the greatest piece of solid masonary construction that the world has ever seen in modern times. It appears that for years past the water supply of Bombay depended upon works known to be defective, involving the possibility of a water famine in that great eastern seaport and in view of this a consultation of eminent engineers was held, under the direction of the government, with the results that a large dam was determined on, to inclose the watershed of the valley which drains into the sea south of Bombay.

This gigantic structure, designed and accomplished by the superior engineering skill of T. C. Glover, is two miles long, 118 feet in height, and 103 feet wide at the base, with a roadway on the top 24 feet wide, the stonework alone costing $2,000. The lake of water which this dam imprisons is some eight square miles in area, and sixty miles of pipe perform the service. Twelve thousand Hindoos were specially trained by Engineer Glover for employment on this dam.—New York Sun.

The "Lightning Arrester,"

To the uninitiated it is a great puzzle how the dangers of lightning are arrested where there are so many conductors of electricity as there are in a telegraph office. More than 2,000 wires enter the big Western Union building in New York city, and from one to a thousand in other offices of that company throughout the United State. Each of these wires run more or less directly to the desks of the operators. This being the case, how do they guard against danger from lightning during time of great electrical disturbances? Even when less electric attractions are wanting most people confess to a certain feeling of insecurity when the elements rage and wake up terrifying flashes of forked fury. But science has provided an answer to the question asked above, as well as to almost all other puzzles which stand in the way of human progress.

Every wire as it enters a building passes through the bottom of a long narrow board, and then again through it at the top. This board is the "lightning arrester." If the current is heavy the first effect of the board is to deprive it of much of its force. Should the first contact with the "arrester" fail to eliminate the lightning of its fatal powers it passes on the top of the board and touches a spring which communicates with a "drop," instantly shutting off all connection with the operating room. The spring is called the "plush magnet," and beyond it a space even overcharge of lightning whether proceeding from a storm or from contract with other wires, cannot possibly go.—St. Louis Republic.

An English bishop has been confined to an insane asylum. He preached so oddly that attention was attracted and he was found to be mentally unbalanced.

A queer old man in San Francisco, although he has the whole of a rickety tenement to himself, habitually sleeps in an old Saratoga trunk four feet long.

Judge John F. Kerr, of the district court of Paterson N. J., is to decide whether a cat has any commercial value, one having been shot while stealing chickens.

Miss Louise Renner of Wise, Isabella county, Mich., went into the woods with her father last winter and with an ax and saw helped her father earn $ 25. She has also a bureau made entirely by herself.

Three cities are to hold the ashes of Mme. Blatavsky. The theosophical convention has resolved to divide her ashes into three parts, and to deposit one portion at Madras, another in London, and the third in New York

By means of a powerfur jet of compressed air a German military engineer drives dry cement down into the sand or mud at the bottom of a stream, so that the water immediatly fixes the cemet and it becomes like solid rock suitable for foundations.

The largest fig orchard in the world is expected to be one that will be planted in Pomona valley, Cal. Over 700 acres will be planted or 73,000 trees. The projectors believe they can produce figs equal to the best Smyrna varieties. The trees will be imported from Syria.

The following card in the Billville, Ga., Banner hints of troubles not wholly unprecedented among rural editors: We are besieged by poets philosoqhers and statesmen, who are in search of places on our staff. To all we would say that we are chock full and they must continue to tell us how to run the paper from a distance This shows, however, that the Banner is popular. Everybody in our employ occupies a high position, for the sheriff levies on us once a week, and we do most of the type setting on the roof.

A Great Inland Ocean.

Did you ever compare Hudson Bay with other and lesser bodies of water and land? If you never did, and will take the trouble to do so, you cannot help uttering exclamations of amazement when the immensity of this great inland ocean dawns upon your understanding. From Fury straight on the north to the most southern indentation at the mouth of Abbitibbe River it is exactly 1,380 miles while the width from Cutton's Bay to the mouth of Whale River is but little under 700 miles. It is as the long as the first Atlantic cable, and nearly as the combined lengths of Lakes Huron, Erie and Ontario. It extends over 12 degrees of latitude and covers not less than a half a million square miles including more territory within its limits than can be found within the borders of Great Britain and Ireland, Sweden, Norway, Greece, Switzerland, Denmark, the Netherlands and Belgium combined. It drains 3,000,000 square miles of territory, receives rivers from the Rocky mountains, Labrador, the Arctic regions and some which have their source almost within the limits of the United States.

John Leech, whose humorous pictures made Punch, was driven out of London by the hand organs and street bands. Their noise affected his nerves and prevented him from drawing, and though he tried again and again he was unable to silence them.

Government Note Paper.

Anybody who wishes can go into the big Crane & Co's factory at Dalton, Mass., and see the workmen place the blue silk on the machine that makes paper for all the United States notes. The silk comes in spools, and is made by Belding of Northampton. It is sold in Bangor. There is no more secret about it than there is about the water flowing over the dam above the toll bridge. The real secret is in the composition of the paper. The silk thread idea is secured by patient, to be sure, but the making of the paper, the compound of the ingredients, is safe in the head of J. Murray Crane, who received the art from his father, who made for Salmon P. Chase, Lincoln's secretary of the treasury, away back in war times. The pure linen pulp is in a big room, looking for all the world like any linen pulp. Then comes J. Murray Crane with a gripsack. He and the grip enter the room together, and it is presumed that he locks the door for the door is locked on the inside and the 'grip' does not seem able to do it. They are closeted a half an hour. When they come out the pulp goes to the paper machine, and Mr. Crane and the grip go home. But the pulp is changed by that visit, and nobody has been able to penetrate the Crane secret. company gets about fifty times as much for that paper as for other linen paper as for other linen paper made in the same mill.

Mr. Hoe's Library.

Gotham boasts of a host of literary connoisseurs, who spend fortunes with liberality in the struggle to secure the gems of literary workmanship The appearance of any particular treasure from the printing press brings them forward in animated rivalry for its possession. At the present time Mr Robert Hoe, the printing press builder, owns the finest private library in New York. It is in his city home at 11 East Thirty-sixth street, and is the delight of all his friends. The library is a spacious apartment finished in mahogany, with gallery nearly fifty feet in depth and it is estimated that over 8,000 volumes of unique interest are stored on the shelves.

Mr. Hoe's cultivated taste as a collector is proved by the comprehensive scope of this magnificent collection. It is rich in old manuscripts, contains some of the rarest of missals and choice examples of the Guttenberg press and a varied group of incunabula, or specimens of the presses of the first century of presswork. Mr. Hoe has gatheerd together also some of the most exquisite specimens of the bookbinder's art, sparing no money to secure the prizes that his literary enthusiasm craved possession of.—New York Sun.

The Ice Cure

About two years ago a contributor to The North American Review called attention to the hygienic value of refrigeration, and predicted that climatic fevers would yet be cured in ice cooled hospitals. That prediction seems to have been verified by an actual experiment. Havanna papers publish circumstantial reports from Santiago de Cuba where a Spanish physician is treating, and invariably curing, yellow fever patients in a camera polar(chamber), i. e., in a sanitarium reduced by means of ice to a temherature nearly 40 degs. below the average of the out door atmosphere. The result appears plausible enough, and the only puzzle seems why Yankee enterprise has not long ago acted upon the hint that the first night frost put, a stop to the malarial disorders of our gulf states.

New Sugar Process.

It is claimed that a new process has recently been made in the manufacture of sorgum sughar by which gum substances may be eliminated from the sacharine matter, and which will make the cane yield from fifty to seventy pounds more sugar to the ton than it has been doing. Professor Wiley, who has been experimenting in this, says that sorgum sugar will bring about three cents a pound and possibly four cents. This will give the farmer more for his product than anything else he can produce, and still leave a good profit to the manufacturer.—New York Journal.

Problematic Scriptures.

The valley of John Day river, a modest tributary of the Columbia, seems to have become a rendezvous of war western archæologists. Sculptures, carved into a basaltic ledge of that neighborhood, are supposed to represent 'anthropoid apes,' and the question is where the Oregon Indians could have seen the originals of those emblems. In Sumatra, India or some ape haunted region of the western continent? A less romantic solution of the enigma would be the conjecture that the sculptures in question do not represent apes at all, but bears or barbarians.—Philadelphia Times.

A gentleman narrowly escaped being drowned by a salmon in Scotland. He hooked a large fish and entered the water to free the line, which had caught to a bowlder, when the salmon swam round and round the would be captor fixing the line firmly round both his legs. But for the prompt assistance of a gillie, the gentlemen might have been drowned.

Court Etiquette.

Some years ago the grand duke of a little German principality, who was on a visit to Windsor, was observed to be in that condition with which common individuals would be termed "the sulks." and on interviewing one of his suite it turned out that he was deeply aggrieved because her majesty had omitted to don for the occasion the insigia of an order of ladies which had recently created. The fact was the box containing the insignia had been left behind at Balmoral, regard to the duties of her station the queen at once directed a telegram to be sent to the court jeweller and by dinner time a new star and ribbon had deen provided and the duke was made happy.

Kindred to the observance in regard to orders is that as to uniforms. If one soverign visits another, etiquette demands that he should wear for the time being one of the military or naval uniforms of the country. This often necessitates some rapid changes of attire. For instance the Prince of Wales was in Berlin a few months since he wore the uniform of the German regiment of which he is honorary colonel while making his formal call upon the emperor, but in the return call, when he became theoretically the host, he wore the uniform of a British field marshal.

Another satorial observance of great significance is that of morning; and whether the morning shall last a week or a fortnight or a month, and whether two personages deceased shall be mourned concurrently or seperately, are questions that cause considerable deliberation. Concurrent mourning has been necessitated by the fact the most of the royal families of Europe are now closely connected with one another by marriage, end to detailed observance would keep soverigns and courtiers nearly always in black.

The tendency of court etiquette is to cut off the soverign from social intercourse with her subject of and to condemn her on glorious lonesomeness. A queen—or king, as the case may be—must not be spoken to until she speaks nor should her subjects talk to one another in her presence nor sit down until bidden by her. All this becomes weariness of the flesh, and for its occasional reaction a very harmless deception has been invented. "When is a queen not a queen?" is a riddle that is answered by "When she travels incognito." When our queen goes on the continent she usually travels as the Duchess of Lancaster, and thus gets rid of the pomp and circumstance which she could not escape as queen of England, and her equerries and ladies-in-wating can be "friendly like" as Mrs. Brown would put it, with her.

Spain is the great centre of etiquette. There the subject always signs his letter to the king with his initials B. S. P. (beso sus pies, "I kiss your feet"); but the king signs his with the majestic formula, Yo el Rey ("I the king"). Poor Amadeus owed his unpopularity in a great measure in his ignorance or contempt of the complicated etiquette of the Escurial, and when constantly scandalizing his court. Thus, one day, stopping on a country road to talk to a muleteer, he bade the man put his hat on again, forgetful that by ordering a subject to cover the royal presence he created him a grandee; and again he in a moment of carelessness, addressed a groom in the second person singular, a familiarity that, had the man been a native born Spaniard, would have, de facto, ennobled him.—London Letter in New York Herald.

Education and Beauty.

It may even be doubted, strange as many will deem the assertion, whether continuous education will produce beauty, whether the growth of intelligence will even in ages yield the physical result which we notice the authors of Utopias always assume as if it were a demonstrable consequence of the new society.

The most beautiful black race in Africa, a tribe in Nyassaland, on whose looks even missionaries grow eloquent, who are really as perfect as bronze statutes, are as ignorant as fishes, and though they have discovered the use of fire, have never risen to the conception of clothes of any kind. The Otaheitan when discovered was as uncultured as the Papuan now is, yet the former approached as nearly to positive beauty as the latter does to positive deformity. The keenest race in Asia, and as all who know them assert, the strongest in character, the Chinese, is decidedly the ugliest of mankind, while the Hindoo if sufficiently fed, is even when as ignorant as an animal, almost invariably handsome.

The Circassians, who know nothing and are rather stupid than exceptionally intelligent, are physically a faultless race, far more so than the Germans, who, though the best trained people in the world, display a marked commonness of feature, as if the great sculptor Nature had used good clay, but taken no trouble about the modeling. Some of the very ablest among them belong to the flat nosed, puffy cheeked, loose lipped variety.

The keenest face in the world, and probably the one most susceptible of culture, the Jew, presents few types of beauty, being usually at one hooked nosed and flabby cheeked, though in physique, as is thought, that race occasionally thrown out transcendant examples. The tamed Arab, who seem to possess poor, of course have no educ... extraordinarily handsome... 1860 the grandest head in ... which every artist copies ... Jove, belonged to an Arab ... who, outside his trade, ...

No modern men of ... pretend in mere perfect... to rival the old Greeks ... tellectually were probably ... the Berserkars, who were ... part only hard drinking ... royal caste, which has been ... for a thousand years, sel... beautiful men, and still ... tiful women; most prin... sometimes dignified, having ... ed as to features by a certa... ness often wanting in the ... especially the poor of certa... like Devon in England, and ... Marseilles in France. Bet... ter taught than Suffolk, but ... difference in peasant form...

In the last century the ... Europe were remarkable ... superfluity of flesh, of wh... face is the best known and ... example; and in our own ... even hereditary intellect ... found dissociated from ... abelest men being extreme... gross, and some of the ... marked by an indefinite ... and chin as if they had ... the fingers in putty. N... saw Tennyson without ... but Browning would have ... noticed in any English ... crowd.—Spectator.

A Ludicrous Mi...

A laughable incident ... curred at Fort Fairfield ... man at one of the hotels ... magistrate and informed ... wished to be married, ... would be around in a short ... his lady. The justice ... wife of what was to happen ... thing might be in readiness ... time a young gentleman, ... by a young lady, called ... of the aforesaid matron, ... appeared somewhat ... tice's better half supposed ... the couple who wished to be ... invited them into the dining ... placing a couple of chairs ... together bade them be ... soon the justice appeared ... scene, with book in hand, ... ately began to read the ... vice. The young man ... in the face, and springing ... demanded: "What in the ... this mean?" "Why," said ... trate, "I am going to ... "But," said the young ... want to get married," ... girl made a bold strike ... leaving the justice in a ... however, the right couple ... were made one in due ... (Me.) Republican.

Fooling a Balky ...

A horse car nag balked ... the Universalist church ... evening and declined to ... the direction of Greenville ... after striking the bell to ... several times to coax ... ward without avail. ... not have his way he ... to let the horse have his ... horses around he attached ... other end of the car and ... Franklin square, an ... away. The horse made ... that terminus of the ... Wauregan house. They ... taken to the Greenville ... and given another start ... given a free rein, and ... iversalest church at a ... which promised to make ... lay caused by the driver's ... The driver had evidently ... the horse before, and ... calm him down and make ... best.—Norwich (Conn.) ...

Brown Bread and ...

People who have ... cream, and a liking for ... altogether limited to ... try the fad of eating ... bread with their ice cream. ... bination that will delight ... good living. The other ... young men dined at quite ... restaurant down town, ... came time for them to have ... sert one proposed that they ... this novelty. Unfortunately ... taurant did not have an ex... ity of ice cream and had ... bread at all, so the young ... another restaurant near by ... were obtained. There is ... most excellent ice cream ... Italian, though it might ... called Russian or French, ... else. It is rich and yellow ... with the vanilla bean, whi... up and sprinkled through ... that it looks very much ... had been thrown in it. ... this cream placed upon ... slice of Boston brown bread ... ful to linger over and ... pleasure. This combination ... ter than the more common ... ton brown bread ice cream ... really nothing more than ... frozen, with the crumbs ... mingled in it.—New York ...