

AN IRISH SONG.

O, my dark Rosaleen,
Do not sigh, do not weep!
The priests are on the ocean green,
They march along the deep.

There's wine from the royal Pope,
Upon the ocean green;
And Spanish ale shall give you hope,
Shall give you health, and help, and hope.

My dark Rosaleen!
All day long in unrest
To and fro, do I move,
The very soul within my breast.

I could smile the blue air,
I could pluck the high hills,
Oh, I could kneel all night in prayer
To heal your many ills;

And one beamy smile from you
Would float like light between
My toils, and me, my own, my true,
My dark Rosaleen.

My first visit to South Africa was made one lovely summer afternoon in the City of New Orleans. My guide on that occasion was the well-known Phil Crozier, brother of the famous Arctic explorer.

We were sitting in one of those delightfully cool arbors back of an old battened windowed creole house on Ursuline street, grouped around a table whereon stood those pillars of Southern comfort a big box of regalias and a huge pitcher of Julep. The company was rather a distinguished one, and I remember how magnificently Col. William P. Curtis, of the Governor's staff, who had just come from some arduous duty, shone among us civilians in his rare and radiant uniform.

"One of the oddest things I ever saw in my life," remarked Crozier with a luxurious drawl of reminiscence, "and I have seen more odd sights than most men, happened one day when I was out hunting lions in the South African bush. I always took my dead ease about it, and that was probably the reason why I bagged so many in South Africa, where lions are easy enough to find, but difficult to get a good quip out of."

"I traveled through that country with two Kaffir guides, proper tall fellows without a stitch on them, shining in the sun like great bronze lizards. I also had a Kaffir boy about 12 a clever little chap, but, like most of his kind, wofully given not merely to prevarication, but to deliberate lying."

"On this particular day I had struck the bad luck of laming my horse, and my two Kaffirs had ridden ahead of my ox team which was roofed over, and in which we slept at night, to see if they could find a native doctor."

"I may remark in passing that the South African grass, like the Western wheat of this country, grows very high. We were within sight of that mountain peak called Crow's Nest, which may be considered as marking the line of division between Mashonaland and Portuguese Gazaland."

"It was the dry season, and the sun always hot in South Africa, seemed simply trying to broil everything in sight that afternoon."

"Though I had in the wagon a good supply of wet goods we had run short of water and I would have given a cool hundred, I think, for one cool drink of Adam's ale, of which, however, my guide told me there was no prospect till we reached the next camp."

"I was very much amused to see a huge, black-topped silver-sided cloud in the shape of a funnel, with a spiral twist, traveling along very rapidly high in the air, toward Mt. Crow's Nest, the peak of which may have been some ten miles from where we were trekking along in middle valley."

"The cause for my amazement you will readily understand when I tell you that during the dry season South Africa, though noted for its frequent bracing breezes, is also noted for its absolutely cloudless skies."

"As I neared Crow's Nest, with extraordinary velocity, it seemed almost as vast as the mountain itself, though much broader at top than at bottom. Suddenly as I gazed there came a collision colossal, and the next moment my summer cloud of wonder had vanished like a vision."

"It was the most sudden disappearance conceivable. It was seen and not seen, like the smile of the lightning, and I stood there, under the broiling sun, bathed in perspiration, rubbing my eyes in amazement and tempted to fancy that I must have had a symptom of some impending disease of the optic nerve."

with his pail and I stopped the oxen and waited his return. In about ten minutes he came down from the hillside, saying with a queer look, that he had found a little mountain cataract, yet that he couldn't get any water because it was nothing but a cataract of big fish.

"Well aware what big lars these Kaffir are, and, generally speaking, the smaller the Kaffir the bigger the lars, I instantly laid my oxwhip over his legs and back. He dropped the bucket and ran howling to the thicket."

"I picked it up, and taking also my rifle on the chance of meeting a lion, I trudged through the bush up along the side of the mountain in the direction of the hidden brook. I soon sighted the probable course of it by a zigzag streak of herbage deeper in green than the surrounding grass; but when I reached the edge of this fringe of emerald velvet, I dropped bucket and gun in sheer amazement."

"Down the steep bed of a narrow mountain stream was flashing, splashing, dashing, tumbling madly over each other, as in a game of leapfrog, a living cataract of fish, each on an average as long as my arm."

"So many were there that temporarily they seemed to have crowded out all the water, splashed it, I suppose, as they passed, over the surrounding herbage. For at least ten minutes this extraordinary piscatorial procession passed before me down into a large pool in the pit of the valley, which, I afterwards discovered was full of crocodiles."

"I have seen shoals of fish at sea, I have seen a whole harbor brilliant with bluefish, but I never beheld so many fish, as it were on one string."

"I am not exaggerating, but surely underrating the fact, when I say that fully 100 fish every second of those ten minutes must have cascaded past me; 60,000 fish at least, and heaven only knows how many had descended before I got there. I think 20,000 would be a reasonable guess."

"Some of them were thrown to one side as the mass went headlong, and imagine my fresh surprise when I recognized them as bonitos, not a fresh-water fish but inhabitants of the deep sea."

"That fact it was, which gave me at once a clue to the scientific cause to this unparalleled phenomenon. The huge cloud which I had seen colliding a short while before with the peak of Crow's Nest was not a cloud, but a gigantic waterspout, blown inland from the ocean 500 miles away."

"The cataract of Mr. Crozier's speech stopped with dramatic abruptness, and Col. Curtis, lifting his glass of Julep almost reverently remarked in a rare struck whisper:

"Crozier you are certainly the most picturesque, magnificent, circumstantial and statistical traveler that I ever met! I drink to your health, sir. May you travel for many years to come!"—Illustrated American.

Demijohns are mostly bottle-shaped and flask-shaped. The bottle-shaped demijohns come in seven sizes, ranging from one pint to five gallons. The flask-shaped are made only in the larger and smaller sizes, and pint, quart and five gallons are virtually its standard sizes.

A great many demijohns, both flask and bottle-shaped, are used for the distribution of pure water, spring and sterilized. In this country more large demijohns are used for water than for wines and liquors, and the number so used is steadily increasing.

Next in numbers to the large demijohns used for water are those used for wines and liquors. Chemists and druggists use many large demijohns, grown up there for vinegar and oils, and many are used for the distribution of fruit extracts to bakers, confectioners and dealers in soda water.

The smallest sized flask is used as a safety package, as a pocket flask for liquor, and quite extensively for perfume. When used for perfume and cologne the small flasks are covered with a finer class of reeds and willows. Have been a year some liquors have been put up in pint and quart-sized bottle-shaped demijohns.

With the growing use of demijohns for waters there has been a growing demand for a covering through which the water could be seen. Various demijohns of this kind have been made. In one the bottle is placed in a wooden crate with a hinged cover; in another the bottle is hooped with wood; in a third it is held in a frame of reeds.

A clever woman was short of closet room, and had no sideboard with spacious drawers into which she could pack her table linen, so evolved from some wooden boxes several unique ottomans. One for the dining-room is 20 inches long, 12 inches wide and 14 inches high, and is covered with pretty French cretonne. The top is padded so it makes a comfortable seat.

The cover which forms the seat is fastened on by means of small hinges. It is lined inside with cambric. This holds a number of table cloths, napkins, tray cloths and doilies, and serves for a double purpose. A similar one for the bath-room holds towels and wash cloths, while one in the kitchen contains newspapers, neatly folded paper bags and brown wrapping paper, besides a ball of twine.

The library boasts a more pretentious one, although similarly constructed. The cover is of brown linen embroidered in brown eyed Susans done in Roman floss. The effect is very good. This ottoman holds the latest magazines and newspapers, so there is no need of hunting all over for them when in a hurry. Still another of these novel and useful articles is found in the upper part of the bed, and upon opening it is seen a quantity of sheets, pillow cases and bed spreads.

The same house contains a number of stools or hassocks which are of home manufacture. Small boxes are used for the foundation. These are covered with various materials suitable to the rooms in which they are to be used. One is 16 1/2 inches long, 13 inches wide and 6 inches high. The top is padded. Wine-colored canton flannel is used for the covering, and it is finished around the top with a narrow furniture gimp and brass-headed tacks. Another, more attractive, is covered with handsome tan-colored canvas, and on it are embroidered white marguerites in Boston silk.

A handsome divan recently seen had for its foundation an old canvas-covered cot. On top of this was fitted a hair mattress, which was considerably cut down from its original size. A strong cover of unbleached muslin was neatly fitted over this, and next came the handsome spread of blue denim, with a flounce of the same embroidered in white Roman floss. At either end are two large square pillows covered with the denim and embroidered in white. They have double ruffles all around them. Three other pillows at the back have a puff all around and are covered with blue pongee embroidered in white Asiatic silk floss. The puff is of white linen.—Northwest Horticulturist.

Origin of Spooning. Apropos the recent disturbance in religious circles over the definition of "spooning" the Tennessee version of it is given, says the St. Louis Republic. "Spoonings" parties are popular in some quarters. They take their name from a good old English word, which was intended to ridicule the alleged fantastic actions of a young man or a young woman who is in love. For some reason, which no one ever could explain, everybody pokes fun at the lover. In fact, that unhappy character is never heroic in real life, no matter what great gods of heroism are piled about him on the stage, and in all the romantic story books. The girl in love, and the boy in love, are said to be "spooning."

When a "spooning" party is given the committee in charge of the event receives a spoon from each person who attends, or else presents each guest with a spoon. These spoons are fancifully dressed in male and female attire, and are mated either by the similarity of costume or by a distinguishing ribbon. The girls and boys whose spoons are mates are expected to take care of each other during the continuance of the social gathering.

Of course, the distribution of the spoons is made with the greatest to be placed carefully, the aim being to so place them as to properly fit the case of the young people to whom they are presented. The parties are usually given by the young people of some neighborhood, where the personal preferences of each spooner is well known, and they are the source of no end of fun. It is possible, also, that they serve as aids to matrimony as well, and are therefore commendable, since an avowal is rendered more easy to a diffident swain after he feels that his passion is not a secret, but that his weakness for a spooner maiden is known to his friends and enemies on the committee which dispenses the spoons. It may be mentioned that after the spoons have been distributed among the guests, each couple retires for consultation regarding the reasons which caused the award of mated spoons in their case. This consultation is known by the name of "spooning."

Gradually the shipping demijohn has been developed. The ordinary manner of packing demijohns shipped in boxes was to pack them in hay or straw. Demijohns are now packed in boxes specially designed for the purpose. The demijohn is protected by spring cushions of steel or rubber. There are both flask and bottle-shaped shipping demijohns, in various styles, and with a variety of cushions and fastenings. There are thirty or more patents on shipping demijohns.

The annual consumption of demijohns in this country is estimated at 1,000,000. Much the greater number of these are made in this country; the imported ones come from Germany. The American demijohns are mostly covered with rattan; the majority of those that come from Germany are covered with willow, which is cheaper there.

Demijohns are made in this country in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and a few in Maryland. Demijohn covers work in places where the manufacture of glass is carried on. The materials used are prepared by machinery, but the actual work of covering the bottles is done by hand. Some glass manufacturers have of late taken up the making of demijohns on their own account, at that season of the year when the bottle manufacture slacks off.

In the East demijohns have largely taken the place of jugs. In the far West jugs are still used, but demijohns are gradually ousting them in the South.—New York Sun.

Summer Hearts Bend. He—How many hearts are you going to break this summer? She—Hearts don't break in the summer; it's too warm. They merely bend.—Harper's Bazar.

Some bands should march and not play. After victory strap the helmet tighter.

SCIENTIFIC MATTERS.

USEFUL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE INDUSTRIAL ARTS. Will Science Lengthen Life—Telegraphing Without Wires—Fishing by Electric Light—Packing Tea by Machinery—A German Invention.

Mr. Balfour, the Englishman statesman, has been discussing the question of the effect of increased scientific knowledge on the lengthening of human life. Medical practitioners are a necessity in a modern community, but the most valuable part of their work is that which gives a profounder insight into the nature and into the cause of disease, and thus increases the sum of human knowledge of the healing art. Mr. Balfour believes the time will soon come when the ablest physicians and surgeons will be able, to conserve themselves on medical and surgical investigations, instead of wasting the greater part of their energies in the struggle to live. One of the foremost of living physicians, with whom he had been speaking of these happy prospects of scientific medicine, had told him he did not see any vital or sufficient reason why, when medicine was in the immediate future better understood, and when those temperate habits which medicine might enforce, obtained a deeper and larger hold on the great masses of the civilized world, as undoubtedly they would, he did not see any reason why when that time came the span of human life should not be extended to the patriarchal term of 120 years. He did not know whether that forecast was over- sanguine, but is suggested to his mind, at all events, the reflection, which had frequently occurred to him before, that after all, death was not the enemy which the medical profession had to fight. It was rather the pain and the disease which rendered us ineffectual for practical work. Cases are constantly heard of in which by the extraordinary skill of some great practitioner, and by the appliances of all the most recent medical discoveries, it had been found possible to prolong for some days or weeks the doomed life. When the command of the most scientific medical resources becomes the rule instead of the exception, and people learn to regulate their mode of living according to the laws of common sense, there can be no doubt that the period of useful existence of the human race will be appreciably lengthened.

Electric Car Brake. To make an electric car brake that will do the work required without burning out, permitting of perfect regulation, using no more than 5-7 amperes of current, or about equivalent to the power necessary to feed the lights in a large car, safe, reliable, economical and of a comparatively small cost—to make such a brake has been the endeavor and ambition of many electricians up to this time, but without success. Still a brake for which all of this is claimed is in existence now, and has been operated for the past three weeks without trouble on Car No. 18 of the Suburban railroad of this city. All that is visible from the car is a small switch handle on each platform, placed in convenient position for the motorman, and a single movement of the hand will stop the big 40-foot car gradually and easily, in case of necessity, suddenly enough to upset everything in the car. The possibility of such a sudden stop is a great feature of a brake in case of an accident, and one that will bring a fast-moving car to an immediate standstill, will discount all life guards. A street car moving at the rate of from eight to twelve miles per hour covers per second from 12 to 18 feet. Considering that it requires at least two seconds for the motorman to wind up the slack in his hand brake before its effect is felt in the speed of the car, one can easily see the advantage of a brake where this one second, probably the momentous one, is put to immediate use, as a movement of the hand is sufficient to set the brakes instantly, and no time is lost in the winding up of the chain. The release is also instantaneous with the release of the switch. The brake itself is an extremely simple affair, and does not require continuous looking after. It may be operated singly on each car or in trains of cars, where all of them would be controlled by the motorman on the front platform of the first car.

Fishing by Electric Light. Eastern anglers are taking a leaf out of the book of the fisherman of the Pacific coast. It will be remembered that an enterprising Californian was the first in this country to utilize the idea of attracting fish by electric light. He had the nets for his coast fishing studded with incandescent lamps, which were connected to batteries in an accompanying boat. As soon as the nets were sunk to the bottom, he simply puts a three candle-power lamp in a quart preserving jar, lowers it into the water, and runs it with a sewing machine battery. He recommends those who wish to follow his example not to spend \$20 on a battery, but buy an electric hand-book, and with three globets securely fastened in a plain wooden box make for themselves for about \$2.50 a battery which will work just as well. He says that night fishing becomes a very lively sport if the light is placed anywhere in the neighborhood of fish. They swim around and spend considerable time investigating, but as soon as

their curiosity is satisfied they get down to business and discuss the baited hook, which is dangling near by.

Telegraphing Without Wires. The continued success which has attended experiments in sending telegraphic messages through space promises to lead to remarkable developments. An English electrician says it is difficult to forecast the future of this new telegraphy. So far, signaling has been carried on by this means in one direction only, but there is no reason why messages should not be duplicated and even quadruplicated. Further details are now at hand of the establishment of communication between the island of Mull and the mainland, near Oban, a few weeks ago, when the connection cable broke down. It will be remembered that an insulated wire was laid along the shore of the island and messages through it were sent to the mainland across two miles of intervening space. The official report states: "An ordinary Morse circuit could not have given better results. The chief difficulty was the incessant screaming of the wild fowl." W. H. Preece, in commenting on the achievement, finds a very different explanation of this supposed "screaming of the sea fowl." He says that strange, weird and mysterious sounds are frequently heard on long lines of telegraph in the calm stillness of the night, but whether they are due to terrestrial or to cosmic causes remains to be discovered. The sun's photosphere when disturbed by spots may be subject to violent electrical storms, and the vast jets of incandescent hydrogen that flame up with terrible velocity may excite electrical oscillations through ethereal space of such frequency as to influence our terrestrial circuits. It may thus become possible for us to hear on earth the electric storms of the sun.

Packing Tea by Machinery. The usual method of packing Ceylon tea is shovel it into a tea chest and allow a breech-clouted and turbaned coolie to tramp it in with his feet. No matter how skillfully this was done, it was liable to bruise and crush the leaf, and there was always a greater or less proportion of dust or waste in every chest. A mechanical tea packer has been invented which is said to greatly improve the standard of tea shipped. It consists of a table or platform, on which the chest is to be packed, secured by means of self-centering right and left hand screws or clamps, and connected to the motive power. The machine is set in operation and a very rapid vibratory or trembling motion is imparted to the table, which instantly causes each scoupling of tea thrown into the chest to settle down compactly within it. The rate of vibration is high. The tables move to and fro 2,000 times in a minute. Owing to the peculiar nature of this vibration, neither the fine leaf nor the dust separates from the coarse, and consequently, if the tea has been bulked before packing, it remains of a perfectly even grade throughout the chest after being packed with the machine. It is stated that a full-sized chest can readily be packed by the apparatus in about two minutes, and that from 5 to 8 per cent more tea can be put into a chest in this way without the slightest breakage than can be packed without injury to the leaf by any system of hand or foot packing.

Autograph of the Electric Spark. Intense interest has been added to the study of various kinds of electric current by the discovery of methods of securing a graphic record of the passing impulse. Many of these records are exquisitely beautiful, and of great value to the advanced electrician as well as to the student. A simple way of fixing the trace of an electric spark is to use a smoked-glass slide on which the layer of smoke adheres so firmly that the struggling spark can only leave a trace in its own track without disturbing the smoky layer in its other parts. This may be done by fastening the soot to the glass by moistening with alcohol or by previously rubbing the glass with fine oil. The last is the surest plan. The smoking may be done with a lamp or candle flame. When the glass is brought between the poles of a strong secondary battery, or still better, a powerful induction coil, exactly at right angles to the line joining the two poles, so that the discharge must take place directly against the smoked surface, the spark, using the soot as a conductor, will strike over the edge of the glass plate and split into a complex, branched figure, and a permanent record will be left in the smoked surface of the zigzagging and twisting path of the current.

A German Invention. An electrical journal gives a new method of finishing cloth and paper by electricity. In the finishing of certain kinds of woven fabrics, and obtaining moire and figured effects. It has been the practice to use hydraulic presses and heated plates. The plates are heated in furnaces and subjected, after the fabrics or paper have been placed between them, to hydraulic pressure. The difficulty with this system is that during the operation the plates cool and the action is not regular. The adoption of a form of electric heating gives exactly the required regularity and constancy of temperature and makes the process perfect. The plates are made hollow, and the heating wire is wound within it in the shape of a spiral, imbedded in sufficient resistance to produce the necessary heating effect. A flexible cable passes from each plate to a switch-board, where electrical connection is made. As the current is turned on in any of the cables the plate to which it is attached is raised to the required heat, which is maintained undeviatingly until the process of finishing is completed. The invention comes from Germany, but it is such a manifest and radical improvement on old methods that it is certain to be applied largely by American manufacturers of woven fabrics and paper.

Had Too Much of Him. Subscriber—What is going to be the policy of the new magazine? Editor—Bluelines (the editor)—We are going to adopt the Wellington policy. Subscriber—The Wellington policy? What is that? Mr. Bluelines—The annihilation of Napoleon's rule.

Syrian Butter and Cheese. There is an immense consumption of dairy produce of all kinds in this country, but the United States has no share in it. Indeed, it would seem very much like "carrying coals to Newcastle" to send butter and cheese to a land whose flocks feed on thousands of hills. Native butter, or "samen," churned in calfskins after the ancient style, is a great industry among the Arabs, and this butter is used by nearly all Syrians. It is made from goat's milk, which is abundant, and some of it is quite palatable, although most of it is coarse and decidedly unsavory. Foreigners and many residents of cities obtain here good butter from cow's milk, and imported butter is little used or known. Some cheese for hotels and the use of foreign and native residents is imported from Holland and other European countries, but this product of the dairy is made in very large quantities in Syria, where the rich milk of the goats of the mountains and desert is used for the purpose, and it goes to make up one of the principal industries of the people. A coarse and cheap goat's milk cheese is also imported in considerable quantities from Greece and the Grecian islands, but the high price for transportation would eat up the profits on American butter and cheese under present shipping conditions.—United States Consul.

An Ivory Mat.—Many people have never heard of such a thing, and it is not to be wondered at, for these mats are exceedingly rare, and it is said by those who know that only three of these beautiful curiosities exist in the whole world. The one we now write about, and which will be soon on view at the Earl's Court exhibition, is the largest one made. It measures eight feet by four feet, and though made in a small hill state in the north of India, has an almost Greek design for its border.

It was only used on state occasions, when the Rajah sat on it to sign important documents. The original cost of the mat is fabulous, for 5,400 pounds of ivory were used in its manufacture. The finest strips of ivory must have been taken off the tusks, as the mat is as flexible as a woven stuff, and beautifully fine. It will be a luxury that only the rich can buy, for the price, I heard a little bird whisper, was a long one. —Ladies' Pictorial.