#### THE MILKY WAY.

IT HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF MANY STRANGE BELIEFS.

Its Name Among the Earlier Nations. What the Pythagoreans Sald-An Old Legend-Some Popular Traditions-An-

Like the rainbow, that benutiful occasional visitor in the heavens, the Millry Way has been the subject of many strange beliefs. It is, perhaps, the most prominent constant apbearance in the firmament, and could not fail to give rise to much conjecture as to its origin, its composition and its raison d'etre. Its name among the earlier nations of Europe indicates the popular belief in its fabulous origin, and has descended to many modern languages. It was called by the Greeks "Milk," "Heavenly Milk," "Galaxy" (milky) and "Milk Circle," the two last named appellations being applied to it by the Romans. It was also called "Milky River" in Latin, and "Milky Way." The latter name is its ordinary one in Italian, French, German, Dutch, Gaelle, Welsh, Flemish, Magyar, Romance, Arab and Amharic. It is called "Galaxy" in English, Italian and Westphalian, and this was its name in France in the Eighteenth century, and in the Lower

In middle age German and Westphalian dinlects the bright band was called "Milk Street," in North Germany, "Milk Ray" and "Milk Path," while the name "Road as White as Milk in Heaven" was given to it in Poland. An old Scotch name, the "Milkmaid's Path," would seem to have its origin in some other legend.

The path thus formed across the heavens became, in Greek belief, the colestial road traveled by the gods. Pythagoreans said that souls dwelt therein, and that by this road they descended to men in dreams. Maniche as believed that pure souls only abode in the bright path, and by it ascended and descended to and from the earth. Thus bridge of souls by night, as the latter was by day. Magyars call it "Night Rainbow." Many modern names recall these ancient be-Hefs. It is the "Heavenly Path" in Westphalia, and Magyars call it the "Way of Heaven" also. Bassouto Africans name it the "Path of the Gods," and an Iroquois appellation for the brilliant meteor was the "Continuous Road in the Sky." Italian legends indicate it as the path followed by the Madonna in her assumption, and a Magyar name for it is the "Road of Jesus," In Loango, Africa, it is the "Road to God," and a Swabian legend says it is the "Path of God," by which he leads his armies and

governs the stars. An old legend asserts that the galaxy is the ladder by which Jacob saw the angels descend and ascend in his dreams. In Swabian belief they still use it as a way to earth, but no one sees them. Lafitan says many American tribes call it the "Way of Souls." Waltz tells us that the Opis of Africa name it the "Way of Souls," and say that by it the good will ascend to heaven. Patagonians say the stars are the souls of old Indians, and the galaxy a road by which they chase ostriches. It is called the "Road to Rome," in Parmesan, in middle age German, and in Czech. In parts of England it is the "London Road,"

names of "Frankfort Road," "Cologne Road," "Nierenberg Road," and "Road to Aix-la-Chapelle." A common Turkish name for the bright track is the "Pilgrim's Road" (to Mores.) It is called the "Wagon Path" in North Germany, and was the "Winter Road" in ancient Norse, while Magyar peasants name it the "Tsigane's Way." A second Turkish name is the "Road of the Trembling Wanderers," and Welsh tradition gives it the appellation of the "Road of the Prodigal Son." In Swabian and Magyar folk nomenclature, the broad way is the "Army Road."

Sometimes popular tradition connects the galaxy with animals, instead of men or gods. Thus it becomes the "cow path" and the "game path" in north Germany, and the "fox's trail" in parts of England. Siamese legends, which connect many things with their favorite animal, designate it as the the "Road of the White Elephant." Similarly, in Polynesia it is the "Blue Shark," and is thought to be nourished by the clouds.

Naturally, these legends would connect the shining track across the heavens with the flight of birds. It is called "Bird's Fath" in Wendie, Lithuauian, Estbonian and Finnish. Wendle legends go further still, and assert that it guides the nugratory birds in their flight from clime to clime.

Another class of traditional names characterizes the broad shining tract as a river, flowing through the celestial regions. The great Humboldt recorded the fact that the Arabsso designated it, and named the constellation Sagitarius, "the animal that is going to water," part of that group of stars lying across the Galaxy. Peasants in Cyprus call it the "Jordan River" or the "Shadow of Jordon." An old Greek poem of the Fifteenth century alludes to it by the same mame. Biberian Koriaks called it the "Broad Thiver," and its name among the Gisgis, an Australian tribe, is "Wernenbul," signifying n great river flowing by a rich Eden full of fruits, where it is believed the nouls of the good go after denth. Another Australian tribe calls it "Paracostu," and say it is a stream on whose banks the soul resurts after death, to be washed white. Chinese call the starry hand the "Celestial River," Annumese the "Silver River," and its name in Scotch Gnelic was the "White River of the Stars." The natives of English Guiana call the Milky Way the "Sen" -Globe Democrat.

# The Amir's Wine Party.

It is a general iden that the nations of the erst are sin ularly temperate as compared with those of the west. This is not exactly so, as many travelers well know. A native historian thus describes a Little wine party that was given by a great eastern emperor of the Sixteenth century.

"The amir said to Abd-u-Razzak: 'Shall we drink a little wine? Accordingly, much wine was brought into the garden and fifty goblets placed in the middle of a small tent. The amir said: 'Let us drink fair measure | Khalii Dand drank ten; Suja Biruz nine, and said to the arair: 'If you give your slave any and went on drinking. He drank twentyseven goblets; he then arose and called for a basin of water and his praying carpet, washed his face and recited the midday prayers as well as the afternoon ones, and he so acquitted himself that you would not have thought that he had drunk a single cap; he then returned to fire palace on an ele-phant,"—Philadelphia Times.

Mr. Gladstone always says an union and an

#### A FAMINE IN GOLD.

Some Figures Regarding Its Past, Present and Future Production.

"Probably nine-tenths of all the gold obtained by man has been taken from placer deposits, and our American experience has been no exception to the general rule," remarked an experienced mining operator in speaking of the past and future of this valuable product the other evening. "Previous to 1817 our total gold production amounted to \$12,000,000, but between 1847 and 1887. about \$1,750,000,000 were contributed to our stock of gold. Of this, nearly threefourths came from placers deposits. In 1850-55 we obtained more than \$50,000,000 per aunum in gold from the placers of California, and almost nothing from gold bearing veins. Now, with an annual production of \$30,000,-000 about one-half only is from placers. Our own territory has been so thoroughly explored that no considerable superficial denearly the same thing can be said of the entire world.

"In the northern extension of our western mountain ranges in British Columbia and Alaska there are probably important deposits of gold. It is likely, however, to come from this region in a moderate but perennial stream, and not in a flood. Great difficulty will attend the working of those mines on account of the cold, long winters and the difficulty in transporting supplies. Unless the mines should prove richer than expected, there may be a dearth of gold in the near future. In the Alleghany belt of mountains, in this country, there are large deposits of gold, but they are difficult to work. Still, industry and perseverence may make them pay a profit. Mexico may be expected to turn out \$1,000,000 a year, but no more. The west coast of South America yields little but

"Colombia, Venezuela and Brazil have, on the contrary, always been producers of gold. It is estimated that from Brazil alone more than \$1,000,000,000 in gold were obtained during the first 300 years after the advent of the Portuguese. Colombia and Venezuela are now yielding about \$4,000,000 each annuthe Milky Way, like the rainbow, was a ally, and little more than that can be expected in the future.

"Australia produces about \$30,000,000 a year, and we cannot hope for more than \$5,000,000 annually from Asia. That will cover it all. I don't fear that you and I will ever suffer from a famine of gold, but unless the North American deposits are richer than is expected some one will suffer."-New York Mail and Express.

#### Hack Work and Journalism.

Is the back work of literature worse for a man's body or seel than the back work of other professions? What is here meant by hack work! In the literary profession, especially among those who write about it, it is common to hear work "done for the booksellers" contemptuously treated as back work. The contempt is often just, but not necessarily. Johnson wrote his "Lives of the Poets" for the booksellers, Southey wrote his "Life of Nelson" for them, yet these are works no sane man treats contemptuously. Every man who depends solely on his pen for a livelihood must, even if he can steer clear of the newspapers, do much work which he, if he be wise, and the world certainly, will willingly let die. If he be an honest man, a man of proper self-respect, he will do it as well as circumstances will let him; but needs prove too strong for him. Yet it has been that work so done has, by happy chance become a part of the world's patrimony. In short, as treason, says the epigram, may become patriotism, so hack work may become

Then, again, in every profession practiced by man there must necessarily be some prelimitary drudgery, some period of apprenticeship to be endured before he can be proclaimed free of the guild and qualified to set up for himself. For some men, of course, this period never passes; for some it passes to no purpose, and it is, perhaps, hard to say that this will always be the fault of the man, In journalism, alone of the professions, the time of emancipation can never come. It is the peculiar lot of the journalist that he can never set up for himself. He is merged in his paper; like the actor of the Athenian stage, his face is hid in a mask, and he speaks in tones not his own. He must speak in the tones of his party or that in the church, in the state, in trade, or in some other one of the many channels into which the great current of human affairs is parceled.-Maciaillan's Magazine.

# The Good Wives of Bulgaria.

Bulgarian peasant women are extremely roust and hardy, though they are as a rule thert of stature. They are thickly set, their lests well developed and their limbs musular from constant exercise and toll in the pen air. Their Turtar origin shows fixelf n their high projecting cheek bones, short aub noses and little, twinking eyes. Social life among this class of the popula-

on differs from that of the Greeks chiefly in be position of the women. A Bulgarian mika, or good wife, takes an almost equal have with her bushand in the bread winning, and, consequently, her word has considerable weight in the family council. Like all comen in the east, the is rober and thrifty, cops at least the inside of her house clean and idy, cooks palatable food, spins, weaves, knits and sews all the clothes for the family. Her wardrobe consists of two suits, one the gala costume, in which she was married and which will last her a lifetime for Sundays and prasnik, or feast days, and one of the sime pattern, but more homely material, for working days. The former consists chiefly of a long linen garment worked round the borders and seams, a cloth coat richly embroidered, a large apron nearly covered with the same ornamentation, but no petticoats; and on the head a bordered white kerchief artistically arranged and fastened with silver pins and string, of coins,-Woman's World,

# An Appreciative Audience.

An amusing story is told of a French actor who went into the country to study a new part. He was waiting at a lonely station and thinking of his part when, quite unconsciously, he began to act it in dumb show. and fill the cups evenly, in order that there French actors think more of the pantomime may be no unfairness.' They began to get of a play than we do, and the comedian, jolly. Bu-i Hasan drank five goblets; his while wniting for his train, had gone through head was affected at the sixth; he lost his some of the principal scenes of the new piece senses at the seventh, when the servants car- in this way, quite ignorant that his efforts ried him off. Bu-ala, the physician, dropped | had been watched with the keenest interest his head at the fifth cup and was carried off. by an attentive rustic sitting on a box in a dark corner. When the actor suspended his both were borne away. Bu-Nain drank task the rustic rushed up to him quite engerly, twelve and ran off; when the khwaja had asking in anxious tones: "And the lovers, druck twelve ones he made his obeisance and monsieur, were they united, and was the vilmore he will lose his respect to your nunjesty as well as his own wits. The amir laughed, and went on drinking. He drank twenty. I could see it all by your movements, and I know mensiour from the photographs in the shop windows."-Cincinnati Enquirer.

> Cure for Whooping Cough. In order to cure whooping cough in War-vickshire village, England, they cut a piece of hair from the nape of the child's neck,

THE TELAUTOGRAPH.

RESPITE FROM THE HORRORS OF THE "HELLO" MACHINE.

Elisha Gray's Latest Invention-A Contrivance Which Promises to Beat the Telephone-Written Messages Duplicated by Wire, Noiselessly and Exactly.

Professor Elisha Gray, of Highland Park, has just completed an invention scarcely less wonderful and valuable than the telephone, of which he was also the inventor, but of which he was defrauded. "Within a few days," said the professor the other day, "I shall give a private test of my new telautograph, an invention which will largely supplant the telephone. By this invention you can sit down at your office in Chicago, take posits of gold are likely to be discovered, and a pencil in your hand, write a message to me, and as your pencil moves a pencil here in my laboratory moves simultaneously and forms the same letters and words in the same way. What you write in Chicago is instantly reproduced here in fac-simile. You may write in any language; write in shorthand if you like, use a code or cipher, no matter, a facsimile is produced here. If you wish to draw a picture it is the same-the picture is reproduced here. The artist of your paper can, by this device, telegraph his pictures of a railway wreck or other occurrence, just as a reporter telegraphs his description in words. The two pencils move synchronously, and there is no reason why a circuit of 500 miles cannot be worked as easily as one of ten

"This telautograph will supplant the telephone for many purposes. It can be worked in exchanges, just as the telephone is, or by rivate wire. It-has many advantages, too. It is noiseless and devoid of the many annoyances so common to the telephone. It will be much less affected by induction. There will be no trouble in catching words or eyllables, letters or figures. No misunderstandings will result. Besides, it leaves a record at both ends of the wire, and there can be no dispute about what was said. For all commercial transactions this would be an invaluable feature. In ordering goods, or sales of stocks or grain, or in transmitting names or addresses its superiority over the telephone is obvious. For desultory conversations, it is true, it would not be so rapid of working, for the reason that one cannot write as fast as he can talk, but, on the other hand, it would save many of the delays and annoyances incident to telephonic communi-

#### WRITING A MESSAGE,

"When one person wishes to communicate with another by the telautograph he pushes a button, which rings an annunciator in the exchange, or in the office of the person with whom he wishes to converse. Then the first party takes his writing pencil from its holder -and this may be pen or pencil-and writes his message upon a roll of paper. As he writes so writes the pencil at the other end of the wire. Finishing his message, he adds a cross, or any other simple token that he has finished, when the second party takes down his pencil and writes a reply. Thus a conversation can be carried on easily and quickly, and when it is finished another simple word -say the telegraphic signal "20"-will indicate the end. Both parties have a full record of the conversation, and each possesses the

"In writing," continued the professor, "your pen or pencil is attached to two small wires, and these wires regulate the currents which control the pencil at the other end of the wire. But these wires give you no trouble. You hardly know they are there, and can write with as much facility as if they were absent."

"Can this invention be used to advantage commercially?"

"Yes, It will not cost more than \$15 or \$20, and is easily kept in order. I have tried it again and again, and it works more perfeetly than the telephone, and is much less liable to have its usefulness interfered with by induction."-Clicago Herald.

#### Catching Postoffice Thieves. Around the walls of the distributing rooms

of the postofilee in this city are imbedded a number of iron screens, which appear to be so many hot air registers. To the unsuspecting and uninitiated the registers appear to be perfectly natural objects of the architecture, and would attract no particular attention, but the wily robber of the mails knows full well that an inspector is most likely secreted behind one of those screens watching his every action. Behind these screens are small closets, which are reached through a series of intricate and secret passageways leading from the office of the inspectors. If an employe is suspected a keen eyed minion of the inspectors' department kee a a continual watch until satisfied of the guils or innocence of the suspect. When caught in the act the thieving employe is brunght to the inspectors' quarters, searched and then placed under bonds for appearance before the United States commissioner, or, if he fails to procure the necessary bonds, is thrown into juil to await trial. The preofs of his guilt are kept in an immense safe in the inspectors room, to be produced as evi-

dence against the accused at the trial. The preparation of decoy letters and packages in the inspector's private office is an interesting procedure, but it is as secret as the movements of the allegorical Father Time. If a business house in town has been raissing remittances sent in unregistered letters, the inspector secures one of the printed envelopes of the firm, marks it so it can be identitled, and sends it to a distant town to be deposited in the mails. That particular envelope is traced through to its destination, if it ever reaches there, and if some unfortunate appropriates its contents for "personal use," it's all day and several years with that unfortunate. Other similar "decoys" are sent, if neceseary, as occasion requires. The handwriting on the various envelopes differs greatly in size and general appearance, to suit the particular case upon which the inspectors are working. The packages which are to act as decoys to the thieving clerk are skillfully gotten up and very deceptive in appearance. -Globe-Democrat.

# Seals with Ballast.

The seals are carnivorous mammals divided into two classes—the Phocae, or common seals, with rudimentary cars, and the Otariae (sea lions, bears, elephants), which have the ears developed. In a late paper before some British naturalists, Dr. A. J. Harrison stated that the Otariae, which inhabit the waters of the southern hemisphere, are supposed by the fishermen to have an internal pouch in which rounded stones are carried to enable the animal to sink below the sea's surface when fat. Observations have shown, however, that the so called "ballast bag" is only the stomach. To account for the presence of the stones in this organ it has been suggested that they are intended to aid in the trituration of food, while other persons believe that they have been accidentally introduced with the food, or in play. Similar rounded stones have been found in seals and sea lions which have been confined in London, and the stomach of a Newfoundland seal which died at Clifton in case it very fine and spread it on a piece of 1886 contained gravel, ants and pieces of bread and give it to a dog.—New York Sun. | stick.—Arkensaw Traveler.

#### COSTUMES IN ALGIERS.

Dress of the Poorer Classes-Ample Dra-

pery of the Wealthy. It is a strange fact that many of the natives of hot countries wear almost the same clothing winter and summer, and do not seem to suffer from cold when the thermometer stands at a few degrees, in the severest weather, above freezing point. Arab women are always curious to see how European ladies are dressed, and examine attentively their clothes and jewelry. If the Europeans show the same interest, and inquire into the dressing of the natives, they often find to their surprise, on cold days, on lifting the haik of a Moorish woman, nothing but a gauze chemise and a thin cotton bodice covering the breasts and a very small part of the back, and from the waist to the feet cotton pantaloons, ample, it is true, but not

The haiks are often made of hand woven wool, very thick and warm, others of silk, while the poorer classes wear a few yards of thin white cotton stuff. The large haiks are about eighteen feet long by five feet wide. With one of these, with their veil to the eyes and falling about fourteen inches, and with pantaloons made up of seventeen yards of white cotton tied at the waist and ankles. the reader will have but little difficulty in understanding how they can conceal their figures and keep themselves warm. But such ample drapery is comparative luxury, and enjoyed by the wealthy only.

The street costume of the women is always white, varying considerably in tone according to the material; small stripes of blue or pink silk are occasionally seen in the haik. The ample pantaloons are put on over others of colored prints or silk brocades, which are

worn at home, and Large anklets filled with shot (khankhali jingle as they move about. Their slippers are of pale yellow, white, brown or black patent leather, and the height of fashion is to wear everything of the same color; for instance, yellow headkerchief bordered with gold and silk fringe, yellow ribbons to ornament the thin chemise, yellow silk bodice, pantaloons of the same color and yellow leather slippers. The rest of the costume is white. But these gala dresses were not those which we found most picturesque. The more ordinary kind worn every day, hanging in loose folds, and showing the lithe and lazy 'orms beneath, were more suited to an artist's brush.—F. A. Bridgman in Harper's

#### A Wonderful Scientific Calculation.

In the course of a lecture in connection with the London Society for the Extension of University Teaching, Sir James Paget said science would supply the natural life of man with wonders uncounted. He remem-bered once hearing Mile, Janotha play a presto by Mendelssohn, and he counted the notes and the time occupied. She played 5,595 notes in 4 min. 3 sec. It seemed start ling, but let them look at it in the fair amount of its wonder. Every one of those notes involved certain movements of a finger, at least two, and many of them involved an additional movement laterally as well as those up and down. They also involved repeated movements of the wrists, elbows and arms, altogether probably not less than one movement for each note. As there were twenty-four notes per second, and each of these notes involved three distinct musical movements, that amounted to seventy-two vements in each second. Moreove of those notes was determined by the will to a chosen place, with a certain force, at a cerrain time, and with a certain duration. Therefore there were four distinct qualities in each of the seventy-two movements in each second.

Such were the transmissions outward. And all those were conditional on consciousness of the position of each hand and cach finger before it was moved, and, while moving it, the sound of each note and the force of each touch. Therefore there were three conscious sensations for every note. There were seventy-two transmissions per second, 144 to and fro, and those with constant change of quality. Let them imagine it in telegraph wires. And then, added to that, all the time the memory was remembering each note in its due time and place, and was exercised in the comparison of it with others that came before. So that it would be fair to say that there were not less than 200 transmissions of nerve force to and from the brain outward and inward every second, and during the whole of that time judgment was being exercised as to whether the music was being played worse or better than before, and the mind was conscious of some of the emotions which the music was intended to impress.-Pall Mall Gazette.

# Miss Braddon's Noted Novel.

As a girl Miss Braddon was attracted both o the profession of literature and the stage. She acted in several country theatres, and at the same time wrote short stories and literary sketches, her first little books seeing the ight through the press of a provincial pub isher. She had written many trifles, both in the way of fiction and essay, before "Lady Andley." The story of that story is a omance in itself. Mr. Maxwell had started, in more or less of rivalry to Dickens' first periodical, a magazine called Robin Goodfellow. Dr. Mackay was its editor, and Lasellus Wraxall was his second in command. There had been some difficulty in regard to the opening novel, in consequence of which the new periodical was upon the eve of postponement, a serious contretemps in the face of its extensively advertised date of publication. The day before a decision was neces sary Miss Braddon heard of the difficulty and

offered to write the story. "But even if you were strong enough to fill the position," was the publisher's reply, "there is no time."

"How long could you give me?" asked the aspiring authoress.

"Until to-morrow morning." "At what time to-morrow morning!" "If the first installment was on my break fast table to-morrow morning," he replied, indicating by his tone and manner the utter impossibility of the thing, "it would be in

The next morning the publisher found upon his breakfast table the opening chapters of "Lady Audley's Secret."

Robin Goodfellow did not hit the public, It did not live to finish "Lady Audley." Maxwell lost money over it; but he discovered Miss Braddon, whose story took the town in its three volume shape, and laid in the foundation of a lasting fame and prosperity.-New York Mail and Express.

# Pen Picture of "Carp."

Frank G. Carpenter comes from Ohio, and is placed among our most popular letter writers. He is tall and thin, has reddish hair and mustache, and his pale blue eyes are indicative of a sanguine temperament.

He has a peculiar voice, not unpleasant, and when listening to conversations of interest his face is wonderfully animated. He has great perseverance, and when in search for an interview he is seldem unsuccessful. Mrs. Carpenter is a tall, handsome woman, and wears her hair brushed back from a clear, white brow. Their little boy Jack, 3 years old, is a bright child. He has

# he Plattsmouth Herald

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# Year 1888

Will be one during which the subjects of national interest and importance will be strongly agitated and the election of a President will take place. The people of Cass County who would like to learn of

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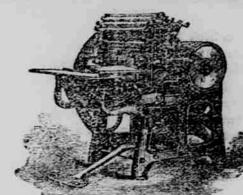
of this year and would keep apace with

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