ENTERTAINING REMINICENCES OF THE WAR.

Graphic Account of Stirring Scenes Witnessed on the Battlefield and in Camp-Veterans of the Rebellion Recite Experiences of Thrilling Nature.

A Famous Woman of the War.

It would be interesting to know, says a correspondent of the Chicago Times-Herald, how many women served as soldiers on both sides in the civil war. There were many of them, enough for several companies, without doubt, and some of them distinguished themselves, won promotions, though I believe only one received a Governor's commission. Let me tell about her.

An Iowa gentleman, F. W. Burrington, has sent me something about Major Belle Reynolds, of whom and her service much as been written, that I do not remember to have seen in print. It is that the gallant Major was a school teacher, the very first one in Cass County, Iowa. Her father, K. W. Macomber, was an early settler in that county, going there in 1855. The fall of that year the future woman soldier of high rank taught in a house located on ground upon and around which the city of Atlanta has been built. Her father had ancestors in the war of the revolution, and her mother, who came



from Connecticut, was a relative of the late ex-Governor, ex-member of Grant's cabinet and ex-Minister to Russia, Marshall Jewell. The bright, handsome independent young lady was a great favorite in the new county and her work as a teacher highly appreciated. One of her brothers, J. K. Macomber, is a prominent lawyer of Des Moines, whose wife is a writer and lecturer of note, and has taken a leading part in advocating the rights and duties of women.

From 1855 until 1860 pretty and vivacious Belle Macomber did not have to wint for schools; her fame was abroad and school officials did the hunting. She never had to take up with a cull school, where the building was a barn and the salary fit only to starve on; she had her pick of the best, received the highest wages paid any teacher in the county and was always one of the first in the new section's 400. Among the young men who regarded the popular teacher with a jealous eye was William 8. Reynolds, and in 1860, the year in which the old ship of state ran upon rocks and might have gone down if a modest Illinois man hadn't been called to the captaincy, Belle Macomber be came Mrs. Reynolds, and soon afterward they made Illinois their home, where they were living when the war came. Mr. Reynolds did not wait long after Lincoln's second call for soldiers, a call which quickly followed the first one, before finding himself the choice of a company of young stalwarts for First Lieutenant.

When the new soldier informed his young wife that he had enlisted, expecting to see her break down and then brace up and declare that he should not go, he was surprised to see her face wreathed in smiles, joy-prompted, glad

"What do you think of it, Belle?" asked Soldier Reynolds. "Think of it-what do I think of your

going to the war? I am delighted. It is what you ought to do."

"Then you will not object to my go-

"Not I. It is of all things that which have most wanted you to do since Mr. Lincoln's first call."

"Don't you think you will miss me and wish I hadn't gone?" "Not for one moment." It was getting serious. The Lieuten-

ant wanted to serve his country, but he didn't quite like to see his bride so confoundedly happy at the thought of his going to war for three years; going, may be and quite likely, not to return He would have preferred a few tears and an assortment of chidlings for proposing to leave the woman he had recently married, to the gladness she manifested. Seeing that her husband was in deep water, was distressed over the turn of affairs, she threw her arms about his neck and proceeded to give him a new shock.

"I will tell you why I shall not miss you and shall not want you to come home. I am going to the war with you.

Now, don't protest." "But think of it! Think of the long marches, sleeping on the ground, of

dangers in battle. It will not do." "Yes, it will do. I am in perfect health, as strong as you and as pa-

triotic." When the Seventeenth Illinois went South Mrs. Belle Reynolds went with it, taking the fare of a soldier. At the battle of Shilob she was under fire until compelled to leave. While on her way to the rear she saw a field hospital. The white faces of the sufferers and the groans of those not so badly injured impelled her to stop. She remained all day and all night, helping to care for and cheer the unfortunates battle. "That angel of mercy," as the soldiers called her, spent much of

her time in hospitals, nursing the sick, reading to them and writing their let-

The work of this lown teacher of a year before came to the knowledge of Governor Dick Yates-Yates of blessed war memory-and he sent her a commission as Major. She was provided with a horse. Her uniform was navy blue and her shoulder straps the same as any Major's, gold leaves and all. Officers and men had great respect for her. Often as the Seventeenth passed other commands the men threw their hats in the air and gave cheers for Major Belle Reynolds, Harper's and Frank Leslie's contained pictures of her riding at the head of the regiment. Everybody in the army, East and West, was talking about the woman Major. Her war record was in all respects creditable

Soon after peace came the Major studied medicine, and for nearly thirty years she has been a successful physician and surgeon. She was for some that "new species of insects are being years a resident of Chicago, where she had a large practice, often being called in consultation to distant cities. Six years ago she located in Milwaukee. While there I had several conversa- longing to each species, one gets a livetions with her on her war experience, At a reception given by Dr. and Mrs. O. W. Carlson, Major Belle Reynolds was the center of attraction with the twenty or thirty veterans among the guests. It was while at Milwaukee that her health falled somewhat. She went to California on that account, and is now practicing at Santa Barbara.

The Real Heroism of the War,

There is abundant evidence that the recurrence of the anniversary which commemorates the events of the civil and the suggestion has recently been war finds each year a truer and juster made that, by cultivating esparto grass appreciation of the men and events of in the Sahara, that great region of that great crisis. The ideal history of the war has not yet been written, it is and turned into a source of profit for true, and the years may elapse before mankind. it is completed. But the material for it is being selected, arranged and methodically filed away for reference. The work of getting this vast and complex mass of facts together and placing the whole in its true perspective in them. These, of course, are pure inrelation to the world's history has been slow but sure. Several years have gone by since the great obstacle of latent sectional feeling was removed. A greater obstacle was the natural sentiment which has led people to view the they affect the compasses of passing war in the light of prejudice and personal feeling; to see its spectacular and thrilling features intend of its realities; to look upon the conflict as a whole and from one point of view instead of so- may cause a corresponding error in the berly noting in detail the innumerable agencies which were engaged. It is significant that whereas only a

few years ago almost all that was written about the war was in the way of the narration of its results and its picturesque circumstances, the later observers are applying the method of realism, bringing out clearly the detail of the influences at work and the ac- send to the United States for an expert case in point is to be found in the plan the campaign. Professor Bruner, most recent endeavors to disclose the of the University of Nebraska, was best of the recent biographies of the which is to carry on the war, and he commander are full of suggestion as has just sailed for Buenos Ayres preto the plans upon which he worked and the philosophy of the campaign as a kind of war for which arbitration biography of this sort that the people substitute. of succeeding generations will learn to estimate his character truly, to see how practical and sane a man he was and how little he regarded military employed Prof. George Forbes to exglory. This portrait of Grant, with his air of practical purpose, his total lack of showy brilliancy, his quiet industry, is worth a thousand times more, as a picture of his real greatness, than the agara Falls. Professor Forbes reports enlogies which have been showered upon him since the war.

In no war of modern times did so many men sacrifice themselves for a principle. In no war of history was there shown sterner devotion to the demands of duty. As public appreciation of the events of the early '60's increases the greater must become the respect for the men and leaders who, with little taste for empty glory, went through the unromantic sufferings of starvation, filth, physical pain and weariness with no other purpose than the grimly practical one of putting down the rebellion as speedily as pos- in London, recently, Mr. C. T. Heycock sible. The great generalship of the described an experiment in which the war was practical rather than brill- X-rays were caused to reveal the struciant. It is the spirit of plain devotion ture, otherwise invisible, of an alloy of to a cause which is likely to live as the gold and sodium. Gold easily dissolves heroic note in the contest. The farther in sodium, which is a silver-white, soft we get from the war the higher must metal, fusing at a temperature between become the estimate of the grim sin- 206 and 207 degrees Fahrenheit, When cerity of its participants.-Chicago allowed to solidify slowly, and then Record.

Grant's Ancedote of Bragg. In the second volume of his "Personal Memoirs" Gen. Grant tells this

story about Gen. Bragg: "I have heard in the old army an anecdote very characteristic of Bragg. On one occasion, when stationed at a post of several companies, commanded by a field officer, he was himself commanding one of the companies and at the same time acting as post quartermaster and commissary. He was first Heutenant at the time, but his captain

was detached on other duty. "As commander of the company he made a requisition upon the quartermaster-himself-for something he wanted. As quartermaster he declined to fill the requisition and indersed on the back of it his reasons for so doing. As company commander he responded to this, urging that his requisition called for nothing but what he was entitled to, and that it was the duty of the quartermaster to fill it. As quartermaster he still persisted that he was

"In this condition of affairs Bragg referred the whole matter to the commanding officer of the post. The latter, when he saw the nature of the matter

referred, exclaimed: "'My God, Mr. Bragg, you have quarreled with every officer in the distance of 1,500 miles, but in fact the army, and now you are quarreling with authorities would be satisfied if they



Insect Multitudes.

In the report of the Museum Asso ciation for 1896, Mr. F. A. Bather, of the natural history branch of the British Museum, quotes a leading English entomologist as having informed him described at the rate of about six thousand per annum." On thinking of the thousands of species already described, and the multitudes of individuals bely sense of the immensity of the insect population of the earth.

Paper Made from Grass. Among the materials which have been substituted for rags in the making of paper is esparto grass, which was formerly obtained for this purpose from Spain, but is now largely imported by English manufacturers from the north of Africa. It is a very hardy plant, flourishing in deserts where other vegetable life is unable to exist; deserts might be partially reclaimed

A Magnetic Island.

Everybody has read stories of mys erious islands exercising an irresisti ble attraction on ships passing near ventions; but there is an island named Bornholm in the Baltic Sea near the oast of Denmark whose rocks, accord ing to a Vienna journal, Der Stein der Weisen, are so strongly magnetic that ships, even as far as nine miles away. In this manner Bornholm may be said to turn vessels out of their course, since an error of the compass needle steering of a ship.

To Make War on Locusts.

Locusts have recently become a destructive plague in the Argentine Republic, and the bankers and business men of Buenos Ayres have determined to make war upon them, and have raised a large sum of money for that purpose. Their first practical step was to tual nature of men and motives. A entomologist to look over the field and true character of Gen. Grant. The chosen to organize the army of science paratory to going to the front. This is seen from his point of view. It is from will probably never be suggested as a

Highricity from the Nile.

The Egyptian government recently amine the celebrated cataracts of the Nile during the period of high water, with a view to the establishment of electric power plants like that at Nithat during high water the available horse-power at the first cataract is no less than 500,000, while it is only 35,-000 when the river is low. He thinks the cost of utilizing this power to generate electricity for transmission to a distance would not be so great as to make the enterprise unprofitable. Perhaps within a few years the Nile will bestow new benefits upon Egypt by furnishing the energy to drive irrigation pumps, as well as machines of various kinds.

Curious Power of X-Rays. In a lecture at the Royal Institution cut in sections, the alloy of gold and sodium appears perfectly uniform to

the eye, but, when exposed to the X rays, the actual structure is shown, because sodium is transparent to the rays, while gold is opaque to them. In this way it was discovered that the sodium was distributed in crystalline plates, while the gold was concentrated between these plates, which traversed the solid mass both vertically and horizontally.

How Wind Deflects Found. Lord Rayleigh gave, in a recent lecture, an interesting explanation of the action of the wind in preventing the spread of sound toward the direction from which the wind comes. It is, he said, not the wind, as such, that prevents sound from traveling against it, but differences in the strength of the wind. If, for instance, the wind is stronger above than below, or stronger at one side, its effect will be to tilt the sound waves in one direction or another. Differences of temperature in the air also cause deflection of the waves of sound. Other atmospheric causes exist which deflect sound from a straight course, and prevent it from going as far in certain directions as it may have been expected to go. Some of the sirens at Trinity House, Lord Rayleigh said, produce sounds which ought, theoretically, to be audible at a

were heard only two miles away. The reason for the discrepancy between calculation and experiment was probably atmospheric deflection of the sound.

A Savage Marsupial.

The so-called zebra wolf of Australia is also called the native tiger; but, strange to say, it is not even a cousin to zebra, wolf or tiger, belonging to the same family as the kangaroo, the slow and gentle wombat and the sly old opossum-all those animals that carry their babies in their pockets.

Their eyes, which are large, are furnished with a membrane, like the eyes of owls, and this is called the nictitating membrane. This is almost continually moving in the daytime, as the eyes are exposed to more or less of sunshine. Without this membrane the amount of light admitted through the large pupil would puzzle the zebra

The general color of the somewhat short, woolly fur is grayish brown, a little inclined to yellowish. Across this ground color the black bands show up sharp and clear. These stripes are usually fourteen in number, beginning just back of the shoulders, where they are narrowest, and growing broader and longer back of the haunches. The skins are in demand for lap robes and rugs, which gives an added reason for hunting the wearers.

Two zebra wolves were taken to the zoological gardens in London, where they flourished and raised a family. When they came, it was thought Great Britain would be too cold for them, but there seems to be no reason why they should not thrive even in Canada, as they have been known to live on the mountains of Tasmania, three thousand five hundred feet above the sea level, where the ground is sometimes covered with snow for many weeks and frosts are severe.

Do you wonder that his name slightly mixed? The marvel is that he is not named menagerie and done with it, for with his dog-like face and short, wolf ears, eyes like an owl, zebra stripes and a pouch like a kangaroo, his mixed pickle beastship could answer to almost any name you might wish to call him. When he becomes extinct, we can truly say we shall never see his like again.

Detection by Finger Prints. By a combination of the Bertillon method of measurement with the finger print system any prisoner can be identified with almost absolute certainty and in a very short space of time. It has been calculated that the chance of two finger prints being identical is less than one in sixty-four billion, and when we consider the relatively small numbers of the criminal population, and that other personal evidence would be available in any doubtful case, mistaken identity ought now to be a thing of the past. The method of obtaining the prints is to press the thumb or finger upon a plate of copper which has previously been coated with a very thin film of printer's ink. The inked fingers are then pressed or rolled upon the card which is kept as a record. Although finger prints have been used as a sign manual from the earliest times, yet it is only recently that they have been studied from a scientific point of view, and the evidence accumulated is as vet insufficient to enable us to realize their value to the anthropologist. Now that cultivated. If the rhubarb is given a a good system of classification has been garden row, this cultivation will come worked out, it is to be hoped that observers will multiply rapidly, and that and will give no trouble. Many farmthe bulk of the material at our disposal will soon be considerable.

The Englishman's Wit.

There was an Englishman hailing from Hull on this side of the water recently looking at America and, of course he came to Washington. He was a large man weighing not less than 250 pounds and rising to a height of at least six feet three inches. He was for an Englishman not yet Americanized quite chatty and affable, after the ice was broken, albeit just a wee bit slow

"I'm a Hull shipbuilder," he was saying to a Yankee newspaper man in a small party of journalists who were blowing him off to a few rations wet and dry at a foundry where such things are manufactured.

"Of course you are," responded the Yankee as he measured his huge proportions and smiled; "you could scarcely make us believe you were only part of one, don't you know."

Those in hearing laughed and the Englishman looked at the Yankee with a puzzled, yearning expression on his broad and honest face.

"Really," he pleaded, "I beg your can, pardon;" and then before international complications could arise, somebody

The Cruelest Cut of All.

During the winter months the farmers' boys and girls have lots of fun with their parties, taffy pulls, and such enjoyments, and considerable humor canbe found in their happy repartee. At one of these candy parties a guest not altogether liked by some of the girls unfortunately sat in a saucer of maple sugar left on a chair to cool off, and his uncermonious departure was the wonder of the evening.

It was rather hard on the young man, and it is doubtful whether he found anything to end his embarrassment in the note he received the next day from the daughter of his bost, saying that if the "Mr. D- who sat in the saucer of maple sugar last night will kindly return the saucer, he will save himself further trouble."

The Men of France. France is the only European country which has fo-day fewer able-bodied men than it had thirty years ago.

Any wife can make her husband tremble by saying she "has heard something" about him.

TOPICS FOR FARMERS

OUR RURAL FRIENDS.

Vegetables Should Be Worked When the Leaves Are Dry-Directions for Dressing Root Crops-See that Your Barns Are Insured,

Hints for the Garden.

Work the vegetables when the leaves are dry. This is especially necessary for beans and peas. If worked when the leaves are wet, it will produce rust and injure the crop at least one-third its yield.

Root Crops.-Beets, parsnips and carrots should be dressed out with the wheel or hand hoe as soon as the plants have made the fourth leaf. The ground should not be dug up, but only scraped up-just enough to cut all the weeds away from the plants. The hoes should be ground sharp. With a good steel hoe the young weeds can be cut close up to the plants very rapidly. This work should be done before the weeds have become deeply rooted.

Onions.-When the onion bulbs commence to swell take a scythe and cut the tops off about one-third. The cutting of the tops will throw the strength into the roots. After the third working, draw the earth away from the bulbs, leaving the onions fully ex-

Bunch Beans and Late Peas,-These should be sown every two weeks. Plow the ground deeply and harrow it finely; run the rows out at least six inches deep and scatter about half an inch of fine hotbed manure or barnyard scrapings in the bottom of the furrow. the ground should be dry, water the furrow well; then sow the seed and cover in at once.

Asparagus.-The asparagus shoots should be allowed to grow after the month of May. If the bed is cut over too often it weakens the roots materially, and if the season should be a dry one these weakened roots will die

Rhubarb.—The young rhubarb roots require clean and frequent cultivation. If the leaves turn yellow it is a sign that the soil is poor. Spread around each root a peck of fine manure, and with the maddock dig it in.

Rhuberb Plants. About almost every farmhouse can be found an old, neglected row of rhubarb plants from which a few cuttings are made in spring for sauce or pies. The sourness and oftentimes rank flavor of these old rows of pleplant, as it is otherwise called, make a little go a good way in most households, for after two or three cuttings the plants are usually abandoned and allowed to go to seed. This is all wrong. A good variety of rhubarb is worthy of being eaten the year around. Instead of keeping on with the poor kind, send for a package of rhubarb seed of one of the improved sorts, such as Myatt's Victoria, and sow it in a garden row. The plants will come from seed as readily as carrots or beets and mostly true to their kind, and the second season cuttings can be made freely. Cut off seed stalks as they appear and keep the ground free from weeds and well in with the regular garden cultivation ers' families do not appear to realize that rhubarb can be had in winter as well as summer. Cooked, as for sauce, either sweetened or unsweetened, and sealed in glass jars, it will keep perfeetly, and will be greatly relished in the middle of winter.-Agriculturist.

Insure Your Barns.

Before the barvest is gathered, se that you have placed a reasonable insurance on the barn, out-buildings connected with the barn and on the hay barracks in the fields. Have the amount of insurance specified and written out in the policy on each building insured: then have the stock insured, the wagons, carriages and farm tools; and then the bay grain and provender. The rate of insurance is 45 cents per \$100 in a good stock company, and in a mutual company much lower. There should be no delay in this matter, nor should there be any mistake made in placing the insurance upon the right buildings. With the best of care the barn may be burnt down by accident, and without an insurance the labor of years is lost in a few hours. A yearly insurance should be had.-The Ameri-

Directing Hired Help.

Laborers earn more when they are called on the Englishman for a speech kept at one kind of business throughor something and the Yankee joker got out the day. If they are directed or permitted to go from field to field, or from one kind of business to another. they will not always give a good account of their day's work. It is a good practice to let our work by the job when it can be done. Then the man feels that he is at work for himselfand, of course, he will do more work than he would for another man,

Ditching wood cutting and other business may be jobbed out. And this when the employer is not at home to direct the work. But the business of A large udder does not always indiplowing, harrowing and tilling among cate the amount of milk a cow will the corn and potatoes should be done in the presence of the owner. When he ground has been well prepared, and no weeds interfere, a good man, who is used to handling a hoe, will dress an acre in a day.

It is fortunate that men of large canttal cannot invest in farms, and realize as much as in bank and railroad stocks. If they could they would soon own most of the farms in the country, And farmers would become tenants, instead of owners, of the soil .- Farm and Home.

Potatoes for Export. A correspondent writes from Paris

a new impetus since the plan of selling them peeled, sliced and dried, like certain fruits, seems to be the taste of the export market. The drying of the po-A DEPARTMENT PREPARED FOR tatoes can follow the period of the desiccation of fruits. The method obviates decay and germination of the tuber, and, occupying a less volume, transport will be cheaper and less difficult. The potatoes are peeled by machinery, next carefully washed, sliced in rounds, and left for twenty minutes in a strong solution of kitchen salt. The brine produces firmness in the slices, and prevents their changing color, thus securing what sulphur does for fruits. Later the cuttings are left to drain, placed in the drying apparatus on hurdle shelves, and submitted to a temperature varying from 194 degrees Fahrenheit. They must remain longer in this hot bath than fruit. Before using, the slices have to be steeped from twelve to fifteen hours in water when they will become as fresh and as flavory as new potatoes.-Exchange.

Leghorns for Eggs.

For eggs nothing will equal a Leghorn, so it would be best to select a White Leghorn cockerel for the yearlings and a White Leghorn cock for the pullets. When the chicks are two days old, take a pair of scissors and snip off their wing on one side at the first joint, so as to remove all flight feathers, and they will never bother you by flying and can be kept within a two and a-half foot fence. This must be done at night by lamplight, so that the other chicks will not pick at the single drop of blood that forms. By morning these are healed and the chicks as lively as crickets. No bad effect is noticeable, and in the future the Leghorns are no more trouble than any Brahmas. Leghorns can be put in pens of fifteen to twenty hens to one cock, according to the vigor of the cock. The best capons are made from any of the heavy breeds. None of the smaller breeds is worth bothering with.-Germantown Telegraph.

Soaking Parsnip Seed.

It is very hard to get parsnip seed to grow, probably because the dry, woody covering over the germ absorbs water very slowly. The seed needs so long a time to germinate that weed seeds which have been soaking in the ground all winter get the start and make it a difficult crop to care for. We have always found it an advantage to soak the seed until it was beginning to sprout. At first it should be put in water as hot as the hand can bear, and so kept fifteen minutes. This will be enough to wet through the outside covering, and will thus hasten germination. When the seed is planted especial care should be taken to compact the soil closely around it.-Exchange.

Seeding Clover in Knolls. It is often hard work to get a clover seeding on the dry, elevated knolls in grain fields. Lack of moisture is usually the cause. But the evil may be remedied by drawing a few yards of stable manure and spreading over the knolls. The manure not only protects the young clover plants, but it also holds the moisture in the soil, by el ing evaporation. This will soon make them as rich as any part of the field. It is usually the lack of clover seeding

on such places that keeps them poor. Thin the Fruit Early.

Where thinning of fruit is known to be necessary, the earlier the work is done the better. It is very important to have the sap all turned to the fruit that is intended to be left to make a crop. Fruits that are likely to fall early, and thus thin themselves, may be left till this self thinning has been partly accomplished. But when three and sometimes four buds for clusters of grapes are seen on a young shoot, it is always safe to thin them to two. The fruit will be finer and better

Ashes for Pears.

If you have a pear tree that bears cracked fruit, scatter wood ashes all over the surface of the ground under the tree out about two feet beyond the outer limbs. Then, at fruit-time, note the result. If the ashes can be stirred two or three inches into the soil, all the better.-American Gardening.

Dairy Dots. Milk with dry hands.

Put the milk into cans as soon as pos-

Remove the cream before the milk is

Always strain milk as soon as possi-

ble after milking. Harsh treatment of the cow lessens

the quantity of milk.

Keep no more cows than can be fed and handled profitably. Good blood lies at the bottom, for a

good foundation is not all. A cow in a poor condition is sure to

give poor, thin, inferior milk.

The deeper the milk is set, the less airing the cream gets while arising.

The market calls for a fresh-made sweet-flavored butter, and will have it. When butter is gathered in the cream

in granular form it is never overwork-

give.

When the cows have been long in milk, the churning becomes more difficult.

Working out buttermilk and working in salt is where the overworking is done. A really fat helfer is apt to divert in-

to flesh food intended for the produc! tion of milk. The whole of the cream should be

well stirred every time that fresh cream is added,

A temperature between 60 and 70 degrees is best in churning, and the that potato culture is liable to receive cream should be skimmed off.