Alphabetic Curiosities.

The Protean nature of the vowel sounds is familiar to all. A few amusing examples will show that the consonants are nearly as bad:

B makes a road broad, turns the ear to a bear and Tom into a tomb. C makes lime climb, hanged changed

a lever clever and transports a lever to D turns a bear to beard, a crow to

crowd and makes anger danger. F turns lower regions to flower re gions.

G changes a son to a song and makes one gone.

H changes eight into height. L transforms a pear into a pearl.

N turns a line into linen, a crow to crown and makes one none. P metamorphoses lumber into plum

Q of itself, hath no significance.

Starns even to seven, makes hove shove, and word a sword, a pear a spear. makes slaughter to laughter, and curiously changes having a hoe so shaving a shoe.

T makes a bough bought, turns here there, alters one to tone, changes either to tether, and transforms the phrase "allow his own" to "tallow this town." W does well, e. g., hose are whose are becomes ware, on one, omen women

so sow, vie view; it makes an arm warm.

and turns a hat into-what? Y turns fur to fury, a man to many, to toy, a rub to a ruby, ours to yours and a lad to a lady.

Overcrowded.

London is frightfully overcrowded. In one district it was discovered that there were five hundred and seventy families, nene of whom occupied more than a single room. This was the case Throughout a dozen districts. In one room, twelve by thirteen feet, and seven feet six inches high, eight persons were packed; in another, only six and a half feet high, a man, his wife and five children. The worst feature of the overcrowding is the occupation of the same bed by two sets of people during the same night. Certain classes attending the theatres every night-ballet dancers, supes, and the mob which is attached to a pantomime-let their beds to market people, who are just ready to get up and go to work when the theatrical folks come home. From time to time raids are made upon objectionable lodging houses which fairly swarm with people; slums and courts and alleys are demolished right and left, and the inhabitants of the surrounding neighborhood rejoice that they are at last deliv ered from the plague which had so long vexed them; but others are the worse for the exodus. The objectionable ones with their wives and families, do not main without a lodging one single night; and of all things this is certainthat they will "camp down" anew in a body, and in company with their own kind. Nor is it easy to see a way out of a difficulty which is daily growing more formidable, as the number of the people increase yearly.

Vagrants.

The vagrant population of Naples are called the lazzaroni. As a rule they have nodwelling houses, but sleep every night in summer under porticos, piazzas, or any shelter they can find; and in the winter or rainy time of the year, which lasts several weeks, the rain falling in torrents, they resort to the caverns under Capo di Monte, where they sleep in crowds like sheep in a penfold. Those of them who have wives and children reside in the suburb of Naples is buts or in caverns, or chambers dug out of the mountain. Some gain a livelihood by fishing, others in carrying burdens to and from the shipping; many walk about the streets ready to run on errands, or to perform any labor in their power for a very small recompense. As they do not meet with constant employment their wages are not sufficient for their maintenance; but the deficiency is, in degree, supplied by the soup and much poverty among the lower people, there is a great appearance of wealth | Tribune among some of the great. The Neapolitan nobility are excessive fond of show and splendor. This appears in the brilliancy of their equipages, the number of their attendants, the richness of their dress, and the grandeur of their titles. Expense and extravagance are in the extreme.

Egyptian Legend.

Sultan Hassan, wishing to see the world, and lay aside for a time the anxieties and cares of royalty, committed the charge of his kingdom to his favorite minister, and taking with him a large amount of treasure in money and jewels, visited several foreign countries in the character of a wealthy merchant. Pleased with his tour, and becoming interested in the occupation he had assumed as a disguise, he was absent much longer than he originally intend-7 ed, and in the course of a few years greatly increased his already large stock of wealth. His protracted absence, however, proved a temptation too strong for the virtue of the viceroy, who, gradually forming for himself a party among the leading men of the country, at length communicated to the common people the intelligence that Sultan Hassan was no more, and quietly seated himself on the vacant throne. Sultan Hassan returning shortly afterward from his pilgrimage, and, fortunately for himself, still in disguise, learned, as he approached his capital, the news of his own death and the usurpation of his minister; finding, on further inquiry, the party of the usurper to be too strong to render an 'immediate disclosure prudent, he preserved his incognito, and soon became known in Cairo as the wealthiest of her merchants; nor did it excite any surprise when he announced his pious intention of devoting a portion of his gains to the erection of a specious | Such is she verdict after taking a deep of Quirk's mosque. The work proceeded rapidly trisk ros, said in paskages of there.

under the spur of the great merchant's gold, and, on its completion, he solicited the honor of the Sultan's presence at the ceremony of naming it. Anticipating the gratification of hearing his own name bestowed upon it, the usurper accepted the invitation and at the appointed hour the building was filled by him and his most attached adherents. The ceremony had duly proceeded to the time when it became necessary to give the name. The chief moolah, turning to the supposed merchant, inquired what sho'd

be its name. "Call it," he replied, "the mosque of Sultan Hassan." All stared at the mention of this name, and the questioner, as though he could not believe he heard aright, or to afford an epportunity of correcting what might be a mistake, repeated his demand. "Call it," again again cried he, "the mosque of me, Sultan Hassan;" and throwing off his disguise, the legitimate Sultan stood revealed before his traitorous servant.

He had no time for reflection; simultaneously with the discovery, numerous trap-doors leading to extensive vaults, which had been prepared for the purpose, were flung open, and a multitude of armed men issuing from them, terminated at once the reign and life of the usurper. His followers were mingled in the slaughter, and Sultan Hassan was once more in possession of the throne of his fathers.

Changes of a Century.

Th nineteenth century has witness ed great discoveries and changes.

In 1809, Fulton took out the first patent for the invention of a steamboat. The first steamboats which made regular trips across the Atlantic Ocean were the Sirius and Great Western in

The first public application to practifind out how. An occasion soon hapcal use of gas illumination was made in

In 1813 the streets of London were

for the first time lighted with gas. In 1813, there was built in Waltham, Mass., a mill, believed to have been the first in the world, which combined all the requirements of making finished much perplexed him, and he sought our cloth from the raw cotton.

In 1790 there were only twenty-five be nameless, calling at 70 State street. post-offices in the whole country, and up and with a smiling fa to 1827 the rate of postage was twentyfive cents for a letter sent over four hun-

the era of cheap clocks.

About the year of 1833 the first railroad of rny considerable length in the United States was constructed.

In 1840 the first experiments in pohotography were made by Daguerre.

was established. The anthracite coal business may be

said to have begun in 1820. In 1836 the patent for the invention of matches was granted.

In 1845 the first telegram was sent. Steel pens were introduced for use in

The first successful trial of a reaper took place in 1833.

In 1846 Elias Howe obtained a patent for his first sewing machine.

The first sucessful method of making vulcanized India rubber was patented

Driesbadh. The Lion-Tamer. Driesbach, the lion-tamer, died on his Ohio farm on Wednesday, a poor but contented man, of 70 years. The newspapers are relating many anecdotes concerning him, and among them is that of his exhibition in this city, twenty years ago, when after a fight in a cage with a tiger, he was taken out covered with blood and apparently dreadfully injured. There were shricks from the audience and much horror expressed, until a physician announced that his wounds were not dangerous. For a fortnight after, Driesbach appeared fixed on one goal-perfection. Nothing below with his arm in a sling and his face covered with strips of plaster; then it was discovered that his wounds were imaginary, the gore had come from a bread which is distributed at the doors sponge filled with rose-pink, and the of the convents. Although there is so whole performance was nothing but a clever piece of advertising .- New York

The Turks are nearly all armed with the Peau-dy Henry rifle, which is said to be an extraordinarily well balanced arm, and highly effective, a few, however, still have the Snider. Their field guns are Krupp's stoel breech-loaders

Burnett' Cocoaine is the best and chespest Hair Dressing in the world. It kills dandruff, allays irritation, and promotes a vigorous growth of Hair.

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A Wretched Existence.

Other conditions being equal, there is no reason why a healthy man or woman should not enjoy life; and it may well be doubted whether adverse fortune has the power entirely to destroy the happiness of one who sleeps soundly and whose digestion is good. But for the nervous, feeble, dyspeptic invalid bere is no comfort in life. His existence is ndeed a wretched one. But he should not despair of relief. That benignant restorative lostetter's Stomach Bitters, has imparted healthful vigor to many a self-supposed in-curable. It is an unequalled builder up of broken down physiques, and is besides a sovereign remedy for dyspepsia, nervousness, ir-regular habit of body, biliousness and kidney and bladder difficulties. It eliminates from the blood the acrid element which gives rise to rheumatic afiments, cheers and relieves the aged and infirm, and may be used with great advantage by ladies in feeble health. Its perfect purity also commends it to the use of in-

Domestic Economy.

We were told an amusing incident that happened in Chicago not long ago that certainly gives the lie to the statement "that there's nothing new under the sun." As an episode in every day life, and as a bright and original idea. it is well worthy of our reader's atten-

At 70 State street, Chicago, there is a gentleman doing business as a dealer in SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS AND APPLI-ANCES for the deformed, SYLVESTER S

Among other things in his window are to be seen skulls and such like com- ished jet black, not to be distinguished modities, showing a devotion to anatomical science. This attracted the attention of the subject of our article, who one day came into the store and examined skeletons, and finding one already wired and ready to be hung up, it was eagerly purchased, wrapped up and taken away. It seems there was a gentleman living in the city of moderate means who owned a comfortable home. and had a wife and small family, and who whilst not being exactly rich wore good clothes himself and enjoyed life in moderate way, but unfortunately he had a host of friends and relatives who very frequently dropped on to him like locusts and thought nothing of paying him and family long visits, which made serious inroads on his means, and to make ends meet he was sorely taxed to pened which led him to an original method of getting rid of troublesome guests who were mostly of the female order. He had been attending some lectures on anatomy, and in the course a skeleton on wire had been introduced, and the movements of the parts been shown automatically, which gave him an original idea on the subject which so friend Bliss for a mannikin. The sequel transpired by the gentleman, who shall jove the skeleton worked like a charm. and then the purpose of the purchase

and the result was disclosed. It seems our friend had taken the In 1807 wooden clocks began to be skeleton home, and used to surreptimade by machinery. This urshered in | tiously hang it in the closet of the guest chamber where it was soon discovered and the result was pierceing screams hysterics and the immediate departure of the visitor. Though at first he congratulated himself on his new method of economy he found he had to dispose of the skeleton in order to retain his help and stop the panic caused in his About 1840 the first express business | own family, so it now adorns the rooms of a student at Rush Medical College.

Any one calling on SYLVESTER S. BLISS,

olication of the scientific and inquiring mine at 70 State street, will get additional o reveal their curative properties, for in the details and have an opportunity of seeegetable world a kindly providence has placed healing for all nations. The only specifics ing his fine display of Surgical Instrufor any disease yet discovered are vegetable in their nature, and while quinine has been ments and Appliances for the deformed or helpless. See advertisement in this accepted as the only remedy for one class, the paper.-Chicago Alliance. extract of the buchu plant is rapidly taking ts place as a sovereign remedy for other o

Music in Chicago.

To any one who has closely watched the his tory of Chicago, it must be manifest that with Not many years ago it was the commusic. plaint of musical managers that the people of this city were apathetic; that nothing could arouse them to appreciation of musical efforts. Impressarios, with the success won by grand compositions magnificently portrayed in other cities, sought this, satisfied that at last something had been discovered that would awaken enthusiasm, but found they were playing to

cebergs, and left in despair But contrast that day with the present, and one readily sees the cultivation of a taste that has taken strong hold in the affections of the people. And with this cultivation has come a iemand for improved musical instruments. | tieular, and that article is known as Day' The best the market affords is demanded, and the man who has no music in his soul, who pays no attention to such things, would be asounded could he know the extent of the trade in all kinds of musical instruments, especially pianos, that has grown up in Chicago within

omparatively short time With the impetus given the trade by the de mands of the people, and their stolid indifference to inferior manufacture, came a sturdy competition among dealers, all with their eyes that standard would be accepted, and the question was, which should reach that point first. Some, relying upon the reputation of well-known makers, grasped eagerly at the best efforts of those makers, while others with broader views, tried every experiment offered in the hope that the fortune of genius would

put the prize within their reach. But all failed until the introduction of the Mathushek piano, which took the musical world by storm, and immediately assumed the position of leader in the market of musical instruments The inventor, after years of careful and patient study and labor, had mastered the defects of all other pianos, and had produced one avoiding all defects, and as near perfection as human agency can create. By a eculiar distribution of the strings, he relieved the frame of that tension to which it had long been subjected. By the introduction of the linear instead of the curved bridge, he strengthened the instrument, and by strengthening the iron frame, he produced a piano as durable as steel, and in tone and volume the superior of any instrument ever made.

A thousand testimonials of the superiority of this piano exist, of which the following let-

ter to an inquirer after the best instrum "San Francisco, Sept. 23, 1875.—Dear Sir: For many years, I, like many others, thought Steinway was the only maker of a really firstclass piano, and have used the Steinway for years in my home. When I first heard the Mathushek, I confess it pleased me more than any other piano I had heard, and the result was, I exchanged my Steinway for a Mathu-shek Orchestral. It has been tuned once, on the day of its purchase, viz: April 14, 1874, and gives my family, music-loving people and critics perfect satisfaction. It is with pleasure

I recommend this make as having power and tone certainly better than any I have ever seen. Wishing you success, I am, dear sir, yours respectfully,

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Wonderfully strange that human beings become so desperate as to take each other's life, even while sailing through the air! Desperate, indeed, has our race become. Abandoned, un cared for, as many wives are, disease, slow and insiduous, claims her, and she soon be-comes prostrated and indifferent to all surroundings. Her cheeks are no longer aglow, her robust constitution is feeble and emacia-ted. But there is a wonderful medicine known as English Female Bitters, which is a quick and powerful female regulator and uterine Tonic, and cures all such female complaints. For sale by L. H. Bush, Des Moines, Iowa.

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