# What they Knew Four Thou sand Years Ago.

What may be anticipated when will be, for the cunciform or arrowheaded characters of Assyria have been read, is foreshadowed by what a mass of rubbish were found the remains of what had been a great which being of baked clay had lying in broken fragments, Mr. G. Smith was able to piece the broken library was composed, and in some cases recovering entire books. The bricks, as they were called, are formed of thin plates of clay, upon either side of which the text was inscribed when the clay was soft. the tablet being afterward baked or dried when the tablet or bricks, like our modern books, were arranged in chapters and volumes. Nearly two-thirds of this library is now in the British Museum, which through the politeness of Mr. R. H. Major, I had the pleasure of inspecting in

Frem one of these books, compiled after the manner of our modern enzodiac to show the course of the time into weeks, months, and years; that they divided the week, as we every kind, they observed as rigorously as the Jew or the Puritan. were noted down, and a connection, M. de Perville claims to have diswhich it is supposed they possessed, These "bricks" contain an account tioned, can be cited without appreof the deluge, substantially the same narrative as the Bible, except that that money was loaned at interest, to connect this very remote civilization with the usages of to-day, I may, in couclusion, refer to one of the bricks of this library, in the form of a notice, which is to the effect that visitors are requested to give the librarian the number of the book they wish to consult, and that it will be brought to them; at the perusal

# Woman's True Source of Strength.

ular Science Monthly for June.

of which one is disposed to fall back

upon the exclamation of Solomon,

that there is nothing new under the

sun .- Chief Justice Daily, in Pop-

The strength of women lies in their heart. It shows itself in their strong love and instinctive perception of right and wrong. Intellectual courage is rarely one of their virtues. As a rule, they are inclined to be restless and excitable, allowing their judgment and actions to be swayed by quick emotions of all kinds, but, above all, it is in their hopefulness and their endurance that they find their chief power. Who is the last person to give up hope in the case of a member of a family who has apparently gone altogether to the bad? What mother or sister with deep and ardent love for such will never cease to cherish

individual case. Without dwelling on the greater physical weakness of women in general, it is a fact that scholars are able to read these in- their brains are more easily derangscriptions, as in all probability they ed, and unless they change greatly they are apt to deteriorate in essential womanly qualities if thrown much or prominently before the has been brought to light by the world. They are seldom fitted to discoveries of Layard and Smith in rule, emulation and jealousy being the mound which now represents strong in their character, while their what was once Ninevah. Beneath feelings and judgments are often rapid in the extreme. It is in the heart, therefore, that a woman will Assyrian library, the materials of more especially feel the effects of agonosticism, whether those effects proved indestructable, and though be for good or for evil. Her head may gain in grasp of logic and in clearness of view; but if her heart, fragments together, and recover over with all its powers for good, is three thousand inscriptions, forming weakened and discouraged, she will pages of the volumes of which the gain little ultimately by the spread of the new views. When the heart is dispirited, or thrown back upon tablets or leaves of these volumes or litself, the action that springs from it tends inevitably to fall lifeless to that the ground. - Mrs. Lathburg in Nineteenth Century.

### Esthetics of Labor.

Labor is not drudgery. Some of its phases are of the most elevated character. Some of its conceptions rise above the lower grade of sturdy toil into the realms of sublimity. Some of its productions attain the most exquisite perfection. It does not always cling to the absolute of necessity; it reaches at times to the clyclopædias, and the compilation of accomplishment of man's beatitude. which is shown to have been made It is not always a delver; it assumes more than 2,000 years B. C., it has when requisite the embodiment of been ascertained, what has long been | the highest portraiture of excellence. supposed, that Chaldes was the pa- It visits the toiler in dreams of rent land of astronomy, for it is marvelous felicity and presents to found, from this compilation and him visions of enchanting loyelifrom other bricks, that the Babylo- ness. It bears him from the harsh nians catalogued the stars, and dis- discipline of earth to the soothing tinguished and named the constella- freedom of celestial liberty. Under tions; that they arranged the twelve its æsthetic influence he is no longer constellations that form our present a being of flesh and blood; he is transformed to an angel of light, sun's path in the heavens; divided and leaving his toil-strained muscles and thoughts on earth he soars into the realms of ecstatic bliss and now have it, into seven days, six harmonious repose. In moments being days of labor and the seventh like this the materialization of his a day of rest, to which they gave a wildest dreams gives to his fellow name from which we have derived men such dazzling gleams of supernal bliss, or such proofs of ben as a day of rest from all labor of efficial utility as they had never before experienced, and opens to them a wide expanse wherein is The motion of the heavenly bodies ever to be found a solace for the and the phenomena of the weather harsh fatigue of strenuous toil. In proof of this, the delineations upon as I have before stated, detected, as the canvas of the idealistic sentiments of the world's most renowned covered, between the weather and painters; or the creation from the the changes of the moon. They in- quarry's rough block of the entrancvented the sun-dial to mark the ing forms of beauty by the hands of movements of the heavenly bodies, sculptors of renown; or the soulthe water clock to measure time, and stirring thoughts of the poet's most they speak in this work of the spots | harmonious song; or the awaying on the sun, a fact they could only influence of the orator's exciting have known by the aid of telescopes, and well balanced words; or the almost vital machinery which the from observations that they have inventor has commanded into exnoted down of the rising of Venus | istence as the slave to perform tasks and the fact that Layard found a of utility for mankind; each and all, crystal lens in the ruins of Ninevah. | and even more than have been men-

hension of rebuttal. In the wide field of labor there the names are different. They dis- are those whose destiny is to delve closed that houses and lands were and struggle, while others of their then sold, leased, and mortgaged, fellow workmen find their alloted tasks in the higher plane of æstheand that the market-gardeners, to tic productions, whose harmony and use an American phrase, "worked elegance are intended to sooth, on shares;" that the farmer when elevate and adorn their seemingly plowing with his oxen, beguiled his less gifted brethern. There is a labor with short and homely songs, grandeur in labor which elevates it two of which have been found; and at times to the higher grade of true

The Sermon on the Mount. The most careless reader has probably been struck with the contrast between the delivery of this sermon and the delivery of the law on Sinai. We think of that as a "fiery law," with a promulgation surrounded by the imagery of thunders and lightnings, and the voice of the trumpet sounding long and waxing louder and louder. We think of this as flowing forth in divinest music amid all the calm and loveliness of the clear and quiet dawn. That came dreadfully to the startled conscience from an Unseen Presence, shrouded by wreathing clouds, and destroying fire, and eddying smoke; and this was uttered by a sweet human voice moving the heart mostly in words of peace. That was delivered on the desolate and stormrent hill, which seems with its red granite crags to threaten the scorching wilderness; this on the flowery grass of the green hillside which slopes down to the silver lake. That shook the heart with terror and agitation; this soothed it with peace and love .- - Texas Baptist.

Cattle Raising. one form or another makes up the now have on my farm seventy-two himself bound to give the slayer of beauty of life to woman. It enters head of cattle. I invested \$200 in Goliath some lessons on the use of shown to him. "Show me the carinto all she does. Any work out- cattle when I came here and have the sling, and hinted to the sweet tridge," he added, and he carelessly side her immediate circle is under- since sold \$600 worth; this, from singer of Israel his private opinion taken most often from pure desire the original \$200 invested and have that the shepherd bard did not per- cuse me for using this a minute," to help some one else to know some- the 72 head left. I milked, during fectly understand the use of the he further remarked and shot himthing of the mysterious happiness the summer of 1879, 14 cows, and harp. of love. Unlike men, women chief- sold \$474 worth of butter from them ly look for personal intercourse during the year and can say that with those for whom they are work- Nebraska is the best country for ing. If their interest lies among the cattle that I have ever lived in My fects, when all the world is fresh, poor, they are desirous of sympa- cattle are in a healthy, growing and new and striking impressions thetic personal acquaintance with condition and I have never lost one crowd in thickly on the mind. them, and very little good work of from any contagious disease. I Consequently it takes much less to

### Borrowed Light.

He who seeks to rise higher sho'd ever attempt to gain the eminence by borrowing other people's light. If we were to adopt the method of taking from others that which has given them a name and a fame we will soon be classed with those who have long since resigned to the eneers of a knowing public. Originality and reason have done more than all other things combined in regard to the progress and elevation of mankind.

If it had not been for Franklin's originality and foresight it is quite probable that electricity would not have been known for a great while after its actual discovery. After Franklin's ingenuity was a thing to be undisputed a great light broke out, from the simple act of the old philosopher's light being given to the world in the shape of hard study and perseverence. It has been said

Franklin caught the giant horse; 'Twas harnessed by Professor Morse; and from this one thing have wonders been done.

Sir John Mandeville's originality brought forth the idea that the world was a sphere and revolved around its axis. Suppose we knew nothing about this to-day, what would we know concerning the relative positions of countries? If it had not been for the onward march of civilization, and a gradual withdrawal from old ideas, we would still be as illiterate as our South Sea islanders. Thus we see the baneful effects of rowed light. 'Tis nice to adopt a well-established idea, but when adopting we should have enough reason about us to question its reliability. Sound it to the depth, and then, if nothing is found which conevery idea that is set forth. Even a escape a complete dissection.

Do not accept every theologian's views. Nay, do not accept even a tenth, for a theologian is as liable to err as any-for it is human to err. To be original consists in being thoughtful, deliberate and exact, as well as logical. You may think you are a better logician than any one else, but do not think this, I pray such a course. The common acceptation is to be reasonable with a view of advancement, not just to set forth some new idea that will bear no scrutiny, but brave deductions and something that is thorough and proof-positive against all fools' log-It won't do to insist on speculative ideas for the sake of argument, or being new, for many times a new thing proves worthless, and loes not pay for the time and troube spent. But this is what I wish to impress upon the mind: Nurture your brain, and let not others solve all your problems. Depend on your own light. If you have the faculties of a common-sensed person you galls and sores." can make nothing by borrowing from your neighbor that which you have. Never borrow that which you are in possession of, for anything lying idle is much more apt to become rusted than that which is in

### actual use .- Robert F. Doty. Egotistic Talkers.

Almost every circle is blessed with the egotist, who exercises a kind of dictatorship over it. Are you in mistake as to a matter of fact? He cannot suffer you to proceed until you are corected. Have you a word on the end of your tongue? He at once comes to your relief. Do you talk bad grammar? He quotes rules and gives examples like a pedagogue. Does he discover there is a link wanting in the chain of your argument? He bids you stay until he has supplid it. Do you drop a word to which he has devoted much research? He inquires its primitive signification, and directly inflicts upon the circle a long philological disquisition. When you relate an incident which you suppose new and affecting, your friend listens without emotion. When you are done, he observes diana, is now using the light, and that he has heard the same long Mendota, Illinois, is having them ago, and adds a very material circumstance which you omitted. He is never taken by surprise, and it is impossible to give him any infor- dustry in Nebraska, and the finest mation. And yet he never takes the table fish will soon be of our cuslead in the conversation, nor ad- tomary products. We recently visvances an original thought. It is ited Judge Mason's fish pond, near his business to come after, and pick | Nebraska City, and will some day up the words which others let slip tell all we know about it. It will two years. in a running talk, or to check their be an interesting story-so we impetuosity, that he may point out think; will encourage others in the to them their missteps. Had he enterprise, and will show that the lived in the days of Solomon, he Judge is still to the front and dewould have flattered the royal sage | veloping the farming resources of account? The patience of women | A farmer of Merrick county writes | with an intimation that some of his | the country. is proverbial, and their whole lives to the Central City Item: I have proverbs were plagiarisms; or had are bound up in their affections. resided on my farm five miles north- he been a contemporary of Sol-Few people will deny that love in east of Central City, eight years, and omon's father, he would have felt

# Youthful Illusions.

Youth is the period of novel ef-

of our history, we recall for the most part just those events and scenes which mostly stirred our etc., and so impressed themselves on Nebraska, its advantages and prothe tablet of our memory; and it is this sense of something out of the ordinary beat that gives the characteristic color of our recollection. ard of what is impressive. Who of princes and princesses. Could die tree, plum, currants and gooseheads.

### Egyptian Corn.

Egyptian corn is attracting considerable attention in California The yield is enormous; it requires little care and is excellent food for man and beast. It is not produced in ears at all, but in a much more condensed form. It does not grow depending on other people for bor- as tall, but branches more than Indian corn, and each branch is tufted with a large head containing thousands of seeds. The climate of portions of California is similar to that of Egypt, and it is thought this grain will prove to be a very valuable demns it, accept and treasure it. product. One grower in that state But, on the other hand, do not hug claims to have harvested a crop averaging eighty bushels to an acre. principle in aritmetic should not The grain resembles hulled barley, for which it is easily taken. There are two varieties, white and brown, differing in color and flavor. The white has as fine a flavor as rice, while the brown has an acrid taste when green, and till it is perfectly dry, that makes it undesirable as an

To KILL LICE .- Col. Curtis writes you. Too many become bigoted by the N. Y. Tribune as follows: "We have tried all sorts of mixtures to kill lice on animals and at last have hit on what we think is best: Melt hog's lard, or any hot grease, and in it dissolve salt one-third of the bulk of the grease; take as much grease as will be required to smear the animal all over and into the mixture pour kerosene oil and stir it up. Two gills of the kerosene would be sufficient for a cow of ordinary size. One application completely cured the most stubborn case of lice on an old hog. It leaves the skin smooth and clean, removing the scurf and healing the irritation caused by the parasites. It is also excellent for

> An exchange makes this sug gestion for business men: "In all towns where a newspaper is published, every business man ought to advertise in it, even if it is nothing more than a card stating his name and the kind of business he is engaged in. It helps sustain a paper, and lets the people out at a distance know that the town is full of business men. The paper finds its way into thousands of places where handbills cannot reach. A card in a paper is a traveling sign-board, and can be seen by every reader. Think of these things and let your light so

A gentleman from Wabash, Indiana, is in the city, and desirous of introducing the electric light for lighting the city. According to his theory one light with four jets placed on top of the Government building would illuminate the entire business portion of the city. The total cost of lightning the city, per year, the gentleman estimates, would be \$712. The light from the four jets is said to be equel to the light from 12,000 candles. Wabash, In-

Fish culture is now a genuine in-

a man who walked into a store at Sandstone, Mo., and a weapon was loaded one of the chambers. "Exself through the brain.

It is one thing to possess the fortress in time of peace; it is another thing to hold it in time of battle amid boom of cannon and burst of shell and clash of bayonets.

### Nebraska.

Two brief articles have been preducts. One more short article must close the series for this season. To persons who never saw a prai-

rie country, to look over it is rather for it, too." This being so, we unconsciously an interesting sight; as a general transform the past occurrence by thing the absence of timber gives to reasoning from our present stand- it the appearance of waste and barrenness to those who are accustomed has not felt an unpleasant disen- to live in a timbered country. Timchantment in revisiting some garden ber of every kind common to this or park that seemed a wonderous latitude can be cultivated on the paradise to his young eyes? All our prairies of Nebraska. Near the wafeelings are capable of leading us ter courses and river bluffs a large into this kind of illusion. What quantity of trees are generally found seemed beautiful or awful to us as growing in great luxuriance .children is now pictured in imag- Among the varieties found in such instion as corresponding to what localities are cottonwood, box-elder, moves our mature minds to delight | buckeye, maple, locust, ash, hickory, or awe. People who a little out- oak, willow, poplar, sycamore, walshone our own circle of friends per- | nut, pine and cedar. The shrubs haps, in style of dress and living, include common juniper, pawpaw, seemed to us as children little short prickly ash, sumacs, red root, spinwe actually see them with our berries, dogwood, butter bush, buffapresent eyes, we should, alas, no lo berry, mulberry and hazlenut. longer find the glory in which our Cedars are found on the islands of young fancies had encircled their the Platte, and along the Loup, and on the Niobrara there is a large quantity of pine.

But the interesting point we want to make is the fact that all this variety of trees will grow and flourish on the prairie, and that as much timber as may be needed by each farmer can be raised on his farm.

It is not a little surprising to know that the early travelers, and, among others, Gen. Fremont, should have formed the opinion that the prairies of Nebraska were a sandy desert. unsuited for farming purposes, when

in these times it has been examined by competent judges and pronounced without any hesitation to be a region which is to be the great grain and stock - producing area of the continent. Men don't make bread of sand, and they don't, as a general thing, settle in such localities. The United States cover 23 degrees of latitude; away to the frozen north, and down to the semi-tropic south. With all this choice, from the beginning of western settlement the great current of movement has been within a central belt five or six degrees in width, and nearly corresponding with the latitudinal length of Illinois, which lies between 36 degrees, 56 minutes and 42% degrees. This is the belt in the United States in which industry obtains the most certain and highest rewards. It is temperate in climate-and a man can work up to his best notch. The land is fruitful, and bears in great abundance those products which are necessaries of life, and which there-

fore have a steady commercial value. The population of Nebraska in the beginning of 1856 was 10,716, and at the close of 1875, 259,912, which was a twenty-five-fold increase in twen-

Corn in Nebraska is most bountiful in production; with fair cultivation the yield is from 50 to 60 bush-

els per acre. Wheat from 15 to 25 bushels per acre. Barley from 30 to 1th. 40 bushels. Rye 25 to 30 bushels. Oats 40 to 50 bushels. A country which is adapted to the raising of corn; small grains; good for grass and hay, and has at all times a favorable climate, must be a good location for stock - raising. Live stock is in great demand the civilized over, and it is in live stock the farmer finds a great deal of his wealth. the Nebraska farmers that mixed farming is the most profitable, therefore every farmer should combine grain and stock raising. In fact every farmer that has carried cattle upon his farm and handled them with judgment for any length of time is now enjoying the rich profits of his investment and labor. Look around among your neighbors and in every case where money has been invested in stock and handled with care it has brought the largest increase in dollars and cents to those who have invested. And there is room in Nebraska for hundreds of

Mr. Roads is a school teacher at Earl, Pa. When a little girl denied having torn a book, and called on God to witness that she told the truth, he was grieved beyond expression by what he deemed her blasphemy. He grabbed her in one hand and a club in the other, and beat her until he was weary and she insensible. She was maimed for

thousands more farmers.

"No, parson, I probly never git courage to jine de church. When a chance. Address H. HALLETT & CO., poor darkeys spiritual viser takes now caprize thee,' and den ducks him under, it's time dat darkey look | BE OF GOOD CHEER. Let not the "Let me look at a revolver," said after hissef. You don't play none" ob dem games on me, ole man.

It was at the opera house. The performance was about to begin, when one of the two strangers looked all around and said: "Bill, where dated at the house of the undersigned is the dress circle?" Bill glanced up toward the third gallery, and replied "I reckon it is up yonder; I see a fellow taking off his coat."

A pompous individual walked up to the bar of a seaside hotel, and a lasting kind has been done by women without their own influence women without their own influence being brought to bear on the country.

The plain and wholesome things once and see for hemselves. Costly of life are its greatest blessings. We came to this state from Ohio, and can produce a given amount of mental of life are its greatest blessings. We saw that I am well pleased with the excitation in childhood than in after large sums of money order, \$3.10 to M. E. Turner & for yourself. Address GEORGE STIN-took bear on the life. In looking back on this part of daily bread.

A little boy hearing some one remark that nothing was quicker than pared and published, and left stand- thought, said: "I know something minds by their strangeness, novelty, ing in the JOURNAL, relative to that is quicker than thought." "What is it, Johnny?" asked his pa. "Whistling," said Johnny. "When I was in school yesterday I whistled before I thought-and got whipped

> A drunken Scotch parishioner was admonished by his parson. "I can go into the village" concluded the latter, "and come home again and not get drunk." "Ah. meenester, but I'm sae popular!" was the fuddled Scotchman's apologetic re-

A French chemist asserts that if tea be ground like coffee, immediately before hot water is poured upon it, its exhilerating qualities will be doubled.

It is awful hard to realize that s woman is an angel when one sees her pick up a clothes-prop fourteen feet long to drive a two-ounce chicken out of the vard.

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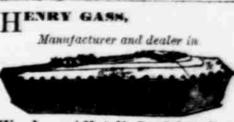
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