THE JOURNAL.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13, 1882.

Entered at the Postoffice, Columbus, Neb., as second class matter.

THE LIAR IN WEIGHT.

He had fished in all waters for bass and for trout,
On stream and on lake the country throughout;
He had fished with a fly;
He had fished with a bait;
But alas! for his fame he's a liar in weight.

There are liars in numbers and liars in size,
Who talk in a way that seems wonderful wise,
Of the things they have done;
But what they relate
Is but tame when compared with this liar in weight.

He had never caught small fish, this liar in weight;
The trout are all large ones that nibble his bait;
He resents with disdain,
And almost with hate,
Such small accusations—this liar in weight.

Three-pounders were common, four-pounders not rare;
and he'd tell, in a way to make a man stare,
Of a ten-pounder once,
In a Northern State,
That he captured alone—this liar in weight.

To compete with this liar when once he begins,
Is out of the question, for he always wins,
The best competition,
Either near or late,
Is nowhere compared with this liar in weight.

The liar in numbers may catch the most trout,
Or the liar in place know the best place about;
But when you begin
About size to relate,
You're left in the shade by this liar in weight.
—*James H. Hoadley, in N. Y. Independent.*

CATTLE RAISING.

How the Business is Managed in Wyoming and the Profits in It.

A representative of the *Tribune* had an interesting conversation yesterday with Mr. William Denison, who is in the city, having come directly from his ranch in Wyoming Territory with a shipment of cattle, and learning the following facts which will be of interest to the public:

His ranch is is on the Platte River, in Carbon County, forty miles south of the Union Pacific Railroad and 150 miles west of Cheyenne, and 8,000 feet above the sea level. The run is fifty miles, more or less, in extent, and is used in common by some eleven or twelve ranchers, who own an aggregate of about 30,000 head of cattle. These men, some of them with families, live in log cabins more or less capacious and comfortable, in different parts of the run, each house having its corral and most of them a garden and outbuildings. The cattle, watched by mounted herders or "cowboys," wander at will over the run, living on the grass, which, though a sorry apology in the eyes of an Illinoisan, is found to be amply sufficient for their wants. The winters are severe, and a large amount of snow falls. It is, however, dry snow, and blows off, and the cattle subsist on the dry grass, which greatly resembles hay in appearance.

In the spring all the ranchmen with their herders assemble and go over the entire range for the purpose of branding the calves. About 5,000 cattle are driven together each day and corraled. The corral is a large inclosure fenced in with pine logs put together very strongly and capable of resisting any commotion which may arise among the cattle. Each ranchman then brands the calf which is following a cow bearing his brand. It is taken for granted that the calf is his property, and if a calf bearing another man's brand is found following the cow the matter is remedied by the owner of the brand handing over an unbranded calf, which is thereupon branded with the first man's brand, and the matter is settled.

Each man consults his own fancy as to his brand, and a large variety may be seen, including letters, harness, knives, cups, arrowheads, etc. Each ranchman has also an ear-mark, by which he distinguishes his cattle when their winter coat of hair renders the brand undistinguishable. The same variety is seen in earmarks as in brands, some men slitting each ear, or cutting off the tips, while the severing of one ear close to the head is not an uncommon mark. The branding is done with a hot iron, generally placed well forward on the left side, about six inches from the backbone. In this way the whole range is gone over until the branding is finished, the men living in tents and subsisting on beef and what game comes in their way.

The cattle are active and run rapidly. A stampede is a curious occurrence and apt to be serious, if not properly managed. The stumbling of a horse or any unusual noise may cause it, and the cattle once started will run until exhausted, turning aside for nothing and demolishing anything which happens to be in their course. When a stampede occurs, the herdsman immediately rides to the side of the herd near the head and turns the cattle gradually, eventually bringing them to the point at which they started, and keeps up the process until the herd is exhausted and stops. Even when turned in this manner the cattle frequently run from ten to twenty miles before halting.

The cattle are usually shipped to market in the fall, at which time the "round-up" occurs. In this, as in the branding, all the ranchmen join, each man furnishing his quota of herders. The proportion is about one herder to 500 cattle. The latter are gathered in immense herds and the cattle destined for shipment picked out. A man mounted on a trained horse rides into the drove and picks out a steer. The horse then follows the animal, turning it to the right or left and keeping it always headed for the outside of the herd. When the cattle for shipment are collected they are driven in one large herd to the railroad, and are guarded day and night by mounted herdsmen. About twenty are put in a car, and the freight is $7 per head. It costs about $1 per head to feed them on the way, and the trip consumes seven days.

The use of dogs is forbidden by law, and the herdsman relies entirely upon himself and his horse to do the work. The horses used are Indian ponies, and are valuable in proportion to their knowledge of the business. They are fast and hardy, frequently traveling sixty and seventy miles in a day. A large, fast, and well trained pony is worth $150, and they range in price from that amount down to $50. Each man has from four to six horses, and uses each on the average half a day in two days. In the "round-up" a herder watches the drove of horses night and day and drives them into camp every morning at 4 o'clock, the herders being in the saddle by sunrise. Many of the ponies are "buckers," and will unseat the most skillful rider, a man who is able to stick on an adept "bucker" being exceedingly rare. A "bucker" jumps up six feet or so into the air, landing stiff on his fore feet, and repeats the operation so rapidly that the jumps can hardly be counted, until the rider is unseated and flung headlong.

The herders are paid from $100 to $25 per month, according to their skill with the lasso. It is of the "lassoer" as it is of the poet—"*nascitur sed non fit.*" Almost any man can learn to lasso a steer by the horns or throw the loop over a horse's head, but only a man born to the business can catch a steer by the leg, horse and steer on the dead run. When the lasso is thrown the "cowboy" coils the end around the pommel of his saddle, the pony braces himself, and when the rope tightens the steer usually measures his length upon the ground. The cowboys are a hard-working set of men, and, at least in the locality described, very decent fellows. One of Mr. Denison's boys is a graduate of Bowdoin College, and intends to practice law. No arms are carried and there is no cattle-stealing.

Cattle are shipped to market when three years old; but calves are worth $13 at present, on the range. The proportion of cows in the herd is about one-fourth, and the natural increase is therefore large and profitable. Speculators are often seen on the range, buying up cattle and shipping them to market; but the length of time consumed in getting the cattle to their destination makes the risk considerable. In the legitimate business the risk is probably less than in any other mode of investing capital. There is no disease as yet, no stealing, and the risk of a very severe winter is the only one which causes the cattle men much trouble.

The cattle men subsist, in a large measure, during all seasons of the year upon game, which is present in great variety and abundance at this season. Antelope form the main diet, as they roam in herds of from twenty-five to 100. Deer, elk, and other large game are abundant, but are more timid and harder to get. The country is quiet and the population law-abiding. From the very nature of things there is no attraction for the loafer and the blackguard. Every man works and works hard, and with proper energy and care "there's millions in it."
—*Chicago Tribune.*

The Cat Bird.

Though the cat bird is accused of many atrocities, I will protect him, in spite of the real facts, on account of his remarkable song and his quaint and original ways. It is said he will permit no other birds to build their nests near his own haunt. He is quarrelsome and beats them off, and like the blue-jay often devours the eggs of small birds and destroys their nests. This nefarious work is not probably a regular practice; there is reason to believe he destroys only the eggs and nests which are placed too near his own domicile.

The cat bird is choice of his situation, and seldom frequents the high grounds which are chosen by the red thrush. He prefers a thicket in low, swampy places, and cares not though it be at the foot of a garden; for the presence of man when employed in rural toil does not seem to annoy him. Birds very readily distinguish a man at work from an idle man or gunner. Cat birds are almost exclusively insectivorous, seldom taking farinaceous substances except in very small quantities. Some young birds of this species which I reared in a cage died of apoplexy soon after they had obtained their growth, from no cause that I could divine except the injury received from a partly farinaceous diet. Yet the cat bird is known to be fond of the seeds of grasses.

The old prejudice once so general against the cat bird seems attributable in part to its mewing habit, increased by the absurd notion that it plundered the cornfield. The most careful investigators of the food of birds, by examining their crops, have discovered great quantities of insects, but none of the cereal grains among the substances eaten by the cat bird. At the present time very little of this old prejudice remains; the cat bird is now regarded as the farmer's benefactor, and it has become a favorite in some neighborhoods. It was formerly a very general practice to rear this bird in captivity, when it became very amusing from its odd ways and imitative habits.

I have never been convinced, from my own observation, that the cat bird in his wild state is a mocker. I admit the fact on the authority of others. The notes of several species which he often imperfectly utters seem to me to be only parts of his general medley. His song resembles that of the red thrush, though inferior to it. He has more rasping and fewer guttural sounds than his congener, and less volume. No one would attempt to represent his notes on the gamut, for they are more like speech than music. The song hardly admits of description; but it is not without considerable merit. I have occasionally heard an individual songster which was not much inferior to a red thrush.

All persons listen with pleasure to the song of the cat bird, but they are fortunate who have often heard it delivered continuously. The fault of the bird as a songster is that he is rarely persistent. He utters a short occasional strain, then pauses perhaps five or even ten minutes. But when we are strolling in a woodpath through a half-wooded swamp, bordered with azaleas and wild roses, while the open spaces are bright with golden alexanders, it is delightful to hear these occasional strains and to observe how attentively the bird watches our movements. We hear none of the red thrush's peculiar duplications of certain notes; but if we suppose him to be talking, he speaks more rapidly and uses longer phrases than the red thrush. It is as if he said with great rapidity, "What are ye looking after? Take what you want and be off. Mind your own business. This place belongs to me and to nobody else." The bird makes a pause between each of these sentences, occasionally interposing a few lisping or whistling notes.

The restless ways of the cat bird excite very general attention. I never saw one remain still even for half a minute. His restlessness is probably the cause of his singing so seldom continuously. He is incapable of sitting quietly on his perch and devoting himself to song. Especially if a human being is near who seems to be watching him, he is constantly whisking about, occassionally mewing or singing a few notes, as he hoped to drive the person away.—*Wilson Flagg, in Boston Transcript.*

The Gold-Seeker.

The *Dantziger Zeitung* relates a curious anecdote of superstition which prevails among the peat-cutters of Littau. In the great peat-fields at Niederung, where boggy places extend in long lines, the Will o the Wisp, or *Irrlichter* (Wandering Light), as it is called in Germany, is often seen. The gaseous miasma in this district gives the uncanny light a remarkable brilliancy. It is the fervid belief of the Littauer, in spite of the schoolmasters, that wherever the wandering fire is kindled, there the devil is busy smelting the gold which he pays to those human beings who will sell themselves to him. If any person will lay a pair of slippers, with their soles upward, upon the spot where the light is kindled, the power of the devil over the gold is immediately broken; he is compelled to leave it, the light is extinguished, and the fortunate owner of the slippers can at once dig for the gold. and when he finds it, appropriate it to his own use without sin and without danger.

A few days ago, according to a Dantzig paper, a Littauer peasant named Eigenkarther saw one of the errant lights, or, as he would have expressed it, caught the devil at work, in one of his own peat bogs. He seized a pair of slippers rushed out of his house and followed the light. The light moved further and further, and the peasant, forgetting everything else in his determination to spoil Satan of his gold hurried onward and onward, until he stuck in a deep boggy slough and was drowned. Early the next morning his lifeless corpse was dragged out of the sludge. It was only discovered by the accident that his cap was floating upon the surface.—*London Globe.*

—The Princess of Wales, now in her thirty-eighth year, is described as looking scarcely a day older than when, on March 10th, nineteen years ago, she stood at the altar by the side of her young husband. Nor do advancing years change, save to deepen and strengthen, the regard and affection in which she is held by the people of England. By common consent she is placed beyond the region of criticism. "What the Prince does" is the topic of free discussion—praise or blame—every night at a score of clubs and in drawing-rooms innumerable. But the good taste of "what the Princess does" is never for a moment called into question.—*Chicago Tribune.*

The Lacquer Trees of Japan.

The *Rhus vernicifera*, the well-known lacquer tree of Japan, is met with all over the main island, and also in smaller quantities in Kiushiu and Shikoku, but it is from Tokio northward that it principally flourishes, growing freely on mountains as well as in the plains, thus indicating that moderate climate suits the tree better than a very warm one. Since early days the cultivation of the tree has been encouraged by the Government, and as the lacquer industry increased plantations were made in every province and district. The lacquer tree can be propagated by seed sown at the end of January or the beginning of February. The first year the seedlings reach a height of from ten inches to one foot. The following spring the young trees are transplanted about six feet apart, and in ten years an average tree should be ten feet high, the diameter of its trunk two and a half inches to three inches, and its yield of lacquer sufficient to fill a three ounce bottle. A more speedy method is, however, generally adopted. The roots of a vigorous young tree are taken, and pieces six inches long and the thickness of a finger are planted out in a slanting direction a few inches apart, one inch being left exposed above the ground. This takes place at the end of February and through March, according to the climate of the locality. These cuttings throw a strong shoot off from eighteen to twenty inches the first year, and are likewise planted out the following spring. Under equally favorable circumstances these trees would in ten years be nearly twenty-five per cent larger in girth, some two or three feet higher, and would yield nearly half as much more sap than the trees raised from seed.

It has not hitherto been the custom to bestow any special care on the trees after planting them out; but in cases where leaf or other manure has been applied they are much finer. Of late years hillsides and waste grounds alone have been used for lacquer plantations, as, owing to the rise in the price of cereals and farm produce generally, it does not pay the farmers to have their land cumbered with trees. Those that have been hitherto planted along the borders of the fields are being rapidly used and uprooted, and, where practicable, mulberry trees planted instead, with a view to rearing silkworms. Nevertheless, as a good workman is expected during the season to tap an average of 1,000 trees ten years old, and as the province of Yechizen alone sends out about 1,500 "tappers" yearly to the various lacquer districts, it will be seen that an immense production annually takes place, stimulated, doubtless, by the demand for cheap lacquered articles abroad. It should also be mentioned that to remedy the possible exhaustion of the supply, and in view of the great rise which has taken place in the price of lacquer, several companies are being projected to plant waste lands with the tree. A ten-year-old tree, which some five years ago only cost from one to two sen, now costs ten sen, which, allowing even for the depreciation in the value of the paper currency, shows a rise of about 500 per cent. The best transparent lacquer comes from the districts of Tsugaru, Nambu, Akita, and Aidzu. there are some districts the lacquer obtained from which is best for certain kinds of work, but is not so well adapted for others. The kind which is used for transparent lacquer is mixed in large tubs to insure a uniform quality, and being allowed to stand for some time—say a week or ten days—the best portion, which is ordinarily seventy per cent. of the whole, is skimmed off. This is used for Nashiji and Shu lacquer, while the remainder is used for making inferior mixtures, such as Johana, &c. Almost all the various classes of lacquer are similarly dealt with to insure uniformity, as some qualities dry much quicker and are better than others, and the slow-drying qualities would otherwise remain unsold. The whole country produces at present, on an average from 30,000 to 35,000 tubs per annum each tub being about four gallons capacity. Some seventy or eighty per cent. of this total amount is produced from Tokio northward. Nearly one-half of the lacquer produced is sent to the Osaka market, where it is prepared as required and resold all over the western and southern provinces, the remaining portion being used up locally and in Tokio. The usual age at which a tree is tapped is sixteen years, but in some cases a tree is tapped when only three or four years old. The best lacquer for transparent varnish is obtained from trees from 100 to 200 years old, as their sap has more body, and is more glutinous. The first tapping takes place about the beginning of June. The standard number of trees allotted to a tapper for the season is 1,000—presuming them to be about ten years old (the size of the small specimen), about 800 of the size of the large specimen, and so on, less and less according to the size of the trees. Having cleared away the grass from the roots, the workman makes the round of his allotted trees, marking each with small notches about half an inch long. The first of these notches is about six inches from the bottom of the tree on the right-hand side; the next one "hand stretch" higher up on the left-hand side; the next one "hand stretch" higher on the right, and so on, alternately as far as the workman can reach. These preliminary markings, which are to determine all the preliminary places for subsequent tapping, take fully four days, being at the rate of 250 trees a day. The tapper then goes round provided with the bark scraper, the ordinary scraping sickle, the Summer spatula, and the pot to hold the lacquer, and first smoothing the bark where required, gives one cut above and one cut below the two lower marks, and one cut above the remainder of the other marks, the cut being in each case about one and a half inches long. After giving the cut the instrument is reversed and the knife is run along the incision to insure the bark being entirely cut through. This process is repeated every four days. each incision being made a little longer than the preceding one, up to the fifth tapping, inclusive, after which the remaining incisions are made of the same length. At each round, when all the requisite incisions have been made on the tree, the workman gathers the sap which has exuded with the spatula, beginning at the two lowest incisions, and so on to the uppermost cut. Twenty-five is considered the normal number of cuts which, at the rate of one incision at each place every four days, occupy 100 working days, and allowing for some twenty days of rain, during which the sap cannot be drawn, the season is brought to a close by the end of September. When the full number of incisions has been given, the workman gives an extra long cut under all the initial notches on each tree to obtain the sap which has collected there, and another above the uppermost cut of each set. These incisions are called *Ura-me* (back-marks). The sap obtained from the first five cuts above each notch is poor, containing, as it does, a large proportion of water; the middle fifteen cuts produce the best sap, and the sap obtained from the last five incisions is poor, and lacks consistency. Again, the sap obtained from the *Ura-me* (back-marks) and *Tome* (finishing) cuts is very good, and dries quickly. The sap from the first twenty-five cuts is mixed and sold together, but the *Ura-me* and *Tome* sap is almost always mixed and sold separately.

The operations above described kill the tree in one season, but frequently the tree is made to last two years or more by giving only half the number of incisions, and reserving the *Ura-me* and *Tome* cuts for the final year. The sap obtained the second and following years is, however, of an inferior quality, and this method is only resorted to by private individuals who tap their own trees during the intervals of farming. Ordinarily, a wholesale dealer in lquer buys so many thousand trees from the owner, and as a matter of course, extracts the sap with as little delay as possible, making a contract for the purpose with professional tappers. A first-rate workman will receive over 100 yen (equal, at the present low rate of exchange, to nearly £13) for the season, and can collect four and a half tubs (equivalent to eighteen gallons) but the average receive 75 yen, and collect proportionately less. The present price per tub of lacquer ranges from 90 to 100 yen. After the sap has been taken, the exhausted tree, which remains the property of the seller, is cut down by him and used for firewood, for building purposes, or for making boxes.
—*London Telegraph.*

Modern Manufacture of Shoes.

From 1855 dates the downfall of the shop and "kit." The sewing machine was introduced in 1862, and machine-made shoes are the order of the day. The difference in time between the old and new way is remarkable. The machine-made shoe is, as a matter of necessity, a double soled shoe, and hence took the place, in a great degree, of the old hand-made "welt." This hand-made, welted shoe required two seams, the inner seam, or the sewing-in of the welt and upper, and the "stitching" or sewing together of the welt and the outer sole. The average time required in sewing each of these seams was not less than fifteen minutes, or half an hour for each shoe, or an hour for each pair. The machine, by sewing directly through the inner sole, upper, and outer sole, substituted one seam for two; and when it was worked by "power," such was the expedition of its movements that eighty pair an hour have been stitched upon it, giving less than twenty-three seconds to each shoe. The time saved in cutting soles is equally wonderful. Thirty years ago sole leather was almost altogether cut by hand. A man was only able to cut a few sides in a day, and no care was taken to be very exact. The soles were rounded off to the last by the workman. Now, with the machines, 150 sides can be cut in a day, and every sole will be exactly the same size; and with the dieing-machine sixty or seventy cases can be died out exactly the shape of the last. The saving in time and stock amounts to many hundreds per week. Or if the sides have been cut into strips, one of these machines can cut 250 sides per day against ten that a smart, old-time worker could do.

The central part of Lynn is dovoted to the large manufactories, where the shoe can be watched from the side to the case, and where in the old shop one man did the work, now a shoe passes through nearly fifty hands before completion. Cutting the soles is the first operation, and is done by the above-mentioned machine with dies. The whole side is laid out upon a large table, the top of which is level within the bed of a machine long enough to take in its entire length, so that the workman can place the die on any portion of the side, and then, by a treadle movement, instantaneously bring down a bar with sufficient force to cut out the sole. This may be done as rapidly as the operator can place the die, but good judgment is required in selecting the thickest and most solid parts of the leather for outsoles, the thinner and poorer portions being used for insoles and heels. Smaller machines of the same style are used for cutting out the taps, counters, and heel lifts, as these are cut from the parts of the side left after all the outsoles possible have been cut therefrom, the idea in each instance being so to place the dies on the stock as to avoid waste. The soles are now in the hands of the sorter, and have been through three hands—the stripper, sole-cutter, sorter—and then comes the tier-up. The upper stock is cut in what is called the cutting-room, and the hands consist of (1) the outside cutter; (2) lining cutter; (3) trimming cutter, and (4) dier-out. This is in most cases hand work, and in men's boots and shoes entirely so, but the Lynn manufactories almost entirely produce ladies' shoes. The uppers are now taken to the stitching room, where they pass (5) into the hands of the lining-maker, then (6) the closer, (7) steam rubber, (8) back-stayer, (9) front-stayer, (10) closer-on, (11) turner, (12) top-stitcher, (13) buttonhole cutter, (14) corder, (15) vamper, (16) button sewer-on—all these being different persons. The uppers and bottom stock are now taken to the lasting or finishing room. As we have already seen, the bottom stock has passed through four processes, ending with the tier-up. These, added to the sixteen through which the uppers have passed, make twenty before they reach the hands of the stock-fitter. From this point the process goes on—(21) stock-fitter, (22) laster, (23) sole-layer, (24) stitcher, (25) beater-out. If for men's boots and shoes, now comes the "lasting," or the drawing of the upper snugly and evenly over the last, so that it will fit closely in all parts, and the edges just lap over the outer edge of the insole, all temporarily fastened until the outsole can be attached. This is commonly done by hand, the workman drawing the leather over with pincers and tacking it in place. To do this work by machine is a task the solution of which has been sought by mechanics and inventors for many years, but no machine for the purpose has yet been introduced which has met with any considerable degree of favor from manufacturers. There is a lasting machine, but it is susceptible of improvement. Returning to the ladies' shoe, the next person to receive it is the (26) trimmer; then the setter, liner, nailer, shaver, buffer, burnisher, channeller, and channel-turner, and several other minor parts. The shoes finally reach the hands of a packer, and the amount of capital this simple routine represents throughout the United States is astonishing, as the manufacture of shoes embraces many other branches.

In 1870 there were 4,237 tanneries in the United States, employing 20,784 hands, using a capital of $42,720,505, paying in wages $7,934,416, producing leather valued at $6,169,833; and there were 3,151 establishments for the manufacture of boots and shoes, emnploying 91,702 hands, with a capital of $37,519,619, paying in wages $42,504,444, using $80,502,718 worth of materials, manufacturing boots valued at $50,231,470 and shoes valued at $73,846,203, with a production valued at $146,704,000, of which Massachusetts supplied $86,565,445, increased in 1875 to $89,375,792, and in 1880 to nearly $100,000,000.

Boston is by far the largest market for boots and shoes in the world. There were shipped from there during 1880 over two and a quarter million cases of boots, shoes, and "rubbers" to interior and coastwise ports, the cases holding from twelve to sevnty-five pairs per case, but containing, at a low estimate, over fifty million pairs. Though we are the first in the world in the manufacture of shoes, England is not far behind. There are about 400,000 persons interested in the shoe trade in that country, one-third being women. In London alone there are 42,691 shoemakers, and it has been estimated that 400,000 tons of oak bark are annually used in Great Britain in the tanning of leather.—*Lynn (Mass.) Cor. N. Y. Post.*

—Good work from human beings, just as from machinery, requires good treatment, and the finer the quality and the greater the quantity of the work the larger must be the outlay. Build factories that supply pure air, and the employes will produce more; but they will ask for more pay, because they will consume more food and cannot live on low wages. A donkey can exist on thistles, of course, and give a donkey return; but a race-horse cannot be placed on the same fare with profit to any one.—*N. Y. Independent.*

Railroading in the West.

Now and then a chronic grumbler from the Eastern States finds himself starring as a tourist in the West, and learns that the purchasing power of growls is not unlimited in that section.

"Where do we take dinner?" querulously demanded such a character of a conductor on the Northern Pacific Railroad, traveling from Fargo to Bismarck.

"At Jamestown," courteously replied the conductor.

"Get there at midnight, I suppose," grunted the passenger.

"At 12:22," answered the conductor.

"Can't you stop somewhere and let me get a cracker?"

"Not very well, sir. There are no opportunities between here and Jimtown."

Finding himself treated in such a gentlemanly manner, the tourist turned loose and cursed the road from St. Paul to Glendine Creek, and after finishing his dinner he took in the Duluth branch and wound up with the officers and trainmen, consigning the whole business to bitterness and wrath eternal. The conductor made every effort to pacify him, but his exertions only stimulated the volume of abuse until the train stopped at Bismarck.

"Can I see you a moment," asked the conductor, taking the tourist by the elbow and leading him to the quadrangle back of the Sheridan House. "You don't seem to understand this railroad system. Now here's Duluth!" and he spanged the tourist one in the eye. "And here's St. Paul!" planting his fist with terrible force into the other optic. "The two lines meet here at Brainerd!" which he mapped out on the bridge of the passenger's nose. "Then the trunk line runs along to Jimtown, where you get your dinner!" and he brought him a terrific one on the mouth. "From there to Bismarck is only a short run!" planting a crusher on the victim's chin, "and there you are!" landing him in a puddle, doubled up like a stomach ache, and howling for mercy. "You will notice that the vigilant officials are carefully scanning all points of the road!" and he marched up and down his prostrate student, who was now yelling for help.

"What's the matter, Jim?" inquired a friend who had been attracted by the controversy.

"Showing a bloke the advantage of our railroads over the Eastern outfit," replied the conductor. "They never explain things where he lives, and I'm fixing it for him so he won't feel like grumbling next time he travels over our line. Wait till I point out the difference between the school sections and the railroad grant!"

But the tourist had eeled out of the puddle and gained the office of the hotel, to the disgust of the conductor and his friend, who were prepared to display all the attractions of the country, rather than see a stranger depart dissatisfied.

If a man wants to be abusive in that part of the Republic, he wants to write out his views and mail 'em to his family. Careless expressions are very apt to pan disagreeable explanations.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

The Superfluity of Cards.

The New York *Times* thinks that there is a certain kind of society ceremony of a printed character which has escaped Herbert Spencer's keen analysis. There is really no necessity for it save that which arises from the greed of the stationer. The modern purveyor of elegantly painted papers might in some respects be classed with the deservedly abused plumber. Perhaps there is some necessity for the latter, whereas there is very little for the former. The era of the deliriously combined monograms having passed away for the time being, very probably because no one could understand them, note-paper is now being ornamented in the most curious way. The printed cards necessary for a wedding of to-day are of the most complicated character. Sometimes there are as many as six different pieces of pasteboard, each one in its separate envelop, all enclosed in a big one. The sorting out of this mass of cards shows, first, the names of the father and mother of the bride; then that of the parents of the groom. Then comes the bride's card separate as Miss——, and that of the groom. Next the invitation to the marriage and another card stating when Mr. and Mrs. ——are to be at home. The last stationery load which breaks the camel's back is a card of the clergyman who is to marry the people. We are pleased to state, however, that an effort made this spring to add the cards of the bridesmaids with those of the groom's best friends, signally failed.

If for joyous occasions these events bring money to the stationer, when a death takes place he has heretofore shown no desire to divide with the undertaker. There is, however, a most absurd custom, English of its kind, which might stand a chance of transplantation into New York. In England to-day when a man or woman dies, those attending the funeral receive, after a few days, a card from the family of the deceased which reads as follows: "Mr.—— and Mrs.—— return thanks for kind sympathy and condolence." This is, indeed, the perfection of snobbishness. Once it is recorded that a person in New York, having recovered from an illness, had his cards sent round to all inquiring friends thanking them for their attention.

Francis Joseph's Long Title.

The following is the official title of the emperor of Austria, etc., taken from the convocation of the diets of Bohemia, Austria, etc., of date August 27, 1882: Francis Joseph I., by the grace of God emperor of Austria, king of Hungary and Bohemia, king of Dalmatia, Croatia, Salvonia, Gallicia, Lodomeria and Illyria, king of Jerusalem, etc.; archduke of Austria; grand duke of Tuscany and Cracow; duke of Lorraine, Salzburg, Styria, Carinthia, Carniola, and the Bukovina; grand prince of Translyvania; margrave of Moravia; duke of Silesia, Upper and Lower, of Modena, Parma, Piacenza and Guastalla, of Auschwitz and Zator, of Teschen, Fruili, Ragusa, and Zara; count prince of Hapsburg and Tyrol, of Kyburg, Gorizsa and Gradisca; prince of Trent and Botzen; margrave of Lusatia, Upper and Lower, and in Istria; count of Hohenembs, Feldkirch, Bregenz, Sonnenburg, etc.; lord of Trieste, of Cattaro and of the march of the Wends; grand voivode of the voivodate of Servia, etc. There are four "etc." and soon may be added Bosnia, Herzegovina, and Novi-Bazar. One cannot say of this lion's lair *nulla vestigia retrorsum*, for though Parma and Modena, Friuli, Piacenza and Lorraine have escaped apparently unknown, Lombardy and Venice are recognized defections, being expurgated from the mosaic.—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

—According to an old steamship captain, ocean steamships, like animals, lose their speed after a few years. An eight-year old boat will seldom give the speed she had at two years, and a ship going home to England will steam faster than going to America. Some say this comes from the British fireman, who on his way home forces the fires more than he does coming out, when speed is no object to him.—*N. Y. Herald.*

—The sealskin clothes worn by Engineer Melville during his terrible experiences in the Arctic regions are objects of much interest at the Navy Department. Among the relics is a brilliantly colored foxskin cap belonging to Lieutenant Berry, which was presented to him by an Esquimau damsel. She confiscated his old cap because it was not pretty, and gave him one she had made herself in return.—*Washington Post.*

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

—To whiten ivory knife-handles and piano keys wash them in a strong solution of soda-water.

—All honey not in the comb is looked upon with suspicion. Comb honey, too, has not escaped, although the efforts to adulterate it have so far not been very successful.—*American Cultivator.*

—The *National Live Stock Journal* says: "The question whether there is a milking machine which successfully takes the place of hand milking may yet be answered in the negative and very likely will be so answered for some time to come."

—Two eggs, one cup of white sugar, three sour baked apples, and vanilla, make delicious apple folly. Beat the whites of the eggs and the sugar together, and then add the inside of the apples, having first roasted them soft; flavor with vanilla, and beat to a stiff froth. It should be served with cake.—*St. Louis Globe.*

—To plant potatoes on a swamp meadow proved with Mr. Frank Thomas, of Woodbridge, Conn., a happy thought for a season that turned out very dry. The *Farmer* says he "dug 214 bushels of as fine Early Roses as he ever saw from three-fourths of an acre of land," and has sold a good many of them for $1 a bushel.

—Spruce butter tubs are the best; hemlock makes a sweet tub; acids from the oak color the butter and injure its appearance; white ash gives the butter a strong flavor if kept long, and increases the liability to mould; maple smells and cracks badly. Soak all tubs four to six days in brine before using.—*Detroit Post.*

—Grape Butter: Cook grapes until the skins are tender, then rub through a cullender fine enough to retain the seeds. To each pint of the pulp add one-half pound of sugar, or more if you wish the butter finer and richer. Boil down with great care to prevent burning, to the desired consistency, adding spices if liked. The natural flavor of the grape is excellent.—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

—A batter pudding to be used with any fruit—apples, peaches, or canned berries—is made of one pint of sweet milk, four eggs beaten very light, two teacups of flour, one teaspoonful of salt, and one-fourth of a teaspoonful of soda. Place the fruit in the bottom of an earthen pudding dish; then pour the batter over it. Bake for three-quarters of an hour and serve, with rich pudding sauce, or with cream and sugar.—*N. Y. Post.*

—A correspondent of the *Fruit Recorder* says that cotton soaked in turpentine and hung among the branches of plum trees just as the blossoms are falling, and frequently renewed until the plums are half grown, will effectually protect the fruit from the depredations of the curculio. If gum camphor or any essential oils, such as peppermint, pennyroyal, sassafras, etc., are dissolved in the turpentine, it produces an odor so strong that it becomes intolerable to all insects.

—When a housekeeper is looking forward to the erection of a new home, let her insist upon plenty of closets. At least three are indispensable—one above stairs for the storing of winter clothing, bedding, carpets, and the like; a bedroom closet (one for every bedroom is desirable), and a closet opening from kitchen or wood-shed, wherein to store away boots and shoes, hats and caps, old clothes, and all those many things which make so much disorder, and are getting so continually in the way unless there is some particular place or room for them.
—*Country Gentleman.*

Making Cider.

Cider is something that costs but very little where orchards are large and fruits plentiful, as in its manufacture may be used much fruit that is unsalable. The best apples pay better when barreled and sent off, but there are many old seedling trees that produce nothing fit for eating, but whose fruit makes good cider. The crab apples are best for good cider, and in some sections are used for this purpose entirely. While it is not necessary to use the best apples, yet good, sound, ripe ones only should be used. They should be carefully assorted, wiped clean and dry, and every unsound one discarded. The old method of preparing a bulky press in the orchard, to be left standing until next season, should be done away with, for we now have crushers and press that do the work in a cleaner, better, and more economical manner, their cost being small compared with their effectiveness. As full directions for making cider accompany them it is unnecessary to go into details; but it is not every one who knows how to keep cider for any length of time. In order to do this the cider should be strained into clean barrels and immediately placed under shelter. It should ferment until ready for storing away if it is desired to be a little "hard," but if preferred sweet it should not ferment. To prevent fermentation at any time, first place the cider in a barrel from which a stave of the head has been removed, care being taken to leave a space of about ten inches between the top and the cider. Now place on the cider a deep block of wood, which, of course, floats, and on this place half a pound of sulphur. Set fire to it, close up tightly as soon as you are sure the sulphur is burning and leave it closed for an hour. Repeat this several times during the day by igniting the unburnt sulphur, and when the process is over put the cider in the barrel intended for it. Now fill the barrel with more cider and treat in the same manner, filling nearly full the barrel previously used. The operation is this: Sulphureous acid gas is formed, which the cider absorbs. This gas instantly arrests all fermentation and destroys fungus, the consequence being a good, sweet article for almost an indefinite time. The sulphur gas is perfectly harmless and imparts no unpleasant taste. To make apple butter, the cider should be used as it comes directly from the press, as the sweeter the better, and porcelain-lined pots are best, as brass and iron often cause metallic precipitation from the union of the acid of the cider (malic) with the metal. This is partially avoided when the cider is very fresh, yet there is danger at all times. Exposure to the air allows cider to absorb oxygen, which forms alcohol. Further exposure admits more oxygen and we have vinegar. After awhile the vinegar will be changed by the oxygen into carbonic acid and water, which is a return to its primitive condition before entering the apple. All the acids of fruits, whether tartaric, citric or malic, are finally turned into carbonic acid, and the decomposition of cider is only the progress of changes that are ever taking place in all substances formed by the union of carbon, oxygen and hydrogen in fruits, for the same change takes place among the expressed juices of blackberries, currants, and even the vegetables. Sugar added to cider strengthens it in alcohol by adding more carbon.—*Boston Star.*

—A verdict of $3,000 was rendered at Syracuse, N. Y., a few days since, in favor of Florence Steggall vs. Fred. S. Pratt, for damages which she received in 1876 while attending school at Fayetteville. Pratt threw a stick which accidentally hit Miss Steggall in the eye and inflicted a permanent injury. The defendant, aged about twenty-one, lives in Dakota, and did not appear.

—A Boston clergyman's wife being overcharged by a Buffalo hackman for the trip between two railroad stations, had him arrested, appeared against him, saw him fined $12.50, and got back in time to take her train. If this is the genuine Boston "culchah," people will want more of it.—*Detroit Free Press.*

PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL.

—Tom Thumb says he has traveled 500,000 miles. The things that he prides himself on are his ability to play billiards, sail a yacht, and drive a team.—*N. Y. Post.*

—Miss Helen Knight's marriage to Mr. Fred R. Day, in Maryland, caused somebody to start the story that the clergyman had behaved scandalously in turning night into day.

—Mr. Justice A. Rathbun, the founder of the order of the Knights of Pythias, is an active citizen of Denver. He was a school teacher in Michigan when the idea of the order, which now has a membership of about 100,000, occurred to him.—*Detroit Post.*

—The New York *Herald* says: "An English girl who saw the Prince of Wales at a theater, writes: 'He, as usual, enjoyed the play as much as any school boy. It is delightful to hear him laugh—a rich "Ho! ho!" that rolls right across the theater. He is so nice!'"

Mr. George I. Seney, who has given $270,000 for the Methodist Episcopal Hospital in Brooklyn, witnessed the laying of the corner stone, recently, while seated in a carriage at a distance. He had refused to be made conspicuous in the ceremonies.—*N. Y. Times.*

—A Calcutta gentleman, Babu Lok Nath Ghose, has conceived the idea of compiling a "Peerage and Landed Gentry" for India. He proposes to give the genealogy and family history of all the native chiefs, great and small; and also some account of the many native gentlemen upon whom honorific distinctions have been conferred by the British Government.—*N. Y. Sun.*

—Maurice Welsh, of Norwich, Conn., earns his living by manual labor, and is so willing to do so that he voluntarily gave up his pension of $4 a month. He wrote to the Pension Agent that his wound, received in the war, had ceased to trouble him, and that he could not conscientiously receive any more help from the Government. An agent was sent to find out whether Walsh was sane. He was.—*New Haven Register.*

—The late Moses Williams, of Boston, bequeathed all his property to his family, and advised them to retain it invested as he left it, rather than exchange it for other property that might seem to promise greater returns. "I have never looked for a large income," he said in his will, "but have sought the greatest security of the principal. Governed by this rule, I have met with few losses, and to this I owe my large estate."—*Boston Post.*

—Emil Frey, the new Swiss Minister to this country, was here in 1861, entered the army as Captain of the Eighty-second Illinois Volunteers, and was captured by the Rebels and confined in the Libby Prison. The Government had condemned a Rebel, Capt. Gordon, to death, when the Rebels sent a dispatch that Capt. Frey would be considered the hostage for Gordon. President Lincoln therefore stayed the execution of the Rebel, and Gordon and Frey were soon exchanged. Monday morning Gordon called on Minister Frey, and thus the two men whose lives twenty