MR. KEELY AND HIS MOTOR

Visited and Investigated by an Omaha Gentleman.

SEVERAL EXPERIMENTS NOTED.

"Bottled Cyclones" Carefully Discussed—Discovery of a New Force and the Devising of a Method to Utilize It

Written for the Bee by W. W. Hawks, President of Bellevue College.

THE KEELY MOTOR.

Walking along one of the streets of Philadelphia in May last, I saw a sign, "Office of the Keely Motor." This reminded me that I had frequently seen notices of the "Keely motor," chiefly in the way of ridicule, and I resolved to investigate the matter for myself. After a day or two I found a gentleman who knew Mr. Keely well, and he offered to take me to the shop of the inventor. The discoveries I made I lay before the readers of the BEE.

THE MAN.

John W. Keely, a native Philadelphian, is a musician and an organist of no mean attainments. Many years ago—twenty or more—Mr. Keely, in building and playing the organ, was struck with the fact that the vibrations of the organ pipes produced not only what we called sounds, but that a vast amount of force or power was developed, sufficient in many instances to cause vast buildings to tremble as though shaken by a giant's hand. Having brains, Mr. Keely began to inquire whether this force might not be utilized. He noticed also, or thought he did, that harmony had something to do with the volume of force emitted by the vibrations.

With these indistinct and shadowy hints he went to work. No one had ever sought what he was seeking—a force from vibrations, which could be utilized in place of water and steam. He was an explorer in a field utterly new. He could consult only with his own busy brain. He had no predecessor on that trackless sea. He was another Columbus, reaching out after what all but he seemed to regard as a chimera. For years he labored on alone and in poverty. At length he succeeded in inspiring a few friends with confidence. They rallied around him. A company was formed. Money was furnished him. Machine after machine for generating the new force was invented, tested, and discarded. Machine after machine was constructed for the application of the force, tested and discarded. But progress was made with each trial. New ideas came with each failure. Meanwhile the public press, when it stooped to notice him, was lavish with ridicule. "Fraud," "humbug," "impostor," "madman," "crank," were among the mildest epithets employed, while those who assisted Mr. Keely were denounced as "dupes and fools." Undismayed, however, our Columbus bore steadily on with his face toward the new world he saw with the eye of faith, and now, after all these years of toil, discouragement and abuse, secures recognition as a real inventor from men who stand high in the scientific world.

THE VISIT.

Under guidance of my friend I soon reached Mr. Keely's work shop—a small, two-story brick structure on North Twentieth street, Philadelphia. Here, surrounded by hundreds of curious, unfamiliar contrivances, I found this man who, if I am not mistaken, will have a name in history when his traducers shall be forgotten. John W Keely is a man whose physique would be noticeable anywhere. He is fully six feet in height, with a large head, coal black eyes, dark complexion, and wearing constantly a thoughtful expression. He received me cordially, and after a few moments spent in giving some general information, proceeded to explain the machines he now uses in the production and application of his new force.

"THE LIBERATOR."

This, as its name indicates, is the instrument employed for generating and garnering the force. It is a metallic instrument about three feet in height, and stands upon a wooden pedestal, which may be moved easily about the room, to show that it has no connection with tubes or pipes or levers by which power may be secretly communicated. The liberator itself stands open before you, and may be subjected to the closest investigation. Near the bottom, fastened upon a metallic rim, are four or five large tuning forks. These stand upright. Within these, in a horizontal position, supported by a small metallic standard in its centre, is a circular steel plate about eighteen or twenty inches in diameter. Above and around the machine, and attached to higher rims, are several brass tubes, within which are small, slender, vibrating steel blades. On the top of the liberator is a brass globe four or five inches in diameter, which is used to collect and retain the force until drawn off for use.

Having courteously shown all these different parts of the liberator and given the most ample opportunity of guarding against imposition, Mr. Keely proceeds to generate the new force named by him "etheric vapor, or inter-atomic force." This he does by drawing an ordinary violin bow a few times across the stationary tuning forks, and striking the circular metallic plate a half-dozen times with a small hammer faced with rubber. This is all. In two minutes the machine is charged and ready for business. That this is so Mr. Keely proceeds to show by a threefold

EXPERIMENT.

1. By a heavy iron lever of the first class, as follows: To the brass globe on the top of the liberator where, as we have seen, the force is garnered, Mr. Keely attaches a long brass tube something over half an inch in diameter, having an orifice not larger than a common knitting needle. The other end is connected with a cylinder, in which plays an upright piston one-half inch in diameter. On the upper end of this piston rests a long heavy iron lever. To raise the lever alone a pressure of 1,500 pounds to the square inch is necessary. When all is ready Mr. Keely turns a wheel valve, and immediately the force is liberated and the lever is lifted. And now weights are added to the extremity of the long arm of the lever until a pressure is demanded to raise it equal to 25,000 pounds to the square inch. The lever rises with apparent ease when the force is applied, and when it is shut off the lever falls. It looks almost like a miracle to see this enormous weight tossed with such ease by a force generated by a means so apparently inadequate. The second

EXPERIMENT

is the firing of a cannon by means of the etheric vapor. Into a small cannon Mr. Keely drives home a leaden ball about one inch and one-fifth in diameter. Detaching the tube from the piston cylinder described in the above experiment, he attaches it to the breech of the gun, and turning the wheel valve and letting on the vapor, the ball is forced out with great velocity, passing through an inch plank and flattening itself against an iron target beyond. This, like the lever experiment, is repeated by the good-natured inventor until all spectators are satisfied that no propelling power is employed except what is generated by the vibrations of the liberator.

THE THIRD EXPERIMENT,

and most wonderful of all, is the application of this force to the running of machinery. As this is the practical end aimed at, and as this is the test of success, I wish to lay before your readers a report recently published in the Scientific Arena by its editor, Dr. A Wilford Hall, who with some thirty other scientific gentlemen recently investigated the new motive power at Mr. Keely's shop, extending their investigations through four hours. Says Dr. Hall in the Arena for July, 1886, page 26:

"These experiments having been continued till satisfactory all round, and until many present had been supplied with flattened bullets, the final and most important demonstration of all was given in the actual running of the 'Keely Motor' itself, of which the world has heard so much, and which consisted of a twenty-five-horse power rotary engine actuated alone by this so-called etheric vapor. And here we approach the description of a performance in very simple machinery for which our readers will need to summon all their resources of credulity in order not to suspect us of deliberate fabrication. But we declare in advance that what we are about to state are facts of which we are as positively certain as we are that we were personally then and there present.

"The 'engine,' if it may be thus designated, consists of a smooth hollow sphere of metal about two feet in diameter. At one end or pole of the sphere is fitted a fixed trunnion, around which it revolves, and at the other pole a rotating trunnion made fast to the sphere, and thus intended to revolve with it. On this revolving trunnion, which extends as a shaft beyond the frame which supports the sphere, was secured a common pulley of a foot or so in diameter and of about six inches face, from which a belt of leather led to a saw, turning-lathe, etc., in the room overhead. A valve-pipe leads into the interior of the sphere through an opening made in that trunnion, which remains stationary with the iron frame supporting the sphere. To the inner end of this fixed trunnion (as was shown by a similar sphere which was left open for inspection) are secured numerous resonating tubes and other vibratory devices, but which also remain stationary or fast to the inner end of the trunnion without touching the revolving sphere.

"Now comes the mystery of mysteries in mechanical contrivances, namely, the revolving of this sphere as the valve-wheel at the trunnion is turned, thus admitting the etheric vapor from the receiver through the flexible copper tube as before described.

"How this 'engine' runs or on what principle a mechanical foothold can be secured within this smooth, empty sphere by the vapor for moving any kind of machinery, was a matter concerning which no one present ventured to proffer even an approximate guess. Mr. Keely explains the process and the modus operandi by saying that the gas when once let into the spere takes a direction which causes a vortex or whirl around its axis, thus brushing its inner surface at enormous velocity, and that this inter-atomic vapor is of such a penetrating nature that it seizes upon the molecular structure of the sphere itself, thus propelling it along with it in its prodigious flight. This, perhaps, is as good an explanation as is possible to get at during the present stage of his invention, though it is utterly incomprehensible to the writer, even after thinking and dreaming over it for weeks since witnessing this marvelous feature in the working of the engine.

"What is most astonishing about the rotation of this sphere, by simply turning on the vapor, is the fact that there is no escape for the gas anywhere after it has done its work, nor any outlet or exhaust-pipe for such escape, as is well known to be absolutely necessary in the use of any gas, liquid or vapor known to mechanics, and by which engines are readily driven. Instead of such apparently essential provision it seems, when the pressure of vapor is once admitted and the claimed whirling process has commenced, that it goes on indefinitely in some unaccountable manner, doing its work with unabated energy, and with no wings or internal projecting abutments against which to brace itself and thus exert a moving pressure. And even if there were such projecting abutments, the force, when once inside the globe, must be free, according to the laws of fluid pressure, to act on both sides of such projections, thus preventing all motion of the sphere by stable equilibrium. This must be so, according to all known or even conceivable principles or laws of mechanics."

"Another, and perhaps still the strangest performance of all, in the operation of this engine, is the startling fact that Mr. Keely can cause the sphere to revolve in either direction and with similar power and velocity by letting the gas in at the same valve, and precisely in the same way. We suggested to him several times during the hour the engine was working, which way to start the globe revolving, and after touching it with his fingers and moving it slightly in the direction we named, he would turn on the force and the revolutions would begin with almost terrific velocity in the direction we had indicated.

"This single fact, with absolutely no exhaust and with no possible piston arrangement or movable abutment device inside as in rotary steam, gas and water engines, demonstrates to our mind beyond the shadow of a doubt that the sphere must revolve by the whirling motion of the vapor inside of it, as Mr. Keely claims, and that the direction of this vortex, or whirl of gas, must be determined by the initial push given the sphere by the hand of the operator. This initial push of the globe in a new direction must therefore change in some way the end of the inlet pipe to an opposite whirl at the point where it emerges from the trunnion within the sphere. Still the mystery of its turning at all remains the same.

"We have had some considerable experience of late years in physical and mechanical investigations, and, as our friends believe, with some degree of success in solving intricate scientific problems, but we have never before been so utterly nonplussed and at our wits' end as in trying to give a rational explanation of this Keely engine on any known or conceivable principles of physical science or mechanics.

"That the engine, as well as the frame on which it runs, is entirely disconnected from the floor, having no pipes, wires or other devices leading below or outside of the building by which extraneous power can communicate with the sphere to cause it to revolve, is incontestibly certain, since the fullest opportunity was given us to scrutinize every part of it and the foundation on which it rested. That it actually runs, with the most tremendous mechanical power and velocity, alone from the gas or vapor, or whatever it is, let into it by turning the valve-wheel referred to, we are willing to stake and risk what little reputation we have, or ever expect to possess, for scientific or mechanical sagacity. We have been warned by friends since returning from the exhibition and expressing our opinion privately, not to injure our reputation by a public statement of such facts. But our reply has been that all the reputation we have earned has been from frankly avowing our conscientious convictions upon every physical problem presenting itself, and however much such opinions might fly into the face of the prevailing notions of science.

"The power of the engine to do efficient mechanical work was abundantly demonstrated in sawing wood, running turning lathes, etc., in the room overhead, connected by belting from the pulley attached to one of the trunnions, and also by a plank pressed down on this driving pulley, in order to check its motion by friction, with the weight of two men resting on the plank. * * *

"With the actual running of this engine as an incomprehensible mystery, and with the demonstrated fact of a successful application of its mechanical power to do work, there can no longer be any manner of question but that Mr. Keely has made startling discoveries both in a new and undreamed of motive power and its mechanical application to machinery by new methods as astonishing as they are novel."

* * *

So far, Dr. Hall. And now what is the inevitable conclusion to which we are driven in view of these experiments repeated again and again, for years past, in the presence of the most competent witnesses? Is it not that John W. Keely has developed from the atmospheric air, at its ordinary temperature and normal pressure, by means of vibrations alone, a new force capable of application wherever force may be applied and utilized? He is now at work upon a larger and more perfect engine—one that will show 250-horse power—and when this is completed, which will be done in two or three months, we shall be prepared for results that will revolutionize the motive power of the world.

And is this new force so utterly improbable that it should be rejected without investigation, as some seem to think? Does not the atmospheric air under certain conditions—as in the tornado—exhibit a power absolutely irresistible? And what if Mr. Keely has discovered the "hidings of this power," and is able to apply it to useful purposes, as many other forces of nature are applied? If water, while in its normal condition, has a certain force when applied to the wheel, and a very greatly intensified force when expanded by heat into steam, why may not the atmospheric air be subjected to conditions which will develop new and wonderful characteristics? The writer of this article suggested in May last to Mr. Keely the title "Bottled Cyclones" for his wonderful force. Who can tell but that he is actually able to control and govern the element, whatever it may be, which for ages has been manifest in the irresistible energy of the cyclone and tornado?

It seems to be forgotten by those who are so ready to pronounce Mr. Keely's discovery impossible, that ever since the use of the mercury pump to produce a vacuum, the atmospheric air, when in its state of highest tenuity, has been discovered by scientists to present characteristics which indicate that it has been changed into an entirely new element in nature. Just what this element is, remains as yet undetermined; but that it is no longer ordinary atmospheric air, is settled. Says Francis R. Upton, Mr. Edison's mathematician, in Scribner's Monthly for February, 1880, page 533:

"It is found that by the use of the mercury pumps and chemical appliances, where a perfect vacuum is formed, the minute portion of air remaining shows some remarkable properties. When electricity under strong pressure passes through an Edison lamp, the whole bulb shines with a delicate blue light. So remarkable is the behavior of various substances in a vacuum prepared by means of mercury pumps that physicists consider that a gas thus rarified constitutes another state of matter, differing as much from that of an ordinary gas (either under atmospheric pressure, or with the pressure removed by means of a common air pump) as a gas differs from a liquid, or a liquid from a solid."

If this is so, it requires no ordinary temerity to pronounce in advance and without investigation the Keely Motor an impossibility. In view of the advancement made in the last fifty years, all along the line of scientific discovery, the true philosopher will be very slow to cry "humbug" whenever a new invention is announced, however wonderful it may at first sight appear. Scores of witnesses whose first attitude toward the invention under consideration, was that of absolute skepticism, are now ready to aver that after careful consideration and actual investigation, they believe in Mr. Keely and his motor. One notable instance of this character has come to the knowledge of the writer. A leading scientist of Philadelphia, adopting the cry of the press of fraud and humbug against the Keely Motor, refused for years to make a personal investigation. At length, through the earnest solicitation of a warm personal friend, he was persuaded to "come and see." After a most careful and protracted investigation he left the shop and walked some rods without uttering a word. This friend at length asked his opinion of what he had seen. "Well," said he, "I must confess that I know of nothing more wonderful, except the miracles of Christ." And yet, in the opinion of the present writer, there is nothing miraculous here. It is simply the discovery of a new force in nature, and the devising of a method by which that force may be utilized.

Romance.

T. B. Aldrich.

Up to her chamber window
A slight wire trellis goes,
And up the Romeo's ladder
Clambers a bold white rose.

I lounge in the ilex shadows,
I see the lady lean,
Unclasping her silken girdle,
The curtain's folds between.

She smiles on her white rose lover.
She reaches out her hand,
And helps him in at the window—
I see it where I stand.

To her scarlet lips she holds him,
And kisses him many a time—
Ah, me! it was he that won her
Because he dared to climb.

PEPPERMINT DROPS.

"Do you use glasses?" asked the inquisitive bartender of the short patron. "No, sir, schooners."

It is wrong to speak of a "respectable" embezzler as a "good man gone wrong." He is a bad man found out.

Every birth in Brookings, Dak., for several weeks past has been a girl, and the local papers call for diversified production.

A Minneapolis milkman died the other day from drinking the milk from his own dairy. Water on the brain was what knocked him out according to the physician's certificate.

A man should never boast to his wife how skillful he is and how much superior to other men because he can shave himself. He is reasonably sure to gash his chin or his cheek the next minute if he does.

Thus elderly Mrs. Spinach: "I can't imagine nohow why my darter talks so incorrect. She don't hear nothin' but good speakin'. As fur her father, he's a pullick patren for languidge. An' I never make no consequential mistakes."

It is told in Washington that after a certain senator, noted for his absentmindedness, came to this city for a short visit, this memorandum was found in his room: "Things to take along: One pair socks, one shirt, two collars, one pair cuffs, one wife."

"You can get a watermelon a yard long for 25 cents," says a Florida paper. And you can get a cramp forty-seven feet long, done up in a knot as big as your fist for the watermelon, and have the rinds left for sweatmeats and pickles.

Pat O'Neil, a Detroit detective, recently secured $2,000 which had been stolen from an Ohio man. The other day Pat received as his reward a box of cheap cigars and a glass breast-pin. The cigars were given away and the pin was shipped back with the statement that Detroit detectives could not afford to wear diamonds.

"How to Tell a Girl's Age" is a subject some of our esteemed contemporaries seem to be discussing. It's mean business telling a girl's age, anyway, particularly some girls, but if you are a little brother and the girl is your oldest sister and you start in to tell her age when her only young man is by, a good, safe way is to tell it by telephone just after you have left home on a long vacation.

A prominent resident of Tensas parish, La., was over at Cooper's Wells the other day, when an enthusiastic prohibitionist tackled him with "What's the prohibition news from your section, my friend?" "Well, really, I don't know," was the answer. "We have been so confounded busy fighting water all spring and summer that I don't believe any of us has found time to fight whisky yet."

THE SWEET OLD THING.

Washington Critic.

When Grover came home t'other day
From off his fishing trip,
His Frankie met him at the door,
And carried in his grip.

As Grover dressed himself to dine
His wife, with merry shout,
Unlocked the grip and set it down
To take the contents out.

A last week's shirt, a pair of socks,
A garment, white and wide;
A collar and a pair of cuffs,
A tie that had been tied.

These things she took from out the grip,
And then delayed her task,
As from the depths she brought to sight
An empty, battered flask.

"Oh, Grover, what is this?" she cried.
And Grover looked and smiled,
Then blushed and hesitating said,
"Why, that's a bait can, child."

"A bait can, dear?" she questioned him
"What makes it smell so queer?"
"Oh—ah," he said, "that's spirits to
Preserve the bait, my dear."

"You sweet old thing," she softly said,
With other loving terms,
"How good and kind you are to those
Poor little fishing worms."

MORAL.

The younger the wife the more wool a husband can pull over her eyes.

CONNUBIALITIES.

Lady Maud Ogilvie, daughter of the late earl of Airlie of London, England, is soon to marry an American.

Ypsilanti is excited over the rumor of a forthcoming wedding, the prospective bride being eighty-six and the groom sixty years of age.

The Del Rol (Tex.) Dot is edited by a young lady. She remarks: "Man proposes, but it sometimes takes a great deal of encouragement to get him to do so."

London society says the engagement between Miss Minnie Smith, sister of Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, and Count Moram, an Italian nobleman, has been broken off because it has been found that the Count's estates are owned by money-lenders and the family jewels are in pawn.

The Sioux Indians celebrate in a rather odd manner the marriage of a member of their tribe. Lately such an event came off and afterward about fifty of the braves, including the bridal couple, took a tramp of several days over the territory, pitching tents at night and giving dances and other festivities.

Among the wedding presents already received by Mme. Christine Nilsson is one from the queen, consisting of a photograph of her majesty in an exquisitely carved exodized silver frame. Beneath the portrait is a small autograph signature, "Victoria Reg.," and the date, "Osborne, June 14, 1886."

A wedding took place on Monday at the county jail at Newark, the justice uniting the couple in presence of the bride's parents and the prison officials. The ceremony took place in the warden's office, but the rest of the prisoners becoming aware of it, one of them whistled a wedding march and the others applauded vigorously.

A romantic marriage was solemnized at Kerhonkson, N. Y. The groom was John Ward, of Wolf Trap, Va., and the bride Mrs. Jennie Lansing, of Kerhonkson. Neither of the newly wedded couple had ever seen one another until the night preceding the marriage. The courtship had all been carried on by letter.

An interesting marriage engagement was announced last week, but lacked confirmation till yesterday, the parties being John Augustus Robbins, jeweler of this city, and Baroness de Massenbuch of Berlin, Germany. The baroness was a member of the party with which Mr. Robbins is making a trip around the world.—[Springfield Republican.

Florence Schuster and Frank Hooper live in St. Joseph, Mo., and are both popular. Florence went visiting in Leavenworth and Frank went over to see her. He asked her to take a walk, and before they returned the two were married. The next day they went home, and, as the account says, "were warmly welcomed by hosts of admiring friends."

Rev. William J. Sherman, a Catholic priest of Brooklyn, was married to Miss Tille McCoy, on June 14, by Rev. E. S. Schneider, an Episcopal clergyman, in New York. He continued to perform the duties of a priest until a few weeks ago, when he and his wife disappeared. It is supposed they went to Boston, where Sherman expected to be employed as a clerk.

The engagement was announced last week of Miss Maria Winthrop, daughter of Mr. T. Lindall Winthrop, and granddaughter of the Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, and Mr. Louis Pyemont, an officer of the British army. Miss Winthrop is at Ryde, Isle of Wight, England, with her family. The wedding is to take place shortly, the young couple sailing immediately after for India.

Prince Henry, second son of the crown prince, is, it is said, to marry Irene, third daughter of the grand duke of Hesse-Darmstadt. Other gossips assert that the fortunate "better half" will be Alexandrina of Anhalt-Dessau. Prince Henry is now in his twenty-fifth year, and is taller than his brother, but even less royal looking. He is a sparely built, beardless young man, with a clever if not an Apollo-like face. The only Hohenzollern who has entered the navy, he is a keen and brave sailor, as his daring adventures in his journey around the world amply prove.

There was a magnificent wedding at the old Soulogne plantation, Iberville parish, La., Wednesday. A special train carried the guests from New Orleans, the band and refreshments were of the first chop, and the dress magnificent. The bride was Miss Eladie, daughter of Theophile Allain, planter and member of the legislature, and the groom Prof. Palmerston Landry of Mansfield college. The bride's father was formerly a slave and once coachman of the Soulogne family. The wedding is the greatest social event of the year is the southern society of color; not a few whites were among the guests, and telegrams of congratulation were received from leading colored men throughout the country.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

M. Remenyi is now playing in India with considerable success.

The ballet of the Paris opera comprises 1,027 women and costs $900,000 a year.

Joachim will devote the month of January to a concert tour in Paris and other French cities.

Etelka Gerster, who has been very ill at Paris, has recovered sufficiently to appear again in a concert.

The cowboy pianist is performing in a Chicago museum. A thick white cloth is placed over the key board to protect the piano.

Mr. Charles Sugden, the handsome English actor, who eloped some years since with the Countess Desart, will visit this country as a member of Miss Fortescue's company.

The principal piece in Mr. Lawrence Barrett's repertory during his coming engagement at the Star theatre, New York in September next will be "Rienzi."

The tragic fate of King Ludwig has already inspired a wisely anonymous playwright with "The Tragedy of the Swan King," which is performed at the summer theatre of Buda.

Miss Marion Booth, a daughter of Junius Brutus Booth, appeared last week at Leland's Ocean Hotel theater, Long Branch, in "Sweethearts," "Rough Diamond" and "In Honor Bound."

The Hamburg opera house closed its season with a performance of Wagner's Nibelung Tetralogy. The same work will be given twice at Dresden immediately after the Bayreuth festival, and twice in Munich.

Mr. Louis G. Gottschalk, the baritone, who has been in Europe during the past two years, will shortly return to his native land, in order to commence his duties as chief vocal instructor at the Chicago musical college.

Dr. Hans von Bulow is at Geneva. Next winter he will direct the concerts of the Imperial Russian Musical society at St. Petersburg, and a series of concerts in Humburg, besides undertaking a short concert tour in Austria.

The great Russian pianist, Rubinstein, has resolved that the two prizes he has founded at St. Petersburg, shall be open to musicians of all nations. One of these prizes is for a piano-forte concerto, and the other for piano-forte playing. The competition is open until 1890.

Henry Irving had Mr. and Mrs. Nicolini to dinner at the famous "Star and Garter," at Richmond, three weeks ago. A number of the great actor's adulators also had the honor of eating and drinking at their hospitable host's expense. Irving was waited upon by his secretary and stage manager, and a Richmond maid of honor attended upon Patti. Ellen Terry was invited but pleaded illness.

The Berlin Boersen-Courier says that "the report that Rubinstein intends to visit America next winter is incorrect. The composer, who is at present at work on a new symphony for the Leipzig Gewandhaus, will in the autumn visit his aged mother at Odessa, and then, following an invitation of the queen of Roumania, spend two weeks at the court of Bucharest. Subsequently he will go to Prague to conduct the first performance of his opera, "Feramors" and after that he will probably visit several German cities to direct his new symphony.

Teresa Carreno writes from her native city, Caracas, Venezuela, that her reception there by her compatriots was of the most cordial order. Serenades and fetes in her honor succeeded each other, the government decorated her with the "Busto de Bolivar" the highest order in the gift of the republic, while the press of Caracas presented her with a superb gold medal. The concert she gave in conjunction with her husband, Signor Tagliapetra, were highly appreciated. After a professional visit to Trinidad and Porto Rico she will return to New York.

Particulars have been received of Mme. Patti's engagement with Henry E. Abbey, for a concert tour in this country during the coming season. Mme. Patti will sail from Queenstown for New York November 7. Prior to her departure she will sing in two concerts in Dublin under Mr. Abbey's management, November 2 and 5, to open a new music hall. Her season in this country will begin at Steinway hall, New York, the evening of November 16 and 17. The performance will consist of a concert, with one act of opera in costume. Her operatic repertoire during the tour will embrace the garden scene in "Faust," and selected acts of "Semiramide," "Martha," "Trovatore," "Traviata," "Lucia," and "Lida." She will be supported by Mme. Scalchi and Signors Gaille and Novarro. Arditti will conduct the instrumental part of the performance. Mme. Patti will give only two concerts in New York city, and will then visit the principal cities in the east, west and south, including the southern cities of the Atlantic coast. From Galvestion she will go to the City of Mexico and thence to California. Her tour will last five months and a half, and a special clause in the contract makes it her last professional vist to this country.

My Creed.

Anon.

I hold that Christian peace abounds
Where charity is seen; that when
We climb to heaven, 'tis on the rounds
Of love to men.

I hold all else named piety
A selfish scheme, as vain pretence,
Where centre is not—can there be
Circumference?

That I moreover hold and dare
Affirm where'er my rhyme may go—
Whatever things be sweet or fair,
Love makes them so.

'Tis not the wide phylactery,
Nor stubborn taste, nor stated prayers,
That make us saints; we judge the tree
By what it bears.

And when a man may live apart
From worlds, on theologic trust,
I know the blood about his heart
Is dry as dust.

NATURAL CURIOSITIES.

Venezuela has been favored with blue and rose-colored hailstones.

Thomas Golden, a flagman in Galena, Ill., has a tame robin that he taught to walk out of the flag house and wave a tiny flag whenever a train comes.

A five-weeks-old baby is reported to be living in Salem, Mass., which has an extra finger on each hand and an extra toe on each foot. The weight is a pound and a half.

Daniel Stover, of Galton, Ill., has an undisputed record of 133 rattlesnakes killed in the past four months. He has 539 rattles to show for it. He has also killed 104 blue racers.

A century plant that for fourteen years has been in the Boston public garden is in bloom. The plant is not large, but the flower stalk rises fifteen feet into the air and bear four clusters of yellow blossoms.

A Pennsylvania man has a collection of 200 live rattlesnakes. He caught them in the spring as they were leaving their dens. Some of them are of enormous size.

It is alleged that there is a street-car horse in Newark, N. J., which, if a lady comes out on the crosswalk, or stands by the track to take the car, will stop of his own accord. He has learned through a long and varied experience that a man can get on without the car stopping.

Bees have a strong antipathy to dark-colored objects. In a brood of chickens running about some beehives recently the bees stung to death the dark ones, but did not molest the light colored ones. A man with a black plug hat rarely gets stung, the bees devoting their entire attention to "shooting the hat."

The mountain lions of Montana are large and ferocious, and the frequently attack full-grown steers. The territory offers $8 for every scalp, and the cowboys make quite a business of hunting them in the winter. Lions are frequently killed measuring nine feet from tip to tip, and weighing 200 to 300 pounds. Many more measuring from ten to eleven feet are frequently bagged, and, occasionally, a monster reaching twelve feet.

A huge alligator was killed by the negroes at Lime Creek, Ga., recently, and its head cut off. It was then left until night, and when it was then approached, it is related, the severed head opened wide its jaws and snapped viciously a dozen times, coming down with a force which would have cut off a hand. After the body was skinned the legs drew up and sritetched out convulsively as if in the agony of death, notwithstanding it had been dead seven hours. The colored people regard this wonderful vitality as an evil omen.

A Barnesville, Ohio, blacksmith is alleged to be the owner of a dog which, when six months old, burned its paw on a piece of hot iron, which so enraged him that he at once seized the piece of iron in his mouth and began to chew it viciously. This was the beginning of his salamander antics, and it is now a daily occurrence to see him grab pieces of redhot iron in his mouth and chew them. He has been known to jump into the forge and seize a mouthful of redhot coals and grind them between his teeth with as much complacency as if they were scraps of bread and meat.

Bliss Interrupted.

ACT I.

Lovers swinging in a hammock,
Close together in the dark;
Small boy, hiding in the grapevines,
Chuckles, while the lovers spark.

ACT II.

Lovers, of the world unconscious—
(Next week she will be his wife)—
Small boy, weary of their spooning,
Calls to mind his brand-new knife.

ACT III.

Lovers in a heap together—
Neither injured much, let's hope.
Then the youth profanely mutters:
"Damn the boy that cut that rope!"

IMPIETIES.

Religious scruples are inconvenient in the case of some criminals. A Boston scamp thought it would be blasphemy to put "In God we trust" on the counterfeit dollars he was turning out, and the omission got him into trouble.

At a colored camp meeting near Norristown a clergyman who had been invited to preach was so disappointed by the small attendance that he merely sang a hymn, took up a collection, which netted $2.65, sang another hymn and departed.

A gentlemen generous in his contributions for church purposes, but not regular in his attendance upon public worship, was wittily described by a clergyman as being not exactly a pillar of the church, but a kind of flying buttress, supporting it from the outside.

How irreverent the most reverent prayers of children sometimes seem. Little Jack wanted a tricycle, and he was taught to pray for what he wanted. As he dropped on his knees by his little bed he added to his "Now I lay me": "Please, God, make papa buy me a tricycle. That's a dandy."—[Hartford Post.

Lulu is about five years of age. Her uncle Harry recently died. A few days ago she came to her grandmother with a bit of paper in her hand and said: "Mamma, I have written a long letter to uncle Harry." The letter ran: "Dear Uncle Harry: We are all well and hope you are. I went out to the cemetery to-day with papa and saw your monument. I think it is real nice. How do you and God get along?"

Out of 27,061 public school children in Buffalo, only 7,195 are of American parentage.

MY SOPRANO.

William Lyle in Philadelphia Call.

Above the organ's highest note
I hear her dear voice ringing,
And I am spellbound to the spot,
Though I don't know what they're singing.
I searched the book to find her name,
Her earthly name was Anna.
The angels must have thought that tame
When they sent down my soprano.

There's no place now like church for me,
They whisper I've grown pious,
They know not how I wish to be
Beside her skirt cut bias.
What care I though the tenor drop
As on a sly banana?
Baritone, alto, all may stop,
But leave me my soprano.

I have no eyes for men or things,
The sermon is but a jargon;
I have no ears for him who sings
When she's not by the organ.
But when she comes the whole thing hums,
Joy swells like showering manna,
And, rather queer, no voice I hear,
But hers, my dear soprano.

When she's not there the whole choir's wrong;
'Tis not for me to praise her;
The counter screams all through the song,
And the base becomes still baser.
Ah! when I miss her dear, dear face,
I'd give a straight Havana,
If they were in some other place,
I here with my soprano.

HONEY FOR THE LADIES.

There is a tendency to shorten dress bodices.

Orange and gray are a frequent combination.

Brocaded silks are reported passe for general wear.

Black mantles are worn with every variety of costume.

Hosiery with fine hair-line checks is shown by the leading houses.

Buttons, parasols and dresses are often adorned with painted designs.

Save the glove buttons to replace others that may take wings to themselves.

The skirts of pongee dresses have a broad band of colored velvet at the bottom.

Plaid surah is used for paniers and scarf on costumes of plain silk or Sicilienne.

Spanish and Breton jackets are worn with full chemisettes which fall over the belt.

Black lace skirts are worn with bodices of colored crepe de chine, silk, satin or moire antique.

Dark materials with hair lines of lighter tint are fashionable for entire dresses, or in combination with plain material.

High collars of gauze ribbon with floral designs are edged with beads and are finished with three loops and two ends of the ribbon.

Shephard's plaids in all combinations are in favor for fine woollen material, and the indications are that they will not soon be discarded.

Beads are much used for trimming. Some of them are quite large. For evening dresses they are used, rope fashion, upon sleeves from shoulder to elbow.

Miss Florence Marryatt, in a lecture advising women what to do with men, says, "Sit on them." We are afraid that this practice has always been carried to extremes, Florence.

Swallows and butterflies set with diamonds and arranged on fine gold wire, which causes them to sway with every movement of the wearer, are worn in the hair and about the low corsage of evening dresses.

It is often said, and truly, that a lady is recognized by the state of her shoes and gloves. While they may not always be the best, or even the best of their kind, they will be perfectly whole and neat, and in harmony with the rest of her dress.

The new light-weight straw lace and basket braid bonnets and hats are very chic and attractive. Their garnitures are correspondingly light and ethereal. Soft-tinted crapes, tulles, and illusions are used, as well as fancy silk grenadines and etamines.

A Parisian fancy in white dresses is to make them up of alternate stripes of muslin and embroidery or lace. Lace also alternates with silk or satin, or two designs in lace form alternate stripes. With these dresses bonnet and parasol must be in the same style, and gloves of white suede kid are worn.

A curious novelty in the way of Paris hats has lately arisen. They are made in knotted hay and pliant rushes, in a sort of trellis-work design, very open, and trimmed with long branches of hawthorn, violet-colored tulips, with their long leaves knotted together, and a bow of moss-green velvet ribbon as a sort of background for the floral garnitures.

When a woman dashed into the pilot-house of a Penobscot river excursion steamer that had just left the Bucksport wharf, a few days ago, and frantically demanded to be put ashore, the captain did not understand it. Her bonnet was on all right, she had her shawl strap in her hand and her lunch basket was visible also. Her explanation was that she had left her baby on the wharf. The boat went back after it.

"Botanists' parasols" have been introduced in Paris for the use of Gallic belles during country excursions. If the fair pedestrian wishes to gather some flowers or bunches of fruit growing high above her, or in the midst of a thorny hedge, she has only to touch a knob on her parasol stick and a tiny strong pair of scissors springs out of the top. With these she can reach the desired treasure without pricking her fingers or spoiling her gloves.

A fashionably-dressed lady, who had seen younger years, entered a public library the other day, and approaching the chief librarian, said: "I want something to read and don't know exactly how to describe the kind of book that would suit me." "I guess we will be able to suit you," was the reply. "Something lively, eh?" "Yes—something, you know, that—er—well, that wouldn't be exactly suitable for a young girl." "Mary," cried the chief to an assistant, "French novel for a woman of 35."

A fashion which just at the moment appears to be in great favor for young ladies' streets suits is that of a short jaunty tailor made basque of striped, barred or dotted summer woollen goods of serge, camel's hair, cheviot, canvas or etamine. The basque is never decorated in any manner except with handsome buttons, and nine out of every ten of these garments open over a chemisette of linen or percale, with natty tie to match, and studs set down in front. Where this style is not followed, there is usually a medium sized marine collar with sailor-knotted silk scarf and high standing linen collar as a finish

Washington Critic: The clock had struck midnight in the residence of a congressman, and still the young man in the parlor did not go. The young fellow had been away for two weeks, and the girl's father was willing that he should have a fair show; but this was too much, and at last he went to the head of the stairs and listened a minute. "Mollie!" he called, sharply. "Yes, papa," came the silvery voice of his child, with a slightly smothered accent. "It is after 12 o'clock." "Yes, papa, and we're doing all we can to expedite the accumulated business. We will adjourn by-and-by, papa." The helpless father, unable to answer the argument, returned to his bed in tears.

A good glove will bear indefinite cleaning, and at last may be colored, while a poor one often tears or breaks at the seams the first or second time it is worn. Benzine or naphtha is excellent for cleaning gloves, but it is too strong for delicate colors; those of light shades may better be cleansed by putting on the hand and rubbing with a piece of sponge dipped in milk; a little white soap may be used also. The greasy nature of the milk keeps the kid soft and counteracts the alkaline effect of the soap. Black kid gloves may be renewed by the application of a mixture of sweet oil and ink, or the dressing made for ladies' boots. A crumb of stale bread rubbed over the glove will often remove much dirt.

The new low coiled, basket plaited coiffure has suddenly come into fashion, and one of the methods of arranging it is follows: The hair, beginning just back of the soft bebe bang, is divided into three equal parts as it falls on the shoulders. It is then again subdivided, making an upper and lower plait of each of these divisions. Then take the two middle plats, cross them and wind to form a coil. It is necessary just here to pin these braids securely, for they are the foundation for the rest of the coiffure. These preliminaries attended to, the plaits are then taken from behind each ear and carried round the coil. Lastly, cross the two pats on each side over the top of the coil, bring down and fasten the ends securely underneath. Accordingly as it suits the wearer, the coils must be arranged either high or low, at the back of the head. For those to whom it is becoming, the basket braid is twined low in the nape of the neck.

EDUCATIONAL.

It is reported that Professor Bradley of the Albany high school has received a call to become superintendent of schools in Minneapolis, salary $5,000.

The night school at Sing Sing prison for the benefit of the prisoners, which was started by Warden Brush in January, 1884, is said to accomplished excellent results.

The geographer, Dr. Friedrich Ratzel, who, among other books, has written an excellent work on the United States, has accepted a call to Leipsic as successor to Ferd von Richthofen in the chair of geography.

Most of the $1,000,000 necessary for the endowment of the new Roman Catholic university at Washington has already been subscribed, and ground will be broken for the erection of buildings next spring.

Professor Goodale, of Harvard College, intends to visit Scandinavia in August, where he hopes to examine in the old university of Upsala, in Sweden, the wonderful botanical collection of Linnaeus