THE HOME AND FIRESIDE.

How to Make Home Attractive, Cheery and Mirthful.

KEEPING HOUSE FOR NEIGHBORS

Obedience of Children—Too Much Sweeping—Boys' and Girls' Clothes—Hints for Housekeepers.

Attractive Homes.

As the long winter evenings are upon us how much may be done to make home attractive. Women who have sons to rear and dread the demoralizing influences of bad associates, ought to understand the nature of young manhood. It is excessively restless. It is disturbed by vain ambitions, by thirst for action, by longings for excitement, by irrepressible desires to touch life in manifold ways. If you, mothers, rear your sons so that their homes are associated with the repression of natural instincts, you will be sure to throw them in the society that in any measure can supply the need of their hearts. They will not go to the public houses at first, for love of liquor—they go for the animated and hilarious companionship they find there, which they find does so much to repress the disturbing restlessness in their breasts. See to it, then, that their homes compete with public places in their attractiveness. Open your blinds by day and light bright fires at night. Illuminate your homes. Hang pictures upon the walls. Put books and newspapers on your tables. Have music and entertaining games. Banish demons and dullness and apathy, that have so long ruled in your household, and bring in mirth and good cheer. Invent occupations for your sons. Stimulate their ambitions in worthy directions. While you make home their delight, fill them with higher purposes than mere pleasure. Whether they shall pass happy boyhood and enter upon manhood with refined tastes and noble ambitions depends on you. Believe it possible that with exertion and right means, a mother may have more control over the destiny of her boys than any other influence whatever.

Women Who Keep House to Please the Neighbors.

Kate Upson Clarke: Women are always somewhat supersensitive about their work. There is probably no point on which this supersensitiveness is more displayed than that of housekeeping. To be called a "slack" housekeeper stings a woman to the quick, no matter how deserved the impeachment may be; yet, the moment a woman does that she is exciting herself in her housekeeping to do more than she otherwise would for fear that "people will talk;" that moment she begins to endanger her whole theory of life. It is this keeping house so as to please society and to placate the "neighbors" which is at the bottom of much of the overwork and the belittling of the mind which are the bane of housekeepers.

"Don't try to keep your house so clean," says a clever writer, "or else a stepmother will bring up your children." This simple but strong prescription of the matter throws a flood of light upon it. It intimates that a housekeeper has duties besides keeping house, and paramount to that one.

A housekeeper is usually a wife. A wife, besides seeing that her husband has clean rooms to live in, well-cooked meals and neat clothes, should make herself a companion to him. His mind is usually sharpened by his activity in business or professional life. She must see to it that her own mind is kept as sharp as possible by reading and study. She should try to remain so far as her efforts can go what she probably was in the days of their courtship—the most interesting person in the world for him to be with. Above all things, she must keep herself well and strong, or else good spirits, which are the most charming attribute in either man or woman, will be lacking.

Then she is usually a mother. Her children are full of questions. They desire her companionship and her conversation. Whose else can be so good for them as hers? She should see to it that they have these in full measure and of good quality.

She is also a member of some social circle. The greatest work that woman can do to improve the social fabric is, of course, in the home; but there are many outside duties which no self-respecting woman should neglect, and for which she should have a portion of her time and strength.

The keeping of the house, then, is only one of several vocations of the housekeeper, and subordinate to those of the wife, the wife and the social being. That is to say, the keeping of the home in which family and friends are to be fed and sheltered is only a means to the securing of their health and happiness. Just as soon as a woman begins to think of the cleaning and cooking as ends in themselves, and devotes herself to them to such an extent that her usefulness in higher spheres is impaired, she is making a mistake. Keep the balance true. Remember that the objects of our earthly toil are to keep our loved ones well and happy.

Relegate conversation about the household affairs to the background, unless the humorous side is uppermost. See that good meats, plain and substantial, are served, no matter what cleaning or other work is going on. Do not tire yourself out with trying to do double work in a day. By system this can be avoided. Never mind what "the neighbors" say. Keep continually in mind that you are keeping house not for the sake of keeping house, but to make a home in which husband and children and friends shall thrive and rejoice continually.

Obedience of Children.

Health and Home: If you wish to make a noble man or woman of a child, your constant thought should be how to obtain a complete ascendency over it. Do this so unconsciously and effectually that obedience will be like a necessary part of its nature. It is then only that the parent is certain of furnishing the best material for true manhood and womanhood.

The crying evil of the hour is that so few parents know how, or care how, they can hold supreme authority over their own offspring. A perfectly trained child will find disobedience an uncomfortable task. A feeling of discontent and unhappiness comes naturally when it fails to obey.

Is there anything more despotic in its power over man than a deeply-rooted habit?

Fasten as with iron bands the habit of filial obedience, and a child can only with an effort shake off a spontaneous feeling to obey. We now refer to the well-trained child. But how is it with one that lacks proper bringing up?

The secret is this: Most parents do not understand their children's nature. How many know, or fully realize, that obedience is the first and most important lesson that man must learn from infancy, and continue learning until life is extinct. It is a lesson of greater importance than reading and arithmetic, and it is much harder to thoroughly master. Never expect a child to know how to obey until you have taught it. In order to do this you must understand its nature. Space forbids us to elaborate as to the means necessary for this accomplishment.

Let us warn our readers, however, that the "divine rights of parents" can have no influence in gaining authority over the child. Do you expect a horse to carry out your wishes if it never has been trained? The fault is with the trainer.

Obedience should not be taught because it saves the parent much unpleasantness. This is the only selfish way of the subject. Teach this lesson because it is a high duty. Temporary benefit and usefulness to the child is small in comparison with the lasting benefit which must ensue. Indirectly, future morality, health, fidelity, noble ambition, honor and in all depends on this lesson, once learned.

Do you wish a child with a healthy body and healthy mind? If it fails to obey you while an infant how can you be assured that it will follow the thousand and one commands "social progress" and the "laws of health," are constantly declaiming.

Too Much Sweeping.

The advisability of giving every apartment a vigorous "broom cleaning" at least once a week has been so strenously insisted upon by some notable housekeepers that it has by many been converted into an imperative duty. But looking at the matter in an unprejudiced light, one cannot see why a drawing-room, inhabited perhaps a few hours of the afternoon and evening, or an unoccupied guest chamber, should require the same amount of purification demanded by a sewing, sitting or dining room. The dust-pan and brush are labor-saving machines that do not receive due appreciation. By their aid in removing a little dust here and little there, the business of sweeping a whole room may be deferred at times, when at the first glance anything less than a complete routing out of furniture and dirt would seem impossible.

"Let Out."

How fast the arms of the little people lengthen. Very few of their aprons and dresses but that the sleeves must be changed before the garment is outgrown or outworn. It is well to make allowance for growth when making sleeves, either by a tuck whose edge is concealed under or at edge of trimming, or by turning in at arm-pit. But in either case the goods, when faded, plainly show where the thrifty seamstress has "let out" the sleeve.

For gingham dresses that will wear but fade, try turning a deep hem at the wrist, edging it with pretty colored braid. Now turn back this hem like a curving cuff—a stitch or two will hold it in place—till the little arm needs the additional length to the sleeve.

For the Housekeeper.

In cleaning silver kerosene may be used with advantage.

Carpets may be brightened by dusting with a damp flannel mop.

Ants may be driven out by springling the floor with Persian powder.

Stains on wood can be removed with strong vinegar or salts of lemon.

Egg stains can be removed by rubbing with common table salt.

Leather chair-seats may be revived by rubbing them with well-beaten white of egg.

Sandpaper will whiten ivory knife-handles that may have become yellow with use or age.

Simplest polish for oiled furniture.—Rub oiled furniture with a woolen cloth saturated slightly with oil.

A brilliant black varnish for iron stoves and fire-places is made by stirring ivory-black into ordinary shellac varnish.

White paint that has become discolored may be nicely cleaned by using a little whiting in the water for washing.

A good cement for china is ordinary carriage varnish; if put together neatly the fracture will be hardly perceptible, and it is not affected by water.

To clean bronzed chandeliers, lamps, etc.—These articles should only be dusted with a feather brush of soft cloth, as washing will take off the bronzing.

Galvanized iron pails are not desirable receptacles for drinking water. The zinc coating is quickly affected by the water, forming a poisonous oxide of zinc.

To clean looking-glasses.—Sponge down the glass with gum and water, equal parts; then dust down with whiting and finish with an old soft silk handkerchief.

Carpets, after the dust has been beaten out, may be brightened by scattering upon them corn meal mixed with salt, and then sweeping it off; mix salt and meal in equal proportions.

Cement for china, glass, etc.—Dissolve half an ounce of gum acacia in a wine-glass of boiling water, add plaster of paris to form a thick paste; apply with a brush to the parts to be united.

For cleaning brasses belonging to mahogany furniture use either powdered whiting or scraped rottenstone, mixed with sweet oil, and rub on with a chamois skin.

Vinegar is better than ice for keeping fish. By putting a little vinegar on the fish it will keep perfectly well even in very hot weather. Fish is often improved in flavor under this treatment.

To prevent polished steel from rusting, after cleaning, and when not in use, take a cloth, with a very little sweet oil on it, and wipe the articles over so as slightly but evenly to oil the surface.

Steel knives which are not in general use may be kept from rusting if they are dipped in a strong solution of soda—one part water to four of soda; then wipe dry, roll in flannel and keep in a dry place.

Slippery-elm bark is a good remedy for sealy boilers, and has been successfully used for a number of years. It is placed in the boiler and left there, the scale falling off in flakes, which shoud be at once removed

Silver becoming black may be avoided by keeping that which is not often used in Canton flannel bags, with small bags about the size of a thimble filled with bits of gum-camphor, packed in around the articles.

Insects may be destroyed with hot alum. Put it in hot water and let it boil until the alum is dissolved. Apply hot, with a brush, and all creeping things are instantly destroyed without danger to human life or injury to property.

To clean steel ornaments.—Dip a small brush into some paraffine oil and then into some emery powder—such as is used in the knife machines—and well brush the ornaments, and all the rust will soon come off; polish with a dry leather and duster.

Places at the tables for guests at dinner may be designated in this way: Have an alphabet made of tin, have each letter about three inches high, and the little tin forms deep enough to hold a little sand or wet moss. Then fill the forms with tiny flowers and leaves.

To Remove Grease from Cloth.—Drop on the spot some oil of tartar or salt of wormwood which has been left in a damp place till it turns into a fluid; then immediately wash the place with luke warm water, and then with cold water, and the spot will dissappear.

Faded hangings may be restored by beating the dust from them and brushing, then apply a strong lather of castile soap by means of a hard brush; wash the lather off with clean water and afterward with alum water. When dry the colors will generally be found to be restored.

To give a fine color to cherry-tree wood take one ounce of orchanetta; cut it into two or three bits and put it to soak for forty-eight hours in three ounces of good olive oil. With this oil anoint your cherry-tree wood after it is worked and shaped as you intend it, and it will give a fine lustre.

Polish for leather cushions, etc.—Beat well the yolks of two eggs and the white of one; mix a tablespoonful of gin and a teaspoonful of sugar; thicken it with ivory black, add it to the eggs, and use

as common blacking; the seats or cushions being left a day or two to harden. This is good for dressing boots or shoes.

To protect brasswork.—Yellow brass may be made to keep its color, without appearing varnished, by means of a thin varnish of white shellac or a coating of collodion. It will retain its color for a long time without a protective coating of any kind, if the finish is sufficiently fine. A light film of gold is the best possible coating for brasswork.

Boiling water should not be poured over tea trays, japanned goods, etc., as it will make the varnish crack and peel off; have a sponge wet with warm water and a little soap if the tray be very dirty, and rub it with a cloth; if it looks smeary dust on a little flour, then rub it with a cloth. If the tray gets marked take a piece of woolen cloth with a little sweet oil and rub on the marks.

To detect iron from steel tools—It is difficult, says a Belgian journal, to distinguish between iron and steel tools. They have the same polish and workmanship; use will commonly show the difference. To make the distinction quickly place the tool upon a stone, and drop upon it some diluted nitric acid (four parts of water to one of acid). If the tool remains clean it is of iron; if of steel, it will show a black spot where touched with the acid. These spots can be easily rubbed off.

RELIGIOUS.

The growth of the membership of Protestant churches in Japan is now about 500 a month.

The bishop of Virgnia has just visited nine colored congregations in which he confirmed over 200 persons.

The population of Baltimore is 332,190. The churches, when full, will accommodate less than 150,000 persons.

In London, with its 4,764,312 inhabitants, an average of 400,000 attend morning services, and 410,000 in the evening.

The Baptists have raised nearly £19,000 for the building of a new church in the City of Mexico. More than $5,000 are still needed.

The number of adherents to Roman Catholicism in India is reported to have increased from 700,000 in 1847 to 1,637,355 in 1885.

Since April 1 last to October 1 the receipts of the American Bible society have been $221,564.04, and 500,854 volumes have been issued.

Daily prayers are now a part of the routine on board every vessel of the British navy, and on the Sabbath there are frequently two services.

According to the report of the British and Foreign Bible society for 1883, the Bible has been translated, in whole or in part, in 354 languages.

A foreign missionary society has been organized in Bavaria for the purpose of establishing missions in the new territories of Germany in East Africa.

The supreme court of Arkansas has decided that a Second Adventist can not lawfully ignore the Sabbath because he observes Saturday as his Sabbath.

The Methodist church in Canada has three local preachers who are millionaires—W. E. Sanford of Hamilton, John McDonald of Toronto, and G. A. Cox of Peterboro.

The Church missionary society of England has recently received from its missionaries in China the offer that they will themselves support a missionary for five years if the society will send one to do advanced work.

The Germans in Jerusalem have a separate congregation of their own, and under German auspices some excellent mission work is done. The congregation now has 154 members, of whom, however, twenty are Arabs.

Relations between the pope and the government of Italy are unusually clouded and strained. The government proposes the total suppression of the Jesuits and confication of their property, amounting to $70,000 a year.

A recent collection in two Swedish churches in Minnesota in response to an appeal for a missionary church there, resulted in $40, all in coin, over 1,500 pieces being pennies, and only six coins were as large as a 25-cent piece.

The United Presbyterian mission in Egypt has a working force of 213. Twenty-five of these are foreign, 188 are native. There are 21 organized congregations and 49 unorganized mission stations, with a total membership of 1,842.

A marriage was solemnized recenty in what is known as the Old Piney Creek Presbyterian church, near Taneytown, Md. Although this church is over one hundred years old, this is the first marriage ceremony which has ever taken place in it.

The four synods of Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina and Florida having condemned Professor Woodrow for his evolution theories, the board of directors of the Charleston theological seminary has removed him and he will have to go elsewhere. This controversy which had divided the southern Presbyterian church as it has not been divided for years, demoralized the school so that it has been closed for years.

EDUCATIONAL.

There are 6,000 educated men and women in our numerous mission fields, besides a much larger number of native helpers.

The sum of $10,000 was bequeathed in his will by the late Samuel Johnson, of Chicago, for the erection of a gateway at the main entrance to the yard of Harvard college.

Of all education, that of the earliest years leaves the most ineradicable traces. More is done toward the determination of character for life during the first five years than in any ten years afterward.

Almost the entire army of school teachers is composed of women. They stand in our city schools in proportion to ten to one of the other sex. This alone entitles to them to representation on the board.

Ten years ago the appropriation for public instruction in France was 39,000,000 francs; this year it is 132,976,000. A large part of this is for school houses and furniture and the hiring of teachers in small parishes where the pesantry have had no instruction for generations.

Ten per cent of the students in the university of Zurich are women. Twenty-nine of them are studying medicine, fourteen philosophy, and two political economy. There are now forty-eight female students of medicine in London and in Paris 103. Within the last seven years eighteen women have taken a medical degree in Paris.

The trustees of Johns Hopkins university have unanimously elected Robert W. Garrett a member of the board, in place of his father who died two years ago. The long delay is supposed to have been due to the opposition of the Garretts to the questions of university buildings in the city instead of at Clifton, the country seat of the founder.

Miss Mary S. Brennan, matron of the Mount Auburn Young Ladies' institute, near Cincinnati, has received from the board of inspectors of stationary engineers the first license to run an engine ever issued to a lady in the United States, if not in the world. Miss Brennan is a refined and intelligent young lady, being a college graduate, and from her neat appearance and cultured conversation she is the last person in the world that would be taken for a practical engineer.

Chunks of Chinese Wisdom.

A slow pot boils quickly when the cook falls asleep.

All who go to the seventh hell hate children.

Whoever gambles shoots silver bullets.

A hog eats, sleeps and thinks, but the glutton does not think.

A widow is like an old shoe; it never fits a second foot.

Pestilence, vice and drunkenness are the three dragoons which stole the orange of immortality from the keeper of paradise.

A man speaks with one voice; a pen with a hundred, and a printer's type with ten thousand.

Who reads a bad book tattoos his soul.

A setting hen never gets tired.

When a pig squeals he is unhappy.

Some men differ from apes only in not having tails and being able to talk.

The soul's first home was a clam or worm, and very often it wants to go back to its original resting place.

The father of a title, and not the son, is the one to be respected.

Who eats books has bad dreams.

The father and mother of progress are hunger and pain.

Sin is a whip with which men are lashed to virtue.

TALES OF WITS AND WAGS.

An Incident of the War Told by a Veteran Liar.

THE HAPPY FAMILY PAINTER

Domestic Discipline and the Latest Gag—Preparing for Christmas—Pickings From Plumbers' Bills.

The Happy Animal Painter.

A. R. Munkittrick, in the Christmas Puck.

I am a happy artist, and my name is Angelo,
I paint the wooden animals for Spiegalbach & Co.,
I paint their eyes, their hair, their tails, their noses and their feet,
Until the connoiseur proclaims their beauty quite complete,
And Speiglebach regards me as the foremost of his joys,
Who thus can paint the animals he sells for X-mas toys.

But prithee let me tell you, for it is a lovely joke,
About the free-and-easiness that marks my master stroke;
I daub the camel here and there, I daub the lion too,
I paint the hedgehog bottle green, the gyrascutus blue;
I paint upon the polar bear a pensive purple smile
And on the coach-dog yellow spots I prodigally pile.
In fact I use the kind of paint that happens at my hand,
And naturalists smile at what they cannot understand:
But for those scientific men I care not overmuch,
Or what they say about my work; it's all the same in Dutch.

One day a country visitor made some unkind remarks
When I was painting feathers green upon some meadow larks.
I told him that to suit myself I painted spot or stripe,
And that he please would pack that down and smoke it in his pipe.
I claim that wooden animals that go about on wheels
And cannot howl or eat or drink or e'en kick up their heels,
Are not a bit more natural than are the lively tones
I paint upon the wooden skins that cover up no bones.
What if I put magenta stars upon the wary lynx?
What if I clothe the tiger and rhinoceros in pinks?
To please the little boys and girls my art I o'er employ,
I paint the orinthoryncus green to fill their souls with joy,
And though with yellow, red or blue the army mule I touch,
It's all the same to me because it's all the same in Dutch.

Come, Isaac, fetch the ostriches, the horses and the kids,
And pile them up before me here in little pyramids,
And then fetch up the little Noah's arks and set them in a row,
I've got to paint by 5 o'clock to-night a gross or so.
And then fetch on a pot of paint, the first comes to hand,
And I will make these animals suit any distant land,
And while I paint I'll dance a jig, because my joy is such
That I can suck my thumbs and say, it's all the same in Dutch.

An Incident of the War.

Judge: "Yes, I have been at an army reunion. Veterans of the Forty-third Minnesota volunteers. Ah, what recollections swell up in the patriotic heart as we grasp the old familiar hand and drink out of the same canteen once more. By the way, Strauss, I see here some of the same old cheese."

"Yah; dot vas Oneida gounty Sviss cheese. It vas smell a leedle loud already."

"Touching incident connected therewith, Strauss. Some more of the same? Yes; we were ordered out to ambush the celebrated Washington artillery at Chattanooga. Midnight, dark, not a word to be spoken. General Hooker, with cloth slippers, led us on tiptoe. We crept up the side of Lookout mountain and got nicely located when a cannon boomed on the top of the ridge and a shell dropped among us, and, exploding, twenty men bit the dust."

"Dot vas pad. Trink an unner mit me."

"Hooker whispered to the officers and we crept away about a mile and located on the west side of the mountain. Not a twig snapped. Silent as death, when that cannon boomed again and sixty men lay cold in death."

"Chiminy crashus! try dot unner von mit me."

"Yes, Hooker was startled, but when we arose to creep away an odor, a sort of noxious vapor, a gentle effluvia, was apparent, and Hooker called a council of officers."

"Ish dot so? Hafe some peer."

"If you please. We retired a half mile and of course gave up the investigation for the time. But through the cimmerian darkness the rebels shelled us clear into camp. Now, Strauss, it is a fact recorded in the archives, if you know what an archive is, that a Dutchman in our brigade had a brick of Switzerkase in his pocket, and the Washington artillery had been shelling the smell all night."

"You go rightd avhay out ob dis, I pelieve you vas a chestnut."

"Strauss, on my sacred honor, his name was Baumgartner and he came from Cincinnati. Give us a——"

"Py chiminety, you get out of dis else I schell you mit de bung starter. I don't pelieve you efer schmell powder aber somepody shoot you for stealing schickens. Dem rebels vas peen schelling your nose unt tink it vas a campfire."

American Domestic Discipline.

San Francisco Ingleside.

Billy Bolen jumped out of his bed;
He ran at his sister and cut off her head;
This gave his dear mother a great deal of pain;
Let us hope little Billy won't do it again.

Sammy found a lucifer match;
He set it alight in a farmer's thatch:
Soon barn, hay and horses were ashes and dust,
And Sammy's papa turned away in disgust.

"Where is your sister? Margaret, tell!"
"Mother, I pushed her into the well."
"Very unkind of you, Margaret, really?
I thought you loved your sister dearly!"

Baby sat in the window seat,
Mary tipped her into the street;
Baby's brains were dashed out in the arey,
And mamma held up her forefinger to Mary.

Grandpa had gold in the brass-nailed trunk;
Grandpa gave Harry some; Harry got drunk;
Then to get more the trunk Harry got into;
And grandpa thought Harry ought to be spoken to.

"Oh, see, if you please! Master Johnathan Marm!
He's bitten a piece right out of my arm!"
"Oh, dear!" cries the mother, in accents wild,
"I hope it won't disagree with the child!"

"Who strangled Jack, with his collar an chain?"
"I did, mamma, and I'll do it again!
And I'll strangle you, too, when I get big an strong!"
"That's right, my dear boy—to confess whe you're wrong."

Much has been said, and more has been su
Of the open ingenuousness of the young;
But we own we'd like better the infant mocracy
Were it even endowed with the gift of hy racy.
Let's have a new motto inscribed on banners—
If we can't have good morals let's strive good manners.

Between the Two.

Detroit Free Press: Uncle Billy Lat

an aged colored man who claims to be able to foretell the weather for several months ahead, was asked yesterday, as he was wandering around the market, if it was to be hard or soft winter.

"Am you in de poultry business?" he queried in return.

"No."

"If you war you'd want stiddy cold weather, of co'se, so de poultry wouldn't spile. Am you sellin' umbrellas?"

"No."

"If you war you'd want a soft winter, wif rain 'bout free times a week.

"Bein' as you hain't got no tickler interest in de matter your question am declared outer order, an' de meeting am adjourned," replied the old man as he moved.

Preparation.

Rambler.

The damsel now doth don her sweetes smiles,
And from her face affection radiates;
Unto her suitor prettily she prates,
Exerting all her sorceries and wiles.

She would not anger him for anything,
For Christmas rapidly is drawing nigh,
And, as the chill December days go by,
She keeps her eye upon a diamond ring.

But other jewels are to her not barred:
She's never known a shining gem to spurn.
She purchases, his kindness to return
A gaudy, inexpensive Christmas card.

What Saved Ike.

Atlanta Constitution.

In one of the Atlanta courts a few days ago a white man was arraigned for making an assault upon a lank, race-horse looking darkey named Ike, who is a sort of major domo at a Petars street wagon yard.

"Go on, Ike," said the justice, "and tell what the man did in the fight."

"Der wan't no fight, jedge; I nebber touch dat white man."

"Well, what did he do?"

"You see, jedge, it was jess disser way. I wuz settin' on de hoss troff, gittin on de outside uv an wattermillion, when dat man cum in de lot an' 'gin ter r'ar round about his hoss, and say I ain't gib hit nuff shell corn yit."

"Well?"

"Den I say sumpin' 'bout de hoss bein' puny, an hit won't do fer to foce his appertite, and den de man he git ter cussin' o' me, an' direckley I cuss him, and 'den he fludg himself onter me ober de hoss troff, and when I was gtttin' untangled he run his hand back arter his pistol, an', jedge, if it hadn't been for prov'dence ob de Lawd I'd er been a dead nigger right this minnit."

"If it had not been for the providence of the Lord."

"Yes, sah, dat is do trufe, sho."

"What do you mean by that?"

"Well, yer see, jedge, dat ar white man dun forgot his pistol at home, an de Lawd lemme outrun him."

He Caught. Her.

New York Journal.

"Meat me by moonlight alone,"
A butcher thus pleaded his cause.
"Awl I give thee, I can, love, no more,"
A cobbler sighed softly. But laws!
When the plumber tuned up his sweet pipe,
And sang with a voice soft and mellow,
',Let me like a sold'er fall down"
She gave her fair hand to that fellow.

The Latest Gag.

Buffalo Courier: If you want to be very new, and at the same time very neat, just take your victim by the coat collar and whisper:

"Say, we don't say chestnut any longer in Buffalo. We've got a new gag."

He will, of course, look disgusted at the turn the conversation is taking, and you hasten to add, "We say 'locomotive.'"

This will change his facial expression to one of surprise, and then you crush him.

"You don't see where that comes in, do you?"

He is interested by this time, and answers promptly, "No; where?"

The only answer to this last query is, "At the depot," and if your victim doesn't laugh you can.

Hated to Have Anything Charged.

Texas Siftings: "You are charged with being drunk," said the judge; "what have you got to say?"

"Charged with it, am I?"

"Yes you are."

"Always been used to payin' cash, but as you say it's charged, just let it stand on the books for the present, and some day, when I'm down this way, I'll drop in and settie;" and the prisoner picked up his hat and started to go.

"Stop there!" cried the judge, "and answer to the charge."

"I answered, didn't I? I ain't used to havin' things charged—cash down for everything's my motto. Book accounts make trouble. Short settlements make long friends, eh jedge?"

"I'll make a short settlement with you, you'll find."

"Didn't know my credit was so good here. If I came in last night and asked it, though, I must have been drinkin' sure, 'cause it's agin my principles. I say, jedge, how much time can you give me?"

"Sixty days," said the court.

"Thankee, jedge. If you'd said thirty it might have cramped me a little, but sixty is all right. Don't send the account to the bank for collection—I'll be here on time. But don't let any of your clerks charge a night's lodging up to me again. It ain't my way of doing business. If I hadn't been drunk—"

"Yes; as you say, if you hadn't been drunk you wouldn't have been locked up and compelled to spend sixty days on the island."

"But, jedge, I thought you said it was charged?"

"It was, and you, too. Go below. Next."

Saved.

Rambler: "Darling, my creditors are merciless, and to-morrow may see us without house or home."

"Nay, husband; do not despair. Do you not remember that, when we were wed in the happy holidays, six short months ago, I resolved to save five cents for every dollar paid the plumbers?"

"And have you kept it up until now?"

"Yes, dearest."

"Then we are saved, for I only owe $50,000.

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Only Two Terms.

Detroit Free Press: "I tell you it's so!"

"It can't be!"

"But it is!"

"I'll bet you $5 on it!"

"I'll take that bet!"

Two young men who entered a saloon on Michigan avenue the other day were making use of the sentences above quoted, and as the bartender pricked up his ears one of them handed him $5 in bills and the other a $5 bill, and the taller of the two said:

"We have a little dispute, and will abide by your decision. I say that General Grant served three terms as president. My friend here says he only served two. Whichever wins takes the $10."

"Yes, that's the way of it," added the other.

"Grant served but two terms," added the saloonist.

'Sure?"

"I am."

"Then the money is mine," observed the shorter stranger, and as the bartender handed it out he continued.

"We'll all have some beer on this. Just give me those small bills and the change for the five."

They had been gone half an hour when the referee had occasion to look at the bill. It was an 1864 counterfeit.

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Cats with big whiskers don't always catch rats.

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A loud voice is the echo from an empty head.

HINTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

Seal Caps, Seal Gauntlets,
Seal Walking Gloves,
Seal Turban Caps.
$6 and $10.
Special Bargains. A full line of the
Celebrated Silverman Seal Caps and Gloves.

Silk Mufflers,
Silk Suspenders,
Silk Handkerchiefs
Novelties in Holiday Neckwear, Gloves and Hosiery.

Knit Caps,
Jersey Caps,
Toboggan Caps.
Good Warm Knit Caps, 40c, 75c and $1.
——YOUMAN'S HATS.——
H. B. HUDSON, Agent.
Millard Hotel Block, 1222 Douglas st.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

Maurice Barrymore will star next season.

Roland Reed seems to be satisfied with Humbug.

Sarah Bernhardt left Lima yesterday for the north.

Sol Smith Russell shows up in Boston Christmas week.

Lillian Olcott reappears in New York as Theodora in January.

M. B. Curtis will shortly take his Caught in a Corner to Philadelphia.

Ned Harrington and his company visit the Pacific coast next summer.

Barry Sullivan, Cork's distinguished son, will be welcomed next season.

Mme. Janish and her company have suspended business for the present.

Buffalo Bill's Wild West show in New York is termed a "cyclone success."

Minnie Maddern will present Caprice in Detroit the latter half of this week.

John Templeton's "Mikado" company lately went to grass in Reading, Pa.

Clara Morris is again very ill, and is not likely to play any more this season.

Ada Gray's "Ring of Iron" company has succumbed to the inevitable at Grand Rapids, Mich.

Agnes Herndon will begin her season in Chicago next month under Joseph Jessel's management.

Mabel Jordan, George Jordan's daughter, is playing with much success at Toole's theater, London.

Miss Ellen Terry has temporarily lost her voice, and Miss Emery is filling her place in "Faust" with Irving.

A "Black Crook" company now on the road has a ballet of six. They play one night stands, and no return.

H. L. Higginson, of Boston, lately donated $20,000 to the Symphony society for the purchase of first-class instruments.

Carl Rosa has bought M. Saint-Saen's new opera, and will immediately have it translated and adapted for the English stage.

Billy Rice, Billy Sweatnam and Barney Fagan have formed a new minstrel company, to travel under William Foote's management.

A hat and cloak room has been fitted up in connection with the Lyceum theatre, N. Y., for the express purpose of inducing ladies with tall hats to leave the latter off during the performance.

Ballet dancing is a pretty good business when you once get the bang of it. Thus Maure, the exponent of the Spanish fandango, gets $10,000 a year, Rosita gets $12,000 and Subra $6,000.

The composer of "Mizpah," a new American comic opera, numbers among his claims to public consideration a divorce suit in which "Adonis" Dixey has been named as co-respondent.

Herr Niemann, the famous German tenor, now with the opera company in New York, is the husband of the actress Mme. Seebach, who made so happy an impression in this country some years ago.

R. M. Field, of the Boston museum, is to be married to Miss Endicott, of Canton, and Isaac B. Rich, of the Hollis street theater, is to be united with Miss Baboo, daughter of an old Boston apothecary.

Hermann, the conjurer, who has a handsome little sum of money laid aside, is looking for a good site in New York on which to build a theatre to be devoted to the uses of conjuring alone.

Mr. Robert Stopel's new opera "Unita," is now in rehearsal at the New York Casino. The great musical learning and brilliant talents of Mr. Stoepel insure a large share of interest in the new work.

Mme. Scalchi and her husband, Signor Lolli, have a delightful home near Turin, which, in their absence, is practically turned into a hospital for the poor people of the neighborhood. It is called Sona, after its mistress.

Miss Alice Vane, an English actress, arrived in this country five or six weeks ago to fill an engagement with Mr. Lester Wallack, but soon was prostrated by a paralysis of the spine, and will probably never again appear on the stage, though she may live for years.

When Marie-Roze Mapleson appeared at Glasgow as Elsa in "Lohengrin," 1,000 university students marched to the opera house in a body, took possession of the galleries and after the opera presented to the singer a diamond set locket and chain and themselves dragged her carriage to her hotel.

It is alleged that Myra Goodwin will go to London and open at the Gaiety theatre in May. Emma Goodwin, her sister, has been acting in England for several seasons. The statement as to Miss Goodwin conflicts with with the announcement that Miss Anderson is to open in May at the Gaiety.

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CONNUBIALITIES.

Mrs. Fester, a Green Bay, Wis., widow, recently married, as her fourth husband, the sexton who had dug the graves of the other three.

Twelve brides shyly pressed the president's hand during his afternoon's reception. They came from all points of the compass, but all blushed alike.

J. B. Aldrich, recently released from Jackson, Mich., prison, after serving a term for bigamy, has married his eighth wife, the last being a sister of one of his former victims.

Robert Muehlman, of Detroit, drew $[illegible]14 from the bank, intending to be married the next morning. During the night a burglar entered his room, chloroformed him and stole the money. His wedding has been postponed in consequence.

A very interesting ceremony took place in the parish church of Cedars, near Montreal, on Tuesday morning, when a widower, Charles Roy, was married to Mrs. Pilon, a widow, and the son of Mr. Roy married at the same time to the daughter of Mrs. Pilon.

A very sensational wedding took place Thurday night in Cleburne, Tex. The ceremony was performed by a justice of the peace, who united the romantic pair under the starlight, between the banks of the creek. Only the necessary witnesses were present.

Willie Hines, the seventeen-year-old son of a well-known farmer at West Point, Ga., eloped with and married Miss Newscome, ten years his senior. In order to keep his father from following him the young man smashed the family carriage and threw the saddle into the well.

Washington gossips are fully convinced that Secretary Lamar is to be married within the next few weeks. They argue that, as he has taken a large house on N street instead of occupying his bachelor apartments at the Portland flats, he must be contemplating an immediate matrimonial venture.

John W. Beale, of Lafayette, Ind., was to have been married on November [illegible] to Miss Mattie Bates, but on that day he disappeared. Returning home a week later he made an apology to Miss Bates and they were married on Thanksgiving day. Immediately after the ceremoney he excused himself and has not been seen since.

Young Mr. Hasit loved young Miss Hunt. They lived in northwestern Canada, and when her parents refused to have Hasit for a son-in-law he ran away with the daughter and succeeded in reaching St. Vincent, Minn., where they were married. They attracted considerable attention there because Mr. Hasit was slight and meek, and his bonnie bride was six feet tall and weighed 2.0 pounds.

Mrs. Frederick, a daughter of the late Colonel William Lewis, of Sweet Springs, Greenbrier county, W. Va., has recently been left a large fortune by a gentleman named Montgomery, who courted her in early life. Disappointed, he went to the East Indies and there acquired great wealth. He died recently, bequeathing his fortune to Mrs. Frederick on condition that she asumes his name.

A young lawyer of Ellaville, Ga., bantered a young woman at a social gathering to marry him. To his evident surprise she told him to get the license. He wouldn't be bluffed, and got the license at once, while others of the party sent for a clergyman. He knew nothing of the joke, and when the pair entered the parlor arm in arm he thought it strange that the spectators laughed. But he began solemnly, while the party wondered which of the two would weaken first, and the contracting parties each wished that the other would ask the minister to stop. When the first question was asked the young man concluded that the affair had gone far enough, and he broke ranks and fled, much to the young woman's relief.

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SINGULARITIES.

John H. Phelps, of Scranton, Pa., has a hen that steals chickens from other hens.

In Cheyenne, W. T., a maltese cat drives the cows to and from the pastures as successfully as a cowboy can.

Pittsburg has produced the boss rat. It whipped a cat and fought two dogs for nearly an hour before giving up the ghost. It was six inches long.

A perfectly white buzzard is the curiosity of which Union Springs, Ala., and the residents of that town are so proud of it that no one will shoot at it.

Punxsutawney, Pa., has a crow that is fonder of chewing gum than is a Boston girl. He steals pennies and buys it from a groceryman who knows his weakness.

A Pittsburg confectioner has a dog and a horse that are as fond of kissing each other as are the average young married couples seen at Niagara. Each occupies the same stall and the two are inseparable.

A large and sound Missouri pumpkin, recently cut open, was found to be filled with thrifty vines and leaves. The seeds had sprouted and sent out vines, though there were no signs of decay, the meat being sound and sweet.

The bird spider of tropical America has a body only four and one-half inches long, but is no slouch for all that. Its legs are seven inches long, it lives on young birds and it seems to hatch not less than 1,500 eggs at a time.

While at her home about six miles above Madrone, Cal., Miss Ophelia Cochrane, who is a student in the San Jose normal school, shot a lynx weighing over twenty pounds and about three feet long. She says it is the largest lynx she ever saw in that neighborhood.

A parti-colored baby is reported to have been born recently at Aberdeen, Mass. Its father is a very black negro; its mother is a light mulatto. Half the child's body is black, the other half nearly white; the hair on one side of its head is kinky; on the other, light and straight, while one eye is black and the other blue.

For years a loon has had its home on the Schuylkill, near Philadelphia, but the other day it flew into the Zoological Gardens and was captured. Around its neck was a little silver collar on which was engraved "Nemo, the hermit, 1804." The head keeper of the garden says that he has no doubt about the bird's great age.

C. L. Fredericks, of Fon du Lac, Wis., has a hen that knocks the spots out of a patent incubator. One day recently Mr. Fredericks found her under a house adjoining his residence with a brood of eighteen healthy chicks. As the mercury registered fifteen degrees below zero two days last week, and as the hen had but little shelter, the fact seems remarkable.

A sucking colt in Santa Rosa, Cal., found a half-filled sack of barley in the barn, and, after nibbling at it, picked it up with its teeth and carried it to its dam, who was tied fifty feet away, and put it down in front of her. The owner saw this, took away the bag and hid it in another part of the barn. The colt found it again, and again carried it to its mother, who this time was allowed to eat the grain.

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PEPPERMINT DROPS.

Never blow your nose at the table. If you cannot help it ask some one else to blow theirs for you.

After all has been said in derision that can be, it must be acknowledged that busines men like a bustle.

The "Vanishing Lady" is a new trick being performed in New York. The vanishing alderman has become an old trick in that city.

A poem recently printed is entitled "Smile Whenever You Can." It was not written by a prohibitionist, we believe—New York Graphic.

The Alta California inquires "Why do the newspapers always speak of a 'cool million'?" We presume it is because they think it an ice thing to have.

Petroleum V. Nasby is now engaged in writing articles in advocacy of prohibition. When asked why he was so opposed to whiskey, he replied: "Because I have got enough."

Customer—But ain't the trousers too long? Tailor—Too long? Dey is made to fit a man exactly your size. If your legs happen to be a drifle short you must quarrel mit nature; not de tailor.

"Do you put an 'e' in whiskey here?" asked a new reporter of a Kentucky paper.

"No," replied the editor, who was slightly deaf; "we put nothing in whiskey here. We take it straight."

A sign in the rooms of a western hotel reads as follows: "Indian clubs and dumb-bells will not be permitted in any of the rooms. Guests in need of exercise can go down to the kitchen and pound a steak."

Nothing pleases a horse-car conductor more than to see a spoony couple get aboard his conveyance. He knows he will have an opportuniey to pass off a plugged quarter or two in change without fear of detection.

Various exchanges assert that President Cleveland has no expletive such as "By the eternal!" of Andrew Jackson; but we have it on the authority of several dozen office-seekers that he has this one: "Not by a Dan sight!"

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The Style in Kansas City.

Chicago Herald: "Talkin' about restaurants," said a commercial traveler, "I think Kansas City must be placed at the head of the procession in that line. Among the many queer signs in a restaurant down there is one which reads:

OUR FLANNEL CAKES
ARE
A YARD WIDE AND ALL WOOL.