

The story going the rounds about the Senator from Arkansas who ate a chunk of soap, disguised as a caramel, and never winced at the dose, brings to mind a little incident that once occurred in red—or is said to have occurred—in Virginia City, though the story is not particularly new. It was customary in those days to set on the tables of the restaurants as a condiment, a dish of little but not less peppery butter, known as the chillicopec. Two Irishmen came into a restaurant and seated themselves at a table. "Phwat's themen eatin'?" said one, pointing to the chillicopec. "Berries, I tink," said the other. Pat put a couple of berries in his

"The astounded landlord fell off about two tons. Then he bowed very low and, rubbing his hands together, said: "What can I do for you to-day, sir?"—*Theatrical Reminiscence New York Times.*

COON meat is the leading delicacy for dinners both among the blacks and whites at Jefferson, Texas.

MRS. MOLLIE HUNT-MCCALEB-ODOM is the name of a Texas poetess.

far, for the Chinese runners almost attempt the perilous feat of walking on the water in their eagerness to meet the sailors half way.

Soon after landing, the sailors gravitate to the saloon, and, number breeding reckless jollity, it is not long before they cease to be free moral agents. Then they curse and beat their rickisha men, and ride about with scarce any cognizance of whither they are being carried. As I have already intimated, I am implacably opposed to the Chinese; yet my indignation was kindled in their behalf at first when I witnessed the brutality with which they are treated by these sailors. But my commiseration for all dissipated when my friend said:

"Don't pity them. John Chinaman is undisciplined, but he will be on top p'ny soon. Wait till the sailors get stupidly drunk, and they will be ignominiously dumped out by the wayside, while these long-suffering 'heathen Chinese' will proceed complacently to go through their pockets. Don't misplace your pity."

from black ink. Peonies have been colored as they grow by applying various dyes in solution to the ground in which they stood.

**Roads and Bridges.**  
At its last meeting in Springfield the State Board of Agriculture passed a resolution favoring a systematic effort for the construction of permanent State roads and bridges. Immediately after the adjournment of the board undertook to collect information from all the counties as to the State relative to the amount of tax for roads and bridges paid annually by each for the last five years, beginning with 1879. Every county responded except Alexander, though a few of them fail to produce the figures for some of the years. Excepting Alexander, every county gives figures for 1883 complete, and for 1883 & even are missing. The following table shows the collection of bridge and road tax for each county for 1883, and the total collections for the years 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882 and 1883. The figures are approximate, and may be accepted as exact, except as to the few cases of omission mentioned:

The footings for the years not represented in the table are as follows: For 1878, \$1,259,851; for 1880, \$1,359,417; for 1881, \$1,434,979; and for 1882, \$1,738,160. Cook County, not reported for 1883, is reported for each of the other years.

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**TWO HUNTERS** caught 173 muskrats and 100 muskrats near Eason this winter.