

IN THE ODD CORNER.

SOME QUEER AND CURIOUS FEATURES OF LIFE.

The Song of a Tramp - A Luminous Centipede - Wonderful Pen Work - The Chinese Goose - The "Traveler Tree" - Anecdote and Incident.

HE midnight stars are blazing From out the welkin wide, And o'er the restless river They dance on its shimmering tide.

While homeless and friendless, I wander wild and free; I care for no one, good or bad, And no one cares for me.

The north wind, fierce and hard with frost, Comes whistling o'er the moor; 'Tis bitter as the faces I meet at every door.

The brown leaves on the oak trees Are singing in the blast; They seem to think of summer time And dream of pleasures past.

But never a thought of pleasure Or happy dream have I, The spring hath no more hope for me Than winter's midnight sky.

For then in wood or field I sleep, Or damp and loathsome cave, And now to warmer barn I slink, A coward and a knave.

And homeless and friendless, I wander wild and free; I care for no one, good or bad, And no one cares for me.

The Luminous Centipede. One of the most interesting creations of nature is the luminous centipede, a curious combination of lizard, snake and natural electric light plant.

Wonderful Pen Work. Walter D. Wellman, a San Francisco bookkeeper, has performed the marvelous feat of writing 7,068 words in long hand on an ordinary postal card.

The Chinese Goose. A lady in the Cornhill Magazine has this to say of the Chinese goose: "China still uses two birds for special purposes and shows no disposition to part with them."

The "Traveler Tree." M. Bureau, a French traveler, discloses the old stories about the "traveler's tree" in Madagascar, which has been represented as a great boon to thirsty wanderers.

Defaming the Criminals. A writer in the Contemporary Review expresses his dissent from the Elms (N. Y.) system of treating prisoners as follows: "Let it be shown that a New York state or in any other territory where the reformatory theory of punishment has been most consistently adapted crime has diminished."

more markedly than in England, where deterrence has, on the whole, been the object more than reformation, and a good case will have been made out for reconsidering our methods.

Wanted to Be Called Early. It was a very small Pennsylvania town and the only train out of it that night left at 2 o'clock.

A forcible remark or two proceeded from the traveling man's room, and were audible to his awakened neighbors.

Germany is now and then unpleasantly reminded of her political weakness before the union as in the case of the city of Wismar.

Music Versus Conversation. Mme. Adam, well known as an editor of the Parisian Nouvelle Revue, insists that the "musicales" that have of late years become so popular in the French capital have materially injured conversation.

One from the Levant. Mr. Issigonis writes that the Greek barber surgeons of the Levant employ a large species of ant (camponotus) for holding together the edges of an incised wound.

Africa's Diamond Beds. The first diamond was found in South Africa, near Kimberley, in 1868. Since 1870, when the mines were opened, the product has rapidly increased.

Food Adulteration. A report emanating from the department of agriculture states that the cost of food, drink and drugs annually used by the people of the United States is \$6,760,000,000.

Wearily Willie Slept in the Heaves. Recently the night freight out of Waterville, Me., conveyed a hearse on a flat car to Portland.

A Scotland, Ga., girl who was taking her first sea bath induced her friends to return with her to the water after they had all started for the bath house.

GAIL DODGE'S LIFE.

A WOMAN WHO HAS LEFT HER MARK IN THE WORLD.

The Life-Long Friend of James G. Blaine - Her Early Life as a School-Teacher and Governess - Was a Feat-able Writer.

HE late Abigail Dodge, or Gail Hamilton, was best known probably from her pungent and rather erratic writings and the strong espousal of the political fortunes of James G. Blaine.

Miss Dodge had begun to acquire considerable success and prominence as a writer when her father and mother died, and she then was able to buy the place which she made her home.

Dr. Marshall Randles. He was recently given a high compliment by British Methodists. Rev. Dr. Marshall Randles, who was recently elected president of the Wesleyan conference of England, is perhaps the most prominent of the British Methodists.

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Some of her best known books are: "Country Living and Country Thinking," "Woman's Worth and Woman's Worthlessness," "Scientific Farming," "Our Common Schools," "What Think Ye of Christ?"

HALE JOHNSON.

The Prohibition Candidate for the Vice Presidency. Hale Johnson, candidate for Vice-President on the national prohibition ticket, is a good, patriotic citizen, with



HALE JOHNSON. He was named for John P. Hale, the free soil candidate for President in 1852, was educated in the common schools, fought for the flag of his country from the time he was 17 until he reached his majority.

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MAKING A BIG RAFT.

Third Experiment in Towing a One-tonner Bundle of Logs. The huge raft of logs now being constructed at Stella, Wash., by Messrs. Robertson & Baines, is receiving its finishing touches, and will be cleared from the immense cradle on Saturday morning.

Several Grand Excursions. On September 29, October 6th and 20th there will be a home-seekers' excursion via the Missouri Pacific railway and Iron Mountain route to the west and southwest.

Keep the Food Warm. A London restaurant uses an electrically heated plate to keep one's food warm. So long as the current is turned on, one can dine in as leisurely a way as he likes.

Average Depth of the Sea. The average depth of the sea, in yards, is as follows: Pacific, 4,252; Atlantic, 4,028; Indian, 3,658; Antarctic, 3,000; Arctic, 1,690; Mediterranean, 1,476; Irish, 240; English Channel, 110; Adriatic, 45; Baltic, 43.

Very low rates will be made by the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway for excursions of September 29th to the south for Home-seekers and Harvesters.

Great Britain's postal service receipts the past year exceeded expenses by over \$18,000,000.

The candidate airs his views before election. After that he lets us view his airs.

Color and Aroma of Coffee. There are two things which people imagine are guides to the goodness of coffee which are really of no consequence whatever. They are the color of the decoction and the aroma of the coffee when ground, or as it escapes from the pot in drawing.

Take Hood's Sarsaparilla. The best when you need medicine. For blood, appetite, nerves, stomach, liver, nothing equals Hood's Sarsaparilla.

ST. LOUIS CHICAGO ST. LOUIS. NEW DAY TRAIN. DAYLIGHT SPECIAL. Ly Chicago 10.35 am Ar St. Louis 7.04 pm.

SWAMP ROOT. The Great KIDNEY, LIVER & BLADDER CURE. Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y.

STEADY WORK. WE PAY CASH WEEKLY and send you everywhere to sell STARK TREES.

PENSIONS, PATENTS, CLAIMS. JOHN W. MORRIS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

"It Bridges You Over." Battle Ax PLUG. "Battle Ax" bridges a man over many a tight place when his pocket-book is lean.