A $1 Poem.

MR. EDITOR

I have been shown your paper, sir, in which you say you'll pay
Three dollars for the poorest poem sent till the fifteenth day
Of February. Now I can get up poor poetry
With just as little trouble as the squirrels go up a tree.

When Widow Johnson's barn was burnt (some think 'twas set afire
From sparks from over across the lot, where they were setting tire),
The time she lost her little boy, whom cruel fate did smother,
The neighbors kindly set about to help her raise another.

They made her a donation call, and made me do the speeching,
The folks were tickled, and declared 'twas nigh as good as preaching;
And when we sung the piece I wrote, ten verses, common metre,
And which I gave out line by line—said nothing could be sweeter.

As like as not this poetry will be too good by half,
As some you get may be so bad it would make the horses laugh,
But never mind; I shall feel pleased wherever good luck pitches,
Remembering the Good Book says: Put not thy trust in riches.

—*Josh. Boston, in Rockland Courier-Gazette.*

Odd Facts and Fancies.

Some people think a little salt in coffee improves the taste.

In the Boston bird show is an eagle whose wings spread nine feet.

The champion well-behaved baby is in a museum at Dallas, Tex. It is petrified.

An objection to electric lights in places of amusement is that they do too much hissing.

An electric-lighted sign board with a surface of 7,000 square feet, in New York, is the biggest thing, as to space, in the way of an advertisement yet exhibited.

Slavery still exists in China. The female slaves are by far the most numerous. The average price is from $40 to $50 per head. Young and healthy girls of 12 sometimes fetch as high as $100.

Reed and Pearce, of Emporia, Kas., have been sentenced to remain in the penitentiary one year and, at such time thereafter as the Governor shall fix, to be hanged within the prison walls.

According to Japanese custom age is counted from the first day of the January succeeding birth. At that date a child is one year old, whether born the previous January, at mid-summer or on the 31st of December.

A butcher of Wymore, Neb., put a handsome fat pig, ornamented with rosettes, on the Christmas tree for his pastor. He was very angry the next day when he saw the pig in a rival shop, where the dominie had sold it for half the market price.

The blowing down of an oak near Washington, Ga., revealed a little heap of gold and jewels, diamonds, rubies and pearls, said to be worth $20,000. It is supposed that they are part of the treasure lost by members of the Confederate Cabinet.

Tom Crawford, a heart-smasher of Crockett Co., Tenn., was arrested in Haywood County recently on the charge of bigamy, having married five wives, all of whom are said to be living. He is a darkey, over 50 years of age, and has a most repulsive countenance.

A fellow in Cleveland, O., has taught a dog to steal newspapers from the doorsteps of houses, where they have been left by carriers, and bring them to him. The question with the exasperated subscribers is whether they shall kill the dog or punish the man.

Mathew Cohen, a New York youth, being found unconscious with a bottle labeled "laudanum" in it, was suspected of suicide. He came to after the application of a stomach pump and explained that the bottle contained "holy water," which he had taken internally, having felt unwell.

On the coldest day of the month says the Shasta (Cal.) *Courier*, Rev. W. H. Howard baptized by immersion eight residents of Big Valley, Modoc Co. The pastor, however, showed some judgment in the business. He loaded the band into a big waggon, took them to the outlet of the hot springs and gave them a warm bath.

The plow in general use in Mexico nowadays is the same the Egyptians used 5,000 years ago. It consists of a crooked stick with an iron point nailed to it or tied to it with a piece of rawhide, a small handle for the plowman to steer with, and a pole to hitch a yoke of oxen to. This so-called plow will scratch a furrow in the soil three inches deep.

Robert P. Pullman, of Carnesville, Ga., publishes this card in a local paper: "I hereby give notice to all dram-sellers and dram-drinkers that I have left the old way with the old year, and have turned into the new way with the new year, and I want all of them to give me the go-by. I intend to redeem my name and character, and shall look upon the man who offers me liquor as my deadly enemy."

Last summer the wife of Benjamin Smith, of Hancock, Delaware County, N. Y., was so badly injured by a runaway horse that she died in a few hours. After her death Smith and his son James, aged 16, continued to live in Hancock. Two weeks ago the father was driving on a steep hill near the village with a load of bark. He fell from the load in some way, and one runner of his sled passed over his head, crushing him to death. The son then went to live with a married sister at Lordville, a neighboring village. Last Saturday he stole a ride on the caboose of a freight train, on the Erie Railway, to Hancock. The train did not stop at that station. Young Smith jumped from the train, and, falling beneath the wheels of the caboose, was instantly killed.

An Unhealthy Mixture.

Before the Senate Committee on Public Health at New York Charles Moses, oleomargarine packer, testified that his hands and feet became sore and the nails dropped out through handling oleomargarine. His system became so impregnated with the poison that he had to go to the hospital. The doctors said if he went to work there it would be his death. James Gardiner said he had a friend who worked a month in an oleomargarine factory; his hands were poisoned by oleomargarine and he died a year afterwards.

The oldest female sovereign living is Empress Augusta of Germany, who is 71 years old. The youngest is the Queen of Servia, who is 23.

THE LADIES' COLUMN.

Dresses to be Worn During the Ensuing Season.

SUNDRY NOVELTIES INTRODUECD

How Fashion Slavery Kills Women—New Household Hints.

(Aunt Kate's Budget.)

Notes on Dress.

Lent is a capital time to plan and arrange one's spring clothes. Bothering over and arraying spring clothes is surely a good Lent mortification. Green is pronounced by the powers that be the color which will be most worn this spring, though almost every other conceivable shade will share its honors. The new hats are many of them high and large crowned, and amongst the straw hats far more colored ones are imported than white. Straw bonnets are shown in great quantities, but it is said that fancy materials such as gauzes, English crape, China crape, tissues, embroidered batistes and laces over silk will be used for very dressy bonnets. It is generally predicted that long mantles will continue in favor, even for the spring and for young girls who have hitherto exclusively worn jackets and short wrappings. For spring many elegant ladies in Paris utilize their beautiful India shawls by draping them ingeniously. A few agrafes of old chased silver are used here and there to fasten the shawl at the waist, neck and shoulders, which they wear with true Parisian grace. If the pretty pink ginghams now so much worn by children are dipped in water with enough vinegar in it to give it a sour taste, the pink will be brighter than if rinsed in water alone. If you have any old muslin dresses that are good, and still are faded and so unfit to wear, it is a good time to try the experiment of bleaching them, and if of good quality they will do much service as common white dresses. Most of the delicate-hued muslin can be bleached by boiling them in strong soap suds, and then laying them on the grass for a day or two; others may have weak ammonia added to the water.

Colors which were once considered inadmissible, worn together, are now fashionably combined. Whether their combination is in any better taste than ever is a question; but certain it is that from becoming accustomed to see them so, they do not look quite so strange as formerly. A fancy costume may consist of a sky-blue waist ornamented with loops of sky-blue satin ribbon and pink roses, and short round skirt of *chandrons*, or copper-red velvet, decorated with clusters of jacqueminot roses.

Red and pink, outrageous as such a mixture seems, promise to be a favorite conceit for spring millinery. A capote of Tuscan straw may be encircled with a puffy cloud of pink tulle, fastened with a bunch of red roses; or, on the same principle, the scarf may be of red China crape caught with a cluster of pink roses.

The newest use to which darned net has been applied is to form yokes for chemises. The net is first cut out in the form of a yoke, and then darned with linen floss in the pretty conventional patterns so long employed for tidies, window curtains and the like. When finished the yoke is edged with linen lace or embroidery on net.

New colors are oat straw yellow, apricot pink, the pale pink of the apricot blossom resembling that of the peach; Panama yellow, the tint of Panama straw hats; *Suede*, the *ecru* shade of the long popular *gants de Suede*, or undressed kid gloves.

Save the Old Paper.

After a stove has been blackened it can be kept looking very well for a long time by rubbing it with paper every morning. Rubbing with paper is a much nicer way of keeping a tea-kettle, coffee-pot and teapot bright and clean than the old way of washing them in suds. Rubbing with paper is also the best way of polishing knives, tinware and spoons; they shine like new silver. For polishing mirrors, lamp chimneys, etc., paper is better than dry cloth. Preserves and pickles keep much better if brown paper instead of cloth is tied over the jar. Canned fruit is not so apt to mold if a piece of writing paper, cut to fit the can, is laid directly on the fruit. Paper is much better to put under a carpet than straw. It is warmer, thinner and makes less noise when one walks over it.

Fashionable Women.

Fashion kills more women than toil and sorrow. Obedience to fashion is a greater transgression of the laws of woman's nature, a greater injury to her physical and mental constitution, than poverty and neglect. The slave woman at her tasks will live and grow old and see two or three generations of her mistresses fade and pass away. The washerwoman, with scarce a ray of hope to cheer her in her toil, will live to see her fashionable sisters die all around her. The kitchen maid is hearty and strong, when her lady has to be nursed like a sick baby. It is a sad truth that fashion-pampered women are almost worthless for all the ends of human life; they have but little force of character; they have still less power of moral will, and quite as little physical energy. They live for no great purpose in life; they accomplish no worthy ends. They are only doll forms in the hands of milliners and servants, who dress and feed to order. They write no books, they set no rich examples of virtuous and womanly life. If they rear children, servants and nurses do all save give them birth, and when reared what are they? What do they ever amount to but weak scions of the old stock? Whoever heard of a fashionable woman's child exhibiting any virtue or power of mind for which it became eminent? Read the biographies of great and good men and women. Not one of them had a fashionable mother. They nearly all sprang from a strong-minded woman, who had about as little to do with fashion as with the changing clouds. The trite saying, "A man may say too much, even on the best of subjects," will answer here.

Hints to Housekeepers.

Mirrors used in dressing-rooms are not trimmed elaborately with plush.

When birds are moulting it is the usual thing to put a little saffron into the water, otherwise a rusty nail is good.

Tinned meats and vegetables should be made hot in the tin before the latter is opened, by placing it in hot water and heating it for a while.

If cayenne pepper is sprinkled plentifully in the resorts of rats they will resent the inhospitable treatment, and will retire from the premises.

A teaspoonful of charcoal in half a glass of warm water often relieves a sick headache. It absorbs the gases and relieves the distended stomach pressing against the nerves that extend from the stomach to the head.

Oatmeal wafers are relished by babies and older children, too. Take a pint of oatmeal and a pint of water, with almost a teaspoonful of salt. Mix and spread on buttered pans. Make it just as thin as it is possible, and yet have the bottom of the pan covered. Bake slowly.

Iron Rust Spot Remover.—Cream of tartar, fifty parts; binoxalate of potassium (powdered), fifty parts; oil of rosemary, one part. Rub to powder and mix well. Moisten the spot, place on a heated tin plate and rub with the moistened powder.

Dessert in a Hurry.—A quickly made dessert is this: Make a batter as if for common griddle cakes, then add an egg and some fruit, say stewed or canned berries, drain the juice from them and stir them into the batter; fry in a little lard and serve with pudding sauce.

Arrangement of Books.—If you have a plethora of books get a carpenter to make a wooden frame with no back, and a series of shelves. Set this against the wall, cover the top with any fabric you may think suitable, and the sides; border it with ball fringe, as also the shelves. Put your books on these, and your china, etc., on the top and you will have not only a useful, but a handsome piece of furniture. Three slips of wood strung at each corner with blind cord, knotted when through, so that they cannot slip, the four pieces tied together at the top, and passed over a nail, give a convenient kind of bed-room book shelves.

The World of Woman.

Miss Elizabeth Tuck, of Chicago, is painting a "lifesize portrait" of Mrs. Langtry's dog.

The lady who wrote the popular little song "In the Gloaming" is said to have cleared a round $10,000 out of it. Her sweetheart left her in the gloaming to some purpose.

A French woman, Countess de Miramon, exhibits in the Paris Salon portrait busts that are worth seeing. But then great pains are taken to add that she is not a "professional sculptor." Dear, dear!

Miss Ley, of England, is one of the observers who have been studying the green suns and red sunsets. She estimates the height of the mass of meteoric and volcanic dust in the atmosphere at thirteen miles.

There is no end of wisdom in this remark of somebody: "The most common error of men and women is that of looking for happiness somewhere outside of useful work." Moreover, it is quite as true of women as of men.

Among the honest industries whereby soul and body are kept together in Europe is that of finding rich American wives for titled paupers. It is a pity. One honest American boy, with his hereditary respect for women, is worth all the titled libertines of Europe.

The other day at a circus in Brussels Mme. Marquise Hautefeuille went into the lion's cage with the keeper and played with the beasts as if they had been so many cats. During the performance there was a heathenish roar of applause and the band played a national air, "La Brabanconne."

Goethe advocated marriages for five years. By that time couples would have time to become acquainted, and if they didn't like it they could change off and get somebody else. A Polish woman in Chicopee, Mass., tried to carry this pleasant poetic fancy into practice. She applied for a license to be married for three years only, as her present husband was coming over from the old country at the end of that time.

Never Doze.

The London *Lancet* discusses the subject of rising at the end of sleep. Dozing, it declares, is not admissible from any health point of view. The brain is the first to fall asleep, and is followed by the active organs, and it is only perfect and natural when shared by all the several parts of the organism. All the parts of the system are not equally exhausted, and those least fatigued soonest wake, while those most exhausted are aroused with the greatest difficulty. The several parts of the organism should need rest at the same time. To bring this about a person should "wake early and feel ready to rise; this fair and equal start of the sleepers should be secured, and a wise self-manager should not allow a drowsy feeling of the consciousness, or weary senses, or an exhausted system to beguile him into the folly of going to sleep again when once his consciousness has been aroused." The writer declares that a man who will not allow himself to doze will, in a few days, find himself almost unconsciously an "early riser."

Blown from the Track.

A Denver newspaper thus describes a singular accident that recently occurred on a winding curve of the Colorado Central Railroad: Just as the train struck that portion of the road but a short distance from the suburbs of Georgetown the fireman looked back and saw the rear end of the rear coach raised bodily from the track. He yelled to the engineer and they both jumped from the engine. Just then the wind roared past and the whole train was lifted bodily and turned completely over, landing about 10 feet from the track and without disturbing a rail or tie. Then there was great confusion. The howling, roaring wind and the yells and screams of the men and women who had been so suddenly and uncermoniously upset made a scene of unparalleled confusion. Seven of the passengers were injured.

Last Sunday evening as the Rev. Mr. Gamble was delivering one of a series of lectures on the vexed theological subject of Baptism, one of his audience, not agreeing with him, asked for proof of certain tenets, at the same time explaining his own views. —*Victoria, B. C., Colonist.*

"ROUGH ON COUGHS."

Ask for "Rough on Coughs," for Coughs, Colds' Sore Throat, Hoarseness. Troches, 15c. Liquid, 50

Notice has been given in the British House of Lords that when army matters are before the House the proposition to change the uniform of the forces from red to grey will be opposed.

In the Hour of Need

You want not to try experiments, but resort to the old and well-tested means that afforded relief in the past. When your corns ache don't take the first article offered you, but find out just the thing to answer your purpose, viz., to remove the troublesome corns, and to do this without pain, and to do it promptly, *Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor* has been used for many years. It has never been known to fail. Putnam's Extractor makes no deep holes in the flesh, hard to heal and more troublesome than the original discomforts. It works nicely and efficiently.

A Port Glasgow firm of shipbuilders launched a tug of 1,500 horse power, said to be the most powerful in the world, for service in the Hooghly.

☞ With Diamond Dyes any lady can get as good results as the best practical dyer. Every dye warranted true to name and sample.

A City of Mexico despatch says yellow fever is raging at Tehuponepec city. John Meyers, on American railroad contractor, died of the disease yesterday morning. Many people are leaving the city.

MOTHER SWAN'S WORM SYRUP

Infallible, tasteless, harmless, cathartic; for feverishness, restlessness, worms, constipation. 25c.

What is the par value of a Southern gentleman's "sacred honor," anyhow? Here is Colonel Cash promising, "on his sacred honor," that he will cause his son to give himself up to justice, and then using the opportunity thus gained to help the young gentleman off to the woods. A Northern tramp could do no worse.

Proof Everywhere.

If any invalid or sick person has the least doubt of the power and efficacy of Hop Bitters to cure them, they can find cases exactly like their own, in their own neighborhood, with proof positive that they can be easily and permanently cured at a trifling cost—or ask your druggist or physician.

GREENWICH, Feb. 11, 1880.

Hop Bitters Co.—SIRS,—I was given up by the doctors to die of scrofula consumption. Two bottles of your Bitters cured me.

Once loosen the latch-strings of honor, the door to crime and folly swings easily.

*Both Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Blood Purifier are prepared at 233 and 235 Western avenue, Lynn, Mass. Price of either, $1. Six bottles for $5. Sent by mail in the form of pills, or of lozenges, on receipt of price, $1 per box for either. Mrs. Pinkham freely answers all letters of inquiry. Enclose 3c. stamp. Send for pamphlet. Mention this paper.

On Victor Hugo's recent birthday—his 83rd—the Government struck a medal in his honor. The presentation of this medal was the feature of the celebration. Crowds of friends and admirers flocked to his house, the drawing rooom of which was filled with choice flowers sent from many parts of France.

DECLINE OF MAN.

Nervous Weakness, Dyspepsia, Impotence, Sexual Debility, cured by "Wells' Health Renewer." $1.

Emperor William's eyesight is failing rapidly, and it is feared that he may become blind, more especially as he objects to any mode of treatment.

*** "A doubtful friend is worse than a certain enemy," and *vice versa* a certain friend is infinitely better than a doubtful enemy. Thus, Kidney-Wort is an incomparably better friend to the human race than whole catalogues full of doubtful nostrums. It is an unfailing remedy for that tormenting disease piles. It moves the bowels gently and freely, and thus removes the cause. Do not fail to try it faithfully either in dry or liquid form.

At a sporting place in Meriden, Conn. Alfred Elson, a pedestrian, wagered $5 that he could run three and one-half miles in thirty minutes, giving the man who bet with him permission to choose the track. The track chosen was about the red-hot stove in the place. Elson accepted. The draughts of the stove were opened and more coal put on. The course required 176 laps to the mile. Elson ran 400 laps and then fell insensible.

A Single Trial

Is all that is needed to prove Polson's NERVILINE is the most rapid and certain remedy for pain in the world. It only costs 10 cents for a trial bottle. A single trial bottle will prove Nerviline to be equally efficacious as an external or internal remedy, and for pain of every description it has no equal. Try a 10 cent sample bottle. Sold at any drug store. Large bottles 25 cents, at all druggists.

Untie the Strings.

Said one of the most successful merchants of Cleveland, O., to a lad who was opening a parcel: "Young man, untie the strings; do not cut them."

It was the first remark that he had made to a new employee. It was the first lesson the lad had to learn, and it involved the principles of success or failure in his business career. Pointing to a well-dressed man behind the counter he said:

"There is a man who always whips out his scissors and cuts the strings of the packages in three or four places. He is a good salesman, but he never will be anything more. I presume he lives from hand to mouth, and is more or less in debt. The trouble with him is that he was never taught to save.

"I told the boy just now to untie the strings, not so much for the value of the string as to teach him that everything is to be saved and nothing wasted. If the idea can be firmly impressed upon the mind of a beginner in life that nothing was made to be wasted, you have laid the foundation of success."

L'Assistance Publique, of Paris, took charge in 1882, as is shown by a recent report, of 948 bad children. Of these, 767 were taken to the director by their parents, 156 were sent by the police, and 35 committed by magistrates. These children are sent to trade schools, and are assisted by the Government until able to make an honest living. A small portion of their wages is retained by the Government to aid in securing them against future want. The system is regarded as a preventive measure against both poverty and crime.

Things Not Generally Known.

The "Seven Wonders of the World" were the Egyptian Pyramids, the Temple of Diana at Ephesus, the Hanging-Gardens of Babylon, the Colossus of Rhodes, the Statue of Jupiter Olympus at Elis, the Temple of Belus and Lake Mœris.

The British royal coat-of-arms, with its rampant lion and unicorn, has been a common feature of English advertising in type and sign-boards. A new law, which has just gone into effect, imposes a fine of $100 for using the royal arms, or an imitation of it, without the consent of either royalty or the Government.

"Scots wha hae wi' Wallace bled" was written by Burns, to the national air of "Hey tutti tutti." It is the oldest air now known, and is mentioned in 1488 by Gavin Douglas, Bishop of Dunkeld. It was the brilliant martial air whose notes kindled the war flame in the breasts of Bruce's army as he led them on to the field of Bannockburn.

The quotation "God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb" is from Laurence Sterne's "Sentimental Journey." It is probable, however, that Sterne, who was intimately acquainted with French literature and is thought to have imitated Rabelais, paraphrased Henri Estienne, a writer of the latter part of the sixteenth century, in whose "Premices" is found the sentence, *Dieu mesure le froid a la brebis tondue.*

"Uncle Sam" as a nickname for the United States arose during the war of 1812 at Troy, N. Y. Samuel Wilson, an inspector of army supplies, who was widely known as "Uncle Sam," having marked a number of casks with the Government insignia, "U. S.," was asked by a workman if the letters meant "Uncle Sam." The joke travelled, and the phrase has since become a current "American." The English nation was first personified as "John Bull" in a political satire by Dr. John Arbuthnot, published in 1713, and intended to ridicule the Duke of Marlborough.

The Wise Father

A worldly father, after the style of Lord Chesterfield, is giving good advice to his son, who is about to enter society:

"And, above all, avoid flirtations. But if you must flirt or fall in love, sir, be sure that it is with a pretty woman. It is always safer."

"Why?"

"Because some other fellow will be sure to be attracted and cut you out before any harm has been done."—*London Post.*

Mr. George W. Childs, the owner and editor of the Philadelphia *Ledger*, has his office back, up stairs, where he is not easily found. But it is a curiosity shop, filled with bric-a-brac.

KIDNEY-WORT

HAS BEEN PROVED The SUREST CURE for KIDNEY DISEASES.

Does a lame back or disordered urine indicate that you are a victim? THEN DO NOT HESITATE; use Kidney-Wort at once, (druggists recommend it) and it will speedily overcome the disease and restore healthy action.

Ladies. For complaints peculiar to your sex, such as pain and weaknesses, Kidney-Wort is unsurpassed, as it will act promptly and safely.

Either Sex. Incontinence, retention of urine, brick dust or ropy deposits, and dull dragging pains, all speedily yield to its curative power.

☞ SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS. Price $1.

Acts at the Same Time on Kidneys, Liver and Bowels.

KIDNEY-WORT

BAXTER'S MANDRAKE BITTERS.

THE ONLY VEGETABLE CURE FOR DYSPEPSIA, Loss of Appetite, Indigestion, Sour Stomach, Habitual Costiveness, Sick Headache and Biliousness.

Price, 25. per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.

30 DAYS' TRIAL

DR. DYE'S

(BEFORE.) (AFTER.)

ELECTRO-VOLTAIC BELT and other ELECTRIC APPLIANCES are sent on 30 Days' Trial TO MEN ONLY, YOUNG OR OLD, who are suffering from NERVOUS DEBILITY, LOST VITALITY, WASTING WEAKNESSES, and all those diseases of a PERSONAL NATURE, resulting from ABUSES and OTHER CAUSES. Speedy relief and complete restoration to HEALTH, VIGOR and MANHOOD GUARANTEED. Send at once for Illustrated Pamphlet free. Address

Voltaic Belt Co., Marshall, Mich.

HELP YOURSELF.

ROBERT'S PERFECT WASHERS to be had only from authorized agents. If you want to get agency and make money rapidly, don't let some one else get ahead of you and secure your town or county right. Too good to go begging. Particulars 3 cents. Very suitable for ladies. R. R. YOUNGER, Agent for Patentee Gananoque

I CURE FITS!

When I say cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again, I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office. It costs you nothing for a trial, and I will cure you.

Address Dr. H. G. ROOT, 88 Pearl St., New York.

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