CURRENT TOPICS.

A STEAMSHIP has been constructed to carry 1,000 tons at each voyage of the solid residuum of the London sewage out to the North Sea from the Barking Creek Sewage Works. Four or five more such ships will be required to deal with the entire quantity.

MRS. ELIZA GARFIELD was the only woman who ever saw her son inaugurated President of the United States. Washington's mother was living in Fredericksburg, Va. when the father of his country was inaugurated, but she did not witness the ceremony, which took place in New York.

BUENOS AYRES, in the Argentine Republic, is now the largest city in South America, the census of 1887 giving it a population of 434,000. The population of the entire country has increased 175 per cent. in the last twenty years, while that of the United States in the same period of time has increased only 79 per cent.

A LADY in Tours, France, refused to pay for a corset which did not fit and was taken to court by the corsetiere. The judge modestly said that he would not know whether the corset fitted or not, even if he saw it tried on, and that he was unable to decide the case, and that the parties must appeal to another arbitrator.

A ST. PETERSBURG correspondent says that the actual Czar of Russia, the man whose order is irrevocable, is not Alexander III., but Lieut.-Gen. Gresser, the head of the palace, and a member of the Privy Council. He is between 40 and 45 years of age, is a soldier by profession and has been decorated many times for gallantry on the field.

THE most sensational result of the revival in progress at Parkersburg is the conversion of Hon. C. T. Caldwell, an avowed infidel, who has been named the Ingersoll of the West Virginia bar. His conversion is so thorough that he has decided to abandon his lucrative practice and enter the ministry of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

J. W. WATSON, to whom the authorship of "Beautiful Snow" is most generally ascribed, is a tall, straight man of 70, who is often seen about the streets of New York. He is a novelist as well as a writer of verses, and much of his matter is seen in the periodicals, but his income from his writings is not large. Mr. Watson claims to be the inventor of roller skates.

MISS AMELIE RIVES, the Virginia authoress, lives in practical seclusion on her father's large farm near Cobham, in Albemarle county, Va. She is 23 years old, tall, slender and graceful, a perfect blonde and very pretty. In addition to her literary talent she is somewhat of an artist, and spends a great part of her time in her studio. She is passionately fond of horses and dogs.

REAR ADMIRAL HENEAGE, the officer commanding the British Pacific station, is earning the epithet of "Sir Joseph Porter." He has forbidden any officer or man to walk on the poop of the flagship while he is there, and insists on the crew uncovering their heads as long as he is on deck. He also requires his officers to wear white kid gloves at divisions on Sundays, and to have their frock coats and tunics buttoned on all occasions.

THE French astronomers are making wonderful strides in celestial discovery, thanks to the hypersensitive plates which modern photography has placed at their service. The photographer's plate is infinitely more sensitive than the retina of the human eye. One part of the heavens has just been photographed where only 150 stars had been previously known. The plate shows no fewer than 5,000, all sufficiently distinct.

FRANCIS MURPHY, the temperance advocate, wants a law passed making it a crime for a man to treat or be treated. Upon this subject Mr. Murphy said in Buffalo last week: "It is an awful thing for a man to say no when he has not been weaned. Look at the effect on a baby that has been on the bottle for two years when you undertake to wean it. What, think you, must it be with a man who has been on a bottle for twenty years?"

MARIA MITCHELL, the celebrated professor of astronomy at Vassar College, is 70 years old. She is the discoverer of eight comets, the discovery of one of which gained her a gold medal from the King of Denmark, and it is said that when she was a girl of 11 she made an accurate record of a lunar eclipse. She has received the degree of LL. D. from three different institutions of learning.

A NOVELTY in use by many ladies in the States this cold weather is the "Kairo," or Japanese hand warmer. It is an oblong, slightly curved box of sheet copper, covered with pretty chintz or silk, and heated by ignited charcoal, specially prepared for the purpose. The charcoal comes in neat rolls, each of which will burn five hours, producing a temperature of 150 degrees and warming one nicely. The "Kairo" costs a dollar and is sold in drug stores. In Japan it is used for medical purposes, just as we apply poultices or hot fomentations.

A NEW kind of glass has been invented in Sweden. It contains no fewer than fourteen substances, whereas the common kind of glass contains only six. Phosphorous and borax are included, and they are not to be found in any other glass. The result is, according to those who believe in the new invention, that whereas the highest power of an old fashioned microscopic lens reveals only the one-four-hundred-thousandth part of an inch, this new glass will enable us to distinguish one two-hundred-and-four-million-seven-hundred-thousandth part of an inch. Stupendous—but, then, who on earth wants to have a look at the 1-204,700,000th part of an inch?

The German inhabitants of the Baltic are mostly Lutherans. The determination of the Russian Government seems to be to compel religious conformity, and the Minister of the Interior has been authorized to suspend or banish Lutheran pastors without any judicial inquiry. Some fifty preachers in Livonia have been warned and as many in Courland. In Esthonia several pastors' wives have been marked out for punishment for holding missionary meetings. It is believed that if the Emperor was aware of the real conditions a more humane policy would be adopted, but united action of the people is rendered impossible, and any attempt to appeal would only aggravate the evil.

SOME time ago an engineer on the Little Miami Railroad, Ohio, was suspended because, after having been examined by Dr. Clark, he was found to be quite deaf. The engineer claimed at the time that he could hear everything while running his engine, but the doctor found that in a still room he could not hear ordinary conversation a foot away. The doctor thought he would test the case, and made a number of experiments with him on engines. The result was that the doctor found the engineer not only telling the truth in regard to the matter, but also that the deaf man could hear low remarks and whispers on a moving engine, that even Dr. Clark's keen ear failed to catch. The engineer was reinstated.

THE women will shortly abandon those furry caterpillars they wear around their necks, and man's fur-lined overcoat with its Russian collar and cuffs will disappear into its camphor chest. It is a pity that furs which are alike becoming to the thick and the thin, the tall and the short, cannot be perpetually with us, and that the first warm day should make them oppressive. Some one has said woman is always willing to suffer if she can be beautiful, but she rarely shows how ungrateful she can be as at this time of year when one of her chief embellishments is thrown aside. She does not desire "to suffer" exactly to the degree of overheating a well made-up complexion, and she doubtless thinks that her tinted parasol, with other airy confections from the haberdashers, will compensate for the soft, dark frame about her face. Perhaps so. But it is with regret that elegantes, and those who understand the art of being well-dressed, find the time approaching when their most becoming portion of attire must seek an anti-moth seclusion. Try to make the best of it, mesdames!

YOUNG ladies whose complexions show the ravages of the late hours of the first season and who wish to restore their skin to its prestine debutante freshness are, writes a Washington correspondent, using "le masque du mari," which French women have employed since the days of la Reine Margot, who invented this faded complexion's sweet restorer. They take the white of one egg beaten in sufficient rose water to make a cream; to this they add one gramme of alum and one of sweet almond oil. All of which is beaten together until a paste is formed, white and sweet smelling. Then taking a piece of thick muslin they cut holes in such a way that it rudely resembles a mask—two for eyes, a small one for nostrils, the third a little larger for the mouth. The paste is spread thickly and carefully over this. Four tapes are fastened to it—two at the brow and two at the chin—and when the young woman goes to bed this is tied on her face and remains there all night. In the morning she washes this off carefully with a soft sponge and tepid water, following it by another bath of water running cold from the faucet, and then she rubs her face vigorously with a soft towel and emerges with the complexion of sixteen. But she looks decidedly funny at night when she has her mask on, which resembles a poultice more than anything else. There is also a rule which goes with this *masque du mari* which says that to have a beautiful skin a woman must take enough exercise at least once in every twenty-four hours to be thrown into a thorough glow.

THREE Philadelphia fiends who used chrome yellow in making buns have been sentenced to the penitentiary, two of them for six months each and the third one for nine months, the judge expressing his sorrow that the statute did not permit him to mete out punishment adequate to the offence.

THE Duchess of Hamilton, wife of the Premier Peer of Scotland, and sister-in-law to Lady Mandeville, has opened a retail butcher shop at Ipswich, in the neighborhood of the White Horse Inn immortalized by Pickwick, and is, according to latest reports, crowded with orders.

ALTHOUGH the cheapest rate for which board can be got in the big new hotel in Florida is $8 a day, and an extra particular bridegroom can obtain a bridal suite there at $2,000 a week, the hotel was packed on the first of the month. The owner talks of putting up just such another house in New York for the exaction of just such gilt-edged prices, and thinks there will be money in it.

NEXT Sunday will be the eighteenth anniversary of the proclamation of the commune. The socialists, anarchists and communists of New York are preparing to celebrate it with gusto galore. A blood and thunder drama will be presented by the Social Revolutionary Club on Saturday night, to be followed by a ball and a great demonstration to be held in Clarendon Hall.

THE soft maple has not been satisfactory as a shade tree for street or lawn, and for this reason has been condemned and tabooed by horticultural writers, and its value as a timber tree has been lost sight of. When closely planted in a grove the tendency to split or break is overcome. It is easy of propagation, transplants well grows rapidly, and is one of the best trees, for fuel.

BASSWOOD may be enormously compressed after which it may be steamed and expanded to its original volume. Advantage has been taken of this principle in the manufacture of certain kinds of moldings. The portions of the wood to be left in relief are first compressed or pushed down by suitable dies below the general level of the board, then the board is planed down to a level surface, and afterward steamed. The compressed portions of the board are expanded by the steam so that they stand out in relief.

THE influence of the moon upon vegetation is an interesting problem awaiting solution. A recent writer upon the subject mentions that wood-cutters in Cape Colony and India insist that timber is full of sap and unfit to be cut at full moon. Another observation of lunar influence in Cape Colony is the rapid spoiling of meats and other provisions when exposed to moonlight, though this may be due to the fact that the light serves as a guide to insects.

AN extraordinary incident is reported from Edinburgh in connection with the trial of the Lewis crofters. One of the Crown witnesses named Donald Macleod had never before been absent from Lewis, and his being brought to Edinburgh seems to have deranged his mind. On Tuesday he behaved as if suffering from hydrophobia, and on Wednesday morning he was brought into court howling like a dog. On the doctor's certificate of insanity he was sent to an asylum.

SOME time ago it was announced that human footprints in rocks had been discovered in America. At last week's meeting of the Victoria Institute in London, a report, with photograph, from one of its geological members resident in the district, was read, stating that researches showed them to be imprinted in anciently deposited lava, and in some cases the imprints were those of people wearing curiously made sandals or moccasins.

A BOSTON theatrical manager began an advertisement in the Sunday papers with the words: "A call for 100 women to sew on buttons dislocated by laughter." To his surprise he found the theatre lobby filled the next morning with women who took the announcement seriously and wanted a job. He appeased them as well as he could by distributing among them tickets to his performance. This, the Buffalo *Courier* says, is not nearly as nice a story as the one about the little girl who found as the closing sentence in one of the tales of the Brothers Grimm: "And all who do not believe this must pay a dollar." Whereupon she called one morning upon Jacob Grimm and proffered her one dollar in the most matter of fact way to the astonished story-teller.

MISS CORA BACKUS, who compelled a prominent Rockford, Ill., physician to print an abject apology for slandering her, has received many letters of admiration and offers of marriage. Cora's picture represents a fluffy-haired girl with pleasing and regular features. A farmer near Huron, Dak., who says he has as good a farm as there is in the territory, writes that he wishes to tell her how much he admires her "for the way you beat that doctor who abused you," and that "It madd me ful of luv for you," and if she will marry him he will come on the next train. A Chicago man who says he has an income of $5,000 a year and a good home wants her to name a day next week. A youth at Rock Island writes that he has a small salary, but he loves her very much and he is sure that with such a brave woman for a wife they can get along very nicely on a narrow margin. Miss Backus answers the letters of sympathy and puts the offers of marriage into a scrap book.

Masonic.

Lord Stanley of Preston, the new Governor-General, is a Past Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of England, and is reported as taking an active interest in Masonic affairs.

The twenty-third annual reunion of the A. & A. Scottish Rite co-ordinate bodies in Rochester will occur on April 10th, 11th and 12th. During the three-days' session aspirants for the mysteries of the ineffable, historical, doctrinal, chivalric and philosophical grades will be gratified with the investiture, which embraces all the realistic teachings from fourth degree to thirty-second degree.

One of the most peculiar incidents connected with a lodge meeting which has ever come under our notice transpired at an emergent communication of St. John's Lodge, No. 209a, on Thursday night last. Four candidates presented themselves for degrees—two for the first, one for the second, and the other for the third—and every one of them were members of the medical profession of this city. Indeed, had it not been for an inopportune call, a fifth would also have been in attendance for his third degree. Such an occurrence may not happen again in the history of the craft, and for this reason it is noted.—*London Free Press.*

Abbotsford to be Rented.

Some of the papers have been agitated by a report that Abbotsford is for sale. The real truth is that the place is only in the market to be let for a term of years, and I shall be surprised if it finds a tenant, as it is overrun throughout the year with shoals of tourists. The house is large and gloomy, and there is nothing remarkably pretty about the demesne or neighborhood. Abbotsford now belongs to Sir Walter Scott's great-granddaughter, Mrs. Maxwell-Scott, who is a granddaughter of Lockhart.—*London Truth.*

Bobby Makes a Bad Break.

A story is told of a little boy, one of whose duties it was to recite a verse from the Bible, chosen by himself, every morning at the breakfast table. "Well, Bobby," said his mother to him one morning, "what verse have you learned to-day?" "Oh, I got a real easy one," replied Bobby—"'Whose wife, then, shall be in the insurrection?'" After the proper tableau had been enacted the scheme of Bobby's scripture studies was promptly revised.

What is Called the "Zero Rash."

A singular epidemic has recently appeared in this city and vicinity. It seemed to follow immediately after the last protracted cold wave, and manifested itself in the shape of a rash similar to the nettle rash, appearing upon the legs, arms and body of the afflicted. The rash especially manifested itself in the parts mostly exposed to the cold, like the feet, hands and face. The rash appeared in blotches of pale red, accompained by an intolerable itching.—*Albany (N. Y.) Journal.*

A Rich Man's Joke.

D. W. Powers has hit upon a novel idea which, if carried into execution, may be of value to other testators in making their last testaments. He said to a legal gentleman yesterday that he had made his will at last. "I've left everything to my lawyers, and recommended my family to their tender mercies. I'm sure they'll get more that way than by a contest."—*Rochester Post-Express.*

Truthful at all Times.

Grocer (to boy)—What are you doing, James?

James—Puttin' sand in the sugar.

Grocer—Well, that won't do. You must put the sugar in the sand, and then if a customer asks if we put sand in our sugar you can truthfully say no. You will find, James, as you acquire more business, that, in the long run, truth always pays.

Lord Tennyson is said by a London correspondent to be far from well and to feel keenly the many criticisms which his recent performances have received. His early retirement from the post of poet laureate would surprise no one there.

RICH MEN'S BEGINNINGS.

Some Chicago Experiences—Messenger Boys as Hustlers.

Instances of lowly beginnings are not rare in the list of Chicago millionaires. J. W. Doane, the President of the Merchants' Loan & Trust Company, began his commercial career in Chicago a very small dealer in peanuts. W. M. Hoyt, the wholesale grocer and founder of the immense tea trade between Chicago and China, in his youth kept a little apple stand at the door of the old Richmond Hotel, on Lake street. L. J. Gage's first work was as a carpenter in his father's box factory, on the West side. The Libby Brothers, the immensely rich packers, started as working butchers. Jacob Rosenburg, the capitalist, and Levi Rosenfeld, who died last summer, whose great fortunes were largely increased by their share in the Michael Reese $11,000,000 estate, were both peddlers and carried packs about the surrounding country. H. A. Kohn, the head of the big wholesale clothing house on Franklin street, was also a peddler. N. K. Fairbank boasts that he can lay a brick now as well as in his youth, when he worked as a mason. C. H. McCormick and Leander J. McCormick were foundrymen. The first shop they owned was a small shed on North Water street, east of Bush. B. P. Hutchinson earned his youthful wages as a shoemaker. Nelson Morris blacked boots and did chores around a small inn in the old Sherman stock-yards. Afterwards he began trading in lame hogs. C. B. Farwell's first employment in Chicago was as the smallest clerk in George Smith's bank, on Lake street. Conrad Seipp, the millionaire brewer, was a common brewery hand, and his partner, Lehmann, was a carpenter. Jerome Beecher was a common workingman. John T. Lester was a clerk in A. G. Downs' dry goods store.—*Chicago News.*

Among the messenger boys in the service of the first telegraph office opened in Pittsburg, Pa., years ago were four known respectively as Andy, Bob, Billy and Harry. This quartette has won both fame and fortune. "Andy" Carnegie is one of the richest men in the United States; "Bob" Pitcairn is General Agent and Superintendent of the Western Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad; "Billy" Moreland is City Attorney of Pittsburg; and "Harry" Oliver has made a fortune in steel and narrowly missed a seat in the United States Senate. Evidently the messenger boys of former times were "hustlers."—*New York World.*

ITCHING PILES.

SYMPTOMS—Moisture; intense itching and stinging; most at night; worse by scratching. If allowed to continue tumors form, which often bleed and ulcerate, becoming very sore. SWAYNE'S OINTMENT stops the itching and bleeding, heals ulceration, and in many cases removes the tumors. It is equally efficacious in curing all Skin Diseases. DR. SWAYNE & SON, Proprietors, Philadelphia. SWAYNE'S OINTMENT can be obtaned of druggists. Sent by mail for 50 cents.

There is a little girl in Harlem, New York, whose commercial interests are so precocious that she rents furnished rooms in her doll's house to her sisters for a fixed number of caramels per week.

A Tremendous Sensation

would have been created one hundred years ago by the sight of one of our modern express trains whizzing along at the rate of sixty miles an hour. Just think how our grandfathers would have stared at such a spectacle! It takes a good deal to astonish people now-a-days, but some of the marvellous cures of consumption, wrought by Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, have created wide-spread amazement. Consumption is at last acknowledged curable. The "Golden Medical Discovery," is the only known remedy for it. If taken at the right time—which, bear in mind, is not when the lungs are nearly gone—it will go right to the seat of the disease and accomplish its work as nothing else in the world can.

Mrs. Tom Blevins, the wife of a farmer living near Butler, Tenn., recently gave birth to four children, two boys and two girls. The "double twins" are all small, but are well and are likely to live.

"Had Been Worried Eighteen Years."

It should have read "married," but the proof-reader observed that it amounted to about the same thing, and so did not draw his blue pencil through the error. Unfortunately there was considerable truth in his observation. Thousands of husbands are constantly worried almost to despair by the ill health that afflicts their wives, and often robs life of comfort and happiness. There is but one safe and sure way to change all this for the better. The ladies should use Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription.

Great Responsibility.

The wife of a revenue inspector at Beauce Que., named Mercier, is 40 years old and the mother of 27 children, a recent instalment having been triplets.

"Give Him $2, and Let Him Guess."

We once heard a man complain of feeling badly, and wondered what ailed him. A humorous friend said, "Give a doctor $2, and let him guess." It was a cutting satire on some doctors, who don't always guess right. You need not guess what ails you when your food don't digest, when your bowels and stomach are inactive, and when your head aches every day, and you are languid and easily fatigued. You are bilious, and Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets will bring you out all right. Small, sugar-coated, easy to take. Of druggists.

It Takes Time.

Somebody asks: "Does it pay to be good?" It does when the business becomes fully established; but you've got to sink money in the start.—*Puck.*

People in the Northwest

Know from experience that Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor is the only remedy to be relied upon for the extraction of corns. This is the case everywhere throughout the Dominion. Be sure to get Putnam's sure-pop corn cure. At dealers everywhere

—Ethel—Mamma, when I grow up, will the calves of my legs be cows?

HIS OWN FUNERAL.

He Will Have the Coffin There and Preach the Sermon.

Mr. Pridgins, an old and respectable preacher, has suddenly decided to preach his own funeral sermon, and has set for the day the second Sunday in April, and the place a little church a few miles from High Shoals. Mr. Pridgins has ordered his son to make him a coffin, which he directs must be perfectly plain and locked with a padlock. He says the coffin will be placed by his side in the church, and there, in the presence of his friends and family, who are requested to wear mourning, he will tell of his life and pay suitable tribute to his own memory. The news has spread rapidly over the surrounding counties, and it is thought that the little church will not be able to hold the congregation. Mr. Pridgins is thought by some to be very eccentric, but is considered by his neighbors one of the smartest men in the county. He has been a minister of the gospel for many years and is extremely popular in his neighborhood. His mind is perfectly clear on all subjects, and he is unusually well informed for a country preacher. He desires that the press reporters be present at the funeral to occupy seats in the amen corner. It is thought that he will then retire to his home and lead a quiet life until the time comes for him to occupy his coffin for good. No pall-bearers have yet been selected, but all arrangements will be made for the funeral before the eventful day arrives.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

The Sum and Substance Of It.

A 4-year-old miss had been naughty the other day, and her mamma shut her up in a closet by way of penalty. The little one alternated between fits of crying and appeals for freedom, and was heard to say within herself: "I tell you this is tough!"

The treatment of many thousands of cases of those chronic weaknesses and distressing ailments peculiar to females, at the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N. Y., has afforded a vast experience in nicely adapting and thoroughly testing remedies for the cure of woman's peculiar maladies.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is the outgrowth, or result, of this great and valuable experience. Thousands of testimonials, received from patients and from physicians who have tested it in the more aggravated and obstinate cases which had baffled their skill, prove it to be the most wonderful remedy ever devised for the relief and cure of suffering women. It is not recommended as a "cure-all," but as a most perfect Specific for woman's peculiar ailments.

As a powerful, invigorating tonic, it imparts strength to the whole system, and to the womb and its appendages in particular. For overworked, "worn-out," "run-down," debilitated teachers, milliners, dressmakers, seamstresses, "shop-girls," housekeepers, nursing mothers, and feeble women generally, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is the greatest earthly boon, being unequaled as an appetizing cordial and restorative tonic.

As a soothing and strengthening nervine, "Favorite Prescription" is unequaled and is invaluable in allaying and subduing nervous excitability, irritability, exhaustion, prostration, hysteria, spasms and other distressing, nervous symptoms commonly attendant upon functional and organic disease of the womb. It induces refreshing sleep and relieves mental anxiety and despondency.

Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is a legitimate medicine, carefully compounded by an experienced and skillful physician, and adapted to woman's delicate organization. It is purely vegetable in its composition and perfectly harmless in its effects in any condition of the system. For morning sickness, or nausea, from whatever cause arising, weak stomach, indigestion, dyspepsia and kindred symptoms, its use, in small doses, will prove very beneficial.

"Favorite Prescription" is a positive cure for the most complicated and obstinate cases of leucorrhœa, excessive flowing, painful menstruation, unnatural suppressions, prolapsus, or falling of the womb, weak back, "female weakness," anteversion, retroversion, bearing-down sensations, chronic congestion, inflammation and ulceration of the womb, inflammation, pain and tenderness in ovaries, accompanied with "internal heat."

As a regulator and promoter of functional action, at that critical period of change from girlhood to womanhood, "Favorite Prescription" is a perfectly safe remedial agent, and can produce only good results. It is equally efficacious and valuable in its effects when taken for those disorders and derangements incident to that later and most critical period, known as "The Change of Life."

"Favorite Prescription," when taken in connection with the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and small laxative doses of Dr. Pierce's Purgative Pellets (Little Liver Pills), cures Liver, Kidney and Bladder diseases. Their combined use also removes blood taints, and abolishes cancerous and scrofulous humors from the system.

"Favorite Prescription" is the only medicine for women, sold by druggists, **under a positive guarantee,** from the manufacturers, that it will give satisfaction in every case, or money will be refunded. This guarantee has been printed on the bottle-wrapper and faithfully carried out for many years.

Large bottles (100 doses) **$1.00, or six bottles for $5.00.**

For large, illustrated Treatise on Diseases of Women (160 pages, paper-covered), send ten cents in stamps. Address,

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