

## A Quarrel.

There's a knowing little proverb  
From the sunny land of Spain,  
But in nor-land as in so other  
Is its meaning clear and plain,  
Lock it up within your heart,  
Neither lose nor lend it,—  
Two it takes to make a quarrel:  
One can always end it.

Try it well in every way,  
Still you'll find it true,  
In a fight without a foe  
Pray what could you do?  
If the wrath is yours alone  
So a you will spend it.  
Two it takes to make a quarrel:  
One can always end it.

Let's suppose that both are wroth,  
And the strife begun,  
If one voice shall cry for peace  
Soon it will be done,  
If but one shall span the breach  
He will quickly mend it.  
Two it takes to make a quarrel:  
One can always end it.

## Story of Baron Trenck.

### EARLY LIFE—CAPTIVITY.

Baron Frederick Trenck, whose sufferings as a prisoner of state have made his name widely known, was born at Königsberg, in Prussia, February 16, 1726, of one of the most noble families of the country. After the death of his father, a major-general of cavalry in the Prussian service, in 1740, his mother married again, and, leaving Prussia, went and resided at Breslau. Frederick had two brothers and a sister; his youngest brother was taken by his mother into Silesia; the other was a cornet in a regiment of cuirassiers. His sister was married to the only son of General Valdivia, who, having quitted the service, lived in retirement on his estates in Brandenburg.

Brought up in the midst of gay and half-barbarous scenes, young Trenck acquired the thirst for military fame and dissipation which characterised this period of continental history. On all sides was there a rage for military conquest, and in Prussia, which had begun to enlarge itself at the expense of neighbouring states, this was carried to the most extravagant and criminal height. With such tastes, however, Trenck possessed abilities of a high order: he had a strong love of knowledge, and stored his mind with the riches of ancient and modern learning; he was also intimately acquainted with some of the practical sciences, could draw accurately, and learned fencing, riding, and other exercises. In religion he was Lutheran; and, among other branches of instruction, he was well read in the sacred Scriptures. With many good abilities and accomplishments, there were, nevertheless, mingled the military ardour and taste for reckless dissipation to which we have alluded; and to this defect was added an unhappy self-esteem, which rendered him impatient of control, and led him into many fatal errors. Having completed his education at the university of Königsberg, he was, as a youth hopeful of promotion, removed to Berlin, where he was introduced, under the best auspices, to Frederick, king of Prussia, by whom he was flatteringly received and appointed a cadet in the body-guards. This event, which took place in 1742, when Trenck was only sixteen years of age, gave him the highest pleasure; and he was inflamed with the desire of distinguishing himself.

Everybody is aware that Frederick II. of Prussia was a most extraordinary instance of what can be accomplished by a settled purpose perseveringly carried out. His design was, by military tactics, to make a great nation out of a comparatively unimportant state in Germany; and he did it. Unable to raise vast armies from his limited dominions, he compensated by great skill what was deficient in point of force. Never was there such a thorough disciplinarian. His army was like an ingeniously-contrived machine, in which every part was finely balanced, while he, in his own person, was the prime mover. The body-guards into which Trenck was admitted were a model and school for the Prussian cavalry. They consisted of one single squadron of men, selected from the whole army, and their uniform was the most splendid in all Europe. Two thousand six-hundred dollars were necessary to equip an officer: the cuirass was wholly plated with silver; and the horse furniture and accoutrements alone cost four hundred six dollars. This squadron only contained six officers, and a hundred and forty-four men; but there were always fifty or sixty supernumeraries, and as many horses; for the king incorporated all the most handsome men he found in these guards. The officers were the best taught of any the army contained; the king himself was their tutor; and he afterwards sent them to instruct the cavalry in the manoeuvres they had learnt. Their rise was rapid, if they behaved well; but they were broken for the least fault, and punished by being sent to garrison regiments.

No soldiers in the world underwent so much training as this body-guard. Exercise began at four in the morning, and experiments were made of all the alterations the king meant to introduce in his cavalry. Ditches of three, four, five, six feet, and still wider, were leaped; hedges, in like manner, were cleared; and the horse ran races, meeting each other full speed, in a kind of lists. The same exercises were often repeated after dinner with fresh horses; and it was not uncommon, at Potsdam, to hear the alarm sounded twice in a night. The horses stood in the king's stables; and whoever had not dressed, armed himself, saddled his horse, mounted, and appeared before the palace in eight minutes, was put under arrest for fourteen days. Scarcely were the eyes closed before the trumpet again sounded, to accustom youth to vigilance. By these exercises many horses and men were lost; but of that Frederick took no account.

Occasionally, detachments were allowed to take some recreation in Berlin; and the more favoured officers sometimes dined with the king, and on gala days with the queen—an honour which was considered to be cheaply purchased by the continual risk of life and limb. Trenck, who owned some good estates in Hungary, from which he derived the title of baron, was under no necessity to seek court favor; but his temperament led him to do so with inconsiderate ardour, and he had the good fortune to be noticed approvingly by the sovereign. Our hero, from infancy, had been noted for a surprising memory, and he had been scarcely six weeks a cadet when the king examined him on this remarkable faculty. He gave him the names of fifty soldiers to learn by rote, which was done in five minutes. He next repeated the subjects of two letters, which Trenck immediately composed in French and

Latin. He afterwards ordered him to trace a real landscape from memory, which, being executed with equal success, he gave him a cornet's commission to his body-guards, and also a splendid equipment for the service.

Thus set forward in his profession, the young Baron Trenck had every prospect of winning his way to the highest honours, when his own folly ruined every anticipation of the future. It appears that, while settled at Berlin, he contracted an attachment to a sister of the king; and as this was imprudently encouraged by its object, he may be said to have lived on the bank of a volcano, which threatened every moment to burst and overwhelm him. The king did not become aware of this presumption on the part of Trenck, until after he had served in a campaign against Austria, and given tokens of bravery. It was therefore with a greater degree of reluctance than could have been expected from the Prussian monarch, that he resolved on punishing the young officer for his audacity. The blow did not even fall until Trenck had given fresh cause of offence, in receiving a present of horses and a letter of friendship from his cousin Francis, a commander of pandours in the Austrian service, and which, it seems, gave the king reason to doubt Trenck's loyalty. This combination of errors sealed his fate.

In a country under a free constitution, crimes real or alleged against the state, or against private individuals, become the subject of formal trial, and if the accused be found innocent, he is dismissed. In countries governed by a despot, whose will has the effect of law, there are no guarantees against injustice. Whether the suspected be tried, or at once condemned to confinement, depends on the caprice of the reigning sovereign. Frederick of Prussia made great professions of public justice, and where his own feelings of policy were not concerned, he was certainly in the habit of allowing the ordinary tribunals to take their course. On the present occasion, acting in the spirit of a true despot, he ordered his victim to be seized, and, without explanation or form of trial, sent him as a prisoner to the citadel of Glatz. The seizure, which took place in July, 1745, when Trenck was only nineteen years of age, was as humiliating as it was unexpected. Unheard, unaccused, unjustly, he was conducted like a criminal from the army by fifty hussars; his equipage being left behind, as the booty of some creatures of the king, and his commission given to another. Trenck was of course guilty of great imprudence—perhaps was legally criminal—but the manner of his condemnation and imprisonment was a disgrace to Frederick, usually styled "The Great." Well might one exclaim with Trenck on this dismal occasion, "Unhappy people! where power is superior to law, and where the innocent and the guilty are exposed to a similar doom. Unhappy land! where the omnipotent SUCH IS OUR WILL supersedes all legal sentence, and uncompromisingly robs the subject of property, life, and honor."

Trenck was now a prisoner in Glatz, a strong fortress in a mountainous country. The politic course to have followed in such circumstances, would have been to have humbly petitioned the king for pardon. But, conscious of having done nothing treasonous, and smarting under indignities, he requested to be tried by a court-martial. This tone still more displeased Frederick, who returned no answer to the communication. Despairing of redress or liberty, and with his usual impatience of subjection, the prisoner now bethought himself of attempting an escape from confinement. He did not want friends or money, and believed that there would be little difficulty in gaining over the officers of his guard. In planning this project, he was assisted by a Lieutenant Piaschky and Ensign Reitz, both of whom proposed to go off with him; and finally, he gained over a Captain Manget, who had been condemned by a court-martial to ten years' imprisonment. After all the necessary measures had been taken for escape in company with these individuals, the plan was betrayed by Manget, who thus purchased pardon and liberty. Piaschky saved himself by desertion; Reitz was arrested, and only suffered a year's imprisonment, with the loss of his commission; and Trenck was now closely confined to a chamber, and guarded with greater caution. The king's suspicions were greatly increased, as likewise his anger, by this attempt at escape; and hopes of liberation were now almost at an end.

Having brought the preliminary account of Trenck to this point, we shall leave him to continue the narrative in his own words, abridging only where it appears necessary.

### IMPRISONMENT IN GLATZ.

Left to myself, I considered my situation in the worst point of view, and determined either on flight or death. The length and closeness of my confinement became insupportable to my impatient temper. I did not despair of gaining over the garrison to my side. They knew I had money, and, in a poor garrison regiment, the officers of which are all dissatisfied, having most of them been drafted from other corps, and sent thither as a punishment for slight offences, there was nothing that might not be undertaken.

My scheme was as follows:—My window looked toward the city, and was ninety feet from the ground in the tower of the citadel, out of which I could not get, without having found a place of refuge in the town. This an officer undertook to procure me, and prevailed on an honest soap-boiler to grant me a hiding-place. I then notched my pen-knife, and sawed through three large iron bars; but this mode was too tedious, it being necessary to file away eight bars from my window before I could pass through; another officer therefore procured me a file, which I was obliged to use with caution, lest I should be overheard by the sentinels. Having ended this labor, I cut my leather portmanteau into thongs, sewed them end to end, added the sheets of my bed, and descended safely from this astonishing height. It rained, the night was dark, and all seemed fortunate; but I had to wade through moats full of mud before I could enter the city, a circumstance I had never once considered. I sunk up to the knees, and, after long struggling, and incredible efforts to extricate myself, I was obliged to call the sentinel, and desire him to go and tell the governor or Trenck was stuck fast in the moat.

My misfortune was the greater on this occasion, from the Governor of Glatz being one of the cruellest of men. Disregarding my message, he left me standing in the mire till noon, the sport of the soldiers. I was then drawn out, half dead, only again to be imprisoned, and shut up the whole day, without water to wash me. No one can imagine how I looked, exhausted and dirty, my long hair having fallen into the mud,

with which by my struggling it was loaded. I remained in this condition till the next day, when two fellow-prisoners were sent to assist in cleaning me.

The only kindness which I experienced during my confinement, was being allowed a supply of books, with which I whiled away the time. When tired with reading, and in the darkness of the night, my reflections were very gloomy. I was as yet untamed in spirit, and I panted for the liberty of which I had been unjustly robbed.

One day Major Doo came to visit me, accompanied by an officer of the guard and an adjutant. After examining every corner of my chamber, he addressed me on the crime of attempting to escape, and went the length of calling me a traitor to my country, who had corresponded with the enemy. At that instant I snatched his sword from his side, on which my eyes had some time been fixed, sprang out of the door, tumbled the sentinel from the top to the bottom of the stairs, passed the men who happened to be drawn up before the prison-door to relieve guard, attacked them, sword in hand, threw them suddenly into surprise by the manner in which I laid about me, wounded four of them, made through the rest, sprang over the breastwork of the ramparts, and, with my sword drawn in my hand, immediately leaped this astonishing height, without receiving the least injury. I leaped the second wall with equal safety and good fortune. None of their pieces were loaded; no one durst leap after me; and, in order to pursue, they required to go round through the town and the gate of the citadel; so that I had the start fully half an hour.

A sentinel, however, in a narrow passage endeavoured to oppose my flight, but I parried his fixed bayonet, and wounded him in the face. A second sentinel, meantime, ran from the outworks to seize me behind, and I, to avoid him, made a spring at the palisades; there I was unluckily caught by the foot, and received a bayonet wound in my upper lip; thus entangled, they beat me with the butt-end of their muskets, and dragged me back to prison, while I struggled and defended myself like a man grown desperate.

It is certain that, had I more carefully jumped the palisades, and despatched the sentinel who opposed me, I might have escaped, and gazed the mountains. Thus might I have fled to Bohemia, after having, at noonday, broken from the fortress of Glatz, sprung past all its sentinels, over all its walls, and passed with impunity, in despite of the guard, who were under arms, ready to oppose me. I should not, having a sword, have feared any single opponent, and was able to contend with the swiftest runners.

Brought back, bleeding and disconcerted, to my chamber, the severities of my imprisonment were increased: two sentinels and an under officer were locked in with me, and were themselves guarded by sentinels without. My pain was excessive; my foot had been sprained in the struggle; I spat blood; and my wounds were not cured in less than a month. I was now first informed that the king had only condemned me to a year's imprisonment, in order to learn whether his suspicions were well founded. My mother had petitioned for me, and was answered—"Your son must remain a year imprisoned, as a punishment for his rash correspondence."

Of this I was ignorant, and it was reported in Glatz that my imprisonment was for life. I had only three weeks longer to repine for the loss of liberty, when I made this rash attempt. What must the king think? Was he not obliged to act with this severity? How could prudence excuse my impatience, thus to risk a confiscation, when I was certain of receiving freedom, justification, and honor in three weeks? But, such was my adverse fate, circumstances all tended to injure and persecute me, till at length I gave reason to suppose I was a traitor, notwithstanding the purity of my intentions.

Once more, then, was I in a dungeon; and no sooner was I there, than I formed new projects of flight. I first gained the intimacy of my guards. I had money, and this, with the compassion I had inspired, might effect anything among discontented Prussian soldiers. Soon had I gained thirty-two men, who were ready to execute, on the first signal, whatever I should command. Two or three excepted, they were unacquainted with each other; they consequently could not all be betrayed at a time, and I had chosen a sub-officer, Nicholai, to head them.

The garrison consisted only of one hundred and twenty men from the garrison regiment, the rest being dispersed in the country of Glatz, and four officers their commanders, three of whom were in my interest. Everything was prepared; swords and pistols were concealed in an oven, which was in my prison. We intended to give liberty to all the prisoners, and retire, with drums beating, into Bohemia. Unfortunately, an Austrian deserter, to whom Nicholai, had imparted our design, went and discovered our conspiracy. The governor instantly sent his adjutant to the citadel, with orders that the fiercer on guard should arrest Nicholai, with some others that were implicated.

Nicholai was one of the guard, and the lieutenant was my friend, and, being in the secret, gave the signal that all was discovered. Nicholai instantly formed his resolution, crying—"Comrades, to arms: we are betrayed!" All the conspirators followed to the guard-house, where they seized on the cartridges, the officer having only eight men; and, threatening to fire on whoever should offer resistance, came to deliver me from prison; but the iron door was too strong, and the time too short, for that to be demolished. Nicholai, calling to me, bade me aid them; but in vain; and perceiving nothing more could be done for me, this brave man headed nineteen others, marched to the gate of the citadel, where there was a sub-officer and ten soldiers, obliged these to accompany him, and thus fled into Bohemia.

Now, I was exposed to all the storms of ill fortune. A prosecution was entered against me as a conspirator, who wanted to corrupt the officers and soldiers of the king. They commanded me to name the remaining conspirators; but to such a question I made no answer, except by steadfastly declaring I was an innocent prisoner, an officer unjustly broken; unjustly, because I had never been brought to trial; that consequently I was released from all my engagements; nor could it be thought extraordinary that I should avail myself of that law of nature which gives every man a right to defend his honor defamed, and seek, by every possible means, to regain his liberty; that such had been my sole purpose in every enterprise I had

formed, and such should still continue to be; for I was determined to persist, till I should either be crowned with success, or lose my life in the attempt.

The soldiers were now withdrawn from my chamber, and my money was nearly all expended. I was a wretched prisoner; and could see no prospect of any melioration in my condition. While thus in a kind of stupor of despair, I attracted the sympathy of a brave and somewhat eccentric individual, Lieutenant Bach, a Dane by nation, who mounted guard every fourth day. Entering my dungeon, he told me that it was humanly impossible I should escape, unless the officer on guard should desert with me; that he wished nothing more ardently than to sacrifice his life on my behalf, but that he could not resolve so far to forget his honor and duty as to desert himself, while on guard. He, notwithstanding, gave me his word of honor he would find me such a person in a few days, and that, in the meantime, he would prepare everything for my flight. He returned the same evening, bringing with him Lieutenant Schell, and as he entered, said—"Here's your man." Schell embraced me, gave his word of honor, and thus was the affair settled.

We soon began to deliberate on the means necessary to obtain our purpose. Schell lately came from garrison at Habelschwert to the citadel of Glatz, and in two days was to mount guard over me, till which time our attempt was suspended. Besides Schell, two other officers, Schroeder and Lunitz, proposed to desert. Schell was to go with me, and Schroeder and Lunitz were to follow three days afterwards.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

## Self-Made Chinaman.

In the matter of education the Chinese are very differently off from what Europeans are led to infer, says a writer in the London Post. It is a rare thing to find a Chinaman who cannot read and write his own language. Out of more than a hundred that I have employed at different times I have only found two who could not sign their names. This is a very extraordinary thing at first sight, but when one has visited China the fact is easily explained and understood. The truth is that by education it is open for any lad, unless he be the son of an actor or a criminal—both stand in the same light and rank in China—to rise from the lowliest degree to the estate of a mandarin. Take, for instance, the examinations which are periodically held in the great university of Canton. Here is a huge building, or rather congeries of buildings, comprised in a vast oblong space walled in. At one end of the space is the examining hall; the rest of the space is covered over with a multitude of little cells—about 6,000 in number, I believe—which are allotted to the students whenever they have received their papers for examination. Exit from the place is impossible; when the student has got his papers he must remain in the cell and finish the answers. At length the time comes to hand the answers in to the examiners, and, this being over, the students go home to await the result. Till such a time as this is announced all are in a state of the greatest possible excitement. It is known that the examination is absolutely fair.

It so chanced when I was at Canton that the result of an examination not long before held was daily expected. One morning the comprador, or Chinese buyer for an English firm of merchants with whom I was acquainted, rushed into the front office of the firm, and in almost an ecstasy of excitement threw himself on the floor. For a moment he was speechless, and then being assisted to rise he gasped out that his son had that morning been declared head of the list, and was going to be sent up as one of the first three students to Peking, there to receive a mandarin's button and a high official appointment. The poor father was so overwhelmed with the honor which his son had thus gained that it was with difficulty he could be calmed, and, indeed, he continued in this state of semi-frenzy all through that day. The honor, indeed, was a great one, but it was one to which any Chinese lad, no matter of what degree—except he belonged, as I have said, to the playing or convicted classes—might aspire, and to this fact I attribute the very general education which prevails all over China.

## An Exercise in Pronunciation.

The following rather curious piece of composition was recently placed upon the blackboard at a teachers' institute, and a prize of Webster's Dictionary offered to any person who could read and pronounce every word correctly. The book was not carried off, however, as twelve was the lowest number of mistakes in the pronunciation made: "A sacrilegious son of Belial who suffered from bronchitis, having exhausted his finances, in order to make good the deficit, resolved to ally himself to a comely, lenient and docile young lady of the Malay or Caucasian race. He accordingly purchased a callosce and coral necklace of a chameleon hue, and securing a suite of rooms at a principal hotel he engaged the head waiter as a coadjutor. He then dispatched a letter of most exceptional calligraphy extant, inviting the young lady to a matinee. She revolted at the idea, refused to consider herself sacrificable to his desires, and sent a polite note of refusal; on receiving which he procured a carbine and bowie-knife, said that he would not now forego letters hymeneal with the queen, went to an isolated spot, severed his jugular vein and discharged the contents of the carbine into his abdomen. The debris was removed by the corner."

## Duration of Twilight.

The duration of twilight is longer or shorter according to the inclination of the sun's apparent motion to the horizon is more or less oblique. The difference in the density of the atmosphere also has an influence on this phenomenon. Near the poles, where the sun attains at noon no great altitude, and keeps near the horizon after disappearing, the twilight is necessarily continuous all night long during summer. This is the case, in a modified way, in all places higher than 48° north or south latitude. Montreal is a little north of latitude 45° N. and consequently not within this twilight zone. Twilight, in traveling north and south, increases in brilliancy until the circle of continuous day at midsummer is reached. To fully explain this phenomenon, which is entirely due to the refraction of the atmosphere and the apparent varying declination of the sun, see any fairly comprehensive book on geography.

## HERE AND THERE.

The steamer Willamette recently brought into Panama, from Central America, 2,223 tons of coffee, divided in 36,654 sacks.

The farmers of Alameda, Cal., are obliged to use luminous scare crows to drive the wild geese and ducks from their grain fields. The number of French people in the western hemisphere is 344,000, divided chiefly as follows: United States, 106,972; Mexico, 15,000; Hayti, 15,900; Chili, 3,314; Argentine Republic, 153,000; Uruguay, 14,375; Brazil, 6,108.

The Sultan of Morocco has taken the bull by the horns. He has forbidden the sale or purchase of intoxicants. Some Moors have been stripped, fastened on donkeys, and flogged through the streets of Tangiers for smoking in defiance of the Sultan's order.

A citizen of Albany, Ga., who has an ivy-mantled oak in his yard in which English sparrows nest, made a raid on it the other day and captured sixteen eggs and two bushels of nests. The birds have gone to work repairing damages with great industry.

To meet the growing scarcity of whale bone and its consequent increased cost, various substitutes have been brought forward; among the most recent is the employment of geese and turkeys' quills, a factory for this kind of manufacture having been established in Michigan.

Removing the brain of a pigeon does not destroy its mental faculties. It can see, hear, feel, swallow food put in its mouth, but is incapable of originating any impulse. It will stand in the attitude in which it is placed until it dies of starvation, but throw it in the air and it will fly.

Mr. George Henry Bell, of New York, has bought, and shipped to his New Hampshire farm, the leading members of Henry Ward Beecher's herd of noted Jersey cattle. Among the number is the beautiful cow Bella, Mr. Beecher's special pride, with a record of 46 lbs. of milk per day.

The sewage of London, amounting to 200,000,000 gallons a day, is carried 12 miles down the Thames to huge reservoirs on opposite sides of the river, where it is treated with one grain per gallon of sodium manganate and a few grams of chloride of lime. After the solid matter is precipitated, the water is let into the river, at ebb tide, in an odorless condition.

A Sedalia, Mo., man, recently converted by the Salvation Army, entered a hardware store and asked the proprietor if he remembered what axes were selling for in 1872. "About \$1, I guess," was the reply. "Well," said the Salvationist, "I want to give you a dollar, then. In 1872 I stole an axe which was displayed in front of your store."

St. Louis is the greatest strawberry market in the world, and it daily receives during the season tons and tons of the berries from Arkansas and lower Missouri. Special cars are side tracked at all important stations, and in the evening the farmers come from miles around with great baskets of tempting berries to be consigned to the St. Louis dealers.

Every man has a right to make himself something better than he is, but no man has a right to claim honor and credit which are not due him. The time which a man wastes in trying to force the world to accept him for something which he is not, would, if properly used and economized, enable him to make himself something higher and better than that which he is trying to seem.—George Sant.

Charleston, S. C., boasts the youngest murderer on record. His age is seven years, and he calmly stuck a fork in his baby sister's head because the child cried, and he wanted to quiet it. The blow being fatal, the young man hid the body, though he afterwards confessed what he had done. On account of his extreme youth he will not be tried for "manslaughter," but his career henceforth will be an object of interest to moral society.

Of the amount of silver in existence, \$4,000,000,000 is estimated to be in coin and bullion, \$1,200,000,000 in watches and the remainder in plate, jewelry and ornaments. Of the amount in existence \$4,745,000,000 is estimated to have been obtained from North America, \$736,000,000 from South America, \$63,000,000 from Europe, \$47,000,000 from Africa and \$34,000,000 from Asia, including Australia, New Zealand and Oceania. The amount of the precious metals in existence is estimated to be \$13,974,000,000.

A BALLOON PROPELLER.—Successful experiments have been made at Metz with a navigable balloon propelled by an electric motor. The Augsburg Allgemeine Zeitung says the balloon is the invention of a German engineer named Welker, who for some time was employed in America, where he perfected his discovery. The German Government, the paper says, has bought the invention, paying for it 1,403,400 marks down and another 1,000,000 which is to be paid in instalments. The speed of the balloon exceeds that of a railway train, and it may be stopped and directed at will, moving against the wind. Whatever truth there may be in the report, it is certain that the residents of Metz are now nightly startled by an electric illumination hovering at a great height over their houses.

A new process of tempering steel, discovered by two Kentuckians, is being tested at the Washington Navy Yard. It is claimed that common grades of cast-steel can be made to hold an edge like that of the best grades. Secretary Whitney's pocket-knife being treated, whitted a steel key with ease.

FIRE-PROOF DRESSES.—Many chemicals have been used from time to time to render ball-dresses and other textile fabrics incombustible, but one of the most efficacious and least expensive is *trungstate of soda*, which may be most conveniently applied by mixing it with the starch for the dressing: Add one part of the tungstate to three parts of good dry starch, and use the starch in the ordinary way. For fabrics which do not require starching, dissolve one pound of tungstate of soda in two gallons of water, saturate the fabric well in the solution, and let it dry. It will not change the most delicate colors or affect the quality of the fabric in any way, and ironing will not in the least interfere with the efficacy of the process. Muslins or silks, so treated, may be held in the flame of a candle or gas without catching fire; so that, although the portion in contact with the flame may by continuance be charred, or even destroyed, there is no danger of spreading the combustion.—Sanitarian.