Only the Scars Remain.

"Among the many testimonials which I see in regard to certain medicines performing cures, cleansing the blood, etc.," writes HENRY HUDSON, of the James Smith Woolen Machinery Co., Philadelphia, Pa., "none impress me more than my own case. Twenty years ago, at the age of 18 years, I had swellings come on my legs, which broke and became running sores. Our family physician could do me no good, and it was feared that the bones would be affected. At last, my good old mother urged me to try Ayer's Sarsaparilla. I took three bottles, the sores healed, and I have not been troubled since. Only the scars remain, and the memory of the past, to remind me of the good Ayer's Sarsaparilla has done me. I now weigh two hundred and twenty pounds, and am in the best of health. I have been on the road for the past twelve years, have noticed Ayer's Sarsaparilla advertised in all parts of the United States, and always take pleasure in telling what good it has done me."

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ERIE MEDICAL CO., Buffalo, N.Y.

TALMAGE ON WOMAN.

HE PREACHES A SERMON ON THE WEAKER SEX.

Her Mission in This World—What Woman Has Done in Ages Past and at the Present Time—Her Place in the World at Large—What She Can Be.

BROOKLYN, Aug. 20.—Rev. Dr. Talmage chose for his subject to-day one of special interest to the gentler sex, the announced topic being "A Great Woman," and the text II Kings: 4, 8. "And it fell on a day that Elisha passed to Shunem, where was a great woman."

The hotel of our time had no counterpart in any entertainment of olden time. The vast majority of travellers must then be entertained at a private abode. Here comes Elisha, a servant of the Lord, on a divine mission, and he must find shelter. A balcony overlooking the valley of Esdraelon is offered him, in a private house, and is especially furnished for his occupancy—a chair to sit on, a table from which to read, and a bed on which to slumber, and the whole establishment belonging to a great and good woman.

Her husband, it seems, was a godly man, but he was entirely overshadowed by his wife's excellencies; just as now you sometimes find in a household the wife the center of dignity and influence and power, not only by arrogance or presumption, but by superior intellect and force of moral nature wielding domestic affairs, and at the same time supervising all financial and business affairs. The wife's hand on the shuttle, on the bank ing house, on the worldly business. We see hundreds of men who are successful only because there is a reason at home why they are successful.

If a man marry a good honest soul, he makes his fortune. If he marry a fool, the Lord help him! The wife may be the silent partner in the firm, there may be only masculine voices down on Exchange, but there oftentimes comes from the home circle a potential and elevating influence.

This woman of my text was the superior of her husband. He, as far as I can understand, was what we often see in our day, a man of large fortune and only a medium of brain, intensely quiet, sitting a long time in the same place without moving hand or foot—if you say "yes," responding "yes"—if you say "no," responding "no"—inane, eyes half shut, mouth wide open, maintaining his position in society only because he has a large patrimony. But his wife, my text says, was a great woman.

Her name has not come down to us. She belonged to that collection of people who need no name to distinguish them. What would title of duchess, or princess, or queen—what would escutcheon or gleaming diadem be to this woman of my text, who by her intelligence and her behavior challenges the admiration of all ages? Long after the brilliant women of the court of Iona XV. have been forgotten, and the brilliant women of the court of Spain have been forgotten, and the brilliant women who sat on mighty thrones have been forgotten, some grandfather will put on his spectacles, and holding the book to the other side the light, read to his grandchildren the story of this great woman of Shunem who was so kind and courteous and Christian to the good prophet Elisha. Yes, she was a great woman.

In the first place, she was great in her hospitalities. Uncivilized and barbarous nations honor this virtue. Jupiter had the surname of the Hospitable, and he was said especially to avenge the wrongs of strangers. Homer extolled it in his verse. The Arabs are punctilious upon this subject, and among some of their tribes it is not until the ninth day of tarrying that the occupant has a right to ask his guest—"Who, and whence art thou?" If this virtue is so honored even among barbarians, how ought it to be honored among those of us who believe in the Bible. Which commands us to use hospitality one towards another without grudging.

Of course I do not mean under this cover to give any idea that I approve of that vagrant class who go round from place to place ranging their whole life-time, perhaps under the auspices of some benevolent philanthropic society, quartering themselves on Christian families, with a graceful air thinking in the hall and on the street lounge pretentious of tarrying. There is many country parsonage that looks out week by week upon the ominous arrival of a wagon with creaking wheels and lank horse and dilapidated driver, come under the auspices of some charitable institution to spend few weeks and canvass the neighborhood. Let no such religious tramps take advantage of this beautiful virtue of Christian hospitality.

Not so much the sumptuousness of your diet and the reality of your abode will impress the friend or the stranger that steps across your threshold, as the warmth of your greeting, the informality of your reception, the reiteration by grasp and by look and by a thousand attentions, of your earnestness of welcome. There will be a high appreciation of your welcome, whether you have nothing but the brazen candlestick and the plain chair to offer Elisha when he came to Shunem.

Most beautiful is the grace of hospitality when shown in the house of God. I am thankful that I am pastor of a church where strangers are always welcome, and there is not a State of the Union in which I have not heard the affability of the ushers of our church complimented. But I have entered churches where there was no hospitality. A stranger would stand in the vestibule for a while and then make pilgrimage up the long aisle. No door opened to him until, flushed and excited, and embarrassed, he started back again and coming to some half-filled pew with apologetic air, entered it, while the occupants glared on him with a look which seemed to say: "Well, if I must, I must." Away with such accursed indecency from the house of God. Let every church that would maintain large Christian influence in community, cultivate Sabbath by Sabbath this beautiful grace of Christian hospitality.

A good man traveling in the far West in the wilderness, was overtaken by night and storm, and he put in at a cabin. He saw firearms along the beams of the cabin, and he felt alarmed. He did not know but that he had fallen into a den of thieves. He thought they seemingly perturbed. After a while the man of the house came home with a gun on his shoulder and set it down in a corner. The stranger was still more alarmed. After a while the man of the house whispered with his wife, and the stranger thought his destruction was being planned. Then the man of the house came forward and said to the stranger; "Stranger, we are a rough and rude people out here, and we work hard for a living. We make our living by hunting, and when we come to the nightfall we are tired and we are apt to go to bed early, and before retiring we are always in the habit of reading a chapter from the Word of God and making a prayer; if you don't like such things, if you will just step outside the door until we get through I'll be greatly obliged to you." Of course the stranger tarried in the room, and the old hunter took hold of the horns of the altar and brought down the blessing of God upon his household and upon the stranger within their gates. Rude, but glorious Christian hospitality!

Again, this woman in my text was great in her kindness toward God's messenger. Elisha may have been a stranger in that household, but as she found out he had come on a divine mission, he was cordially welcomed. We have a great many books in our days about the hardships of ministers and the trials of Christian ministers. I wish somebody would write a book about the joys of the Christian minister, about the sympathies all around him, about the kindnesses, about the genial considerations of him. Does sorrow come to our home and is there a shadow on the cradle, there are hundreds of hands to help, and many who weary not through long night watching, and hundreds of prayers going up that God would restore the sick. Is there a burning, brimming cup of calamity placed on the pastor's table, are there not many to help him drink of that cup and who will not be comforted because he is stricken? Oh, for somebody to write a book about the rewards of the Christian minister—about his surroundings of Christian sympathy.

This woman of the text was only a type of thousands of men and women who come down from the mansion and from the cot to do kindness to the Lord's servants. I suppose the men of Shunem had to pay the bills but it was the large hearted Christian sympathies of the women of Shunem that looked after the Lord's messengers.

Again, this woman in the text was great in her behavior under trouble.

Her only son had died on her lap. A very bright light went out in that household. The sacred writer puts it very tersely when he says: "He sat on her knees until noon and then he died." Yet the writer goes on to say that she exclaimed: "It is well." Great in prosperity, this woman was great in trouble.

Where are the feet that have not been blistered on the hot sands of this great Sahara? Where are the shoulders that have not been bent under the burden of grief? Where is the ship sailing over glassy sea that has not after a while been caught in a cyclone? Where is the garden of earthly comfort, but trouble hath hitched up its fiery and panting team and gone through it with burning ploughshare of disaster? Under the pelting of ages of suffering the great heart of the world has burst with woe.

Navigators tell us about the rivers, and the Amazon and the Danube and the Mississippi have been explored, but who can tell the depth or length of the great river of sorrow made up of tears and blood rolling through all lands and all ages, and beating the wreck of families and of communities and of empires—foaming, writhing, boiling with the agonies of six thousand years! Etna and Cotopaxi and Vesuvius have been described, but who has ever sketched the volcano of suffering retching up from its depths the lava and the scoria and pouring them down the sides to whelm the nations! Oh, if I could gather all the heartstrings, the broken heartstrings into a harp I would play on it a dirge such as was never sounded.

Mythologists tell us of Gorgon and Centaur and Titan, and geologists tell us of extinct species of monsters; but greater than Gorgon or Megatherium, and not of an extinct species, is a monster with iron jaw and iron hoofs walking across the nations, and history and poetry and sculpture, in their attempts to sketch it and describe it, have seemed to sweat great drops of blood.

But, thank God, there are those who can conquer as this woman of the text conquered, and say, "It is well! though my property be gone, though my home be broken up, though my health be sacrificed, it is well—it is well!" There is no storm on the sea, but Christ is ready to rise in the hinder part of the ship and hush it. There is no darkness but the constellations of God's eternal love can illumine it, and though the winter come out of the northern sky, you have sometimes seen the northern sky all ablaze with auroras that seem to say: "Come up this way; up this way are thrones of light and seas of sapphire, and the splendor of an eternal heaven. Come up this way."

We may, like the ships, by tempests be tossed On perilous deeps, but cannot be lost;
Though Satan enrage the wind and the tide
The promise assures us, the Lord will provide.

I heard an echo of my text in a very dark hour, when my father lay dying, and the old country minister said to him: "Mr. Talmage, how do you feel now, as you are about to pass the Jordan of death?" He replied—and it was the last thing he ever said: "I feel well; I feel very well; all is well"—lifting his hand in a benediction, a speechless benediction, which I pray God may go down through all the generations. It was well! Of course it was well.

Again, this woman of my text was great in her application to domestic duties. Every picture is a home picture, whether she is giving careful attention to her sick boy, or whether she is appealing for the restoration of her property—every picture in her case is a home picture. Those are not disciples of the Shunemite woman, who, going out to attend to outside charities, neglect the duty of home—the duty of wife, of mother, of daughter. No faithfulness in public benefaction can ever atone for domestic negligence.

There has been many a mother who by indefatigable toil has reared a large family of children, equipping them for the duties of life with good manners and large intelligence and Christian principle, stacking them out, who has done more for the world than many another woman whose name has sounded through all the lands and through all centuries.

I remember when Kossuth was in this country there were some ladies who got reputation, honorable reputation, by present ing him very gracefully with bouquets of flowers on public occasions; but what was all that compared with the work of the plain Hungarian mother who gave to truth and civilization and the cause of universal liberty a Kossuth? Yes, this woman of my text was great in her simplicity.

When the prophet wanted to reward her for her hospitality by asking some preferment from the king, what did she say? She declined it. She said: "I dwell among my own people," as much as to say, "I am satisfied with my lot; all I want is my family and friends around me. I dwell among my own people." Oh, what a rebuke to the strife for precedence in all ages.

How many there are who want to get great architecture, and homes furnished with all art, all painting, all statuary, who have not enough taste to distinguish between Gothic and Byzantine, and who could not tell a figure in plaster of paris from Palmer's "White Captive," and would not know a boy's pencling from Bierstadt's "Yosemite." Men who buy large libraries when they have hardly enough education to pick out the day of the almanac! Oh, how many there are striving to have things as well as their neighbors, or better than their neighbors, and in the struggle vast fortunes are exhausted and business firms thrown into bankruptcy, and men of reputed honesty rush into astounding forgeries.

Of course, I say nothing against refinement or culture. Splendor of dress, sumptuousness of furniture, loveliness in art, nothing against them in the Bible or out of the Bible. God does not want us to prefer mud hovel to English cottage, or untanned sheepskin to French broadcloth, hulks to pineapple, or the clumsiness of a boor to the manliness of a gentleman. God, who strung the beach with tinted shell, and the grass of the field with the dews of the night, and hath exquisitely tinged morning cloud and robin red breast, wants us to keep our eyeopen to all beautiful cadences, and our heart open to all elevating sentiments. But what I want to impress upon you is that you ought not to inventory the luxuries of life as among the indispensables, and you ought not to depreciate this woman of the text, who when offered kingly preferment, responded, "I dwell among my own people."

Yes, this woman of the text was great in her piety. Faith in God, and she was not ashamed to talk about it before idolators. Ah, woman will never appreciate what she owes to Christianity until she knows and sees the degradation of her sex under Paganism and Mohammedanism. Her very birth considered a misfortune. Sold like cattle in the shambles. Slave of all work, and at last, her body fuel for the funeral pyre of her husband. Above the shriek of the fire worshippers in India and above the rumbling of the juggernauts, I hear the million-voiced groan of wronged, insulted, heart-hearted, down-trodden woman. Hi, tears have fallen in the Nile and Tigris and the La Plata and on the steppes of Tartary. She has been dishonored in Turkish garden, and Persian palace, and Spanish Alhambra. Her little ones have been sacrificed in the Ganges. There is not a groan, or a dungeon, or an island, or a mountain, or a river, or a lake, or a sea but could tell a story of the outrages heaped upon her.

But thanks to God, this glorious Christianity comes forth, and all the chains of the vassalage are snapped, and she rises up from groaning to exalted sphere, and becomes the affectionate daughter, the gentle wife, the honored mother, the useful Christian. Oh, if Christianity has done so much for woman, surely woman will become its most ardent advocate and its sublimest exemplification.

A BULLET IN HIS HEART.

The Dead Body of W. D. Ross, of Ottawa.

Found at Hamilton Yesterday Morning—The Body Was a Sickening Sight, Being Much Decomposed.

A ghastly discovery was made the other morning in a field adjoining the new race track. The body of a well-dressed man was found under a tree in a recumbent posture. A revolver lay beside him with one exploded cartridge in it and five unfired charges. A wound in the left breast indicated that the stranger had committed suicide. The body had evidently been there over a week, and was in a very advanced state of decomposition, so much so that it was with difficulty removed intact to the morgue. From papers found on the body, it was learned that the deceased was W. D. Ross, formerly of the firm of C. C. Ray & Co., Ottawa. Enquiries elicited the fact that Ross came here at 9 o'clock on August 15 and registered at the Station hotel, where he left his valise and then proceeded to the Barton street branch of the Bank of Hamilton, where he deposited $435. He then probably took the train out to the race track and sought a secluded spot in which to kill himself. Two deposit receipt books, one for $1,840 on the Bank of Ottawa and one for $435 on the Bank of Hamilton, were found on the body, also a number of papers, deeds, letters, etc., all of which the police have in charge. It is not likely an inquest will be held. The police telegraphed C. C. Ray & Co., who wired that they had informed Mr. Ross' brother in Toronto, who would come up and take charge of the body.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

Items of Interest to Business People, but Which All may Read.

Rich deposits of anthracite, bituminous and cannel coal are said to have been discovered in the United States of Colombia. The property belongs to the government.

The half yearly statement of the Grand Trunk Railway Company, published in London, shows that the gross receipts for that period were £1,890,000, and the net revenue £519,400, leaving some £52,300 for a dividend of two per cent. per annum on the guaranteed stock, as against two and a half per cent. for 1892.

A constant and large increase is noted in the output of the oil wells in the Caspian region. About 3,000 tons are exported every working day of the year from Batoum alone, and the exports of last year were 63,663 tons in excess of those of the previous years.

Since the announcement of a bare 2 per cent. divided on the guaranteed stock of the Grand Trunk Railway Company quotations have tumbled to the lowest point on record in London at the close of the week, that being 43½ for first and 27½ for second preferred.

A London cable says that £60,000 of gold was withdrawn from the Bank of England on Friday for shipment to Toronto; while £796,000 was withdrawn for shipment to the United States, and the steamer Columbia, which sailed on the same day for New York, has £1,440,000 gold on board.

The weekly statement of New York banks is, by comparison with previous ones, most favorable and satisfactory. It shows increase in reserves $2,499,575 thus reducing the total deficit in the necessary reserves to $12,045,800. Loans decreased $8,255,500, and specie increased $4,728,000, and circulation $702,200.

The bank of England, despite heavy withdrawals, reports increase in gold for the week of £23,000. Reserve increase £433,000, and the proportion of reserve to liability is 43.49 per cent., against 42.90 last week, and 48.19 a year ago. The bank's gold holdings, with comparisons, is as follows: 1893, £29,255,459; 1892, £27,331,134; 1891, £26,781,073.

The warlike powers of Europe will be interested in the attempt of the nitrate combination to limit the exportation of nitrate from Chile for the present year to 21,000,000 Spanish quintals. The Chilian nitrate supplies are now the main source of the powder manufacturers, and if they are curtailed the cost is likely to rise.

During the month of June 9,045 tons of hay were imported into the United Kingdom, 1,881 of which were from Canada and 2,338 from the United States. The largest other contributor was Holland, with 3,587 tons. For the nine months ending June of this year the importation was 62,766, as compared with 26,066 for the same period in 1892. Of the half year's importations, 36,350 came from the United States, 11,972 from Holland and 4,972 tons from Canada.

The greatest alarm and anxiety are manifested in Texas, which produces such an enormous percentage of the cotton crop of the world. Every industry is dependent on its movement. Railways are cutting down forces, currency is selling at a premium of $33 on the thousand, and it is impossible to obtain money to handle the crops. The people are alarmed at the expressions of leading representatives in Congress and are more immediately interested in seeing President Cleveland's recommendations carried out than in free coinage.

The Bank of England rate continues at 4 per cent., and money at New York is 3 per cent., 4 in London, Eng., and 7 at principal Canadian points. Operations on the stock exchanges are inactive and unimportant this week. Applications for loans from the United States are being received both by Canadian bankers and brokers, and matters are coming under our notice which indicate that Canadian investments are much more preferable, and that while there is no scarcity of money these applications are responded to very reluctantly and then only cautiously after most careful scrutiny and investigation.

Though slightly restricted the jobbing trade is fairly well maintained for the season, but collections are below the average, as are also the movements in the distribution of general merchandise. The Canadian bank clearings this week at Montreal, Toronto, Halifax and Hamilton aggregate only $16,585,000, a decrease of 20 per cent. for the week and 11 per cent. as compared with a year ago. Foreign trade shows little change. Stocks are dull and inactive, with some signs of more foreign disposition to buy. Money is tightening, with bankers inclined to be conservative, preparing for larger demands to move the crops, which in general are good in Ontario.

African Rain-Makers.

A popular belief in Africa is the rain-maker. The office, however, is rather a perilous one, for if the chief in charge of the weather fails to produce rain on demand, his life is not safe. Baker gives an amusing description of one of these weather makers, half chief and half magician, named Katchiba, who called on the famous explorer and said that rain was needed.

"Well," I replied, "why don't you give your people rain?"

"Give my people rain!" said Katchiba. "Give them rain if they don't give me goats? You don't know my people. If I am foolish enough to give them rain before they give me goats, they will let me starve! No, no! let them wait; if they don't bring me supplies of corn, goats, fowls, yams, and all that I require, not one drop of rain shall ever fall again in Obbo. Impudent brutes are my people. Do you know they have positively threatened to kill me unless I bring the rain. They sha'n't have a drop. I'll teach the rascals to insult me!"

With all this bluster I saw that old Katchiba was in a great dilemma and would give anything for a shower, but did not know how to get out of the scrape.

Suddenly altering his tone, he asked, "Have you any rain in your country?"

I replied that we had, every now and then.

"How do you bring it? Are you a rain-maker?"

I told him no one believed in rain-makers in our country, but that we understood how to bottle lightning, meaning electricity.

"I don't keep mine in bottles; I have a house full of thunder and lightning," he most coolly replied; "but if you can bottle lightning you must understand rain-making. What do you think of the weather to-day?"

I immediately saw the drift of the cunning old Katchiba; he wanted professional advice. I replied that he must know all about it, as he was a regular rain-maker.

"Of course I do," he answered; "but I want to know what you think of it."

"Well," I said, "I don't think we shall have any steady rain, but I think we may have a heavy shower in about four days."

I had observed fleecy clouds gathering daily in the afternoon.

"That my opinion," said Katchiba, delighted; "in four, or perhaps in five days, I intend to give them one shower, just one shower. Yes, I'll just step down to them now, and tell the rascals that if they will bring me some goats by this evening, and some corn to-morrow morning, I will give them, in four or five days, just one shower."

To give effect to this declaration he gave three toots on his magic whistle, inquiring: "Do you use whistles in your country?"

I replied by giving so shrill and deafening a whistle on my fingers that Katchiba stopped his ears, and relapsing into a smile of admiration, took a glance at the sky from the doorway to see if any sudden effect had been produced.

"Whistle again," he said; and once more I performed like the whistle of a locomotive.

"That will do; we shall have it," said the cunning old rain-maker, and proud of having so knowingly obtained "counsel's opinion" on his case, he toddled off to his impatient subjects.

In a few days a sudden storm of rain and violent thunder added to Katchiba's renown, and after the shower, horns were blowing and drums beating in honor of their chief. Between ourselves, he considered my whistle infallible.

An artist that works in marble or colors has them all to himself and his tribe, but the man who molds his thought in verse has to employ the materials vulgarized by every body's use, and glorify them by his handling.

In Spain, France, Ireland and some parts of England a tinker is held in such abhorrence by the common people as to make it almost impossible for him to get a meal or find lodgings for the night. The reason alleged is that when the blacksmith was ordered to make nails for Christ's crucifixion he refused, but the tinker made them and Christ condemned him and all of his race to be wanderers and never have a roof of their own to cover their heads until the world's end.

LATE FOREIGN NEWS.

Diamonds to the value of over $3,000,000 were sold in one lot recently by the De Beers Company of South Africa to a syndicate.

Russian crop prospects have greatly improved. A fairly large yield is now expected, especially of rye, the chief breadstuff of the nation.

The crops in Bulgaria are reported to be in very bad condition. Too much rain has been the trouble, and in some parts of the country the seed has rotted.

The statement is made in Paris that French agriculture has lost as much money this year because of the drought as the Germans received by way of war indemnity after 1870."

The winner in the military ride between Vienna and Berlin last fall covered the distance in 71 hours and 40 minutes. Fischer, who won the bicycle race over the same road, took 31 hours to accomplish the task. The regular express trains make the trip in 16 hours.

The Turkestan Gazette says that the Ameer of Bokhara has broken with Mohammedan traditions and will throw open his country to European civilization. Several instances of innovations along this line are offered as evidence. The action is said to be the result of the Ameer's recent visit to Russia.

Paderewski has gone to his home in Poland for rest and recreation. He will remain in retirement until October, when he is expected to make his reappearance in Paris.

An exhibition of national industries was opened in Lisbon by the King of Portugal ten days ago. The exhibition is regarded as "a sign of the progress made in the manufactures of the country since the adoption of the protectionist tariff of February, 1892."

The annual budget of Tasmania, presented two weeks ago, estimates that there will be a deficit of £300,000 next December. The Government proposes to impose a graduated income tax and to increase the customs duties, the land tax, and the probate duties.

In a recent military cycle race, by relays, from Vienna to Klagenfurt, the distance of 236 miles was covered by soldiers, fully equipped to the bicycle corps standard, in 17 hours and 1 minute, a rate of fourteen miles an hour. This is two and a half miles an hour faster than the time of the winner in the recent cycle race from Vienna to Berlin.

Statistics gathered by the German Imperial Commission on Labor show that in many parts of the empire the duration of work exceeds fifteen hours daily. In northwest Germany the percentage of workpeople laboring thus long is 36.8 of the whole.

The Sultan of Turkey has returned in kind the doubtful compliment paid to him by the Czar of Russia, who a few weeks ago sent to him an album of paintings of the Russian Black Sea fleet, by causing to be made for the Czar a similar album of pictures of the whole of the Turkish fleet.

For once Emperor William is disposed to retire the army to a secondary place in the affairs of the nation. He has given orders that the Autumn manoeuvres are only to be held this year if it can be clearly proved that the agricultural district in which they are to take place, will not suffer from the military operations.

After postponing the matter year after year for a considerable period the French Academy has just given its consent to a scheme for a reform of French spelling. The new rules, with commentaries, will shortly appear in a small book issued by the Academy. Among the alterations to be submitted for public approval are the suppression of the hyphen in compound words and the reduction to symmetry of regular plurals by making the addition of "s" the uniform sign of the plural number.

A new double customs tariff, practically a reciprocity scheme, is soon to be introduced in Russia. The present tariff will be treated as the minimum, and will apply to countries according to Russian products the "most favored-nation treatment;" the new maximum tariff will be applied to countries that do not. It is left to the minister of Finance, in conjunction with the Minister of Foreign affairs to decide when and to what countries the maximum shall be applied.

Thirty-two schemes for a site for the proposed International Exhibition in Paris in 1900 have been considered by the Commission having the matter in hand. It is considered most likely that the site of the Exhibition of 1889 will again be selected, although the available space will be greatly enlarged. It is proposed in one scheme to include the Tuileries Gardens, which would give space for an exhibition twice as large as the last. The Eiffel tower would be an attraction.

The trailleurs of the Russian army are to be equipped with snow shoes next winter. The Prussian troops on the Russian frontier have used snow shoes with satisfaction for several winters. Two hundred and sixty-two thousand recruits for the Russian army are to be drawn by conscription this year. Crop prospects in southern Russia have greatly improved in the past few weeks. It is remarkable, in view of the great heat and drought in Great Britain, France and other parts of western Europe, that the weather in southern Russia has lately been abnormally cool, with copious rainfalls, and while the crops in the former sections have been burned and ruined by too much sunshine, in the latter the harvest will be very late, because of lack of warm, ripening sunshine.

"And yet," said the ice dealer, as he shoved up the price another notch, "people think there is no such thing as a cold snap in summer!"

The wives of Siamese noblemen cut their hair so that it sticks straight up from their heads. The average length of it is about an inch and a half.

BRIEF AND INTERESTING.

It has been estimated that Great Britain has about 100,000 absolutely "homeless wanderers."

In the twenty years preceding 1886 there were 328,716 divorces in America to 258,332 for all Europe.

The Basilica was originally a covered portion in which law cases were heard and other business was transacted.

An English firm is using the silk of the wild silkworm, from which is woven a soft, substantial fabric of a light tussore or pongee shade.

It is asserted that the best, strongest and most fibrous material in the shape of wood, now used as a pulp for paper, is made from spruce logs.

The head dresses of 1770 were so large that ladies going to balls were forced, to save their headgear, to kneel on the floors of their carriages.

Steel pens were first made in 1803. The annual sales at present in the United States are estimated at 30,000,000 pens, while the world annually consumes 250,000,000.

Window glass was first used in modern times in 1577. Now the consumption of plate glass alone exceeds 6,000,000 square feet in England and 9,000,000 in the United States.

During a severe storm in Schley County, Georgia, the other day, the house of A. L. Beckwith was struck by lightning in five different places and at five different times.

Coal oil was first used as an illuminantin 1826. The United States' export of oil in 1889 exceeded in value $45,000,000. In the same year the world produced 34,820,306 barrels.

Wheat was first exported from the United States about 1750. The world's product in 1888 was estimated at 2,271,000,000 bushels. The crop of the United States last year was 519,490,000 bushels.

The mountains of Guatemala (meaning full of trees) are covered with magnificent forests, and the country takes its name from them. One of its principal products is gutta percha; dye woods and other tropical trees abound.

The antiquity of the fan in the east, particularly in Asia, extends far back beyond the possibility of ascertaining its date. In China and India the original model of the fan was the wing of a bird, and at one time was part of the emblems of imperial authority.

A nearly adult specimen of the Malayan or Asiatic tapir is a new addition to the zoological gardens at Regent's Park, London. It is only at very long intervals that specimens of this interesting animal have been obtained, the first being in 1840, the second in 1850, one in 1882 and the present example.

Breech-loading rifles were invented in 1811, but did not come into general use for many years. It is estimated that over 12,000,000 are now in actual service in the European armies, while 3,000,000 are reserved in the arsenals for emergencies. Statisticians say that there are 100,000,000 guns of all kinds in the world.

Experiments with a bicycle fitted out with a small chemical tank and fire axe are being made by a South Boston fire company. The bicycle has cushion tires and, with its whole outfit, weighs about sixty pounds. The tank holds about two gallons of chemical, which amounts as an extinguisher to about twelve pails of water.

Morse's telegraph was made practical in 1837. The western Union now has 739,105 miles of wire and sends 62,000,000 messages a year. The world's business is transacted partly by means of 216,000,000 messages sent every year. In 1883 there were in Europe 41,150 telegraph offices. The world in 1888 had 767,800 miles of telegraph wires.

Last year 233,495 persons visited the Victoria Niagara Falls Park (on the Canadian side), which was nearly 40,000 less than in 1891. The falling off was in the carriage travel, the number of foot passengers having increased nearly one-quarter. The new electric railway is likely to cut down the hackmen's receipts even more this season.

When a horse is trotting a 2:20 gait his feet move a little faster than a mile in 1:10. As his body is moving at 2:20 and as each of his feet when in contact with the ground is stationary and then is picked up and moved forward to take the next step, the foot must move as much faster than the body as to make the step, which is over twice as fast.

We owe the hat to Asia, for it was in that country that the art of felting wool was first known, and from the most remote periods the art was carried on by the orientals. In India, China, Burmah and Siam hats are made of straw, of rattan, of bamboo, of pith, of the leaf of the Talipott palm and of a large variety of grasses. The Japanese made their hats of paper.

The English custom of turning over a shoe for good luck pair for the honeymoon is often imitated this side the Atlantic, and is considered a very proper and elegant thing to do. But the lending of houses irrespective of the bridal element is also popular. Not infrequently persons going abroad for the summer place their entire establishment to a friend for the absence.

An English court has decided that a cook—male or female—is not bound to give an employer notice before leaving, nor on the other hand is the employer required to notify the cook before discharging her. The reason given is that if the cook was forced to remain against her will she might revenge herself on the members of the family, or, in case of a club, upon her employers' patrons.

There is sometimes much profit in little things. The rubber pencil tip is said to have brought its inventor $100,000. The pasteboard trays for shipping eggs have earned the inventor a fortune. A common needle-threader brings an income of $10,000 a year to its inventor, while the "return ball" with a rubber string, it is credibly asserted, was worth $50,000 a year for a while to the man who struck the notion.

The Spanish game of quoits—rayuela—is played with six flat disks of iron about three inches in diameter to the hub consists of two curved pieces of wrought iron of an oval shape, terminating in a point, which is stuck in the ground. The larger of these pieces, the pala, is placed in front of the other, the paletin. To strike the pala with the quoit counts one, while to strike the paletin, which is more difficult, counts two.

The decisive step in the knowledge of distillation was taken in Egypt. There were invented the first real distilling apparatus during the first centuries of the Christian era. They are described precisely in the works of Zosimus, an author of the third century, from the technical treatises of two women chemists named Cleopatra and Mary. In the margin of a Greek text of St. Mark are the drawings of the apparatus, and they agree exactly with the author's descriptions.

Women have abandoned spoon-collecting in a measure. No wonder! Some of them have a hundred or two of every size, shape or design. The latest thing—a real summer diversion—is collecting silver hat pins. You will notice the elaborateness of some of these sharp implements if you take any note of millinery elsewhere than in shop windows. Most of these pins would serve for daggers in case of need, being sharp enough and strong enough to dispatch a man.

Suicide statistics, as recently published by an English doctor, show that taking the entire population of the world there is an attempt made every three minutes on an average by some one to take his own life. It seems that Saxony is the quarter of the globe where suicide is the most popular, the ratio there being 469 suicides in 1,000,000 deaths. Portugal, on the other hand occupies the first place for infrequency of self-destruction, the proportion there being only sixteen to 1,000,000.

At race tracks persons desiring to bet on the result frequently manage to touch the hump of a hunchback, believing that this will bring good luck. According to the beliefs of ancient Arabians and Germans, hunchbacks were the pets of fairies. The latter frequently removed or increased the humps, and hunchbacks who had thus been treated by the fairies were supposed to possess some mystic power. They were supposed to bring good luck, and this might be imparted to persons who came into contact with the humps the fairies had given them.

The "Blarney Stone."

There is nothing in Ireland in the form of masonry which seems to exercise so much influence on Irish ways, both masculine and feminine, as the fragment of the Blarney castle known as the "Blarney Stone." About stones as about its proximate and remote effects there is a good deal of what Sir Wm. Burchell used to call "fudge," for its virtues are of no great antiquity; and, unless we are mistaken, different stones have been pointed out at different times as the veritable imparter of eloquence. But as Ireland is about to enter a new course and to adopt serious dispositions there will no longer be any need for blarneying. Accordingly the time is opportune to announce that the stone has disappeared. An American is credited with being the fortunate possessor. This was officially declared by Mr. Hall, the local representative of the Royal society of Antiquaries of Ireland, at the meeting in Cork of that learned body last week. But it should have been added that more than one American possesses the relic, and that a visitor to Blarney Castle can still get and in the conditions that correspond with his degree of courage. Unlike Sir Boyle Roche the Blarney Stone can be at one time in several parts of the Castle of the Jeffreys, as well as in various States at the same moment.—[The Architect.

Self-love is not so vile a sin as self neglecting.

"For Years,"

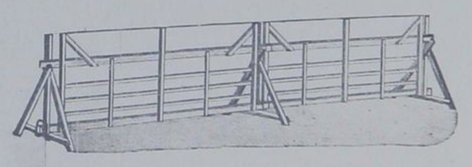
says CARRIE E. STOCKWELL, of Chesterfield, N. H. "I was afflicted with an extremely severe pain in the lower part of the chest. The feeling was as if a ton weight was laid on a spot the size of my hand. During the attacks, the perspiration would stand in drops on my face, and it was agony for me to make sufficient effort even to whisper. They came suddenly, at any hour of the day or night, lasting from half a day, leaving as suddenly, but, for several days after, I was quite prostrated and weak. Sometimes the attacks were almost daily, then less frequent. After about four years of this suffering, I was taken down with bilious typhoid fever, and when I began to recover, I had the worst attack of my old trouble I ever experienced. At the first of the fever, my mother gave me Ayer's Pills, my doctor recommending them as being better than anything he could prepare. I continued taking these Pills, and so great was the benefit derived that during nearly thirty years I have had but one attack of my former trouble, which yielded readily to the same remedy."

AYER'S PILLS

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Every Dose Effective

DUNCANS' CHEAP PORTABLE FENCE.



PATENT REGISTERED NOV. 12th, 1892.

There is nothing in the present day agitating the minds of farmers more than fencing. And you will often hear the question asked, How are we going to fence our farms? It is almost impossible to get rails