A Kiss at the Door.

We were standing in the doorway—
My little wife and I—
The golden sun upon her hair
Fell down so silently,
A small white hand upon my arm,
What could I ask for more,
Than the kindly glance of loving eyes,
As she kissed me at the door?

I know she loves with all her heart
The one who stands beside!
And the years have been so joyous
Since first I called her bride!
We've had so much of happiness
Since we met in years before,
But the happiest time of all was
When she kissed me at the door.

Who cares for wealth of land or gold,
Of fame, or matchless power?
It does not give the happiness
Of just one little hour,
With one who loves me as her life—
She says she "loves me more"—
And I thought she did this morning,
When she kissed me at the door.

At times it seems that all the world,
With all its wealth of gold,
Is very small and poor indeed
Compared with what I hold!
And when the clouds hang grim and dark,
I only think the more,
Of "one" who waits the coming step
To kiss me at the door.

If she lives till age shall scatter
The frost upon her head,
I know she'll love me just the same
As the morning we were wed;
But if the angels call her
And she goes to heaven before,
I shall know her when I meet her;
For she'll kiss me at the door.

Farm, Garden and Household.

Potato Paste for Dumplings.—Boil three large white potatoes until soft; peel and mash them. When quite smooth, mix with one quart of soft sifted flour and a scant pint of lard; salt to taste. Roll out and use for dumplings or it makes a good paste for meat pies.

The curse of agriculture in many districts, especially in undrained and heavy lands, is twitch. It defies the hoe and the plow—the more you cut it into pieces and harrow, the wider and more thickly you spread it and plant it. The only cure is to fork it out and carry it off the land, be the cost what it may.

Boneless Chicken.—Fricassee your chicken, taking care to brown the skin nicely; season to taste. When done set by to cool; then remove all the bones; put back into the dish in which it was cooked. Take a chopping knife and chop finely, leaving in all the oil of the fowl; if not enough of that, add a piece of butter. Then pack closely in a dish, as you wish to go to table, and when your friends come to taste it, my word for it, their approbation will more than repay you for the little extra trouble it has taken to prepare it.

How to Cook old Fowls.—For the possible benefit to some other young housekeepers, I wish to tell them how to cook an old chicken. Prepare as for roasting, then boil three hours in a covered pot, with one quart of water, to which add two tablespoonfuls of vinegar; after which put into a pan in a hot oven for about one hour to brown. The liquor in the pot to be prepared for gravy; should the water boil away too much, more should be added. The result is, the meat is a tender as young chicken, and some think richer and better.—*Ohio Farmer.*

A Skunk Trap.—Having seen that a correspondent desires the best trap for skunks, I will offer one which I always use. I take an old barrel, and place it on a stick of wood about seven inches high. You will see at once, that when the skunk goes for his bait, which is in the bottom of the barrel, as soon as he uses the center the barrel turns up with the skunk, woodchuck or other animal caged in the latter, without making any scent. I then take Mr. Skunk by the tail, and carry him where I please. Care must be taken not to place the barrel too high, as it might throw over and not remain upright. The more skunks you catch in the same barrel the better the trap. E. H.

Fireproof Wash for Shingles.—A wash composed of lime, salt, and fine sand or wood ashes, put on in the ordinary way of whitewashing, renders the roof fifty per cent. more secure against taking fire from falling cinders, in case of fire in the vicinity. It pays the expense a hundred-fold in its preserving influence against the effects of the weather. The older and more weather beaten the shingle, the more benefit derived. Such shingles generally become more or less warped, rough, and cracked; application of the wash, by wetting the upper surface, restores them at once to their original or first form, thereby closing up the space between the shingles, and the lime and sand by filling up the cracks and pores in the shingle itself, preventing warping.

More War Horrors.

Herr von Wickede, the German chronicler of the doings of his countrymen, narrates horrors piled upon ghastly horrors on the road from Belfort to Pontarlier, and amongst them, seeing a "bevy of famished women throw themselves upon a dead horse like a pack of wolves, and, tearing it with all sorts of instruments, swallow morsels quite raw." He also mentions cannibalism, but does not vouch for that. But he concludes as follows: "This is the eighth campaign I have been through, but neither in Algeria, nor in Italy, nor in Bohemia, not even in Schleswig, have I seen sights so horrible."

The war correspondents of the London papers have all gone home, and they are all hard at work preparing books in which they mean to recoup themselves for the long reticence which was forced upon them by their late Prussian hosts. One of them, an officer in her Majesty's service, says that the horrors that he saw and wrote of had all disappeared from his letters when published in the paper sent to. He vouches for having seen thirty-five Franc-tireurs stripped naked by their captors and laid upon their faces in the snow. Sentries were placed over them, with orders to shoot them if they stirred. This went on for a night, and in the morning they were all turned over, when three were found still to show signs of life. The terrible drama was then finished by the sentinels deliberately passing their bayonets through the bodies.

The Propagation of Fish.—Mr. Charles G. Atkins, Commissioner of Fisheries of the State of Maine, lately presented his report to the Legislature for the year 1870, giving a gratifying account of the increase of the fish, especially of salmon, in different parts of the State. The building of fishways in the dams has permitted the alewives, as well as shad and salmon, to ascend to their breeding-grounds, and there is reason to expect a great increase in the stock of these valuable food fishes within the next few years. The Commissioner recommends the establishment of breeding-houses for facilitating the reproduction of salmon; and states that these can be arranged at very slight cost, and that by the sale of impregnated eggs the experiment could actually be made to realize a profit to the State. The entire expenditure of the commission during the year, including salary, traveling expenses, etc., amounted to about $1600.

A twenty-pound golden eagle has lately been shot in Dexter, Iowa.

Summary of News.

The Canadian militia numbers 40,000.

There are 90,000 Crispins in Pennsylvania.

A tornado released 90,000 foot of gas in Memphis.

Virginia made 65,000 gallons of fruit brandy last year.

Russia is to put a reserve force of 100,000 men in the field.

The small-pox and scarlet fever appear to be epidemic in New York.

The strike at Newcastle has resulted in the success of the workmen.

The small-pox is making great ravages in the Rocky Mountain region.

By Executive appointment Massachusetts will fast on Thursday, April 6.

The United States Mint coined last year $22,257, 312 gold and $1,757,253 silver.

There are at the present time five American convicts in German penitentiaries.

The present annual production of tobacco is estimated to be 4,000,000,000 pounds.

San Domingo is said to be a place "where every prospect pleases, and only man is vile."

A Mr. Crotty, a landlord in County Mayo, Ireland together with his servants, have been shot.

The average daily consumption of water in Boston the past year has been 14,993,000 gallons.

A beet-sugar company in Sauk county, Wisconsin, will this year plant five hundred acres of beets.

An explosion has occurred at the works at Le Creuzot, France, by which eight persons lost their lives.

Out of six million owners of real estate in the United States, more than two-thirds are farmers.

Maine people are talking about sowing the seed of forest trees for lumber, and especially of the white pine.

The production of India rubber boots and shoes in New England of late has been about 25,000 pairs per day.

The direct heir of Louis Philippe renounces any intention on his part to compete with his uncles for the throne.

A process has been invented by which caster oil is made platable, and can be eaten on bread like so much honey.

Among the convicts received at the Auburn prison, was a youth of seventeen, who possesses a fortune of $10,000.

The cost of artillery gunpowder, &c., consumed in defending Paris during the late siege is estimated at $12,000,000.

The crows have made their appearance in the country. This is said to be a sign that the cold weather is at an end.

The first locomotive ever run out of Boston on the Boston and Worcester Road, is now running on a road in Maine.

A clergyman and his wife in Portland, Me., have recently suffered greatly from poisoning, caused by eating canned tomatoes.

The barn of Leonard Elms, at Lisbon, N. Y., with 30 head of cattle and 20 tons of hay, was burned last week. No insurance.

There are 25,000 children attending the schools maintained by the Catholics of Cincinnati in connection with their churches.

M. Thiers, replying to a question of M. Germaine said the expenses of the war outside of Paris exceeded 1,000,000,000 francs.

The deaths caused by the tornado which passed over East St. Louis, as far as known, are seven. The injured number some forty.

It is now agreed, on all hands, says a Washington letter, that there is no longer any hope for the success of the Santo Domingo project.

Mr. J. Beers was instantly killed, and his brother Benjamin fatally, and their father mortally wounded by a boiler explosion in Cleveland.

A farmer in Lancaster County, Pa., last season raised 12,398 pounds of tobacco from six acres of land, his crop bringing him $3,009 50.

Shortly before the date of the conclusion of the armistice there were reported to be in Germany almost exactly 340,000 French prisoners.

An old man in the poor-house at Middletown, Conn., sadly tells the visitors that he is the last of a family of thirty brothers and sisters all children of one mother.

The farmers of the United States annually expend $20,000,000 in reaping and mowing machines. The annual production is now estimated at about 125,000 machines.

The Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria has dispatched Count Potocki to Berlin to salute the Emperor William upon his accession to the imperial crown of Germany.

Peter Freischerz, a young German arrived in San Francisco lately, in search of his father, for whom he has been in quest for three years, having traveled 20,000 miles in vain to find him.

It is rumored that a marriage has been arranged between the Princess Beatrice (a daughter of Queen Victoria) and the Marquis of Ely. The Princess was born in 1857, and the Marquis in 1849.

Charter elections have been held in several cities in New York. The Republicans were victorious in Rochester, Elmira, Auburn, and Poughkepsie. The Democrats carried Troy, Oswego, Utica, and Rome.

At a point near what is known as Cu bit's Gap, on the Mississippi, where, in 1866, a river steamer passed and found four feet of water, there is now an island nearly if not quite a mile long by several hundred yards wide.

The trial of Mr. Porter at Enniskellen, Ireland, for an assault on Capt. Poynter, has ended in the discharge of the jury, who were unable to agree upon a verdict. The accused was released on bail, to appear at the next assizes.

Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, would have been killed by getting caught in some machinery but for his presense of mind, which led him to hug the shaft tightly, and revolve with it at the rate of one hundred times a minute.

The Lenox, N. Y., Farmers' Club, passed a resolution, declaring "that it is the opinion of the members of this club that good farm laborers should be secured for the present year at prices ranging from $16 to $20 per month for eight months."

The total number of hogs reported packed, in Chicago, this season, will probably reach from 915,000 to 920,000. The total number packed last year was 688,140. The total number of cattle packed this season is 21,254, against 11,963 last season.

A long train of cars, filled with German wounded returning home, was run into by a freight train near Puteaux, on the Paris and Versailles Railway. Nineteen passenger cars were broken to pieces. The number of soldiers killed and injured is unknown.

Proclamation from the President.

By the President of the United States of America:

Whereas, It is provided in the Constitution of the United States, that the United States shall protect every State in this Union, on the application of the Legislature, or of the Executive, "when the Legislature cannot be convened," against domestic violence; and,

Whereas, It is provided in the laws of the United States that, in all cases of insurrection in any State, or obstruction of the laws thereof, it shall be lawful for the President of the United States, on application of the Legislature of such State, or of the Executive, "when the Legislature cannot be convened," to call forth the militia of any State or States, or to employ such part of the land and naval forces as shall be judged necessary for the purpose of suppressing such insurrection, or of causing the laws to be duly executed; and,

Whereas, I have received information that combinations of armed men, unauthorized by law, are now disturbing the peace and safety of the citizens of the State of South Carolina, and committing acts of violence in said State of a character and to an extent which renders the power of the State and its officers unequal to the task of protecting life and property, and securing public order therein; and,

Whereas, The Legislature of said State is not now in session, and cannot be convened in time to meet the present emergency, and the Executive of said State has therefore made application to me for such part of the military force of the United States as may be necessary and adequate to protect said State and the citizens thereof against the domestic violence hereinbefore mentioned, and to enforce the due execution of the laws; and,

Whereas, The laws of the United States reqire that, whenever it may be necessary, in the judgment of the President, to use the military force for the purpose aforesaid, he shall forthwith, by proclamation, command such insurgents to disperse and retire peaceably to their respective abodes within a limited time;

Now, therefore, I, Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States, do hereby command the persons composing the unlawful combinations aforesaid to disperse and retire peaceably to their respective abodes within twenty days from this date.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, the 24th day of March, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and seventy-one, and of the Independence of the United States the ninety-fifth.

U. S. GRANT.

By the President:
Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State.

French Losses.

About 2,000 cannon were surrendered to the Germans at the capitulation of Paris. In the various battles of the war as many more were captured, and small arms to the number of many hundred thousand. As to losses in men, the *Army and Navy Journal* says: "More than 903,000 have been captured, and more than a million living men placed *hors du combat*, by capture and flight to neutral ground. This gives an average of 5,000 captures a day; and with the dead by battle and sickness the French have probably lost six to seven thousand men a day, incredible as it may seem.

By the cession of territory, France loses 7,400 square miles, and something more than 2,000,000 of people. The debt of France the last year was some $2,750,000,000. Add $250,000,000 for the balance of the war indemnity, after $750,000,000 of fines and requisitions already made are deducted, and the amount is $3,000,000,000. But France must yet pay these $750,000,000 of fines, &c. The Prussian exactions are not merely private losses. They are sacrifices for which the losers may look to the French Government for indemnity. So that in reality the $3,000,000,000 is swollen to $3,750,000,000. To this add $750,000,000 as the cost of the war to France, and we have a grand aggregate debt of $4,500,000,000. The *Journal des Debats* calculates the expenses of the war to be six milliards of francs, which is nearly double our estimate.

When Andrew Jackson left his home in North Carolina for Tennessee, his mother gave him this advice, as related by himself to W. H. Sparks, of Georgia, "Andy," said she, (she always called me Andy,) "you are going to a new country and among rough people; you will have to depend on yourself, and cut your way through the world; I have nothing to give you but a mother's advice. Never tell a lie, nor take what is not your own, nor sue anybody for assault and battery; always settle them cases yourself." I promised, and I have tried to keep that promise. I rode off some two hundred yards to a turn in the path and looked back. She was still standing at the fence and wiping her eyes. I never saw her after that.

The Markets.

NEW YORK.		
Beef Cattle—Fair to prime	$12.00	@16.00
Hogs—Live	.08	@ .09
Dressed	.09	@ .11¼
Sheep	.04½	@ .09
Cotton—Middling	...	@ .15
Flour—Extra Western	6.00	@ 6.80
State Extra	6.65	@ 6.95
Genesee Extra	7.05	@ 9.50
Wheat—Amber Western	1.57	@ 1.74
" State	1.57	@ 1.70
White Genesee Extra	1.60	@ 1.85
Rye—Western	1.00	@ 1.14
State	1.10	@ 1.20
Barley—State	.90	@ .95
Corn—Mixed Western	.77	@ .87
Seed—Clover	.11½	@ .12
Timothy	...	@ 6.75
Oats—Western	.62	@ .71
Pork—Mess	19.00	@23.00
Lard	.11½	@ .12½
Whiskey	.91½	@ .93
Butter—State	.35	@ .38
Ohio W. R.	.26	@ .28
" Fancy	.30	@ .31
Western ordinary	.15	@ .18
Pennsylvania fine	.34	@ .37
Cheese—State Factory	.15	@ .16
" Skimmed	.07	@ .10
Ohio	.10	@ .24
Eggs—State	.27	@ .28
CHICAGO.		
Beeves—Choice	$7.00	@ 7.75
Prime	6.00	@ 6.60
Fair Grades	4.50	@ 5.75
Stock Cattle—Common	4.00	@ 4.75
Inferior	3.50	@ 4.00
Hogs—Live	6.30	@ 6.85
Sheep—Live—Good to Choice	4.00	@ 5.00
Flour—White Winter Extra	6.50	@ 7.25
Spring Extra	4.65	@ 6.00
Buckwheat	4.75	@ 5.75
Grain—Corn—No. 2	.50	@ .53
Barley—No. 2, new	.76	@ .80
Oats—No. 2	.45	@ .49
Rye—No. 2	.70	@ .72
Wheat—Spring, No. 1	1.30	@ 1.34
No. 2	1.23	@ 1.26
Lard	.11¼	@ .12
Pork—Mess	18.00	@20.00
BUFFALO.		
Beef Cattle	5.75	@ 7.50
Sheep	3.50	@ 6.80
Hogs—Live	6.50	@ 7.75
Flour	5.90	@ 7.25
Wheat	1.20	@ 1.45
Corn	.71	@ .72½
Oats	.50	@ .58
Rye	1.00	@ 1.10
Barley	.75	@ .78
Lard	.12	@ .13
ALBANY.		
Wheat—State	1.68	@ 1.72
Extra	1.75	@ 1.85
Rye—State	.98	@ 1.20
Corn—Mixed	.78	@ .86
Barley—State	.75	@ .90
Oats—State	.60	@ .70
PHILADELPHIA.		
Flour—Penn. Extra	6.37	@ 6.75
Wheat—Western Red	1.65	@ 1.70
White	1.80	@ 1.82
Corn—Yellow	.79	@ .80
Mixed	.77	@ ..
Seed—Clover	.10½	@ .12
Timothy	..	@ 5.25
Petrolum—Crude	17¾	refined 24½

[From the New York Independent.]

The Northern Pacific Railroad.

BY SCHUYLER COLFAX, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Midway across the continent—at the head of twelve hundred miles of Lake navigation — a thousand miles from Buffalo, the western terminus of the Erie Canal, and as near to it by water as Chicago—a hundred miles west of the longitude of St. Louis or Galena—is the young city of Duluth, the initial point of the Northern Pacific Railroad. That great work, so magnificently endowed by the Government, is already being pushed rapidly westward, under its energetic controllers; and before the snow flies next Fall, it will be completed to the western line of Minnesota, where it crosses the Red River of the North—which runs northward to Lake Winnipeg—and one-eighth of its distance to the Pacific Ocean will have been accomplished. Commencing too, this season on its western line, the work will be prosecuted from both directions, and long before the nation celebrates its Centennial Anniversary of Independence, the Lakes will be united by iron bands with that Mediterranean of our Northwest, Puget Sound.

Of the auspicious influence of this enterprise, which but a few years ago would have been considered so daring, the most sanguine of its friends have scarcely yet a full realization. Even taking Chicago as a starting point, it will be (*via* St. Paul, where an arm of the Northern Pacific Railroad is reached) two hundred miles less to Puget Sound than to San Francisco. Besides this, vessels from the Golden Gate to China sail on what is called the grand circle, instead of in a straight line; and any one testing this by a string on a globe will be surprised at the result, if they have not previously studied the effect of the rotundity of the earth, and its diminished protuberance as you go northward towards the Pole. Hence, when they have sailed eight hundred miles from San Francisco they are only one hundred miles from the entrance to Puget Sound; and this striking fact shows the advantages this route will have in commanding the through traffic of Asia with our Atlantic States, of that portion of it which will pass over the soil of that nation on the road to Europe.

Nor is this all. Development is the great duty of the Republic, after all its recent trials. Resources are the gift of the Creator. Developing them depends on the work of man. Along the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, as it follows up the water-courses, the Missouri and the Yellowstone on this side, and descends by the valley of the Columbia on the other, a vast body of agricultural land is waiting for the plough, with a climate almost exactly the same as that of New York, except that, with less snow, cattle, in the larger portion of it, can subsist on the open range in winter. Here, if climate and fertility of soil produce their natural result, when railroad facilities open this now isolated region to settlement, will soon be seen waving grain-fields, and happy homes, and growing towns; while ultimately a cordon of prosperous states, teeming with population, and rich in industry and consequent wealth, will occupy that now undeveloped and almost inaccessible portion of our continental area.

But this road is fortunate also in its pathway across the two ranges of moun tains which tested so severely the Pacific Railroads built on the central line, and the overcoming of which reflected such well-deserved honor on their energetic builders. At the Deer Lodge Pass, in Montana, where it crosses the Rocky Mountains, its altitude above the sea is 3,500 feet less than the Union Pacific Railroad at Sherman, which is said to be the highest point at which a locomotive can be found in the world. And on the Pacific side of the continent it is even more fortunate. From Arizona up to the Arctic Circle the Columbia is the only river which has torn its way through that mighty range, the Andes of North America, which in California is known as the Sierras, but which in Oregon changes its name to the Cascades. Nature has thus provided a pathway for the Northern Pacific Road through these mountains, the scaling of which, on the other line, at an elevation of over seven thousand feet (a most wonderful triumph of engineering), cost the Central Pacific company millions of dollars, and compelled them, for seventy miles, to maintain a grade of over one hundred feet to the mile—twice the maximum of the Northern Pacific at the most difficult point in its entire route.

It is fortunate, also, in its terminus on the Pacific coast. No one who has not been there can realize the beauty of Puget Sound and its surroundings. One hundred miles long, but so full of inlets and straits that its navigable shore-line measures seventeen hundred and sixty miles, dotted with lovely islets, with gigantic trees almost to the water's edge, with safe anchorage every where, and stretching southward, without shoals or bars, from the Straits of Fuca to the capital and center of Washington Territory, it will be a magnificent *entrepot* for the commerce of the grandest ocean in the world, the Pacific. * * * The Land Grant of the United States, exceeding Fifty Millions of acres in the winter-wheat region of our nation (ten times as large as the area of Mass). is doubtless sufficient for the completion of the road; but, besides this, millions of private means are already invested in it. The bonds based on the Land Grant, and a mortgage on the road itself in addition, are being sold as rapidly as the money is needed; and, as an investment, yielding about eight per cent. per year in currency, rank already with the best class of railroad securities. And thus the good work will go on with unchecked step to its final consummation, carrying the blessings of settlement, development, civilization, and christianity with it in its progress, and literally causing the wilderness to blossom as the rose.

The Result of Application.—Seek to acquire the power of continuous application, without which you cannot expect success. If you do this, you will soon be able to perceive the distance which it creates between you and those who have not acquired such a habit. You will not count yourself, nor will they count you as one of them. Thus you will find youself emerging into the higher regions of intellectual and earnest men; men who are capable of making a peace for themselves, instead of standing idle saying, desiring a place without the power to command it. Keep on striving to accomplish more and more every day, and thus enlarge constantly the range of your intellectual ability. If you learn to do as much work in one day as you used to do in two or three days, you are as good as two or three such men as you formerly were, condensed into one.

A Sad Case.—One of the saddest cases of suicide lately put on record took place in Illinois the other day. A young girl, only fifteen years of age, took a dose of arsenic, and, despite the efforts of the physician, who was called in, died shortly afterwards. The cause of the deed was attributed to the unkindness and ill treatment she had received at home.

New York Notes.

[By our own Correspondent.]

Most of us Gothamites were wofully disappointed that the census did not give us over a million of inhabitants, and disposed at first to think that our Uncle's enumerators had missed some figures somewhere. But we have pretty much settled down into the belief that the folks were not at home—that the million, like the millionaire, has not come yet. And we see one of the chief reasons why not. We have no adequate facilities for rapid and comfortable transit to the upper end of the island, and so the population of all the neighboring cities and villages grows out of proportion to ours. The remedy is some sort of a road on the earth, or above it or under it, that will transport us and our wives and children rapidly and well. Various are the projects. A little bit of a pneumatic tunnel, which proposes to blow us up town, if only the leave of the legislature can be got, has already been constructed, and is on exhibition; but as yet its builders have the right to carry freight only. It is by no means certain that such a mole-like mode would satisfy the public, if the right to attempt carrying passengers could be obtained. There is also the very melancholy elevated railroad in Greenwich St. and 7th Avenue, upon which a steam dummy has lately been placed, and from which the promoters expect a great deal. But it has not begun to run yet, and it is very doubtful whether people will extensively patronize that way of getting high. Another plan proposes an elevated tunnel, supported on iron columns and arches, the cars to be propelled by air; but we fear its projectors will not be able to raise the wind necessary. The proposal which looks most feasible, however, and which is most likely to be carried out successfully to a practical result, is that the city shall build the much needed road. Many people believe that to provide such necessary conveniences for the use of the citizens is a work pre-eminently appropriate to be done by the city, and they point to the Croton Water Works and Central Park as examples of the advantages to be derived from such improvements so done. It is certain that several liberal charters have been granted to private persons, many of our most solid citizens among them, but of all nothing has resulted; while no one doubts that if the city should undertake the thing, it would be done, and probably well done. And "it were well, 'twere done quickly."

Our new post office will be well done, no doubt, but it won't be done quickly, if the past is any criterion for the future. The world moves, and so does the building. It is a shame that this great metropolis should be compelled to use for its post office a thing of shreds and patches so utterly unsuitable as its present burrow; but we shall have to endure it, with only the encouragement that the new one will be really first-class and worthy, whenever it is completed.

We have lately been a good deal agitated on the question of the stability of our life insurance companies. Our confidence has received a rude shock by the failure of two companies, which have lately been wound up by our vigilant Superintendent. In the case of the Great Western there is no charge of dishonesty, but the assets were not what they appeared to be, and could not be collected. The amount necessary to reinsure the risks, or as it is called, the reserve, was not there; only the shadow of it remained. Thousands of persons, whose families depend upon the solvency of life insurance companies for protection in the event of the death of the breadwinner, are anxiously asking how far this weakness extends. If two companies fail, why may not others? If the Great Western, which had a nominally sufficient reserve, proved not really to have it, how are we to be sure that any company has what it professes to have? This is a fair question, and entitled to a fair answer. Happily there is a way in which it can be satisfactorily answered. The system of State deposit and State registration fully meets this question, and removes all doubts. Other companies may be, and doubtless many are, safe and sound, but a registration company *must be.* Why? Because they deposit with the Insurance Department at Albany, the entire sum necessary to meet their liabilities to their policy holders; that is, the amount necessary to reinsure their risks, or the "reserve." This "reserve" is calculated by the Department according to the law which was originally passed at the suggestion of Mr. N. D. Morgan, President of the North America Life Insurance Co., to whose sagacity and love of justice we owe the Registration System, and the deposits to meet it can only be made in bonds and mortgages, and State, and United States stocks, the former of which must be approved by the Department. The law provides for the keeping of these securities in such a manner that it is almost an impossibility that they should ever be stolen, and certain that the thief could make no use of them if any one should by any possibility ignorantly steal them. Under this system there can be no doubtful or bogus items in the reserve, and the reserve is the citadel of life insurance, when that is safe, all is safe, when that is lost, all is lost.

The policy holders of the North America Life Insurance Company know not only that the trustees who have charge of the funds which they have devoted to the protection of their loved ones are honest, but that they have chosen to demonstrate to all the world that they are so, by *putting it out of their power to be otherwise.* This final crowning glory of life insurance entitles such a company to be called the safest financial institution in existence.

There can be no fears or doubts about it; probably most, if not all companies will sooner or later be forced to imitate the North America; meanwhile all honor to the originator and pioneer.

There is also a curious state of things in the fire insurance business, but I have already spun out this letter to such a length that I must reserve that for another time.

Scribner's Monthly for April.

Scribner's Monthly for April is bright and readable. Among the articles that will attract immediate attention, may be mentioned Mr. Crapsey's paper, "The Anthracite Problem," presenting an interesting history of the Pennsylvania coal troubles,—tracing the causes of the recent strike, and pointing out the means by which such disastrous difficulties may be averted. Dr. Holland discusses, in the "Topics of the Time," "Professional Morality," "The Temperance Question and the Press," and "The San Domingo Question." The illustrated articles are "Life in the Cannibal Islands" (a second and exceedingly valuable paper from Mr. J. C. Bates); a curious microscopic disquisiton on "The Fly;" an account of the recent "Discovery of Antique Silver" in Europe, and an article on "Children who Work." "A Breakfast with Alexandre Dumas," by Mr. John Bigelow, "A Gentleman's Prerogative;" a thrilling sketch of the "Martyr Church of Madagascar;" the beautiful closing chapters of Hans Andersen's "Lucky Peer," and poems by W. C. Wilkinson, (author of the Bondage of the Pulpit articles), and others. The publishers promise great attractions for their second volume, which begins in May—among other things a fine portrait of McDonald, whose "Wildfrid Cumbermede" is proving so popular; a new story by Mrs. Oliphant; some marvelous chapters of discovery; sketches and portraits of American artists, &c., &c. Our readers should remember that this lively and sterling monthly is one dollar cheaper than any of the other leading magazines.

American Eating.—We all eat too much, says Dr. Lewis. Our American system of diet is bad. There is too great a variety; the food is too rich; the cooking is bad; we eat too often, and we eat at the wrong times. Dr. Lewis gives an account of a dinner at the house of a lady who is recognized as standing at the head of the intellectual aristocracy of a most intellectual and refined city. The plate and crockery were most beautiful. The dinner consisted of four little courses: 1st, a small glass of lemonade; 2nd, a bit of melon; 3d, roast beef and sweet potatoes; 4th, ice-cream. Nothing should be eaten after dinner, and dinner should be taken early in the day, not later if possible, than 2 o'clock. Eat nothing between meals, not even an apple or a peach. Avoid cake, pies, all sweetmeats, nuts, raisins, and candies. Wine and liquors Dr. Lewis will not tolerate, and no young woman who is ambitious of a clear, fine skin will drink tea. Tea compromises the complexion. probably by deranging the liver. The best plan is to drink nothing but cold water, and as little as possible of that, except that one or two glasses on lying down at night and on rising in the morning will be found useful.

Godey for April well maintains the reputation so justly due this veteran. Its plates are life-like while its fashions are all that the ladies can desire. Godey has been so long in the front rank that we always expect it superb and we are not often disappointed. We do not believe we shall be so long as L. A. Godey lives, and we hope he has a long lease of life and plenty of work in him for years to come.

A Heavy Cloud.—Old Captain Blank, of Stonington, relates the following remarkable incident that occurred while on the passage from New York, some years ago. He observed, one summer afternoon, a heavy cloud arise from the land, and, to his great surprise, approach the vessel. Suddenly it broke near him, and millions of mosquitos covered the deck of the vessel to several inches, while part of the flock went through the mainsail, leaving nothing but the bolt ropes idly hanging to the spars. Corroborative evidence to this astonishing tale was found in the person of a down-east skipper, who heard the story, and who, on comparing dates with the narrator, declared that two days afterward his ship was boarded by a part of the same flock, and they all wore canvas breeches.

The attention of the musical world has been much attracted by the improvements in organ making introduced by George Woods & Co., in their new styles of Parlor and Vestry Organs. They invite the attention of all interested in music, and the elevation of all that pertains to it; to their advertisement in another column. All organists, teachers, and music dealers are invited to examine into the merits of their instruments, particularly as shown in their latest style of *Number Thirteen Celeste Organ.*

There has been a curious breach of promise action in London, the converse of the usual case. The plaintiff had been jilted by a lady of fortune, being himself dependent on his father. The jury gave him $750.

Brown's Bronchial Troches, for pul monary and Asthmatic Disorders, have *proved* their efficacy by a test of many years, and have received testimonials from eminent men who have used them.

Those who are suffering from Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, &c., should try "*The Troches,*" a simple remedy which is in almost every case effectual.

The Hair.—Chatelaine braids are as popular braids and as notable as ever. The false ones are fastened on the top of the head and looped under below. Those possessing hair of their own of moderate thickness and length deftly plait a false braid beneath their natural hair, making the braids more ponderous, and at the same time gives a natural look to the arrangement, which is above all things most to be desired. Curls are worn down the centre beneath the braids. The hair in front is slightly waved, and is becoming, brushed back over a pompadour roll.

It is a great mistake to suppose that the cause of rheumatism, neuralgia or gout exists where the pain is experienced. The source of these diseases is generally *urea* in the blood, and it is one of the special properties of Dr. Walker's Vegetable Vinegar Bitters to neutralize this deposit, while it renovates the relaxed kidneys and thus prevents them from permitting a portion of their secretion to escape through improper channels. Torpidity of the stomach has also much to do with the vitiation of the blood, and upon this organ the Bitters act directly as a stimulant and invigorant.

Behind the Times. — The Japanese have but one newspaper, which comes out once a month, in the shape of a stitched pamphlet of about 100 pages. It has been established a little more than a year. The country boasts also of one railway, twenty miles long; but others are in progress.

The purest and sweetest Cod-Liver Oil in the world is Hazard & Caswell's, made on the sea-shore, from fresh, selected livers, by Caswell, Hazard & Co., New York. It is absolutely *pure* and *sweet.* Patients who have once taken it prefer it to all others. Physicians have decided it superior to any of the other oils in market.

IMPROVED

TIN-LINED LEAD PIPE.

PURE WATER

Price per pound greatly reduced. To satisfy the public beyond the possibility of doubt as regards both the strength and durability of our Tin-Lined Lead Pipe we have recently increased the thickness and weights of the several sizes and letters, making them in all cases, to correspond exactly with like sizes and letters of the ordinary Lead Pipe. This establishes our Tin-Lined Lead Pipe as the strongest flexible pipe in use. With the increase in weight, we have also reduced the price per pound nearly one-half, making the cost per foot on the heavy pipe, adapted to plumbing, about the same, as before; whilst the lighter pipes, used extensively for conveying water from springs and ponds, are reduced in cost fully one-third. Architects and Plumbers cannot fail to be satisfied, that with weight for weight, and thickness for thickness, a pipe so constructed is decidedly stronger than the ordinary lead pipe. The increased thickness of the lead coating allows the joints and connections to be made with ordinary plumber's solder, without affecting the strength of the pipe. Tin-Lined Lead Pipe is 15 cents a pound for all sizes. By its use Lead and Zinc Poison or Iron Rust are all avoided. In ordering or making inquiries for price, send bore of pipe required, and head or pressure of water. Circular and sample of pipe sent by mail free. Warranted to be stronger and more durable than Lead Pipe of corresponding sizes and letters. Address the

Colwells, Shaw & Willard M'f'g. Co.,
No. 213 Centre St., New York.
Also, manufacturers of Block-Tin Pipe, Sheet Lead, Lead Pipe, Solder, &c. Orders solicited.

Be Guided by what you Know.

There is an old proverb which says, "Experience is the safest guide." To this guide the sick and ailing naturally turn when casting about for the means of relief. They inquire what a medicine has done for others, before they adopt it themselves. Of all the remedies and preventives in use, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters meets the test most triumphantly, and hence its immense popularity and vast sales. The sufferer from indigestion is sure to find some one among his friends who has been cured of that ailment by the famous vegetable stomachic. The victim of fever and ague, liver complaint, constipation, nervous prostration, or general debility, has only to make inquiry in the neighborhood where he resides in order to discover what this standard restorative has effected in cases similar to his own. In the published testimony to its merits he will find a volume of proofs of its sanitary properties, which it is impossible for his common sense to resist. He tries it, and the effect it produces on his system adds another to the host of witnesses in its favor. Thus, its reputation, founded on facts, not assertions, continually grows and spreads. Charlatans and impostors, some of them mere local tricksters, and others who take a somewhat wider range, attempt to thrust into the hands and down the throats of invalids, their haphazard concoctions, as substitutes for the tonic which for so many years has been a medicinal staple throughout the United States, Spanish America, Canada, and the West Indies, but only succeed to a very limited extent. In this reasoning age, the people, having ascertained what is really deserving of their confidence, decline "running after strange gods."

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VINEGAR, how made in 10 hours, without drugs. Particulars 10 cents. F. Sage, Cromwell, Conn.

ROANOKE VALLEY, VA. IMPROVED farms at a sacrifice. Full information free. Address, ENDLY & BOYD, Christiansville, Mecklenburg County, Va.

SECRET OF HORSE TRAINING.—Sent for 25 cents. Address, EATON J. MASURY, Boston P. O., Mass.

MYSTERY,

By DR. DEEMS. Send 10 cents for a copy. Address, LITTLE, RENNIE & Co., 645 Broadway, N. Y.

GENERAL PURCHASING AGENCY.—Parties in the Country desiring to purchase goods of any description, Address, J. M. ANDERSON, 27 Park Row, N. Y. City.

HUNTING, Trapping, and Fishing. All about it Sent Free. Address "HUNTER," Hinsdale, N. H.

RICH Rare & Racy Reading, Wit, Humor, Fun. Sent free. Address Banner, Hinsdale, N. H.

GOLD! GOLD!—My golden compound will force the beard to grow on the smoothest face in 21 days. Sent free for 50 cents. Satisfaction given or money refunded. Address, C. M. SHECK, Hadley Stat., Ill.

ADVICE. Send 50 Cents for Prescription to cure Diptheria, Diarrhea, and other frightful diseases, from an experienced Physician of 20 years now afflicted. Box 263, Denver, Colorado Territory.

$50,000 CASH GIVEN TO PURchasers of Excelsior Meat and Vegetable Chopper. Just the thing wanted in every Family. Price $3.50. One ticket with each Chopper. One Gift $30,000 and 400 Gifts of $50 each. Address, ARTISAN MANUFACTURING Co., 545 West 24th Street, New York.

$5 TO $10 PER DAY. Men, Women, Boys & Girls who engage in our new business make from $5 to $10 per day in their own localities. Full particulars and instructions sent free by mail. Those in need of permanent, profitable work, should address at once. GEORGE STINSON & Co., Portland, Maine.

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A Great Offer. Horace Waters, 481 Broadway, N. Y., will dispose of One Hundred Pianos, Melodeons, and Organs of six first-class makers, including Waters', at extremely low prices, for cash, during this month, or will take a part cash and balance in monthly or quarterly installments.

$5000 REWARD

for a superior article. $5 to $20 per day and no risk Do you want a situation as salesman at or near home, to introduce our new 7-strand *White Wire-Rope Clothes Lines, which will last forever.* Don't miss this chance Sample free. Address *Hudson River Wire Co.*, 75 William St., N. Y., or 16 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

WATCHES! WATCHES! For ladies and gentlemen. Prices reduced. We are now offering our 18 carat Hunting Case Oroide Watches, with velvet case, for $8.00. Ladies size, $7.50. Each and every one warranted to keep good and correct time for one year. CHAINS! Gents Heavy Oroide Vest Chains, all styles, for $1.50. Ladies Oroide Guard Chains $2.00. N. B.—Customers are requested not to send money in letters, as we will send goods to any parts of the United States, to be paid for when taken from the Express Office. Address all orders to J. R. SARGENT & Co., 1019½ Walnut St., Phil. Pa.

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Have for sale 1,500 acres, of best quality, on long credit, cheap.

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