A Christmas Carol.

BY CHAS. DICKENS.

I care not for Spring; on his fickle wing
Let the blossoms and buds be borne;
He woos them amain with his treacherous rain
And he scatters them ere the morn.
An inconstant elf, he knows not himself,
Nor his own changing mind an hour,
He'll smile in your face, and, with wry grimace;
He'll wither your youngest flower.

Let the Summer sun to his bright home run,
He shall never be sought by me;
When he's dimmed by a cloud I can laugh aloud,
And care not how sulky he be!
For his darling child is the madness wild
That sports in fierce fever's train;
And when love is too strong, it don't last long,
As many have found to their pain.

A mild harvest night, by the tranquil light
Of the modest and gentle moon,
Has a far sweeter sheen, for me, I ween,
Than the broad and unblushing noon.
But every leaf awakens my grief,
As it lieth beneath the tree;
So let autumn leaves be never so fair,
It by no means agrees with me.

But my song I troll out, for Christmas stout,
The hearty, the true, and the bold;
A bumper I drain, and with might and main
Give three cheers for this Christmas old!
We'll usher him in with a merry din
That shall gladden his joyous heart,
And we'll keep him up, while there's bite or sup,
And in fellowship good, we'll part.

In his fine honest pride, he scorns to hide,
One jot of his hard-weather scars;
They're no disgrace, for there's much the same trace
On the cheeks of our bravest tars.
Then again I'll sing 'till the roof doth ring,
And it echoes from wall to wall—
To the stout old wight, fair welcome to-night,
As the King of the Seasons all!

Farm, Garden and Household.

FROZEN POTATOES, says the Scientific Press, if not permitted to thaw before being cooked, can be *baked* so as to be as good as if never frozen. They can't be *boiled*, however, nor even baked if submitted to the usual cleansing process of washing.

PREVENTING BEES FROM MIGRATING.—The *Scientific Press* says: One of our bee-keepers prevents his swarms from leaving his premises by killing all the "queens" but one in each hive and then clipping one wing of each. If they then attempt to leave, they go no faster than the queen travels on foot, and are consequently easily hived. We are not sure whether this "cruel dodge" is new or not.

DO BEES NEED SALT.—B. J. Watkins, in Bee-keepers' Journal, says:—"I salt my bees whether they require it or not, and here is my method: Fill a vessel, trough, bucket, or anything that will hold water, with water, shavings and salt, and set in the yard. They will soon find it, and through May and June, and all through the breeding season, the vessel will be covered with bees. If bee-keepers would do this, their bees would not be losing time in hunting for salt-fish heads and salt encumbers."

FRENCH MODE OF FRYING POTATOES.—Cut them in whatever shape you wish, above a bowl of cold water, so they will drop into it. Then drain and wipe them dry. This must be done quickly so as not to allow the potatoes to become reddish. Have a coarse towel ready, then turn the potatoes into a colander, sprinkle salt on them, and serve hot. If you wish them light or swelled, leave the potatoes in the colander only about half a minute, then put them back in the very hot fat, stir for about a minute, and then put them again in the colander. If the fat is very hot, when dropped into it for the second time, they will swell.

THOROUGH FARMING ALONE IS PROFITABLE.—It is very certain that thorough preparation of the ground is necessary to produce abundant crops. And as just now is a favorable time to prepare ground for spring crops, we would advise farmers to lose no present opportunity of plowing the whole of their ground to be sown with oats or barley or turnips, or planted with tomatoes. A thorough farmer has his ground not only well prepared, but he sows his crops in good season, and he is far more liberally compensated than one who cannot find time to do this in a proper manner, or at a proper time. Barley and oats with us have never failed of giving a fair yield, when sown early, on fall plowed and manured land; but we have often reaped half a crop when we have by neglect failed to get them in in that manner.

HOW TO CURE HAMS.—Here is J. Howard McHenry's recipe: The meat after being cut out, must be rubbed, piece by piece, with very finely-powdered saltpeter, on the flesh side, and where the leg is cut off, a tablespoonful (not heaped) to each ham, a dessert spoonful to each shoulder, and about half that quantity to each middling and jowl; this must be rubbed in. Then salt it by packing a thin coating of salt on the flesh side of each piece, say one half inch thick, pack the pieces on a scaffolding, or on a floor with strips of plank laid a few inches apart all over it (that is, under the meat;) the pieces must be placed skin side down, in the following order:—First layer, hams; second, shoulders; third jowls; fourth, middlings—take the spare ribs out of the middlings. The meat must lie in this wise:—Six weeks if the weather is mild, eight if very cold—the brine being allowed to run off freely.

Longevity in Man and Animals.

The duration of life of larvæ in closely allied forms varies from four years or more to a week. Fleas are said to live as long as twelve months. Fish have great tenacity of life. The carp is stated to have reached one hundred and fifty years. A pike which was taken at Halibrun, in Suabia, in 1847, weighing three hundred and fifty pounds, and measuring nineteen feet, had a ring attached to it, bearing an inscription which, if genuine, would warrant us in believing the age of the fish to be at least two hundred and sixty seven years. The toad lives thirty six years, the frog from twelve to sixteen years, and various tortoises about, have seen many years if we judge from the size to which they attain. Parrots and geese reach an age between one hundred and one hundred and twenty years, and falcons and ravens outlive one hundred and fifty years, but the little wrens live only two or three years. Of mammals, the whale and the elephant have the longest term of existence, living as they do over one hundred, perhaps two hundred years; the sheep and the goat twelve years; the lion from twenty to fifty years.

Man, there is no reason to doubt, has lived long past the Psalmist's limit of threescore and ten, there being well-authenticated instances of his living over one hundred years; but it is only among highly civilized nations that satisfactory date can be obtained regarding his longevity. A minute investigation of the conditions that conduce to length of life goes to support the theory that the longevity of animals is influenced by their amount of pro-creative power, and their ability to sustain wear and tear.

MORE than 16,000 families, averaging five persons each, have applied for, and nearly all of them are still receiving aid in a greater or less degree from the Chicago Relief Committee.

The Volunteer Counsel.

John Taylor was licensed, when a youth of twenty-one, to practice at the bar. He was poor, but well educated, and possessed considerable genius. He married a beauty who afterwards deserted him for another.

On the 9th of April, 1840, the Court-House, in Clarksville, Texas, was crowded to overflowing. An exciting case was to be tried. George Hopkins, a wealthy planter, had offered a gross insult to Mary Ellison, the young and beautiful wife of his overseer. The husband threatened to chastise him for the outrage, when Hopkins went to Ellison's house, and shot him at his own door. The murderer was bailed to answer the charge. This occurrence produced great excitement, and Hopkins, in order to turn the tide of popular indignation, had circulated reports against her character, and she had sued him for slander. Both suits were pending—for murder and slander.

The interest became deeper when it was known that Asher and Pike, of Arkansas, and S. S. Prentiss, of New Orleans, by enormous fees had been retained to defend Hopkins. Hopkins was acquitted. The Texas lawyers were overwhelmed by their opponents. It was a fight of a dwarf against giants. The slander suit was for the 9th, and the throng of spectators grew in numbers as well as in excitement. Public opinion was settling in for Hopkins; his money had procured witnesses who served as powerful advocates. When the slander case was called Mary Ellison was left without an attorney—all had withdrawn.

"Have you no counsel?" enquired Judge Mills, looking kindly on the plaintiff.

"No, sir, they have all deserted me, and I am too poor to employ any more," said the beautiful Mary, bursting into tears.

"In such case, will not some chivalrous member of the profession volunteer?" said the judge, glancing round the bar.

The thirty lawyers were silent.

"I will, your honor," said a voice from the thickest of the crowd from behind the bar.

At the sound of the voice many started—it was so unearthly sweet and mournful.

The first sensation was changed into laughter when a tall, gaunt, spectral figure elbowed his way through the crowd and placed himself within the bar. His clothes looked so shabby, that the court hesitated to let the case proceed under his management.

"Has your name been entered on the rolls of the State?" demanded the judge.

"It is immaterial," answered the stranger, his thin, bloodless lips curling up with a sneer. "Here is my license from the highest tribunal in America!" And he handed the judge a broad parchment.

The trial went on.

He suffered the witnesses to tell their own story, and allowed the defence to lead off. Ashley spoke first, followed by Pike and Prentiss. The latter brought the house down in cheers, in which the jury joined.

It was now the stranger's turn. He rose before the bar, not behind it, and so near the wondering jury that he might touch the foreman, with his long, bony finger. He proceeded to tear the arguments of Ashley to pieces, and they melted away at his touch like frost before a sunbeam. Every one looked surprised. Anon he came to the dazzling wit of the poet lawyer Pike. Then the curl on his lip grew sharper, his smooth face began to kindle up, and his eyes to open, dim and dreamy no longer, but vivid as lightning, red as fire globes, and glaring as twin meteors. The whole soul was in his eyes; the whole soul streamed out of his face. Then, without bestowing an allusion to Prentiss, he turned short around on the perjured witnesses of Hopkins, and tore their testimony into threads, and hurled in their faces such terrible invectives that all trembled like aspens, and two of them fled from the Court-House. The excitement of the crowd was becoming tremendous. Their united life and soul seemed to hang upon the burning tongue of a stranger, and he inspired them with the power of his passions. He seemed to have stolen nature's long-hidden secret of attraction. But his greatest triumph was to come.

His eyes began to glance at the assassin Hopkins, as his lean, taper fingers assumed the same direction. He hemmed the wretch within a wall of evidence and impregnable argument, cutting off all hope of escape. He dug beneath the murderer's feet ditches of delemmas, and held up the slanderer to the scorn and contempt of the populace. Having thus girt him about with a circle of fire, he stripped himself to the work of massacre.

Oh! then it was a vision both glorious and dreadful to behold the orator. His actions became as impetuous as the motions of an oak in a hurricane. His voice became a trumpet filled with wild whirlpools, deafening the ear with crashes of power, and yet intermingled all the while with a sweet undersong of the softest cadence. His forehead glowed like a heated furnace, his countenance was haggered, like that of a maniac, and ever and anon he swung his long, bony arm on high, as if grasping after thunderbolts.

He drew a picture of murder in such appalling colors, that in comparison, hell itself might seem beautiful: he painted the slanderer so black that the sun seemed dark at noonday, when shining on such a monster. And then, fixing both portraits on the shrinking Hopkins, fastened them there forever. The agitation of the audience amounted almost to madness.

All at once the speaker descended from the perilous height. His voice wailed out for the murdered dead, and living—the beautiful Mary, more beautiful every moment as her tears flowed faster and faster, till men wept and sobbed like children.

He closed by a strong exhortation to the jury, and through them to the bystanders; the panel, after they should bring in a verdict for the plaintiff, not to offer violence to the defendant, however richly he might deserve it—in other words, "not to lynch the villain, but leave his punishment to God." This was the most artful trick of all, and calculated to insure vengeance.

The jury rendered a verdict of fifty thousand dollars; and the night afterward Hopkins was taken out of his bed by the lynchers, and beaten almost to death. As the court adjourned the stranger said:

"John Taylor will preach here this evening at early candle light."

He did preach, and the house was crowded. I have listened to Clay, Webster, and Calhoun—to Dwight, Bascom, and Beecher—but never heard anything in the form of sublime words even approximating to the eloquence of John Taylor—massive as a mountain, and wildly rushing as a cataract of fire.

The Presbyterians in Canada have a membership of about 50,000.

The Christmas Festival.

AN INTERESTING HISTORICAL SKETCH.

The institution of the Christmas festival is attributed by the spurious Decretals to Telesphorus, who flourished in the reign of Antoninous Pius (138,-161 A. D.), but the first certain traces of it are found about the time of the Emperor Commodus (184-305 A.D.). While that ruler was keeping court at Nicomedia, he learned that a multitude of Christians were asembled in the city to celebrate the birthday of Jesus, and having ordered the church doors to be closed, he set fire to the building, and all the worshippers perished in the flames.

It does not appear, however, that there was any uniformity in the period of observing the nativity among the early churches; some held the festival in the month of April or May, others in January. It is, nevertheless, almost certain that the 25th of December *cannot* be the nativity of the Saviour, for it is then the height of the rainy season in Judea, and shepherds could hardly be watching their flocks by night in the plains.

Christmas not only became the parent of many later festivals, such as those of the Virgin, but especially from the 5th to the 8th century, gathered round it, as it were, several other festivals, partly old and partly new, so that what may be termed a Christmas Cycle sprang up which surpassed all other groups of Christian holidays in the manifold richness of its festal usages, and furthered, more than any other, the completion of the orderly and systematic distribution of church festivals over the whole year. Not casually or arbitrarily was the festival of the Nativity celebrated on the 25th of December. Among the causes that co-operated in fixing this period as the proper one, perhaps the most powerful one was, that almost all the heathen nations regarded the winter-solstice as a most important point of the year, as the beginning of the new life and activity of the powers of nature, and of the gods, who were originally merely the symbolical personifications of these. In more northerly countries this fact must have made itself peculiarly palpable—hence the Celts and Germans, from the oldest times, celebrated the season with the greatest festivities. At the winter-solstice, the Germans held their great Yule-feast, in commemoration of the fiery sun-wheel; and believed that during the twelve nights reaching from the 25th of December to the 6th of January, they could trace the personal movements and interferences on earth of their great deities, Odin, Berchta, &c. Many of the beliefs and usuages of the Old Germans, and also of the Romans, relating to this matter, passed over from heathenism to Christianity, and have partly survived to the present day. But the church also sought to combat and banish—and it was to a large extent successful—the deep-rooted heathen feeling, by adding, for the purification of the heathen customs and feasts which it retained, its liturgy, besides dramatic representations of the birth of Christ, and the first events of his life. Hence sprang the so-called "Manger-songs," and a multitude of Christmas carols, as well as Christmas dramas, which, at certain times and places, degenerated into farces or fools' festivals. Hence also originated, at a later period, the Christ trees, or Christmas trees, adorned with lights or gifts, the custom of reciprocal presents, and of special Christmas meats and dishes, such as Christmas rolls, cakes, currant-leaves, dumplings, &c. Thus, Christmas became a universal social festival for young and old, high and low, as no other Christian festival could have become.

In the Roman Catholic Church, three masses are performed at Christmas—one at midnight, one at daybreak, and one in the morning. The day is also celebrated by the Episcopal Church; special psalms are sung; a special preface is made in the Communion service, and in England the Athanasian Creed is said and sung. The Lutheran Church also observes Christmas; but most other denominations reject it, in its religious aspect, as a "human invention," and as "savoring of Papistical will worship," although every body keeps it as a social holiday, on which there is a complete cessation from all business. But within the last hundred years, the festivities once appropriate to Christmas have much fallen off. In England these lasted with more or less brilliancy till Candlemas, and with great spirit till Twelfth-day; but now, a meeting in the evening composed, when possible, of the various branches and members of a family, is all that distinguishes the day above others.

Antiquity of Man.

Professor Duncan, in addressing the British Association upon the principal geological changes which have occurred in Europe since the appearance of man, premised that no trace of man has been found associated with any deposits formed during the glacial period in Northern Europe. The earliest remains of man and his works, and of the beasts associated with him and hunted by him, rest upon these deposits resulting from glacial causes, and are, therefore, later in time. A second period, however, of mountain glacialization took place, when the glaciers of the Alps and Pyrenees, especially, extended far into the districts below them. This was subsequent to the existence of man, since the mud and gravel produced by the grinding down of the mountain sides during this period, and its stratification over the plains, are found to cover the remains of man and his works; and, therefore, to be of a later epoch.

This second glacialization, and the arrangement of the wash, are suggested as forming a line of separation between the paleolithic period, when man used rude stone weapons, and the neolithic period, when smooth, polished instruments were manufactured; and, in general sense, marking the time when the great mammalia disappeared from the northern and western parts of Europe.

Among the principal geological changes which occurred after the appearance of man in Europe, our author enumerates the subsidence of an area of land which connected Sicily with Crete and Northern Africa north of the Sahara; the formation of the Straits of Gibraltar; the excavation of the valleys of Northern and Eastern France; the separation of the coasts of France and England, in the region about Dover and Calais, and that of the Isle of Wight from the main land; the formation of a great part of the British Channel; a considerable upheaval of the Scandinavian peninsula and Denmark; the uprise of the Desert of Sahara in Africa, after the second extension of the Alpine glacier.

FROM Havana comes the oft-repeated assertion that the Cuban insurgents are on their last legs. One item of the despatch is probably true: "Not a house is left standing in the whole country between Las Tunas and Moron, and the desolation that prevails is terrible."

The first pair of India-rubber shoes ever seen in the United States were brought here in 1830.

A Murderer Hung.

John Ware, who was hung in New Jersey, for the murder of his father, seems to have possessed many brutal attributes. The execution created no small excitement, owing to the celebrity bestowed on the murderer by the local journals, and the fact that he had hung, Mahomet-like, between life and death in the argumentative coffin of law for months past. Adjudged to die at last by the final mandate of justice, he died today, fearing nothing, admitting nothing, defying every thing, a blasphemous wretch, cursing at the verge of eternity. The story of the murder is thus told by a newspaper correspondent: Near the village of Long-a-Coming, lived the Ware family. The old man, John A. Ware, his wife, his son and murderer, John Ware, and his daughter, Patience Ware. The family was not especially distinguished for advanced intelligence or elevated character. The folks in the vicinity and neighbors used to say that the old man used to beat the old woman and the old womanr eturn the compliment, both being drunk at such time, and the only decent one of the lot was the daughter Patience Ware, married to a decent man named George Williamson. The son John Ware, was dogged, ignorant, and brutal. The smallest trace of refinement was wanting in him, and he was noted for his despicable animal propensities and passions. His mind was always bent on something low and inhuman, and his actions the natural result of whatever little of mind he had left himself were of a similar character.

Patience Ware, the daughter, and her husband, George Williamson, were living with the old man at his residence, near Long-a-Coming. On the 16th of August, 1870, John Ware, the murderer, had a quarrel with his brother-in-law. He slapped his sister in the face, and the brother-in-law interfered. Williamson went out of the place and up the Cross Keys Road. There was an old gun, a broken-down musket, standing in one corner of the kitchen. John Ware caught it up, and fired at his brother-in-law. The shot missed, and John went on his way. He passed by the elder Ware, the latter going toward the house. As he passed he said to him: "John is frantic, and fired at me just now," and the old man Ware said: "He's a damned scoundrel." Williamson went on, and in five minutes heard a shot. He could see nothing, but his heart told him there had been murder. He went back and found that John Ware had brutally murdered his father.

In the Ware residence there lived also a woman named Mary Ann Champion or White. She was the housekeeper, and her character was none of the best. She was looking out of a second-story window. She saw the old man Ware coming along in the middle of the road and reach the house. John Ware was in the front yard, the gun in his hand. The old man called out, "Go into the house, John, and put up the gun." Ware made no reply, except to level the gun and aim it at the father. The old man said, "You wouldn't shoot your old father, John." "Give me some money quick," replied the son. The old man laughed, and said that when the son should have finished chopping wood he would pay him. John Ware then said "You —— old grey-haired —— of a ——, I'll shoot you," and leaning the gun on a post, fired it. The buckshot entered old Ware's brain, and he fell dead. The parricide rifled his pockets of $160 and fled away. The alarm was spread and officers put upon the track of Ware. That night he was seen in a store at Glendale, and from there traced to Camden. Just as he was entering the ferry-boat at Camden for Philadelphia he was arrested. On his person was found $22 in currency, $140 in bills, and a $5 counterfeit note.

Dodson and Fogg.

The practice of that celebrated firm of London attorneys which took the case of Mrs. Bardell vs. Samuel Pickwick "on speculation" has been regarded, ordinarily, as but an invention of a great novelist, or an example of what is occasionally done by the lowest class of pettifoggers only. It appears, however, from a long report in the Albany *Journal* that the capital of New York can boast a speculative legal house capable of vast improvement upon the English examplar. An Albanian's little child, some three or four years old, having been killed by the fall of a carelessly balanced pile of boards in a lumber yard of that city, the bereaved father brought suit against the proprietors of the yard for the sum of $5,000. Being in a condition of bankruptcy himself, with several judgments impending for the seizure of any property which might at any time come under his name, the litigating parent was suddenly enjoined from receiving the damages he was anticipating in his own suit, and from thence ensued a supplemental examination, revealing that he had agreed to give his lawyers a third of whatever sum they might extract for him from the lumbermen. The latter gentlemen, anticipating from this partnership arrangement that the speculative fight against them was likely to partake much more of endless chicaneries of law than of a definite spirit of equity, privately offered the father a certain sum in settlement of his claim, to be given in such a way that no "judgments" could reach it. To this the sire of the crushed infant gladly agreed; but, upon motion of the attorney of the lumbermen to have the case dismissed from court on the strength of such private settlement, the plaintiff's lawyers utterly refused to recognize the latter. Despite their client's direction to the contrary they insisted upon moving the cause for trial at the next circuit, and have persisted in going on with the suit, although that client makes affidavit that their proceedings are wholly unauthorized by him and against his desire and wish. Prior to the settlement with the father the lawyer of the lumbermen had waited upon these speculating, sharp practitioners with a liberal offer, but they were bent upon having their "third" of the $5,000 without discount, and it is expected that the court will be obliged to concede their right to try the case. What was the professional ignobility of Mrs. Bardell's legal advisers in taking her suit "on shares" to the much more tremendous audacity of these American attorneys, who not only find a profitable judicial speculation in the crushing of a child, but wholly disregard the wishes of that child's father for a settlement not awarding a full third of the damages to themselves? "Granting," says the *Journal*, "that, by a decision of the Court of Appeals, an attorney may take a case on shares, is there not still a higher law in virtue of which honorable men are estopped from speculation in human misery? The attorneys for the plaintiff in this case may claim that they are on legally justifiable ground. 'One third interest' is nominated in the bond, and they propose to use a mangled baby to the best advantage. It certainly shows a fine eye for business, but hardly so refined a perception for decency and professional etiquette."

A Missouri musician sat down upon a keg of powder and began to smoke. They found one button.

Christmas and the Dying Year.

"A merry, merry Christmas;
To crown the closing year;
Peace and good-will to mortals,
And words of holy cheer!
What though the dreary landscape
Be robed in drifted snow,
If on the social hearth-stone
The Christmas fire may glow?"

The year is almost finished; December, formerly the tenth, but now the twelfth and last month, has come; winter has spread his snowy mantle over the face of nature, and the short days are carrying us rapidly onward to the end. But although these are the days

"When icicles hang by the wall,
And Dick the shepherd blows his nail,
And Tom bears logs into the hall,
And milk comes frozen home in pail,"

December is generally a happy month, and it is crowned with the Christmas holidays, now almost universally observed. Like many other festivities and ceremonies, Christmas has a double origin. As a day set apart in commemoration of the birth of Christ, its first observance known to history was not far from the close of the second century. There has been much controversy as to the true date of Christ's birth, and although the 25th of December was at last decided upon as the day of celebration, it is generally conceeded that it does not correspond with actual date of the Saviour's nativity. But it is in the spirit, more than a mere date, that is of importance. The heathen nations, far back in antiquity, held various festivals at this time of the year, and the Church, in the early days of Christianity, tried to give a sacred character to them, and thus, while to a certain extent retaining the old customs, advance in interests of true religion.

Christmas, and the old and new year have been favorite themes with the poets, and these lines of Tennyson are well adapted for this place:—

"Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light;
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

"Ring out, the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow;
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

"Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be."

SOUTHERN CLAIMS.—The Commission on Southern Claims have reported on the cases decided by them, 580 in number. In these cases the amount claimed is $1,656,357; the amount allowed is $344,168; and the amount disallowed $1,312,189. The whole number before the Commission is 10,099, and the amount claimed is $26,599,000. The line is rigidly drawn between the loyal and the disloyal, and the burden of proof of loyalty is placed on the claimant, The Commission has regarded voluntary residence in an insurrectionary State during the war as *prima facie* evidence of disloyalty, to be rebutted by satisfactory evidence.

Counterfeits.

It is an easy matter to distinguish the genuine Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy from the spurious imitations in the market, the genuine having printed upon the outside wrapper the words, "Dr. R. V. Pierce, M. D., Sole Proprietor, Buffalo, N. Y." Also has upon wrapper the Doctor's private U. S. Government stamp, bearing upon it his portrait, name and address, which of itself is a perfect guarantee of genuineness. 578.

SHARP BIRDS.—Dr. Buchanan, in a letter to the Rev. Mr. Brown, of Calcutta, says: "I write this at the bottom of the lofty mountain called Cape Comovin, whose rocky head seems to overhang its base. The birds which build pendulous nests are very numerous. At night each of their little habitations is lighted up, as if to see company. The sagacious bird fastens a bit of clay to the top of the nest, and picks up a firefly and sticks it upon the clay, to illuminate the dwelling, which consists of two rooms. Sometimes there are three or four flies, and the blaze of light in the little cell dazzles the eyes of the bats which often kill the young of these birds.

CHAPPED HANDS, face, rough skin, pimples, ringworm, salt-rheum, and other cutaneous affections, cured, and the skin made soft and smooth, by using the JUNIPER TAR SOAP, made by CASWELL, HAZARD & CO., New York. It is more convenient and easily applied than other remedies, avoiding the trouble of the greasy compounds now in use.—*Com.*

Any person after using half a can of J. Monroe Taylor's Cream Yeast Baking Powder, if not satisfied, can have their money returned; we call this a fair proposition. Try it.—*Com.*

FOR AN IRRITATED THROAT, Cough or Cold "*Brown's Bronchial Troches*" are offered with the fullest confidence in their efficacy. They maintain the good reputation they have justly acquired.—*Com.*

THE DAY AFTER A DEBAUCH the parched tongue, nausea, shivering, and febrile symptoms, prove that poison has entered the veins and arteries, and been circulated with the blood through every organ. More slowly, but not less certainly, the use of the Alcoholic Astringents sold as medicines, depresses the vital fluid and wrecks the nervous system. Touch them not, taste them not. IN DR. WALKER'S VINEGAR BITTERS you have a pure temperance tonic, blood depurent, alterative and laxative, of unparalleled efficacy, and absolutely harmless.—*Com.*

We were pleased to see, not long since, in one of our exchanges, some pretty severe remarks addressed to several persons who, during an interesting lecture by Rev. Jno. S. C. Abbott, kept a continuous coughing, which prevented many from hearing. People who cannot refrain from coughing, had better stay away from such places, or else take a bottle of *Johnson's Anodyne Liniment* with them.—*Com.*

The importance of giving *Sheridan's Cavalry Condition Powders* to horses that have been out in the cold rain, stood in cold wind, or drank too much cold water, cannot be over estimated; no man should be without them who owns a good horse.—*Com.*

WESTWARD HO! Full particulars of a new colony now forming sent free. Address W. E. Pabor, No. 3, Bowling Green, New York city.

COLLINS & CO.'S CAST STEEL PLOWS, only $5.00 each. For information how to obtain them, address, Collins & Co., 212 Water street, New York.

The Secret of Captivation.—Features of Grecian mould, a well-turned neck and beautifully rounded arms, are no doubt very nice things to have, and ladies who possess these charms have reason to be thankful to Mother Nature; yet, after all, the most captivating of all womanly charms is a pure, fresh and brilliant complexion. This superlative fascination any lady may secure by using HAGAN'S MAGNOLIA BALM, the standard beautifying preparation of the present age. It differs from all ordinary cosmetics in three most essential particulars, inasmuch as it contains no injurious ingredients, does not contract or shrivel the skin as all the astringent "blooms," "lotions," and "powders" eventually do, but produces a lasting loviness by improving the health of the skin. Under its operation the texture of the epidermis becomes finer, and the surface soft as velvet and smooth as porcelain. Features can not be changed, but complexions can; and it is quite certain that a lady with no other charm than a fresh and rosy complexion will attract more admiration in company than her neighbor with classical face but sallow skin.

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