

THE HOME CIRCLE.

If We Knew.

If we knew the cares and crosses, Crowding round our neighbor's way, If we knew the little losses, Sorely grievous day by day, Would we then so often chide him For his lack of thrift and gain, Leaving on his heart a shadow, Leaving on our lives a stain?

If we knew the clouds above us, Held by gentle blessings there, Would we turn away all trembling In our blind and weak despair? Would we shrink from little shadows, Lying on the drowsy grass, While the merry birds of Eden, Just in mercy flying past?

If we knew the silent story, Quivering through the heart of Cain, Would our maddest dare to doom him Back to haunts of guilt again? Late hath many a tangled crossing, Joy hath many a break of view, And the checks, tear-washed, are white, This the blessed angels know.

Let us reach into our bosoms For the key to other lives, And with love and erring nature, Cherish good that still survives, So that when our disrobed spirits Soar to realms of light again, We may say, dear Father, Judge us, As we judge our fellow men.

Husband and Wife in Kansas.

In the Rural, of April 10th, I find the following: "In Kansas, the husband and wife, under the law, enjoy equal rights and privileges in all things, save the right to elective franchise. The wife holds all the property she had at the time of her marriage, and all she acquires afterward in her own right, the same as the husband does. The wife may buy, sell, trade and carry on business in her own name, the same as her husband. And when she dies her property descends, one-half to her husband and one-half to her children, and if no children, then the whole goes to her husband. The same rule applies to wife and children in case of the death of the husband."

The statement that, "in Kansas, husband and wife, under the law, enjoy equal rights and privileges in all things, except the elective franchise" is not true, and never can be of any State in the Union, while the fundamental law of civil marriage is that of the English "common law." Proudly in advance of all the States, in the absolute equality of the sexes in educational rights and privileges, Kansas must blush for her marital code in presence of Louisiana.

In treaty by which our Government acquired Louisiana, it was stipulated that the English common law of marriage should not supersede Spanish law and custom in that territory. And nowhere are the social amenities of the domestic relations more marked than in the homes of Louisiana, where as wife or widow or mother, woman is the peer of man in those relations.

As far as it goes, the above statement of Kansas law is correct, but the writer neglected to state—was perhaps ignorant of the fact—that the property accumulated, or preserved intact, by the joint industry of husband and wife, is the husband's, to manage, use or give away (except to his wife), at his pleasure. If the husband neglects to defend it, the wife may sue and defend, in her own name, as if single. At the husband's decease, one-half of his property—the joint earnings being probated, as part and parcel of his property—descends to his widows, who enjoys it, not as a wife's right, but a widow's. He cannot by will, dispose of her of this. If she dies first, her share of the joint earnings is not divided to her children by his own. But at his decease, his children take half, and if he leaves a second wife, the second wife's children by him, take the share of the joint earnings, which if probate laws had distributed the estate at her decease, as at his, would have descended to the first wife's children.

The Kansas widow holds the homestead, if there be one, till she marries, or till the youngest child is twenty-one years of age; in either case the homestead is divided, and she receives one-half. Or if it cannot be divided without detriment to the interests of the heirs, it can be forced to sell, and instead of a homestead, she is "entitled" to her by the sweetest associations of her life, the widow—too old, perhaps, and feeble to make and beauty a new home—receives one half of the proceeds. ("Very hard cash," even though it may be expressed by legal tender notes.)

The widower may marry a dozen women in funeral succession, and all his children attain their needed majority, yet he is not disturbed in his possession of a "home sphere" of 160 acres, with improvements of unlimited value. The Louisiana widow holds one-half the estate, her "dot" or dowry, which could not be alienated from her or embarrassed during her husband's life, in her own right, and the use of the other half during life, with the custody and support of the minor children.)

All personal property exemptions vest in the husband, as "head of the family." He may sell, mortgage or give away exempted personal property—from the "milk cow" to the notorious "bed and board"—without consent of the wife, if they were not bought with her separate funds. At decease of the husband, the personal property exemption, which, in Kansas, is very liberal—vests in the widow, if she maintains the position of head of a family. (And here let me call attention to the fact, that a large class of wives—especially in the great centers of commerce and manufactures—whose husbands are renters only of real estate, enjoy neither homestead rights, nor equivalent securities in personal property.)

It is true that the Kansas wife "holds all the property she had at the time of her marriage, and all she acquires afterward, and may buy, sell, trade and carry on business, the same as her husband." But her right to acquire is subject to the "common-law" right of the husband to her personal services and the avails thereof. And this right of the husband holds against all wives, since the statute right to hold property, buy, sell, trade, etc., does not exempt any wife from her obligation of personal service, nor divest any husband of his right to manage, use and dispose of the property accumulated by such service; or of his right to dictate a place and mode of living, and home associations—to which his wife must conform.

Most women marry before they are of an age to have acquired property by their own efforts. But all wives under this law of personal service contribute to the estate in common, earnings equivalent, at least, to the wages received by unmarried women for like services. But to gain legal control of any portion of these earnings they must become widows.

A few women have property at marriage, and a small proportion of the whole number acquire property afterward by inheritance, bequest or gift. To such, the right to hold and use property is of inestimable value. It is both capital and credit. It is more—it is legal existence, springing—phenix like—from legal death. For this woman, who, without property in her own right, was—in judicial phrase—"dead in law," is made alive by its possession; she can sue and be sued in its interests, as if she were a

single woman. But so far as the mass of married women are concerned—those who have only earnings in the common estate, with no surplus energies, and no genius for remunerative industries, outside of the kitchen and nursery—the right to buy, sell, trade and carry on business in their own name, is about as valuable as a 600-acre sheep ranch in the mountains of the moon, with not a sheep to put on it. Their time and energies may be taxed to the utmost in rearing children and keeping the house; yet these women—the first necessity of home and State—are virtually paupers! They have no property rights; board, clothing and medicine—

The Pauper's Provision. Being the sole legal claim of the wife, in every State, except Louisiana, in consideration of housewifely service, rendered to the husband. The personal services of the wife, being the right of the husband, she cannot legally acquire anything in such service. Even with the right to buy, sell, etc., she cannot hold so much as a pet lamb—the gift of her husband—against his creditors or heirs, even though it be made to appear, that at the time of the giving, the estate of the husband was greatly in excess of his indebtedness, and his heirs abundantly able to provide for themselves.

A bill which was introduced in the Kansas Legislature empowering husband and wife to deed property and make gifts to each other, under conditions guarding the rights of creditors, was defeated, the most weighty objection reported, being by a gentleman of refinement and culture, that he "didn't want to make men of women!" As if—poor imbecile!—he had the power.

The constitutional provision recognizing the right of the wife to her property and earnings is general in its terms, and explicit enough to justify the enactment of equal laws; and I believe now as I believed when laboring for its adoption, that divested of their Dred Scott fraud of mind, Kansas courts would sustain the appeal of a wife in behalf of all her rights in property and earnings, as a constitutional franchise. The present Chief Justice, the first elected under the constitution, and whose influence on legislation is the natural result of his official position, was a member of the convention and bitterly opposed to "women's rights."

As the writer of the article in question confined his statement to property rights, I have done the same, only noticing the wife's personal status in its property connections.

The spirit moves me to add, by way of conclusion, that our law of civil marriage, the growth of an age in which brute force ruled, whether for good or ill, and weak men and weaker women found their best estate as vassals and wards of the stronger, which law descended to us from monarchical England, like a deadly emblem in honey, is now the "bond slave" of our Republican Government.

When the person and property of the wife were the husband's to fight for and die for, as against his neighbors and fellow subjects, her rights of person and property were, by common consent, vested in him, as were the rights of minors in parents and guardians; both classes being the wards of those on whom they were dependent for protection. The orphan daughter of the noble, though past her minority, was the ward of the king, who gave her in marriage to whom he pleased. This, then, when humanity's best was achieved and held by brute force, was woman's best estate. But in an age when humanity's best is achieved and utilized by christianized moral and intellectual forces, of which force a woman is the reserve corps, to hold every Thermopylae against licensed and unlicensed sin and shame, when brute force has become the last appeal and the lowest rung in civil government, and the citizen may no longer use it to avenge wife or child, but must rely upon civil powers for their protection and his own, to remain the ward of irresponsible guardians (which under the common law husbands are), and be legislated for on the basis of a barbarous non-age, is woman's worst estate; and the legal impersonality of the wife, in view of the increased responsibilities and needs entailed by marriage, is as impolitic for the State as it is unjust to her. Let the chief magistrate of any State in the Union, officially recommend, and persist in advocating, the enactment of laws giving the personal custody and earnings of adult single women to father, brother, or friend, to be held and controlled by such relative or friend, so long as they remain single—and he would be consigned to an insane asylum. But this is just what our law of civil marriage does for every single woman, (who in every State of the Union enjoys the same personal and property rights as a single man,) the moment she marries, with this difference, that only by divorce or widowhood can she regain the custody of her own person and personal earnings—rights enjoyed by men married or single, during life.

Why our fathers, in thrusting the British yoke from their own shoulders, should have left the halter of the serf around the necks of their wives, is not difficult to answer. Just as the Kansas Constitutional Convention, which had a clear majority in favor of woman's suffrage, dared not drop "male" as a qualification for the elective franchise lest the adoption of the constitution should be defeated by its political opponents, so our revolutionary fathers—strong in the co-operating trust and devotion of the women of the Colonies—under the apprehension of endless discussion and disaffection of a domestic and theological character, which would have complicated and possibly defeated their efforts for the establishment of a federal government, very naturally trusted the burden of woman's enfranchisement to the unconquered future. For it should be remembered that marriage, as an Anglo-Saxon institution, was not only the creation of civil power that recognized might as the superior right, but it was also the ward of an equally despotic church. And civilian and churchman, though merged in free church and free States, had not yet cast their subjective habits and customs, but carried the prejudices of both, side by side with their improved theories of free government.

Does the reader ask for the remedy, as seen from a woman's standpoint of experience and observation? An earnest believer in the divine unities of the marriage relation, I answer—it is that husband and wife be legally recognized as joint partners and proprietors in the common estate; their rights, responsibilities and obligations in their relations to each other and to their children, the same and equal; no notes, endorsements, or other obligations affecting the common interest, to be valid without the signature or consent of both; at the decease of either, one-half the estate to become the property of the survivor, with the management and use of the other half and the guardianship and support of the children. Or that the present law, compelling the settlement and distribution of the estate at the decease of the husband, be annulled, and the widow—like the widower—be left in undisturbed possession of the home which is declared to be her "sphere," and the children her "peculiar responsibility."—Mrs. C. I. H. Nichols, in Rural Praxis.

MALIBRAN used to say that the greatest compliment she ever received—far greater than the bouquets thrown upon the stage amidst the bravos of enthusiastic audiences—was when upon one occasion, as she was riding through some green lane near Highbate, and humming an air from *Maid of Artois*, two drovers stopped, "Heard, and exclaimed, 'Well, she can sing!'"

SINGULAR ANTI-PATHIES.—Chambers' Journal notices some curious aversions with which various eminent people have been afflicted—for it surely is an affliction to be unable to endure the scent of fragrant flowers or the sight of delicious fruits. The composer Gretry and Lady Heneg (bed-chamber woman to Queen Elizabeth) could not remain in a room which contained a streak rose, and it is said of the latter that her cheek was once blistered by having a white rose laid upon it while she slept. The Princess de Lamballe was well-nigh thrown into convulsions by the sight of a violet; tansy was abominable to an Earl of Barrymore; Scaliger paled before water-cresses, and there is authentic record of a soldier, otherwise brave, who would incoincidentally run from a sprig of rue. "To these instances," says the Boston Advertiser, "we can add one equally strange, which came within our own knowledge. The late General Richard A. Pierce, who was Inspector General of Massachusetts during the latter years of the war, and who was also the commandant of the recruiting rendezvous at Readville, could not bear to look at an apple of any description. His aversion to this wholesome fruit was so great that he could detect its presence in a room, even if it was concealed, and it is said that when a boy at school, he has been made ill by sitting in the seat with a companion who had placed in his pockets. It is within our knowledge that his servant once having inadvertently placed a dish of apples on the table with the dessert, General Pierce was obliged to excuse himself to his guests and leave the room."

THE GIRL WHO WINS.—The time has passed when woman must be pale and delicate, to be called interesting—when she must be totally ignorant of all practical knowledge, to be called refined and well bred—when she must know nothing of the current political news of the day, or be called masculine or strong-minded. It is not a sign of high birth or refinement to be sickly or ignorant. Those who affect anything of the kind are behind the times, and must shake up and air themselves mentally and physically, or drop under the firm strides of common-sense ideas and be crushed into utter insignificance. In these days, an active, racy-faceted girl, with brain quick and clear; warm, light heart; a temper quickly heated at intended insults or injury, and just as quick to forgive; whose feet can run as fast as her tongue, and not get out of breath; who is not afraid of freckles, nor to breathe the pure air of heaven untroubled by the drawn curtains of a close carriage; and, above all, who can speak her mind and give her opinion on important topics which interest intelligent people—is the true girl who will make a good woman.

This is the girl who wins in these days. Even fops and dandies, who strongly oppose woman's rights, like a woman who can talk well, even if she is not handsome. They weary of the most beautiful creature, if she is a fool. They say: "Aw, ya-as! she is a beauty, and no mistake. But she won't do for me—lacks brains!" for which commodity, it would seem, she could have little use in her association with them. However, to please even an empty-headed fop, a woman must have brains.

ANTS VERSUS CATERPILLARS.—The Belgian Official Journal, referring to the ignorant conduct of those who destroy all kinds of birds and insects indiscriminately, insists on the necessity of children in primary schools being taught to distinguish between useful and noxious insects, and thus to exercise their destructive faculties against the latter only. The writer proceeds to say that the ant, which is very disagreeable and inconvenient in many respects, does excellent service in chasing and destroying caterpillars with relentless energy. A farmer who had noticed this fact, and had had his cabbages literally devoured by caterpillars, at last hit upon the expedient of having an ant hill, or rather nest, such as abound in pine forests, brought to his cabbage plot. A sackful of the pine plants, abounding in ants, was obtained and its contents strewn around the infested cabbage plants. The ants lost no time, but immediately set to work; they seized the caterpillars by their heads. The next day heaps of dead caterpillars were found, but not one alive, nor did they return to the cabbages. The value of ants is well known in Germany, and although their eggs are in great request as food for young partridges, pheasants, and nightingales, there is a foe against taking them from the forests. The ant is indefatigable in hunting its prey; it climbs to the very tops of trees, and destroys an immense quantity of noxious insects.

DEPENDENCY.—What is the cause of dependency? What is the meaning of it? The cause is a weak mind, and the meaning is sin. Nature never intended that one of her creatures should be the victim of a desire to feel and look the thunder-cloud. Never depend, for one of the first entrances of vice to the heart is made through the instrumentality of dependency. We cannot expect all our days and hours to be gilded as sunshine, we must not, for mere momentary griefs, suppose that they are to be enshrouded in the mist of misery, or clouded by the opacity of sorrow and misfortune.

WEIGHED IN HIS OWN BALANCE.—A shopkeeper purchased of an Irishwoman a quantity of butter, the lumps of which, intended for pounds, he weighed in the balance and found wanting. "Shure it's your own fault if they are light," said Biddy in reply to the complaints of the buyer. "It's your own fault, sir; for wasn't it with a pound of your own soap I bought here myself that I weighed them with?" The shopkeeper had nothing more to say on that subject.

THE NEWSPAPER is the handmaid of civilization. No family can maintain its place in society without it. The man needs it for information about markets and politics; the woman needs it as a diversion from her household cares and family duties; the young need it both for amusement and instruction. Thousands of families can take but a single newspaper; and that one should be commended to their consideration which best meets all their needs.

In removing the spire of a church at Portland, Me., the hermetically sealed copper ball on its summit was opened, and found to contain a variety of odds and ends not altogether of a religious character. It would seem that, before the ball was sealed, the workmen emptied their pockets into it, as among its contents were old newspapers, play bills, pamphlets, political posters, by-laws of a fire company, a wine card, and a variety of other matters hastily deposited there.

A COW WITH A WOODEN LEG.—An English country paper records the following fact: A young cow on the farm of Mr. Wilson, in Borewolds, Cumberland, recently broke her leg. It was amputated, and a wooden leg supplied, and she is now walking about and doing well.

To an ordinary Massachusetts man, his home is now as nothing unless he has hanging behind the stove "the signal fire-lock that grandfather fired the first shot of the revolution with."

What is that of which some will be left even when you have taken the whole? The word wholesome.

The Army Overcoat.

There are many in this vicinity who wear blue army overcoats. We went down to the wood market the other day to buy a load of wood. Among the Grangers there our heart went out toward one with a tattered, soiled, blue army overcoat. We gazed at his weather-beaten face and thought, "It is to such as these that the nation owes its life. That strong arm may have upheld the flag at Gettysburg, or a ball from his trusty rifle may have unhorsed a rebel commander, and turned the tide of battle in the Wilderness." As we bargained for his load of wood and saw his eye kindle with the old game, we did not hesitate to trade with this hero. We thought it was more blessed to give a dollar to a soldier for a load of scrappy wood than to dwell in the tents of the wicked, and as he drove up the street with the wood, we followed him with much the feeling of a private following a victorious general. When the wood was unloaded we said to him: "Comrade, tell us in what department you served your country during the unholy rebellion?" The old flame came again to his eye, and as he stood upon the hind end of his wagon and with his whip tickled the off mule's ear, he said: "Rebellion! I went to Canada before the first draft. I traded a bottle of whiskey for this overcoat with a veteran who lost both arms. G'l'ang, Beecher! Get up, Liz!"

And the hero left us sitting on the ragged edge of that four dollar water elmwood sighing. But he was out of reach of those boxed shoes.

CASTING OUT THE DEVIL BY ELECTRICITY.—The recent celebrations at Northumberland and Birmingham, of the centenary of the discovery of oxygen by Dr. Priestley, brought out many curious incidents in his career, and numberless anecdotes; we select the following as characteristic: While he was a minister at Leeds, Massachusetts, a poor woman who labored under the delusion that she was possessed by a devil, applied to him to take away the evil spirit which tormented her. The doctor attentively listened to her statement and endeavored to convince her that she was mistaken. All his efforts proving unavailing, he desired her to call the next day, and in the meantime he would consider her case. On the morrow the unhappy woman was punctual in her attendance. His electrical apparatus being in readiness, with great gravity he desired the woman to stand upon the stool with glass legs, at the same time putting into her hand a brass chain connected with the conductor, and having fastened her plentifully with electricity, he told her very seriously to take particular notice of what he did. He then took up a discharger and applied it to her arm, when the escape of electricity gave her a pretty strong shock. "There," she said, "the devil's gone; I saw him off in that blue flame; and he gave me such a jerk as he went off. I have at last got rid of him, and I am now quite comfortable."

WOMAN AND WORK.—The late Mrs. Henry M. Field said: "Work, and if you cannot work with your brain, work with your hands, bravely, openly, keeping your self-respect and your independence. Work was never meant to be a curse or a sham; it is the surest element of growth and happiness. With woman rests especially the power to right her own sex as to this absurd prejudice, by working herself, when gifted with great powers, and recognizing with a real sympathy the work, however humble, of other women. If she possesses wealth, talent, or station, let her greet with womanly gentleness the timid young teacher, the obscure artist, the humble sewing girl, quick to recognize with unerring feminine tact signs of education and refinement—indulgent to the want of it."

A NARROW GUSSE man who has been laboring since the passage of the Wisconsin State law, finally produces the following: Broad is the gauge that leads to death, But Wisdom shows the narrow path. That saves—on freight and passen—ger.

MONMOUTH, Oregon, is a village containing only forty houses, and yet boasts of nine organs, three pianos, and a musical instrument not classified—a cross between a piano and a melodeon. There is also a band of fourteen performers and a number of guitars, violins, flutes and so forth.

MR. ALVAR DODGE, of Antrim (N. H.), has a calf four weeks old which has no tail, sits on his hind legs and jumps like a rabbit—so says an exchange.

The Common Council of Springfield have passed an order that all the doors in the school houses in that city shall open outward. A good idea.

DEATH BELTS.—Frequently, in cases of shipwreck, especially in comparatively smooth water, life belts would furnish a means of temporary safety until boats were got ready on shore. They would have done so in the case of the *Northfleet*, and in the still more recent instance of the *Schiller*. But the life belts must be genuine, and not pretenses for the purpose of figuring in advertisements as proofs of the care taken by the owners for the lives of their passengers. Those found upon the bodies of the *Schiller*'s victims appear to have been of the latter sort, consisting, as they did, of a few slabs of cork fastened together and to the person by one or two pieces of tape, and were thus worse than useless to a good swimmer; for it is stated that those who recovered the bodies declare that in very many instances they were found with the head under water and heels in the air, showing that the belts had really drowned instead of supporting the unfortunates who had trusted to them, by dropping down towards their hips. In this way scores of dead bodies were picked up in the water wearing belts which, if properly constructed, would have saved the life of the wearer.

BESSEMER STEEL IN SWEDEN.—According to late accounts there are now thirteen Bessemer steel works in operation in Sweden. In most of the works great attention is being paid to the production of extremely soft steel, for the manufacture of armor plates for ships. The greatest difficulty encountered in the works is in keeping up a uniform character of steel, for the reason that, for the sake of economy in production, the Bessemer steel converters are fed direct from the blast furnace. A good and uniform steel has not yet been produced direct from the ore; although it is a most important step in the progress of iron manufacture to turn out even a very inferior steel by that cheap and rapid process. The possibilities of the future in this direction are highly encouraging.

METEOROLOGY.—Experiments were made in France last year to test how far the humidity of the atmosphere is affected by forests. One set of instruments for recording humidity was placed in the forest, and the other in the open air, a short distance off. The records showed that more rain fell each month in the forest than in the open air, and the total rainfall for six months was seven and one-half inches in the forest, and in the open field less than seven inches.

Young Folks' Column.

Mittens.

Do you want to know why little children wear mittens, and not gloves, like grown persons? Listen, and I will tell you.

Once upon a time a mother went out, and said to the five little fingers: "Children, when I am not at home, behave well, and do what I tell you. If you are kind and obedient I will bring each of you a little house, where you can live when it is cold winter."

"O mother!" exclaimed the five fingers, we will mind; only tell us what we must do." Then their mother answered—

"The forefinger must point abroad, The middle finger can only nod, The third finger strict guard must keep, Less the little one into mischief creep, And the baby thumb must watch and see That all the rest obedient be."

"Now go, mother dear," said the forefinger, "I'll certainly be attentive, and point prettily, if you will only bring me something." Then the middle finger cried out, "I will promise to be polite and bow nicely if you will bring me a little house, too, for I'm the biggest one!"

"I will certainly keep watch; that my little brother does not get into mischief," cried the ring finger; my house must be the prettiest!" "No, mine!" exclaimed the little finger; "mine must be prettier than all the rest—and then I won't make a bit of noise."

But the baby thumb only said, "mother, dear, I will do just what you say!"

But their mother had only been gone a few minutes, when the forefinger exclaimed—

"It is very stupid and tedious to be so good, and to point all the time. I want to rest a minute." So he lay down.

"Ah, you lazy thing!" replied the middle finger; "it is much more fatiguing to be so industrious, and bow all the time," and he was going to lie down, too; but the forefinger jumped up, and gave him a blow, crying, "how dare you find fault with me! You are lazy yourself, you wicked boy?"

Then the middle finger struck him again, the forefinger returned it; and who knows how long they might have fought, if the ring finger had not called out: "Arn't you ashamed of yourselves! One of you is as bad as the other. See how I torture myself, and stand here, keeping watch all the time. I mean to stop and rest, and let you great fellows keep guard over your little brother!"

"What!" exclaimed the forefinger and middle finger, "you little rascal, do you pretend to dictate and find fault with your brothers? there, stop now!"

Then they both began to beat the ring finger. He turned with all his strength, and struck the little finger, which he had the care of. The little one gave a dreadful scream, and began to scratch, as well as he could. But just as they were in the hottest of the fight the door opened and the mother came in.

Oh, how frightened the naughty fingers were! They hung their heads, and were so ashamed they could not speak.

Finally, the middle finger said that the forefinger was lazy, and he would not allow it. But the forefinger laid the blame on the middle finger, and said he began the quarrel. The ring finger blamed them both, and the little finger complained of all.

Then the mother spoke, and said: "You are four naughty, disobedient children, who deserve to be punished. See here, what I have brought for you!" And she drew a beautiful glove out of her pocket. On it was found five houses, just as large as the five fingers. One was for the thumb, one for the forefinger, one for the middle finger, and one for the little finger.

"But you cannot have these pretty houses now," said the mother. Then she went out, and soon returned with another kind of glove. "Look!" she exclaimed, "this has only one separate house, which belongs entirely to little thumb, because he is good and obedient. You others must live together, and as soon as you become kind and obedient, then you shall have a house of your own."

And there it was; the four fingers might entreat as much as they could, it would not help them. Ever since this time, so many little children wear mittens; but when they grow tall, and become good, then they can wear gloves.—*New Covenant*.

Who First Made and Named Kerosene.

A correspondent mentions to us that the word "kerosene" originated with the Downe Kerosene Oil Co. of Boston. This is an error. It was Abraham Gesner, who, in 1844, distilled an oil from coal in Prince Edward Island, and who was the first to give it the name of kerosene, while James Young, of Glasgow, introduced this manufacture into England. It was in 1847 that his attention was directed to the extraction of an oil from the petroleum which was found in a coal mine in Derbyshire; and when this was exhausted, he distilled the oil from Boghead canal coal, and was quite successful in making, in 1854, 8,000 gallons of kerosene a week, which sold for five shillings a gallon, making half a million dollars per year, much of which was clear profit.

This result increased the coal-oil works in England, while in the United States the first coal-oil works were erected, in 1854, on Newtown creek, Long island, by the Kerosene Oil Co., working under the patent of Mr. Young, who had also taken it out in the United States. In 1856 the Breckenridge coal-oil works made kerosene from the canal coal found there; and the same was done in Perry county, Ohio. In 1860 there were not less than twenty-five such factories in Ohio alone. The establishments along the Atlantic coast produced 200,000 barrels, while the total value of the kerosene thus produced was estimated to be over two million dollars.

Then the petroleum excitement came, and all the establishments commenced to make kerosene from crude petroleum instead of using coal. Kerosene being the only article for which there was any demand, the benzine sold at a very low price, while for the gasoline no price whatever could be obtained, so that in 1861, the largest works then in existence in the United States, those of Cozzens Brothers, in Greenpoint, Long island, burned the gasoline all up by conducting it through a pipe to a safe distance and discharging it in a swamp, where in this way a large fire was kept up, burning night and day for a long time.

STEEL FOR BELLS.—The greatly reduced price of steel is gradually introducing that metal into very general use. It has of late been largely used for bells. One of its advantages for such purposes has been alluded to in a late German paper as follows: The three cast-steel bells which fell at the burning of the church of the German Reformed community at St. Petersburg have again been hung, and are found to be none the worse for several hours' endurance of a furnace-like heat. One of these bells, which was cast at the Buchnerverstein factory, has historic antecedents. It was presented to the St. Petersburg community after the invasion of Denmark by the King of Prussia; and now that it has been again hung, it is proposed to change its name from King William, which it formerly bore, to the Emperor William.