

BY THE GREAT FIRE IN CHICAGO, The most important of the Government buildings in that city were consumed. Those burnt had already become inadequate to the wants of the Government in that growing city, and to the near future were totally inadequate. I recommend, therefore, that an appropriation be made immediately to purchase the remainder of the square on which the burned buildings stood, provided it can be purchased at a fair valuation and the Legislature of Illinois will pass a law authorizing its condemnation for Government purposes, and also an appropriation of as much money as can be properly expended toward the erection of Government buildings.

PROTECTION FOR EMIGRANTS. During this fiscal year the number of emigrants, ignorant of our laws and habits, and coming into our country annually, has become so great and the impositions practised upon them so numerous and flagrant, that I suggest Congressional action for their protection. It seems to me a fair subject of legislation by Congress. I cannot now state as fully as I desire, the nature of the complaints made by emigrants of the treatment they receive, but will endeavor to do so during the session of Congress, particularly if the subject should receive your attention.

It has been the aim of the Administration to enforce honesty and efficiency in all public service. Those who have violated the trust placed in them have been proceeded against with all the rigor of the law. If bad men have secured places, it has been the fault of the system established by law and custom for making appointments, or the failure to recommend persons not sufficiently well known to them personally, or who give letters endorsing the character of office-seekers without a proper sense of the grave responsibility which such a course devolves upon them.

A CIVIL SERVICE REFORM, Which can in a measure correct this abuse, is much desired. In mercantile pursuits, the business man who gives a letter of recommendation to a friend to enable him to obtain credit from a stranger, is regarded as morally responsible for the integrity of his friend and his ability to meet his obligations. This principle carried out would insure great caution in making recommendations.

RECREANT PUBLIC SERVANTS PUNISHED. A salutary lesson has been taught the careless and dishonest servants, in the great number of prosecutions and convictions of the last two years. It is gratifying to notice the favorable change which is taking place throughout the country, in bringing to punishment those who have proved recreant to the trusts confided to them. In elevating to public office none but those who possess the confidence of the honest and virtuous, it will be always found to ensure the integrity of the community in which they live.

A BOARD TO DEVISE RULES FOR CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

In my last message to Congress, one year ago, I urgently recommended a reform in the Civil Service of the country, and in conformity with that recommendation Congress, in the ninth (9th) section of an Act making appropriations for sundry Civil expenses of the Government, and for other purposes, (approved March 3, 1871), gave the necessary authority to execute the same, and to inaugurate a Civil Service reform, and placed upon him the responsibility of doing so, under the authority of said Act. I convened a Board of gentlemen, eminent and qualified for the work, to devise rules and regulations to effect the needed reform. Their labors are not yet completed, but I believe they will succeed in devising a plan which can be adopted, to the great relief of the Executive, of Heads of Departments and Members of Congress, and which will redound to the true interest of the public service. At all events, the experiment shall have a fair trial.

CONCLUSION. I have thus hastily summed up the operations of the Government during the last year and made such suggestions as occur to me to be proper for your consideration. I submit them with a confidence that your combined actions will be wise, statesmanlike and in the best interest of the whole country. (Signed).

U. S. GRANT, President. Executive Mansion, Dec. 4, 1871.

Men's Rights.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette thus writes in behalf of his sex: "I am," he says, "a bachelor, thirty-one years of age, in sound health, and in receipt of \$1,500 per year, and therefore a good match for any woman, no matter whom she may be; yet I remain unmarried from principle, and will remain single until the laws are so altered as to make me master of my own home. I am the owner of real estate acquired by my own labor. I do not allow any woman to control me in my disposal of that property, simply because she happens to be my wife. She would have done nothing toward earning that property, therefore has no moral right in its sale. Any law giving her a dower third is simply a fraud on me, the more so as the law does not give me any dower third in her property. And then the ceremony, nowadays called marriage, does not give me a wife—it merely gives me a pleasure. I cannot keep her against her wishes. She may go back to her father or elsewhere, and I cannot compel her to come back; but should I leave her, for any reason, she can have me arrested and compel me to support her. Such a thing is one-sided and unfair. A woman held by such a loose tie is not, in my opinion, a wife in the holy way a decent man has shrined in his thoughts. The laws have degraded her into a concubine."

While visiting Mountain City last week, says the Elko Independent, October 23, Allen Fisher presented us with a skin of a singular animal called man-eater, from its singular proclivity for human flesh. They are quite small, compactly made, with a bull-dog shaped head and coarse hair, resembling somewhat in color the brown bear of the Pacific coast. They travel in large bands in the winter season, and any unfortunate traveler who chances to be caught out by storms is liable to be attacked and torn to pieces by them. The skin presented us is unlike that of any other animal we have ever seen.

An exchange well remarks that one may insert a thousand excellent things in a newspaper and never hear a word of them from its readers. But let a line or two not suited to their taste creep in, by accident or otherwise, and one hears of it from every quarter.

Nine citizens of Jessamine county, Ky., were placed on trial in the United States District Court at Louisville last week, for the alleged "Ku Kluxing" of Richard Lily, a negro. The jury disagreed.

There are now over three hundred women at the Broadway (N. Y.) theatres who can kick man's hat off though he be six feet high. Who says art has not an upward tendency?

A Question of Veracity.

[From the Albany Democrat.]

As a general rule "one good turn deserves another," and when the Oregonian a few days ago took occasion to allude to the State Rights Democrat as a paper of the highest respectability—truthful, dignified, courteous, and all that—we hoped to be able to put our cosmopolitan neighbor in the same way—we expected to immediately propose to associate the two papers into a "mutual admiration society;" but we find that journal so persistently departing from all of our preconceived ideas of "fairness and respectability" that we have abandoned the hope of a high-toned coalition with it, and have concluded to let it remain in the common gutter of debauched journalism.

While it is expected that that paper, in the interests of its own party will resort to all means, however questionable in propriety or fairness, to secure a partisan advantage, yet we were hardly prepared to see it fulminate so glaringly palpable and inexcusable a falsehood as that in its issue of last Monday, wherein it states that Governor Grover, from 1861-2, never came squarely to the front and identified himself with the Democratic party or participated in its councils till 1870. Now, we persons who had nothing of Oregon politics previous to 1861, but we recollect that during the campaign of that year Governor Grover was an active champion of the Democratic cause, and made speeches in various places during the progress of the struggle. The Oregonian certainly not have forgotten Governor Grover's speeches before the Oro Fino Democratic Club in Portland, or his contest with Dave Logan, at a Yamhill town, on the eve of the election of 1860, nor how he met other local speakers during that campaign. The Oregonian has not forgotten that Grover was Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee continuously during the past six or eight years, and by virtue of that position has been at the head of the Democratic councils during the whole of that time. But it is difficult to shame a journal which would so glaringly misrepresent facts that are of such public record as those of which we speak, hence to further discuss the subject would be to dignify falsehoods which are known as such throughout our whole commonwealth.

Georgia Finances.

At last the people of Georgia are beginning to understand in what condition Governor Bullock and his guilty confederates have left the finances of that State. It is the old story of the "cashier, plunder, robbery and flight." The first remedy, the troubles into which their culprit Governor has brought them is the filing of claims by the New York banking firm of Henry Clews & Co., agents of the State, to the amount of \$377,822, for money advanced to pay notes on the State, under the supervision of the Western and Atlantic Railroad—many of these notes having the approval of Governor Bullock. It is said that Clews & Co. have additional claims that will swell the amount to \$1,200,000. As long as a Radical Legislature existed in Georgia, Bullock could hide his frauds and corruptions of his administration, and defy the people; but when a Legislature, composed of Democrats and Conservatives, came in, the Governor thought it time for him to abandon his office and run. This he did, and is now in New York, the pet of the Radicals in that city, as Holden is of the same class in Washington. To make the parallel complete, Bullock should be put on the staff of the Times, or some other Grant organ.

Our Teeth.

They decay. Hence bad breaths, unseemly mouths, imperfect mastication. Everybody regrets it. What is the cause? I reply the want of cleanliness. A clean tooth never decays. The mouth is a warm place—its degrees, degrees of heat between the teeth soon decompose. Gums and teeth must suffer. Perfect cleanliness will preserve the teeth to old age. How shall it be done? Use a quill pick and rinse the mouth after eating. Brush and Castle soap every morning; the brush with simple water on going to bed. Bestow this trifling care upon your precious teeth, and you will keep them and ruin the dentists. Neglect it, and you will be sorry all your lives. Children forget. Watch them. The first teeth determine the character of the second set. Give them equal care. Sugar, acids, salutaris and hot things are nothing when compared with food decomposing between the teeth. Mercurialization may loosen the teeth, long use may wear them out, but keep them clean and they will never decay. This advice is worth more than thousands of dollars to every boy and girl. Books have been written on the subject. This brief article contains all that is essential.—Dio Lewis.

An Affecting Scene.

The Jacksonville Sentinel, of last Saturday, says that Miss Hannah Ralls, upon the trial of her father for assaulting J. D. Fay with a dangerous weapon, gave a full statement, under oath, of her seduction, her flight from the house, and her extreme suffering in the early part of the morning until found late in the afternoon. She gave her evidence slowly and calmly, without showing the least vindictiveness or anger. Her statement brought moisture to the eyes of many in the crowded Court House, and carried conviction of the truthfulness of what she stated to every unprejudiced mind. This evidence was admitted for the purpose of showing what an overwhelming weight of mental suffering the defendant's mind must have been under, upon hearing of the ruin of his family by the prosecuting witness.

TOO DRUNK.—It has been observed that in a certain class of cases, in England, a majority of persons signing the marriage register of the parish make their marks. It would be unsafe to set this down as evidence of inability to write, for the Rev. E. W. Wilson, curate of Liverpool, informs a newspaper that one in five of the persons signing the register in his parish made their marks for the simple reason that they were too drunk to sign.

"To obtain sweet milk," says the veteran farmer Greeley, laying down his pen and gazing placidly into the face of his inquirer, "to obtain sweet milk, feed your cow twice a day on sugar-cane, and be sure to keep the calf away from the mother while teething."

A Virginia editor has come to the conclusion that a man might as well undertake to hold himself at arm's length and turn a double somersault over a meeting-house steeple as to attempt to publish a newspaper that will suit everybody.

Carl Benson well says: Throw women into the political arena, and some of the fairest features of their moral superiority will be exposed to a rude and perilous test.

It is understood that Mr. Greeley, if invited to do so, will soon deliver before the Royal Society an address on "cryptogamic palenesses."

A Wild Woman in Pennsylvania.

Gelbartstown, Somerset county, Pa., claims the sensation of the week. It has a genuine Simon Pure wild woman, almost as nude as Eve after the fall, for she wears only an apron of leaves, sandals of bark and a necklace of teaberries. Swift as a doe, people have rarely been able to see her features distinctly in her visits to the neighboring farmhouses and outskirts of the village; yet those who have seen her, declare that she is far from uncivilly in person and countenance. Her oval face is set with keen black eyes and framed in long masses of flowing black hair, and with her tall, slender figure she has the air of the queen of the forests. Like most women who has a great dread of men, and bounds away over fences and fields whenever one attempts to approach her, yet she is consistent, and avoids in like manner too great familiarity with women. For children, however, she seems to have great fondness, and has been called only a few days past. While passing near the house of a farmer she espied a little girl three or four years old playing in the road. Crouching, she crawled behind a fence until within a short distance of the child, then, with a bound, cleared the fence, in the next moment seized the screaming child, and was away at the top of her speed. The mother, hearing the screams of her child, pursued, screaming yet more loudly. Her husband, attracted by the cries of both, hastened to the chase. The wild woman, finding herself encumbered by the weight of the child, dropped it and escaped. The latter was uninjured, with the exception of some scratches, which, no doubt, are attributable to the long nails of the strange denizen of the fields and the forest.

Deep Breathing.

If we desire to see a generation of men with enlarged brains, and if we look in our colleges, churches, courts, editors' chairs, legislative halls, street and White House, all will admit we need them; we must have men with enlarged lungs and opportunities for thought and action. Deep breathing has much to do with deep thinking. Napoleon once said: "You can't make you make a man of a sick man." Neither can you make a man of a philosopher, saint, or scholar, out of a nation of sick women. The New York World, in a recent article on dress, says: "The average weight all the year round, of women's clothing, which is supported from the waist, is about fifteen pounds. Are we back a wonder? Do we not stop the breathing of the natural weakness and disabilities of women; there is no such thing; they are all artificial—the result, in all cases, of violated law. Maternity is not a weakness but an added strength; making a woman in a creative power second only to God himself. A woman, who is not a mother, who understands and obeys physical and moral law, may enjoy a life of an uninterrupted health and happiness as the man by her side. You might as well call tobacco-chewing, spitting, delirium tremens, keno banks and panel-houses the natural weakness and disabilities of men, as to attribute to all the long train of evils that flow from the dress and sedentary habits of our girls to the natural weakness and disabilities of women."—Dio Lewis.

It is stated that a "Ring" of men have been discovered in Washington, "well as office brokers, and the means of obtaining secret and mysterious powers to obtain employment for both male and female applicants, for a consideration. Some of the heads of Departments and Bureaus, whose names have been used by these scoundrels, without authority, to obtain contracts, have set up the nefarious practice, and have set their officers to work to ferret out the blackmailers." A few scape-goats are needed, and they will be found among the small thieves, the men who "prig the vases." Nothing will be said about the big operators, who button-hole Senators on the floor of Congress, or who stop the talking. No attempt will be made to "break up these nefarious practices."

During the heat of the battle in the neighborhood of Alesshot, the small-pox hospital was besieged by a number of troops who were ignorant of the character of the building. In vain the nurses remonstrated; the order had been given, and the first duty of a soldier was to obey. The doors were closed, and persuasion was about to be succeeded by force, when one of the nurses happened to remark in each other, and for the first time that the object of attack was a "small-pox hospital." The expression produced a magical effect; the order to secure possession of such an advantageous position if not countermanded was instantly forgotten, and the invaders beat a hasty retreat.

The English papers, though very anxious to know the details of the Chicago fire, can't make up their minds to pay the cable company for telling them. They deplore the paucity of dispatches, and declare the extension of tariff duties a misfortune. If half of Liverpool were to burn to-morrow, how long would American newspapers count the cost before they learned the whole story? Our journals may fall below the English in literary excellencies, but they far outstrip them in the race for news.

Count Otto, Bismarck's son and heir, is described as a tall young fellow, resembling an Englishman. He passed two years in England studying the English army organization, and then took lessons in diplomacy in Paris, where he was a frequent guest at General Bix's receptions. He speaks fluently five modern languages, and is an accomplished sportsman.

NO FAITH.—The Nathan mansion in New York, which has been under the ban of the great tragedy for over a year, has at last been purchased by courtesans John Morrissey, who will fit it up in the highest style of club-house art, having no faith in the power of ghosts to injure the gamblers' profits.

The convicts in the Moabit Penitentiary, at Berlin, have sent to the Prussian Minister of Justice a petition, in which they solicit permission to have once a week an hour's conversation with somebody besides the clergyman.

A southwestern editor remarks: "If in our school days the rule of three is proverbially trying, how much harder, in after-life, do we find the rule of one. He has been married only fourteen months."

Mr. Fields, in his lecture on cheerfulness, describes a man so shut in with dignity and exclusiveness that when you shake hands with him you always feel as if you were doing it through a knot-hole.

A Peruvian correspondent states, as a peculiarity of curandango, that it cures tumors, etc., but that patients invariably die in a short time after of sore throat.

A New Yorker has died at Delmonico's and occupied the same seat daily for eight years. What a record of good dinners he must have made by this time.

One hundred and fifty-one members of the German Parliament have pledged themselves to vote for a bill making civil marriage obligatory in Europe.

A Texan Anchorite.

The New York hermit is matched by another of the genus recluse in Western Texas. The New Orleans Picayune says he excludes even the ordinary domestic animals from his household. He, at one time, raised chickens; but as, whenever a woman, at very long intervals and by chance, happened in his vicinity the chickens got frightened, ran headlong into the brush, and remained hidden there as long as a petticoat was in sight, the hermit concluded to do without such uncivilized creatures.

He amuses himself in taming birds; but his favorites are a pair of snakes, of a peculiar kind, that he uses as mousters, and which, he asserts, are far superior to cats. He lives by the produce of sixty bee hives, selling from twelve to fifteen thousand pounds of honey every year.

The hermit's name is Baylock. He was for many years a trapper in the Rocky Mountains; is 62 years of age; is cheerful and talkative; and, by a traveler who recently saw and conversed with him, is spoken of as a man of more than common natural ability, with a fair portion of general information.

Lassoing a Grizzly

The Ventura Signal of the 18th instant says: We forgot to note a little incident that took place here some time ago that was very worthy of record, illustrating California youth and life. Two boys, aged respectively twelve and fourteen years, sons of E. W. Foster of the Monticello, and R. B. Hall of the Ojal ranch, were out in the mountains on horseback looking for the cows, when they discovered a young grizzly bear toddling along in the trail. They had been long enough here to know the danger of trying to catch the little fellow, the ferocious dam rarely being beyond the cries of her young. But the temptation was too strong for youthful discretion, and keeping an eye on the grizzly, they began grizzly bear toddling along in the trail. The old one was not near, they rode up to him, and with the dexterity of old vaqueros, quickly succeeded in fastening the lariat around his neck and took him safely home. It was a feat as dangerous as daring, and a sport that old hunters would not care to indulge in, unless exceedingly well mounted.

C. W. Dilke, a Liberal member of the British Parliament, has lately discussed the cost of royalty in an English lecture-room. He finds that the salaries, annuities, etc., of the royal family, pay and pensions to their servants, and expenses of palaces, dwellings and grounds, amount to \$3,330,000 annually. The extra expense of the Life Guards and Foot Guards, who are kept to add splendor by their toggerly to royal display, is \$500,000 more than would be required for an equal number of soldiers of the line employed for ordinary garrison service. The total expense of the royal family appears to be about \$1,000,000 annually. In return for this, the Queen signs her name to certain papers, in accordance with the commendation of the Ministry, and lends her august name for use in public documents.

Among Fanny Ellsler's suitors in the beaux jours of her prime was, it is said, the then Prince Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, now ex-Emperor of France. He proposed marriage to her, and she, who had previously been secretly married to somebody else a year or two previously, rejected his proposals, and thus escaped the penalty of being ex-Empress of France instead of queen of the Terpsichorean stage. A sister of Fanny Ellsler's, also a celebrated danseuse, and the morganatic wife of Prince Albert of Prussia.

MIXED.—The Paris correspondent of the Tribune read, the other morning, a paragraph in one of the most widely-circulated Paris papers, of which the following is a faithful translation: "Echo of American marriage law." The opinion is expressed that Mr. Bonaparte, grandson to the Prince Jerome, was married to the grand-daughter of the celebrated American humorist, Daniel Webster."

The Yreka Union says that the waters of the upper lake in Surprise Valley have the property of removing from clothing all grease, pitch or dirt of whatever kind, without the application of soap or any washing material. What is the property of the water which gives it the decomposing power? The opinion is expressed that it is strongly impregnated with borax.

The Onondaga Indians of New York still live as a distinct tribe, on a reservation of twelve thousand acres, in a beautiful valley, near Syracuse. This tribe never had more than five hundred members, and it is now nearly four hundred strong. The Indians are considerably advanced in moral and civilization, and support two flourishing churches.

The Grass Valley Republican of the 26th ult. says: The Digger Indians in the vicinity of Nevada are complaining that the white people are robbing them of their usual crop of manzanita berries. The Diggers have not taken any scalp yet, but the squaws are said to have painted up, and threaten mischief to the intruders who are plucking their indigenous hereditary fruit.

SIGN OF HONESTY.—"Mr. Brown, you said the defendant was honest and intelligent. What makes you think so? Are you acquainted with him?" "No, sir, I have never seen him." "Why, then, do you come to such a conclusion?" "Because he takes ten newspapers, and pays for them in advance." Verdict for defendant.

Mr. Gladstone is a pedestrian of no mean power. It was taken a few months ago from his recent official residence, at Balmoral Castle, he walked the distance from the Castle to Clova, twenty-six miles, resting for the night at the village inn, and proceeding to Kirriemuir next day, still in pedestrian fashion.

Colorado Territory has now in operation 420 miles of railroad, and the Union Pacific runs just north of her line, through the southern part of Wyoming. In 1869 Colorado did not have a mile of railroad, and certainly if she keeps on at the rate she has for the past six years she will soon be completely girdled with iron tracks.

A census of the Canadian Dominion, or rather that part of it east of the Rocky Mountains—for British Columbia now belongs to it—was taken a few months ago, and shows that the population is 3,481,924, an increase of 400,000, or thirteen per cent., since 1861.

The Evening Mail says: "One of our belles is confined to her residence just at present seriously indisposed." She has been trying to bleach her hair, and we are grieved to say the experiment has not been quite so successful as might be desired."

JUNCTION CITY.—Mr. N. Gilmore, formerly landlord of the City Hotel at Harrisburg, has now a new hotel at Junction City and is already running it successfully. He is said to be the "right man in the right place."

All Sorts.

Not half the usual number of letters are written in France since the high postage law has gone into operation.

Several people have been recently drowned in the streets of Pekin, so deep are the sloughs of mud and water in them.

Russell, of the London Times, has begun the publication of his personal diary of the late war between France and Prussia.

A Catholic mission has been established in this country, with special reference to missionary labors among the colored people.

Rumors with reference to the Pope's leaving Rome are still current in Europe, but they have no well ascertained foundation.

The North-western fires have destroyed immense numbers of valuable fur-bearers. It would have been better for these fur animals if they had been further.

At a Philadelphia party there is more talking than dancing, more music than fun, more eating than drinking, and more flirting than anything else during the evening.

Strikes among the workmen of Eastern Prussia are becoming so wide-spread as to cause alarm among business men. All steps taken to prevent them have proved abortive.

A young man in the street being charged with laziness, was asked if he took it from his father. "I think not," said the disrespectful son; "father's got all the laziness he ever had."

A Danbury, Conn., schoolboy disturbed the symmetry of a family heirloom by sawing off the tops of his great grandfather's bed-posts for a set of croquet balls. And the night he did it he slept very warm.

The French Revue Critique, which was suspended in 1870, has reappeared. The new number is four times as large as it was in the old time, before M. Paul Mayer, its chief editor, took his place in the National Guard.

A good story is told of a bootblack whose energies were taxed by the huge shoes of a private just returned from the war. The little fellow, kneeling down, looked over his shoulder to a comrade and exclaimed, "Lend me a spit, Jim; I've got an army contract."

Alexander H. Stephens, Vice President of the "so-called" in reply to an invitation to lecture in Little Rock, writes: "I have been confined with rheumatism for nearly three years, unable to stand or walk without aid of some sort. I do not expect to be able ever again to leave home."

The hobby of the Crown Prince of Prussia is agriculture. His farm near Bradenburg costs him every year fifty thousand dollars; but he has, at all events, the pleasure of telling his guests at the dinner table that he himself raised all the vegetables which are placed on the table.

A commission has just been dispatched to America by the Iron and Steel Institute of Great Britain, with the object of testing the practical value of the revolving puddling furnaces, by the operation of which the labor of the hand puddler in the iron works of the United States is to a large extent superseded.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Trade of Boston, resolutions were adopted favoring the resumption of specie payments; a revision of the tariff on imports, and that the construction of ships and steamers should be promoted, and the foreign commerce of the country fostered by the abatement of taxes.

The New York Tribune vindicates the action of Governor Palmer, of Illinois, in rebuking the military usurpations of General Sheridan at Chicago. The Tribune says: "When the vindication of the law for its own sake is called transcendentalism, it does not indicate a sound state of public opinion."

A Louisville wife, wishing to get rid of her husband at short notice, sent him into the cellar with a kerosene lamp to get a pitcher of cider. She gave him just time to get the cider in one hand and the lamp in the other, and then shouted "murder!" She had calculated well. The doomed man sprang up the steps, the lamp fell, and the woman was free.

A countryman on his wedding tour halted recently at a Boston hotel. The day was chilly, and after vain efforts to extract heat from the steam radiator, according to the directions of the waiter, he rang the bell and indignantly requested the attendant to "take out that damned steam radiator and bring in a stove."

A newly-married couple having occasion to economize by moving to a poor-house in Kentucky are deeply indignant because the keeper thereof assigned them separate wards of the establishment, and have brought suit against him for violating the marriage ceremony by putting asunder those whom God had joined.

The Milan (Texas) Telegram says: "We have been asked why we stopped publishing the list of marriage licenses issued by the clerk. Because a great big stand-up-in-the-mud, out there in the sand-hills, said we published his daughter as married when she wasn't, and that he would hit us on the head hard enough to knock our ankles out of joint for it. Is the explanation satisfactory?"

The Hon. Mrs. Norton accused Mrs. Henry Wood with stealing the plot and characters of her novel, "East Lynne," from a brief story which she, Mrs. Norton, had published many years ago. To this Mrs. Wood replied: "Nothing can be more false; nothing more unjustifiable. There is not a shadow of foundation for it. Mrs. Norton may have written the brief story, but I never saw or heard of it."

A Vermont girl who sued a false lover for breach of promise laid the damages at \$40. In Court, in answer to the inquiry why that particular sum had been claimed, she answered that counting the time she had spent "sitting up" with him as worth at the rate of nine shillings per week, she had figured up the nine hours past in his company, and adding the value of wood consumed, she had found that the amount due. There was no doubt in the mind of the judge that the claim was an honest one, and a verdict was rendered accordingly.

Something to mend with—that is the great need of us all, especially of those who live in the country, and whose traps are sometimes called "rattle-traps," and have a way of breaking at inconvenient times. An old officer of the Coast Survey, who had spent thirty years in field service, once told us that he never went from camp in the morning without having a spool of copper wire in his wagon, and that, as a consequence, he never had a break-down that he could not repair on the road, or in the woods, or wherever he might be. Harness, wagon, tools, everything, almost, that is subject to breakage, may be stoutly mended with copper wire, which is flexible and tough.