

# SUPPLEMENT TO THE WEST SHORE.

## A MAGNIFICENT ARCH BRIDGE.

Sir Joseph Bazalgette has presented to the Metropolitan Board of Works of London a report favoring the construction of a new bridge over the Thames, near the Tower. The bridge he recommends is a single arch of 850 feet span, by far the largest arch span in the world. The following is an extract from his report: I have considered the relative suitability of various forms of bridges, viz., suspension bridges, girder bridges and arch bridges, and of the material of which such bridges could most advantageously be constructed. Suspension bridges, although in many instances economical for wide spans, are liable to considerable vibration with heavy traffic, and seem to be unsuited to this locality owing to the great height that would be required for the towers, the character of adjoining banks and the length of the anchor chains. A straight girder bridge could not conveniently be built to cross the river in one span, and such form of construction would render it necessary to place two piers in the river as above described. An arched iron bridge of one span, with a roadway over it, would have a very handsome appearance, but it would necessarily form a very flat roadway, so that the strain upon the metal and thrust upon the abutments, would be very great, and it would therefore require a heavy mass of metal, and become very costly. It would, moreover, unnecessarily reduce the headway for shipping near to its haunches. I am of opinion that a trussed girder bridge of one span, in an arched form, with the roadway carried across the arch, and suspended from it, will probably afford greater advantages than any other sort of bridge. The East River bridge now in course of construction between New York and Brooklyn was the largest span bridge in existence. It is a suspension bridge with a central span of 1,600 feet. The proposed suspension bridge over the Firth of Forth, which it is expected will shortly be commenced, is designed with two spans of 1,000 feet each, but the platform which it is to carry will be only one-fourth of the width, and designed to carry only one-fourth of the moving load that the Tower bridge is intended to carry, so that the total weight of the greatest span with the full live load upon it will not be more than one-third of the total weight of the Tower bridge when so loaded. The Tower bridge would be the largest arched bridge in existence.

Great advances have of late years been made in the manufacture of steel, and it is now produced at a cost not much in excess of that of iron some few years back, whilst its much greater strength to resist both tensile and compressive strains enables the weight and cost of the structure formed of it to be greatly reduced, and renders it especially suitable for bridges of large span. The St. Louis bridge which has recently been built over the Mississippi is a bridge of the same character, and is constructed of the same material, although its width and span are not so great as those of the bridge now proposed.

It is intended to make the width of the new bridge 60 feet, subdivided in two footways of 12 feet each, and a carriage way of 36 feet. The Tower bridge will, therefore, be in all six feet wider than the London bridge, which is 54 feet, the carriage-way being 34 feet 8 inches, and each of the foot-ways 9 feet 8 inches in width. I estimate the cost of such a bridge, if erected in three spans, including the cost of forming approaches and the purchase of the property required, at about £1,000,000, whilst the cost of such bridge, if erected of one span, which I recommend, would be about £1,250,000.

### ROYAL JEWELS AT THE PARIS EXPOSITION.

The English crown diamonds have been sent to the Paris Exposition, and are valued at \$85,000,000. They are in a strong iron chest and are guarded by eight sentinels day and night. A diadem of 86 diamonds of various sizes has in the middle the Koh-i-noor, also valued at \$25,000,000. There is also a collar of 108 diamonds, in the center of which is an emerald, said to be the purest and most beautiful known. A second diadem is a blending of diamonds and emeralds. In the center is the large Kaulasvay diamond, valued at \$20,000. It would be rated at a higher sum only for a slight defect. These, and many other jewels of the kind, belong to the English crown. A portion is used by the Princess of Wales on special occasions; the others are reserved for the Queen. The Kaulasvay was formerly the eye of a one-eyed Hindoo deity, and was lately added to the collection. The French Commission are constructing a strong room for the State jewels. According to the *Journal des Debats*, it is about 12 feet deep and 10 feet or 11 feet square. The sides of the pit are thickly cemented, and it has a double iron floor, with pipes, by means of which it can be flooded in case of fire. The jewels will be exhibited in a glass case of beautiful workmanship, a casket worthy of the gems; this will be let down into the space below immediately the Exhibition doors are closed, and covered with a heavy iron trap door, upon which two special guardians will place their camp beds.

### SUBSTITUTE FOR SLATE.

The new composition proposed by Mr. J. A. Ditch, of Hastings, England, consists in mixing the various materials, or their chemical equivalents, in the proportions or near thereto, as hereafter mentioned, for the purpose of providing, when applied as a coating to any convenient and suitable substance, a substitute for slate for building, writing and other purposes. The mixture and proportions for coating substances for exterior work are—One quart of methylated spirit or its equivalent, 1 lb. gum shellac, 1 lb. flour of emery. For coating substances to serve as writing slates, add powdered glass, rotten stone, or pounce stone, together with lamp black or Paris green sufficient to give the desired shade of color. Other powdered substances, such as chalk, brick, slate or stone, may be used for the purpose of giving a body or abrading surface to the composition. A convenient way of making writing slates is to cast millboard with the new composition, from the board, and mount it on an easel arranged that it can be closed and shut up when not in use.

## "THE INNOCENTS."

"Oh, dear me see," said Mrs. Dascom, impatiently. "I never did see such work as I do have to-day. Everything has gone wrong, and now that little fellow has boiled over."

"Perchance you got out of the foot of the bed this morning, and a queer little voice, that sounded as much like a cricket as anything."

Mrs. Dascom lifted the heavy tulle from the stove, and then turned around wearily, to see standing in the pleasant May sunshine that streamed across the shining, yellow painted floor, through the open doorway, a little, old, old woman, in a queer-looking dress, very short in the waist and very short in the skirt, with a funny little calico sun-bonnet on her head, and with her knitting work in her hand.

"I wouldn't fret of I was you," she went on, advancing toward Mrs. Dascom, who stood wondering if her fairy godmother had appeared to her. "I would not fret, you may want it some time; there's no knowing. I teach Mrs. Dascom's little now, she had on her hand, saying: 'Shake hands, and I give you welcome to the neighborhood. I'm Tilly Dresser, and my husband is Dicky Dresser, and they call us the Innocents.' We live down here by the bridge, at the foot of the hill, in a little real house. I heard yesterday that you'd moved in, and I thought I'd just drop in an' tell you I was glad to have a neighbor. I've brought my knitting, because I've no time to waste, but if you have any, I don't want me here, I'll go straight back home, and take no offence, and come again some other day. I believe in telling the truth, an' bein' blunt, so to speak, father o' mine; that's my way."

"You are not going home now, by any means," said Mrs. Dascom, pleasantly, moving a low rocking chair to her favorite window, near which a large tree laden with purple buds looked in, nodding a welcome to the new mistress of the cheery kitchen. "I am very glad to see you. You seem to be a very old person to walk so far."

"Yes, bless the Lord, I shall be ninety if I live till next fourth of July day. And how it happens that I've lived so long, is— I've saved my breath. I never fret, scold, or talk scandalous stuff, an' it's a great gain. Every person that's born has just so much breath given to 'em, an' just so many words set down again their names, an' they kin be extravagant or savin' on 'em, just as they are a mind to. When I heard you a-talkin' to yourself as I come in just now, I thought perhaps you'd never heard of it. There's a good many folks that never did till I told 'em. But it's in the Bible; I've read it there myself; not in jest the words I tell it, but I give the sense on't."

"Yes, I'm old. I allus said I sh'd outlive all the Whipples. I was a Whipple, an' ef I don't get talked out, I guess I sh'd live arter everybody else is dead, an' then keep tavern. I allus wanted to keep tavern. Yes, I belong about here. I was born at the poor-farm in this town, and though I went out to work hither and thither, I allus made it my home there till I was married. They call the Whipples 'real estate.' I'll tell you how it was."

"When I was a gal, I had the real small-pox, an' lived through it, an' got well, an' never had a sick day since. An' when I was about forty year old, 'Squire Talmadge's wife went off visitin' an' come back, an' brung the small-pox with her, and they they was all down with it, an' died. I heard about it, and how's they couldn't get nobody to make care an' care as I just went up there, an' went in, an' went to work. An' I did well. They'd all said I saved their lives. An' arter they'd got well, I kept stayin', workin' round. One day the Squire had a raisin', to raise his new barn, and everybody come, and there was a man from the next town who'd been on his town allis, an' he talked to me, an' I minded my manners, an' he asked me to marry him. I told him to come over an' see about it the next day. I told the Squire on't, an' he said, 'He don't know much, does he?' He knows enough to eat doughnuts and cheese," says I, 'an' that's enough for me.' 'Dicky come over the next day. I remember the well's kin be. I had a new calico dress that the old Squire's wife gave me; it was a good deal lighter colored than white, an' 'twas a good deal too short for me. So I cut a piece of the bottom and sewed it on to the top, an' I was glad that when he come. He asked me again to marry him, an' the Squire said we never could do was, either on us. The Squire, he married us, an' I wore my new dress, but I couldn't see 'twas a bit longer 'twas before I fixed it. The old Squire said I'd do well for his folks when I had the chance, and now that he'd the chance he'd do well by me. So he give me a life lease of the red house and the garden spot, a cow out an' out, and a right to tractor her in his hot summers an' keep her in his lawn winter. We had cake at the wedding and cracker nutmegs—the Squire cracked them himself, an' put the nuts in one basket an' the shells in another. I had a good settin' out, I tell you. I had two dozen linen pocket handkerchiefs made out o' black lumberline—an' we had cake, an' everybody come an' brought things to us to keep house with."

"As I was a sayin', they allus called the Whipples real estate because they belonged to the town, an' stayed as close as the land did. Dicky was born on the town's well's I, an' we didn't either of us need to take care of ourselves, but as you an' I've been married, we've took care o' one another, an' we've got along well. We do all the good we can. I advise folks to save their breath, an' Dicky advises folks to get married, an' the minister himself says we're as useful a couple as there is in town."

"I am sure I thank you kindly," said Mrs. Dascom, when, after an early tea, her little old visitor was taking her departure, with a pat of butter, a bit of meat, and snoddy little bundles for the comfort of herself and Dicky. "I shall try and be a good neighbor to pay you for teaching me to save my breath. You must come and see me often, and bring Dicky with you."

The little old body never accepted the invitation but once. Then she came to say Dicky was sick, and that she believed he was going to heaven; that she hope her stock of breath was about used up so she could go with him—any way she meant to use it up. She talked without

cessation for a night and a day. Dicky died, and when she was told of it her arms and head fell simultaneously, and a few hours later the little old couple lay side by side in the bit of a parlor, scantily though tidily furnished, clothed in the habiliments of the dead, awaiting the funeral rites, which were attended by all the kind-hearted country folk, whose onerous charge they had so long been. They were buried in one grave, under the lilac, in the 'garden spot.' The tiny red house fell to decay, and now a perfect tangle of roses, lilacs, daisies and flowering annuals marks the resting place of 'The Innocents.'—Mrs. Annie E. Preston, in the *Watchman*.

## SUNDRY RECIPES.

### FOR STARCHING LACES.

Use one teaspoonful of borax to one quart of boiling starch, it will improve the stiffening and gloss.

### TO KEEP JICKE OF A PIE FROM BOILING OVER.

Wet edges of both crusts; press tightly together; stick a fork several times through the upper crust to allow the steam to escape.

### TO POLISH FURNITURE.

Take of good alcohol one-half pint, quarter of an ounce pulverized resin, the same of gum shellac; after this has dissolved add one-half pint of linseed oil; shake well.

### SOFT SACKS.

Half a cup of butter and stir in a tablespoonful of flour and one pint of boiling water, nearly one cupful of sugar, two spoonfuls good vinegar, spice to taste.

### CHOCOLATE COOKIES.

Two eggs, two cupfuls white sugar, one cupful butter, one-third cupful sweet milk, two spoonfuls cream tartar, one spoonful soda, one-half nutmeg.

### DRESSING FOR COLD SLAVES.

The well-beaten yolk of one egg add a little milk, two or three tablespoonfuls of vinegar, a small piece of butter; stir it over the fire until it comes to a boil.

### FRIED CAKES.

Three and a half cups of sugar, four eggs, ten tablespoonfuls melted lard, one large nutmeg, one teaspoonful salt, one quart good sour milk, one spoonful saleratus; mix stiff as bread.

### SHERMAN STEAMED CORN BREAD.

Three cups corn meal, two of wheat flour, two of sweet milk, one of sour milk, half cup sugar, one spoonful soda; steam three hours, then bake in an oven until brown.

### POTATO PIE.

Boil or wash common or sweet potatoes and strain through a fine sieve; to each pint add one and a half pints of milk, a little melted butter, two eggs, salt, nutmeg to the taste; bake in one crust, like custard pie.

### CORN-STARCH POPPES.

Four eggs beaten separately; one cup of sugar; one cup of corn-starch; one-half cup of butter; one spoonful of lemon in the butter and sugar; two spoonfuls of baking powder mixed in the corn-starch.

### NEW WAY OF COOKING OYSTERS.

Take mashed potatoes, mix a canful of oysters with the potatoes, and with a knife cut the mass up fine; add one-half pound of powdered crackers; fix with butter, pepper and salt, and moisten the whole with oyster juice; take little bits of this, roll them into powdered cracker crumbs and fry till brown in butter, and the result when served warm is delicious.

### BEAN BREAD.

This is a capital recipe, for the bread keeps fresh for a long time, and is very easily made: Two and a half pounds brown flour, i. e., the wheat is ground, no bran being taken out, quarter pound white flour, half ounce soda, four spoonfuls tartaric acid, a lump of ammonia the size of a nut, one and a half-pints of milk and water, or pure water. To be baked in a tin.

### FOR PREPARING LARD TO KEEP THROUGH SUMMER.

To one gallon of lard put one ounce of sal soda, dissolved in a gill of water. Do not fill your kettle more than half full, for it will foam and perhaps boil over. No other water is required than what the soda is dissolved in. When it is done it is very clear, and will keep two years. Strain through a coarse cloth and set away.

### FRUIT STAINS.

To remove fruit stains, let the spotted part of the cloth imbibe a little water, without dipping it, and hold the part over two or three lighted kerosene matches at a proper distance. The sulphurous gas which is discharged soon causes the spots to disappear. Or all bright-colored fruit stains can be removed by scalding in clear boiling water, before any soap is applied.

### BREAD CRUMBS Pudding.

Make a quantity of bread crumbs by rubbing the crumb of a stale loaf through a fine wire sieve; put a pint of milk and one ounce of fresh butter into a saucepan on the fire, with sugar to taste, and the thin rind of a lemon, cut, if possible, in one piece; when the milk boils throw bread crumbs into it until a thick porridge is obtained; turn it out into a basin; when cold remove the lemon rind, and stir in one by one the yolks of four eggs, mix well, then stir in the whites of four eggs beaten up to a stiff froth, and a small quantity of candied citron peel cut very thin. Have a plain mold, buttered and breadcrumbed very carefully all over, pour the composition into it, and bake it about half an hour. Serve cold, with a compote of any fruit around it.

### TO REMOVE HEAVY BEER.

Mince some of the meat very fine, season well, have a layer of mashed potatoes about an inch thick in a dish; spread over it a thick layer of meat and cover it with another layer of potatoes; with a knife form squares on your potatoes, spread a little butter over it and brown nicely; also, cut some meat in inch square pieces, take about half as much raw potatoes, cut the same size and one onion cut small; put in a saucepan with some of the beef gravy, and water enough to cover it, a little salt; cover lightly, and when it comes to a boil set it where it will simmer until the gravy is reduced to quite one-half, then add black pepper and a little curry powder and a teaspoonful of flour; serve in this way, or you can leave the sides of a pie dish, put in the meat, etc., cover with a nice paste and bake.

### LIP SALVE.

Oil of sweet almonds, eight ounces; white wax, three ounces; spermaceti, three ounces; rhodium, fifty drops, and white sugar candy forms an excellent lip salve.

## WINDOW DECORATIONS.

Many persons have an admiration for transparent shades, and some of these are so lovely that one can scarcely wonder at this taste. To such we would say—you cannot do better than to obtain what is called architects' or artists' tracing cloth, which is a cheap transparent cloth, producing that mellow light seen through the white ground-glass lamp-shades, and upon it to transfer some of the exquisite designs in Diaphanous and Vitromania work. These are of all varieties, from the Medieval and Renaissance period, with its gorgeously-robed knights, troubadours, musicians, saints and madonnas, to the lovely landscapes and Oriental groups or domestic scenes of our own modern times. For many windows, shades of this description impart a wonderfully imposing effect. For dull, cheerless apartments, we should strongly recommend this variety of window covering, as it imparts a rich, bright glow to an otherwise gloomy room. And what, too, can be more beautiful than the blue-white tints of the Swiss curtains, with their exquisite and neatly-tinted ruffles, or the soft, rich, yellowish-white Nottingham lace hangings, with lambrequins of feathery ferns and gorgeous autumn leaves?

As regards Swiss muslins, the coarser the texture the more sheer and light the appearance, and they are equally easy to "do up."

For persons of limited means, the Tycoon reps, which may be purchased at 25 cents a yard, or less, are really very valuable. This material comes in rich colors and many really beautiful patterns, some of which possess a truly Oriental character in design, richness of color, and general soft warmth of appearance.

When carefully preserved, autumn leaves afford a most charming embellishment for curtains of white Swiss, and will continue fresh and bright for a whole season. They can be fastened on with gum arabic.

A tasteful cornice for such curtains is made of pieces of slender tree branches, ornamented with the delicate little spruce twigs, forming the most exquisite Gothic designs imaginable, and which, from the floor, appear like some old and curious workmanship of medieval times complicated in form and rich in color as some wonderful mosaic. All that is required to make these cornices is an abundance of small pine, which, the numerous little arches and points are fastened together. A coat of shellac varnish gives a fine finish to this work, and delicate fern fronds with tiny sprays of sweet autumn leaves, arranged as vines over them, add to the artistic effect.—*Beautiful Homes*.

How to Win Him.—"Eliza," said a fond mother to her offspring, recently, as that offspring was about going forth in tow of a young man who worships the very sidewalk she walks upon, "go to the bread-box and eat a good big crust of bread before you go out." "Why, maw," replied the blushing girl, "I don't feel the least bit hungry. We've only just had tea." "I know it, but you will be hungry before I get back, and when Adolphus takes you into a restaurant you'll eat ice-cream, and sponge cake, and ham sandwiches, and oysters enough to swell him out of a year's growth. You silly girls don't think of this, but we experienced women do. I was once young and giddy myself, and but for 65 cents' worth of macaroons—a cake for which I have ever since entertained the most profound contempt—your paw would have been a Congressman with an aquiline nose and Hyperion's curls. Beware how you sit down on the building block of Capital. Of course Adolphus will spend the money you save him on billiards and things; but that makes no difference. When he asks you to go in and have some oysters, even if you are hungry, don't. Say you do not approve of girls wasting the money of their future husbands on trifles, when it might be applied towards furnishing a house. Point out that for the price of an oyster stew you might purchase a couple of towels, now that toweling is so cheap, and that a Saddle Rock rosette is the equivalent of a silver fork—plated, of course, but not easily distinguished from solid silver—or a glass sugar bowl. This always tames the young ones; it sets them to thinking of housekeeping and matrimony; it makes them believe you are the incarnation of economy, and would make an excellent wife; and so they often say things which give you a hold over them, and are effective before a jury." Eliza treasured up these sagacious counsels, and acted upon them with such earnestness and effect that when she came home she was an engaged woman.

### URANUS.

The planet Uranus is now very favorably situated for observation, though, except with a powerful telescope, there is very little to observe. It is at present easily detected by the naked eye on a dark night, being the eastern of two faint stars, which lie about 15' northeast of the bright star Regulus. The telescope presents a pale bluish disc, about one-fourth as large as that of Saturn, without markings or spots of any kind. Telescopes less than eight inches in diameter would have no chance to show any of its satellites. With instruments of nine to 10 inches aperture, a fairly good eye can, under favorable circumstances, see the two outer ones, Oberon and Titania, though, to make measurements of their position, would require a still larger aperture. The two inner satellites, Ariel and Umbriel, are beyond the reach of all but the most powerful telescopes. Even with the great Washington Equatorial they cannot always be seen.

### COAL TAR FOR FLUOR WOUNDS.

Mr. F. D. Curtis informs the *New York Tribune* of what he considers the best application for any and all flesh-cuts and raw sores. It is gas coal-tar, which may be had at any gas-works where gas is made from coal. A barrel of it, costing \$2, has been in use at the Kirby Hospital for ten years and it is not half gone yet. Coal tar, when applied to a flesh-cut, shuts out the air and thus stops the smarting; it will also keep off the flies; it is very healing, and it is antiseptic, that is, it cleanses, and will prevent the growth of proud-flesh. It is the cheapest, most healing and best application we have ever used. I have tested this remedy for several years on all sorts of cuts and sores with the most gratifying and successful results. It was an experiment at first, but now it is a necessity.