

Gossip About People.

Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth has just finished her seventy-first novel... Capt. G. W. Bourke, U. S. A., of Gen. Crook's staff, at Whipple barracks, says he recently delivered a lecture to the people of Prescott, and that "half the audience were asleep in twenty minutes. When I stated that I would not detain them longer the applause was deafening."

SOME TURKISH PROVERBS.

Sayings of the Turk that are Very Like Our Own. If the Turk has been qualified as "unspeakable," he is very far from being inarticulate. Strange as it may seem to those who have formed their opinion of him from hearsay, it is not the less true that he is commonly a good conversationalist, and has got to say, with a wealth of illustration in anecdote, quotation, and proverb. The latter form commends itself especially to the sentimental Turk, and the synthetic form of the language, too, secure brevity and conciseness, and opportunities are afforded for those assonances, or rhyming vowels, which are so dear to the Oriental. On looking over a note-book containing several hundred Turkish proverbs, taken down in the course of reading and conversation, or borrowed from a collection made at the Oriental academy at Vienna, the writer has amused himself by grouping them roughly under certain heads, so as to illustrate some aspects of the national character and surroundings.

shalt thou take with thee" [to the next]. But beware of accepting alms or fav or if you would keep your self self-act, and "accept the largess of thy friend as if thou wert an enemy." "Great is the power of wealth. "Even the mountains fear the rich man. It covers a multitude of failures and averts many ills. "If a man's money is white, no matter if his face be black." "The knife cuts not hand of gold." But then the disadvantages and dangers of it in a land where empty treasuries are filled by the suppression of a few rich men and the confiscation of their property! Truly the vacuum created has the better part where brigands swarm. "Not even a thousand men in armor can strip a naked man." Our Turk is a man of wants—pluff, coffee, and tobacco are enough for him, and so he will rest contented in the "health that is better than fortune," sagely reflecting that "a big head has a big ache," that "he who has many vineyards has many cares," and congratulates himself if he can say, "My money is little, my head without strife." He is not likely to make a fortune in business, being destitute of the enterprise, as well as of the sharpness and hardness, necessary to success. "The bazaar knows neither father nor mother," and our easy-going friend has a great regard for these domestic ties. Besides, his religion forbids him either to speculate or to put out money at interest, although he sometimes avoids this prohibition by the clumsy expedient of a fictitious sale or a "present" taken by the lender.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Black walnut sawdust is now mixed with lincseed gum and molded into ornamentation for furniture. When varnished, it is handsome and more durable than carved wood. Turpentine in small quantities may be used with advantage in the laundry, but rosin, which is usually found in soap, is injurious, discoloring some goods and shrinking woollens. When a knob comes off a door handle, you can fasten it on again by filling the cavity in the knob with sulphur, then heat the iron end of the handle which goes in the knob just hot enough to melt the sulphur, put the knob in and let it cool. It will be firmly fixed in place. A novel way of mending a woolen dress, in which a round hole has been torn, and where only a patch could remedy matters, is as follows: The frayed portions around the tear were carefully smoothed, and a piece of the material, moistened with very thin mucilage, was placed under the hole. A heavy weight was put upon it until it was dry, when it was only possible to discover the mended place by careful observation. A solution of oxalic acid has been used for removing ink stains from cotton, linen, or the fingers, but it is attended with the danger of injuring textiles and the skin. A much safer and better treatment of ink or rust stains consists in the application of two parts of powdered cream of tartar and one part of finely powdered oxalic acid. Shake up the ingredients well together and apply the powder with a dry rag to the dampened stain. When the spot has disappeared the part should be very well washed. To boil rice properly you must first wash out all the dried starch from among the grains, not by soaking it in a bowl of water as is usually done, but by letting water run over and through it, in a sieve. To half a pint of rice put a pint of cold water and a heaped teaspoonful of salt into the saucepan. The moment it begins to boil take the lid off the saucepan; let it boil very fast but do not stir it. When holes begin to appear in the top it is done. Turn out in a buttered dish and keep hot in the oven. Every grain should be distinct by this process. After tea has been steeped in boiling water over five-sixths of the valuable constituents are extracted. At the end of ten minutes the leaves are almost entirely exhausted. Prolonged infusion gives no additional strength to the liquid, but it does cause the loss, by volatilization, of the flavoring principles. Hard waters are to be preferred to soft waters in the tea-pot, as the hard waters dissolve less of the tannin out of the leaves. The bearing of these laboratory results on the art of making a good cup of tea is obvious. A serviceable article of a mother's nursery outfit is an apron made of a straight piece of goods—muslin, gingham, or any suitable material that is alike on both sides—turned upward at the bottom to the depth of about ten inches, and stitched vertically at intervals, so that pockets are formed, into which scissors, thimble, cotton, or whatever one has in hand can be dropped at a moment's notice, when it is necessary suddenly to cast one's work aside. This will not only prevent dangerous playthings from falling into baby's hands, but save the trouble of collecting scattered work materials. Cut a piece of pasteboard eight inches square and four triangular pieces, one side of each being eight inches long. Cut also the same number of pieces of thin cardboard. Cover the pasteboard neatly with olive satin, and the cardboard with bright rose color, and sew together. Take a strip of olive satin, one and one-half yards long and three inches wide, and one of pink; sew on each edge, trim and shirr. Sew one edge of the puff to the edge of the square board and the other triangular pieces point or embroider a little spray of flowers or an initial, and bows of ribbon at the corners. To make a very handsome cover for a parlor or library table procure a sufficiently large square of dark felt, and border it with old gold plush half the width of the material, which will be about eleven inches. Cut large leaves from three sides of olive-green plush and apply upon the old gold plush, arranging them without much apparent method, to look as if carelessly scattered upon the fabric. Sew the leaves on with common sewing-silk in buttonhole stitch. The long nap of the material will readily lend itself to the concealment of the stitches used in applying, but three plush balls can be added to each corner of the cloth. It is not sufficiently known that when coffee beans are placed upon hot coals or on a hot plate the flavor arising is one of the most effective, and at the same time agreeable disinfectants. If no heat is disposable, even the spreading of ground coffee on the object to be disinfected, even if it be a cadaver, is most satisfactory. Some journals announce this as a newly discovered fact, but it appears by investigation that it was well known by nurses and housewives forty years ago, while some members of the medical profession became only convinced of its value some twenty years ago, while at present the majority of the physicians are not aware of the virtues of this simple and agreeable remedy. Seeing Stars. They were young and romantic, and, although the minute hand was pointing to 12 o'clock, they stood upon the porch, gazing at the stars. "That's Jupiter, dear, isn't it?" she murmured. "Yes, pet, and that is Sirius," he replied, pointing to another star. "Are you Sirius?" she cooed. He kissed her several times. Then he pointed upward and said: "That's Mars, dove." "And that's pa's," she whispered, as a footstep sounded inside, and if the young man hadn't scooted he would have seen more stars than he ever dreamed of. Her pa wears a 12 with a brass toe.—Washington Herald.

Large Crops of Corn.

Although the average yield of corn throughout the country last year was less than thirty bushels per acre, the product of many fields was over a hundred bushels. The difference between the highest and lowest yields of corn was greater than for almost any crop produced. Farmers should endeavor to bring up the yield of corn to the highest point possible. Nearly as much labor is expended on land that produces but twenty bushels of corn per acre as on that which yields five times that amount. The time spent in plowing and otherwise preparing the soil is the same in either case. The cost of harvesting is nearly the same. More labor may be required to cut up and put in shock large stalks of corn than those that are small, but it is much easier to husk long, full-grown ears than those that are short and small. The former are shelled the more readily whether the work is performed by hand or by the aid of a machine. The quality of a corn crop in almost every instance corresponds with the quantity produced. The larger the yield, the better is the grain. Both its keeping and its feeding qualities are better. Large ears of corn part with the moisture they contain more readily than small ones do, chiefly for the reason that the proportion of grain to cob is larger. Very large ears seldom become moldy in the crib. Climate has much to do in insuring a large yield of corn. The latitude of forty degrees appears to be most favorable to the production of corn. It is produced in all the southern states, and in most of them it is a fairly profitable crop, but the yield is much smaller than in what is known as the "corn belt." In places where the soil is naturally quite rich, the stalks attain an enormous size, with correspondingly large ears. But the size attained by the stalks makes it necessary to locate the hills so far apart that their number on an acre is much smaller than in the northern states. The warm season is much longer in the southern than in the northern states, and the continued warmth is favorable to the growth of corn, but the heat is likely to be attended by a long-continued drought, which prevents the ears from filling out. In favorable seasons a large crop of corn are raised on the forty-second as on the fortieth degree of latitude, though some more labor is required to produce it. Smaller varieties, and those that mature in a shorter time, are planted for prudential reasons. As the stalks are smaller, the hills are placed nearer together, involving more labor in planting, cultivation, and harvesting. Many of the largest crops of corn reported last season were produced in the latitude of this city. The grain was excellent and the fodder superior to that produced farther south. Many of the ordinary crops of corn produced last year—that is, those where the yield was reported as over a hundred bushels per acre—were produced on land to which commercial fertilizers had been liberally applied. Several of the very large yields from small fields were the result of applying well-rotted manure, ashes, and bone-dust directly to the hill. A very large proportion of the best crops, however, were raised on land to which no fertilizers had been applied that season or the previous year. They were produced on red clover sod. The ground had in some previous year received a very heavy dressing, which had resulted in producing a luxuriant growth of clover. The coarse manure had become rotten in the soil and stimulated the corn plants in the earlier period of their growth. Later in the season the roots of the clover became rotten, and furnished plant food. In England it has long been the practice to raise clover with a view of preparing the land to produce a crop of wheat. Experience in this country shows that land can be fitted for raising corn in the same way. In many parts of the west, rolling land has been plowed and planted to corn for so long a time that large gullies have been produced in it. The soil has also been impoverished by raising the same crop year after year. These lands should have a period of rest and recuperation. Seeding them to clover will produce the desired result in a short time. Very few of the premium corn crops reported were put in with a horse planter. These machines are useful and perhaps necessary in places where labor is scarce and very large fields are to be planted. That they drop and cover corn as satisfactory as can be done by hand is not claimed. The best results were obtained by laying out the rows with a marker, dropping the seed by hand, and covering it with a hoe. The hand hoe was employed in connection with the cultivator in tending the crop. It was used before the plants were sufficiently large to admit of the running of the cultivator between the rows. The use of the hand hoe was the most common in places outside the "corn belt," where the people do not rely chiefly on an excellent soil and climate to produce a good corn crop. The employment of the corn planter and the double team cultivator has enabled western farmers to put in and tend very large fields of corn, but it is obvious to every observer that these implements have not resulted in increasing the yield per acre. Hand planting and hand hoeing appear to be necessary to produce very large crops of corn in any part of the country. Such, at least, is the report of those who raised the premium crops last season.—Chicago Times.

BRITISH ELOQUENCE.

As Exhibited in the House of Commons—Gladstone and Bright. From Paper by Justin McCarthy. The eloquence of the House of Commons is curiously conventional in its character. It is peculiar; it is local; it can hardly be appreciated by one not familiar with the place and the ways. A stranger is almost always disappointed with our Parliamentary speaking; more so with the House of Commons, I think, than with the House of Lords. The allusions, the illustrations, the hits that tell best in the House of Commons would not be understood by any one not well acquainted with all that is going on in English public life. We seldom or never hear in the House of Commons, now, a passage of sustained eloquence which would be interesting for its own sake; for its beauty of language, its power, or its pathos, the very size and shape of the chamber are unfavorable to the higher order of eloquence and are distinctly encouraging to the close and clever practical debater. We seldom now have great principles to deal with. The business of the House of Commons is mainly practical, not to say parochial. The most eloquent and powerful debater in the House of Commons is Mr. Gladstone; beyond all comparison, if we take him for all his remarkable qualities: fluency, readiness, resources of argument and of language, voice, delivery, manner, dramatic gesture, variety of tone, style, phrase, I am inclined to doubt whether he is not the greatest debater who ever sat in the House of Commons. But he is certainly not the greatest orator; I sometimes feel inclined to question whether he is an orator at all. At the most I should call him a parliamentary orator; a House of Commons orator. His speeches will not be read. Even now in his own lifetime a speech of his is not read after its immediate occasion has passed away. Mr. Gladstone is only to be appreciated by those who hear him. I have often heard innocent wonder expressed at the fact that one who is so great a speaker should not be a particularly good writer. But anybody who listens to one of Mr. Gladstone's speeches and observes how the involved sentences are made clear by the speaker's mastery of tone, inflection of tone and gesture will readily understand why a written essay from Mr. Gladstone should not be very easy reading. Of late years, indeed, the finer qualities of Mr. Gladstone's voice are often wanting. Sometimes it becomes almost feeble; sometimes the speaker is indistinctly heard. There was a time, and that not long ago, when every word, every syllable, swept easily over all parts of the House of Commons, and the most distant listener in the most inconvenient gallery never had to trouble himself by any anxiety lest he should lose one phrase of the author's eloquence. Years must tell; one cannot pass seventy and lose nothing. Mr. Gladstone is a marvelous man for his age; and, except in voice, I do not think he has suffered as a speaker. He is as ready, as varied, as full of resource, as rhetorical and rich in language as he ever was. So much cannot be said of Mr. Bright. At one time Mr. Bright stood distinctly above Mr. Gladstone as an orator; he never approached him as a debater. Mr. Bright's was a purer and a loftier eloquence; and, like Mr. Gladstone's, it was aided by a voice of noble quality, a voice which lent itself to every emotion of passion, of pathos, of humor, of scorn. Mr. Bright's voice now is almost gone, and his resources of language seem gone or nearly so. One who did not hear Mr. Bright in his better days would not do well to hear him now. He would not hear the real Mr. Bright; he would only do wrong to the memory and the fame of the real Mr. Bright. After Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright who are the orators of the House of Commons? One has to pause a little and think before giving an answer. The House of Commons has never been quite the same since Mr. Disraeli left it. It seems to have changed its character since the days of those glorious duels, those splendid hand-to-hand combats, between Gladstone and Disraeli. There is no one on the Conservative bench who is fit to break a lance with Mr. Gladstone; nobody who is fit to stand before him for one moment. Who comes next to Mr. Gladstone in the present House? Mr. Bright we need not name; he is practically out of the debate. Next to Mr. Gladstone in my opinion comes Mr. Joseph Cowen, the Democratic member from Newcastle. Effect of an Old Ballad. Talking of the war reminds me of a pretty story of the bloody Confederate drama. The father of Willie Black, of Atlanta, when 16 years old, left college joined the southern army, and remained in it from first to last. He was taken prisoner once and wounded three times. He says that after the battle of Gettysburg, when the baffled Confederates, worn, weary, heartsore, were recrossing the Potomac at dusk, many were groaning, some were cursing, while the majority of them felt too unhappy to express themselves boisterously. Finally they went into camp, cooked their frugal meal, and sat down to a grim quarrel with fortune or lapsed into sullen silence. All at once, swelling melodiously through the summer air, came a noble, resonant tenor voice singing "Give me a cot in the valley I love." The soldiers listened with rapture, and the dear vision of home turned the bitterness of their hearts to sweetness and peace. All blasphemy anger and unutterable anguish ceased. By the power of song heaven descended upon the raging hell in their bosoms, and when the ballad lulled into an echo, dying plaintively away, it was as if an angel had passed and touched the valiant men in gray with the healing of his wing.—Washington Correspondent of the Augusta (Ga.) Chronicle.

Almsgiving is creditable, for "the hand which gives is above that which takes;" and it offers temporal advantages as well as spiritual. In this world "No one cut the hand that gives," and "What thou givest that

thou shalt receive." "Oh, you mustn't notice that; this is you off year, you know."—Merchant's Traveller.

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Mrs. Wendell Phillips is still living quietly in the house which was her husband's last home, in the southern part of Boston.

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