

A HARVEST SONG.

Come, Mary, blow the horn! For the men are all in the corn. It was an hour and more ago, I saw them in the corn. Joy has the table spread and the harvest apples peeled. Come, Mary, come and blow the horn!

LOVE IN A SHOWER.

"I don't think I care about the nutting picnic," said the rector's daughter. "Not care about it?" said Horatia Dale. "Why, I thought you always went every year."

ver cup. "Ah, how indescribably charming is the country!" "Could you be contented to live here always?" asked Harvey Carroll, as he lay stretched on the green turf at his feet.

"But what principle is that? Never heard of it before." "Well, I used to raise a good deal of buckwheat, and it puzzled me to know how to get rid of the straw. Nothing would eat it, and it was a great bother to me. At last I thought of a plan. I stacked my buckwheat straw nicely and built a high rail fence around it. My cattle, of course, concluded that it must be something good, and at once tore down the fence and began to eat the straw. I drove them away and built up the fence a few times, but the more I hunted them off, the more anxious they became to eat the straw; and eat it they did, every bit of it. As I said, I marry my girls on the same principle. When a young man that I don't like begins to call on my girls, I encourage him in every way I can. I tell him to come often and stay as late as he pleases; and I take pains to hint to the girls that I think they'd better set their caps for him. It works first rate. He don't make many calls, for the girls treat him as coolly as they can. But when a young fellow that I like comes around, a man that I think would suit me for a son-in-law, I don't let him make many calls before I give him to understand that he isn't wanted about my house. I tell the girls, too, that they shall have nothing to do with him, and give them orders never to speak to him again. The plan always works exactly as I wish. The young folks begin to pity and sympathize with each other; and the next thing I know they are engaged to be married. When I see that they are determined to marry, I of course give in, and pretend to make the best of it. That's the way I manage it."

THE CESSION OF LOUISIANA.

Events beyond the ocean were working more rapidly for the interest of the United States than any influences the government itself could exert. Before Mr. Monroe reached France, in the spring of 1803, another war cloud of portentous magnitude was hanging over Europe. The treaty of Amiens, which proved only a truce, misconstrued and violated by both parties, was about to be formally broken. Fearing that in the conflict to come England, by her superior naval force, would deprive him of his newly-acquired colonial empire, and greatly enhance her own prestige by securing all the American possessions which France had owned prior to 1763, Bonaparte, by a dash in diplomacy as quick and as brilliant as his tactics on the field of battle, placed Louisiana beyond the reach of British power. After returning from St. Cloud from the religious services of Easter Sunday, April 10, 1803, he called two of his most trusted advisers, and in a tone of vehemence and passion said: "I know the full value of Louisiana, and have been desirous of repairing the fault of the French negotiators who lost it in 1763. A few lines of a treaty have restored it to me, and now I must expect to lose it. * * * The English wish to take possession of it, and it is thus they will begin the war. * * * They have twenty ships of war in the Gulf of Mexico. * * * The conquest of Louisiana would be easy. I have not a moment to lose in putting it out of their reach. * * * The English have successively taken from France the Canadas, Cape Breton, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and the richest portions of Asia. But they shall not have the Mississippi, which they covet."

greatest military power of Europe, and coveted by the greatest naval power of the world. Mr. Jefferson, through his chosen and trusted agents, so conducted his important negotiations that the ambition of the United States was successfully interposed between the necessities of the one power and the aggressive designs of the other. Ready to side with either of these great powers against the other for the advantage of his own country; not underrating the dangers of war, and yet ready to engage in it for the control of the great water way to the gulf—the president made the greatest conquest ever achieved without antecedent war, and at a cost so small that the total sum expended for the entire territory does not equal the revenue which has since been collected on its soil in a single month in time of great public peril. The country thus acquired forms to day the states of Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, west of the Mississippi; Colorado north of the Arkansas, and Oregon, besides Indian territory, and the territories of Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho and Washington.

Cormorants are another means employed by the Chinese on lakes and the shallower sheets of water for taking fish. This aquatic species of hawking is of very old date, and was known and practiced in England, whither it doubtless was imported from the east, two centuries ago. But it is followed with success only by the painstaking ecclesiastical. The birds, which have to undergo a regular training, are taken out in a boat, and before work commences a strap or ring is placed round each cormorant's throat, sufficiently tight to prevent its swallowing any fish it may catch in its strongly-hooked beak, but not so tight as to prevent respiration. The dark-winged fishermen then go off and cater for their master with success and regularity, being rewarded with an occasional fish, which they are permitted to swallow when the strap has been removed. Above all things the Chinese are a frugal nation, making use of substances that would meet with culinary contempt in any other country. The discarded shark represents to them a valuable supply of food. The fins go to form the well known soup, or are used in the preparation of gelatine; while the skin, after being cleaned and prepared, serves for covering sword handles, and for various other ornamental purposes. Even the cattle-fish, a creature repulsive to fishermen of most other nations, is the object of careful pursuit with nets and lines by the Chinaman, at a time when other work is slack; and, carefully dried and packed in bales, commands a ready sale all through the Flowery land. The oyster, also, and its pearl-bearing kindred, the Chinese mussel, are not merely looked upon as dainties. Though cultivated with skill and science as such in the first place, their refuse shells are burnt for lime, and, while still living, they are induced to secrete the hard white substance which is so highly valued for its beauty and scarcity all over the world.—London Telegraph.

ALL SORTS.

A friend cannot be known in prosperity, and an enemy cannot be hid in adversity. We cannot be too much on our guard against reactions, lest we rush from one fault into a contrary fault. Asparagus is a diuretic, and forms part of the cure for rheumatic patients at some of the leading health resorts. "A fair court record," remarked a coquette as she wrote the name of her sixteenth rejected lover in her diary. "Only that is truly beautiful which either has within it the element of growth, or suggests vital energy as its cause. If we did but know how little some enjoy the great things they possess, there would not be much envy in the world. He who swims securely down the stream of self confidence is in danger of being drowned in the whirlpool of presumption. The pleasantest things in the world are pleasant thoughts, and the greatest art in life is to have as many of them as possible. We must distinguish between felicity and prosperity; for prosperity leads often to ambition, and ambition to disappointment. It is not until we have passed through the furnace that we are made to know how much dross there is in our composition.—Colton. A man may be too well learned for practical usefulness in life, as a soldier may be too well armed for usefulness in the field.—Herron. Says the Philadelphia Press: "The editor of the Memphis Appeal calls Chalmers of Mississippi, a liar, and both gentlemen are still alive." Yes! Deplorable, isn't it?—Bos. Post. "Where did you get your wonderful power of language?" asked an admiring auditor at the close of a lecture. "Oh," replied the lecturer, with a laugh, "I used to work in a barber shop." Let us beware of losing our enthusiasms. Let us retain glory in something, and strive to retain our admiration for all that would enrich, and our interest in all that would ennoble and beautify our life.—Phillips Brooks. Sixteen members of the common council of New Orleans have pledged themselves to go to jail rather than obey the mandate of the United States Circuit Judge Billings to provide for an extra tax levy this year to pay the judgment for \$1,896,000 obtained by Mrs. Myra Clark Gaines. The rate of taxation in that city year bids far to exceed five per cent. OLD TREES.—The existing cedars of Lebanon are only 900 years old. The cypress trees at Montezuma, Mexico, according to a French botanist, are 6,000 years old, and consequently he makes them out coeval with the creation of the world. Still, that is only estimate. The oldest tree on earth, so far as absolutely known, is the "Bo" tree, in the sacred city of Amarapura, Burma. It was planted in 283 B. C., and is, accordingly, 2,171 years old. Its great age is proved by historic documents, according to Sir James Emerson Tennent, who says: "To it kings have even dedicated their dominions, in testimony of the belief that it is a branch of the identical fig tree under which Buddha reclined at Urureya, when he underwent his apotheosis." Its leaves are carried away as streamers by pilgrims, but it is too sacred to touch with a knife, and therefore they are only gathered when they fall. Rich One Struck.—Nevada City Mining Company have discovered new chate of ore, the point of development being the 600 foot level north. Within two or three days they have taken out as many thousand dollars' worth of very rich free gold quartz, and it is possible the bunch may prove an immensely productive one, as there is more of the same kind in sight, besides what may be hid above and below on the new chate, which was by some kind of luck inseparable from mining missed on the higher levels. Tender.—"Young clover," says Wm. S. Fowler, "is so tender a plant that the tramping of hoofs, however light, will destroy or seriously injure it. At any period of its existence a man or child cannot put a foot on a clover plant without materially injuring it. Any kind of stock will trample down and injure twice or thrice as many clover plants as it eats."

Mixed Accomplishments.

Miss Rosalind H. Young is a resident of Pitcairn Island. She is a descendant of one of the mutineers of the British ship Bounty, the crew of which founded a colony on Pitcairn Island in 1790, consisting of nine British sailors, six native Tahitian men and twelve women, which has since grown into a moderately populous village, with comfortable cottages, a church and a school house. The residents all read, write and speak the English language. Miss Young, however, is a prodigy of scholarship in the colony. Some of our readers will remember that two years ago she wrote an article, descriptive of the island, for Scribner's Magazine. A retired sea captain, who visited the island not long ago, draws this picture of Miss Young. Her father is pastor of the island church and teacher of the school, and she is organist and assistant teacher. She is about twenty-six years old and weighs two hundred pounds, never had a shoe on her foot, and if necessary could swim off to a ship four miles from the island and back again to shore, and then go into the little church and play the organ nearly as well as any young lady in the states.

An Archbishop's Funeral Pomp.

The church of Rome delights in august pageantry in the ceremonies of great occasions, and the funeral of Archbishop Wood in Philadelphia to-day will be remembered as the most pompous of the obsequies in the history of that city. The body of the dead prelate was yesterday removed from his residence, where it had lain since his death a week ago to-morrow, and placed on a catafalque in front of the altar of the cathedral, covered with royal purple velvet, enshrouded in the full vestments of his high office, a white mitre upon the head and a crucifix clasped in the hands. The solemn procession of chanting priests and the stately ritual of the funeral services of to-day recall the pageantry of the interment of the remains of Archbishop Hughes in the Fifth Avenue cathedral last January, after his dust had remained twenty years in the vaults of St. Patrick's. The pompous ceremonies of the church of Rome profoundly affect the imagination of its devotees, and the imposing services over the remains of a worthy prelate will make a deep impression upon a multitude.—N. Y. Mail and Express.

INHALATION OF AIR EXHALED BY CONSUMPTIVES.—Fresh proof of the danger of inhaling air exhaled by persons having lung diseases has been given by a characteristic French experiment. M. Giboux took four young, healthy rabbits from the same litter and kept them for 105 days in cages as follows: Two were placed in a cage where they were obliged to breathe the air expired from animals with consumption, twice a day for two hours; in a short time they became sickly, and on killing them, they were found to have tubercles in the lungs. The other two breathed twice a day the same air, but disinfected by being passed through cotton wedding impregnated with carbolic acid; these rabbits remained in good health, and were finally eaten by the experimenter.

Chinese Fishing.

Among their fishing appliances are dip-nets, large squares of netting extended on a frame work of bamboo, which is weighed and suspended from a pole, that has to be alternately raised and lowered either from a bank or a boat and brings up each time all the fish that may be passing over it at the time. The casting net is very familiar, but China is a peculiar home, and it is there used in varying sizes by men and children of all ages. A more original method of capturing fish is that pursued by what are known in Swatow as "slipper-boats." These craft are generally 25 feet long and 18 inches wide, and they fish in couples, moored side by side, on bright moonlight nights, their only implements of capture being a white board fastened along the outer side of each. This board catches the bright rays of the moon, and the fish, who would seem to be of a confiding nature in this portion of the empire, are said to mistake it for water, and leap from their native element in the slipper boats in large numbers. Innumerable devices of this character, peculiar to the country, are here on show in the Chinese annex. This would seem to be a branch of industry naturally commending itself to the minds of a people who have always been universally credited with a more than ordinary amount of cunning. Their fish traps are, moreover, manifold and varied, and of the highest workmanship and utility. In the British Isles this is a means of taking fish practically unknown and unpracticed, with the exception of our stereotyped eel and lobster pots, but the Chinese devote themselves largely to these strategic methods of fishing, and with an unvarying success that nothing but the boundless fertility of their rivers and seas could explain or withstand. The day will perhaps come when western ideas will penetrate sufficiently there to insure the suppression of wholesale fish poisoning and such like fatal poisoning arrangements for the capture of small fry as are rather too candidly exhibited here; but at present we can only admire, perhaps with a tinge of dejection, the hundred and one devices employed in a land where, though every form of unportentous destruction is rampant, the fish supply seems to remain as abundant and accessible as ever.