SCARLET FEVER.

Absolute Necessity of Complete Isolation When This Disease Is In Our Midst.

One of the usual accompaniments of the colder season of the year is that terror of all mothers, the scarlet fever, which, although confined to no particular season, and having, like death, all seasons for its own, nevertheless seems always to rage with more vehemence when the mercury gets down among the small figures.

Unlike the measles, which most mothers think it desirable for their children to have early, there is almost no pains which wise mothers will not take to avert from their children this fearful evil, than which no other disease is so much to be dreaded. And it is justly that this dread is felt; not even the small-pox is so deserving of it, for although that sometimes takes life, and often beauty, it seldom, after good recovery, does further damage. But the scarlet fever, even if the little patient escapes with life, is as likely as not to poison the blood, to injure the brain, to destroy the hearing, or to affect to deadly purpose some vital organ with long and slow and painful decay. Poe's terrible story of the "Masque of the Red Death" had in it some elements of the horror that belongs to this pestilence that walketh by noonday; and we have known an aged physician who never could speak of this especial form of fever without tears springing to his eyes, so much misery to child and parent and household had he seen it bring about.

When we see a disease which, even on recovery, drugs after it in most instances long sequelæ of other ailments, often veiled and obscure and not easy to reach and treat—kidney affections, lung troubles, glandular difficulties, idiocy and the rest—we can judge of the virulence of the original thing itself. And if by any chance we see the child itself enduring the first distress, the final agony, crying out in blind wonder at its own suffering, yielding up its brief life perhaps in delirium, perhaps in faintness, with the pangs of suspense and despair of the mother bending over it, and the desolation of the home it leaves so empty of its sweet presence, till it seems as if there were nothing but suffering in the world—when by any chance we have seen all this, have fought our own fight with a disease capable of working such woe—then it seems to us that we would almost give our own life rather than be the means of diffusing such trouble, of increasing the suffering of the world, of bringing such pain and sorrow upon another person who loved a child.

Yet it is an almost universal thing for families—every individual of whom would feel all this shrinking from increasing the sorrows of the world—instead of doing their utmost to prevent the spread of the terrible infection, acting with an almost criminal carelessness in the matter, and that, of course, with no intention other than good ones, but partly from ignorance and partly from thoughtlessness and partly from a general trusting to luck. There is a case of fever in the house; they isolate it, and then they think they have done their whole duty; they themselves, if not needed in attendance, go and come, here and there, in and out, as they please. "Oh, it is only a slight case!" they answer you if you question their action, forgetful of the fact that the most malignant form can be developed from the contagion of the very slightest case of scarlatina, scarlatina being the generic name of the disease in any form, and not merely of its lightest development. The doctor goes and comes unavoidably through the hall and up down the common stairway between the door and the sick-room, nobody knows how many germs of the disease clinging to the woolen fibres of his garments to be scattered in the hall and on the stairs, over which the rest of the family pass necessarily many times a day, to gather them up in their own clothes, and have them ready to disseminate whenever they go out among people. The nurses, too, and those in attendance on the sick-room, go up and down into the kitchen and elsewhere about the house, carrying with them more or less of the atmosphere of the room and all that belongs to it, again to be possibly caught up by those who have never gone near the patient; and the very dogs and cats about the place, to say nothing of the flies, are liable to gather the dangerous unknown force in their long fur, and bring it to the other members of the family. If then these other members of the family, thus virtually contaminated, go out freely on the street, what deadly work is it they do, all unintentionally and unconsciously, what seeds of death and sorrow do they scatter with every wave of their garments as they walk and as they encounter people on the street or venture into houses!

Doubtless it is hard and unpleasant, a sort of imprisonment, indeed, for people not immediately concerned in the work for the sick to shut themselves up when such a trouble is in the house; but there are always ways for them to get enough fresh air to keep themselves in health. And for the rest of it, if the thing comes, it should be received like any other dispensation, and borne with becoming strength and self-denial, even if that requires abstinence from church and concert and call, the foregoing of the morning shopping and the afternoon stroll. For fully three weeks after the patient is out of danger and convalescing a process called desquamation—a shedding of the scarf skin—goes on with the little person, and every flake of that cuticle wafted abroad is but inoculation of the disease wherever received. Isolation, then can not be too much regarded; and if we do not here speak of disinfection it is because we believe everybody in the world must now know the value and necessity of that in its most extended form, while many forget or are not aware of the need of complete isolation. There is nothing fine in the courage or bravado of those who would visit or go errands to the dwellings where this sickness exists. It is very easy to be courageous for other people, and it is other people, and not one's self, that the grown person endangers by going into the way of the disease, and those other people helpless little children. Grown people are seldom in much danger of receiving the contagion for themselves, but they can carry it in their clothes; and knowing this, and knowing the alarming vitality of the germ, and how long afterward it can maintain this devastating vitality with unimpeached power, they would be acting with total want of principle and even of decent human charity, if they did not avoid going to the house where scarlet fever exists, and did not also avoid those who come out of that house. When people who are aware of the danger do avoid those who have come out from these fatal doors it is not for themselves, it should be remembered, nor indeed always for those dear to them as life itself, but quite as often for the sake of those dear as life to others; and no one has a right to be offended at this avoidance. It is not the people themselves who are thus avoided; it is the terrible trouble whose companionship lurks about them. The very individuals who avoid them or who feel compelled to condemn their want of consideration and care in going abroad, would, it is very likely, go to their houses and remain with them, helping and cheering them as long as the necessity lasted, but not daring to go out into the world again so long as the least danger of communicating the evil remained. Instead of being offended at the avoidance, all persons, on the other hand, would do well to prevent the necessity of such avoidance by keeping out of the way themselves, and by voluntarily and spontaneously, with noble regard for others, even if Quixotic regard, maintaining themselves and their house in a sort of quarantine, which, uncomfortable as it may be to them, is indefinitely better than sickness and death and the sorrow of vacant houses to others.—*Harper's Bazar.*

THE TONGUE.

The Gustatory Properties of Its Diminutive Tip.

When we want to assure ourselves, by means of taste, about any unknown object—say a lump of some white stuff, which may be crystal or glass or alum or borax or quartz or rock-salt—we put the tip of the tongue against it gingerly. If it begins to burn us we draw it away more or less rapidly, with an accompaniment in language strictly dependent upon our personal habits and manners. The test we thus occasionally apply, even in the civilized adult states to unknown bodies is one that is being applied every day and all day long by children and savages. Unsophisticated humanity is constantly putting everything it sees up to its mouth in a frank spirit of experimental inquiry as to its gustatory properties. In civilized life we find everything ready labeled and assorted for us; we comparatively seldom require to roll the contents of a suspicious bottle (in very small quantities) doubtfully upon the tongue in order to discover whether it is pale sherry or Chili vinegar, Dublin stout or mushroom ketchup. But in the savage state, from which geologically and biologically speaking, we have only just emerged, bottles and labels do not exist. Primitive man, therefore, in his sweet simplicity, has only two modes open before him for deciding whether the things he finds are or are not strictly edible. The first thing he does is to sniff at them, and smell being, as Mr. Herbert Spencer has well put it, an anticipatory taste, generally gives him some idea of what the thing is likely to prove. The second thing he does is to pop it into his mouth, and proceed practically to examine its further characteristics. Strictly speaking, with the tip of the tongue one can't really taste at all. If you put a small drop of honey or of oil of bitter almonds on that part of the mouth; you will find (no doubt to your great surprise) that it produces no effect of any sort; you only taste it when it begins slowly to diffuse itself and reaches the true tasting region in the middle distance. But if you put a little cayenne or mustard on the same part, you will find that it bites you immediately—the experiment should be tried sparingly—while if you put it lower down in the mouth you will swallow it almost without noticing the pungency of the stimulant. The reason is that the tip of the tongue is supplied only with nerves which are really nerves of touch, not nerves of taste proper; they belong to a totally different main branch, and they go to a different center in the brain, together with the very similar threads which supply the nerves of smell for mustard and pepper. That is why the smell and taste of these pungent substances are so much alike, as everybody must have noticed; a good sniff at a mustard pot producing almost the same irritating effect as an incautious mouthful. As a rule, we don't accurately distinguish, it is true, between these different regions of taste in the mouth in ordinary life; but that is because we usually roll our food about instinctively, without paying much attention to the particular part affected by it. Indeed, when one is trying deliberate experiments in the subject, in order to test the varying sensitiveness of the different parts to different substances, it is necessary to keep the tongue dry in order to isolate the thing you are experimenting with and prevent its spreading to all parts of the mouth together. In actual practice this result is obtained in a rather ludicrous manner—by blowing upon the tongue between each experiment with a pair of bellows. To such undignified expedients does the pursuits of science lead the ardent modern psychologist. Those domestic rivals of Dr. Forbes Winslow, the servants, who behold the enthusiastic investigator alternately drying his tongue in this ridiculous fashion, as if he were a blacksmith's fire, and then squeezing out a single drop of essence of pepper, vinegar, or beef tea from a glass syringe upon the dry surface, not unnaturally arrive at the conclusion that master has gone stark mad, and that, in their private opinion, it's the microscope and the skeleton as has done it.—*Cornhill Magazine.*

—In the matter of speed, the bicycle ranks seventh—the balloon, the locomotive, and trotting, pacing and running horses having faster records. It ranks seventh because a lie will travel faster than any of them.—*Current.*

THE MEXICANS.

Some of Their Business Habits Which Render Close Commercial Connection with Them Undesirable.

I have lately talked with a gentleman who is thoroughly conversant with this people, whose remarks are here substantially reproduced:

"The Mexicans, I may say, appear to be divided into two groups—those who have some education, and the peons, who are absolutely ignorant, excepting that they show the animal instinct to provide themselves with the meager daily necessaries of life. The former class are intriguants by nature. Their business habits are tortuous, and from the time they wake in the morning till they go to rest they seem to be studying how to put up a job on somebody who has got a little means at command. Your Mexican does not consider there is anything wrong about this. When reproached with a crookedness, they simply show their white teeth by a bland smile, and hug themselves with pleasure that they have been smart in getting the best of the 'gringo.' Tricks are not tried on the natives, because there is no money to be made there. The large towns swarm with lawyers, and once in their clutches, it is '*adois la plata.*' Your Police Court in San Francisco has a few lawyerlings of the same type; but, Heavens! you ought to see the brood that hangs round a Mexican court, under the name of 'abogados.'

"I will mention an instance," the gentleman continued, "of the trouble I got into about a piece of land I purchased, or thought I purchased, near a principal town. I was a piece of three hundred acres, from a grant set aside for school purposes. In the first place, I made application to the ayuniamiento, and was told I could have it for some three or four centavas an acre; but afterward found out that a member of the council and an outsider, who divided the proceeds of the sales of these lands, objected, and I could not get the land at all. Then a merchant of the place sent me notice that he could sell me the property, and give me what was called in old times with us a warranty deed, guaranteeing me possession against all comers. I took his offer; but had scarcely completed the bargain when I found some one surrounding my purchase with a rude brush fence.

"'What are you doing here?' I asked him.

"'Fencing in my land,' was the reply. 'I bought the whole of it,' making a comprehensive sweep with his hand, 'many years ago, for fifteen dollars.'

"I was in a fix. I mentioned the merchant; but the fence-builder laughed. I went to the merchant, but he calmly told me that although my title was good, as he had insured it, I had better settle with the invader, as he did not want any trouble with people who were customers. It would injure his business. I did not settle. Afterward, when I was lying sick in my room, with an infernal calentura, a couple of abogados entered with a bill a yard long, covered with stamps. They said it was for rental; and threatened the direst consequences if I did not pay. I was half mad with fever and rage, and had they not beat a hasty retreat would have thrown them out neck and heels. The stranger in Mexico, the man who is tempted to 'go into business' there and has money to invest, thinks it all plain sailing. No one so bland as your educated Mexican, till the stranger has made his investment, and proceeds, as he thinks, in the credulity and simplicity of his heart, to acquire a rapid fortune. Then he finds his way barred by unforeseen obstacles. Dues, charges, taxes, counter titles crop up on every hand, and they must be paid or settled, else you will have no peace. After a year or two, if you can not guard yourself by some strong protective interest, you will have no property."—*Cor. St. Louis Republican.*

ROLLER SKATING.

Its Devotees Are Liable to Deformities of the Limbs and Other Functional Derangements.

Concerning the roller skate there is unfortunately little risk of exaggerating its evils. Although of only comparatively recent introduction, its effects upon the carriage and gait and upon the anatomical development, especially of growing children are already quite marked. These obvious physical effects are inherent in the muscular action involved in the use of this form of skate. Unlike the ice skates, there is no gliding movement, nor are the opposing muscles of the lower extremities equally exercised, in the constant successions of side thrusts which make up all there is of exercise on roller skates. When to this is added the fact that the practice may be, and is by many, continued throughout the year, while ice-skating lasts only a few weeks at a time with long intervals between, it is easy to see why so many youths of both sexes are acquiring the peculiar gait of a Micmac Indian or Hudson Bay voyageur in the snow-shoe season. Examination of the ankles of the majority of the children who clatter among the smooth stone sidewalks of our residence streets will reveal a thickening of the ligaments of the joint, and an undue development of the muscle- and tendons of the outer side, which point to the condition of one of the common kinds of club foot and in which the subject walks on the inner ankle. The results are patent even to the non-professional eye, and are therefore proper topics of comment in the columns of a news journal. But there is another class of evils arising from the continuous use of roller-skates which is of a much more serious nature, and to which only the merest allusion may here be made. The care of the health of future mothers is the especial sacred charge of those who know, by personal experience, how profoundly that health may be affected by some apparently insignificant cause during adolescence. There is sufficient reason for the belief that the form of exercise in question is capable of producing both structural and functional disturbances of a lasting nature.—*Chicago News.*

—The Texas public school system is said to be the finest in the land.

ADOBE BUILDINGS.

How the Western Farmer May Economize Building Material.

As compared with brick, stone, concrete and frame buildings, those built of adobes have many advantages. They cost less, are as durable, cooler in summer, warmer in winter, and let there be incessant rains for weeks at a time, the walls will never "sweat" or show a particle of dampness.

In Western villages lack of convenient clay-beds has induced the settlers to make adobes of common earth or loamy soil. On western or southern exposures, cottages of such adobes soon look very much battered and worn, the material not possessing power to resist the beating rains.

Adobes require to be well protected by a projecting cornice, and a foundation high enough to keep the drip off the eaves from splashing up against the walls. When the high foundation is objectionable, the first foot or more above the foundation is frequently constructed of hard brick. Should troughs be fitted to the eaves, the wear on the sides of the walls and the splashing at the base are entirely obviated. When only inferior material can be obtained for making adobes, they are frequently laid so as to be plastered on the outside, by not filling the outer joints with mortar. Another plan adopted in some localities is to dovetail the edge of each adobe by a piece secured in the molds. Another still is to drive large nails in the outside walls, about two nails to each adobe, leaving the heads projecting about three-eighths of an inch. In either case the plaster is clinched on the walls securely. Adobe walls are laid in clay mortar, composed of two parts of sand, and one part of clay, by measure. This, when dry, adheres so firmly as to make an almost solid wall. As this clay mortar, containing so large a proportion of sand, washes badly when exposed to the weather, it is now the custom to lay the outer tier of adobes with lime mortar, or to point the exposed joints with good quality lime mortar, which, drying smooth and white in well struck joints, adds much to the beauty of the building. In plastering outside walls the first two coats are applied with clay mortar, as lime mortar will not adhere to adobe walls. The last, or finishing coat, is applied with lime mortar, prepared for outside wear. The first and second coats for inside plastering are also of clay mortar, finished with a white coat of either lime or plaster of Paris. The mortar adheres firmly enough on inside walls without any special preparation of the surface. Rarely, an adobe cottage is painted of a brick color, with the joints laid off in white paint. Adobes are always in demand among the farmers, as the common kinds can be made by any one at the place where wanted. The common blue clay that underlies the sub-soil of many large districts in the prairie States would no doubt yield excellent adobes, if made in the dryest part of the summer, and thoroughly sun-baked. As laid in the walls with clay mortar, adobes are capable of supporting great pressure.

A wall in the basement of a large brick building, the second story of which has long been used as a theater and dancing-hall, has supported the pressure of a central post that sustained the center beam of the upper floor, under all the weight and springing of a a crowded attendance for several years. This wall is only the length of one adobe in thickness—about eleven inches, yet it remains firm.

The church in Payson, Utah, a structure forty-five by seventy-five feet, with walls twenty-four feet high, supporting a heavy roof and belfry, appear as secure as any brick building of the same dimensions. These walls are two feet thick, on a firmly grouted wall which is surmounted with several layers of brick and a stone water-table.

Besides the uses already mentioned, adobes are much in demand for backing the brick walls of dwellings, stores and public buildings of that material, and are frequently used for the back walls of stores, being joined to the brick. Three courses of adobes equal in height four courses of brick. Adobe are also much used as lining for frame houses, being laid up edgeways in clay-mortar between the studding. When so used the laths are placed farther apart than usual. When adobes are used for backing brick walls, it is customary to tie the adobes and bricks together when the courses come even, with light straps of iron laid across every two or three feet.

In the Far West adobes are used for all kinds of buildings, especially on the farm. They could be safely used in nearly all the Mississippi Valley by taking the precautions that have been here mentioned. Many farmers could construct all their smaller out-buildings of this material, and thus add much to the comfort of their animals, and to the pleasure and profit of agricultural pursuits.—*American Agriculturist.*

Russian Justice.

The question has often been asked whether in Russia men receive impartial justice or not. I shall mention two cases which came under my own observation. The landlord of my house entered an action to recover the sum of $2,000 owed for goods to that amount delivered. Both parties bribed the Judge, but the landlord was the most lavish, and he affirmed that he paid $750, after the decision in his favor, on condition that he received the other $1,250; his offer was accepted and he paid the amount after waiting two years for his money. An Austrian gentleman was robbed at a hotel where he was stopping of property to a considerable amount. The servants were all examined by the police and one was selected as the probable thief. The hotel proprietor well knew the honesty of this man and gave him a character which would have exonerated him from the charge. But no, the police determined that he was the thief, and actually flogged him to the comfortable number of 300 lashes. Scarcely was this received before the true thief was discovered to be quite another person; the poor servant, instead of being consoled for the severe flagellation he had received, was sent out of the city in order that the business might be forgotten.—*London Telegraph.*

JOHN PHŒNIX.

The Trick He Played on the Professor of Geology at West Point.

The following story in regard to Lieutenant Derby (John Phœnix, the humorist) was told me by General William T. Sherman: "You know, there was a few miles from West Point a place known as Benny Haven's, where the boys used to go to eat flapjacks and drink flip. Benny Haven's flip had a National reputation, and his flapjacks were delicious. The cadets, however, patronized Benny Haven's to such an excess that the officers of the military school attempted to put a stop to it, and very few permissions were granted them to go outside of the walls of the institution. Derby was in especial bad favor, and he knew that he could not on ordinary grounds get a permit. One time, after he had been a week or more without a drink of Benny Haven's flip, he pretended a great repentance as to his studies and gave out that he was going to do better. The Professor of Geology was a curious old fellow whom he had cartooned unmercifully, and who had a horror of him. To him Derby went, and with tears in his eyes said that he was sorry that he had wasted his time in the past, and that in the future he intended to do better. He feared as it was he would not be able to pass his examinations, but that he wished to use his remaining time in the Academy so that when he went out he would be fitted to battle with the world, and he intended to pay especial attention to geology. This geological professor was an enthusiast, and very simple and innocent withal. He embraced Derby and congratulated him upon his resolution. During the next few days Derby came into the class-room with the best of lessons. He asked many questions and showed great interest in the subject, thus winning glowing opinions from his professor. He remained in the class-room after the lesson of the fourth day, and told the professor that one of the milkmen who supplied the Academy had been telling him of some wonderful petrifactions at a point away up in the mountains. He had spoken of fishes and the tracks of birds and other specimens, which Derby, having carefully posted himself by the books, said he supposed belonged to such and such an age.

The Professor rubbed his hands during the relation, saying "yes," "yes," "very likely, very likely!" And when Derby concluded by saying the milkman had offered to conduct him to the place, he was eager to have him go. On Derby's asserting the doubt that he would not be permitted to leave the Academy, the Professor said there would be no trouble about that, and that he would get the countersign and the permit. This he did, and the next day Derby started out early and struck out at once for Benny Haven's.

Here he lay around all that day eating flapjacks and drinking flip, and carried on his carouse far into the night. Early in the morning he came back to the Academy very mellow indeed, but succeeded in passing the guard and tumbling into his room. As he lay down on his bed he happened to think that he must have an explanation to give the geological professor for not having the specimens. He bethought himself a moment and then went down and picked up a couple of stones from a pile which lay by the river side. He brought these to his room and with his chisel cut into them a number of what looked very much like bird-tracks. Going out again he rubbed these with dirt and then came back, laid them on his table, and went to sleep.

After breakfast he took his stones to the professor of geology, who, by the way, was very nearsighted. He told him that the milkman had failed to keep his appointment, and that he had attempted to find the place himself. He had not discovered the petrified fishes nor the other fossils described by the milkman, but he had found t[...] stones, with their curious tracks, [...] he thereupon gave the Professor [...] explanation of the bygone age to [...] the stones belonged, and how [...] luvian birds of a character [...] known had made these curio[...] His disquisition was so well [...] the Professor concluded w th[...] took the stones into the clas[...] day, and related Derby's [...] discoveries. The affair was for [...] days the talk of the class, but [...] could not keep his secret to him[...] and told it to one or two of his frien[...] It went all over the college, and the result was that Derby was suspended. He got back again, however, and after a time was graduated.—*Cleveland Leader.*

A HUNGRY ARTIST.

An Appetite Which Took a Great Deal of Money to Properly Appease.

Luis De Morales was born in 1509 and was the first Spanish painter who acquired a reputation outside of his own country. His subjects were all religious, and he was called "El Divino," or "the divine," on this account.

When Morales was fifty-five years old, Philip II. invited him to court. When he appeared before the King he wore so magnificent a costume that Philip was angry, and ordered a sum of money t[...]d the artist and a dismissal [...] him at the same time. So [...]es that he forsook [...] great poverty.

In 1551, [...] and saw Morale[...]ress from that w[...]urt.

"Morales, [...] the King.

"Yes, sire, [...] the painter. [...]

Philip then [...] hundred ducat[...] Badajoz should[...] the painter to [...] Hearing this, M[...]

"And for sup[...]

This aptness [...] he added one h[...] pension and thes[...] comfort for the r[...] street in Badajoz [...] bears his name.—[...] *ed. in St. Nichola[...]*

SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

—Vermont has 113 Baptist churches, with 9,326 members and 106 ordained ministers.

—There are 16,000,000 school children in the United States, 10,000,000 of whom are enrolled in the public schools.

—So many valuables are annually stolen from churches in the south of France during the midnight service at holiday time that those services have been ordered discontinued in the future.

—The principal of one of New York's many "finishing" schools where young ladies are presumed to get the final touch of polish to fit them exquisitely for society, includes in her course of lectures one on the art of slumbering presentably.—*N. Y. Sun.*

—The following statistics are given concerning the Catholic Church in this country: Cardinals, archbishops and bishops, 76; priests, 6,835; churches and chapels, 7,763; seminaries, colleges and academies for both sexes, 708; asylums, 294; hospitals, 1,390; communicants, 9,000,000.

—Bishop Lyman, of North Carolina, takes exception to the statement of Dr. Thompson, Bishop of Mississippi, that negro rectors are not desirable in the Protestant Episcopal Church through the South. He says that ten blacks in his State are satisfactorily ministering to congregations of their own color, and he would not like to see any other system tried.—*Chicago Herald.*

—The value of chewing gum as a factor in education has been settled at last. A Macon (Ga.) schoolmarm had six bright scholars come to school provided with gum and six without. Then she threw twenty-nine problems at them with astonishing results. The chewers of gum correctly answer twenty-one, while the gumless six had mastered only eight. This is another vital educational problem solved.—*St. Louis Post.*

—President Eliot, of Harvard University in an address before the Massachusetts Teachers' Association the other day, said that it would be much better for two or three towns to maintain one high school adequately equipped, rather than for each one to maintain a weak and poorly equipped high school. The only thing that stands in the way of such a union is local jealousy, and the sooner that is set aside the better.—*Boston Journal.*

—The will of the late Governor Abner Coburn, of Maine, bequeaths the bulk of his property to the cause of education in the South. To Coburn Classical Institute he bequeaths $75,000; to Colby University, of Waterville, $200,000, which, with other amounts for the benefit of the university, make his entire bequests thereto over $300,000. The State Agricultural College at Orono receives $100,000, and the Maine General Hospital in Portland $10,000.

—The New York *Sun* is discussing the grammar of the family prayer, "Now I lay me down to sleep." It pronounces it all right. It undoubtedly is; but, grammatical or not, it has gone up to the great judgment seat freighted with the sweetest confidence and trust that only infantile humanity can understand. That simple petition will endure as long as Christianity prevails, and will be familiar to more hearts and lips than probably all other prayers combined. Few English-speaking men and women but learned it at mother's knee and few wholly forget it.—*Indianapolis Journal.*

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

—O[...] the world doesn't know how [...]es. And 'tis just as w[...]eat deal of gossip. —*I[...]*

[...]sland of Sicily are c[...] their eyebrows shaved [...] before the wedding [...]face.

[...] while out riding with [...]ot out of the buggy and [...]ith a pistol. He proba[...] driving with both hands. [...] *Press.*

[...]ow, that sticks in my [...]ked the old farmer, as a [...]owed him over six bushels [...] branches extracted from a [...]best hay.—*Burlington Free*

[...]tors can breathe easy again. [...] years they need not blush [...]coyly and timorously when the [...]ens tell them they have some[...]say in confidence.

[...] you would be truly happy, my [...] said one lady to another, "you [...]ave neither eyes nor ears when [...]usband comes home late from the [...] "Yes, I know," answered the [...]r, wearily, "but what am I to do with my nose?"

—At the rink:

A daring young man named McCollum,
Who was long and lank, and looked solemn,
Hit the floor with his head,
And the words that he said
Would fill a long newspaper column.
—*Norristown Herald.*

—It was just after the tiff. "I wonder," snarled Romeo, "if we shall know each other in heaven." "I'll remember you, of course," replied Juliet, with tender emphasis, "but, of course, I couldn't know you without meeting you," and a period of silence as long as a centennial poem crept into the room. —*N. Y. Herald.*

—Business has been rather dull in Texas this year. A Galveston drummer who had made a tour of the State, on his return to Galveston was asked by his boss: "Well, did you get any orders?" "I should smile. I don't think I went into a single store, that I wasn't ordered out by the proprietor himself."—*Texas Siftings.*

—When Mrs. Oleo, the boarding-house mistress, was told that the inspector of provisions had seized 468 pounds of veal, ninety-two pounds of poultry, fifty-two pounds of bear meat, thirty-seven lambs, six barrels of peas, and 200 boxes of herring, she remarked: "Pretty good appetite; but nothing to some of my boarders. You'd ought to see them when they're good and hungry."—*Chicago Tribune.*

—"Smith, how is it that you always get such good bargains?" queried Jones. "Because I was taught in my infancy habits of thrift, patience and economy," replied Smith. "My father was always drumming it into me to 'wait a little while and you'll purchase cheaper. Why, even my mother used to sing 'bye-low, baby,' before I could walk." Jones is perfectly satisfied with the explanation.—*Boston Courier.*