FOREIGN GOSSIP.

—The Inspector of Butcheries in Paris reports that the consumption of horse flesh has increased to an extraordinary extent.

—King Humbert's palace in Rome, the Quirinal, contains 2,000 rooms, only 125 of which are occupied by the King and his household.

The *North China Herald* says that agents of the Panama canal made arrangements to kidnap 30,000 Annamese coolies to work at Panama, but the enterprise failed.

—Just before selling the furniture of an old lady at Ryde, England, the executor examined an ancient bureau and discovered a secret drawer, in which were upward of 1,000 sovereigns, closely packed.

—The average time taken to put two persons in telephonic communication in Glasgow is thirty-five seconds, in Birmingham forty, in Liverpool thirty-two and in Dundee twenty. This was ascertained from the results of ten calls in each town.

—A popular superstition in Naples is that of offering a charm to a horse's head or neck for the purpose of warding off the evil eye. This usually consists of a piece of horn; but occasionally a Madonna may be observed, and occasionally a small bag of sand fulfilling the same purpose.

—The Mexican woman who is obliged to earn her own living has a hard time of it. Seamstresses can not earn more than fifty cents per day, cigarette-makers from thirty-two to thirty-eight cents, and match-makers thirty to forty cents, and these are the only employments that are open to women in the City of Mexico.

—Prince Bismarck recently remarked to a friend that in the course of his long and eventful life he had never met but one thing that really mystified him. "I can not," he said, "account for the fact that a group of wax-figures never by any chance look at an object they are supposed to be interested in, or at each other."

—Queen Victoria has of late fallen into the habit of taking little "cat-naps" in her chair, even when visitors are present. At such times the royal lady goes through the same routin followed by the most humble of her subjects. Her head falls a little forward, swaying slightly from side to side; then she sits bolt upright, opens her eyes wide, and assumes an appearance of great intelligence and alertness.

—Ellen Manning, a fashionable and wealthy woman of Stapeley, England, was recently arraigned on a charge of having stolen sixty pounds of straw from her neighbor, Mr. Hornby, the famous cricketer. She pleaded not guilty, but a boy employed by her testified that the fodder running short she had directed him to go at night to the yards of various neighbors and steal something for the cattle to eat, and that when he told her he had done so she laughed. The case was adjourned to give a chance for settlement.

—Ex-Empress Victoria of Germany and the Queen of Italy are said to be the two cleverest and most highly educated women in Europe. The ex-Empress is a brilliant conversationalist, but is not as witty as Queen Margherita. The former, however, is possessed of a knowledge of scientific subjects most remarkable for a woman. She is able to converse learnedly with such men as Virchow and Von Helmholz, and her comprehension of her husband's case awakened wonder among his physicians.

—The increasing severity of the passport regulations will make it necessary for all Americans going to Germany to bring passports from America, and that the personal descriptions, etc., therein shall be exact enough to satisfy a Russian policeman in search of Nihilists. Passports must be stamped by a German Ambassador at Paris, but the passport regulations do not apply to travelers by the common route from Paris via Belgium to Berlin, but only along direct routes on the Alsace-Lorraine frontier.

GARNETS OF ALASKA.

Beautiful and Ornamental Curiosities Found at Ft. Wrangell.

The extensive garnet ledges at Fort Wrangell are an inexhaustible source of beautiful and ornamental curiosities. The cropping of the ledge is about ten feet wide, standing perpendicularly and running northeast and southwest several miles in length; the depth of it no man has ever found out. The rock is of a mica slate formation, and contains from two to four dozen garnets to the cubic foot. The gems are regular polygons, beautiful in color, and when fresh from the mines have a dashing and brilliant luster; but when exposed for a time they become dull and opaque. The crystal varies in dimensions from the size of a pea to that of a hen's egg, and to the novice are quite fascinating and have the appearance of much value for ornamental and other purposes. The lapidaries, however, have failed to utilize them for any purpose whatever, except as a curio and to demonstrate the certainty of the unerring law of nature which governs every phenomenon. Every plane of the polygon is of the same form, every angle of the same degree, and every gem is the equal and like of its fellow. The mining and shipment of the rock has become quite a business. It is worth $20 per ton on the wharf at Fort Wrangell, and is shipped to all parts of the country to fill the cabinets of the wealthy and the collections in public institutions.—*Jeweler's Review.*

DANGER IN MICROBES.

Extracts from Prof. Hirst's Lecture on Disease-Breeding Germs.

Dr. Hirst said the microscope of a power to increase objects a thousandfold would be required to distinguish a disease germ, and the number of germs could not be told. It has been demonstrated that one single germ or microbe inoculated into a person will, in a few minutes, multiply with incredible rapidity. The germ breeds every second, and in course of an hour millions have been known to be born.

To know something about the germs that causes the infectious diseases, such as small-pox, typhoid fever, diphtheria, yellow fever and all other contagious diseases, we must look for a different germ for each disease, which has its own peculiar and different germ. Though they resemble each other in appearance and in their manner of work, they are very hard to distinguish apart, and this can only be done by a competent chemist.

There are very few families that have not felt, with sorrow, the power of these dreadful microbes, and no matter how much cleanliness is preserved there is always danger. All infectious diseases originate from these small microbes.

The action of a germ is usually the same. They enter the body through a cut, the nose, the air we breathe and the water we drink. They go until they reach the right side of the heart Here they are halted for a time, but gradually force their way through to the lungs. They continue, and enter the intestines, next then the spleen. From there into the blood-vessels, and then a clear path to the heart, which soon forces them through the whole system.

People ought not to breathe in a sick-room more than is absolutely necessary, and should abstain from being connected with any disease to which germs belong. A room in which a person with a contagious disease is lying should be thoroughly disaffected by the burning of sulphur. Putrification or decomposition springs forth as deadly as any germ. If a piece of decomposed meat, which has been exposed to the air, should be taken and placed over a cut, it would result in blood poison and a speedy death.

"You are aware," said the doctor, "that in making wine the bottle is to be thoroughly air tight, and if not so the wine will soon begin to work and turn sour. Well, if you should take a few drops of this sour wine and place them in a bottle of good wine by the aid of the microscope the germs could be plainly seen doing their destructive work, and it would not be long before the good wine would be turned into another chemical, vinegar. These germs are always floating in the air until they find some one who has not the proper chemical proportions to combat against them. An experiment was made on forty-eight rabbits with one drop of decomposed blood, which was a peculiar substance resembling the alkaloids, such as morphia, opium, nicotine. It was injected into the rabbits, and before twenty-four hours had passed half of them had died, and ten drops caused the death of the others in a few hours.

"What an effect it must have upon the human race! We are subject to exposure constantly; every breath we take is filled with germs of various diseases. The water especially that is furnished by the city of Philadelphia is not fit to drink, but this can be overcome by thoroughly boiling it and using a weak preparation of bi-carbonate of mercury."—*Philadelphia Press.*

WHANGDOODLE BAXTER.

The Silver-Tongued Colored Orator Lectures on the Subject of Worry.

BERLUBBED AWJIENCE: De subjec' ob my discuss on dis heah ercashun am "Worry."

Man am de cweature ob sorrer. When he am in de heydey ob his youf ais perseshuns consist mostly ob a few marbles and a sore toe. When he grows older he am weighed down wid cares and he am filled wid patent medicines, and when he am done got old all dat he has am a will and de rheumatiz.

Yes, berlubbed bredderen and sistern, man walketh forth for pleasure and enjoyment, and behold! he steps on de bananer peel ob disappointment, and de sidewalk flies up and smites him on de small ob his back.

Hit's not work what makes 'em curl up in de corner and die. Hit's de worry what makes men die young. My advice ter yer am ter do like a man what I read about. Whenebber he ate berries he put on a par ob magnifyin' glasses so dat dey would look bigger and more temptin'. Dat's de way yer wants ter do wid yer pleasures, but yer don't wanter to put on no magnifyin' glasses when yer looks at yer troubles. Yer wants ter look at dem fru de wrong end ob a spy-glass, so dat dey will seem ter be a long way off.

Dar am seberal remedies for worry. Pashience am a good one. I knows dat pashience am mightily like castor ile—hit's easier to prescribe hit den ter take hit—but you will be better for hit afterward .I has read in de Good Book dat Job was de most pashient man, but he didn't hab no cause ter brag. He nebber had ter wait till his wife put on her bonnet. Dat's what tries a man's paschience. I'se had four wives, and so I knows what I'se talkin' about. We am all more or less wicked, but de man what kin eat his dinner during fly time widout swearin', he has more paschience in a minit den Job had in a week. De pusson who sets upon de eggs ob borrowed trouble will some ob dese days hatch out de genuine chickens. While singin' de sockdology Uncle Mose will take up de kerlecshun.—*Texas Siftings.*

FINE DECORATIVE WARE.

How Some People Can Afford to Buy Gems in China and Glass.

Not all the bargains in the city, nor even the most attractive ones in the wares that delight women and bric-a-brac hunters, are to be found on the bargain counters of the up-town bazars. Those who have accidentally or out of curiosity visited the wholesale stores in the glass, crockery and decorative goods districts on the side streets west of Broadway, from Barclay street to Chambers and above, if they have nosed around in the out-of-the-way corners under stair-ways, or poked about the dust-covered stock shoved away on back shelves in odd corners, have found a mine of valuable pieces of ornamental and useful ware that can be worked at a mere tithe of the cost involved in transactions in the same goods over up-town counters. These are "sample lots," in the language of the trade, and the principal interest of the wholesalers in them is to get them out of the way with as little trouble as possible.

The choicest pieces obtainable in this way are of imported goods, and they are lying around loose because fine china and glassware is sold usually by the wholesalers by the dozen. The difficulty of replacing a broken one in a dozen of foreign goods has led to the custom of thirteen pieces being packed for a dozen by the manufacturers abroad. Then if one piece in a dozen is broken the set is still complete. If there is no breakage the importer has an extra piece on his hands for which he has no use. In a large business a great number of such pieces, no half dozen of them alike, accumulate in a short time in this and other similar ways. The buyers of the up-town houses take many of them for the bargain counters, especially where there happen to be enough of any sort to make a small set, but many are not available for this trade, and are left to be shoved off into corners out of the way until resurrected by some bargain hunter.

By a little diligence in going around from place to place a cabinet can be filled with choice pieces, or a breakfast or a luncheon set of odd pieces be made up at a ridiculously small cost. Slightly-damaged pieces, but available for decorative purposes, are found in the same dusty corners, and can be secured even more cheaply than the perfect samples. The genuine bric-a-brac crank takes a real enthusiasm in hunting through the wholesale ware-houses for these neglected specimens, and enjoys the sensation of finding a rare bit of glass or a dainty piece of china, hidden under the dust and cobwebs of years, as much as he does the getting of it for a song, and the knowing that it can not be duplicated for less than five or six times what it costs him.

At least one woman in New York found this bargain mine years ago, and has been working it, greatly to her profit, ever since. She has a little store, fifteen or twenty feet square, on a small side street near Canal. A lot of cheap crockery marked at phenomenally low prices, but not otherwise attractive, litters trays in front of the store. The show window has a somewhat more pretentious appearance, but the real treasures of the place are in a case inside. It is filled with pieces of royal Worcester, Dresden, Vienna, Carlsbad and other fine wares, even Sevres, all genuine and most of them perfect. They are for sale for from ten to fifty per cent. less than they would be sold for in the regular stores. Besides this the shop on every side is filled from floor to ceiling with chinaware, much of it of the best makers, and the floor is so heaped with it that only a narrow space is left in which to move about. Some of these goods she sells at nearly their full value, but most of them go for half or even less. Her customers wonder how she can do it, and she smiles and says nothing; but the fact is that the stock is entirely made up of the odds and ends, "sample lots," and other debris of the wholesalers. She spends much of her time in going about from one house to another picking up bargains. The place is well known among the ceramic crazy, not only in this city but elsewhere. At least one Governor, when he has wedding presents or other usually expensive things to buy, comes to it. It is said that the woman has acquired a comfortable fortune out of the business.—*N. Y. Sun.*

Making Colored Glass.

Where three colors are desired, pots containing each color are made. A blow-pipe is dipped first in one, and then a coating of another is put on, and finally the third layer put on. The glass is then blown into the desired shape. At first the different colors of glass all present the appearance of crystal glass; but, upon being heated, their respective colors are developed. Then a cut is made in the glass of whatever form or shape that may be desired, and extends into the layer of the color that is wanted, and the figure appears in precisely the form and color wished. A small quantity of ruby glass can be so blown as to cover a large piece of crystal glass, and though it is but a mere skin over the surface, yet it will give the whole a perfect color. Then the skim of ruby glass may be cut through, and the fine effect of ruby and cystal in the same piece given. The colored glass in ordinary tableware is nearly all stained, save one or two cheap shades of amber. Manufacturers say that the demand for colored glass is fast dying out and that pure crystal ware is mostly called for.—*Pittsburgh Dispatch.*

ELECTRICAL STORM.

A Tourist's Experience in the Mountain Regions of Colorado.

Mr. J. F. Young, of Vinton, Ia., communicates an account of what he and his son experienced in a storm last summer. They were climbing Mt. Elbert, Lake County, Col., on June 6, 1887. About noon, when they were at a height of between twelve thousand and thirteen thousand feet, the storm came upon them. The circumstance that heavy peals of thunder were heard while the storm was approaching the mountain, and again as it went off, but that no reports were heard so long as they were enveloped in the cloud, suggests that contact became sufficiently close to allow an unbroken current. That the two men felt themselves to be electrical conductors while they were standing, but not such while lying flat on the ground, is of curious interest. The latter position would naturally be expected to afford less discomfort, but not necessarily free from all electrical influence. Is it the case that there is repulsion for slight distances between the mountain and the cloud? Altogether the statement furnishes a number of problems for the expert in natural science to solve.

While ascending the range, says Mr. Young, a small, black cloud appeared in the distance. Soon vivid lightning flashed from the cloud, and heavy peals of thunder broke upon the air, while in the distance we saw snow falling. The thunder ceased when the cloud was about two miles from us, and was heard no more until it had passed some distance beyond. When the cloud reached us, the snow that fell was round and not in flakes. The balls were about the size of marrowfat peas, but it was snow, not hail.

I had a pick hanging over my arm, while my son had his gun. Shortly after the cloud reached us, we noticed electricity passing from the pick and gun to the ground, and simultaneously we found ourselves enveloped, as it were, with electricity. The current seemed to pass from our bodies upward. The passage of the electricity from our hair was accompanied by a continuous crackling, snapping sound, giving us a very unpleasant sensation as though each hair were a fine needle. There was sufficient power in the electricity to raise my son's hat, his hair being very thick. The noise from the region of our pockets, which contained metal in the form of knives and keys, was sufficiently loud to be heard from one to the other, above the noise of the wind, and the balls of snow falling on the rocks, although we were more than thirty feet apart. The dropping of the pick and gun produced no change. Both of us had previously received heavy charges from a battery without experiencing the least inconvenience, but this sensation was very different. It was not a shock, but a continuous stream of electricty, like millions of needles puncturing us at every pore.

As the storm continued, and the situation was becoming decidedly unpleasant, we determined to seek a lower plane. After descending fully three hundred feet without finding any relief, we threw ourselves prone upon the ground, when the sensation instantly ceased. We remained for some minutes in that position. When we arose all signs of unpleasantness had vanished. After dinner we retraced our steps, and secured the pick and gun. I should mention that we both noticed a strong sulphurous smell before we were affected by the electricity. I inquired of many persons in that region, some of whom have spent years upon those mountains, but could find none who had encountered any thing like this. Several had been in slight electric showers, as was also the case with myself, but none had experienced any thing like this last.—*Youth's Companion.*

Popularity of Etchings.

Etchings are the demand in the art world, and for the time, oil, pastel and other works are cast into the shade by the number of etchings to be seen in the stores. Public taste has increased in this direction, and, of course, the art trade has turned its attention to supplying it. A dealer must carry a costly stock and liberality in the display of the number of valuable goods is the feature of art dealing in these days. A five thousand dollar case of unframed etchings is not uncommon now. Not only has this class of pictures come widely into use for ornament, but the custom of collecting them for portfolios has grown. Many of these are now marked artist proofs of the best workers, American and foreign. Energetic Eastern concerns have pushed the business until the most excelent etchings are now obtained. This branch of art has made more progress in the last few years than any other.—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

He Wanted One Bad.

A small boy was following and nagging a big boy on Columbia street the other day when the big boy halted and said:

"Say, boy, if you foller me any further I'll black your eye!"

"Will you?"

"You bet!"

"Real black?"

'Awful black!"

"Then I'll foller. If I can get a black eye I won't have to go to school for a week!"—*Detroit Free Press.*

—A pound of pennies is worth $142. a pound of five-cent pieces is worth $455.50.

EDUCATED WOMEN.

Does Their Learning Decrease Their Matrimonial Chances.

The discovery has lately been made that but a small per cent. of the women who have graduated from colleges in this country are married, and the question of the effect of college learning upon domestic life seems about to be as gravely discussed as was the now dead one of its effect upon feminine health. The Vassar catalogue is the text oftenest quoted, but Vassar is only one college, and it is better to take the register of the Associated Collegiate Alumnæ, which contains the names of 659 women, graduates of the 14 leading women's colleges and co-educational colleges in this country. Of these women, 117 are married, less than 27 per cent of the whole. Any extended personal acquaintance with educated women, as with educated men, shows that the emotional nature tends to grow with the cultivation of the intellectual, but at the same time to become less hasty and uncontroled. Feelings are deeper, but based more upon sound judgment. Partly for this reason, and partly because the college graduate is necessarily not a very young girl, reckless marriages, or marriages in which the woman is totally imposed upon as to the character of her love, are particularly unknown among them. Again, personal acquaintance can give but one answer to the question whether college life replaces the domestic disposition in women by ambition; and that is, that on the contrary the quiet and earnest pursuits of college develop to unusual strength in them the taste and fitness for home life and for the occupations and companionship of a happy marriage; that any influence toward the losing of domesticity and drying up of unselfish affection through a student's ambition seems to be infinitesimal as compared with the same influences through the ambitions of society and display, which the student escapes.

But this very disposition toward refined home life and worthy companionship makes them more fastidious in their choice of a companion, and would seem by that much to lessen the probability of their marrying. The ability to "get along" without marriage, provided none that is for its own sake desirable offers, seems, in actual observation, to give full effect to this fastidiousness. It seems evident, too, that many men dread or dislike the idea of college women; but we doubt if this affects their opportunities of marriage perceptibly, for it regulates itself—the men who seek their society are the ones who do not like college women; and in any case, so far as we have been able to observe, the dislike is far more to college women in general than to Portia or Aspasia in particular, and does not seem to interfere especially with falling in love with her. It is common enough to see intellectual men choosing wives of little mind or knowledge; but it is also common to see them, when older, wearying of the insufficient companionship, and consciously or unconsciously seeking the friendship of intellectual men and women outside to supplement it.—*Overland Monthly.*

NIGHT-ROBE SACHETS.

Perfumed Packets of Every Description for the Bedroom.

Night-robe sachets are among the useful fancy articles which it is just now the fashion to have. They are made in almost any material and in many shapes. Some are in the form of little square pillow slips, and are intended to be placed during the daytime before the bed pillow. They are provided with a flap like an envelope, and are edged with lace, braided, embroidered with the initials in monogram or left plain. These little bags are especially pretty for children's beds and are generally made of white pique, although muslin and silk are used.

More fanciful ones are made out of surah or sateen in pink, blue, yellow or other furnishings to match the room, and are then covered with a slip of white Swiss, either plain or dotted, and edged with lace, a bow of ribbon the color of the underslip ornamenting the outside.

For a handsomely-furnished bedroom little sachets, made of soft silk, thickly wadded with cotton, and in the form of a round bolster, are in favor. These are made about eighteen inches long and are richly embroidered in silk in a floral design. The lining is thickly sprinkled with sachet powder and the cover opens out flat. The night-dress is folded and placed in it, and then the pretty silken square is rolled about it and tied with a satin ribbon. The ends are caught snug with a draw ribbon. A garment kept in such a receptacle is sure to be exquisitely perfumed. But all of the sachets are provided with little pockets, into which a silken bag of the sweet powder is placed.

Fastidious housewives now make little slip pockets in the hems of skirts and pillow cases, into which are placed small linen bags holding lavender or violet powder, and so keep their sleeping rooms sweet with perfume.—*N. Y. Journal.*

—A medical correspondent of the *Lancet*, writing from Bombay, describes a goat that has a horn five inches long growing from the middle of its right ear. The horn curls slightly at its tip; its growth is in concentric rings, and its texture is fibrous, but less regular than ordinary horns. The correspondent says "the animal would appear to have a tendency to such growths, as there is also an irregular horn on one of its limbs."

CONCERNING OLIVES.

Where They Are Raised and the Way in Which They Are Used.

Within certain latitudes the olives will grow anywhere and serve for almost any purpose. On a dry and stony elevation that would starve out a thistle, the plant luxuriates; and if the sea breezes may but fan the young shoots, so much more of promise is there for the olive harvest. Propagated chiefly by cuttings, the "willowy" looking twigs take root with a proud defiance of ordinary rules, and there is a whimsically planted grove of olive trees of unusual size and beauty near the town of Messa in Morocco, which illustrates this truth in a remarkable way. One of the Kings of the dynasty of Saddia, being on a military expedition, encamped here with his army. The pegs with which the cavalry picketed their horses were cut from olives in the neighborhood, and some sudden cause of alarm leading to the abandonment of the position, the pegs were left in the ground, and making the best of the situation, developed into the handsomest group of olives in the district. Olives are mentioned in the earliest records of Egypt, and their introduction into Greece took place at least as early as fifteen hundred years before our era. Thence their cultivation naturally passed into Italy, the Romans especially prizing them, while Virgil mentions three distinct varieties, each of which had its own fastidious supporters in the ancient conflict of tastes. Pliny also tells us that they also grew in the heart of Spain and France, though he awards the palm to the smaller olive of Syria, the olive of which was at least more delicate than that produced in the Western countries. So far as regards the oil of Spain, and to some extent that of Italy, this judgment stands good to the present hour, for the reason that the Spanish olive is a larger and coarser fruit, while the Italian growers are too apt to detract from the limpid delicacy of the virgin oil by the sacrifice of quality to quantity. For the olive, like all generous givers, demands that you should "squeeze" him gently. The oil is expressed from the entire pulp and body of the fruit, and its quality stands in inverse proportion to the quantity produced. The first pressure yields a thin, pure liquid, almost colorless; and with this even the most fastidious of English palates rarely makes acquaintance. As the pressure is increased a less delicate product is the result; while if it is still further prolonged a rank and unwholesome residum is obtained, wholly unfit for edible purposes. It should be mentioned that virgin oil does not maintain its freshness for more than a few weeks without the addition of a little salt and sugar, and it is impossible for any one to realize the exquisite delicacy of this first expression of the freshly-gathered olive, unless he has sojourned in such a district as that of which, say, Avignon is the center. The oil of Aramont, in Provence, was formerly supposed to have no equal in Europe. Both the olive and the manufactured oil of the south-east of France are, indeed, still unrivaled by those of any other country. The Italians pay more respect to the commercial aspect of their production, and among them the number of olive farmers and merchants is very large. They have a proverb: "If you wish to leave a competency to your grandchildren, plant an olive." Doubtless the advice is sound enough, for the trees often flourish for more than a century, and bear heavy crops to the last. But to the pleasant south of France the olive is almost what the pig is to the English laborer. Prudent housewives there are as averse to the introduction of a new fruit at table as their thrifty English sisters are to the "new loaf." In fact, they habitually preserve the darker berries for every-day use; for these, not being so agreeable to the taste, "go" so much further—a necessary consideration when they oftener form the staple than the accompaniment to the meal.

Olives intended for eating are gathered while still green, usually in the month of September. They are soaked for some hours in the strongest possible "lye" to get rid of their bitterness, and are afterward allowed to stand for a fortnight in frequently-changed fresh water, in order to be perfectly purified of the lye. It only then remains to preserve them in common salt and water, when they are ready for export. Among the Romans the olive held the privileged position of being equally respected as a dainty accessory and an ordinary food. It was eaten at the table of the temperate and the luxurious alike; and, while dividing the highly-flavored dishes of their extravagant suppers, formed a constituent of Horace's pastoral meal—"Of olive, endive, simple tastes and mallow."—*American Analyst.*

—A Chicago insurance agent says that several of the large dry goods houses of that city have each a special employe who does nothing but attend to their insurance. And it keeps him busy, too, for the average line of insurance carried by one company on any one risk is five thousand dollars, while many of the dry goods firms have an insurance of one million dollars or over.

—John Ruskin, in a recent lecture at Oxford, declared that "the whole meaning and power of true courtship is probation, and it ought not to be shorter than three years at least, seven being the more orthodox time."