## THE HOME CIRCLE.

Intra. Mintra. Cutra. Corn.

[BY THE REV. J. K. NUTTING.] Ten small hands upon the spread. Five forms kneeling beside the bed, Blue-eyes, Black-eyes, Curly-head;

Blonde, Brunett—in a glee and a glow Waiting the magic word. Such a row Seven years; six years, five, four, two

Fifty fingers all in a line (Yours are thirty, and twenty are mine), Ten sweet eyes that sparkle and shine.

Motherly Mary; age of ten, Evens the finger tips again, Glances along the line—and then—

"Intrs, mintrs, cutrs, corn,
Apple-seed and apple-thorn,
Wire, briar, limber lock,
Three gense in a flock,
Rubble, robble, rabble and rout;
Y, O, U, T,
Out!"

Sentence falls on Curly-head; One wee digit is "gone and dead," Nine and forty left on the spread.

"Intrs, mintrs," the fist goes. Who'll be taken, nebody knows, Only God may the lot dispose.

Is it more than a childish play? Still you sigh and turn away. Why? what pain in the sight I pray?

Ah, too true, "As the fingers fall, One by one at the magic call, Till at last chance reaches all. "So in the fateful days to come The lot shall fall in many a home That breaks a heart and finds a tomb;

"Shall fall, and fall, and fall again. Like a law that counts our love but vain, Like a Fate, unheeding our woe and pain.

One by one—and who shall say Whether the lot may fall this day, That calleth these dear babes away?"

"True, too true. Yet hold, hear friend; Ever doth the lot depend On him who loved, and loves to the end;

"Blind to our eyes the flat goes, Who'll be taken no mortal knows, But only Love will the lot dispose

"Only love, with his wiser sight; Love slone, in His infinite might; Love, who dwells in eternal light."

Now are the fifty fingers gone To play some new play under the sun— The childish fancy is past and gone.

So let our boding prophesies go As childish, for do we not surely know The dear God holdeth our lot below?

#### A Distracted Mother.

One of the strangest and most horrible of one of the strangest and most horible of sensati hal is cidents took place the other dus at Puteaux, France. A party of children who were pl-ying in the environs discovered float-ing in the air and partly entangled amid the branches of a tree a white parcel upborne by means of some twenty or thirty little red toy balloons, which were attached to it. The at-tention of the police being call d to this singu-lar object, it was brought down and the package opened, which proved to contain the corpse of a new-born infant. Investigations into the matter brought to light the fo lowing facts: The child was that of a poor toy maker and his wif; just after the confinement of the latter the husband had suddenly died, and all his household goods and chatels had been seized for rent. The unhappy woman wa-driven mad by this accumula ion of misfor-tunes; she killed her infant, and then went out and threw herself into the river, leaving behind a written statement in which she declared intention of committing suicide, and said that she "had gotten her baby all ready to go up to Heaven." A sadder tale with a stranger ter-mination it would be hard to find. The toy balloons evidently had formed part of the dead

DOLL'S FURNITURE.-Writes a Paris correspondent: "Furniture and utensils for do l houses are in great request this winter, and a wholesale house that is exclusively devoted to this branch of production has done a larger business this year than ever before. This house employs six y hands, male and femule, all the year round, and turns out this class of toys to the amount of £80,000 per an num. The cheapest set of furniture turned out by this firm consists of a box of deal, a glass decanter, two dishes, and four plates of china, two gla-ses, a pewter dish cover, two knives, forks and spoons; the whole for three From this point the sets mount up by regular gradations until they reach the absurd price of £240; no fewer than six sets of dolls' house fitt ngs have been sold this winter by this firm at this price. These minature articles, carefully arranged in cases of morocco leather, consist of every variety of object in silver, silver gilt, fine porcelain, sparking cry-tal, delicate leather, costly woods, ivory, bronze, silk, velvet, etc., the whole being of the most exquiric workman-hip. The same house sells the highest classes of dolls, with their trousseaux, at the modest price of £120 each.

IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION. - Chancellor Importance of Education. — Chancellor Kent says: "Without some provision made in youth for the sequel of life, children of all condition would probably become idle and vicious when they grow up, either from want of good instruction and the means of subsistence, or from want of rational and useful occupations. A parent who sends his son into the world un A parent who sends his son to the world un-educated, and without skill in any art or sci-ence, does great injury to mankind as well as to his own family, for he defrauds the commu-nity of a useful citizen and bequea hes to it a nuisance. This parenial duty is strongly incul-cated by writers on natural law. S. lon was so deeply impressed with the force of the obligadeep'y impressed with the roice of the congretion that he even excured the children of Athens from maintaining their parents if they are to some art or had neglected to train them up to some art o

How to GET OUT OF BED-How to GET OF How to Get Out of Bed-How to Get on in Life.—Getting up in a cold room to make a fire is like getting up in life. If you crawl timidly out of bed, go on tip-toe to the stove, and allow shivers to get control of you before the kindling starts, your fire will probably be a failure, and you will half freeze to death in the operation. But if you jump out bravely, bustle around, pull on your clothes, knock over a chair or two, and pitch in the stovewood, you will urobably be too warm by the time the you will probably be too warm by the time the fire gets to burning and have to open a win-dow. So in life. Attack it timidly and you will fail. Grapple with it, hurry up things, stir around, conquer fortune, and you will be a

Gor All He Wanten.—An old farmer purchased some awest oil in a drug store recently, and, being asked if there was "nothing else," he laid several packages on the counter, held up a hand with several strings tied on the fingers, and said: "Let's see! That red string is for the bar soap; that reg is for a broom; that blue cord is for a calloo dress; that dress braid means four pounds of sugar, and this other string means awest oil. No—nothing more."—Detroit Pres Press.

### A Chapter From that Kansas Campaign.

[From Pacific Rural Press.]

MY DEAR MOUNTAIN? With all my heart! The soldier who has marched and countermarched, may-hap bled for his country or his king, is proverbially happy in "fighting his battles o'er again." And why should not a woman, who has led an apparently forlorn hope in behalf of bread and babies, homes and culture, and without depleting the State of blood or treasure, achieved success-be glad to give a chapter alike suggestive of what Kansas enjoys and California needs?

But where shall I begin, where end the details of a campaign rich in genial and racy incidents, and in its far-reaching results, parallel with the revolutionary declaration of our fathers of which it was an outcropping?

Lest I should not have space for the acts behind the scenes I will begin with the results of the Kansas woman's campaign for constitutional rights.

And first its success, as comprising what Mary Mountain terms, "a vantage ground of privilege in advance of what had been obsined in older communities" was as follows: 1st. An educational range commensurate with

the educational provisions of the State. The schools, colleges or other institutions of learning, established or fostered by the State, are prohibited from making any distinctions on account of sex. Under this provision of the Constitution of Kansas, her daughters and sons are alike eligible to the desk of the pulpit or the chair of the President; and competing in the same classes for honors and awards, they imbibe broader views of culture and juster estimates of each other.

Students and teachers are alike pleased with the arrangement, and a cordial people are mak-ing the co-education of the sexes a glorious suc-

2d. The right to vote in all District School

Wom'n twenty one years of age, have an equal voice with men, in the organization and conduct of the common schools of the State.

In the building and furnishing of school houses, and in all matters of appropriation and expenditure and government, the women of a district have an equal voice with its men They may be elected to any office for which they are qualified, from State Superintendent they are qualified. f. om State Superintendent of Instruction to Director, S. cretary, or T cas-urer of the District B and. It is not uncommon for the Board to be composed entirely of women. And I v naure to say that not in all Kan-as can there be found an intelligent man Kansas can there be found an intelligent man who would advocate a return of the schools to their former motherless status. And while women—legally equipped for their natural repossibilities as schools of youth—have gained immeasurably in proper self-respect, and culture, and range of mental discipline, by the possession and extraine of these rights, then he as a grant in the respect and confidence in the content of the confidence in the con they have al-o gained in the respect and confidence of men of all classes. Legi-latures so them to clerkships, and the church's of all denominations, send them as delegates to hurch associations and other r ligious convo-

eations. ■31. Recognition of the great humane truth. that mother and child stand to each other in the relation of God joined, and therefore should no

be put asunder by man.

By constitut on 1 provision, the mothers of
Kansas have an equal right with the fathers to
the custody and control of their children. No Kansas legisla ure can give pre-eminence of rights to the fathers as against the mothers. Kansas widows cannot be beself of their children by a law giving the father a right to "determine by will the guardianship of children living at his death or born afterward," as is done in more than one-half the States of the Union.

Und r this provision sympathizing friends can assist a mother in retaining po-session of her children without making themselves liable her children without making themselves fishle to damages or a term in the penitentiary, as is the case in other States—Ca ifornia, I think, included—at the suit of an irascible father, or of guardians appointed by him. And a Kanass mother, in such case, instead of being obliged to appeal to Coarts made up of men as under laws that give the sole custody of the child to the father—can nurse her babies in the quitt of some friendly home and let the father right then hers to care personally for the children. who, by common assent are "the peculiar responsibility of the mother." The propri ty of this arrangement is more apparent in view of the legal fact, the fathers "ho d the purs-strings"—that is, the earnings and savings constituting the "os ate in common,"—while few mothers hold in their own right wherewith to fee attorneys and court officials. Not a week pa see that we do not see here, in California, the no right of the wife and mother revealed in petitions of woman to the courts for custody of children and "alimony" in cases of descr tion or divorce; or in the advertisement of some "Aborus." whose wife-after years of faithful service, as housekeeper, nurse, seam-stress, "and maid of all work"—has "left his bed and beard," so destitute, that he deems it necessary to cut her off from using his credit in procuring the necessaries of life elsewhere. In addition to the constitutional provisions enumerated, and which were adopted by Kan-

sas in advance of older States -a provision was inserted securing to the wife possession and control of her own property and earn ngs —general in its terms and broad enough to cover equal rights of possession and use, of the estate in common, or community property, as termed in this State.

as termed in this State.

Having ended the chapter of privileges won, I leave for another chapter brief mention of members of the Conventions, whose names have become historical, with interesting incidents and suggestive material cathered from \$. \( \epsilon \) forum or field.—Mrs. C. I. H. Nichols.

RATHER MIXED.—This is the way a French-man reported the Brooklyn scandal: "One Grand Ecclesiastical Scandal—Great Exciteman reported the Brooklyn scandal: "One Grand Ecclesistical Scandal—Great Excitement in New York and Brooklyn—Three Cl-r-gymen in Meosh Trouted—Mons. Moulting, Tiltong and Beechare have One Grand Controversee; Mons. Moulton is ze pastorr of ze Ples moz church, of N. w York, Discovered by Columbus, Ohio, in 1472. Mons. Moultong is secuse of taking ze libertee wiz ze wife of Theodore Beechaire, who is Mrs. Hariott Beechare Stowe, ze mozara of Oukle Tom, ze blind pianist. Mons. Beechare also is accuse of ze impropare libertee wiz Mrs. Tiltong, dughtare of Susan B. Anthony, ze sistare of Marz Anthony, who made love wiz Cleopatra. Mons. Titton have caused ze s-parashong of Mons. Beechare and his wife. She resides in ze city of Brooklyn, while he has moved into Elizaceth, New Jerses. Ze congregashong of ze Pisemos Rock church will not permit Mons. Moultong to presch never from zat poolpest. Ze greatest excitement preveil." Our Fiench friend appears to understand this matter as clearly as any one can.

#### Friendship and Old Age.

As years steal upon us, and we come to tread the downward way towards the narrow house, our ideas of friends and friendships undergo a change, which change we may not recognize very readily, but still in moments of reflection, very readily, but still in moments of reflection, we are conscious that it has occurred. As we look back upon the long route we have travelled, we can but think of the "troops of triends" who at one time or other were the companions of the journey, and we ask, "Where are they? What has become of them all?" Some are away in foreign lands, and severed from us forever; some we have estranged from us, it may be by our own faults and shortcomings; some have cast us off, having themselves at pped higher up in the social scale; and some we have curselves designedly relinquished, not we trust, because they have not kept pace with us in the worldly race, but not kept pace with us in the worldly race, but either because they were such ties as we ought never to have formed, or because through vice or the force of temptation they have failen too low. Then there are one or two, perhaps, who low. Then there are one or two, perhaps, who were in times past the tressure and glory of our life, whom one fatal mis ake wrenched from us in an evil hour, and ever since we have stood aloof, 'like cliffs which had been rent'asunder,' both of us, perchance, retaining the scars which 'neither frost, nor heat, nor thunder,' shall wholly do away. It is such remembrances as these which, in the autumn or membrances as these which, in the autumn or winter of our days, make us wary and watchful over the too scanty remainder of our life's friendships. Gladly, if we could, would we bridge over that dresry sea which flows be-tween us and the slienated friends of past but that cannot be done-never was done yet in human experience—and so, accepting wisdom from the past, we guard the love that is left to us all the more jealously. We come to hate all quarrels and resentments, as the folly and absurdity, and dreary results of the folly and absurdity, and dreary results of home come home to us in those lone hours when, regietfully confronting the past, we can review the game of life and recall with bitterness the many false moves we made and the sorrows they entail upon us. Well for us that sorrows they entail upon us. Well for us that all is not loss—that friendly hands yet aid us in doing and suff ring what has yet to be done and suffered, and friendly hearts yet flow with the sympathy we have learned to prize at its just value.— Leisure Hour.

A PROPESSOR'S OPINION.—There is an art never taught in our schools, and too little studed or practiced in the family, which in won an's hand would be a scepter of sovereign power—a wand of talismanic influence. I rer to the art of conversation. It is a fine art, yet second to none in usefulness. Like other methetic arts, it was carried to a great perfection by the G ceks—a v-ry good r. ason, by the way, for woman's studying the language of Socrates and Plato. In modern times it has been cultivated by the French beyond any other nation, and it is one of the chief charms. If I were president of a woman's college, I think I should make it a department with an accomplished prefe-sor at its head, and sseign it a place in the senior class, slehough to be studied and cultivated m re or less by the other classes and through the entire collegiate

The Sone ws of Others.—There is no question but habitual cherituiness is a great blessing, but when cheerful people are lauded let it remembered, as a general thing, they are no more to be commended for than a person for the possession of a pair of beautiful eyes. Cheerfulness is usually a matter of health and constitution. When it is not the person deserves credit; for an invalid or nervous person, and a remember of the state of the serves credit; for an invalid or nervous person. av ry sensitive person, asily affected by at-mosphere and other inflances cannot, with-out grat effort, be uniformly cheeful. Many people are cheeful b cause they are apathetic. The sorrows of others, not being their own, are easy to bear. We do not with to depreciate ocial sunshine; but let us not forget that there are very sweet flowers that flourish and Live out perfume on y in the shade, and at intervals.

A PRETTY ORNAMENT. - M. S. J. J. Kidd says, in the Western Farm Journal: "Take a gobb! with the foot or stem broken or cut off so that with the foot or stem broken or out off so that the bowl will be perfec; take coarse red flan nel, the redder the better, stitch it nearly around the bowl or g blet, so as to cover it completely on the outside; dip it in water, so the bowl will be perfec; take coarse red flannel, the redder the better, stitch it nearly around the bowl or g-blet, so as to cover it completely on the outside; dip it in water, so as to wet it thoroughly, and then roll it in flax-seed; the seed will stick in and on the flannel; be sure that the seed is distributed evenly; then stand it on its mouth, or large end, in a saucer and the time you are waiting to grow large enough to earn a fortune. The Bible says "a good stand it on its mouth, or large end, in a saucer and the time you are waiting to grow large enough to earn a fortune. The Bible says "a good stand it on its mouth, or large end, in a saucer as the red are the red and the same is rather to be chosen than great riches, and the same is rather to be chosen than great riches, and the same is rather to be chosen than great riches, and the same is rather to be chosen than great riches, and the same is rather to be chosen than great riches, and the same is rather to be chosen than great riches, and the same is rather to be chosen than great riches, and the same is rather to be chosen than great riches, and the same is rather to be chosen than great riches, and the same is rather to be chosen than great riches, and the same is rather to be chosen than great riches, and the same is rather to be chosen than great riches. stand it on its mouth, or large end, in a saucer or small ; late; put wat r in the small plate or saucer, and renew or add to it as it absorbs. Never let the vessel get dry, nor suffer it to chill or f.eeze. It can and will grow in any part of the room, and will be a deep green with

HER FIRST DINNER. - A story is told of a newly-married couple who commenced house-keering with a turkey dinner. The wife took great pride in having it all ready when John came home. John came, and shortly after the your g busband, with a very pale expression of sountenance, was seen to stride across the back yard and throw a whole turkey over the The inexperienced roasted it without removing the interior works, and it was alt gether too much turkey for him.

How MALT IS MADE. - The grain is first taken up by an elevator run by steam, and is poured into a weighing bin, from which it passes brough an automatic arrangement, where the through an automatic arrangement, where the chaff, light heads, du-t, etc., are carried off by the air, after which the good grain passes over a sieve, which separates any other foreign matter which may remain. It is then carried to the storage room by a conveyancer. The grain is now ready for the steeping or soaking tubs in the basement, where it remains from 24 to 48 hours, according to the grain and temperature. After being sufficiently steeped, the grain is removed to the different floors by the grain is removed to the different nors by an elevator and spread out so as to give it time to sprout before being placed in the kilns. It is necessary in the manufacture of mait to have the grain sprout in order that the sugar have the grain sprout in order that the sugar may be extracted, from which the alcoholic properties is derived. Af er the sprouting process the grain is placed in the kilos, which have to be kept at a certain temperature and the malt surred up or turned over several times to prevent its being overheated. It requires fifteen to sixteen days to convert the barley into malt ready for the manufacture of

Rustic Wonk.—Mrs. Jennie G. writes: "My little boys are just a fond as their sisters of what they call rustic work. In the summer, when out in the fields and woods, they are sure to find treasures. Scarlet berries, pretty bits of rock or pebbles, deserted birds nests, fanciful growths of fungi and knots of decayed wood, which often when varnished make the prettiest bracket ornaments imaginable. They make ministure rock work, and little Swiss chalets of sumsch wood, and sometimes of paste-toard covered with moss. I think that in "indoor" weether they rather out-do the girls in this department of industry; but when coasting and skating time comes, they are no longer to be counted upon; which I suppose is just as it should be. Only I do not like them to tempt the girls to share their ruster and more dangerous sport."—Prairie Farmer. Rustic Work .- Mrs. Jennie G. writes: "My

# Young Forks' Corumn.

#### Whistle and Hoe.

There's a boy just over the garden fence,
Who is whistling all thro' the live-long day;
And his work is not just a mere pretence,
For you see the weeds he has cut away.
Whistle and hoe, Sing as you go, Shorten the row By the songs you know.

Not a word of bemoaning his task I hear,
He has scarcely time for a growl, I know,
For his whistle sounds so merry and clear,
He must find some pleasure in every row.
Whistle and hoe,
Sing as you go,
Shorten the row
He the source you know. By the songs you know.

But then while you whistle be sure that you hoe,
For if you are idle the briars will spread;
And whistle alone to the end of the row
May do for the weeds but is bad for the bread.
Whistle and hoe,
Sing as you go,
Shorten the row
By the songs you know.

Bad Boys Make Bad Men.—An aged sea captain, who had spent a long life upon the oc-an, said to a lady: "On ship board I can tell in a very short time what any sailor was in his boyhood." It was because "the boy was father to the man." He added, "I find invariably that a bad boy makes a bad man." When he saw a reckless, profane, vicious "son of the deep" he at once concluded that he was little better when a lad. Now this is just what might be expected. It is just what is seen in other things. Poor wool or cotton makes poor cloth. Poor cloth makes a poor coat. Poor farms produce poor crops. Poor timber makes a poor huse. And so wicked children make wicked men and women.

wicked men and women.
It is said that the Emperor Nero, of Rome, when a little boy, delighted to torture and kul flies, and would pursue the little creatures hour after hour to pierce them and see them flutter and die in agony. As he grew older he exhibited the same cruel disposition towards men. When made Emperor he advanced in cruelty at a fearful sate; killed his own wife, andordered his mother to be assasinated. Nor was this his mother to be assacinated. Nor was this all. He fically ordered the city to be set on fire, just to see how it would look, and when it was burning, he seated bimself upon a high tower and played upon his lyre. Was this strange? Is not a cruel boy likely to make a cruel man? Kiding men in manhood is only a further development of killing flies in child-

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU FILL UP WITH .- A boy returned from school, one day, with a report that his scholarship had fallen below the u-ual average. "Well," said the father. "you've fallen b-hind this month, have you?" "Yes, sir." "How did that happen?" "Don't know, sir." The father knew, if the son did know, sir." The father knew, if the son did not. He had observed a number of cheap nov-els scattered about the house, but he had not thought it worth while to say anything until a fitting opportunity should offeritseif. A basket fitting opportunity should offer itself. A basket of apples stood upon the floor, and he said: "Empty those apples and take the basket and bring it to me half full of chips. And now," he continued, "put those apples back into the basket." When half the apples we replac d the son said: "Father, they roll off; I can't put in any more." "Put them in, I tell you." "But father, I can't put them in, I tell you." "Put them in! No; of course you can't put them in. Do you expect to fill a basket half full of chips and then fill it with apples? You said you di in't know why you fell behind at school, and I will tell you. Your mind is like that basket; it wil not hold more than so much, and here you have been, the past month, filland here you have been, the past month, fill-ing it up with rubbish—worthless, cheap nov-els." The boy turned on his heel and whistled, and said, "Whew! I see the point."

BETTER THAN GOLD .- We often hear little boys telling of the wonders they will do when they grow to be men. They are looking and longing for the time when they will be large enough to carry a cane and wear a tall hat; and not one of them will say he expects to be a and loving favor rather than silver or gold."

A good name does not mean a name for being the richest man in town, or for owning the largest house. A good name is a name for doing good deeds; a name for wearing a pleasant face and carrying a cheerful heart; for always doing right, no matter where we may be.

A Good Custom. - Mechanical employments of various kinds are gradually coming mo-and more into fashion as a source of amus and more into fashion as a source or amuse-ment amongst the young of both sexes. Small printing-presses, tool chests, turning lathes, scroll saws, etc., are now manufactured in large quantities; and are eagerly purchased by those who desire pleasure and instructive em-loyment for their leisure hours. The intro-duction of these mechanical occupations. serves a more important end than the mere production of a few pretty toys and ornaments. and the keeping of young people out of mis-chief. They educate the eye, and the hand, and impart a general dexterity, which is of the utmost value in every department of life. Moreover, they give a self confidence in regard to mechanical matters which will often prove

SCHOOL GIRL's MISTARE.-A teacher in the Utica Advanced School recently wrote up on the black-board one of the lessons of the day, to be written out by the young lady pu, ils, as follows: "Give the names of five bays, and describe one of them." One of the bays, and describe one of them. One of the young ladies evidently misunderstood the lesson, for she named five boys. And the description of one of them was given, he being spoken of as short in stature, with red curly hair, large head, plump hands, goodly-sized feet, etc.

A 999 YEARS' lease has just run out in Eng-A 999 YEARS lease has just ran out in England, and the estate has reverted to the representatives of the original owners. The land is at Woolwich, and was church property 1 000 years ago, but was leased to the Crown for mili-

An excellent way of cleansing soiled Bruss An excellent way of cleansing solled Brussels carpet, in the spring when stoves are removed, is to take a bucketful of soft water, with a plut of ammonia added. With this give the carpet a good rubbing, but do not moisten it too much. Immediately afterwards wipe up with a clean dry cloth, and the carpet will be thoroughly clean and free from dust without shaking.

A SINGULAR WILL.-Mr. Joshua Bailey, who A SINGULAR WILL.—Mr. Joshua Bailey, who died recently at Cohoes, New York, left an estate worth \$3,000,000, which he disposed of in a most original way. Having no children he bequeathed two-thirds of his property to that one of his three nephews who should have the largest number of children at the time of his the uncle's death. The fortunate man was W. W. Bailey, of Waverley, Iowa, a poor painter with ave boys.

#### Sewing Machines.

It is the general impression that through the refusal of Congress to extend certain sewing machine patents, we will have cheaper sewing machines bereafter. Many persons think also that the large companies, like the Wheeler & Wilson, Grover & Baker, Weed, Florence, etc. will have to reduce their prices from fifty to seventy-five per cent., on account of competition. Now this is a mistake, for first-class sewing machines will probably be no chesper for some time to come. The reasons for this are simple, though not generally understood.

In the first place the patent which Congress refused to extend was for the four-motion feed, which is only one of a large number of patents under which the various machines are manufactured. Still, this feed is used by all of them.
The refusal to extend this patent will permit
other machines to use the four-feed motion
without having to pay royalty, but all the firstclass machines are protected by a large number of other patents; while the ordinary low-priced machines have been compelled hereto-fore to use the common feed or psy the royalty to the owners of the patent, they can now use the improved feed free, but we do not see how it is going to break the price of first-class sew-ing machines. The cheap machines are now sold at a price as low as the makers can afford to sell them, and the first-class machines are not going to reduce their prices on account of the refusal of Congress to extend the patent mentioned.

The first class machines are manufactured by The first class machines are manufactured by companies which have large establishments, fitted up at immense expense, with all the necessary machinery to turn out machines at the lowest possible price. To successfully compete with these companies, it would be necessary to expend very heavy sums for purchasing machinery, and even then the weathy companies. expend very heavy sums for purchasing machinery; and even then the weathy companies own the larger number of patents for improvements, and can make them cheaper than those who have to pay for the use of these. This, of course, would in a great measure prevent others from competing with the richer companies.

It is a combination of patented improvements which make the first-class machine, not one which make the irst-class machine, not one patent. The wealthy companies have made it a point to buy up all the good patents themselves, and they keep patenting every improvement of any importance. This enables them to keep the best machines in their hands. As these machines are impossed from the companions of the co keep the best machines in their hauds. As these machines are improved from time to time, in several cases the whole machine has been changed for the better as new patents were added. Any one can now make a sexing machine of o'd-fashioned character, using patents which have run out, but they do not manufacture a first-class machine such as most result as the control of the contro manufac ure a first-class machine such as more people want when they buy. Any agent will say that a simple change will have the eff ct of selling thou-ands of machines, so the inferior machines have little chance against those which have all the latest patented improvements.

BEEF STEAR ELECTRICITY. - The six Christ-BEEF STEAR ELECTRICITY.—The six Christ-mas lectures for juvenile listeners at the R yal Institution, London, were delivered by Dr. J. H. Gladst ne, F. R. S. He chose for his sub-ject, "The Voltaic Battery." Most of the ex-periments and teachings were of course too ele-mentary to interest the readers of these pages, but one of the experiments revealed a fact not generally known. He said that in daily life weak electrical currents are at work where their generally known. He said that in daily life weak electrical currents are at work where their presence is often little suspected; for instance, supposing a pesson at dioner to have a silver fork in one hand and a finger upon the steel part of a knife be'd instruction, it follows that, whon he plunges the knife and fork into a beef steak, two dissimilar metals are thereby placed in a moist conducting substance, consequently in a moist conducting substance, consequently a voltaic circuit is formed and an electric current flows through the body of the individual between the knife and fork. To prove that this was really the case, he connected a reflecting galvano meter with the knife and fork by means of wires; he then proceeded to cut a beef teak, and the current thus generated deflected. steak, and the current thus generated deflected the needle of the galvanometer, so that the spot of light which it reflected was seen traveling along the screen by all the observers.

MEAT AND WINE .- Meat does not oxidize or putrify in compressed air, though it undergoes changes of color, texture and flavor. Certain fermentations may be arrested by oxygen at a high pressure. Wines may be prevented from undergoing acetous fermentation by the action of compressed air. Wine (even new wine) may also be prevented from undergoing any deteriorating change by rapid agitation for 24 48 hours under atmospheres-in fact wine may be "aged" in few hours by that process.

To DO AWAY WITH MATCHES. - A recent French invention, which, it is claimed, will sweep away the match trade, is an electrical tiuder box, the match trade, is an electrical tinder box, small enough to be carried in a cigar case. On opening the box a platinum wire is seen, which, by touching a spring, is made at once red-hot, so that it will iguite a cigar. A mesh of cotton steeped in spirits may also be introduced into a tiny sconce, and a little lamp is the result. The hidden agency which heats the wire is a minature electrical battery, set in action by touching the spring. ing the spring.

BLACKENING SHEET ZING .- The following is a BLACKENING SHEET ZINC.—The following is a new process lately discovered for obtaining zinc sheets of a solid black color. The sheet of zinc is cleansed by hydrochloric acid and sand, and then plunged into a solution of equal parts of chlorate of potash and sulphuric acid. A slight velvety-black deposit is immediately formed. The plate is carefully washed with water, allowed to dry, and then plunged into a solution of asphalt in benzine, left to drain, and rubbed with a piece of cotton rae.

How to PREVENT BENZINE STAINS ON CLOTH rso.—The brown marginal stain generally left after removing a grease spot with benzine, may be prevented by strewing gypsum or lycopo-dium upon the c'oth immediately after remov-ing the spot, as far as the material is moist, and allowing it to remain on until perfectly dry, when the cypsum can be brushed off, leaving the cloth without the usual unsightly rim.

Bio Guns,-Seventy years ago the heaviest Bio Guns.—Seventy years ago the heaviest naval gun was a thirty-two pounder, weighing two tons and a half, and ten pounds of powder was a charge. A gun now in process of concruction at Woolwich, England, twenty six feet and nine inches in length, will weight eighty-one tons, throw a projectile of 1,250 pounds weight, and requires 210 pounds of powder to load it.

ALVAN CLARK, the Cambridge telescope maker, who worked ten years to establish a reputation, is getting ready to manufacture an immense telescope for the Austrian Government, and is also negotiating with the trustees appointed by Mr. James Lick for the erection of an instru-ment in a California university.

Dn. Aven's laboratory, that has done such won for the sick, now issues a potent restorer for the brof manhiad—for the comelinese which advancing is so prove to diminish and destroy. His V mounts luxurient locks on the bald and gray among us, and thus huys us under obligations to fee the good looks as well as health of the comme