

THE HOME CIRCLE.

How Will It Be?

The voice of birds and hum of bees, Cool paths through shaded rows of corn, The winds that linger through the trees And daily through the sweet June morn.

A low browed and amid the scene, Guarded by trees of stately oak, Whose rich, dark leaves are glistening Amid the clouds of curling smoke.

Bright blossoms with their varied shades Border the path down to the gate, And just beyond the fields of grain Are waving 'neath their golden weight.

There is the orchard down the slope; The vineyard greets the sun of June; Behind the barn and down the hill A brook slow sings a dreamy tune.

But dearer far than aught of these In this abiding place of earth, Are the loved forms that dwell therein Bound by the tender ties of birth.

The brave companion of my life, Now scarred by many battle storms; A maiden and a sturdy youth, And still two younger childish forms.

These are my treasures, they are mine! My fellow voyagers on life's way; And this my home, and this my shrine, Lived o'er, and loved from day to day.

I sometimes ask my doubting soul, How will it be in time to come? When years their swift events shall roll And bring their changes to my home?

If we together then shall dwell, And they my fading years shall bless, While journeying down life's sunset slope, With many a smile and fond caress.

O, winds that murmur through the trees, And sing your ceaseless songs to me, O, breezes that fit from western seas, In years to come, how will it be?

O, foolish heart! I only know The present, bright with hope, is mine The future, fraught with weal or woe, Is hidden by the veil of time.

Then sing, ye winds, amid the trees, And dwell, ye loves, in my ear; While home is blest with sweet content O! doubting heart, we need not fear.

Mrs. MOLLIE STAFFORD.

Berryessa valley, June 14th, 1875.

Professional Training Schools for Girls.

It is no trifling matter to keep up with the progress of the age in matters of education. Twenty years ago I could have counted on my fingers the number of eminent names who favored the admission of practical sciences, as such, into our higher institutions of learning. Now I should require a pretty large bag of beans, so many of our savans "know beans" and their uses. Two books lie on my table at this moment, the like of which my eyes have desired to see, for these many years; and seeing which makes me feel, not as Simeon did, that I would "depart in peace," but that I should like to live forever. One of these books is an Englishman's plea for a great national institution for the training of technical teachers, for a "Central Technical University," or people's normal school.

Another and even better book is "Social Science and National Economy," by Robert Ellis Thompson, Professor of Social Science in the University of Pennsylvania. Hear what he says of the science and economy of education: "Less can be said for the quality than the quantity of the education given by our public schools. Without discussing in detail the merits and defects of our present systems, we shall seek to discover what ideas are rightly conveyed by the term 'national education.' It is one that gives the scholar such general instruction and offers him such opportunity to acquire special training as will fit him for his special profession, calling or industry, and will enable him to pursue it in the most effective manner." He goes on to say that "the State should give in its public schools such general and special training as will fit its members for the industrial state, especially in the two great industries, agriculture and manufactures." He says "the present routine, especially the study of geography, should give way to neighborhood knowledge, to intimate acquaintance with things about us, that the technical education of the farming class should begin in the public schools, and with the first years of study. The useful branches of natural history, the nature and habits of the domestic animals, of the cultivated vegetables, and the agricultural geology of the district should be among its themes. The child should be taught at once the rightful respect for his father's mode of life as concerned with the most valuable of the human sciences, and also to thirst for a more extensive acquaintance with these sciences as bearing upon that occupation. In a word, the school should be, on this side of its life, a preparation for the agricultural college.

"All this applies with tenfold force to the foreman of the workshop, the non-commissioned officers of industry." Prof. Thompson praises the Graucers or Patrons of Husbandry "for the very excellent results to be expected from the stand they have taken on this subject." But he does not anywhere show the bearing of these principles on the education of girls. Probably unlike the never to be praised enough John Anderson, of the Kansas agricultural college, he does not sufficiently enjoy the contemplation of "woman as an industrialist," but to show what can be done, and what has been done, let me translate from the French the story of one of these efforts in Paris.

The schools of Miss Lemonnier are professional schools for girls, five in number, distributed in the different quarters, and are at this moment giving instruction and business education to 600 young girls, who are constantly in demand by the Parisian merchants for their skill, their business aptitude, and above all for their good characters. The founders laid down the principle that religion should be taught in the family, and all sects are admitted without distinction or preference. The morning is occupied with general instruction not materially different from that of elementary schools of the second (French) grade. In the afternoon the pupils are divided, according to the calling which they expect to follow, into groups representing nine trades or employments, as follows: Commerce, "Herborist" or Florist, industrial design, wood engraving, painting on porcelain, or other decorative arts, fan making, etc., artificial flower making, confectionery, Lingerie or fine sewing of all kinds, mending.

This noble work had a very modest beginning. In the year 1856, under the presidency of Eliza Lemonnier, a society was formed for the maternal protection of young girls, giving them gratuitous instruction, and placing them where they could obtain an honorable livelihood. In 1862 they enlarged their operations and the society took its present name, "Society for the Professional Training of Women." Madame Emilie Souverest, Clauze Colquet, Mlle. Julie Toussaint and others obtained the means for this enterprise by their own efforts; little by little subscriptions flowed in, until now distinguished scholars and statesmen are

proud to be enrolled as members of the society, and its reserve fund amounts to 275,000 francs. Its management is exclusively confined to women, and Madame Jules Simon is its present efficient head.

There are schools established in London for the training of professional cooks, laundresses, etc. We are a practical people in other respects, is it not time for us to adapt some of these European models to our own special circumstances and needs. An easy step in the right direction would be the establishment of vacation schools, where some of these useful arts could be acquired in the intervals of intellectual study.—Jeanne C. Carr, in Rural Press.

Going to Heaven Barefooted.

During the pioneer days of Iowa, the town had an editor who was patient and long suffering. Some of the members of the church got him to give twenty dollars toward securing a minister; then they wanted five dollars for the heathen; then they wanted their religious notices inserted free; then he was asked for twenty-five dollars towards helping to build a parsonage, and he finally found he was giving the church more than he gave his family. He never heeded "hung on" for a time longer, or until one evening he went to prayer meeting and was asked to leave his office for a week and go and help and clear the grounds for a camp meeting. That was the last straw, and he rose up and said:

"Gentlemen, I'd like to go to heaven. I know you all. You are clever and obliging, and kind and tender, and it would be nice for all of us, as a congregation, to go together, but I've concluded to leave you and dodge in along with somebody from Detroit, Grand Rapids, or Lapeer. It's money, money, money, all the time, and if my wife should die, she'd have to go to heaven barefooted!"

The congregation seemed to realize that a free horse was being rode to death. They let up on the editor and pacified him. He even had a special tent assigned him at the camp meeting, and all was well.—Ex.

Care for Daughters.

Would you show yourself really good to your daughters? Then be generous to them in a truer sense than that of heaping trinkets on their necks. Train them for independence first, and then labor to give it to them. Let them, as soon as ever they are grown up, have some little money, or means of making money, to be their own, and teach them how to deal with it, without needing every moment somebody to help them. Calculate what you give them or will bequeath to them, not, as is usually done, on the chances of their making a rich marriage, but on the probability of their remaining single, and according to the scale of living to which you have accustomed them. Suppress their luxury now if need be, but do not leave them with scarcely bare necessities hereafter, in striking contrast to their present home. Above all, help them to help themselves. Fit them to be able to add to their own means rather than to be forever pinching and economizing till their minds are narrowed and their hearts are sick. Give all the culture you can to every power which they may possess. If they should marry after all, they will be the happier and the better for it. If they should remain among the million of the unmarried, they will bless you in your grave, and say of you, what cannot be said of many a doting parent by his surviving child, "My father cared that I should be happy after his death as well as while I was his pet and his toy."

CHOOSING A MATE.—Many of our correspondents solicit information as to the best way to choose husbands; and, on the other hand, many of those whose destiny it probably is to be chosen as husbands, anxiously inquire how they shall choose wives. Of one thing the girls may be sure, and that is, that the young men who make the best sons and brothers will also make the best husbands. And the young men may be equally sure that those girls who are the best daughters and sisters, will also, as a rule, be the best wives. If a young man, before he is married, is destitute of those affections and principles which come out of filial obedience and fraternal courtesy and a controlling sense of duty, he will be equally destitute of them after he is married. The mere fact of wedlock will not change the fundamental principles of his nature. He will be essentially the same human being after marriage—or, at least, after the honeymoon—that he was before it. The same principles hold true in regard to women. She who is selfish, and vain, and idle, and deceitful, as a girl, will be pretty apt to be the curse of the man who marries her. While the girl who is dutiful to her parents, and industrious, and unselfish, and truthful, will be almost certain to be a blessing to him who gets her for a wife. In addition to all this, it is of the first importance that a proper physiological and mental adaptation be secured.—Herald of Health.

JEALOUSY is at once the meanest and the most unaccountable of vices. What belongs to us we shall have inevitably; and what we want and have not, we shall never win by unreason. If we are lovely, we shall be loved, and if we are unlovely, we shall not be loved, no matter whether any other takes our place or not. Jealousy of the wealth, the social importance, or the happiness of others is alike unaccountable and absurd. Your own house is not lowlier because your neighbor's is two stories higher. If he should fall, and have to give up his carriage, it would only crowd the omnibus a little more, and by no means provide you with a vehicle. What is it in human nature that makes our poor fare seem poorer because our neighbor is eating roast duck and drinking champagne? To envy the love bestowed upon another is equally idle. Hearts keep their accounts usually with very tolerable fairness. We shall receive that of which we are worthy—no more—and what is our own, by virtue of our desert, no fate can take away.

GARDEN GATES.—We notice in many parts of the city that the gates of some of our prominent citizens are in such poor repair that it often requires a young lady on one side and a gentleman on the other to hold them up. We would suggest that on these damp evenings it would be a far better idea to take the gate into the parlor and hold it up there.—Tumult Gazette.

ANY dog in good condition will easily make his five miles in progressing one; the youth may be equally prodigal, but the time will come, in every man's life, when he will feel that henceforward every mile must count one, in the straight and dusky pike-road toward the end.

BOA-WOMEN.—There is a man in Nebraska who isn't being worried to death by people who want to borrow his wheelbarrow. His farm is six miles square, and his house is set three miles back from the road.

VIRTUE.—Sulphuretted silver is imbedded in the solid quartz, and the shining metal is only brought forth after much labor; so the virtue of a people is only made apparent by their struggles with adversity.

Apologies Not Needed.

Everybody knows that window panes will grow dingy, that dust will accumulate, that the faces of little children, like their clothes, have a natural affinity for dirt, that all clothes will wear out, that paint is sure to be finger-marked, that china will get chipped, and that it is simply impossible to keep everything in perfect order all the time. Nevertheless, we are all continually apologizing for omissions, negligences and errors which cannot be avoided, and which would not be noticed, perhaps, if attention were not called to them by ill-timed apologies.

It is refreshing to go into the houses of our friends and see things a little topsy-turvy, and be assured by what we see that "we are all mortal, and only what is common has happened to us;" that just when company comes our hostess has nothing cooked; that children usually quiet and orderly, when animated by the presence of visitors, "show off" to the greatest possible disadvantage, and thus that other people have their trials as well as we ours, and that the difference between these and those is quite trivial. On the other hand it is really depressing to come across a woman who always, under all circumstances and on all occasions, is ready for company, on whose ceilings spiders never hang their webs, behind whose furniture dust never hides, whose closets and drawers and trunks, being thrown wide open at any moment, show only orderly interiors. Let the language be changed a little; if such a woman could be found it would be discouraging to persons of ordinary feelings. While she had been polishing her silver, notching her shelf paper, fluting her pillow shams, adjusting the position of easy chairs and ottomans, and brushing away the last suggestion of dust from the mantel piece, possibly it might appear that she had not had time to glance at the latest discoveries in science, to enjoy the last new poems in our leading magazines, to kindle her patriotism afresh by reading accounts of the Centennial celebration, and that she is by no means a leader in the literary and intellectual world.

Should she apologize for this? By no means. Let her be happy, if thus it must be, with only housekeeping, and let her sister, who loves something else better than painful domestic neatness, rejoice without envy in that something better. It is much the wiser and nobler way to pass the little things for which apologies are made in silence, and to lead, if possible, the minds of visitors not toward but away from those things which suggest apologies. The habitual apologist is invariably weak in mind or body and frequently in both.—N. Y. Tribune.

Marrying Without Love.

Many a young lady writes to say that she has had an advantageous offer of marriage. The man who has made it is of exemplary character; he is well off in this world's goods, is engaged in a profitable and reputable business, and there is no particular reason why she should not accept his proposal; but she does not love him. In our judgment that is reason enough. We do not believe in marriage without love. Respect is all very well, and that one should have any; but it does not take the place of affection. It is said that in such matches love comes after marriage. We have no doubt that it often does. But we think love should precede as well as follow matrimony. It is always liable to happen to one who has never loved. But suppose, subsequent to marriage, it is awakened for the first time in a wife, and the object happens to be other than the husband—what then? This is a contingency not pleasant to contemplate. No; if you do not love, then do not marry. Singleness is blessedness compared to marriage without affection. The conjugal yoke sits easy on the shoulders of love; but it is most scalding without this one and only sufficient support.

CORRECT SPEAKING.—We advise all young people to acquire the habit of correct speaking and writing, and to abandon as early as possible any use of slang words or phrases. The longer you live, the more difficult the acquirement of correct language will be; and if the golden age of youth, the proper season for the acquisition of language, be passed in abuse, the unfortunate victim, if neglected, is very properly doomed to talk slang for life. Money is unnecessary to procure this education. Every man has it in his power. He has merely to use the language which he reads, instead of the slang which he hears; to form his tastes from the best speakers and poets in the country; to treasure up choice phrases in his memory; and habituate himself to their use, avoiding at the same time that pedantic precision and bombast which shows the weakness of vain ambition, rather than the polish of an educated man.

IDEAL AND REAL.—Plato said that all things existed in the ideal world before they were formed in the material world; that the ideal was the real, and the material the transitory. Aristotle said that if law governed the mass, it must also exist in the atom—that if deduction showed order and system, the same principle must prevail to the opposite or inductive end of the pole, and on these premises the philosopher founded his classification of the animal kingdom in order, genera and species.

LIFE is made up of little things. The greater misfortune troubles us least. A man will generally show more of his evil nature at the absence of a button off his shirt-bosom than at the loss of his finest horse, and will probably endure it less manfully. The field of experience is broad, and covers the world; but the most severe tests greet us first, and happy is he who can achieve the mastery over the things which are small, for he then is sure of the mastery over himself.

No man can do an unusually thing without inflicting an injury on the whole human race. No man can say, "I can do as I choose, and it will be nobody's business!" Every man's sin is everybody's business literally. Every sin shakes men's confidence in men, and becomes, whatever its origin, the enemy of mankind; and all mankind have a right to make common cause in its extermination.

THERE is a horrible picturesqueness in the reported discovery of the body of John Blackford, the American actor, who lost his life three years ago in attempting the ascent of Mont Blanc. It was found in a huge block of ice which lately fell from the mountain, perfectly preserved, like a fly in amber.

As the ships comes across the seas from foreign lands, bearing their rich freightage of silks, and spices and precious things, so do the days come to us—vessels from heaven's ports, full of the richest and rarest blessings and treasure from the heavenly lands.

HAND LATHES.—Those who use hand lathes will find that the clattering of the hand tool may be stopped by placing a piece of leather between the tool and the rest.

SIX Milwaukee women agreed to decide by vote which had the handsomest baby. Each baby got one vote.

Old Dutch Proverbs.

We must row with the oars we have; and as we cannot order the wind we are obliged to sail with the wind that God gives.

Patience and attention will bring us far. If the cat watches long enough at the mouse nest, the mouse shall not escape.

Perseverance will obtain good cabbage and lettuce where otherwise nothing but thistles will grow.

The plowman must go up and down, and whatever else may be done, there is no other but this long way to do the work well.

Learn to sleep with one eye open. As soon as the chicken goes to roost, it is a good time for the fox.

If weary with waking, your portion will soon be meager.

Fools will always ask what time it is, but wise men know their time.

Grind while the wind is fair, and if you neglect, do not complain of God's providence.

God gives feed to every bird, but he does not bring it to the nest; in like manner he gives us our daily bread, but by means of our daily work.

Rise early, then the fisherman finds his worms.

The dawn of the day has gold in its mouth. He that lags behind in a road that many are driving always will be in a cloud of dust.

Fowls and Vegetables in the Olden Time.

To Asia, and probably India, where wild chickens yet abound under the designation of jungle fowl, the English owe their domestic poultry. The distribution of this useful bird is strangely irregular. Throughout the negro kingdoms of West Africa, for instance, fowls are plentiful, while in more civilized Abyssinia and Arabia they are comparatively scarce. Persia abounds in poultry, while in Turkey few domestic birds, except the sacred pigeons, are to be seen. To Asia, too, belong the fallow deer and the gorgeous peacock, while to her, also, we owe all our vegetables, with the brilliant exception of the potato. It is impossible to conceive the poverty, so far as vegetables were concerned, of the England that passed under the sway of Norman and Angevine kings. Some hardy varieties of the cabbage did indeed exist, and were supplemented by long forgotten herbs, which have since been deemed only suitable to the rabbit hutch. The peas and beans brought in by returning Crusaders were presently eked out by carrots; but down to the reign of Elizabeth the garden yielded little tribute to the kitchen in Britain.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.—Nature, a weekly journal of science published in London, contains a lecture delivered at the London Zoological Gardens, by J. C. Clarke, on sea lions and seals, in which the following accurate passage occurs: The next species is Steller's sea lion (O. Stelleri), named in honor of its discoverer. It is much larger than the other species, the males being as much as sixteen feet long. The ears are short and pointed, much broader than those of the fur seal. It is found on the island of St. Paul, extending down the coasts of Kamshatka and California. At San Francisco it inhabits an island in the harbor, where Mr. Woodford has built a large hotel, to which parties resort to dine and look at the sea lions play. The under fur of this species is so short as to be useless for clothing purposes.

GIRLS, let us tell you a stubborn truth. No young woman ever looked so well to a sensible man, as when dressed in neat, plain, modest attire, without a single ornament about her person. She looks then as though she possessed worth in herself, and needed no artificial rigging to enhance her value. If a young woman would spend as much time in cultivating her temper, and cherishing kindness, meekness, gentleness, mercy and other qualities, as most of them do in extra dress and ornaments to increase their personal charms, she would, at a glance, be known among a thousand. Her character would be read in her countenance.

MALE CONVICTS in our jails and prisons constantly receive letters and visits from their wives; but when a female convict receives a letter from her husband, the circumstance is mentioned as remarkable, it is so rare.

ARTISTS.—Susan B. Anthony says that there are 600,000 professional drunkards in the United States, and that one woman in seven is married to such an artist. She would never do it herself, though.

THE heart of man is like a garden—capable of producing, under good culture, everything beautiful in humanity, while if neglected, it is choked up with every kind of rank and poisonous weeds.

DEATH.—The fear of approaching death, which in youth we imagine must cause much inquietude, to the aged is very seldom the source of uneasiness.—Haslett.

REPAIRING RUBBERS.—Rubber, or even leather boots, may be repaired by using the following cement: Take gum shellac three parts, india rubber one part, by weight. Dissolve these ingredients in separate vessels, in ether free from alcohol, applying a gentle heat. When the oghly dissolved, mix the two solutions, and keep in a bottle tightly stoppered. This glue resists the action of water, both hot and cold, and most of the acids and alkalis. Pieces of wood, leather, or other substances, joined together by it, will part at any other point than at the joint thus made. If the glue be thinned by the admixture of ether, and applied as a varnish to leather, it renders the joint of seam water tight, and almost impossible to separate. By cementing a piece of thin leather or rubber over a crack, a neat and durable patch may be made. The soles of leather boots may be made more durable and perfectly waterproof by soaking them thoroughly, before a fire, with common pine tar. Three or four repeated applications are necessary to saturate the leather, when it completely absorbs the tar, and the soles are dry and hard as horn, but quite flexible.

DISEASE PROOF POTATOES.—A committee of the Royal Society of England reports that six varieties of potatoes entered for experiment as disease proof, and planted in twenty trial plots in different parts of the United Kingdom, have all failed to stand the test. The council had reserved the power to enforce a penalty of £20 in each case of failure, but the committee recommended that this penalty be not enforced. Professor de Bary, in a communication to the committee, claims to have ascertained definitely that this disease is not propagated by infected tubers. He recommends that potatoes be not planted near or after plants known to be suitable to the development of oospores of the Peronospora infestans.—Dept of Ag.

RAPID WORK.—John Ait, an ingenious inventor of New Haven, Conn., has invented and is now manufacturing a machine which will cut, bend and finish 500 staples a minute. It will take but few such machines to make all the staples needed in the country.

Young Folks' Column.

Work for it.

Boys want to be rich, great, or good, without working for it. They think that learned, wealthy, and influential men are very fortunate—that they have easily slipped into their respective spheres. They scarcely ever think that by hard work and dint of perseverance most of these men have risen to their present positions. Idlers never rise in the world. God does not reward laziness by "riches and honor." God did not make man to be useless and live at ease and reap without sowing. When farmers can sow and reap on the same day, and trees blossom and yield fruit the same day, and not until then, can boys hope to become men of marked influence and acquisition without working for it.

A splendid carriage rolls along the street. Boys look at it, and say to themselves, "He's a fortunate man: what an easy time he has! Some day we may have a windfall and not be obliged to work for a living." They sorely dream that the occupant of that costly vehicle was probably once a poor boy, who worked hard many years, winning the confidence of all around him by his industry, integrity and noble bearing. Had he been as idle and loose as many boys are, he would not have owned the carriage nor have been a millionaire. Many years of earnest toil, struggling to overcome obstacles, practicing the most rigid economy, and bravely holding out against great discouragements is the secret of his success.

Daniel Webster could make a great speech. Boys heard him, and said, "What a gift! How fortunate he is to possess such talents!" They thought hardly entered their heads that hard work enabled him to do it. The first time he undertook to declaim in a school room he broke down. But persevering industry overcame all obstacles. By hard study year after year, and equally diligent practice, he became the distinguished orator. Take away a quarter of a century from his life, in which he carefully qualified himself for his profession, having no idle hours, and no "bed of down," and the world would have not known Daniel Webster. Boys should not forget this. He could make a great speech because he worked for it.

Boys, it is a good rule that nothing valuable in this world can be had without working for it. And the time to begin work is now.—Ex.

LET TRY, SIR.—We have stood on the frowning heights of Chippewa, and viewed, with national pride, the field of that sanguinary conflict. But most vivid amidst all the associations of the place—of more grandeur than the roaring cannon or the desperate charges of the contending armies—was the reply of the gallant Miller when asked if he could take a certain battery. "I'll try, sir!" said the brave young officer. He did try, and his efforts crowned with success the results of the day. "I'll try!" Noble motto, that. Let it be engraved in letters of gold on every young man's brow. How many need its inspiring influence, its grand philosophy! "I'll try!" said Simpson, as he worked at the weaver's loom, and he became the greatest mathematician of the day. "I, too, will try," said Robert Bruce, as he lay despairing on the road to kingly destiny, and beheld a spider, after repeated failures, at last attain its desired success. He tried, and the crown of Scotland was the result. "I'll try!" is the motto of all others.—Journal of Trade.

A JOOLY GAME.—"Blowing cotton" is a sitting room game of the jolliest sort. Let as many as may be sit around the table with hands folded and arms extended along the edge of the table, each person touching elbows with his neighbor on each side of him. Take a small piece of common cotton batting, pick-d up so as to be made as light and airy as possible. Put this in the center of the table. Let some one count "one, two, three," and then let each one blow his best to keep the cotton away from himself and drive it upon some one else. The person on whom it alights must pay a forfeit. No one must take up his arms to escape the cotton. When it alights, take it up and start anew. It will be a very sober set indeed who can play two or three rounds without indulging in the healthiest sort of uproarious laughter.

A SWEET ANSWER.—A little boy and girl, each five years old, were playing by the roadside. The little boy became angry at something, and struck his playmate a sharp blow on the cheek, whereupon she sat down and began to cry.

The boy stood looking on a minute, and then said, "I didn't mean to hurt you, Katie. I am sorry."

The little girl's face brightened instantly. The sobs were hushed, and she said, "Well, if you are sorry, it don't hurt me."

LEATHERETTE.—This new patent imitation of leather, which has already been fully described, is alluded to in a late number of the British Trade Journal, as follows:

Specimens of leatherette, a capital imitation of leather, have been submitted to us during the past month, and make evident that some improvements have been effected in the manufacture which seem to justify further notice.

Briefly then, this leatherette is now dyed throughout, the surface—representing with wonderful fidelity the natural grain of leather—is more defined, and while the fabric has been strengthened, greater softness and a more leather-like feeling have been imparted to it. It is thus admirably fitted for use by bookbinders, and in many trades which have recourse to what we may term fancy leather.

A NOVELTY IN ORNAMENTAL SILVERING.—In Munich various objects of art have lately been displayed which are remarkable for their brilliant silver hue. It appears that they are mere plaster models covered with a thin coat of mica powder, which perfectly replaces the ordinary metallic substances. The mica plates are first cleaned and bleached by fire, boiled in hydrochloric acid, and washed and dried. The material is then finely powdered, sifted, and mingled with collodion, which serves as a vehicle for applying the compound with a paintbrush. The objects thus prepared can be washed in water, and are not liable to be injured by sulphuretted gases or dust. The collodion adheres perfectly to glass, porcelain, wood, metal, or papier maché. The mica can be easily tinted in different colors, thus adding to the beauty of the ornamentation.

INTERNATIONAL SEED POSTAGE.—For the benefit of those who may wish to order or to send seed through the postoffice to Canada, we would state that our international postal arrangements enable the sending of seed parcels throughout the dominion of Canada and United States of America, at the rate of one cent for two ounces, (8 cents per pound.)—prepaid postage.

BENDING VS. FORGING.—It is now possible by the aid of hydraulic machinery to bend iron shafts of twelve inches diameter, when properly heated, to any required shape. The bent shafts are said to be better than forged ones, from the fact that the fibre of the metal runs in one direction continually, whereas in forged ones it is often across the line of strain.