

THE HOME CIRCLE.

A Memory.

By ELINA E. ANTHONY.

Faint and sweet, a fragrant odor...

'Tis the same sweet, dizzying odor...

Just one year—but O, what changes!

'Tis all past, but not forgotten...

Home.

That word home always sounds like poetry to me. It rings like a peal of bells at a wedding...

Why, at home you are at home, and what more do you want? Nobody grudges you, whatever your appetite may be...

I cannot make out why so many working men spend their evenings at the public house, when their own firesides would be so much better and cheaper too...

Reading as a Fine Art.—Reading may be said to bear the same relation to written language that the art of executing music does to the science of composing it...

A Nymphomaniac farmer gives this bit of advice, which contains a very good hint: "If you want the boys to stay on the farm, do not bar on too hard when the boy is turning the grindstone..."

Domestic Beverages.

On Saturday evening, Feb. 12th, Professor E. W. Hilgard, of the State University, delivered the first of a series of lectures on "The Domestic Beverages of Different Nations..."

The lecturer touched upon the gases of water, and referred to the health-giving properties of soda water, but deprecated the fact that injurious materials are used in the construction of the receptacles and pipes...

The persons who take medicine because they are ill will find that it is not healthful to continue the drugs after they have been restored to health. The lecturer spoke of the contamination of wells, and suggested the use of the chemical process for purifying water...

They and eaff in act directly on the system and satisfy the human demand for a mild nervous tonic. The researches of travelers have shown that every people, be they in one hemisphere or the other, have these nerve-exciting beverages, and though different in form, color and method of use, they are composed of elements with the same base—caffeine...

A Baby's Soliloquy.

Some important hints in regard to the sick-room may be learned from the following soliloquy of a baby: I am here. And if this is what they call the world, I don't think much of it...

No, I was mistaken; for a chap was in here just now and wanted to see Bob's baby; and looked at me and said I was a funny little toad and looked just like Bob...

Interesting Facts.

A blind boy had become thirteen years of age when his eyes were touched by a surgeon. He thought scarlet the most beautiful color; black was painful. He fancied every object touched him, and he could not distinguish by sight what he perfectly well knew by feeling...

The Handkerchief Seventy Years Ago.

The handkerchief, which is now an indispensable appendage of every lady's and gentleman's costume, is of comparatively modern introduction. It was not very many years ago deemed a vulgar object, instead of a mark of neatness, as now.

Until the reign of the Empress Josephine, a handkerchief was thought, in France, so shocking an object that a lady would never dare to use it before any one.

An actor who would have used a handkerchief on the stage, even in the most fearful moments of the play, would have been unmercifully hissed; and it is only in the beginning of the present century that a celebrated actress, Mile. Duchesnois, dared to appear with handkerchiefs in hand.

It has been said by a writer on the history of the Crimean war that the English soldiers upon very numerous occasions, worn out by fighting and weary of their fruitless toil, would, when night fell above the battle-field collect themselves around their camp fires, and with hearts heavy on account of the absence from home and kindred, shed many tears of despondency in view of the threatening struggles of the future.

At last, toward the close of that frightful conflict, when night again had closed upon a scene of unparalleled horror, and wail ranks even more than usually thinned by slaughter, they had once more met to call over the names and numbers of friends then dead or dying, many a breast heaved bold for battle now shrank from further fight, and many a veteran now breathed curses against the banner of his queen.

How to Hang Pictures. No picture ought to be hung higher than the height of the average human eye when the owner of the eye is standing. It is the almost universal right in our houses to hang pictures much above this level, and they cannot be enjoyed there.

GIN AND ALOES.—A few mornings since the conductor of a train which daily brings to our city many of our substantial business men, who reside in the southern part of the state, asked one of the patrons, who is something of a farmer, what he gave his pigs when they were troubled with worms.

THE TALL MEN.—According to the report of the United States Sanitary Commission, it appears that this country, instead of being degenerate and inferior to the European races in point of physical perfection, is far the reverse.

MACHINE SHOPS IN RUSSIA.—In 1865, Russia had 100 foundries and machine shops, only 52 of which were provided with steam. At the present time there are 362 of these establishments, 79 of which are exclusively occupied with the manufacture of agricultural implements.

PURIFYING COPPER.—A process has been patented by Mr. S. L. Crocker, of Taunton, Mass., which consists in adding zinc in small quantity in a furnace to the copper ore or ores, or to the partially refined metallic copper therein, containing arsenic and antimony, whereby it is claimed, those impurities can be readily removed.

A NOVEL USE FOR OIL.—Two hundred barrels of oil have been poured into the basin at Baltimore to destroy the effluvia. The oil, it is said, deodorizes the globules of sulphuretted hydrogen generated by the sea water's action upon organic matter.

YOUNG FOLKS' COLUMN.

"He Says He Will."

One bitterly cold winter a poor woman, who had been struggling against illness and poverty, was left without a shilling in the world. With many tears she was obliged to tell her little boy, who was her only son, that she could give no breakfast that morning, for she had not a loaf of bread in the house.

"Surely, sir," she answered with a courtesy, "and welcome, too," and hastened to set a chair for the gentleman. They soon got into conversation. "I am afraid I am keeping you from your breakfast, my good woman," he said, seeing that there was nothing on the table but plates and cups.

How eagerly Frank ran in-doors, to show his mother what God had sent him! What was his surprise when, with tears of joy, the poor widow held up a bank-note, exclaiming, "O my child, how could I doubt the Lord for one moment! You were right, you were right, my boy!"

CHILDHOOD.—Children are but little people, yet they form a very important part of society, expend much of our capital, employ a great portion of our population in their service, and occupy half the literati of our day in labor for their instruction and amusement.

Production and Price of Wheat. The statistician of the Department of Agriculture has summarized his reports of the crop year of 1875, and gives the following table of estimated yield per acre in the leading wheat producing States:

Table with 4 columns: States, 1873, 1874, 1875. Rows include New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, California.

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DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

How to Wash Dishes.

Faith Rochester writes in the American Agriculturist: I dislike greatly to wipe dishes that have not been drained from clear hot water. Yet I seldom see any one wash and wipe dishes in my way. Usually the dishes are washed in suds, and then are either passed immediately through hot water and wiped by an assistant, or they are piled up and afterward are turned down in a dish-pan as though to drain them (over their backs), after which each is taken from the rinsing water and immediately wiped without previous draining.

A Royal Dish.

I lately saw a picture and a description of a dish said to be greatly relished by Emperor Dom Pedro, from whom it derived its name. Now, I had no such pan or dish, but I determined to contrive one.

To prevent flat irons from rusting, melt one-fourth ounce of camphor and one-half pound of fresh hog's lard over a slow fire, take off the scum, and mix as much black lead with the composition as will bring it to the color of iron.

GINGER CAKES.—Rub a quarter of a pound of butter into half a pound of flour, mix one egg, three ounces of powdered loaf sugar, and half an ounce of ground ginger with the butter and flour, and make them altogether into a paste; roll it out a quarter of an inch thick and cut it into round cakes, about two or three inches across; bake them in a warm oven, on iron plates.

A GOOD GRAVY.—Chop fine some lean meat, an onion, some slices of carrot and turnip, and a little thyme and parsley; put these with half an ounce of butter into a saucepan, and keep them stirred until they are slightly browned; add a little spice, and water in the proportion of a pint to one pound of meat.

SCIENCE IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—At the close of his series of six Christmas lectures, in London, on electricity, Prof. Tyndall remarked that five of them had been illustrated with apparatus which any teacher could make of the commonest material, at scarcely any cost.

FIRE-PROOF JOIST.—An ingenious kind of fire-proof joist, recently introduced, consists of a slip of wood five inches wide by five-eighths of an inch thick, belted between two flanged strips of quarter-inch iron, making a beam quite as strong as those of wood ordinarily employed.

FLUCTUATIONS IN PETROLEUM.—Great have been the fluctuations in the price of petroleum. Since 1864 the monthly price at Titusville has been all the way from \$13.75 to 73 cents per barrel, and the average of prices has been from \$7.62 in 1864 to \$1.29 in 1874.