

A LOVE MISSIVE.

O beauty, kindness, purity,
Are woman's noblest dower;
Rose sweet, and even so fair is she—
How's a star, earth's loveliest jewel!

Water from a Growing Vine.
The explorer Couderc found a white grove
while wandering among the Yunnan-Huac
mountains, in the western part of
Ghana, that it was not necessary for him
to descend to a creek when they
wanted a drink of water.

Inventors and Love.
There is no doubt that inventors do not,
as a rule, make good lovers. The man
whose brain is full of some great mechanical
project, whose heart and soul are centered
on the achievement of some wonder of
wheels or pulleys, or fire or steam, has
not much room for the softer feelings
which supply so much of the poetry of
common humanity.

The Game of Chess.
The origin and history of the game of
chess is involved in much obscurity. Some
authors say that it was invented during
the siege of Troy to relieve the tediousness
thus imposed upon the Grecian chiefs.
Others refer the invention to the Egyptian
and cite a sculpture of the time of the
building of the Pyramids, where a lion
and a unicorn are depicted as being deep
in the mysteries of the game.

Needlework in the Seventh Century.
Before the end of the Seventh century
needlework was carried to great perfection
in convents, where it was used for the
embellishment of the church and the decoration
of priestly robes. Artists did not think
it beneath their dignity to trace the patterns
used for embroidery in their natural
colors. A certain religious lady, wishing
to embroider a sacerdotal vestment, asked
no less a personage than St. Dunstan, then
a young man, but already noted for his
artistic skill and taste, to draw the flowers
and figures which she afterward worked
in gold thread.—Woman's Work.

A Warning to Parents.
Over and over again it has been asserted
that it is not the best, but one of the worst
things to do with our boys, to make them
clerks; but parents, it would seem, do not
think so. There are at this moment over
300 names on the list of applicants for the
next vacancy at a London bank where the
seniority principle is in force, and the new-
comer would begin at rather less than forty
pounds a year. At a large insurance office
there are 250 waiting for the first chance.—
London Tit-Bits.

Substitute for a Diamond.
It has been found that half burned air
carbons will cut glass. Containing as
they do many of the characteristics of the
diamond, this is not surprising. Unfor-
tunately the street arab has discovered
this fact and now amuses himself by
scratching plate glass windows and doing
other destructive work. The only remedy
is for the lamp trimmer to leave no frag-
ments of the candles in the streets.—New
York Telegram.

Queer Ideas About Birds.
The blackbird and thrush are "wander-
ing souls" whose sins must be expiated on
earth, hence they are forced to endure the
rigors of winter. Rooks, jacksnaws, bats,
hawks and owls are animated by lost souls.
The wagtail is called the "devil's bird," for
no other reason, I suppose, than that it
cleverly evades the missiles thrown at it.
A dead wagtail is a rara avis.—Irish Times.

A Powerful Explosive.
The most wonderful and the most power-
ful explosive known is said to be chloride
of nitrogen. It is believed to be the only
substance that will explode on coming in
contact with a bright beam of light,
whether the beam be from an electric light
or the sun.—Philadelphia Ledger.

The members of the Japanese club in
New York city issue a Japanese news-
paper. It is printed on a hickograph, and
only a small number of copies are made.
It is intended chiefly for the information
of their friends at home.

In Vienna they have a single word for
an occurrence very common with them in
winter—the bursting of a water pipe. This
is the word: "Hochquellenwasserleitung-
gastrofentialation."

The mean descent of the Ohio river from
the junction of the Allegheny and the
Monongahela to the Mississippi is about
6 1/2 inches per mile, the distance being 973
miles.

Gallantry That Made a Fuss.

Whether gallantry is at all times a good
thing to display in public is a question that
was debated mentally by a car full of people
in Broadway Friday night. The car was
bound down town, and at Fourteenth
street it was comfortably filled. It was
nearly 11 o'clock, and the outpouring
crowd from the Star theater supplied
enough more passengers to pack the car
from door to door. Three or four men
were seated, and half a dozen women, all
young, vivacious and apparently robust,
were standing. Everybody was good na-
tured, and as the car bowed along there
was not the slightest manifestation of dis-
comfort. But there was one very gallant
young man who could not let well enough
alone. He was packed snugly between two
women, whose skirts almost concealed the
lower portion of his body.

By frantic efforts he extricated himself,
and with a polite bow tendered his seat to
a young woman who was contentedly con-
versing with some friends who were also
standing. She glanced at the vacated
seat, saw about two inches of space, and
smilingly shook her head. But the gallant
young man insisted, and in an effort to
take another bow, knocked a stout woman
with a bundle of her balance. The woman
fell into the lap of an old gentleman and
the bundle landed among the feathers and
ribbons of a "love of a bonnet" at the
other end of the car.

The startled old gentleman, in trying to
assist the stout woman to her feet, lost his
silk hat, which, in its downward course,
swept a pair of opera glasses from the lap
of the woman who sat next to him. Mean-
while the gallant young man was trying to
apologize to the stout woman. He stam-
bled over the feet of one passenger,
knocked a woman's hat away, and by the
sudden stopping of the car involuntarily
embraced the maiden to whom he had of-
fered his seat. There were muttered signs
of discontent, and the embarrassed gallant
would have left the car but for the masses
of humanity packed between him and the
doors. He therefore swung disconsolately
from a strap, bumping against this one
and that, and listening to such feminine
ejaculations as "Well, I never!" "For
goodness sake!" "Gracious!" etc. And the
young woman did not take his seat.—New
York Times.

The Origin and History of the game of
chess is involved in much obscurity. Some
authors say that it was invented during
the siege of Troy to relieve the tediousness
thus imposed upon the Grecian chiefs.
Others refer the invention to the Egyptian
and cite a sculpture of the time of the
building of the Pyramids, where a lion
and a unicorn are depicted as being deep
in the mysteries of the game. The Chinese
claim the game as one of their inventions,
and so do several other countries and na-
tions, among them the Ceylonese. They
say that while Bavan, a king of Ceylon,
was undergoing a siege, Sella, a Hindoo
mathematician, invented the game for the
amusement of his royal master, who was
thus enabled to mimic the movements of
his enemies on the tiny battlefield before
him.

Although we can find no definite trace of
the game in England prior to its introduc-
tion by the French in the Eleventh cen-
tury, it is known to have been the court
game all over continental Europe at least
600 years before. Alphonsus, king of Cas-
tile, and Pope Innocent III, both wrote
works on the game, and the second book
printed in the English language was "The
Game and Playe of the Chess." Saecheir,
a Jesuit, a result of Turin, called the "Chess
Bishop," could play with three different
opponents without seeing one of the
boards, and talk with the company during
the time of the play.—St. Louis Republic.

The Omnipresent Sandwich Man.
Too much enterprise sometimes defeats
itself. The craze for advertising by means
of a big set scene in a show window doubt-
less has its uses, but it would shock the
great merchants who pay the bills if they
could see exactly how the scheme some-
times worked. Such a window had been
decked out the other day—whether in the
capital or the metropolis makes no differ-
ence—and before it were gathered repre-
sentatives, both small and great, of the
public who were to be captured by the free
show. What did they see? Not one detail
of the elaborate display prepared for their
benefit, but instead four huge sandwich
boards advertising the similar wares of a
rival.

It was not a deep laid scheme on the
part of the rival either. He had simply
sent out a brigade of such irresponsible
citizens as are willing to be employed as
peripatetic business announcements, with
instructions to keep where the largest
crowd was to be found. Attracted both
by the throng and by the scene in the win-
dow they had placed themselves in the
front rank of spectators, and by leaning
their boards in a row against the glass,
had transformed the costly advertisement
of the weather house into a free boom for
the cheap one.—Kate Field's Washington.

Tailless Cats.
Conditions other than those of mere
breeding seem to have much influence
on the development of physical charac-
ter in cats. In one authenticated case a
tabby, which had lost her tail by having
that appendage run over, gave birth in
her next litter to three stump tailed kit-
tens out of seven. The Manx cat is not
the only tailless variety. In the Crimea
is found another kind of cat which has
no tail. The domesticated Malay cat
has a tail that is only about one-half the
usual length, and very often it is tied by
nature in a sort of knot which cannot be
straightened out.—Interview in Wash-
ington Star.

The Color of the Eye.
The color of the iris is not uniform in
any eye. Some eyes have spots, others
stripes, still others blotches of white,
green, blue, yellow and black, and the
eye takes its color from the predomance
of one hue. An eye that is consid-
ered gray will often be composed of
black and yellow. An eye that is thought
to be brown will be very dark red, with
spots of yellow or blue.—St. Louis Globe-
Democrat.

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Clip the hat thirty years or more from the
century, and the argument will represent the
term of the unbounded popularity of Hostet-
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fresh Almanac of the Bitters, in which the uses,
derivation and action of this world-famous
medicine will be lucidly set forth. Everybody
should read it. The calendar and astronomical
calculations to be found in this brochure are al-
ways astonishingly accurate, and the statistics,
illustrations, humor and other reading matter
rich in interest and full of profit. The Hostet-
ter Company of Pittsburg, Pa., publish it them-
selves. They employ more than sixty hands in
the mechanical work, and more than eleven
months in the year are consumed in its prepara-
tion. It can be obtained, without cost, of all
druggists and country dealers, and is printed in
English, German, French, Welsh, Norwegian,
Swedish, Holland, Bohemian and Spanish.

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