

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

A Parisian hotel, recently established, is being run on the "American method."
-The interesting assertion comes from Paris that in the last year the dogs there killed 1,700,000 rats.

canals were the favored haunts of banditti, and the untimely graves of many a burgher and Senator of the Republic of Venice. All that I read of the murderous bravos, the ruffianly gangs and the hired assassins of the ancient city rushed back with appalling intensity on my memory, and dreams of flashing poignards and blood-stained victims, smothered in sacks and flung pitilessly into these still streams in the dead of night, seemed to stand out in ghastly relief before the eye of the imagination.

BILL NYE'S HOPEFUL.

He Embarks in the Newspaper Business and Receives Some Parental Advice.
MY DEAR SON: Your first letter written since you started your paper at New Bolony was received yesterday. We felt glad to hear that you had got located in a business for yourself, and it made me feel proud to get a copy of the paper which you call the Retina. I do not know why you call it the Retina. Still, the Bolony Retina sounds kind of full-some and didactic.

HOME AND FARM.

—Shearing lambs in midsummer is claimed by English farmers to greatly increase the growth of the carcass.
—Too much grain is often sown when seeding and too little grass seed. These are two common errors.—Toledo Blade.
—Pound Cake: One cup of butter, six eggs, half a cup of sugar, one pint of flour, three-quarters of a teaspoonful of baking powder. Bake fifty minutes.—The Household.

RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL.

—The minutes of the last Presbyterian General Assembly show that 115 of their churches last year received additions of 50 and over each.
—Two or three clergymen in Brooklyn introduced the practice of giving brief talks to the children before beginning the morning sermon.—Brooklyn Union.
—Rome papers report that the Pope intends to establish a great university in the Lateran Palace. The head of the Universitas Leonina is to be the Jesuit Cardinal Mazzella.

IMPURE WATER.

Epidemics traceable to the polluted condition of private wells.
It is a common belief that when a well is dug pure spring water, oozing from the ground, is obtained; that is true in the case of artesian wells; but, although possible, is rarely the case with ordinary surface wells, and under this name are embraced all wells not more than fifty feet deep. The water obtained from these wells is merely the water which has fallen on the surface of the earth in rains, and has percolated the soil and become collected in this excavation. It is called ground water. Even granting that some of the water may be spring water, some of it must be the results of drainage, and the amount of this will depend upon the rain-fall, and the character of the soil. A moment's reflection will show that wells must act as drains to the surrounding soil. Just as a well field may be drained by digging one or more trenches into which the soil may drain and be carried away, so, when a deep trench or well is dug, the water in the surrounding soil will necessarily tend to drain into it. This is not only a matter of reasoning, but a matter of experience. The following case is reported: "In consequence of the escape of the contents of a barrel of petroleum, or benzine, which had been buried, a circuit of wells, sixty feet below, and two hundred and fifty or three hundred yards distant, became so affected that the occupiers of fifteen houses, containing eighty-two inhabitants, were for ten days unable to use the water for cooking or drinking. When wells are first dug in rural districts, the water is pure and may remain so for a long time. Fortunately, the soil possesses some power of purification, and although the water may receive polluting matter on the surface of the ground, some of this matter is detained, mechanically, by filtration, and other portions may be decomposed and taken up by growing plants and trees. But this power of the soil is limited. When the sources of pollution are constant and numerous, as in cities, from privies, cesspools, slop-water, offal and the manure of domestic animals, and, sometimes, from leaky and imperfect sewers and drains, the soil becomes 'filth sodden,' and the filth is carried deeper and deeper, until finally it appears in our drinking water. Sanitary literature is full of instances of the outbreaks of epidemics of diarrhoea, typhoid fever and cholera; which have been traced to the drinking of well water thus polluted; and, even though the city may go through one or more years' epidemics, it is not a pleasant thought for the inhabitants to indulge in, that they are drinking the drainage of their privies and cess-pools. And yet they must realize the idea that their wells are, and must be, drains for the surrounding grounds, with all its contents that are capable of solution in water. Science can not tell us that, in a given water is charged the poison of a definite disease, but it can tell us that it has received the product of decaying matter from animal sources, and, again, that such water is dangerous to health.—Dr. E. F. Mack, in Sanitary Monitor.

ON BOARD A GONDOLA.

A Ride Through the Solitary Canals of the Queen City of the Adriatic.
Is it not a strange fatality that the ridiculous nearly always follows the steps of the sublime on this old-fashioned globe of ours? Here was I a moment ago indulging in meditations a la Werther, but now, as I take my valise in my hand and make my way out of the railway station, my lips part in a merry peal of laughter. Here is a Frenchman, all worry and bustle, who hardly knows two words of Italian, and who is swearing and cursing in his own tongue as one of a dozen of the Cannabiere of Marseilles can curse and swear when he is really in a passion. "Troun de fair!" he exclaims to one of the railway porters, "can't you get me a cab? Saerebleu! are there no cabs in this infernal city?" Within a few paces of him was the "omnibus"—gondola (a public conveyance that plies through the canals to the Place Saint Mark), into which he was rather unceremoniously hustled by one of the boatmen. I also took a seat in its interior, a structure some eight feet long, three feet wide and four feet high, with a wooden roof and glass windows. Two gondoliers plied their oars, one in front of this structure and the other behind. The "shades of night were falling fast" as the gondola proceeded on its voyage. Solitary gas lights, hung out from blackened walls, cast their giddy reflection on the inky waters, and not a sound broke on the ear save the measured splash of the oars or the hoarse, sepulchral shout of the gondolier warning the guides of other craft as his turned a corner. What a solitary city is not this ex-cuse of the Adriatic! As the gondola passed into narrow lanes and under low arches the waters seemed to grow inkier still. It was not without a shudder of horror that I recalled the time when these

ASSYRIAN TABLETS.

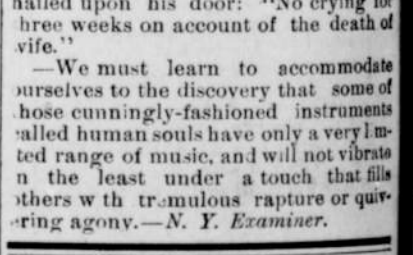
Valuable Testimony Gathered from the Libraries of Antiquity.
It is well known that the late Mr. George Smith and others recently made most extensive explorations and made valuable discoveries in Assyria. Mr. Smith unearthed whole royal libraries from its mounds—libraries not consisting, like ours, of volumes of paper, but of clay tablets, which, while the clay was in a soft state, had been written upon with an iron pen, and then baked hard in an oven. Among these curious old volumes we find accounts of the Creation, of the Deluge and of other events of sacred history, tinged, as we should naturally expect them to be, by the nature of the soil through which they had filtered, so that they did not correspond exactly with the Biblical accounts, but yet corresponding sufficiently to yield a most remarkable and most valuable corroboration of their testimony. We take up the fifth tablet, for instance. Here is a translation of seven lines of this strange volume from the library of King Assurbanipal, from which the reader may see that it is a kind of heathen Genesis: The moon He appointed to rule the night, and to wander through the night until the dawn of day. Every month, without fail, He made holy assembly days. In the beginning of the month, at the rising of the night, He shot forth its horns to illuminate the heavens. On the seventh day He appointed a holy day, and to cease from all business. He commanded. Our quotation is from the translation of Mr. H. Fox Talbot. Now, the date of this tablet is about 700 B. C. But Mr. Smith, of whose eminence as an Assyriologist it would be an impertinence to speak, says: "The present copies of the Chaldean account of creation were written during the reign of Assurbanipal, B. C. 673-628; but they appear to be copies of much earlier accounts of Creation—which was probably nearer B. C. 2,000. The legends, however, existed earlier than this, and were in the form of oral teaching." Thousands of years, therefore, before the Christian era, it appears that the Sabbath was known in Chaldea. This is not the only Assyrian discovery which bears on our page. "In 1869," says Mr. Smith in his "Assyrian Discoveries" (page 12), "I discovered, among other things, a curious religious calendar of the Assyrians in which every month is divided into four weeks, and the seventh days, or Sabbaths, are marked out as days on which no work should be undertaken."—Prize Essays on the Sabbath.

FEMALE MINERS.

What a Lady Speculator Has to Say About Women Who Made Money Out West.
I have been asked about ladies' prospecting. I have a lady friend who, while on a summer trip on the mountains, found an outcropping of ore on the surface and located a claim which sold for \$5,000. Mining for gold is a fine art, for in a whole ton of earth you will probably get no more than an ounce of gold, and that in such minute particles that one would need a microscope to find them. I have another lady friend who is a fine judge of ores and lives in a beautiful little cottage, with her husband, near some large mines he owns. There is also a lady in Gunnison County who owns and works a large mine and gives it her personal supervision. She has her own home, where she boards the miners and tends them in sickness. My last year has been very profitable in a financial way, and I could have done nothing half so lucrative in any other business. Of course, I have bought my experience dearly, but I have spent a great deal of time in studying the matter up. I own mines in Eagle, Summit and Boulder counties, and to people who understand mining districts they are three of the best counties in Colorado for both silver and gold. Then I own one-fourth of a claim of a group of twenty mines called the Table Group, eleven of which are developed. The deed stands in my name and the mines are in the hands of London and New York firms. In these days when all the professions are studied by ladies, hotels and manufactories run by them, and even a steamboat license obtained by one of our sex, it seems to me that mining is one of the easiest of all these. The wealthiest woman in Colorado, Mrs. Bishop Hill Warren, made her own money, and is now worth \$10,000,000. She made her money on cattle. Ladies are too apathetic, and are bound down by conventionalities, and we are too often kept back by advice from the men of our families, who are always egotistical enough to think they can make enough. The women of Chicago and New York deal in stocks, in wheat, oil and consols, and why not in mining stocks?—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

NURSERY HINTS.

Directions For Mothers Who Believe That Prevention Is Better Than Cure.
In a recent book by Marion Harland, "Common Sense in the Nursery," she attributes much of the babies' sufferings from cold to the placing of the children on the floor to play. She says: "In the best warmed room there is inevitably a current of cooled air close to the floor, in which as baby sits on the carpet his feet are bathed, while his shoulders may overtop it." She considers another prolific source of trouble the holding of the young monarch close to the window, the air in close proximity to the window panes being several degrees cooler than that further in the room, and more or less draughts through the casings of the window can not be prevented. Sudden changes from the room used as a nursery to the halls, or rooms with lower temperature, are another evil, which might be avoided by extra wraps when it is necessary to expose a baby to such a change. Flannel night dresses coming below the feet far enough to allow of being drawn tightly at the hem, forming a bag, without preventing the baby using his feet with perfect freedom, are one of the means to prevent exposure at night. Marion Harland suggests loops on the lower edges of the mattress, and corresponding buttons on the blankets, as a safeguard against exposure to cold in the night. In the daytime have a mattress covered to put on the floor for baby to stretch and roll on, or a box with sides not more than five or six inches high, entirely padded on the inside, and large enough to hold the baby and his toys; this, with a high baby-chair having a table attachment, will prevent hours of suffering, anxiety and toil. One wise mother, whose babies are the pictures of health, bundles them up every day as warmly as though they were to go into the outer air, and they are carried, and allowed to run whom large enough, about a room the windows of which are all open. This allows them to have all the benefit possible from outer air when the weather is so inclement that they could not be taken out of doors. These babies rarely have a cold, and when met out of doors in winter they are a charming sight. Apparently they are clad in such a way as to be perfectly proof against cold. Soft woolen dresses and cloaks, hood tied closely under the chin, warm leggings, thick-soled shoes without heels, and when the snow is on the ground, rubber boots, complete their costume. With red cheeks, shining eyes, and clear, ringing voices, they are the embodiment of health and happy childhood.—Christian Union.



BILIOUSNESS
Is an affection of the Liver, and can be thoroughly cured by that Grand Regulator of the Liver and Biliary Organs, SIMMONS LIVER REGULATOR.
MANUFACTURED BY J. H. ZEILIN & CO., Philadelphia, Pa.
I was afflicted for several years with disordered liver, which resulted in a severe attack of jaundice. I had a good medical attendance as our section affords, who failed utterly to restore me to the enjoyment of my former good health. I then tried the favorite prescription of one of the most renowned physicians of Louisville, Ky., but to no purpose, whereupon I was induced to try Simmonds Liver Regulator. I found immediate benefit from its use, and it ultimately restored me to the full enjoyment of health.
A. H. SHIRLEY, Richmond, Ky.
HEADACHE
Proceeds from a Torpid Liver and Impurities of the Stomach. It can be invariably cured by taking SIMMONS LIVER REGULATOR.
Let all who suffer remember that SICK AND NERVOUS HEADACHES can be prevented by taking a dose as soon as their symptoms indicate the coming of an attack.

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