

[Original.]

Star-smiling.

Methinks that some sweet spirit in yon star
 Looks out even as we gaze, as if it knew
 How, gladdened with the beautiful in view,
 We watched it with keen yearnings from afar,
 Embracing, through the beautiful, the true.
 Faith tutors faith to worship, and the smile
 Of one that loves will waken love in turn,
 And when stars watch us, and with fondness
 burn,
 They do our eyes to kindred fires beguile,
 And warn us into wooing with sweet wile.
 So to a height like theirs at last we climb,
 Insensibly; and who shall stay the flight,
 Wings growing at the shoulders of delight—
 Which, in heart gladness, doth the soul sublime,
 And makes star passages for all our night.
 Thus do we shape the cloud into a car,
 And silver its dark skirts into the glow
 Of the pure crescent moon above the snow,
 Charming it into smiling, till each star
 Looks down as if the moon herself had sunk
 below.

CLAUDE.

Facts about the Gipseys.

The name Gipseys is a corruption of Egyptian of Egypt, from whence they originated. In the fourteenth century a party of one hundred and twenty arrived at Paris. They were probably political exiles; among them was one duke, a count, ten lords, and many women. They represented themselves as Christians expelled by the Saracens. They said that they had confessed to his holiness, Martin V, who had condemned them to a penance of wandering seven years without sleeping in beds, as a punishment for sins committed on the way. These representations were doubtless false.

They professed the art of divination, and people flocked to them in great numbers, but the authorities soon expelled them from the limits of the city, and assigned La Chapelle, near St. Denis, as a residence; but they were finally driven from there by the bishop of Paris, and all persons who had consulted with them were excommunicated.

From this time forth they were driven from city to city, from country to country, yet retaining their organization, all their distinctive habits, and rapidly increasing in numbers, until they became a nuisance throughout Europe.

The Gipseys physiognomy is Asiatic; tawny complexion, black eyes, high cheek bones, small mouth and white teeth; and many of their women are considered beautiful. They are tolerable musicians, some of them having become celebrated violinists. The young people of both sexes are passionately fond of dancing, and exhibit their proficiency for money. Their language has no words to signify God, the soul, or to convey ideas of immortality. In fact, they have no religious belief.

Their whole industry consists in tinkering various kinds of hardware, and in practicing their skill in divination, principally by means of palmistry. Their observations are always made upon the left hand, and with a tolerably well developed system. The elements observed are the thumb,

finger, nails, joints, lines and mountains. There are four principal lines; the line of life, which is the most important, curving between the forefinger and the thumb, around the base of the thumb to the middle of the wrist; if regular and dark-colored, it indicates a long life; if crooked, pale and broken, ill health and short life.

The line of health starts at the base of the forefinger, and passes directly across the hand; if clear and regular, it indicates soundness of mind and body; if tortuous, it reveals a propensity to steal; if interrupted in the middle, it points to great perils.

The line of fortune runs to the base of the little finger, and, according to its various phases, indicates happiness or misery, poverty or riches. The mountains are the various protuberances within the palm, and are called respectively the mount of Venus, mount of Mars, mountain of the Sun or Moon, and so on. Small lines parallel with the line of fortune at the base of the little finger, promise happy marriage. Small lines taking the form of the branches of a tree indicate general prosperity—spots on the nails, the fulfilment of hopes.

The foolishness of all this is perfectly apparent, yet the longing which exists in all minds to penetrate the future, in a measure sanctions and fosters its professions; if the fortunes of its dupes are not manifested, the fortunes of the diviners are sustained.

'UP THE SPOUT.'—This expression, of such familiar use among all classes, especially the soldiers, for a year or two past, is doubtless supposed by most persons to be of modern origin—in fact, to have been originated by one or the other of the parties to the present war. It is curious to note how such sayings take hold of the popular mind. 'Up the Spout,' 'Go Ahead,' 'All Right,' with many others, have become an inseparable part of the daily language of America, if not with the English language at large. But the first named expression may be traced to a period long anterior to the present troubles, though numberless contemporary incidents may have served to intensify its meaning. We find it used once or twice in the works of Dickens, whose knowledge of the familiar language of the masses surpasses that of any other writer. Thus Mr. Samuel Weller, in lamenting the death of the Little Gentleman, in 'Master Humphrey's Clock,' gives vent to his feelings in these words: 'And him as I never could do enough to 'serve or show my likin' for, is up the great universal spout o' natur.'

PAYING FOR THINGS.—One cannot bear to pay for articles, said Charles Lamb, he used to get for nothing. When Adam laid out his first penny for apples at some stall in Mesopotamia, I think it went hard with him, reflecting upon his old goodly orchard, where he had so many for nothing.

Very few practice charity, but almost everybody seems to think he can afford to give it a good word.

ECONOMY IN LINEN WASHING.—A small quantity of pipe clay dissolved in water employed for washing, gives the dirtiest linen the appearance of having been bleached, and cleanse them thoroughly with about one-half of the labor, and a saving of full one-fourth of the soap.

The proper method is to dissolve a little of the pipe clay with the warm water in the washing tub, or to rub a little of it, together with the soap, on the article to be washed. The process should be repeated as often as required, till the articles are thoroughly clean.

The best advantage of employing this article with the soap is that it gives the hardest water almost the softness of rain water. Any person can bring this to the proof by trying it on the hands, when very dirty, and it may be done without any fear of the skin being injured; on the contrary, they will find it much softened by the process.

A Chinese giant, believed to be the largest in the world, and the most amiable man alive, is on exhibition in Hong Kong. He stands about eight feet two or three inches in height, and is proportionately broad. His figure is good, his movement as graceful as is compatible with his extraordinary height, and his manners are reassuring.

Queen Elizabeth was a good Bet, but play monte and you are a better.

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 April 22 †

State of South Carolina.



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
 COLUMBIA, May 8, 1865.
 To the Officers of the Civil Government of the State:

THE cessation of hostilities renders it proper that the Civil Government of the State should be restored without delay, and that the functions of the several departments should be at once resumed. To that end, all officers of the State, whose offices have been kept in Columbia, will with all convenient promptitude return to that place, re-open their offices and resume their proper duties.

By the Governor. **A. G. MAGRATH.**
 Official: **W. S. MULLINS, Lt. Col. and A. D. C.**
 South Carolina newspapers will copy
 once. may 8