

Puss and her Three Kittens.

Our old cat has kittens three;
What do you think their names should be?

One is a tabby with emerald eyes,
And a tail that's long and slender;
But into a temper she quickly flies,

One is a tortoise shell, yellow and black,
With a lot of white about him—
If you tease him at once he sets up his back.

Were there ever kittens with these to compare?
And would the old mother—now what do you think?

Tabitha Longclaws Tidley-wink.
—Thomas Hood.

THE HOUSE CLEANING.

Mr. Walter Ammidon laid his knife and fork down with a gesture of absolute despair.
'Not going to clean house again, Mrs. Benedict? Why, it seems as if we had only just recovered from the dreadful tearing up process of last spring!'

'Dreadful tearing up!—that's perfect nonsense, Mr. Ammidon. As if you were very much inconvenienced last May while the carpets were up and the curtains down and the painting going on.

'I am very glad to see you, Mrs. Baldwin. Didn't you find it very cool this afternoon?'
Then she met his gaze, and hating herself because her heart was throbbing so gladly at sight of him and despising herself because he had thrilled her from head to foot.

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'Bless her pretty blue eyes! Gone to see a sick child; I like that—I like it. What a blessing that it occurred to me to offer myself to such a good hearted, cheerful, tender, fond little woman as she is; and what a miraculous fool I have been not to have done it long ago.

'I think we shall call her this—
I think we shall call her that—
Now, don't you fancy "Pepper-pot"
A nice name for a cat?

'I think we shall call her this—
I think we shall call her that—
Now, don't you fancy "Sootikin"
A nice name for a cat?

'I think we shall call her this—
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FARM, GARDEN AND HOUSEHOLD.

PLOWING.—None but a fertile soil should be turned over very deeply. At this season, this should be well remembered, because there is no time for the weather to mellow the fresh soil.

FERTILIZERS.—For the reasons just mentioned, fertilizers for use on spring crops should be such as are quickly soluble, and readily taken up by the plant.

LIVE STOCK.—One of the most encouraging events of late, has been the opening of an export trade of beef and mutton to England.

RAISING HORSES.—As has always been the case in the past, the increasing use of steam engines makes more work for horses, and horses of the working kind are scarce.

BROOD MARES, if rightly managed, may come in after the spring's work is over, and can raise a colt before the fall work comes on.

YOUNG STOCK.—As the change of feed comes on, care must be exercised in regard to young animals. It is best to turn them out to grass for an hour or two daily, before the pasture becomes full.

SPRING CROPS.—Where the lateness of the season has not permitted the sowing of spring crops, the hints given last month will be applicable.

PLASTER.—A bushel of ground gypsum per acre will be found a very useful application for young clover, or for oats when they are a little above ground.

VEAL CAKE.—This is a pretty, tasty dish for supper or breakfast, and uses up any cold scraps which you may not care to mind.

CLEANING CARPETS.—Take a pail of water, and add to it three gills of ox gall. Rub it into the carpet with a soft brush.

POULTRY.—Take a shill of beef or cold mutton, and roast it in any kind; add the same quantity of grated carrots.

SAFEGUARD AGAINST RATS.—They are accomplished rope walkers, and are able to make their way even along very small cords.

FEED THE TABLE SCRAPS to the chickens instead of throwing them to the pigs. They are worth more to the poultry; and everything that falls from the table—dry crusts, vegetable leavings, cooked meat bits, etc.—is eagerly devoured by old and young fowls.

QUICK WORK.—As a piece of journalistic enterprise the report of the University race in the late editions of the New York papers deserves notice.

INDIAN CORN AS FOOD. At a late meeting of the Paris Academy, M. Fea, of Padua, enlarged on the merits of maize as an article of food.

THE TOWEL. There is something refreshing in the absolute astonishment that visitors to a printing office sometimes display at the commonest things.

Sound Sent by Wire.

Red Cloud and other Sioux chiefs, when referring to a telegraphic message, have always described it as "talking through hollow wire."

There has been, however, a very general misconception in the public mind on this very point. The confusion arises from the circumstance that there are two distinct inventions, each known as a telegraphic message.

It is already obvious that by means of Mr. Gray's telephone ordinary telegraphic messages may be sent in any distant station, and not repeated by the instruments at any other stations on the line.

As things are now, the most confidential communications between distant points may be tapped at any office in the circuit. Doubtless many of our readers who have stopped while waiting for a train, to have a chat with the telegraph clerk at a way station, have heard him mention that his instrument, ticking away in lively style, was repeating a message in which he had no concern.

How She Went to the Fire. An old German woman, says the Indianapolis Sentinel, who came here about a week ago from the land where the Swabians dwell, and who had never seen a steam fire engine, created quite a scene at her abode, on South Delaware street, during a fire.

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EUROPE AS A VAST MILITARY CAMP.

The Annual Cost of Six Great Armies—How Much It Requires to Keep Each Soldier—The Amount Expended upon Naval Armaments—The Situation the Same as in 1748.

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Items of Interest.

When you can-ol a note, you can't sell it. An exchange says to sober a drunken man pour water down the spine of his back.

Some one has estimated that each person on the globe would receive \$2 if all the gold was parcelled out.

A Frenchman said of Shakespeare: You find anything you no understand it is always something fine.

"Button parties" are popular in the West. We don't know whether they derive their name, unless it is because they are always sure to come off.

Recent investigations warrant the assertion that one baby with a cracker biscuit will make the couch of wearied industry more uncomfortable than fifteen prize mosquitoes.

Orders have been given by the Russian government to the manager of the imperial iron foundry at Tula to construct without delay 40,000 iron luts for the accommodation of troops.

Great pecuniary distress prevails in Belgium. Manufacturers have stopped, workmen are out of employment, trade is dull, and the theaters are empty.

A new plan for protecting safes is to inclose them in wire netting, so connected with a battery and bell that the division of any portion of the wire ruptures a circuit, and the bell gives the alarm.

The Missouri Senate has passed a bill offering \$10,000 reward for the discovery of a sure cure for hog cholera.

A Frenchman has discovered that human hair can be transplanted, and bald-headed men can become reasonably hirsute by the process.

Victor Hugo gave on his birthday—February 26th—a dinner party to several intimate friends.

A sensible author says: "Have you enemies? go and mind them not." That is a capital plan (adds the Bridgeport Standard), especially if the enemy is the biggest and is patiently sweating behind the fence with a club to discuss the matter with you.

People generally will be glad to know that charcoal has been discovered to be a sure cure for burns.

Women are going into the insurance business. And when a comely woman enters a man's office, hitches up her chair, places a fair hand on his arm, and begins to talk about policies, he feels as if his life ought to be insured pretty soon.

M. Paul de Chailly in a recent lecture gave a singular evidence of the teachableness of parrots in the wild state in Africa.

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