

GENERAL NEWS.

Charlotte, N. C., pays four dollars per thousand feet for its gas.

A Baltimore capitalist intends establishing a vegetable canning factory in Vicksburg.

One mile from Monroe, Ga., stands a log cabin that was once the home of Gov. Lumpkin.

A goose farm with 500 birds has been established in Talladega county, Ala. Three hundred dollars an acre was paid for fifteen acres of land in Volusia county, Fla., the other day.

A \$15,000 stock of goods is the prize of a shooting match at Meridian, Miss., the chances being held at \$100 a shot.

The Board of Health of Cedar Keys, Fla., has prohibited the sale of oysters from now until the close of the warm season.

There are said to be 2,200 convicts in the Texas penitentiary. Of this number three-fifths are negroes and Mexicans.

Since the railroad has been completed to Annonis, efforts are being made to develop the gold and copper mines of Okechurn county, Ala.

An arrangement is on foot in Augusta, Ga., to have cooking taught in the public schools. Much trouble is experienced with the domestic servants.

A new enterprise, the "South Georgia Real Estate Guide," is now published at Americus, Ga. It is published by W. J. Dibble, who is trying to induce immigration.

Many of the Northern tourists on their way home from Florida carry with them pet alligators. At the Charleston Hotel a waiter is detailed especially to feed and water the alligators.

An English company have purchased 50,000 acres iron lands in East Tennessee. They supply a capital of \$1,000,000, and will erect furnaces at once, giving employment to 200 men.

The past season in Jacksonville, Fla., though rather short, has been the most prosperous in the city's history. A careful investigation shows that 44,167 tourists have visited the city during the past winter.

Gen. Levi Lawlor, of Mobile, and others are forming a company with \$200,000 capital, to establish at an early date a pig iron furnace of 60 tons daily capacity, at Alpine, on the Selma, Rome & Dalton railroad.

Truck farmers of South Georgia are said to be shipping cabbage and realizing from five to seven cents a pound. They make from \$75 to \$100 per acre on them. The seed were sown last summer and the plants set out in the fall.

The killing of sheep by dogs is distressing on the increase throughout Tennessee, where dogs are protected by law and the bloodthirsty shepherds are permitted to roam at pleasure. Tennessee will presently be contesting with Georgia for the prize mad-dog.

Albany, (Ga.) special: Several Texans have been buying up cattle in the wire-grass region around here for several weeks for shipment to Fort Worth, Tex. It is said they have thus far procured about 4,000 head at an average of \$7.50 per head. The rates of shipping will be \$80 per car load.

The Drinks of All Nations.

"Drinks of All Nations" was the subject of President Cotton's lecture before a Boston Temperance meeting. "Britons," he said, "spend annually £140,000,000 in drink, an average of \$19 each. This does not include the sum paid for imported French wines. I have learned that America is now exporting large quantities of whisky to England. If so, God help England. In Russia the common people drink enormous quantities of strong beer. The nobility consume a great amount of brandy. The Government has recently appointed a commission to devise a scheme of national reformation. But one dram shop is to be allowed in each village, and where two villages are in close proximity one shop must do for both. At present 8,000,000 gallons of wine and brandy are annually consumed in Russia. Holland uses drink gin and beer. Germans use beer and wine as beverages. In 1878 official reports show that there were 11,800 breweries in the German speaking countries, turning out 816,000,000 imperial gallons of beer. In Copenhagen the authorities have decided to reduce the 1,300 public houses to eight. No pretty barmaids are to be allowed to serve liquor, and the drunken man must be carried home in a cab at the expense of the last man who sold him beer. The Turks are the only temperate race of all civilized nations. No good Mohammedan touches distilled or malt liquors."

The Old Chart.

A good story is told of Capt. William Poor, who took out the Midas, propeller, to China early in the eighteen hundred and forties. All who knew Poor were sure of his good seamanship, his pluck, and his good intentions. After disposing of the Midas he was appointed to the command of the ship Great Britain, belonging to himself and others. That ship was chartered to Admiral Rigault de Genouilly to take home the crews of the Magicienne and the Capricieuse, frigates which had been lost on some shoal near the coast of China. (Going down the China Sea, the anxious Admiral asked Capt. Poor by what chart he was navigating. Poor opened his chart locker and pulled out a chart of Arrow-smith's dated 1798. The Admiral was astonished and exclaimed, "Mein Gott, Captain, we shall all again be wrecked; I have one late chart showing all the dangers, and I give it to you to sail by." Poor answered, "That is just the worst chart I could sail by; I should never get any rest if I sailed through all these new shoals; whereas by my old chart there is nothing to prevent my getting my natural rest, for it is all plain sailing."

Rich.—For a quarter of a century Mrs. Lydia Maria Child and her husband lived without a servant, in their humble and pleasant home in Weymouth, Mass. Once, relates *Zion's Herald*, when he asked her, "I wish for your sake, dear, I was as rich as Croesus," she responded, "You are Croesus, for you are king of Lydia."

The Pickens Sentinel.

DEVOTED TO POLITICS, MORALITY, EDUCATION AND TO THE GENERAL INTEREST OF THE COUNTRY.

By D. F. BRADLEY & CO.

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

At a recent stenographic exhibition in Paris a postal card was exhibited which bore 41,000 words.

The green three cent stamp will have been in use thirteen years, when the new rate goes into effect next October.

A MURDERER, who was hanged by a mob at Jacksonville, Ill., some time ago, turns out to have been a son of Quantrell, the Missouri guerrilla.

A STORY comes from Canton, China, of a woman who, to punish a female slave who had stolen some food, cut a slice from the girl's thigh and made her cook and eat it.

UNDER a law making vaccination compulsory, there has been very little smallpox in Massachusetts. For this and other reasons the Legislature does not find it expedient to repeal the law.

A MISSISSIPPI man has discovered that an excellent quality of sugar can be made from sweet potatoes. If this proves true a new use has been found for one of the best and most prolific of American products.

[[At Reading, Pa., a disease similar to the pink-eye among horses has broken out among the people. It temporarily destroys the eye-sight, and the trouble lasts about ten days. No permanent injury follows the attack.

In every tobacco factory at Key West there is a "reader." Cubans can not talk without gestulation, and in order to keep them from talking a person is employed to read aloud to the "hands" during working hours.

A WASHINGTON, D. C., man named King, has invented a suicide pellet. They are the size of a capsule, and are flavored to suit any taste. When swallowed by the victim the moisture of the stomach causes them to explode, and the man is blown to atoms.

STATISTICS of crime in even of the largest cities of the United States, and based upon population, show that San Francisco leads in the number of homicides, followed in the order of mention by Cincinnati, Baltimore, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Boston.

JAMES LACK left \$150,000 to establish and maintain free baths in San Francisco. One of the trustees, Dr. Stillman, now proposes to increase the fund by popular subscription to \$250,000, and to erect salt water baths large enough for the accommodation of the whole city.

A MOVEMENT is on foot in New York and elsewhere to raise a fund for the erection of a monument over the grave of Charlotte Cushman, the actress, at Mount Auburn, Boston. The grave is in a lot selected and paid for by Miss Cushman only a few months before her death.

The greatest quantity of stamps ever sent from Washington at one time were shipped on the 23d of April by the Internal Revenue Bureau. They were the rebate tobacco stamps for use after May 1. They weighed fifteen tons, and represented a great many hundred thousands of dollars in value.

AN undertaker in Philadelphia recently advertised for a full bearded man of middle age and of good address, and explained that he wanted him to visit families which death had entered to take instructions regarding the funeral, etc., and that there is something about a bearded man that inspires respect and confidence.

A PRESBYTERIAN clergyman thinks that Shakespeare was a great man but overrated. He contends that the principal characters of "Macbeth" are to be found in the Book of Kings in the Bible, and remarks that Dr. Halsey, in his lecture on "Shakespeare" at Princeton College, stated that Shakespeare's regular practice was to study the Bible seven hours a day.

COR. ROCKWELL is engaged in the task of editing and compiling the speeches delivered by Gen. Garfield during the last year or so of his life, including his utterances at the Chicago Convention, his responses to the numerous delegations that visited him at Mentor, and others delivered at the Williams College Alumni meeting at Cincinnati, and on other occasions after his inauguration.

MRS. JULIA WICKHAM LEIGH, who died in New York City a few days ago, was once a notable woman. She was the widow of Benjamin Watkins Leigh, who was a United States Senator from Virginia from 1835 to 1841, and who died in 1849. She was also the daughter of John Wickham, one of the counsel for the defense in the trial of Aaron Burr for high treason in 1801, and who for many years stood at the head of the Virginia bar.

A COMPANY is forming in the State of Ohio, known as the "Time Telegraph Company," the object of which is to put in business and dwelling houses clocks run and regulated by electricity. It is a branch of a company in New York. The idea is that a subscriber may have placed in his house, for the sum of \$3 per year, a clock that will need no winding or other attention, but will be connected

by wire with a central office, from which every pendulum in the grand system of clocks will be made to swing with one common impulse.

ALEXANDER F. VILLERS, who died at Philadelphia a few days ago, left this odd will, which was drawn up in July last: "My last will and testament: I leave my body to the University of Pennsylvania for dissecting purposes, and wish to be cremated at the same institution. In case I should have any money or property at the time of my death, I leave the whole to the doctor attending me. In case I am cremated, I wish my ashes to be thrown away and not given to or viewed by anybody that had been acquainted with me."

AMONG some of the disadvantages of royalty is the lack of privacy accorded to it, and the royal personages are frequently in the habit of securing this privacy, when on a journey, by traveling incognito. The King and Queen of the Netherlands are now passing through England in this way, and are said to be enjoying themselves like two children let out of school. Though it is perfectly well known who they are, by a convenient fiction this knowledge is not utilized, and even Queen Victoria has given no official recognition of their visit to her dominions.

Soon after the Gunpowder plot was established in its present quarters at Washington a bugger called on professional business. To his amazement he was ushered with elaborate bows and gestures into a luxurious room, where an attaché kindly asked how he might serve him. A collection was then taken for his benefit among the members of the embassy, and he was invited to refresh himself with a lunch of delicate confectios. As a matter of course his singular experience was known to every beggar in town within twenty-four hours, and the legation has been besieged ever since by unpropitious visitors.

A CORRESPONDENT of *The Boston Post*, writing about the remnants of Indian tribes surviving in Massachusetts, says: "It is believed by those who have an opportunity to know, that no Indian of pure aboriginal blood, is now a resident in the commonwealth, they having from time to time intermarried with the whites and those of African descent. Counting all those who have Indian blood in their veins in the State, in the vestiges of tribes remaining, there are to-day not far from 1,000 persons, embraced in 225 families, and it must be borne in mind that the numbers contained in those tribes have been increased for over 200 years. It is a very significant fact that no tribe now existing is increasing numerically in the commonwealth."

How He Was Laid.

It was in a smoking-car on the Hudson river road. A New Yorker was exhibiting an inclination to several gentlemen, when an old farmer, with a settled look of sadness on his face, heaved a sigh and said: "I never see such a thing without wanting to weep."

"Nothing about this invention to weep over, that I can see," replied the inventor.

"Well, it sort of calls up old recollections. Twenty years ago this fall I thought I had a fortune in my grasp. I was rich, I believed I had struck the biggest thing since Adam was brought into use."

"What was it?"

"One day when the old woman was flat down with her lame leg I had to cook my own dinner. After I'd got the pan-batter all fixed up I couldn't find the greased rag the old woman used to rub over the spider. Sort of absent minded like I picked up a piece of raw tripp from the table and used it instead. It worked to a charm; no smell, no smoke, no stick."

He paused here to wipe away a tear, and then continued:

"There was the fortune, I figured that 9,000,000 greased rags were used in this country five months in the year. Fifty thousand barrels of grease were used on greasing spider. Over \$100,000 wasted and gone. One turnip would make six greasers; 1,000 bushels would make enough to supply the country. All that was needed was to cut them up into fancy style, add a handle, and go to the market at 10 cents each."

"That was money in it."

"No, there wasn't. I bought 100 bushels of turnips, \$56 worth of wire, and hired two men to go to work, and then I took a greaser and went over into Vermont to see how it would take; they would not have it. They had something more simple and much cheaper."

"They could it have been?"

"The old man, as a farmer made a break down his nose and was swallowed up in the dust on the floor."—*Wall Street News.*

Buried Alive in a Tunnel.

The Atlanta Constitution says:—An old man named Stephen Shell, living in Campbell County, became impressed with the idea that a rich deposit of gold existed on his place. So strongly did this impression seize him that he became a monomaniac on the subject. Lately, as he was digging in search of the precious stuff, and had delved some fifteen or twenty yards under a hill, when a large rock fell and effectually closed his passage. After vainly attempting to dig himself out of his precarious position, he, in a fit of despair, turned to his family, who had become anxious on account of his prolonged absence, went in search of him, and, discovering him in condition, by great exertion extricated him. The accident has had the effect of curing his hallucination.

MAKING A REPUTATION.

A Scene in a Western Town and What Came of It.

A Western paper tells of a scene that took place in a Texas frontier town, as follows:—As Dusenbery walked into Calahan's Retreat, the "bitutes saw at a glance that something was about to happen, and something did happen; for in about half a minute there entered four of the most ferocious-looking ruffians who had ever been seen in Fort Worth. They came with clanking spurs and fierce beards, two revolvers to each man and a large bowie knife for lagunappe, and they sat down to a table and called for whisky all around. A tremor ran through the assembly. Fort Worth's best citizens were for a moment staggered. But Dusenbery never quailed. On the contrary he almost snorted with joy as he saw his opportunity to make a reputation for courage. These men were strangers, he was backed by a large number of Fort Worth's sharpshooters; yea, he would pick a fuss with them, and henceforth be known as a terror. He had not long to wait. The strangers emptied their glasses, called for more, and then, glancing malignantly around, they launched forth in furious abuse of Texas and Texans, their language being garnished with that profusion and ornamentation of profanity peculiar to the guileless cattle-drover. As they ceased, Dusenbery, having taken in the situation at a glance, arose and advanced toward the strangers. The Fort Worth men put their pistols and snuck back in breathless amazement as Dusenbery marched up to the table at which the strangers sat. His flashing eyes, his heaving breast, his five feet of towering form reduced the spectators to speechlessness. Even the strangers paused and seemed impressed.

"Gentlemen," said Dusenbery, diving into his trousers and bringing up an ancient silver watch, "you have wounded the finest feelings of my nature in your remarks about Texas, and you must retract them, or—b—but never mind. I give you five minutes to retract it. Five minutes to secure your safe return to home and friends. Five minutes to avoid a grave upon the lonesome plains. Five minutes."

An awful silence fell upon the crowd. The blood curdled in the vein of every Fort Worthian present. What! had they been treating this fire-eating Terror with scarcely veiled contempt? Had they been absolutely courting death for years? But just then one of the strangers recovered his power of speech and said: "Why, stranger, if you feel that way about it, of course we'll cut it short. We didn't mean it for you or any of your friends, but was just talking on loose like."

And with that they all got up and slunk out, their six-shooters flopping feebly against their hips, and their spurs looking drooped and weedy as they went. With the closing of the door, Dusenbery's eye roved in its socket. The excitement which had thus far held him up gave way, and he collapsed, a flabby little heap upon the floor. The assembled citizens crowded round him, eager to offer attention to the hero of the hour, and at last he was rehabilitated sufficiently to admit of his being sent home in charge of a special and confidential friend.

"Why, Dusenbery, my boy, you took us all by surprise. We never thought you were a fighter."

"Didn't you?"

"No. Why, don't you know those are four of the worst men in the cattle business? And we expected every minute to see them go to shooting. Were you armed?"

"Well, I had a pistol for show, but I don't believe in using it, and I couldn't have fired it, anyhow."

"Gentlemen, man, suppose they had refused to retract, what on earth would you have done?"

Dusenbery stopped, looked all around to see if any one were passing, pulled his friend's ear close down to his lips, and whispered:

"I'd have extended the time."—*New Orleans Times.*

Silver-Gray Foxes.

A communication in the *Rutland (Vt.) Herald* says: "In a recent issue I notice an item referring to a silver-gray fox that has lately been killed in this vicinity. It is a general belief that this fox is a distinct species from the red fox, but this belief is wrong. The silver-gray fox belongs to the ordinary red fox family, and its color is simply a freak of nature, which, however, occurs more frequently in wooded districts than in the settled portions of the country. I have often been informed by Northern trappers that where the dam or she-fox was silver-gray or black her offspring were invariably red in color, and I have known but one instance where more than one silver-gray fox has been found among a litter of young foxes. One of them was presented to me by the trapper who found it. I sent this fox to a relative of mine in Sheldon, where he remained until two years of age and was one of the most beautiful animals I ever saw. He was afterward purchased by an agent of Lord Edglington and if alive is now in the nobleman's park in Scotland. Where the ends of the majority of the long hairs of this fox are tipped with white it is called silver-gray, but if the hairs are tipped with black it is then known as a black fox. I once saw a lot of several dozen of these skins that were of all shades from nearly white to jet black. Mr. E. W. Geer, of Sheldon, some years ago killed a very fine colored black fox, which was purchased by a Hudson Bay agent. The more inferior grades of these colored foxes are known as bastards, and the next grade above, cross foxes."

He Gracefully Accepted.

"I assure you, gentlemen," said the convict upon entering the prison, "that the place has suited me, and not I the place. My own affairs really demand all my time and attention, and I may truly say that my selection to fill this position was an entire surprise. Had I consulted my own interests, I should have peremptorily declined to serve, but, as I am in the hands of my friends, I see no other course than to submit." And he submitted.

SPOTTING THE SPOTTERS.

The Secret Means by Which Railroad Detectives are Found Out.

"The present system of spotting is a pretty clever way of heading off dishonest porters," said the reporter to a sleeping car porter who was brushing him. "I presume it works like a charm."

"Oh, certainly it works like a charm. That is, it costs the company thousands of dollars were it saves the company thousands of cents. We just sit still and let these fellows get on to us—we do," and the sleek malatto chuckled audibly as he again applied the brush to the reportorial overcoat. "Every spotter is known to us at the moment he sets his foot upon the platform, and it is his opportunity to do any spotting. We tumble to him in a minute, and if any stealing took place ordinarily, it would certainly stop short while the spotter was in sight."

"Do the porters stand in with the conductors?"

"The porter is the dishonest conductor's best bowler. If it were not for us the spotter system would be, to some extent, a success."

"How do you help the conductor?"

"Why, we spot the spotters, so to speak. We have a way of marking every mother's son of them, and that is how I know that that man I pointed out to you is a detective. I shined his boots awhile ago and discovered who he was. I've got his boots in here now, and if you will come in I'll show you one of them and you can easily guess how I know him to be a spotter."

The porter led the way to one of the apartments of the car, and picking up one of the boots held the sole uppermost, showing three X's cut on the heel of the boot.

"That's the way we size 'em up," said the porter with a triumphant smile. "It was a close call, and if I hadn't shined his boots he might have gone through unobserved. Of course everything would have been all right, anyway, for my conductor is a square man, but I like to be on these fellows who pry into our business. It's a cold day when they get ahead of the conductors and porters, I can tell you."

"What do these three X's cut on the heel of the boot mean?"

"Why, that's just the point. It is a private mark by which I recognized the man as a spotter. He was probably marked some time ago, and he has been wearing these boots around just the same, never dreaming that he was giving himself away right along. It could not be plainer if he wore a star bearing the word 'spotter.'"

"How do you find out these men to start with?"

"That's easy enough. Do you think we have no friends at all to tell us about these things? Well, we have, in the company and outside, too. For instance, a spotter gets on at St. Louis, or Chicago, or Kansas City, or New York. Somebody goes to the conductor and says 'You've got a spotter on board to-night, watch out for him.' A description is furnished and I go in, and in blacking his boots mark one of the soles with my three X's. That ends his usefulness as a detective until he buys a new pair of boots or shoes. That is one way to get on to them, but there are others. A conductor sometimes receives a note something like this: 'A spotter will out with you to-night. He is a tall man, with sandy moustache and well dressed. Yours, J—.' The writer is sometimes an employee of the company, and stands in with the men. This is not often the case, but, at any rate, we don't have much trouble in turning to the detectives."—*Kansas City Times.*

DRINK OR FIGHT.

An Anecdote about Ole Bull.

Going down the Mississippi, Ole Bull met on the steambath a party of half-savage men, colonists from the far West. While reading his newspaper he was accosted by one of the men, who had been so long speaking with his companions, with the request that the fiddler would take a drink with them, offering him a whisky flask at the same time.

"Thank you," said Ole Bull, "but I never drink whisky."

With a curse the fellow asked him if he was a tee-totaler.

"No, but whisky is like poison to me."

"If you can't drink, come and fight with me."

The man's comrades had gathered round him meantime, and they all cried: "If you won't drink, you must fight. You look darn strong; show us what you are good for."

"A Norseman can fight as well as anybody when his blood is up, but I can't fight when my blood is cold, and why should I?"

"You look like a strong fellow, and I don't think you will flinch," said Ole Bull.

"No, I won't flinch," Ole Bull quietly said: "Since you insist on testing my strength, and there is no reason for fighting, I will tell you what I will do. Let any one of you take hold of me in any way he likes, and I'll wager that in half a minute he shall lie on his back at my feet."

A big fellow was chosen, who stepped forward and grasped the fiddler round the waist, but was instantly thrown over his head by a sudden wrench, and lay senseless on the deck. Ole Bull now felt himself in a very uncomfortable position, for he saw one of the man's comrades draw a bowie knife, and was relieved when it was used only to open a can. A good dose of its contents poured down his throat soon revived the fainting man, and his question:

"How the deuce was I thrown down here?" was answered by a shout of laughter from his companions in which he himself joined. He sprang to his feet, and after vainly trying to persuade Ole Bull to show him how he had thrown him, he said:

"Take this knife home with you; you fight darn well; you are as quick as lightning."

FOR THE SCRAP BOOK.

The First Appearance of the Notable Inventions of the Country.

Envelopes were first used in 1839. Asesopias was discovered in 1844. The first steel pen was made in 1839. The first air pump was made in 1654. The first lucifer match was made in 1798.

Mohammed was born at Mecca about 570. The first iron steamship was built in 1830.

The first balloon ascent was made in 1783. Coaches were first used in England in 1569.

The first steel plate was discovered in 1830. The first horse railroad was built in 1826-27. The first steamboat arrived in England in 1824.

The first steamboat plied the Hudson in 1807. The entire Hebrew Bible was printed in 1488.

Ships were first "copper bottomed" in 1783. Gold was first discovered in California in 1848.

The first telescope was used in England in 1608. Christianity was introduced into Japan in 1549.

The first watches were made at Nuremberg in 1477. First saw maker's saw brought to America in 1819.

First almanac printed by Geo. Von Bruch in 1490. The first newspaper advertisement appeared in 1652.

Perussion arms were used in the U. S. Army in 1830. The first use of a locomotive in this country was in 1829.

Ombrellas were first introduced in New York in 1830. Kerosene was first used for lighting purposes in 1826.

The first copper cent was coined in New Haven in 1687. The first glass factory in the United States was built in 1780.

The first printing press in the United States was worked in 1620. Glass windows were first introduced into England in the eighth century.

The first steam engine on this continent was brought from England in 1763. The first complete sewing machine was patented by Elias Howe, Jr., in 1816.

The first society for the promotion of Christian Knowledge was organized in 1698. The first attempt to manufacture pins in this country was made soon after the war of 1812.

The first prayer book of Edward VI. came into use by authority of Parliament on Whit Sunday, 1549.

The first temperance society in this country was organized in Saratoga County, New York, in March, 1808.

The first coach in Scotland was brought thither in 1561, when Queen Mary came from France. It belonged to Alexander Leitch of Scotland.

The first daily newspaper appeared in 1702. The first newspaper printed in the United States was published in Boston on Sept. 25, 1790.

The manufacture of porcelain was introduced into the province of Hezin, Japan, from China in 1513, and Hezin ware still bears Chinese marks.

The first society for the exclusive purpose of circulating the Bible was organized in 1805, under the name of the British and Foreign Bible Society. The first telegraphic instrument was successfully operated by S. F. B. Morse, the inventor, in 1835, though its utility was not demonstrated to the world until 1842.

The first Union flag was unfurled on the 1st of January, 1776, over the camp at Cambridge. It had thirteen stripes of white and red, and retained the English cross in one corner.

When Capt. Cook first visited Tahiti the natives were using nails of wood, bone, shell, and stone. When they saw iron nails they fancied them to be shoots of some very hard wood, and desirous of securing such a valuable commodity, they planted them in their gardens.

How Some Women Sleep.

"How do you sleep?" asked the doctor of my friend.

"Splendidly," she replied; "nine or ten hours without a dream; but when I awake I have a dreadful headache."

"What is your bedroom like?"

"I have seen this prettiest of imaginable nests, and I clipped it with a description of it. Nothing could be more beautiful about the ventilation, I declared, for the windows were high and broad, and were left open over night. The bedstead was carved all over in solid rosewood; the mattress was filled with freshly-curled hair and rested on springs; the linen was of the whitest and finest; the blankets were a gift from Captain Air, who the softest and warmest are made. The recollection of the down pillows threw me into rapturous praise of the undressed silk of which their coverings were made, and their elaborate embroidery."

"Hold on!" interrupted the doctor; "you are not writing a fashionable letter just now. Have you ever seen Laura when in this wonderfully beautiful bed?"

"Yes, only yesterday morning."

"Where was her nose?"

"Let me see. Oh yes; it was under the blankets."

"I always sleep that way," said Laura. "I cover my head when I get into bed, and it stays so all night."

"Probably that causes all your trouble," said the doctor. "You manage to ventilate your room properly, and then manage to breathe vitiated air eight or ten hours every night. Stop it. Sleep with your head uncovered for a week, and then let me know how you feel."

She followed his advice, and at the end of the week felt first-rate.

It's rather embarrassing for a shop-keeper to be obliged to bluff a tax assessor on the valuation of his stock, and on being burned out that night have to face this same man as chairman of an under-writers' committee on valuation.

SCRAPS OF SCIENCE.

CONSIDERING the cause of London fog, it is now suggested that they are largely due to the burning of sulphur, 200 tons of this substance being daily burned in London.

It has been found necessary to begin the formation of a new canal through the Mount Cenis Tunnel on the French side. The former entrance showed dangerous signs of sinking.

M. Boveret has found that the juice of the fig tree contains a powerful ferment, capable of digesting albuminoid matters as