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BY CLINKSCALES & LANGSTON:

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PIANOS AND ORGANS

GRAND SUMMER SALE

For August, September and October.

Buy Now and Pay when Cotton is Sold. SPOT CASH PRICES, and just a little cash down to bind the bargain. Only a little. See?

J. L. HAYNE & DAUGHTER, 88 Westfield Street, GREENVILLE, S. C. Aug 1, 1889.

TEACHERS' COLUMN.

HOW TO TEACH LANGUAGE.

I never saw a "grammar" studied in an ideal manner but once: A well educated young man came to ask advice of me as to what he had better turn his hand to, to get a living. He had helped edit a paper, had written stories, for which he had been well remunerated, and yet had never studied grammar. Having lost his position as clerk in a commission house, he wished to make use of his literary attainments in some work more agreeable to his literary tastes. I advised him to take a country school and follow up the profession of teaching. He protested that he could not pass a written examination in grammar, as he had never studied it. I lent him a grammar, and told him he might sit in my school room, as a visitor, for one week and read the book, and I would converse with him on any of the topics he did not understand. He read several hours per day until the book was carefully read through, when he said, in a laconic way, "I see nothing in that which wants explanation." I questioned him, and found he was ready at every point.

From this instance and similar ones, I conclude that grammar is a science which needs more of mature mind and less of cramming, for comprehension. "Language" seems nothing more nor less to me than an affection to dodge the word "Literature." The best results I have ever had in language were results I did not seek.

Language for language's sake means nothing more nor less than trying to get children to say something for the sake of talking, rather than to say something because they have something to say. It seems to me that life is altogether too precious to waste very much on the "how" a thing is done. The point is, "what" is done, and not the "how." When children read to get a "point" instead of a "manner," they will get the manner and the point too. It is far more important that they should have the idea than that they should express it. It is far better to express a large idea, even badly, than to express a small idea. "The horse runs." Well, what if it does? What has that to do with building up a child's aspirations to be or to do? "The farmer sows his seed." "He passed on her way singing the songs of former years." "I hope they will accept this proposition." "He will return very soon." All well-made sentences from Wells' grammar. But what have such sentences to do with the development of a child's interest in the great humanity that lies about him? Grammar, and language, too, as taught to young children who are to go out and do hard work in the world, is all bush and an imposition, except as it involves that sort of thought which is to make up a child's imagination so that he may see and love the beautiful and the good; or, the thought which shall call forth his reasoning powers concerning the important things with which he must grapple; or, the thought which shall set him on the search for the wonders in nature.

Here is a sentence from an essay which one of my pupils, at the Jones School, wrote for me:

"By hearing something read from the book called Puss and I, I learned how to entertain myself when alone, by looking into the sky and imagining myself building castles in Spain, and I learned something that I never knew before, for when I went out and looked up into the sky I saw clouds (as green as grass) the color of Paris Green, and the sun was just setting and the reflection of the sun's rays on the clouds made them look like gold."

I hold that it is far more important that the girl has learned to "entertain" herself by observing the colors in the sky, than that she should have expressed the thought correctly.

"I am inclined to believe I like the Golden Age somewhat better for mythical knowledge."

"Mythology knowledge" is certainly better than a fine sentence not having any "Golden Age" back of it. That the child can compare "Golden Age" with "Wonder Book," as a better source of certain phrases of "mythology knowledge" speaks more for the quality of her thought than any number of well made, detached sentences having no relation to each other. In those few words she has handled two well written classics.

"It was very much interested in 'The Sad Little Prince' because it teaches us that we are not so unhappy but there are some one to sympathize."

This sentence would surely be much "unhappier" if it came from the dry bones of "language," instead of an aroused sympathy.

"Hortonia is my favorite author."

The boy who wrote this sentence has read one volume of Hawthorne's works and several volumes by other authors. He has made a choice. It is worth a great deal to a boy to have an idea of selecting a favorite. He who has "Hortonia" for a favorite is on the royal highway to good "language."

"I had \$40 to spend for books to be a boy and girl off in the country I should buy Boots and Saddles, Puss and I, Music and the musician, the Wonder Book, Birds and Bees, Geography, Physiology, Life of Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Great Mountain Boy, Knott of Lyptonfield, The Sad Little Prince, and Twilight thought."

This little girl is twelve years old, and the books she has learned to care for she has come into a knowledge of at school. Her sentence was written with the intention of giving me some information in regard to her taste. It is full of mistakes, but there is no mistake in the thought that underlies the sentence. She has a clear conception of what she would like to share with a boy or girl off in the country.

"I was to leave school I would buy books and finish education myself."

This boy should wish to continue "educating" himself after he leaves

TEACHERS' COLUMN.

school, and should know how to do it, is far more important than that he should leave school beautifully "finished."

The object of all "language" work, and of all school work, as far as I know anything of it, is growth--a growing into the love of whatever is kindly and beautiful. When children care to be kindly and unselfish, their phrases of speech will soon correspond with the dignity of their thought. The thought badly expressed, will soon seek to rid itself. The child will naturally try to clothe his good thought in appropriate dress. A good thought badly clad will seem rude to him. If the thought is taken care of the "language" will soon take care of itself. Mary E. Bart, in Illinois School Journal.

Honor the "Rebel."

The following is the letter of Capt. W. E. Earle in response to the invitation from the Butler Guards, of this city, to attend their annual picnic at Farr's Mills:

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 20, 1889.

Gentlemen: I desire to thank you very sincerely for your kindly remembrance and consideration of me as manifested by your courteous invitation to spend the 25th inst. with you at Farr's Mills. I greatly wish that I could accept and I would gladly make it the occasion of a visit to my family and friends, but my ill health forbids.

You young men of the present Butler Guards carry with your name a weighty responsibility, for on your shoulders rests the obligation of maintaining the character, honor and esprit de corps of the command that was trained by Henry Lee Thurston and to the death followed Hoke, Fallam, Powell, Cagle and Isaacs. How well I remember the pride and admiration with which I looked upon those dry, ragged rebels as they passed through Charleston in July, 1863, after bloody Gettysburg, in which all but six were struck, and on their way to average their dead at Chickamauga. Never before had I seen a regiment so well equipped. Lee, Hamilton, Knox, Pinkney, Martin, Sumpter would have been rebels if they had fallen, but they succeeded and were "patriots." Successful revolutionaries are "patriots" unsuccessful ones "rebels," but success and failure are not the criterion or standards of right and wrong. It is the faithful and honest discharge of duty which makes success and failure alike honorable and the Confederates have made "rebel" a title of distinction and of honor among men. The Confederate who saw his duty and went for it without a hitch, should not only not blush at the title of "rebel," but should justly elevate his men with conscious pride of right. Look at the facts: wholly without manufacturing facilities and our ports blockaded, eleven States with less than one-third of the population and less than one-fourth the material resources of the rest of the Union, we upheld the unequal contest for four long, weary years. It cost a debt of twenty thousand, seven hundred and fifty-seven million dollars and an army of twelve hundred and sixty thousand men to put down our rebellion. We yielded only when we were exhausted, and there are more names on the pension list of the Union than there ever were on the muster rolls of those who fought under the "Bonny Blue Flag." Does that not prove that we fought because of our conviction of right and that we had the courage of our convictions? Think of this: The First Regiment of Riders (Or's Regiment) from Pickens, Anderson and Abbeville, lost by death eighty-one per cent. of its entire enlistment. The 26th N. C. (Vance's Regiment) just from the other side of the same mountains, lost eighty-three per cent. Such valor is unheard of in the annals since the invention of gunpowder. I have met thousands of men who fought against us, but never one who did not admire our bravery and courage. Let us never fail to respect ourselves. The war is over and with all the incidents and vicissitudes of disaster and defeat, it is better for us that we are again a homogeneous part of this great Republic than every judge of human nature knows that are better citizens because we were true to our sense of duty and of right during that most trying period.

I wish you all a good time at Farr's Mills, and think I can't be with you, I shall think of you pleasantly on the 25th.

With highest sentiments of esteem and regard, I am, yours sincerely,

W. E. EARLE, Lieut. W. C. Beacham and others, Committee of Invitation of Butler Guards.

A Portuguese doctor asserts that he has cured seven cases of hydrophobia by rubbing garlic into the wound and giving the patient a decoction of garlic to drink for several days.

—Georgia Legislature will soon have a bill before it to pension a colored man, Bill Pickett, who was severely wounded during the war. He was born free and went into Confederate service and was always on hand when there was a fight until a portion of his head was carried away with a piece of shell. The negroes will give him neither help nor sympathy. He ought to have the pension.

An man who has practiced medicine for 40 years, ought to know salt from sugar; read what he says.

TORRENO, O., Jan. 10, 1887.

MESSRS. F. J. CHENEY & CO.—Gentlemen: I have been in the general practice of medicine for most 40 years, and would say that in all my practice and experience, have never seen a preparation that I could prescribe with as much confidence of success as I can Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by you. Have prescribed it a great many times and its effect is wonderful, and would say in conclusion that I have yet to find a case of Catarrh that it would not cure, if they would take it according to directions.

Yours truly,

L. L. GORBUCH, M. D. ORO, 215 Summit St.

We will give \$100 for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured with Hall's Catarrh Cure. Taken internally.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props., Toledo, Ohio.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Bill Arrp and His Friends Discuss Old-Time Lawyers.

Atlanta Constitution.

It was a goodly company and we philosophized and criticized and told anecdotes till the small warm hours of midnight. Judge Maddox was there and our prescholar, and that is proof enough that our conduct and conversation was genial and becoming. I recall that we were discussing the tricks and stratagies by which lawyers so often acquit the guilty and the judge remarked: "And that reminds me of Judge Underwood's charge to the jury in a criminal case of some importance and which had been preceded by several cases in which the defendants had been acquitted. The judge's charity for the infirmities of human nature were exhausted, and just as soon as the argument was closed he leaned forward to the jury and said: 'Yes, gentlemen, you have heard the counsel for this prisoner repeat that old third bare, worn out, scraw of an admonition that it is better that ninety-nine guilty persons should escape rather than one innocent man should suffer, and he said that the good book says so. I charge you, gentlemen, that the good book says no such thing. The good book says that the angels rejoice more over the repentance of one sinner than over ninety-nine who need no repentance, and that is all the ninety-nine there is in it. Nevertheless, gentlemen of the jury, there is such a maxim, and I charge you that ninety-nine guilty persons have already escaped, or are escaping, and the court has no recollection of an innocent man having suffered, nor is such a one in any danger in this tribunal. But I charge you, gentlemen, that the innocent are in danger from the guilty ninety-nine who have escaped and that danger is increasing every day. The maxim of the law used to be that when a man was acquitted that it was a presumption of his innocence, but nowadays it is a reasonable presumption of his guilt, and this court cannot restrain a desire to pass sentence on many a man who is not found guilty. The court cannot help it.'"

"In due time the jury returned with a verdict of not guilty, and the judge remarked: 'Well, that forecloses the mortgage, and makes an even hundred who have escaped. Hereafter I shall rule that the maxim does not apply in the case of a man who is not found guilty. Judge Underwood's shorthrift of crime and criminals was so great that he was called the partner of the solicitor, and the lawyers had to fight one as hard as the other, and when they succeeded in clearing a fellow they would jokingly say to him during recess or at night at the hotel: 'Well, judge, you lost another case to day.' He took this badinage most kindly, and would say, 'Yes, gentlemen, I lost another case, for it seems that the devil reigneth in this part of the country.' 'And the Lord said unto Satan whence cometh thou?' And Satan said, 'from going to and fro on the earth, and walking up and down in it.' And if he were to answer now he would add, 'And I spent to-day in the courthouse at Dallas, and harvested among the lawyers.'"

The first time he ever held Court in Harrison county he was not aware of the sparsity of the colored people in that region, for it was remote from railroads, and the corruptions of civilization. And when a negro man and his wife were arraigned before him for petty larceny and were convicted, the judge said: "Well, I will dispose of these parties right now. These few persons of color seem to have now taken a notion that the Almighty made a mistake when he said, 'by the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat bread,' and they have quit sweating and gone stealing for a living. The negroes are to stealing and pilfering everywhere. If you have one to work in your field he steals your corn and your pigs, and your chickens and your ax. He does not go the ax to cut wood with, but to go 'possum hunting and coon hunting and cut down a tree. I have known him to steal a gun to go rabbit hunting with. The cook steals flour and lard and sugar, and the washerwoman steals your clothes. I am going to make an honest effort to stop their trade wherever I preside, and so I will send this man and this woman at hard labor in the chain gang for two years. I'll stop their pilfering in Harrison county if I have to deplete it of its color." Now, Merrill had defended the darkeys without fear or reward, but in the vain hope that if he cleared them he would make them work it out in his cotton patch. And so he rose forward, and with great gravity said: "Allow me to congratulate your honor on the premature success of your honor's determination, for these are the only two darkeys in Harrison county."

Bob, Fouché was employed to see old Father Bigelow for a lot of land. During the trial he introduced a witness to prove that Bigelow was a common squatter, and claimed every lot that had no settler upon it. Bigelow is a very ancient inhabitant, and as he is lean, bony and vigorous as he was half a century ago. His age has been guessed at from 90 to 150, and still anno domini makes no impression upon him. Fouché thought it envelops the monotony of the case to get up an issue about his mysterious advent into the world, and so he asked the witness if he knew how old Bigelow was. The witness wanted to be facetious and replied: "No, sir, I don't know for certain, but when I was a young man I heard the old settlers say that when they came here in 1839 they found Bigelow sitting on a rock by the big spring, and he was claimin' all the land, and some folks say he came along with De Soto's band and dropped out of the gaug in this neighborhood. I don't know about that, but I do know that about thirty-five years ago he burnt a coal kiln on this lot."

Underwood did not rise to object, but let him rattle along, and when his time came to introduce evidence, he quietly remarked that he had no occasion to do so, for his brother Fouché had very

BEN TILLMAN AT HOME.

Something About Highview Vineyard and Dairy.

E. B. Hook, in *Argilla Chronicle*.

Ten acres; five thousand vines, expense \$400; crop, 50,000 pounds of grapes.

In a nutshell that is the result of an experiment which Mr. Benjamin R. Tillman is making in grape culture at his home in Edgefield County, S. C.

Learning that grapes were now ripe in his vineyard, I drove over to Mr. Tillman's place on Thursday, and spent the day looking around. It is thirteen miles from Augusta on the old stage road through Edgefield County, near to Highview Presbyterian church, from which its vineyard and home take the name—Highview.

Mr. Tillman is a large landowner and planter. At Ninety-Six he has 1,100 acres of land, runs 120 head of live stock, 100 head of sheep. At Highview he owns 700 acres, of which 400 acres are cleared land, and rents 500 acres besides. At Highview he has 200 acres of cotton, 120 of corn, besides fields of oats, barley, peas, sorghum, potatoes and other standard crops. He also raises annually 50 head of hogs, which average 150 pounds when killed. He has a fine peach orchard and a garden which supplies everybody on the plantation with vegetables. His vineyard and dairy complete the list.

"My place is divided into three branches, you see; my farm, my vineyard and my dairy." Mr. Tillman said to me when we first began to talk. "That night I said to you: 'How have you told me all about your vineyard and your dairy; how about that third branch—what have you in your corn and cotton department?'"

"Vexation, tribulation and damnation little profit," was the emphatic and feeling response. With the simple statement, therefore, that he makes all he needs to live on, and doesn't have to buy everything he uses on the plantation, I will leave this department and give special notice to the vineyard and dairy.

When he goes into anything Mr. Tillman goes in earnest. It is probable that there are some prominent men in Carolina who are prepared to admit this. So when he became, from careful investigation, convinced that there was money in grape culture he ordered that some 5,000 vines. The great bulk of these are set out on nine acres, which crown a high hill by the roadside, whose splendid elevation is one justifies the title—"Highview Vineyard." Near the house, and on opposite sides of it are two small vineyards—one of wide grapes, the Clinton, and the other an experiment station containing sixty-two different varieties.

In this little vineyard Mr. Tillman plants one or more vines of a kind to test its adaptability to the climate and soil, its fruitfulness and flavor. Satisfied of the value of a variety, he plants as many as are desired in his main vineyard. He started setting out his vineyard in March, 1887, and this is his first harvest. He has made his first shipment to New York, where he will go for his market, but has not yet gotten returns of the sales. In a monetary point of view, therefore, the result is not yet determined. But Mr. Tillman has already established some facts in reference to grape culture that are sufficiently satisfactory to induce him to double his acreage.

"I have charged every bit of work of all kinds that has been done in the vineyard against it," said Mr. Tillman, "and including the rent of the land it has cost up to date \$400. At two cents a pound it would be a profitable crop. After the first expense of buying the vines and posts, and establishing the vineyard, its annual cultivation will cost no more than an equal acreage of cotton. A fair crop is 4,000 pounds to the acre; at five cents a pound this would be \$200. The same land with the same labor and expense would bring in cotton half a bale, or \$25.

"I find, further, that intelligent negroes, with my supervision and instructions, are able to do all the work of pruning, picking, packing and all that is to be done. This relieves the problem of labor, and places grape culture on a footing with the other crops."

"Of course," said Mr. Tillman, "this thing is yet in the domain of experiment and until I find out how the grapes will sell in New York I cannot give any practical monetary results. I have established the fact, however, that they can be cultivated as perfectly in Edgefield as elsewhere, and that the difference in latitude and altitude in my favor will make me the same grapes, ready for shipment, about ten days earlier than they ripen in the vineyards at Greenville. I don't see anything in the experiment as yet that justifies any extravagant calculations, but if my sales are reasonable satisfactory to New York I shall feel justified in doubling my present acreage, and making a specialty of my vineyard and dairy to the gradual exclusion of other crops, except enough to furnish work for my hands all the time."

One who has never been in a large vineyard has no idea of the ravishing beauty of the picture and the rich perfume which pervades the atmosphere for hundreds of yards around. As I approached the place at sunrise Thursday morning, an entire stranger in the locality, I knew I had reached my destination long before the house came in sight by the delightful fragrance of the grapes wafted from the distant hilltop to the public road below. The vines are trained on two wires stretched between posts like a wire fence. These rows are hundreds of yards long and about ten feet apart. Beneath the luxuriant foliage of the vines the luscious fruit hangs in glorious clusters of pink, white, red, blue and black; the Delawares, Jonae, Live, Concord, Brightens, Lady Washingtons, Clinton, Perkins, Merrimacs, Goethes and Norton's varieties mingling their rich colors and viewing with each other in luxuriance, beauty, fragrance and the delicacy of their "bouquet." One can wander for hours through the sweet-scented avenues and not tire of the beauty and fragrance of the scene.

Though widely dissimilar in character, the dairy business is not less attractive

THE ANTI-SLAVERY VINEYARD.

Revival of a Curious Method of Disposing of the Dead.

A new method of disposing of the dead is now advocated, and an organization has been formed to put it into practice.

Nine out of every ten people have a horror of being buried in the earth, but not one of the nine has the courage to give directions that he be cremated. The new system proposes to dispose of the dead bodies by desiccation, which, in plain English, means to dry them out like so much dried beef.

The plan is not a new one for its means, for it is a known fact that the Tartars and Colchians practiced this method in primitive style centuries ago. Their way was to hang their dead up in trees and leave them there to be dried by the air and sun. The advocates of the new method propose to erect large buildings to carry out their plan of desiccation. These buildings are to be divided into many rooms of different sizes. In each of these rooms will be built sepulchres of concrete large enough to admit the body of any ordinary sized individual. There will be two openings in these sepulchres or box-like arrangements. This will be concluded with a system of conduits, each sepulchre, however, having a separate conduit.

The body will be placed in the sepulchre in an open lattice work casket, and through one conduit will be forced hot dry air. This air, it is claimed, will circulate around the body, accumulate a certain portion of liquid and gases from the corpse and pass through the rear conduit down to a furnace, where it will be purified once more by fire.

It is claimed that this dry air has a greater affinity for moisture than a sponge has for water, and that all the moisture will gradually be drawn from the body and leave it in a sort of a dried apple state. This will take about four or five months, and then the sepulchre will be hermetically sealed and the body will remain in its dried up state forever. The projectors of this scheme say they have for precedents the doings of the Tartars and Colchians in olden times, already referred to. Also, they assert that in the Western part of this continent, where the air is extremely rare and dry, men can be hung up and dried in the hot sun without fear of putrefaction. They claim that a human body can be dried the same as a pear or an apple. The ancient Peruvians, the Dooshahs of India and the Auto aborigines in Japan also practice desiccation. In the well-known catacombs of the Capuchin monks, near Palermo, the bodies are dried first in an oven and are then hung up in niches.

It is said that the desiccated body of a Sicilian sovereign, who had lain in his tomb for over four hundred years, was found upon inspection a short time ago to be as good as new. But all these attempts at desiccation were rude, and it is now proposed to bring scientific principles into play.

It will be remembered that the body of the renowned explorer, Livingston, who died in Africa, was desiccated by the natives of that country before removal to England.

This method of disposing of the dead seems to be very feasible. It would certainly be more pleasant, if such a thing could be, than being lowered into a hole six feet deep. The general health of every one would be improved, for it is known that the burying of dead bodies in the earth is a menace to the health of those living in the vicinity of a burying ground.

Another important matter in connection with the desiccation method is that the features of the dried corpse preserve a life-like appearance that is remarkable. Should any question arise in the courts as to the identity of a dead man a visit could be paid to the sepulchre and all doubts be set at rest in a way that would admit of no dispute.

Eight months ago experiments were made on a man weighing 165 pounds. At the present time it is said that the body is perfectly desiccated. The skin has become hard, feeling like leather to the touch.

Another thing which will tend to make the system popular is that there can be no chance of being buried alive.

There could be no grave robbing under the new system either. It is eminently sanitary, for all the gases are conveyed to a furnace and made innocuous.

It appears to be very rational, clean and rather a pleasant system of burial, and it is said it will soon be put into practice.

An Appeal for Wives.

BOSTON, August 1.—A novel appeal for wives was received to day by Mayor Hart from W. A. Wheelright, Mayor of Tecumseh, Washington. The writer says that the Territory of Washington, and the city of Tacoma in particular, are filled with sober, industrious and enterprising men, mostly young, who are desirous of marrying.

The letter says that there are about ten men to every woman in the Territory and is followed by a resolve "That the Mayor and Common Council of Tacoma appeal to the people of Massachusetts to send all the women of marriageable age that can be spared to the Territory and city with a view to making pleasant homes of thousands of able-bodied, industrious young men who would be glad to marry."

Another resolve is to the effect that the proclamation be forwarded to the Mayor of Boston, with the urgent request that it be published throughout the State.

The London Justice says that all the people now living in the world, or about 1,400,000, could find standing room within the limits of a field ten miles square, and by the aid of a telephone could be addressed by a single speaker.

Lightning struck the house of Col. L. N. Edwards, of Oxford, Me., knocking a keystone lamp into a thousand pieces and taking a metal clock from the wall of the room and hurting it under the colonnade. Nothing else in the house was disturbed.

The Ladies Delighted.

The pleasant effect and the perfect safety with which ladies may use the liquid fruit laxative, Syrup of Figs, under all conditions make it their favorite remedy. It is pleasing to the eye and to the taste, gentle, yet effectual in "setting on the kidneys, liver and bowels."

The Railroad Accidents.

Which occur every day with such wonderful loss to human life are sufficient cause for a man to stop and reflect on the fate of scores of his fellow-men, but a greater cause for his reflection is any danger to his own health. If he suffers from malarial poison he may stop and reflect on the cure. Westmoreland's Chalybeate Tonic is warranted to brood the malarial poison, and when the blood has been purified it will leave the system strengthened to repulse the attacks of hours through the sweet-scented avenues and not tire of the beauty and fragrance of the scene.

Revival of a Curious Method of Disposing of the Dead.

A new method of disposing of the dead is now advocated, and an organization has been formed to put it into practice.

ALL SORTS OF PARAGRAPHS.

The first shoe was patented in 1811, by two Massachusetts men.

The American silver dollar first made its appearance in 1791.

A three-legged alligator was shot the other day near Albany, Ga.

The flood damaged the property of Pennsylvania to the extent of \$44,220,000.

Man, with all his wisdom, never knows who is his best friend as well as a baby.

Some men are born great, some achieve greatness, and some can curve a ball.

A stitch in time saves nine—but this was said before the sewing machine was invented.

There is a man in Hart County, Ga., who spells his entire name with two letters, Bob Bobo.

It takes three hundred men to harvest the wheat crop of one ranch in Colusa county, Cal.

John Lawes, the heaviest man in America, died in Elmira, N. Y., last week. He weighed 640 lbs.

The richest citizen in all the world is, probably, the Primat of Hungary, and his income is \$880,000 a year.

The famous show house of E. & A. H. Batcher & Co., of Boston, has failed. The liabilities are about a million and a quarter dollars.

Mrs. May Roberts, who died at the age of 80 the other day at Sharon, Pa., was never inside a postoffice and never rode on a railroad train.

At Lexington, Ky., a lawsuit that was begun in 1811 has just been settled. It related to a land claim, and the sum in dispute was originally about \$5,000.

Some years ago John McClure took up a piece of cactus land in Los Angeles county, Cal., and set it to grapes. Last spring he refused \$150,000 for the place.

The largest watermelon patch in the world is at Adams Park, Ga. It embraces eight hundred acres, and is expected to produce over four hundred carloads of melons.

There is said to be a schoolboy at Kingston, N. Y., who studies hard and commits his lessons to memory well, but if he goes to sleep he forgets all that he has learned.

Jay Gould says that for the first year of his married life he lived on \$100, got up at daybreak, went to church every Sunday, and was as happy as a boss bumblebee in the sweet clover.

The people of the United States use annually about seven postal cards for every man, woman and child; that is to say, their total consumption for a year reaches 400,000,000.

A remarkable cave in Stone county, Kan., is said to have been explored for twelve miles, to have two rivers and millions of bats. It sounds as if John McWhorter had been out there.

A French coin of the time of Louis XIV was found in a cornfield at Marengo, Ind., a few days ago. It is supposed to have been there since the days when the French traded with the Indians.

The most original swindler of the day is the one who has been telling the colored people of Georgia that the world will come to an end August 16, and has sold 150 pair of "angel wings" at \$10 a pair.

The photographs on the White House desk of babies born since the election and named Benjamin Harrison make a big bundle. Every State of the Union, with but one or two exceptions, has contributed.

A Russian traveler in the Malay Peninsula claims to have found in one there the smallest "coin" in the world. It is a minute wafer, made from the juice of a tree. Its value is about the millionth part of a dollar.

John G. Kant; the celebrated tramp printer, who is known in almost every printing establishment in the central and southern States, is 70 years of age, and has been constantly on the tramp since the close of the civil war.

The colored women of Little Rock, Ark., have just organized a washerwoman's association. The society has been legally incorporated, and its objects are to care for members in times of illness and to promote the general welfare of the laundry business.

"Stranger—You are not booming your State very much at the present time, are you?" Kansas Citizen—"No, we are not advertising at all now, but wait till the cyclone period arrives, and you'll see the name of our glorious commonwealth in every paper you pick up."

The most valuable book in the world is said to be a Hebrew Bible at the Vatican in Rome. In 1512 Pope Julius, then in great financial straits, refused to sell it to a syndicate of rich Venetian Jews for its weight in gold. The Bible weighs more than 325 pounds, and is never carried by less than three men. The price refused by Pope Julius was therefore about \$125,000.

A weeping peach tree is one of the curiosities of Denison, Tex. It is visited by many persons daily. At times a perfect mist or spray surrounds it. A number of superstitious persons think that spirits operate upon the tree. A leading Spiritualist visited the tree last Sunday, and thought that a séance would explain the mystery. The negroes attach considerable significance to the name of the variety of the peach, which is known as the Robert E. Lee. The most ignorant declare that the spirit of the dead Confederate chieftain is operating upon the tree. After dark they give the neighborhood a wide berth. James Wallace, a negro who has been afflicted with inflammatory rheumatism for the past two years and bed-ridden most of the time, was impressed that the fluid from the tree would effect a cure. He was sponged with the fluid, and said he felt much relieved.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY VINEYARD.

Revival of a Curious Method of Disposing of the Dead.

A new method of disposing of the dead is now advocated, and an organization has been formed to put it into practice.

Nine out of every ten people have a horror of being buried in the earth, but not one of the nine has the courage to give directions that he be cremated. The new system proposes to dispose of the dead bodies by desiccation, which, in plain English, means to dry them out like so much dried beef.

The plan is not a new one for its means, for it is a known fact that the Tartars and Colchians practiced this method in primitive style centuries ago. Their way was to hang their dead up in trees and leave them there to be dried by the air and sun. The advocates of the new method propose to erect large buildings to carry out their plan of desiccation. These buildings are to be divided into many rooms of different sizes. In each of these rooms will be built sepulchres of concrete large enough to admit the body of any ordinary sized individual. There will be two openings in these sepulchres or box-like arrangements. This will be concluded with a system of conduits, each sepulchre, however, having a separate conduit.

The body will be placed in the sepulchre in an open lattice work casket, and through one conduit will be forced hot dry air. This air, it is claimed, will circulate around the body, accumulate a certain portion of liquid and gases from the corpse and pass through the rear conduit down to a furnace, where it will be purified once more by fire.

It is claimed that this dry air has a greater affinity for moisture than a sponge has for water, and that all the moisture will gradually be drawn from the body and leave it in a sort of a dried apple state. This will take about four or five months, and then the sepulchre will be hermetically sealed and the body will remain in its dried up state forever. The projectors of this scheme say they have for precedents the doings of the Tartars and Colchians in olden times, already referred to. Also, they assert that in the Western part of this continent, where the air is extremely rare and dry, men can be hung up and dried in the hot sun without fear of putrefaction. They claim that a human body can be dried the same as a pear or an apple. The ancient Peruvians, the Dooshahs of India and the Auto aborigines in Japan also practice desiccation. In the well-known catacombs of the Capuchin monks, near Palermo, the bodies are dried first in an oven and are then hung up in niches.

It is said that the desiccated body of a Sicilian sovereign, who had lain in his tomb for over four hundred years, was found upon inspection a short time ago to be as good as new. But all these attempts at desiccation were rude, and it is now proposed to bring scientific principles into play.

It will be remembered that the body of the renowned explorer, Livingston, who died in Africa, was desiccated by the natives of that country before removal to England.

This method of disposing of the dead seems to be very feasible. It would certainly be more pleasant, if such a thing could be, than being lowered into a hole six feet deep. The general health of every one would be improved, for it is known that the burying of dead bodies in the earth is a menace to the health of those living in the vicinity of a burying ground.

Another important matter in connection with the desiccation method is that the features of the dried corpse preserve a life-like appearance that is remarkable. Should any question arise in the courts as to the identity of a dead man a visit could be paid to the sepulchre and all doubts be set at rest in a way that would admit of no dispute.

Eight months ago experiments were made on a man weighing 165 pounds. At the present time it is said that the body is perfectly desiccated. The skin has become hard, feeling like leather to the touch.

Another thing which will tend to make the system popular is that there can be no chance of being buried alive.

There could be no grave robbing under the new system either. It is eminently sanitary, for all the gases are conveyed to a furnace and made innocuous.

It appears to be very rational, clean and rather a pleasant system of burial, and it is said it will soon be put into practice.

An Appeal for Wives.

BOSTON, August 1.—A novel appeal for wives was received to day by Mayor Hart from W. A. Wheelright, Mayor of Tecumseh, Washington. The writer says that the Territory of Washington, and the city of Tacoma in particular, are filled with sober, industrious and enterprising men, mostly young, who are desirous of marrying.

The letter says that there are about ten men to every woman in the Territory and is followed by a resolve "That the Mayor and Common Council of Tacoma appeal to the people of Massachusetts to send all the women of marriageable age that can be spared to the Territory and city with a view to making pleasant homes of thousands of able-bodied, industrious young men who would be glad to marry."

Another resolve is to the effect that the proclamation be forwarded to the Mayor of Boston, with the urgent request that it be published throughout the State.

The London Justice says that all the people now living in the world, or about 1,400,000, could find standing room within the limits of a field ten miles square, and by the aid of a telephone could be addressed by a single speaker.

Lightning struck the house of Col. L. N. Edwards, of Oxford, Me., knocking a keystone lamp into a thousand pieces and taking a metal clock from the wall of the room and hurting it under the colonnade. Nothing else in the house was disturbed.

The Ladies Delighted.

The pleasant effect and the perfect safety with which ladies may use the liquid fruit laxative, Syrup of Figs, under all conditions make it their favorite remedy. It is pleasing to the eye and to the taste, gentle, yet effectual in "setting on the kidneys, liver and bowels."

The Railroad Accidents.

Which occur every day with such wonderful loss to human life are sufficient cause for a man to stop and reflect on the fate of scores of his fellow-men, but a greater cause for his reflection is any danger to his own health. If he suffers from malarial poison he may stop and reflect on the cure. Westmoreland's Chalybeate Tonic is warranted to brood the malarial poison, and when the blood has been purified it will leave the system strengthened to repulse the attacks of hours through the sweet-scented avenues and not tire of the beauty and fragrance of the scene.

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ALL SORTS OF PARAGRAPHS.

The first shoe was patented in 1811, by two Massachusetts men.

The American silver dollar first made its appearance in 1791.

A three-legged alligator was shot the other day near Albany, Ga.

The flood damaged the property of Pennsylvania to the extent of \$44,220,000.

Man, with all his wisdom, never knows who is his best friend as well as a baby.

Some men are born great, some achieve greatness, and some can curve a ball.

A stitch in time saves nine—but this was said before the sewing machine was invented.

There is a man in Hart County, Ga., who spells his entire name with two letters, Bob Bobo.

It takes three hundred men to harvest the wheat crop of one ranch in Colusa county, Cal.

John Lawes, the heaviest man in America, died in Elmira, N. Y., last week. He weighed 640 lbs.

The richest citizen in all the world is, probably, the Primat of Hungary, and his income is \$880,000 a year.

The famous show house of E. & A. H. Batcher & Co., of Boston, has failed. The liabilities are about a million and a quarter dollars.

Mrs. May Roberts, who died at the age of 80 the other day at Sharon, Pa., was never inside a postoffice and never rode on a railroad train.

At Lexington, Ky., a lawsuit that was begun in 1811 has just been settled. It related to a land claim, and the sum in dispute was originally about \$5,000.

Some years ago John McCl