

paid in money. If at any time you find yourself financially situated so as to return the amount and feel inclined to do so, you may send me your check for \$15,000; otherwise, do not consider yourself under the slightest obligation. I ask for no security and will accept none. Wishing you the best of luck, I am yours truly,

W. S. STRATTON.

Mr. Stratton was for many years a poor carpenter and earned the money by which he finally demonstrated the richness of Cripple Creek's hills at his trade. Mr. Stratton is an evidence that all millionaires do not deserve killing, as so many American poor men assert. Not a man in all America is poorer because Mr. Stratton became a millionaire. It is not the ownership of wealth, but the use of it that makes rich men friends or foes of the people. Mr. Stratton's kindness to Mr. Tabor is a charming episode. I hope it may move others as a Godlike action, and I sincerely hope the gift may mark the turning point in Mr. Tabor's struggles.

CHARLES ELLIS.

### NORTHERN CACHE.

Smithfield, Cache Co., Utah,  
October 20th, 1897.

A singular death occurred here on the 15th instant. James Lowder had been attending a meeting in the evening with his brother William, and about 10 p. m. they returned towards home seemingly in excellent health and spirits; both had agreed to sit up with Father Woolford, whose aged wife was lying dead. When near the gate, James spoke of a stinging pain in his neck; and just as they opened the door to enter the house of mourning he fell on the doorstep a dead man. During the day he had gone about his business in his usual jovial manner, being always of a cheerful disposition and liked by everybody on account of his jolly, good-natured ways. A coroner's jury rendered a verdict viz., that death resulted from heart failure. Deceased was 51 years of age and leaves a wife and four children: a sad part of the story is that his wife was at Father Woolford's and saw her husband fall dead. Being in robust health when death came, he had a ruddy appearance and many thought he was not dead, and the funeral was postponed until Tuesday, the 19th instant. On that day at 2 p. m., in the Smithfield tabernacle, a large number attended and consoling remarks were made by Elders Charles C. Shaw, Robert A. Bain and Samuel Jenkinson.

The farmers of Smithfield and vicinity have raised much larger crops than they supposed they would during the very dry spring and summer. In the early season many became dispirited and were about to plow their grain under, but now they feel thankful they did not, as all have raised over two thirds of a crop. Mr. Thomas Craghead raised from one acre of gravelly loam land 375 bushels of fine potatoes as I have ever seen. They are clear Burbank potatoes, some a foot long and many would weigh four pounds. I asked him how he accounted for so large a yield when his neighbors barely raised 100 bushels to the acre. He tapped his arm and said, "Elbow grease, sir; many a farmer looks at his potatoes in the busy harvest time and handles the soil and finding it a little damp, contents himself and thinks they will mature, he being too busy to water them; but then is the time I water, and if you want a good crop, that is the time to make it—give them water in August." He further stated that he will plow that acre over again for wheat sowing and expects to uncover 25 bushels more, making 400 bushels in all.

The mining boom has struck Smith-

field. This canyon will eclipse La Plata so it will be in order in the near future to see the fellows hurrying back from starving Klondike to fatten on and among the everlasting hills of Cache valley.

Smithfield is lovely for situation, has a good, thrifty people and is a good place to live in. SALOP.

### DOMESTIC SCIENCE.

With the "putting on" of winter flannels, the annual battle royal for their preservation in their natural size begins with the laundress, and "line upon line, precept upon precept," become the order of wash day. Emphasize the fact that the dust should always be shaken from flannels before washing. Put in a tub of warm suds, to which a tablespoonful of borax or two tablespoonfuls of household ammonia has been added. Use the best quality of laundry soap, but do not rub directly on the flannels nor the flannels on a board. Never use yellow soap, on account of the resin. Squeeze in the hands, sousing frequently, and rubbing specially bad spots in the hand. Wring lightly without twisting. Into another tub of weaker suds, being careful to maintain the same temperature to avoid shrinkage. Rinse well and put into a third water, clear, but still of the same temperature. If you like a little bluing, it may be added to this water. Wring as dry as possible without twisting and dry as quickly as possible in the open air, never allowing them to freeze. Before quite dry, take in, fold and roll in a clean cloth, and iron soon with a moderately hot iron, depending mostly upon a good deal of pressure. For colored flannels have fresh warm suds, that no lint may adhere to them. Thus treated, flannels will remain soft, elastic and of normal size.

In buying lamps or oil remember that the best are always the cheapest in the end. A well-filled, carefully trimmed and clean, odorless lamp adds much to the attractiveness of a table. Clean burners and wicks are essential to clear light. The metal holders should be boiled in salt and soda water every few weeks, for heated metal gives out a foul odor. The wicks become clogged by the paraffine in the oil, and if long in use should be occasionally washed, boiled and dried. If soaked in vinegar they are said to give a clearer light. The wick should never crowd the tube. If two tight pull out two or three threads lengthwise. When first lighted, do not turn very high, as the flame is apt to increase. Never turn low and leave lighted. Never light a half-filled lamp that has been standing any length of time. Lamps should be cared for in the morning as a regular part of the routine work. Fill within a half inch of the top, trim evenly—just the charred part of the wick—using scissors kept especially for that purpose, or rubbing off with a bit of paper. The chimneys do not always need washing. By breathing lightly down the chimney and rubbing with a tissue paper, a handful of waste or a clean, soft cotton cloth, they can be kept bright and clear. Never wash in warm, soapy water, as chimneys thus treated crack easily and take on a cloudy surface that no rubbing can eradicate. Never clean with the patent brushes or bristles on a metal holder, as they scratch the glass, and the chimneys break. Chimneys were formerly tempered in the manufacture, but are now sold so low that this precaution is omitted. They may be tempered at home by putting in cold water and bringing to a boil. Then cool in water. Cold water and alcohol gives chimneys the highest polish.

When the lamp is filled and trimmed, rub and dry every inch of the bowl, fixture, handle and base, that no trace of kerosene be left to soil the hands of the "lamp-lighter," and turn the wick rather low, to avoid the capillary overflow.

Nota bene—The best thing to extinguish a kerosene flame with is flour.

Every owner of a granite pan or kettle has soon or late to bemoan their tendency to "spring a leak," and their own inability to repair the damage. "Necessity," in the mountains, at least, "is the mother of invention," and a farmer's wife way back among the Catskills has proved herself equal to the occasion. When the orifice appeared that threatened to make her kettle as useless as the "rift within the lute," she took a brass rivet such as harness makers use for mending harness, hammered it gently in the hole—and the deed was not only done, but well done.

Hallowe'en is near at hand, and already the young people are cudgeling their brains for the most effective method of interviewing the "powers of the air," and turning the leaves of the book of fate. Cavi! at it, as we of the gray hairs and double chins may now, we cannot deny the soft impeachment that we, too, in the not so long ago, were just as anxious for the fateful night

"Tu burn our nits, an' pou our stocks,  
An' haud our Hallowe'en,  
Fu' hlythe that nicht."

What matters it that Hallowe'en is a relic of paganism? So are many of the Christmas observances, for that matter. But we go on decking our homes and churches with greens quite regardless of the Druidical origin of the ceremony. Although the customs pertaining to the celebration of Hallowe'en vary a little, according to locality, the general features are the same. Burning nuts has from time immemorial been considered one of the most potent charms. The names of lads and lassies are given each nut as it is laid on the fire, and as they burn quietly side by side or fly apart, the course of courtship may be foretold. Snap-dragon is one of the oldest devices whereby the assurance of love is made doubly sure, or estrangement foretold. The dragons, which must be prepared before the party, consist of strips of paper with verses written on them. These are then folded very small, wrapped snugly in tea-lead or tinfoil and then placed in a large dish and covered with water, over which alcohol is poured. This should be done at the side of the dish, allowing it to filter down gently in order that the two liquors may not mix. The alcohol is then set on fire, when each person in turn, snatching one of the snap-dragons from the dish, may find therein his future fortune.

A word of caution regarding this test is that the dish containing the alcohol should be placed where there is no danger of the drops of burning alcohol setting fire to anything, and that the "dragons" as fast as removed should be placed on a tin to cool.

Two other ancient customs still in vogue and applicable to All Hallow's Eve, '97, are the "nutshell boats" and the "needle." In the former melted wax is poured into the halves of English walnuts, in which short strings for wicks have been laid. Two of these at a time may be named and lighted and floated in a tub of water, the way in which they ride indicating their future career.

The needle ceremony is performed by each person putting a needle to float in a basin of water. This requires skill, but can be done by placing the