

EASTERN NOTES.

The hop crop in this country for the present year is forty per cent. below that of several previous years.

It is said that nine-tenths of the ministers in the country are not as well paid as base-ball professionals.

The Shakers at Alfred, Maine, think of contributing to the Centennial Exposition, in Philadelphia, an old lady named Lucy Langdon Nowell, who was born on the 4th of July, 1776.

An Early county (Ga.) court has decreed the enforcement of a verbal agreement between brother and sister, before their father's death, to share his property equally, regardless of any provision made by his will. The case has been appealed.

Professor K. C. Kedsie, of the Michigan agricultural college, has analyzed the air of a green-house which had been closed for twelve hours, and found it better than pure country air. This seems to be a strong argument in favor of plants in sleeping rooms.

The financial panic, which began like a fever, with alternate hot and cold fits, has settled down into a steady ague, mild but incessant, which grows a little better from week to week, but has weakened the patient a good deal, and will keep him reduced in strength for months to come.—*Boston Letter.*

George W. Childs, of the Philadelphia *Ledger*, has been allowed by the Dean of Westminster to contribute the cost of a memorial window to be placed in the Chapel of Westminster Abbey, as a monument to George Herbert and William Cowper, who were educated in Westminster school.

The Rochester *Democrat* speaks thus irreverently of one of our ancient lights: J. B. McCullagh, late of the Missouri *Democrat*, claims to be the father of the interviewing business. We are perfectly willing to accord him the honor, and if he wants the privilege of being known as the father of lies he shall have that too."

Some children, attracted to a shanty in Davenport, Iowa, by a terrible smell proceeding from it, pushed open the door and beheld the revolting spectacle of a drunken man hugging the dead and decomposing body of a woman, which was lying on a filthy bed. The superintendent of the poor arranged for the funeral of the deceased, and had to drag the husband away by force.

The *Popular Science Monthly*, while conceding that Prof. Agassiz stands in the first rank of contemporary naturalists, insists that for learning and sagacity the names of Gray, Wyman, Huxley, Hooker, Wallace, Lubbock, Lyell, Vogt, Haeckel and Gegenbaur, are quite as illustrious as the name of Agassiz; and that these are the names of men who openly indorse and defend the Darwinian theory, of which Agassiz is one of the ablest opponents.

The equipage display on Fifth avenue is growing larger and finer every day. Between the hours of four and six in the afternoon the thoroughfare is almost impassable. Some of the turnouts are very handsome; others by their gaudy trimmings and conspicuous paraphernalia proclaim the "shoddy" element. In matter of livery, fashions exhibit a penchant for the English style of top boots, white stock and cockaded hat. In no society in the world can a finer show of equipages be seen than in New York.

The widow of Charles Washington, of Washington County, Ark., has raised silk on her estate for the last 25 years. She feeds the silk worms upon the leaves of the mulberry, which grows wild there, and states that she has never known any disease among her worms, and never received any instructions in caring for the worms or in the art of spinning the silk, except what she obtained from an old almanac more than 25 years ago. She spins the silk upon a common wheel, such as is used by families for spinning flax, and for a quarter of a century has manufactured all the sewing silk and floss for embroidery needed in her own family, besides more or less for sale to neighbors and to stores in the village. Mrs. Washington's experience would indicate that Arkansas is a healthy climate for silk worms.

What Might Be.

What a healthy and wealthy people we should be if we ate and drank only that which our systems required, and wore only such clothes as were necessary for our comfort? If we could draw the line between necessity and luxury; if we could stop where actual requirement ends, and the demands of pride and vanity begin, how rapidly our bank account would increase, our mortality list decrease and vice and poverty disappear. If we discontinued the use of alcoholic beverages, and abstained from puffing and chewing tobacco, the Internal Revenue Department of the Government, which now returns a monthly revenue of several millions of dollars, would not pay the salaries of its officers, and the thousands of men who are growing rich from the manufacture and sale of these articles would find it necessary to seek other occupations for a living. If men and women sought only personal comfort, and were free from the trammels of fashion—if they were without the weakness of vanity, and heeded not the demands of pride, unpaid bills and clamorous creditors would be unknown. If men and women wore only such clothing as a proper regard for health and appearance required, and the millions of dollars absorbed in gems and tinsel were reserved for more rational uses, our exports would largely exceed our imports, and the foreign drain of our gold and silver would cease at once and forever, and we should enter upon an era in the world's history in which the usurper would lose his occupation, and want and poverty no longer mar the happiness of the human family.—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

You all know Macpherson, by name, at all events; once a page at court, and a great favorite with Her Majesty; then in the guards, where he didn't do quite so well; afterwards of nowhere in particular. In point of fact he has been obliged to live in Scotland for the last ten years; drinks whisky in the day time, and lots of it. Well, Lord Dunroald asked him to his castle the other day, when the Queen came out to see the falls and lunch. In the afternoon she came out of the pavilion, and walked about a bit among the company. Macpherson was standing alone, a little "fou" with his mid-day dram, and up she came to him. "It is many years since I saw you, sir, but I never forget old friends. How are you, Mr. Macpherson?" "Madam," said he, holding out his hand, which she took most graciously, "you are very good. I remember your face quite well—but I'm very sorry—but if you were to give me a thousand pounds I can't recollect your name."—*London Letter to Harper's Bazar.*

Punch has a pleasant satire on the pleasures and the perils of modern pilgrimages. It represents an ancient pilgrim with his staff and gown saying to a modern one in swell costume, lighting his cigar after alighting from his dog-cart at a railway station, "Ah, fair sir, all is changed since my time! No peas in your shoes now, no toil, no robbery, no danger, everything made easy; in fact, quite a pleasant excursion." The modern pilgrim responds this view of the want of self-sacrifice in the pious journey, and thus retorts on the old-school devotee: "No robbery? No danger? Does it not occur to you, my venerable friend, that our 'pilgrimages' are made by rail?" Whereupon the ancient pilgrim "shuts up."

A Birmingham (English) paper describes a scandalous pugilistic encounter which took place between two women in Glover street, Birmingham. Kate Dowell and Ann Maria Morgan were the combatants. There were twenty or thirty rounds, lasting as many minutes—which shows that both sides "went in for business"—and the women had seconds, who "kneaded" them, as in a regular prize fight, between the rounds. Mrs. Morgan's second was her husband, who exhorted her to "go for" her antagonist in these words: "If yer don't fight, I'll give yer what for. Pull yer jacket off and fight like a man." And in the course of the fight he "went to the tap and got some water to rub her face with." Those facts were stated at the Police Court, where Dowell was charged by Morgan with an assault. The conclusion of the case is almost incredible—"The evidence showing that there were faults on both sides, prisoner was discharged."

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