

Miscellaneous.

The Ivy Green.

Oh, a dainty plant is the ivy green,
That creeps o'er ruins old;
Of right choice food are his meals, I ween,

Visit of the Japanese to the President.

The presentation of the Japanese Embassadors to the President of the United States, took place on the 17th of May, and is described by a correspondent of the New York Tribune, as follows:—

At half-past ten o'clock a body of marines from the Navy Yard marched into Fourteenth street, and stationed themselves in front of the private entrance of Willard's Hotel which is reserved for the Japanese.

Porter. For another moment there was complete silence. Then the first Embassador, lifting his head, read in a clear and distinct voice, in his own tongue, his short address to the President.

His words having been translated to Mr. Portman by Namoura, and repeated to Mr. Buchanan with other manifestations of respect by the Japanese, the box containing the letter before mentioned was taken by the interpreter, Namoura, and held before the first Embassador, who drew from it the document, written on parchment and enveloped in silken covering, and gave it to the President, who, in turn handed it to the Secretary of State.

A few words of reply having been offered by the Embassador, Mr. Buchanan stepped forward, was introduced to each, and shook each by the hand. Nothing was said, the Embassadors keeping their eyes turned toward the ground, though without any appearance of departure from their unvarying self-possession.

Before the Embassadors retired, some of their principal officers entered the room, and were made known to the President, whom they saluted, without, however, venturing to take his hand. After this, still bowing with formal precision, and never turning their backs, the Japanese finally retired to the ante-room which was reserved for them.

The entire scene was impressive to a degree, of which it is not easy to convey a just idea. The bearing of the President, whose dignified personal appearance added much to the occasion; the quiet grace of the Japanese; their radiant dresses; the plainer, but still sparkling uniforms of the army and navy officers; the glitter of the gaily dressed assemblage, all gave brilliancy of circumstance to an event which, in its graver aspect, had every claim upon the deepest interest and attention.

The dresses of the Japanese were much more gorgeous than any they had previously appeared in. The first Embassador wore robes of blue and purple crape, with richly embroidered trousers of silk.

Upon leaving the President's House, the subordinates all knelt in lines, allowing their superiors to walk between them to the carriages. As each prince passed, his special attendants would rise and follow him, and then assume their places beside and in front of his vehicle.

Gerrit Smith's Insanity. Gerrit Smith has addressed a letter to William Goodell, editor of the Principia, in which he describes the long and severe labors, both in the walks of business and benevolence, by which his health was impaired and his insanity produced.

Richardson, in his work on the Domestic Fowl, has these remarks:— Many writers recommend a vast deal of quackery in the treatment of the young chicks. Some go to the length of ordering them wine, pepper, bathing in cold water, &c.

For several months past complaints have been made to the New York police, in regard to extensive robberies perpetrated on several of the lower piers on the North River side; gallon upon gallon of brandy and wine having been abstracted in some manner or other from the pipes that had been landed from the different vessels.

John Brown, and his two sons, was a great shock to me. It contributed not a little to hasten my condition to its crisis. Only three weeks after, I went down under a troop of hallucinations. My family were reduced to poverty; they were cast off by their friends and the world. Those who had put their property into my hands had lost it. I was bound in honor and justice to go to Virginia and stand by and suffer with my unfortunate friend. Indeed, it was only from believing that I was on my way to Virginia that I went so willingly to Utica.

Mr. Smith proceeds to unfold the nature of the attack made upon him by the Vigilance Committee, and adds: "Finally, look at the atrocity of this manifesto lie. The frenzy of party politics has often driven men to violate the principles of a sound morality. But, when before was it ever known to involve a company of 31 men of high standing in the enormous crime of falling upon their fellow-citizen, and, in the face of their own clear convictions of his innocence, fastening charges upon him, which they knew could not fail to serve mightily to blast his reputation; to expose him to the harassing and endangering action of the Courts; to outlaw him, and invite those whom these lying charges have filled with rage, to assassinate him?"

Perhaps there is one thing that is stranger and even guiltier than this enormous crime. It is that they who committed it are yet to show the first sign of repentance for it. But we must not fail to recollect that repentance is generally hastened by the fear of punishment; and that my thirty-one calumniators probably feel that they are not only too rich, but too numerous a band, to be in great danger of punishment. I trust, however, that even in their case, also, the Scripture shall be verified, which declares, "though hand join in hand, the wicked shall not be unpunished."

A Shrewd Female Swindler.

We learn from the Cincinnati Enquirer of May 13, that on the day previous, a well-dressed and handsome lady alighted from a carriage in front of one of the largest and most fashionable dry-goods houses in that city, and, entering the store, asked to be shown some shawls. After looking over the stock, she selected one worth \$40, handing the salesman in payment a \$100 bill, of the genuineness of which the cashier expressed some doubt, and submitted it to an expert in such matters, who pronounced it perfectly good. The change was then handed to the customer, when she pointed out some blemish in the shawl which had not, previously been observed, and declined to take it, demanding the return of her money, which was done, and the bill once more placed in her neat little portemonnaie, from which it had but a minute before been extracted.

A Railroad View on the Prairie. The Buffalo Republican mentions a splendid sight at the village of Mattoon, about one hundred miles from St. Louis, which, as often as our travelers have seen it, has perhaps never struck them as it did the writer of this paragraph. The Republican says:—"The Illinois Central Railroad, at a town called Mattoon, is crossed by the Terza Haute and Alton Railroad. Every day, at about two P. M., is seen at this point one of the most splendid effects of the triumph of mind over space and matter that can be witnessed anywhere. It is that of four trains coming from four different directions, arriving at this point at the same time, to a second, every day. They can be seen as they approach for ten miles in each direction, the prairies there being a smooth, broad expanse, stretching away to the horizon without an inequality to obstruct the sight. As they arrive they approach their cow-catchers within twelve feet of each other, as though exchanging salutations; when, gracefully backing, as though bowing an adieu, two of the trains go on the switches, while the other two screech away over the rail iron-bound prairie. The trains left then go on the main tracks again, and they are off and away. To our mind, a more superb triumph of man and machinery cannot be exhibited anywhere than at Mattoon on the occasions mentioned.

An Ingenious Rogue.

For several months past complaints have been made to the New York police, in regard to extensive robberies perpetrated on several of the lower piers on the North River side; gallon upon gallon of brandy and wine having been abstracted in some manner or other from the pipes that had been landed from the different vessels.

pepper. Bruised hemp seed is also found serviceable. Take care that young turkeys never go out on any account (except in dry weather) until the dew is off the ground; and this should be adhered to till they get to be the size of an old partridge, and have their backs well covered with feathers; and in wet weather they should be kept under cover all day long. As to the feeding of them when young, many nice things are recommended; hard eggs, chopped fine, with crumbs of bread, and a great many other things; but that which I have seen used, and always with success, and for all sorts of young poultry, is milk turned into curds. This is the food for young poultry of all sorts. Some should be made fresh every day; and if this be done, and the turkeys kept warm, not one out of a score will die. When they get to be strong, they may have meal and grain; but still they always love the curds. When they get their head feathers, they are hardy enough; and what they want is room to grow about. It is best to breed them under a common hen, because she does not ramble like a hen turkey; and it is a very curious thing that the turkeys bred up by a hen of the common fowl, do not themselves ramble much when they get old.

The Great Solar Eclipse.

The first of the American expeditions for observing the Solar Eclipse of July 18, left New York on Monday of last week, for Washington Territory; the others will follow for Labrador and the Hudson's Bay Territory at later dates—the proper stations for their observations being much nearer than the one on the West Coast.

A Growing Manufacture.

The Work Odometer Band Company, says the Hartford Times, are manufacturing largely Work's Odometers, for measuring the distance run by carriages of all kinds. At present, they turn out about twenty-five complete sets per day, employing in the direct manufacture nine hands. Their shop is run by steam power, and the bands or hubs are completely finished, from the castings, at the manufactory, with the exception of the machinery, which registers the distance.

The backward motion carries the pointers forward about one-twelfth the actual distance which the carriage is backed, or the wheel turned in a reverse direction, so that if the motion of the wheel was reversed enough to have marked one mile, when going forward it would add to the register of the distance traveled about 400 rods. The outward appearance of each hub is precisely the same, making it impossible to detect to which wheel the odometer is attached. Besides, the cap covering it is round, and therefore cannot be removed without a wrench made specially for the purpose.

This contrivance is not only useful to those who let carriages, as a defence against imposition, but it is a source of satisfaction to others who wish to know accurately the distance they have traveled. The cost of the hub is but little more than the ordinary hub, and it is really ornamental, being got up in various styles to suit purchasers. The prices range from \$3 to \$6 per set, and they can be applied to any carriage merely by removing the present hub and substituting these.

ODDS AND ENDS.

The steamer City of Cleveland arrived at Buffalo, May 24, and the following incident is told as having occurred at Dunkirk. The mate who was at the wheel while making the port of Dunkirk (who is an old lake sailor, and well acquainted with the harbor since he has been absent for the last year), always said his course by a certain church spire, which did so this time, and the consequence was that the vessel was soon high upon the reef. The church had been removed, it seems, recently, some four blocks from its original position. It is said the mate is losing confidence in everything, now that the churches deceive him.

A farmer living in Liberty township, Iowa, accidentally burnt his son to death, about two weeks since, in the following manner: The farmer was engaged in ploughing. His son, a small lad about seven years old, took his father out some water during the afternoon, and, instead of returning home, he laid down upon a straw stack and fell asleep. The father, just leaving the field for the night, went to get the straw out of the way, set it right up, and returned home, and not finding his son there, he thought of the stack that he had fired, and went back just in time to find his son burnt almost to a crisp.

The great cannon which has been turning on its table three months at the Fort Pitt Foundry, Philadelphia, was completed on Friday. The bore is fifteen inches diameter. It is large enough to hold seven or eight barrels, and a stout, broad-shouldered man may easily enter it and pass down to the bottom. While undergoing the different processes of boring, turning and planing, the gun has turned round in its lathe 65,000 times, and some parts of its exterior surface moved a distance of one rod at each turn, making the whole distance which some parts of the iron have traveled while in the lathe, more than 200 miles.

Alexander Dumas has left Paris, at last accounts, for Marseilles, to start on his voyage on his little steamer, the "Cristo." He takes with him five companions, one a professional photographer, three compositors, a pressman and a press; so that the records of his voyages will be printed almost as fast as they are written. The trip will last fifteen months, and M. Dumas expects to write and print two volumes per month.

W. S. Pierce, of Ravenna, a veterinary surgeon, recommends the following as a spring guide for horses: Take equal parts of castor oil, and mix with it one part of a ball the size of a hickory nut, and fit it on the bridge bits; repeat it once a week through the month of April. Good for the appetite, blood and worms; it strengthens the lungs, and assists moulting. In Humboldt's private letters, recently published in speaking of the amiable Bayard Taylor, who visited him, and made a eulogistic lecture on him, Humboldt sarcastically remarked to a certain American gentleman—"Your countryman, Taylor, has traveled farther and seen less than any man of my acquaintance."

Whatever you do, do it willingly. A boy that is whipped at school never learns his lessons well. A man that is compelled to work cares not how badly it is performed. He who pulls off his coat sashes cheerfully, strips up his sleeves in earnest, and sings while he works, is the man for us.

When seed potatoes are cut, it is well to roll them in plaster. We know farmers who think this one of the best means of preventing the rot. It smeared with tar water and then dried with plaster—seed corn is usually treated—so much the better.

Welsh of the Harbor Police, who closely watched his movements from a concealed position. The officer being satisfied that the negro knew something of the robberies, took him in custody and conveyed him to the station-house. The prisoner gave his name as Wm. Derickson, and upon examining his person a tin can, which fitted about his body, was found under his clothing. At the time of the arrest, the can, which would hold about half a gallon, was nearly full of brandy. By means of a siphon, painted to resemble a straw, Derickson would fill his can from a pipe of liquor, and with the same instrument empty it into a demijohn which he had near by.

The first of the American expeditions for observing the Solar Eclipse of July 18, left New York on Monday of last week, for Washington Territory; the others will follow for Labrador and the Hudson's Bay Territory at later dates—the proper stations for their observations being much nearer than the one on the West Coast.

The sun will rise eclipsed on the Cascade Mountains, and the difficulty of obtaining a suitable station in a country so densely wooded, together with the hour at which the phenomenon will take place, renders favorable results extremely hazardous. Therefore, no astronomer who has a reputation to make could afford to volunteer for a duty involving so many inevitable sacrifices.

The party for Washington Territory will consist of an astronomer and two assistants, together with a sufficient number of voyagers—old employees of the Hudson's Company—to cut a path through the forest and properly take care of the pack animals. They expect to be some twenty days absent from Steilacoom, where the party will land. The moon's shadow will cross from the West to the East Coast, in about thirty minutes, and as the difference of local time is about three hours, the observers who will go to Labrador next month will witness the phenomenon under the most favorable circumstances.

The party for Washington Territory goes out under care of Lieut. J. M. Gillies of the U. S. Navy, who has served as a practical astronomer both in Chili and in connection with the National Observatory and United States Coast Survey.

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