

tion of the black hair of his youth. Says Sir John Sinclair, a Scotchman dying at 110, rejoiced in a youthful head of hair during the latter years of his life. Variegated hair, which is alternately banded black and white, is noted among the hirsute curiosities of nature, and green and blue hair have been described by some authorities; but these colors are not the attention to the influence of surroundings, which their subjects live, the green belonging to those who work in copper mines, and blue to those whose occupation is cobalt mining. Workers in indigo also have blue hair. In Tripoli and Turkey the ladies paint the hair of their children a vermilion color.

He was a precocious boy. He never stood on ceremony to ask questions and to give a little delectable history of matters that came under his observation. A visit to a neighbor was ever the occasion of his spouting the unwritten annals of the paternal homestead, and of indulging in pertinent queries.

"I say, mister, you ain't got as purty a house as pap's."

"Well, no, Johnny, I believe not."

"Pap's got a county-house, too."

"A county-house, huh?"

"Yes, sir, 'cause I heard 'em say so when that feller kep' putting on sich afir-  
and spite that we'd have to go to the  
county-house. 'Cause ma will be glad  
to go. Heaps of style there, I suppose,  
and she'll have to powder and primp  
and paint her face to hide the blem-  
ishes like the other women folks 'bout there.  
I am going to get me a little pony and  
whip with a whistle and a—"

"Whist! Johnny, you're a little fool!"

"No, I ain't. I'm real mad with you  
now, and if I were as big as pap I'd  
ear-everything round here out of  
my hands, and he does at home when he  
calls me a little fool."

"Whist, mister, I do know something."

"What are them things?"

"They're pads, sonny, for keeping the  
dollar from hurting the horse's breast."

"I guess sis' dress hurts bad; she  
wears two of them pads."

"Do you like hash?"

"Well, my boy, that depends on the  
quality of it."

Somewhere about the year 1770 a traveling millwright, foot sore and weary, with the broadest Northern Doric accent, stopped at Soho, at the engine factory of Boulton & Watt, and asked for work. His aspect was little better than one of ~~the~~<sup>a</sup> beggar, and poor looks and a shaggy beard hiddden him godspeak to some extent, so that, while as he was turning away sorrowfully, Boulton suddenly called him back. "What kind of a hat's you ye have on your head, me mon?"

"It's tins jimmer, sir."

"Fimmeer, me mon? let's look at it. Where did you get it?"

"I just made it, sir, my ansel."

"How did you make it?"

"It's just turned it in the lathee."

"Butt! its oval, mon, and the lathe turns things round."

"A weell! I just gar'd the lathee gang another gait, to please me. I'd a lang journey afore me, and I thoct to have a hunk to keep out water, and I hunk a keekie siller to spare, and I made it."

"about"? They don't make that kind of hat!"

"They don't, eh! Ma made hash for breakfast, and pa harpooned a button and suspender buckle in it. He was as mad as a scalded cat. You better not let him hear you say that they don't make such precious hats at the county house. Our Polly has a bean."

"She has, has she?"

"Yes, sir, He's reg'lar spoony on her, too. He's nobby. It tells you—wears piles of jew'ry. Sis boxes my ears, being as I don't talk polite afore 'im. She'll wait till he gets time to talk along. She's got to let up on punching my head."

"Slang is ugly, Johnny."

"You're shouting, and Polly is just powerful not! Pap don't like her feller; he says he smells like a consignment of perfoemery. That's what pap calls it. He thinks he's smart. Polly thinks it's cause he's shouting 'bout balls, fashions, tye-dies, and a whole lot of other fool stuff. Did you buy that dugout."

A letter dated at Denver, Col., September 8, says: A well-known and reliable mining superintendent just in from Gunnison confirms the rumors of the last few days of a wonderful discovery of native gold on the banks of the Cachetopa Creek, eighteen miles southwest of Gunnison City. Many lodes, apparently true fissures, from three to twenty feet wide, crop out at a stretch over a belt twenty miles long and five in width of low, timberless mountains. Masses of quartz daily brought into Gunnison City sparkle with native gold. Of hundreds of assays made in the last few days none ran lower than \$100 in gold to the ton, while numerous specimens from Lub-  
buck, Mary, and other claims assay \$2,000 to \$30,000 per ton. One of the most exciting stampedes on record is taking place from Gunnison camps and neighboring districts to the Cachetopa mines, 4,000 people going in the first forty-eight hours after the discovery was made known. Thousands of claims are already staked, business men who have closed their stores in the neighboring towns being largely interested. The ore is a decomposed quartz, easily reduced, and bids fair to lead to the immediate erection of several stamp mills.

The cause of gray hair is the destruction of the top of the papilla, or life- and color-giving bulbs at the root of the hair. Not only old age, but nervous debility or exhaustion arising from overwork or dissipation, will cause the color of the hair to cease, and there are many instances on record of the hair being turned suddenly white by a great shock to the nervous system, among the best known being that of the unfortunate Queen Marie Antoinette. It has also been stated that hair will sometimes resume its original color, as in the famous case of Nazzarella Nazzarelli, a man 106 years old, was, in 1774, in Vienna, presented by nature with a new set of teeth and a restora-

State Railroad Commissioner Williams has completed his annual report which bears date September 9. The following are a few of the facts and figures contained in it:

The forty-eight railroad corporations doing business in this State own a total of 4,358.50 miles of road and operate 6,166.71 miles. Within the limits of our State there are 3,857.74 miles of railroad, an increase over the amount for 1878 of 93.48 miles. The total miles of road reported now for the first time amounts to 112.19 miles, while there is a decrease in the reported length of some of our roads amounting to 18.71 miles.

The aggregate cost of the several railroad properties which are reported to this office amounts to \$290,658,055.40 increase for the year of \$563,459.87. The portion of this credited to Michigan on the basis of the cost per mile average is \$154,426,728.87, the cost per mile of road being \$64,241.61.

The following statement shows the financial condition of the railroads which report to this office, collectively, on the 31st of December, 1879, as the result of the year's business:

Total income.....	\$48,619,207 05
Total expenses, including taxes.....	26,906,685 44
<b>Net income.....</b>	<b>\$21,712,521 61</b>

Interest on funded debt.....	\$ 9,588,748	63
Interest on unfunded debt.....	178,675	11
Rentals.....	1,855,903	47
Dividend declared.....	6,749,676	22
	<u>18,372,932</u>	
Balance for the year.....	\$ 1,829,518	18
Balance (profit and loss) last year	2,799,462	54
	<u>4,628,980</u>	
Deduct various entries.....	\$ 1,755,899	97
Balance (asset and liability) last year	2,873,081	52

The total amount earned from transportation service by the several roads doing business in this State, was \$45,942,860.23, an increase of \$3,226,721.18.

or 7.55 per cent. over the aggregate earnings for 1878. The earnings per mile of road operated were \$7,450.14, an increase per mile of \$337.35. The classified earnings were as follows: From passengers, \$10,972,280.24; from express and baggage, \$703,017.53; from mails, \$1,038,943.14; from other sources—passenger department, \$5,298.09; from freight, \$3,085,934.95; from other sources, freight department, \$146,975.10.

The earnings credited to passenger trains were \$12,710,548; and to freight trains, \$33,223,312.28. The earnings from passenger trains, per train mile run, were \$1.369; and from freight

When we contemplate the diversity of taste adaptation of individuals for the various honest callings, I am not surprised that so many farmers' sons do not desire to be farmers. There are few reasons why farmers' sons had better not stick to the farm. One of them is, when the young man shows an unwillingness to work for his father, he receives of 532 1/2 per cent., malle iron of 252 per cent, and freight of 982 per cent, while the earnings from the export of iron fall far below these figures; and from other sources 63.24 per cent. The earnings from freight traffic were 73 per cent, and from passenger traffic 23.9 per cent of the total transportation earnings for the year. The

instable inclination for some other calling, and he has no tact, talent, or thought in that direction. If he should, by unwise advice, enter on a business for which nature has not designed him, he will be morally sure to make a failure of it; and while farming will be a constant burden to him, he might have become eminent in another sphere. It does not follow in the line of many men's experience, that a man may not be successful in more than one calling. A young man may have many qualifications for a good farmer, but if he can see his way clear to do better in a pecuniary way, or in other points, common sense would admonish him to do the best for himself.

The young farmer will early manifest his love for horses, or other farm stock, and be interested in all the diversified things connected with the farm, and seek familiarity with the books as will aid him in the prosecution of his business. The young mechanic will likewise manifest the bias in keeping with that calling; and so of the student, merchant, and professional man. The thought that "stick to the farm" is more adapted to the farmer than the same advice to stick to any other business or calling in which any man finds himself, is an error. Such advice almost insinuates that he is fit for only this employment, when all history and experience of the people of this country contradict the assertion.

The farming community in this country have no reason to be ashamed of their history. They have given to the public at large some of its brightest historical heroes, statesmen, professional men in department, scholars and scientists, men, merchants, manufacturers and mechanics—in short, you find them everywhere, and under all circumstances where persistent effort or enterprise will be likely to enable a man to make a fortune, or make an enviable mark in the world.—*Manchester Mirror.*

You see meep-dee milk 'n' we know'd whar de yard-dog fero. Hungry rooster don't cawke 'w'en hee find a wum. Troubles in seasonin'. Shinnin' 'n' w'en you er gittin' all you want. Puttinen hog ain't in luck.—*Allan's Constitution.*

TO THE question, "What do you estimate the annual cost of keeping sheep to be per head?" submitted by the Commissioner of Agriculture of the State of Tennessee to seventy-nine different persons, the answer varied from

**ELECTRIC SPARKS.**—Most people are familiar with the "spark" which may be produced under certain conditions by stroking the fur of a cat; and travellers in Canada and other cold countries have witnessed the still greater sparks which are produced by the friction of the furs of the caribou.

love in a vast, where the  
 couple gladly live of air, and dis-  
 the coarser comforts of housekeeping  
 upon which their neighbors seem to  
 depend so largely. But, alas, the time  
 is sure to come when men change their  
 diet from poetry and romance to a good  
 real cutlet or a tender beefsteak. The  
 appetite asserts itself sooner or later,  
 and the larger must be well-stored with  
 good things, or married life will be  
 filled with tempests, squalls and  
 storms, in which the romance of earlier  
 days becomes hopelessly wrecked. It  
 may be a hard thing to say, and yet it  
 is true, that while beauty is a very de-  
 sirable thing in a wife, and good taste  
 in dress and the ability to converse  
 fluently and brilliantly, the real bot-  
 tom facts of home happiness are the  
 woman's power to be cheerful under  
 adverse circumstances, and to have  
 the roast befitting done to a turn. The  
 dining and sitting room, and not the  
 parlor, are the two foci of domestic  
 bliss. A woman may speak French  
 or sing Italian until the whole neigh-  
 borhood envies her, but if she has sour  
 bread on the breakfast table, her home  
 will sooner or later be ruined. The  
 following lines show how many house-  
 holds degenerate from romance to re-  
 ality:

Bagdad, says one of our medical exchanges, is noted for a curious and mysterious malady, which affects everybody in the city, whether he be citizen or stranger. It is a sore called a "date mark," because after it has healed it leaves an indelible mark about the size and shape of a date. It generally makes its appearance upon the face, lasts a year, and then disappears. The cheek of nearly every man and woman in Bagdad shows the inevitable mark. Sometimes it settles upon the nose, and then the disfigurement is great; sometimes on the eyelid, when blindness is the result. Strangers are attacked even after a brief residence; but fortunately, if they are adults, the sore is more apt to come on the arm. In every case the attack runs its course for one year. No treatment, no ointment, no medicine, it is said, has the slightest effect upon it. Once the sore appearing, the sufferer knows what to expect, and may as well resign himself to his fate. The Arabs say that every one who goes to Bagdad must get the "date mark," or, if he does not get it while in the city, he will be followed by it—have it sooner or later he must. Dr. Thomp. of the American Mission, states that he has examined the ulcer microscopically and found it to be composed of a fungoid growth; but nothing that he had ever tried had proved remedial.

**ELECTRICITY AS A MOTOR.**—It is often asked why electricity does not make greater progress in supplanting steam. Dr. C. William Siemens, in his presidential address last April, before the English Iron and Steel Institute, declared that so long as electric power depended upon a galvanic battery, it must be, in the nature of things, be far more expensive than steam power, as the battery consumed zinc, a substance much more costly than the coal of the steam engine. If, however, a natural force, such as water-power, could be supplied so as to produce an electric current economically—which might well happen when the water-power was not available for ordinary manufacturing purposes—the case would be very different. A dynamo-electrical machine moved by water would give a powerful electrical current, which could be transmitted through metal a great distance, and thus be made to move electro-magnetic engines, or to ignite electric lamps. "A copper rod of three inches in diameter," said Dr. Siemens, "would be capable of transmitting one thousand horse-power a distance of say thirty miles, an amount sufficient to supply one quarter of a million candle-power, which would suffice to illuminate a moderately-sized town."

**PLAIN COOKERY.**—Some few weeks back a worthy lady advertised for a plain cook, and several persons applied for the situation. Owing to her fastidiousness, however, some of them seemed to suit her requirements; but, at the "eleventh hour," a maiden from the Emerald Isle made a maiden. In reply to a question whether she was able to do plain cooking, she gave an affirmative answer, adding: "The plain-est of the better to me." After being further tested in an oral manner, the good lady said: "My husband likes his meat boiled, and I like mine roasted. Now, if you had a fowl to cook, how would you do?" "Please, ma'am," said the girl, "I wud roast it first, an' you could eat your share; then I wud boil it for soup for the master."

A slow match—marriage after twenty years' courtship.

the water was evaporated in the  
boiler, and the process for the  
preservative was followed in Italy.  
The beneficial effect of a minute  
quantity of borax in butter, and  
through washing, than is usually  
practiced, the operation being continued  
till the wash-water was quite colorless,  
but the butter kept sweet only a few  
days longer than another sample  
washed as usual. The addition of two,  
three, and five thousandths of salt  
caused the butter to keep sweet, five,  
fifteen, and twenty-five days longer  
than butter without any salt; with  
one or two thousandths of borax the  
butter kept sweet from fifteen to  
twenty days longer than without any  
preservative. Concerning this last  
mentioned substance, our Consul in  
Florence writes to the Commissioner  
of Agriculture, New Report No. 1335,  
that very successful experiments have  
been tried in Italy on the substitution  
for salt in the preparations in which  
salt is usually added; but since  
scientific men disagree as to the harm-  
lessness of borax in food, there is some  
reluctance in respect to the adoption of  
this preservative. Professor Beechi,  
director of the Experiment Station in  
Florence, has found borax in the well  
waters of the city, and in the air, as  
well as in some mineral waters of good  
reputation; and he therefore concludes  
that, at least in small quantities, the  
substance is harmless. He preserves  
his own butter by mixing with it as  
thoroughly as possible about one-six-  
teenth of its weight of pure selected  
and very finely powdered borax, the  
flavor is not affected at all, and the  
butter keeps admirably.

Upon a square of white or delicately tinted pastel board, trace lightly some pretty design, such as a garland, a cluster of leaves and fruit, or a cross, or an anchor, wreathed with flowers or leaves. Those of the former selected for imitation should be simple in form. Among the most effective are passion flowers, lilacs of the valley, roses and blue and white peas and apple blossoms. Ivy or holly leaves are beautiful by themselves; or the former, perhaps, prettier than anything except the passion vine twined about a cross. Bunches of grapes, currants, or strawberries, each with a few of their own leaves attached are very suitable.

Having traced the design, lay the Bristol board flat on a block of hard wood, and with a thin bladed and very sharp knife, proceed to cut smoothly through as much of the surface as possible without entirely detaching any leaf or other distinct portion from the whole. One-fifth of a leaf left without cutting through will generally be found sufficient. Sometimes judicious prickings with a coarse needle add to the good effect. The points of the leaves and the ends of the flowers should next be passed by a sharp knife behind to admit the light and give the softly shaded effect we desire. The transparency can then be hung close to a window pane by means of narrow white ribbon loops at the corners secured to the wood work. We have mentioned only the simple designs for these pretty window ornaments, but many of artistic taste and skill could form more difficult and effective combinations. These pictures of painted board are also very pretty for lamps shades and fire screens.

**CARE OF CANARY BIRDS.**—Place the cage so that no draught of air can strike the bird. Give nothing to healthy birds but rape and canary seed, water, cuttlefish bone and gravel. Sprinkle sand on the bottom of the cage. No hemp seed. A bath three times a week. The room should not be over-heated; never above 70°. When moulting (shedding feathers) keep warm, avoid all draughts of air, and give plenty of German berries. A little hard-boiled egg, mixed with crackers, grated fine, is excellent. Feed at a certain hour in the morning. By observing these simple rules birds may be kept in fine condition all years. For birds that are sick or have lost their song procure bird food at a bird store. Very many persons mean to give their pets all things to make them bright and happy, and at the same time, are guilty of great cruelty in regard to perches. The perches in a cage should be of different size and the smallest as large as a pipe stem. If perches are of the right size, no trouble is ever had about the three-toenails growing too long, and all things, keep the perches clean.

**GOLD BY SCENT.**—The late Dr. Charles T. Jackson, one of the inventors of assaetic agents, had a famous laboratory in Cuba, to which one day—as Dr. Jackson was fond of narrating—a countryman came with a handkerchief full of those yellow blocks called iron pyrites, the blind found a gold mine on his farm, and would not take no for an answer. A competent chemist held a sample of the sulphur in his shovel, over which the sulphur was placed, but the smelling man said: "I don't care," and asked him to give him the R. I. A. was











