Gossip About Home Decoration.

A novel and vastly carpet is made entirely of Eastern rugs, three of equal length forming the center, while the border is composed of rugs of slightly different design and with deeper combination of color.

In England window curtains of stained glass, for the lower half of the window, are becoming usual, and are a very great improvement upon the ugly structure of woven wire and wicker which have done service for so long a time.—"Those who know" assert that these particularly pretty additions to the window will soon be equally usual in New York residences.

Arrasene now figures conspicuously in art needlework. It is particularly effective in the working of such flowers as the golden rod, mignonette, etc., or in representing heraldic devices, which are to be worked in relief.

Excellent scrap-baskets are now made of Japanese umbrellas. The modus operandi is simple. Rows of chenille are looped from spoke to spoke and the point of the opened umbrella fixed in a stand. The addition of a bright bow and ends of satin ribbon makes a pretty finish.

There is, in fact no limit to decorative possibilities with Japanese productions. Two fans for example, joined together at the edges with narrow satin ribbon, make an excellent wall-pocket for a small parlor or bedroom.

A pretty half corner is easily made by the help of a carpenter. Corner shelves may be fitted into either side opposite the entrance, and serve to hold an ornamental pot with creeping plant or a bowl with gold-fish. Such a niche, if prettily draped, could be a very great help in brightening up the hallway, which is apt, in small houses, to be gloomy and depressing in effect.

The Germans cultivate ivy in their rooms with great success. Placing a root in a large pot by one side of a window, they will train it as it grows until it forms a pretty frame of the entire window. At Fordham there is a drug store in which ivy has been trained completely around the ceiling, and both windows. The root from which it originated was brought from Westminster Abbey to this country several years ago.

The open fire-place, which is now universal in new houses, has become the subject of much attention. In the latest styles the facing are of exquisitely worked brass and enamel, while centerpieces of porcelain and ornamental flowers in the same material add to the decorative effect. Tiles representing a series of incidents or landscapes from the health, while a fender of curious brass work corresponds with the facing of the grate.—Extra house maids will soon be needed to keep the grates in order befitting their magnificence.

Home decorators are achieving great things with the aid of common pottery paint, which, applied to white wood, gives it an ebonized appearance. Carved figures and bracket supports can be bought very cheaply in common wood, and with their aid mantels and cabinets can be made at home which will prove highly decorative.

Plaster casts take gilding or bronze paint, well, and if framed in black or plush look extremely well upon a light wall paper. The little images sold in the streets for a trifle can be converted by the use of bronze powder into really effective ornaments.

Common fishing cord is used new for coarse crotchet instead of Macrame lace. It is less clumsy to work with and equally affective. Crotcheted with large needles and left with heavy fringe, it serves admirably as bordering for little tables covered with cloth on plush. Hand-bags are also made of it.

A novel decoration for the mantel consist of a curtain about half a yard long,suspended from rings upon a small brass pole, and seperated in the center. A small piece of mirror fastened against the wall in the center shows when the curtain thus formed are drawn aside, and is at once novel and attractive.

Economy in Feeding Stock.

To raise and gather sufficient food to keep a number of cows, sheep or horses, through four to six months of winter, requires no small amount of labor and money, and our farmers have to make close calculations in this matter, or find the balance on the wrong side of the ledger. When the country was new and the land rich enough to produce bountiful crops without the application of manures, the kinds of food costing the least labor were preferred; consequently good hay and grain answered every purpose, and practicing economy by feeding anything else was seldom thought of by the well-to-do farmer. But of late years, hay, straw, and oats have become cash articles, even far back in the country, and hundreds of miles from our larger cities, and this change of circumstances naturally leads the farmer to count more closely the cost of keeping his stock. If a cow will consume two tons of hay during the winter, and this is worth twenty dollars per ton, it does not require much figuring to arrive at a definite conclusion in regard to what may be expected in the way of profits. Of course it would not be economy for the farmer to sell all his richest and best fodder, and then endeavor to keep his stock through winter on the poorest.

Still, by the application of an increased amount of labor in preparing a second-rate article, its value for food may frequently be largely increased. It is here that economy may be practiced, and is, to a considerable extent, by our most thorough and thriving farmers. Hay at twenty to thirty dollars per ton is very nice food, but it is an inconvenient for handling or feeding out that the owners of stock dislike to dispense with it, even if it does cost more than they can really afford to pay. The same may be said of oats, but convenience goes a great way in creating a demand, especially with those who are compelled to practice strict economy.

Big farmers who reside near good markets may turn many a penny to the profit side of their farm accounts, by disposing of their most saleable and readily handled produce, and then using those of an opposite character for their own stock. The coarser kinds of forage plants will answer as well as the finer if artificially prepared, by cutting up and steaming, adding meal, shorts, or bran, and giving roots at the same time. Hungarian grass, millet, cornstalks, and straw become first-rate food for stock when properly prepared by cooking or steaming. We know that there is much prejudice existing among farmers in regard to grinding, cutting and steaming food for their stock, but we believe it is mainly in consequence of the extra labor required, and not from any reason to apprehend injury to the animal. Coarse food made palatable and easy to digest by such processes as we have named is not likely to be injurious, even if it is in a slightly unnatural condition. The experiments of our most scientific agriculturists show that it is economy to make the food of domestic animals as digestible as possible, without destroying its nutritive properties, and farming is carried to its greatest perfection, and is most profitable, when these processes are most in vogue.

Our farmers must learn to practice economy by saving, not wasting, the coarser kinds of farm produce which have to a great extent been considered of little or no value. More root crops should be grown, and the straw stack utilized instead of being left to rot down for manure, as is still done over a large extent of country. Let the steam boiler be set up and be more extensively used for preparing food for stock, and better results will surely follow, especially in the older States, where all kinds of farm produce command good prices. Few farmers seem to know how little food will keep an animal healthy and in good flesh, if that little be put in the condition to be all appropriated to the animal's use, and not pass off undigested.—*New York Weekly Sun.*

The Horse's Friend.

Even a horse may find it advantageous to have "a friend at court." A market gardener noticed that a basket in which was placed fresh carrots was frequently emptied. He asked the gardener, who said that he could not understand it, but would watch for the thief.

A quarter of an hour had elapsed when the dog was seen to go to the basket, take out a carrot and carry it to the stable.

Dogs do not eat raw carrots, so further inquiry was necessary.

The observers now found that the dog had business with a horse, his night companion; with wagging tail he offered the latter the fruit of his larceny, and the horse made no difficulty about accepting it.

The scene was repeated until the carrots were all gone. The dog had long made a favorite of this horse. There were two horses in the stable, but the other received no notice, much less carrots!—*Advance.*

Homes in Michigan

It is during the winter months that plans for new homes are generally discussed, especially among the farming population, and this is an especially suitable time, therefore, to call the attention of readers of this paper to the fact that the pamphlet upon "Michigan and its Resources," published by authority of the state, and containing an excellent map, together with a large fund of information concerning its remarkable resources and its unsurpassed fertility, will be sent free of charge to any address on application to the Commissioner of Immigration, Detroit. An elaborate edition pamphlet has been printed in the German and Holland languages. Residents of Michigan having friends in other state or countries who are contemplating a change of residence may render them a valuable service by sending their address to the commissioner.

True to her Trust.

Too much can not be said of the ever faithful wife and mother, constantly watching and caring for her dear ones, never neglecting a single duty in their behalf. When they are assailed by disease, and the system should have a thorough cleansing, the stomach and bowels regulated, blood purified, and malarial poison exterminated, she must know that Electric Bitters are the only sure remedy. They act the best and purest medicine in the world and only cost fifty cents. Sold by Whitehead & Mitchell.

THE CENTURY
For 1882-83.

The twelfth year of this magazine—the first under the new name, and the most successful in its history, closed with the October number. The circulation has shown a large gain in the past year, and THE CENTURY begins its thirteenth year with an edition of

140,000 Copies.

The following are the leading features:

A NEW NOVEL, BY W. D. HOWELLS, to succeed this author's "Modern Instance." It will be an historical story, entitled "A Sea Change."

LIFE IN THE THIRTEEN COLONIES, By Mr. WARD MCALLISTER—the leading historical feature of the year; to consist of a number of papers, on such topics as "The Beginning of a Nation," "Social Life in the Colonies," etc. The whole forming a complete history of early life in the United States. Special attention will be paid to accuracy of illustration.

A NOVELETTE OF MINING LIFE, By MARY HALLECK FOOTE, author of "The Led Horse Claim," to be illustrated by the author.

THE POINT OF VIEW, By HENRY JAMES, Jr., a series of short letters from imaginary persons of various nationalities, criticising each other, and touching manners, railroads, etc.

THE CHRISTIAN LEAGUE OF CONNECTICUT by the Rev. Washington Gladden. An account of practical co-operation in Christian work, which the author has formed in a small town in Connecticut, and which has been successful.

THE NEW ERA IN AMERICAN HOUSE BUILDING, a series of papers, fully illustrated, describing (1) Model Houses, (2) Country Houses, (3) Churches, and (4) Public Buildings.

THE ORIGIN OF LOUISIANA, by Geo. W. Cable, author of "Old Creole Days," a fresh and graphic narrative, richly illustrated.

MY ADVENTURES IN SUMI, by Frank R. Conklin, correspondent, and adopted member of the Sumi tribe of Indians. Illustrated.

ILLUSTRATED PAPERS ON THE NATIONAL CAPITOL, by Gen. M. C. Meigs, U. S. A., Captain "The Engineer," and "The White House," etc.

MISSIONS OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, by "H. H."; three or four papers of an exceedingly interesting character, richly illustrated.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Further work is expected from S. G. Goodrich, Thomas Hughes, Joel Chandler Harris, "Uncle Remus," papers on leading Parisian artists, by Mrs. E. V. Blake, H. H. Bowers, and a long list of others. Entertaining and instructive serials will also be given by the leading features of THE CENTURY, as heretofore, and the magazine will continue to maintain its high standard.

The subscription price is $4.00 a year; 35 cents a number. Subscriptions may begin with any number. Back numbers, and in order to enable new subscribers to commence with the beginning of the century, we make the following

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A new serial story by J. T. TROWBRIDGE, formerly editor of "Our Young Folks," and author of "The Jack Hazard stor es," etc.

"The Story of Viteau."

An historical novelette of gir and boy life in the 13th century. By FRANK R. STOCKTON, formerly assistant editor of ST. NICHOLAS, author of "Rudder Grange," etc

"The Story of Robin Hood."

An account of the famous outlaw. By MAURICE THOMPSON, author of "The Witchery of Archery."

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A capital and novel play. By WILLIAM M. BAKER, author of "His Majesty, Myself," etc.

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A biographical paper regarding this celebrated painter of battle-scenes. Illustrated with pictures prepared for ST. NICHOLAS by Miss THOMPSON.

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A thrilling story of the Roma- Turkish war. By ASHBALL FORBES, War Correspondent.

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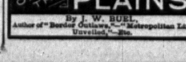

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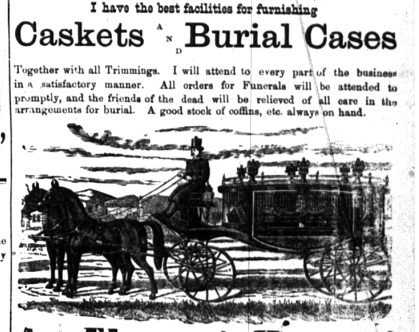

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