Two 1886 Gold Medals.

Messrs. Mason & Hamlin again have the distinguished honor of having been awarded the highest gold medals over all exhibitors, American and European, both at Edinburgh and at Liverpool, the two most important exhibitions of the year 1886. Since the first great Paris Exhibition of 1867, the Mason & Hamlin Organs have invariably received the highest honors at all great world's exhibitions.

Too Many Railways.

There are, it is said, about 125,000 miles of rai road in this country, much more than there ought to be. It has often been asserted that 1,000 people are required to support a mile of road, and we have more than a mile to every 500. In no other land are there anything like so many railways, and they have all been built within 56 years. In 1830 there were 23 miles of road; in 1840, nearly 3,000; in 1850, 9,000; and in 1861, 30,000 miles were in operation. In the past 15 years more roads have been built than were built during the previous forty years. Railroad building is irregular. We overbuild for a while, and then a reaction ensues. In 1882 we built 11,500 miles; in 1883, 7,000 miles; and we are at present building about 4,000 or 5,000 miles a year. The average cost of construction and equipment of a railroad is $50,000 a mile. The value of railway property in the United States is enormous—about one-seventh, it is said, of the entire property of the republic. The excessive building will no doubt continue. Many persons predict that at the close of the century we shall probably have 250,000 miles. It scarcly seems credible, but it may be, nevertheless. The trouble is that paralleling continually goes on. The men immediately interested in the construction make money, and do not care a fig for the stockholders and the general public. Enterprise is often another name for downright swindling.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

Educated Spiders.

The locust, who comes with his soft sighs in summer time and his "W" predicting war, must now take a back seat.

From a North Carolina contemporary we learn of a breed of educated spiders who are in the prophecy business, and who scorn the initial letters. When they have anything to communicate they write it out, and they don't misspell words, either.

One spider ran out a web, and then wrote across in bright, silvery letters, "War."

Another spun a web and began to write. He embroidered across his silken home the word "India." Next day he proceeded and finished the sentence, "Indian—A War."

These educated spiders are bad-looking citizens, in size as large as a honeybee, have eight legs, and when disturbed show anger, shoot out their tongues, and swing their cobweb tackle as if they meant to jump and sting.

The educated spider should be suppressed. His literary labors can do no good. Besides that, the country has too many prophets already.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

A Foolish and Stubborn Belief

In the efficacy of certain remedies of violent action, is the besetting foible of the ignorant and prejudiced. The indiscriminate use of purgatives is a very common phase of the fatuity of such people. Aloes, podyphillin, disguised in sugar coating, castor oil, mercury, and other old-fashioned drugs, still hold their own among this class; and although the success of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters sufficiently disproves the necessity for violence in medication, the adherents of an exploded fallacy still persist in giving and taking inordinate purgative doses. Dyspepsia, constipation, liver complaint are as certainly and thoroughly subdued by the Bitters as they are invariably aggravated by an indiscriminate use of medicines, officinal or proprietary, belonging to the class which we have condemned. Fever and ague, nervousness, rheumatism and inactivity of the kidneys yield to the Bitters.

Wanted a Pension for the Boy.

Old Lady (to Pension Office Agent)—"Mister, I want a pension for my boy."

Agent—"On what grounds?"

Old Lady—"His father was killed in the war."

Agent—"Killed in the war? Why, the boy ain't six years old!"

Old Lady—"His father perished in the war, I tell ye. He had the consumption, too, and it is now croppin' out in the boy. Johnny, show the gentleman how you cough."—*Texas Siftings.*

SOME one has discovered that one side of the body tends to outwalk the other, but just the same, it doesn't get there.

A SUPERIOR preparation for all diseases of the hair or scalp. Hall's Hair Renewer.

DR. DALLINGER, President of the English Microscopical Society, describing the results of his latest work, says that he has had the good fortune to make use of lenses which five years ago it was thought could not be made. With the new powers he has been able to discover a desmid measuring only one-millionth of a cubic inch, with a flagellum or tail of less than a two-hundred millionth of an inch.—*Dr. Foote's Health Monthly.*

MAY always be relied upon for curing colds or coughs. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

THE proper time for the flour of the family to rise is 'leaven o'clock.

Prize Stories.

The *Youth's Companion* maintains its reputation for publishing the best serial and short stories, as well as striking stories of adventure. The next volume will contain the eight prize stories selected as the best from over 5,000 manuscripts sent in competition. The first serial story to appear, beginning in January, will be "Blind Brother," in eight chapters, fully illustrated. Every one will want to read it. If $1.75 is sent now, it will pay for the paper to January, 1888.

* * * * Nervous Debility, in either sex, however induced, speedily, thoroughly and permanently cured. Address, with 10 cents in stamps for reply and book of particulars, World's Dispensary Medical Association, 663 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

IF a man sitting on a chest is shot at, he would prefer, if hit at all, to be hit in his chest.

IS THERE a soul living who has heard a sentiment emanating from the breast of veal?

A Guilty Sacrifice

Should never be made, but ambition and enterprise deserve reward. Wherever you are located you should write to Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine, and learn about work that you can do and live at home, earning thereby from $5 to $25 and upwards daily. Some have earned over $50 in a day. All particulars free. Both sexes. All ages. Capital not needed; you are started free. All is new. Those who start at once can not help rapidly making snug little fortunes.

"ROUGH ON PILES."

Why suffer Piles? Immediate relief and complete cure guaranteed. Ask for "Rough on Piles." Sure cure for itching, protruding, bleeding, or any form of piles. 50c. At druggists or mailed.

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Wells' "Health Renewer" restores health and vigor, cures dyspepsia, impotence, nervous debility. For weak men, delicate women. $1.

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If gray, restores to original color. An elegant dressing, softens and beautifies. No oil nor grease. A tonic restorative. Stops hair coming out; strengthens, cleanses, heals scalp. 50c.

INDIGESTION, dyspepsia, nervous prostration, and all forms of general debility relieved by taking Mensman's Peptonized Beef Tonic, the only preparation of beef containing its entire nutritious properties. It contains blood-making, force-generating, and life-sustaining properties; is invaluable in all enfeebled conditions, whether the result of exhaustion, nervous prostration, overwork, or acute disease; particularly if resulting from pulmonary complaints. Caswell, Hazard & Co. proprietors, New York.

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Clears out rats, mice, roaches, flies, ants, bedbugs, beetles, insects, skunks, jack rabbits, sparrows, gophers. 15c. At druggists.

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Ask for Wells' "Rough on Corns." Quick relief, complete cure. Corns, warts, bunions. 15c.

"ROUGH ON ITCH."

"Rough on Itch" cures skin humors, eruptions, ring worm, tetter, salt rheum, frosted feet, chilblains, itch, ivy poison, barber's itch. 50c jars.

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By scrofulous taint in the blood. Therefore, to cure catarrh, *purify the blood.* Thousands who have been troubled with the disagreeable symptoms of catarrh have been entirely cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, the best blood-purifying medicine before the public. It expels every taint of imparity from the blood, and vitalizes and enriches it. If you suffer from catarrh, give Hood's Sarsaparilla a trial.

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A Printer's Error.

Sweet are the uses of *adversity*, the printer's copy said, but he set it up, sweet are the uses of advertising. Sweet, indeed, to those who in sickness and suffering have seen the advertisement of some sovereign remedy, which upon trial has brought them from death's door. "The best thing I ever saw in my paper was the advert sement of Dr. Pierce's 'Golden Medical Discovery,'" is again and again the testimony of those who have been healed by it of lung disease, bronchial affections, tumors, ulcers, liver complaints and the ills to which flesh is heir.

A MEDICAL writer says that children need more wraps than adults. They generally get more.

"Nip't in the Bud!"

Sad to say, many a good thing attains to nothing more than a fair beginning. On the other hand it is a matter for congratulation that the growth of some evil things may be also promptly frustrated. A large proportion of the cases of the most wide-spread and fatal of diseases—consumption—have their inception in nasal catarrh. Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy is pleasant, soothing and effectual. Try it. It has cured thousands. All druggists.

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3—Cash Present in Gold,..	1,500	11—One Upright Piano, val	500	18—One Ladies' Gold Watch.....	50
4—Cash Present in Gold,..	1,200	12—One Fine Top Buggy..	200	19—One Ladies' Pair Bracelets.....	50
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6—Cash Present in Gold,..	600	14—One Diamond Breastpin	100		
7—Cash Present in Gold,..	500	15—One Set Furniture ....$	120		
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To the next 20, each a Solid Gold Watch, worth $100 each. To the next 50, each a Solid Silver Watch, worth $25 each. To the next 100, each an Elegant Photograph Album, worth $5 each. To the next 125, each a Solid Gold Ring, worth $2 each. To the next 185, an Elegant Book, each worth $1.50.

If a competitor should fail on the first he will stand a chance for one of our

MIDDLE REWARDS.

To the 158 persons whose names come in the middle, counting from number one to the last received, we will donate the following rewards:

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To the next 30, each $10 in cash. To the next 20, each $5 in cash. To the next 20, each $2.50 in cash. To the next 75, each $2 in cash.

LAST REWARDS.

To those who are too late for any of the above rewards a special opportunity still remains: To the 353 persons whose names come in last we will donate the following rewards: To the last name on the list, $500 in cash. To the next to the last name we will give $300 cash. To the third name from last we will give $200 in cash. To the next 50, each $10 in cash. To the next 100, each $5 in cash. To the next 200, each $2.50 in cash.

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U PAY NOTHING FOR COMPETING

for the above presents. The presents will be sent to the successful ones, and their names published in our February issue of THE POPALUR MONTHLY. Don't delay. The Magazine is worth much more than the money, (and 10 books free) by answering quickly you may secure one of the larger prizes. This is the Fourteenth Competition of THE POPULAR MONTHLY, all having given the utmost satisfaction.

Every parent should encourage children to enter this contest. Besides familiarizing themselves with the Bible they secure a highly-deserving Family Magazine, (with 10 books free) and also a chance for one of the rewards. We refer to over 28,000 subscribers. We enter every etter in the order received, and number the names as recorded in our subscription books: hence there can be no mistakes. If you do not get one of the largest you may get one of the smaller rewards, and thus be amply repaid. If you don't get anything but our Magazine (and 10 books free), you will be satisfied, as it has no equal at the price. No answers recorded bearing postmark date later than Jan. 1st, 1887. Send before that date. Send money by new postal note, money order or registered letter.

The following is a partial list of the names of those who were awarded presents in our January, 1886, and March, 1886, Bible Competitions, viz: 1. Chas. Fishwick, Atchison, Kas., $2,500; 2. Kate Bradford, Morrisonville, Ralls County, Mo., $1,500; 3. Mrs. M. C. Heard, Little Rock, Ark., $1,200; 4. Bud Martin, Esq., Frog Level, La., $600; 5. Benj. Avery, Esq., Garland, Ark., $500; 6. Mrs. Wm. Coleman, Kansas City, Mo., $400; 7. Miss Annie Johnson, Queen City, Tex., $200; 8. Frederick Kimber, Onondaga Valley, N. Y., $100; 9. Mrs. Geo. E. Simms, Helena, Ark., Grand Upright Piano, $500, 10. Miss L. Stewart, 344 State street, Chicago. Ill., Top Buggy, $260; 11. Geo. E, Haymes, Atlanta, Texas. Cabinet Organ, $150; 12. Miss Annie Goode, Calhoun, Ark., Diamond Breastpin, $100; 13. Manuel Grandy, Esq., Cicero, N. Y., Set of Furniture, $120; 14. Chas. Johnson, Rockford, Ill., Solitaire Diamond Ring, $100; 15. A. E. Bean, Esq., Kansas City, Mo., Breach-loading Shotgun; 16. S. P. Brown, Esq., Chicago, Ills., Ladies' Gold Watch $50; 17. Miss Ida Jones, 1634 Broadway, Kansas City, Mo., Pair Gold Braclets, $50; 18. Mrs. J. B. Hichcock, 1123 Tremont avenue, Davenport, Iowa, one "White" Sewing Hachine, $50.

Write to ANY OF THESE PARTIES if you want any further proof,

Or, to Mr. B. Dixon, Magnolia, Ark., who was awarded $1,000 in one of our Bible contests; also to Miss Dora Crawford, Atlanta, Texas, who was awarded $1,200, If you send a 2-cent stamp, we will send a list of over 1,500 who were awarded presents ranging from $1 to $2,000. The following receipt speaks for itself:

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We refer to the following prominent citizens of Kaansas City, Mo.: Major B. F. Jones Secretary and Treasurer Kansas City Water Works; Chas. D. Lucas, Recorder of Deeds, Kansas City Savings Bank.

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