THE EDITOR.

With fingers weary and tired, With eyelids heavy and red, An editor sat in his "easy chair," When he ought to have been in bed-Write! write! write! Though mercury's down to zero, And still with a voice of terrible might, He continued to sing-our here.

Write-write-write! Till the brain begins to soften; Write-write-write! Early, late, and often. Revise, correct, invent, Invent, correct, revise, Till the midnight oil burns low and dim, And further aid denies.

With fingers weary and tired, With eyelids heavy and red, Our editor left his " easy chair," And took himself off to to bed. Household Magazine.

REMARKABLE GAS WELLS IN OHIO.

Mr. J. S. Newberry, in the American Chemist, writes as follows: "In June, 1866. I visited two remarkable gas wells, bored by Mr. Peter Niff, in the valley of Kokosing, a few miles east of Gambier (where Kenyon College is located) in Knox county, Ohio. I wrote a description of them, which was published in the Cleveland Herald. As gas wells are now attracting some attention as sources of supply of gas for illumination and fuel, I have thought it might not be uninteresting to our readers to have this description repeated for their benefit.

" It will probably add to the interest with which it will be read, to say that the wells described below have been flowing gas in apparently undiminished volume to the present time.

" From Gambier our route lay down the valley of Kokosing, some twenty miles, to the junction of that stream with the Walholding. Within this interval the valley has nearly an east and west course, and is excavated in 'Waverly' (lower carboniferous) formation in the direction of the dip of the strata, which is here, castwardly about twenty-two feet to the mile. Near Millwood, however, a few miles below Gambier, we crossed a belt of a mile or more in width, in which the rocks are much disturbed, the dip being increased to 30° with the horizon. Such disturbances are hopeful signs in an oil region, as they indicate the existence of subterranean fissures. When liberated, after confinement of a few minutes, and ignited, the gas formed a volume of flame as large as a house. At night, an exhibition similar to that witnessed by us at midday is said to be wonderfully impressive, the gas illuminating the whole country like a conflagration.

"The gas from these wells seems to be pure, having no other smell than an agreeable one of naptha, and has high illuminating qualities. Its volume is sufficient to light a large city, and, if differently situated, the value of the material thus wasted, for lighting or heating, would be greater than the product of the best oil-well known."

SIZE OF THE SUN.

Let the reader consider a terrestrial globe three inches in diameter. and search out, on that globe, the tiny triangular speck which represents Great Britain. Then let him endeavor to picture the town in which he lives as represented by the minutest pin-mark that could possibly be made upon this speck. He will then have formed some conception though but an inadequate one, of the enormous dimensions of the earth's globe, compared with the scene in which his daily life is cast. Now, on the same scale, the sun would be represented by a globe about twice the height of an ordinary sitting room. A room about twenty-six feet in length, and height, and breadth, would be raquired to contain the representation of the sun's globe on this scale, while the globe representing the earth could be placed in a moderately large gob-

Such is the body which sways the motions of the solar system. The largest, of his family, the giant Jupiter, though of dimensions which dwarf those of the earth or Venus almost to nothingness, would yet only be represented by a thirty-two-inch globe, on the scale which gives to the sun the enormous volume I have spoken of. Saturn would have a diameter of about twenty-eight inches, his ring measuring about five feet in its extreme span.

Uranus and Neptune would be little more than a foot in diameter, and all the min r planets would be less than the three-inch earth. It will thus be seen that the sun is a worthy centre of the great scheme he sways, even when we merely regard his dimen-

sions.

The sun outweighs seven hundred and forty times the combined mass of all the planets which circle round him; so that when we regard the energy of his attraction, we still find him a worthy ruler of the planetary scheme. -Proctor's Other Worlds than Ours.

COAL PIT FIRE.

The Bank colliery, near Rotherham, on the property of Earl Fitzwilliam, England, had been on fire for a century past, when the superintendent, Mr. Cooper, conceived the idea of building a wall to shut the fire into one of the workings. The plan was carried out. although the wall had to be commenced by workmen creeping on their hands and knees through dense, stiflingsmoke. The wall nearly 1,000 yards long, and in places, five feet thick, is complete, being tapped at intervals with metal pipes, through which the state of the fire can be inspected. The heat from the fire has been so great that the surface of the earth, over the workings, has produced two or three crops every year.

COLORED FIRES.

corps gives the following formulæ for making colored fires: 1. White light: 8 parts saltpeter, 2

parts sulphur, 2 parts antimony. 2 Red light: 20 parts nitrate of

strontia, 5 parts chlorate of potash, 63 parts sulpur, 1 part charcoal. 3. Blue light: 9 parts chlorate of rising next morning

potash, 3 parts sulphur, 3 parts carbonate of copper. 4. Yellow light: 24 parts nitrate of soda, 8 parts antimony, 6 parts sulphur

1 part charcoal. 5. Green light: 26 parts nitrate of baryta, 18 parts chlorate of potash, 10

parts sulphur. 6. Violet light: 4 parts nitrate of strontia, 9 parts chlorate of potash, 5 parts sulphur, 1 part carbonate of copper, 1 part calomel.

IMITATION OF HUMAN HAIR.

In a recent article upon the trade in human, hair, it is stated that a patent has recently been taken out for converting goat's hair into hair for ladies use; and that the experiment is so successful as to render it almost imposssible to distinguish the real article from the imitation. This will be good news, not only to the dealer in hair, who might apprehend the exhaustion of their source of supply, but also to the ladies who depend upon art to compensate the deficiencies of nature. The same article states that in 1868 22,000 pounds of hair were imported into Great Britian, representing the clip of about 45,000 women. Much of this is obtained from the large communities of sisterhoods scattered throughout France and Belgium.

MICROSCOPIC PHOTOGRAPHY.

A further proof of the value of this invention is shown by the letter of a French correspondent, which says that a pigeon lately arrived in Paris, bearing dispatches, which when printed, filled four columns of a newspaper; and also private communications to the number of 25,000. The photographs were inclosed in a quill, tied to one of the bird's feathers. We hope the conclusion of peace will not stop this interesting work .-- Scientific American.

NEW PLASTIC MATERIAL.

A beautiful plastic substance can be prepared by mixing collodion with phosphate of lime. The phosphate should be pure, or the color of the compound will be unsatisfactory. On setting, the mass is found to be hard, and susceptible of a very fine polish. The material can be used, and extensively applied, in modes that will suggest themselves to any intelligent artist, to high class decoration. The inventor has given it the somewhat pretentious name of artificial ivory.

CANADA is the fourth maritime power in the world, and, according to the "Year Book for 1870," has 7,591 ships, with a tonage of 899,090 tons. She stands ahead of every nation except Great Britan, United States, and France.

The man who was drowned with applause came out very dry.

MESSENGER ALMANACK.

APRIL, 1871.

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THE TIDES. -The column of the Moon's Southing gives the time of high water at Parrsboro', Cornwallis, Horton, Hantsport, Windsor, Newport, and Truro.

High water at Pictou and Cape Tormentine, 2 hours and 11 minutes later than at Halifax. A member of the German artillery St. John's, Newfoundland 20 minutes earlier, Lunenburg; and Dudley de Chair, Esq , Halithan at Halifax. At Charlottetown, 2 hours 56 minutes later. At Westport, 2 hours 54 minutes later. At Yarmouth, 2 hours 20 minutes later.

FOR THE LENGTH OF THE DAY .- Add 12 hours to the time of the sun's setting, and from the sum subtract the time of rising.

FOR THE LENGTH OF THE NIGHT -Subtract the time of the sun's setting from 12 hours, and to the remainder add the time of

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