

EDITOR'S TABLE.

EDITORIAL CHIT-CHAT.

NEWPORT AND SARATOGA.—A correspondent asks us our opinion as to the relative merits of Newport and Saratoga. It is difficult, however, to compare the two places. Except in being fashionable, and very extravagant, they have few points of resemblance. Saratoga lies in a sandy district, and, like all inland towns, is very hot in July and August. Newport is unrivaled for its atmosphere, and is, even in the dog-days, comparatively cool. At Saratoga, visitors generally stop at one of the hotels. At Newport it is the thing to have a cottage; and people at the hotels are mostly looked down on as "Shoddy." The waters at Saratoga are very beneficial in certain complaints; but we think them, in spite of that, detestable; and we fancy that few drink them, who do not do it hygienically, or who have not acquired a factitious taste for them. Many like the sea-bathing at Newport; but the breakers are very tame. Taking the surf there is hardly better than dipping in a mill-pond. Nobody need go to either Saratoga or Newport who has not plenty of money to spend.

Perhaps, of the two, Saratoga is the more fashionable. At no other watering-place has there been, for so long a series of years, so many guests of distinction in the gay world. Neither have so many eminent men ever visited at any other of our summer resorts. A few years ago, the leading statesmen, North and South, met there as on a common ground. In this respect Saratoga is not what it used to be. Nor do we think it is even as fashionable as formerly. The society seems to us to be more mixed; there is less of the old grace, and elegance, and air of high-breeding. But you will still see more elaborate toilets at Saratoga than at any other watering-place in the United States. There are certainly more fine horses to be met there than anywhere else, and the introduction of a race-course is increasing the number. It is worth going to Saratoga to see Commodore Vanderbilt drive his span. Daily, in the season, at Saratoga, you will pass horses trotting to the pole, each worth five thousand dollars, or even more.

At Newport the display is of carriages, harness, and footmen, rather than of fine horses. On a bright afternoon, the principal fashionable street, which is called Bellevue Avenue, is crowded with showy equipages. Except at the New York Park, there is nothing like it to be seen on this Continent. This avenue is watered twice a day, so that it is rarely dusty. But the other drives, at Newport, are made intolerable by the dust. There are two beaches, where, when the tide is out, driving is pleasant; but in going to them one gets choked, unless a day after a rain is selected. Newport might be made a much more desirable place if its inhabitants were not such incurable Rip Van Winkles. They are the most "penny-wise and pound-foolish" people we ever knew. The land is owned, to a very great extent, by wealthy monopolists, who hold it at enormous prices, and comparatively shut out improvement. The denizens look on visitors as Barnegat pirates used to look on wrecks; and woe to the unsophisticated who fall into their clutches.

Newport might be made the first watering-place in the world. It is almost the only spot, here or in Europe, where one can keep cool in the dog-days. But it is not every one who will like the climate. The fogs, sometimes, are very heavy. The air, though soft, is always the least bit damp. The water is not good, and grows worse every year. The town is badly drained; in fact, not drained at

all. Some of these days, in consequence, an epidemic will break out there; and then, for years, people will avoid Newport as they would a pest-house. Cottages will sell for a song, and the hotels look like empty hospitals. Three years ago there was a threatening of such an epidemic. Next time the epidemic will be there in earnest. All this might be avoided if the town authorities would spend a little money. But they do not; we suppose they never will. Were they enterprising, they would open new roads—one along the Cliffs, for example; but they cannot see beyond their noses; and so Newport, not only suffers for want of drainage, but has not half the visitors it might have.

A HINT ABOUT BROILING.—We had a word or two to say, last month, about frying. We now give a hint in regard to broiling, which may be valuable. It seems so easy to broil, that most cooks fail in it. A really well-broiled beef-steak, while it is one of the best things in the world, is one of the most difficult to get. A bright, clear fire is necessary for broiling; extreme cleanliness of the gridiron is also requisite. Before placing meat upon the gridiron the bars should be thoroughly warmed through, and covered with fresh dripping, or suet. If this precaution be not taken, the marks of the bars will be seen on the meat. The best gridirons have concave bars, terminating in a trough, into which the gravy flows. Upright gridirons are useful, as the front of the fire is often fit for broiling when the top is smoky. Gravy should never be poured over broiled meat, but sent to table in a separate boat. Above all things, do not broil your meat too much, for this takes all the succulence out of it. We have sat down to a broiled beef-steak, that was so overdone, that it both looked and tasted like sole-leather. No wonder that persons, who eat such meat, have dyspepsia.

A NEW VOLUME begins with this number, affording a good opportunity to subscribe. Clubs, it must be remembered, can only begin with the January or July numbers. If new subscribers wish back numbers, from the first of the year, so as to get the whole of "The Soldier's Orphans," they can be supplied. Additions may be made to clubs at any time during the year.

SHAKING HANDS, when you are introduced, is a matter of taste, or rather of feeling, and is not absolutely requisite. If you are introduced to a person with whom you are anxious to become acquainted, and you see the friendly smile which expresses an amount of geniality, offer your hand. In a more formal introduction, do not do it.

IF YOU CALL ON A FRIEND who is at home, it is not usual to send in your card; but, if the door is answered by a new servant, or your name is a difficult one to pronounce, it frequently saves a mistake to give your card.

HUNTING WATER-LILIES is one of the prettiest, if not the very prettiest, of the embellishments we have given this year. In this line, "Peterson," according to the press, has no rival.

MOST MEN WHO COMPLAIN that they have nothing to do, are just about equal to the task.

SINS AND DEBTS are always more than we think them to be.