

SHOPPING IN MID-OCEAN.

The wireless message pulsing over the sea has put the voyaging financier in daily communication with the bourses of New York, London and Paris.

London's bad season, with dull gray skies and chill winds, is partly compensated for by the promise of good grouse shooting.

In East Haddam, about sixteen miles north from the mouth of the Connecticut river, hanging in the belt of St. Stephen's church and in use today, is a bell that was cast in Spain over 1,000 years ago.

Nearly one million new farms have been created in the United States during the last ten years.

There is one boat on the Hudson river that refuses to be Olerized. Although the word fast is not usually related when applied to the feminine gender, the Mary Powell glorifies in the epithet and has made friends by it.

A passenger has been carried on a monoplane across the English channel. A majority of the people who have to cross the channel will continue for a while, however, to risk the danger of being shaken up in the old-fashioned way.

Esperanto is attracting as much attention now as the puzzle pictures did a short time ago and has as many disciples as simplified spelling ever achieved.

An Indiana mule kicked a motor cyclist and his machine across the road the other day.

A New York man has won a championship and a \$100 watch by eating sixty-four bananas in a given time.

CZAR UNVEILS STATUE OF PETER THE GREAT



THE CZAR PLANTING AN OAK

St. Petersburg.—Two hundred years ago Peter the Great wrested Livonia and Riga from the Swedes and added them to Russia.

HE WAS HEIR TO MILLIONS

Mystery of Daniel Sheridan's Disappearance is Cleared Away After Many Years.

London.—The mystery of the disappearance of Daniel Sheridan, the American claimant of the "Blake Millions," has been solved at last.

A letter just received by that newspaper from Daniel Sheridan's son, Joseph, who lives in Quincy, Ill., reveals the fact that an old, homeless, nameless man, who died in Lambeth infirmary on December 19, 1896, was the lost claimant for the "millions."

Mrs. Blake was Helen Sheridan, a beautiful Irish girl, when she was married to Capt. Robert Dudley Blake, a young officer of dragoons stationed in Dublin.

WHEAT PAYS WELL IN EAST

Interesting Story of How New York's Massachusetts Farm Raised Big Crop.

Springfield, Mass.—Although the wheat fields of the far west are generally supposed to be very large, the department of agriculture has issued an estimate that in states where the fields are the largest their size averages little more than 100 acres.

A Lenox farmer, George W. Ferguson, has this year harvested 417 bushels of winter wheat from ten and seven-tenths acres of land and sold the wheat in a Pittsfield market for \$2.50 a bushel.

What an Absurd Question! "The Skeptical Aunt"—"What does he do, Dolly, for a living?" "Dolly (greatly surprised)—"Why, auntie, he does not have time to earn a living while we are engaged."—Stray Stories

STRAY CATS FOR COLLECTOR

Railroad Men From All Along Line Drop Dozens of Tabbies of All Kinds and Sizes.

New York.—As some men collect coins, Corots or coupons, Benjamin Baker, assistant yard master of the Pennsylvania railroad at West Morrisville, N. J., collects cats.

Mr. Baker likes cats. He has no use for all the cats that have been thrust upon him, and he has no place to keep them. The reason that the supply of cats in Mr. Baker's back yard is so much in excess of the demand is that almost everybody along the right of way who has a cat for which he has no further use gives the animal to a trainman with instructions to drop it gently off a train miles away and lose it.

tions the trainmen have hurried to Mr. Baker with the cats. He is now trying to find homes for his charges, but has discovered that many of the persons to whom he has applied for permission to leave a cat on trial would be as willing to have scarlet fever in the house as such a pet.

The management of a cat circus wrote to Mr. Baker not long ago expressing a willingness to take off his hands a couple of the cats that had been washed on him. Mr. Baker packed two cats out of the multitude in the back yard and sent them to the circus man. The latter either never got them or did not think much of them after he did get them, for he has never written a line in acknowledgment of Mr. Baker's kindness.

If the assistant yard master could only get a day off and if the railroad company would only lend him a couple of freight cars he could bring some of the excess to the hide-a-wee home in New York. But he cannot

MADE THIS BRAKEMAN ILL

Touching Devotion Exhibited by Newlywed Couple Grouchy Trainman to Lose His Temper.

"Are you comfortable, darling?" the man asked, bending over the lady on the train. The brakeman passing through the aisle, hurried along until he reached the platform, where he grated his teeth together like a coffee mill.

"Gr-r-r-r!" said the brakeman. "What's the matter with you?" demanded the conductor, emerging from the forward car with a solid slam of the door.

"Gr-r-r-r!" remarked the brakeman. "Of course, I'm sick! There's a new married couple back there."

"Where?" he asked, interestedly. The brakeman pushed him to one side and pointed a gnarled finger. "In the fifth seat there," he said, disgustedly; "there's a dough-faced mutt there with a woman. She looks like a canary bird. Ugh!"

The conductor pushed through the door and strolled down the aisle, casting sharp glances from side to side. As he neared the fifth seat the man was in the act of poking pillows back of the lady, murmuring gentle nothings in her ear.

"That's right," he said, "they've just been married." "Gr-r-r-rump!" said the brakeman in disgust.

"Well," said the conductor, "you might as well go to work. What you going to do about it?" They got a right to ride, ain't they?" "No, they ain't!" snapped the brakeman. "They got no more right to ride on a train than a mule's got to learn dominoes. Where do they get off?"

"They go clear through," he said. "Cheer up, son. They won't always be like that."

"You just bet they wouldn't if I had anything to do with it," growled the brakeman, picking up his lantern and slamming the door behind him.

So Near and Yet So Far. She was one of those very gushing, effusive ladies who occasionally infest newspaper offices, and she had been admitted into the sanctum of the managing editor of the paper on which Homer Davenport was cartoonist.

"Up to Ninety-third street," replied the assistant managing editor. "Suffering cats!" growled Davenport. "What would have happened if she had been going to One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street?"—Saturday Evening Post.

The Retort Courteous. While a bitterly waged war was in progress in Washington among the women of a well known organization, in which there were two militant camps, many cruel, biting things were said by the one of the other.

"Well," said the ambassadress, who was friendly with both leaders, "you should not let the passion of politics narrow your horizon, my dear. You should be broad visioned enough to make reasonable allowances for what you consider unlovely harshness. You fall to reason that Mrs. Jones' age may be telling on her."

Soap Suds on the Sea. It is in order to vary the phrase "Pouring oil on troubled waters" by substituting the word "soapsuds" for oil. Experiments have shown that soapsuds will reduce a sea almost as well as oil.

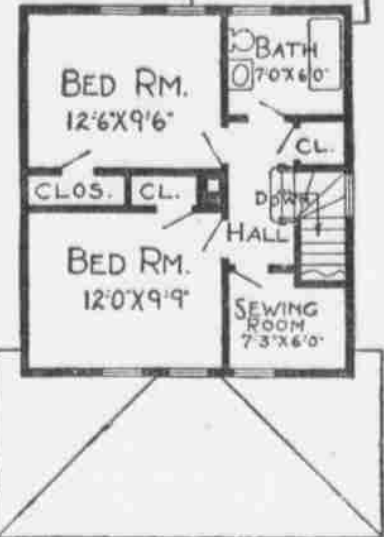
Thoughts for the Housewife. When you say of your husband, "his brow is of brass, and his neck an iron shew," perhaps he can say of yourself: "Her wants are as numerous as flies in August, and her tongue is as a scythe as that cleaveth through a man's understanding down to the last layer of sentiment."

Microbe Foe of Farmers. Sheffield, England.—At a meeting the other day of the British association, Dr. Russell and Dr. Hutchinson, who have long been experimenting in soil fertility, announced the discovery of a micro-organism which destroys the bacteria essential to the fertility of the soil.

THE AMERICAN HOME Wm. A. Radford EDITOR

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building for the readers of this paper.

It has been said it is a very commendable fact that rapid advancement has been made by all connected with building operations toward better and improved construction methods.



Second Floor Plan.



Forgetting by anyone who is going to have a stucco house.

A stucco house costs about the same as a frame house now and certainly is much more imposing and substantial in appearance.

Real Conservation. A farmer at Chacey, N. Y., whose extensive acreage made it a difficult problem to find help enough to do the necessary work, has met the situation by some real conservation of natural resources.

Small Weather Prophet. Several of the schoolgirl friends of little Miss Elinor Farham were at a party one afternoon not long ago. Some plans were being talked over for the evening.

Going to rain! "Going to rain!" exclaimed the other girls in chorus. "How do you know?" "Because this fudge won't fudge," was the reply as she bent over the boiling sweetness.

What an Omnivorous Insect. There is a little, shaggy, black-and-tan insect, about an eighth of an inch long, that eats everything under the sun which is not disturbed every day.

Think so? "I do. His views in general are very like my own." The house we show here is a stucco house to be finished with Portland

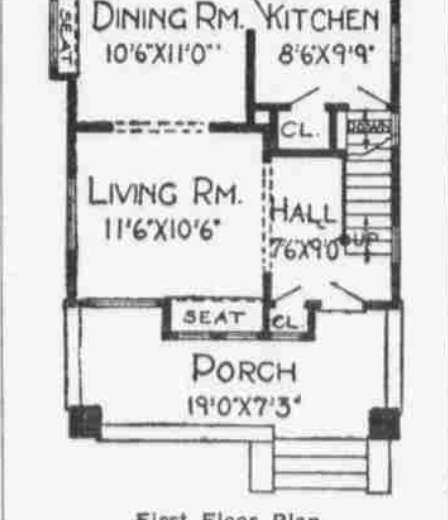
Every woman will be pleased with the second floor, and her eye will light on the sewing room the first thing.

This is due also to ignorance on the part of the workman. He does not use the same amount of water in each batch. The result will be a variation in the color, or a mottled appearance.

This is one instance of what intelligent observation can make of the means science and invention have added to our present-day equipment.

And that night there was a hard downpour lasting an hour.

And that night there was a hard downpour lasting an hour.



First Floor Plan.

much success. The asbestos fiber has a tendency to hold the water which is used to mix the concrete mass longer, thus giving the Portland cement ample opportunity to set.