

It always seems like adding insult to injury when the dentist sends in his bill.

According to Dun "collections are easier." Our duns aren't finding it so, thank you.

There's a revolution on in each end of the island of Hayti, and the golden mean can't be found at all.

A young woman in Cambridge has discovered a new star. If it has rings like old Saturn she doubtless is happy.

One surprising thing about wood alcohol is that it has not been so thoroughly adulterated as to be harmless.

No. Bright's disease isn't contagious or infectious, but high living is. It frequently amounts to the same thing ultimately.

Venders of wood alcohol as a beverage may insist, of course, that it is harmless, as it comes from the "grain" of the wood.

In the New York city hall there is a man who says he gets too much pay. Was, rather; he's probably in a straitjacket by now.

And now a doctor asserts that drafts are good things for people with colds. They are good for everybody, if they are properly endorsed.

Princess Chimay announces that she is going on the stage. Let us hope she will appear clothed in something of greater length than her name.

One of the most effective excuses for long summer vacations will be lost forever if the new cure for hay fever proves to be all that is claimed for it.

A Nevada young woman won several thousand dollars at faro, but quit when she found she had lost all of it. Women are proverbial for cold feet.

A Nebraska boy wants to marry his stepmother. This should serve as a pointer to stepmothers. Let them be kind. They never can tell what may happen.

Prof. Jeems Corbett is said to have written a play. Probably a red-headed, freckled faced villain is knocked out in the third act by a blow in the solar plexus.

If that sea eagle that has just been presented to John D. Rockefeller looks too much like a bald eagle the oil king will probably regard the gift as a personal insult.

Another cure for dyspepsia is announced. All you have to do is to eat chalk. Thus there still is hope for those unfortunate who have tried the sand cure in vain.

If Princess Louise hadn't eloped she'd be the Queen of Saxony now. This should be a warning to women who are thinking of running away with their French tutors.

We shall one day be able to do without sleep, a scientist says. We shall need to if we are to exercise that eternal vigilance which appears literally to be the price of liberty.

It has become the fashion for novelists to go to Europe for the purpose of recuperating after each book. Considering the blood they have to shed it is no wonder they require rest.

Charles Wagner, author of "The Simple Life," says he is charmed by Washington society. And yet the country has supposed that Washington was the head center of the double life.

A Chicago woman is suing for divorce because in eleven years her husband allowed her only four hats. To most women this will appear as a case for the criminal rather than the civil court.

Titled foreigners are in the habit of visiting this country under assumed names, but whether it is for the purpose of dodging designing mammas or the police court records has not been made clear.

Since that little hitch in the christening of the battleship Connecticut, the young lady sponsors now are smashing the bottles with an apparent determination to scatter the fizz and escape a fizzle.

It has now been fully demonstrated that a woman can dress comfortably on an allowance of \$2,500 a year. Husbands who are working on a salary of less than this amount will do well to ask for a raise immediately.

Some of the members of the Italian congress contemplate resigning by way of protest against the government's policies. This is a method which the knackers of this enlightened country never gave a moment's thought.

Prof. Metchnikoff's new microbes which proiong life indefinitely is found in abundance in the Balkan states. It was always suspected that some day those Balkan states would be discovered to have some good reason for existing.

A good fellow in public office, says Judge Herrick of New York, is too often a bad official. Speaking of good fellows generally, it may be said that their good fellowship frequently stops at the threshold of their own households on the way in.

It is just as well to bear in mind that suicide may often mean only depression rather than confession. Those who might be supposed to have the best reason to kill themselves, seldom do it, while those who have had the least reason have done it.

WITH THE WORLD'S BEST WRITERS

HEALTH FIRST.

It is a bad commentary on the physique of our young men that of 199 candidates who passed the mental examination at the Naval Academy this year, 114 were rejected because they did not come up to the physical standard. It appears to be easier to produce good book students than students who are good specimens physically.

No amount of book learning is worth much without the foundation of good health, and at the pace most of us are living these days good health is bound to be the exception instead of the rule. You can find half a dozen scholars to one person who gives any thought to the preservation of his health.

PLEA FOR EQUAL JUSTICE.

A few weeks ago a young Ontario girl committed suicide in Montreal as the final result of her deception by a man who had disappeared. A few days ago, another young woman was arrested for causing the death of her infant child, but no mention was made of the father.

WHY SOME BOYS FAIL.

Some of the very greatest failures in life in America in recent years have been failures of men whose lives and careers are blazoned abroad as those of great, successful men. Their sons are noted for their worthlessness, as degenerate sons of worthy sires, mere idle "sports" and voluptuaries, wretched beings who sometimes attain a cheap and ephemeral notoriety for some monkeylike folly and dissipation.

VALUE OF ROUTINE WORK.

Routine is a blessed thing when something happens to reduce the moral driving power which keeps us going—the courage, purpose and good cheer that give life present joy as well as meaning. It is good in moments of depression or weariness that there is a path marked out ahead each day which men follow because it is there; that there is time which custom has set for them to get up, to eat, to work, to rest, to read, to go to bed again.

SOCIETY AND LIFE.

What we call society is very narrow. But life is very broad. It includes "the whole world of God's cheerful, fallible men and women. It is not only the famous people and the well-dressed people who are worth meeting. It is every one who has something to communicate. The scholar has something to say to me if he is alive. But I would hear also the traveler, the manufacturer, the soldier, the good workman, the quiet observer, the unspooled child, the skillful housewife. I knew an old German woman, living in a tenement, who said, "My heart is a little garden, and God is planting flowers there."

SAFETY IN HONEST WORK.

Every youth, no matter what may be the quality and standing of his family, who adopts a life of idleness and becomes a street loafer will soon bloom out as a criminal on the road to the penitentiary or the gallows. There is no escape from it but by a course of honest industry in such lines as may be open and available to each. Work is the duty of every man and he should devote himself to it until it becomes a part of his nature. Honest toil is the opposite of idleness, vice and crime.—New Orleans Picayune.

A VAST FORTUNE IS NOT RICHES.

To be engulfed in one's occupation, swallowed up in a complicated life, harassed by the striving and straining, the worry and anxiety which accompany a vast fortune, is not to be rich. Time and opportunity and inclination to help others are the most valuable things in the world, and if you cannot secure these, if you cannot utilize them to your own enlargement, your own betterment, you are poor indeed although you have millions in the bank.—Success.

MAKE HOME LESS ARTIFICIAL.

Not one but will be the better for an outing, yet the one settled conviction that seems growing on the American people is that our homes are too artificial and conventional—that they need not be so far from nature as they are. We flee to the woods for a part of the time because we are naturally barbarians. Civilization that is not an improved barbarism is a burden and will be got rid of. Our homes are too complex; our cities too far from the groves; our lives too far from simplicity. Half our social life is artful and soulless. It naturally and easily props into intemperance and falsehood. The part of good citizenship is to help toward a clear-visioned and clearer-hearted home. Who shall dream the ideal? Who shall dare to live the real?—The Independent.

PRIVATE AUTO RACE TRACKS.

If trials of speed between automobiles are to be held in the future, as undoubtedly they will be, one radical change should be made in the provision for them. They should be permitted only on a private track. If none of the courses already dedicated to horse races can be utilized suitable grounds should be secured elsewhere and carefully inclosed. Perhaps it might be deemed expedient to erect a grand stand for spectators and exact admission fees, but that is a minor consideration. It cannot be recognized too soon that public sentiment will not and should not sanction the continued use of public highways for this purpose when a speed exceeding the legal limit is intended.—New York Tribune.

Radio-Active Wool.

A new method for employing radium in medicine has recently been discovered by Dr. E. S. London, and consists of using cotton wool which has been submitted to the action of the radium emanation. Dr. London, as the result of a series of experiments, has reached the conclusion that the effects of the radium emanation, and of the direct action of the radium are the same, consisting of an inflammation on the skin and the destruction of life. He subjected a number of substances, including cork, paraffin, paper and cotton wool, to radium emanation, and found that they would produce inflammatory effects on the skin. The wool, owing to its spongy nature, seemed to absorb the largest quantity of the radium emanation, and consequently was the most radioactive. Accordingly, Dr. London carried on further experiments with wool so treated, which he found was most convenient for easy distribution over the body and ready application at any desired point. The "emanated" wool, when packed in hermetically sealed jars or other containing vessel, loses its radioactivity very slowly and can be sent to any distance desired.

Plan to Dam the Thames.

A royal commission is considering the damming of the River Thames at London. As there is a difference between high and low tide of eighteen or twenty feet, all larger vessels must be handled in docks which can be closed by tidal gates. The object of this commission is to devise means for doing away with this inconvenience, and thus increasing the shipping facilities of the port. Among the plans presented is one of constructing a great dam across the Thames from Gravesend to Tilbury. This would convert the river into a great inland lake extending from Gravesend to Richmond. At the point selected for the dam the river bed is of fine chalk, and the structure would give a navigable depth of thirty-five feet at Gravesend and thirty-two feet at London bridge, without any dredging. The proposed dam would be of concrete, granite faced, and the four locks, 300, 500, 700 and 1,000 feet, and from 80 to 100 feet wide. The estimated cost is \$18,250,000. As all the docks could be left open there would be an annual saving of \$250,000 in the cost of operating the gates.

Electric Money.

Electricity in all its phases is entering into a great variety of operations, but in one startling report at least its use seems to be given rather undue prominence. "Making Honey by Electricity" is the caption of the report, and as we read we find that in New Jersey is an apiary; that the bees are fed on glucose; that the glucose is manufactured at Edgewater; that \$4,000,000 is invested in the glucose plant; that the daily output is 12,000 barrels, and that electric machinery is used in its manufacture. Hence "Making Honey by Electricity."

Easy and speed in doing a thing do not give the work lasting solidity or exactness of beauty.—Plutarch.

SCIENCE and INVENTION

New Method of Hardening Metals.

A new patented process of hardening iron and soft steel has been introduced in Dusseldorf, Germany. The carbon requisite for the tempering is obtained by means of carbide and certain fluxes. For instance, a mixture of silicium carbide and sodium sulphate is applied to cold iron or steel and then heated to redness with it, or the red hot metals is covered with the mixture. The reaction is so rapid that even thin objects can be hardened on one side. Within a short time a plate two or three millimeters thick becomes hard enough on one side to resist the best tempered leaf tool, while the other remains wholly soft. Interesting experiments were made with armor plates. A plate of seventy kilos strength was smeared six millimeters thick with the mixture, then a second plate placed upon the latter and the sandwich maintained at red heat for a couple of hours, after which it was cooled in oil. At a distance of twenty meters the hardened sides of these plates received a dozen bullets from a German rifle, model '08, without showing signs of a rip.

A Window Refrigerator.

In families lucky enough to possess an ice chest or refrigerator it is generally placed in the cellar, where it is always cooler and where the ice melts less rapidly, or sometimes it is put out in the yard. Every time an article is wanted, even if it is only a glass of ice water, it means a trudge up and down stairs, which is very trying to the housewife. A very compact and convenient substitute for the refrigerator is shown in the illustration. It will be observed at a glance how useful it would be and also the time that would be saved. The inside compartments can be arranged to suit the individual taste and the box placed where it would be most easy to reach. The idea of the inventor is New York city.

Swings on Brackets.

To fasten the chest, as it might be called, on swinging brackets just outside of the kitchen window, where it would be handy to reach. After the article wanted has been removed from the chest it can be pushed back against the wall out of the way. Another very great advantage is that it could be used in winter as well as summer, as in winter the cold air would be sufficient to keep fresh all perishable articles. The inventor is H. C. McClung of New York city.

Device for a Kicking Cow.

A simple device to prevent a cow from kicking while being milked is represented in the accompanying illustration. It is made of a hardwood stick either half or three-quarters of an inch square and 14 to 16 inches long, into which is fastened a hook made of heavy wire or a light rod with a proper curve to fasten on the outside of the cow's hind leg, with hooks passing half way round. A strip is split half way up and each of the two ends fastened well toward the outer end of the stick, as shown. The whole end is passed around the cow's leg and fastened to a buckle, which is attached to the stick at the center. If properly adjusted this holds the cow's leg so stiff and rigid that it is impossible for her to kick. The ends of hook wires fastened to the stick may be threaded for a nut at that end. The upper hook is larger than the lower, to conform to the size of the leg at the two points. This outfit can be made at very slight expense. It can be almost instantly adjusted to the cow's leg.

Hard or Soft Wood?

E. R.—Does poplar, basswood and butternut belong to the soft wood or hard wood class?

Growing Horse Radish.

W. W. R.—Please describe the method of planting and cultivating horse radish. How much should one acre grow?

Taking No Stump.

A tramp up in Piscataquis county rang a doorbell the other day, and when the woman of the house, a raw boned, determined looking person came to the door, he asked, thinking it a good joke: "Madam, will you marry me?" The woman unrolled her sleeves reached for her hat and jacket and said: "Well, I've buried four on ye, and reckon I ain't takin' no stump!"—New York Sun.

Mrs. Wynne's Large Family.

Mrs. Wynne, wife of the acting postmaster general, is one of the best known hostesses in Washington. She is a remarkably young looking woman to be the mother of ten children, but she was married when barely out of school, and her first long dress was her wedding gown.

None of Them Fit to Wear.

Ennice—Actually, Uncle George, I haven't anything fit to wear. Uncle George—Yes, I've noticed that all your gowns are in the height of fashion.—Boston Transcript.

GOOD POULTRY HOUSE DESIGN.

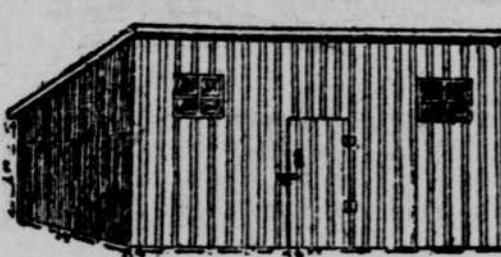
Meant to Accommodate Between Twenty and Twenty-five Hens.

M. E.—I enclose you a drawing of a poultry house which I would like to build. Please publish information on the following points:

How much lumber would be required to build it if rough boards and battens are used for the walls? Please give dimensions for posts, frame timber, etc. I would like to have the roof the same as the sides. The whole house will have two or three thick masses of tar paper. Would four feet fall be enough for the roof? Would a house 14 by 16 feet be large enough for twenty hens? Would three loads of gravel and two of sand make a satisfactory floor? Would the house as described be warm enough for winter if a canvas curtain is lowered in front of the roost at night?

To construct a poultry house as described above, the amount of material required would be as follows: Two scantlings 4 by 4 in. by 16 feet; two scantlings 4 by 4 in. by 12 feet; two scantlings 2 by 4 in. by 14 feet; 16 scantlings 2 by 4 in. by 16 feet; 60 battens 1 by 2 in. by 16 feet, and 60 feet rough lumber.

The 4 by 4 in. scantling should be placed on stones or posts for foundation. The studding for the front of



the house should be cut 7 feet long which, when stood on sill and along arce made for sill and plate, would take 16 feet of lumber cut in half to board up the front of the house without waste. The studding throughout should be placed about 2 feet 6 inches apart.

The plates can be made of two 2 by 4 in. scantlings placed on top of each other. The studding for the back should be cut 3 feet long, allowing a 16-foot board to be cut in four pieces. Providing 10-inch lumber is used, it will require about 50 battens 16 feet long. These should be cut in lengths corresponding with the length of the lumber.

There should be two rows of plates between front and back plates as a support for the roof. It would be well to place a couple of supports under each. In roofing the house 16-foot lumber will be necessary, with a small waste, unless 15-foot lumber can be secured.

The cost of material described will be about \$20. To this will need to be added, say, \$5 for nails, sash, glass and other small items, making a total cost of material about \$25.

Four feet slant in the roof will be quite sufficient. A house of these dimensions will comfortably house from twenty to twenty-five hens. To paper and board inside of studding on the west, north and east sides would not add greatly to the cost. If this is not done, it would be well to box in the roosting quarters and use the drop curtain, as stated.

I think three loads of gravel and two of sand would fill as high as the sill which is all that would be required.

Cogent Reason for Wanting It Melted Government Official.

Public officials who cross-question petitioners in the discharge of their duties expect and hope to receive truthful replies; but once in awhile they get an answer so pregnant with truth that its crystal purity fairly dazzles them. That is what happened in the New York postoffice on Thursday in the course of a conversation between a government official, gray headed and pompous and a woman young and good looking and in apparent distress.

"I want to get a letter back that I mailed about fifteen minutes ago," said the woman. "Can I?"

"It can be done if you can prove authorship," said the man gravely "but it will put us to a great deal of trouble."

"Yes, I suppose it will, but I can't help that. I really must have the letter. I shouldn't have sent it in the first place. I did it on impulse. I wouldn't have it go through for anything."

"Who is it to?" was the next question.

She mentioned a man's name.

The solemnity and importance of her inquisitor's look became still more intensified.

"Why," he asked solemnly, "do you want to get the letter back?"

"Because," came the unhesitating reply, "I am afraid his wife will get hold of it."

She got the letter.—New York Press.

Why He Would Wait.

"When I was touring in the south last fall," said Lew Dockstader, "Barney & Bailey's circus was booked to pitch tents in Macon, Ga. Walking along the street one day I came upon a group of darkies gazing open-mouthed at a yellow and red poster which bore in letters of green this announcement: "

"Wait. Wait. Wait. The Great Show on Earth. Sept. 1."

"Ah, ain't agoin' to dat show," remarked one husky mulatto to his yellow companion.

"What foh you ain't goin'?" was the response.

"Ah, gwon to wait foh de othab show wot's bettah," he said. "They ain't no bettah show," said she.

"Yes, they is," was his rejoinder "it say so on dat bill. Can't you read?" "Greatest Show on Ea'th" cept one."—New York Times.

Had Confidence in Mikado.

W. H. Crane, the veteran actor, tells a story illustrating the characteristics of the Japanese. A friend of his, an English surgeon, was in one of the Russian hospitals. While there a desperately wounded Japanese prisoner was brought in who had a large sum of money in his possession. He was asked if he wished the money sent to Japan to provide for his children. "No!" came the response. "My mikado will see that the family of a man who gave his life for his country do not perish. Keep the money for the Russian Red Cross society."—New York Times.

Fine Gift to Museum.

The director of the Paris Museum of Natural History has been authorized to accept a gift made by M. Durand of a collection of herbaria and a botanical library, a sum of 5,000 francs to pay the expense of transporting and classifying these collections, and a further sum of 50,000 francs to be invested, with a view to provide a fund for the maintenance of the herbaria and the purchase of plants and of works on botany.

BIBLE OF LONG AGO

SACRED BOOK BEYOND DOUBT THREE CENTURIES OLD.

Given by Fond Mother to Son Who Left Scotland to Come to America in 1611—Has Been Family Heirloom Since That Time.

Yellow with age, yet held together firmly by its strong calfskin binding, "The Grate Booke," which was printed in England more than three centuries ago, was exhibited to the descendants of John Cory and his brothers at the family reunion held in the Cory grove, near Oaklandon, Thursday. The book, which is a priceless heirloom in the family, has passed down through nine generations, is now the property of James E. Cory of Pennsylvania, who at the recent reunion was re-elected president of the Cory organization.

The history of the "Grate Booke" has been traced back as far as 1611, when the family records show that John Cory's mother gave the Bible to her son as she wished him God-speed when he left his home in Scotland to try his fortune in America. John Cory landed at or near Boston soon after the coming of the Mayflower.

For a while he lived at New London, Conn., where he was married. He afterward crossed Long Island sound and for a short time lived at Southampton, where the records show that on March 7, 1644, he was made whale commissioner for the district of Southampton. He died at Hashamomack, L. I., in 1685, leaving four sons and two daughters.

When John Cory died he willed the Bible to his son Elnathan. Thus the book has been handed down through nine generations, and the time-worn Bible that was exhibited in the grove near Oaklandon Thursday bids fair to remain a family heirloom for many years to come. It has about 500 leaves of English parchment of pages 8 by 12, and it is printed in old English type in the spelling of that age. It was published in 1602.

About 300 descendants of the young man who first received the book with his mother's blessing as he left to set sail for an unknown land gathered on Thursday in the old Cory grove, where the old volume was an object of reverence. They came from various parts of the United States, representatives being present from Pennsylvania, Alabama, California, Ohio and Indiana.—Indianapolis News.

SHE GOT THE LETTER.

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ALL GO AFTER RE-ELECTION.

But Congressmen Say They Don't Care if They Never Come Back.

"There will come times in your congressional career when you will express the opinion that you don't care if you never come back," is a remark that Speaker Cannon has made to many new members. It has been stated that eight-tenths of the members occasionally declare that they don't care whether they return or not but more than nine-tenths of them are hustling in every campaign for re-election. It generally occurs to the man in his first and second terms that there is not very much to be gained in a career in the House of Representatives, especially when a struggle for renomination and another for re-election is necessary every two years. It is during these first two terms that the new member finds that he is used largely to make a quorum and to vote right on all party questions. To a man who has been something in his own community, perhaps a state senator or representative, or a district attorney or judge of a court, the rear rank to which he is relegated in the House is not a very comfortable position. The many petty annoyances to which he is subjected, the complaints of constituents, the peremptory demands of the men who put him in Congress, and the unpleasant newspaper paragraphs in opposition papers have a tendency to make him weary of life under the dome. Perhaps eight-tenths of these men do say at times that they will not seek another re-election, but after they have established themselves in the House, been given committee assignments which afford them an opportunity to take part in the debates in the House, and what is more, form associations with men of character and intelligence, whose good-fellowship makes them companionable, the new members are very glad to continue in the House. Nearly every member will assert that he can make more in business than the salary of a congressman, but as John Allen would say, the salary of a congressman is "powerful regular."—Washington Post.

OF THE VULGAR RICH.

Two women boarded a car at Sixteenth and Chestnut streets yesterday afternoon, and it was very evident from their conversation, which was pitched in an exceedingly high key, that they were not used by birth to the good things which Providence had seen fit to shower upon them. One wore eyeglasses, which she constantly took off and then replaced. "I can't see right through 'em," she explained to her companion. Then she produced her purse and extracted a \$20 bill, with which she proceeded to wipe the offending glasses. "I find," she explained, glancing around the car to note the effect, "that the best way to clean 'em is with paper money. A handkerchief don't seem to do no good." "You don't have to use a twenty, do you?" asked the other woman. "Don't a one do just as well?" "Oh, yes," replied the other, languidly, "but ones have more germs, they tell me, because they're so common. I'm usin' a twenty because it's the smallest I've got." The conductor and the man on the rear platform, who had overheard the conversation, exchanged significant glances, "And yet some people wonder at crime," remarked the conductor.—Philadelphia Record.

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Bargains in Hearts.

Dan Cupid is a merchant bold, Who deals in human hearts. He has them all broken and old, Some whole and some in parts. The damaged ones he keeps in stock—Of course, I mean the makes—And all the tariff maidens flock To Cupid's bargain sales.