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WOMAN AT HOME

RIDING FAST AFTER HOUNDS.

BICYCLES and golfing sticks will soon be forgotten by the fox-hunting members of New York's four hundred. Not by any means all of the swell set in New York ride to hounds. At the most the total number is not greater than three score, for fox hunting is a rare sport, requiring rare nerve, rare sense and rare horsemanship. Not every woman possesses these qualities. But the fortunate who do give the lie to the popular idea that the woman of fashion is merely some dainty thing whose sole mission in life is to sit still in her fringes of finery and be admired. These women of the hunting set ride straight and true, never flinching when the pinch



MRS. KERNOCHAN.

comes, and often beating scores of men whose nerves were not equal to the run. For instance, there was a run last fall near Hempstead, L. I., behind the park of the Meadowbrook Hunt Club. Seventy riders started, including a dozen women. There were but ten in at the death, all of the others being unhorsed or forced out of the hunt by the towering obstacles, the rough going and the swift pace. Of these fortunate and hardy ten the most conspicuous was Mrs. J. L. Kernochan, the only woman to finish. Since then Mrs. Kernochan has been playfully dubbed the "Queen of Rough Riders," and she deserves the title. In this particular run the distance traversed was twelve miles, over eighty different jumps, varying in height from three feet to five feet one inch. It is considered a stiff run when there are sixty jumps, to twelve miles. Moreover, the pace was extremely fast, the run being made in an hour.

Horsewhipped Her Father's Admirer.

Miss Elaine Clarrage, an attractive young woman residing in San Francisco, has just achieved notoriety by publicly punishing Mina Trimmer, a former friend, because of the persistent attentions she bestowed upon her (Miss Clarrage's) father, Miss Clarrage, in explaining the cause of the affair, said: "Mina Trimmer was formerly my friend, and I introduced her to my family. We were friends for a long time, but I discovered that she was too friendly with my father and came to the house only to see him. I saw how things were going and did not want to see our home broken up. I talked to



MISS ELAINE CLARRAGE.

my brothers about the matter, but they did not seem to believe that there was much danger. I finally won my point and she was told by the members of the family that she was no longer welcome at our house. Since then she has simply taxed her ingenuity to devise ways of annoying us. She has used opera glasses before to peer into our house, and has nagged and annoyed me on the streets. I could not stand it any longer and made up my mind to horse-whip her."

Shop Girls in Eng. and.
One can hardly enter a high-class London shop without noting not only the height and air of distinction the attendants possess, but their redned

voices and manner. Referring to this one day, the manager of a large establishment said that the girls in their dressmaking department are required to have all these qualifications, and for the most part they come from good families, preferring this to the overcrowded occupations of nursery governess or companion. There is hardly much to choose from in point of freedom, for all the girls are obliged to live in a building provided by and under the supervision of the management. These houses are doubtless comfortable, but the rules are extremely strict. No masculine callers are ever allowed and the house is closed promptly at 10. If a girl misses the closing hour on three occasions no excuse prevents a prompt dismissal. The management claims that these rules necessitate its attendants taking a proper amount of rest, and probably customers find it to their advantage not to be obliged to listen to an account of the last dance, or what "he said" and "she said" when they wish to be waited on.

Magnificent Evening Gowns.
Magnificent costumes will be favored this winter, and are especially recommended to the woman of small purse, but in combining black and white great care must be taken not to have too violent contrasts. A very beautiful costume has a skirt of black moire with a bodice of gleaming white satin covered with embroidered chiffon, tulle or fine lace-like ground. A pretty dinner gown recently worn was made of white satin as to the bodice and skirt, with a bolero jacket and celture of Russian green velvet. There were deep Vandyke sleeve caps of the velvet, with close coat sleeves of the satin beneath, trimmed with pearl and gold passementerie, the same beautiful garniture showing on the satin bodice front and celture.

Gains Fortune by Kindness.
Miss Bessie Almy lives in New York. Years ago one of Bessie's aunts married a Cuban and moved to Costa del Ruez, where her husband had large plantations. Miss Bessie has frequently visited her aunt and her cousins, remaining in Cuba many weeks at a time. Adjoining the plantations of her uncle by marriage were those of old Jose Martinez, a Spaniard by birth and a wealthy sugar planter with two sons and one daughter. The insurgents laid



MISS BESSIE ALMY.

waste the property of Miss Bessie's relative and Don Jose's two sons were killed in battle. This so shocked his daughter that she sickened and died. The old man was then taken ill, and Miss Almy nursed him as she had his daughter. He recovered partially, but later was stricken down again and died. Bessie at this time was cashier in a New York piano store. A short time ago she received news that Don Jose had left her his entire fortune, estimated at about \$1,500,000.

Rubies in Engagement Rings.

Jewelers have unwelcome news for impecunious bridegrooms. Engagement rings, to be strictly correct, must now have ruby jewels set in them, the diamond having at last been crowded out by the more valuable stone. The ruby is supposed to be of all stones the most lucky—a pretty legend connected with the gem is that Noah was supposed to have had a ruby of marvelous brilliancy in the ark, and that the rose, are light which it emitted was sufficient to illuminate the wonderful boat until all danger was past. Many of the oldest betrothal rings were set with rubies, these stones being the acknowledged love token of long ago.

Kitchen Hints.

Melted butter will not make good cake.
Veal should be white, dry and close grained.
Mutton should be deep red and close grained.
The colder eggs are the quicker they will froth.
The best poultry has firm flesh, yellow skin and legs.
Nutmegs should be grated at the blossom end first.
To make good pastry the ingredients must be very cold.
Lemons will keep for weeks if covered with cold water.
Pork should be fine, close grained and the rind smooth and thin.

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

A CHOICE SELECTION OF INTERESTING ITEMS.

Comments and Criticisms Based Upon the Happenings of the Day—Historical and News Notes.

If Turkey is to be carved by Russia, and Germany it is safe to wager that John Bull will pass his plate for a second helping.

The man who left \$20,000 to the French Academy for "the encouragement of moral literature" probably intended it as a corruption fund to keep Zola out.

When Chicago is told that her new Postoffice will be one of the most beautiful buildings in the United States she sadly remembers that the same thing was said about the old ruin that is being torn down.

It is not wonderful that walking barefoot on the dewy grass should cure rheumatism since it has been demonstrated time and again that walking barefoot on an inverted carpet tack will cure the worst case of stammering.

At a prize-fight in Boston one of the fighters "singed" the referee, who had decided against him, whereupon the referee promptly knocked him down. The services of that referee should be in great demand when the International Court of Arbitration gets down to business.

A woman in Rockford, Ill., awoke the other night and found a burglar in her room, whereupon she at once flaked the wretched man if he had not conceived a mother. Luckily he had and left the house before the good woman could learn whether or not he was accredited with any grandmothers.

Hereafter it will be vain for Philadelphia to make a show of resentment at the remarks about her sporting qualities. Li Hung Chang had an imperial command to visit Crump's shipyard there, but when the time came to go he was found to be plunged in a sleep from which nobody could awake him.

Nothing can more thoroughly secure the harmony and peace of the family circle than the habit of making small sacrifices one for another. Children who learn good manners in the best and most natural way, and having thus acquired will never leave them. Courtesy and kindness will never lose their power of charm, while all suspicious influences of them are to be despised.

The czar will probably draw his last long breath since his accession when he sits at the table in England. No hydrocyanic acid in his boiled eggs, no infernal machines under his bed, no sharpshooters along the roadside, no mines under his railway train, no bad marksmen in the party when he goes shooting. He can take his ease at Balmoral, secure that all the killing that is done will be of harmless deer and wild fowl. The vacation ought to add a year to his life.

Our Government has again been obliged to tender an apology for the lawless killing of Italian subjects by mob violence in Louisiana. The apology will, without doubt, be followed by the payment of indemnities, as in the case of the alleged Mafia conspirators shot to death by rioters in New Orleans. In diplomatic parlance that will "close the incident" as between Italy and the United States but the reflection will remain to be more strongly impressed on the minds of our people that the local communities responsible for these outrages should ultimately be made to pay the costs incurred.

The drafts drawn by indolence upon the future are pretty sure to be dishonored. Make "Now" your banker. Do not say you will economize presently, for presently you may be bankrupt. Begin at once. Now is the time. Each present sacrifice makes future ones easier. The selfish man's weakness cannot be overcome by him if he does not fight it at once. Do not think that you will repent and make atonement presently, for presently you may be judged. Bear in mind the very important fact, taught alike by the history of every nation, all rulers and private individuals, that in at least three cases out of five presently is too late.

It appears that the name of the new steamship which arrived in Puget Sound from Japan the other day is the Myke Maru. There is a Celtic flavor about this appellation which gives rise to the question whether it is the Japanese spelling of an Irish name. No reason is in evidence why it may not be. It would indeed be strange if members of the brave and adventurous race which has contributed so many valuable and distinguished persons to the population of the United States had not pushed their way to the domain of the Mikado, where there are so many rich opportunities for the capable and daring. Very likely, if the truth were known, it would be found that not a few kilndons cover stalwart Irish frames in the land of cherry blossoms;

and nobody would be surprised to learn that the Myke Maru was named in just honor of a descendant of King Brian. If so, it is a safe guess that he is in the statesman line of business over there.

Minnesota has proved that, like Illinois, she is subject to occasional lapses into barbarism. That is the only construction that can be put upon the lynchings that were reported from Glenwood. A sheriff had been killed by Dorman Musgrove and C. A. Chignars while he was trying to arrest them for assaulting a farmer. The two men were captured and placed in jail, first at St. Paul for safe keeping, and then at Glenwood to stand trial. Musgrove was found guilty of murder in the second degree and Chignars' trial was yet to come on. So the mob which took the prisoners out and hanged them showed its contempt for the law in a number of ways. First and foremost it committed murder. Then by its acts it proclaimed to the world that a regular verdict solemnly pronounced in a Minnesota court of justice is of no effect. Again by anticipating the result of the second trial it gave general notice that an unjust verdict is to be expected in the Minnesota courts, and that civilization being a failure it is necessary to return to the methods that prevail among primitive barbarians. Perhaps the vigilantes of Glenwood feel that they have done a "smart" thing, but shame should be their portion.

A gentleman of New York calls attention to the alleged fact that eighty-five drunken Congressmen have been seen and counted staggering across the floor of the House in a single day, and he thinks this reveals a state of affairs which calls loudly for reform. If the gentleman is right in his premises his conclusion must be accepted. He gives statistics for the House alone, but if, as a conservative estimate, fifteen staggers are put down for the Senate we have a total of 100 per day. The propensity of inebriated persons for noise is well known and it requires only a glance at the Congressional Record to imagine the suspicion that these 100 had occupied much more than their fair share of the floor of the time of the Congress. The New Yorker, however, while clearly pointing out the perils of that situation, is like most enthusiasts, extremely radical in his suggestions for reform. He proposes, indeed, that we prohibit the revolutionary extreme of sending only sober persons to Congress. It is doubtful if this can be accomplished, but certain palliatives may be suggested. For instance, there might be a congressional ante room furnished with an imitation bar and a chalk line on the floor. Members on entering should be first required to walk the chalk and pronounce "Truly rural," then led to the bar and requested to pick a time for his wet work. If they passed those tests and refrained from hooking their elbows affectionately on the edge of the bar they could be admitted.

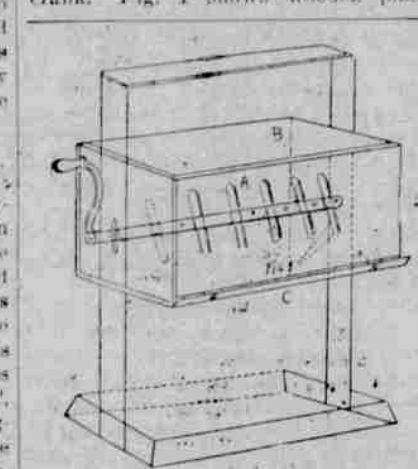
Science, within the last few years, has very definitely answered the inquiry, Why should we cook our food? It has found that the bacteria that cause disease are present in many of the substances. No degree of cold will destroy their vitality, though it may change their form. If they are in a certain quantity of milk, for instance, they will appear, powerful for evil, in the butter that is made from it. But at a temperature a little above the boiling degree the bacteria are annihilated. Therefore, in our cities, where the food is often spoiled, raising its temperature, by means of steam, to this point. When ordinary food is cooked the same sterilization is effected. Certain forms of germ-diseases are more prevalent in summer than in winter, because we eat more uncooked food in hot weather than in cold. There is scientific warrant for refusing the cold salad that tempts us on an August day, and eating hot soup. The experience of painstaking physicians furnishes scores of cases to show the contrasting results of care and carelessness in the kind of food used and in the preparation of what is eaten. A paragraph from the history of a city "institutional" church may well be quoted. During one summer the pastor was called to attend the funerals of forty-five babies who had died within his church's district. The following summer the church employed a corps of skilled nurses and the children of a large number of families of the poor were fed on sterilized milk. Not a single death among those families was reported that season. Such a decrease in mortality is, of course, exceptional, one might say providential. Yet the broad fact remains that the kitchen and the kitchen range are agencies of civilization that should help to end many of the epidemics that in earlier ages destroyed myriads of human lives.

Thirteen of a Kind.
There is an ancient story in Paris which originated with a waiter at the famous Terminus. A guest had ordered a dozen oysters. "Only one, Aggen?" asked the waiter. "Yes, that will be enough." "You are not superstitious, then?" said the waiter, with a curious smile. "Why? Because 13 are not afraid of being thirteen at table."



Mixing Fertilizers.

Here is a plan of a mixing box for mixing home-made fertilizer, as illustrated in the Old Farmer. The box should be made stationary to a center-piece so that it will revolve with a crank. Fig. 1 shows wooden pins



BOX FOR MIXING FERTILIZER.

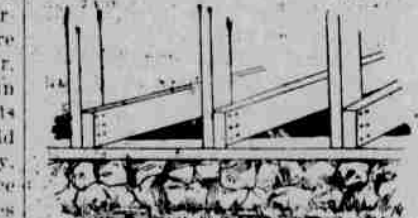
running through center-piece, necessary for good work. C, lid for opening and closing box. A should be turned to B for filling, and as shown for contents to be removed. The box should also be large enough to hold 200 pounds of commercial fertilizer, or about two-thirds full for satisfactory work.

Turnips Among Corn.

Turnips will not only bear frost without injury, but it is the belief of many farmers that their quality is improved after the first frost. Certainly when they are grown among corn they make a large part of their growth after the corn is cut. This is commonly thought to be owing to the root crop being out from under the shade of the corn. This may be one reason, but another doubtless is that as soon as the corn is cut its roots cease to draw upon soil fertility. As the soil is warm and fermentation constantly goes on, nitrogenous plant food is constantly being liberated. This is still more so after a frost hard enough to kill most of the weeds, but not severe enough to affect the turnips. There is often a growing season of five or six weeks after the first frost, and in this time the turnips will often double the growth they had made before the frost.

Simple Framing of Buildings.

There has been a wonderful change in recent years in the manner of framing buildings, reducing the size of timbers used and doing much less cutting of mortises and tenons. But there are still other changes in the direction of simplicity that are not commonly known. One of these is shown in the accompanying sketch, which very near-



AN INEXPENSIVE HOUSE FRAME.

ly explains itself. Instead of a heavy sill, a two-inch plank is laid upon the stone foundation, bedded into the cement. Upon this are laid the planks that are to support the floor boards. These are spiked to the uprights, which are themselves spiked to the sill plank. The same plan of spiking the frame can be carried out in the upper portion of the building. In this way all the framing is made of planks, and no mortising or tenoning is required. This plan is highly useful for small buildings, while there are plans to use a somewhat similar construction in the framing of barns.

Dark Stables.

Every farmer and dairyman should have a stable than can be darkened, in which to put his cows morning and evening during milking time. Being in a darkened room the flies do not trouble them, and they stand quietly while being milked, and are glad to be freed from the pests which torture them when outside the stable. A cow must have the patience of Job to stand quietly and be milked, while the flies are sucking blood from almost every part of her body; and because she licks and does her tail round to drive

off these pests, the patience of the milker becomes taxed, and the poor beast is too frequently beaten and kicked, because she tries to rid herself of the flies that are biting her. Try a dark stable for milking, and you will never be satisfied without one thereafter.

Destroying Burdock.

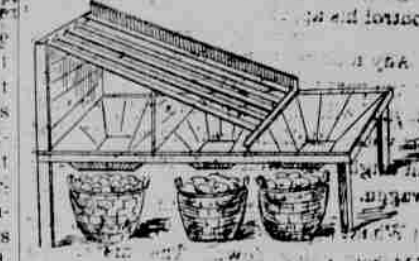
The burdock is a bad weed for a careless or lazy farmer. If it is allowed to seed, the product of seed is so enormous from each plant that once they get scattered over the ground the place will not be free from them for years after. Yet it is not a hard weed to kill. All that is necessary at any stage of growth is to cut the plant off one to two inches below the surface and fill in the hole that the part of the root cut out has occupied with common salt. The root is full of sap, which first dissolves the salt, and then as the moisture gradually increases, it rots away the root that is left in the ground, making a new growth of shoots above impossible. One application is enough, and it takes less than a minute to make it.

Feeding Hens Wheat.

Wheat is good to make hens lay, but it must be fed in moderation. Hens are very fond of wheat, and if given what they will eat of it they will fatten as fast as if the grain were corn. It is best always to make the hens earn what they get by sprinkling their grain among hay or straw. If clover can be got that should be used, and when the wheat gets scarce the hens will turn up on clover, which is an excellent food for egg production. No kind of grain can be depended on for a full ration for fowls in winter. They need some grass or vegetables or clover, so that the grain may not lay in a hard lump on their gizzards.

Potato Assorting Device.

The device shown below for assorting potatoes is made by constructing a box 12 feet long and 4 feet wide with three partitions. The back piece is



POTATO ASSORTER.

about 4 feet high, the next 3 and the third 1 1/2 feet. Nail pickets on the screens. Put them rather closely together on the first incline, and further apart on the second. This separates into three grades. Shovel them on the slide above the first incline and push down slowly and the assorting is accomplished.—Farm and Home.

How to Hitch a Horse.

To hitch a horse to a smooth post or tree without the rope slipping down or untying is shown in the illustration. The end is turned round the post, forming a small circle, carried round the post, returned above the rope, passed round the post again, pulled over the last turn of the rope and through the first circular turn made by a coming out at b.

Dairy Dots.

Watering is as important as feeding. Winter the best, and make most of the rest.

The milk dairyman cannot feed exactly as the butter maker. A cow's biography is expressed, not in good deeds, but in quarts of milk.

Cows which give a large quantity of yellow milk are not always the best butter makers.

Winter dairying gives milk and butter at a season when they command the highest prices.

Smoking an old pipe where there is milk or butter, is first-rate evidence that the smoker ought not to be in the dairy business.

Every time you swear at a cow she makes you pay for your ill manners. Every time you kick her you kick pennies out of your pocket-book.

Fine butter will always sell readily at a profitable price, while poor butter fails to find a customer and loses in quality, daily. And in the end makes a loss to every one who has anything to do with it.

Farm Notes.

Improvements are always in order, but—pay your debts first.

Potato bugs appear to have been unusually numerous this year.

Exports of wheat for July and August aggregated 12,750,100 bushels, against 8,515,288 for the same months of 1895.