

Correct opinions cannot straighten crooked practice.

A surgical operation has made a bad job good, and the operation didn't kill him, either.

A St. Louis newspaper reporter left in estate of \$70,944, but then he was noway for some years before he became a reporter.

Physicians insist that copper is a brain destroyer, although Tom Lawson believes that the speculative germ fatness on a copper diet.

Anybody can judge how much better it is for his health to be out in the free air at the races than to be shut up in a stuffy church.

Editor Stead is praising the czar as one of the great men of the world. If he isn't careful he will lose the honor from his subscription list.

Manchuria has raised large crops this year, but had a great deal of trouble in harvesting them, owing to circumstances over which it had no control.

The completed returns show that only sixty-one deaths were caused by birth of July lockjaw this year, against 408 last year. Let the crusade be kept up. There is abundant encouragement.

A doctor in the coal mining districts of Upper Silesia thinks he has discovered in coal dust a cure for consumption, owing to its drying and disinfecting effects on the lung tubercles. He was led to investigation by the fact that consumptive persons coming from other regions to the neighborhood of mines recover their health.

Corruption in government, especially municipal maladministration, is due not so much to the pernicious activity of the professional politicians who make their living by "graft," as to the selfish indifference of the great body of the people, who, except under extraordinary stimulus, prefer to submit to robbery and imposition rather than exert themselves to overturn existing conditions, evil though they know them to be.

It will be an evil day for all the head-grabbing nations, but more especially for the British, when "Asia for the Asiatics" becomes the watchword of the races of the great continent who are as sands upon the anathema. Something of the sort is beginning to dawn upon the British mind, and in consequence there is less of relying over the progress of Japanese arms in King Edward's realm than there was at the outbreak of the war.

A study of the histories of the two warring nations in the oriental war proves that the greatness of a nation depends even more upon the virtues of its people than upon the resources of the country. There is no doubt that if Japan had had her seat of government at St. Petersburg or Moscow she would have taken a better advantage of this situation than has Russia, while if Russia had been confined to a few islands isolated from all contact with more civilized races the world never have risen from barbarism.

Cheer was lately brought in a simple and novel way to a patient long ill. A rearrangement of the furniture, a change of the pictures and other ornaments, had done much to make less dreary the wearing days and wretched nights. At last the patient said: "Let me see an American flag." The flag displayed on the wall refreshed the tired eyes, which rested with interest on what was both a decoration and a source of the thoughts into new channels. Persons who have seen the Stars and Stripes in a strange land will understand the feelings of the sick man.

It is dangerous for the household to accept as a matter of course the return of the children to school after a holiday. Shakespeare speaks of the schoolboy "creeping like small unwillingly to school," but he puts the words into the mouth of a wretched child and scold. When he leaves the school, the holiday, the look are of the best sort, the one ought to be as welcome as the other to the healthy child. If the school-teacher has no attractions for him, it is fair to expect either that the teacher should find the right woman for her school, or that the mother makes of the school a more interesting place for the child's person, not a fountain of which he may continually refresh himself. Happy the mother whose school days and this look forward to the school days of school with joy, while they are upon a vacation full of pleasant memories and recreation free from the taint of criticism or of

A Pyrenean Note. At a watering place in the Pyrenees a French journal, the conversation of table turned upon a wondrous tale to be heard some distance off on the Franco-Spanish frontier. "It is an interesting," said an inhabitant of Germany. "As soon as you have spoken you hear distinctly the voice leap from rock to rock, from precipice to precipice, and as soon as it has passed the frontier the echo assumes the Spanish accent."

It is hard to catch them, and not the different ways men have of trying to do it.

to share without striving to undo to other. There is the pride in nation which leads the patriot to prefer the things of his own country to those of other lands; there is the very sensible sentiment that one should help his own State or his own city where he can by giving trade and custom to those who are near by. The spirit of jealousy which would move the consumer to boycott his neighbor because, forsooth, that neighbor is prospering much, is destructive of society. So, also, in industrial life, there must be mutual helpfulness in all things. The employer and the employe must work together in harmony or there can be no advancement for either. That which injures one injures both. Every step in advance which makes for better goods or cheaper production or removes some of the artificial barriers to trade and the exchange of labor through commodities, is for the good of all industrial life.

There are many people who thoughtlessly leave loaded firearms about where there are children who know little about their use. Boys are naturally curiously, and anything in the shape of a gun or a pistol has an irresistible attraction for them. They cannot resist the desire to handle deadly weapons, and when they fall into their hands through the carelessness of their elders, a tragedy not seldom results, and parents have often to mourn the deaths of the little ones they love on account of accidents that might have been prevented by a little precaution. The leaving of a charged rifle behind the door or a revolver in an open bureau drawer is inexcusable and has led up to more than one death, not only among the youthful, but even among adults, as the records of casualties in the daily press abundantly prove. We sometimes doubt the efficiency of having a loaded weapon in the house, even for protection from burglars, and we have noticed but few captures of house-breakers at the point of a pistol. In this age of telephones one can easily summon assistance without a resort to the revolver, which so few know how to employ intelligently. But if one is deemed necessary, it should be placed beyond the reach of inquisitive and venturesome boys, who may play a comrade through their ignorance. "I don't mean to," is not a soothing balm to one who has lost an offspring through the lack of foresight of men of mature years who have not removed temptations from the pathway of the young and inexperienced.

The medical examiner for the New York board of education testified recently that seven per cent of the young women in the training schools for teachers became incurably diseased from overwork. At eighteen these girls were sitting up with their studies till 12 o'clock at night, were undergoing a strain as severe as comes upon the business man at forty. The superintendent had no doubt that it was just this school work that broke them down, or that it explained the prevalence of Bright's disease, heart disease and spinal curvature among them. Her statements of fact will be accepted without the slightest hesitation, and no one, we imagine, would wholly reject her theory concerning the cause of so much sickness among the students. But at the same time a question may be raised whether, generally speaking, too much application to books is required of the rising generation. Certainly the caution against crowding is heard on every hand, and there are related questions to be considered because they have a very important bearing on the subject as a whole. Were the girls who broke down in good health when they began? Were they equal to the average in brightness or were they trying to make up by their wills for what they lacked in intellectual gifts? If they had spare time, did they utilize it properly in exercise and outdoor diversions, or did they remain in the close atmosphere of their rooms? Did they use to excess such stimulants as tea and coffee? Was their food insufficient or was it perhaps rich and unwholesome? Did they have cause for worry and nervous excitement that was not connected with their studies? We do not ask these questions to suggest a defense for mental cramming, but simply to indicate how large the subject is. Possibly many young people are credited with overwork when the amount of work that they actually do would not trouble them if their lives were differently ordered. For the common saying that work never hurt anybody applies to all kinds of work, and is certainly true within the limits commonly applied. Out of course, sitting up till 12 o'clock at night is not good, nor are long hours which keep one fatigued. There should be rest and recreation with complete and invigorating change. But these will leave time for much hard work that may be pursued without injury, and, after all, the problem is ultimately an individual one, which is solved by reverence to the native endowment of strength and intellectual ability.

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It has been found by experience that those immigrants who cannot read their own language are generally those who are also ignorant of a trade, who bring little money with them, who settle in the large cities, who have a low standard of living and little ambition to seek a better, and who have the smallest appreciation of our institutions. Obviously the addition of the literacy test would be the most potent restriction that could at this time be added to the list in force. It is the test which has been most vigorously recommended by those who have given the subject the closest study.

The present government of Russia, according to all testimony, is as vicious a practice as in principle. Its chief is a weak and vacillating man who is incapable of a settled policy. First one palace cabal and then another is in control. Corruption is the rule in all departments of the vast bureaucracy. It is dishonesty and inefficiency at some rather than lack of valor in Manchuria which brought disaster to the Russian arms. A group of reactionary nobles, aided by a reactionary church, is in power, and is using it not for the good of Russia, but for the personal enrichment of its members. Manifestly such a regime contains in itself the seeds of its own ending.

An interesting light is thrown upon the modern Japanese character by an editorial in the Tokyo Shimbun. The editor, referring to the wounded Russian sailors now under treatment in the Tokyo hospital, says: "They are true sailors who have done their duty faithfully. Why should we not honor them and treat them kindly? Revenge is a sin. It is barbarous. We are living under a new law of universal brotherhood." And the Tokyo Journal, while commending the government for its kindness to the prisoners, adds, "But this rare opportunity of doing good should not be left entirely in the hands of the authorities. It is also our duty to be sympathetic friends of the captives, and make them feel at home in a strange land." These are encouraging words to come from a people who have been called "heathen" and "pagan."

Twenty years ago Lord Avebury, who was then Sir John Lubbock, made for a working men's club a list of what he regarded as the "best hundred books." Not only at the time, but at frequent periods since then, this list has been the subject of vigorous criticisms. Discussion has been renewed by Lord Avebury's recent revision of his own list. In the matter of these two lists several things are worth noting. First, Sir John Lubbock, a man

of great learning and most scholarly attainments, would naturally be expected to prepare a list of books in which there should be nothing cheap or ephemeral; and that he did. In the second place, although the books which he selected are divided among those which one reads for mental power, those which one reads for information and those which one reads for pleasure, the number in the first class is far the largest; and that, too, although the list was intended for unlearned working men. Thirdly, although the revised list differs slightly from the first one, it does differ. The books now recommended are all great books, but there have been omissions and additions. Doubtless, Sir John prepared his first list as carefully as he prepared the revision; but he is twenty years older, and some things which pleased or interested him two decades ago have lost their hold, while certain other things have taken their place in his life. So it is with most of us. The mental food which pleases to-day, like the physical nourishment we take, may seem insipid to-morrow; nor can we ever be sure that our own feast is not our neighbor's famine. We can, however, be sure of this: that certain books are as necessary to the strengthening of the mind as bread and meat are to the body, and that neither scholar nor working man can afford to do without them.

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

A CHOICE SELECTION OF INTERESTING ITEMS.

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

Putting iron into cork seems to be the limit of adulteration.

Andrew Carnegie has written another book. Perhaps he needs the money.

Naturally there is some uneasiness in plutocratic circles as to whom Miss Ida Tarbell will tackle next.

A blue book of the cat aristocrats of America has been published. All cats look alike from the bedroom window.

Is it a sense of humor that prompted the government to name two of the biggest battleships in the navy after Connecticut and Rhode Island?

Henceforth the only kind of hazing which will be permitted in some colleges is that wherein the hazers line up in a field and place a football between them.

It is certainly a statesmanlike action to marry the woman to whom one has just paid \$15,000 for breach of promise. There's nothing like marrying a woman with money.

Surgeons lately relieved an Ohio young woman of fifty-one needles that were scattered through various parts of her anatomy. She must have been a girl with many fine points about her.

Every day brings new incidents showing the need of reform in the divorce evil. In Oregon a woman is asking divorce merely because her husband has been drunk for twenty-five years.

At Gluckstadt, near Hamburg, Germany, there is a "Technical Academy for Chimney Sweeps." At the recent commencement twenty-three students gained the title of "master sweep." They continue to do things thoroughly over there.

Norway is proud of a woman police officer, whose round of duty is on the island of Nakhola, which belongs to the government. The agricultural experiment station, drilling grounds and government quarries are her special care. A particular service is preventing the depredations of excursion parties. She has a farm, and does the milking when she is not "policing."

A motorist who makes many excursions into the country regretfully admits that on every trip he slaughters rats that are scratching dust in the highway, and he notes the kindred fact that "no hen was ever known to be run over by a horse-drawn vehicle." She figures to escape by the length of a horse; but when an automobile comes along the horse is not there, and dilly goes under the wheels.

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Every few years newspapers and dinner tables buzz with discussion as to the use of the word "obey" in the marriage service. Some unlettered spirit refuses to tolerate it, and when she encounters a clergyman who has positive ideas of his duty to the service of his church, a clash ensues which rarely redounds to the credit of the woman. Is there not more difficulty with the theory of the vow than with its actual application to domestic life—that is, among reasonably considerate and loving people? In the home, the wife "orders" rather than the husband. To begin with, she orders the dinners, and thus determines what the man shall eat. She orders her own clothes, and he must look at them whether he likes them or not. She orders the manners of the children, and he has little choice in accepting them, whatever they are. The practice of "hypnotic suggestion" is as old as happy marriages; and the journeys that have been taken, the houses that have been bought, and the gifts that have been made as the result of the obedience of husbands are uncounted. The old song comes daily true, when the woman sings:

"We'll even let them hold the reins, But we'll show them the way to go!"

This applies to the comfortable trot of every-day life. When the sun shines and the pace is easy, it matters little about the reins. But if two people find themselves behind a pair of frightened runaway horses, their only safety lies in one having the power to drive and the other having the sense to sit fast and keep still. If both take a hand with the reins, disaster is certain. It may come in any case, but a divided responsibility invites it. It is for such an emergency that the promise of obedience by the wife prepares the married couple. In a crisis, one of them must decide how to act. The husband may decide wrongly or foolishly; but some one must drive, and in doubt or danger the wisdom and courage of the wife are best shown in obeying orders, not in disputing them.

AT THE REVOLVER'S MUZZLE.

Fanny Driver of a Sprinkling Wagon Blacked the Cowboy's Boots.

"It was in the early days in Montana, when cowpunchers with high-heeled boots, big sombreros and a regular arsenal of big-shooters were plentiful," said the veteran traveling man, as he cocked his foot up on his knee and took a long puff at a black cigar. "Something went wrong with the engine of the train I was on and I found myself in a small frontier town, with several hours to spend and nothing in particular to do. I started out to see the town.

"As I walked down the main street a cowboy dressed in his Sunday best and a shine on his high top boots that would have put a plate glass mirror out of business, came sauntering down the street. As he started over the crossing the only sprinkling cart the town could boast of came along. The driver eyed the boots and with a sly smile pulled the string just in time to drench the boots from top to bottom and completely spoil the shine.

"Quick as a flash the cowpuncher pulled his 'forty-five' from its holster and ordered the driver of the cart to crawl down from his perch. Calling a bootblack, he made the driver get on his knees, take the shining outfit and shine both boots from the soles to the tips. The driver didn't seem to fancy performing that menial service, but the muzzle of that revolver didn't look good to the practical joker, and he got busy in a hurry. When the job was finished the cowboy made the driver pay the bootblack 50 cents for the blacking he had used. Shoving his gun back into its holster, the cowboy sauntered leisurely down the street, a satisfied smile on his countenance. The driver mounted his seat and drove away a sadder, but wiser, man."—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

When some men talk, one just naturally expects them to say something about the Best Ways for making Our Sunday School a Success.

It is bad enough to be old and poor, but so many who are old and poor are also bow-legged.

I believe one apple is sweet, and the one on the next tree is sour, I will bet sovereigns on this but I will give any smart professor a span of matched mules who will tell me what make them so.

By on the exterior walls of houses absorbs dampness, by extracting moisture from the air as well as from the brick or stones that it overruns. The dampness of these is what gives life to the plant, so that the interior of the house is rendered drier than it would be otherwise.

Good news for All.

Bradford, Tenn., Nov. 21.—(Special.)—Scientific research shows Kidney Trouble to be the father of so many diseases that news of a discovery of a sure cure for it cannot fail to be welcomed all over the country. And according to Mr. J. A. Davis of this place just such a cure is found in Dodd's Kidney Pills. Mr. Davis says: "Dodd's Kidney Pills are all that is claimed them. They have done me more good than anything I have ever taken. I had Kidney Trouble very bad and after taking a few boxes of Dodd's Kidney Pills I am completely cured." I cannot praise them too much.

Kidney Complaint develops into Bright's Disease, Dropsy, Diabetes, Rheumatism and other painful and fatal diseases. The safeguard is to cure your kidneys with Dodd's Kidney Pills when they show the first symptoms of disease.

You can find more people in this world who can tell what kind of a day the next 4th of July is a-going to be than can tell you what the day bef re yesterday was.

On a man's visiting card only titles that indicate a rank or profession for life should be used. All titles of a transient order should be omitted. Titles that may be used on the cards include army and navy titles, also the titles given in theology and medicine.

The subscription of the letter, consisting of the term of respect or affection and the signature, should correspond in formality to the heading and general tone of the letter.

HINTS ON ETIQUETTE.

A letter or note should always be dated.

The cultivation of politeness should begin in the home. Separate invitations should be sent to the young men of the family.

A gentleman always rises from his chair when a lady enters or leaves the room.

Politeness does not mean stiffness of manners but on the contrary, ease of manner.

Two or more sisters may be sent one invitation, the address being written the "Misses Blank."

At a ball one may not refuse a certain dance to one gentleman and then dance it with another.

On the visiting card the day for receiving is engraved or written in the lower left hand corner.

Bananas are peeled, held in the fingers and eaten; if too soft or mushy they may be cut into slices and eaten with the fork.

The old-fashioned practice of folding over the right side of the visiting card to show it has been left in person is no longer observed.

Before making a call on a lady, a gentleman must first receive an invitation to do so, or he must first ask and receive her permission to come.

Yung man, don't hunt after perfab-shun, but go for a healthy average; yu will strike this every now and then, and learn to prase yure good luh.

The rules guiding the use of visiting cards are based upon the idea that the card is the representative of a person whose name it bears. Therefore, care should be taken where the card is left or sent.

In the Mohammedan laundries of Egypt a secret mark is used to distinguish the line of "believers," and keep it from polluting contact with "infidel" garments. This mark is carefully removed before garments are returned.



Two severe cases of Ovarian Trouble and two terrible operations avoided. Mrs. Emmons and Mrs. Coleman each tell how they were saved by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I am so pleased with the results obtained from Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound that I feel it a duty and a privilege to write you about it. "I suffered for more than five years with ovarian troubles, causing an unpleasant discharge, a great weakness, and at times a faintness would come over me which no amount of medicine, diet, or exercise seemed to correct. Your Vegetable Compound found the weak spot, however, within a few weeks—and saved me from an operation—all my troubles had disappeared, and I found myself once more healthy and well. Words fail to describe the real, true, grateful feeling that is in my heart, and I want to tell every sick and suffering sister. Don't dally with medicines you know nothing about, but take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and take my word for it, you will be a different woman in a short time."—MRS. LAURA EMMONS, Walkersville, Ont.

Another Case of Ovarian Trouble Cured Without an Operation.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—For several years I was troubled with ovarian trouble and a painful and inflamed condition, which kept me in bed part of the time. I did so dread a surgical operation. "I tried different remedies hoping to get better, but nothing seemed to bring relief until a friend who had been cured of ovarian trouble, through the use of your compound, induced me to try it. I took it faithfully for three months, and at the end of that time was glad to find that I was a well woman. Health is nature's best gift to woman, and if you lose it and can have it restored through Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound I feel that all suffering women should know of this."—MRS. LAURA BELLE COLEMAN, Commercial Hotel, Nashville, Tenn.

It is well to remember such letters as above when some druggist tries to get you to buy something which he says is "just as good." That is impossible, as no other medicine has such a record of cures as Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound; accept no other and you will be glad.

Don't hesitate to write to Mrs. Pinkham if there is anything about your sickness you do not understand. She will treat you with kindness and her advice is free. No woman ever regretted writing her and she has helped thousands. Address LYNN, Mass.

\$5000 PROFIT if you cannot get well, unless you get the original letters and signatures of Mrs. Pinkham, which will prove the genuineness of the medicine.