

BELIEVE IN SIGNS.

Current Superstitions in Various Parts of the United States.

In Mansfield, O., many years ago, it was generally believed that the seeds "Job's tears," worn around the neck, would cure gonorrhoea, as would amber or gold beads. Up through New England toothache children were presented with the same charm, which were kept at the drug stores to ward off sore throat and diphtheria.

In Michigan a double cedar knot is carried in the pocket to cure rheumatism, and in New Hampshire a man carried a gall from the stems of golden-rod for the same disease. A small white grub is in the gall, and he thought as long as the grub remained alive no rheumatism could get hold of him.

Hickory nuts, the buckeye and its cousin, the horse chestnut, which brings good luck in New Jersey, are foes to rheumatism in different localities. Some people wear a strange ring made of a potato, with a hole bored through it, for rheumatism, and carry a plain potato in the pocket. The charm is more potent if the potato has been stolen. Almost everything seems to have rheumatism-fighting properties, for in Southern Michigan a pebble in the pocket serves to ward it off. A New Hampshire cure for sore throat is to wear about the neck a stocking, in the toe of which a potato has been tied. According to a Maine belief a nutmeg pierced and hung on a string around the neck prevents boils, croup and neuralgia. The effect of a Connecticut wooden nutmeg is unknown.

Among the negroes the most striking remedies are to be found. Witness the combination of cure and spell, described under the name of "conjuring a tooth," in Alabama. Go into a lonely part of the woods with one of the opposite sex, who is to carry an ax. The bearer of the ax chops around the roots of a white oak, cuts off with a large jackknife nine splinters from the roots of a tree, then cuts around the roots of the aching tooth with the knife, dips each of the nine splinters in the blood flowing from the cuts, and finally buries the splinters at the foot of the tree from which they came. While doing this the operator repeats something you don't understand, which is a charm.

From the same locality comes a curious remedy for chills and fever. Take the skin from the inside of an eggshell, go to a young persimmon tree three days in succession, and tie a knot in the skin each day.

On the eastern shore of Maryland biliousness is cured by boring three holes in a carefully selected tree and walking three times around it, saying: "Go away, bilious."

In parts of Massachusetts it is thought that if a girl puts a piece of Southern wood down her back, the first boy she meets will be her husband. In Boston if a marriageable woman puts a bit of Southern wood under her pillow on retiring, the first man she sees in the morning will, so says the superstition, be the one whom she is to marry.—Washington Star.

Murdered in Song.

"Say, Danny, it's tough on youse to-a-ter blookies, an't it?" was the greeting which recently met a loudly ulstering member of the variety "profess" as he supplemented his morning "draw one" and "stuck" of wheats" with a classic pose on the bower house corner. "What's eaten" yer, my funny friend?" was the laughing response. "Come, now yer don't mean to say yer haven't heard de news? Why the Grand army men all over the country have signed der pledge to give variety shows ther cold shake." "Say, is this on ther dead level?" gasped the ulstered one. "Yer bet it be." "But why?" "Oh on account of 'Comrades' bein' murdered every night see?" He saw.—N. Y. Herald.

A MUSICAL GROVE.

Trees converted by squirrels into Gigantic Organ Pipes.

This township says a Harrisburg Comm. Letter, boasts of a curiosity that probably is not duplicated in the entire hemisphere, and probably not in the world. It is a musical grove of chestnuts and walnut trees. This grove stands on the north side of Nickerson Hill, which is the highest point of land in New London county, and all the trees are old, and there are very few that are not hollow.

The spot is well known among local hunters as a resort for gray squirrels, and many hundreds of these animals are taken out of the grove every year. Into the heart of the trees, the squirrels have gnawed their way through the knots and stumps of limbs that have decayed and fallen to the ground. In many cases but the mere shell of the tree stands, and if a fire is built in the hole at the roots smoke issues from a hundred holes above it in the limbs and in main trunk.

The peculiar sound caused by the wind blowing into these holes has given the grove the name of Singing Trees. In the summer, when the trees are covered with foliage, the wind has no effect upon them, but in the fall, when the leaves fall to the ground, the wind has a clean sweep at the trees, and it whistles and moans and hisses through the hollow trunks and limbs until it seems to one a short distance away that a horde of crazy demons are holding a grand jubilee among the trees.

These sounds are produced only when the wind blows from the south-east. It then sweeps over the top of the hill and falls upon the grove apparently, as the wind from the mouth of a boy falls upon a hollow key placed at his lips, and the sound produced in many cases, is like that made by a person blowing into the nose of a bottle multiplied a million times. In other cases there is a nerve-shattering noise as if a giant was blowing through an immense comb covered with paper. Breaking into these tones is, now and then, a short, sharp, shrieking noise and then a hissing sound, as if from the mouths of a thousand pythons in chorus.

Taken together, these hisses and roars and moans and shrieks make a

pandemonium that one doesn't care to listen to very long. The noise of these trees can be heard five miles away, and it has been heard to the leeward a distance of eight miles. Its roaring is looked upon by the people living within hearing distance of it as a precursor of a storm. Among the hills and valleys it is often impossible to tell correctly in what direction the wind is blowing, but when the roaring of the Singing Trees is heard the wind is known to be blowing from the south-east, and preparations are at once made for a storm.

In September, during what is known as the equinoctial storm, this strange grove is heard. Then, above the howling of the wind, the roar rises and falls like the moaning of ten thousand Leviathans in the agonies of death.

BUSINESS, NOT BRAINS.

That is What Counts in Novel Writing Nowadays.

Novel writing has become a trade, and is among the vilest and least respectable of modern occupations. A mere business or a mere handicraft may be ennobled by its pursuer, but can not be vulgarized as the trade pursuit of what was once an art may be. The public insists on being served with imaginative literature of one sort or another. The great mass of readers has no power to distinguish good work from bad. It has no faculty for the recognition of style of power or fineness in the delineation of character. We have seen already what it demands, and we have seen that men whose literary equipment is least adequate in the sight of the judicious can supply the demand as well as the most accomplished literary artist.

The novel, as a vehicle for the expression of thought and emotion, is neither dead nor doomed. The opportunities it affords are so wide and various that great men will always be found who will employ them. But for the time at least its day of splendor is over. We are on the eve of a new epoch. The immediate publicity afforded by the theater and the splendid rewards gathered by the successful playwright will combine to enlist the most capable literary workmen in the dramatic art. We shall have very shortly a renaissance of the stage. This is not to say for a moment that all well-equipped writers of fiction will at once begin to work for the boards. The difference between the two kinds of work is so wide that only the man who has essayed both can rightly understand it. The result must be looked for through the action of a growing fashion. Dickens and Thackeray and George Eliot wrote novels naturally, because the novel was the form of literature into which they were born. Men and women of equal power who will down upon the world of letters twenty years hence will be writing drama because the literary atmosphere will be saturated with stage influences. Great fame and great pecuniary reward are baits to catch the biggest kind of fishes. The fame and the reward may be trusted to create and fashion of seeking for them, and when the masters of imaginative art arise they will work after the manner of their hour.—D. Christie Murray in the Contemporary Review.

Behanding a Congressman.

"The struggle which resulted in Pennington's success," said Senator Sherman, "was I think the longest Speakership contest in our history. It lasted from Dec. 5 till Feb. 1, and the House was in an uproar a great part of the time. There were many funny incidents during the contest, and a number of times it looked as though we would have a general fight in the House. The Democrats were on one side of the House and the Republicans on the other, much as they are now, and I remember that we tried to keep the parties separated and the aisle between them clear. Potter, a Republican from Wisconsin, and a very large and powerful man, got in a fuss with Barksdale of Mississippi. They sat across the aisle from one another, and Barksdale said something that made Potter very angry. He jumped for him and grabbed him by the hair, intending to jerk him up from his seat and pound his face, but lo and behold Barksdale's whole head seemed to rise up in Potter's hands, and the House found out for the first time that Barksdale wore a wig, and his pate, as bald as a billiard ball, shone out under the gaslight, while the House roared."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Magnetic Stone.

In Texas there is a stone about twenty feet in diameter that has wonderful magnetic power. It is said that it will draw a hammer or an ax to its surface even when placed ten or fifteen feet away on the ground.

Kleptomania in New York.

"Do you know," said a member of one of the big dry goods firms recently, "that the weakness for priggish small articles of portable property, known as kleptomania, has increased to such an extent among our customers that we now have a list of twenty-three women who rob us every time they come into the store. As they are all steady patrons of our house, and their annual bills mount up to a big sum in the aggregate, we let them freely indulge their shoplifting fancies. Afterward a clerk is sent to their homes, and the missing goods are returned either by the kleptomaniac herself or her relatives. Nearly every one of them is fond of taking some particular article, and the remainder are liable to lay hands on anything from a handkerchief to a box of gloves. The only drawback to this little system is that when we light on a bona fide shoplifter she invariably tries the kleptomaniac lay, and it is hard work to select the real article."—N. Y. Advertiser.

Employees of the Bank of England.

There are about 1,100 men employed in the Bank of England, and their united salaries, including pensions, amount to \$1,500,000 per annum.

The Children's Eyes.

The constantly increasing near-sightedness among school-children, and the very general need and use of glasses, ought to suggest to us whether or not we are sufficiently careful of the conditions affecting the eyes of the young. Do we see to it that the books they read and those they study are of a clear and large type, requiring no straining or forcing of the vision; and do we encourage a large and open script for their handwriting? Do we see to it that our school-houses are built with a view to the falling of the light in the right way for the children's safety? Do we have the lights at home so regulated that no blaze shall produce blindness and no dimness make sight difficult? Do we make sure that the child holds his book at the distance which gives a correct focus, that he holds his body properly in relation to his book or work, that he looks off frequently, thus changing the character of the demand on the eye, and that he is not allowed to continue long in any effort requiring the too intent use of his eyes? Do we keep ourselves on the lookout, too, for the first indication of feebleness or strain, in order that artificial aids may be resorted to in season to prevent any positive evil? That precaution in all these directions is wise is evident from the fact, if we look for it, that in those living what might be called the natural life—that is, without books or fine work—there is very little trouble with the eyes where the conditions of good bodily health otherwise are maintained.

Of course, where there are unclean methods of life, like those in crowded Oriental cities, ophthalmia of various degrees is to be expected; but the free roamer of the desert, the dweller of the forest, the sailor on the seas, they who oxygenate the blood in constant currents of fresh air, and live wild lives that train the eyesight upon far distances, have little or no trouble with that eyesight. The eyeless fish of dark underground lakes are a perpetual example of the atrophy that takes place through non-use of an organ; but just as fatal an atrophy can result from its over-use—that is, from undue strain and effort—and too much attention cannot be given to the prevention of such possibilities. We may hate to put classes on the fair free faces of children, but their future comfort is of more importance than the pride of our eyes in them; and it may be a burden to give the constant oversight that the prevention requires in other directions, but as we chose to assume that burden in the beginning, we have no right to shrink one of its responsibilities, and there is none of the physical responsibilities of more weight than the care of their eyes.—Harper's Bazar.

THE KHEDIVA.

A Woman Who Was the Sole Wife of the Late Tewfik.

The foremost wife of the late khedive of Egypt, formally known as the khediviah, is worthy of considerable notice, as being in advance both of her race and her people, says the Cincinnati Enquirer. Her royal husband did not by any means neglect his harem, but more than any sovereign of his class he elevated her above the common throng. Up to 1887 she had never seen a man save the khedive, and the first that she did see, save him, was a photographer. She was pretty, and she wanted the world to know it. A little later—in 1889—an American lady, who had some considerable reputation as an artist, was employed to paint her portrait. It is from this picture that current representations of her face mostly come. She made and insisted upon some startling departures from the habits of her race, and yet they did not go so very far. She never "received" with her royal husband. When he gave a ball she could only look through the lattice. But she gave audience constantly to women, talking French only, and exhibiting both charming manners and a bright mind.

In 1889 she was described, by one who saw her, as 31 years old, and complaining that she was "getting fat and very old"—"a pomegranate face, still lovely enough, in a slightly heavy way, with liquid brown eyes, a pretty pouting mouth, and a dimple in the chin—unmistakably, however, a double chin." One sometimes met her with the whole harem driving in close carriages out toward the desert. To contemplate the monumental pyramids and to guess at the riddle of the Sphinx? "Dear, no! To sit and eat bon-bons, each out of her embroidered bag. The portrait can be seen in Cairo—a rich, warm color-scheme of golden browns in the fur-edged velvet robe, with yellow lace inside; pearls in the dark braided hair; a face that not infrequently suggests the houri of the Koran, and a hand which, though delicately formed, seems more that of a baby than an empress."

American Girls at English College.

Writing of Newnham College an English woman says: "A careful observer of human nature in visiting the beautiful rooms of the girl under-graduates at Newnham might, to a certain extent, discover the nationality of the occupants from the style of decoration adopted. This is as varied as in most cases it is picturesque and lovely. The American girl is especially happy in the art of embellishment. She goes in for bold effects, and now and then will venture on a somewhat startling experiment. Her freshness, her high spirit, and her quick wit can be seen even in the pose of the ornaments on her mantel-piece; the way she arranges flowers, and her choice in the matter of photographs."

The Gulf Stream.

Three miles an hour is about the average of the gulf stream, though at certain places it attains a speed of fifty-four miles. In the Yucatan channel, for instance, where it is 90 miles wide and 1,000 fathoms deep, the current is not over a quarter of a mile an hour. In the Straits of Bimini the current is so rapid as to give the surface of the water the appearance of being a sheet of fire.

Taken Up.

Taken up at my farm 2½ miles south of Plattsmouth, Wednesday February 3rd, one yearling heifer calf and one yearling steer calf, both red marked with tip of left ear cut off and "V" cut on under side. Party may have same by paying for advertisement and proving ownership. BEN F. HORNING.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by F. G. Fricke.

The First Step.

Perhaps you are run down, can't eat, can't sleep, can't think, can't do anything to your satisfaction, and you wonder what ails you. You should heed the warning, you are taking the first step into nervous prostration. You need a nerve tonic and in Electric Bitters you will find the exact remedy for restoring your nervous system to its normal, healthy condition. Surprising results follow the use of this great Nerve Tonic and Alterative. Your appetite returns, good digestion is restored, and the liver and kidneys resume healthy action. Try a bottle. Price 50c. at F. G. Fricke & Co's drugstore.

Do not confuse the famous Blush of Roses with the many worthless paints, powders, creams and bleaches which are flooding the market. Get the genuine of your druggist, O. H. Snyder, 75 cents per bottle, and I guarantee it will remove your pimples, freckles, blackheads, moths, tan and sunburn, and give you a lovely complexion.

Specimen Cases.

S. H. Clifford, New Castle, Wis. was troubled with neuralgia and rheumatism, his stomach was disordered, his liver was affected to an alarming degree, appetite fell away and he was terribly reduced in flesh and strength. Three bottles of Electric Bitters cured him. Edward Shepherd, Harrisburg, Ill., had a running sore on his leg of eight years' standing. Used three bottles of Electric Bitters and seven bottles of Bucklen's Arnica Salve, and his leg is sound and well. John Speaker, Catawba, O., had five large, fever sores on his leg, doctors said he was incurable. One bottle Electric Bitters and one box Bucklen's Arnica Salve cured him entirely. Sold by F. G. Fricke & Co.

A Fatal Mistake.

Physicians make no more fatal mistake than when they inform patients that nervous heart troubles come from the stomach and are of little consequence. Dr. Franklin Miles, the noted Indiana specialist, has proven the contrary in his new book on "Heart Disease" which may be had free of F. G. Fricke & Co., who guarantee and recommend Dr. Miles' unequalled new Heart Cure, which has the largest sale of any heart remedy in the world. It cures nervous and organic heart disease, short breath, fluttering, pain or tenderness in the side, arm or shoulder, irregular pulse, fainting, smothering, droopy, etc. His Restorative Nerve Cure headcure, fits, etc.

All Little Girls Experience a Light House.

Mr. and Mrs. Loren Trescott are keepers of the Gov. Lighthouse at Sand Beach Mich, and are blessed with a daughter, four years. Last April she taken down with measles, followed with dreadful Cough and turned into a fever. Doctors at home and at Detroit treated, but in vain, she grew worse rapidly, until she was a mere handful of bones. Then she tried Dr. King's New Discovery and after the use of two and a half bottles, was completely cured. They say Dr. King's New Discovery is worth its weight in gold, yet you may get a trial bottle free at F. G. Fricke Drugstore.

A Mystery Explained.

The papers contain frequent notices of rich, pretty and educated girls eloping with negroes, tramps and coachmen. The well-known specialist, Dr. Franklin Miles, says all such girls are more or less hysterical, nervous, very impulsive, unbalanced; usually subject to headache, neuralgia, sleeplessness, immoderate crying or laughing. These show a weak, nervous system for which there is no remedy equal to Restorative Nerve. Trial bottles and a fine book, containing many marvelous cures, free at F. G. Fricke & Co's., who also sell and guarantee Dr. Miles' celebrated New Heart Cure, the finest of heart tonics. Cures fluttering, short breath, etc.

Cough Following the Grip.

Many persons, who have recovered from la grippe are now troubled with a persistent cough. Chamberlain's cough remedy will promptly loosen this cough and relieve the lungs, effecting a permanent cure in a very short time. 25 and 50 cent bottle for sale by F. G. Fricke & Co.

Startling Facts.

The American people are rapidly becoming a race of nervous wrecks and the following suggests, the best remedy: alphonso Humpfling, of Butler, Penn, swears that when his son was speckless from st. Vitus Dance Dr Miles great Restorative Nerve curing him. Mrs. J. L. Miller of Valparaiso and J. D. Taylor, of Logansport, Ind. each gained 20 pounds after an attack. Mrs. H. A. Gardner of Vastul Ind. was cured of 40 to 50 convulsions easy and much headache, dizziness, backache and nervous prostration by one bottle. Trial bottle and fine book of Nervous cures free at F. G. Fricke, & Co., who recommends this unequalled remedy.

Ely's Cream Balm is especially adapted as a remedy for catarrh which is aggravated by alkaline dust and dry winds.—W. A. Hover Druggist, Deaver.

THEY WASH THEIR CLOTHES WITH SANTA CLAUS SOAP.



That's where they get their style.

MADE ONLY BY
N. K. FAIRBANK & CO. CHICAGO.

A REGULAR SCIMITAR

That Sweeps all before it.



These will almost melt in your mouth. The "Charmer" is very productive, high quality and sugar flavor. Has great staying qualities. Vines 3 1/2 to 4 ft. high. In season follows "Little Gem" and before the "Champion of England." We have thoroughly tested it, and confidently recommend it as the best ever introduced. Price by mail, per packet, 15 cents; 1 pint, 75 cents.

GIVEN FREE, IF DESIRED, WITH ABOVE.

VICK'S FLORAL GUIDE 1892,

which contains several colored plates of Flowers and Vegetables. 1,000 Illustrations. Over 200 pages 8 x 10 1/2 inches. Instructions how to plant and care for gardens. Descriptions of over 20 New Novelties. Vick's Floral Guide mailed on receipt of address and 10 cents, which may be deducted from first order.

JAMES VICK'S SONS, Rochester, N. Y.

Mexican Mustang Liniment.

A Cure for the Ailments of Man and Beast.

A long-tested pain reliever. Its use is almost universal by the Housewife, the Farmer, the Stock Raiser, and by every one requiring an effective liniment. No other application compares with it in efficacy. This well-known remedy has stood the test of years, almost generations. No medicine chest is complete without a bottle of MUSTANG LINIMENT. Occasions arise for its use almost every day. All druggists and dealers have it.



For Atchinson, St. Joseph, Leavenworth, Kansas City, St. Louis, and all points north, east south or west. Tickets sold and baggage checked to any point in the United States or Canada. For INFORMATION AS TO RATES AND ROUTES Call at Depot or address
H. C. TOWNSEND,
G. P. A. St. Louis, Mo.
J. C. PHILLIPS,
A. G. P. A. Omaha.
H. D. APGAR, Agt., Plattsmouth, Telephone, 77.

TIMOTHY CLARK,
DEALER IN
COAL WOOD
— o TERMS CASH o —
ards and Office 464 South Third Street.
Telephone 13.
PLATTSMOUTH, NEBRASKA

HENRY BOECK
The Leading
FURNITURE DEALER
— AND —

UNDERTAKR
Constantly keeps on hand everything you need to furnish your house.
CORNER SIXTH AND MAIN STREET
Plattsmouth - Neb
Lumber Yard
THE OLD RELIABLE.
U. A. WATERMAN & SON
PINE LUMBER
Shingles, Lath, Sash, &
Doors, Blinds
Can supply every demand of the
Call and get terms. Fourth street
in rear of opera house.