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DOES YOUR BACK ACHE? DOES YOUR SLEEP REST YOU? ARE YOU WEAK AND THIN? ARE YOU DULL AND BILIOUS?

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A QUESTION OF PETTICOATS.

Extent to which Women May Be Athletes Limited.

The limit to which women may indulge in athletic pursuits is mainly a question of petticoats. At least this is Lady Jeune's view, forcibly expressed in the Realm. "If women were wise," she remarks, "they would recognize the fact that sport and games, as far as they are concerned, are divided into those in which they can wear a petticoat and those in which they can not. They may compromise it by the adoption of the divided skirt, which, after all, is but the flimsiest imitation of the real article and is not at all like a pair of trousers, but when they put on men's attire in order to obtain freedom of limb they lose all grace and beauty. However strong-minded women may be, I have never yet found one who was absolutely indifferent to her personal appearance. That feeling will always limit a woman's desire to follow man into pursuits and amusements for which she is not naturally suited. She must in her heart feel convinced that she lessens her influence by diminishing her personal charms, and that will settle the matter. There is one little point that may be raised on the other side, however. If women persist in wearing knickerbockers similar in style and material to those affected by men I can not pretend that they will look either graceful or pretty, but I have sufficient faith in the ingenuity of the sex to believe they are equal to inventing something that would be genuinely attractive. Under present conditions I am glad to say, women have many forms of sport open to them which will in no way detract from the dignity of the sex."

SENSATIONS IN ILLNESS

It Is Curious How a Man Feels When He Knows He Needs a Doctor.

"It is curious," said a man yesterday, "the various sensations a man experiences when he goes to see a doctor or a dentist. There is a long preliminary siege of mental agony, alternately exaggerating and belittling your ailment, until finally in a moment of desperation you decide to go and see what is the matter anyway. Perhaps you have a cold, which has settled on the lungs and developed a troublesome cough that keeps you awake at night. The cough itself is not so bad as the terrible possibilities it suggests. Visions of swift demise from pneumonia or slow wasting away with consumption rise up before your eyes, and every wheeze and cough confirms these terrible premonitions. If you could you would go then in a hurry, but in the morning you feel better.

The cough is still there, but the terror of the imagination have fled before the daylight, so you put it off another day. But finally you decide to go, and, with firmness born of despair, march up to the medical man's door to learn your fate. In case of toothache everyone knows how a tooth will hop and jump and smart all day until you get to the dentist's, and then calm down so quiet and painless that you can't tell which one was aching. It is the same way with a cough or other ailment. As you go up to the door you secretly hope that the doctor is not at home. You pull the doorknob gently, and half wish the doorbell not to come. Then the funniest part of all is how mad you will get when you find the doctor is not at home, and feel as if you had been cheated out of one of your dearest hopes."

Racing on Stilts.

A long distance race on stilts is a sight worth seeing, even if it were not somewhat of a novelty. In this country such a thing is unheard of, but in France, where the shepherds of the Landes have had to use stilts for many a century, such matches, though few, are not unknown, and curious crowds gather along the roads to watch the longlegs go by. From Paris to Bordeaux is about 273 miles, and along this road last Ascension day this the great race of the year took place. In 1892 the course was from Paris to Belfort, which is the same distance; and, though the conditions of the road and weather were very similar, the times then accomplished were easily beaten, probably owing to the contest being closer, and the result in doubt for a long period.

A Devoted Friend to the Children.

A Mr. Wood, who lives near Hood's Mill, owns a very peculiar milk cow. She is just an ordinary black cow, but is so much attached to Mr. Wood's children that she does not like to be separated from them. If the children are at home the cow will stay in a pasture with fence three feet high; but if the children are taken away she will throw down even high fences in order to follow them. At different times when the cow would be in the pasture, Mr. Wood has slipped the children away from home, but when she came up and missed them she would get out and track them as a dog would until she found them, when she would follow wherever they went.—Savannah News.

Cassowary Pocketbooks.

"In a Broadway window the other day," said a man of moderate means, "I saw a number of pocketbooks and other things of one sort and another that were made of cassowary, pigskin, elephants' hide and water snakes' skins. They were beautiful, every one. No doubt there is a reasonable delight in the possession of beautiful things, I would like to have a pocketbook, for example, or a card case of any one of these materials, and yet I feel that I could get along very comfortably for quite a spell yet without a cassowary pocketbook if I had a little more money."—New York Sun.

How Flies Walk on Window Panes.

The microscope reveals the neat contrivance which enables a fly to walk up a window pane or defy the laws of gravity by gliding along, back down ward, on the ceiling. The magnifier shows the foot to be made up of two pads covered with fine, short hair, each pad having a hook above it. Behind each pad is a bag filled with a sticky liquid, which oozes out whenever the fly puts his foot down. The amount which is pressed out of each foot is very small indeed, but taken altogether it is amply sufficient to hold the insect in any position he chooses.

A Mouse's Ear.

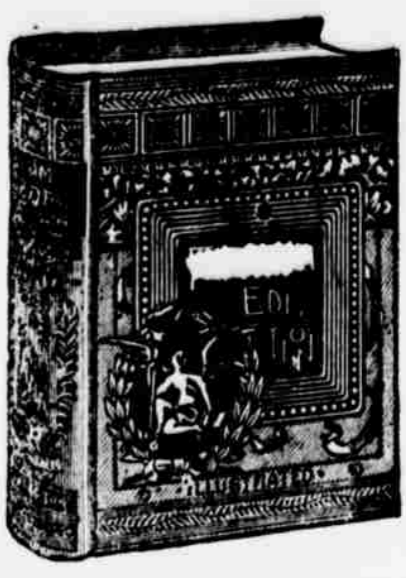
The outer ear of a mouse is a thin, almost transparent membrane, and recent experiments show that it is highly sensitive to movements of the air which to human ears do not represent sound at all. It is asserted on good authority that mice are sensitive to music, and the stories of their singing have been fully confirmed. They have a pleasant musical note, resembling that of the cricket.

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"Great Scott!" exclaimed the Chicago gentleman, "you have got to begin marrying some time."

Harper's Bazar: "Have you heard that the big sleeves are going out, George dear?"

"Yes, my love, I have, but I don't believe it."

"Why not, pray?"

"I don't believe they can get through the door."

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