

PEACE BE WITH YOU.

Seek not Cocaine so far off seas
Where dreams of hashish thrill the mind;
Fine not for fragrance from the Vale
Of Lotus on the shoreward wind.

Yeans not Utopia is all about
Your cottage in the restful shade.
Tis Paradise enough to be
Content where God your lot has laid.

Long not for poppies, rare and red,
That grow in fabled beauty, far
From home, mid scenes that rudely wake
Thy heart to tumult and to war!

Behold! The wild rose blooms for thee:
Tis sweet and pure and good to kiss.
Accept the rose, forget unrest.
For this is Peace, Contentment, Bliss!

—Byron Williams.



CUPOLA SKETCHES
BY BYRON WILLIAMS

When Girls Propose.

He was proud and haughty and owned an automobile, while she was merely an honest, earnest, conscientious young girl with her own way to make in the world.

But she loved him! "It is true I am poor," she pleaded, "while he has money to tip the waiters, but oh! my heart throbs for him, and though he spurn me I will lay my love at his feet!"

A half hour later finds our heroine kneeling on the Brussels carpet adjacent to our aristocratic automobilist!



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Chaos.

A passerby called out "Police!"

Nebraskans have discovered a churn full of butter in a spring, and claim to tell by the hieroglyphics on the receptacle that the butter was made in 1846. They think that's odd!

Gid Butter.

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Salmagundi.

It is better to be paid on Friday than not at all.



Beautiful Snow Shovel.

"Beautiful Snow" is all right, but whoever heard of a poet writing of a "Beautiful Snow Shovel?"

The Kleptomaniac of Finance.

The town constable of Eden was solemnly, but vigorously, serving a warrant of arrest, Adam was suspected of complicity in the most questionable piece of commission business since the Lord made little apples, and the assumptuous minion of the law was doing his whole duty!

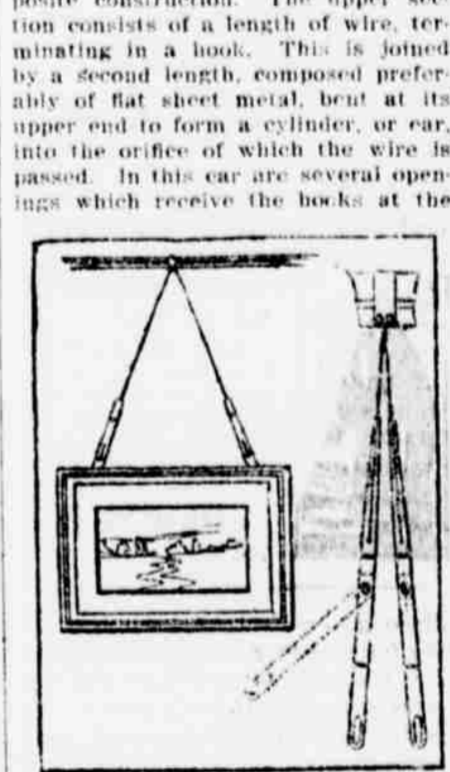
Old Maids.

An Illinois editor is about to issue a special number of his newspaper for the bachelor girls of the town! Old bachelors who value single blessedness, would better take to the woods. With the old maids, the editor and the "devil" linked against them, there is salvation only in the better part of valor. Another editor, a Wisconsin scribe, notified the public he would print a list of forty bachelor women willing to wed. The announcement caused a panic and the editor was legally barred from serving humanity according to his prearranged scheme. The editor should retaliate by printing the names of all the old maids in town who don't want to get married, thereby suggesting by inference those who do! This would be a much briefer task and would offend no one. There is more than one way to get an old maid married.

When a boy we fished at the "high bank" under protest, being well satisfied that the "other side of the river" was filled with "lunkers!" Later we tested the shelving shore with but mediocre success. Alas! we had again proven that "The cattle have long horns in the tall-grass country!" Time after time, we have seen men and women miserable on the "high bank," longing and fretting for a chance at the big fish on the "other side of the river." Life is brief and Death is drawing ever nearer! Why sully the blessings of to-day with battles we hope to win to-morrow?

SCIENCE and INVENTION
Patent Picture Hanger.

Utility is the fundamental law of design. Judged by this standard alone the picture-hanger shown is probably without a worthy peer, but, from an esthetic viewpoint, the critics may be inclined to think that the design still leaves much to be desired. This hanger is intended to insure a horizontal position of the picture frame when hung, and to facilitate the operation of hanging and adjustment. Under many conditions, as in art shops where, presumably, the pictures on the line have to be frequently changed, and where it is necessary to remove them from the wall frequently for inspection in different lights, etc., a hanger that will admit of ready adjustment as to height, insure stability of the hung frame, and permit the frame to be removed by a person grasping it, is a treasure, indeed.



Picture Hanger.

end of the wire sections, thus effecting an adjustment of the length of the hanger. The lower sheet metal member is independently adjustable, by reason of a pivoted lower section, forming an elbow joint, which permits of considerable latitude in the adjustment of the aggregate length of the hanger. As the hanger forms a more or less rigid whole, its use enables a picture frame to be readily hung on or removed from the wall without the assistance of a stepladder.

Folding Chair for Theaters.

The chairs commonly used in theaters and auditoriums do not permit of the rapid emptying of their occupants, the only egress being in a traverse direction, resulting by the immediate congestion of the entirely too contracted aisles. The object of a recent invention is to provide a chair which will materially enable the public to escape promptly in case of fire or emergency. Side frames of the chairs are placed in rows and parallel to each other, each of which serves for the attachment of a folding seat and a back. When not in use the hinged seat is turned up alongside one side frame. The hinged back closes in next to it. A spring engages with the edge of the back, preventing it from accidentally dropping. The seat being folded toward the back, the latter is free from connection with the next side frame, thus affording numerous comparatively free passageways. It is possible, though, not desirable, by employing this style of chair, to entirely dispense with the middle and side passages or aisles.

Measures Soil Temperature.

A new Desert Botanical Laboratory has recently been established at Tucson, Ariz. A most novel device at the laboratory is an instrument for registering the temperature of the soil. This device was invented by Dr. D. T. MacDougal, of the advisory board, who has been spending some time at Tucson. A copper tube connects the instrument with a copper cylinder buried in the ground. On a disc, which makes a revolution once a week, operated by clockwork, a pen registers the temperature of the soil for every hour and minute in the day and week. One of these records is being taken at the New York Botanical Gardens, and another at the Tropical Botanical Laboratory, established in Jamaica last July. It has been found that the temperature of the soil between day and night varies one degree in New York and five in Arizona.

The Newest Explosive.

The latest in explosives is powdered aluminum mixed with nitrate of ammonia and put upon the market under the name of "ammonal." This explosive is said to be one of the surest and safest known, as it cannot be exploded by friction or blow, while otherwise containing all requisites of an explosive.—Metal Industry.

His Excuse.

"You should be honest above all things. Honesty is the best policy."
"Yes; but policy is a gambling game."

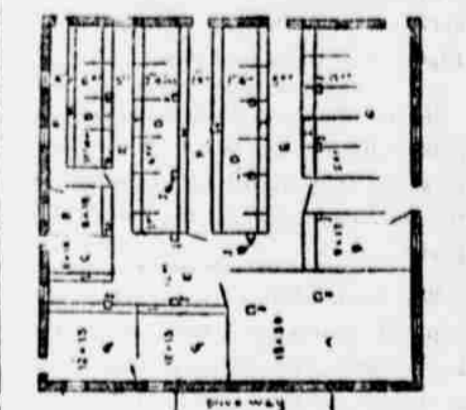
RECONSTRUCTING AN OLD BARN.

Good Building With Little Financial Outlay.

W. T. E.—I have an old barn 40x60 feet, and another 24x64 feet from which I would like to construct one building and put a stone basement underneath it. I want the basement to accommodate about 30 head of cattle, 7 head of horses, 30 head of swine and a root house to hold 2,000 bushels.

Use give me your advice and publish a suitable plan for my basement.

By taking down your shed and building it along one side of your barn you would then have a handy barn, both in the basement and above. You could store the most of your straw at threshing time without stacking it, and would have abundance of room in the stable, which could be laid out to good advantage.



Basement Floor Plan of 60x60 Feet Barn.

A, Root house; B, box stalls; C, horse stable; D, cow stable; E, feed room; F, passage behind cow; G, pig pens; H, entries behind cow; I, mangers and troughs; J, posts under bents in barn above.

a box stall which can be converted into a double stall if desired. The cow stable holds thirty head of cattle and provides three rows of stalls all double except two, the west row is for young stock as the stalls are shorter than the others, and there is one box stall for cattle.

There are three pig pens with thirty-eight feet of trough capable of feeding twenty-eight hogs. The root house is 18 by 30 feet and will hold between sixteen and seventeen hundred bushels of roots.

I understand by your letter that you have a stone basement 20 by 24 feet under part of your shed next the barn. Could this not have a roof put on it and made into a pig pen? There could be a door from it leading to the basement of the barn; this would remove the pigs from the other stock which you would find an improvement. You could then have the root house where the pig pen is shown on the plan, and the space marked for the root house used as a drive house, as it is next your horse stable and would be convenient to hitch and unhitch, without being exposed to the weather.

The great majority of farmers whom I have built barns for have their implement sheds in separate buildings, away from the barns, so that in the case of fire they are not destroyed, which I think is a good plan.

I may say that the windows in the passage behind the two rows of cattle and in the feed alley in front of the horses are framed in the door jambs in order to bring the windows nearer the passage to let in more light.

Tonka Bean.

W. A. P. S.—Will you kindly tell me where the tonka bean can be bought? Druggists here have it, but it is deprived of its growing power.

The tonka, tonquin, or comarouma beans of commerce are the seeds of the South American tree *Dipteris odorata*. When fresh these are exceedingly fragrant, having an intense odor of newly mown hay. This tree botanically is of considerable interest, as it is one of a small genus of eight or ten species, all of which are large forest trees of Brazil, Guiana and the Mosquito Coast. If you could obtain new seeds from South America without the outer covering being broken it is probable that these seeds would grow. In commerce, for the convenience of carrying, the seeds, which are the only part valuable for export, are taken from the pods and dried thoroughly before shipping. As the plant which bears the tonka beans is a forest tree running up to an average height of 60 feet it is probable that the beans would not be produced until the plants had attained considerable age. It is stated that when tonka bean plants are once started that they are easily propagated from ripened cuttings planted in sand. They must be kept in moist heat and covered with a hand glass.

Keeping Butter Sweet.

L. H.—Do you know of anything that will keep butter from going strong?

The safest and best butter preservatives are cleanliness and low temperature. The former should be exercised in the keeping of the cows, milking, straining, separating, ripening of the cream, churning, etc. The milk when drawn from the cows whose udders have been washed or brushed, should be allowed to filter through sterilized cotton batting into cleansed and scalded pails. It should then be separated with a thoroughly cleansed machine and the cream pasteurized and ripened with a ferment or starter of good quality. The butter should be washed with brine and salted at the rate of one ounce to the pound, and then placed in clean packages, in a temperature at or below the freezing point, where it should keep sweet for an almost indefinite period.

The Editor Man's Woes

We have had quite a siege of illness at our house and we have had a taste of sitting up all night assisting in taking care of our little ones. There seems to be a sort of epidemic of colds, coughs, sore throats—in fact, symptoms of influenza, going around rampant in town, entirely impartial as to whom it knocks out and lays up next. Mrs. Schaefer and both her little girls were very severely ill when we came home from Sioux Falls last week and we felt mighty near myself, but then that's nothing new for us, so our friends tell us, and as they are impartial in their criticisms of us we know it's true. Anyway it took about all our wife's time and ours throughout the twenty-four hours to properly take care of our children and give them medicine.

Our youngest daughter, Viola, 2 years old, was the sickest, and it was all the doctor and ourselves could do to keep her from having pneumonia. It is a pathetic sight to see a loved little one lay and suffer hour after hour, yet in all patience taking medicine we ourselves fight against with mulish obstinacy when we are compelled to swallow the bitter dose.

Hour after hour the rasping breath, the fever-flushed cheeks, the patient, suffering eyes appealed to us to do our best for the little sufferer.

How the fever comes up quickly, sorely, flushing the cheeks and bringing a glassy brightness to eyes a moment ago dim and patient, and how hard you must fight to get that fever down again and the temperature normal! How bappy you feel when you get the little one asleep and think your troubles are at an end and then in a few moments the baby awakes with a pitiful cry and you might fight the disease again and again!

But that is the way it goes. You were just as much trouble to your parents and they did more for you than you could do for them in an eternity, and the only way you can repay these honest debts of love and devotion is to lavish love and tenderness on your own children, for there was a time when you were a little one, as dear to your parents as these little ones are to you even if you have grown up to be a homely no-count cuss now.—Hudson, S. D., Hudsonite.

The Hero in Blue

Devilment by Edward W. Fitts, Seventh National Guard, Co. Illinois, and your carbine's leader lie.

From the saddle of a puma have you snatched to the beat!

From the scabbard, rodd South you have tossed the cunning's shoul.

You're a bronzed, good-fellow man and you say a stroke of might.

You're the lad that's built to stay the "fearful, bloody fray."

You never flinch at death when the thundering cannon roars.

Some white-eyed girl at some calls across the sultry foam.

And brave, sturdy comes, astrooping back, victorious as of yore.

the blistering bullets rain, while the boys in blue and the lads from County Pike, they are kinder slowly follows when they say on a strike.

And the cowboys of Wyoming they are rustling to the fray.

From the plains of bleeding Kansas and the peaks of Montana!

Pierce Rudyard Kipling brags of Tommy Atkins' boy.

He's the strapping red coat soldier of the queen.

But of "Starry Straps" he has not told.

For "Starry Straps" just sauntered on the scene.

The bold Yankee soldier boy fights in the blue of the regt.

He's the reckless, brave tough rider who roves over in command.

He's the right of way with about Dewey in the fray.

And he smashes the Spanish squadron and he drove them from the land.

From the plains of Idaho comes the strapping soldier boy.

He's the strapping, slender, stout as awkward as can be.

No carpet knight in blue, yet he gambles like a lamb.

His little sister's beauty and she balks with Spanish blue.

From the East into the West he has lately strolled the road.

He never stokes a quarrel but he always holds his ground.

When the sizzling shot and shell stings you like a blow of hell.

Why, Sammy is a handy chap to ally saunter round!

JAMES E. KINSHELLA.
Chicago.

Message Not in Cipher

The speaker's partner of a Chicago brokerage firm was traveling abroad, while the junior, his brother, was sending the number in a Wisconsin summer resort. One day a cablegram came from the former, and the man in the office opened it. The words made no sense to him, and he turned immediately to the firm code. He was startled to find that even with the code he could make no translation of the words. He spent several hours in a diligent search through all the ciphers which might possibly have been used. But at last, chagrined and worried over his failure and the delay, he called up the junior member over the long distance telephone.

An hour or more passed before the connection could be made, each min-

ute of which found the confidential man more annoyed and unhappy over the delay. Even a short time might mean great loss if the business were important.

At last his chief's voice responded to the call.

"Have you and your brother a private code?" questioned the employee anxiously. "I can make nothing of his message by the firm or any other cipher."

"Read it," was the reply.

"—Norway, Pancakes Good."

"That's no code," said the junior partner. "I was in that same town one summer, and I told him if they missed the pancakes there they'd miss the finest thing in Europe. He's just letting me know they didn't."

His Future Assured.

Ernie—I believe that stern Miss Prim is going to marry Jack. She has his ring around her finger.

Ida—Yes, and she'll have him wrapped around her finger after they are married!