

The Backbone of a Mighty Nation

is good food—food for brain, food for graven, food that is strengthening, that gives energy and courage. Without a proper appreciation of this great fundamental truth no nation can rise to greatness.

As an article of food, soda crackers are being used more and more every day, as is attested by the sale of nearly 400,000,000 packages of **Uneeda Biscuit**, which have come to be recognized as the most perfect soda cracker the world has ever known.

And so **Uneeda Biscuit** will soon be on every table at every meal, giving life, health and strength to the American people, thus in very truth becoming the backbone of the nation.

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

and vanished from Miss Gracie Garlinghouse's alphabet forever.—Pearson's.

BLENDING SPIRITS.

Curious Results Obtained by Mixing Whisky and Water.

Some curious results are shown by blending of spirits. Take nineteen and one-quarter gallons of high proof spirits and add twenty-two and one-fourth gallons of water, and, strange to say, you have forty gallons, and not forty-one and one-half, as one would naturally suppose. This is reasonably explained by the large globules of the spirit absorbing the small globules of water, thereby lessening the volume of wine gallons.

Here is another phenomenon: Take equal parts of whisky and water, each at a temperature of 70 degrees F. Mix them and the temperature rises at once to 80 degrees.

If two barrels of whisky are placed under a roof, one with the bung in and the other with it out, the former will gain in proof, while the latter will lose. This is due to the fact that when the bung is in there is no evaporation, but the barrel absorbs the water much faster than it does the whisky. When the bung is out there is evaporation, and the spirit evaporates easier than the water.

These are a few of the facts that an old weatherer who can neither read nor write has gathered in fifty years of experience as a cellar man. He keeps trace of his liquors by their marks, and, strange to say, he can read his gauges and thermometers with accuracy and is curious and exact in his knowledge of chemistry as applying to his trade.—New York Press.

Do You Eat Meat?

When you are hungry and want something nice in the meat line, drop into my market. We have the nicest kind of

Home-made Sausages

and meats, fish, and game in season. We think, and almost know, that we can please you. Give us a trial.

Koon Bros.,

Successors to
ROBINSON & BURDEN.

STEVENS



WHEN YOU SHOOT

You want to HIT what you are aiming at—be it bird, beast or target. Make your shots count by shooting the STEVENS. For 47 years STEVENS ARMS have carried off PREMIER HONORS for ACCURACY. Our line:

Rifles, Shotguns, Pistols

Ask your dealer to show you the STEVENS. If you cannot obtain, we will ship direct, express prepaid, upon receipt of catalogue and money.

Beautiful three-color Aluminum Hanger will be forwarded for 25 cents in stamps.

J. Stevens Arms & Tool Co.,
P. O. Box 4096
CHICOPEE FALLS, MASS., U. S. A.

60 YEARS' EXPERIENCE PATENTS

TRADE MARKS, DESIGNS, COPYRIGHTS & C.

Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion from whether an invention is probably patentable. Communication strictly confidential. HANDBOOK on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice, without charge, in the

Scientific American.
A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a year; four months, \$1. Sold by all newsdealers.
MUNN & Co 361 Broadway, New York
Branch Office, 625 F St., Washington, D. C.

Burlington Route T. M. E. TABLE.
Red Cloud, Neb.

LINCOLN
OMAHA
CHICAGO
ST. JOE
KANSAS CITY
ST. LOUIS east and all points east and south.

DENVER
HELENA
BUTTE
SALT LAKE CITY
PORTLAND
SAN FRANCISCO and all points west.

TRAINS LEAVE AS FOLLOWS:
No. 13. Passenger daily for Oberlin and St. Francis branches, Oxford, McCook, Denver and all points west. 7:05 a.m.
No. 14. Passenger daily for St. Joe, Kansas City, Atchison, St. Louis, Lincoln via Wynote and all points east and south. 2:01 p.m.
No. 15. Passenger, daily, Denver, all points in Colorado, Utah and California. 7:56 p.m.
No. 16. Passenger, daily for St. Joe, Kansas City, Atchison, St. Louis and all points east and south. 10:10 a.m.
No. 174. Accommodation, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, Hastings, Grand Island, Black Hills and all points in the northwest. 12:01 p.m.
Sleeping, dining, and reclining chair cars (seats free) on through trains. Tickets sold and baggage checked to any point in the United States or Canada.
For information, time tables, maps or tickets call on or address A. Conover, Agent, Red Cloud, Neb., or L. W. Wakeley, General Passenger Agent Omaha, Nebraska.

RHEUMATISM CURED IN A DAY.
Mystic Cure for Rheumatism and Neuralgia radically cures in 1 to 3 days. Its action upon the system is remarkable and mysterious. It removes at once the cause and the disease immediately disappears. The first dose greatly benefits. 75 cents and \$1.00. Sold by H. E. Gree, Druggist, Red Cloud.

Ask For Allen's Foot-Ease.
A powder for swollen, tired, hot, smarting feet. Sample sent free. Also free samples of the foot-ease sanitary corn-pad, a new invention. Address, Allen S. Olmstead, Lefroy, New York.

A Toss Between Rivals

[Original.]

Ben Arnold and I were chums, and Dorothy Drummond was a witch. Given a pair of chums and a witch, and what is the invariable result? A quarrel between the chums. If this invariable result had happened in our case there would be nothing worth the telling. So many such affairs have taken place that they have ceased to be at least novel. Dorothy said she would have neither of us, declaring at the same time that we were more in love with each other than with any one else. I will admit that this helped Ben and me to keep from quarrelling, though neither of us believed her.

We invented tests to force Dorothy to show her hand. Whether she was too smart for us or whether she had nothing but friendship for either of us we could not tell. At any rate not one of our tests gave us any information. We conspired to send her invitations for a drive to take place at the same hour of the same day, hoping she would show her preference by accepting one and declining the other. The little witch accepted both, asking us to call with an equipage capable of seating four persons, as she wished to take her grandmother. We were both furious, but dared not disobey. We tried to force her to choose one of us to sit beside her, but she declined to enter the carriage till all had been seated. She was the life of the party, which must have been a difficult role to play, for Ben and I sat "nursing our wrath to keep it warm." When we handed the two women out, Dorothy was profuse in her thanks for an invitation which had not been given.

One day I told Ben that there was but one way to force a decision between us. That was to tell Dorothy if she would have neither of us she must lose both of us. We would both "go west." Ben consented to this at once. He believed the girl loved him and when it came to the point of losing him would show her hand. I had no doubt that I was the fortunate man and, if a choice was inevitable, would be chosen. If you ask on what grounds we based these opinions I reply that each drew his inference from Dorothy's actions toward him. She gave me her photograph, exacting my promise not to tell Ben, and gave Ben her photograph, exacting his promise not to tell me. This sort of trick she played us in a great variety of ways. It was quite natural that each should deem himself the favored one.

One evening we called on Dorothy together and stated our proposition. In order that neither should have the advantage of being spokesman we were both spokesmen. Ben made a preliminary statement of the case, while I followed with the alternative. The little witch's eyes danced while we were doing so, though when the last words were spoken, "or we go west tomorrow," she looked at us inquiringly. Seeing determination in the countenance of each, she made a little gasp, then turned her back and walked to the window.

When she turned toward us there was a singular expression, or rather combination of expressions, on her face—something serious, something comical, and, above all, something extremely mischievous.

"I don't wish to drive two such fine fellows away," she said. "If I must choose between you I must make my choice by lot."

Going to an antique writing desk, she opened a little drawer and took out an old copper cent, such as has now gone completely out of circulation.

"It is a toss between you. I shall

flip this cent. If it comes down tails" (she said this to Ben) "I will marry you and make you a devoted wife. If it comes down heads" (turning to me) "you are the one I shall love till death do us part."

"You give me tails. I am not your preference," said Ben in a frightened tone.

"Let us choose for ourselves," I said. "Give Ben first choice."

"You have neither of you anything to do with the method by which I come to my decision," she said. "It is I who make the choice, not you."

Tossing the cent in the air, giving it a flip at the same time with her thumb, it fell on the floor, rolled about awhile, struck the leg of a chair and was still. Ben and I both sprang forward, but Dorothy waved us back.

"One step and you both go west!" she exclaimed.

Picking up the coin, which we could both see she did carefully and fairly, she held it out to us without looking at it herself.

"Heads!" I cried.

Ben dropped into a chair. She went to him and took his hand, while a tear stood in her eye. I slipped out of the room, leaving her to comfort him.

Ben acted very nicely about the affair and took his disappointment remarkably well. This, Dorothy told me, was because I had secured her by chance and not by preference. Bright of Dorothy to foresee such a result and act accordingly, wasn't it? I would have preferred to be preferred, but I was so glad to get her that I swallowed that part of the matter. At any rate we were married and have lived very happily ever since.

We had been married but a few months when, hunting for a pair of sleeve links in a Japanese box, I came upon an old cent bearing date 1858. Being an old fashioned, enormous coin, I was reminded that I had not seen one of them since Dorothy "tossed" between Ben and me. Turning it from one side to the other, I was astonished. It was a double header.

S. HUNTER HALSEY.

ARRESTING OLD AGE.

Modern Life and the Lengthening Period of Youth.

It may seem strange to us, though the fact nevertheless remains, that the veterans of the grand army of Napoleon, weighed down by age and glory, were men of whom few had passed their thirty-fifth year. It was a time of rash and short living, with an early age and no overtures of real youth—a time when we find Thackeray ridiculing Du Florac for holding claims on being still a young man at the age of thirty-five! The unmistakable tendency of our time to rejuvenate life and to prolong or, rather, to vanquish age, is placing its stamp on every event of individual existence. The average man today carries the spirit and power of youth into an age which a century ago was regarded as bordering on the shady side of existence. The buoyancy and vigor characteristic of our present middle aged man make it in most cases extremely difficult to approach any fair degree of accuracy in determining the age of a person passing along the ascension scale between forty and fifty-five. And what is said of man refers, of course, in equal if not in still more accentuated degree to woman. One of the causes of this remarkable arrest of old age lies undoubtedly in the increasing indulgence of our time in healthy outdoor sports, with their care free and worry free abandon. The occasional freeing of the mind from the "strenuous life," the determination for a longer or shorter time to force business and routine interests to the wall and give up oneself without scruple or narrow minded conventional restraint to the spirit of the

sport, undoubtedly tends to liberate forces of original pristine strength.—Dr. A. E. Gibson in Medical Brief.

A FAMOUS DANCER.

Sir Christopher Hatton Won Royal Honors by His Grace.

In Queen Bess' time Sir Christopher Hatton won his way to the lord chancellorship by his ability or agility in terpsichorean lines. He first attracted the notice of Queen Elizabeth by his graceful dancing in a mask at court. He henceforth became a reigning favorite, and his promotion was rapid.

He was successively made a gentleman of the queen's privy chamber, captain of the board of gentlemen pensioners (the bodyguard), vice chamberlain and a member of the privy council. This delight of the queen to honor him caused much envy. Complaints were uttered that under the existing government nothing could be obtained by any others than "dancers and carpet knights, such as the Earl of Lincoln and Master Hatton." On the death of Lord Chancellor Bromley the queen offered Hatton the great seal. Even while chancellor Sir Christopher exhibited his skill in dancing. Attending the marriage of his nephew and heir with a judge's daughter, he was decked, according to the custom of the age, in his official robes, and when the music struck up he doffed them, threw them down on the floor and, saying, "Lie there, Mr. Chancellor!" danced the measures of the nuptial festivity.—St. James' Gazette.

A Tongue Twister.

Try it yourself, very slowly and carefully until you can say it easily; then pass it along to your friends. Here it is:

"She stood at the gate, welcoming him in."

Ten to one a person trying to pronounce the sentence for the first time will fumble it laughably. Tongue twisting sentences, however, are good elocutionary exercises. They give you control of your vocal organs so that you can enunciate properly, just as finger exercises on the piano or organ give control of the fingers. What an immense amount of mechanical practice does it require to establish anything like a close sympathy between the brain and the physical organs!

DIFFERENT SOLUTIONS.

Progressive Conundrum That Could Be Worked Out Two Ways.

"Miss Gracie," he said, with an engaging smile, "did you ever try your hand at one of these progressive conundrums?"

"What are progressive conundrums, Mr. Spoonamore?" inquired the young lady.

"Haven't you heard of them? Here is one: Why is a ball of yarn like the letter 'T'? Because a ball of yarn is circular, a circular is a sheet, a sheet is a flat, a flat is \$50 a month, \$50 a month is dear, a deer is swift, a swift is a swallow, a swallow is a taste, a taste is an inclination, an inclination is an angle, an angle is a point, a point is an object aimed at, an object aimed at is a target, a target is a mark, a mark is an impression, an impression is a stamp, a stamp is a thing stuck on, a thing stuck on is a young man in love, and a young man in love is like the letter 'T' because he stands before 'u,' Miss Gracie."

"I don't think you have the answer quite right," said the young lady.

"A ball of yarn is round, a round is a steak, a stake is a wooden thing, a wooden thing is a young man in love, and a young man in love is like the letter 'U' because, Mr. Spoonamore—and she spoke clearly and distinctly—"because he is often crossed."

The young man understood. He took his hat and his progressive conundrums

The Chief

and the Chicago

Inter Ocean

one year for

\$1.50

Now Is the Time to Subscribe