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ARTIFICIAL WARMTH.

Its Use an Inherited Habit and a Sign of Luxury.

With the big, restless, energetic world outside of this tropical belt, however, the matter of keeping warm is ever present, troublesome and expensive throughout half of each passing year.

As a matter of fact, the world of humanity dwelling in stoveland never has been in all the ages really and comfortably warm in winter. It is largely our own fault. Mankind is the only animal which employs fire in the effort to survive the cold of the winters. The hardy lower animals do not need it, however much their luxuriously enervated representatives, the dog and the cat, may enjoy it when they have a chance.

Ancient man only got himself rid of his provident coat of hair and his sufficient latent heat when he began to loaf around the family cooking stove and absorb the intoxicating comfort of artificial warmth. This faraway ancestor is responsible for the fact that the present day human being, outside of the belt aforesaid, is obliged to keep close to a thermometer registering nearly or quite 70 degrees F. from October to May, besides which he must needs wear extra clothing. This also is an inherited habit.

A traveler west once asked a half naked Indian in midwinter how he managed to stand the weather. The Indian replied: "Your face is not a coat. It no cold. Indian face all over."—National Magazine.

VIRTUE IN COPPER.

The Metal is a Death Dealer to All Disease Germs.

"Copper is a marvelous preventive of disease. If we returned to the old copper drinking vessels of our forefathers, typhoid epidemic would disappear."

The speaker, a filtration expert, took a copper cent from his pocket.

"Examine this cent under the microscope," he said, "and you will find it altogether free from disease germs. Examine gold and silver coins, and you will find them one wriggling and contorting germ mass. Yet copper coins pass through dirtier hands than gold and silver ones. You'd think they ought to be alive with micro-organisms. But no. Copper kills germs. Diphtheria and cholera cultures smeared on a copper cent die in less than two hours.

"They have many cholera epidemics in China, but certain towns are always immune. These towns keep their drinking water in great copper vessels. Travelers have tried to buy these vessels, for they are beautiful, but the villagers will not sell them. They have a superstition that their health and welfare depend on their retention. I wish all superstitions were as true and salutary as that."—Philadelphia Bulletin.

The Joke Was on the Students.

When Dr. Nathan Lord was president of Dartmouth college he used to drive about in a dilapidated, old fashioned contrivance. The students became tired of seeing the concern and, though Dr. Lord knew of this, he clung to the old calash. One night a group of the young men hauled the thing out of the shed where it was kept, took it several miles down the road toward Lebanon and hid it in a spot where it was concealed by dense foliage. They were just about to depart, well satisfied with the threemile job, when the curtain which completely enveloped the front of the calash was suddenly pushed aside and the well known face of President Lord appeared. "Now, gentlemen," he said, "you may draw me back again."

Homes Under the Ground.

In the salt district in Cheshire, England, the brine has been pumped so continuously out of the earth that the land has settled very considerably. The houses naturally sink with the earth, and in some of the streets in Northwich only the roofs are visible. The houses are uninhabited, although the rooms are underground. In a great many cases additional stories have been added, so that by living in the upper rooms the residents may have some light and air. The roadways sink, too, but are kept up to the proper level by the government.

He Laid.

"Don't waste your time in clipping off the branches," said the woodman to his son, "but lay your ax at the root of the tree." And the young man went out and laid his ax at the foot of the tree, like a good and dutiful boy, and then he went fishing. Truly there is nothing so beautiful as filial obedience.—Strand Magazine.

One View of It.

"But if she makes all her own dresses I should think she'd be a good wife for you. It shows she's industrious and sensible."

"Not for me, thank you. It simply shows how poor her father must be."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Hit It.

"You can't guess what sister said about you just before you came in, Mr. Highcollar," said little Johnnie.

"I haven't an idea in the world, Johnnie."

"That's it. You guessed it the very first time."

The Difference.

Tell a woman her face is her fortune and she is complimented. Hint to a man that his cheek is his most valuable asset and he is likely to get mad.—Chicago Record-Herald.

He who reads only what pleases never grows very learned.

NEW YORK CHURCHES.

Frailty and the Land It Occupies Valued at \$12,500,000.

Trinity church is valued at \$12,500,000. This estimate includes the land occupied by the churchyard. It is in the most valuable part of New York, if not in the most valuable division of property in the world.

St. Paul's church is valued at \$5,500,000.

Grace church, at what was once described as the head of Broadway, is valued at \$950,000.

The First Presbyterian church, on Fifth avenue, between Eleventh and Twelfth streets, is valued at \$750,000. St. Mark's church, on Second avenue, an old landmark in that neighborhood, is valued at \$275,000.

The Marble Collegiate church, Fifth avenue and Twenty-ninth street, is valued at \$1,000,000.

The Church of St. Paul the Apostle (the Paulist church), at Fifty-ninth street and Columbus avenue, is valued at \$700,000.

The West Presbyterian church, on West Forty-second street, is valued at \$450,000. St. Thomas' at \$1,700,000 and the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church, 9 and 11 West Fifty-ninth street, at \$1,000,000.

The valuation of the Temple Emanuel is \$1,530,000, of St. Patrick's cathedral \$6,000,000, of the B'nai Jeheshurun synagogue \$300,000, of the Temple Beth-El, at the corner of Fifth avenue and Seventy-sixth street, \$1,300,000, of the Broadway Tabernacle, Broadway and Fifty-sixth street, \$700,000 and of the Christian Scientist church, Central Park West and Sixty-eighth street, \$300,000.—New York Sun.

PRACTICAL PICTURES.

Odd Fartior Ornaments and a Very Substantial Dinner.

There is a practical minded millionaire who has invented a substitute for valuable pictures which it is hoped will not commend itself to others. He has had a large number of bank notes framed, and these are hung upon the wall where the pictures should be.

In the drawing room is one frame that contains a bank note for \$100,000, and he says: "There is the money in case I find a picture which is sufficiently valuable to pay that price for it. Meanwhile the note tells its own tale and saves me from explaining to my visitors that 'this picture cost so much,' as most other rich men do.

"The chief pleasure of these collectors appears to arise not from the beauty of the work, but from the cost of it; then why not have checks or bank notes for a large sum hung on the walls, as I do? Besides, I find that it is much more interesting to my visitors, for most of them look long and carefully at the bank notes who would but glance at the work of art."

This eccentric man gave a dinner on the same principle. In the soup plates there was no soup, but sovereigns; for fish were served five-pound notes, for game checks and for sweets shares in a thriving company, and there was not a guest who did not enjoy this entertainment more than any he or she had ever before been present at.—London Truth.

Dean Swift on Spelling.

Dean Swift roundly denounced the poets of his day who had introduced the "barbarous custom of abbreviating words to fit them to the measure of their verses." Swift instances "drug'd" and "disturb'd" as mortal offenses. The custom so introduced had begun to dominate prose. Another cause—borrowed, Swift suggested, from the clipping process—which he held had contributed to the maiming of the language, "is a foolish opinion advanced of late years that we ought to spell exactly as we speak; which, besides the obvious inconvenience of utterly destroying our etymology, would be a thing we should never see the end of."

Risks in Railway Journeys.

The idea that the man who goes on a railway journey takes his life in his hand and is rather more likely than not to meet with an untimely death at the first curve the train negotiates is scarcely borne out by the fact that the chances against any one passenger meeting his death on the railway are 36,000,000 to 1. This immunity from disaster reflects considerable credit upon the companies, but still more upon engine drivers and signalmen, whose skill and care are the main factors in the safety of the passenger.—London Court Journal.

Reason.

Reason, reason as much as you like, but beware of thinking that it answers to everything, suffices for everything, satisfies everything. This mother loses her child. Will reason comfort her? Does cool reason counsel the inspired poet, the heroic warrior, the lover? Reason guides but a small part of many, and that is the least interesting. The rest obey feeling, true or false, and passion, good or bad.

Taking Him Down.

"Crittick was pleased to say that my play had few equals as a bit of realism," remarked young De Riter.

"He said even more than that," said Pepprey.

"Indeed?"

"Yes," he added, "and positively no inferiors."—Exchange.

Carelessness Somewhere.

Gladys—Mamma can't see anybody today. She's upstairs with the new baby. You see, they sent her a girl when she'd ordered a boy, an' she's so disappointed she's sick.—Puck.

The men who go through life with chips on their shoulders always avoid meeting the right man.—New York News.

NIGHT ROBES.

They Were Once Very Gorgeous and Worn in the Daytime.

In the middle ages night robes, as a general thing, were unknown luxuries. Under the Tudors royalty and nobility had them made of silk or velvet, and, as the old books say, "hence no washing was necessary."

A night robe of black satin bound with black taffeta and edged with velvet of the same color was daintily fashioned for Anne Boleyn.

More luxurious still was one owned by Queen Bess. It was of black velvet, fur lined, and greatly offset by flowing borders of silk lace. And in 1508 her majesty gave orders that George Brodignan should deliver "threescore and six best sable skyunes, to furnish us a night gown." Four years later her highness orders the delivery of "twelve yards of purple velvet, friezed on the back syde, with white and russet silke," for a night gown for herself and also orders the delivery of fourteen yards of murrey damask for the "makeynge of a night gowne" for some one else.

Night gowns for ladies of a later period were called "nyght valls." In Queen Anne's time it was the fashion to wear them over the customary dress in the streets in the daytime, when out on a pleasure walk. And, as was fitting, ladies who indulged in night-caps had them also made of silk or velvet, with "much pretty garnishing of lace and glittering cords," and the fair ones made presentation of costly caps to each other as tokens of respect or affection.

MARINE TURTLES.

How They Are Stripped of Their Shells While Alive.

The shells shipped from the Colon district are taken from turtles caught on the Lagarto and San Blas coasts of the Caribbean sea during the months of May, June, July and August, when they approach the shore to deposit eggs, which are laid on the sandy beaches above high water mark at night. Holes are dug about one and a half feet deep and the eggs deposited therein. Generally about three layings are made during a period of nine weeks. The eggs are tightly covered with sand and left to be hatched out by the heat of the sun. The turtles are caught either while on shore or in the water by means of nets.

As a rule, they are killed immediately after being caught, cleaned and the shell frame washed with sand. But on the San Blas coast the Indians do not kill them, but at once proceed to remove the shell by subjecting the turtles to great heat, afterward throwing the turtles back into the sea. By the application of heat the successive plates of shell come off very easily.

Turtles caught in these waters vary in size from one to four and a half feet long, with a maximum weight of 150 pounds, and the average weight of shell obtained from each is from six to seven pounds. The commercial value of tortoise shell depends upon the thickness and size of the plates rather than upon the brilliancy of the colors.

They Waited Well.

A large audience once gathered in Baltimore to hear Professor Sylvester read a unique original poem of 400 lines, all rhyming with the name Rosalind. He had appended to the poem a large number of explanatory footnotes, which he said he would read first. When at last he had done so he looked up at the clock and was horrified to find that he had kept the audience an hour and a half before beginning to read the poem they had come to hear. The astonishment on his face was answered by a burst of good humored laughter from the audience, and then, after begging all his hearers to feel at perfect liberty to leave if they had engagements, he read the Rosalind poem.

No Mistake.

The editor was apologizing over the telephone for an annoying typographical error in his paper.

"In our account of the meeting at which you were chairman last night, colonel," he said, "we tried to say, 'Following is a detailed report of the proceedings,' but it appeared in print, as perhaps you have noticed, 'Following is a derailed report,' and so forth. Mistakes of that kind, you know, will—"

"It may have been an accident," interrupted the man at the other end of the wire, "but it wasn't a mistake. You sidetracked most of the report."—Chicago Tribune.

Antismoking Edicts.

Strenuous efforts have been made in times past to stamp out smoking. Among the rules of an English school in 1629 it was laid down that "a master must be a man of grave behavior, neither papist nor Puritan, no haunter of alehouses and no puffer of tobacco." In Turkey, where the pipe is now omnipresent, former sultans made smoking a crime, and offenders were punished by having their pipes thrust into their noses, while in Russia a royal edict ordered the noses of the smokers to be cut off.

The Real Glutton.

Benevolent Old Lady (to little boy in street)—Why—why, little boy, how did you ever get such a black eye? Small Boy—Me and Sammy Jones was fightin' for an apple in school, an' he smashed me. Benevolent Old Lady—Dear, dear, and which glutton got the apple? Small Boy—Teacher, ma'am.

Talent's Triumph.

"What's the difference between talent and genius?"

"Talent makes money oftener than genius does."—Detroit Free Press.

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