

THE VALENTINE DEMOCRAT

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VALENTINE, - NEBRASKA.

The moth exhibits much taste in dress.

Some girls never flirt—but perhaps it isn't their fault.

It is better to know little than to know a lot that isn't true.

Promises may get friends, but it requires performances to keep them.

If fame came only after death no man would kill himself striving for it.

One glance at a political orator proves that all are not geysers that spout.

It isn't necessary to spend money in advertising your troubles; simply tell them to a gossip.

Often it happens that a man isn't known by the company he keeps until after he mysteriously disappears.

Somehow the sun doesn't seem to shine half so hot on the baseball grounds as it does on the harvest field.

A lot of citizens would gladly give up what Dr. Stevenson classifies as a privilege of citizenship—the privilege of paying taxes.

Women talk about their clothes being uncomfortable, but there are lots of men who envy them every time they see a peek-a-boo shirt waist.

A New Orleans shirtmaker's statement that he has discovered the long-hunted yellow fever parasite is arousing some interest. If he lived up North he would be advertising a parasite with every shirt.

It is said that 10,500,000 people are employed on the farms of America. Nobody appears to be able to explain why they have not gone to the charms of flat life in the cities.

The traveling public unanimously will approve the order of a trainmaster discouraging flirtations by trainmen. Switches and semaphores are too likely to be neglected by the sentimental brakeman or the impassioned conductor.

Investigations made in the Zoological Gardens in Berlin give an interesting idea of the comparative water requirements of animals. The record showed that the giraffe, whom nature has equipped to enjoy a drink, is less of a drinker than the donkey. The daily summary puts the elephant at the head of the list, as was to be expected, with the rhinoceros as an unhandy second.

Italy has a new law to prevent the exportation of works of art. Some things, like church properties, are as 'key have been before, inalienable, and cannot be sold out of the country. When a picture is sold from a private collection the government can buy it at market price over the head of the individual, and all works of art taken from the country bear an export tax. It is wise for Italy to keep her art treasures, the unique wealth in which she leads all the world.

Boston has recently added an automobile policeman to its police department. He is expected to arrest automobilists who run their cars too fast. Every large city has had bicycle policemen for a long time, to keep the wheelmen in order, and officers on horseback are common in the parks and public drives where men are tempted to speed their horses. The next thing to come will be flying-machine policemen, to keep the people sailing in the air from violating the speed ordinances.

A Western technical school has invented a profession, and will offer next year for the first time a "fire protection course." It will be four years long, and a student will be trained in architecture and building, electricity, chemistry, insurance and the duties of a fireman, so that he will be "able to build a fire wall, to make a scale of insurance rates, to run a fire engine or to carry a hose into a burning building." Losses by fire in this country amount to about one hundred and fifty million dollars a year, and we pay about two hundred millions for the maintenance of fire departments. There is a field for experts on prevention, and if we have "money to burn," as the figures seem to show, we can afford to pay them good salaries.

A national gallery of art seems a fitting complement to the great Library of Congress, and a bill to establish such an one is to be urged upon Congress at the next session. One such man offers a million dollars toward an endowment. The owner of the most noteworthy private collection in the country is reported to have offered to give it. It is understood that the Corcoran Gallery at Washington would be incorporated in the new institution, and it is positively stated that other famous collections would be merged with it, wholly free of cost. If this was a nation of mere "dollar-basers," as some unfriendly critics have said, here is evidence that the characterization has ceased to be true. Out of the strong comes forth sweetness, as in Samson's riddle. It is the earnestness with which Ameri-

cans have pursued the practical that has given them leisure to appreciate beauty, and a moral right to possess it.

Is 1903 an "annus mirabilis?" correspondent of the New York Times insists that it is, and offers in proof of his statement unseasonable weather every month, unprecedented drought, the bottom falling out of the stock market, the Serbian assassinations, the death of the Pope, and "the gloomy record of crimes of violence, lynchings, murders, suicides, to say nothing of the 'fight to a finish' in which labor and capital are now engaged." In conclusion, the correspondent wonders whether the events of the "wonderful year" could have occurred in any year the digits composing which did not form the fateful number, "thirteen." If the matter depended upon "the fateful number thirteen" this correspondent might well set his mind at rest. The last year whose digits compose thirteen was 1840 and it was about the dullest, most uneventful year of the century. There was nothing "wonderful" about it. Queen Victoria got married, penny postage was introduced in England, President Harrison was elected, the Mormons founded Nauvoo, the opium war with China was brought to an end, and William I of Holland abdicated. Nearly every other year in the nineteenth century was more an "annus mirabilis" than 1840. And 1804, the preceding "thirteen" year in the list, was not as wonderful as 1840. But what is there specially "wonderful" about 1903 that should make this correspondent so pessimistic? Do we not have unseasonable weather every year? Supposing the bottom of the stock market has fallen out. Has there not been marked activity in all lines of legitimate business? Have the mishaps of speculation been reflected in trade and industry? Has the assassination in Serbia created a ripple in the political or diplomatic world of Europe? The Roman Pontiff is dead. He was old and he was mortal. Was not his death significant, however, in its revelation of the unity of Christian sentiment and sympathy? As to crime, it is no more rampant this year than it was last year, only certain unusual circumstances in certain unusual places have called special attention to it. In the long flight of time one year averages up very like another year. The "wonderful years" are extremely rare.

WEED REMEDIES.

Effective Cures Are Accomplished by Common Wayside Growths.

Many of the plants that are popularly known to-day as "just common weeds" were treasured by the ancients, and even so recently as "grandmother's day," for their medicinal properties. In fact, our grandparents believed implicitly that in every locality might be found the plants that would prove effective for the diseases of that country. The people of to-day are slowly awakening to a realization of the value of these inexpensive home remedies, many of which are sold by druggists under a different name.

There is a frequent demand for a remedy for catarrh in the head. Much relief may be obtained by using a nasal douche, twice a day, of warm water with a little salt and sweet milk added. Afterward snuff pure olive oil into the nostrils. The douche cleanses and the oil heals, which may prove effective in some cases, but a "weed remedy" has proved more effective. A bad case of catarrh has been cured by smoking mullein leaves. The smoke must be forced through the nostrils, and has a tendency to heal and dry those passages leading to the lungs. Mullein is a plant that grows wild in many States, and resembles the tobacco leaf in color, shape and growth.

The best of salve can be made from the mullein blossoms. If the blossoms are gathered and put into a bottle and hung in the sun they will in time become oil, which is very healing. They may be fried in fresh butter and the liquid strained into boxes ready for use when cold.

"May butter is best to use for salves," said an elderly lady. No doubt some of the readers may think, as I thought at first, that this is superstitious, but after much thought will agree with her. In May pastures are generally of clover, dandelions, etc., and these are said to contain excellent medicinal properties. Clover tea and salve made from the clover blossoms is said to be an effective cancer cure.—Philadelphia Record.

No Sympathy.

"Charley, dear," said young Mrs. Tokins, "you know I never blame you for anything that is not your fault."

"But when the horse you bet on loses, that isn't your fault, is it?"

"Charley, dear, the winn'r was just as easy a horse to bet on as any other, wasn't it?"

"Why-er-yes."

"No one forced you to bet on some other horse?"

"No."

"Then I can't see that you deserve any sympathy whatever."

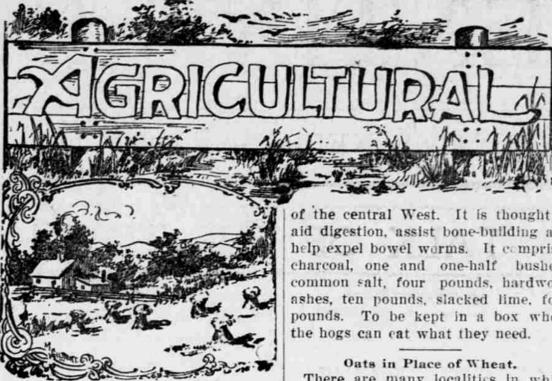
The Facts in the Case.

There is nothing like simplicity and plain fact in poetry. Here the Whittier singer:

I roamed the weary world about
Many a time dejected,
But after the rain the sun came out—
Which was just as I expected!
—Atlanta Constitution.

Cheap Horse Power in the West.

The melting snows and glaciers of the Rockies and petroleum now furnish such abundant power for San Francisco that the cost of one-horse power one hour is just 2 cents.



Hungarian Millet.

In sections where the hay crop is short, one of the best and quickest catch crops is Hungarian millet. The seed is comparatively cheap, ranging from \$2 to \$2.25 a bushel, and the crop does well on any good soil. In many localities farmers make a good business of sowing Hungarian millet for a hay crop on any ground from which a crop can be taken by the middle of August. If the crop was a cultivated one, but little preparation of the soil is necessary. Shallow plowing and a thorough harrowing will probably be sufficient in most cases. It is generally considered that this millet crop is worth all it costs to get it, and it is particularly valuable for cattle, or the grain may be saved and fed to poultry during the winter. One of the most



A LATE MILLET CROP.

successful poultrymen in the country has millet as a part of his winter ration for the laying hens, sowing it on the ground from which early potatoes have been harvested.

Go in to the Fair.

Put on yer newest caliker, an' comb the young 'uns' hair,
An' jump into the wagon—fer we're goin' to the fair;
An' we'll make the finest showin' o' all the people there
Fer Jenny'll be the finest gal a-goin' to the fair!

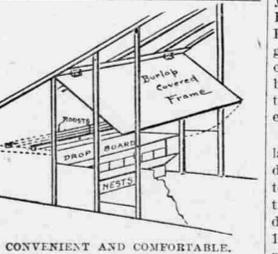
We've got a yoke of oxen that weigh a hundred ton,
An' a mule that in a century wuz never known to run,
An' two live alligators, an' rattlesnakes to spare—
But Jenny'll be the finest gal a-goin' to the fair!

Oh, jump into the wagon!—the road is smooth an' wide
An' the crisp wind's kinder sayin', "It's a mornin' fer a ride!"
I'm holdin' o' the ribbons; an' won't the people stare!
Fer Jenny—she's the finest gal a-goin' to the fair!

Now, don't the ol' wheels rattle! we're kiverin' the ground!
The white san's jest a-flyin', an' the trees air goin' round!
An' Jenny, with her eyes o' blue an' sunny, fowin' hair—
The finest an' the sweetest gal a-goin' to the fair!
—Atlanta Constitution.

A Warm Roosting Pen.

In a bulletin issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, giving much valuable information for the benefit of Dominion poultry men, the following description and accompanying illustration of warm roosting quarters for winter are worthy of special attention:



CONVENIENT AND COMFORTABLE.

and hinged to the roof of the house directly above the front edge of the drop board. This burlap-covered frame should extend across the pen and should fall an inch or so below the drop board. When not required in front of the fowls the frame should be hooked to the roof of the house. This frame when lowered, together with the board sides of the roosting quarters, form the warm roosting pen. The fowls will generate sufficient heat to keep themselves comfortable during a cold night.

Tonic for Swine.

The following is a favorite mixture among some of the large hog-raisers

TRIED TO BE FACETIOUS.

Postoffice Official Had Cause to Regret His Joking Proclivity.

"A facetious remark will sometimes beget the most regrettable circumstances," said the postoffice inspector to a group of listeners. "Men who are inclined to get funny should bear in mind one thing, that it is not profitable to be witty under all conditions. A facetious reply to a simply question almost cost my life once. I shall never forget the occasion. Providence and I had saved my life. I can see the rope at the end of which I was billed to do a wind-jig now just simply by closing my eyes and recalling the surroundings. I had to inspect a mountain post-office several years ago. It was in the mountains of Alabama and about 30 miles from a railroad station. I was a total stranger in that section of the State.

"But I had started out with as light a heart as a schoolboy on a vacation. I had ridden all day and long toward sunset. My horse was still plodding along a mountain path while I was looking in every direction for curling smoke. I knew I would have to stop some place for the night. Suddenly I was halted and three men emerged from the bushes and stood in the road. One held my horse. The other two walked up to me. All of them carried rifles and I had a feverish chill.

"'Whar yer goin', neighbor,' asked one of them.

"'Goin' the way my nose points,' I answered.

"'None of your sass,' said one of the men, gruffly. 'Whar's yer bizness in these parts?'

"'Sellin' soap,' I said, good humoredly.

"'What kind o' soap?' asked the spokesman.

"'Soft soap,' said I, and the next minute I regretted it. I was literally lifted from the horse, which was led into the ravine.

"'He's a reevoo,' I heard one of the men say, and then I experienced another chill. I knew I was in the hands of moonshiners. They blindfolded me and when they took the folds off my eyes I was in a mountain cabin. I explained that I was a postoffice inspector and had nothing to do with the department of internal revenue and told them if they would examine my credentials they would find that I was telling the truth. But they couldn't read and all government credentials looked alike to them. Then I told them to send for the postmaster and he would be able to explain to them. They then agreed to postpone the hanging until the mountain postmaster could be sent for.

"In the meantime there was a mountain dance in that cabin that night. I can play the fiddle fairly well, but that night I simply developed into a wizard with the bow. I played as no man ever played before, and those mountaineers danced until broad daylight by my music. I could hear strains of music for a month after that. The postmaster arrived and succeeded in establishing my identity, and I was allowed to go my way.

"We're mighty glad for yer, pard, said one of my captors, 'cause it'd be a durned shame to string up a good fiddler like you.' Never attempt to get funny unless you are familiar with your company."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

The Traveler's Tree.

One of the most curious, useful and beautiful palm trees found in dark and mysterious Madagascar is known as the "traveler's tree," or Ravenada Madagascariensis, as the scientists, with their renowned love of simple terms, love to call it. The stem resembles that of the plantain tree, and the leaves spread in a semi-circle like an expanded fan. The lower leaves drop off as the stem grows, and in an old tree the lowest leaves of the fan are often as high as thirty feet from the ground. This palm tree receives its popular name from the fact that stores of pure and frequently cool water are found in the large, cuplike sheaths of the stalks, which the traveler may readily secure by tapping the sheaths at the base.

Population of London.

Greater London, which includes all the suburbs, has a population of 6,581,372, an increase of just under 1,000,000 in ten years, more than half of which occurred in the "outer ring." At the ages of 19, 20, 21 to 25, and 25 to 30, there are more than twice as many females as males. It is pointed out in considering the excess of females over males account must be taken of the large number of female domestic servants who are brought into London from the country. London has 234,308 female servants, and only 15,425 male servants. London has fewer children than it has had for many years, but it has more people over 45 than ever before.

His Acknowledgment.

"I never heard Dinsmore acknowledge that he was growing old before to-day."

"How did he acknowledge it?"

"He announced that he felt just as young as he ever did."—Detroit Free Press.

Turbines Come Into Favor.

The indications are that the steam turbine in its various forms will before long be in practically exclusive occupation of the electric lighting and electric power plant field.

If a poor girl has hair of the spungoid variety folks say it looks like streaked molasses candy.

A sweet expression covers a multitude of freckles.



Cream Puffs.
Stir a half-cupful of butter into a cup of boiling water. When boiling, add a cup and a half of flour and cook, stirring constantly for two minutes; take from the fire and pour into a bowl to cool. When cold, beat in the whipped yolks of four eggs, lastly the stiffened whites. Line a baking pan with buttered paper, drop the batter by the large spoonful upon it and bake in a quick oven. The puffs should be done in fifteen minutes.

Orange Marmalade.
Twelve oranges. Peel and parboil the skins in three waters, allow them to boil in the last water until tender, drain and chop very fine. (Reject as much as possible of the tough white skin in peeling the oranges.) To the pulp and juice of the orange add the chopped peel, then weigh all. Allow as much sugar as you have of the fruit mixture. Cook all until thick, adding before it boils about a gill of water.

Plum Butter.
To every pound of plums allow three-quarters of a pound of sugar. Wash the plums and put them, still wet, into the preserving kettle. Cover, bring slowly to a boil and cook until the fruit is broken to pieces and is very soft. Rub through a colander to remove stones and skins; return the juice and pulp to the fire, add the sugar and boil until the mixture is very thick. Put up in jars.

Baked Peaches.
Set a dozen ripe freshly pared clingstone peaches in a baking-pan, smother them in sugar, dot the sugar liberally with butter, squeeze a lemon over all, and bake forty minutes in a quick oven. Excellent with game or fowl or any highly seasoned meat. Epicures like the peaches liberally dusted with red pepper after baking.

Canon and Mushroom Salad.
Cook fresh mushrooms in a little butter, then cover with a white stock, and let them simmer gently till very tender. Lift out and drain as well as possible from all liquid. Add to them twice their quantity of cold cooked capon cut in small pieces and cover with mayonnaise. Garnish with lettuce hearts.

Tournedos of Beef on Toast.
Cut the fillet of beef into thin slices and then into rounds about two inches in diameter. Over each of these rounds sprinkle black pepper, a little salt and some chopped chives. Lay the beef in a well-buttered saute pan and cook for six minutes, turning once. Serve on rounds of fried bread of the same size. —The Epicure.

Soft Gingerbread.
Half cup sugar, half cup molasses, half cup butter, lard or dripping, one egg, one and one-half cups of flour, one teaspoonful soda dissolved in a gill of boiling water, one teaspoonful ginger. Put all together in a large bowl and beat well. Bake in a quart tin in a moderate oven.

Baked Custard.
Break eight eggs in a bowl; add to them six tablespoonfuls of sugar, a quart of milk, a tablespoonful of vanilla and a sherry glass of brandy. Mix well together, strain, and bake in a slow oven for about forty minutes, having it well colored on top. Serve ice cold.

Corn Bread.
One pint of buttermilk, one cup of sugar, one egg, lard the size of a walnut, one teaspoonful of soda, a pinch of salt. Add equal parts of cornmeal and wheat flour until you have a good batter. Bake in a slow oven for half an hour. This is good eaten hot with milk.

Stewed Corn with Cream.
Scrape the corn from a dozen ears, without boiling first, and add to it a cupful of rich cream. Cook for fifteen minutes, seasoning with salt and white pepper.

Short Suggestions.
To keep milk sweet for several days add a teaspoonful of fine salt to each quart of new milk.

Mix blacking with cold tea rather than with water, for thus a better polish is obtained on the boots.

To clean tinware use powdered whiting moistened with a little paraffin. Polish with a leather or with a pad of old newspaper.

A new tooth brush should be soaked in cold water for some hours before being used, as this will prevent the bristles coming out.

Match marks on a polished or tarnished surface may be removed by being first rubbed with a cut lemon and then with a rag dipped in clear water.

When cleaning wall paper do so with a lump of dough made of flour mixed with a little soda water. The soda will not injure the paper and the work will be done more rapidly with it.

If ink be spilled on the carpet it may be taken up without leaving a stain if dry salt be applied immediately. As the salt becomes discolored brush it off and apply more. Wet slightly. Continue till the ink has disappeared.

A useful cement for earthenware vessels is found in white lead. Spread it on strips of calico and secure with bands of twine. This method is only suitable for earthenware pans, etc., which are intended for service and not for ornament.