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NEW PUBLICATIONS.

From A. L. Bancroft & Co., San Francisco, we have Harper & Bros.' issue of John Swett's new volume entitled "Methods of Teaching; a Hand-book of Principles, Directions and Working Models for Common-school Teachers." It is intended for use in normal schools and normal classes as a basis for instructing in methods of teaching; for the use of those who intend to become teachers without taking a course of professional training, and for experienced teachers who believe there is something to be learned from the suggestions of others. The characteristic features claimed for this manual are: Its strict limitation to the essentials of common-school instruction; its condensed and specific directions; its working models for beginners. Mr. Swett thus speaks of the volume: "The attempt to reduce teaching methods to condensed statements and bird's-eye views is beset with many difficulties readily appreciated by practical educators. But what the young teacher most needs is a definite direction or method; he will learn to make for himself all necessary qualifications and exceptions in school-room practice. My chief purpose has been, therefore, to make, not an exhaustive treatise on education in general, but a volume of principles, directions, and working models for the practical guidance of the rank and file in the great army of common-school teachers" From a cursory examination of the book it appears to be all its author claims for it. By extended use only can it be freely tested.

"Scribner's Monthly Magazine" for November comes to us in new covers, as it enters upon its twenty-first volume and eleventh year. It is a very fully and freely illustrated number. Its leading papers are: "The Sower;" "Peter the Great," by Eugene Schuyler; "Bordentown and the Bonapartes," by J. B. Gilder; "Walt Whitman," by E. C. Stedman; "The Secret of Second Sight," by an ex-conjurer, Henry Hatton; "Two Singers," by Susan M. Spalding; "Tiger Lily," by July Schayer; "The Thought of Aslyanax Beside Iulus," by Mrs. S. M. B. Piatt; "Zervia Hope," by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps; "The Lost Hellas," by Hjalmar H. Boyesen; "A Chapter on Tableaux," by Philip O'Sullivan; "Jean-Francois Millet," by Alfred Sensier; "Elihu Vedder," by Chas. DeKay; "Mr. Gladstone—Leonard Woods," by R. H. Dana; "Artemus Ward," by E. S. Nadal, and the regular reviews and editorial departments.

From A. L. Bancroft & Co., San Francisco, we have Volume XX. of "The American Decisions," completed and annotated by A. C. Freeman of the Sacramento bar. This series has from time to time been freely noticed in these columns. The cases reported in this volume will be found originally in the following reports: Stewart's Alabama Reports, volumes 2 and 3, 1830; Connecticut Reports, volume 8, 1830; Blackford's Indiana Reports, volume 2, 1830; J. J. Marshall's Kentucky Reports, volumes 3, 4, 5, 1830; Martin's Louisiana Reports, N. S., volume 8, 1830; Louisiana Reports, volumes 1, 2, 1830; Greenleaf's Maine Reports, volumes 6, 7, 1830; Bland's Chancery Maryland Reports, volume 2, 1829-30; Gill & Johnson's Maryland Reports, volumes 2, 3, 1830; Pickering's Massachusett's Reports, volumes 9, 10, 1830; New Hampshire Reports, volume 5, 1829-30; Halsted's New Jersey Reports, volume 6, 1830; Wendell's New York Reports, volumes 2, 3, 1828-30.

The "American Catholic Quarterly Review" for October (Hardy & Mahoney, Philadelphia) presents these leading papers: "Free Thought in England," by Arthur F. Marshall; "Our Great Goddess and Her Coming Idol," by John Gilmary Shea, LL.D.; "How to Find the Truth," by Dr. Daniel Gans; "Notes on Spain," by St. George Mivart, F.R.S., etc.; "American Influence on the Democratic Movement in Europe," by John MacCarthy; "Catholicity in Kentucky—The Elder Family," by Benedict J. Webb; "Bishop Stevens on Auricular Confession and Private Absolution," by Rev. J. A. Corcoran, D.D.; "English Fiction," by John Gray; "Influence of the Sun on Terrestrial Magnetism," by Rev. J. M. Degni, S. J.; "Beza as a Translator and Perverter of God's Word," by J. A. C.; "Dante," by John E. McMahon.

The "Popular Science Monthly" (D. Appleton & Co., New York) has these chief papers in its November number, in addition to the usual editorial departments: "The Development of Political Institutions," by Herbert Spencer; "The Sun's Heat," by Professor C. A. Young; "Education as a Hindrance to Manual Occupations," by Professor Sylvanus P. Thompson; "The Glacial Man in America," by B. F. De Costa; "A Flock of Mythological Crows," by W. H. Gardner, M. D.; "The Electric Burglar-alarm;" "Mental Imagery," by Francis Galton, F. R. S.; "Henry and Faraday," by Professor Alfred M. Mayer; "The Evolution of Organic Form," by Charles Morris; "The Profusion of Life," by Arabella B. Buckley; "Criticisms Corrected," by Herbert Spencer; "Hypnotism," by George J. Romanes; "Sketch of Lewis H. Morgan," by J. W. Powell.

"White Wings" is a yachting romance by William Black. It is from the press of Harper & Bros., New York, in an octavo volume in cloth, and is for sale by A. L. Bancroft & Co., San Francisco. The scenes are nearly all laid on board the yacht of a pleasure party on a long cruise about the shores of Scotland. It is a love tale told with an air of reality, and in a naturalness of tone that makes the reader forget it is fiction, as he follows up the details of the courtship of Mary Avon and the doctor on board the White Dove, and beneath the fraternal but short-sighted watchfulness of the big-hearted old Scotch Laird. The novel has been running as a serial in *Harpers' Weekly*, and has been admitted generally to be one of Mr. Black's best efforts.

From G. T. Beauregard, manager of the Hood Orphan Memorial Fund, New Orleans, we have a large 8 vo. volume, entitled "Advance and Retreat; or the Personal Experiences in the United States and Confederate States Armies," by J. B. Hood, Lieutenant-General in the Confederate army. This work consists of General Hood's own MS. account of his military career. It is freely illustrated with maps and plans of battle-grounds of the rebellion. The most significant chapter in the entire work is the last, wherein General Hood criticises the policy of General Johnson with a vigor and cutting emphasis that is an admirable example of polished and bitter military criticism. The work is published for the benefit of the Hood Orphan Memorial Fund.

From Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co., New York, and W. A. & C. S. Houghton, Sacramento, we have a quarto cover containing a series of character sketches from Charles Dickens, being fac-similes of original drawings by Fred. Barnard. The sketches, which are on lithographic plates, are admirable, full of life, and speak the work of a master caricaturist. They come up closely to the best ideal conceptions of such characters as Alfred Jingle, Little Dorrit, Mr. Pickwick, Bill Sikes and Mrs. Gamp. As art works they will take a high rank, being among the best realizations through the medium of the artist's pencil of the character sketches of the great novelist.

Of D. Appleton & Co.'s (New York) Handy Volume Series we have two new numbers, "The Foresters," by Berthold Auerbach, a novel of the best school and one of the most artistic works Auerbach has put forth, and "A Short Life of William Ewart Gladstone," by Charles H. Jones. This last volume contains extracts from the speeches and writings of the great English statesman and party leader.

From the Leonard Scott Publishing Company, New York, we have "Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine" for October, with these papers therein: "Dr. Wortle's School," "Memory," "The Enchanted Bridle," "Bush Life in Queensland," "The Roof of the World," "Lois," a sketch; "Life and Death," three sonnets; "Society and the Salons Before the French Revolution," "The Stump Ministry—Its First Session."

"Jack and Jill" is a small volume by Louisa M. Alcott, published by Roberts Bros., Boston, and for sale by W. A. & C. S. Houghton ($1 50). The Alcott stories are too well established to call for extended remark. There is no more successful writer for children than Louisa M. Alcott, and this new story will be found to be up to the standard her series has attained.

"The Worst Boy in Town," is a small volume from the press of G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. It is by the author of "Helen's Babies." The book is fair and harmless, but it is neither brilliant nor strikingly interesting. It is a volume that will do for boys to read when they have no better literature at hand—but then in the wealth of fine writing for the youth of the land, every boy ought to have a more thorough boy's book at hand at any time.

"St. Nicholas" for November (Scribner & Co., New York) is at hand, and proves to be a number in keeping with the uniform high character of the journal. One of the most valuable papers is that on Swiss Glaciers. The magazine is full of brilliantly illustrated articles, and choice reading matter for the young folks of America.

From D. Appleton & Co. we have an 8 vo. volume entitled "The Life of Winfield Scott Hancock." It is by D. H. Junken, M. D., and Frank H. Norton. It is freely illustrated, and contains the details of General Hancock's military career.

From D. Lothrop & Co., Boston, we have the November number of "The Wide Awake," one of the best journals for children published in any land. This number is replete with fine illustrations and interesting, amusing and instructive matter.

HANCOCK TO HIS SOUTHERN BRIGADIERS.

Tune, Yankee Doodle.

My Brigadiers, let us forget
  Which side it was we fought on—
The Union up or Union down,
  For I have quite forgotten.

CHORUS—For I a weather (Han) cock am,
  Your favor now imploring,
I turn my tail toward the North,
  The solid South adoring.

I see you vote the way you shot,
  For solid South and plunder;
My men, if you will vote for me,
  I'll shoot for you, by thunder!—CHO.

The Northern debt let us forget,
  You want repudiation;
And eighty thousand soldier rebs
  We'll pension on the nation.—CHO.

My Brigadiers, come dry your tears,
  I understand your feelings;
O Brigadiers! for twenty years
  They kept you from the stealings.—CHO.

So vote again the way you shot,
  To Congress all aspiring;
We'll take the Yankee Capitol,
  Our tissue ballots firing.—CHO.

MAJOR AND MINOR.

There are doubts of Judic's coming to America. She has given her conditional promise only.

Ferranti has dedicated a waltz he has composed to his dog! It should have been a barcarole.

Carl Pfluger has just been unanimously re-elected director of the Orpheus Musical Society of Boston.

And now we are told that Tamberlik is forming an Italian opera company for the United States!

Mme. Valleria (Mrs. Percy Hutchinson), who became so popular in the United States last season, is gaining equal favor in London. She has made an especial success in "Le Pre aux Clercs."

Sternberg, the Russian pianist, who is to appear in all of the principal American cities, is being pretty thoroughly advertised.

"Cinderella" has been given in Baltimore by Manager Jarrett's new company, including Miss Elma Delaro, Miss Annie Shaffer, Mark Smith, Edward Connell and others. The original music of Rossini is materially retained.

The concerts of the Boylston Club will be given at Boston Music Hall on November 17th, January 19th, March 16th and May 18th.

Gilbert has not yet written a line of the new opera. The London *World* says that America will not get any novelty out of Sullivan this winter.

Miss Clara Poole has reconsidered her acceptance of Manager Rice's offer, and will (instead of joining the Bijou Opera Company) become a member of the Remenyi Concert Company.

"The Martyr of Antioch," is of a bolder and stronger character than anything the author has yet written. The choral writing is very massive, and contains some very large and fine effects. The first chorus of large proportions is the Hymn of the Sun-Worshipers, a series of several different movements in different keys and ryhthms, but all blended together in such a manner as to make a complete whole.

In answer to a query, J. Conway Brown writes to the London *Musical Standard* as follows: "I believe the secret of getting good high tones from boys lies in keeping the (so-called) chest voice within a rigidly prescribed limit; that is to say, it must never be used above E, first line of treble staff. Valuable instructions on this matter, as well as on breathing, purity of tone etc., will be found in the "Singing Primer" by Randegger (Novello, Ewer & Co.). Many boys (and men) have acquired the pernicious habit of forcing up the chest voice as high as it will go, leaving the upper tones for the medium or head voices to do the best they can with. This treatment the latter emphatically resent, refusing to impart a good *timbre* to the "leavings" of the usurping chest voice. To counteract the effects of the practice referred to, the obvious and natural course is—simply to reverse it.

DEFECTIVE EDUCATION.—That the public schools don't teach properly even the simplest branches is a fact which is constantly being proved and reproved to popular dissatisfaction, says the New York *Tribune*. The Lansing *Republican* mentions that of the twenty-one applicants for the vacant cadetship at West Point, examined in that city recently, less than one-third were good penmen, a much less number good spellers, and scarcely a single applicant would have been called a proficient reader. In all the written examinations errors of punctuation and capitalization may be found, and it was by no means uncommon to find the most ordinary words mispelled. In one, "enny" was made to stand for "any," while in another the name of the martyr President was spelled "Linken."

HAMMER'S CASCARA SAGRADA BITTERS touches the right spot in dyspepsia, constipation and liver complaint.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR THE FARMER AND THE ORCHARDIST.

[This Department is prepared for the SACRAMENTO RECORD-UNION by its Agricultural Editor. All matter relating to the agricultural interest will be found under this head.]

Stable the Cows in Winter.

Those who would profit by the ruling high prices of butter should stable their cows. The weather, it is true, has but little the appearance of winter; the days are warm and the nights not cold, but we cannot expect a continuance of the present favorable weather much longer, and we should be prepared for the change. Our cold rain will produce a decided shrinkage in the flow of milk if the cows are allowed to remain out in it. Even a frosty night will tell materially in the lessening of milk the following morning. These facts are recognized by every observant dairyman, and every thoughtful dairyman can account for this falling off of milk if he will. Milk comes from the food that the cow eats. Deprive the cow of food, or give her but a scanty supply, and her milk very soon cease to flow, or will grow less in proportion to the less food she eats. In warm weather very little of the food consumed by the cow is required to keep up the animal heat, and hence the flow of milk is more plentiful in warm weather than in cool or cold weather. Does it not follow, then, that by giving a cow a warm place—an artificially-heated climate—the flow of milk can be kept up during cold as well as during warm weather? Experience shows this to be the case. Experience teaches that even in our mild climate it pays to stable any kind of stock during winter weather. Stock stabled eat much less than stock allowed to run out exposed to the change and storms. The food saved by stabling a large number of cattle during our winter season will more than pay for the necessary buildings to stable them in. If this be true of stock not giving milk, how much more can be saved and gained by stabling milch cows. Every time a cow is milked a certain amount of animal heat is taken from her body, and a proportional increased amount of food will be required to be appropriated to the renewed supply of that animal heat thus drawn away, and a proportional less amount can be spared to renew or reinforce the supply of milk. Cows stabled will eat less and give more milk than cows allowed to run out in the weather, so that we have a double profit—one by saving in the cost of food, and the increased product of that which brings money. Cows do not require very expensive or very tight stables in this climate. An ordinary rough-boarded barn will be warm enough. Where a large number of cows are kept in such a stable or in a stable thus sided the natural heat of the cows will keep the temperature well up—so warm that milkers require their coats off early of mornings to milk. While the stable need not be very tight it should be so constructed as to avoid all drafts of air through it. In pleasant weather cows that are kept in the stable nights should be allowed to run out in the yard or pasture in the day time. This should be done to give them exercise and fresh air to keep them healthy and strong. With butter worth from forty to forty-five cents a pound, a good stable can very soon be paid for by the increased production of one hundred stabled cows.

Neglected Orchards and the Codling Moth.

The danger from the codling moth in this State does not come from the well-cultivated and paying orchards, but rather from the neglected trees and orchards scattered here and there over the country. There are more of these than is generally supposed, both in the valleys and in the foothills. In a former day, when California was just making for herself a reputation as a great fruit-growing country, there were numerous small orchards set out in the low foothills by miners who were engaged in working surface mines. While this mining continued to pay, these orchards were well cared for, and gave their owners a grateful and bountiful supply of fruit. As the mines became exhausted, and were abandoned or sold to Chinamen, the orchards were neglected, and with neglect the trees made but a stunted growth and produced but small crops of inferior fruit. So in the valleys many small orchards were set out by men who were located on land that has been proven to belong to other people, and when thus proven has been abandoned, leaving the orchards uncared for and uncultivated. These, too, are bearing annual crops of poor fruit of no account to anyone. In various ways and for various reasons small orchards, sometimes consisting of but half a dozen trees, have been left without care or cultivation, and since the advent of the codling moth into the State these abandoned and neglected orchards are producing greater crops of worms than of fruit. Could all such orchards be destroyed the destruction would cause but very little loss to any one, but would prove of immense benefit to the real valuable fruit interests of the entire State. The active orchardists may spend time, and money, and exertion in expedients to kill the worms that are already lodged in their trees, and to prevent their reintroduction, but so long as these neglected orchards are allowed to remain they will act as breeding grounds for new armies that will spread over the country each year, and thus each year the work of destruction will all have to be done over again. We think there is a great need of legislation to get rid of the evil and damage arising from neglected orchards. Here is a field for the State Board of Agriculture and the local Boards of the district societies to do some practical work in, and we might also call upon the State Horticultural Society for its aid in the same direction. The evil is too great to allow of longer delay, and we hope that some real practical and effective machinery will be put in motion by the authority of the next Legislature, by which all these neglected orchards and fruit trees throughout the State shall surely be destroyed. This being done, there will be some hope of getting rid of the great orchard pest that has already done hundreds of thousands of dollars damage within the past few years.

Swill-fed Cows Give Swill Milk.

In most of the Atlantic States there are stringent laws against feeding milch cows kept for supplying milk for towns and cities with malt or the grain from breweries or stills. These laws have been passed after a full investigation of the subject and a careful examination of milk from cows thus fed, by physicians and health officers, and a determination that such milk is unhealthy. It is said that milk from cows fed on these malt and distilled grains produces fevers and various forms of diseases in those who use it. Thus to feed cows in these Eastern States is made a criminal offense, punishable with severe penalties; if feeding cows kept in city dairies with these kinds of food is dangerous to public health, and is made a penal offense in New York, why should it not be in California? Will not the same cause that will create disease in New York or Boston or Baltimore, create similar diseases in San Francisco, Oakland or Sacramento? If laws are necessary to protect the public health from these dangers in the Eastern cities, why not the same necessity here? How many of our city dairies are feeding grain from these breweries, and how many families are using milk from this source daily?

Irrigation and Drainage.

A foothill orchardist suggests that if summer irrigation and drainage were more frequently practiced together, the result would be much more satisfactory to crops, and more particularly to orchards, and that the danger of causing disease would be much lessened. He is satisfied that irrigation in the foothills has frequently done more injury to trees by creating stagnant water pools about their roots, than it has done good. Hereafter, he says, he shall cultivate and drain more and irrigate less, and he is satisfied that if all will do so they will produce better and more healthy trees and more valuable fruit, and have fewer fevers in their families. If this theory of health be good among the sparsely populated districts of the foothills, why is it not good also for the cities like Sacramento? If irrigation with insufficient drainage produces fevers in the foothills, what will it produce on the flat lands of Sacramento?

Clean Out the Barn-Yards.

This is a good season of the year to clean up the barn-yards and spread the manure over the fields. Manure in this State should be left on the surface, rather than be plowed in. When land is seeded to alfalfa or is to be volunteered to barley, oats or wheat for hay, it may be spread and harrowed over now, while the soil is dry, to good advantage. If it is to be put on grain land it is better to wait till the grain is sown before putting the manure on. Let it then be spread evenly and dragged in, and the effect will be much better than if plowed in. Under no circumstances should the manure be allowed to remain in heaps in the field during the first rains, as these will wash the ammonia and fertilizing gases into the soil where the heaps lie, and thus manure the land in spots only.

Milk as Food.

Unadulterated, undiluted, unskimmed and properly treated milk, taken from a healthy cow in a good condition, and produced by the consumption of healthy and nutritious grasses and other kinds of food, contains within itself, in proper proportions, all the elements that are necessary to sustain human life through a considerable period of time. Scarcely any other article of food will do this. When we eat bread and drink milk we eat bread, butter and cheese and drink water, all of them in the best combination and condition to nourish the human system. All things considered, good milk is the cheapest kind of food that we have, for 3 pints of it, weighing $3\frac{3}{4}$ pounds and costing 9 cents, contains as much nutriment as one pound of beef, which costs 18 cents. There is no loss in cooking the milk, as there is in cooking beef, and there is no bone in it that cannot be eaten; it is simple, palatable, nutritious, healthful, cheap, and always ready for use, with or without preparation. This is to say that, chemically, 3.7 pounds of milk is the equivalent of 1 pound in flesh-forming or nitrogeneous constituents; and 3.17 pounds of milk is the equivalent of 1 pound of beef in heat-producing elements or carbo-hydrates. We must therefore assume, from the data offered, that the relative values of beef and milk as human food are as $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $11\frac{1}{2}$, or as (in round numbers) 1 to $1\frac{1}{8}$. If milk is 8 cents per quart, then it is the equal in food value to beef at $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound; and vice versa, when beef is at 25 cents per pound, then milk should be 19 cents per quart, calculated on its food value. We thus see that, at any ruling prices, milk is certainly one of the cheapest, if not the cheapest, food that can be furnished to the family, while all experience is in favor of its healthy qualities.—[Journal of Chemistry.

Grain Ships.

The loss of grain ships in crossing the Atlantic, is becoming so serious a matter as to attract the attention of the British Parliament. The difficulty originates in the shifting of a cargo in bulk, which takes place from the careening of a vessel in a gale. In loading ships from elevators, the dust is so blinding as to prevent good trimming, and leave the hold comparatively empty when the cargo is settled. The vessels used for carrying heavy articles, such as pig iron and machinery, are not suited by their build for carrying grain in bulk, which is of a specific gravity not differing very much from water. The plan of carrying grain in bags is expensive, and the most feasible remedy suggested is the use of a false partition, in the shape of a hollow inverted triangle, along the center of the vessel from the deck to the keel. Nature furnishes a hint of this device in the manner in which the brain is divided while supported in the skull.

THE FASHIONBLE STOOP.

It is fashionable now to stoop; not metaphorically but literally. The latest freak of metropolitan belles is nothing less than to curve their spines and droop their shoulders until they look like hopeless consumptives. A correspondent of the Syracuse *Journal* thus writes of this idiotic fashion. The grand afternoon parade of the belles on Fifth avenue has begun. Seeing a number of young women elegantly dressed, stooping over as though weak-chested, or chary of stepping on their heels, I looked at them with sympathy as they passed, but when the number increased I asked the meaning of this peculiar bend, or stoop of the belles. Imagine your correspondent's surprise to learn that it is the fashion for a woman to walk as though she was crippled with age, round-shouldered and has no chest to speak of in particular. The whole weight of the body seems to be on the toes, and it is distressing to see a pretty girl make such a deformity of herself. A servant's recent description of a belle is as follows: "Well, ma'am, I walked down Fifth avenue on Sunday afternoon and I saw some fine young ladies that made me sorry for them. Why, ma'am, I think their spines are crooked, the poor things; and one young lady in particular everybody was looking at. She had on a rich purple satin dress, but it was that short you could see the tops of her shoes, and her hat was purple satin, too, and it just hung on the back of her head. Her elbows were stuck out square, and her back bent over so—and she was that hollow in the chest that I could have cried for her. But it was queer to see such a handsome girl leading a little yellow dog with a black nose by a purple ribbon; and you will believe me ma'am, the dog had a piece of purple satin around its stomach, just the color of her dress, I suppose to keep it warm." It is needless to add that Bridget has recently come from the old country, and her ideas of fashions and pug dogs are rather mixed.

A COURAGEOUS MISSIONARY.—The correspondent of the the Philadelphia *Telegraph* relates this incident in the life of Mr. Parsons, the American missionary, who, with his servant, was first robbed and then murdered recently by nomad Turks, while he was carrying succor to the starving people living near the Sea of Marmora: "Some years ago, Mr. Parsons, riding alone, unarmed and with nothing of value about him save a small package of Bibles and Testaments, was stopped by three desperadoes, who commanded him to disburse in their favor. 'I have no money about me,' mildly remarked the missionary. 'What are you carrying in your package there? roughly asked one of the men. 'Only good books,' was the answer; and taking one Bible out, by dint of exhorting these hardened criminals were persuaded to purchase and pay for a Bible apiece, they leaving money with him who had intended stripping him of all he had. This is but an instance of his courage and gentleness."

HAMMER'S CASCARA SAGRADA BITTERS cures al complaints arising from an obstructed state of the system.

DR. UNGAR'S LIQUOR ANTIDOTE, carefully prepared of the best Quill Bark by M. S. Hammer, druggist, Sacramento. (The celebrated cure for drunkenness.)

It is something fine to be good; but it is far finer to be good for something.

THE HOUSEHOLD.

HOME ADORNMENT AND DOMESTIC ECONOMY—ALL AROUND THE HOUSE.

[Correspondents of this department will not be limited in their epistles, but conciseness is preferable, and but one side of a page must be written upon. Questions pertinent to this department will be answered in this column.]

ADULTERATED TINWARE.—The *Journal of Chemistry* speaks of it as follows: Attention has recently been called to a new risk of chronic poisoning by the old enemy, lead. What we call tin-vessels are in daily use in every household in the land. They are cheap, durable and convenient, and have been considered perfectly safe for the thousand culinary purposes to which they are devoted. They are safe if the tin-plate is honestly made. But unfortunately this is not always to be counted upon. Tin is comparatively cheap, but lead is cheaper, and an alloy of the two metals may be used in place of the dearer one, with profit to the manufacturer. The alloy is readily acted upon by acids, and salts of lead are thus introduced into food. The Michigan State Board of Health has lately been investigating this subject, having been led to do so by a letter from a physician, who found that certain cases of what had been taken for chorea were really paralysis agitans, which could be traced to this kind of lead poison. Other cases were brought to light in which children had died of meningitis, fits and paralytic affections, caused by milk kept in such vessels, the acid in the fluid having dissolved the lead. Malic, citric and other fruit acids are, of course, quicker and more energetic in their action on the pernicious alloy. The danger is the greater because the lead salts are cumulative poisons. The effect of one or two small doses may not be perceptible, but infinitesimal doses, continually repeated, will in the end prove injurious, if not fatal. Analysis of a large number of specimens of tin plate used in culinary articles showed the presence of an alloy with lead in almost every instance, and often in large quantities. It is safe to assert that a large proportion of the tin wares in the market are unfit for use on this account. This cheap tin has opened a field of speculation to the packers of canned fruits, meats and vegetables, which, if taken advantage of, must necessarily result most disastrously to the public health. Too much caution cannot be exercised in purchasing canned goods to see that an attractive label does not cover a dangerous lead-covered can.

NEAPOLITAN LACE.—Cast on fifteen stitches and knit once across plain. First row—Knit three, throw the thread over, knit two together, knit three, throw the thread over, knit one, throw the thread over, knit six. Second row—Knit six, throw the thread over, knit three, throw the thread over, knit two together, knit three, throw the thread over, knit two together, knit one. Third row—Knit three, throw the thread over, knit two together twice, throw the thread over, knit five, throw the thread over, knit six. Fourth row—Slip the first stitch, knit the second and slip the first one over the second, leaving only one stitch on the needle. Knit the next stitch and bind it off in the same manner. Continue this binding off until there are but fourteen stitches on the left hand needle, which, with one on the other will make fifteen stitches, the number started with. Knit one, throw the thread over, knit two together, knit three, knit two together, throw the thread over, knit two together, knit one, throw the thread over, knit two together, knit one. Fifth row — Knit three, throw the thread over, knit two together, knit one, throw the thread over, knit two together, knit one, knit two together, throw the thread over, knit three. Sixth row—Knit three, throw the thread over, knit one, throw the thread over, slip two, knit one and throw the two slipped stitches over the one just knit, throw the thread over, knit four, throw the thread over, knit two together, knit one. Repeat from first row. This lace worked with saxony yarn and rather coarse steel needles makes a beautiful trimming of appropriate width for flannel skirts. Made with fine needles and crochet cotton, or thread, it would be suitable for cotton or linen.

GOING BACK TO OLD TIMES.—It is said that in Paris they have gone back a hundred years in styles. They wear longpoke bonnets, protruding over the forehead, and filled in with a face trimming of flowers or a ruching. They have returned to the deeply-notched wide-spread collars and neck ruffles, the capes and straight skirts of the Incroyables of 1780. On the skirts are many ruffles, and at the elbow dangles the gathered, puffed and lace-trimmed reticule of that period. The old-fashioned straight mantle, called the *bonne femme*, is also revived, with a hood or comb, which can be drawn over the head at pleasure. A modified form of these quaint old fashions has found favor with the American belles, Her full skirt falling in straight folds from belt to toe has a number of tucks or a few gathered ruffles. Her waist is short, her belt is wide, her collar is deep, her bonnet is unique, she carries a reticule and wears mitts, and looks just like her great-grandmother used to look—all but her head.

COOKING IN GERMANY.—The fundamental principle of German cookery is to mix together as many incongruous things as possible. My countrymen have a special talent, recognized the world over, for inventing mixed drinks, but their combinations pale before those of the Germans in mixed cooking, That compound which is so toothsome to a German, a herring salad, is concocted from sixteen different articles. A German beefsteak is made of hashed meats, rolled into a ball and fried. What they call roast beef is a chunk of meat boiled awhile and then baked; it usually looks like a lump of india-rubber. With the meats is always served a *compote*, made of stewed or preserved fruit. The vegetables are deemed at their best when they are floating in grease, Sausage, however, is the great national delicacy. It is produced in great varieties of size and quality; and the sausage shops of Berlin are the most elegant in the city.

MATS.—Paper dish mats, which can be washed without the slightest injury, and which very nearly resemble the wicker dish mats commonly used on the dining-table, are among the most recent novelties. The mats are stamped out of cardboard, in both round and oval form and in any desired size. The wicker-work pattern is lithographed, after which the work is finished up by the application of a very hard kind of varnish. The paper mats, it is claimed, will last as long as wicker ones, are much cheaper, and possess the additional advantage of a smooth surface.

STUFFED PEPPERS.—Choose large, smooth, green peppers, like those used for mangoes; wash them, cut out the stems and remove the seeds, being careful to avoid breaking the peppers; parboil them for five minutes in boiling water and salt, then stuff then with sausage meat, or any cold meat or poultry chopped fine and seasoned with salt, and bake them half an hour in a quick oven. A little meat gravy, or broth of any kind, put into the baking-pan with them gives them a nice flavor.

GUAVA JELLY.—Slice six pounds of guavas in a brass or agate-iron kettle and add one teacup of water. Boil for an hour or more, until well cooked; strain through coarse cloth by dripping; do not squeeze a particle; measure the juice; after it has boiled and been skimmed, add granulated white sugar, measure for measure; cool until jellied. It jellies better in small than large quantities.—[Florida Agriculturist.

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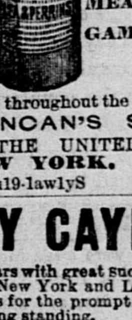

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