

Wichita Daily Eagle SCIENCE AND PROGRESS.

SUBJECTS OF GENERAL INTEREST PRESENTED IN BRIEF FORM.

The Opopanax, a Charming Shrub Which Possesses a Wonderfully Delicate and Delicious Perfume—An Old Fashioned Contrivance for Measuring Time.

One of the most fashionable perfumes of the day is known as Opopanax, but probably few readers are familiar with the plant from which it takes its name.

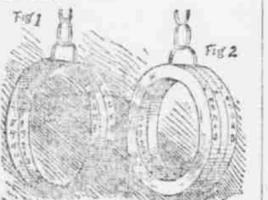


A SPECIES OF OPOPANAX.

What the origin of this name is and where the plant came from originally, are so far as the writer knows, unexplained questions.

A Hortological Marvel. An ingenious planter at Karuis, Bohemia, recently constructed a watch three inches in diameter, with no other tools or materials except two needles, a spool of thread, a newspaper and some dry straw.

A Curious Time Keeper. A very simple but tolerably accurate sundial is shown here, which is a representation of one made in England in the last century.



A SUN DIAL OF THE LAST CENTURY.

It is evident, explains Popular Science News in describing this contrivance, that if the opening in the instrument is turned towards the sun at sunrise, a horizontal spot will be thrown upon the inside of the ring, and as the sun mounts higher in the sky, the spot will move downwards till noon, when it will turn and move up again.

Scientific Hobbies. It is now asserted by meteorologists that cyclones of great intensity are ascending spiral whirls of wind having a rotary motion in a direction in the northern hemisphere opposite to the movement of the hands of a watch.

The old time theory that lightning never turns back in its track has been apparently disproved by photography. It is said that an examination of lightning photography shows that a flash not only turns back sometimes, but tangles itself into a kind of knot.

When baby was sick, we gave her Castoria, When she became a child, she cried for Castoria, When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria, When she had children, she gave them Castoria.

WASHINGTON HOUSES.

THEY ARE YEARLY GROWING LARGER AND MORE COSTLY.

In Time the National Capital Will Be a City of Palaces and Modern Castles, Terms Which Might Almost Even Now Be Applied to Some of Its Homes.

[Special Correspondence.]

WASHINGTON, May 29.—One of the wedding of Margaret Blaine and Walter Demrosch it was found necessary to limit the number of invitations on account of the smallness of the house. Yet the house which Mr. Blaine occupies is not a small one by any means.

One of the most magnificent houses in Washington is that which Senator Hearst has just occupied. That is to say, the Hearsts have occupied a part of the house, though it is hardly fair to say that Senator Hearst has occupied this factor in the domestic organization.

The lesson of this is that if palaces are needed for the leading houses of the American capital, the palaces should be built. They cannot be ordered one month and be ready for occupancy the next.

It is said in a magazine has discovered already that a mistake was made in not planning for a mansion twice as large. It is a house of seventy rooms, and one hundred and fifty rooms would be about right, she thinks.

It is now prepared on the continent in the form of leaves, or very thin tablets, which are either carried in small leather cases or stitched together in little books, and each separated like the leaves of a book.

French and American Women. After a short time a still closer resemblance between the women of the two countries will strike a Frenchman more forcibly than it does a Frenchman.

BOSTON'S BIG LIBRARY.

IT RANKS SEVENTH IN SIZE AMONG THOSE OF THE WORLD.

More Than Five Hundred Thousand Volumes Stored on Shelves at the Hub. Some Rare Old Books—A New Building in Process of Construction.

[Special Correspondence.]

BOSTON, May 29.—Of the noblest enterprises in this country for the dissemination of knowledge is the Boston public library. It is known throughout the length and breadth of our own land and in every intellectual center in the world.

On the first day of March of the present year there were stored on the dark, towering shelves of the library just 525,394 volumes, which is a larger number, by a good many thousands, than is to be found in any other library in the United States.

The National Public Library, founded in 1787, has 2,250,000 volumes and is first, followed by the British Museum, established in 1753, and now containing 1,500,000 volumes.

During the years 1841-47 various preliminary movements were made toward a city library in Boston, several books having been received from Paris, which it was proposed to use as a nucleus.

The present public library building has for a number of years been inadequately to properly accommodate the constantly increasing additions of books, and about two years ago the city took steps to procure more commodious quarters.

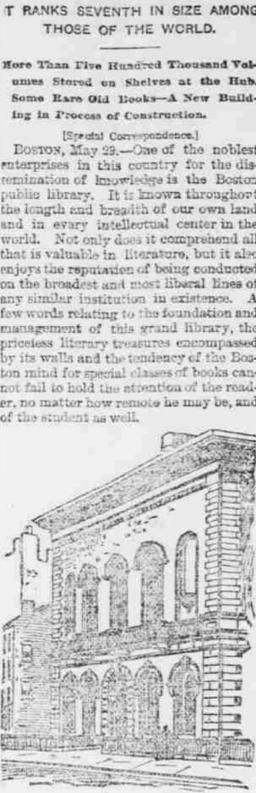
Among the rare collections of books which have come into possession of the library from time to time may be mentioned the Shakespeare works, which is the finest collection of its kind in America.

There are seven or eight thousand New York for all classes and conditions of women, from the free club for the training of young girls who wish to become servants to the high class club, where members pay \$10 a month to cover the expense of the material they use, or rather which they wear.

By the spectrometer, or lung test, the average lung capacity when corrected was found to be 134 cubic inches, when the normal average was found to be 140 cubic inches, a gain of 20 cubic inches.

A young woman who treats every man with the same trials as a general rule, giving him her confidence, and throwing herself upon his honor and generosity, will stand the best possible chance to be fairly dealt by.

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