

THE HIGHEST AWARD.

Royal Baking Powder—Has All the Honors—In Strength and Value 20 Per Cent. Above Its Nearest Competitor.

The Royal Baking Powder has the enviable record of having received the highest award for articles of its class—great strength, pure ingredients, and perfectly combined—wherever exhibited in competition with others. In the exhibitions of former years, at the Centennial, at Paris, Vienna and at the various State and Industrial fairs, where it has been exhibited, judges have invariably awarded the Royal Baking Powder the highest honors.

At the recent World's Fair the examinations for the baking powder awards were made by the experts of the chemical division of the Agricultural Department at Washington. The official report of the tests of the baking powders, which was made by this Department for the specific purpose of ascertaining which was the best, and which has been made public, shows that the leavening strength of the Royal is 160 cubic inches of carbonic gas per ounce of powder. Of the cream of tartar baking powders exhibited, the next highest in strength, thus tested, contained but 133 cubic inches of leavening gas. The other powders gave an average of 111. The Royal, therefore, was found 20 per cent greater leavening strength than its nearest competitor, and 44 per cent above the average of all the other tests.

Its superiority in other respects, however, in the quality of the food it makes as to fineness, delicacy and wholesomeness, could not be measured by figures. It is these high qualities, known and appreciated by the women of the country for so many years, that have caused the sales of the Royal Baking Powder, as shown by statistics, to exceed the sale of all other baking powders combined.

A PARLIAMENTARY blue book relating to the last census for England and Wales shows that there were taken 8,719,563 unmarried males and 8,908,665 unmarried females, 4,851,548 married males, and 4,916,649 married females, 484,990 widowers and 1,124,810 widows.

J. S. PARKER, Brooklyn, N. Y., says: "I shall not call on you for the \$100 reward, for I believe Hall's Catarrh Cure will cure any case of catarrh. Was very bad. Write him for particulars. Sold by Druggists, etc."

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The man "whose words can always be relied upon" never went fishing.—Yonkers Statesman.

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FARMER AND PLANTER.

SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE.

It enables the farmer to adapt his operations to existing conditions.

The many agricultural experiment stations in this and other countries are adding to the knowledge which enables the farmer to adapt his operations to the conditions under which his farming must be done, and the man who makes the best use of all the knowledge as to his avocation, is other things being equal, the most likely to succeed. To claim that the small beginnings made by the investigators constitute a science of agriculture would be claiming too much. Indeed, so complex is agriculture that, while science has determined much useful information, the most that can be said of it is that the intelligent farmer can make it useful.

Prof. Charles S. Plumb, director of the Indiana experiment station, has written an article in which he enumerates some of the ways in which the farmer may benefit himself through the aid of the information developed through scientific investigation. Below will be found some extracts from Prof. Plumb's paper:

"A score or more years ago, when Horace Greeley and Henry Ward Beecher were telling the American public what they knew about farming, there was quite a general tendency on the part of the agricultural class to hold up to ridicule what was termed 'scientific farming.' Great claims were then made as to the importance of knowledge of science, so that the farmer might analyze the soil, crops, fertilizers, etc. Early investigators, engaged in faithful and hard work, gleaned much information of scientific importance, and eventually overturned numerous theories that had hitherto seemed plausible. Chief among these was the analysis of soils, whereby one could know the composition of his soil and at once determine in what ingredients of plant food it was deficient, so that he might feed back to it the lacking element. Time and study have shown that soil is a very complex substance, and one analysis is usually quite unsatisfactory, because a little sample of soil represents only a small piece of ground, perhaps representing quite unfairly the entire field. Consequently, soil analysis is not thoroughly practical, on account of the difficulty in securing a sample of a few pounds that shall correctly represent the millions of pounds of soil in even a single acre, to say nothing of a field of many acres.

Justus von Leibig, a German chemist, made investigations as to the composition of the soil and plant nutrition. He was the first to prove that plants fed on certain ingredients of the soil, and that different classes of soils and plants varied in their composition.

"Science is knowledge. There is no scientific farming. The highest type of farming is intelligent farming. The intelligent farmer of to-day is simply making use of certain scientific facts that have a practical application.

"For a half century science has been laboring in the interests of agriculture. This year the United States appropriates nearly one million dollars for scientific experimentation as applied to agriculture. And yet but few farmers realize how material is the assistance being given the agricultural classes of the country through the direct application of accomplished scientific work.

"The first real substantial assistance received by the farming public from science was in the examination and inspection of commercial fertilizers. Natural manures (animal excrement) contained nitrate of potash and phosphoric acid, and the soil fertility could be maintained by the application of these. But chemistry here came to the farmer's aid by suggesting that the various essentials of plant food be supplied in artificially prepared form. However, it was not long before much fraudulent material found its way into the farmer's hands; many dealers were not honest, and farmers were often outrageously swindled. Here, again, the chemists came to the assistance of agriculture. Fertilizers could be analyzed, their component parts determined, and purchasers might learn how many pounds of plant food a ton of artificial manure contained. Nitrogen, potash and phosphoric acid each had a commercial value per pound; consequently the chemist would easily determine in a fair manner the value of a ton of fertilizer. Nearly every state in the Union handling fertilizers to any extent has passed a law appointing a state inspector of fertilizers. The result is, manufacturers can not with safety sell the farmers shoddy fertilizers.

"It requires no effort to emphatically show that already many, many millions of dollars have been gained to agriculture through the disinterested efforts of scientists. Scientific investigation will continue in the future as it has in the past, and it is fair to assume that each year will see much good work done. Certainly no other class of labor is receiving greater benefits from science than is agriculture at the present day."

REFLECTIONS

On the Various Kinds of Farmers that Go to Make Up the Sum Total.

The crops of 1893 are about all harvested. The next thing to which every farmer should turn his attention to is the crop for 1894. The earliest date fixed for the opening of the millennium is about six years off yet, and it may be that after the millennium begins there will be a necessity for food and clothing, and that the farmers' services will be required all during that term and up to the period fixed for the final consummation of all things. Therefore prudent farmers will commence right away to prepare for another crop. In order that the best success may be attained it is important to begin right and continue right through all the operations of the year. If this can not be absolutely attained then the nearest possible approach to it is the best that can be done, and it is what ought to be done in every case. Farmers may be likened unto a field of horses entered for a race. Some seem like they can never get started; they fret and champ the bit and kick up a great deal of dust, but they are never near the wire when the starter's bell taps; and when finally a start is made, they are away behind, and are distanced the first heat. Others get a bad start, but dash off like forty furies, and before the home stretch is reached they are fagged out, and get home too late for anything but their regular ration of oats and hay. Some are at the scratch every time, and when the start is made they take the lead all the way round, and win the stakes. The farmer who overcrops himself, is like a quarter horse entered in a mile-hat race. He has undertaken more than he can accomplish. Some farmers are like the man who determines to do one thing, but becomes discouraged, quit, and make a new departure. They are like the badly-trained racer who thinks there is better ground outside, and flies the track, and if they ever get home at all, it is too late for supper. The writer was authoritatively informed in early life that the only way to do a full week's work was to rise very early Monday morning and go to work, and stick to it until sundown Saturday. This may be one extreme of the industrial theory; the other is represented by the man who enforced the above precept. His custom was to idle away the time until after dinner Saturday, and then fly around like mad and do his entire week's work between that time and sunset. We have all heard the proverb, "invented by some lazy vagabond, that 'a bad beginning makes a good ending,'" and there seem to be some of his disciples still with us, but thanks to human mortality, their names are seldom and their numbers few, and we are glad of it.—Farm and Ranch.

TREE-PLANTING.

Whether Fall or Spring is the Better Time for It.

The question is often asked: Which is the better time to set out trees, the spring or the fall?

The answer to this must depend upon the nature of the tree or the shrub, the part of country, condition of soil and climate where the planting is to be done.

For example, in the extreme north or open prairie country where the thermometer may go extremely low, and what is worse, where harsh, drying winds may prevail most of the winter, all but the hardiest of trees and evergreens are decidedly safer planted in the spring than in the fall.

If, however, plenty of roots are taken, and what is even perhaps of more importance, a goodly lot of soil is taken with the roots, allowing no direct exposure of them to the air, a tree well planted in the fall is perfectly safe.

Aids to success will consist in evenly distributing the roots in the new earth, in compressing soil well about the roots, and if trees are large enough to be acted upon by the wind, in placing stay wires to keep them snug and in place.

Another famous aid is to mulch with old hay or long, littery manure or leaves, which prevent a lifting of the soil and the penetration of the frost too deep therein.

In warm countries, where the frosts amount to nothing, the fall is the time to plant, or just as soon as the plants have come to a state of rest.

Here root action at once sets in to repair the damages of removal, and by the time springtime comes the newly-planted trees are fully equipped for a new start.

Nurserymen of the north usually reserve the planting of their young stuff until spring—a pretty good evidence of their success lies.

As stuff has to be dug or is received from outside sources in the fall, instead of being replanted at once they are placed in rows in the ground, nearly horizontal instead of upright, where they are easily protected, if necessary, by a few boughs to keep off the driving winds of winter.—Exchange.

WOMAN AND HOME.

TABLE FOR INVALIDS.

An Unfolding Convenience for the Patient and Nurse—How an Old-Fashioned Light Stand Was Made Over into a Valuable Piece of Furniture—Go Hence and Do Likewise.

The following sketch from the Household shows how a large old-fashioned light stand was made over into a convenient and pretty table to stand close by the side of an invalid's bed, to serve as a repository for many little conveniences and necessities to which she could often help herself if only they could be kept within her reach.

As there was no one "handy with tools" to call upon, the nurse, who knew nothing about wood-work, hurriedly arranged the table herself, for temporary use. But it proved strong, stable and satisfactory in every way, an unfailing convenience to its sufferer but self-helpful owner.

The following particulars regarding its arrangement may be helpful to others with similar needs:

The top of the stand was enlarged an inch or two in width and several inches

in length at each side, by the addition of a smooth board top, which was securely nailed to position; this was covered with tightly-drawn cream-white rubber cloth, which was turned under the edges and tacked around on the under side.

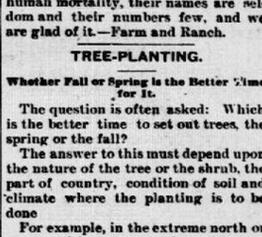
Into the under side of the shelf, close to each table leg, was turned a strong screw—almost, but not quite, through to the upper surface of the board—so that the heads projected like four legs, each nearly an inch long. These little legs dropped through and fitted closely into the eyes of strong screw-eyes which were turned into and projected from the inner side of each table leg. Being held in position in this way, at four points, the shelf was as secure as need be, and it almost doubled the usefulness of the table.

A square, round or oblong shelf may be adjusted to any four-legged stand or table in this way. They make convenient sewing or reading tables or commodes.

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Standing close by the side of the bed every part of the table—top, shelf, drawer and pockets—soon became indispensable. Water, medicine, fruit, bell, handkerchief, napkin, fan, watch or book, any or all, could be safely within reach. The rubber cloth, impervious to water, could be wiped off and made fresh and sweet, no matter what might have been spilled upon it, and the pocket linings, like rubber cloth bags, could be turned out and cleaned at any time.

When the table was pronounced a success and a fixture it was made more attractive and still more convenient by the addition of back boards to the top and shelf—see dotted lines—which, like the rest of the woodwork, was then given two coats of pretty-tinted enamel paint, the brass drawer-pull was polished and tiny ornamental brass hooks were placed wherever they were needed for the suspension or safe-keeping of any little article; wash silk linen scarfs were draped over the back boards, their fringed ends falling gracefully at the sides; and the result was a piece of furniture which was as dainty and neat to look at as it was convenient to use, which is saying a great deal for its appearance.



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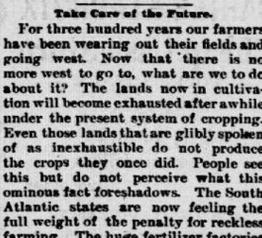
Easily Made by an Amateur Artist from Water Color Paper.

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A back, the same shape, is made from pasteboard and fastened to the frame with Royal glue. The blue ribbon hanging by and some faint suggestion of gilding about the center of the flowers and the entire edge of the frame only add to its decorative charm. Square frames of the same paper, with design of wild roses and leaves, are also very becoming to pretty faces within.—N. Y. Herald.



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THE AGE OF WOMEN.

The wish to conceal her age is so popularly supposed to be second nature to every woman that it has come to be accepted almost as one of her prerogatives. Even on the witness stand legal ingenuity and judgment are very lenient on this point here in America. Over in Australia, however, it seems, it is a serious offense, and recently a marriage was declared void because the husband proved that his wife had deceived him as to her age, claiming to be fifteen years younger than she really was. In this connection the celebration of the other day of the ninety-ninth birthday of a still vigorous woman is worth mentioning as bringing together a company of the sex who strove each to be older, not younger, than the other, those who had touched the ninety mark announcing the fact with a pride that quite silenced the immature matrons of seventy-eight and eighty-five.

TO NOTE A CLEVER WOMAN.

The cleverest woman in the matter of dress is the plain woman who contrives never to let you know she's plain. To be successful in this respect one must have natural good taste. It's no use to put one's self entirely in the hands of a good dressmaker. Dressmakers need directing. They can't be expected to know a customer's weak or strong points as well as she should know them herself. All women, except those with hopelessly bad figures and no throats, pay for dressing. A gown is usually becoming if it is the same color as the wearer's eyes. A bright bandeau under the brim of a hat is apt to have an improving effect. Good taste is a thing to be thankful for. Those who possess it are inclined to value it too lightly.

A DISGUISEMENT.

She—Mrs. Robinson's health seems to be very poor.

He—Well, people of sedentary habits can't expect good health!

She—What do you mean? She's on the go nearly all the time.

He—Nonsense! She's continually sitting on her husband.—Puck.

A GOOD REASON.

"Why should a soldier never lose his head in battle?" asked a German captain of a private soldier.

"Because if he did he wouldn't have any place to put his helmet on."

THE SIN OF FRETTING.

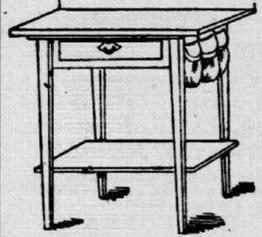
OF GENERAL INTEREST.

There is one sin which it seems to me is everywhere, and by everybody is underestimated and quite too much overlooked in valuations of character. It is the sin of fretting. It is as common as air, as speech—so common that unless it rises above its usual monotone we do not even observe it. Watch any ordinary coming together of people and we see how many minutes it will be before somebody frets—that is, makes more or less complaining statement of something or other, which most probably everyone in the room or the car or on the street corner knew before, and which most probably nobody can help. Why say anything about it? It is cold, it is hot, it is wet, it is dry, somebody has broken an appointment, ill-cooked a meal; stupidity or bad faith somewhere has resulted in discomfort. There are plenty of things to fret about. It is simply astonishing how much annoyance and discomfort may be found in the course of every day's living, even at the simplest. If one only keeps a sharp eye out on that side of things, even Holy Writ says we are born to trouble as sparks flying upward. But even to the sparks flying upward, in the blackest of smoke, there is a blue sky above, and the less time they waste on the road the sooner they will reach it. Fretting is all time wasted on the road.—Helen Hunt.

MAYONNAISE DRESSING.

How to Prepare This Rich and Delicious Table Dressing.

Put the uncooked yolk of an egg into a chilled bowl, beat well with a silver fork, then add two saltspoonfuls of salt and one saltspoonful of mustard powder, work them well a minute or two before adding the oil; then add a little good oil, which must be poured in very slowly, a few drops at a time at first, alternated occasionally with a few drops of vinegar. In proportion as the oil is used, the sauce should become thick. When it begins to have the consistency of jelly, alternate a few drops of lemon juice with the oil. When the sauce has absorbed a gill of oil, finish the sauce by adding a small pinch of cayenne pepper, and one and one-half teaspoonfuls of good vinegar. Taste it to see that there are salt, mustard, cayenne and vinegar enough. If, not add more seasoning very carefully; these proportions will suit most tastes, yet some like more mustard and more oil. Do not use too much cayenne. By beating the egg a little before adding the oil, there is little danger of the sauce curdling; yet if, by adding too much oil at first, it should curdle, immediately interrupt the operation. Put yolks of one or two eggs on another plate, beat them well and add the curdled mayonnaise by degrees and finish by adding more oil, lemon juice, vinegar, salt and cayenne to taste. If lemons are not at hand many use vinegar instead.



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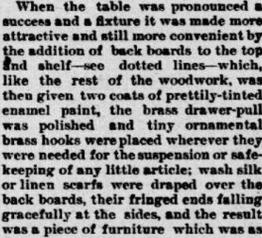
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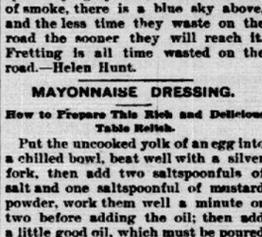
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DAINTY PICTURE FRAME.

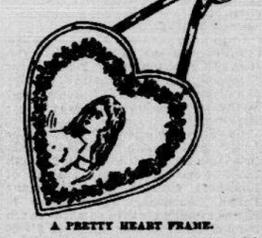
Easily Made by an Amateur Artist from Water Color Paper.

Room belongings are often spoiled by one tone not quite in harmony, and dainty pen and pencil or delicate water color drawings are at times cruelly treated by the framing, which, in reality, should be the crowning touch.

A pretty frame is easily made by an amateur artist out of water color paper.

It is first cut out heart shape, then painted, as in the illustration, in natural shades of forget-me-nots, with delicate foliage in keeping with the flowers. The leaves are also cut out around the edge, leaving the space within for the photograph or picture.

A back, the same shape, is made from pasteboard and fastened to the frame with Royal glue. The blue ribbon hanging by and some faint suggestion of gilding about the center of the flowers and the entire edge of the frame only add to its decorative charm. Square frames of the same paper, with design of wild roses and leaves, are also very becoming to pretty faces within.—N. Y. Herald.



A PRETTY HEART FRAME.

THE AGE OF WOMEN.

The wish to conceal her age is so popularly supposed to be second nature to every woman that it has come to be accepted almost as one of her prerogatives. Even on the witness stand legal ingenuity and judgment are very lenient on this point here in America. Over in Australia, however, it seems, it is a serious offense, and recently a marriage was declared void because the husband proved that his wife had deceived him as to her age, claiming to be fifteen years younger than she really was. In this connection the celebration of the other day of the ninety-ninth birthday of a still vigorous woman is worth mentioning as bringing together a company of the sex who strove each to be older, not younger, than the other, those who had touched the ninety mark announcing the fact with a pride that quite silenced the immature matrons of seventy-eight and eighty-five.

TO NOTE A CLEVER WOMAN.

The cleverest woman in the matter of dress is the plain woman who contrives never to let you know she's plain. To be successful in this respect one must have natural good taste. It's no use to put one's self entirely in the hands of a good dressmaker. Dressmakers need directing. They can't be expected to know a customer's weak or strong points as well as she should know them herself. All women, except those with hopelessly bad figures and no throats, pay for dressing. A gown is usually becoming if it is the same color as the wearer's eyes. A bright bandeau under the brim of a hat is apt to have an improving effect. Good taste is a thing to be thankful for. Those who possess it are inclined to value it too lightly.

A DISGUISEMENT.

She—Mrs. Robinson's health seems to be very poor.

He—Well, people of sedentary habits can't expect good health!

She—What do you mean? She's on the go nearly all the time.

He—Nonsense! She's continually sitting on her husband.—Puck.

A GOOD REASON.

"Why should a soldier never lose his head in battle?" asked a German captain of a private soldier.

"Because if he did he wouldn't have any place to put his helmet on."

OF GENERAL INTEREST.

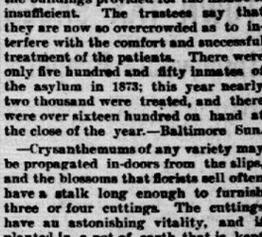
OF GENERAL INTEREST.

There is one sin which it seems to me is everywhere, and by everybody is underestimated and quite too much overlooked in valuations of character. It is the sin of fretting. It is as common as air, as speech—so common that unless it rises above its usual monotone we do not even observe it. Watch any ordinary coming together of people and we see how many minutes it will be before somebody frets—that is, makes more or less complaining statement of something or other, which most probably everyone in the room or the car or on the street corner knew before, and which most probably nobody can help. Why say anything about it? It is cold, it is hot, it is wet, it is dry, somebody has broken an appointment, ill-cooked a meal; stupidity or bad faith somewhere has resulted in discomfort. There are plenty of things to fret about. It is simply astonishing how much annoyance and discomfort may be found in the course of every day's living, even at the simplest. If one only keeps a sharp eye out on that side of things, even Holy Writ says we are born to trouble as sparks flying upward. But even to the sparks flying upward, in the blackest of smoke, there is a blue sky above, and the less time they waste on the road the sooner they will reach it. Fretting is all time wasted on the road.—Helen Hunt.

MAYONNAISE DRESSING.

How to Prepare This Rich and Delicious Table Dressing.

Put the uncooked yolk of an egg into a chilled bowl, beat well with a silver fork, then add two saltspoonfuls of salt and one saltspoonful of mustard powder, work them well a minute or two before adding the oil; then add a little good oil, which must be poured in very slowly, a few drops at a time at first, alternated occasionally with a few drops of vinegar. In proportion as the oil is used, the sauce should become thick. When it begins to have the consistency of jelly, alternate a few drops of lemon juice with the oil. When the sauce has absorbed a gill of oil, finish the sauce by adding a small pinch of cayenne pepper, and one and one-half teaspoonfuls of good vinegar. Taste it to see that there are salt, mustard, cayenne and vinegar enough. If, not add more seasoning very carefully; these proportions will suit most tastes, yet some like more mustard and more oil. Do not use too much cayenne. By beating the egg a little before adding the oil, there is little danger of the sauce curdling; yet if, by adding too much oil at first, it should curdle, immediately interrupt the operation. Put yolks of one or two eggs on another plate, beat them well and add the curdled mayonnaise by degrees and finish by adding more oil, lemon juice, vinegar, salt and cayenne to taste. If lemons are not at hand many use vinegar instead.



IMPROMPTU INVALID'S TABLE.

At the end of the table, close to the pillow, a row of roomy pockets were suspended by cords or ribbons from little brass screw-eyes, and to keep them from swinging out of place, each lower corner was secured to a similar screw-eye inside the table leg.

Standing close by the side of the bed every part of the table—top, shelf, drawer and pockets—soon became indispensable. Water, medicine, fruit, bell, handkerchief, napkin, fan, watch or book, any or all, could be safely within reach. The