tobacco provided by my host, and then said, slowly:

"Dodge the question as you will, my friend, you cannot avoid the fact that Europe and America have suffered grievously at your hands. We have lost lives for which the ransoms of kings cannot pay; the nations of the world have spent sums on military expeditions that will require millions in indemnity from your people; your Boxers have ruined property for which many millions of taels are needed in payment. Europe and America will demand vast sums in payment. How are you Chinese going to meet us?"

CHINA WILL ALSO DEMAND.

For a little while I thought I had the old chap where he could not answer me. Smoking slowly, twice emptying and refilling his pipe, Yang Szu thought over the question. In the meantime I downed two cups of tea, inwardly chuckling over the predicament into which I had led this wily old Chinaman, who had seen the world, since he has been as far as Shanghai, and even Hong-Kong.

"How will you meet the demands for the losses of the foreigners?" I insisted.

"We will meet your demands with the claims of China," the old banker made response. "You foreigners talk about what you have lost. Well, does it amount to anything? Your foreign devil soldiers have exterminated whole towns in China, you have looted our stores, maltreated our women and killed a hundred Chinese for every one of your people who have fallen before our frenzied yellow mobs.

"We do not deny the justice of taking Peking, but you should have stopped there. Your foreign devils had no right to go further, unless you had the courage to declare a state of war. It has been charged that we have violated treaty rights. Did we do that? If there was any breach of treaty guarantees, it lay in the attack on the Taku forts. That was a direct attack on Chinese sovereignty—and yet war is defined as an assault on the sovereignty of a monarch or a people.

"If you speak of money, our people of China have lost one hundred taels for every one that you foreigners have lost. Despite this, you walk up to us with what you call an ultimatum, and this, you think, leaves us no alternative except to submit or to fight."

Here Yang Szu laughed in his quiet way, adding: "Bye and bye your people will be angered by the ease with which your diplomatists have been fooled by ours. The folly of your people in trying to force upon us an 'irrevocable' ultimatum will be shown by the skill with which his excellency, Li Hung Chang, and his highness, Prince Ching, will impose upon your people an agreement that will seem to promise everything that you demand."

"Then you will have to keep your agreement," I replied.

"So it would seem," was Yang's bland answer. "That will depend upon what we are asked to promise. But you will find after the treaty has been signed that the next move of China will be to ask for the interpretation of certain clauses that are subject to different meanings. There will be a dispute between your envoys, and then there will be a falling out. If but one country wins from the dispute, it will be China. If two countries reap fortune, Russia may find something left to her. For the other powers there will be nothing. You have told me that among your people who talk English there is a proverb about people who 'laugh in their sleeves.' Remember that the Chinese have large sleeves.

"Our sage of to-day, Chang Chih Tung, whose book I was reading when you came in, explains that international law is a set of precepts laid down by strong powers to be enforced on weak ones. Now, there is no question about the moral justice of China's claims against the powers for the damages that the powers have wittingly wrought against us. You blame us for the mischief that our mobs have caused. You called us heathen. Yet your armies have come here in the name of civilization and in the name of your creed, yet have wreaked upon us damages that have been a hundred times greater than those that our mobs have inflicted upon your people."

"Your people will have to pay," I asserted, sipping my last cup of tea and speaking as politely as I could, for Yang Szu was a model of bland sweetness.

THE RETORT PAGAN.

"Oh, we will promise," he chuckled. "Our envoys will even sign any papers that your foreign barbarians force upon us. But China will not keep her promises. Why should she?"

"Why should she not keep her pledges?" I asked, as I moved toward the door, while Yang Szu stood bowing me out.

"What pledges have you Christians kept?" he demanded. "You have tried to teach us everything that concerned forgiveness, yet you kill us, rob us and maltreat our women and children. Your Germans have tied out people to stakes and have tortured by countrymen to death with thrusts of your bayonets. Your French and German troops have set fire to our villages. By all means, let the allied powers put in their claims. We will pay all debts in money—or promises—until we are able to pay them with the sword. Say that to the peaple who read your writings. Tell them not to be foolish enough to imagine that a Chinaman can be made to pay when he knows that he has suffered greater loss, a hundred times over, than the mobs of our country have been able to inflict upon your countrymen. Instead, China will make the powers pay! See if she does not!"

It is always very entertaining, of course, to talk with Yang Szu, though a journalist of the West can no more get the advantage of him than one of our diplomats can talk down Li Hung Chang.

Yang Szu is a patriot. The probability is that his country will yet get the better of our stupid diplomats, and do it, at that, without the winking of an eyebrow. The Chinese are delaying us only until they feel that they are again in a position to fight.

Yet, if the worst—for China—should come, and the Emperor, or his successors are forced to pay indemnity, Yang Szu, patriot though he is, is enough of a traveled man—for, as he says himself he has been as far as Hong-Kong—to derive all the profit he can from helping to furnish the millions needed to pay his country's debt. B. R. SELWYN.

[Copyright, 1901.]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

How many clerks were employed in the railway mail service in 1899?—C. W.

Eight thousand four hundred and sixty.

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What was the speed of the Kearsarge and the Alabama?—Pencil.

Kearsarge, 16.816 knots; Alabama, 16 knots.

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What was the population of Johnstown at the time of the flood and what was the estimated loss of life?—H. E. C.

About 28,000 and 2,280, respectively.

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How much was the public debt increased or reduced during Cleveland's last administration?—Postal.

It was increased a little over $262,000,000.

÷ ÷ ÷

Of what nationality were Admiral Dewey's ancestors?—Nelson.

He is descended from Thomas Dewey, of Sandwich, Kent, England, who in 1633 came over to Massachusetts.

÷ ÷ ÷

What position does the Italian navy occupy among the nations to-day?—J. A.

Sixth place—Great Britain, France, Russia, the United States and Germany ranking her in the order given.

÷ ÷ ÷

Has the Thirty-seventh United States Volunteer Infantry left the Philippines for the United States?—S. K.

The regiment left Manila Jan. 10 on the transport Sheridan, bound for San Francisco.

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Was "Bill Nye" the real name of the writer. 2. What is the source of the lines, "A daughter of the Gods, Divinely tall and most divinely fair?"—C. E. R.

It was the pen name of Edgar Wilson Nye. 2. Tennyson's "A Dream of Fair Women."

÷ ÷ ÷

What forms the mistletoe?

It grows from its own seeds, which are distributed chiefly by birds. Once started, the plant is a parasite, subsisting on the tree on which it is established, the length of its life depending usually on the life of that tree.

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Will you locate the following lines:

"On parent knees, a naked, new-born child,
Weeping thou satest, while all around thee smiled;
So live, that, sinking in thy last long sleep,
Calm, thou mayest smile while all around thee weep." M. M. D.

They are a translation from the Persian by Sir William Young.

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Is there a history of Sir Francis Drake, or any book of his life, published either in America or England? If so, where can I obtain a copy?—M. N. C.

Drake's voyages and adventures are the subjects of a considerable literature, some of it of recent publication, to be had of booksellers or to be found in libraries.

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Please give authorship of the verses in which occur the following lines:

Laugh and the world laughs with you
Weep and you weep alone.
H. L. K. Mitchell.

The authorship is claimed both by Ella Wheeler Wilcox and John A. Joyce, with the burden of proof in favor of the former.

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Why do some blossoms close up when touched or shaken? 2. How large a vessel had Nansen in his voyage toward the pole? 3. How far toward the pole did he progress after leaving his vessel?—T. I.

Because they are sensitive to touch, or, in the language of vegetable physiology, because they possess irritability. 2. One of 170 tons. About 250 miles.

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Is mead alcoholic or not? 2. What is the record run and average for professional billiards at cushion caroms?—Nat.

That made from honey is alcoholic and highly intoxicating; a more common product flavored with sarsaparilla is not alcoholic. 2. Run, 77, made by William Sexton; average, 10, game of 200 points, by Jacob Schaefer. A run of 85 is credited to Frank C. Ives in an exhibition game.

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How long does it take a note to be outlawed in Indiana when no interest or principal is being paid on it? 2. How long does a judgment hold good? 3. How long is a book account good when nothing is being paid on it?—A Subscriber.

Action on promissory notes must be brought within ten years. Every judgment shall be deemed satisfied after the expiration of twenty years. 3. Six years.

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In the early occupation of this country did the mere fact of the discovery of a new portion give title to it? If not, what else was required? 2. Did previous possession by savages entitle them to a voice in the matter?—Roton.

Original discovery was not enough, but when followed by occupation and utilization of the district's resources, it generally constituted a clear title. 2. No; their rights had very little attention.

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What is behind Canadian bank notes? 2. Are there governmental savings banks in Canada?—J. P.

The entire assets of the banks of issue. By law the circulating notes are the first charge on the assets of an insolvent bank, and government holds a fund made up from contributions from all incorporated banks from which holders of the notes of suspended or failed banks are reimbursed. 2. Yes, there is a system of postal savings banks.

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What is the principle of the hot-air engine? 2. Are lightning rods of any practical protection?—Coyote.

The expansion of air under heat. It has many forms, some of which are described in encyclopaedias. 2. When properly applied, yes; though if the building struck is so situated as to receive the main discharge of lightning the energy liberated is too great for the best system of rods. Against the far more numerous secondary effects rods are protective.

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In what proportion does cement enter into concrete blocks? 2. What is the significance of "hydraulic" as applied to cement?—G. A. G.

An expensive grade of concrete used on government work consists of one part of cement, three parts of sand and five parts of broken stone or other coarse stuff. This is cheapened by increasing the broken stone and replacing some of the cement with common lime. 2. That the cement will set under water.

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Is there an engine of the gas type that uses acetylene? 2. How many cubic feet of acetylene gas does a pound of calcic carbide produce?—J. W. L.

Experiments have been made with acetylene in a modified gas engine, which, it was found, would have to be strengthened greatly. An entirely satisfactory form of engine has not been made as yet. 2. Theoretically, 5.903 feet, but in practice it is more economical to make carbide that gives but five cubic feet of gas to the pound.

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When was golf first considered the national game of Scotland? 2. Did it originate in that country? Is it pronounced "golf" or "gof?"—Numbers.

About the middle of the fifteenth century. Parliament then passed a law restricting play to certain days of the week, so that Scotchmen might not neglect archery. 2. It is said to have started in Flanders, with the name "Kolf," though that game and the present one had little in common. 3. Either way, the former having preference with dictionaries, the latter with fashionable players.

÷ ÷ ÷

What was the cause of the war between Russia and Turkey in 1856, and what brought the other powers into it?—J. M. S.

Russia coveted the Turkish possessions in Europe, and to further her schemes claimed a protectorate over the Greek Church in Turkey. Other powers intervened in vain, and a Russian army invaded Turkish possessions. Then Great Britain and France agreed to support Turkey by armed intervention. Later Sardinia joined with them. These allies were actuated more by a desire to hold Russia within bounds than by fondness for the Turk.

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Will you print instructions for reading the barometer, indicating especially the variations and readings for cyclonic disturbances?—L. H. L.

Single readings are worthless for prognosticating, which is based on progressive changes, supplemented, in scientific practice, by study of like changes in thermometer, hygrometer and anemometer. Much practice is required even to make single accurate reading of the barometer, so the amateur's fortelling will not amount to much. The following are reasonably safe general rules: When the barometer continues stead the state of the weather at the time is likely to continue. Rapid movement, either rising or falling, say three-quarters of an inch in twenty-four hours, foretells unfavorable change. A very rapid fall usually is followed by high wind. Slow rising generally precedes fair weather.

GOUT AND ITS TREATMENT.

Causes of the Disease and the Best Methods for Securing Relief.

Like rheumatism, the gout is a disease that is inherited, but the manifestation of it is due to some indiscretion on the part of the heir to this unwelcome inheritance. It is a constitutional disease characterized by the presence of uric acid in the blood and the deposit of so-called calcareous deposits in the joints, especially noticeable in the fingers. It occurs more often in men than in women, and is excited by overeating, especially of meat and high foods and ale and wine drinking, these being, as it were, poisons of themselves and also causing dyspepsia, which is a cause in itself. Many cases are due to slow, chronic lead poisoning, and those having the gouty disposition always suffer more in the winter season than at other times. When a person is predisposed to gout it may manifest itself in early life, but when it is acquired it does not appear until after the fortieth year.

Gout usually occurs in plethoric persons, often those leading a sedentary life, high livers, great meat eaters, consumers of large quantities of malt or alcoholic liquors and consequently confirmed dyspeptics. Owing to the unwise oversupply of nitrogenous material, such as meat, there is an excess of waste material which cannot or is not eliminated from the system. As a consequence uric acid, which should be discharged from the blood by the action of the kidneys, which convert it into urates, collects in the blood and is thence deposited in the joints as urate of sodium. These deposits by their irritating properties cause inflammation in the joints, pain, redness, heat and swelling, and eventually lead to deformity and restricted movement in the joints. These deposits select by preference the toes, but they also occur in the finger joints, the knee and even in the eyelids and the cartilage of the ears. The kidneys themselves become obstructed with the calcareous deposits, and hence the serious danger from gout lies in the possibility of kidney disease, which shortens life materially; and so, while gout is not of itself fatal, it leads to fatal consequences eventually. Heart disease, too, often occurs and the arteries may become involved, leading to a fatal termination in time.

An attack of acute gout is usually preceded by certain symptoms such as headache, constipation, high colored and scanty urine, etc. The attack, itself, usually begins suddenly during the night between midnight and 2 a. m. The pain begins in the ball of the great toe, which becomes swollen, red, hot and angry looking, the slightest movement causing excruciating agony. The veins are greatly distended in the foot, ankle and leg, and the tissues are so intensely swollen that the skin looks as if it would burst under the pressure. At the same time there is general fever, high pulse, thirst, and other symptoms of general disturbance of the whole system. The urine is high colored and small in amount, depositing a so-called brickdust sediment. Towards daylight the symptoms decrease in force, but return again toward sunset and continue during the night, but gradually lessen, day by day, until on the fourth or fifty day convalescence is established and, as a rule, the patient feels better than before the attack. Indeed, there is an erroneous belief that an attack of the gout is a good thing, a sort of general house cleaning, but in fact it is an attempt of the system to free itself from morbid material, and no constitution can be the subject of repeated attacks of the gout without such violent perturbations, weakening it permanently and eventually wholly breaking it up. For that reason a person who has an attack of the gout should follow a strict diet to avoid a second attack, which is due in a year's time, while other attacks will follow the second within six months, and will then continue to occur at frequent intervals.

The diet should consist of simple food, yet be sufficient to support life well. The following articles of food should be avoided by those who have a gouty tendency, and especially by those who have had one or more attacks of gout. Pork and veal, beef, duck and goose, and all dried, potted, or otherwise preserved meats, but fat bacon and ham may be eaten in moderation. Mackerel, eels, etc., and all smoked, salted, kippered, or otherwise preserved fish is injurious. Eggs, sauces, vinegar, lemons, and other acid fruits, as well as tomatoes, asparagus and rhubarb should be avoided. The use of cooked fruits, however, is often beneficial, in moderation, but very sweet fruits are not good, and in fact fruits of any kind do not agree with many gouty patients, because they produce acidity, but this objection may be overcome by adding a coffeespoonful of carbonate of soda to every pound of fruit while it is cooking. Pies and pastry, and all "made dishes," blanc mange, and all foods containing much gelatine, are to be avoided as well as rich puddings, omelettes, and cakes containing eggs, skim milk, cheese, nuts, dried fruits, jams and candies. Malt liquors of every kind are injurious, and so are the so-called generous wines, such as port, madeira, moselle, etc.

Mutton, lamb, tender beef, etc., may be eaten sparingly, salmon, herring and shell fish, mushrooms, beans, sugar, sweets, fruits, especially uncooked and plenty of milk, may be taken and dry sherry may be used in moderation.

Plenty of simple fluids is one of the most important factors in preventing and relieving gout and the gouty tendency. A glass of hot or cold water taken the first thing in the morning and the last thing at night is often of great use in aiding the action of the bowels and thus helping to carry away the excess of waste material. But fluids should be taken in small quantities with meals, and then only at the last. If a five-grain tablet of effervescing citrate of lithia is added to each glass of water drunk the effect is sometimes almost magical, but this also should be drunk between meals not with food.

When there is an acute attack of gout the diet should be very strict, but its limitation must depend upon the age, habits and condition of the patient. If the person is advanced in years he will not bear the lowering measures that are not only useful but necessary in the case of young and full-blooded persons. Meat of all kinds should be forbidden, and alcohol should not be given except in very exceptional circumstances and then only in small quantities (from two to four tablespoonfuls of whisky or brandy during the twenty-four hours). The diet may include bread and milk, weak tea with milk, dry toast with a little butter, vegetable broths, milk diluted with soda or Vichy water, rice, sago, or other farinaceous puddings, but without eggs, thin gruel and arrowroot. In old or weak persons a little chicken broth or an egg beaten up in milk may be given once a day. As the symptoms relax a more generous diet may be given, including fish, soups and white meats.

The treatment of gout in its acute form consists of from five to fifteen drops of wine of colchicum root, well diluted with water, every two hours. Or twenty grains of salicylate of soda may be given with plenty of water every three or four hours. Vichy or soda water should be drank freely at intervals between meals. To relieve the pain in the toe and foot belladonna liniment may be applied, and the foot should be wrapped in a goodly amount of cotton batting, loosely packed around it and held in place with a flannel bandage. Much relief is also given by elevating the foot and leg on a chair in which a pillow is placed to keep the limb in a horizontal and immovable condition.

The person subject to gout should, above all, see that the bowels act freely and regularly and that the liver is in good condition. Inattention to these important functions will surely bring about an acute attack of gout in those predisposed, since the waste is not eliminated as it should be and thus saturates the system with irritating if not poisonous material. The regular use of water as suggested will do much to regulate these functions, but it may be necessary to occasionally take a cathartic pill.

Continued atacks of the gout may cause kidney disease, but as a rule the person feels better after the attacks than before. There is, however, a form of gout called retrocedent or shifting gout, in which the inflammation attacks some other site than the big toe and foot. The stomach, for example, is a favorite site, and in such cases no time should be lost in obtaining medical assistance. Hot footbaths and mustard to the feet will sometimes bring it back to the big toe, where it can be more readily and effectually treated, or at any rate do less harm, but these seizures are so sudden and are so rapid in their progress that expert aid is necessary to avoid serious complications if not fatal terminations.

The enlarged joints due to deposits of calcareous matter may be relieved to some extent by the continued use of lithia water. Painting the joints with tincture of iodine will have some effect, but this should be cautiously used to avoid exciting local inflammation. Rubbing the joints with stimulating liniment will limber them up and so will massage, but they should not be over treated. If inflammation is set up the parts may suppurate, and this may lead to perforation of the flesh and consequent stiffening of the joint. Indeed, in some cases this deposit of calcareous matter may be so great that the joint is absolutely rendered immovable, but these cases, once more common, are now so rare that they are to be seen only as freaks in dime museums. L. N., M. D.

THE JOURNAL'S POETS.

Miriam.

The strong east wind that all the night has sped
The Red Sea waters from their ancient bed,
Calms with the morning watch; returning waves
Sweep back the foes of Israel to their graves.
Vast, foaming billows, with a hollow roar,
Dull echoes waken on the rocky shore;
And waters meeting waters upward leap,
And flash white signals o'er the misty deep.

Upon the desert's arid plains away
Encamps the host of Israel, freed from sway
Of Egypt's bondage. 'Neath the morning skies
The murmuring sounds of many voices rise,
The hurried tramp of feet, the vast herd's low,
Shouts of command and noisy converse grow
A softened monotone from distance borne
Upon the sweet and tremulous air of morn.

Anon, tumultuous seas have calmer grown;
The waves break on the shore with solemn moan;
And, blending with the sound, melodious strains
Of song and music rise from distant plains.
Hark! 'Tis the sound of timbrels; there appear
With Miriam Israel's daughters, graceful, fair,
With songs and dances. "Sing ye to the Lord!"
The glad refrain is raised in sweet accord.
"Sing ye! the Lord hath triumphed gloriously,
And horse and rider thrown into the sea!"

Musician, poet, prophetess, the throng
Of women leading, Miriam's joyous song
Is "Sing ye to the Lord!" Jehovah's praise
The loftiest theme that mortal tongue can raise.
Adown the centuries dim and vanishing
Yet seems the voice of Miriam to ring.

Well may the prophet Micah, centuries thence,
Lift up his voice in thrilling eloquence
Recounting blessings great and manifold
Vouchsafed to Israel from the days of old;
In God's stead speaking, saying unto them:
"I sent thee Moses, Aaron, Miriam."

Most glorious leaders! Now do millions pause,
Swayed by Divinity's most holy laws;
And nations worship at Jehovah's feet.
On high priests' robes they hear the bells so sweet,
As Aaron high the golden censor swings;
They hear the glorious anthem Miriam sings.

O leaders grand! Those laws by Moses graved,
If all should heed, none were by sin enslaved;
But hearkening to each sound and voice that call
To high and holy service, then would all
In words of triumph, as of holy psalm,
Join in the anthem sung by Miriam.

—Eliza J. Brown.

Liberty, Ind.

Victoria.

Sad requiem the sobbing bells intone,
Slow through the night of sorrow and of gloom;
All earth sinks to the silence of the tomb,
As over land and sea the cannons moan.

Low waves the flag, the voice of cheer is dumb,
Hushed is glad song, and stiller now each breath;
Unto the mournful majesty of death
Earth's joyous sounds all solemnly succumb.

No single part, all nations, equal, mourn;
Prince or peasant, thy boundless empire weeps,
Realm of the world's true souls grief's vigil keeps—
Ah, not a simple sorrow lightly borne!

Priceless the past in which thy woman's worth
Played its true part, and grateful is the mind
That through the years may keep thy life enshrined,
O truest Monarch of a gladder earth!

Equal are all, yeoman and serf and chief;
Before the King of Kings, from high to low,
All men are brothers in this day of woe—
Brothers all men in universal grief.

Low wails the dirge, sad is all nature's mien,
Heavy the hearts of men, and hushed each breath;
Unto her rest the archangel of death
Has called a noble woman and a queen.

O splendid life, O deep, unreckoned loss,
O living record of an unmatched worth,
O Sovereign of the hearts of all the earth,
Thine be the peace of Him that bore the cross.

—Albert Charlton Andrews.

Transformation.

The gray sky wrapped us like a sodden shawl
But yesterday, and every wind that blew
Muttered and whined as fretful children do;
And moldered weed, and moaning maple tall
Where once we summer folk were won't to call,
Waved their gaunt arms and shivered through and through.

The miser sun's rays were a grudging few,
And blight, decay, and death were over all.
To-day, the world is white, and blue and gold—
White, white the veil that hides earth's scars from sight,
And deeply, darkly blue the skies enfold,
And gold, the sun's downpour of lavish light,
Aladdin with his wizard-lamp, of old.

Ne'er wrought a greater marvel in a night!

Marion, Ind. —Ethel Bowman.

Pile and Fistula Cure.

Sample treatment of our Red Cross Pile and Fistula Cure and book explaining cause and cure of piles sent free to any address by mail. DR. REA & CO., Minneapolis, Minn.

IN THE GOSSIP'S CORNER.

While various Indiana towns and cities are importing bloodhounds with which to track their criminals, and even, on occasion, going into Kentucky for a pack with which to run down a violator of the law, South Carolina, which we delight to hold up to public execration as the home of Tillman and barbarism, is felicitating itself that the last pack of dogs has been eliminated from the legal machinery of the State. Florence was the last town in the commonwealth to dispose of its hounds, and the action was considered so worthy of commendation that several of the state papers congratulated that thriving city on its decisive step toward a higher civilization. The Charleston News and Courier, in a headed and leaded editorial, rejoiced that "this last relic of barbarism no longer remains to blot the fair page of the State's progress, and that Florence, in taking this step, has put the whole State on a plane of civilization in keeping with its material prosperity." And any number of Indiana journals of civilization are still urging their respective municipalities to buy dogs!

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In connection with the death of Ignatius Donnelly and a revived, if somewhat languid interest in his Baconian theory of the origin of the Shakspeare plays, it is eminently proper to call attention to that other and equally absorbing question of similar portent, "Did Shakspeare write the Bible?" The solution of this question, like that propounded by the sage of Ninnigen, lies in a cryptogram, the key thereto being the name of Shakspeare. The spelling "Shakespeare," was the poet's nom de plume, while "Shakspere" was his name, an evident change from "Shakespear." It will be noted that in each of the two spellings last given are ten letters, four vowels and six consonants. Combine these two figures, and we have the key to the mystery, the number forty-six. Turning to the Forty-sixth Psalm, in the revised version, it is found that the chapter is divided into three parts, each ending with the word "selah." Counting forty-six words from the beginning of the Psalm, in the first part, you read the word "shake," and counting forty-six words from the end of the psalm you find the word "spear." Surely nothing could be plainer than this biblical spelling of the name of the "Bard of Avon."

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Just at this season of the year the busy housewife is often at a loss as to what to give the family for dessert. Puddings, with their sauce, take too much time; many of the recipes call for expensive ingredients, and, in despair, she falls back upon the "persistent pie," which, alas, is too often "white and indigestible on top, tough and indigestible on the bottom, and with untold horrors between!" During the winter season our food is, and should be, hearty, and for this reason time and thought should be given to planning desserts which will make our dinners dietetically correct. Fruit juices are now especially necessary on account of their power of preserving the alkalinity of the blood. A simple, seasonable, inexpensive, and last, but by no means least, healthful and palatable dessert for six people is the following:

Three oranges, peeled and cut fine.
Three bananas, peeled and sliced.
Four tablespoons of sugar.
Juice of one lemon.

In a glass dish put the oranges, sugar and bananas, in alternate layers, until the dish is filled. Pour the lemon juice over the top, and set on ice for an hour before serving.

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A large number of papers are giving currency to the statement that the Baltimore American is the oldest paper which has been published uninterruptedly in America. If it had said the oldest daily paper, the statement would have been correct. The oldest paper of unbroken sequence of issue in the United States is the Maryland Gazette, published at Annapolis. It was founded about 1739 or 1740. The American was not issued until 1773. The present office of the Gazette is on what is known as State Circle, in which are the Statehouse, library, controller's office, headquarters of the state navy and the treasurer's office, which originally was the residence of the colonial governors, and was built in 1742. Dr. Nicholas Green, if he has not died in the last year or two, still lives in the house, about three blocks from the present office of the Gazette, where his great-grandfather, also Nicholas Green, printed the first issue of the paper, using one end of the building for his residence, the other for the printing office. Complete files of the old paper are to be found in the state library, and the early issues are a fountainhead of knowledge for delvers into the early history of Maryland.

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What a thing of beauty is Monument Place—at night! But it is only intermittently a joy forever, for by daylight the glitter of the bronze and gold of the new light columns is too garish to be in full keeping with the melancholy dignity of the monument and its surroundings. But at night, when the pendant carcanet of radiance is flung forth, throwing its ornate supports into the nether shadow, with the great shaft rising, somber and sheer, into the upper darkness, then it is that one forgets the incongruous effects revealed in the broad light of day, and revels in the fairy-like beauty of the present scene.

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It was customary in ancient Greece, so the Hellenists tell us, for the bride and groom, at a wedding, to eat a quince in the presence of the guests, first one and then the other taking a bite, and so alternating until the quince was devoured. It was believed that the eating of a quince sweetened the breath for days to come, and the bride and groom did it to typify their intention to make the future sweet and pleasant for each other. It was a sweet and beautiful custom and much more sensible and typical of culture than the modern rude and meaningless practice of showering rice and old shoes on newly married couples. From a perusal of the divorce court records, it would seem profitable to revive the ancient usage, and it might be well if ministers and marrying "squires" would keep a stock of the delectable fruit on hand, to see if any of its storied virtues remain.

× × ×

Give me, to-day, a warm and quiet nook,
Of friends a few, my pencil and a book;
No debts to press nor body's ills to bear,
And with the rest, a satisfactory cook.

THE GOSSIP.

The Unhygienic Beard.

Literary Digest.

Hair on the face is not worth very much from a hygienic standpoint, according to Gabriel Prevost. In an article translated somewhat awkwardly in the Medical Times, he says:

"Scarcely under the form of heavy mustaches shading the lips can it invoke service by hindering the introduction into the lungs of too cold air; and yet, it should not pride itself too much on this. In return for less than the greatest neatness, it is filthy, and physiologically it is a net of microbes. It is evident that the inspiration of the air tends to accumulate dust there, as it does in a broom. The least trace of foods, liquid or solid, soils it and makes it an object of disgust; odors, good or bad, choose a dwelling-place there, and, finally, laziness about shaving is the only argument to be put forth by those who praise it.

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serves at the same time for an habitation and a vehicle. Let us have the courage, then, to declare that we cannot understand how anyone can persist in this, least of all the physician or the soldier, two existences everywhere comparable by their forced contact with promiscuous people. The absurd prejudice still remains that the development of the hairy system coincides with that of strength. In this case we refer the fanatics of the beard to Antomarche, who made the autopsy of Napoleon. The conqueror of Wagram had not a hair on his breast. He did not have, besides, one on his hand."

The Apple Barrel.

It stood in the cellar low and dim,
Where the cobwebs swept and swayed,
Holding the store from bough and limb
At the feet of autumn laid.
And oft, when the days were short and drear
And the north wind shrieked and roared,
We children sought in the corner, here,
And drew on the toothsome hoard.

For thus through the long, long winter-time
It answered us every call
With wine of the summer's golden prime
Sealed by the hand of fall.
The best there was of the earth and air,
Of rain and sun and breeze,
Changed to a pippin sweet and rare
By the art of the faithful trees.

A wonderful barrel was this, had we
Its message but rightly heard,
Filled with the tales of wind and bee,
Of cricket and moth and bird;
Rife with the bliss of the fragrant June
When skies were soft and blue;
Thronged with the dreams of a harvest moon
O'er fields drenched deep with dew.

Oh homely barrel, I'd fain essay
Your marvelous spell again;
Take me back to the past, I pray,
As willingly now as then;
Back to the tender morns and eves,
The noontides warm and still,
When honey dews and the aspen leaves
Fell the second year the hill.

—Richard L. Sales, in February Lippincott.

Drunkenness.
THE CURSE OF MANY HOMES.

The man who has allowed the demon of intemperance to dominate his actions is so firmly bound by the chains of habit that tears and arguments are of little avail. It is useless to attempt to reform a drunkard by appeals to his conscience or his morality. His appetite is the source of his trouble, and should be the point of attack.

It is because of the recognition of this principle that the Keeley Institute, located at Plainfield, Ind., has had such great success in the cure of chronic alcoholism. The drunkard has to stop whether he wants to or not. The treatment not only cures the craving, but builds up the wasted tissues until the one-time slave is emancipated. Write for information to Plainfield, Ind., or 105 Commercial Club building, Indianapolis, Ind. Telephone 2427.

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