

Ornamental Penmanship Going
 "The day for the ornamental penman as far as the departmental service is concerned has gone," says an experienced official. "In some cases, notably the interior department, the clerk who was depended upon to do the ornamental penwork was and is a lady. The typewriter has supplanted the ornamental writer and is now used in everything that goes out of the department. In years gone by appointments and commissions were always made out by an ornamental writer, but the ordinary typewriter appointment is regarded as good enough nowadays."
 —Washington Star.

The Pure Food Law.
 The pure food law, which was enacted by the General Assembly last year, has gone into full force. The object of the law is to stop entirely the sale of food products which contain harmful ingredients, and to compel vendors of food products which are adulterated with ingredients which are harmless to brand or mark their goods so that the purchaser may know that that is the case and may govern himself accordingly. Certainly this is an excellent law, and consumers will be thankful for the promise which is made that it is to be enforced rigidly. It ought to be copied in every state, says the Chicago Tribune.

A Frenchman named Dufour claims to have found a way of melting and moulding quartz like glass.

\$100 Reward. \$100.
 The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars to any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address: F. J. CHERRY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, etc. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

It is estimated that the Kafirs in the diamond mines at Kimberley, South Africa, steal \$1,250,000 worth of diamonds a year.

Each package of LUTYMAN FADELESS DYE colors either Silk, Wool or Cotton perfectly at one boiling. Sold by all druggists.

The ordinary beer glass is regulated by law in Bavaria and must hold exactly half a litre, or nearly nine-tenths of a pint.

Do Your Feet Ache and Burn?
 Shake into your shoes Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder for the feet. It makes tight or New Shoes feel easy. Cures Corns, Ingrowing Nails, Itching, Swollen, Hot, Callous, Sore and Sweating Feet. All Druggists and Shoe Stores sell it. 25c. Sample sent FREE. Address, ALLEN S. OLMESTEAD, LeRoy, N. Y.

The German Association for Saving the Shipwrecked rescued last year 207 persons, the largest number since its establishment.

The Best Prescription for Chills and Fever is a bottle of GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC. It is simply iron and quinine in a tasteless form. No cure—no pay. Price 50c.

A movement has been started in France to erect a monument at Waterloo in honor of the French soldiers who fell there.

A Colonel in the British South African army says that Adams' Tutti Frutti was a blessing to his men while marching.

The purest Chinese is spoken at Nanking, and is called "the language of the mandarins."

Piso's Cure is the best medicine ever used for all affections of throat and lungs.—Wm. O. EXPLEY, Van Buren, Ind., Feb. 10, 1900.

An apple orchard in Glenwood, Ia., occupies 500 acres and contains 133,000 bearing trees.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, 25c. a bottle.

Nearly every Chinaman can read, but 90 per cent. of the women are entirely uneducated.

To Cure a Cold in One Day.
 Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE TABLETS. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

Dogs in Hamburg are taxed according to size—the bigger the dog the higher the tax.

FITS permanently cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for bottle and treatise free. DR. R. H. KLINE, Ltd., 361 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

There are approximately as many dogs as people in the country.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

helps women preserve roundness of form and freshness of face because it makes their entire female organism healthy. It carries women safely through the various natural crises and is the safeguard of woman's health.

The truth about this great medicine is told in the letters from women being published in this paper constantly.

TRICKS PLAYED ON TREES

PLANTS DWARFED AND CHANGED CONTRARY TO THEIR KIND.

The Japanese Own the Secret of Their Production to the Chinese—The Process of Grafting and Its Service to Mankind—Producing "Green Ebony."

Man has been playing them for so many hundreds of years that he has become as much inured to the practice as the trees themselves. The arboriculturist is willing to flatter himself on the result, though what the trees may be entitled to feel about the conjuration is quite another affair. They might, for instance, consider that the tree doctor means well, but pretty often contrives to dissemble his love. Some of his operations are certainly painful and others eccentric, but the patients are, nevertheless, bound to submit to them. "Bound." Indeed, they frequently are, root and branch; and if their behavior in such a trying situation is not always exactly that anticipated by their taskmasters, it must be admitted that the trees occasionally endeavor to do the best under trying circumstances. But to drop the metaphor. For some little time the famous "dwarfed" forest trees of Japan have been bidding for western popularity, and their exhibition and sale is now of almost annual occurrence. They are more or less perfect resemblances of timber trees, grown in pots, with gnarled trunks and branches and leaves to match, and fully justifying to the eye their claim to growth. The once famous showman, Mr. Yuffin, declared, as the result of his varied experience, that "the older a dwarf is, the better worth he is; a gray-headed dwarf, well wrinkled, is beyond all suspicion." In the production of their dwarfed trees the wily Orientals seem to acknowledge the same principle. The unfortunate tree-dwarf must not only be old, but must look its age. It must have wrinkles and crows' feet. It must have roots, and palsied members. Then it is a dwarf, indeed, and the better worth owning and exhibiting.

Although the great number of the dwarfed trees come from Japan, the Japanese owe the secret of their production to the Chinese. It is the very button of excellence in the cap of a Celestial gardener to be an adept in the art of conquering nature, and the practice of making "Koo Shoo" (tree dwarfs) may possibly date from the time of Confucius. Various members of the "conifer" family are the favorite subjects of distortion, though they are by no means the only tribe submitted to it. Long experience has doubtless suggested more than one method of producing the desired end, but the Chinese system may perhaps be taken as a type of all. The practitioner selects a small branch of a healthy growing tree, which promises well for the operation. Just below an "eye" in the young wood a ring of bark is excised, and the wound immediately surrounded with a ball of compost, held in position by a suitable envelope. This begins to send out little rootlets in search of nourishment. Being in every way encouraged to make the best of its new situation, it presently declares its complete independence of the parent stock, from which it is then severed. Now begins the more personal struggle with untoward fate. Still attended by its ball of earth, it is cramped into a small pot, and just kept alive by a sparing allowance of water. It cannot flourish, and it must not die; those are the terms on which the artist deals with his captive, and between which it has to find its own level. But the dungeon alone is not sufficient; the torturer is called in to assist. As soon as the victim has established a kind of torpid existence, its stem and offshoots are in various places "clamped" with wire fetters, in order to promote the rugged appearance so necessary to its future prospects as a dwarf of venerable age. At this stage, also, the roots are closely scanned, and when necessary are trimmed, or even seared with a hot iron. Many deaths occur just then, but such subjects as survive the treatment gradually begin to show its effects. With lessened leaves and cramped branches, they grow into more or less perfect resemblances of forest veterans. To confer a kind of "worm-eaten" antiquity, the branches are occasionally smeared with honey to invite the attacks of insects. The plant's natural instinct is sometimes not fully overcome for ten, or even twenty years. But it eventually subsides into the state of dwarfdom, a barely living example of what man's perverted ingenuity can effect.

It Always Ends That Way.
 They had just returned from their bridal tour when the husband gently pulled her ear and said:

"Now let us speak of business. While half of what I have belongs to you, I do not propose that you shall have to beg for your half. Being the head of the house, I shall carry the wallet, but I propose to hand you over a certain sum every Saturday night. It will be plain money."

"How good you are!" she exclaimed. "I think it is only just and right. I know a dozen married men whose wives have almost to get down on their knees to get a dollar. I could kick such a man! How much do you think you can use a week?"

"A dollar, perhaps."

"A dollar! My wife trying to get along on a dollar a week! Why, you little darling, you shall have at least \$10, and if that is not sufficient I shall make it \$20 or \$30."

It was the old story over again. He cut her down to \$8, \$7, \$6, \$5, \$4, \$2, and at length, when they had been married about four months and she asked him for a dollar, he turned on her with:

"What! More money! Do you think I've got a gold mine? What on earth do you want money for?"

"I've got to get a few little notions."

"But you can't want a dollar's worth! Here's thirty cents, and I hope you will remember that these are hard times, and that money is money!"—St. Louis Dispatch.

The Monkfish and the Dog.
 A monkfish made a quick meal of an Eastport dog the other day and was captured a short time later near one of the sardine factory wharves. Very few monkfish are seen in Passamaquoddy Bay, but at different times they are found of large size, and have been known to come to the surface suddenly and gobble up any sea bird that happens to be in the water. They are among the homeliest fish that are found along the neighboring coast, the mouth being unusually large, and fishermen have known them to swallow objects nearly as large as themselves. In appearance they resemble a big sculpin, and the one killed here came in for a full share of attention from the many spectators on the wharf. The unfortunate dog was enjoying a swim along the water front, watched by his owner and a party of friends, when without warning the monkfish came to the surface with open mouth, and the dog went down without much of a fight for his life. Later in the day some boys were spearing flounders in shallow water, when they saw the odd-looking fish below, and with a boat hook soon gathered it in. The dog was found inside, but was considerably mangled by the sawlike teeth of the fish, and it was noticed that the dog was nearly as large as the entire monkfish.—Lewiston (Me.) Journal.

Awful Fear of a Nervous Man.
 I used to know a nervous man who feared that he'd be robbed. Immense precautions did he use, yet with that terror throbbed. He thought thieves might take anything—his folks, his goods, his life—so when he went away from home he always wired his wife. He nursed his lips to keep them safe, he used to hide his son; he always kept his books well bound; he liked tied games alone. Of course he'd lashed on his eyes, and as it sometimes rains, he took in all the shows each night. His arguments had chains. He wouldn't buy a chainless wheel, although the neighbors laughed; and when he died he left a wish they'd sink his marble shaft.—Yale Record.

THE HOUSEWIFE'S PART.

Oh, men, and oh, brothers; and all of you others, I beg of you pause and listen a bit, And I'll tell without altering any of it, The tale of the housewife's part.

Mixing and fixing, Brewing and steaming, Basting and tasting, Lifting and sifting, Steaming and boiling, Toasting and roasting, Kneading and seeding, Straining and draining, Poking and soaking, Choosing and using, Reasoning and seasoning, Frying and sharpening— This is the housewife's part.

Filling and spilling, Pounding and soaping, Creaming and steaming, Shimming and trimming, Mopping and chopping, Coring and poring, Shelling and smelling, Grinding and minding, Firing and tiring, Carving and serving. This is the housewife's part.

Oiling and boiling and broiling, Buying and trying and frying, Burning and turning and churning, Pricing and icing and slicing, Hashing and mashing and splashing, Spinning and planning and canning, Greasing and squeezing and freezing— This is the housewife's part.

Aching and baking and making and shaking, Beating and heating and seating and treating, Oh, men, and oh, brothers, and all of you others— Do you envy the housewife's part? —Susie M. Best, in New Orleans Times-Democrat.

PITH AND POINT.

Jimmy—"I hear yer an uncle, Billy?" Billy—"I'm two—it wuz twins!"—Puck.

"What is an Anglo-American alliance, pa?" "English titles and American money."—Harper's Bazar.

"Isn't it delightful to be dining together without a chaperon?" "I should say so! Marriage is certainly a great economy."—Puck.

Mrs. Muggins—"Isn't it terrible the trouble we are having with China?" Mrs. Buggins—"What's the matter? Has your servant been breaking things again?"

Hoax—"I understand the doctor said yesterday there was very little hope in your rich uncle's case." Joax—"It's even worse to-day. He's very much better."

Fair Painter—"I hope you don't mind my sketching in your field?" Farmer—"Lord, no, missie! You keep the birds off the peas better'n a ordinary scarecrow."—Tit-Bits.

"My mother-in-law has gone to the mountains." "You look pleased." "Yes; she'll have to admit she has found something that she can't walk over."—Indianapolis Journal.

"Flossy is so superstitious." "She is?" "Yes; when she wears her death-head hatpin she always wears her horseshoe scarf-pin and her wish-bone hair ornament."—Indianapolis Journal.

The picture of innocence! That's how she looked. But there was a price on her head. All the people could see it—"Three-seventy-five." Reduced from \$5, it read.

Kansas Man (visiting in the East): "We have lots of neighbors now." Friend—"Why, I thought your nearest neighbor was twenty miles away." "Yes, but we've had a cyclone since then."—Harlem Life.

Dr. Pillet—"Your blood is impoverished. I shall have to prescribe some iron for you." Mr. Goshabby—"Don't do it, doctor. My wife tells me now that I look rustier than any other man in town."—Somerville Journal.

The shades of night were trotted out, Though worked almost to death, no doubt; The parodist some stunt quite new Has thought it, seems, to make them do. Excelsior! —Detroit Journal.

Mr. Newpop (ostentatiously): "How pleasant it is to think that we will be home together all evening." Mrs. Newpop—"Why, dear, you know we've got to call—" Mr. Newpop (in a fierce whisper): "Sh! Can't you see why I said that? The baby's listening."—Philadelphia Press.

Cabbies Thought He Was Wealthy.
 There was a bit of excitement among Barge Office cabmen a few days ago concerning a fare which were eager to secure. A report had gone forth that a wealthy personage was among the steerage passengers who had been landed at the Barge Office, and that the man of riches had expressed a desire for a cab. The ordinary immigrant is content to go in a truck along with his baggage, but this was no ordinary immigrant.

He wore a tightly buttoned Prince Albert, a golf cap and a loud necktie. "Keb, sir! keb!" cried the cabmen as the stranger coolly surveyed the equipages. Selecting one which seemed the best, he directed that his baggage be placed on the box, and when this, a trunk of medium size, had been lifted into place, the stranger climbed into the vehicle, the cabman holding the door open.

"Drive me to the ah—" "Waldorf-Astoria?" queried cabby, obsequiously holding out his hand for the coin which he saw.

"Mills Hotel," said the fare as he dropped a penny into the outstretched palm.—New York Herald.

A Fat Man's Queer Mishap.
 A fat citizen of the seacoast town of Lubec, Me., went down a ladder at the side of a schooner to get a hammer he had dropped overboard. He inserted his body between the rungs of the ladder, that he might reach down and get the hammer from the shoal water, and became stuck there. The tide was rising, and he was rescued three hours afterward, just in time to save him from drowning, the water having reached within two inches of his mouth.

ENGLISH PEERAGE

Divided into Dukes, Marquises, Earls, Viscounts and Barons.

"I am always asked a lot of questions about the peerage," said A. L. Jamieson, of London, at the Waldorf-Astoria, to a New York Tribune man, "whenever I am in America. One thing that seems especially to bother you people is that while a house of lords exists nevertheless lords, earls and even marquises are to be found among members of the house of commons. This comes about from the so-called courtesy titles borne by eldest sons and heirs. For example, take the case of the Marquis of Lorne, now ninth Duke of Argyll, who married the Princess Louise. He bore the title of marquis during his father's life by courtesy. The peerage is divided into dukes, marquises, earls, viscounts and barons, and the spiritual peerage into archbishops and bishops. The title duke is very old. Hannibal was called Duke of Carthage. The Doge of Venice was a duke. A duke is addressed as 'His Grace and Most Noble,' and by the crown as 'our right trusty and right entirely beloved cousin.' Marquises were formerly military leaders, who guarded the limits or marches of the kingdom. Hence, they were called Lords of the Marches, or Marquises. They are addressed as 'Most Honorable,' and by the crown as 'our right trusty and entirely beloved cousin.' Viscounts, or vice countesses, were sheriffs in earlier days. They are addressed as 'Right Honorable,' and by the crown as 'our righty trusty and well beloved cousin.' Barons, originally by tenure, then by writ and now by letters patent, are bearers or supporters—from the etymology of the word—and are styled 'Right Honorable,' and addressed by the crown as 'our righty trusty and well beloved.' The royal addresses sound like a game where you go on losing a word, don't they? The only title by tenure, I think, now existent among us is the Earldom of Arundel, which the Duke of Norfolk holds by his tenure of Arundel Castle, but this was confirmed by a special act of Parliament. Baronets and knights are both addressed as 'Sir,' but while the former is a title that holds with and descends in the family, the latter exists only during the life of the holder. Sir William Van Horne, who built the Canadian Pacific, is a knight."

COLD AIR HEALTH.
 Water from the Best Stimulant People Can Have.

Many persons regard the winter season as an unfortunate visitation. It is considered both uncomfortable to the body and harmful to health. This is an error. Cold is a most potent agent for the restoration and preservation of normal activity on the part of the organs of the human body. It is a wise plan of providence which gives us a change of seasons. The winter cold comes as a tonic to repair the injuries done by the enervating heat of summer. Summer, it is true, has many wise uses in the matter of health. It induces outdoor life, rids the system of poisons through copious perspiration and through the scorching rays of sun destroys germ life. Winter is the great bracer of the system. It stimulates activity in every organ. When cold attacks the surface of the body the blood is set into more free circulation as a means of bodily warmth. It is through the circulation of the blood that the human anatomy is kept in a state of repair. When the food has been digested and converted into liquid form, it is taken up by the blood and carried the rounds of the system for the purpose of repairing the waste places. When the cold causes increased circulation, it also brings about more perfect nutrition. Man's face and hands illustrate how weather-proof the body becomes when exposed to air. Continued activity in circulation on the surface, caused by the air coming in contact with the skin, tends to nourish and thicken the skin. Thus man's skin grows thicker in winter just as animals are supplied with a double coat of fur. The savages who dwell bareheaded in the open air, are seldom, if ever, known to be afflicted with bald heads, while, with the civilian who shields his scalp from air, baldness is prevalent. The Indians, who, if not now, in former days roamed our western borders, practically without clothing to shelter their bodies, became, through long exposure, so inured to the cold that it gave them but little discomfort.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Enough gutta percha is made into golf balls every year to insulate an Atlantic cable.

Fight Your Liver

if you want to. But look out, or it will get the start of you. If it does, you will have dyspepsia, indigestion, biliousness, sick headache, poor blood, constipation.

Perhaps you have these already. Then take one of Ayer's Pills at bedtime. These pills gently and surely master the liver; they are an easy and safe laxative for the whole family; they give prompt relief and make a permanent cure. Always keep a box of them in the house.

25 cents a box. All druggists.

"I have raised a family of eleven children, all living at the present time, and I would not think I could keep house without Ayer's Pills. I have used them for twenty years, and there is no family laxative their equal."—S. C. DARDEN, Myrtle, Miss., May 22, 1900.

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