

It is an accepted fact that America is more lavish in the matter of hospitality and entertaining than any other country.

The French Minister of War has issued an order that henceforth every officer and every man in the French army shall, when on active service, carry on his person material for a first dressing in case of his being wounded.

The New York Observer exclaims: When Gordon fell at Khartoum, the Sudanians turned into barbarians, and when Emin relapsed his reluctant feet from Wadelai the darkness of night closed in after him, and the clock in Central Africa was set back fifty years.

There are perhaps more swine raised in Kansas and Missouri than in any other ten States. Where corn is an abundant crop hog raising is usually successful and profitable.

Kate Field says that in England nobody but a rough or a genius can wear any other hat than a stovepipe and that seems to explain why Alfred Tennyson sticks so resolutely to his soft slouch hat.

Filial duty is the strongest trait in the Chinese and Japanese character, remarks the San Francisco Chronicle, but it is frequently perverted and becomes to Western eyes more of a vice than a virtue.

The vagaries of South American justice are ably illustrated by a story that comes from the Panama Star and Herald. Two prisoners, Francisco Briones Gamboa and Victor Figueroa, were implicated in a murder at Guayaquil.

It will doubtless be a satisfaction to the able-bodied men of Germany to know how the statisticians have figured out some results of the increase in effectiveness of "arms of precision."

The following figures, taken from the official returns of the province of Nijni-Novgorod, one of the most fertile and prosperous in the Russian Empire, afford a most striking illustration of the steady decline in the prosperity of the Russian peasantry.

Table with 2 columns: Estimated revenue and Amount collected. Rows show data for years 1881 through 1890.

In another table the total arrears of the province are given. These arrears are even more striking. Accumulated arrears, 1881, 739,942 rubles; 1883, 982,284 rubles; 1884, 854,050 rubles; 1885, 932,294 rubles; 1886, 1,152,164 rubles; 1887, 1,358,040 rubles; 1888, 1,297,320 rubles; 1889, 1,274,232 rubles; 1890, 1,694,084 rubles; 1891, 2,493,877 rubles.

EVERY YEAR.

The spring has less of brightness Every year, And the snow a ghastlier whiteness Every year; Nor do summer flowers quicken, Nor autumn fruits thicken, As they once did, for they sticken Every year.

SUSY'S INVESTMENT

BY HELEN FORREST GRAVES.

HE gray, discoloring light of the autumn morning revealed every crack in the discolored ceiling, every flaw in the uneven board floor, and Mrs. Kisebe looked around with a bewildered air, as she came in to get the breakfast.

"But, mother," laughingly pleaded George, "these are not the days of Montagues and Capulet feuds. 'I don't know what you're talkin' about,' said Mrs. Kisebe, who was not a student of Shakespeare, 'but I've always despised them Stopford's. An' Susan she's a story writer, I'm told, as goes about with her fingers all tarty, and don't help none with the housework.'

"I don't want to see her at all," said the old woman, querulously. "And then she broke down again crying. George went away much perturbed in spirit. He had never seen his mother so heartbroken before.

"Well, George?" cried she. "I don't know what to say to you, Susy," he began. "Mother isn't herself to-day. She—"

"Tell me all about it, George," said she. "And George told her. It was such a new, strange delight to have her to confide everything to. 'I only wish I was rich,' said he. 'I'd buy the place myself, and I'd build that new kitchen that poor mother's soul so longs for, and a porch in front to train her morning glory vines on.'

"Who's going to buy it George?" said she. "Doctor Trevor." "What does he pay for it?" "Twelve hundred dollars. It isn't a great price, but the land is sterile and rocky, and the house is old. Poor mother! It will break her heart, I'm afraid, to leave the old place."

Mrs. Kisebe's poor old face grew very white and drawn when she heard that her husband had sold the old place; but she signed the deed without a word of remonstrance. "It's late in the day for me to oppose Luke's will," said she. "But one thing I know—I'm too old a tree to bear transplantin'."

"You don't mind it, do you mother?" Mrs. Kisebe shook her piteous old gray head. "No," said she. "I like to hear the hammer. I'm glad Mrs. Trevor's goin' to have a nice place to work in than ever I had. Two windows to the south, and a Georgia pine floor with lattice narer boards, and spring water brought in pipes, and a range, George—a range with a hot water boiler and two big eaves overhead. And there's to be a veranda all along the east side of the house just where I always wanted father to put a porch, where we could sit and breathe the fresh air of egypt's like other folks, and two nice bed rooms further on. I hope Mrs. Trevor'll enjoy 'em."

"George has got an awful queer look in his face," said she. "Mebbe I said too much. George has always been a good boy, an' I didn't mean to hurt his feelings. But I meant every word I said."

spinners for the veranda, an' such a pretty kitchen set, with new crockery complete. Mis' Trevor'll be a happy woman."

"At his wife came up to him, he a deely turned around. "Mother," said he, "Mayer's well tell you now as ever. That Western property's turned out bad. There wa'n't no good title, it seems."

"George! George! Susan! Don't put all them vines into the ground! Save one in a little flower-pot for me, when I go—to the poorhouse!"

"I never thought of that," said she. "It isn't a dream, is it? But I—I won't live here, Susy, unless you and George will come here and live, too."

Neither were George's and Susy's eyes dry. And as for Luke Kisebe, he listened in silence. "It seems like I was sort o' left out in the cold," said he. "But, after all, it was I bargained away my birthright for a lot o' wildcat Western land bonds. I guess it's just as well the property belongs to mother now instead of me."

A Wonder of Science. One of the most delicate surgical operations ever performed in San Francisco was that to which A. Baehm, a patient at the City and County Hospital, was subjected recently.

The sick man was quickly anesthetized and the inflated breast was exposed to view. A discoloration on the left side showed that the trouble lay under the tissue in that direction, and Dr. Zelinwood began operations at once by making two deep incisions crosswise, from which the blood spurted in streams.

Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, of New Zealand, says the Providence Journal, is, by all accounts, very particular that his M. A. should appear always after his name. A deacon, in an out-of-the-way New Zealand township, one Sunday read to his congregation the written notice of Mr. Hughes's forthcoming visit thus: "The pulpit of this church will be occupied on Sunday next by the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes's M. A."

THE MOTHER AS DOCTOR.

SOME REMEDIES WHICH SHE SHOULD HAVE AT HAND.

Cases Where an Ounce of Prevention is Better Than a Pound of Cure—What to Have in the House.

EVERY mother of little children should be, to a certain extent, her own family physician. A woman possessed of an average share of common sense can hardly nurse one or more children through the disorders incident to babyhood and childhood without acquiring a good stock of information as to how to treat attacks of slight indisposition.

A child should be so closely watched by the mother that no derangement of its system may escape her notice. She should ascertain for herself that all its bodily functions are in proper working order. Her trained touch should note in a moment any unusual heat or chilliness of the child's body, the dryness of the skin, the over-quickness of the pulse.

Some children have a tendency towards croup that manifests itself as night approaches in feverishness, hoarseness and a barking cough. Such symptoms must not be disregarded. The child's feet must be well heated before it goes to bed, its chest rubbed with camphorated oil and covered with a bit of red flannel spread with vaseline. Aconite may be given at the rate of half a drop in a teaspoonful of water every half hour for three or four doses.

Slight bowel troubles can usually be regulated better by diet than by drugs. Children suffering with looseness of the bowels should be fed with boiled milk, boiled rice, arrowroot jelly, rice flour porridge, sage or tapioca and soft toast. Raw fruit and sweets should be especially avoided.

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Where there is any inclination to sourness of stomach, lime water should always be added to the milk which a child drinks. For pain in the bowels a teaspoonful of anise cordial mixed with a teaspoonful of hot water often produces a happy effect. Flannels dipped in hot spirits and wrung out may be laid on the bowels of the sufferer, and frequently prove very soothing.

When the process was completed and every vestige of pus removed, the incision was withdrawn, and the opening in Baehm's breast closed. The operation was a highly successful one in every particular, and Baehm's condition shows that he is gaining strength.—Electricity.

Tripe for Binding Books. A company has recently been incorporated in Newark, N. J., with a capital stock of \$100,000, for the manufacture of membranoid. The article and its nature are alike new. It is a fancy leather made from tripe—nothing else than tanned tripe, in fact. It is said to be very pretty and durable.

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PENSIONS!

ACT OF JUNE 27, 1890.—Pensions soldiers and sailors of the war of the rebellion who served 90 days and were honorably discharged from the service, and who are incapacitated for performance of manual labor, and for the widows, children, dependent parents, fathers and mothers. All pensions under this Act will commence from the date of filing the formal application (after the passage of the Act) in the Pension Bureau. No application for pension under this act will be good unless filed in the Pension Bureau on or after June 27, 1890, (date of the Act) or if not in the form, substantially, prescribed by the Secretary. The rates: For dependent father or mother, \$12; the widow, \$8 and \$2 additional for each child of soldier under sixteen years; and if the widow dies, the child or children can draw such pension. The soldier is entitled to any rate from \$5 to \$12 per month, according to inability to earn a support. A pensioner under existing laws may apply under this one, or a pensioner under this one may apply under other laws, but can draw only one pension at the same time. This law requires in a soldier's or sailor's case:

- (1) An honorable discharge. (2) That he served at least ninety days. (3) A permanent physical or mental inability to earn a support, but not due to vicious habits. (It need not have originated in the service.) (4) That the sailor or soldier served at least ninety days. (5) That he was honorably discharged. (6) Proof of death, but it need not have been the results of his Army or Naval service. (7) That the widow is "without other means of support than her daily labor." (8) That she married soldier prior to June 27, 1890, the date of the Act. (9) That the soldier or sailor died of a wound, injury or disease, which, under prior law, would have given him a pension. (10) That he left no wife or minor child. (11) That the mother or father is at present dependent on her or his own manual labor, being "without other present means of support than their own manual labor, or the contributions of others not legally bound for their support." The benefits of the first section of the Act of June 27, 1890, are not confined to all parents whose pensionable dependence has arisen on account of the death of a son who served, since said war, in behalf of the United States, as well as for disabilities contracted before or since discharged. (12) That in case a minor child is insane, idiotic or otherwise permanently helpless, the pension shall continue during the period of such disability, and this proviso shall apply to all pensions heretofore granted, or hereafter to be granted, under this or any former statute, and such pensions shall commence from the date of application thereafter after passage of this Act.

The rules and regulations of the Department will govern all applicants an attorneys.

Under Act of June 27, 1890, pensions are granted to Soldiers and Sailors disabled from old age, infirmity, etc.

NOTICE.—Dr. W. R. Lastrapa, having recently been appointed U. S. Examining Surgeon for Pensions at Opelousas, La., it is now of special interest for Claimants of Pensions to come to me and make out their applications, to the new Orleans for medical examination, at which place they have heretofore been directed to go.

HART H. SANDOZ, U. S. Pension Claim Agent, Office with Hon. John N. O'Leary, Opelousas, La.