

understand the proper hanging of pictures, and unless they have a lot of money and can employ a professional picture-hanger they attempt to do it themselves, and nine cases out of ten make a botch of the job. So it is to those people of moderate means that I address myself. Many of them know a good picture when they see it, and during their wanderings pick them up, and when they are properly hung have a collection that shows well.

There are now two other women engaged in this work in New York, and I am told they both make good incomes.

Women Farmers.

Miss Knoke tells about "The Lady Warwick School for Women Farmers." "In this rural spot, on the outskirts of Reading, only a few miles from London, the beautiful and accomplished Countess of Warwick is sponsoring a most original scheme whereby English girls may be coached in agriculture. There are agricultural colleges to be sure, wherein limited instruction is given the wrongly named weaker sex; but in this singularly interesting school in England exclusively for women is one in England, if not in the world—a thorough postico-practical course, if it may be so called, from the raising of cabbages and chrysanthemums to the building of a pig-sty and the making of a haycock. These sturdy daughters of Ceres, in other words, are fitted to run a farm.

"This unique school was opened in October, 1898. The minimum period of training is two years, and at the end of that time a certificate is awarded. The theoretical part of the course is systematically pursued in the agricultural department of the adjacent farm. Many of the lectures occur in the winter, with rigid examinations at the end of each term, while the practical demonstration is done at the home by the girls. A horticultural instructor, who comes three times a week. A registry department has been opened. Some of the students have already secured good positions, while others have started independently. In the meantime the students are gaining a snug income by the sale of their produce.

"These girls students are receiving more than a strictly agricultural education. Many of them are taking up the social and athletic side; it is not to be overlooked. Though some of the students are up with the lark—and at Warwick Hostel the lark is scheduled to start at precisely 6 o'clock—others are up in the field, there are hours during the day and evening set aside for recreation. Lively contests in boating, tennis and hockey are receiving more and more attention. In the competitive standpoint of the world may be acknowledged when it is said these fair farmers do not enter into the big agricultural exhibitions, but are carrying off a string of prizes, moreover."

A Welsh Rarebit.

First of all have a large dish (a pretty salad-bowl looks well) with the wooden salad-spoon fitted with cheese cut into squares the size of hickory-nuts. Now, fresh cheese melts better than any other, although it is really wise to try your cheese, because nothing so deceptive when it comes to making Welsh rarebits. Have also a good-sized bottle of wood-alcohol, one half pint of milk, or beer, if preferred, one half teaspoonful of mustard to each half dozen plates, toast of medium thickness and delicately browned and the crust removed—all this previously prepared and on hand, as there must be no running about after forgotten articles, the closest attention being given to the cooking rarebit, or a dire failure will be the result and the evening practically spoiled.

When the pan is moderately warm put in a piece of butter the size of a walnut; when this is melted add the cheese—two pounds to six people—and then the mustard; allow this to melt slowly, moidling with a spoon, but not stirring; when nearly melted put in the liquid, stirring very slowly and carefully and smoothly, usually one half pint is enough, sometimes a little too much. By putting in the liquid slowly and not cooking too rapidly this is easily determined. The fire must be placed on the pieces of toast, and over this pour enough cheese to cover it nicely. The hostess must have a careful eye and work rapidly, keeping the rarebit as close to the fire as possible during the pouring process, adding a little liquid and stirring again if it becomes unmanageable. Your guests will be immediately eating their bit, and not standing on the ceremony of waiting for the rest to be served, thereby ruining your efforts to give them a Salloway in the effort to be polite.

Society Reporters.

Helen Grace Le Grande descants as follows in a recent issue of the Fourth Estate upon the duties of society reporters:

"As a general rule, society reporters are paid the least of any reporters on a newspaper, and their work is perhaps, in some respects, the hardest and the society department produces better results than any other department on a newspaper. The ordinary reporter is assigned to write up actual occurrences, and his imagination is taxed like that of the society reporter. An ordinary reporter is expected to boil his news down. The society reporter, who is forced to draw largely on his imagination, is expected to enlarge, and newspaper proprietors who aim to make their papers great home papers allow him to enlarge on the various functions of the society editor whose imagination is the best, who has the best command of adjectives, is the most valued, and it is a noteworthy fact that every woman regards her party as 'the outfit of the season,' just as every mother believes her baby the sweetest and dearest on earth.

As a matter of fact, there is very little difference in tone, the diction and reception. Practically the only difference lies in the amount of decorations or the richness and elegance of the toilets. However, the successful society reporter is expected to describe in many tears, receptions, luncheons, etc., given by society favorites as to impress Mrs. A. with the belief that her party was really the prettiest, while in the account of Mrs. B.'s party he is perfectly satisfied that there has been none given exceeding hers in beauty.

For that reason the society editor has to be a greater or less extent an inventor. He has to invent descriptions to satisfy each and every woman that entertains.

As a general rule, society reporters are women, yet it is said that possibly the best society reporter in Ohio and one of the best in the country is a man employed on one of the Columbus papers. But he is a rare instance, as generally the society work is regarded as work for a woman.

If society reporters were paid in proportion to their work, in proportion to the amount of success that department contributes to the newspaper, they would be among the best paid reporters on a newspaper instead of the lowest paid.

FISHING FOR SPONGES.

Protection is Needed for the Industry in the Waters of Florida.

One of the country's most interesting industries is that of sponge fishing, which is carried on in the waters surrounding the Florida keys. The fishing grounds form three separate stretches along the south and west coasts of the peninsula, including nearly all the reefs, the total area being between 2,000 and 3,000 square miles. Key West is the center of the industry and New York city the receiving and distributing point for the product. About 200 small boats and several schooners, manned by between 700 and 800 spongers, are regularly engaged in the industry.

The annual crop of sponges is between 5,000 and 6,000 bales, which is nothing to what the fishing grounds should yield. The small harvest is caused chiefly by the ignorance and impatience of a majority of the fishermen, who will not give the "baby sponges" sufficient time to mature and multiply. Since there is no law prohibiting the taking of sponges under a certain size, the present wholesale destruction, which has been going on for years, threatens the American sponge with extermination.

The United States fish commission is alive to the fate which threatens the industry, and will send a vessel down soon to the Florida sponge grounds to make a survey of their extent, from an estimate of the sponge supply, and devise means for its protection. Many experiments have been made in order to ascertain how the sponge may be cultured artificially, but none has proved very successful, as the fishermen infest every region in which sponges are likely to grow. Some experiments were recently made at Key West. About 1,000 sponges were cut for seed and planted in shallow waters.

The "seed" or cuttings were fastened to the bottom by wires or long thin sticks, and also skewered or pinned to rods of wood. It has been found by this method that the seeds planted in coves do not produce such large sponges as those planted in tideways. The principal drawback to this artificial cultivation, aside from the devastations of the fishermen, is that it takes from three to seven years for a sponge to mature and reach a marketable size.

The estimated value of Florida's annual crop of sponges is about \$50,000, and the quality of the product ranks next to that of the West Indies, the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. The real Turkish sponges are found only in the beds of the Mediterranean, and quickly sell for as high a price as \$50 and even \$70 a pound. Next to these in quality is our own sheepswool sponge, so named because of its softness and firmness of texture. They sell from \$1 to \$3 a pound, and are preferred by many persons for toilet use to the Turkish sponge.

The average weight of a sponge when placed on the market is from one ounce to one pound. Only the small sizes are used in the household. Besides the sheepswool, there are also found in our waters the velvet, grass, yellow and glove sponges. The velvet are next in value to the sheepswool. They were very scarce a few years ago and now are almost extinct. The lowest grade of

our sponges are the grass and glove, which can be bought for as low as five cents a pound.

Diving is not necessary in Florida waters. The sponges are allowed to grow on the bottom, and are brought up by three-pronged hooks fastened to the ends of wooden poles forty or fifty feet long, which are manipulated from the sides of small row boats. The fishermen have a fleet of small schooners with commodious decks and holds for carrying the hauls ashore.

Each schooner is manned by a crew of ten or more men, including a cook, and carries one or two small boats. The fishing boats are miles from any habitation and the fleet is often away from port for eight or nine weeks at a stretch, thus the fishermen must be provided with food and a place on board in which to sleep.

At sunrise every morning the dinghys are lowered from the decks, and are each manned by two men, known as the "skuller" and "hooker." They take their dinner with them and remain out until sundown. A "sponge glass," made of tin, in the shape of a cone, about three feet long, with a round or square piece of glass at the bottom or wide end, is necessary to enable the sponger to see the bottom clearly. This instrument is fastened to the shoulders of the "hooker," whose head is pressed close against it, and the glass end is dipped deep into the water over the bow of the boat, the hooker resting on his knees, and adjusting the instrument with his left hand while he manipulates his hook with his right. This marine telescope is frequently made from an ordinary water bucket or wooden box fitted with a flat mirror at the bottom. Sponges may be seen with comparative plainness at a depth of forty feet through one of these home-made glasses. In rough weather the hooker frequently is pinned led over the surface of the water, a very small quantity being sufficient. Shark's oil is generally used, those fishes being numerous along the coast.

As soon as a dinghy has been filled with sponges the skuller signals to the schooner by placing an oar upright, and the vessel sails alongside the dinghy, and the sponges are placed on the schooner's deck to be stowed in a tank which is the vital substance, or sap, of the sponge, has drained off into the sea after which they are consigned to the hold.

When the schooner returns to her dock she is quickly unloaded of her cargo of dead sponges, which are then taken to pens made of stakes driven in shallow water, situated in isolated places. The sponges are then left in the pens to soak for one week, and are taken out, squeezed, and beaten with clubs, and thoroughly washed to remove all the slime and foreign matter in which they have been imbedded, then strung in large bunches to pieces of rope about six feet long and removed to the packing houses to be bleached in a solution of lime and salt water and afterwards thoroughly dried. If too much lime is used in the bleaching process the sponges become so frail as to be practically useless.

But the sponge market is not without its tricks upon purchasers, and before being placed on the market the packers often add lime to the bunches, so that they will fit the scales a pound or two more than their real weight.—New York Sun.

trust's president, Mr. Schwab, in testifying before the industrial commission, said that the steel trust was supposed to have been in the hands of his friends, made the admission that the \$304,000,000 of bonds of the steel trust represented the "tangible assets" of the trust.

That would make a nice kind of testimony just at this time. Would public opinion take long to form as to which party to the struggle had the most justice on its side? It would not bother with the cloud of dust which the trust managers are now kicking up to cover and confuse. Public judgments are never based upon fine distinctions or technicalities. When passions are not roused, and it can take a matter into calm consideration it cuts straight to the heart of the matter by asking: "What is just?"—Henry George in Philadelphia North American.

philosophers since Franklin sent up his historic kite. The net result of more than a century of attempts to secure protection has been the lightning rod in its more or less inefficient forms, and the discovery that buildings of modern construction, having metallic roofs and often metallic frames as well, are practically immune from attack by lightning. The total number of deaths due to lightning in any given summer is comparatively very small—in the ratio of about one to each 200,000 population in the United States.

In cities the destructive influence of lightning is exceedingly small, although occasional fires are caused by it, especially where gaspipes abound. Protection of electric circuits from lightning has been an interesting subject for research for a number of years, and several highly efficient devices have been constructed for this purpose. Today lightning is little feared by the station superintendent, and should be very little feared by any one. The time honored rule is to seek the shelter of trees in the open and not seek the shelter of trees in the open which common procedure dictates. Recourse to the feather bed of our ancestors, however, is no longer necessary, except to quiet the nerves of timorous persons, while the ancient superstitions regarding handling steel instruments and sitting in draughts may be utterly disregarded. A modern building in a city is nearly completely protected from lightning as is possible.—Electrical Review.

Thousands Sent Into Exile. Every year a large number of poor sufferers whose lungs are sore, racked with coughs and urged to go to another climate. But this is costly and not always sure. Don't be an exile. Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption will cure you at home. It's the most infallible medicine for Coughs, Colds, and all Throat and Lung diseases on earth. The first dose brings relief, and it is the wisest to keep persistent use. Trial bottles free at Dr. C. M. I. Drug Dept. Price 50c and \$1.00. Every bottle guaranteed.

THE NICKEL PLATE ROAD will sell tickets each Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday during October to Buffalo Pan-American Exposition and return, at \$4.00, good in coaches; return limit, 15 days from date of sale. Tickets with longer limit at slightly increased rates. Three through daily trains. Chicago Passenger Station Van Buren St. and Pacific Ave. City Ticket Office, 111 Adams St., Chicago.

Without doubt lightning was the first electrical phenomenon that was ever observed by human beings. To this day it remains the least known and least understood of natural electrical manifestations, except, perhaps, the aurora.

There is a vast deal of popular misconception concerning the danger of lightning and the nature of it. The lightning flash is a discharge from a cloud at a high potential with reference to the earth.

When the atmosphere is charged with water vapor, and some eddy or current in its colder upper strata is deflected downward, causing condensation, and exceedingly minute drops of water are formed, each bearing an electrical charge. The consolidation of these into larger drops results in a very great increment of the potential of the charge, since the capacity of the drop varies with its diameter and the volume of the drop with the cube of the diameter. The discharge takes on an oscillating character, producing violent surging of current. No very accurate measurements have been made upon the current involved, but it is taken to be of the order of 1,000 to 5,000 amperes.

The electro-motive force necessary to cause a flash a mile long is possibly several million volts, and, of course, the power of the flash measured in watts is very great, but its duration is correspondingly short.

Protection of property and life from lightning flashes has been a subject that has attracted the attention of natural

philosophers since Franklin sent up his historic kite. The net result of more than a century of attempts to secure protection has been the lightning rod in its more or less inefficient forms, and the discovery that buildings of modern construction, having metallic roofs and often metallic frames as well, are practically immune from attack by lightning. The total number of deaths due to lightning in any given summer is comparatively very small—in the ratio of about one to each 200,000 population in the United States.

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WALKER'S STORE.

A Remarkable Underpricing

Of Silks and Dress Goods.

Commencing with Monday, and continuing the week we institute the series of sales told of here as a means toward solving a very difficult problem for the Store—that of inducing patrons to shop early in the day. All morning long, particularly in the Dress Goods part, salesmen stand about with little or nothing to do, then, afterwards, from 3 o'clock until closing time, comes an overwhelming rush; making confusion for us and an imperfect service to you. With the hope, then, of illustrating the comfort there is in early purchasing and that the impression may be a lasting one—these remarkable price concessions every day next week from 9:30 a. m. until 2:30 p. m. After this time all offerings revert to regular prices. Interesting reading in every line that follows:



Table with 4 columns: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Lists various clothing items and their prices, such as Black Taffeta Silks, Handsome Waistings, Golfings, Challis, Silk Satins, Rich Dress Fabrics.

A Clearance Sale of Short Pieces of Rich Trimmings.

Table listing various trimmings and their prices, including silk appliques, ribbons, and lace.

A Bargain Buy of Linen Pieces Lunch Cloths, Table Covers, Doylies.

Table listing various linen pieces and their prices, including lunch cloths, table covers, and doilies.

\$1.75 and \$2.00 Women's Silk Umbrellas, \$1.19.

In all the umbrella bargain sales ever given here—and the Walker store has had many that you and others remember favorably—there was none to exceed this. The umbrellas are made of fine florid silk of most excellent quality, black only, with tight roll, steel rod, 26-inch frame, tassel; natural wood, horn, pearl and silver handles. Umbrellas no better than these are right on our shelves to sell at \$1.75 and \$2.00, choose Monday and while they last at \$1.19.

A Good Opportunity in Upholstery Stuffs.

There's an accumulation of short lengths here to be gotten rid of quickly, and anybody with old furniture to make new or in need of a piece of drapery should rejoice at this occasion. Three up to twelve yards in each piece—upholstery goods and draperies in reps, tapestries, damasks, derby and other kinds, that sold at \$2.00 up to \$3.00 at regular prices, now for two days, Monday and Tuesday any at \$1.50.

Artistic Pottery, Mirrors, Trushes.

Table listing various pottery and mirror items and their prices.

The "Doris" \$3.50 Shoes for Women.

First in list of excellencies for "Doris" is that it is made of honest leathers, and then it is shaped to give absolute comfort to the wearer and is made in every new style of last from the mannish street sort to the arch heel for elegant dress. The quality equals \$4.00 and \$4.50 shoes \$3.50.

85c French Flannels, 71c.

A superb line of fancy woven stripe French flannels are these offered for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. All the colors cannot be given but there are reds, blues, greens, rose, pink, etc., and have been selling until now at 85c a yard; a recent purchase, though of some more at a little lower price brings all down, so instead of 85c a yard \$71c.

Women's \$1.25 Capeskin Gloves, 95c.

These gloves are very much affected in eastern cities for street wear. They are made of heavy English capeskin, with one clasp; tans and reds only, left, so instead of \$1.25 a pair, 95c.

Up to \$8.50 Silk Waists, \$2.95.

Slightly soiled, but you can, no doubt restore them to their early perfection. Made of beau de sois and taffeta silks—white, pink, blue, red, old rose and some others, lace trimmed, others have tucks or plaits. Originally they sold at \$5.75 up to \$8.50 each. Now while here \$2.95.

Cut Glass Vinaigrettes, Jars, Ink Wells.

Glass jars for cold cream that were 15c each \$8c. Tooth powder jars and ink wells reduced from 25c each to 15c each to 10c each.

\$10 and \$12 Silk Petticoats, \$8.75.

Only colors, no black—otherwise they'd not be looked upon as a broken line, and so remain at regular prices. Red, lavender, purple, blue, pink and all rose, graduated accordion ruffles, or with two and three small ruffles, all have under dust ruffles. Should sell for \$10 and \$12.50, reduced to \$8.75.