

BAD SERVICE IN AMERICA.

We Are the Only People Who Willingly Pay for Poor Help.

The Americans are the only people in the world who pay well for bad cooking and detestable service, grudgingly given, glad in most instances (if rural housekeepers) to "get a girl," no matter how inefficient and disqualified she may be, for the work of the house. She must be fed, clothed and respected and her wages paid, writes Mrs. Sherman in the North American Review. She may break crockery to any extent, often to that of thousands of dollars; she may throw away sugar and flour and meat and potatoes by bad cooking; she may be insolent to her mistress, taking her own time for going out day or evening; and she may badly wash the flannels and scorch the gentlemen's shirts; the mistress must put up with it, else the precious creature will leave and the lady must do her own work; or as a dressmaker who had badly cut some gowns for an employer remarked, putting the fragments in at the door: "Here, finish your gowns yourself." This is not good political economy. The servant should be taught moral obligation. We must remember that there is no tyranny in a republic; there can be none but the tyranny of the masses. And as the welfare of the millions is bound up in this question, as the comfort and prosperity of our great estate must depend upon the industrial ability and honesty of those who serve us for wages, it follows that the first thing to teach a servant is a sense of moral obligation. When we take into consideration the early history of those who come to us as domestic servants, the marvel turns out to be not that they are so deficient, but that they are not more so. Look at the poorer classes in the streets of Glasgow, for instance. We need not cross to the adjacent kingdom. We know all about "the pig and the praties," and really from Big-and-Fratie-dom come some of the best of our nurses and maids. No one who has kept house a number of years but has a sprinkling of delicious and refreshing gratitude, in her reminiscence, over some dear and faithful Biddy. Their faults are those of ignorance and that double brain which is always tripping itself up (the cause of the Irish bull), the impossibility of a clear comprehension of the straight road, blinking and being blinded by their own wit, and their aimless, inaccurate absence of logic. How much could be done by giving these Norahs the healthy and bracing influence of honest puritan training in a New England town! We all know what it has done for some of them—made them perfect servants.

FEET AND HANDS TIED.

An English Swimmer Who is Now Performing in London.

Those who have experienced some difficulty in learning how to swim, chiefly through lack of confidence in the buoyant power of water, will feel somewhat relieved when they look at this picture. It represents W. Sully, of London, who attempts the apparently hazardous undertaking of diving with his arms and legs tied. The



FEET AND HANDS TIED.

ordinary swimmer finds it a sufficiently difficult matter to keep himself afloat with the unhampered use of all his limbs. Mr. Sully, according to the New York World, not only keeps himself afloat, but dives and performs various evolutions by merely wriggling his body about. These are performed nightly, and Mr. Sully is still enjoying vigorous health. With the free use of his arms and legs he can do a variety of things.

IN ARCTIC REGIONS.

A Famous Hunting Place for Polar Whales, and Its Dangers.

From the northern part of Hudson bay, already arctic in character, stretches far towards the pole a deep inlet, which some early navigator of those desolate polar shores has termed Roe's Welcome—as if anything within that ice-bound and lonely coast could be welcome to a person just from civilization! The name, no doubt, was given in memory of some escape from the drifting ice packs, when the inlet furnished refuge from one of the fierce storms of that polar region.

Roe's Welcome is a famous hunting place for the great polar whale, or "bowhead," as the sailors call it, says St. Nicholas. This huge whale, which is not of immense in size, often makes his home among the great ice packs and ice fields of the polar seas, and a goodly quantity of these fish finds in Roe's Welcome. But these ice packs, swimming in and by with the tides, cut across and divide in such a narrow inlet as this, that the navigation is dangerous, not only to the whale, but to the men who are generally making their fishing grounds off the lower mouth of the river.

When some exceptionally good ice-master is in charge of a whaler, he dashes into the better fishing grounds for a short cruise; another, less skillful, lured by brighter prospects or discouraged by a poor catch outside, enters the inlet and either reaps a rich harvest of oil and bone or wrecks his vessel. Or he may escape after an imprisonment in a nip of the merciless ice fetters for a year or two longer than he intended to stay.

Such was the fate of the good ship Gladiator, from a well-known whaling port in Southeastern Massachusetts. She sailed to the northernmost end of the "Welcome," as the sailors called it, and after a most profitable catch of "bowheads," had the ill fortune to remain firmly bound in the ice for two years. During this long time, much longer than that for which the vessel had provisioned, the crew were dependent on the many Eskimos who clustered around the ship. The natives supplied them with ample quantities of reindeer, musk ox, seal, and walrus meat, in return for small quantities of molasses and coffee. Their companionship, too, rude as it was, did much to while away the dreary, lonely hours of the two years' imprisonment.

NOSE ARMOR IN FOOTBALL.

A Curious Mask Which Was Invented for the Use of a Hartford Man.

One of the most serious drawbacks to football is the liability of players to receive broken noses. During the fierce collisions of opposing rush lines noses are apt to come in contact with heads or shoulders, and, the New York Sun says, the result is invariably disastrous to the nose. Valuable players who are all right in other respects, are unable to play because of an injured nose. This fact has led to an invention which makes it possible for a player with a broken nose to continue in the game. Cranston, the great center rush of Harvard, had a weak nose and declined to play on that account. Arthur Cummock, captain of the team, was very desirous of having the assistance of Cranston, and set his wit to work, with the result that he got up a nose mask, which enabled Cranston to play without danger to his nasal appendage. The mask has since been improved upon. It is made of fine rubber, will not injure opposing players and affords protection to both nose and teeth.



A NOSE MASK.

Salt as a Preventive of Small-Pox.

"I've a cheap and safe remedy for small-pox," said the doctor-miner. "My father was a physician before me, and he used it successfully. It's sure, too, in cholera and yellow-fever. Now guess it, gentlemen. It's a simple article—one you've all used from childhood. No, you can't! Well, sirs, it's salt—common, plain, everyday salt. Salt, you know, preserves, prevents putrefaction. The diseases we most fear, according to eminent medical authorities, are due to putrefaction in our system. Here's where the salt works like a charm. Now, don't smile, but try it. If you take two teaspoonfuls of salt in a glass of water, say, three times a day you'll not have to be vaccinated during a small-pox epidemic, shunned during a cholera scare, or nursed during a yellow-fever plague. Put a little vinegar in the glass to make the dose palatable and keep it up a week or so. Salt is a preserver of life, gentlemen, and if you are ever in a position to test its efficacy you'll remember this trip and conversation." The doubters in the smoker looked skeptical, but the earnestness of the medical mineralogist gave weight to his remarkably simple remedy.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

A Mean Man.

Gigsley has often been told that he was the meanest man in the world. In fact, he has a red-headed sister and couldn't well escape being told so, but many of his friends doubted until he was married. They all believe it now. Mrs. Gigsley is one of the dearest, loveliest, most innocent, trusting, affectionate creatures that ever longed for a strong, manly bosom to rest upon. They were married two weeks ago, and, as Gigsley doesn't believe in wedding tours, they began housekeeping immediately out on the avenue. The second day of their wedded bliss had passed, and Gigsley had just finished the supper, which Mrs. G. had spent all the long, torrid afternoon in preparing, when he took his hat and cane, kissed the little woman tenderly, and started out for the door. "Why, Charles, you aren't going out, are you?" said the sweet creature, with a tremor in her voice. "Whir—yes," was the rather unconcerned reply. "And leave me all alone?" A suspicious moisture of the eyes accompanied this appeal. "Oh, I won't be gone long," he answered reassuringly. "I'm just going down town to get something to eat."

Lucky Friday.

The notion that Friday is an unlucky day is the worst nonsense that ever entered the human head. In Chicago there are half a dozen families of Fridays, who have as good luck as any other people, and in early American history the day was peculiarly lucky. Columbus sailed on Friday, Aug. 21. On Friday, Oct. 12, he discovered land; on Friday, Jan. 4, he discovered home in Spain; on Friday, March 22, he reached Italy. In 1492 he discovered the Spaniards on his second voyage on Friday, Nov. 22, and on Friday he discovered the continent. Any other day's sailing

THEIR LANGUAGE IS A LEGACY.

The Conquerors Have Gone, but Their Tongue Is the Only One Spoken.

There is an instance in Africa of a people who subjugated a large region and after years of supremacy were themselves expelled from the country, but left their language the universal medium of speech as a reminiscence of their occupancy, says an exchange. These people are the Makololo tribe, who, forty-eight years ago, under their warlike chief, Sebotoane, left their homes among the mountains of Basutoland, crossed the wide desert of Kalahari, an enterprise involving incredible hardships, and finally settled along the upper Zambesi and its tributaries. Their emigration proved the capacity of the savage African to leave his native land and make a new home for himself in a far-distant region.

Livingstone has described this fierce chief, Sebotoane, who conquered all the tribes around him, made himself master of the large empire of the Barutse, and so came to rule a region as large as some of the European states. It was in 1845 that Livingstone saw him. The empire of the Makololos lasted until 1864, when, on account of the cruelty of Sekeleto, the son of the old king, who had died five years before, a general revolt occurred, and the Makololos were driven from the country by the natives, who were far more numerous than the intruding people. There is to-day not a single Makololo in that region, but, strange to say, during the twenty years of the domination of this tribe their language, a little corrupt, became the language of all that immense territory. Thus it happens that a language of South Africa is now spoken in the upper Zambesi by many thousands of people who are quite distinct from the tribe that imposed the language upon them. The natives have, in fact, almost forgotten their original languages, though they have introduced into their new speech quite a large number of the words which formed part of the vocabulary of their forefathers. So the Makololos, no longer living in the country, have left profound traces of their former occupancy.

GERMAN VILLAGES.

Farm Houses Framed in the Fatherland Erected in Jackson Park.

The German village at the World's Fair grounds represents the architecture of the present and of medieval times. One of these buildings, representing a Westphalian farmhouse, framed in Germany, has just been erected and has received its thatched roof of Indiana rye straw. It is one of those large, commodious country places designed to accommodate the whole family and most of the live stock, including uncanned Westphalia hams. Its great, sharp roof, covered with straw to a depth of twelve inches and then smoothly sheared to the eaves, presents a picturesque feature of the grounds. It will be finished after the old-country style and will be used as quarters for German soldiery during the Fair. Three other representative German



HOUSE IN GERMAN VILLAGE.

farmhouses will cluster about this one, and just over the way an "original Vienna bakery" and cafe will do business to the taste of the villagers.

Both Sides of the Story.

Two young girls sat on the porch of a seaside hotel, in which they had been guests all summer; near them was a gentleman who had just arrived.

"There," said Miss Blank. "There go those lovers off for a stroll. It is said they are actually engaged! So absurd! Both middle-aged; he is a pompous fool, and she is pockmarked. What can they see in each other?" "They have been lovers since they were children," gently answered Miss Case. "But she has devoted her life to nursing her mother, who has been ill for years with an incurable disease. Now her mother is dead and they will soon be married."

Presently: "Do look at those Wright sisters!" cried Miss Blank. "I'm sick of the sight of them. The elder sails along with that slow, majestic grace, as if they were of royal birth, and the ugly little one trots after her—never leaves her a minute. It's a wonder it never occurs to her she may be in the way when a pretty girl is talking to a gentleman."

"Her sister does not think her in the way," quietly said Miss Case. "The reason she walks and moves slowly is because she is subject to terrible attacks which are brought on by rapid motion. Her sister never leaves her because if she were not there to apply the remedies, the poor girl would die. There never was a more unselfish sacrifice of one life to another," she added warmly.

Her companion was silent, but she was a few minutes.

women get to be as old and ugly and uninteresting as that they ought to be kept out of sight of their friends." Miss Case hesitated a moment.

"Do you know that Miss Brown engaged two rooms for the whole season, and has kept them filled with poor teachers and widows, and mothers with sick babies, not one of whom would have been able to leave home but for her? She has given them happiness and health, and perhaps new life. I heard this from one of them—not from herself," she added quickly.

And so on, and on, one seeing the shadow in each character, the other the bright side.

The newcomer keenly inspected the faces of the two girls, as they rose and passed him. Both were young and pretty. But one was already filled with discontent, and with mean, vulgar thoughts, while the other turned on life eyes full of serene and joyful calm. Whatever their future lot, one will find only disappointment in the world; but to the other it will always be, as Charles Kingsley says, "full of sweet and noble souls."

"Newspaper English."

Here are a few of the words which are misused by the careless writer. Apt for liable or likely; caption for heading; captivated for charmed; commence for begin; considerable for large or great. "He felt considerable interest in the work." Convene, to come together, for convoke, to call together. Crime, vice and sin are synonyms. Crime is a violation of a statute law of a particular country. Sin is a violation of a religious law. Vice is a moral wrong, not dependent upon the country or creed of the person. What is criminal may not be sinful or vicious. Divine for clergyman or priest; dock for wharf or pier; evacuate, which means to make empty, for to go away; every for all. "He deserved every praise." Expect. We can expect that which is to come, not what has happened. Fructify for to bear fruit; gratuitous means "without payment;" inaugurate for beginning or opening; introduce—in using this word observe the general rule that the man is introduced to the woman unless the man is of extreme age; jewelry for jewels; learn for teach. "You can learn, but I must teach you." Leave for let; loan, as a verb, to lend is the verb; locate for to settle or to place; marry—the woman is always married to the man; partially for partly; posted for well informed; quite a number—or a number of—is meaningless; since and ago—"Reckoning time toward the present, we use since, 'It is a year since it happened;' reckoning time from the present, use ago, 'It is a year ago;' transpire for to occur or to take place; vicinity should always be preceded by its; won't for will not.

Japanese Fans.

Only one cent for a fan! Yet it is strongly made of twenty-five strips of bamboo, with two thicker ones at the ends, the latter having on them a polish of black lacquer. The strips are held together by a rivet, forming a hinge, on which the fan opens and closes. The upper ends of the strips are covered with two layers of tough paper, painted in four colors representing flowers, the top edge touched with another color. How can such an article, brought from Japan to this country, be sold at so low a price with profit? In the first place, bamboo grows plentifully in Japan; it is easily split by a hand-and-foot machine, and hundred of thousands strips can be made in a day. The Japanese excel in the making of strong or tough paper, and in painting rapidly by a stamping process, the flowers upon it. The putting together of the fan is done by machinery, and the cost of the labor is almost nothing when compared with the pay of American workmen. The cheap fans are used as packing for more expensive goods, as porcelain jars, and as they pack closely, a large number can go inside and around one umbrella stand, so there is no cost for the freight of the fans. Although there is thirty-five per cent. duty on both the porcelain and packing, the invoice price of the latter is so small that the duty amounts to little. The fan packing is then sold here in job lots, and the peddlers get them for a mere nothing. That is why they can sell them so cheaply. Even at one cent, the realized price is much higher than the Japanese charge for them in large quantities.

Horseshoes of Aluminum.

The Russian military authorities have been experimenting with aluminum as a material for horseshoes and with results which show it to be most valuable for the purpose, says an exchange. One aluminum shoe and three iron shoes were put on each of several cavalry horses. After six weeks of hard use of the horses over stony ground it was found that the aluminum shoes were less worn and had preserved the hoofs better than the iron. None of the aluminum shoes were broken and they were used again for reshoeing. Aluminum shoes cost more than iron, but they wear much better and are far more easily forged and set. With the new-fangled shoe and the rubber tire sulky the horse will soon be wondering whether he is on his heels or his head.—New Orleans Picayune.

chaff.

The chaff of grain is Nature's way of protecting seed between the time it falls to the ground and that for it to grow again. Now that grain is stored in barns or stacks the chaff is usually less necessary. It is often noted in harvesting damp grain that the stack may be almost ruined when the damp wind rouses the chaff and the grain will rot and will not

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