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A WARNING AGAINST MESMERISM.

Disastrous Results from the Experiments of Amateurs—Risky Business. It has become a great fad in family circles to experiment in the art of mesmerism...

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When a planet is perturbed some other heavenly body is surely pulling it, which explains the eccentricity of the earth's orbit...

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The Yellowstone Journal. Main Street.

THE democratic party are sorely in need of something with which to mobilize the rank and file when it adopts the so-called "wipe" of an inveterate snuff-taker as the rallying flag of the campaign...

AN effort is being made by the democratic press of the county to revive the idea that Blaine is still a candidate sub rosa, and will accept the nomination if tendered to him...

School Hygiene in Australia.

It is an interesting fact, especially in view of certain comparisons nearer home that it suggests, that in Australia the subject of school hygiene has received special attention for some years in the state or public schools...

In the state schools of Victoria, now for a number of years, a system of object lessons has been given, with a view to imparting elementary instruction bearing upon the health of the people...

Teaching the Crew a Lesson.

On a recent cruise of the United States man of war Michigan a sailor, who is a Chicago man, attempted to throw an exhausted quid of tobacco over the rail into the water...

A FEW STRAY ITEMS.

A new steamer, the Empress, on the Dover-Calais route, is expected to cross the channel in fifty minutes.

A man in Connecticut, who built a fancy barn, stole eight tombstones from a graveyard to build his mangers.

A nugget of ruby ore, weighing 1,000 pounds, and estimated to be worth \$10,000, was taken from a mine near Elko, Cal., a few days ago.

The Chinese government has decided to erect monuments to Gen. Gordon on the scenes of his victories over the Taiping rebels.

In the state of Maine there are 84,000 pounds of ground wood fiber and 183,000 pounds of chemical wood fiber made daily.

A prominent land owner of Elko, Nev., is seeding his ranch to tea. Indian women and children will be employed in gathering the leaves.

The cathedral at Ulm, which is large enough to take in 28,000 persons, will be completed in 1889. It was begun in 1377 as a Roman church, but has been Protestant since the reformation.

A Swiss Engineer's Scheme.

A Swiss engineer named Richter wants the city of Paris to adopt his plan for obtaining an inexhaustible supply of water from the lake of Neuchâtel, Switzerland, 312 miles away.

This pavement or road was undoubtedly built thousands of years ago, as these blocks and indications can be traced for miles along the mountain sides...

To these ancient people also was known a process of tempering brass so it could be converted into tools equal to the best of steel. Numerous specimens of this tempered brass have been found where the city of Mexico now stands...

Bringing the discourse a little nearer home, on the edge of the Carisa plains, but a short distance from the stock ranch of C. R. Drumley, can be seen what is known as the "Painted Rock."

In the western part of this county, at the outlet of the Antelope valley, on the Tulare plains, is what is called the "Point of Rocks." On top of the most prominent of these rocks is a large, beautiful water tank about 7 feet deep and 20 feet long by 12 feet wide...

The Second Hand Book Trade. One of the many peculiarities of the second hand book trade is that the sales are heavier on days of stormy weather. The business men find slow sales on inclement days, and those of a literary turn of mind, or those who have a penchant for collecting books on any special subject, will drop into a second hand book store and while away several hours in looking over the stock...

Electrical Detective Camera. The relation of electricity to crime, which began with the invention of burglar alarm devices, has been extended in the shape of an electrical detective camera, invented by two Newark men...

I was called to attend a young lady in North St. Louis, who had fainted in a trance state for three days and could not be restored by ordinary medical treatment. She had been playing at innocent parlor tricks one Sunday evening until the entire company declared they had enough of it. Then a young man proposed to mesmerize one of the young ladies...

When other measures failed, the patients sent after me, and after hearing the facts I decided the body was surcharged with electricity and the girl must be demagnetized. I worked for three hours, and was almost completely exhausted when I began feeling the cold current passing from my fingers through my system. Then I realized the girl was saved, for science had conquered. Imagine what would have happened if the result was failure...

"Cocoon," and Not "Cocoonant."

It may interest readers to know that a recent number of the new quarterly, Annals of Botany, contains a short article by Professor Bayley Balfour upon the correct spelling of this word. He shows that etymology and early authority alike make "cocoon" the correct form for the fruit of the coco palm, and that "cocoonant" is merely a relic of the ignorance of those who supposed cocoon and chocolate to be obtained from the cocoon. This "ignorance, madam, pure ignorance!" was unfortunately shared by Dr. Johnson at the time when he prepared his "Dictionary," and although he afterward learned otherwise, and in his "Life of Drake" correctly wrote cocoon, plural cocoes, this was after the publication of the last edition of the "Dictionary" in his lifetime...

Botanists, however, long continued to use the correct form—some have never ceased to do so—and Professor Balfour now calls upon them to unite in banishing the blundering "cocoonant," and in putting an end to a mischievous confusion between cocco, coccoa and cocca, which are the three entirely distinct vegetable products. For cocco he is able to cite not only Dr. Johnson's own use as opposed to his Dictionary, but the use of the laureate, who in "Enoch Arden" writes: "The slender cocco's drooping crown of flowers."

Dr. Murray is also quoted as writing, "I shall certainly use cocco in the dictionary," and treat cocca as an incorrect form. —Notes and Queries.

Science in the Household.

There is heat enough wasted around an ordinary kitchen range—to say nothing of the furnace—to furnish all the power needed to run the sewing machine, pump water for an elevator, and light the dwelling by electricity. The same waste of heat of the cooking apparatus might be made to cool the house in summer and to dispense with the ice lull.

When nitrate of ammonia, for example, is dissolved in water it absorbs an enormous amount of heat and the principle is readily applied in the construction of refrigerating chambers. Properly elaborated and located these could be so arranged as to keep meats, etc., better than the ordinary ice box, to cool water for drinking more wholesomely than the average ice supply, and to send volumes of cold air down through shafts to registers in the ceilings of rooms so that the heat of summer might be tempered as certainly as the cold of winter. The same supply of the ammonia salt may be used repeatedly by evaporating the water, for which purpose the waste heat above spoken of could be utilized. The possibilities of applied science in the household have not been even nibbled at. —Chicago News.

Didn't Know All His Neighbors.

A distinguished clergyman once asked a gentleman to contribute money for foreign missions, and received the reply: "I don't believe in foreign missions. I won't give anything except to home missions. I want to benefit my neighbors." "Well," responded the doctor, "whom do you regard as your neighbors?" "Why, those around me." "Do you mean those whose hand joins yours?" "Yes." "Well, how much land do you own?" "About 500 acres." "How far down do you own it?" "Why, I never thought of it before, but I suppose I own half way through." "Exactly," was the reply. "I suppose you do, and I want this money for the Chinese, the man whose hand joins yours on the bottom." —Pacific.

Superstitions of the Pueblos.

The Pueblos—commonly called Indians, but really descendants of the ancient Aztecs—have numerous superstitions. The eagle is a sacred bird with them—the winged throne of their emperor god, Montezuma, for whose promised second advent they still patiently wait. In any of the Pueblo cities you will find the great dark eagles, either tethered upon the housetops or penned in little corrals of cedar, and religiously tended. The Pueblo hunter always has marvelous luck, if he carries with him a tiny stone image of a coyote with a tiny arrowhead fastened to its side. Though nominally converted to Catholicism, the Pueblos are still secret but ardent fire worshippers. The snake, too, is sacred to them, and you will find its symbolic coils in their rock sculptures and on their quaint silver jewelry. —New Mexico Cor. Globe-Democrat.

Close Figuring in a Yacht Race.

Of the many schemes which were tried aboard the Volunteer to add a trade to her speed in the international races one comes to public notice now and then. In a conversation the other day about the influence of "windage" on a yacht's speed Gen. Paine dropped a hint which showed how fine things were worked up on the Volunteer. It appears that during the Thistle races all the reef points were taken out of the Volunteer's mainsail to get rid of the resistance which they would cause. Then, to make the surface of the canvas as perfect as possible, the holes where the reef points had been were plugged with soap. —Boston Globe.

Miss Abbott to Young Authors.

Each must work in his own way, and the only drill needed is to keep writing and profit by criticism. Mind grammar, spelling and punctuation, use short words and express as briefly as you can your meaning. Young people use too many adjectives and try to "write fine." The strongest, simplest words are best, and no foreign ones if it can be helped. Write and print if you can; if not, still write and improve as you go on. Read the best books and they will improve your style. See and hear good speakers and wise people, and learn of them. —From a Private Letter to St. Nicholas.

The Empress' Coronation Dress.

The empress of Russia has sent her coronation dress to the national museum. The mantle was literally cloth of gold, for it was a very supple gold tissue, with the heraldic eagle of the Romanoffs applied in black silk. On the heart of the dress was the arms of Moscow, the sacred city; on the wings those of the kingdoms over which the czar reigns and of the duchy of Finland. The train of the dress was also of gold tissue, richly embroidered, and the combined weight of so much metallic thread as was used in the dress and mantle caused great fatigue to the illustrious wearer. —Boston Transcript.

Oil of Peppermint.

Oil of peppermint in vapor diluted even to a part in 100,000 will kill cockroaches in an hour, they dying in convulsions. One drop of the oil placed under a bell jar covering a cultivation of cholera bacilli will kill both bacilli and spores in forty-eight hours. It is also regarded as among the best surgical antiseptics, and of great value in phthisis and diphtheria. —Boston Budget.



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