

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder

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TO ONE WHO GAVE IT.

"Only a woman's hair." There was no name upon the silver packet, and they blame the man who would not have for all to view. The soul of her who trusted him he knew. To whom belonged that curl of softest hair, and thus he wrote, determined to leave there no trace which to the world might ever show who was the woman that loved him so. But all who love have relics; on my heart there rests a locket, and I never part by day or night with one small tress of hair. Yet must I tell the world who placed it there within the locket; call on all to see. My greatest treasure say 'twas given to me by one I love, who loves me not again. And show to curious eyes my love is vain? And must I own to all that when I wake I find my hand close clasped for the sake of one from whom I took that tress of hair which now is mine, say that I breathe a prayer That God will bless and keep you all your life. In sun and shade, in joy and peace and strife? I hold the world has nothing here to do. It shall not come between my soul and you. Like the great ocean, I keep your name apart. You only know what rests upon my heart. —London Academy.

Some Went Fishing After All.

A pretty story is told of a young married couple at one of the hotels. Both were telegraph operators, and both were at one time stationed at keys almost 1,000 miles apart, yet on the same line, in the far west. They began "talking" over the wires. The groom, mistaking his future bride for a man, was allowed by her to believe such was the case. Some of his remarks were for male ears only, but he always got a reply. Finally "one hot day" he called up "X" and said: "What do you say to a trip in the mountains trout fishing? Imagine wading through cool brooks in weather like this."

"I would like to go," came back the reply, "but have no rubber boots."

"Oh, neither have I. That shouldn't worry you. All you have to do is to roll up your trousers and wade in."

For some reason "X" did not reply, and the friendship was broken. On his way to the mountains Bob stopped over at "X's" station. In the telegraph room he found a pretty, blue-eyed girl, about 20. Then he learned all. Two weeks later, as she hid her face on his shoulder, she remarked: "I didn't think you would like a girl who would not roll up—who would not go fishing?" —Washington News.

Fighting Among Amorous Animals.

Among the lower animals sexual selection prompts combats which often end only with the death of the weaker rival. Male black snakes are apt not only to kill, but to swallow a vanquished competitor for the favors of a dusky charmer, and the champion bucks of the oryx antelope use their sharp horns to stab the pretenders who venture to challenge their supremacy. The males of the yellow breasted pine mink have been known to tumble out of a high tree top in the blind fury of their courtship combats. The cocks of the Alpine mountain grouse neither see nor hear in their eagerness to demolish a rival and have thus been actually taken alive, struggling in the very hands of their captor—not to escape, but to finish their work of vengeance. —San Francisco Chronicle.

Why He Did Not Smoke.

"Have a cigar?" said one Wall street broker to another in a down town restaurant the other day.

"Thank you, no. I have quit smoking," was the brisk reply. "I have quit for a year."

"Indeed?" queried the first speaker. "How is that?"

"Well, it stands me in a clean \$1,000, besides what I save by not buying any cigars. The old gentleman offered to give me \$1,000 in cash if I would not smoke for a year, and I took him up. He is dead set against the tobacco habit."

"What are you going to do at the end of the year?"

"Oh? Well, I don't know, but I can strike dead for \$2,000 for another year's abstinence." —New York Times.

The Religious Denominations.

In the order of their numerical strength, in rough figures, the great churches of this country stand thus, according to the last census: Roman Catholic, 7,000,000; Methodist, 5,000,000; Baptist, 4,000,000; Presbyterian, 1,300,000; Lutheran, 1,250,000; the rest of the Protestant communions, counted together, about 3,000,000. The Presbyterians comprise less than one-tenth of the total Protestant membership, but the substance of the doctrine of the Westminster confession is the faith of about one-half. —New York Sun.

An Improvement For a New Broom.

A Bangor man has invented a broom that can be adjusted to any angle so that the nocks can be swept without dislocating the operator's back. It should be accompanied, in order to be practical, by an adjustable telescope, for there are many neat housewives who will insist on looking into those crannies to be sure every speck of dirt is removed. —Kennebec Journal.

Cremation and Disease.

In the efforts to prevent the spread of infectious diseases there is no drawback so difficult to overcome as the burial of the dead in the ground. The microbes of disease are very tenacious of life, and they will remain with the dead for a period of 100 years. The microbes may die, but their spores or seeds have the vitality to live, and upon coming into favorable surroundings they will quickly develop. In digging up old burial

places, scarlet fever, typhoid and smallpox have been let loose so that epidemics followed. In Quebec a smallpox epidemic followed the digging up a cemetery where the people had been buried for over 100 years. Similarly in England a scarlet fever epidemic followed the removal of dead bodies from a country parish churchyard.

But occasionally epidemics seem to break out in the neighborhood of cemeteries without any apparent cause. Darwin, however, showed 30 years ago that earthworms completely turned over the soil of every part of the earth in a given time, and now Pasteur comes out with positive proof that the earthworms bring up disease germs and microbes from the bodies buried several feet below the surface. Those who die from infectious diseases are not only menaces to their friends while they are sick, but their dead bodies are constant dangers to the public health. —Yankee Blade.

Familiarity With Snakes.

Familiarity with snakes breeds tolerance. He is a harmless sort of creature certainly, with too many vertebrae and no eyelids, but he is not always so horrible as he is imagined. A snake is either a pleasant thing to handle than otherwise—warm, firm, dry, hard and smooth on the scales, rather like ivory to the touch. He is also a deal heavier than you expect. When for good behavior I have been admitted to Tyrre's inner sanctum at the zoo and to the serpentarium behind the bars, where long casted skins like stockings on a line, I have handled many of his kind. I have never got quite as far as rattlesnakes, because rattlesnakes have a blackguardly, winking look that I don't approve. But there is a Kobler island snake about 5 feet long with no poison who is very pleasant company. —Arthur Morrison in Strand Magazine.

How Lead Pencils Are Made.

Few people are aware of the difficulties that were surmounted in the manufacture of the common lead pencil. In the first place the graphite of which it is made is rarely found sufficiently homogeneous to allow pencil lead to be cut from it, so it is always ground to powder and then pressed into blocks. The great difficulty was to press the blocks until the graphite was hard enough to use, and for many years every effort in this direction was defeated by the crumbly nature of the material. Finally a device was employed that exhausted the air, after which the blocks were again pressed, and when this was done the material was found to be as hard as when taken from the quarry. But thousands upon thousands of dollars were spent in experiments before the result was reached. —St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A Delicate Compliment.

To be able to compliment without seeming to flatter is a rare gift, and probably no race of men are endowed with that gift more extensively than the French.

An example of the Frenchman's rare tact in matters of this sort is shown in that sweet little story of a man who had ventured to compliment a white haired old lady upon her beauty.

"Ah," said she, "I fear you flatter me. You call me pretty? Why, I am an old woman, my hair is white, and see, here is a wrinkle."

"A wrinkle?" he replied. "Never, madame; that is not a wrinkle. It is but a smile that has drifted from its moorings." —Harper's Young People.

Ghosts Are Very Old Too.

It has been the current opinion for centuries that places of burial are haunted especially after nightfall with specters, ghosts and other apparitions. Persons who have investigated this matter declare that the ghost idea was prevalent before Noah built the ark. Even Ovid has put himself on record as believing that spirits occasionally left their sepulchers and wandered about seeking whom they might devour. —St. Louis Republic.

A Compensation.

Ethel—Tommy Prescott's maunna is deaf. That must be awful!

Johnny—Oh, I don't know. I'll bet she never tells him that little boys should be seen and not heard! —Brooklyn Life.

Charles Henry Pearson, an Englishman, has written a book in which he claims to have proved that the great races of the world are losing ground, and that the Chinese, Hindoos and South American half breeds are the coming leaders of civilization.

The great ant bear of the South American forests contrives to intimidate his feline enemies by rearing up to his full length, but by that very trick gives the hunter a chance to take a deadly aim at his heart.

It is remarkable how frequently the games peculiar to different peoples take some form calculated to test severely the hardihood, the powers of endurance and the indifference to pain of the players.

Put a pinch of cayenne on a piece of lemon before you squeeze it over Little Neck or Blue Points and enjoy the combination.

In a store at Athens, Ga., stands an old fashioned clock that was made in Liverpool. It hasn't missed a tick for 40 years.

The Fertilization of Willows.

Some singular exceptions are found to rules generally deemed absolute, and remarkable ones have recently been noted in connection with theories recently established in regard to the relations between flowers and insects. Flowers have to be fertilized by pollen before they can be productive. Most flowers have stamens or pollen bearing organs and pistils, the reproductive organs, in the same flower, but these separate organs maturing at different times the wind or insects are agents for carrying the fertilizing pollen to other flowers than those which bear it. This is known as cross fertilization.

There are only willows which require the aid of insects have color or fragrance. This is said to be an arrangement for attracting insects and insuring cross fertilization by their aid. But the exception comes in the case of willows which are in bloom in early spring and often commonly known as "pussy cats." Though in the class fertilized by the wind, they have bright golden color and a delightful fragrance, and the philosophers are at a loss to understand what this exception means. —Philadelphia Times.

Moses and His Horns.

Did Moses have horns? Certainly not, but if you have ever had the pleasure of examining a copy of Michael Angelo's great picture of "The Lawgiver" you have wondered why the great painter surmounted the patriarchal face, gray beard and becoming priestly gown with a pair of horns much resembling those of a 2-year-old animal of the bovine tribe. The reason is this: Jerome's Bible, the Latin Vulgate, tells that when Moses came down from the mountain top his face was "radiant" (rayed) with the great light shining from his pure soul. In the Greek Septuagint the translation said it was "corinna," meaning "radiant." Jerome used this later version in making his Latin Vulgate and translated "corinna" as "coruina," the last meaning horned. Angelo made his picture accordingly. —Philadelphia Press.

The Latest Thing in Petitions.

The latest thing in petitions to parliament is the petition of a single household. A. B. of Some street, Somewhere, enters an objection to a bill which is before the house, and straightway he and the members of his family draw up a protest, sign it and forward it to the member of the division in which they reside for presentation to the house of commons. This may be a highly proper proceeding, but if it should become popular it will add largely to the duties of the honorable members. —London Tit-Bits.

Stitch-Closer Than a Brother.

Bob Clamwhopper—About a week ago you sold me a porous plaster to get rid of a pain in my chest.

Druggist—Yes, I remember it very well. What can I do for you now?

Clamwhopper—Now I want something to get rid of the porous plaster. —Texas Sittings.

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