

Great Value in Old Newspapers.

When spring cleaning time arrives old papers are called for to put under the carpet. Several layers of them make a good carpet lining, and if a thicker padding is desired straw can be used between two layers of paper.

On very cold winter nights we put a newspaper coverlet over our house plants, and never have known them when so protected to be pinched by Jack Frost's icy fingers.

It was an old nurse who found out how to replenish ourselves; we found one in the sickroom. She had the coil brought to the room in a strong newspaper with the corners gathered up and tied.

It is a very old method of poking the fire with a newspaper her name would be held in honor in our household at least, forevermore.

If you have doors leading to porches, etc., which are not used during the winter you may find that the wind whistles through, no matter how securely they are locked and bolted.

French Royalists. The royalist ladies do not like the idea of having, when invited by the Comte and Comtesse de Paris on visits of three days to Stowe, to bring six dresses with them.

A Duchess of tiptop position in the Orleanist ranks (not the Duchess d'Uzes) is so doped as to be unable to marry her daughter, she finding it impossible to repay sums of money that she spent belonging to the young lady, who still being a minor cannot sign a paper which would cover her grace from being sued by a future son-in-law.

An English View of a Popular Woman. Marion Harland has been written up by an English journal. "She may be ranked," says the article, "among the foremost of the many American women who have attained an enviable position in literature."

"It is classed as the first work of an American born woman, though it was quickly followed by 'Uncle Tom's Cabin.' Marion Harland is in no sense a woman of one idea or one field of labor.

"She lives in New Jersey, where she takes personal care of her flowers, and especially prides herself on her roses. She manages a large poultry yard, is the constant companion of her husband and the most cherished counselor of her children.

"At sixty years of age she is as actively at work as she was twenty years ago. The secret of her continued productivity is found in her admirable health and systematic work."

A German Proposition. Here is a new declaration of equality quite the most advanced of anything yet presented. Fran Helms Lange, of Berlin, argues that just as German youths are made to spend at least one year in barracks, so their sisters should be compelled to spend a year in kindergartens, creches, hospitals, factories or kitchens.

He had traversed half the block and was beginning to breathe more freely when he heard behind him the dull fall of footsteps following after—none in haste, but with the assured, deliberate measure that told of the pursuer's conviction that he could overtake this object of his pursuit without undue exertion.

Presently, "Delay thee, holy friar," spoke the object of his terror; "I have heard of thy ministrations."

But Friar Lorenzo answered, trembling: "Spare me, I pray, your worship. I am old and feeble; since noon of yesterday I have kept vigil, and flesh and spirit alike are fainting. Your worship knows that I call at the wicket of any of the bounding monasteries will bring you the succor, temporal or spiritual—aid far better than my poor, weak service. I pray you, senior, think no harm, but I beg to decline the office."

Tomdick—Did you have a merry Christmas, Hojack? Hojack—Yes, indeed. Johnny killed the cat and smashed the parlor mirror before he had had his new airgun an hour.—Harper's Bazar.

Gambling on the next rain and its duration has become so great a vice in Calcutta that the Government has been called on to suppress it.

MY SWEETHEART'S FACE.

My Kingdom is my sweetheart's face And these the boundaries I trace. Northward look and downward gaze Beyond, a wilderness of autumn hair; A rocky creek to east and west; Her little mouth— Her sunny smile. It is the south that I love best.

Her eyes, two crystal lakes, Rippling with light, Caught from the sun by day, The stars by night. The dimples in her cheeks and chin Are scars which Love hath set, And I have fallen in! —John Allan Wyeth in Harper's.

UNSHRIVED.

In the City of Mexico, toward the close of the year 1731, Friar Lorenzo, of the Monastery of Los Suspiros de Jesus, was making his way homeward to that establishment in the chilly hours of very early morning.

On a very cold winter night we put a newspaper coverlet over our house plants, and never have known them when so protected to be pinched by Jack Frost's icy fingers. It was an old nurse who found out how to replenish ourselves; we found one in the sickroom.

Perhaps it were unfair to say that Friar Lorenzo was a coward; the kinder view were to consider that the sequestered conventional life had developed abnormally an extreme constitutional timidity.

But in the active functions of his office—aught that led him without the convent walls, to intercourse with his kind and encounter with the issues of worldly existence—to all such effort and contact the holy man was most reluctant, being ready to purchase exemption from such movement at any cost of penance.

The superior of the order had struggled long against this infirmity, and the mission on which he had tonight sent Friar Lorenzo was in the direct way of endeavor to correct the weakness.

It was not long since all Mexico had been stirred to horror and dismay by the disappearance of the noble priest, Juan de Nava, whose fate was not made clear till many long years after, and many grisly rumors were still rife concerning this matter.

Therefore it was no marvel that poor old Friar Lorenzo was full of terrors in his night walk.

At the mouth of the Calle de Olmedo he halted, for its intensity of gloom and silence was even more terrible than the way he had just traversed.

He had traversed half the block and was beginning to breathe more freely when he heard behind him the dull fall of footsteps following after—none in haste, but with the assured, deliberate measure that told of the pursuer's conviction that he could overtake this object of his pursuit without undue exertion.

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The man at his side laughed shortly—a crisp, crude laugh, that made the monk feel, as if he were shriveling up as he heard it.

"God's death! these friars are pre-

sumptuous! The ministers of God—the servants of heaven—so their creed profess, yet they give themselves the airs of statesmen and 'beg to decline' the offices of their profession! Have you forgotten your vows, sirrah? Have you forgotten to what service you are consecrated? Nay, then, I will have you—you and none other. See that you move on before me." He made as if to impel the monk by grasping his arm; but the touch of that hard hand so affected Friar Lorenzo that he reeled and would have fallen had not the man released him.

"What—what would your worship have of me?" he stammered faintly. "You go to shrive a sinner," and with that answer his guide halted before a lofty mansion whose overhanging balconies shadowed the street.

This was the apartment usually assigned as a door porter's lodge in great houses, but here it seemed of dimensions more spacious than was common. The dark walls seemed to absorb rather than reflect the pale rays of the candle, yet enough of brilliance fell to flash gleams of keen color from the jewels of one who lay on a rough cot in a corner, draped over with a coverlet of rich brocade, glistening like the candle light from the golden threads of its embroideries.

"But open open!" Friar Lorenzo shouted. Then the officer, impressed in spite of himself by this strange excitement and insistence, bade his men take up a massive viga, or roof beam of cedar, that lay where some workmen had been repairing an azotea, and, posing it among them, the patrolman again and again dashed the heavy timber, in the guise of a battering ram, against the door leaves, whose heavy planks crashed loudly at the impact; then the bolts sprang open, and into the zaguan poured the gathered gazers. No sight or sound of life greeted the incursion.

Once inside the zaguan it was no hard matter to shatter the heavy, antiquated padlock that held the door leading to the side room; that clumsy defense was indeed half eaten away with rust and verdigris, and down from the corners of the door hung swung veritable curtains of venerable cobwebs, thick and velvety, the ancient tapestry. The door fell inward with a crash of rotten, honey-combed wood, and every soul there but one retreated a step or two from the unknown before them.

"Said I not so? And will ye doubt me longer, unbelievers? This was the place indeed! They have taken away the hapless lady; ye must seek her, but the proof of the place I show ye! Here it is, among a pile of rubbish, mine own dear rosary, made of olive stones from Gethsemane," and he came forth, as the chief of the patrol caught a cresset from the hand of a huckster and blew into a pungent blaze its stumbling bit of ocell (Mexican pitchpine or lightwood), and his short sword among the shapeless heap that the friar had abandoned.

"This rubbish—why, lad! Here is a wristlet, rings, a great breadth of brocade incrustated with gold and gems—a collet of major diamonds—aye! we have found a bonanza! and—what is this?" He clapped his hand upon a long mass, black as jet in the red light, and with one swift sweep held it aloft, as high as his head, whence it fell to the knees of him. Then he dropped it with a gasping cry of terror. "This hair! a woman's hair! And—gracious God! See that! the hair of a dead woman!" For, as he stirred that dense black veil from the coils and couchings where it had lain for unknown years, a small skull, long kept in position by its once crown of glory, rolled forward and touched his russet boot. And from the dread crumbling relics now arose a dire odor of mortality, whose warning of dissolution and decay sent the stout soldiers and their commander rushing, with one accord, away from the bones and the diamonds, hasting the peeping mob before them.

"Aye, Padre Friar Lorenzo!" called the alcalde; "now, what a blessed thing it is we have a holy man among us! Father, en el nombre de Jesus, Maria y Jose (in the name of Jesus, Mary and Joseph), purge and purify us of this vile contact!" and he would have knelt before Friar Lorenzo; but a sturdy artisan, who had just sent his great red copper kettle rolling across the dank, mossed stones of the court as he dropped it in the effort to catch the sinking figure—this grimy Christian called out: "Stand back! Give him the good God's air, ye doughy soldiers! Ah, no; it helps not! his eye is fixed, his face is ashen—his body grows a dead weight. Aye, seniors, see you not that this sainted Friar Lorenzo is dying, for never yet lived through the day a priest who confessed one already dead—and how many years think ye have lain yonder, whither he led us, the mortal parts of the poor lady ye cried out that ye had found there?"—Y. H. Addis in Argonaut.

The passing of Italics. After the existence of much utility of about 4000 years it is noticed that italic is declining measurably in the favor of printers, particularly on newspaper work. It is occasionally seen, however, in important editorials. This lack of favor has, it would seem, become more marked since typesetting machines have come so largely into use on the daily newspapers.

The increased output from the machines has a strong tendency to do away with the use of italic, every effort being directed to the simplification of their product. Thus it has been considered good enough to put the names of newspapers and other titles in roman on newspapers, the composition for which has been uttered, and if there has been any comment it has been too weak to care anything about the matter. All that is wanted is a readable paper. When machines are turning out thousands of ems per hour in the usual rush to get a paper to press, there is no time to be frittered away in going to an italic case situated perhaps at the other end of the composing room. The face stands as much chance of being used as there is of reverting to the custom of correcting in the form.—Bookmaker.

English Women Agitating. Mrs. Milligan Garrett Fawcett lately addressed an audience of women at Bloomsbury, England, on the extension of the parliamentary franchise to women. The meeting closed with the carrying of a unanimous resolution in favor of woman suffrage, proposed by Mrs. Fawcett and seconded by Mrs. Ormiston Chant.

Mean Meat Eskimo. "I understand," said the caller, "that your son is going to spend a year in the arctic regions?" "Yes," said the fond mother, "Harry wants to make a study of the Ingonians and their customs."—Detroit Free Press.

Broken Hearted. A lady had just lost her husband. A gentleman living next door, on calling to see her, found her, to his great surprise, playing on the harp and said: "Dear me! I expected to find you in deep distress." "Ah!" the lady pathetically replied, "you should have seen me yesterday."—Arlington.

Every well developed adult of the human species has lung surface equal to 1,400 square feet. The heart's power is sufficient to lift itself 13,000 feet each hour.

Mirages may occur in any place where the denser stratum of air is shifted above the lighter stratum, thus causing a reflection of the rays of light.

The advocates of cremation assert that burial grounds will be regarded as relics of an uncivilized age by the year 1994.

FERTILE INCUBATORS.

For Hatching Eggs They Beat the Hens Themselves. Almost Any Householder With a Little Space May Now Raise Broilers for Market—How It is Done.

Every householder who has a back yard or an unoccupied attic can raise his own chickens. This is a novelty brought about by the progress of modern invention, which has taken chickens in its clutches and got up a number of machines to look after them without a hen. All the hens need to do is to lay the eggs; the machines do the rest until the chickens are old enough to be broilers.

In the old days, before any one thought of applying machinery to chickens, the hens were left to do it all. They scratched around enough to eat, laid eggs when they felt like it, and when they tired of living an active life they would sit down on some eggs until a few out of the lot might be hatched out. Then they would close the little chicks around until some of them died and some took to the world, their constitutions and the way nature had arranged their surroundings in regard to food, warmth and a place to sleep. Modern invention has supplanted the hen in all this except in the laying of eggs that will hatch.

It bothered the farmers and chicken raisers for many years that the hens would lay more eggs at some seasons than at others, and that they would hatch more at other times than they were well supplied and at other times it was overstocked. They figured out that if they could only hatch a great deal more eggs in the business, besides leaving the hens free to go on and lay more eggs instead of spending a month, and a half trying to hatch some chickens and bringing them up until they were old enough to look out for themselves.

To do the work of the hens a machine called an incubator was invented to do the hatching. There are several kinds of incubators, but in the main they are alike. An incubator is a big, square wooden box, propped up on four legs to be out of the way of drafts, and is a large oil lamp and on top is a tube with a cover on the end of a balance. Within there are trays, on which the eggs are placed. Any number of eggs can be put in the machine, though it is hardly worth while to run an incubator on less than 100 or 150 eggs. A large incubator will hold 200 eggs. The eggs should be good, freshly laid and put in the incubator without having been exposed to any heat over 104 degs. Ordinary eggs from ordinary hens will do, unless the chicken raiser wants to breed for blood and quality. He can get high toned eggs which cost as much as five dollars a dozen, and out of which come highly bred chickens which are worth several dollars apiece.

It is not well, though, to begin trying to hatch chickens with costly eggs, as it takes a while to get the knack and it is cheaper to experiment on ordinary eggs, so that the machine is made to do the work of the hen. The loss will not be great, while for eating purposes only there is not so much difference in the value of the young chickens to make up for the difference in risk.

When the eggs have been seen they are put in a place with a steady temperature of about 90 degs., and out of the machine is a tube with a cover on the end of a balance. Within there are trays, on which the eggs are placed. Any number of eggs can be put in the machine, though it is hardly worth while to run an incubator on less than 100 or 150 eggs. A large incubator will hold 200 eggs. The eggs should be good, freshly laid and put in the incubator without having been exposed to any heat over 104 degs. Ordinary eggs from ordinary hens will do, unless the chicken raiser wants to breed for blood and quality. He can get high toned eggs which cost as much as five dollars a dozen, and out of which come highly bred chickens which are worth several dollars apiece.

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DIAMOND SMUGGLING.

The Ease With Which Precious Stones of Large Value May Be Concealed. One of the simplest devices for smuggling diamonds is that of the hollow heel shoe. It is asserted that boots and shoes constructed so as to leave a small vacant space in the heels are easily obtained in Europe, and they are especially manufactured for the purpose of supplying smugglers with a means for escaping detection.

The porous plaster has often served as a means of concealing diamonds. When it is understood that \$10,000 worth of diamonds or more can easily be inclosed in a paper parcel about as wide as this column, 1 1/2 inches high and about a quarter of an inch thick, it is easy to comprehend that such a package can be kept securely in place by means of an innocent but highly serviceable porous plaster.

One of the most ingenious methods ever employed was the use of a cake of soap, wherein a number of diamonds had been imbedded. It is highly probable that this plan would have proved successful had it not been that the officers of the government had received information that the suspected person had diamonds with him and searched his effects so thoroughly that they examined even the gem studded block of soap.

The wife of this smuggler helped her spouse, and her plan was not less ingenious than that of her husband. Her hat was ornamented with bunches of grapes, which under ordinary circumstances would only have awakened the envy of other wearers of bonnets. Within the grapes were diamonds and fancy stones of great value.

Another smuggler was especially provided by Providence with a smuggling device in the shape of a heavy covering of thick, bushy hair, which he arranged so that it stood up from his forehead like an impenetrable bush. Within this mass of heavy hair he deposited a goodly stock of diamonds and succeeded for a time in escaping the vigilance of the custom house officials.

As these schemes have become known to the custom house authorities the ingenuity of smugglers has been more severely taxed. A recent discovery disclosed the following elaborate plan, which succeeded a great many times before it was discovered:

Two smugglers operated in partnership. The first crossed the ocean and before leaving the wharf reserved a return berth for a certain date. The date and the number of the berth were at once related to his accomplice in America. Having purchased his diamonds, in due time he returned to this country in accordance with the instructions previously called. No amount of examination resulted in finding any diamonds upon his person. Meanwhile, however, his partner had secured the same berth.

When the day for sailing came, partner No. 2, accompanied by his family, entered the cabin and extracted from a secure hiding place several parcels of diamonds left there by his accomplice. These he handed to his fearful family, who after bidding him goodly left the steamer unsuspected and brought the diamonds into the market. It took a long time to discover this scheme.—Jeweler's Weekly.

On Pike's Peak. The officer in charge of the United States signal service station on the top of Pike's peak has rather a homogenous time of it, especially in winter," said Major C. P. Leonard of Colorado. "He lives in a low, flat building made of stone, which is anchored and bolted to the granite bowlders. During the winter months he has no connection whatever with the rest of the world, as it is impossible for a human being to ascend to his station and just as impossible for him to go down.

"Snow is his only water supply, and even in the heat of summer there is always enough within a few feet of his door to furnish all the water needed. His official duties are light, requiring only an occasional inspection of the instruments in reading and viewing the surrounding country through his telescope.

On a clear day the houses of Colorado Springs, 20 miles away, are plainly visible, and during the summer he can see men walking around the town in their shirt sleeves and ladies clothed in white dresses, while he is perched up among the clouds, with snow piled around on all sides."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

On Parade. It was a great day in the driving park, and there had never been a finer display of wealth on wheels seen in that locality, and a man had come out to see what it all meant. It was plain he had never seen a carriage parade before. After a bit he turned to one of the great mass of spectators.

"What is it?" he inquired, nodding toward the gorgeous pageant. "It's a carriage parade of our most fashionable classes," was the reply. "Oh," said the man, "it's a kind of a parade of the unemployed, is it?" The other one looked curiously at the man.

"That's all right," said the man, as if he knew what he was talking about, and he walked away.—Detroit Free Press.

Don't Speak English. It is hard to be called upon to see the point of a joke without giving sufficient time to see it in. A gentleman with a serious face said at a recent small gathering of people:

"What are we coming to? Statistics show that in Massachusetts there are 30,000 persons, all natives of the United States, who cannot speak but English language." "Impossible!" every one exclaimed. "It is true nevertheless," persisted the grave faced man.

"And native Americans, you say?" "Certainly—all under 2 years of age!"

There Are No "Fixed" Stars. The term "fixed," as applied to the stars, is now known to be a misnomer, for it has been proved that there is not a stationary or "fixed" star in the whole heavens, and no such thing as absolute rest in any of God's monstrous machinery. It is hardly necessary to say that all the stars are constantly in motion, some of them whizzing through space at the rate of 250,000 miles an hour, more than thrice the velocity of our earth on its orbital track. This constant motion brings about some startling changes in our stellar relations in the course of scores of centuries. But, however, the visual effect on the generation or half a dozen generations presents the planets in a seeming unchanged aspect.—St. Louis Republic.

Singularly Inconsistent. Another instance of the illogical working of the female mind is the fact that when a young woman was kissed by a stranger in a street in Providence she shouted "Murder!"—Boston Journal.

A NEW LEISURE CLASS.

How it Originated and How it Operates and Exists. It Exists Only in New York City Where the Conditions are Peculiarly Favourable—Men Who Never Work.

An investigation of the city's cheap lodging houses reveals some interesting facts about those who use them, especially in hard times. They are particularly a New York institution. Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore have, to be sure, a few places where the almost destitute wayfarer may be accommodated for the payment of 15 to 25 cents, but they offer few inducements beyond a night's rest. The New York lodging house, on the contrary, has some of the features of a regular club. Large, well lighted rooms, supplied with the daily papers, cards, chess and checkers, boards, dominoes, etc., are found in nearly all of them. There is also an office, in which an affable clerk is found on duty 24 hours a day. There are also baths, lavatories, etc., with a plentiful supply of hot and cold water, soap towels and blotting brushes.

The Bowery is the home of the lodging house, though there are many scattered about the city up as far as Harlem, and the business being an exceedingly profitable one their number is constantly increasing. It is a mistake to suppose the lodging house is the abode of the tramp. That there are places where such persons may find a night's rest is true, but they do not frequent the lodging houses. They are not wanted either by the proprietors or guests. The chief patron of the lodging house is the chevalier d'industrie, age anywhere from 20 to 40, the majority being under 40. Hard times do not affect the calling, for do financial stringencies diminish his income. He is invariably decently dressed, and if ever he misses a meal it is not for the reason that the meal is not waiting for him.

A conversation with one of them gives a fair idea of how they live. He was a middle aged man, with the appearance of a clerk. After a preliminary talk he told the story of his life.

"I was born here in New York," he said, "44 years ago. At 15 I was put to work and learned a trade. For 25 years, or up to my fortieth year, I stuck to it and never needed to do anything else. I had, of course, such a few dollars in the average workman's hand and was, I suppose, contented with my lot. I lived with an old widow lady, who was just like a mother to me, and beyond being indifferently fond of reading I was, I have no doubt, just like any of the horny handed sons of the earth. I never had a penny, but the faculty of saving money, and when four years ago I was seized with inflammatory rheumatism I was obliged to go to a hospital. I staid there two months. During my stay my landlady died, and I drifted in here. I had never seen so much as heard of the city of New York, but the faculty of saving money, and when four years ago I was seized with inflammatory rheumatism I was obliged to go to a hospital. I staid there two months. During my stay my landlady died, and I drifted in here. I had never seen so much as heard of the city of New York, but the faculty of saving money, and when four years ago I was seized with inflammatory rheumatism I was obliged to go to a hospital. I staid there two months. During my stay my landlady died, and I drifted in here. I had never seen so much as heard of the city of New York, but the faculty of saving money, and when four years ago I was seized with inflammatory rheumatism I was obliged to go to a hospital. I staid there two months. During my stay my landlady died, and I drifted in here. I had never seen so much as heard of the city of New York, but the faculty of saving money, and when four years ago I was seized with inflammatory rheumatism I was obliged to go to a hospital. I staid there two months. During my stay my landlady died, and I drifted in here. I had never seen so much as heard of the city of New York, but the faculty of saving money, and when four years ago I was seized with inflammatory rheumatism I was obliged to go to a hospital. I staid there two months. During my stay my landlady died, and I drifted in here. I had never seen so much as heard of the city of New York, but the faculty of saving money, and when four years ago I was seized with inflammatory rheumatism I was obliged to go to a hospital. I staid there two months. During my stay my landlady died, and I drifted in here. I had never seen so much as heard of the city of New York, but the faculty of saving money, and when four years ago I was seized with inflammatory rheumatism I was obliged to go to a hospital. I staid there two months. During my stay my landlady died, and I drifted in here. I had never seen so much as heard of the city of New York, but the faculty of saving money, and when four years ago I was seized with inflammatory rheumatism I was obliged to go to a hospital. I staid there two months. During my stay my landlady died, and I drifted in here. I had never seen so much as heard of the city of New York, but the faculty of saving money, and when four years ago I was seized with inflammatory rheumatism I was obliged to go to a hospital. I staid there two months. During my stay my landlady died, and I drifted in here. I had never seen so much as heard of the city of New York, but the faculty of saving money, and when four years ago I was seized with inflammatory rheumatism I was obliged to go to a hospital. I staid there two months. During my stay my landlady died, and I drifted in here. I had never seen so much as heard of the city of New York, but the faculty of saving money, and when four years ago I was seized with inflammatory rheumatism I was obliged to go to a hospital. I staid there two months. During my stay my landlady died, and I drifted in here. I had never seen so much as heard of the city of New York, but the faculty of saving money, and when four years ago I was seized with inflammatory rheumatism I was obliged to go to a hospital. I staid there two months. During my stay my landlady died, and I drifted in here. I had never seen so much as heard of the city of New York, but the faculty of saving money, and