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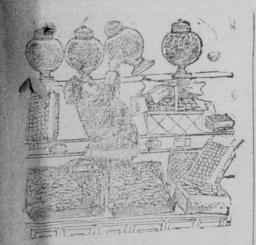
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BERLIN'S CLEAN STREETS. Residents Vie with One Another in

Making Them Presentable. Bicyclists who have ridden much on the asphalt streets of German cities say that the tendency to "side slip" is there much less marked than on similar pavements in this country. The explanation of this fact may possibly lie in the statement which is made by the American consul at Breslau that the asphalt streets in that city are regularly washed, the purpose of the washing being to remove the slime which the asphalt seems to leave and to keep the street from being slippery. The washing has the further effect of preserving and hardening the asphalt.

a taken of the asphalt by authorities contrasts strongly athe methods usually adopted in United States. For instance, the spece in front of the consulate is divided into four squares, which are in charge of one man. After cleaning the streets early in the morning he wheels out a barrow load of very fine, sharp sand and scatters it lightly over the streets to prevent slipping. On rainy days the process is repeated several times. Once a week the whole street is sluiced and thoroughly washed with sprinkling carts. These are followed by ample roller brushes, which sweep the water and slime into the gutter, whence it is carted away. After this the man who has charge of the street comes along with his wheelbarrow and sand sprinkler. In spring or autumn, when the streets are often sloppy and wet, the washing is done several times during the week.

NAMING IT.

A Ceremony Arranged by Chance Entirely in Persia and Japan.

The naming of the child in Persia is made an event of great rejoicing and a time for the gathering of relatives. When the guests are assembled sweetmeats are eaten and then the infant in its swaddling clothes is brought in and laid on the carpet in the center of the room by one of the priests. Five names are written on as many slips of paper and placed between the leaves of the Koran; a chapter is read from this book and then one of the slips is drawn at random. The name on the slip is the one the child has to bear through life, and the priest takes up the slip, pronounces the name in the child's ear and places the piece of paper in its clothes. Gifts and congratulations follow. The custom in Japan is for the parents on the thirteenth day after its birth to take the child to the temple they attend and the father gives three names to the priest, who writes each on a piece of paper. These are then shuffled about with certain neantations and thrown up in the air. The first that falls is the one chosen. This is then written by the priest on a consecrated piece of paper and given to the child's parents to preserve. The child then receives certain gifts, two of which are important. If a boy, two fans are presented; and if a girl, a pot of pomade, and in each case a packet of flax thread is added, which signifies good wishes and a long life.

PREJUDICE MADE PROFITABLE.

Superstition Against the Opal Was Merely a Jeweler's Fiction.

It is only within a few years that the fashionable women of Chicago could be induced to wear opals, although they are among the rarest and most beautitabooed because of its supposed unlucky qualities, is reported by dealers With this information comes what beautiful a stone came by its bad

It seems, according to the story, that a Belgian jeweler, finding a great deof his salesmen to London to purchase object of his quest was the most popular gem in the English capital, and story that opals bring bad luck. He the surprising result that the much sought stones came to be sedulously avoided, and that their price rapidly placed them upon the market and reaped a mammoth profit on the trans-

The belief in the ill-starred fortune of an opal's owner grew greatly and brought fruit a hundredfold. For twenty-five years past the stone has been almost unsalable, in spite of its beauty. Now someone has unearthed, or more probably invented the story of the Belgian speculator, and the pendulum of popular sentiment has begun to swing in the opposite direction.

CLIMATE SHOWS FEW CHANGES

Weather Conditions Now About the Same as in Ages Past.

From Popular Science: This subject is of extreme interest and merits a most thorough study. We find the "early" and the "latter" rain today in Palestine precisely as described 3,500 years ago. "Jordan overflows all its did in Joshua's time, thirty-three centuries ago. Plants taken from mummy cases in Egypt, which must have been gathered more than 5,000 years since, are practically of the same size and have the same appearance as those growing today. Records of vintages in France over 700 years ago show practically the same dates as today. Actual observations of rainfall for over 200 years in France show no change. Observations of temperature for almost 200 years at St. Petersburg show no change appreciable to us, though, of course, the earliest observations were extremely crude and somewhat unreliable. Facts of this kind might be adduced to fill a small volume. On the other hand, we have records of most extraor? nary cold weather in ancient ine. One winter light wine in France froze. Another winter the River Po froze over so as to bear teams, an unheard-of phenomenon today. In this journal for June it is stated that "Parnassus and Socrate, now free from snow, were covered with it in classic antiquity. Also "the name Greenland, which strikes us as so singularly inappropriate, was not inapplicable at the time it was named, in the fourteenth century." It is entirely probable that descriptions of the cold in ancient times were much exaggerated. Parnassus and Socrate have snow at times, and, in earlier days, when protection against the cold and snow was much less than now, a little snow would go a long way. The earlier voyagers from Iceland, more than a thousand years ago, leaving a land of reaching a land in summer with its beautiful green color to their unaccustomed eyes, would very naturally give the name of Greenland to it. At the summer time it is said that Greengreen near the Danish settlements to have been wont to describe the terrible cold and deep snows of their boyhood days as incomparably greater than anything which does or can occur today, have completely lost their reckoning the last winter when reading of a ship that had sunk in New York harbor by the weight of the ice upon that fair city. I am sure a careful study will show no appreciable change in the climate of this earth since the early historic times. Of course nothing here adduced touches climatic changes in glacial times or in prehistoric times, which changes have been established beyond question.

MANY WEEDS GOOD TO EAT.

Certain Kinds Are Often Used for Food by Families.

Go out on any farm and see the farmer hoeing away at the weeds that threaten to choke his crop. You may hear him say things that wouldn't sound nice about the weeds. The dandelion isn't the only weed eaten by people who know what's good to eat. Take wild chicory, the plague of the farmer. It makes one of the finest salads served, piquant, tender and wholesome. Charlock or wild mustard is another bane of the farmer. He purports to be the true story of how so doesn't know that as a pot herb it can give a soup a delightful flavor. The dock-weeds-how annoying the whole family are! Yet the broad leaf variety and the curly leaf are used all mand for opals in Brussels, sent one over Europe as table vegetables. There's pokeweed, commonest of all. a supply. On arriving there this In France it is cultivated. It takes its emissary found to his chagrin that the place. Sorrel, fetticus and chevral are looked on as a flavoring for soup. Everybody in American hates a netthat its price was proportionately the and can't see what use it is. In large. Forthwith he conceived the Scotland Poland and Germany tender young nettle leaves are used as greens. circulated this story diligently, with The Germans boil them with other vegetables to give them a piquant flavor. Purslane is another weed that can be treated in the same way. Most declined. In the course of two months people think milkweed poisonous. It opals were selling in London for one- is a medicinal vegetable, with a dethird of the price previously asked for lightful flavor all its own. The young them, and the astute Belgian prompt- leaves, when they are in just the right ly bought up all there were offered for condition, are a cross between spinach sale; in fact, all the opals that were and asparagus, and in a salad are deto be had. Before the superstition he licious. Sorrel, fetticus and chevril had started had time to reach the con- are looked on as field pests by ninetytinent of Europe, he had delivered the nine out of every hundred farmers. jewels to his chief, and the firm had The hundredth one picks the choicest leaves from these weeds and sends them to market, where they find a ready sale for salads to be eaten with game and for flavoring herbs-for herbs they are, and not weeds .-- New York World.

Lake Turns Red.

Lake Morat, in Switerland, has the curious property of turning red every ten years, owing to the presence of certain aquatic plants, which are not known in any other lake in the world.

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The Missionary's Little Joker.

A native Maori chieftain, the descendant of cannibal kings, is now completing his medical education in Chicago. Cannibalism ended in his tribe, he says, when Bishop Selwyn converted his grandfather; but he tells some stories of it which have a distinctly humorous flavor. For instance: It is said that once a chief captured a missionary who was anything but a toothsome morsel, as he was old and thin, and looked as if his flesh would be tough. The missionary warned the chief that he would not make a good dinner, and pulling up his trousers. cut a slice off the calf of his leg and offered it to the chief. The chief tasted it, said he didn't like it, and passed it to a subchief. The sub tasted it, made t. ...y face, and passed it on. The no an who took a bite of it . The missionary was reter he had gone it was disleased at he wore a cork leg.

not be with a cactus.-Oregonian. live to fight another day, but it will almost perpetual ice and snow, and ke way of the can count queror is punctured in more places But it was a costly victory. The conto shreds and scattered about the room, eactus was finally vanquished, torn inand over in a death embrace, and the parb-wire fence. The two rolled over | partial partial results a most peantiful revolution over of the partial results and results a most peantiful revolution over the results and results a most peantiful revolution over the results are results and results and results are results and results are results and results and results are results are results and results are results and results are results and results are results are results and results are results and results are results and results are results are results are results and results are results a him heavily, and with the touch of a this day. Our oldest inhabitants, who woo Suppure 'umop sure queucodo siu ger he renewed the attack. This time quitter, however, and with rising anthem were newly sharpened. He was no a battalion of bull terriers, and all of sider. The enemy had more teeth than but retired at the first shock to recondefault of acceptance, he gave battle, its arrival, and issued a challenge. In it; also that Washington had had thir- Jayre uoos queid any paidsa remine appil ty-four inches of snow on a level and | eq.L . Sop & to sourcidmes better the definition of the source of the state of the the lowest temperature ever noted in | pue success ou seq aq mon will alor master should have no other pets bethat his dog held the opinion that his his household, unmindful of the fact tiful cactus, which he established in mont street, recently acquired a beau-Otto Kleemann, who lives on Bel-Dog's Battle with a Cactus.

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