

Indian Medicine Dance.

The Indian dances celebrated in the Indian Territory, in June, were witnessed by fully 6,000 Indians. The number of persons who take part is unlimited. When the performance begins, the company having assembled, the performers at a given signal rush into the tent from various points of the compass with shouts and yells, and as they reach the interior they fire their guns at the effigy suspended from the pole—intending thus to destroy the evil spirit—and immediately they set up their dance. This consists in the main of a light springing up and down to the monotonous music furnished by a peculiar song unvaried in words and music, which accompanied the pounding. It goes on till the bodies of the musicians weary, and at a signal all stop and take a rest. That done, the dance proceeds again. The programme is changed a little in some of its details, so as to give a variety. Each dancer has a sort of 'trainer,' or attendant, who sees to preparing him for the exercise. During the rest of the dance the performers will arise, take off their shirts or blouses, take off their other garments, and baring breast-cloth, reduce themselves to a state of complete nudity. This is done in the presence of thousands of men, women and children, and nothing is thought of. The attendant then paints the dancer, using a weed for a brush. The entire body is covered with rings, forks and other curious devices. Sometimes the legs from the top of the hips and the groins are painted to the feet with white or light-colored pigment, and then rings and stripes are run about them at intervals, producing a very striking effect. The back, arms and chest are also covered with similar representations. As the body is partly dry a shawl or blanket is thrown over the shoulders, and the legs are left bare. Meanwhile the audience keeps up its chatting, laughing, eating and fanning itself to keep cool, and pays but little attention to the spectacle of preparation. The chief medicine man, or the man who has the lead in making the medicine, goes around the lodge about midway of the radius, and deposits at intervals pieces of sagebrush; another follows and deposits in the same spot pieces of bread and nuts. What this was for I did not learn. The dancers also place wreaths of sage brush or of leaves on their heads, and a wreath around the waist and across the shoulders. Those who do this last wear no blanket or shawl, but are nude except as to the wreath and wreath cloth. A person who has never seen the dance in person will realize what a hideous appearance the leaves and wreaths and paint give to the naked savage. He looks like a typical cannibal who has just roasted a fresh missionary and is about to devour him. Everything being in readiness, the dancers put into their mouths a small bark whistle, about five inches long, having a shrill sound, and ornamented with a tuft of horse-hair, which adds to the grotesqueness of their make-up. The signal is given and the dancing begins again, accompanied by the drum, slugging and whistling. During the while the chief exercises the participants give not the slightest indication of mirthfulness, but are as solemn in visage as any one could possibly be. To them it is evidently serious business, and the chief priests in this ceremony have no trouble in looking one another in the face without laughing. To them it is earnest. Some of the dancers show signs of physical exhaustion from want of food, and when they are resting they lean on their hands as if they were in prayer or suffering from a headache. One strange part of the medicine dance is the torture. An Indian will cut two parallel perpendicular slits in the skin, on the breast and just above the nipple, and under the skin from one slit to the other he will run a stout stick. To each end of this stick he ties a long string. The other side of the breast is fixed in the same way, and the strings have their free ends passed across the breast and pulled down to the sticks until he bears the skin out and releases himself. The sight is a revolting one. The blood streams down his breast and legs from the cuts. The skin is usually tough and refuses to yield, and frequently the man has to brace his feet against the pole and push with all his might. The things still hold and the skin is often pulled away from the breast bone, and stands out at an angle of about fifteen degrees clear across the breast and down to the lower ribs. It sometimes happens that the torturer faints before the skin pulls out; it more frequently happens that he faints as it pulls out, and weak from want of food and loss of blood, he requires careful attention until he recovers. Others come through bravely and go on with the dance. One fellow, the other day, unable to endure the suffering while both things were pulling on him at once, tried to break one out at a time, when he succeeded in the crowd dressed in his own clothes in contempt. The fasting and torture, as I have said, is not to test whether the torturers are brave warriors, but is intended to placate the Almighty and win his aid for the accomplishment of some particular purpose. The torturer has his own benefit in view primarily, although he thinks that it results also to the good of his entire tribe, since he thinks that it is pleasing to God, and what puts God in a good humor will necessarily bring the entire tribe in for their share of the results.

AGRICULTURE.

CARE OF CATTLE IN WARM WEATHER.—As the days grow warmer the ticks will increase upon the sheep, and become more troublesome. A strong decoction of tobacco in water used as a dip, or poured along the back, will destroy them. As the lambs increase in size the dams suffer, and the lambs must either be fed some meal daily, or the ewes must be given an abundance of rich food. Lambs can begin to eat at four or five weeks, and thus relieve the ewes. Pigs need a clean place, and breeding sows should be fed themselves, with an abundance of cut straw or chaff for litter. Horses that have had good care will come out in the spring in good trim for the season's work. As the coat begins to loosen the skin irritated. An ounce of equal parts each of sulphur and cream of tartar, given with the food for a few days, will correct this. Good grooming with a soft brush should not be neglected. Ground feed, mixed with cut hay, is an excellent food in the spring for working horses. Three quarts of equal parts of corn and rye (or oats) mixed with a peck of moist cut hay is enough for a meal. An occasional feed of cut beets or potatoes is useful. With many experienced horsemen an occasional feed of half a peck of potatoes is regarded as a remedy for worms in horses. However this may be, they improve the general condition of the animal in a most positive manner. The main points is to keep the horses in good health and strength, for upon them develops a great part of the spring work. As foaling time approaches, brood mares should be turned loose in a box stall and receive the most gentle treatment, as the least disposition of the colt is thought to depend much upon this.

WIT AND HUMOR.

JOHNNY BOONSPILLER goes to school and he loves eggs; but, during the recent egg famine, when the price was at such a point that one would have to mortgage his house to buy a straw out of a hen's nest, Johnny had to give up his favorite feed. About this time the class of which he was a brilliant member was called to give definitions. Said the teacher: "Tommy Tompkins name something very high." "The big trees of California," said Tommy. "And you Jimmy Jackson?" "The Himalaya mountains," answered Jimmy. "And you Billie Jones?" "The clouds in the far-away sky," triumphantly replied Billie. "And you, Johnny Boonspiller?" "Eggs," sentimentally remarked that young man, and, as strange as it may seem, the teacher told him to go up ahead.

Among the curious articles in the Indian Court of the Melbourne Exhibition are two hollow elephant tusks, fitted with a gold cover. They were sent to the Viceroy of India by the Rajah of Burmah, who used them as an envelope for an official communication. They are valued at \$1000.

While it may be proper that those 'living in glass houses should never throw stones,' we think it is eminently proper that those working in glass houses should say a 'good word' for anything of benefit to themselves. In this connection, Mr. Isaac Curry, Manager Salem, N. J., Glass Works, remarks: I am pleased to say that I have used the Great Remedy, St. Jacob's Oil, for Rheumatism with excellent results; other members of my family have also been greatly benefited by its use.

Sleep and Sleeplessness.—Habit greatly helps the performance of the initial act, and the cultivation of a habit of going to sleep in a peculiar way, at a peculiar time, will do more to procure regular and healthy sleep than any other artifice.

The Hop Bitters Manufacturing Company is one of Rochester's greatest business enterprises. Their Hop Bitters have reached a sale beyond all precedent, having from their intrinsic value found their way into almost every household in the land.—Graphic.

A photographic sunshine recorder has been invented by Captain Abney. It consists of a semi-cylindrical box, with a flat lid, in the centre of which is a small hole. Found the inside of the cylinder strips of sensitive paper are fixed, and the instrument is then so placed that the sun, the hole and the centre line of the paper are in the same plane. As the sun moves, therefore, its track will be recorded on the paper.

It is simply marvelous how quickly contipation, biliousness, sick headache, fever and ague, and malaria, are cured by 'Sellers' Liver Pills.'

THE GREAT GERMAN REMEDY FOR RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, SCIATICA, LUMBAGO, BACKACHE, GOUT, SORENESS OF THE CHEST, SORE THROAT, QUINSY, SWELLINGS AND SPRAINS, FROSTED FEET AND EARS, BURNS AND SCALDS, General Bodily Pains, TOOTH, EAR AND HEADACHE, AND ALL OTHER PAINS AND ACHES.

HOW TO ARRANGE A MILK HOUSE.—Locate the building on a northern slope. Make it substantially as you would an icehouse, and then plant morning-glories or any other climbing plants around the building and induce them to climb the sides of the building and over the roof, so as to furnish as much shade as possible. If the ground is level, construct a building twelve by twelve feet square and let the posts be nine feet in height. Make a floor of plank, and after boarding up the outside, put up more uprights eight to ten inches, inside of the outer wall all around, and fill the space with sawdust, chaff, or straw, put in as compactly as possible. Make the ceiling of the room sufficiently strong to support a layer of chaff, sawdust, or tanbark to the depth of fourteen to eighteen inches. Make a ventilator one foot square in the floor overhead, passing up through the roof, or fixed as to keep out the rain, and to be entirely closed when necessary. Cut the door way through the north side. The doors should be double, like the walls, and should be fitted with heavy hinges. A small window at one side, having a sash in the outside wall, as well as one in the inner wall, will be of advantage. This can be inserted in the door if preferred. If no ice is used in the house, cold water in shallow tubs must be furnished from the well. In this case, late each evening during the hot weather open the door, and close the one made of lattice work, and open the window, which should be placed by lattice work, and which should be closed each morning close both door and window, and keep them closed during the day as much as possible.

CHARCOAL FOR FLOWERS.—There is one thing which nature does not supply and which civilization renders quite necessary to fowls. It is charcoal. Charcoal made of wood does not answer the purpose; it has no taste of food, it is not attractive to fowls and is seldom eaten. But if any one will put an ear of ripe corn into the small of the corn and throw it to the flock, he will see an eagerness developed and a healthy condition brought about, which will make a decided improvement. All pale combs will become a bright red the busy song which precedes laying will be heard, and the average yield of eggs greatly increased.

GOING AWAY THIS SUMMER? queried a boot-black of a fellow mortar at the post-office yesterday. "Now!" "Well, you needn't be so short about it." "Maybe I needn't, but the idea of our going off to Saratoga when we can't raise \$10 to get dad out of the work-house does us injustice as a family."

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND. A BOTTLE FOR \$1.00. For all these Painful Complaints and Weaknesses so common to our best Female Population. It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaints, all ovarian troubles, Inflammation and Obstruction, Falling and Displacement of the Uterus, and all other ailments, and is particularly adapted to the Change of Life.

THE FISH COMMISSIONERS of Maine have adopted the plan of marking salmon to obtain data with regard to the development and migrations of these fish. Several hundred salmon lately set free in the Penobscot River have been labeled with light metal tags, the number on each being recorded. The commissioners ask that whoever catches a labeled salmon in any waters of the State will forward to them the fish, for which they will pay an extra price, or else forward the label and whatever they know about the fish that way.

KIDNEY-WORT FOR RHEUMATISM, LIVER AND BOWELS. As it is for all diseases of the KIDNEYS, LIVER AND BOWELS. It cleanses the system of the acid poison that causes the dreadful suffering which afflicts the victims of Rheumatism and Gout.

BLANCHLEY'S PUMP. YOU CAN BUY THE BLANCHLEY PUMP. Unlined or with Copper, Porcelain, or Iron. Each one identified with my name as manufacturer is warranted in material and construction. For sale by the best houses in the trade. If you do not know where to get this pump, write to me below, and I will send name of agent nearest you, who will supply you at my lowest prices.

ASBATIC BREEDS OF FOWL lay eggs from deep chocolate through every shade of coffee color, while the Spanish, Hamburg and Italian breeds are known for the pure white of the eggshell. A cross, however remote, with Asiatics will cause even the last named breeds to lay an egg slightly tinted.

FAMOUS COBBLETS. No one but a shoemaker could have thought Coleridge serious in his strange saying that the shoemaker's bench had produced more learned men than any other handicraft. The Shoe and Leather Reporter has, however, compiled a 'bill of particulars' in the shape of a list of famous cobblers which seem to act as an effectual stopper on all jealous craftsmen.

AN ELDERLY lady said her husband was very fond of peaches, and this was his only fault. "Fault, madam," said one, "how can you call this a fault?" "Why, because there are different ways of eating them, sir, My husband takes them in the form of brandy."

VEGETINE. Prepared by H. R. STEVENS, BOSTON, MASS. Vegetine is Sold by All Druggists. MRS. LYDIA E. PINKHAM, OF LYNN, MASS.

AT A recent meeting of the New York Academy of Sciences, Mr. G. F. Kunz read a short paper upon the new mineral 'hid-denite,' discovered not long ago in North Carolina by Mr. William E. Hidden, mineralogist. The mineral constitutes a new gem, of the emerald class, and is known in the trade as lithia-emerald, owing to the presence of lithia as one of its chemical constituents.

HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS. For Feeble and Sickly Persons. Recover their vitality by pursuing a course of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the most popular, invigorant and alterative medicine in use.

CLARK'S NEW METHOD FOR REED ORGANS. This wonderfully successful book still sells largely. Year after year, and seems to be permanent in its success. A good instructive course, very fine selections and arrangements of good Reed Organ Music, account for the large sale of this book. Price, \$2.50.

A NEW EXHILARATING SUBSTANCE. Dr. Luton, of Rheims, calls attention in a French medical journal to the exciting properties of the tincture of ergot of rye when associated with phosphate of soda. The circumstances of the discovery were as follows: A woman of 62, at the infirmary of the Maison de Retraite, in Rheims, was receiving tincture of ergot of rye for disease in the knee. Fearing an unfavorable turn, the doctor thought to strengthen the action of that medication with phosphate of soda, and accordingly combined a little of the two substances in a quarter of a glass of sweetened water. The patient, about three-quarters of an hour after taking this, surprised the inmates by bursting into loud laughter, without obvious reason, and this continued for more than an hour, with brief intervals. The laughter seemed to be associated with merry ideas, and to indicate a kind of intoxication. For some time after it died down the woman was in good spirits and good humor. Dr. Luton had not witnessed the scene, but the consequences to the patient being good, he administered the substance again, and a third time, observing the same effect. The experiments were further repeated on seven or eight women and girls with like results. In the case of one the action of the substance is less marked; it appears only in coloring of the face, giddiness, and slight headache. The effects in question have probably a common origin, it is thought, with those from eating rye bread when, in rainy years, the cereal contains as much as five per cent. of ergot. A sort of intoxication is produced which the consumers by no means despise.

AN OLD couple were walking down the street the other day, reading signs, when they ran across one which the old man read thus: "Johnson's Shirt Store." "Well, I declare!" exclaimed the old lady, "I wonder how he tore it?"

ONE of the most delightful periods of a man's life is the moment when he drops a slippery cake of soap into the bath-tub and runs his fist up and down the zinc hunting for it.

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND. A POSITIVE CURE FOR ALL THESE PAINFUL COMPLAINTS AND WEAKNESSES SO COMMON TO OUR BEST FEMALE POPULATION. It will cure entirely the worst form of Female Complaints, all ovarian troubles, Inflammation and Obstruction, Falling and Displacement of the Uterus, and all other ailments, and is particularly adapted to the Change of Life.

THE SWAN incandescent lamp, essentially identical with the Daxim, Edison and other electric lamps in closed globe, is to be introduced as a safety lamp into some of the English collieries.

DR. METTAEUR'S HEADACHE PILLS cure most wonderfully in a very short time both SICK AND NERVOUS HEADACHE; and while acting on the nervous system, cleanse the stomach of excess of bile, producing a regular healthy action of the bowels.

OLIVER DITSON & CO., Boston. J. E. DITSON & CO., 1225 Chestnut Street Philadelphia.

NEW SAFETY LAMP.—A scientist lately exhibited and explained before the Mining Institution of Scotland recently, his new safety lamp, which is constructed to emit a loud sound when an explosive mixture of gas and air enters it, and thus consequently readily indicates fire damp in collieries.

AIR TIGHT STOPPERS.—Gutta Percha cuttings are very useful in the laboratory. By dissolving them in benzole and adding a little carmine or any other pigment a solution is obtained which, when brushed on the cork and neck of a bottle, forms a tight-fitting cap, impervious to air, damp, alcohol and acids, and can be taken off without much trouble.

EVERYONE who owns a wagon wants a European Folding Umbrella. It is like an umbrella. Weighs but 2 lbs. Can be taken off or put on in one minute. Resists Frosting, Heat, and Rain. Made in different sizes. Also in different styles. Pleasure wagons, and bug-ies. Circular and price list. Agents wanted everywhere. Write to J. W. H. WHITING, Patentee and Manufacturer, Sandy Hook, Ct.

MEN WANTED to learn the trade of Electro Gold and Silver Plating. Money made at home or by traveling. Outfits furnished. CANON CITY SILVER PLATE WORKS, Canon City, Colorado.

FILES AND MOSQUITOES. 15c. box "Rough on Rats" keeps a house free from flies, bed-bugs, roaches, rats, mice, &c.

DR. METTAEUR'S HEADACHE PILLS. A full size box of these valuable PILLS, with full directions for a complete cure, mailed to any address on receipt of three-cent postage stamps. For sale by all druggists at 25c. Sole Proprietors, BROWN CHEMICAL COMPANY, Baltimore, Md.

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