

FROM INDIA.

By One on Medical Duty in that Far Eastern Country. Intense Heat and Torrent-Like Rains. Beautiful Sunsets. Phenomenal Growth of Vegetation. The Sick All Cared For.

Dear Home Folk:

JHANSI, AUGUST 2nd. The days of my India living are mostly one long continuous line of humorous happenings, and many times I have (in feelings) gone over in the corner and laughed to see myself as my western friends might see me. This is a queer, queer place in which to live and were it not for the pesky weather and mosquitoes, it might be a rather nice place; but those two things are typical of India, at least central India. I for one could never truly enjoy myself where the very sight of a pretty day makes the water trickle from every pore in body in anticipation of later heat, and a sing in my ear makes my hand fly upward in a vain attempt to slaughter the animal, while visions of all sorts of malarial bugs dance before my eyes.

The very first snake that has had the pleasure of making me jump, flew across my path yesterday; he was a long, black beauty, out for a call on his lady love, for nothing else could have made him move so quickly. I also was moving quickly, as I was angry at having to be kept waiting for something I wanted from the hospital. We came from paths at right angles and I must confess for once the lady retired and that most hurriedly while the gentleman, with scarcely a wriggle in my direction (for which I was thankful) tore on to keep his appointment. I hope she don't live on our compound and they will soon go to house-keeping at her home. (To confess, I think I let out a shriek like an Indian and jumped back three feet, maybe more, but I surely didn't wait to measure the distance to see whether I had broken any records.)

The sun-sets these watery days are truly magnificent; masses of gray, blue or purplish clouds line the west, then the sun sends out a touch and lo, a brilliant rose-pink edging with a long streak showing along the horizon, changes the dull sky; a bit of gold and pale green is added just beyond and overhead, the white fleecy clouds against the pale blue vault seem almost commonplace. The colors are so different to the ones we see at home that I wish for an artist's brush and talent, to show them to you; but they pale even as I write this and the evening twilight seems to make the native's drumming and game-playing noises come to my ears with greater distinctness for as you know, this bungalow is but a short distance from the city and Sunday seems to be the one especial game-day of the native. They have adopted many of the English customs and with them, their games of hockey and football.

I don't believe the East Indian is ever quiet; he is about as noisy as a lot of college boys while he is playing games and the other night as we walked along the road one man came down another way all alone, talking at the top of his voice; Miss Morrison said he was scolding about something and as far as we could hear the scolding went on. Such a funny waste of energy, and there is mighty little of that commodity to waste in this country. I have never loved my bed, hot though it is, half as much in any other country and I don't know but that it is all real laziness, or maybe a mere following of a bad example.

Last week the tea party came on a too hot day and I decided to refuse with thanks; you can imagine my delight when the two nurses who had gone came in with a huge tray of things for me, four apples, three pears, bananas, candy, cake, crackers, bread and butter and lastly, a gift—a sailor hat (because I nearly always wear my sailor in the afternoon) about large enough for a ten-year-old child and having the effect of making one look like a monkey. I chuckled and sent back a "salama" gave the various things to the servants and will donate the hat to the first worthy person I meet. This was all covered up with a Turkish towel which I would not say was particularly clean. Entirely too European to be interesting.

Tuesday morning.—There is too much rain for comfort; not gentle rains, but mad, torrent-like down-pours happening all the time, either day or night, and almost always just when you mostly want to go some place in decent looking clothes or wanting to play tennis. The tennis court after five minute's rain looks like a fishing pond, and the back garden made me long for a boat, so nice and deep was the water in a few minutes, but it all runs away almost as fast as it comes, and the only thing I see permanent is the almost phenomenal growth of vegetation; one could scarcely imagine such profuse leafing and flowering could result in such a short time.

I must not forget to tell you that for the past two days I have been able to wear clothes with comfort and it surely makes you truly desire to accomplish things when so nice and cool, and that is unusual in India.

I went out on a sick call this morning, and wish you could have gone with me, I know that overlooking flies, etc., the drive through the largest of the native

bazars here would have been more than interesting. To see the vendors squatting in the doorways and the buyers standing on the street, the various vegetables spread about in heaps on the roads and just a wide enough avenue to drive our two-wheeled tonga along, then to have the tonga stop and you get down, your nurse carrying basin, kettle of hot water and a small bag with soap and towel. You walk down a few narrow alleys and around a few corners to be shown into a room in which are about fifty men, seemingly doing nothing, and on a gloriously cool day, (comparatively speaking) shown into a little dark room (not a ray of light) about eight by six feet, to find your patient and two other women, two men, a lamp and a native stove full of red-hot coals, the patient covered with a blanket and all of the outside fifty that could crowd in filling up the only doorway and shutting off the air. She was a very sick girl but I surely could not treat her there and told them to bring her to the hospital, which they agreed to do but I guess they were afraid of too much fresh air for she has not arrived yet and so is either much better or dead for she was in a critical condition when I saw her; but one can only suggest what to do in this country, not force anything, and you finally submit to the "dastur" (rule) of the country, for they generally do as they please regardless of what is good for them.

The mosquitoes are singing a good-night lullaby and it is so plain I wonder that you cannot read this set to their music, but I am afraid of the bugs, they are such good alarmer carriers.

(Continued next week.)

Candy Kept the Baby Partners Quiet During the Ceremony.

Four hundred marriages were performed simultaneously at the last wedding celebration at Surat among members of the Lewa Kuntli caste. None of the brides was more than twelve years of age, the majority being from one to seven years old, while the bridegrooms varied from three to nine. Most of the contracting parties sat or lay on the laps of their parents during the ceremony and were given sweets to keep them quiet. The caste only celebrates every ten or twelve years. These baby brides, of course, do not join their husbands when they are married. They wait until they reach the age of ten or eleven, when there is a second marriage. Should a baby bride's husband die before she reaches the age for the second marriage she becomes a widow and has to remain so all her life. In such cases the widow at once loses caste. Her ornaments are taken off her, and she becomes a sort of outcast, hardly treated, looked down upon and generally made a household drudge.

The husband, on the other hand, should his baby bride die before the second marriage, may marry again. In fact, he is expected to do so within a few months of the death of the bride.—Bombay Cor. Philadelphia Ledger.

A Sincere Provider. Bobbie M. was visiting with a neighbor while his mother was in the city on a shopping trip. Bobbie and two other children played at housekeeping in the backyard, and in the course of the housekeeping Maria believed she needed supplies.

"Bobbie, you go for some ice cream and lemons at the grocery," commanded Maria, and Bobbie obediently trotted into the alley at the rear, as Maria believed, "jes' playin'" he was going to the grocery.

Ten minutes later, Mrs. S., with whom Bobbie was visiting, went to the telephone, and the voice of her grocer inquired: "I guess Bobbie has lost the money for the ice cream and lemons he came after. I can't find any change in his pockets. Or did you want the things charged?"—Indianapolis News.

"Stagger" Oil. From the beginning of September until November a small fish called stickleback is caught in considerable quantities off the island of Dunmunde, at the mouth of the Dwina river, in the Gulf of Riga, and also near the island of Semgallen. The general characteristics of Merinos are much the same, but they differ in density of fleece, length of fiber and size of carcass. Some have wrinkles and folds, and others are smooth; some have horns and others are polled.

In the middle woods we find Oxford, Hampshire, Shropshire and Southdowns. These all have dark faces and legs, some being very black and their fleeces are dense and the staple of medium length. The long wools are Lincoln, Leicester, Creswell and Romney Marsh. These sheep have white faces and legs and long, lustrous, coarse wool. Their fleeces are open and they are very large framed sheep.

There are sheep feeders who depend largely on buying sheep in September and feeding them out for market, none being kept during the rest of the year. Some of these make a profit, and others do not. There are others, who will pick up a few ewes, bred for early lambs, push the lambs and sell them off early at good prices, then feed out the ewes and ship them to market. This can be made a good business if purchases can be made readily and with little trouble. Those following this plan will have a little scab to contend with, and, unless they have a good dipping apparatus on the farm, they had better let that go. To get in the way of doing these things the novice should begin modestly and advance with caution.

FARM NOTES.

The silo today furnishes the most economical, the safest and the best means of storing the corn crop for feeding purpose.

Dehorn the calves before they are two weeks old. Cut away the hair around the "button" and moisten. Then rub well with a stick of caustic potash.

Regulate your churn so that the cream will be agitated as much as possible. With rotary barrel churn it should be turned just fast enough for the cream to drop.

In a recent investigation, comprising 100 herds of dairy cattle, conducted in five counties of Iowa, it was learned that the dairymen who reads dairy literature secured nine times the net profit of the non-reader.

The dairymen may have plenty of chores to do, but he is getting an income every day in the year. He isn't like the exclusive grain raiser, a millionaire three months in the year and a pauper the rest of the time.

Generally speaking, it may be said that an acre of red clover should support eight to ten hogs for three to four months. Alfalfa should pasture 12 to 20 head for the same length of time. Alfalfa should not be pastured so closely that mowing will not be necessary. The rule should be to put on only enough hogs to allow one cutting of hay to be taken off during the pasture season.

One of the reasons why failures occur in dairying is because proper attention is not given to details. There are those who take an expansive idea that to look after the more minute portions of the business they would think it a waste of time. For this reason they are always "branching out" on a grander scale, not giving heed to the leakage that is so constantly going on. The old fable that for the want of the shoe the horse was lost, and for the want of the horse the rider was lost, is applicable to all kinds of business. A loose screw may wreck a train; a pin prick cause the loss of a human life.

To advise some farmers to use such feeds as tankage, oil meal, shorts, etc., in feeding hogs will at once result in being met with the statement that, while such feeds make a hog look better, and will make him grow they are too expensive for farmers to afford.

Convince a man against his will and he is of the same opinion still. It is highly important that hogs have a mixed ration, and in feeding a balanced ration not only is profit realized, but the hog's health and happiness are protected.

A recommended ration for hogs is composed of two parts whole corn, one part shorts and one part ground corn, with about one-eighth of entire ration, by weight, of oil meal. To this add about half a pound of tankage daily for each hog.

It is conclusive that the use of some product, like tankage or oil meal, that is rich in protein does lessen the cost of making gains, and under certain circumstances it will lessen it even to a greater extent than generally estimated—a saving of 40 cents per 100 pounds gained by using tankage. Especially is this true when hogs are started on a heavy ration at an early age. If they are growing and fattening at the same time it will pay, and pay well, to use anywhere from 5 to 10 per cent. of protein feed in conjunction with corn.

Farm Sheep and Their Care.—While intelligent care is required in keeping sheep, otherwise the management is no much different than that needed for the other farm animals. An important point is to keep the feet and body dry. After a day or two old, sheep can endure real low temperatures, but moist or wet weather is injurious.

A sheep has no upper incisor teeth. The first set of incisors are known as lamb teeth. At the age of about 1 year the first pair of them in the centre drops out and are replaced by the first pair of adult teeth. The lamb is then known as a yearling. At the age of 2 years it will get a pair of adult teeth, until four pairs appear, when it is known as a "full-mouthed" sheep. At about 8 to 10 years of age they begin to lose these teeth, and they are then known as "broken-mouthed" sheep.

The sheep is said to be able to live on very little food, and yet no animal is more gluttonous if an opportunity presents itself. Its anatomy is such that it should have bulky rather than concentrated foods. It is a grazer by nature and takes to browsing as a secondary method of gaining a livelihood. It will do very well on the best of hay without grain, but, as the hay lacks in quality, a supplementary grain ration will be necessary to afford the nutrition required.

There are three general classes of sheep: Fine wools, middle wools and long wools. The fine wool breeds are the several varieties of Merinos. The general characteristics of Merinos are much the same, but they differ in density of fleece, length of fiber and size of carcass. Some have wrinkles and folds, and others are smooth; some have horns and others are polled.

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Arizona's World Wonder.

The Grand canyon cannot be described in measured terms. Every beholder sees it in a different form, just as the rolling clouds suggest different resemblances to the eyes of the beholder. Begin with the thought of the canyon thirteen miles wide, a mile deep, the Colorado river 200 feet wide imprisoned down in the depths between lofty walls of weather stained granite and rushing wildly on its way. It is buried so deep that only now and then can you get a glimpse of what looks like a little dark ribbon of gray. Above the black granite walls of the river you see what you can easily imagine to be row after row of red brick skyscrapers projecting from the sides of the canyon at acute angles and always pinnacled by imposing towers.

The height of those prodigious skyscrapers and towers cannot be measured by the imagination. They seem to rise a few hundred feet. In reality they tower thousands of feet from the foundation walls. The colors are marvelous.—Leslie's.

Bell of the Old Oregon.

The old bell which on Oct. 22, 1850, tolled from the sidewheel steamer Oregon the news to San Francisco that California had been admitted to the Union is now a part of the exhibit in the pioneer room of the Golden Gate park museum. This heirloom of California history was the ship's bell of the steamer Oregon, which sailed from Panama for San Francisco soon after this state had been admitted to the Union, Sept. 9, 1850. When the steamer sailed through the Golden Gate on the morning of Oct. 22, 1850, and approached Meiggs wharf a sailor tolled the bell incessantly until scores of small boats came alongside and learned what news the vessel brought. The people of San Francisco then heard for the first time that their state had been admitted into the federal union, and festivities ensued. The bell bears the inscription "Oregon, 1848. New York."—Argonaut.

China and the Telegraph.

China was confronted with a stiff problem at the introduction of the telegraph. It was hopeless to think of combining the western Morse dots and dashes in sufficient variety to express the 3,000 or 4,000 characters used by a fairly literate Chinese, not to speak of the entire 40,000 or so known to the highly educated men of that race. A phonetic system was barred by the fact that the same Chinese monosyllable means different things, according to the context or intonation and also by the diversity of dialects. A Dane, Professor Schellerup, found the solution. The 7,000 characters most commonly used are given their equivalents in a code of numerals and these numerals are telegraphed. Thus, "cash" in the code is 6.030. If any one wanted to telegraph the number 6,030 itself he would send the code equivalents of the words "six," "thousand" and "thirty."

Animals and Earthquakes.

One of the mysteries still unsolved is that of the sense by which the lower animals become aware of the approach of earthquakes. For three or four days before a series of earthquakes at Guadalajarra, Mexico, the many parrots of the city showed great and unusual restlessness, and during the period of disturbance the increased cries of the birds gave warning of the nearness of the worst shocks. Rats also became alarmed, fleeing from the city before the earthquakes came. Superstition gives satisfactory explanation, for modern seismographs are very sensitive, and it is quite unlikely that tremors too slight to be recorded would be felt so strongly as to give alarm.

Forgot His Troubles.

As a rule, in later years we remember our pleasant experiences more easily than our troubles. I once visited a village where I found the oldest inhabitant, a frail old man, who regaled me for an hour with quaint and comical reminiscences of his youth. With each fresh anecdote his ready laugh broke out. It appeared as though his life had been one long comedy. "Did you never have any troubles?" I asked. "Why, yes, to be sure," said the patriarch, "but I've forgotten all they, 'cept there was anything funny about 'em."—London Standard.

Obedyed the Order.

Bobbie — I heard you got a letter from your brother? Joey—Indeed I did! Bobbie—Was there anything important in the letter? Joey—Well, I didn't open it, for on the outside of the envelope was printed, "Please return in five days," so I sent it back to him.—New York Globe.

Heard Obscurely.

"What does Harold call his motorboat?" asked Maude. "I can't say exactly," replied Maymie. "But I'm sure what he called it when he was trying to start the engine wasn't the name painted on the bow."—Washington Star.

Seasickness.

An Italian physician, who claims to know, says that "people who are subject to seasickness should use atropine. The injection of one milligram of atropium sulphuricum will keep seasick subjects well and free from the unpleasant symptoms."

A Climber.

"Miss Nurich appears to be quite a society bud."

"Yes; a bud of one of the climbing varieties of plants."—Buffalo Express.

Men prize the thing imagined more than it is. Shakespeare.

A Little Lesson in Lawn Mowing.

Grass should never be cut shorter than two inches on either new or old lawns, for its roots are left unprotected from the scorching sun when it is shorter, and this means that dry or very hot weather will burn it sear and brown. Mow often, even as often as every fourth or fifth day, if necessary to keep it at this height, especially on a new lawn, and never rake away the clippings. They form the best possible mulch and fertilizer and are so short when mowing is done as often and as regularly as it should be that they sift down among the standing grass immediately and are lost to sight. Re-seed all bare spots every spring and take out weeds as fast as they appear, peppering the space which is thus left bare with seed, whatever the season. This is the sort of care and watchfulness that achieve perfection with the minimum of labor, promptness being its chief feature.—From "Suburban Gardens," by Grace Tabor.

Stars and Stripes in the Flag.

The flag of thirteen stars and thirteen stripes was adopted by congress on June 14, 1777. The stars were at first arranged in a circle, but a few years later were placed in rows. After the admission of Vermont and Kentucky to the Union the number of stars and stripes was increased to fifteen each on May 1, 1795, the law to that effect being signed by President Washington Jan. 13, 1794. The flag remained in that form through our wars with France, with Tripoli and with England, on the first voyage of an American warship around Cape Horn and the Cape of Good Hope and in the writing of Key's "Star Spangled Banner." On April 4, 1818, President Monroe signed the present flag law, and on July 4, 1818, the national ensign was made to consist, as at present, of thirteen stripes and of a number of stars equal to the number of states.—New York Tribune.

Tanbark as a Fuel.

Perhaps the most important of waste fuels in the United States has been spent tanbark. A rough estimate would indicate that this material generated a few years ago an amount of steam that would have otherwise required the yearly consumption of about 2,000,000 tons of high grade coal. Yet this valuable fuel was at one time considered a mere detriment and an expense to the leather industry. It was disposed of by dumping it into rivers, filling in waste ground and by making roads with it, often necessitating the paying out of large sums for its disposition. This strikingly illustrates a case of how the improvement of a furnace converted a hitherto supposed combustible into a valuable waste fuel of the autocombustible class and shows how an enormous waste was converted into an equally great economy.—Engineering Magazine.

Fooling the Fox.

The expression "as cunning as a fox" has passed into the language; but, as is the case with most extra cute gentlemen, there are occasions when Master Reynard overreaches himself. Any visitor to the country who has ever examined a chicken house in the middle of a field has probably noticed two or three short pieces of chain hanging over the hole by which the fowls enter. Although they form no obstacle to the birds, who push their way in without the faintest difficulty, they will infallibly prevent a fox from raiding the house. The latter in his superior wisdom takes them to be a trap for his capture, and although he may sit outside hungrily "licking his chops" nothing will induce him to put his head through the chains. Truly a case of a little learning being a dangerous thing.—Pearson's Weekly.

Caesaria, or New Jersey.

What is now the state of New Jersey was part of the territory claimed by the Dutch under the name of New Netherlands. Before the English seized the country something had been done to settle this part, although it had not developed as might have been expected in the fifty years of Dutch occupancy. The Duke of York, as proprietor of the territory newly acquired, ceded in 1664 this southern portion lying between the Delaware river and the sea to Lord John Berkeley and Sir George Carteret. The new province was named Caesaria, or New Jersey, in honor of Carteret, who as governor of the island of Jersey had heroically defended it against the parliamentarians during the great rebellion.

Too Dainty to Wed.

It was a curious reason that moved Beau Brummel to cancel his engagement to marry. A friend asked him why he had broken off the match.

"What could I do, my dear fellow," the exquisite replied, "but cut the connection? I discovered that Lady Mary actually ate cabbage."

Not an Added Attraction.

Neither does it make any difference how brilliant a woman may be, she can't make much of a success at entertaining a young man who has come to see her daughter.—Galveston News.

If They Could See It.

If people could see stagnant air as they can see stagnant water, with the slime and disease obvious to the naked eye, the fresh air fad would be universal.—Collier's.

Fine Combination.

The events of fortune are unexpected and therefore can never be guarded against by men.—Axtell's.

What Makes Flowers Blue.

Of all the many substances that are combined to make a flower, what is the particular one to which is due the blue, red or yellow color? Why, for example, are gentians blue and roses red, and why has no one ever seen a red gentian or a blue rose? The chemist can tell us. Taking the plants that produce really blue—not violet—flowers, he considers which of their constituents is peculiar to them. True blue exists in veronika, salvia, veronica, basil, solanum, pentstemon, nemophila, convolvulus, borage, hound's tongue and in all the orders allied to the gentianaceae and compositae, but never in lupinus, vetches, peas, geraniums, hollyhocks, primulas, roses, balsams, flax, etc. All the blue producing plants just named have a tannin in them which does not exist in the others. This is called caetanin. It is found in coffee, but not in tea. Tea contains another form of tannin, which is the same as that which makes camellias red.—Exchange.

Caring For His Health.

Not many people guard their health so carefully as Sir Tatton Sykes, who in winter wore five or six coats when out riding and shed some of them as he became warmer. Prince Poutakine, however, took even stronger precautions against illness. If there was a touch of cold in the air he had fires lit in his grounds before venturing to stroll in them. His waistcoats were made in two separate pieces, joined at the sides by buttons, so that he could take them off or put on additional ones without removing his coat. If caught in a shower he sheltered himself with an umbrella nearly two feet wide, which came down below his waist and was pierced with little windows. In very hot weather the prince wore boots coated with tin as a protection against mad dogs, and carried sponges soaked with vinegar in his shirt front to ward off unpleasant smells.—Manchester Guardian.

Moon Blunders.

The moon, it seems, is responsible for more authors "howlers" even than nightingales. Baroness Orczy in "Petticoat Government" draws a beautiful picture of a crescent moon rising over the treetops in the far eastern sky at 11 o'clock on a June evening. The picture is so nice that it is a pity to destroy it, but the invention is preposterous. Lucas Malet errs in a similar fashion in one of her novels. Miss Stevens in "The Veil" speaks of the new moon being seen at sunset prayer, "a thin slip in the east." A little study would show that when the moon rises at sunset it must necessarily be a full moon or nearly so. In the same book the full moon rises and sets again within a period of two hours, whereas the full moon is, of necessity, an all night moon.—Book News Monthly.

Little Economies.

A postage stamp will purchase you the use of a dollar for 122 days. Three stamps equal the interest on a dollar for one whole year. Little economies rarely enter into the calculations of the average man or woman—those who earn from \$500 to \$5,000 a year.

Men who smoke cigars easily consume three a day, costing not under 30 cents—enough to pay for the use of \$1,825 for that day! If that \$1,825 were put to work in an intelligent way it might help win bread for the rest of the family.

Mr. Common Man might take a lesson from Big Business in trivial economies. As Franklin quoted: A penny saved is twopence clear; A pin a day's a groat a year.—Philadelphia Ledger.

The Bath as a Tonic.

The bath recommended by Uncle Sam to the army boys as a means of invigorating tired nerves and muscles and promoting an appetite after a hard day's drill immediately suggests itself as the very thing for women. It should be preceded by brushing the teeth and drinking half a pint of cold water, so that the body may be clean within as well as without. This done, the body from head to waist is rapidly swabbed with a sponge, repeatedly wrung out of cold water, after which it is vigorously rubbed with a Turkish towel. This completed, the upper part of the body is dressed and the lower part is given the same treatment. Such a bath is equal to a tonic.—Kansas Farmer.

Cook in Small Vessels.

Meats of all kinds, unless intended for soup, should be cooked in small vessels. To put a small roast in a large pan is wasteful, as there is rapid loss by evaporation, and a large proportion is dried too much. A stew in too large a kettle will require more water to cover than should be used.—Exchange.

Couldn't Lose Him.

"I refused my husband more than a dozen times before he finally persuaded me to be his."

"How did he get you at last?"

"Why, you see, he got an offer to go to another city and had made up his mind to accept it."—Chicago Record-Herald.

The Doctor's Dues.

"The world owes a great deal to medical science."

"And it will be the last debt paid," declared the doctor somewhat bitterly.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Wise Girl. He—What would you say if I were to kiss you? She—I don't know. That sort of speech should always be extemporaneous.—Boston Transcript.

What an inferior man seeks is in others. What a superior man seeks is in himself.—Pulver Lytton.