

A TRAGIC STORY.

There lived a sage in days of yore,
In vain—the puzzled not a pin—
He had a handsome pigtail worn,
But wondered much, and sorrowed more,
Because it hung behind him.
He mused upon this curious case,
And swore he'd change the pigtail's place,
And have it hanging at his face,
Not dangling there behind him.
Says he, "The mystery I've found,—
I'll turn me round,"—he turned him round;
But still it hung behind him.
Then round and round, and out and in,
All day the puzzled sage did spin;
In vain—the puzzled not a pin—
The pigtail hung behind him.
And right, and left, and round about,
And up, and down, and in, and out
He turned; but still the pigtail stout
Hung steadily behind him.
And though his efforts never slack,
And though he twist, and twirl, and tuck,
Alas! still faithful to his back,
The pigtail hangs behind him.
—William Makepeace Thackeray.

The Diamond Fields of Damaraland.

The diamond deposits discovered in Damaraland, German Southwest Africa, three years ago, lie among great sand dunes hundreds of feet in height, which pass in continual motion across the granite plateau. It follows the line of contact between the Orange River and Walvisch Bay. These deposits are a puzzle to geologists, since their place of origin is a mystery, though there seems to be little doubt that they are carried by the sand by the heavy winds that blow from the southwest for nineteen hours out of the twenty-four. The diamonds, which are found mixed with garnets, agates, and other semi-precious stones, vary in size from one-fifth to three-quarters of a carat. They are almost perfect octahedrons, and, though small, are of the purest water. An extraordinary feature of this discovery is that the diamonds resemble the Brazilian rather than the African stone, although the Orange River, which marks the southern boundary of German Southwest Africa, has its source among the volcanic cones or "diamond pipes" of the richest diamond mines in the world and in about Kimberley. There are no fissures in the many miles of granite floor of the new diamond country through which these particles of crystallized carbon might have been forced up from below, and geologists find no suggestion of cones or of what is called "Kimberley formation"—nothing, in fact, that will warrant them in giving an opinion as to the origin of these traveling gems. The general opinion, nevertheless, is that the prevailing southwest winds bring the diamonds from the sea, and scientists do not dispute this theory.

The discovery of diamonds in Damaraland, so far as the white man is concerned, was first made about twenty miles south of Luderitzbucht, the principal port of German Southwest Africa, whence the government is building a railroad across to Keetmanshoop, to connect with the proposed line in British Bechuanaland that will tap the markets of Kimberley and Johannesburg. Here a native, who had worked in the diamond mines of Kimberley and had been impressed into service by the railroad-builders, on his return home picked up two or three crystals from the sand and took them to a station-master with the information that they were diamonds. The station-master ridiculed the idea, but eventually sent the stones to Cape Town, where experts pronounced them to be gems of the purest water.

It may safely be asserted that few contraband gems have left Damaraland since the government assumed control of the fields, though they were probably carried away in great quantities before police supervision became effective. At Luderitzbucht and Swakopmund, the two ports of departure, all outgoing travelers are subjected to systematic search. Not only do the customs authorities require that a passenger's baggage be sent to the wharf for examination three days before the departure of the boat by which he sails, but a thorough search is made of his person and clothing before he goes on board. So careful are the Germans to prevent precious stones being carried away that a photographer, who was recently leaving Luderitzbucht with a five-ounce bottle of salicylate crystals, somewhat resembling diamonds in the rough, which he used in the developing of his plates, was arrested by an ignorant official as a smuggler and thrown into jail. Investigation showed that his diamonds might be crushed by stepping on them, but his ship had sailed before the discovery was made. Many travelers are victims of similar overzealousness at Luderitzbucht and Swakopmund. Last summer a former mayor of Cape Town, a man of the highest standing in South Africa, who had been on a visit to the diamond fields of Damaraland, sailed from Luderitzbucht for his home. His ship was scarcely out of sight of land when the customs officials received information, which was afterward proved to be false, that he had smuggled diamonds away. The ship was to stop for a couple of days to unload cargo at Prinzeburg, sixty miles south, and a squad of soldiers mounted on fast horses were sent along the coast to intercept him there. The ex-mayor was taken off the ship, with his baggage, and everything was searched with the utmost minuteness. His clothes were examined with great care, particular attention being paid to linings and the padding of the shoulders of his coats; his shaving-soap was cut into small pieces, which were crushed flat; the soles of his shoes were probed; the lead was taken out of the cartridges of his revolver and the powder inspected. Nothing remotely resembling a diamond was found, but the ex-mayor was, nevertheless, taken back to Luderitzbucht and thrown into prison, whence he was released without an apology a month afterward.

Father Will Wear Youthful Clothes.

Father is going to cut a dash next year. Just as mother has been dressing like Susie, with stilted heels, skirts almost to her knees, transparent sleeves and coquettish hats, so alike that it is next to impossible to tell 36 from 16, so will father emulate John in his apparel next spring and summer.

The National Association of Clothing Designers decreed it at the closing session of its annual convention at the Royal Palace Hotel, at Atlantic City.

The trim effect, which has figuratively taken years from the shoulders of men of mature years this summer, will remain the vogue next year. The popularity of the pinch-back coat has been tremendous this year. Men of 40 and upward have donned the smart garment and found themselves young again. It would be madness, East agreed with West in the designing world today, to discard a style of such tremendous possibilities, and so it is to stay, with slight modifications.

Corpulent men and ultra-conservative men, while acquiescing in nifty small plaits, which make possible a trim waist effect, have balked at the loose belt. Hence the belt next spring and summer will be applied to the garment for those who prefer it so. The most conservative cut in the ready-to-wear market will have a hint of a waist line. Lapels are to continue narrow.

Nifty dressers will find a turned-up cuff about two inches in width upon their coat sleeves, open at the under side and finished with button and buttonhole. Shoulders will continue "natural," that is to say, with little or no padding. The breast pocket goes. It serves no useful purpose in a sack suit and is a blemish upon an otherwise perfect contour.

Trousers will be trim, to coincide with the form-fitting coat, and the cuff is to stay. There was much debate upon that point. A utilitarian soul who pointed out that the cuff saves wear and tear and causes trousers to hold their shape longer than the uncuffed garment, won the day for the cuff.

Vests have become almost a negligible quantity as style goes. Many men insist upon having the plainest vests possible. That garment, next winter, spring and summer, however, will be trimly cut, like coat and trousers, with one permissible fancy touch—either two or three tiny little plaits at either side, extending upward from the low pocket. Pockets are to be tabbed. The double-breasted vest is a dead issue. It was discussed for five minutes and ruled out of the game.

Overcoats are to be smart garments this winter. Plenty of box backs will be worn because many men like the looseness and comfort which goes with them. But the real thing in overcoats will look as if it were boned, with plaits and a belt in back, either loose or applied to the fabric. It will be short, with a collar, somewhat wider than that of last winter, with both patch pockets and set in; in fact, a garment that will give the head of the family the figure of a youth in his early 20's.

Determined efforts are to be made, it was announced, to bring back the sartorial and the padlock coat because these have the "youthful" effect so much in demand. Few coats will go below the knee line. The pinch-back garment will be decidedly short.

For Girls Who Travel Alone.

Stirred by the fact that 50,000 girls are disappearing annually in the United States the "Woman's Home Companion" has the following advice for girls who travel alone:

1. Before starting to a strange city, write the Travelers' Aid Society to meet you.
2. If alone or your friends fail to meet you, apply to the Travelers' Aid representative or a uniformed official at the railroad station or steamship dock as soon as you arrive.
3. If you need help of any kind, find the authorized Travelers' Aid agent—a uniformed official at the railroad station or steamship dock will direct you to find her.
4. Aim to arrive at your destination in the daytime.
5. What not to do:
 1. Do not start to a strange city or town, even for a night, without previous information about a safe place to stop.
 2. Do not leave home without some extra money for an emergency.
 3. Do not ask or accept information, advice, guidance, or direction except from the Travelers' Aid representatives or uniformed officials.
 4. Do not trust attentions on the train, ship or elsewhere from men or women.
 5. Do not accept offers of work either in person or through advertisements without thorough investigation.
 6. Do not go to strange parts of a city or town at night alone, or escorted by a public porter, or in a cab.

A Potato Race on Horseback.

As played by the cowboys of the southwest, the potato race is not the most familiar of our evening socials. Down there the game is played by eight mounted men, four on each side, and each player has an opportunity to display all his skill in horsemanship. A small square box is set at each goal. In the middle of the field is a third box, filled with potatoes. Each rider is provided with a long, sharp-pointed pole, much like the lances carried by the knights of the tournaments of old. At the crack of the gun, the riders dash at the box in the center of the field, each rider trying to spear a potato and carry it to the box back of his goal. At the same time, the guard on each side try to prevent the scoring of their opponents by blocking them, and by knocking the tuber off the lance when an opposing player has speared a potato. At the end of eight minutes the game is stopped, and the side having the greater number of potatoes in its goal box, wins.—"Reformatory Record."

—Read the "Watchman" to get all the news that's going.

Centre County Has a Wonderful Record for Citizen soldiery

The present campaign of national preparedness and the trouble with Mexico which led the President to call out the National Guard throughout the United States naturally creates considerable interest in all things military. And the additional fact that Bellefonte and Centre county are represented at the front by a Troop of cavalry calls to mind the fact that the sons of the county have always been patriotic.

In 1858 or '59, the old Bellefonte Fencibles were organized and James A. Beaver, then a law student, was made first lieutenant. Hardly had the echo of the guns died away after the firing on Fort Sumpter in the spring of 1861 till the Fencibles responded to President Lincoln's call for volunteers and were sworn into service on April 21st of that year. Upward of 6,000 Centre countians saw service during the Civil war, the county being represented in every battle of any consequence. The same spirit which induced those men to go to the front has prevailed since, and Bellefonte has always figured in the National Guard of the State, as will be seen from the following article published in the "Bellefonte Republican" of March 21st, 1912:

Bellefonte Fencibles of 32 Years Ago.
A good friend of "The Republican" several days ago happened to remark that he had in his possession an old newspaper clipping which recalled the days of "The Bellefonte Fencibles," and at our earnest solicitation it was furnished us that we might reproduce the article. Many of those who figured in the old military company have long since responded to the sounding of "taps," but there are today in Bellefonte and in other places quite a few of the survivors of what was in its day a crack military organization after the close of the Civil war.

Before the war there was organized here what was known as the "Bellefonte Fencibles," the members of which subsequently performed valiant service on the field of battle. After the war a new command was formed, also known as "The Bellefonte Fencibles," and then mustered into the National Guard as B Company, Fifth Regiment Infantry. It was of this organization the article in question was written. As you read the following, just leap in mind that it was published on May 21, 1880, or almost thirty-two years ago, and also note mentally the number of participants who have since passed into the Great Beyond:

Since our notice a few days ago of the disbandment of "B" company, Fifth Regiment, N. G. of Pa., quite a gratifying change has taken place in the spirit of Bellefonte military circles.

A number of gentlemen met at the office of Colonel Hastings yesterday and resolved to reorganize the "Bellefonte Fencibles," a military organization of many years' standing in this place before the war. At noon yesterday the roll of the Fencibles numbered thirty-five, the names being as follows:

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| Amos Mullen | Wilbur F. Malin |
| H. A. Williams | William Burnsides |
| Harry S. Hale | Harry M. Kephart |
| J. L. Spangler | J. H. Crissman |
| J. D. Geisinger | Edward Powers |
| E. A. Smith | Lewis Sunday |
| W. C. Heinle | Geo. W. Eaton |
| Orin L. Hoover | Elgar B. Greene |
| Wilbur F. Reader | Thos. A. Book |
| George L. Potter | W. Stewart, Jr. |
| W. A. Sweeney | W. A. Lyon |
| R. B. Spangler | B. Frank Keller |
| C. Burnsides | A. J. Cruse |
| W. A. Morrison | A. A. Dale |
| Lawrence L. Brown | John N. Lane |
| D. F. Fortney | K. Williams |
| E. C. Harper | E. L. Gray |
| Harry S. Sayres. | |

We learn from Colonel Hastings that only a limited number will be added to the above roll, as the company will be complete with fifty-two members.

The papers will be forwarded to the proper authorities on Monday next, and an order for the election of company officers will soon follow.

The Fencibles will be assigned to duty as Company B in Fifth regiment N. G. of Pa.

A short time later the same news-

Eleven Thousand Acres Reclaimed From an Eastern Swamp.

One of the largest and most scientific agricultural enterprises in the eastern part of the United States is a farm in western New York. The "Popular Mechanics Magazine" tells of the scientific methods used on this big farm, which has been in the course of development for the last three years. This farm comprises 11,000 acres, and is two miles long and nine miles wide. A trip of sixty miles is required to pay off all the help. The undertaking is backed by New York financiers and is managed by a civil engineer, who is also a scientific farmer.

The land comprising this farm was originally a vast, undrained swamp, and its reclamation was accomplished only by employing a dredge which cut a deep main canal, with many lateral branches, through the tract. As the water was drained, lumbermen were put on it to clear off the trees, and stumps with axes and dynamite. These workmen were followed by others with five-gang plows, etc., drawn by caterpillar tractors of light construction. These light engines have almost wholly supplanted horses on the farm, and are a source of special interest to the boys of the farmers. One tractor has eight times the pulling power of a horse.

Of the 4000 acres of muck land in the tract, only about 1000 acres have been reclaimed and are now in use. Much of the farm is devoted to truck gardening conducted on a strictly sci-

entific basis. A cost system is maintained and it is possible to know just what each crop cost.

All the produce is prepared for shipment according to factory methods. The crates are made on the farm, a special nailing machine being one of the labor-saving devices used in their construction. The workmen are well provided for with bungalows of modern type and with modern social conveniences, and such improvements as telephones, electric lights, etc. An evidence of the success of the enterprise is that much of the land is now valued at \$500 per acre.

The Gentle Art of Smiling.

"A mother had a little girl, her first child, who seemed to have been born with a scowl. Perfectly well, still she had a morose disposition which it seemed as though nothing could altar. When a second child was born, the mother made a rule that no one should look at the baby without a smile. With the imitation of childhood the baby at once began, even in her early weeks, to smile back, and as she grew, and the rule still held in the home, she developed into what everyone who knew her called 'the smiling baby,' and grew up with the sunniest disposition, a joy to everyone. Now what that mother did, any mother can do. A child may actually inherit a serious, even a sullen disposition, yet these may be crowded out while they are undeveloped, by the habit of cheerfulness."

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT

And as for me, let what will come, I can receive no damage from it, unless I think it a calamity; and it is in my power to think it none, if I so decide.—Marcus Aurelius.

One of the best treatments for moles, warts, and other pigmentary or excrescent blemishes is electrolysis. The manner of operation is to run the tiny electric needle just under the top cuticle of the mole and to turn on the current, thus destroying the discolored surface. A red scar remains for a little while, then gradually whitens and in a very brief time disappears altogether. The use of strong acids for the removal of warts and moles is very dangerous.

Giving the skin a buttermilk bath may be disagreeable to contemplate, but it will not seem so after a trial has been given and the results manifested. Buttermilk will make the skin soft and smooth. It is nourishing as well as whitening. When using have at least a quart and lave it on the face and hands just as if using water. Then apply it to the neck and arms with a sponge, letting it dry on. In the morning wash the skin with warm water and a little soap.

No fruit jar that has been standing for weeks is free from germs. Before putting fruit in them they should be thoroughly sterilized by boiling in soda water.

When marking linen handkerchiefs with indelible ink, first starch the handkerchiefs and iron them smooth. Then you can mark them clearly with ease.

When making egg custard pies always heat the milk to the boiling point before mixing it with the eggs. If this rule is followed the undercrust will always be crisp.

When you have no one to hold the yarn while you wind it, place two flatrons the proper distance apart, on the table, stretch the yarn to them and wind it conveniently.

Short dresses are becoming more popular every day. Those who first frowned on them now admire them and say that they are not only sensible, but becoming as well as economical.

With a short dress a woman has some liberty. She has her hands free to use. She may look round about her without the fear that while she is doing it somebody will put a foot through her two-dollar-a-yard lace and tramp off with a couple of yards of it. She may get out of the street car without looking back to see if she is clear behind and safe from being dragged along and perhaps maimed for life.

She can defy rain and mud. She doesn't have to go round a wisp of straw lest she take it up on her fringes. She can cross a street without stepping on her dress and falling down in the mud for the nearest policeman to pick her up and all the boys to laugh at and watch to see her do it next time.

If she has a pretty foot she can show it, and if she has a homely foot everybody knew it before, so there will be nothing lost there.

Learn repose. In this you will find a greater power than all the concentrated nervous tension in the world. The woman who has mastered repose will find that her nerves respond to her bidding—not she to their whims.

To learn repose, practice sitting in all kinds of chairs, letting the chair do the work it was intended to do. Few women sit gracefully and "unconsciously." They sit too far back, too far forward, too straight, or on the middle of their back-bone, and instead of relaxing they are taut with the tension of their nerves.

Practice lying in bed relaxed and enjoy a restful sleep, instead of fatiguing slumber so common to most women of this country. Relax the muscles absolutely when lying down and do not rest the head on a high pillow. No pillow is best, but in case you feel you must sleep with the head raised the smaller the pillow the better. Study the sleeping pose of a little child and try to make yours as natural as the child's. If you succeed in relaxing the muscles, the mind will cease its activity and wholesome, undisturbed sleep will follow.

Unnecessary force is used in talking. Repose will conserve the surplus energy wasted in this way. Once the art of speaking quietly is mastered the entire nervous system will re-shape itself into place—like a rubber band that has been stretched and then released. There is a close sympathy between the nervous system and the voice. It is a noticeable fact that under stress of excitement, irritability or any strong emotion the voice even of a soft spoken woman will become higher and more tense.

If your voice is loud, begin today to practice speaking softly and quietly. You will be surprised to note how quickly your entire system will respond in kind. It is a pleasure to be in the company of a soft-voiced woman.

Tight fitting ankle-height bathing shoes of crinkled rubber are among the season's novelties this season. The shoes have no opening except that at the top, and they are pulled on as gloves are. They fit the foot smoothly and close snugly around the ankle. They come in several shades and are trimmed with strips of rubber in contrasting colors. Their advantage is that they have no ribbons to become untied, or to get so wet that they are difficult to untie upon removal of the shoe, and the shoes themselves are dry within a few seconds after taking them off.

The new rain coats are made of oil silk, and are transparent. Bright reds, blues, lavender and green are some of the hues.

FARM NOTES.

—Oats and barley, or oats, peas and barley, are excellent combinations for dairy forage.

—Because the pastures are short in summer it does not warrant us in neglecting our pastures.

—To get rid of weeds manure the land. Weeds occupy land because grass will not grow on it.

—Corn, alfalfa, clover and grass—these four plants furnish 90 per cent. of the coarse food used for animals.

—Sore or chapped teats are due to exposure or cold, wet weather and rough handling. Treat with lard or vaseline.

—If the farmer is slipshod in his farm methods, it doesn't make much difference whether he has a high record cow or a scrub, he is not going to be very successful.

—There are many cows in this country capable of producing 400 pounds of butter in a year, but not one of them, so far as we have knowledge, came from a scrub sire.

—Raise the collars of the horses' shoulders frequently, and with the hand rub down the shoulders well. This may be done when allowing the horses to stand for a breath of fresh air. It will cool the shoulder, remove the sweat and prevent, to a considerable extent, scalding.

—Rev. V. B. Mayer, of Casanova, Va., has wintered a flock of milch goats in timber without bought feeds, getting three or four quarts of milk per day. He claims to have saved several babies with goats' milk, and has demonstrated the freedom of goats from tuberculosis and other diseases.

—Spray pumps of many different sizes and types will give good results on the farm. Bucket pumps, knapsack sprayers and automatic sprayers will be useful in the garden and orchard, as well as in the hen house, although a longer hose or extension rod will be needed in the orchard. A barrel pump or power sprayer may be used with good results if it is already on hand, but is more expensive than the average farm needs for hen house work.

—It will be necessary to plant a succession of pasture crops for your hogs if you do not have sufficient permanent pasture. Cheap pork cannot be produced in pens; the hogs must have pasture crops that supply plenty of grazing of the right kind. Even where one has but one brood sow and expects to raise two litters a year some grazing must be had to give the proper gains on the pigs. Make your arrangements for pasture crops for your hogs.

—Don't be careless about watering the colt. He should be given water just as often and as regularly as any of the other animals in the barn, and must have it if he is to grow as he should. Better arrange it so he can run in the open lot where he can get at the watering trough whenever he feels like it. The more of the better weather he spends in the open the better he will get through his first winter. Of course in bad weather and at night the place for him is in the stall.

—Thorough spraying is essential, especially where the grapes have rotted badly, to insure the growth of good fruits.

It is the custom of some grape growers to cut off the grape shoots which have developed and formed a dense growth above the grapes to let in the sun. Some authorities, however, claim that observations have shown that grapes will ripen as well or better, even though heavily shaded, than when exposed to the light of the sun.—Philadelphia "Record."

—My best small investment was the sum of 90 cents spent for a pound of Italian onion seed. I planted all of it except about a tablespoonful, on a little less than a third of an acre, and gathered and sold 10,500 pounds of onions at two cents a pound. Thus my 90-cent investment returned \$210. But that was not all.

In August of the same year after I had gathered my onions, I planted one third of the same piece of ground in black wax beans, and sold \$85 worth of those besides what were consumed at home.

So my total returns were \$295 from a one-third-acre patch.

—A bright, green, smooth lawn about a house is like a neat dress on a pretty girl. She may be a nice girl and not have it, but her niceness is more noticeable if she has.

—Most lawns which are made by sowing the seed are better than those on which sods are placed.

Use plenty of seed. Twice as much as is necessary will do no harm. No lawn was ever seen on which the grass grew too thick.

Sow on a still day, and sow a second time, walking at right angles to the first sowing. This will tend to make the stand even.

After sowing, roll the ground well or beat it flat with a spade.

Spring sowing should be made as early as possible. In the northern States say from the middle of March to the first of May. From the middle of August to the middle of September is the best time for fall sowing. Nurse crops may be dispensed with unless the sowing is done in hot weather. In the latter case a light sowing of rye or oats will protect the young grass from the hot sun.

Drain wet spots, but moist spots will grow the best lawn. The bare of the lawn is weeds. They are of two classes—those which will be killed by frequent clipping, and those which will not. Dandelion and plantains are the worst. They may be killed by digging them up, and that is about the best way. Another way which is recommended by some experts is to take a wooden skewer, dip it into sulphuric acid, being careful not to drop any of it on the skin or clothes, and stick it into the heart of the cut-off weed at the surface of the ground.

It doesn't thicken a lawn to let it run up to seed. Keep it clipped, fertilize it, and rake in grass seed to fill up the bare spots. The favorite lawn mixture is Kentucky blue grass and white clover.