

Making a Victoria Cross.

Ever since the Victoria cross was instituted by Queen Victoria at the end of the Crimean war the making of the medals has been in the hands of the same firm. The ordinary medal is made from a steel die, being stamped and completed in the same process. But the metal from which the Victoria crosses are made is so hard that no die would stand it without breaking. It is well known that the first crosses were made from captured Russian guns, but now the materials come from guns taken from the Chinese. With an order for the cross is sent a supply of the metal.

First a rough cast of the cross is made, and this has to be filed, drilled and chased. The chasing occupies the attention of a skilled artisan for many hours. The bar is a separate casting and is also chased. The authorities are most careful to see that none of the metal is wasted. It is most carefully served out, and if any is left over from one lot of crosses it is used up before a fresh supply can be obtained.—London Globe.

Signing Diplomatic Notes.

No one can say exactly why our secretaries of state sign diplomatic communications with their surnames only, except that it has always been so. We copied the custom from European chancelleries, and it probably has its origin in the habit of royalty, which is to sign with one name only. Thus King George of England signs himself "George, R. I." (Rex, Imperator—King, Emperor); Sir Edward Grey signed always as "Grey;" the democratic Mr. Bryan when secretary of state affixed his signature to diplomatic notes as "Bryan." At first sight there seems to be a profound flattery implied in the custom. It assumes that the signer cannot be mistaken; that there is only one "George," and "Grey," and "Bryan." And generally there is only one in the diplomatic world where these exchanges take place.—New York Sun.

Effects of Arsenic.

"Arsenic, as science has long told us, is an accumulative poison," said a druggist. "When one takes it either by prescription for the rebuilding of an appetite or for the bleaching of the skin he does not feel any ill effects for several years. The effect of the drug is bracing and makes a person feel like eating. It also aids the digestion. The average user of the poison takes it in such small quantities that he does not realize how much of it will accumulate in his system in the course of four or five years.

"Being an accumulative poison, it often takes that length of time to see the results of the drug. Then the user may complain of not being able to control his fingers or toes. Subsequently he loses control of his hands and arms. Paralysis, superinduced by arsenical poisoning, is the fearful result."

Get There All Right.

Many years ago, at the beginning of November, a missive bearing the St. Albans postmark reached St. Martin's. The envelope was addressed "Jude mar lunding." Neither tall nor head could be made out of this by the staff, so the envelope was opened for a clew. The letter read, "kenyobiauostoyosho bil igs."

The practiced St. Martin's decipherer of puzzles promptly made out the signature as "Bill Higgs." With the key this afforded the rest was deliciously easy. The message was, "Can you buy a horse for your show?" and "Jude mar" meant "lord mayor." So the letter, with an official translation considerably appended, was delivered to the lord mayor elect.—London Mail.

Many Uses For Sawdust.

Sawdust is valuable. It can be used for almost anything except food. Used as an absorbent for nitroglycerin it produces dynamite. Used with clay and burned it produces a terra cotta brick full of small cavities that, owing to its lightness and its properties as a nonconductor, makes excellent fire-proof material for walls or floors. Treating it with fused caustic alkali produces oxalic acid. Treating it with sulphuric acid and fermenting it with the sugar so formed produces alcohol. Mixed with a suitable binder and compressed it can be used for making moldings and imitation carvings. If mixed with portland cement it produces a flooring material.—Philadelphia Record.

Ivory in Siberia.

An enormous supply of ivory exists in the frozen tundras of Siberia, which, it is thought, will probably suffice for the world's consumption for many years to come. This ivory consists of the tusks of the extinct species of elephants called mammoths. The tusks of these animals were of great size and are wonderfully abundant at some places in Siberia, where the frost has perfectly preserved them.

Tree In a Chimney.

On the island of Trinidad is a lone brick chimney which once was part of a sugar mill long since gone to ruin. The chimney has remained intact, and a tree has grown up through the center and pushed its branches through the top.

Love.

At twenty love is a rosy dream, at thirty it is a thrilling reality, at forty it is a calm contentment, and at fifty it is a reminiscence.

—Subscribe for the "Watchman."

Worked the Car Owners.

Quite recently patrons of a well known New York restaurant, who were in the habit of leaving their cars unattended outside, uncovered the methods of a new kind of practical joker, new because he was practical.

It appears that almost every day some one would have trouble in getting his car started. After he had tinkered for a few minutes an obliging mechanic would stroll up, proffer his aid and have the engine running in no time. Two actors happened to compare notes one day and found that this incident had occurred to both of them. They immediately became suspicious and on leaving the restaurant saw the man working at a car a short distance down the street. By quick action one of them pounced on him and caught him. He was the obliging mechanic, and after his arrest it developed that he had deliberately disconnected portions of the cars' electrical systems and then had collected substantial rewards from puzzled owners for services rendered in starting the machines.—Motor Life.

How Wood Shrinks.

Students in the college of forestry at the University of Washington have proved by experiment that a cord of full length wood when saved and re-piled in the ordinary stack shrinks on an average 24.76 per cent. As dealers buy wood in full lengths and usually measure it for delivery before sawing it, they are often accused of giving short measure.

A "cord" is the standard measurement of wood, and it is defined as 128 cubic feet of wood, measured by a pile four feet high and eight feet wide of logs four feet long.

The discrepancy between the cord as bought by the dealer and as delivered to the customer, according to Professor Hugo Winkler, dean of the college, is not entirely explained by the sawdust. When wood is piled up in four foot lengths, there are many spaces between sticks, caused by knots and curvatures. These spaces are eliminated when the wood is cut up small.

Ancestry of Modern Dogs.

According to Charles R. Eastman, writing in the Museum Journal, our modern dogs have a varied ancestry, some being descended from Asiatic and some from African species. The spitz in all its varieties is a domesticated jackal. The mastiff and St. Bernard and their kind are descended through the molossus of the Romans from a huge, wolflike creature that was already domesticated by the Assyrians 3,000 years before our era.

The Russian borzoi and the Sicilian hound had their origin in the Cretan hound, which is still common in Crete, and it and its cousin, the Ibiza hound of the Balearic Islands, came from the ancient Ethiopian hound, which was a domesticated wolf. The collie or shepherd dog seems to come down direct from a small wild dog of the paleolithic period.

Here's a Tip About Hotel Guests.

In the American Magazine a writer says: "Here's a funny thing, by the way, that I've noticed about hotel guests: You leave a soiled towel in a room and the guest will probably complain, but you can leave a bucket of paint and a paper hanger's scaffold in the hallway and compel the guest to crawl under a stepladder to get to his room and he will put up with it cheerfully, because he knows you are painting or papering by way of making an improvement and he is in sympathy with that. It doesn't cost much to make over a carpet so that a bare spot in front of the dresser will be eliminated, but such little details are a vast help in making a hotel prosper."

The "Only Child."

When parents have an "only child" it seems to get as much attention as six or eight children in a large family. Some statistics show that out of a hundred "only children" eighty-seven were nervous, the girls suffering worse than the boys. And then the statisticians say the only child lacks self-reliance, is precocious, vain and unsocial, is often extremely timid, being afraid of dark rooms and of sleeping alone.—Exchange.

It's an Ill Wind.

"Rejected you, did she, old man?" "Yes." "Too bad! No doubt you had planned to buy her a ring and all that?" "Yes." "Had your money all saved up, eh?" "I should say so. Had \$50 all ready." "I say, old man, you—er—couldn't lend me that \$50 till you find some other girl who will have you, could you?"—Boston Transcript.

Worse Still.

"Does your father ever comment on my staying so late at night?" "No, Algernon." "That's good." "But he sometimes makes sarcastic remarks about your staying so early in the morning."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Cause and Effect.

She—So you danced with Miss Light-foot at the ball last night? He—Yes. Did she tell you? She—Oh, no. But I saw her going into a chiroprapist's this morning.

Mosquito Netting.

Mosquito netting is an ancient Greek if not Egyptian invention, even if it does seem a Yankee idea.

It is easier for the generous to forgive than for the offense to ask it.—Thomson.

What It Would Be.

A teacher was endeavoring to explain the term "facsimile" to his class. "Now," he remarked to one sharp youth, "what is your father's trade or profession?"

"He's a lithographer," was the reply. "Very well. Supposing a man came to your father with a document which he wanted reproducing in every particular, your father agreed and the document was faithfully copied, what would it be?"

"Well," replied the boy thoughtfully, "it depends."

"On what?" asked the teacher.

"On the document."

"How so?"

"Well, if it was a ten dollar bill, for instance, the other would be a counterfeit. If the document was a check the copy would be a forgery."

"You don't understand what I mean."

"Oh, yes, I'm quite sure I do," went on the boy. "I'm just coming to it now. In either case I reckon it would be about ten years."

Bostones.

"When the Boston girl wishes her pet dog to stand on his hind legs," remarked the observer of events and things, "she requests him to assume a rampant attitude."—Yonkers Statesman.

Surnames.

Surnames were introduced into England by the Normans and were adopted by the nobility in 1100.

PRACTICAL HEALTH HINT.

Headache and Sick Stomach.

This condition results from imperfect digestion. Whether it has been caused by eating too much food, which has disturbed digestion, the treatment remains the same, and this is to empty the stomach. Drinking one tumblerful of water after another as rapidly as possible until six or eight glasses are taken is the quickest way of washing offending substances out of the stomach. If this is done in ten minutes one will have relief from the sick feeling and headache and be ready to go to sleep or to go out again in comfort. This method of treating a sick headache is also good for attacks of acute indigestion. Half an hour after the stomach has become comfortable it is well to take a seltitz powder or a dose of citrate of magnesia. Either of these remedies will bring up the gas, sweeten the stomach and give one a clean, pleasant taste in the mouth.

Mr. and Mrs. Romanoff are Hoeing Potatoes.

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Romanoff, with the Misses and Master Romanoff, have joined the "back-to-the-soil" movement. They are hoeing potatoes in the park of Tsarkoe Selo palace—where the same group, when they

were known as the royal family, used to deal out life and death to all the Russians.

The spectacle of the seven members of the erstwhile royalty garbed in peasants' clothing and doing peasants' work, is being enjoyed by big audiences daily. Soldiers and civilians alike line the fence to the estate, peering through the steel bars and

watching every movement of the shovels and trowels that the former czar, czarina, czarevitch and the four grand duchesses make.

—According to their latest statements, Canadian banks had on deposit something more than \$1,500,000,000. Last year's increase was \$232,000,000.

SATURDAY

BAKING day. A roaring hot fire! Goodness knows it's hot enough anywhere this weather, but that kitchen is almost unbearable. Why should it be? There's another way. All over this nation busy housewives are using

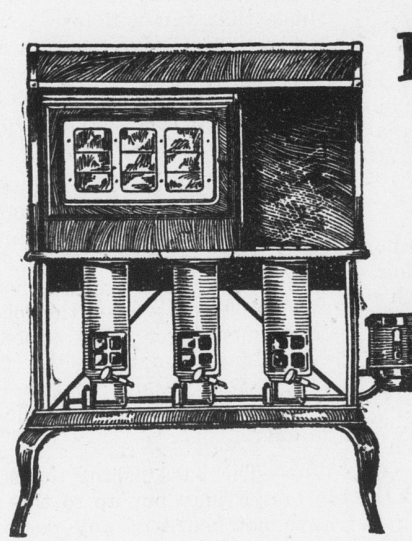
NEW PERFECTION OIL COOK-STOVES

and they get the same big brown loaves, crisp cookies and flaky pies without heating up the whole house and wearing themselves all out.

A Perfection is always ready to fry, boil or roast. No waiting for the fire to draw up. No carrying wood, shoveling coal and toting ashes. The fireless cooker and the separate oven are two big features. Ask your dealer.

Perfection Oil Cook Stoves burn the most economical of fuels—kerosene. And the best kerosene is Atlantic Rayolight. Ask for it at the store that displays this sign: "Atlantic Rayolight Oil for Sale Here."

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Dry Goods.

Dry Goods.

LYON & COMPANY.

Mid-Summer Sale of White

We have too many Under Summer Muslins and will have to make a sale to reduce our stock. We have made special lots of the following:

NIGHT GOWNS.

Low neck, short sleeves, good quality nainsook, choice of lace or Embroidery and scalloped trimmed, value 75c, sale price 48c.

CORSET COVERS.

Lace or Embroidered trimmed, all sizes, qualities 35 cents and 50 cents, sale price 23c.

Better Quality in the exclusive Dove Brand,

Made of fine Nainsook val. lace or fine embroidery trimmed, reinforced arm holes, well finished, quality 75c, sale price 48c.

Dove Brand, Silk Crepe de Chine Envelope Chemise, quality \$3.50, our price \$2.25.

Dove Brand, Silk Crepe de Chine Wash Satin Corset Covers: quality \$1.50, our price \$1.00.

Dove Brand Night Gowns, Umbrella Drawers, and Petticoats at less than cost to manufacture.

COAT SUITS AND COATS

We have a large assortment of Suits and Coats, all colors, all sizes, at greatly reduced prices.

SILK HOSE.

All our Silk Hose must be sold at a sacrifice during this sale. 65c Silk Boot, Black and White, our price 35c. Pure Silk Hose, black, white and colors, value \$1.35, our price 95 cents.

SILK GLOVES.

All sizes in Silk Gloves, colors black and white, \$1.00 quality, our price 75 cents.

SHOES!

SHOES!!

Why pay more for Shoes when we can sell you Shoes at the old price. Men's, Women's and Children's Shoes at the old price. Men's Shoes from \$1.75 a pair up. Ladies' Shoes from \$1.50 a pair up. Children's Shoes from 75 cents a pair up. Come in and look over our stock, you will surely be pleased and save money.

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The policy of Strouse & Brothers, their makers, involves small profit on large sales. And this sterling product, backed by our warranty, and that of its makers, assures service unexcelled.

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