

CONCERNING MISSIONARIES.

Hereafter They Must Speak the Native Language Fluently.

News comes from Boston, says the Illustrated American, that the association of foreign missions, whose headquarters are in that city, has decided that henceforth no missionary will be allowed to assume active work at an important post until he has acquired an intimate acquaintance with the language of the people among whom he is to labor.

It has been ascertained that the work of conversion is frequently seriously hampered, if not actually prevented, by the inability of the missionaries to converse with the heathens in their own vernacular.

An amusing instance of the embarrassment that frequently results from this condition of affairs is related by a missionary who labored for seven long years to bring Lobengula, the Matabele King, to a sense of his responsibilities.

"At last," the missionary tells, "I wanted to leave Lobengula, not because I was unhappy or disliked him, but my teeth are not good, and I had read in a newspaper that a dentist had arrived in Pretoria; so I explained to the King that I wished to go and have my teeth attended to.

"Now, instead of saying I wanted to have some new teeth put in, I used a word in the Matabele language that meant 'grow,' so that I was understood to say I wanted to go to Pretoria to 'grow some new teeth.'

"This struck not only the King, but his chiefs, as a very foolish excuse, or as an undue tax upon their credulity, and it angered the King.

"For seven years you have been telling me lies," he exclaimed, "and I will be cursed if I will let you go."

So it is plain that missionaries should master something more than a superficial knowledge of the language of those among whom they work—particularly if they are liable to have trouble with their teeth.

Breaking It Gently.

An old sportsman tells the following story: In the summer of '85 I was traveling among the back lakes of Ontario, and thought I should like to take home a good birch canoe. There was a half-breed named Truckee, who was famous for his canoes, so I sought him out and asked him if he could build me one. He was reclining in the sun by his door, and whittling a stick at the time. He replied slowly:

"Well, I dunno, I'm terrible busy. What size do you want?"

"To hold two men and a hundred weight of baggage."

"Well, I dunno. There's a terrible lot of work about a canoe like that."

"I know that. I don't expect to get it for nothing."

"Ye see, it ain't like it was twenty years ago, when I could cut a dozen canoe barks right at the door."

"Of course not," I said.

"Besides, real good cedar ain't so plenty as it used to be."

"I know all that, but what is it to cost?"

"Then, I've seen the time I could just step to the swamp with a spade and get all the tamarac ribs I wanted in five minutes, but it ain't like that now. I suppose I'd ha' to go half a mile or more for 'em."

"I know all that. What I want to know is how—"

"An' maybe you think it's no trick to get just the right sort of gum just when ye want it for caulking."

"Botheration! Are you going to tell me or not?"

"Another thing. It ain't every man you meet can build a canoe."

"Do you think I'd be here fooling around if I thought it was?"

"Well, I dunno. There's a terrible lot of work about it. It's near a two weeks' job, an' wages is away up now. It ain't like it was twenty years ago, I tell you. Canoe building was cheap then, but we got to squeal for it nowadays, specially when they is built to order."

"Now, look here," said I. "I'm not beating you down, and I don't want any more explanation. Once for all—what would she cost?"

"Well, I dunno; ye crowd a man when he's busy. Ye have to pay for it. I dunno, but I guess ye can't get that canoe under fo' dollars, an' I ain't particular to do it at that, even."

The Scene of Conflict.

"This talk," said the bachelor, "of woman's engaging in the pursuits of man is all nonsense."

"I don't know," said his friend, doubtfully.

"There is no doubt about it. Suppose a war should arise. Women couldn't fight, could they?"

"What's the reason they couldn't?"

"Why, because they are not naturally constituted for warfare."

"Humph! Just come over to the bargain counter in our dry goods store some day and you'll change your mind."

Settled Right on the Start.

Young Mrs. Gotrox (at her first breakfast with her elderly "catch") said to her husband:

"You eat with your knife, don't you, John, dear?"

Old Mr. Gotrox (noticing his opportunity, and with severity and dignity):

"No, madam, I do not. I eat with my mouth. I frequently convey food from my plate to my facial aperture with my knife, but I do my own eating with my own exclusive mouth, and until further notice I will myself furnish all the instructions about the methods to be employed."

A Clear Case.

Sweet Girl—The man I marry must be both brave and brainy.

Advising Youth—When we were out sailing and upset I saved you from a watery grave.

"That was brave, I admit, but it was not brainy."

"Yes, it was; I upset the boat on purpose."—Pearson's Weekly.

Cheated.

Aunt (to Tommy, who has been to the menagerie)—Well, Tommy, did you see the tiger?

Tommy (whispering)—Yes; b-b-but—Aunt—But what—what are you crying about?

Tommy—They wouldn't let me poke him.—Puck.

Not That Kind of Young Man.

Maudie—What did young Fitzoodle do when you rejected him? Did he get down on his knees?

Ethel—No; he went off on his car.—Truth.

PARTICULARLY FOR WOMEN.

Braids are used in all shades for trimmings.

Frills, fluffings, bouffees, festoons and tichus are fashionable.

Very pale note paper, with the monogram, is the latest fancy.

Velvet blouse waists, having sleeves of soft satin, plain or shaded, are popular.

Dear girls, the only way to catch a man is to start and run the other way as fast as you can.

They do not insist upon the exact age of thirty, but declare that the age of attractiveness must fall within a margin of two or three years on either side of thirty.

The colors that are most in vogue now are the dark yellow-green, rose-tans and browns. Cardinal and violet are still popular. But a reaction in favor of mixed colors is coming in.

The French novelists, who profess to know more about the fair sex than anybody else, have come to a substantial agreement upon the proposition that woman is at her most attractive, and, therefore, most dangerous age when she has reached thirty.

Cunning little penwipers are made of parti-colored felt. Pieces of dull yellow are cut to represent face, hands and feet. These are marked with ink and attached to several layers that imitate the smock of a Chinaman. There need be no attempt to show the girdle, and yet the whole effect is simple and clever.

English cotton couch covers are quite the fashion for bedrooms. They come in a variety of desirable colorings and are said to wash as well as counterpane of cotton. A covering for a bedroom couch of a striking red, with a border and figures, is copied from the Arabic prayer rug. Window draperies of silkline are lined with white cheese cloth and coverings for the bed are made of the same material in the same way. They are bordered with a fluted fringe.

A pretty fashion is to make a tea-cloth of a large napkin or damask linen, working the design on the border in Oriental style in bright colored silks with an outline thread of gilt, which will not tarnish when washed.

Trims with Russian lace four inches wide. Yellow linens are much liked for tea and lunch cloths. One having an all-over pattern, worked partly in outline stitch and partly filled in with white rope silk, is remarkably rich.

To make a woolen fringe, crochet any ordinary open-work pattern out of single zephyr for the foundation, and fasten to each point or scallop fluffy balls made by winding the wool around a fork, in and out, in the form of a figure eight. When it is sufficiently thick pass a strong thread around the wool two or three times where it crosses in the center; tie the ends and cut off the ends. Slip the wool on each side and the ends will spring back and form a round ball.

Trimming a lamp is now a science. As some one says that the cake made by a lady is always better than any other put on the counters, so lamp trimming needs hands of accuracy and refinement. Keep cheese cloth squares for wiping off the lamps. The wicks should be trimmed with the sharp edge of a visiting card, or with a pocket-knife, heated red hot and passed over the wick. This last method is a little troublesome, but it removes the charred part evenly.

Wicks used for a long time, even when they do not become very short, grow thick and are apt to give forth an unpleasant odor. They should be removed once a month at least. In duplex burners one wick should be trimmed in the opposite direction from the other. Round wicks should be trimmed toward the center. Burners should be wiped free from bits of charred wick and drops of oil every day. Every now and then they should be boiled in strong soapuds, to make them perfectly clean. When they have been used a long time they need replacing.

They laugh to scorn the budding charms of the young miss, and are equally contemptuous of the wiles of the sirens of forty or thereabouts, but pin their faith upon the all-subjugating power of the woman of thirty.

They argue that she is just at the right age to claim the homage of young men, who usually find their chief object of attraction in a woman older than themselves, and are flattered at being permitted to burn incense at her shrine; while at the same time she is near enough to the confines of youth to be very enchanting to the older generation, the boys of fifty or sixty.

Bits of Lamp Lore.

Lamp wicks should have the charred part rubbed off with a rag kept for that purpose. They should very seldom be cut. They should not be used so long that the webbing becomes tight and non-porous.

Lamps should be kept filled with oil. It is bad for the wick and burner when the oil is left over from one evening's reading is made to do duty a second time.

The tank should be filled again.

About once a month the wick should be removed, the burners unscrewed and boiled in a little water in which common washing soda has been dissolved. This will remove the almost imperceptible coating of dust and grease that forms on the brass.

The lamp chimney should be washed in warm, soapy water each day, a mop used especially for such work being used. When dried it should be polished with soft newspaper or chamois.

Children's Eating.

Some parents compel their children to eat against their will, as when they come to the breakfast table without an appetite, or have lost it in prospect of a visit or a ride, or for the sake of "eating their plates clean" in discouragement of wasteful habits.

Unless we are thirsty we cannot drink the purest spring water without aversion, and as for eating when there is no appetite it is revolting, as any one may prove to himself by attempting to take a second meal in twenty minutes after having eaten a regular dinner.

The appetite, the hunger, is excited by the presence of gastric juice about the stomach; but if there is no gastric juice there can be no hunger, no appetite, and to compel a child to swallow food when it is distasteful is an absurdity and a cruelty.

COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS

Formulas for Preparing the Same for Various Crops.

A writer in the Fruit Recorder says: To produce a crop of wheat or what the natural yield would be without manure, I used about two hundred pounds of sulphate of ammonia, one hundred pounds ground bones, forty pounds oil of vitriol, fifty pounds of muriate of potash, forty pounds sulphate of soda, one hundred and seventy pounds land plaster.

For Indian corn to produce about thirty bushels shelled per acre, over natural yield; one hundred pounds of ground bones, forty pounds of sulphate of ammonia, one hundred and twenty-five pounds muriate of potash, high grade or eighty per cent, thirty-five pounds sulphate of soda, one hundred and twenty pounds land plaster.

For oats to produce about thirty bushels over natural yield: One hundred and fifty pounds sulphate of ammonia, fifty pounds ground bones, twenty pounds oil of vitriol, fifty pounds muriate of potash (high grade), thirty pounds sulphate of soda, one hundred pounds land plaster.

For cabbage, to produce fourteen or fifteen tons over natural yield: Three hundred and fifty pounds muriate of potash (high grade), four hundred pounds sulphate of ammonia, two hundred and fifty pounds ground bones, twenty pounds oil of vitriol, fifty pounds sulphate of soda, two hundred pounds of land plaster.

For potatoes, to produce over two hundred bushels over natural yield: Five hundred and fifty pounds sulphate of potash, two hundred pounds sulphate of ammonia, one hundred pounds ground bones, forty pounds oil of vitriol, one hundred and twenty pounds land plaster, forty pounds sulphate of soda.

For onions, to produce about four hundred bushels over natural yield: Two hundred and twenty pounds sulphate of ammonia, one hundred and fifty pounds ground bones, sixty pounds oil of vitriol, two hundred and fifty pounds sulphate of potash, one hundred and twenty pounds land plaster.

For melons, to produce ten to eleven tons over the natural yield: One hundred pounds ground bones, forty pounds oil of vitriol, two hundred and seventy-five pounds sulphate of ammonia, six hundred pounds sulphate of potash, one hundred and fifty pounds land plaster, thirty-five pounds sulphate of soda.

The above formulas are given in quantities for one acre of each kind of crops.

It requires one hundred pounds oil of vitriol to dissolve forty pounds ground bones. Put the ground bones into a water tight plank box and soak the bone with water for two or three days, turning about twenty-five pounds of water to each one hundred pounds of bone; then turn on your oil of vitriol and stir it thoroughly with a wooden stick, two or three times a day for five or six days, then mix in the sulphate of ammonia, next the muriate of potash and sulphate of soda, and lastly the land plaster; thoroughly mix the whole mass together. To dry it off and make it fit to handle, incorporate dry muck, fine charcoal or sawdust, but do not use lime or wood ashes as a dryer. Sometimes farmers can collect bones on their own or neighboring farms, or get them very cheap from a butcher, in this case they want to wash them up fine with a sieve, and about sixty pounds oil of vitriol used to one hundred pounds of coarse bones.

The Light Brahma.

The light Brahma has been in dispute many years as to its origin—whether it is to be considered in connection with the Dark Brahma, a distinct race of these fowls, or a cross with the Cochin China. The breed is chiefly light in the color of its plumage on the surface, with a bluish gray beneath, which indicates that there is no mixture of the Cochin, whose feathers are always white throughout. The backs of both sexes of the breed are quite white. When folded the wings should appear white, although the flight feathers are black. The tail

is black in both sexes, sometimes in the cock, exhibiting beautiful green reflections in the light. The legs are yellow, well covered with white feathers, occasionally mottled with black. The comb is either of the "pea" or single variety. The Light Brahma cock should average in weight eleven and one-half pounds, and the hen eight pounds. It has an average constitution, and is a poor forager, but has the advantage of enduring confinement well. The hen is a fair layer, a heavy setter, and a clumsy mother. The average of laying is about 150 eggs per year. As a brood, the Brahma possesses substantial merit, and will always be favorites. The flesh is good, and the size of the fowls an advantage.

How to Save Oats in Feeding.

A saving may be effected in the consumption of oats for horses by simply soaking them in tepid water. Practical experiments which have been made show that by this method the ration for each animal may be reduced by a third. Horses whose teeth have seen their best days masticate the grain in its ordinary condition insufficiently, and younger animals often eat so greedily that the greater proportion of it is swallowed whole. This waste may be obviated by the simple method recommended, which so far softens the grain that it is more completely masticated and digested, and consequently yields more nutriment. Three hours is a sufficient length of time to soak the grain, provided the water is not too cold.

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may be inherited; not Consumption. Thin, narrow-chested children are the ones to look out for. Everybody with a tendency toward Weak Lungs should take

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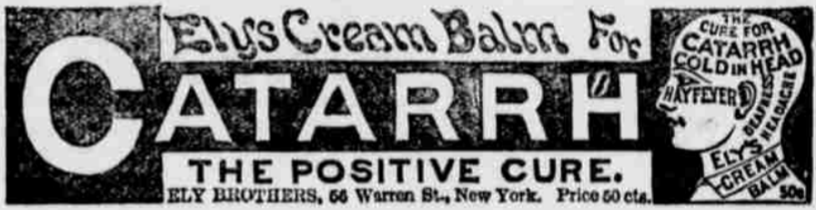
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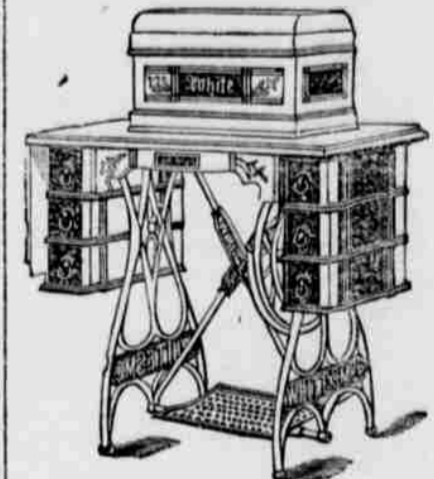
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Dried apples per lb.....	.05
Dried cherries, pitted.....	.12½
Raspberries " ".....	.12½
Cow Hides per lb.....	.02
Steer " ".....	.03
Calf Skin " ".....	.40 to .50
Sheep pelts.....	.60
Shelled corn per bus.....	.60
Corn meal, cwt.....	2.00
Bran, " ".....	1.00
Chop " ".....	1.10
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