

THE COLUMBIAN.

BLOOMSBURG, PA.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1900

PAPER BAG WITH HANDLE.

Twelve Bags Can Be Carried With One Hand.

In the near future the up-to-date grocer, baker, etc., will be handing goods to his customers in the novel paper bag shown below, the recent invention of a Missouri man.



HANDLE ON BAG.

the bag is filled the string forms a handle by which the bag can be carried. The length of the string forming the handle is sufficient to permit the bag to be fully opened for the insertion or removal of the contents.

SIMPLE DIAMOND TESTS.

Unwary Pawnbrokers Have Been Deceived by Stone Fakery.

"There are few persons," remarked a jeweller, "who are able to purchase a diamond on the strength of their own knowledge and observation and without placing implicit confidence in the man who sells the stone. It is a fact that even pawnbrokers have often been taken in by jewelry and precious stone fakery."

"Although it takes many years of actual observation and experience before one can become a diamond expert, there are a few simple tests which will considerably aid a buyer of diamonds. One test is to prick a needle hole through a card and look at the hole through the doubtful stone.

"If the latter is spurious two holes will be seen, but if it is a diamond only one hole will be visible. Every imitation stone which resembles a diamond gives a double refraction, while the diamond's refraction is single.

"This is a delicate test, because it is difficult to see even a sharp and defined object through a diamond. The single refraction of the diamond also allows one to determine an uncertain stone.

"If the finger is placed behind it and viewed through the stone with a watchmaker's glass, the grain of the stone will be plainly seen if the stone is not a diamond. But if it is a diamond the grain of the skin will not be distinguished at all.

"A diamond in solid settings may be identified in the same manner. If genuine the setting at the back cannot be discerned, but if it is a phony stone the foil or setting will be seen.

"There is no acid which has any perceptible effect upon a genuine diamond. Hydrofluoric acid, if dropped on a stone made of glass, will corrode it, but will not affect a diamond one way or the other. A trained eye can see the hardness in a diamond, whereas the imitations appear soft to the vision of the experts."

60 Years Old and generally played out, when I commenced to use Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Remedy, writes S. I. Young, of Hiram, Ohio. "For years I have suffered with inflammation and constant pain in the bladder and kidneys, and have gradually grown worse and expected at any time that passing urine by nature's effort would cease. Besides I have had rheumatic pain in every muscle and joint, and have suffered intensely, but I must say I have not in five years felt as well as I do now. Have improved daily since I began the use of Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Remedy."

General Debility

Day in and day out there is that feeling of weakness that makes a burden of itself. Food does not strengthen. Sleep does not refresh. It is hard to do, hard to bear, what should be easy—vitality is on the ebb, and the whole system suffers. For this condition take Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

It vitalizes the blood and gives vigor and tone to all the organs and functions. In usual liquid form or in chocolate tablets known as Sarsatabs, 100 doses \$1.

ZUNI INDIAN CORN PLANTER.

Primitive Implement Still in Use by Red Men of the Southwest.

The Zuni Indians of New Mexico are a self-supporting people who retain many of the interesting customs of prehistoric ancestors. The accompanying drawing represents the implement which they use for planting corn. It is hewn from a piece of hard cedar and is practically a wooden spade, the projecting horizontal piece near the base being for the foot of the digger to press upon. In early spring, when the oak leaves are the size of squirrels' ears, the Zuni farmer fills a basket with seed corn of



as many colors as Joseph's coat; and slinging it and his corn planter across his burro's back, he mounts the patient little beast himself and goes jogging out on the plain to his sandy corn ground, which may be many miles from his home. Moisture in that arid land lies deep, so he must make with his wooden planter a much deeper hole than an Eastern farmer would think of making. Then he drops into it a few grains of corn, draws the sandy loam carefully over them with the blade of the planter, and proceeds to dig another hole six or eight feet away. And so on until the seed is all planted.

Monster and Rattler.

Dr. James B. Baillit, of Louisville, writes of a Gila monster and a rattlesnake:

"A two years' residence in Arizona made me quite familiar with both of these reptiles; for a good part of the time I had one of the former tied to the leg of my office table by a string. In his native habitat the monster is credited with being the enemy of the rattlesnake, and is said to kill him.

"Chancing to have both reptiles on hand at the same time, I put them in a large box together and awaited results.

"The rattler coiled in one end of the box; the monster would waddle up to him, root under his coils with his nose and finally nip down on a coil near the tail.

"The rattler would then spring to the other end of the box and recoil. After this had happened a number of times the monster finally succeeded in seizing the snake by the neck just back of the head.

"He held a firm grip until the snake was choked to death. The monster sickened and died a couple of days afterward. On removing his skin I found two punctured wounds on his back, evidently the result of the snake's having struck him once."

—Chicago News.

Mushroom Experts.

There are more than 1,000 edible species of the mushroom. Once in a while you come across an inedible one, and there is trouble in your "stomach." In the good Old Roman days the noble could not offer a higher compliment to a friend than to present him with a few pounds of fresh mushrooms from his garden. Gold and silver ornaments were as nothing; even diamonds were common trash; but the mushroom was the offering of the gods. This statement is historical.

COLLECTING EYE STONES.

Most of the Genuine Specimens Found in the Province of Astrakhan.

The collection of eye stones is a dying industry. In New York the principal sources of supply are sailors who touch the Baltic sea, and, as might be imagined, the supply is precarious.

Eye stones are analogous in some respects to bezoars, as they are a concentration found in the stomach of the European starfish. Most of the genuine eye stones, crab's eyes, crabstones or lapilli oenorum, are procured in the province of Astrakhan in European Russia.

There appears to be some confusion regarding the nature of the eye stone, for some authorities speak of it as a concentration in the stomach of a certain crab and others as of a peculiar shell formation which is separated from the crab at the time it sheds its shell.

The so-called crab's eyes are found fully developed at the end of the summer, as the crabs begin to shed their shells. It is noted that these concentrations are absorbed into the stomach of the crab during the shedding season and there pulverized and absorbed, the dissolved calcareous substance being used, it is supposed, for the formation of a new shell. When these calcareous shells are not normally developed and absorbed it is observed that the shedding process is interrupted and the crab dies an early death.

A Unique Historical Chair.

A most unique, historical chair is in the Independence hall at Philadelphia, Pa. It was manufactured in 1838 by William Snider by order of the commissioners of Remington. The chair is composed of the following rare relics:

1st. A portion of Christopher Columbus' house which was built near the city of San Domingo in the year 1496. This was the first house built in America by European hands.

2d. A portion of the great elm tree under which the treaty between William Penn and the Indians was formed. The Penn treaty was to continue unbroken "while the rivers and creeks ran, and while the sun, moon and stars endured."

3d. A portion of oak joint taken from a house which was once the home of William Penn.

4th. A portion of the cane taken



HISTORICAL CHAIR.

from the seat of a chair once owned by William Penn.

5th. A portion of the last of a number of walnut trees which graced the yard about the old state house. The last of these trees was cut down in 1815.

6th. A lock of hair taken from the head of Chief Justice Marshall, placed in the center of the chair and protected by a glass cover.

7th. A portion of the U. S. frigate "Constitution."

8th. A portion of the great ship "Pennsylvania" which was built in Philadelphia and launched in the year 1827.

9th. The thirteen stars on the chair represent the thirteen original states and are made from the above listed relics.

Harrison Made Good His Promise.

Dr. J. N. McCormack of Bowling Green, Ky., in conversation with Drs. Brayton Potter and other physicians told a little story of the late General Benjamin Harrison. "During the civil war," said the doctor, "Colonel Harrison—for he was then Colonel—was for a time in command at Bowling Green. Many soldiers were sick, and he appropriated the hotel of the place, the Mitchell House, for use as a hospital. Mr. Mitchell murmured somewhat, but had to give way to military necessity, Colonel Harrison assuring him that he should be paid for the use of the house, even though Harrison should have to pay out of his own pocket. The war ended and the years went on. Mr. Mitchell was well to do and presented no claim. Finally, when Harrison became President of the United States, Mr. Mitchell concluded to send his bill directly to the President. He did so, and President Harrison sent him his check for the money."

HOW THE SOUTH HAS WON.

Small Cities Have Grown Into Manufacturing Centers.

Commercially, the growth of the south since the war has been marvelous. Small cities have grown into great manufacturing centers, studded with buildings that would rival those of New York.

Look at Atlanta, Jacksonville, Memphis—to mention a scattered few—compare them with their wealth and size of a few years ago; tell, if you can, how far their growth may not go. These are the old cities. New ones have been springing up since the war and developing into rich commercial centers.

The railroad has played no small part in this development, but unless the country had contained the promise and the resources, the railroads would have been apt to leave it alone.

Where, not so many years ago, there were only a few miles of rail and a service which made a trip South an uncomfortable proposition, now stretch thousands of miles of road, on which one can find the best passenger service. In spite of this, however, the facilities fall short of the demands of the expanding industries of the South.

Last winter many shippers were delayed for days because they could not get cars or having cars, could not find trains enough to carry their products. Speak to any southern railroad man, and he will likely tell you that he is at his wit's end.

The railroads are doing a great deal to meet this constantly increasing demand. Some of them are double-tracking their roads. They are ordering new engines, more cars. But all this takes time. Freight accumulates. And in many sections the South of to-day suffers from its very wealth.

The comparison socially, too, is just as interesting. Although the before-the-war days of the large plantations worked by slaves cannot be revived, the social life of the South is again distinctive—somewhat more democratic—ready to welcome worth shown in any honorable cause, but still clinging to its pride of family, centering itself, where it met years ago, mixing with the social life of the North, as that of the North mixes with it.—Metropolitan Magazine.

Cement Buildings.

The use of cement is now firmly established in the construction of buildings for domestic and commercial purposes. The economies of this material are more than manifest and its solidity is hardly to be questioned, although it has been in common use but a comparatively few years. There are any number of block-forming machines on the market and up to a short time ago these machines were limited to the formation of blocks of different kinds. The variety of design has been limited to the imitation of the different kinds of stone commonly used in architecture. The different cuts, shapes and finishes followed, but recently there has been a demand for something more than this, and one or two firms have undertaken to produce moulds for the formation of pillars, caps, baluster posts and similar designs. These moulds are now to be had by those engaging in the business of making cement blocks, and with their use, it is possible to construct a building of very pleasing lines. Heretofore this has been rather difficult with the limitations of the square block, although some architects have secured some very interesting effects by the exercise of some ingenuity in the construction of such block shapes as were available.

DON'T KILL ALL OF THEM.

America has ever been a nation of trappers and hunters, and few wild animals have escaped. The practice of extermination has been a national regret with respect to more than one sort of animal. Recently 100,000 acres has been set aside in Oklahoma for a public park where the bison may enjoy some of his native freedom. Preserves in Maine, New York and several of the western states are caring for deer and elk, but many of the smaller wild animals like the beaver, which would add much to the picturesque quality of our lakes and woods if left unharmed, are now killed wherever seen. Squirrels have come to be protected by public sentiment even in the largest of our cities and many a park or college campus is enlivened by the swift antics of these little animals.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

IN BORROWED LIVELY.

"It often happens," said Uncle Eben, "dat a man wants credit for being truthful an' outskoken, when he is simply indulgin' a desire to de disgraceful."—Washington Star.

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