

WHAT FLOWERS MEAN

ALSO THE SUPERSTITIONS ABOUT MINT AND CATNIP.

It is Considered Unlucky to Gather Flowers Out of Season—They Belong to the Fairies Then—Spear-mint Will Prevent Illness.

There is nothing which grows around which there is more superstition woven than the homely mints. Not only is mint the crowning enticement of a julep, and a thing which makes sedate tabbies gambol and run like 6-months-old kittens, out-... According to tradition, the different plants have supernatural properties, and there are good and bad mints. Spearmint, aside from its qualifications as a flea-discourager, is said to make a quarrelsome husband and wife stop bickering. If it is given to them by some friend. Catnip, on the other hand, when chewed creates quarrelsomeness and is said to make even mild and gentle people fierce. If catnip is held in the hand until heated and then put into the hand of another it will, so goes the superstition, so control that person that he or she cannot leave you so long as the catnip is retained in the hand. Spearmint will prevent illness, so long as it is worn about the wrist. If spearmint is mixed with salt and applied to the bite of a mad dog the wound will heal, it is said. In the olden days the children used to put a bit of spearmint in the coats on Christmas day, believing that at the exact time when the Saviour was born the mint would blossom.

The superstitions which cluster around flowers are as many as there are different flowers, says The New York Tribune. It is considered unlucky to gather flowers out of season, as before and after the season they are said to belong to the fairies. The first wild flowers which are gathered by a young woman in the spring should spell the initials of her future husband, if the superstition holds true.

Here is a schedule of superstitions about finding the first flower of the season:

If found on Monday, good luck all the year.

If found on Tuesday, large undertakings which will be successful.

If found on Wednesday, a wedding in the family.

If found on Thursday, hard work with little profit.

If found on Friday, unexpected wealth.

If found on Saturday, misfortunes.

If found on Sunday, best luck of the season.

Some of the numberless flower superstitions are:

If any one asks for the flowers pinned on your dress and you refuse you will have immediate ill-luck.

To burn faded flowers is a sign of coming sorrows.

To plant a flower hedge is to bring good luck.

If you point at buds they will blight.

To hand a flower reversed to any one is to bring bad luck.

If a person wears flowers with the stems upward it is a sign that he or she is in love, but does not know it.

If you pull a flower to pieces, you will die of consumption.

If a person smells flowers gathered from the cemetery he will lose his sense of smell.

To have flowers wilt quickly in the hands denotes ill-health.

If some one gives you a yellow flower you are going to have money.

If some one gives you a purple flower you are going to have tears and trouble.

Portrait of a Queen.

In analyzing the secret of King Edward's popularity among his subjects a French writer recalls a story which is worthy retelling.

He relates how, when his majesty was driving along a country road in Scotland one day, he came upon an old market woman struggling under a load which was more than she could manage.

"You might take part of this in your carriage," said the old woman to the king, whom she did not recognize.

"Alas, my good woman," replied his majesty. "I'm very sorry, but I'm not going the same way. However, let me give you the portrait of my mother."

"A lot of good that'll do me," was the reply.

"Take it all the same," said the king, smiling, and he put a sovereign bearing Queen Victoria's effigy in the palm of the astonished old peasant.—Detroit Free Press.

Oranges for Children.

Oranges for children or invalids should be cut in half and the juice squeezed from them on a lemon-squeezer into a glass. Thus the fruit may be drunk instead of eaten, but with far less trouble and no waste. The remaining peels may be dried and, from the oil they contain, form capital kindling, useful with sticks for lighting a fresh fire or by themselves for reviving a dull one.

Boiling Eggs.

When boiling eggs for a salad, or to be used as a garnish, always put them on in cold water. Let them come to a boil and cook 15 minutes. The whites will then be evenly cooked through and the yolks will be exactly in the middle.

A SMART COMBINATION.

Linen in Two Colors for Lingerie and Tailor Made Dresses.

Linen will assert itself in many ways, not only in lingerie frocks, when the sheer handkerchief and India linens will be employed, but in tailor made dresses when the heavier qualities of the materials can be fashioned into the trim switcheries and bandings that compose trigs simplicity. Combinations of linens in two colors are to be the rage. White with pastel tints will be much worn, but in colors, only two shades of one tone are permissible.

White butcher's linen trimmed with blue is used for this neat design. The skirt has a platted front.



A SMART COMBINATION.

panel and is trimmed with diamond-shaped medallions of blue linen and twistings of linen souchaun braid.

The waist is truly original in design having a part of the front, the shoulder yoke and sleeves cut in one, with the white linen stitched over the blue in many points. This effect is carried out back and front on the sleeves. There is a very small lingerie yoke of white linen finished with jabot embroidery.

With the linen dress an item of importance is footgear. For street wear before noon, calf leather and patent leather pumps are the rage, but for afternoon occasions both shoes and hose match the color of the gown.

A Hint for the Bath.

The growing use of mustard in the bath tub is a modern adaptation of the principle that mustard is one of the most valuable external stimulants. To those who have not tried it, the result is really surprising. Take a tablespoonful of best mustard and add to the bath when filled. The water will be found to be of a slightly yellow-green color and absolutely free from any stinging or smarting sensation. In fact, it has a soft, velvety feeling almost like milk, but with a glowing warmth that is appreciated by the most delicate skin. Under its influence sore and stiff joints become limber and elastic, and the whole body experiences a sense of exhilaration that is scarcely credible. The mustard bath is already a favorite with those engaged in arduous sports, and equally so with society ladies, who find it a refreshing antidote to the fatigue of functions, and a charming way of keeping in that healthy condition so conducive to beauty.—Black and White.

To Clean Velvet Coats.

Now that Fashion again advocates strictly tailor made gowns to have velvet collars on the coats the question arises how to keep the dark outside collar from rubbing off on the neck of the blouse worn beneath it.

No matter how good a quality is purchased velvet will always leave a soiled mark on any light fabric it comes in contact with, and many a woman is known to wring her hands in despair at the sight of a dainty wals, immaculately fresh except for a dirty line across the neck.

To prevent this wipe off the velvet thoroughly with a soft cloth slightly moist, then rub with a rag saturated in pure alcohol. This done once a week regularly, will prevent the velvet from "crocking" and collars will not be soiled in the back.

Laundry Lines.

Yellow clothes can be whitened by boiling them in water to which a little of the following mixture has been added: A teaspoon of paraffin, lime-water, and turpentine; equal parts of each. Put into a bottle and shake well before using.

Medicine stains on sheets or white bed covers should be removed before washing. Make a paste with fuller's-earth and ammonia, and lay it on the stains. When dry, wash in cold water, and, if necessary, repeat the treatment.

Flannels and all woolen articles should not be put through a wringer, as they look better and do not shrink so much if they are well squeezed and shaken.

What It Really Is.

An American firm is selling in England what it calls "Finest Raspberry Jam." The label on each jar bears this statement. "This jam is made of glucose with artificial seeds and colored with harmless aniline dye."

POLISH IMMIGRANTS.

They Have Spread Over the Great Cities of the West.

The Polish immigrants have spread over our great West, and the cities of Buffalo, Chicago, Milwaukee, Pittsburg, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Detroit and Toledo are the main centers in which they congregate.

In Chicago alone there are more than 250,000 of them, forming the largest Polish city in the world after Warsaw and Lodz. They come from all sections of the former commonwealth, but principally from Galicia. They are, in general industrials, frugal and soon attain a competency.

Comparatively few professional men or members of the upper social classes have come to this country except for political reasons, as the love for the fatherland is so strong in the Polish heart, although a few such spirits as Modjeska and her husband have lived here.

With all their national love for ceremony and social intercourse, the American Poles have many organizations through which they satisfy their social and military instincts.

The Polish National Alliance, educational and benevolent, with a membership of over 50,000 is the strongest of these organizations, but there are many others with more limited fields.

In the United States the Polish national government is conducted under the auspices of this Polish National Alliance (Zwiazek Narowowy Polski). The membership of this organization is increasing at the rate of from 6,000 to 7,000 a year.

The alliance has nothing to do with party politics, but aims primarily to make the Polish residents of the United States good citizens of the land of their adoption without forgetting their Polish tongue and traditions.

It endeavors to perpetuate the knowledge of the Polish language, literature and history, and to lend organized assistance to the cause of Polish independence in Europe.

In the Alliance building in Chicago is published the "Zgoda," the official organ of the Alliance, a well-edited weekly magazine with a circulation of 50,000.—"Poland, a Knight Among Nations."

No More Kowtowing.

The Chinese censor has memorIALIZED the throne on the necessity of abolishing the degrading custom of high native ministers of the crown kowtowing and addressing or replying to their majesties on bended knees. Kowtowing has been a fruitful scheme for discussion and controversy ever since the nations of the west first invaded the shores of the great central kingdom. Hitherto the question concerned only those who came from foreign lands on diplomatic or other missions. No one for a moment thought of suggesting that the kowtow was a degrading custom so far as the Chinese high officials themselves were concerned. The kowtow before the throne consisted in kneeling three times and touching the ground with the head three at each genuflection. Western diplomats and others in China have not been in the past unanimous in their opposition to the performance of the kowtow, but the British representatives from the first have consistently refused to submit to it. Lord Macartney, who arrived in China in 1793 as the head of the first British Embassy, when presenting his credentials would only consent to bend one knee in the presence of the emperor. Over twenty years elapsed before the second British mission arrived in China. The question of the kowtow was again raised, and as a result of his refusal to perform the ceremony Lord Amherst was never officially received by the emperor, who issued an imperial edict to the effect that the British ambassador had not observed the rules of politeness in vogue in the Celestial Empire.—Washington Herald.

The Navajo Indians' Dead.

The Navajo Indians do not inter their dead, their religious superstition preventing them from ever touching a dead body. Before life has entirely left the body it is wrapped in a new blanket and carried to some convenient secluded spot, where it is deposited on top of the ground, together with all the personal effects of the deceased, and if it be an infant, the cradle, trinkets, etc., are carefully deposited beside the body. When there are no longer any signs of life in the body, stones are piled up around and over it, in order, they say, to keep the coyotes from carrying it off. If the deceased be a grown person his favorite saddle pony is led up to the grave, where it is knocked in the head with an axe. Here it lies, with the bridle, saddle, and blanket, ready for the journey to the spirit world. The Navajos never dig a grave themselves, though they like very much to have the white people bury their dead, and if they are anywhere near where white people live they will ask them, in case they have a death in the family, to take charge of the body and bury it. If by chance one of their number dies in the house before they have time to remove him they immediately set fire to the Hogan and burn it up with its contents thus cremating the body.—Washington Herald.

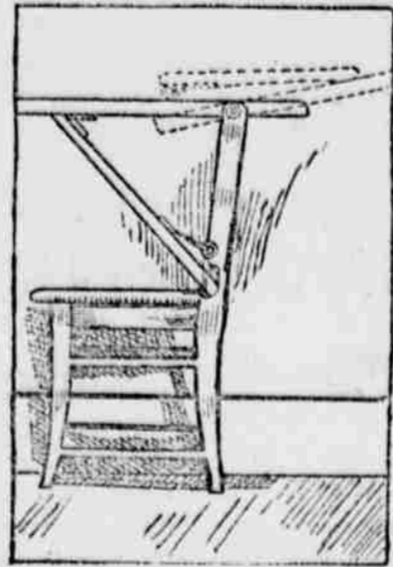
Good results are seldom accidental. They are usually the fruits of a noble purpose.

In many a man's life the turning point is reached just after a pretty girl passes.

CHAIR AND IRONING BOARD.

Simple and Useful Combination of These Two Articles.

Instead of supporting the ironing-board on the backs of two chairs—the method commonly adopted by the housewife—a New York man has devised a simple attachment whereby the board can be combined and adjusted on one chair. As shown in the illustration, the chair is of the ordinary kitchen variety, and can always be used for that purpose, the ironing-board being swung out



IRONING BOARD AND CHAIR.

of the way. The ironing-board is pivoted near one end to the back of the chair. Extending from the back of the chair to a point adjacent the opposite end is an adjustable bracket which firmly supports the board when ironing. By loosening a catch the bracket is released and the board swung over the back of the chair. There is a distinct advantage in having this combination of chair and ironing-board, the latter being ready for use in a few moments.

Dont's for Young Mothers.

Don't allow a child to sleep with his head right under the bed clothes; lying on the back is also very bad and causes snoring; the right side is the best and most healthful to sleep on.

Don't cover the little one's bed with heavy blankets and old-fashioned, fluff blankets; a couple of light, fluffy blankets and a good eiderdown quilt are quite sufficient covering, even in the depth of winter. Sleeping under very heavy bed clothes is extremely enervating and weakening.

Don't have the floor of the night nursery carpeted; a good cork carpet or linoleum that can be washed over nearly every day is far healthier; a strip of carpet or a rug can be laid down by the bed so that the child does not receive a shock stepping on to the cold canvas from a warm bed.

Don't have dark colored paint or paper. White paint and a light washable sanitary paper or distemper are far nicer, both from a health and an artistic point of view.

Don't let the little ones sleep in a stuffy, close atmosphere; the windows should be slightly open at the top all the year around.

Don't allow clothes to be hung behind the door; nothing gives a room such a slovenly, uncared for appearance as a door that has been turned into a wardrobe in this fashion.

Don't allow cardboard or other boxes which harbor dust and germs, to be placed under the bed or on top of cupboard or wardrobe.

Don't forget that the entire room should be thoroughly turned out and scrubbed once a week.

HOME COOKING.

Cookies Without Eggs.

Cream a half-cup of butter with a cup of sugar; add one cup of sweet milk, a teaspoonful of vanilla, and a scant teaspoonful of baking soda dissolved in a little boiling water. Work in enough flour to make a soft dough. Drop from a teaspoon on buttered tins, and bake to a good brown.

Beet Chow-Chow.

One gallon of cooked and peeled beets, chopped fine; one quart of horseradish, one quart of sugar, one tablespoonful of salt, pepper to taste. Cover these ingredients with vinegar, mixing well. Set in a cool place for at least a month before using. This will keep for a long time.

Olive and Cream Cheese.

Stone two dozen olives and chop them fine, then work them into a Philadelphia cream cheese, and rub to a smooth paste. Spread on thin slices of crustless white bread.

Peanut Sandwiches.

Grind a cup of freshly roasted peanuts to a fine powder, and work them into half as much butter as you have peanut powder. Spread on thin slices of bread.

After-Dinner Naps.

Complete relaxation after eating—a suspension of mental and physical activity—will favor the processes of natural digestion, not only because of its tranquillizing effect upon the nerves, but because the stomach may use the surplus unused energies of the body in the processes of digestion take an "after-dinner nap," it means health, happiness and long life. Happy the man or woman who can What to Eat.

Advertisement for 900 Drops Castoria, featuring a product image and descriptive text: 'Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of INFANTS & CHILDREN'.

Advertisement for Castoria: 'CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of Dr. J.C. Fitcher In Use For Over Thirty Years CASTORIA'.

FROCKS FOR YOUNG WOMEN.

A Charming Lack of Pretension in Many of the New Styles.

Beauty unadorned is no longer a popular phrase, for young women of to-day are so well up with the times that they like their beauty enhanced in as many ways as possible, although it is done in simpler fashion. There is a charming lack of pretension in many of the new frocks, two of the most successful of which are illustrated. The first is a dotted voile in natural color with figure of deep cream color and dark brown, done with silk embroidery floss. The skirt is gauged slightly about the waistline and trimmed at the bottom with narrow bands of embroidered braid with killings in natural



TWO BECOMING FROCKS.

color silk on either side of the braid. The blouse is slightly suggestive of the Mandarin lines so much worn and is laid in tucks at the shoulders, the fronts being draped in fish fashion and bordered with braid and killings. There is a vest formed of bands of insertion put together with hand-stitcher. The puffed sleeves are trimmed with braid and killed silk.

Striped suting is used for the second costume, the skirt having a draped front panel trimmed at the side with buttons covered with silk. With this is worn a simple Eton jacket trimmed with silk passementerie ornaments and garnished with revers and a detachable vest of eye-letter batiste. The cuffs match the revers and finish elbow sleeves finished with two little frills of Valenciennes lace.

Advertisement for Magazine Readers: 'MAGAZINE READERS' listing prices for Sunset Magazine, Camera Craft, and Road of a Thousand Wonders.

Flowers for the Sick.

Growing plants are undesirable, besides, while the old idea that they harmed the sick one by remaining in the room over night is only a superstition, the invalid may easily harm them, especially if they are much handled.

Avoid violent color contrasts. The nervous system is always slightly deranged and the perceptions unduly sharpened in a serious illness and the contrast of vivid reds and pinks and yellows may be really harmful, and will surely be disagreeable to the patient. Choose, instead, delicate pinks, soft creams or light blues.

Do not, above all, send white roses unaccompanied by any other flower, nor an abundance of unrelieved white flowers of any kind. You might just as well order a floral pillow marked "At Rest" for the effect it will have upon the recipient at your mistaken kindness.

Barley Cured Beri-Beri.

Some time ago, the rice supply being short, prisoners in Japanese jails were fed largely on barley. The result was the immediate cessation of new beri-beri cases.

Women Who Wear Well.

It is astonishing how great a change a few years of married life will make in the appearance and disposition of many women. The freshness, the charm, the brilliance vanish like the bloom from a peach which is rudely handled. The matron is only a dim shadow, a faint echo of the charming maiden. There are two reasons for this change, ignorance and neglect. Few young women appreciate the shock to the system through the change which comes with marriage. Many neglect to deal with the unpleasant drains which are often consequent on marriage and motherhood, not understanding that this secret drain is robbing the cheek of its freshness and the general health suffers when there is derangement of the health of the delicate womanly organs, so surely when these organs are established in health the face and form at once witness to the fact in renewed comeliness. Half a million women and more have found health and happiness in the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It makes weak women strong and sick women well. Ingredients on label.

The grouchy man either forgets that he was ever a boy or else tries to live down the memory.

The "PURE FOOD LAW" is designed by the Government to protect the public from injurious ingredients in both foods and drugs. It is beneficial both to the public and to the conscientious manufacturer. Ely's Cream Balm, a successful remedy for cold in the head, nasal catarrh, hay fever, etc., containing no injurious drugs, meets fully the requirements of the new law, and that fact is prominently stated on every package. It contains none of the injurious drugs which are required by the law to be mentioned on the label. Hence you can use it safely.

Blotts—"Whatever induced him to marry her?" Slobbs—"She did."

Advertisement for Ely's Cream Balm: 'A Reliable Remedy FOR CATARRH Ely's Cream Balm is quickly absorbed. Gives Relief at Once. It cleanses, soothes, heals and protects the diseased membrane resulting from Catarrh and drives away a Cold in the Head quickly. Restores the Senses of Taste and Smell. Full size 50 cts. at Druggists or by mail. Liquid Cream Balm for use in atomizers 75 cts. Ely Brothers, 66 Warren Street, New York.'