

ODD THINGS IN THE MAIL.

Curiosities at the Washington Dead Letter Office.

The dead letter office is in one sense the greatest museum in the world, for here are daily received the queerest things imaginable.

It is estimated that every day in the year about 18,000 parcels, letters and packages go astray in the mail.

THE OPERATORS EMPLOYED OPENING, assorting, correcting and returning the stray mail matter are nearly all women.

As a rule, English, German and French are the prevailing languages used in addressing letters.

All letters that cannot be deciphered without being opened are turned over to another force, who go through them removing all valuables.

A queer museum is connected with the dead letter office, where curious articles that come in the mails and cannot be restored are placed on exhibition.

It is a magnificent fan, and no doubt graced the costume of some court beauty of the Old World.

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FARM NOTES.

BUYING A HAY PRESS.—In choosing a hay press, as in choosing a wife, each farmer should judge for himself.

It is important to consider the amount of work to be done and the power available. In pressing hay for home use, it is not necessary that the bale should be as compact as for marketing.

PREPARATION FOR BONES.—If equal weights of bone and superphosphate be procured the latter will contain a larger proportion of free phosphoric acid.

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MAKING NITROGENOUS FERTILIZERS.—If urine or fresh manure be added to bones and ashes, and the mass kept moist, heat will quickly be generated.

THE FARM IS, to a certain extent, a manufactory. The farmer can easily prepare fertilizers on the farm at a reduced cost.

HORSES IN Daviess county, Ind., are falling victims to ticks, insects which eat through the hide and then suck the blood.

THE COW SOON becomes accustomed to the milker, and if treated kindly will cease giving evidences of vice.

TO IMPROVE stock by selecting the best for that purpose is commendable, but the method is a slow one compared with the immediate benefits derived by resorting to pure-bred stock.

ALL PLANTS and trees consume water in large quantities. Sir John Laws discovered that an acre of barley will take up 1094 tons of water in two days.

HOUSEHOLD.

WHAT astonishment would not some of the new notions of diet give our grandfathers could they revisit our dining rooms, or look down with seeing eyes from their portraits on the walls there!

OLD FASHIONED BAKED BEANS.—One quart of dried beans, cranberry preferred, soaked over night. In the morning pick them over carefully, as the bad ones are much more discernible after soaking than before.

JELLIES.—To have success with jellies the only best quality of fruit should be used, and you must be sure that your fruit is not over-ripe.

THE STATE SUPPLIES THEM.—Jones—"I raw Nlimkins yesterday. He is doing first rate and has a new watch and chain."

THEN AND NOW.—"Why didn't you marry your husband fifteen years ago? He would have taken you then," said an Austin lady to a newly-married friend.

CONFIDENCE BEGETS SUCCESS.—So confident are the manufacturers of that world-famous remedy, Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, that it will do all that they represent in the cure of liver, blood and lung diseases.

BULLS are very treacherous. It is usually the gentle bull that injures his keeper. The older they become the more dangerous they are.

WHEN young chicks come out this month, examine them for lice, which come from the hens to the chicks.

"IT IS A FACT," that Hood's Sarsaparilla does cure scrofula, salt rheum, and other diseases or affections arising from impure state or low condition of the blood.

CONTINUED damp weather is very unfavorable to sleep, especially if they have no shelter.

FRASER AXLE GREASE.—The Fraser Axle Grease is the very best. A trial will prove we are right.

IT WILL pay to shake off a large proportion of the fruit from trees that are overloaded.

CANN'S KIDNEY CURE FOR Dropsy, Gravel, Diabetes, Bright's Heart, Urinary or Liver Diseases, Nervousness, &c. Cure guaranteed.

THE total length of the submarine cables at present in use is given by an Austrian paper as 113,931 miles.

RUPTURE CURE GUARANTEED BY Dr. J. B. Mayer, 831 Arch St., Phila., Pa. Ease at once, no operation or delay from business, attested by thousands of cures after others fail, advice free, send for circular.

WASHINGTON claims to have the hand-somest equipages drawn by the best horses in the United States.

FITS: All Fits stopped free by Dr. Kline's Great Kidney and Bladder Remedy. Treatise and \$1.00 trial bottle free to all sufferers. Send to Dr. Kline, 831 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

WE are shaped and fashioned by what we love. Best, easiest to use and cheapest. Piso's Remedy for Catarrh. By druggists. 50c.

QUALIFIED.—"Hello, Lamb, are you still striking it rich in Wall street?" "No; in fact, I lost all that I had there!"

"I'm sorry for that. What are you doing now?" "Just now I'm writing 'Tips for Speculators' for the daily press."

NOT IMPOSSIBLE.—Smith—"Do you know Miss Brown?" Jones—"I have spoken to her, but I never met her."

"Spoken to her, but never met her? Come, come, that's impossible."

"It isn't impossible. I've spoken to her through the telephone."

"Come and take a cigar."

DIDN'T IMPROVE IT.—"I really do not see what is the matter with my razor to-day. It is so dull that it don't cut at all."

"Why, pa," said Johnny, "it was sharp the other day, when I used it to make a ship with."

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Brown—"He must have gotten down to steady work."

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How shall a man escape the eyes of that which never setteth? Afflicted with sore eyes use Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye-water. Druggists sell at 50c. per bottle.

Love cannot enter the heart without bringing with it a train of other virtues. Smoke the best—"Tansil's Punch" Cigar.

The innocence of the intention abates nothing of the mischief of the example.

IDENTIFIED.—Scrupulous post office clerk—"No, sir, I can't cash your money order unless you can prove your identity."

Stranger, after searching his pockets in vain for letters, etc.—"Oh, here is my photograph, won't that convince you?"

Clerk, examining it closely—"Well, yes, there seems to be no doubt about that. How much is your order for, sir?"

ACCORDING TO ORDERS.—Editor, fiercely to office boy—"See here, boy! I'll let another poet in here this week if I break every bone in your body, and hang you up for a towel. Mind you, now. No long haired person comes into this office hereafter."

Office boy, meekly—"Yes, sir." Editor, three hours later—"Who was that beautiful young lady who turned in from the street and then went away again?"

Office boy—"That was the new banker's daughter, Miss Lovelady, and she wanted to subscribe. But I had to follow your orders, sir."

WANTED TO SEE BELLA JUMP.—Bobby, who has been sitting patiently half an hour—"Mr. Boomer, I wish you would pop the question to Bella."

Bella—"Robert, you naughty boy; what possessed you to make such a preposterous remark?"

Bobby, sulkily—"Well, anyway, ma said if he did you'd jump at the chance, and I wanted to see you jump."

A POOR CONDUCTOR.—Superintendent of an Electric Railway, to applicant for a position—"What is your name?" Applicant—"Wood, sir."

"You want to be appointed conductor?" "Yes, sir."

"Can't take you, sir." "Why not?" "Electric experts say that Wood is a poor conductor."

CLOSE FRIENDS NOT VALUED.—Mrs. Sevenup—"Yes, I like this flat very much, but, fortunately, we have only taken it by the month, because we will have to move out."

Caller—"Why, what is the matter?" "Some very dear friends of ours have taken a flat in this same building, and you know it's perfectly horrid to have friends so close."

A COUNTRYMAN had consulted a fortune teller as to his future. "You'll be poor, kind sir, until you are 30," was the prediction of the Pythonesse.

"And then?" "Oh! after that you'll get used to it."

NO SUCH WORD AS FAIL.—American editor, in a town which has just been swept by fire and flood—"Was anything saved from the wreck?"

Foreman—"I have dug out a few handfuls of type, some boot blacking and a bundle of wrapping paper."

"Good! Tell the newboys we will have an extra out in half an hour."

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF. THE GREAT CONQUEROR OF PAIN. Applied externally, instantly relieves and quickly cures Sprains, Bruises, Backache, Pains in the Chest or Sides, Headache, Toothache, or any other pain.

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DUTCHER'S FLY KILLER. Makes a clean sweep. Every spot will kill a quart of flies. Stops buzzing around ears, diving at eyes, tickling your nose, etc.

PAIN EXPELLER. Makes a clean sweep. Every spot will kill a quart of flies. Stops buzzing around ears, diving at eyes, tickling your nose, etc.

PEERLESS DYES. Are the BEST. Made by Mrs. W. H. PERKINS. \$25 AN HOUR. MEDICAL CO., Richmond, Va.

KIDDER'S PASTILLES. Cure all cases of Asthma. \$25 AN HOUR. MEDICAL CO., Richmond, Va.

Out of Sorts

Is a feeling peculiar to persons of dyspeptic tendency, or it may be caused by change of climate, season or life. The stomach is out of order, the head aches or does not feel right, appetite is capricious, the nerves seem overworked, the mind is confused and irritable.

Hood's Sarsaparilla. Sold by all druggists. \$1.50 for 50. Prepared only by C. H. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

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