

FOR THE LADIES.

FOUR LINES MADE HER FAMOUS.

All aspiring young poetesses should read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the story of Mrs. Carney. She wrote only four lines of verse, but they have been quoted probably by every one who speaks the English language.

THE DIG HAT SCOTCHED.

It is said that in a western lagoon recently a man suddenly rose in his seat and complained to the audience that on account of the thing worn on the head of the woman in front of him he was unable to witness the performance.

MRS. CLEVELAND'S PATCHWORK QUILT.

During her former residence in Washington Mrs. Cleveland was especially interested in fitting up a colonial room at Oak View, her country home, and to secure the desired furniture for this she corresponded with innumerable owners of antiques in various parts of Virginia and the South.

FASHIONS NOT MADE FOR THE OLD.

Elderly women often complain, with a considerable amount of justice, that the fashions seem to be intended only for the young, and that those women who have passed forty are left more or less to their own devices.

AN UNUSUAL PUPIL.

The Oxford, (N. C.) Female Seminary can boast of an unusual pupil. A lady who has been married more than two years entered that school the other week. She was accompanied by her little child, about fourteen months old, also her mother, who went along to look after the baby.

APRONS FOR CHILDREN.

A sensible mother who finds it necessary to limit her laundry list, and to delay the wearing out of garments as long as possible, makes both her little sons and daughters wear high-necked aprons when playing in the house.

PRESERVATION OF RINGS.

"Don't wear your rings under gloves unless you remember to have them thoroughly examined twice a year," is the advice given by a jeweller. The constant friction wears out the tiny gold points that hold the stones in place, and unless strict attention is paid to them they become loose in a very short time.

LIFE INSURANCE FOR WOMEN.

The time has been until very recently that risks on the lives of women were never taken by certain companies dealing in life insurance. And those that did take such risks made the rates nearly double those which were charged to men, as they argued that women were not as long lived as men and therefore not nearly as desirable subjects.

with helpless little ones has been haunted by the thought of their future, even though she were able to cope with their present wants. Many a woman on whom depends an invalid brother or sister would feel much happier if she knew that she could by life insurance secure those helpless ones from the bitterness of poverty which her death would plunge them into, if such a precaution had not been taken.

It is a step in the right direction and should have been taken long ago, for women have been proven to be as long lived as men, and the company that takes risks on their lives is doing something not one bit more hazardous than when they so gladly rush in and insure the lives of as many men as they can get.

BRITISH WOMEN'S WORLD'S FAIR EXHIBITS.

English women are busily themselves preparing exhibits for the world's fair which are certain to be greatly admired by visitors to Chicago, writes the London correspondent of the New York Sun. The women's handicrafts exhibits for the Chicago exhibition include a low corner chair in oak, carved by the Princess of Wales, and covered with leather embossed by her own clever hands.

RELIABLE RECIPES.

CORNED BEEF HASH.—One pint of cold boiled beef, chopped fine, a pint of cold corned potatoes added and piped, season with a little salt, but not as much as though the beef were not already salted; mix and add a little beef stock if you have it, to moisten it, put an even spoonful of butter in stewpan, when hot, put in the hash, put half a spoonful of butter on top and a few spoonfuls of hot water, if you have no stock; cover and set on top of the range, where it will cook slowly and brown on the bottom; watch closely and loosen from the bottom with a knife; serve hot.

THE CAT.

It seems hard to believe that during all the long ages which passed between the dawn of civilization and the Christian era, the Romans and Greeks should have been ignorant of the most familiar pet of our homes—the common cat. Yet no fact seems established more clearly than this, in his "Wanderings of a Philosopher," when he insisted upon it, and it has since been established by the united efforts of scholars and zoologists. We know now that our domestic favorite—with its winning, coy ways, uneasy when removed from man's society, and yet never completely trusting it, with its mysterious old-world air—was unknown to the chief nations of antiquity till after the Christian era.

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Proud of Her Wrinkles.

Recently in the central Maine a lady who had lived over one hundred years was photographed. She was very much wrinkled of course, and the artist thought to improve the picture by taking the creases out of the negative, but the old woman protested strongly against the change. She had "lived one hundred years and for nothing," she sensibly said, and for nothing," she resented "just as she was"; so the wrinkles were all put back to please her.

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only moderate lustre. There are many damask stripes and goods set with tiny figures; but the old-fashioned satin brocades are seldom seen in the importations of dress silks.

The newest lace pins take the form of a grasshopper or frog. The former is set with green stones, and legs of fine gold wire. Green turtles, produced in enamel with occasional glimpses of gold, are another freakish fancy.

Satin of summer weight and surah in glaze finish comprise a large proportion of the season's importations. The new glaze surahs are similar in quality to the satin merveilleux of several years ago. Paul de Senle is a new silk of taffeta weave with a high glaze surface.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A CHICAGO police officer has a new plan for the identification of criminals as an aid to arrest, which he has submitted to the local department for consideration. At present, he explains, when a robbery is committed and the victim notifies the police, he is asked to give a description of the robber. He does it, and a description something after this fashion is sent out: "Look out for an arrest a man about twenty-two years old, five feet eight or nine inches tall; stout built; weighs 170 pounds; dark hair, shallow complexion, long features; wears light overcoat and dark suit. As there are thousands of persons answering this description in Chicago, it helps the police but little. Under the system proposed, every local station would be furnished with plates of profiles and features of the human face, only prominent types being shown. One plate would be of the lines of the eyes and eyebrows. Another would give types of noses, and in like manner mouths and ears, beards and mustaches would be illustrated. The plates and the cuts in each would be numbered, and when anybody who had been robbed or assaulted, or was a witness to a crime, called to give a description of the perpetrator, the officer in charge would show him the diagrams so to speak, of human features, and if he remembered the criminal's face the corresponding cuts might be designated by him. A telegraphic direction to the police stations would then read something like this: "Arrest for robbery—Plate 1, No. 3; plate 2, No. 1; plate 3, No. 5," etc. "Of course," says the inventor, "there would be mistakes, but I claim that there would be fewer than under the present system of written descriptions. If a man is competent to give a description at all, he is competent to give it under my system. Just as much as a photograph excels a written description for purposes of identification, just so much does my system excel the Bertillon system. I believe the Bertillon system to be the best system for identifying criminals after they have once been caught, but I believe mine is the best for catching them."

The British foreign office has been somewhat perturbed by an incident which recently occurred in St. Petersburg, and which, strange to say, has not yet been reported in the English newspapers, although it has been discussed in the diplomatic circles of every European capital. It happened that at one of the great court fetes given in honor of the Emir of Bokhara, a central Asian potentate who is more than suspected of carrying on intrigues against the English in India and Afghanistan, the grand master of ceremonies, by accident or design, placed Sir Robert Morier, the British ambassador, immediately after the Emir, whereupon Sir Robert bounced indignantly out of the room, saying that the representative of the empress of India could not possibly give precedence to a third-rate Asiatic prince. On being informed of this the czar sent this message to the ambassador: "His excellency forgets that the Emir is our guest, and that we are accustomed to treat our vassals with a courtesy which the English are not in the habit of extending to theirs." Since then the Emir has had his revenge by concluding a treaty of commerce with Russia which will exclude India from the central Asian markets.

SOUTHERN family names are scattered across the country, below Mason and Dixon's line, from east to west in what geologists would perhaps call a drift. As the West began to be settled by people from the colonial seaboard fringe, emigration tended to go in straight lines, so that the names of the Virginia seaboard appear in Kentucky, those of North Carolina in Tennessee, those of South Carolina along with Oglethorpe's cockneys in Georgia. Later the drift swept westward into Arkansas, Mississippi and Texas. In the progress names have been curiously transformed. Finnish names have lost the "van" or "sic." Huguenot names, whether Flemish or pure French, have been awkwardly Anglicized, and even English names have suffered violent change.

There were 11,665 miles of street railways in operation in this country at the close of last year, comprising 5,399 miles of electric roads, 4,460 miles of horse roads, 646 miles cable, and 620 miles steam. The mileage of electric roads increased 1,878 miles during the year, while there was a decrease of 846 in the number of miles operated by horse power, and also a decrease of 22 miles in steam car lines. Fifty-two miles of new cable road were built during the year. These figures show how largely electricity is superseding other power for street car traction on lines already built, as well as the great actual growth of new electric roads. The number of street cars in use in the United States is stated to be 38,400, which is almost 13,000 in excess of the number of passenger cars in use on the regular steam railroads.

The people of Rhode island are moving in the matter of raising funds for the erection of a monument to the Indian chief Massasoit. At an entertainment in aid of the fund in Warren the other evening Governor Brown delivered an address in which he said of the great sachem: "At the critical moment in the birth hour of this new settlement, afterwards to grow into a mighty nation, his loyal and unselfish assistance was a godsend to our pioneer fathers. For his humanity and protecting care shown to the pilgrim fathers and the liberty-loving founder of this dear old Commonwealth his memory deserves a lasting monument."

The Panama frauds in France, the Guelph scandal in Germany, the bank frauds in Italy, and the municipal frauds in Spain are really moral transgression in comparison with the Liberator Building Society swindle in England. In ten years the officers stole \$10,000,000, in a way that slight investigation should have disclosed, ruining many thousands of persons of small means. It is safe to say that such a looting of a public enterprise could not have taken place in the United States.

The Minnesota Historical Society has just issued a volume entitled "The Mississippi River and its Source." In this volume the ultimate source of the river is declared to be in a partially inclosed basin containing many ponds, lying directly south of Lake Itasca, and distant from its head about three miles. For all practical and popular purposes, therefore, Lake Itasca may continue to be known as the source of the Mississippi. The State of Minnesota has set apart the region about Lake Itasca as a State park.

The bushranger of Australia and our own Western road agent have objects and methods of business in the main identical, but they differ in minor details and in their distinctive slang. The unfortunate traveler who meets a Western road agent is "held up," his experiences with an Australian bushranger would be practically similar, except that he would be "balled up," while if he met one of the craft in New Zealand he would be "stuck up."

The somewhat prevalent idea that the supply of ivory is narrowly limited, and that it is likely soon to be a scarce article, is declared by a correspondent in London Field to be entirely incorrect. The writer says that in Central Africa the chiefs have so many tusks that they do not know what to do with them, and in some instances the kings surround their houses with stockades of ivory. In return for a gift of a uniform coat, a cocked hat, and a sword, a State officer recently received from a native potentate 150 tusks.

An American physician, a poor friend of his professional brethren at home, is writing to medical journals in England advising impetuous English doctors to settle in the United States. He paints a rosy picture of American opportunities and conditions of practice, even venturing such surprising assertions as that no practice is ever considered purchasable in the States. The exodus has not begun yet.

POPULAR SCIENCE NOTES.

RECORDING WIND PHENOMENA.—The new method of recording wind phenomena, which has now for some time been in use in the Odessa Observatory, has accomplished very satisfactory and useful results. By means of this simple apparatus the direction and velocity of the winds are alike marked on a cylinder by one symbol. The record consists in this case of arrows, which are printed on the paper covering the cylinder, their position showing the direction of the wind, and the number of them marked on a length of paper corresponding to one hour furnishes data for finding the velocity by an empirical scale, the special value of the readings being determined by an anemometer. The recording apparatus is actuated by clock work, and the indications are made with great readiness and accuracy by electrical contacts, which are produced by a battery cell, the duration of this contact depending on the velocity of the wind—a light wind producing, of course, a contact of longer duration than a strong one.

HOW ZERO WAS ADOPTED.—From a boy Fahrenheit was a close observer of nature. When only nineteen years old, in the cold winter of 1709, he experimented by putting snow and salt together, and noticed that it produced a degree of cold equal to the coldest day in the year. That day was the coldest the oldest inhabitant could remember. Gabriel was struck with the coincidence of his discovery, and concluded that he had found the lowest degree of temperature known in the world. He called the degree "zero," and constructed a thermometer, or rude weather glass, with a scale graduating up from zero to boiling point, which he numbered 212, and the freezing point 32, because, as he thought, mercury contracted the thirty-second of its volume on being cooled down from the temperature of freezing water to zero, and expanded the 130th on being heated from the freezing to the boiling point. Time showed the arrangement arbitrary, and that these two points no more represented the real extremes of temperature than "from Dag to Beersheba" represented the exact extremes of Palestine. But Fahrenheit's thermometer had been widely adopted with its convenient scale, and many people cling to the established scale. The three countries which use Fahrenheit are England, Holland and America.

INGENUOUS MECHANICAL DEVICES.—Mechanical devices in the manufacture of shoes are claimed to have reached their ideal ingenuity in a recently invented contrivance for attaching heels to boots and shoes by driving staples from the inside through the inner sole, the counter and the outer sole, and nearly through the heel, the points of the staples reaching into and nearly through the top lift—thus, if desired, leaving the shoe heeled with a blind lift by the first and only operation of attaching. If it is desired to slug the heel, the apparatus is provided with a mechanism for driving slugs into the top lift at the instant of attaching the heel to the shoe. The staples being thus driven from the inside, their crowns are left embedded in the inner sole entirely below its surface, and the inner and outer soles and the counters are drawn firmly together, making a most perfect heel seat. By other methods, as is well known, the heel seat has to be made first, so as to insure a tight joint at the point of contact between the heel and the outer sole, and to provide something solid to which the heel may be attached by the points of the nails. The claim is therefore put forward that, in the manufacture of boots and shoes, this mechanical wonder supplies the place of the heel-seating machine, the attaching machine, and the slugging machine—in fact, performing the whole work at one operation, and simultaneously.

ESPARTO GRASS.—Esparto grass has recently been recommended for introduction into the United States as a fiber plant. It is a native of Spain, Portugal, Greece and Northern Africa, thriving upon sand and gravel in arid situations, and growing especially well on limestone and gypsaceous soils. It is not cut, but pulled, sometimes twice a year. It can be grown either from seeds or divisions of the roots. Ten tons of dry esparto, worth from \$20 to \$25 per ton, can, under favorable circumstances, be obtained from an acre. In Spain, where now the product amounts to from 70,000 to 80,000 tons annually, it formerly ran to waste or was used only as fuel. Now, such is the demand for it, that land considered valueless a few years ago is worth thousands of dollars. About 60,000 tons are sent to Great Britain annually from Spain. In the latter country it is used in the manufacture of ropes, baskets, sandals, matting, etc., while in England it is largely used in making ropes and paper. Good writing paper is made from it without the admixture of any other material, and the price of this paper varies from \$200 to \$250 per ton. There is certainly an opening in this country for some enterprising individuals to grow this grass. —[Scientific American.]

EASTER KISSES IN RUSSIA.—There are records of very many curious Easter customs. In Russia, every female even a princess, must submit to be kissed by the lowest boor who presents her with an egg; but in some parts of England a still more curious, and if possible, more senseless custom prevailed.

"A chair, gayly decked with ribbons and artificial flowers, is placed in front of some inn or house of public resort, upon the seat of which is a raw egg. The chair is attended to by a number of gayly-dressed damels, who sit upon any man passing, and, despite his kicking and struggles, seat him with a good hard bounce upon the egg. He is then grasped by a dozen strong hands and lifted bodily, chair and all, in the air, above the heads of the assembled bystanders, lowered, and raised again. This is repeated three times. Instead of being allowed to depart, however he is embraced, perforce, and kissed by every one of the attendant graces. —[New York Journal.]

AROUND THE HOUSE.—To remove finger marks rub with javelle water. Scatter zansy leaves among furs to keep out moths. A little flour dredged over the top of a cake will keep the icing from running. To make brooms last longer than they ordinarily do, dip them once a week in boiling suds. This toughens the strands. A large slice of raw potato in the fat when frying doughnuts will prevent the black specks from appearing on their surface. A little borax put in water in which scarlet napkins and red-bordered towels are to be washed will prevent them from fading.

DUTCH KLOOMPERS.—One of the queerest sights which I saw in Europe was a row of wooden shoes outside the door of a Dutch farm-house on Saturday morning. There were the big-sized shoes of the farmer himself, the middle-sized shoes of his good vrasor, and several small-sized shoes of the children; and all the line had been scrubbed and freshly whitewashed in preparation for Sunday. There are many kinds of wooden shoes worn by peasants in Europe, but none are more clumsy and heavy than the "kloompers" of the Hollanders. They are boat-shaped with high wooden protections to the heels, and a curious little upward twist to the toes, like the prow of a Chinese junk. But heavy and awkward as the shoes are, the Dutch children run about as lightly as if they were shod in Cinderella's glass slippers, and do not seem to object in the least to the clicking sound made by the shoes on the pavement. One of the most extraordinary sights in the world is a line of little Dutch boys playing leap-frog in their great noisy wooden kloompers. Having formed a row of "frogs" from one end of their village to the other, the boys begin to jump in the usual agile way of the players of the lively game. As soon as the line is in motion a most tremendous sound starts the village. The oldest inhabitant can hardly "hear himself think," but he knows that the noise is not thunder; it is only the rattle of the boys' wooden shoes as they strike the hard brick paved street. —[Harper's Young People.]

FATE OF INCENDIARIES IN JAPAN.—The incendiary's lot in Japan is not a happy one. When caught he is at once handed over to the executioner. By this official the culprit is buried in the ground up to the neck. A cross-cut saw laid on the ground close by ready for use, and then the executioner goes away for a few days on other duties. During the interval any passer-by is at liberty to assist the executioner in his duties by taking a few cuts with the saw across the prisoner's neck. When the executioner returns, if there is any necessity for it, he leisurely completes the task by sawing the man's neck from his shoulders. It is then fastened to a pole and placed on exhibition in the neighboring village or town. The custom, it is claimed, is calculated greatly to discourage the practice of setting property afire. —[New York News.]

FRUIT AND HEALTH.—Lemons, grapes and tomatoes are most valuable from a medical point of view, and if the uses of such fruits and their juices were preserved in there is every reason to believe that not only cancer, but many other diseases of a similar nature with which the skill of the surgeon and physician are unable to cope, might be actually cured, or so much alleviated as scarcely to shorten life. —[St. Louis Republic.]