

**The Mark of the Cross.**  
No longer does the world send forth its call  
For men to strive and suffer all alone,  
To stand for faith and fall as martyrs fall,  
Beneath the bitter blows of stone on stone;  
No longer—but the neighbor at your side,  
Who greets you every day with smile all fair,  
Would cause you to look at him open eyed,  
Did you but know what marks his shoulders bear!  
And they who spend their strength in mills and mart,  
Who swing the sledge, or bend above the books,  
Or in the world's great task do their one part  
In unfrequented, hidden, dusty nooks;  
Who in high places rule, and they who serve,  
And often see their gold has turned to dross,  
Who pay the toll of strength and soul and nerve—  
Upon their shoulders is the chafing cross.  
And we need but look back adown the years  
To those old days now shadowed in our dreams,  
Until we find the one who changed our tears  
To smiles that glowed in laughter's brightest gleams,  
And see the mother—patient, hopeful, fond—  
Who gave us of herself by day and night,  
And looked to the to-morrows far beyond—  
Yet she would say her cross was ever light.  
And each and all, to-day, to-morrow—  
Through all the endless avenue of time,  
We bear our cross in pleasure or distress,  
Though on the way we falter as we climb.  
No longer have we martyrs? Nay, but then  
It boots not if we garner gain or loss;  
There is no one of all the sons of men  
Whose shoulders show no markings of the cross.  
—Walter B. Nesbitt, in Republic.

tell it, cut off the stranger's ears.  
"Both of them!"  
"Those are the articles you see so carefully preserved in that case. Justice keeps them as evidence of criminality."  
"But the young wife?"  
"Wait! The fair countess exclaimed, 'My dear, you are mistaken! My dear, you have cut off one ear; spare the other, I beseech you!' But you know tigers are always still more infuriated by the sight of blood. Besides, the more his young wife tried to soothe him the more he imagined that she was in league with the visitor. 'He did not stop till both ears were hacked off.'"  
"Well, what was the fellow doing there?"  
"I'll tell you. Did you ever read a story by Balzac called 'Message'?? A young man is accused by a friend of carrying a letter to a young married woman. Except for the existence of a secret love the situation was identical. The stranger who called at the villa near Sceaux was bringing a message, a letter from a boarding school friend, which by chance he handed to her just at the moment Othello appeared on the scene. You know the rest."  
"A minister!"  
"Yes, but the young man, as you may suppose, will not let the matter rest there. As Comte de S. cannot give back his ears he intends to make him pay damages. Complaint has been brought, with a demand for valuation to serve as a basis for estimating the damages, which will not be less than two hundred thousand francs."  
"What are you saying? A hundred thousand francs apiece. Come, that's pretty dear!"  
"Would you give yours for that sum?"  
"No, of course not; but that isn't the question. We are wandering from the drama. Permit me to return to it. What was the message sent by one boarding school friend to the other? It must be known. The examination would not fall to reveal it."  
"The examination did reveal it, since the message was opened and read. The young beauty in Paris wrote to her schoolmate in Sceaux: 'I have just consulted Dr. Z., whom all the young women in Paris are questioning about their complexions. I generously send you his prescription: if you want to have a fresh complexion throughout the year, bathe your face daily, during the month of May, every morning, with dandelion juice. Alice Z.'"  
"What! Has dandelion juice been the cause of a jealous husband's cutting off an innocent man's ears and making the Palais de Justice echo with the absurd lawsuit?"  
"As you see, monsieur."—From the French, in Green Bag.

# A PAIR OF EARS

The incident occurred in the clerk's office of the Palais de Justice, where all sorts of things are deposited, stolen articles, corpus delicti, and objects tending to prove criminality. Last April a young lawyer, with lorgnon raised to his eyes, was amusing himself by examining this judicial bric-a-brac. He went from brass watches to revolvers, silver snuff boxes to burglars' tools, plunging like the youth in the old tale, into a gulf of philosophical reflections.  
Suddenly he noticed in a sort of velvet case, two singular objects, round, flat, very peculiar in form, and brown in color. They looked like india rubber or parchment.  
"What are those?" he asked, turning to a young clerk who was acting as guide.  
"Why, don't you see that they are ears?"  
"Ears of what?"  
"Ears of a man."  
"Cut off?"  
"Certainly, cut off."  
"With what? A sabre? A knife? A razor?"  
"A Catalonian pincard."  
Then, drawing a steel blade from a leather sheath, he added:  
"Here is the instrument by which the aforesaid ears were amputated."  
The words evidently referred to some drama. Curious, like men of his age, the young lawyer stopped and questioned his guide:  
"A tragical adventure! Oh, my dear sir, pray tell me about it!"  
"Very well! It isn't a long story."  
"So much the worse!"  
"Don't interrupt me. About three months ago, just at the close of winter, a strange affair occurred in an elegant villa near Sceaux, occupied by Comte de S., with his young wife, an extremely pretty woman, with whom he was desperately in love. You have divined that he was an Othello under the mask of a man of fashion."  
"No, I know nothing about him."  
"A Bengal tiger could be no worse. One evening, late in January, he returned from Paris by the railway, his feet half benumbed by the cold, and his eyes smarting from the glare of the snow, and dashed into the villa without ringing or knocking, like a hurricane, going straight to his wife's room. Do you know what he saw there?"  
"Aha! Here's the key of the drama. What did he see?"  
"A very good looking young man who seemed to be pressing the countess's hand."  
"The deuce!"  
"Not doubting that it was some admirer, he rushed to the weapons decorating the wall, snatched this dagger and, in less time than it requires to

students of rugs in order that they may be prepared to detect frauds and to get the worth of the money invested in beautifying and making comfortable their homes, so far as rugs contribute to that result.—Consul General Wm. H. Michael.

## LESS WHISKEY DRUNK IN 1907.

**Decrease of \$15,767,038 in Internal Revenue.**  
From the preliminary report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue it is apparent that the consumption of whiskey and other ardent spirits is on the decrease and that the consumption of beer is increasing. During the fiscal year which ended on June 30, last, \$131,789,242 was paid to the Government as revenue on whiskey and other spirituous liquors. For the year previous \$147,550,281 was paid, a loss in revenue of \$15,767,038. There was distilled during the year which ended June 30, last 119,808,402 gallons of distilled spirits, a decrease over the previous year of 14,333,672 gallons.  
During the past year 58,747,680 barrels of beer, ale, &c., were made a gain of 201,569 over the preceding year. On this beer, ale, &c., the Government received as revenue the sum of \$58,747,680, a gain of \$201,569.  
The receipts from all sources of internal revenue for the year aggregated \$251,665,950, being a decrease of \$17,998,072 from the receipts for the fiscal year which ended June 30, 1907.  
Tobacco of all sorts yielded a revenue of \$49,862,754, a loss of \$1,948,315, the figures of the year which ended June 30, 1907, being \$51,811,069. This year cigars contributed a total sum of \$20,714,276; little cigars, \$546,050, and cigarettes, \$4,879,346, and tobacco of other kinds, including chewing and smoking, \$21,846,563.  
Oleomargarine paid revenue to the extent of \$954,304, a gain of \$66,663 over the previous year. This represents 79,107,302 pounds consumed.  
Renovated butter was a close second to oleomargarine, 59,240,708 pounds being manufactured, upon which \$125,601 revenue was paid.  
Filled cheese paid \$1,271, mixed flour, \$2,380. Playing cards were taxed for \$548,810, a loss of \$112,904 for the preceding year.  
Collectors of internal revenue in New York are credited with the following collection: First district New York, Collector Jordan, \$3,952,355; second, Collector Anderson, \$3,965,362; third Collector Eldman, \$3,483,004; fourth, Collector Ward, \$4,814,689; twenty-fourth, Collector Garlick, \$1,937,758; twenty-eighth, Collector Sanders, \$2,205,927.  
Illinois, New York and Kentucky respectively are the largest contributors of internal revenue. Illinois during the past year contributed \$46,122,844, New York \$39,359,597, Kentucky \$26,874,585 and Indiana is a close second to Kentucky with \$26,546,753. Thirty-eight States and two Territories contributed to the total, New Mexico having paid \$105,209 and Hawaii \$56,878.

## FOSSIL CAMEL BONES.

**Wild Horse Remains Also Unearthed on Chesapeake Bay.**  
The discovery of the fossil remains of a number of animals never before supposed to have existed in the eastern States is the result of the work of exploration conducted along Chesapeake Bay by Dr. F. W. True and William Palmer, of the Smithsonian Institution.  
"While we have not, as yet, compared the specimens obtained, we are looking forward to some noteworthy additions to our knowledge of the prehistoric animals of the United States," said Mr. Palmer. "We found the remains of a creature of which no specimen has, to my knowledge, heretofore been found in America, although it belongs to a group well known and still existing in Europe."  
"Some of the bones found may belong to a species of wild horse once common in this region. The leg bones of this creature closely approximate the modern zebra. Other bones have been supposed to be those of a prehistoric camel. Remains of fossil horses or camels have never been found in this region, though several species of both are known to have been once common in sections of North America."—Washington (D. C.) correspondence of the New York World.

## PLENTY OF PERGOLAS.

**Every Happy Home Must Have One, Even If It is Made of Gas Pipes.**  
There is a rage for pergolas, pergolas constructed of anything from gas pipes to chestnut rails, from crimson ramblers to French beans.  
Only this morning, says a writer in the Gentlewoman, I heard of one or two simple expedients for achieving a pergola. On the top of two veranda posts, if you have them, place wooden brackets and across them string two or three heavy wires from which hang clusters of vines.  
Grapevines are beautiful to behold, but the common hop is beautiful too and bears the roughest treatment, grows insolently, flinging its pungent green tassels all around. Hops grow on poles, are stem twisters, like the bean and convolvulus tribe. Other good climbers are adumia, sweet peas, nasturtiums, the Japanese akiba and all varieties of clematis.  
Governor Magoon has been made honorary president of the fremen of Havana, Cuba.

## Household Notes

### USES FOR THE HOT WATER BAG.

To keep baby's bottle warm at night or when travelling, make a flannel bag to cover the hot water bag with a pocket the size of the nursing bottle. Place filled bottle in the pocket and fill your hot water bag. The milk will be kept warm and ready for use when baby wants it.  
Cut the top off a discarded hot water bag and it will hold the sponge, tooth brushes and toilet articles when travelling without injuring the other articles in your suit case.  
As a lining for table mats small bags for tooth brushes, etc., it is invaluable.  
Place under your bread pan to help the bread rise in cold weather.—Boston Post.

### TO SEW HOOKS ON DRESSES.

In sewing on hooks, whether used in connection with eyes or peets, always spread the hooks, all sizes, before sewing on; it not only makes the strain come on different parts of the material, but it prevents them from pushing forward and showing at the edges of collars, plackets and such things.  
When sewing them on a boned lining the bone can be slipped between the front curves and back of the hook, after they have all been sewn on, making it very taut, thus saving the labor of fastening the bone in the usual way. It must, of course, be fastened at either end after it is inserted, otherwise it will come entirely off during the process of hooking the dress.—Boston Post.

### AN AWKWARD SKIRT.

Draw tapes are being introduced in ultra-fashionable skirts to draw the skirt close about the figure below the knees.  
In such a skirt the gait has to be studied before a mirror until no careless step is in danger of being taken or the wearer may be tripped by her shackles at a crucial moment.  
In some of the skirts these tapes are arranged at one side, and the gait becomes a sort of shuffle, with one foot constantly in the lead.  
Should the wearer for any reason forget and lift the wrong side of her gown in getting to her carriage she would be apt to fall.  
Yet those who have seen these skirts say that worn right they are graceful in the extreme. Do you believe it?—New York Times.

### A NOVEL WINDOW GARDEN.

When building our house a number of large window sashes were left over which later were utilized for the purpose of constructing a small room seven by nine feet, off the sitting room and connecting with it by sliding doors. The sashes were put in on three sides—east, west and south—and projected beyond the house line four or five feet. Winters we placed shelves in it at proper distances to accommodate potted roses. While there were many plants growing out side, only a few, the best, were put into this rose room. These were Bon Silene, Queen's Scarlet, Enchantress and similar varieties. To make sure of being successful, a florist was called in occasionally to look at the plants, and sometimes he brought new specimens to refill any vacant places or to replace any which were not in the best of condition. Those brought in were fresh and about ready to bloom, so we had a continual supply of vigorous plants which had lots of buds and blooms which flowered all the winter, something very delightful and not common in window gardens.  
The florist suggested many helpful ideas, among which was that several large ferns and palm be added to occupy the space beneath the lower row of shelves. This mass of green set off the bright roses in a most beautiful way, and, besides, we had quite a nice and refreshing little fernery.—Suburban Life.

### RECEIPES.

**Chocolate Caramels.**—One pint brown sugar, one gill milk, one-half pint molasses, one half cake unswayed chocolate, one generous tea spoonful butter, one tablespoonful extract of vanilla. Boil all except the vanilla over a slow fire until the ingredients are dissolved, and stir occasionally afterward, as it is liable to burn. Test it by dropping a little in cold water, and if it hardens quickly remove at once from the fire, add the flavoring extract and pour into buttered tins. When cool, mark the caramels in squares with a buttered knife.  
**Lettuce Salad, Tremont Style.**—Wash and dry the fine lettuce leaves as usual. Make a dressing of six tablespoonfuls of oil, three of lemon juice, the usual amount of salt and of white pepper. Add a heaping table spoonful of grated pineapple, stir this all well together, and pour over the lettuce before serving, mixing it well. The lemon juice is recommended for this dressing instead of vinegar because it offsets the pineapple flavor or balances it better, rather than the vinegar would. At discretion a bit of sugar may be used in this dressing; also a hint of red pepper may appear in it.  
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**TACOMA FARMER HAS ROARING WELL.**  
As Tide Changes, Strong Gale Enters or Leaves the Bore-- Noise Heard a Great Distance.  
Out on a ranch of Charles Christopher, ten miles southeast of Tacoma, there is a "breathing" well that he people for miles around consider one of the most phenomenal freaks of nature they have ever seen, says a dispatch to the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.  
Year in and year out for the fourteen years since the well was dug a strong gale of wind is either going into or coming out of the well. The current of air is always strong, and sometimes it amounts to a gale, the suction power of which, if the air falls to be going into the well, will carry newspapers or other light objects into it.  
If the air is flowing out from the well is on one of these rampages, the wind will blow one's hat off, and the roar of it can be heard for some distance. A strong current of air was flowing into it when the newspaper man visited it, but Mr. Christopher said it would change and the air begin coming out of it as soon as the tide turned.  
"I have a better tide indicator than any one living along the Sound," said he. "For the four years I have lived here this well has recorded the coming and going of the tides and the turn of the tides with a precision and regularity that have been as infallible as the unconscious movements of the heavenly bodies."  
"Whenever the tide begins to come in at Tacoma, eight miles away, as the crowd flies, from his well, the air begins to come out of the well. At first, as the tide slowly turns, the outgoing rush of air is scarcely perceptible. As the tide strengthens and begins to roll in swift and powerful the air current strengthens with it, reaching its maximum of power as the tide does. When the tide climbs up to full, the air current from my well dies down, and at the turn of the tide there is no perceptible motor of atmosphere at the mouth of the well. I have taken the tide tables as they are published in the newspapers and verified the actions of the air currents into and out of the well."  
When there is a heavy tide the air current coming from or going into the well is at once changed into a boisterous gale. This also happens frequently when there is a storm of wind that increases the height of the tide. For instance, the first of last week, when there was a heavy wind from the southwest that was driving high waters into the inlets and bays surrounding Tacoma, the wind coming from the well produced such a gale that surface water which poured into the well was blown out, giving the appearance of fine spray of artesian water. The noise of the air was such that it could be heard for some distance.

**Nebraska Sod House.**  
There are few surviving examples of the primitive style of architecture once in fashion on the plains. Within a radius of many miles of Central City, Neb., only one sod house that is inhabited can be found. It is the residence of Oscar Nelson and is situated south of Polk in Hamilton County. For thirty years it has sheltered Mr. Nelson and his wife, and within its walls three children were born and raised. It has weathered some very severe storms and proved so staunchly built that surprisingly few repairs have been needed. Nebraska soil has proved reliable in many ways, but few other instances can be cited of its standing the test for thirty years when forming the walls of a sod house.—Omaha World Herald.

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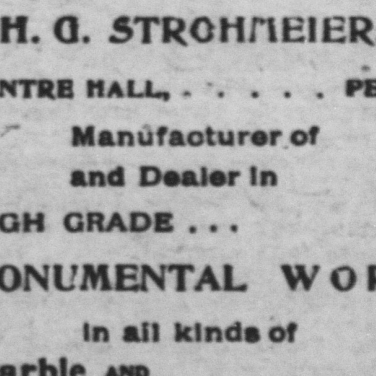
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