

ORCHARD AND GARDEN.

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IT LOOKS LIKE MINE.

PEOPLE HAVE OFTEN SAID THIS ABOUT AN UMBRELLA. They Were Right in the Main, but the Inventor of a Modern Umbrella Kind "Fixed" the Handle—Why the Identity of Cases and Parasols Changes.

A dingy shanty within the shadow of the city hall shelters a singular industry, the leading feature of the establishment being the exchange of umbrellas handles.

A visit to the thrifty proprietor unravels the mystery of where unreturned and otherwise missing umbrellas go to. You lose, in any of the too numerous methods by which the feat can be accomplished, the shield which art interposes between civilized humanity and the weeping heavens. You scan the procession that passes your window the next day in the hope of detecting the man with perverted morals who has appropriated your property. In vain. You may see a handle like that attached to the umbrella that once was your brown silk, but the covering is black, hence the hope raised by the sight of the peculiar form of the silver or ivory top (impaired when your eye travels to the dripping cover.

A VISIT TO THE "FIXER." And yet you may have been right in your first guess, though the man who was saving his silk hat from the damaging effect of the downpour may have been innocent of wrongdoing you directly. The black silk he is carrying was possibly ornamented by a handle of totally different pattern when it left the shop and was subsequently loaned or left in a corner of the saloon where the proud purchaser "set him up" for his fellow clerks on the strength of his investment. The peculiar handle was too easy of identification attached to its original silken superstructure and the aforesaid dingy shanty was hastily visited and an exchange effected. The visit was made subsequently to that of the successor to your property and that is how you came to lament your ray of hope flash through your frame.

This is no fancy sketch. The "exchange" was visited in all innocence of its real character by a man whose lack of opportunity has hitherto preserved his honesty pure and undefiled in the matter of umbrellas, the temptation to absorb which seems to be irresistible to the average mortal, and he is no better than his fellows in other respects, and given the right conditions he might with his fellows fall beneath the influence of a lonesome but lovely specimen.

But this time he was a victim, not to the loss of his rain detter, but his metal handle. Unequal expansion between it and the stick, combined with faulty cement, had caused a divorce fatal to the good looks of the relic.

"Aber wo ist der anderer griff?" asked the "repairer," his gesture supplying the meaning of what otherwise would have been unintelligible to his visitor. "The other handle? Why, I lost it, and that's why I came to you to get a new one."

"Ach, that was all very well, but look in your pocket and don't mind me. I know all about that business. Day all lose dose handles until they find out how to know dose ropes a little bit. Look again, now."

"DEY YOOST 'MAKES' HIM." The visitor being innocent was imperious to the applicant. "What do you mean?" he asked the grinning proprietor of the 7 1/2 shop.

"What I mean? Vy, dat you 'made' dot regenschirm—you know what dot means—and you wants to change dot handle for another, so adre dot other man knows him not again drety, eh?"

"Do I look like a thief?" "A thief, is it? Vy you must be dumm, nyopost schelms einen regenschirm, dey yoost 'makes' him. He is lying around and you cooms along or some other man cooms along and takes him up. Dendey all cooms here by me and I put a new handle on and dot next Sauntag dot regenschirm to der kirche goes mit dot man and dot handle stops mit me."

"Aber if you so dreftly particular I put you a new handle in him for twenty-five cents or half a dollar and you keeps dot other handle and puts him in the stove drety, eh?"

Not knowing at this stage of the proceedings but that the handle he should select might have come from an umbrella of the same shade, the general appearance as his own, and the lead awkward complications with the Beer of the one it originally graced, and not caring particularly to do business with a man who had such loose ideas of the rights of property, even in umbrellas, the would be customer was backing out—there was scarcely room to turn.

"You needn't be feared dot I gife you a black one, and de von you had is brown, eh?"

But the comparatively fresh air of the alley leading to the novel "fixer" had been reached ere this last inducement had been offered, and the job went to a more honest or cautious man.—Chicago Times.

How Chamberlain Won His Wife. A story is now going the rounds about Mr. Joseph Chamberlain's recent wooing and marriage that may interest American readers. By a romantic coincidence Mr. Chamberlain's son, Austin, played an important part in his father's marriage to Miss Endicott. The young man had met the lady at Washington the year before Mr. Chamberlain went there to negotiate the fisheries treaty. On his return he gave such glowing accounts of Miss Endicott that his father determined to meet the secretary's family in order to introduce her to his son for this purpose. The sequel is known. The spell of fascination was cast over the father, as it had been over the son, and the older gentleman, perhaps in experience bolder in matters of the heart, wooed and won the lady, who is younger than any of his children, for his bride.—St. Louis Star Sayings.

She Was Not Dead. In London recently a well known artist of the camera was called in to photograph the camera of a young lady who had just died under peculiar and distressing circumstances. The body was laid on a sofa in the drawing room and presented a singularly beautiful spectacle. The photographer was left alone in the room with the body and took a negative. After inspecting it he was not satisfied that the exposure had been sufficient, and he took another. And then, to his amazement, he discovered that the two negatives were not alike. The first one must have moved. Not having lost all his nerve by this extraordinary occurrence, he took a third negative, which was exactly like the second. He instantly summoned the nurse who had been in attendance on the deceased girl, and after some difficulty and delay had the doctor fetched. To cut a long story short, the young lady was not dead at all. This is a true story.—Atlanta American.

The First Congregational church, Baltimore, has raised \$6,500 for benevolence during the year, which, added to \$4,500 given to the Second church for its building and lot.

HOW TO SAVE LIFE.

Wine is a cure. It is an irritation of the throat and lungs. When comes it? Consumption and the cough. The cure is to get back to a good constitution. It is a white, frothy, got, pointed at the head, footless, the body gradually increasing in size towards the hinder end, where it is squarely cut off. When full grown it is about one-third of an inch in length. For a remedy it is recommended to dip the roots of the plants in a compound of one part kerosene emulsion to twelve or fifteen parts of water at the time of planting.

Club root rarely or never attacks cabbages planted in virgin soil, but is most common in soils which have been occupied by cabbages in previous seasons. For this disease the various insecticides have been tried without any good effect. When once the fungus has entered the root there is probably no remedy. As a preventive, chloride of lime is recommended. Make a solution with not quite enough water upon the powder to dissolve all of it, and thoroughly stir it, then taking one part of this solution to two or three parts of water, apply to the roots of the cabbage at planting and to the soil immediately about the roots.

FRUITS OLD AND NEW. Varieties That Are Worthy of Wider Dissemination and Cultivation. At the last annual meeting of the New Jersey Horticultural society, at Trenton, numbered with other interesting subjects considered was "Worthy Fruits, New and Old, Not Much Disseminated." This was the topic of a paper read by William R. Ward, and following are extracts from Secretary E. Williams' report of the same:

Mr. Ward opened the subject by naming the Kieffer pear, which has been so persistently written and talked against. It has, however, in certain localities been extensively planted, and from it coming into bearing early, giving large crops and bringing fair prices, those who are now growing it are not disappointed.

Those who claimed superior flavor for the variety brought to a certain extent the unfavorable comments that it has received, but as a cooking variety it has no equal, in Mr. Ward's opinion. He claims for it, taking all things into consideration, that it will be a popular variety for the state of New Jersey. A pear commended as high flavored and good for family use was Dana's Hovey, an old variety though one that is little grown. The Quinn pear has been tried and found to be one of the best varieties for an amateur, or planted in small quantities by the farmer.

Among the strawberries, more of the Jessie were noticed in the markets last year than ever before, but experience seems to prove that this sort does best in heavy clay soils. The Davis has received considerable notoriety for its similarity to the Sharpless in general appearance, in growth, color and productiveness, and in size they cannot be distinguished. Mr. Ward, who has seen these varieties grown side by side, could discover but little difference between them. Mr. Goldsmith, who has seen the Early Richmond, persistently claims that they are firmer and stand up longer than the Sharpless.

There is a standing prejudice against yellow raspberries for market purposes. These do not sell. The Marlborough is a popular variety, coming into the market before the Cutbert.

Fay's currant is sustaining its reputation and is worthy of dissemination and cultivation. In cherries, among the sour varieties was recommended the Montmorency, as it comes in after the Early Richmond. The English Morello was pronounced a good variety, though not much grown.

Moore's Early grape was pronounced one of the very best of the early black grapes, coming in before Concord. It commands generally high prices. The Ives, Champion and Concord come in about the same time from Delaware, yet the Moore's Early, being in a better condition, sells readily. The Niagara was mentioned and said to be worthy of wide dissemination. It generally commands high prices.

The Canfield was named as the best apple for a long keeping sweet sort; it is productive and makes, with the Harrison, the renowned Newark cider. The Poupay is an excellent sweet fall apple.

Potatoes for Seed. The importance of healthy tubers for seed is too well known to require more than a mere mention. Another important fact is that no crop benefits more from a frequent change of seed than potatoes. On the subject of cutting potato seed, a well known English authority says: "Many growers prefer planting the sets whole. Of course it economizes the seed if one potato can be made to do the work of two, but we question whether the cut potato makes the safest seed, especially on farms that are addicted to potato disease. The great drawback to the whole potato has been that it tends up too many stems together and the crop is injured by overcrowding. But it is not possible to prevent this by extracting all the eyes excepting, say, two? We should think there would be little difficulty about this, and we have no doubt that the whole set would have more nourishment to support the young plant than the seedling that has been cut. Its nourishment, moreover, would be concentrated on the two shoots left, which would tend to strengthen and fortify them for the battle of life."

The Propagation of the Cranberry. Cranberries are propagated from the roots or cuttings, usually the latter, and their successful culture requires a bog or pond, and in a situation that can be flooded and the water drained off as required. After the spot is prepared it should be covered with