

Facts of Interest To Women Readers.

Symposium of Information, Partly Grave, Partly Gossipy and Partly Gay.

"This year," says the Sun, "will be made memorable by the occurrence of the twenty-eighth election of the president of the United States. It has opened also with threats and dangers of war in both the New and the Old World; but it has a further and a sentimental distinction which in these days more especially gives it to special interest. The year 1896 is leap year, when, according to tradition, it is permissible for women to make proposals of marriage to men, instead of waiting, as in ordinary years, for the men to propose to them."

"We counsel our fair Poughkeepsie correspondent, therefore, that she will surrender a priceless feminine privilege if she permits that advantage to pass over to a man. Keep men in their proper place, Judith, whether it be leap year or any other year. If women transform them from supplicants into arbiters of their fate, they will grow arrogant when they should be humble. Don't give them the chance to refuse your overtures. Hold that point of advantage yourselves, we say to women. Make them surrender any deal with them as your merciful hearts dictate. If they will not come to terms under the captivity of your charms, they will not be likely to yield to your spoken proposal of marriage. It would also flatter them too much. They would get a wholly false conception of their actual relative place with reference to women. Make them do the proposing. Let the confession of subjugation and the plea for mercy come from them, while you wait, no matter how impatiently, to bestow upon them the rich guerdon of your glowing hearts."

WOMAN ON THE BENCH: Mrs. Justice Lovelace—What is the charge against this woman? Officer—She is a shoplifter. I caught her coming out of Smith's with a whole cargo of goods concealed about her person—silks, laces, ribbons, and a dozen other things. The Justice—Woman, what have you to say for yourself? The Prisoner—I am guilty, your Honor; but, indeed, I could not help it. It was bargained day, and— The Justice (excited)—Bargain day, was it? Go on. The Prisoner—Yes; and you never saw such bargains in your life. I had no money but when I saw the watered silk at 75 cents a yard, that you couldn't get anywhere else in town for less than 80 cents, I couldn't leave the store without it. The Justice (more excited)—How wide was it? The Prisoner—Nearly a yard wide. The Justice—And only 75 cents a yard? The Prisoner—Yes. And then the lace on the bargain counter! They were lovely. One piece of Valenciennes was marked down to 88 cents, and I couldn't, I couldn't go without that. The Justice—Corruptious mind! Ninety-eight cents for Valenciennes! The Prisoner—Yes, your Honor. And you just ought to have seen the flowered muslin that was 70 cents a yard! I tried oh, so hard to resist the temptation, but I could not keep my hands off it. The Justice (very much excited)—You don't mean to say that the watered silk flowered more ribbon at 75 cents a yard? The Prisoner—Indeed they were, your Honor. But that was nothing to the silk money that when I saw the watered silk at 75 cents a yard, that you couldn't get anywhere else in town for less than 80 cents, I couldn't leave the store without it. The Justice (looking at her watch)—It is 3 o'clock now. I have two hours. (Aloud.) The court adjourns to 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.—Judge.

SELECTED RECIPES: Grantham Gingerbread—One pound of flour, full weight; one pound of powdered sugar, full weight; quarter of a pound of butter, full weight; one ounce of ground ginger, one-eighth of an ounce of ground cloves, one-eighth of an ounce of ground nutmeg, two drops of pure oil of almond and three drops of vanilla. Rub the butter into the flour, make a bay, add the sugar, spices and almonds; then add the eggs, work them well into the sugar, then draw in the almonds and vanilla. If the dough is very tight, add a little milk, not a drop. The dough should be fairly tight. When mixed roll it in lengths one inch in diameter and with a sharp knife cut them up in one-inch pieces and place them on evenly buttered baking pans two inches apart and the cut up and bake in a slow heat. It is well to try one in the oven, and if they flow too much add a trifle flour. If they do not flow enough flatten them a little before putting them in the oven. If properly made they will, when broken, have large holes in them and are sometimes eaten by breaking them in half and pouring a little sherry or brandy in the holes. This is the genuine Grantham Gingerbread.—British Baker and Confectioner.

Chocolate Pudding—Warm half a pint of milk, stir into it one-fourth pound of grated chocolate, and five ounces of crumbled biscuits. Serve the rice till dissolved, turn it into a basin, and leave till cool. Then mix in two ounces of caster sugar, and the beaten yolks of three eggs; whisk the whites to froth, and mix them in. Pour the mixture into a buttered mold, and steam for one and a half hours. Stale bread can be used instead of sponge biscuits. To serve the pudding with whipped cream, or chocolate sauce made with half a pint of milk, two ounces of chocolate, a little sugar and a favoring of vanilla.

Roast Duck—Wild ducks should be served rare. Among some fashionable people the time given for roasting them is ten minutes, but this is not enough to heat them through. Twenty minutes is about the right time. The oven should be extremely hot when the ducks are put in. Either a brown olive sauce or curried sauce is suitable for roast duck, but it seems a pity to lose the delicious flavor of a good bird by the addition of any kind of sauce. The flavor of duck is best preserved by putting it in a hot oven for a few minutes before it is cooked. The duck should be served with a sauce of minced celery and onion in the bodies before they are cooked.

How He Proposed: A young married woman, the wife of a worn congressman, was one of a party in Washington the other evening talking about leap year, says the Chicago Chronicle. "I proposed to my husband," said she, "and I wasn't leap year and I'm not a new woman. Every one was anxious to hear how she happened to do it, for she is a lovely woman of the womanly type, and the last one in the world to ever ask a man to marry her. The twenty minutes would tell me how much he loved me, and ask me if I could care for him. I put him off, and then after two or three years he began to neglect telling me of his love."

Health Hints: Dr. P. Ritter says the mouth is the starting point and breeding place of germs. It has frequently been worked and workmen use their hands on account of the want of indoor teeth or foul breath. Continuous toothache frequently follows the use of tooth-brushes for the removal of the teeth. The appointment of experienced dentists to examine the mouths of all school children at stated intervals would be a most desirable measure. Parents to be informed of the result of the examination, and left to have the treatment required carried out, privately or in the presence of the child's dentist for the poor; delivery of addresses in the public schools on the importance of the masticatory apparatus and the mouth, and the most effective dissemination of printed instructions on the toilet of the mouth to the poor population.

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Household Suggestions: A cement for mending broken glass or china is made by dissolving half an ounce of gum arabic in a wineglassful of boiling water, and adding one ounce of plaster of Paris to make a thick paste. Apply it with a brush to the edges of the broken parts. Hold the pieces carefully together until the cement has hardened sufficiently for them to adhere. If the article to be mended is broken in several places, do not attempt to cement a second piece before the first has become thoroughly dry. If you have butter that is not entirely sweet, put it in a porcelain dish with a little salt and a tiny piece of soda, place the dish in a cold water bath, and let it into a stone jar and set it in a cool place. The butter will be found perfectly sweet and not too salt for cooking. The impurities will settle to the bottom of the dish.

Infant Health: Infant Health is a matter of vast importance to mothers. The manufacturers of the GAIL BORDEN EAGLE BRAND CONDENSED MILK, which should be in every home, advise that it is a matter of vast importance to mothers. The manufacturers of the GAIL BORDEN EAGLE BRAND CONDENSED MILK, which should be in every home, advise that it is a matter of vast importance to mothers.

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MEGARGEL & CONNELL Wholesale Agents. Directory of Wholesale and Retail City and Suburban Representative Business Houses. Includes sections for Wholesale, Monumental Works, Milk, Cream, Butter, etc., Engines and Boilers, Dry Goods, Millinery, etc., Groceries, Hardware, and various other business categories.

A CYCLING MINISTER'S EXPERIENCE. THE RESULTS OF LONG, HARD RIDING. FULLY 3,000 MILES ON HIS WHEEL. He Makes Some Reflections on the Benefits of the Sport and Tells of its Dangers. Includes an illustration of a man on a bicycle.

CAUTION TO OUR PATRONS: Washburn-Crosby Co. wish to assure their many patrons that they will this year hold to their usual custom of offering STRICTLY OLD WHEAT until the new crop is fully cured. New wheat is now on the market, and owing to the excessively dry weather many millers are of the opinion that it is already cured, and in proper condition for milling. Washburn-Crosby Co. will take no risks, and will allow the new wheat fully three months to mature before grinding. This careful attention to every detail of milling has placed Washburn-Crosby Co.'s flour far above other brands. Includes illustrations of flour barrels.

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