

Meerschaum is a hydrous silicate of magnesia, a mineral of soft earthy texture, somewhat resembling chalk. It is found in Spain and in the several countries at the head of the Mediterranean. The town of Konieh, in Asia Minor, furnishes the principal supplies for the manufacture of pipes and cigar-tubes. It is roughly shaped into blocks for exportation, and freed as far as practicable from the associated minerals which impair its quality by interfering with the carving of its surface. It is made into pipes in various cities of Europe, Pesh and Vienna being especially noted for the manufacture. To produce the yellow and brown colors, which are brought out only after long smoking, the blocks are kept for some time in a mixture of wax and fatty matters. A portion of these is absorbed, and being subsequently acted on by the heat and tobacco fumes, assumes various shades of color. Artificial meerschaums, called mass-bowls are made from the parings of the genuine material, which, being reduced to fine powder, are boiled in water and moulded into blocks, sometimes with the addition of clay. They cannot easily be distinguished from the real, but they are generally heavier and freer from blemishes.—*Appleton's American Cyclopaedia.*

The London Times has the following: Our kinsfolk have a right to magnify and hold in undying memory the achievements of that manly conflict (the War of Independence), and we have long forgotten the passing bitterness of defeat in the proud thought that only Englishmen could have baffled England, even in her perverse mood of unreasoning tyranny. The centenary celebration of American independence is an occasion which arouses no unfriendly remembrances among us. It is emphatically an occasion on which Americans may be forgiven a swelling sense of pride, and on which foreigners must be compelled to feel admiration. The Exhibition at Philadelphia would, therefore, be an interesting historical event, even though it fell very far short of the magnificence in display, the fertility of invention, the ingenuity of contrivance, at which the world has marvelled, over again, in London, Paris and Vienna.

The man-eating tiger, says *Land and Water*, rarely touches any other animal when he has once tasted human blood. He lurks in the neighborhood of villages, and carries off laborers returning from work, or women going for water. She crawls to the edge of the thicket and looks around. It is only an unarmed traveler. The hungry devil knows well that he is an easy prey; she creeps toward her unconscious victim with the soft and noiseless tread of a cat; her long tail switches from side to side, her sharp claws dart from their velvet sheaths, the devil is roused within her, and glares in her flaming eyeballs; she throws herself forward with a cat-like bound, and the stricken wretch is writhing in her fatal grasp, while with closed eyes and a low growl expressive of savage delight, she sucks the warm blood from his mangled throat.

An old bachelor in Maine has been deterred from committing matrimony in a novel way. Thinking over the subject seriously and particularly the expense of maintaining a family, he set the table in his lonely abode with plates for himself and an imaginary wife and five children. He then sat down to dine, and as often as he helped himself to food he put the same quantity on each of the other plates, and surveyed the prospect at the time computing the cost. The result of his examination was so discouraging that he resolved not to marry. *Lawender* suggests that he ought not to have been so lavish with his children.

The *Danbury News* says: There is one thing on which a husband and wife never have and never can agree, and that is on what constitutes a well-beaten carpet. When the article is clean, it's a man's impression that it should be removed and he be allowed to wash up and quietly retire. But a woman's appetite for carpet-beating is never appeased while a man has a whole muscle in his body. And if he waited until she voluntarily gave the signal to stop, he might beat away until he dropped down dead. It is directly owing to his superior strength of mind that the civilized world is not a widow this day.

A well-meaning horse created a great panic in a church at Hyannis, Mass., on Sunday, and broke up the service by running against the side of the building from fright at a flash of lightning. The audience thought the church had been struck by lightning, and made a rush for the door, and, when the mistake was discovered, the preacher thought his hearers were too much scared to receive much good, and dismissed them.

The crows out West are eating up the eggs left in the ground by the grasshoppers, and aged farmers get up early to call the homely birds pet names. A month hence, the crows will be dodging buckshot.

The take of buffalo robes in Montana the present season is the heaviest for several years. Some of the dealers will ship from 8,000 to 10,000.

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A paper containing full information, will be sent upon application to CHARLES K. LANDIS, Vineland, N. J., free of cost.
The following is an extract from a description of Vineland, published in the New York Tribune, by the well-known Agriculturist, John Robinson:
"All the farmers were of the 'well to do' sort, and some of them, who have turned their attention to fruits and market gardening, have grown rich. The soil is loam, varying from sandy to clayey, and surface gently undulating, intersected with small streams and occasional wet meadows, in which deposits of peat or muck are stored, sufficient to fertilize the whole upland surface, after it has been exhausted of its natural fertility.
It is certainly one of the most extensive fertile tracts, in an almost level position, and suitable condition for pleasant farming, that we know of this side of the Western prairies. We found some of the oldest farms apparently just as profitably productive as when first cleared of forest fifty or a hundred years ago.
The geologist would soon discover the cause of this continued fertility. The whole country is a marine deposit, and all through the soil we found evidences of calcareous substances, generally in the form of indurated calcareous marl, showing many distinct forms of ancient shells, of the tertiary formation; and this marly substance is scattered all through the soil, in a very comminuted form, and in the exact condition most easily assimilated by such plants as the farmer desires to cultivate."
12 Sun

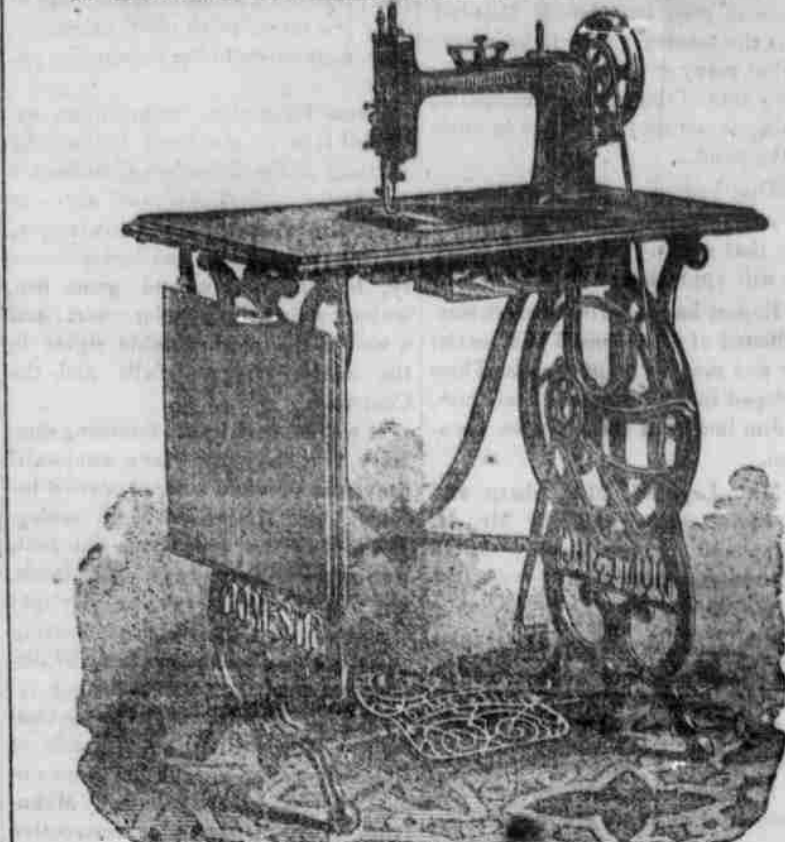
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