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The study of domestic science by young women in Germany includes the study of the vegetable garden and how to cultivate it.

While Captain William H. Bates was Commissioner of Navigation he said that "an average of \$10,000,000 annually, for thirty years, has been paid by us to foreign ships for ocean transportation."

Clement Scott, a famous London dramatic critic, says the English stage is the worst, because the English are the least artistic people in the world, and "more completely without the saving grace of humor than any other nation."

Gullible farmers, of Allen County, Ohio, have been hoodwinked by a swindler who went through the country exhibiting an enormous ear of corn, from which he sold choice kernels at choice prices for seed.

Says the New York Times: "The law of supply and demand applies to the Southern cotton industry as well as to anything else. If the acreage is too great and the production consequently greater than the mills require, low prices are inevitable."

That there is an honesty rising superior to business avarice even in this sordid age appears from the experience of a Popoka sporting man. He wrote to a cigarette company that he had saved the pictures in 1200 packages of cigarettes which he had smoked, and asked what prize the company would offer for them.

A writer in the New York Sun gives what he believes to be the true theory of the origin of Welsh rabbits. He says: "My notion is that melted cheese, properly seasoned and poured on toast, is called 'Welsh rabbit,' because in Wales, where the people have cheese in plenty and wild rabbits are rigidly protected under the game laws, the Welsh bon vivant substitutes his homely dish for the four-legged game animal."

A subject that would stand more discussion than it gets is free delivery by the Postoffice Department in rural districts, observes Harper's Weekly. It is not impracticable, and the chief questions about it are whether the farmers want it and whether it would be worth what it would cost.

The report recently submitted to the Secretary of the Interior covering the transactions of the general land office for the past year contains some interesting figures. According to this report the vacant public lands of the Government aggregate at the present time the enormous amount of 591,348,953 acres, scattered about over the States of Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, California, Colorado, Oregon, North Dakota and Washington.

The girl's parents were dead, and she was quite without near relatives, or indeed any relatives at all. She possessed a guardian whom she had only seen twice in her life, and who did not interest himself in her nor care to introduce her to his family. He advised, even after she came of age, that she should make her home as a "lady boarder" in the foreign school where she had been educated from quite a little child.

TWO BRIDES

The Man who Loved the Names of Things Went forth beneath the skies, And named all things that he beheld, And people called him wise.

OF NO PARTICULAR FAMILY. By MRS. M. CORBET SEYMOUR.

THE Grange was a large rambling old house. And it had need to be so, for the Marriots were a numerous family.

At such times, Mr. Marriot appeared to glance round him with mild astonishment that so many children and grandchildren really belonged to him. For six generations there had been Marriots at the Grange, eldest son regularly succeeding eldest son.

So when Ursula Marriot, who had been at school in France by way of finishing her education, wrote for permission to bring a friend home with her, it was decided that there would be a room to put at the disposal of this young lady.

Miss Warre was quite at her ease among all these strangers; she laughed and talked over the rough passage, and over the little incidents of the railway journey from Dover.

After a quarter of an hour passed over a merry afternoon tea, the guest was taken to the pretty room prepared for her, and the general verdict given in her absence was not only favorable, but flattering.

Louis Marriot, the only grown-up unmarried son, fell deeply in love with this lively, charming friend of his sister Ursula. But neither his father nor his mother liked the idea of such a marriage. They wanted for Louis the daughter of a thoroughly English home; some one whose family was well known to him.

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

The Vanity That Destroys—Cupid's Big Bills—New But Effective Method—All the Talk He Wanted—Changed—Military Circles—Justifiable Shooting, Etc.

NEW BUT EFFECTIVE METHOD. "How did her father strike you when you called on him?"

CAPID'S BIG BILLS. "Love laughs at locksmiths," you know.

CHANGED. "Well, Newfadder, are you and your wife living in unity now?"

HER MOTIVE. "That Bascombe woman is always making her husband tell her that he loves her, right before folks."

ALL THE TALK HE WANTED. "Don't you think if Robinson Crusoe had been a married man he would have been a great deal lonelier?"

MILITARY CIRCLES. "So you are going away, Mrs. Rasher?"

FORCE OF HABIT. "Did you ever notice the queer, rotary gesture Mr. Chilkoot always makes when his wife rings for the butler?"

PROGRESSING. "Mrs. Yeast—'Didn't you say your boy got more like his father every day?'"

ABSORBING HIS FATHER'S EXPERIENCE. "That boy of mine ought to be as sharp an 'knowin' as they make 'em."

PERSEVERANCE ALWAYS WINS. "Smith—'After trying for ten long years, I have at last succeeded in convincing my wife that I am perfect.'"

DIDN'T WANT THE WHOLE FAMILY. "Her parents (to prospective son-in-law)—'Is your financial condition such as will enable you to support a family?'"

DISOBEDIENCE. "O-o-o-oh!" groaned the glass-eater, in pain.

JOHANNIE PUT 'EM AWAY. "Mistress (to servant)—'Bella, where are those berries I told you to put away?'"

JUSTIFIABLE SHOOTING. "Mr. Brown—'Terrible tragedy at a bargain counter. A woman who had secured the last five yards of cheap silk was shot by another woman who had been waiting for midnight without having a chance to get any.'"

THE THIRTY EXPLORER. "Do you know why it is that so many explorers seek the arctic and so few the antarctic regions?"

WOMEN'S POCKETS. Ladies fifty years ago, when going on a journey by stage coach, carried their cash in their under pockets.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

The most easily digested meats are cold mutton, mutton chops, venison, sirloin, roast beef and chicken.

Green vegetables and good fruit contain certain salts and acids which may be called nature's medicine.

A boon for vegetarians is peanut butter, which surpasses the best dairy butter in purity, and is found to be especially well adapted for use in gravies and for shortening.

Street lamps can be mounted on a new telescopic post to make them easy to reach for trimming and filling.

The aurora borealis, according to the theory of Herr Gustav Weudt, may be regarded as an electrical phenomena arising when oxygen and other paramagnetic matter—or matter assuming polarity under the influence of the earth's magnetism—is continuously drawn down from the higher regions of the atmosphere, thus setting up electric currents.

Medical authorities appear to be becoming convinced of the efficacy of alcohol, in the treatment of cancer. It is used in hypodermic injections, and its strength has been gradually increased from a ten per cent. solution until the pure alcohol is often used.

A floating scientific station was the novel suggestion made to the international geological congress by Professor Andrussov. It would consist of a ship fitted with apparatus and laboratories for geological and biological study of the ocean bottom, and would be kept constantly exploring the different parts of the world, the expense to be met by international contributions.

During the Zulu war Dr. George Stoker observed that wounded natives quickly recovered in mountain-side places to which they were carried.

In the Arizona papers of late there have been frequent complaints of serious injury, both to crops and to pastures, caused by the raids of wild horses. Something like 20,000 of these creatures, it is estimated, are now roaming the plains of that territory, and they have become serious nuisances.

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There is some cause for surprise in the fact that at this late day, even in Arizona, an animal alien to the country can resume the habits of his almost unmeasurably remote ancestors, and can multiply rapidly without care or protection of any kind.

The horse in domestication is a rather delicate creature, subject to many ills, and often hard to keep in health, though watched with close attention and allowed to want for nothing whatever.

When forced to rely on his own resources however, he shows a marked capacity for resuming the wild state and for guarding himself against enemies of all sorts.

Ever since the days of the Spanish explorers the horse at every opportunity has demonstrated his liking for freedom and his adaptability for meeting without aid the conditions of life in the West and South.

Large herds were often seen years ago, but that they should still find room in the United States is really notable, as proving that the country is not nearly so well settled as the opponents of immigration would have us believe.

A strip of flannel, or a soft napkin, folded lengthwise and dipped in hot water and wrung out, and then applied around the neck of a child that has the croup, will usually bring relief in a few minutes.

A proper towel folded several times and dipped in hot water, quickly wrung and applied over the site of toothache or neuralgia, will generally afford prompt relief.

This treatment for colic has been found to work like magic. Nothing so promptly cuts short a congestion of the lungs, sore throat, or rheumatism as hot water, when applied early in the case and thoroughly.

Hot water taken freely half an hour before bedtime is an excellent cathartic in the case of constipation, while it has a soothing effect upon the stomach and bowels.

The treatment, continued a few months, with the addition of a cup of hot water slowly sipped half an hour before each meal, with proper attention to diet, will cure most cases of dyspepsia.

Ordinary headaches almost always yield to the simultaneous application of hot water to the feet and back of the neck.

LI HUNG CHANG'S WOMAN PHYSICIAN. Li Hung Chang has appointed as first physician in his private household a Chinese woman, Miss Hu King Eng, M. D., who was graduated from an American medical college.

Previous to this appointment she was an attending physician at the Women's Hospital in her native city of Foo Chow, and also a practicing missionary physician, for early in life she adopted the Christian religion.

MIDWINTER.

The cold, gray light lies heavy down the glen; Silent the pines, scarce nodding, plume on plume.

Like scorching emblems o'er a warrior dead, Darken the hills, intensifying the gloom, Cast amber shadows down on lake and fen.

With startling tread The hare leaps through the hemlock drooped by the light, and then with movement slow Limpers noiselessly away where twilight dies.

—John Preston True.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

"There is only one thing I ever do for Perry's sake." "What's that?" "Pay my premium."—Truth.

"A fine dog, that of yours. What's his name?" "Has none, nor needs one; he doesn't obey anyway."—Flegende Blatter.

"Shameful about those two Kentucky girls quarreling over that battleship." "Yes, they act as if it was a man."—Chicago Record.

Walker—"Did you say your wife's a member of a secret society?" Talker—"It was secret before she joined."—Norristown Herald.

"We have cornbread all the time now." "Why?" "My husband lost so much on wheat that it makes him weep to see a biscuit."—Chicago Record.

Friend—"Then it is not a play of the present day, is it?" Playwright—"Oh, no! The scene is laid in Harlem at the beginning of the rapid-transit movement."—Puck.

Revised: He had been busy adapting things. "I care not," he said at last, "who writes the songs of a country so long as I draw the royalties."—Chicago Evening Post.

Employment Agent—"See here! How is this? You stayed two weeks in your last place. How did that happen?" Domestic—"Sure, Oi dunno. Oi must have overslept myself."—New York Weekly.

Dulby (would-be novelist)—"I've just finished a new novel. If you have a moment to spare I'll show you the proofs." Wilby—"Oh, never mind about the proofs. I'll take your word for it."—Chicago Record.

"Speaking of the vogue of the wheel," remarked the observer of men and things, "a good healthy constitution and the canned beef industry doubtless go far to keep the horse from being eaten up by envy."—Detroit Journal.

"Of course," observed Xerxes, the King, "my will is law." "Doubtless," answered the wise man of the court, after consulting a few authorities, "that is to say, if your Majesty doesn't leave too large an estate."—Chicago Record.

"No," said Nero, while Rome was burning, as he turned indignantly to one of his advisers, "this is amuse-ment enough. I shall not sanction any six-days' bicycle race. I am not altogether a monster." And he fiddled away.—Chicago Tribune.

First Klondike Miner—"I hear that our neighbor, Spudkins, has married rich!" Second Klondike Miner—(evidently)—"Yes; they say his bride has an independent fortune of fifty cans of boneless ham and twenty-five cans of condensed milk."—Puck.

Art—"I have heard," said the young woman who is improving her mind, "that sometimes it requires a great deal of art to succeed in not doing things." "It does," replied Senator Sorghum; "unquestionably; especially if you are being paid for them."—Washington Star.

"The parcel postman has just called at the Trinkenbuns's, next door, and left a football, a bicycle, two cricket bats, a package of sweaters, a pair of spool cars, and a bundle of golf-sticks." "Then their daughter must be home from college and her education finished."—London Figaro.

Young Hicks—"You needn't laugh at my monstache, Maud; your mother said it was becoming, didn't you, madame?" Mrs. Bailey—"Oh, no, Harry! You misunderstood me. I said it was coming." Hicks—"Now Mrs. Bailey, don't cut a monstache when it is in down."—Boston Transcript.

Pollution Upstream. A farmer of Connecticut has just recovered damages from the town of New Brighton, in that State, because the sewage of that town so polluted a stream flowing through his farm that his cows would not drink the water. He was damaged, of course, and ought to recover. So is every one living on or near a stream and depending on it for a water supply damaged by the pollution of the stream higher up in its course.

When it is made more costly to turn sewage into a stream of running water than to treat it and render it harmless on the land, living streams will cease to be polluted, their present double function of sewer and water supply will be abandoned and the original purity of streams will be jealously guarded.—Philadelphia Press.

Poultry Schools in France. England imports eggs and poultry to the value of \$23,000,000, while France exports \$70,000,000 worth of the same. France has a number of poultry schools, where pupils are regularly trained in rearing fowls, managing incubators, caring diseases, etc., 30,000 chickens being hatched each season at the Gambais School. The pupils pay for their instruction and work from 8 a. m. to 8 p. m., three of the hours being devoted to study. Scholarships are founded for the benefit of those unable to afford the tuition fee.