

Malta.

There was at the Centennial Exposition the head of a woman cut in butter, which attracted much attention from the rural visitors. For this they passed by the woman painted on canvas or carved in marble; they were too like the real thing, and they probably knew how difficult it is to make butter into moulds. For some reason Malta reminds you of this latter lady. It is a real city—with real houses and cathedral and streets, no doubt, but you have a feeling that they are not genuine, and that though it is very cleverly done, it is, after all, a city carved out of cheese or butter. Some of the cheese is mouldy and covered with green, and some of the walls have holes in them, as has aerated bread or Roquefort cheese, and the streets and the pavements, and the carved facades of the churches and opera house, and the earth and the hills beyond—everything upon which your eye can rest is glaring and yellow, with not a red roof to relieve it; it is all just yellow limestone, and it looks like Dutch cheese. It is like no other place exactly that you have ever seen. The approach into the canal-like harbor under the guns and the search lights of the fortifications, the moats and drawbridges, and the glaring monotony of the place itself which seems to have been cut out of one piece and painted with one brush, suggest those little toy fortresses of yellow wood which appear in the shop windows at Christmas time. Of course the first and last thought one has of Malta is that the island was the home of the Order of the Knights of St. John, or Knights Hospitaliers. This Order, which was the most noble of those of the days of medieval chivalry, was the band of warrior monks who waged war against the infidels, who kept certain vows, and who, under the banner of the white cross, became honored and feared throughout the then known world. Their headquarters changed from place to place during the four hundred years that stretched from the thirteenth century, when the Order was first established, up to 1530, when Charles V. made over to Malta and all its dependencies in perpetual sovereignty to the keeping of these Knights. They had no sooner fortified the island than there began the nine months' siege of the Turks, one of the most memorable sieges in history. When it was ended, the Turks re-embarked 10,000 of the 40,000 men they had landed, and of the 9000 Knights present under the Grand Master Jean de Valette when the siege had opened, but 600 capable of bearing arms remained alive.—Harper's Weekly.

Missouri has 9301 school districts, 11,744 school houses, 13,677 school teachers, 822,430 persons of school age, and 610,550 in the public schools.

SWELLINGS IN THE NECK

or goitre, made my neck fully twice its natural size. For three years all my strength seemed to go into the swelling. I took Hood's Sarsaparilla, which gave me strength, relieved distress in my stomach, and best of all, entirely removed the goitre. I am now Mrs. Swinford, in the best of health. Mrs. H. C. SWIN FORD, Union County, Michigan, Pa.

"August Flower"

Miss C. G. McCLAVE, School-teacher, 753 Park Place, Elmira, N. Y. "This Spring while away from home teaching my first term in a country school I was perfectly wretched with that human agony called dyspepsia. After dieting for two weeks and getting no better, a friend wrote me, suggesting that I take August Flower. The very next day I purchased a bottle. I am delighted to say that August Flower helped me so that I have quite recovered from my indisposition."

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"The good things of this life"

Are given us in order that life may be at night and happy as a terminable thing can be, but it is not only the demands of nature for sleep and rest. Obtain it.

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And secure that peaceful sleep which alone can give to weary nerves the full sense of the enjoyment of a healthy life.

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DELICATE WOMEN

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WHEN A SILO IS INDISPENSIBLE.

The silo is indispensable for a winter dairy. And this makes necessary a series of crops most suitable for the purpose. As the main reliance is on corn for the ensilage, there will be little else grown, but the summer feeding of cows is a simple matter. This should be by pasturing, which is the cheapest mode of feeding cows and by far the most convenient, as there will be no time taken up in driving them back and forth, as they will remain in the pasture during the three summer months. It is thus seen that the winter dairy is most economical in every way, and more profitable than ordinary dairying as well.—New York Times.

PRUNING GRAPE VINES.

Many agricultural writers insist that grape vines should only be pruned in the fall or beginning of winter, and undoubtedly that is the best time, but we have pruned in the spring, after the leaves were half grown, without any injury to the vines. We did not cut back as closely as we should have done in the fall, and sometimes one or two of the last joints died, probably from bleeding, but there was no excessive bleeding, and the main vine did not seem to be hurt by it, or the fruit lessened in size or sweetness. It was thought better than to allow a neglected vine to grow too much wood. But we would not care to prune between the formation of the fruit buds and the ripening of the fruit, unless to nip off the ends of branches that are making too much growth.—Boston Cultivator.

MAKE BEST BUTTER.

If dairymen will bear in mind the best butter pays a profit and the poorest incurs a loss, they will have one large foundation stone of dairy economy established. The average grade just pays the cost of production; the poorest grades fall below and the better grades rise above. The profit accrues from the better grades of butter produced from the better grades of cows. For while it is entirely practicable to always make a high grade butter from a low grade cow, it is not possible to secure a cow, because of the small quantity. Neither can a profit be obtained by making large quantities of poor butter. First we need a good cow, then give the cow and her milk good care, and success is certain. This is in comfort in the fact that it is just as easy to make good butter by good methods as to make poor butter by the "old granny" methods, in fact it is very much easier and ten times more satisfactory.—Orange Judd Farmer.

STEEL OR IRON NAILS.

Since the introduction of steel nails the iron nails have been slow of sale, yet the latter are often palmed off on the purchaser unless steel nails are especially ordered. The wire steel nails cost a trifle more than the square cut steel ones, but are enough better to pay, as the wire nails do not split the timber, or mutilate the fiber of the wood, as does the common nail. A wire nail, if notched, clings to the wood, and for clinching is preferable to the common form of steel nail. As to durability, both will rust away if in an exposed position. Iron nails break at right angles, while those of steel hang with a most wonderful tenacity, and for fencing, and like purposes, should always be used. For shingling, wire nails are best. They do not split or tear away the underside of the shingles, as do the square cut nails of both iron and steel. When driving large steel nails into hard wood, they are liable to bend unless struck squarely.—American Agriculturist.

HOW TO GROOM A HORSE.

The few stable hands who know how to groom a horse properly are generally too indolent to do it. It is quite an art to clean a horse as he should be cleaned, and it is no easy job. For that reason he is seldom groomed as he should be. A groom must be active, strong and experienced. Every inch of the horse, beginning at the head, should be gone over thoroughly with brush, comb and rag. A man who would not much rather take care of his own horse, provided he has the time, has not true love for the horse. No animal will repay one for care and attention like the horse. He will show it not only in appearance but in health and spirit. Good grooming will do as much in improving the condition of a horse as an additional four quarts of oats per day. In grooming a horse properly he should be tied from side to side so that he cannot throw his head around and work himself all over the floor, which he is sure to do under the comb if he is not of a disposition too plegmatic to feel the scratching. A good brush and comb are required, as well as a broomcomb brush for mane and tail. Never use the comb on the horse's head. If he has any spirit at all he will not endure it. Take the brush in the right hand and the comb in the left, steady his head while brushing gently, and then with the comb in the left hand curvy the neck from behind the ear and the entire right side. Go through the same process on the left side, leaving no space untouched. After currying take the brush and brush the hair the wrong way, scraping the brush at intervals with the comb to clean it. Then go the right way with the brush; follow the brush with a woolsen rag—rubbing the hair up and then smoothing it. Don't spruce-horse grease, and the horse will show his keeping and act as he feels.—Kansas Farmer.

CRIBBING, OTHERWISE WIND-CHOKING OR SWALLOWING AIR, OF THE EQUINE LIVESTOCK.

Cribbing, otherwise wind-choking or swallowing air, is a vice peculiar to horses alone. It is a vice which may be checked by mechanical appliances,

WAR GAMES.

The war games best calculated to yield really useful results are those which are sometimes played in anticipation of some field day or series of maneuvers. It is surprising how often there is total disagreement between the probable issues arrived at, severally, by real men or real ground, and those brought about by lead pieces upon the map or model. Ground features, so apparently insignificant that their existence is undiscovered even upon the largest scale maps, will sometimes suffice to alter the entire situation. Speaking generally, the common result of much playing of war games is to inoculate the mistaken idea that, given certain data, a combat has a fixed issue. An ounce of practice is worth a ton of theory. One of the first things which it is essential to appreciate is that in war there is no such thing as certainty, and that it is the unexpected which very frequently happens. All that the best general can do is to insure the desired result as far as he is able, and make proper preparations for meeting the difficulty in case of failure.—Broad Arrow.

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

A REASONABLE RELIEF.

A reasonable relief is a stuffed cucumber. Remove the peel from a large cucumber and cut it into pieces about half an inch thick; place these in a steamer and steam steadily until they are thoroughly cooked—about half an hour. Have ready in a saucpan a well-seasoned mince or forcemeat of any sort. Carefully scoop out the seeds from the rounds of the cucumber and fill them with the mince. Garnish each with a ring of capers placed near the edge and serve on a border of spinach surrounded by thick tomato sauce.—New York Times.

TO CLEAN WHITE-SILK LACE.

There are two well-known recipes for cleaning white silk lace. One is to wind it around a piece of wood, like a piece of broom-handle, or a glass bottle, and to soak it all night in warm castile soapuds and milk; rinse in warm water, soak in soap and warm water; rinse again without rubbing, bleach in the sun and dry. The second method recommends that the lace be spread out upon white paper, covered with calcined magnesia; another sheet of paper placed upon it, and laid away for three days between the pages of a large book; then shake off the powder, and the lace will be clean and white.—New York World.

HOW TO MAKE A SKIRT FIRM.

Take a block of wood two inches thick and at least a foot square. Bore a hole through the center and fit into it a wooden rod a little longer than the dress skirt. Then from a pine board saw a circle the size of your waist. Screw this securely to the other end of rod; fasten seven dressereads to the board, placing them so that one comes in the middle of the back. With two reeds make a hoop that fits loosely over the hips and place this under the reeds five inches below the waist. The firmly wherever the reeds cross. A second and slightly larger hoop should be placed five inches below the upper one. Place over the reeds a small hoop-skirt from the bottom of which several rows of wire have been removed. Fasten the skirt to the reeds, sew tapes to edge of the skirt at regular intervals, draw them down and tack to the block. This holds the skirt in position.—New York Voice.

Persian Needle-Work.

The difference between Persian and the needle work we are accustomed to see seems to lie in the thoroughness—sincerity, an artist would call it—of the former. Every stitch is taken with mathematical precision, and there is no slighting at any point. The wrong side of the work is as admirable in its way as the right side. In some specimens the stitches cover the design on both sides, the needle being carried across underneath, as it is in the embroidery of China carpet shawls. On other pieces the needle is put back toward the wrong side close by the place it was drawn through, thus throwing all the work up on the right side and leaving what looks like beautifully regular outline-work on the reverse. This is the method used in working sofa pillows, table covers, or anything which only exposes one side. But for curtains, handkerchiefs, shawls, etc., the double-faced embroidery is invariably used. A favorite method of this Persian worker is the introduction of texts or sentences upon the border or centre of her pieces. The lettering is quaint, angular, and disconnected that at the first look it seems like a geometric pattern. On one white linen table cover, heavily worked in flowers and foliage with gray silk, was a border of lettering wrought in gold thread. The characters were about four inches tall, and the sentiment they conveyed, "God is great; Good is good," took up a very short space, but the text was repeated again and again.—Harper's Bazar.

The Biggest Egg.

"Wow come," said J. C. Stephens, at his auction rooms in King street, the Covent Garden, "to the egg of the Aepyornis maximus, the biggest bird living or extinct. It has been extinct for some time, and only two of its bones have been found. According to the catalogue the bird was more than ten feet high and was flightless." "I should think so," said a prospective egg buyer. "It would seem to me," said Mr. Stephens, "that the bird that laid this egg must have been something like thirty-five feet high—about as high as a house. You will see by the catalogue that it measures 34 1/2 inches in its longest circumference and twenty-eight inches in girth. This egg was several inches larger than the egg we sold last year. It is, of course, a great rarity, and not more than thirty of these eggs are known." "This, I think, is the finest egg of the lot. It should be remembered that there are sixty known eggs of the great auk, and they sell for a couple of hundred guineas each. I don't mean to say that this egg should bring as much as a great auk's egg, but I sold one not so good as this last year for seventy guineas." The egg was passing from hand to hand in a wooden box while the auctioneer was speaking. It looked too large for an egg, though in other respects it seems natural enough. It was not difficult to understand how a bird that had laid such an egg had become extinct. The strain must have been equal to the horse-power of an Atlantic liner, and the cackle that followed the arrival of the egg must have made the welkin ring until its head ached. The egg was of a brownish gray color and sounds like porcelain when it is drummed on with the knuckles. The bird that was accustomed to lay this sort of egg lived, it is said, in Madagascar, and buried its eggs in the sand. It is only possibly to find the egg by digging in the sand, and more eggs may yet be found, as a good deal of the seashore of Madagascar has not been dug up yet. The egg was finally sold for sixty-seven guineas.—Pall Mall Gazette.

Delicious Drink.

Cherry

Ambrosia

Quites the Nerves. Aids Digestion. Cools the Blood, Prevents Fevers. Quenches Thirst. Temperance Drink. Put up in condensed form, 10, 25 and 50 cent bottles. English and is free from alcohol. To be sure you get the genuine show your dealer the trade mark. If you are unable to obtain it, send for express, prepaid, enough to make several gallons. Sold by FRANK E. HUGHES & CO., 232 Washington St., Boston, Mass. AGENTS wanted in each town.

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"Two Bottles Cured Me!"

DANA SANSAPARILLA CO. DEAR SIR:—For years I have been troubled with Rheumatism, also Liver and Kidney troubles. Nothing seemed to help me permanently until I tried DANAS SANSAPARILLA and two bottles CURED ME.

SEND YOUR OWN HARNESS

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CLINCH RIVETS.

No tools required. Only a hammer needed to drive and clinch them easily and quickly, leaving the clinch absolutely smooth. Requiring no glue to be made in the leather nor bar for the rivets. They are strong, tough and durable. Much more in use. All sizes, uniform or assorted, put up in boxes. Ask your dealer for them, or send 50c in stamps for a box of 100, assorted sizes. Made by

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made by selling in bulk to the general public. We have a large stock of... [Detailed description of the product and its benefits]

SAPOLIO

Use

Dandies in the German Army. Referring to the recent order of the German Emperor with regard to the dandyed irregularities which had become common in the German Army, a correspondent at Berlin calls our attention to the fact that the Kaiser himself is not altogether free from affection of this kind, inasmuch as he himself sets the fashion of "bangle" wearing. In most of the many portraits of the Kaiser the bangle is brought into special prominence by the position of the hand he forever condescended to the carrying, which formerly was very commonly worn among his officers. In the time of Frederick William II. when the German Army was resting on the laurels of the great Frederick, dandies flourished in great numbers, among the officers, in spite of severe official condemnations of foppery. The monstrosities and extravagance differed but slightly from those of to-day—sharp-pointed toes, ridiculously high colors and short overcoats without seams. Later-day exquisites have also adopted the plan of crowding on the finger as many rings as possible—he who can carry the largest number on the ring fingers and at the same time bend his fingers being considered to have the bluest blood.—London Globe.

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