

Your "Annoyed Sign."
 "What," asks an exchange, "is your 'annoyed sign'?" Most people have, it seems, some characteristic gesture to express that the limit of toleration is approaching. The Prince of Wales when annoyed winks his left eye rapidly, the Emperor of Austria puffs out his cheeks, the Czar lays his hand flat on the top of his head, Mr. Gladstone turns swiftly on his heels, as if executing a volte face, and the Sultan of Turkey grasps his throat tightly with his hand.—New York Times.

The General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church has come into possession of the largest collection of Latin Bibles in the world, consisting of 543 editions in 1364 volumes.

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 Kept me in very poor health for five years, I began to take Hood's Sarsaparilla and my digestion was helped by the first three doses.

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 I have now taken over four bottles and I firmly believe it has cured me, and also saved my life. Mrs. R. E. PHINCK, Bushville, N. Y.

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 Constipation and people who have weak lungs or Asthma, should use PISO'S CURE for Constipation. It has not injured one. It is the best cough syrup. It is the best cough syrup. Sold everywhere. 35c.

HERBS FOR MEDICAL USE.
 OLD-FASHIONED FOLKS WHO TRUST TO SIMPLE REMEDIES.
Plants Which Bring Healing and Restoration to the Sick Without the Doctor's Prescription:
SEVERAL large wholesale drug houses down town find it worth while to keep in stock a large assortment of herbs for medicinal use, and at least one such house, more than fifty years in existence, deals in such articles alone. These houses supply druggists all over the East with the raw materials of which many standard medicines are made, and with the traditional herbs, roots and barks of our grandmothers. The trade in these things even in this city is large, and they are sold wherever household remedies still have a place of honor.

One of these wholesale houses issues a catalogue that is in some sort a rough guide to the art and mystery of herb-doctoring. It is these remedies that are compounded by the so-called botanical druggists, or "botanists," as they are sometimes styled. Many of these remedies are well-recognized medicines, unhesitatingly prescribed by physicians of scientific education, and some such physicians still cling to inherited formulas and traditional herbs.

Nearly five hundred herbs, roots, seeds, flowers and barks are kept in stock by the largest botanical druggists, and new remedies are still from time to time added to the list. The plants thus kept are not only those known to the pharmacopoeia as containing the active principles of standard drugs, nearly every familiar flower and plant, wild or cultivated. Not only the dandelion, Mayapple, boneset and peppercorn of our grandmothers and the liquorice root, slippery elm and ginseng of the orthodox materia medica must be kept on hand, but as well hundreds of others known to those deeply read in the science of simples.

Favorite flowers and famous plants take roles strangely unfamiliar to those unlearned in herbs and drugs. The bark of the tulip tree, according to the catalogue, cures hysterics and dyspepsia. The stiel tea "strengthens the system and excites perspiration." Water lilies of one sort or another are good for pectoral complaints and scrofula. Watermelon seed is "excellent for dropsy," doubtless on the homeopathic principle. The white willow is a substitute for Peruvian bark. The wild sunflower is set down as "invaluable in bilious colic" and like complaints. Sweet clover is for swellings. The strawberry, no longer a table delicacy, furnishes in its leaves a remedy for sore throat, and in its wandering stem a cure for jaundice and fevers. Seven kinds of snake root furnish remedies for rheumatism, scrofula, hives, croup, fevers and some complaints of the stomach.

The Irish shamrock, losing its emblematic significance, is used to make an infusion for scurvy. The familiar skunk cabbage, earliest and most ill-smelling of blossoms, is good for hemorrhage of the lungs, coughs and asthma. Rosemary and rue figure in this materia medica, the former not for remembrance as according to Ophelia, but for nervousness and hysterical affections. Ophelia's rue, called "herb of grace o' Standa's," lays the unpoetic part of a cure for epilepsy, hysterics, hicough and disorders of the stomach. Galen, according to the commentators of Shakespeare, ascribed somewhat different curative properties to rue. Ophelia's pansies, under the name of heart's ease, are not "for thoughts," but are "excellent for asthma, and good in colds and fevers."

Many plants are enumerated as having the properties of quinine in greater or less degree; there are several substitutes for opium and like doubles for other familiar drugs. The number of plants that cure rheumatism is marvelous, and there are more than two dozen remedies for incipient consumption of the lungs. Boxwood bark is "nearly equal to quinine." Cedar apples, which Walt Whitman discourses upon as cedar plums, are useful in a common complaint of children, and cedar berries, the aromatic and slightly sweet little blue fruit of the cedar tree, are recommended in tincture or infusion for dropsy. Four parts of varieties of the dogwood are enumerated as of medicinal value, and as many ferns are named. The male fern is a remedy for tapeworm, and the female fern is good for lumbago and coughs.

All the old-fashioned flowers and several table vegetables find place in the list of remedies. The lady slipper is for the nerves, especially in hysteria, and the larkspur seed is for dropsy. Lettuce is for colics and coughs, and asparagus root for the kidneys. The blossom of the ox-eyed daisy is recommended for asthma, consumption and dropsical complaints. The peony is for weak nerves and the red rose is for "hassik hemorrhages and catarrhs."

Most of the patent medicines are represented in the stock of the botanical druggist by their original elements. The makers of such remedies deal largely with the wholesale houses, and so do the makers of drugs, tinctures, ointments and embrocations. Forty or fifty herbs, plants and flowers indigenous to California and Australia are among the new additions to the stock of botanical druggists.

There is an extensive importing business connected with the trade in medicinal herbs, and the druggists keep, aside from the dried herbs in their natural state, a quantity of freshly powdered roots, herbs, barks and flowers, domestic and foreign. All these articles are sold by the pound or ounce, and received by the wholesalers in bales, bags and boxes, great and small. There is a small army of men, women and children the world over gathering herbs, roots and plants for the botanical druggists, and there is much care and expense put upon the culture of such things. Prices vary from season to season, and quotations cannot long be depended upon. Many of these raw materials are expensive. Larkspur seed sells at \$2 per ounce, and sassafras pith, quaintly recommended in an infusion of rosewater for sore eyes, fetches \$1 an ounce. Many sorts of the herbs that go to make familiar patent medicines seem very cheap. The botanical druggists keep also many

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.
TO RENOVATE A FEATHER BED.
 To renovate old feathers, put the bed out on the grass in the rain and let it get good and wet. Then let it dry in the sun, but keep working it every little while, so that the damp feathers will get the benefit of the heat. Do not leave the bed in the sun a moment after the feathers have dried well, for the heat draws the oil out of the feathers and will make them small strong.—New York World.

PEELING ONIONS.
 When preparing onions for cooking hold them below the surface of the water in a deep pan and your eyes will not be affected, though you should pare and slice a large quantity. This method is used in pickling establishments, where bushels of them are put up daily; but, remember, the hands, knife and onions must be kept under the water. It is a good plan to have two pans of water when the onions are to be sliced, so that they may be pared in one pan and then thrown into the other one for slicing. Drain through a colander before cooking.—New York World.

POINTS ABOUT MEAT.
 In selecting the meat in respect to cost, the lower round averages from thirteen to fifteen cents a pound, while the upper cost from fifteen to twenty-five cents. If the steak is wished for broiling, purchase the upper round, but for Hamburg steaks, bouillon, anything in which the meat is to be chopped before using, the lower round will do as well as a much less cost. The sitch-bone costs from eight to ten cents a pound and makes a very good pot roast, when treated properly, as tender and well flavored as the round. The middle cut of the shin is usually more a pound than the rest of the leg, but that at five cents a pound makes as good soup stock as that at seven cents. In buying a roast of beef it is usually economy to get a good-sized one. The meat is better, and made-over dishes cost far less than a roast each day.—New York World.

BEEF STEWED WITHOUT WATER.
 Take three or four pounds of the round of beef. Put three slices of salt pork in a saucapan and as soon as it is crisp take it out and put one onion and half a small carrot cut fine. Stir all the while till brown. Then add one cup of canned tomatoes, two sprigs of parsley, a bay leaf, three or four cloves, a teaspoonful of sweet marjoram, one-half teaspoonful celery salt, salt and pepper. Put in the meat and cover tightly, and cook in a moderate oven five hours. When about half done turn the meat. The cover must be perfectly air tight, and the oven moderate. When done place the meat on a hot platter, strain the gravy; thicken with a little cornstarch wet up in cold water, add a teaspoonful of sauce, let it boil up a few minutes and pour around the meat. Any tough piece of beefsteak may be made very palatable, cooked according to the above directions.—Home and Farm.

TO DUST A ROOM.
 Soft cloths make the best of dust-ers. In dusting any piece of furniture begin at the top and dust down, wiping carefully with the cloth, which can be frequently shaken. A good many people seem to have no idea what dusting is intended to accomplish, and instead of wiping off and removing the dust, it is simply fluffed off into the air and soon settles down upon the articles dusted again.

If carefully taken up by the cloth it can be shaken off out of the window into the open air. If the furniture will permit the use of a damp cloth, that will more easily take up the dust, and it can be washed out in a pail of soapsuds.

It is far easier to save work by covering up nice furniture while sweeping than to clear the dust out, besides leaving the furniture looking far better in the long run. The blessing of plainness in decoration is appreciated by the thorough housekeeper who does her own work while dusting.—New York Journal.

RECIPES.
Steak Roast—Take a round of steak, pound, pepper and salt it well. Take dry bread crumbs, and make a dressing of them and spread over the top of the steak. Roll it up and tie it with a string, put it in a pan and roast forty minutes.

Apple Tapioca Pudding—Soak a cup of pearl tapioca in one pint of water for two hours; stir into it three-quarters of a cup of white sugar, a cup of thin sweet cream, and half a teaspoonful of salt. Pare and quarter eight large Greening apples, put them in a pudding dish, turn the tapioca over them, grate a little nutmeg over the top and bake an hour and a quarter in a slow oven. Serve with whipped cream.

Chicken With Mushrooms—Have ready one pound of cold chicken chopped fine and one-half pint of mushrooms cut in small pieces. Cover these with water and boil five minutes. Skim out the mushrooms into a hot dish. There should be left a coffee-cupful of liquid. If not enough add milk to the hot liquid. Thicken this with a tablespoonful of flour, same amount of butter and season. Three minutes boiling will thicken it. Add the chicken and mushrooms and cook two minutes, stirring constantly. Serve on hot platter.

Strawberry Cream Cake—Make a light sponge cake and bake in jelly tin. Soak a quarter of a box of gelatine in half a cup of cold water. Whip a pint of cream and put it in a granito pan, standing this inside of another containing cracked ice. Add to the cream half a cup of powdered sugar and a teaspoonful of vanilla sugar. Stir the gelatine over boiling water until it is dissolved, add it to the cream, and stir at once until it begins to thicken. When the cakes are cold put a thick layer of this cream over each and stand strawberries thickly on; pile one on top of another and let the top layer be cream and strawberries. This is not so costly a dessert as it seems, as, being very rich, only a small quantity is required.

One trained rooster in Belgium has crowded 337 times in an hour.

Do You Wish the Finest Bread and Cake?
 It is conceded that the Royal Baking Powder is the purest and strongest of all the baking powders. The purest baking powder makes the finest, sweetest, most delicious food. The strongest baking powder makes the lightest food. That baking powder which is both purest and strongest makes the most digestible and wholesome food. Why should not every housekeeper avail herself of the baking powder which will give her the best food with the least trouble?

Avoid all baking powders sold with a gift or prize, or at a lower price than the Royal, as they invariably contain alum, lime or sulphuric acid, and render the food unwholesome.

Certain protection from alum baking powders can be had by declining to accept any substitute for the Royal, which is absolutely pure.

Flowers Affect the Singer's Throat.
 In one of the Parisian journals a long discussion has been going on with regard to the effect, injurious or otherwise, that flowers have upon a singer's throat. The consensus of opinion among the opera singers seems to be that certain flowers, notably tuberoses and mimosas, are particularly dangerous.

Mme. Christine Nilsson, in her letter on this subject, mentions the case of a celebrated woman singer with whom she was appearing in concert some years ago. As they stood in the wings waiting for the first number on the programme to be announced, a friend sent a huge wreath to the singer, which was made of tuberoses. The singer buried her nose in the flowers for a moment, and three minutes later when she went upon the stage to sing she found that she could not raise a note. The vocal chord had been temporarily paralyzed. A doctor was called, the flowers were thrown out of a window and the singer, after her throat had been treated, was able to sing later in the evening. Mme. Emma Calve in this article also upholds Mme. Nilsson's opinion.

"The only flowers that I ever admit into my living apartments," writes Calve, "are roses and violets. The tuberoses is my particular abhorrence, not alone because it suggests death, but on account of its injurious effect on the voice. Upon entering a room where lilies are I always have an irresistible desire to throw the windows open. They always irritate my throat. In my mind there is no doubt about all flowers being injurious to the throat except roses. Personally I can also exempt the violet, but other singers have told me that it had an injurious effect upon their vocal chords."—New York Sun.

There are said to be large tracts of country in Cuba still unexplored.

Roll Your Umbrella.
 "If half the citizens of the world," said a young woman who works on umbrella covers, "only knew such a simple thing as how to roll up an umbrella, most of the umbrellas brought to dealers to be mended would never have needed repairs."

"The right way to roll your umbrella is to take hold of the ends of the ribs and the stick with the same hand and hold them tightly enough to prevent their being twisted while the covering is being twirled around with the other hand. Then your umbrella will be as nicely closed as when you bought it, and the only wear and tear will be on the cloth. "It is twisting the ribs out of shape around the stick and fastening them there that spoils most of the umbrellas. Never hold the umbrella by the handle alone when you roll it up and you will find it will last longer and cost less for repairs."—Philadelphia Times.

THROW IT AWAY.
 There is no longer any need of wearing clumsy, chafing trusses, which give only partial relief at best, never cure, but often inflict great injury, inducing inflammation, strangulation and death.
HERNIA (Breach), or Rupture, no matter of how long standing, or of what size, is promptly and permanently cured without the knife and without pain. Another Triumph in Conservative Surgery is the cure of **TUMORS**, Ovarian, Fibroid and other PILE TUMORS, however large, of the lower bow, promptly cured without pain or resort to the knife. **STONES** in the Bladder, no matter how large, are crushed, pulverized, and washed out, thus avoiding cutting. **STRUCTURE** of urinary passage is also removed without cutting. Abundant References, and Pamphlets, on above diseases, sent sealed, in plain envelope, B cts. (stamps). WORLD'S DRUGGIST MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Buffalo, N. Y.

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Biliousness indigestion sallow skin
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when these conditions are caused by constipation; and constipation is the most frequent cause of all of them.

One of the most important things for everybody to learn is that constipation causes more than half the sickness in the world; and it can all be prevented. Go by the book.

Write to B. F. Allen Company, 365 Canal Street, New York, for the little book on CONSTIPATION (its causes, consequences and correction); sent free. If you are not within reach of a druggist, the pills will be sent by mail, 25 cents.

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