

The Latest in Soap Bubbles.

Make a fluid in this way: Get a cake of palm oil soap, shave its parings as thin as possible and drop in a big bottle filled with distilled water. Shake the mixture very vigorously, then filter through gray filtering paper and mix the remaining fluid with one-third of its bulk of pure glycerine. Before using shake well. Get a small glass funnel about two inches in diameter, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, connect it with a tube of India rubber, and you can blow bubbles with this apparatus that will surpass the rainbow itself in brilliancy and beauty. Yes, there is a lot of trouble in getting your scientific pipe and liquid ready, but think of the sport in the end. Just imagine a bubble twelve inches across! You can blow them in this way by putting them upon a big iron ring—very carefully, of course—while the metal is wet with the prepared solution. Get a ring that is quite rusty—that assures a good result. A string of bubbles two or three inches in diameter can be kept intact for ten or twelve hours.

M. Izern has communicated to the Academy of Sciences a new method for obtaining soap bubbles lasting a much longer time than those obtained from the soap water generally used. He has recourse to a resinous soap made by the following formula: Pulverize together ten grammes of pure resin and ten parts of carbonate of potash; add 100 parts of water and boil until complete solution; we obtain in this way a thick solution, which may be kept in stock to be diluted for use with from four to five times its volume of water. It can be kept indefinitely, even when exposed to the air. The bubbles produced are very persistent, and, consequently, can be made useful in the study of the phenomena relating to thin laminae and in making photographs in which soap bubbles play a part.

Superstition in Bicycling.

A cycling paper recently told of a man who selected a wheel but afterward, without any apparent reason, refused to take it. He wanted another one, and was satisfied with a machine that was an exact duplicate of the one he had rejected. The agent puzzled his mind to discover what the objection was to the first wheel. The two were alike in every particular except the number. This gave the clue. The number of the first wheel was 340,051, and the total of these individual figures was thirteen. That was the explanation, as the customer admitted. There is a superstition, however, and now the superstitious man asserts that he has been fully vindicated. On his thirteenth mile he picked up a pin and got a puncture. If he had been riding No. 340,051 he believes he would have had his wheel smashed or a limb broken. Therefore he congratulates himself on his shrewdness.—New York Tribune.

Suicides in Paris.

The official statistics of the number of suicides in Paris during 1893 has just been issued. The total number of self-murders was 953. Of the total 231 drowned themselves, 113 used guns and revolvers, 98 of the shots being in the heads, 71 stabbed themselves to death, 62 used poisons, 4 asphyxiated and 77 threw themselves from high buildings, monuments, etc.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root cures all Kidney and Bladder troubles. Pamphlet and Consultation free. Laboratory Binghamton, N. Y.

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Nerves irritated by tobacco, always craving for stimulants, explains why it is so hard to swear off. No-Tob is the only guaranteed tobacco habit cure because it acts directly on affected nerve centers, destroys irritation, promotes digestion and healthy, refreshing sleep. Many gain 10 pounds in 10 days. You run no risk. No-Tob is sold and guaranteed by Druggists everywhere. Book free. Ad. Stealing Remedy Co., New York City or Chicago.

One Gives Relief. It is so easy to be mistaken on indigestion, and think there is some other trouble. The cure is Ripans Tablets. One tablet gives relief. Ask any druggist.

W. H. Griffin, Jackson, Michigan, writes: "Suffered with Catarrh for fifteen years, Hall's Catarrh Cure cured me." Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Mrs. Winslow's Sooling Syrup for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

I cannot speak too highly of Pilo's Cure for Consumption.—Mrs. FRANK MORAN, 215 W. 22d St., New York, Oct. 29, 1894.

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FARM AND GARDEN

THE COMMON MISTAKE in making hay is usually allowing it to lie in the hot sun too long. The best hay is made by curing rather than by the sun drying. As far as possible hay should be cured in the bunch. It may be cured up much greener than formerly believed, provided it is fairly wilted and contains no extraneous moisture. If allowed to sweat before drawing it will rarely heat in the mow. When hay is first cut it should be dried enough in the sunlight to dry it sufficiently to allow it to be readily raked together into windrows. The hay tedder is of great assistance in curing the hay by tossing it in the air, thus exposing it so that all moisture is rapidly dried out. When cured by the wind rather than the sun hay preserves not only its green color, but the aroma which renders it so palatable to stock. As the nutritive properties of grass are all soluble in rain or dew, care must be taken to protect the hay from all moisture. If exposed to a long rain it becomes almost as worthless as straw, so greatly is its feeding value impaired. In no direction have farmers progressed more than in their methods of curing hay. It is no longer considered necessary to get every particle of moisture out of the grass. Excessive dryness is avoided. They have learned the difference between curing and over curing, and that while hay when twisted should not show moisture, neither should it be so dried as to show brittleness.—New York World.

KEEPING A HEN IN GOOD CONDITION for laying, she should never have a full crop during the day. It is not wrong to give a light meal of mixed food, warm in the morning, in the trough, but such meal should be only one-fourth the quantity the hens require. They should go away from the trough unsatisfied, and should then seek their food, deriving it grain by grain, engaging in healthy exercise in order to obtain it, and in such circumstances the food will be passed into the gizzard gradually and be better digested. Gradually the hen will accumulate sufficient food to provide for the night, going on the roost with a full crop, where she can leisurely forward it from the crop to the gizzard. Feeding soft food leads to many errors on the part of the beginner, causing him to overfeed and pamper his hens, and by it they will reach a condition that is entirely antagonistic to laying. It is much better to feed hard grains only than to feed from a trough, unless the soft food is carefully measured. A quart of mixed, ground grain, moistened and in a crumbly condition, should be sufficient for forty hens as a "starter" for the morning, but two quarts of whole grain should then be scattered in litter for them to seek and secure for themselves.—Farm and Fireside.

CELESTINE. Celery is one of the neglected vegetables that should find a place in every garden great or small. It comes so late that it may be grown as an after crop where early potatoes or sweet corn have been grown. The seeds should be sown in seed bed, that has been made perfectly fine and the seeds must be very lightly covered. The best way to sow them is to make very shallow furrows in the bed and cover the seeds after they have been drilled in the furrow, by sifting fine soil over them. When the plants have grown to be an inch high it is a pretty good plan to clip the tops off as this makes the plants stocky and vigorous. Celery delights in a moist soil and to do well it must be watered if the weather is at all dry. The common custom is to set the plants in trenches six or eight inches deep. These trenches should be deeply dug and thoroughly firmed in the bottom and made very rich with fertilizer of some kind, as it is a rank feeder and must be furnished abundant plant food within a short distance as the roots are short. Set the plants during damp weather if possible, and as they grow draw the earth into the trenches, gradually filling them as the plants grow higher, taking care to keep the soil from getting into the centre of the bunch. This can be prevented by holding the tops with one hand and drawing the soil around them with a hoe, or preferably, with the other hand. When the trenches are filled the banking up begins and at every working the soil should be banked a little higher until the plants stand in a ridge reaching as high as the stem of the plants. This makes them white and crisp. At the last working the ridges should be patting into firmness with a spade so they will retain their shade. A new plan that has been tried with some success is to set the plants only a foot apart each way and let them grow in this shape; they will be so thick that they will half blanch themselves, and when they are fully grown they can be taken up and put in a dark cellar in boxes with a little soil around the roots to finish the blanching process, or reset in trenches and left there to blanch. The old plan we think is best for beginners, and we should have a lot of them in this country, for there is nothing that is better for nervousness than eat liberally of celery.—Atlanta Journal.

CURING HAY. So much depends upon climate, sunshine and wind that no definite rules can be laid down for cutting and curing hay. If possible, hay should be housed on the day of cutting, but this will only answer if the mow is large and the amount to be stored limited. Those who grow the crop on a large scale adopt the plan of cutting it late in the afternoon. There is no moisture on the grass at this time, and it is so late that it does not wilt at all that night, and therefore is not injured by the dew. The next day after the dew is off it should be tossed twice by the tedder, and after it is thoroughly wilted, it should be raked up and put into good sized shocks, covered with waterproof hay caps to protect it from dew or rain, and left to cure. Exposure to the sun for a few hours just before drawing to the barn will complete the process.

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS. CURE YOUR OWN FEATHERS. There are few things that give a hat a more rumpled and shabby appearance than an ostrich feather limp and dejected, looking almost as forlorn as when it and its fellows arrived here fresh from ostrichland. Any one seeing an ostrich feather then would think it only fit for the ragbag, but a series of brisk scrubbing in warm soapsuds on a washboard, a judicious patching together and elimination of ragged places where Sir Ostrich has pressed himself too vigorously, a curling and combing, soon make of the ostrich feather a thing of beauty and joy forever—until it gets wet—when the process of rejuvenation again becomes necessary. If taken to my lady milliner or the less pretentious feather renovator every time this duty becomes imperative, the ostrich plume becomes metamorphosed into something of an elephant to one who bears not Fortunatus's purse; but the renovative process is so simple, when one knows just how, that every woman can readily become her own "feather artist." Have a teakettle full of boiling water; shake the feather vigorously through the escaping steam, taking care that it does not get too damp. This livens up the plume and restores brilliancy if it has become dull and dusty. Next take a silver fruit knife, and, beginning with the feathers nearest the quill, take a small bunch between thumb and forefinger and draw gently over the blade of the knife until they curl as closely as desired. Follow this process up each side of the tip; then take a very coarse comb, comb out carefully, and you have your plume as good as over.—New York Times.

LOVELY HOMEMADE RUGS. A rug for the parlor can be made by stamping or tracing a pattern upon a material in tan. This looks like a common oat and bran sack, only it is more closely woven and substantial. It is called sacking, I believe. Work in cross-stitch with bright-colored worsteds, lining the same with cotton flannel to keep from slipping if placed upon a carpeted floor. Sew together all but one side, turn right side out, and catch the open end by hand. Finish the edge by raveling out a bright-colored shawl, or buy a fringe which costs but little. A very pretty and warm rug may be made as follows: Gather together all pieces of cotton and woolen goods, having an equal quantity of bright and dark colors. If same pieces are faced and dirty, wash and dry them. Then select your favorite color to dye, following the directions carefully, using woolen dye for some and cotton dye for the cotton scraps. Old rose and black, gray and pink or blue, cardinal and seal brown, pale green or olive and pink, are pretty combinations. Still, all depends on the color of the pieces used, as in dyeing a shade darker must be used. When all is ready, cut up strips three inches wide, if the goods will allow. Gather the strips through the middle, or fold together and gather, leaving the folded edge, to be up when sewed on the foundation. A very good and substantial foundation can be made of old ticking, or even out sacks. If something very nice is wanted, it can be lined with any colored material in contrast with the prevailing color on top. Sew alternately the bright and dark colors. You will be surprised at the beauty. Some lovely designs can be made to represent a pond lily, using dark green for the leaves, cream for the petals, with a little dash of pink under the petals, and a little yellow or raveled worsted to form the pollen. Roses and pansies in their own colors are grand and quite easily made.—New England Homestead.

RECIPES. Minceed Veal Sandwiches.—Chop up the cold veal left from dinner, season well, add one tablespoonful of butter and juice of one lemon, rub to a smooth paste. Spread between homemade raised biscuits. Potato Omelet.—Three eggs beaten separately, one cup of mashed potatoes, one-half cup of milk, one teaspoonful of flour, a little salt and some chopped parsley; mix and pour into a hot buttered pan, brown it lightly and serve hot. Wilted Lettuce.—Fry a piece of ham or bacon until brown. Cut into small pieces and add one cup of vinegar. When boiling pour over two heads of lettuce laid in a deep dish. Cover until wilted. Garnish with slices of cold boiled eggs. Potato Fritters.—Beat up very light some cold mashed potatoes, add a little salt, two eggs, half a cup of milk and flour enough to make it the consistency of pancake batter. Beat very smooth, then drop by spoonfuls into hot lard and fry to a light brown. Ginger Drop Cakes.—One cup of molasses, one-half cup of brown sugar, one-half cupful of butter, one teaspoonful each of extract of ginger and extract of cinnamon, two teaspoonfuls of soda in one cup of hot water, two eggs and three cups of flour. Mock Oyster Stew.—One cup of shredded oodfish. Let simmer fifteen minutes. One pint of milk thickened with one tablespoonful of butter. Add a little pepper. Cook over hot water until thick. Put two cups of oyster crackers into a dish, add the fish and pour the thickened milk over it. Salsify Fritters.—Scrape and put into cold water to prevent discoloration. Cut into pieces and boil thirty minutes. Drain through a colander. Add two well-beaten eggs, one tablespoonful of flour, one teaspoonful of salt, pepper to taste; mix; drop a teaspoonful into hot butter and fry on both sides. Stuffed Cucumbers.—Select good-sized, fresh cucumbers, pare them and cut them into halves. With a spoon scoop out the center or seed part, put one cupful of fine breadcrumbs into a bowl, add one tablespoonful of melted butter, a tablespoonful of grated onion, a teaspoonful of salt, and, if it can be had, a green pepper chopped fine. Put this mixture into the cucumber, stand in a baking-pan. Put into the bottom of the baking-pan a half-cupful of butter and half a cupful of water. Cook in a quick oven thirty minutes, basting several times. Serve very hot.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES. Every piece of ground put to early vegetables should produce at least two crops a year. In France, chickens are not raised for the market; eggs and young fatted fowls are the ends kept in view. See that the hens have plenty of sand or gravel. They have no teeth, and must have gravel to grind the food in the gizzard. As the peas, radishes and early potatoes are taken off, do not let the land lie idle and grow a crop of weeds. Set out cabbages, celery, or sow turnips. In the precise meaning of the term, there is no poultry farming in France. But there is "poultry keeping," and very generally followed by peasants and small farmers. As hay is made when the sun shines, so is money increased to that dairyman who manages so that his cows yield milk abundantly when dairy prices are high. Space, air, sun and pure water are essentials to success in poultry raising. In yards where trees cannot be raised, a few shrubs will repay planting; in summer these will form shade, and in the event of sudden rain a shelter. To preserve eggs it is not absolutely essential to pack them in anything, if you have a cool place and can place them on shelves where they can be turned three or four times a week. Eggs from hens not with males will keep where fertile eggs will not. Many amateur growers plant trees with enthusiasm and then grow discouraged over horres and rabbits; over spraying and pruning; over cures and knots, and lice and mice and grubs. They are the growers? who will never glut the markets. They are a great help to the nurseries and give the progressive orchardist a chance to sell his superior products.

NEWS NOTES FOR WOMEN

No Italian girl can marry without a dowry. Scarlet is mourning color for unmarried women in Brazil. Kansas has twenty-five newspapers which are edited by women. The Empress Elizabeth of Russia was one of the stoutest women of her time. Mrs. Siddons was large, with very striking features, and an air of great personal dignity. Eight ladies hold commissions as colonels in the German army. They are all queens or princesses. Queen Victoria has signed but one death warrant, and that was for an execution in the Isle of Man. Embroidered eyelets are seen in some satin ribbons, the embroidery contrasting in color with the grounds. The British matron is nettled by Daudet's caustic observations on her lack of physical charms and of taste of dress. Princess de Polignac, formerly Winaretta Singer, daughter of the great sewing machine man, is said to be the best amateur musician in Paris. The Empress of Austria says she will never wear anything but black hereafter, and is distributing her court dresses among her intimate friends. A movement is on foot to erect a memorial to the late Christina Rossetti in Christ Church, Woburn Square, London, where she worshipped for twenty years. A number of girl students in the University of Michigan decided to wear knickerbockers hereafter. They expect that all the girls in the university will follow their example. Miss Carrie Liebig, who has just been appointed a division surgeon of the Northern Pacific Railroad at Hope, Idaho, is the first woman physician to be appointed in the railway service. A number of women are making a good income in Philadelphia designing and drawing pictures for illustrating the newspaper advertisements of the big retail mercantile advertisements. It is the suggestion of a thrifty woman that pieces of children's dresses of wash materials should be included in several launderies to secure the requisite change of color that will make patches unnoticeable. "Mme. La Presidente," as Mme. Faure is called in Paris, is described as the highest type of French womanly character. She abhors scandal, disapproves of flirtation, loves her home and frowns upon all risqué tendencies in Parisian society. Miss Boswell, the only woman delegate in the Republican Convention at Cleveland, is decidedly handsome, though of delicate physique. She has what is described as "warm colored" hair, transparent complexion and expressive brown eyes. The up-to-date ladies of the Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church in Towson, Md., are raising money with which to buy a bicycle for the rector of the church, which he is to use in making pastoral visits and in attending to other parish duties. The college at Benzonia, Mich., is thirty-two years old, but had its first graduation this term. The scholar is a girl who took an eight years' course, carried off all the class honors because she was the whole class, was honored with Ph. D., and is a new woman. Marie Corelli, the novelist, who has been much talked of recently in England, is in private life Miss Minnie Mackay, daughter of the late Charles Mackay. Her first book, "A Romance of The World," was published in 1896, when she was twenty-two years old. The old homestead of Jane Grey Swisshelm in Swisshelm, Penn., is the Mecca of many visitors to Pittsburg. Mrs. Swisshelm was the first woman engaged to report Washington news for a daily newspaper. She was employed for that purpose by Horace Greeley. A woman angler, Miss E. T. Crosby, caught thirty-one trout, averaging three-quarters of a pound each, in thirty minutes at Rangeley Lake, Me., a few days ago. She is noted in that region for her skill with the rod, having earned the sobriquet of "Fly Rod" by her achievements. It is said that Queen Victoria has had a chair constructed which will support her in a standing position while receiving visitors. The chair is cunningly arranged, so that its form is covered with regal draperies, and report says it would deceive any one who didn't know it was there. Lady Randolph Churchill, formerly Miss Jerome of New York, widow of Lord Randolph Churchill, is now to be seen in Paris in the smartest cycling version of mourning. It is added that she wears a black alpaca suit edged with black leather knickerbockers, concealed by a short skirt and a black straw hat. Suburban women may be seen boarding the trains these days for a town shopping expedition carrying flat wicker baskets in lieu of bags or satchels for their small pick-ups. These are in the basket-fawn and light-brown shades or of dull red, and are both lighter and prettier than the leather bag. There is a very evident intention on the part of designers to modify the Dutch bonnet that had such a sudden boom early in the season. The style is becoming to but very few, and the shape is not at all easy to keep on the head. The bonnet with a round crown is every way more desirable, and may be trimmed at the sides and arranged so that it is broad without being hard to manage. A woman drummer for a St. Louis vinegar manufactory is touring the Northwest on a bicycle and in stunning Parisian bloomers. She started from St. Louis last January and had reached Seattle a week or so ago. She sends postal cards ahead of her to the grocers saying she will "wheel her into town about next week," and asking them to save their orders for her. She is creating a sensation, and selling lots of vinegar.

Sleep and Insomnia. Sleep is a greater mystery than insomnia. We hear much of the latter state in these days. But it is more wonderful that we sleep so well than that we are occasionally wakeful. We hear more of sleeplessness than our forefathers did. It is a remarkable fact that in scarcely any of the older text-books of practice of physic is there any formal notice of insomnia per se. In later works, and especially in those devoted to treatment, the subject of insomnia does not receive considerable attention. And every now and again the sleeplessness of a great man in the world of science or in that of politics reminds us that eminence has its troubles, and of a sort which seldom affects the poor man. It is probable that this evil of wakefulness is more common than it used to be. The excitement and especially the worries of life multiply. Many of the arrangements of society are of a nature to drive away sleep. Even the pleasures of life are so taken by many as to rob them of one of the greatest pleasures of all—an eight hours' sound sleep; for we maintain that this is what everybody should aim at. It may seem a long time to spend a third of one's life in sleep. But if the other two-thirds are used well, there is little cause for blame. No rule for all can be laid down; but it would be well for most people in the intensive days in which we live to devote eight hours to the cultivation of the mood and act of sleep, and to resist the domination of habits and fashions that are inconsistent with this purpose.—Home and Farm. It is likely that a macadamized road, 100 feet wide, running along the lake shore from Chicago to Milwaukee, Wis., will be begun soon.

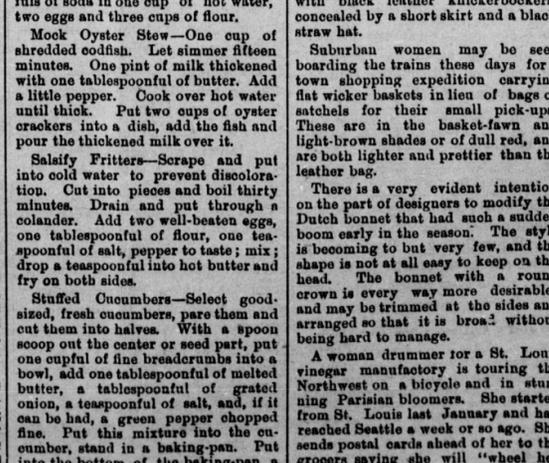
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