

SIREN AND SONS.

Sarasate, the violinist, had one peculiarity—he never wrote a letter. His autographs are scarce, as he carried on his correspondence almost entirely by telegraph.

Timothy Dwight, ex-president of Yale university, recently celebrated his eightieth birthday anniversary. It is ten years since he resigned from the presidency.

William Campbell, recently installed in Edinburgh as judge of the new Scottish court of session, is the first Roman Catholic appointed to the Scottish bench since the reformation.

P. M. Hubbell, said to be the wealthiest man in Iowa, has signed a note for \$20,000 in favor of the Iowa Home For the Aged, payable "ten days after my death." Hubbell, at the age of seventy, is in excellent health.

Saul Gague, a drug clerk of Biddeford, Me., has collected a million and a half of cancelled postage stamps of different varieties, all neatly arranged in uniform packages. He has been collecting these stamps for twenty years.

Former United States Senator William E. Chandler of New Hampshire has publicly declared that he believes that when people go from this world they take on new physical forms and live in other worlds—in the suns around us.

When W. W. Astor found that English law sustained the people of Hever in their right to travel on the footpath across the beautiful park of Hever castle, which he has lately bought, he built a high brick wall along each side of the footpath, surely for once justifying the ancient jest of calling him William Walled-off Astor.

State Lines.

Washington is the only one of the Pacific states in which coking coal has been found.

More eggs are laid in Iowa than in any other state. The annual output is estimated at 100,000,000 dozen.

The state of North Carolina is the most notable in the country for the variety of precious stones produced.

While ten of the forty-six states have forest reserves, only three states—New York, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin—have over 50,000 acres in state forest lands.

Siberia's Rivers.

Siberia has many navigable rivers. The Obi, the Yenisei, the Lena, and the Amur, with their tributaries, make communication easy between the interior of Asia and the Arctic and the Pacific oceans. These rivers are, however, only navigable for a small part of the year, owing to the severity of the long Siberian winter.

Law Points.

Failure to look and listen before crossing a street car track at a public street crossing is held in Pilmer versus Boise Traction company, Idaho, 94 Pac. 432, 15 L. R. A. (N. S.), 254, not to be as matter of law negligence per se.

The lien of one advancing money to a lessee on the security of a building removable by him before the expiration of the term is held in Hughes versus Kershaw, Colorado, 93 Pac. 103, 15 L. R. A. (N. S.), 723, to become ineffective upon the expiration of the lease.

The primary duty of fencing or protecting from contamination a ditch used by a municipality to convey water across the field of another is held in Bellevue versus Daly, Idaho, 94 Pac. 1036, 15 L. R. A. (N. S.), 902, to rest upon the owner of the easement and not upon the owner of the fee.

Short Stories.

Beggars are never suppressed in Turkey.

About 10,000 varieties of fish are known.

A four foot coal seam yields 6,000 tons per acre.

Mount Crocorna, in the White mountain group, is 3,400 feet high.

The customs service of China estimates the total population of that country at 438,214,000.

The United States has the largest number of crematories and incinerates the largest number of bodies of any nation in the world.

Elephants are probably more abundant in the basin of the Congo, where the swamps afford them protection, than in any other part of Africa.

Train and Track.

Pay-as-you-enter cars in Chicago have reduced the number of accidents by over 16 per cent.

The driving wheels on a locomotive recently built for a French railroad that is full of sharp curves are flangeless, the engine being kept on the track by wheels that revolve horizontally between the rails.

Leipzig, Germany, is about to have one of the largest railroad stations in the world. It will have twenty-six parallel tracks for its thirteen lines, and between each pair of tracks a wall forty feet wide. The total width of the train shed will be nearly 1,000 feet and of the facade 1,115 feet.

Bells of Bruges.

The famous peal of bells at Bruges is played on the principle of a music box. A cylinder weighing a ton carries pegs which move the wires communicating with the bell hammers.

SOMETHING NEW.

A Delicious Dessert That Will Appear at Christmas Dinners.

A new dessert has made its appearance which is as delicious as it is attractive in appearance. It can be either ordered from the confectioners or made at home, and the latter is preferable at all times. Vanilla ice cream, sponge and fruit cake will be needed. The cakes are cut from loaves and should be an inch thick when sliced and should fit an oblong mold. When the cream is frozen to a mush, pack an inch layer in the mold, then place the fruit cake on this, then cover with another layer of the cream, over which lay the sponge cake, and then add the last cream layer, which



VANILLA ICE CREAM WITH SPONGE AND FRUIT CAKE.

should fill and overflow the mold. Lay over this an oiled paper. A buttered one will do or three thicknesses of paraffin paper. Put the cover over this, allowing the paper to come down over the sides, tie securely in place and then run melted lard between the cover and the pan to prevent all possibility of the salt and ice leaking in. Pack in salt and ice for three or four hours. When ready to serve remove the coverings, wipe the outside of the mold with a hot cloth and invert the mold on to a cold dish, when the cream loaf will slip out.

An extra addition can be served in the whipped cream sauce tinted with yellow or pink, using egg yolk for the first and a bit of boiled beet juice in the latter instance, this being placed in the cream before whipping.

But this dessert is just as tasty without the sauce. Should this be found too much trouble, then the cream can be dished from the freezer on to slices of the fruit and sponge cake and served.

Their Greatest Sin.

In most of the islands of the Pacific hell is not reserved for the wicked in our sense of the word—that is, the thief, the murderer, the slanderer and the selfish man. All these finally reach a state of happiness. But a most unmistakable hell is reserved for those guilty of the only sin known to them, timidity and cowardice.

Servia.

Servia is the most densely populated country in the Balkan states.

CRANBERRY HINTS.

The Least Understood and Oftenest Abused Domestic Fruit.

The cranberry is the least understood and the most abused of any of our domestic fruits. Comparatively few know its possibilities. Quite as few know how to prepare it in palatable form. The expression is common, "You need a barrel of sugar for a barrel of cranberries." This is not true. It is not a sugar consumer compared with most fruits.

If users will make the test they will discover that more sauce with less sugar proportionately can be made from a quart of cranberries than from a quart of any other kind of berry and if properly made will be tempting and toothsome. A barrel of sugar will sweeten more than three barrels of cranberries. A cranberry shortcake will compare favorably with a strawberry shortcake. Eaten raw, they are a laxative and liver tonic, and, like the olive, one can cultivate a fondness for them.

Cranberries are keepers, like the apple, and, like apples, require a cool, dry place. It is economy to buy good berries. Never cook in tin or iron ware. Use porcelain, earthenware or granite. Do not cover with cold water and allow to simmer, steep and stew over slow fire. This makes tough skins, pale, sickly pink or dark, dull red color and gives acrid flavor. Use boiling water, cook rapidly and not long.

For a good sauce, to one quart of clean cranberries add one pint granulated sugar, one pint of boiling water. Place immediately over brisk fire, stirring enough to mix sugar with water and coat berries. Cover as soon as berries begin to swell and pop. Stand by and mash until every berry is broken. Keep them boiling during this operation. By the time berries are all mashed or have boiled fifteen minutes remove from stove and turn into china or earthen ware dish. When cold the result should be a beautiful rich red, jellied sauce.

Culinary Conceits.

Cheap cuts of meat can be served palatably in stews and croquettes.

To bake pancakes without greasing the griddle add a tablespoonful of butter or half a cup of cream to the batter.

When making a pea soup, if the peas are boiled a little while separately with a pinch of common washing soda they will be found to cook much more quickly. They do not need soaking.

Pure some large apples and core them, fill the centers with chopped figs, cover with sugar, put into a deep baking dish, add a little water and bake, basting well from time to time. Serve hot or cold with cream.

One Effect of the Green Hat.

"Bixby is engaged to the De Glitter girl, you know?"
"Yes."
"She won't let him wear his new green hat when he walks with her."
"Why not?"
"She says it makes her face too red."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Kept Him Guessing.



Mr. Mouse—Well, I wonder what sort of a newfangled rat trap that is I've been all over the thing, and I can't find a bit of cheese.

His Youthful Ambition.

"When I—er—was a small boy," said Saplegh, "my one—er—ambition in life was to be a—er—down, doncha know."
"Indeed!" exclaimed Miss Cautique. "And the realization of your youthful ambition must be gratifying to you."—Houston Post.

Careful Disorder.

Jane—Why, Mabel, your hair is in frightful disorder. Did you forget to brush it?

Mabel (coldly)—If you knew a little more, Jane, you wouldn't be so hasty. This is the latest thing in coiffures, and it took me two hours to get it.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Drawing the Lines.

"What do you think of the dancing that is now being shown on the stage?"

"It is quite enough to see it," answered Miss Cayenne, "without being so audacious as to think about it."—Washington Star.

Vanity.

Apropos of vanity, Secretary Root told at Yale about a politician who the day before he was to make a certain speech sent a forty-one page report of it to all the papers. On page 20 appeared this paragraph: "But the hour grows late, and I must close. (No, no! Go on! Go on!)"—Argonaut.

Life.

Life's a poker game at best. The cards are dealt, and none can stay 'em. It's up to you to do the rest. Buck in and play 'em. —Detroit Free Press.

More Space Needed.

"So you are going to move? I thought you liked your present flat so much."
"So we do, but my wife bought a new hat yesterday."—Baltimore American.

Christmas Shopping.

Now doth the merry maiden fair Buy presents small and great. But it doesn't seem to worry her, For papa pays the freight. —Chicago News.

Flashes of Fun.

Mamma—Marion, I am surprised that you should suffer a man to kiss you.
Marion—But, mamma, it wasn't suffering.—Town and Country.

A Frugal Meal.

"My sheath skirt's cute enough to eat!" The foolish maiden cried. But it would make a frugal meal With nothing on the side. —Atlanta Constitution.

The Worst Variety.

Ted—I hate a kicker, don't you?
Ned—Yes, especially the one who sits behind you in the theater and kicks your chair all the evening.—Puck.

Thus the Cynic.

"You learn a lot," the poet said, "By writing for the press."
"What a rejection slip looks like The chiefest thing, I guess." —New York Telegram.

Quite So.

"There's always room at the top," quoted the museum fat woman as she hung up her Christmas stocking.—Browning's Magazine.

A Paradox.

A man will make, as like as not, Mistakes his lifetime through. Yet thinks he knows exactly what All other men should do. —Pittsburg Post.

Reminded.

"Does your husband forget to mail the letters you give him?"
"Never. I put them in his cigar case."—Cleveland Leader.

Out of Proportion.

My yearnings are of mammoth size, With many twists and turnings. But woe is me—here the trouble lies— Like a midget are my earnings! —Detroit Tribune.

Art.

"So your friend is an artist?"
"Yes."
"Light fingered or the other kind?" —New York Sun.

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