INDIAN MAPLE SUGAR

THE RED MAN TAUGHT THE WHITE MAN TO MAKE THE DAINTY.

Its Manufacture Was Practiced by All Northern Indians and Was Known to Those Living an Far South as Florida and Texas.

Very few of the people to whom maple sugar is an entirely familiar and commonplace thing are aware of the fact that the method of making sugar was taught to the white people by the Indians and that they made sugar long before the discovery of America. This is only one of the many things that the white people learned from the Indians. Others were the weaving of cotton, the cultivation of Indian corn and the use of tobacco

Some of the early writers tell us that the French were the first to make this sugar and that they learned how to make it from the Indian women. The sap was collected in a rude way, a gash being cut in the tree, and into this a stick was thrust, down which the freely flowing sap dripped into a vessel of birch bark or a gourd or into wooden troughs hollowed out by fire or the ax. Then into larger wooden troughs full of the san redhot stones were thrown, just as in old times they used to be thrown into the water in which food was boiled, and by constantly throwing in hot stones and taking out those that had become cool the sap was bolled and evaporated, and at length sirup was made, which later became sugar.

This manufacture of the sugar was not confined to any one tribe, but was practiced by all northern Indians and was known to those living as far south as Florida and Texas. Among the sugar making tribes a special festival was held, which was called the maple dance, which was undoubtedly a religious festival in the nature of a prayer or propiliatory ceremony, asking for an abundant flow of sap and for good fortune in collecting it.

Among many if not all the Indians inhabiting the northern United States maple sugar was not merely a luxury. something eaten because it was toothsome, but was actually an important part of their support. Mixed with pounded, parched corn, it was put up in small quantities and was a concentrated form of nutriment not much less valuable in respect to its quality of support than the pemmican which was used almost down to our own times.

Among all the older writers who had much familiarity with the customs of the Indians accounts are given of the manufacture of sugar, and this custom was so general that among many tribes the month in which the sap ran best was called the sugar month. By the Iroquois the name Ratirontaks, meaning tree enters, was applied to the Algonquin tribes, and an eminent authority, Dr. Brinton, has suggested that they were probably "so called from their love of the product of the sugar maple." On the other hand, A. F. Chambertain has very plausibly said "that it is hardly likely that the Iroquois distinguished other tribes by this term, if its origin be as suggested. since they themselves were sugar makers and eaters."

A more probable origin of the word is that given by Schoolcraft, in substance as follows: "Ratirontaks, whence Adirondacks, was applied chiefly to the Montagnals tribes, north of the St. Lawrence, and was a derisive term indicating a well known habit of these tribes of eating the inner bark of trees in winter when food was scarce or when on war excursions."

This habit of eating the inner bark of trees was, as is well known, common

A CHINESE CLASSIO. commands in wanting. How say we have no clothes? One plain for both will do. Let bot the king, in raising men, Our spears and place rensw; We'll fight as one, we two!

How may we have no clothes? One shirt our limbs shall hide. Let but the king, in raising men, Halberd and lance provide; We'll do it, side by side.

How say we have no clothes? My kirtle thou shalt wear. Let but the king, in raising men. Armor and arms prepare: The toils of war we'll share. —Book World.

RIVER BOATS IN RUSSIA. Nearly Every Known Means of Loco-

motion Is In Use.

Everywhere up the Volga and its hundred tributaries ascend the iron barges of the Caspian sea oll fleet, while through the canals to St. Petersburg alone pass annually during the 215 days of free navigation thousands steamers and barges bearing milof lions of tons of freight. Every known means of locomotion is used, from men who, like oxen, tramp the towpaths, hauling the smaller barges, to powerful tugs that creep along by means of an endless chain laid in the bed of the canals and minor rivers, dragging after them at snall pace great caravans of heavy barges. From the greater streams immense craft nearly 400 feet long, 15 feet in

depth, carrying 6,000 tons of freight, drift down to the Caspian, where they are broken to pleces to be used as firewood on the steamers going up stream. In all there are 8,000 miles of navigable waterways in the valley of the Volga, or if the streams which float the giant rafts that form so large a part of the traffic of the rivers are included the milenge is increased to nearly 15, 000, or as much as that of the valley of the Mississippi.

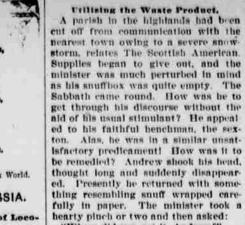
Fifty thousand rafts are floated down the Volga annually, many of them 160 feet long by 7 thick, and this gives but a faint idea of the real traffic of the river, for in addition there are 10,000,000 tons of produce passing up and down the river during the open season. Much of this centers at Nijul Novgorod. To this famous market steamers and barges come from all parts of Russia, bringing goods to be sold at the great annual fair, over \$200,000,000 worth of merchandise changing hands in a few weeks. Thirty thousand craft, including rafts, are required for this traffic. They come from as far north as Archangel, as far east as the Urals, from Astrakhan in the south, St. Petersburg and Moscow to the west, while great caravans of ships of the desert arrive daily from all parts of Asia .- Engineering Maga zine.

Didn't Cut His Corners.

writer in the Boston Transcript gives this reminiscence of the Rev. Dr. Elijah Kellogg of Harpswell, Me .: "One Sunday before his sermon the doctor announced from his pulpit: "The widow Jones' grass is getting pretty long. I shall be there with my scythe, rake and pitchfork at 4 o'clock tomerrow morning, and I hope every male member of the congregation will be there too.'

"The next morning they were all there and among them Captain Griggs, six feet two in his stockings, with a weight of nearly 250 pounds. 'Par-son.' said he as they were working up the field near each other, 'I'm goin to cut your corners this mornin.'

"Now, Dr. Kellogg was a little man, weighing scarcely more than 130 pounds, but he knew how to handle a scythe, and, as he told me, with a little shrug of his shoulders, 'he didn't cut my corners that morning.' More than that, the man who had thought he could beat the parson at mowing dropped under a tree exhausted from working with such a pacemaker."



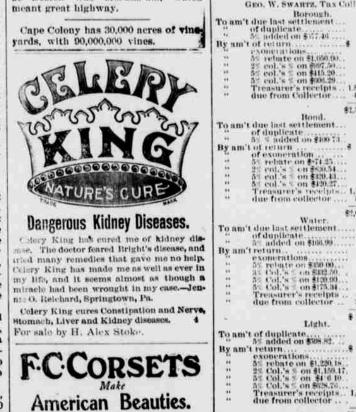
hearty pinch or two and then asked: "Where did you get it, Andrew?" "Please, sir, I Just went and sweepit the pulpit oot." was the reply.

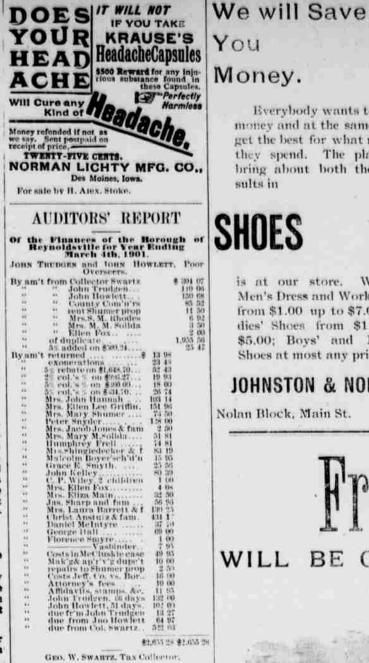
"M-hm."

Fair Sized. "No," said the retired showman, "I won't say that we had the biggest glant that ever happened, but it is a solemn fact what I am going to tell you. This giant had a penchance, or whatever you call it, for trying new styles of whiskers." "Well, when he wanted a new style hild out he had to send for a landscape gardener."-Indianapolis Fress. Tonds Inclosed In Rock. The Rev. W Buckland, from experiments on toads in holes of collice limestone and sandstone covered with glass, finds that, while limestone pre-

served them alive, sandstone killed them His conclusion is that unloss a toad imprisoned in a stone gets a little air it cannot live a year, and unless it gets food it cannot live two years .-London Clobe Would Know Later. Patient-Now, doctor, what's the matter with me, anyway? The Head Consulting Physician-My dear sir, do you suppose that if we knew what was the matter with you we would have decided to hold a post mortem?-Harper's Bazar.

The Indian name of the Charles river at Boston was Mis-sha-um, which meant great highway.





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Carpet is at our store. We sell Men's Dress and Work Shoes Opportunity. from \$1.00 up to \$7.00; Ladies' Shoes from \$1.00 to \$5.00; Boys' and Misses' Shoes at most any price.

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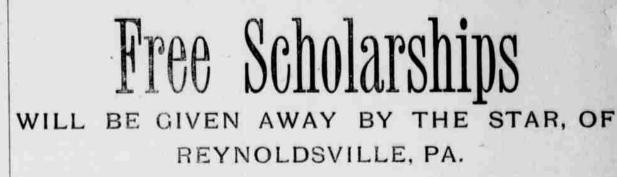
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CENTRAL STATE NORMAL SCHOOL, LOCK HAVEN, PA.

FIRST PRIZE-One full year at Lock Haven State Normal, including tuition, boarding, &c. \$ 117 TO \$ 111 TO SECOND PRIZE—One term in King's School of Oratory, Pittsburg.

THIRD PRIZE-A \$35 course in the International Correspondence Schools, of Scranton, Pa.

NA

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The young lady or gentleman getting the highest number of votes will be given one full year at the Lock Haven State Normal School free, including tuition, light, heat, furnished room and boarding. This is one of the best Normal

tion paid. Any one sending or bringing in a new yearly cash subscriber will be given a coupon equal to 60 votes.

Persons desiring to enter the contest should begin as early as possible. As soon as the names are sent or handed in to THE STAR office they will be published, but the number of votes will not be published until June 19th, when the vote each contestant has at that time will be published opposite name, and from that to close of contest the vote will be published as counted and returned by the judges from week to week.

to many tribes of Indians, both those who inhabit the country where the sugar maple grows and also those in other parts of the country where the maple a unknown.

On the western prairies sugar was made also from the box elder, which trees were tapped by the Indians and the sap bolled down for sugar, and today the Cheyenne Indians tell us that It was from this tree that they derived all the sugar that they had until the arrival of the white man on the plains something more than 50 years ago.

It is interesting to observe that in many tribes today the word for sugar is precisely the word which they ap-plied to the product of the maple tree before they knew the white man's sugar. It is interesting also to see that among many tribes the general term for sugar means wood or tree waterthat is to say, tree sap. This is true of the Omahas and Poncas, according to J. O. Dorsey, and also of the Kansas, Osage and lown, Winnebago, Tuscarora and Pawnee. The Cheyennes, on the other hand, call it box elder water A. F. Chamberinin, who has gone with great care into the question of the neaning of the words which designate the maple tree and its product, is disposed to believe that the name of the maple means the tree-in other words. the real or actual tree or the tree which stands above all others .- Forest and Stream.

Gandy Acoustles "How are the acoustics of that thea-

ter?"

"The what?"

"Acoustic properties." "Oh, ah, yes: the acoustic proper-tics. Why, it struck me they were

rather gandy."-Exchange.

Canally the Case Little Waldo- Papa, what is a brary?

eder-A ilbrary, my son, is a miller of books which a man onns to friends. Harper's Bazar.

Ten was cultivated in China 2.700 ars before the Christian era and in at country was first used as a bevel-

The Worst Paved City. Moscow is probably the worst paved city in the world. Great cobblestones driven by hand into a loose bed of sand form a roadway which is always dusty in summer and muddy in autumn, and in many of the roads there is no attempt at a roadway of any kind. The streets are badly watered and cleaned.

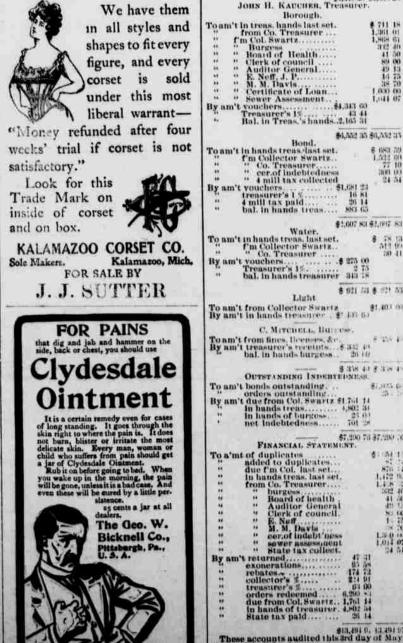
The city is regarded by the Russians as "the holy city," probably because of the large number of monasteries it contains. It was once the capital of the empire and still enjoys the distinction of being considered the capital of the interior, but there does not seem to be any particular desire on the part of the authorities to make it more worthy of its title.

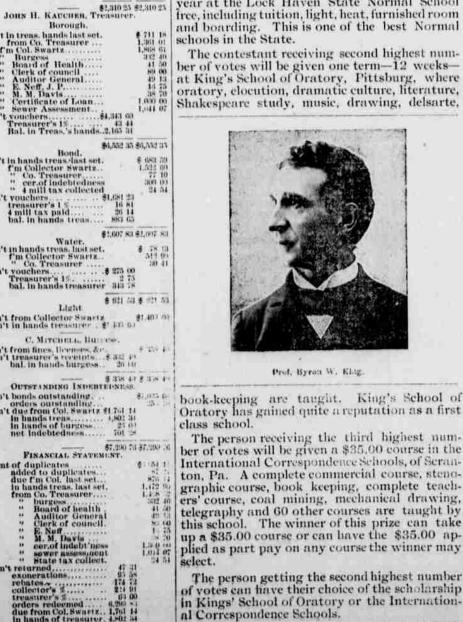
Dry Rot in the Pulpit. The "unkindest cut of all" among unintentional sayings capable of a satirleal application was that of an old pew opener in a southern county. She was In attendance on the rector, the church wardens and a city architect down with a view to church restoration. Said the architect, poking the woodwork with his cane, "There's a great deal of dry rot in these pews, Mr. Rec-

tor." Before the intter could reply the old woman cut in with, "But, law, sir, it ain't nothink to what there is in the pulpit."-Chambers' Journal.

A Big One. An octopus which had been in a fight with some other monster once drifted ashore on the Malay peninsula. He had feelers, or arms, which were from 12 to 17 feet long and weighed altogether 550 pounds. It was calculated that was big enough and strong enough to drag a two ton fishing boat und the surface by main strength.

The inhabitants of Palmyra get all their sait by dipping buckets into the neighboring sait lake and allowing the vater to evaporate.





PREMIUM COUPONS-Persons paying their back subscription, or in advance one year or more, will be given a premium coupon which will en-title them to 36 votes for each dollar of subscrip-C. C. GIBSON, | Auditors.

On Monday of each week (after June 19th) the ballot box will be opened and the coupons counted by judges.

THE STAR. WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 1901
Scholarship Coupon.
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Write in the above lines the name and address of the person for whom you wish to vote and send or take the coupons to the secretary, J. P. Haskins, the music dealer, where they will be placed in the ballot box. Contest closes at 12 M., August 8th, 1901. All business com-munications and inquiries should be mailed to THE STAR office. Receipts and coupons will be promptly mailed from THE STAR office to patrons.

RULES OF CONTEST.

Contestants must register their names at THE STAR office.

All coupons must be sent to the secretary of the committee, J. P. Haskins, within 30 days from date of issue or they will not be counted.

All money collected for new subscribers or on subscription due must be sent to this office weekly.

Each contes.ant will be furnished with printed cards certifying that he or she is a contestant.

F. P. ALEXANDER,] THOS. F. ADAM, Com. L. J. MCENTIRE, J. P. HASKINS, Secretary.