

That All Important Bathroom.

You have often heard people remark, "If I were ever to build I would plan my bathroom first and would not put all my money into the parlor with all its finery."

That's good common sense sentiment, for the bathroom is the most important of all the household. It's the Mecca of cleanliness, health and refinement, and nowadays many homes are judged by their bathrooms.

We would like to help you plan your bathroom and believe that we could surprise you by putting in a bathroom for you at a much less cost than you might expect and at the same time do it better than you anticipated it could be done for even more money.

We have a booklet "Modern Home Plumbing" which will show you how to arrange your bathroom, kitchen and laundry plumbing with "Standard" Baths and one piece Lavatories, the best plumbing equipment in the world. Call, write or phone for a copy. It is free.

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PERSIAN DISHONESTY.

It Permeates Every Class of Society From Highest to Lowest.

Venality is a scarce article in Persia, according to the Rev. Napier Malcolm. In his "Five Years in the Persian Town" he writes of conditions in Yazd as follows: "In the Yazd bazaars probably not less than one-third of the speeches made by Mussulmans are falsehoods. One day a cook of a European went to the bazaar and after the usual haggling fixed the price of some meat at 12 krams for thirteen pounds. 'But,' said the cook, 'you've got your thumb on the scales.' 'Did you think,' retorted the butcher, 'that I would give you meat at thirteen pounds for 12 krams unless I kept my thumb on the scales?' We had a neighbor who was considered a fairly respectable man whose sole business was the forging of seals.

"But the fact is that every class, from the highest to the lowest, is thoroughly permeated by the leaven of dishonesty. A Mohammedan assured me that truth speaking and honesty had nothing to do with religion, but were purely a matter of climate. 'In that case,' said I, 'the people of Persia ought to speak the truth very well, for one of the Greek historians who lived before the Mohammedan era declared that the Persians were famous for speaking the truth.' 'But who does not know,' replied the Mohammedan, 'that the climate of a country changes entirely every 2,000 years?'

A SWIMMING POOL.

How to Make One in a Brook or Running Stream.

The brook or running stream of natural outdoor water gives a variety of chances for the man who wishes to live his life aright. The brook can be converted, without being diverted, into a swimming pool for boys by building a dam at the point where the banks do a little extra shelving and tend to form a natural basin. The bottom should be spaded out and made more of a reservoir in its capacity and shape. The dam itself can be made by a family of boys at the cost of the lumber and nails involved. The embankments are sodded. The sides of the spillway are made of wooden posts driven into the ground and boarded up. This makes a box up affair, or rather two boxes, one on each side of the stream. These boxes are filled with sand, rocks and sods to make a solid cubic piece of resistance. The sodded embankments run across the valley or depression of the brook hollow to the higher ground. By means of a lever—a pole (playing into a wooden jawed socket and weighted with a rock or pieces of iron)—the water gate can be opened against a strong headway of water. The water flows over the top of the spillway when it is closed, and by raising the gate the pond can be emptied or reduced to the normal level of the brook.—Country Life in America.

THE MALE CRICKET.

Cricket Treat He Develops For the Lady of His Choice.

In the American Naturalist J. L. Hancock gives an interesting description of some of the habits of the striped meadow cricket. The most striking part of the account deals with the allurement which the male crickets possess. When he wishes to attract the female the male cricket raises his fore wings vertically above his head and by rubbing them over each other produces a high pitched singing, or perhaps better, shrilling. When the female's attention has been attracted she goes to the male and proceeds to take advantage of the refreshments offered. Upon the mate's back, situated well forward on the thorax, is a little depression or well in which a small quantity of semifluid material is secreted. Climbing up on the male's back, the female eats this apparently delicious morsel with great eagerness. It is evidently something especially choice which is formed there for her especial benefit. This proceeding suggests that treating as a means of winning a lady's love is not confined to the allurements of ice cream and soda water.—Collier's Weekly.

England's Newspaper Tax.

On June 15, 1855, England's newspaper stamp duty was abolished and the reign of the cheap daily began. This "tax on knowledge" was first imposed in 1712 and was made most severe by the act of 1820, which fixed it at 8 cents a sheet, with 87 cents duty on each advertisement. The Whigs reduced the duty to a penny in 1836, but when the Crimean war broke out and every one wanted the news even a penny duty was found to be intolerable. Its repeal is called the Magna Charta of the British press.

An Accident.

Small Tommy, being reproved by his mother for some misdeed, showed his displeasure in his face. "Why, Tommy," said his mother, "aren't you ashamed to make a face at me?" "Yes, mamma," replied the little fellow. "I tried to laugh, but my face slipped."—Chicago News.

PERRY'S MISSION TO JAPAN.

Friendship and Trade Were What He Went to Secure.

The letter which Commodore Perry bore from our government to the mikado asked for a mutual treaty. The original instrument was drafted in May, 1851, by Daniel Webster, then secretary of state, and was signed by President Fillmore. There it rested. In November, 1852, Mr. Webster's successor, Edward Everett, fished it out of the departmental pigeonholes, took it to pieces and refashioned it. Three copies were prepared and were splendidly engrossed in English, Dutch and Chinese. These were inclosed together in a sumptuous gold case, and to make the whole presentation still more impressive to the Japanese mind the gold case was enshrined in a coffer of rose-wood.

The document entrusted to Commodore Perry asked of the Japanese court two things, friendship and trade—and foremost, friendship, for the safety of our seamen. Many a hapless crew had been driven into their rocky coast, escaping the perils of the deep only to be welcomed by those truculent islanders to a dungeon or a cage on shore. This wrong must be stopped at all hazards. And if, in addition, we could persuade Japan to enter into friendly relations of trade the two countries by mutual interchange of products might each promote its own prosperity and the welfare of the other. It was thought that orientals might see that as well as Yankees. In the end they did. But it cannot be said that Japan any more than an oyster ever really yearned to be "opened."—Century.

TRUE WAY TO MAKE TEA.

A Science Which Includes Many Mysteries in the Brew.

Luwuh, a poet, saw in the tea service the same harmony and order which reigned through all things. In his celebrated work, the "Cha-king" ("The Holy Scripture of Tea"), he formulated the code of tea. He has since been worshipped as the tutelary god of the Chinese tea merchants. In the fifth chapter Luwuh describes the method of making tea. He dwells on the much discussed question of the choice of water and the degree of boiling it. According to him, the mountain spring is the best; the river water and the spring water come next in the order of excellence. There are three stages of boiling. The first boil is when the little bubbles like the eyes of fishes swim on the surface. The second boil is when the bubbles are like crystal beads rolling in a fountain. The third boil is when the billows surge wildly in the kettle. The cake tea is roasted before the fire until it becomes soft like a baby's arm and is shredded into powder between pieces of fine paper. Salt is put in the first boil, the tea in the second. At the third boil a dipperful of cold water is poured into the kettle to settle the tea and revive the "youth of the water." Then the beverage was poured into cups and drunk. Oh, nectar! The filmy leaflet lung like scaly clouds in a serene sky or floated like water lilies on emerald stems.—International Quarterly.

The Change of a Word.

"You wouldn't think there'd be enough difference between the definite and the indefinite article to matter much, would you?" said a woman who writes for a living. "I made a lifelong enemy of a woman once just by writing 'the' where I meant 'a.' It was an account of her wedding I was doing. I said something about the ceremony being performed at the home of the bride's aunt, and then I added that there were present 'only the few friends of the family.' The bride never got over that 'the' in front of few. It happened five years ago, and when my name is mentioned she still froths at the mouth."—Washington Post.

Nearing a Crisis.

Jackson (whose financial credit is gone)—I tell you, Witherbee, we are on the verge of a financial panic. Witherbee—Pshaw! What makes you think that? Jackson (confidentially)—Well, sir, Bagley and Roberts used to lend me small sums a year ago, but when I go to them nowadays for five or ten pounds they tell me frankly that they haven't got it. Bagley and Roberts are two of our best business men, too. I tell you, sir, we're going to have a panic.—London Express.

Indifference.

Indifference may not wreck the man's life at any one turn, but it will destroy him with a kind of dry rot in the long run. To keep your mind already made up is to be dull and fossiliferous; not to be able to make it up at all is to be watery and supine.—Bliss Carman's "Friendship of Art."

Worry Either Way.

Old Party—You worry your mother terribly. Why are you so wicked? Bad Boy—Cause if I'm good she'll worry thinkin' I'm sick.

An Anxious Father.

Sue Deering—I'm afraid papa was angry when you asked him for me, was he, Jack? Jack Hillow—Not at all. He asked me if I knew any more respectable men who would be likely to marry your five sisters if properly coaxed.

DON'T BOLT YOUR FOOD.

There is Pleasure as Well as Health in Deliberate Eating.

Fast eating is sure to be injurious, because to properly prepare the food for digestion it must be thoroughly masticated. Rapid eating is still worse when it is caused by the hurry of business or by anxiety or nervous irritability or by the common habit of "bolting" the food. Such eating is sure to produce indigestion or dyspepsia.

The teeth, as well as the stomach, are made for labor, and neither can have their proper work to do if only paps and broths and puddings and hashes and other soft and artificially prepared foods are crowded into the stomach as though the cook in the kitchen could masticate and digest the food better than the natural grinders and the chemical action and assimilating power of the stomach.

Those people who shove great vulgar mouthfuls of food into their mouths and bolt it down as though they had but ten minutes for a meal are gormandizers instead of polite people. They know little of the pleasure of deliberate eating or the luxury of satisfying hunger, and certainly they are laying the foundation of disease.

Dry, hard food, vigorously chewed, stimulates the flow of saliva, strengthens the teeth and keeps them healthy and invigorates the digestion.

HE TOOK LONG CHANCES.

But the Tailor's Anxiety and Bill Were Both Finally Settled.

The doctor of an English regiment stationed in India received a letter from his tailor inclosing a long overdue account and concluding with a polite inquiry after the debtor's state of health. The savanah replied thus: "I have received your hypocritical letter hoping that I am in a good state of health. Hear, then, what your chances of my living long enough to be able to pay your bill are. I attend assiduously every cholera case in the camp, and I am making smallpox a special study. I swim every morning in a lake swarming with alligators. At a recent attack on a hill fort I went with the forlorn hope and was one of the three who returned unharmed. Tomorrow morning I shall go unaccompanied and on foot into the jungle and wait for the man eating tigers as he returns at dawn to her cave and cubs. If he be she who falls I shall spend my leave in the fever haunted jungle following up big game, and if I survive that I shall cook myself after its heat by joining a party to ascend the peak of Dhaulagiri, whose snow slopes and glaciers are as stiff as your prices."

Women in Parliament.

Down to Time of Edward III. They Had Right of Voting.

The ladies of birth and quality sat in council with the Saxon Witas. The Abbess Hilda presided in an ecclesiastical synod. In Hugh's great council at Beconfield, A. D. 694, the abbesses sat, deliberated, and five of them signed the decrees of that council along with the king, bishops and nobles. King Edgar's charter to the abbey of Crowland, A. D. 961, was with the consent of the nobles and abbesses, who subscribed the charter. In Henry III. and Edward I's time four abbesses were summoned to parliament—viz., of Shaftesbury, Berkley, St. Mary of Winchester, and of Wilton. In the thirty-fifth of Edward III. were summoned by writ to parliament, to appear by their proxies, Mary, countess of Norfolk; Eleanor, countess of Ormond; Anna Dispenser, Philippa, countess of March; Johanna Fitzwater, Agneta, countess of Pembroke; Mary de St. Paul, countess of Pembroke; Margaret de Roos, Matilda, countess of Oxford; Catherine, countess of Athol. These ladies were called by their proxies, a privilege peculiar to the peerage, to appear and act by proxy.—Antiquities of Parliament.

Spelled With a "V."

Frank Millet's baby was christened in London when Hutton and Lawrence Barrett were present. The child was to be named Lawrence, and Barrett spoiled it out "Lawrence," as his name was spelled. Hutton immediately corrected him with "Laurence," as his own name is spelled. And they shouted this at each other, to the amazement of the parish clerk, till Mr. Millet stopped them, with the remark that the father ought to have something to say and, turning to the clerk, said, "Spell him with a 'v.'" And Lawrence Millet he was made by law.—Christian Register.

Civilization and the Kafir.

On bare feet, of which the skin grew so tough as to enable him to run over the sharpest rocks without flinching, the old Kafir could easily walk, as fast as a horse trots, fifty miles a day. The Kafir who still goes barefoot can do so today. He used likewise to be able to get a light—the "boy" who is constantly bothering one now for matches—by rubbing two sticks together. Now he is as helpless in the dark as ourselves.—Pall Mall Gazette.

Doubly Embarrassing.

Suitor—Beg pardon for interrupting, but I—er—have just come—er—that is, I have just been speaking to your daughter, and she referred me to you. Old Gentleman—Gee crickets! I wonder if that girl thinks I am made of money. You are about the fortieth bill collector she has sent in today. If she doesn't marry pretty soon I'll be bankrupt.—New York Weekly.

What She Saw.

Caller—Mrs. De Style is not in, you say? Why, I saw her through the window as I came up the steps. Servant (blandly)—Shure, mum, that was only her shadow you saw.

BATTLEFIELD ORATIONS.

A Great Deal of Fiction about Wellington if Speeches on the Battlefield Were Really Made as Reported and What Was Their Effect. The Duke Said, "What Effect on the whole army can be made by a speech since you cannot conveniently make it heard by more than a thousand men standing about you?" Then the duke was asked if it were not the fact that Napoleon delivered some rather notable orations on the field. The duke would not have it. "The proclamations you read of in the papers than by the soldiers—they were meant for Paris." It was all right, the duke agreed, to address a regiment upon presenting it with colors and that sort of thing. On the whole, French troops might be more impressed by a speech than the English, who in the duke's Waterloo army were, he declared, "the scum of the earth, who had all enlisted for drink." The French, with their system of conscription, had a fair sprinkling of all classes.

"No," comments a writer, "all these martial obiter dicta which our histories treasure up for us were for the most part never spoken at all. The 'last words' of dying men and the speeches made on the battlefield or the deck of an admiral's flagship are not to be regarded as having been actually uttered. The famous 'Up, guards, and at 'em!' accredited to Wellington at Waterloo, was never spoken. Wellington himself denied it."

SELLING GOODS.

The Methods That Lead to Success in Business Life.

When a customer comes in, don't, whatever you do, drag yourself out of the chair as though you were disturbed from a rest, but jump up and greet her or him as though you were really glad to wait on them. Act so they will ask for you the next time they come to the store. The salesman who is constantly being asked for by customers never has to worry about a job.

Don't be stiff and act or feel as though you were far the mental superior of the customer. If you do, no sale will result. Just for the sake of argument, let us take all the successes in your city, no matter what line they are in. Do they advertise?

The public, somehow or other, seem to be able to read between the lines. If your ad. is not truthful they will not respond. It takes more than a mere cut to attract the eye to make your ad. pay. There must be solid, honest store news of good values behind it.

Never underestimate the intelligence of your customer. He may know more about the article you are showing than you do. Post yourself on every article you are expected to sell, so you can talk convincingly and knowingly. That is what sells goods—convincing talks. Never mind the price; that will take care of itself.—Brains.

A Stevenson Story.

A book on Stevenson tells of a speech he made at a gathering of Scotchmen in Samoa. He said: "I cannot say why we are proud to be Scotchmen, but the fact remains that we are. It is not that our land is sunny like these tropical isles, and its climate is not even lovely. Scotland's history contains little that is not disgusting to people of humane feelings. That long brawl which is called Scottish history contains scarcely one object that Scots have patience with." The address drew tears to the eyes of a German who had gone to the meeting violently prejudiced against Stevenson. No sooner had the speaker finished than the meeting proceeded to clasp hands and sing "Auld Lang Syne."

Curious Titles.

The English reformers adopted some curious titles for their devotional and controversial works. "Matches Lighted at the Divine Fire," "The Gun of Penitence," "The Shop of the Spiritual Apothecary," "The Bank of Faith," "Sixpennyworth of Divine Spirit," "Some Fine Biscuits Baked in the Oven of Charity, Carefully Conserved For the Chickens of the Church," "The Sparrows of the Spirit" and "The Sweet Swallows of Salvation" are among the number.

Four Nations.

Practical idealism takes with the German chiefly the form of devotion to duty. In the Russian it is a readiness to sacrifice everything to his inward feeling. In the Anglo-Saxon it is the staking of the whole person for a concrete, palpable and distinctly fixed purpose. In the Frenchman it is a general idea which carries him away to great deeds.—Baron F. von Wrangell in Contemporary Review.

Success Easier Than Failure.

We say success is easier than failure; that a man who makes a success in life works less, worries less and has an easier time generally than the man who makes a failure and spends his time in telling how he is smarter than other people, but that "inck" has been against him.—Athlison Globe.

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