

DIAMOND IMPORTS.

An Indication of the Rising Tide in Commercial Affairs.

As an indication of the rising commercial tide the diamond importers are pointing to the figures of recent importations. The custom house records show that precious stones valued at \$493,952 were brought into this country in April as against \$389,514 in March, and \$200,443 in February. The value of the uncut stones imported in April was \$205,821 or nearly half that of the corresponding month last year. One of the importers said prices are as high now as when the market was active.

Garfield Tea, Nature's mild herb laxative, agreeably stimulates the liver, overcomes constipation, rids the blood of impurities and clears the complexion. All druggists.

Cutting Big Diamond.

The work of cutting and polishing the great Cullinan diamond for King Edward has begun at the Ascher factory in Amsterdam. It is expected that nearly a year will elapse before the process can be completed. The diamond in the rough measured 4 1/2 inches across.

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

The Variance of Stradivarius.

The rediscovery of a lost art is claimed by Frank Della Torre of Baltimore, in a gum varnish that seems to be identical with the old Italian varnish that made the violin a successful musical instrument. In the time of Columbus the transparent orange red varnish was used for the gondolas of Venice, but in the sixteenth century a sumptuous edict made black compulsory for gondolas, and a quantity of this varnish was made available for the new industry of Cremona and was used exclusively by Amati, Guarnerius and Stradivarius until the supply was exhausted about 1730. The material seems to have been made from colored gums, imported from tropical Africa. On the violin the varnish had a distinguished and remarkable effect in damping out the upper harmonics, leaving the pure fundamental tone, and thus giving freedom from harshness, with great carrying power. In violins coated with the new varnish all harshness had been displaced, tests showing very favorable comparison with old Cremona violins.

The Truth and Children.

Again is undertaken the vain attack on our old friends Mother Goose, Bluebeard, Alice in Wonderland, etc., this time the sortie being led from that stronghold of truth, Worcester. Children, says the new foe to myth and story, should read nothing based on untruths. It is a hopeless fight, and a silly one. For that matter, if one seeks to argue the matter, no story that lives is based on an untruth, for nothing but the truth can serve for a base. There may be quirks in the superstructure, and all sorts of twistings and curlycees in the ornamentations, but down at the bottom lies truth, and it is that which takes root. Once in awhile a person grows up with no memories of such vitriolating untruths as Little Jack Horner, Old Mother Hubbard, the Cheshire Cat or the Mad Hatter, but it has never been demonstrated that such folks, in their life, monopolize truth or virtue. The figurative significance of fairy stories and wonder tales is deeper than the futile critics of imaginative childhood can perceive.—Boston Advertiser.

Appetites of Woodsmen.

Here are some figures from a lumber camp up in Greenwood which give an idea as to the appetite of husky woodsmen. There are 35 men in this crew, and the cook reports that he makes each day 300 large biscuits, 150 doughnuts, 26 pies, bakes six quarts of dry beans, with potatoes, vegetables, etc., in proportion. A large beef creature is eaten every five days. There is something to be explained in that item of 36 pies daily for 35 men. Probably the boss gets the extra one.—Kennebec Journal.

A Consoling Reflection.

Financial kings worry about burglar-proof safes in which to keep their riches. And the other kind of kings worry about bomb-proof chambers in which to keep their heads. Young King Manuel of Portugal is the latest to join the royal worry club, and he seems to have drawn a life membership. However, that may not mean so long.—Rocky Mountain News.

FIT THE GROCER

Wife Made the Suggestion.

A grocer has excellent opportunity to know the effects of special foods on his customers. A Cleveland grocer has a long list of customers that have been helped in health by leaving off coffee and using Postum Food Coffee.

He says, regarding his own experience: "Two years ago I had been drinking coffee and must say that I was almost wrecked in my nerves. Particularly in the morning I was so irritable and upset that I could hardly wait until the coffee was served, and then I had no appetite for breakfast and did not feel like attending to my store duties. "One day my wife suggested that inasmuch as I was selling so much Postum there must be some merit in it and suggested that we try it. I took home a package and she prepared it according to directions. The result was a very happy one. My nervousness gradually disappeared, and to-day I am all right. I would advise every one affected in any way with nervousness or stomach troubles, to leave off coffee and use Postum Food Coffee." "There's a Reason." Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true and full of human interest.

FARMING IN TUSCANY.

By E. K. PARKINSON.

Bordering the west coast of Italy and protected from the cold north wind by the Apennine mountains, is the province of Tuscany with Florence as her chief city. On the slope of the Fiesole hills, overlooking that beautiful city on the banks of the Arno, is the farm of a retired English merchant, and in the Pall Mall Magazine he gives a charming description of farm life in that far away country.

The farm is considered a large one, but as the manner of measuring in Tuscany is so different comparison is difficult. About a third of it is put into wheat each year and the number of bushels sown is the measure of its size. The grain is sent to the local mills to be ground into flour and the straw, chopped up and mixed with grass, is eaten by the oxen.

The farm work is all done by a pair of beautiful white Tuscan oxen, whose strength is prodigious. He tells how he once saw a restive ox, who was about to be shod, by one kick floor six men who, with a rope passed round a tree, were tugging at his hind leg. And yet their agility is extraordinary "as any one may see who watches a pair, with their necks joined together by the yoke, turn round in a space that would barely suffice for a pony." The mode of plowing on the deep hillsides among the vines and olives would amaze the traveler.

Wooden Plows in Use.

The plow which does duty in these orchards is a block of wood hewn out of an oak stump, with its tip shod with iron. A friend who was visiting Mr. Caulfield expressed astonishment that an Englishman should continue to use such a monstrous lump of wood. So he procured for him the latest thing in American plow and volunteered to guide it himself. "With some difficulty the yoke was adjusted, and the oxen, not accustomed to such a light weight behind them, started off at a gay pace, which soon lifted my friend off his feet and left him waving about at the tail of that plow, like riverweed stirred by a swift current. However, it was not for long. There came a crash, the oxen stopped short, and we found that the plow had stuck fast in a stout olive-root, and would never be itself again. There ended my first, and last, trial of an iron plow. I have gone back to the old plow, whose convex bottom enables it to slip over any live rock or root that it may meet."

How the Farms Are Worked.

In Tuscany the farms are worked on the following system: The man who owns the farm and the man who works it share the profits and losses—the cynics say that the whole of the former go to the landowner, and the landowner has all the latter. The rules governing the system have never been reduced to legal terms, but the unwritten law of custom is never questioned. These rules vary considerably from district to district, following, however, one broad line. The landowner is responsible for all capital expenditure and improvements that may be regarded as permanent, the making of new walls and vineyards, the providing of stakes for vineyards not yet in bearing, the purchase of live stock and of long-lived farm implements, such as wagons and plows, which remain his own property; while all annual expenditure and up-keep are shared equally. The landowner, moreover, is morally bound to provide food for his contadini in the case of a bad year, and is allowed to recoup himself from the next fat year. He has, on the other hand, various small privileges and dues, chief of which is the right to employ his contadini for his own purpose at less than the current wage. On the whole, he says, the system works well for both parties. The farm year begins with the sowing of wheat. The land is plowed in September and October, and as soon as All Saints' Day arrives—no good farmer ever begins before—the contadino goes out to scatter his seed broadcast over the field, which is an operation requiring more skill than may appear. No sooner is the seed covered up than there is digging or pruning to be done. "Care, however, must be taken not to prune when the moon is young; for as Pietro says, the new shoots would then remain always tender at the tips—only the olive's hard wood does not require this precaution."

Gathering Olives.

The olives now change from green to dark purple which gleams in the sun, and the women are set to work to pick up the berries, which the November gales have shaken down. (The olives which give the oil are not the same as the green ones that one eats; these are gathered in the early fall and pickled with lye.) The olive-picking is long and toilsome, particularly the part assigned to the women, who have to collect all the fallen berries—and very cold work it is for them when winter is on. Their little earthenware pots full of hot ashes barely thaw their numbed fingers, and their poor knees ache for days after.

Then men climb the trees with a basket strapped in front of them, and, drawing the laden branches towards them, strip them of the fruit with an action as of milking a cow. The olives picked from the trees are kept separate from those that are picked up on the ground, for the latter, being generally covered with earth, yield an oil inferior in taste.

The olives are not allowed to remain long before they are taken to be crushed. The great stone mill is set in motion by an ox which walks round and round the fixed stone basin or "plate" and makes the upper stone revolve till he is tired and his comrade takes his place. The olives are divided into two parts. The first is crushed till the olives are turned into an oily mash, which is then stuffed in bags of cocoa-nut fibre called "cages" and put under a screw, and the oil forced out. While the first lot of berries are being pressed the second lot are crushed, the process is gone through twice with each lot and the result is an oil of the first quality. Second quality oil is made by turning boiling water on the olive "paste" and grinding and pressing once more. The oil is left to clear until the dealers come up and, digging into the oil a fore-finger, which they gravely suck, proceed to make an offer.

Blessing the Oxen.

In February comes St. Anthony's day, a great day for the patient oxen for it is their saint's day, and the village priest is coming to bless them. Their stables are given such a cleaning that at first they do not recognize them and refuse to enter; while their own white coats are rubbed as spotless as a cat's shirt-front, till they gaze inquiringly at the little colored picture of the saint pinned above their manger, and wonder what it all can mean. The priest arrives and hurriedly recites the blessing, sprinkling them with holy water and they only wince a little as the drops from the brush fall on their still sensitive skins, for they seem to understand.

Harvest Days.

The peasants around Florence have an old custom called "Lighting up the corn," which they all respect. On Shrove Tuesday, as soon as night falls, all the contadini sally forth and with lighted wicks in their hands, make a complete circuit of all their fields in which the young wheat is growing. And as they walk they chant these lines:

"Corn, corn, don't 'ee blight, Here come I to give 'ee light. In the plain And on the hill Let every stalk a bushel fill, A bushel full, a bushel fair, A little loaf to every ear."

It is a most picturesque sight to see the hundreds of little lights over hill and valley as far as the eye can see, and to feel that each light is in the hand of some one who is offering up a very genuine prayer, even though it be a Pagan one.

In the latter part of April the olive-trees show the first signs of flower-buds. The earlier they appear the better is the chance of a good crop. The old Tuscan saying is that if the flower-buds show in April you will have barrels full as compared with pint measures full if they do not show till May.

On Easter day the farmer brings his landowner a present of a fine live capon and a dozen eggs, which are considered his perquisites and are never forgotten. In June the little figs appear, which ripen in August. At the same time the wheat begins to turn and the farmer's life is one constant round of work but fortunately for him Italy has many saints' days which are invariably observed as holidays. The grain is all cut with a sickle and every one reaps for dear life that the grain may be gathered while the good weather lasts. Then comes threshing, which is done with flails and the winnowing with shovels. No sooner is the harvest over and a little rest enjoyed than comes the gathering of the grapes. On vintage day the farm is open to every one to help with the picking. The grapes are thrown into tall wooden tubs, as they are picked, and there pounded till the few grapes left are swimming in the sweet "must." The ox-cart carries these tubs just as they are into the vat, where in a few hours' time they will be fermenting furiously, bubbling like a geyser and sending up great puffs of crimson froth. The juice remains for some days in the vat till fermentation has almost ceased, then it is drawn off and the skins pressed for the wine which they still hold. The wine is put into butts which have first been thoroughly fumigated with sulphur, and there it reposes until it reaches a ripe old age.

After the wine is safely stored away, the peasants have a great supper, with music and merry-making. So the year goes, sometimes nature is kind and a balance is carried to the right side of the books, but in the long run if sufficient is made to cover all expenses and at the same time provide a comfortable living, the farmer considers himself fortunate.

Too High.

As to the cost of living, there is room for debate on some features, but none on the following, all of which come too high: The fees of receivers, the purses to prize fighters, the salaries of grand opera singers, the price of a carriage ride, the tip expected, or exacted, at luncheon time.

A sweeping horizontal reduction, say, of about two-thirds in each case, would come somewhere near a normal adjustment.—New York Mail.

The women of Russia and the men of Japan are the most expert needle workers in the world.

Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna. Cleanses the System Effectually. Dispels Colds and Headaches due to Constipation; Acts naturally, acts truly as a Laxative. Best for Men, Women and Children—Young and Old. To get its Beneficial Effects Always buy the Genuine which has the full name of the Company.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. by whom it is manufactured, printed on the front of every package. SOLD BY ALL LEADING DRUGGISTS. one size only, regular price 50¢ per bottle.

ORATORY

Chicago University Withdraws From Contests With Other Colleges.

Chicago.—Up-to-date "Man of the Hour" oratory, as taught by the University of Chicago, has forced that institution to give up all inter-collegiate contests with its sister universities. It is declared that flowery oratory is prized too highly by judges who decide against Chicago speakers. So the Chicago Institution has withdrawn from the Central Oratorical and the Northern Oratorical Leagues, with the explanation that "it is difficult to secure judges who are able to get outside of the ancient methods of judging."

"Training in our public speaking department," asserted Prof. Solomon Clark yesterday, "is the development of thought and naturalness of expression, rather than the mechanical gestures which characterize the styles of many representatives of other colleges."

In place of inter-collegiate contests, the University of Chicago officials plan to have numerous contests among its own students, for which large prizes will be offered.

A Lucky Man.

The luckiest member of the House must be Congressman Ralph D. Cole of the Eighteenth Ohio district, who has twice secured his nomination as a Republican candidate by the flip of a coin.

FOUND THE CAUSE.

After Six Years of Misery and Wrong Treatment.

John A. Enders, of Robertson Avenue, Pen Argyl, Pa., suffered for six years with stinging pain in the back, violent headaches and dizzy spells, and was assured by a specialist that his kidneys were all right, though the secretions showed a reddish, brick-dust sediment. Not satisfied, Mr. Enders started using Doan's Kidney Pills.



"The kidneys began to act more regularly," he says, "and in a short time I passed a few gravel stones. I felt better right away, and since then have had no kidney trouble." Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Libraries Not Appreciated.

No city in the world is better provided with means for general education in public libraries and museums than is New York city, yet there is an extremely small proportion of residents who visit them, while a very large proportion of the visitors in the city is seen in them every day.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, ss.

LUCAS COUNTY. FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & CO., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of CATARRH that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE. FRANK J. CHENEY. Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D., 1898. A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public. Hall's Catarrh Cure taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by all Druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Effects of Radium.

Radium acts upon the chemical constituents of glass, porcelain and paper, imparting to them a violet tinge; changes white phosphorus to yellow, oxygen to ozone, affects photograph plates and produces many other curious chemical changes.

Milan beef is the best in Italy.



UNBEATABLE EXTERMINATOR THE OLD RELIABLE THAT NEVER FAILS Being all poison, one 12c box will spread or make so to 100 little cakes that will kill 500 or more rats and mice, and thousands of Roaches, Ants and Bed Bugs. 10c, 25c & 50c boxes at all druggists and country stores. Send for our comic postal cards and FREE lithograph which have convinced the world with laughter. E. S. WELLS, Chemist, Jersey City, N. J.

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Color more goods brighter and faster colors than any other dye. One 10c package colors all fibers. They dye in cold water better than any other dye. You can dye any garment without ripping apart. Write for free booklet—How to Dye Blacks and Blue Colors. MONROE DRUG CO., Quincy, Illinois.

VERSATILE PEER HONORED.

Lord Rayleigh Elected Chancellor of University of Cambridge.

Lord Rayleigh has been unanimously elected chancellor of Cambridge university in succession to the late Duke of Devonshire.

The new chancellor is perhaps the most versatile peer in the realm. He is the discoverer of argon in the atmosphere, for which he won a Noble prize, and is the foremost authority on the science of sound.

He is an expert on explosive, a successful dairyman, an ardent supporter of women's suffrage, and a conservative.

Growth of Methodism.

The address of the bishops of the Methodist Episcopal general conference at Baltimore, after recalling general conference hitherto held in that city, and historical events of the church which had Baltimore for their scenes, notes a gain in the number of communicants during the past four years of 278,357, the greatest gain during any similar period for sixteen years. Other figures show the number of ministers in the annual conferences (not including local preachers) to be 19,353, an increase of 1,171. The total "pastoral army" numbers 20,161. These preach the gospel in 130 languages and dialects.

FITS, St. Vitus' Dance, Nervous Diseases permanently cured by Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. \$2 trial bottle and treatise free. Dr. H. R. Kline, Ld., 361 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

Becoming Civilized.

The first divorce between natives—on the ground of the disappearance of a husband—has just been pronounced in the Congo Free State.—Nashville Banner.

SEVERE BLEEDING HEMORRHOIDS,

Sores, and Itching Eczema—Doctor Thought an Operation Necessary—Cuticura's Efficacy Proven.

"I am now eighty years old, and three years ago I was taken with an attack of piles (hemorrhoids), bleeding and protruding. The doctor said the only help for me was to go to a hospital and be operated on. I tried several remedies for months but did not get much help. During this time sores appeared which changed to a terrible itching eczema. Then I began to use Cuticura Soap, Ointment, and Pills, injecting a quantity of Cuticura Ointment with a Cuticura Suppository Syringe. It took a month of this treatment to get me in a fairly healthy state and then I treated myself once a day for three months and, after that, once or twice a week. The treatment I tried took a lot of money, and it is fortunate that I used Cuticura. J. H. Henderson, Hopkinton, N. Y., Apr. 26, '07."

Christianity in Japan.

Toledo.—Christian churches of all denominations in Japan have a total membership of 150,000. Besides these there are a great many Japanese who are familiar with the Bible and in part incline to the Christian faith, although not openly professing it. These are estimated to number about 1,000,000. Many of the most prominent men of Japan are Christians and the influence of the native churches is widespread. Of the 150,000 church members there are 60,000 Protestants, 60,000 Roman Catholics and 30,000 Greeks Orthodox Christians.

Japan occupies a peculiar relation to the Christian religion. With the exception of northwestern Africa, it is the only part of the world where Christianity, once firmly established, was unrooted and destroyed. It is also the first country in the history of modern missions in which native Christians are impatient of any connection with foreign church bodies and desire an independent ecclesiastical organization.

If H. GREEN'S SONS, of Atlanta, Ga., are the only successful Dropsy Specialists in the world. See their liberal offer in advertisement in another column of this paper.

Where Kings Keep Gold.

The sultan of Turkey, who has an official income of about \$4,000,000 a year, has long been depositing his savings with the Bank of France. The same institution is likewise honored with the patronage of King George of Greece and King Leopold. The czar has preferred to keep his cash in the vaults of the Bank of England, where, it is said, he has at his command nearly £3,250,000 in Russian gold. The gold deposited by these monarchs, unlike other funds which come into the banks, never goes out again into circulation, unless it be by express command of the royal depositor.—Chicago Journal.

HOUSE WORK



Thousands of American women in our homes are daily sacrificing their lives to duty.

In order to keep the home neat and pretty, the children well dressed and tidy, women overdo. A female weakness or displacement is often brought on and they suffer in silence, drifting along from bad to worse, knowing well that they ought to have help to overcome the pains and aches which daily make life a burden. It is to these faithful women that

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

comes as a boon and a blessing, as it did to Mrs. F. Ellsworth, of Mayville, N. Y., and to Mrs. W. P. Boyd, of Beaver Falls, Pa., who say: "I was not able to do my own work, owing to the female trouble from which I suffered. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound helped me wonderfully, and I am so well that I can do as big a day's work as I ever did. I wish every sick woman would try it."

FACTS FOR SICK WOMEN.

For thirty years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has positively cured thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing-down feeling, flatulency, indigestion, dizziness, or nervous prostration. Why don't you try it?

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health. Address, Lynn, Mass.

MOTHER GRAY'S SWEET POWDERS FOR CHILDREN. A Certain Cure for Feverishness, Constipation, Headache, Stomach Trouble, Teething, Diarrhoea, and Disruptive Worms. They Break up Colds in 24 Hours. At all Druggists, 10c. Sample mailed FREE. Address, New York City, A. S. OLMSTED, Le Roy, N. Y.

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Keeps the breath, teeth, mouth and body antiseptically clean and free from unhealthy germ-life and disagreeable odors, which water, soap and tooth preparations alone cannot do. A germicidal, disinfecting and deodorizing toilet requisite of exceptional excellence and economy. Invaluable for inflamed eyes, throat and nasal and uterine catarrh. At drug and toilet stores, 50 cents, or by mail postpaid. Large Trial Sample



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PILES—Wonderful cure; no doct. or druggist's card; 10c. full guarantee; mail 4c. Don't suffer, send dime today. JOHN GROGAN, 109 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

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P. N. U. 21, 1905.

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