



Change of Air for Dolly. My dolly's very ill, sir. Dear doctor, please to tell what I can do to make her get quickly strong and well.

A Novel Cure. A little boy and girl were at opposite ends of a long room, pretending to talk over a 'make-believe' telephone.

Last of the Photographs. When Papa Elephant's photograph came home you may be sure it created a tremendous sensation throughout the menagerie.

An Amazing Journey. This is a game that may be played without any preparation whatever, as no materials are required, not even pencil or paper.

Two Orioles. Just three springs ago, the orioles had come to this grand, old elm tree that shaded the porch of a quiet farmhouse.

Burns from a Cold Substance. That a man can sustain serious burns from a small quantity of cold mineral substance carried in his pocket seems almost too absurd to believe.

Hopeless Case. The laziest man in Scotland is said to have been the Galashiels joiner who, after repeated dismissals from his employment by his master, was at length forcibly laid in his coffin by his shopmates.

Are you two to know just the cunningest thing that ever two little birds did? Let me tell you—because it's true.

The birds were beautiful orioles and you know the curious, pretty nests the orioles make, swinging like a soft, gray, silken bag from the high branches of some elm tree.

Just three springs ago, the orioles had come to this grand, old elm tree that shaded the porch of a quiet farmhouse.

They had picked out the very branch they wanted; and now they must hunt for material to build their pretty home.

So they flew about, chirping and calling and busily gathering stray threads and moss—when—oh, joy! What was that beautiful, long, white, silky stuff on the porch just under their elm tree home?

Just three springs ago, the orioles had come to this grand, old elm tree that shaded the porch of a quiet farmhouse.

more. Grandpa still slept. The little rogues were having such a good time, when Aunt Lucy happened to spy them.

Just take her down to Margate, Or somewhere by the sea, And give her new-laid eggs, ma'am, For breakfast and for tea.

When Papa Elephant's photograph came home you may be sure it created a tremendous sensation throughout the menagerie.

It is a game that may be played without any preparation whatever, as no materials are required, not even pencil or paper.

She will make a lovely picture, ma'am, a real beauty; there's no doubt about that," said the monkey, putting his head on the side and surveying little Miss Elephant with an admiring smile.

Oh, yes, it's all her playful disposition," assented Mrs. Elephant, eagerly. "She is such a girly little thing—like a kitten, you know."

Oh, very like a kitten; very much so indeed," agreed the monkey politely out loud. "Nasty, ill-tempered little brat," he muttered to himself.

Oh, yes, it's all her playful disposition," assented Mrs. Elephant, eagerly. "She is such a girly little thing—like a kitten, you know."

Oh, very like a kitten; very much so indeed," agreed the monkey politely out loud. "Nasty, ill-tempered little brat," he muttered to himself.

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THE FORESTS IN DANGER

WARNING GIVEN BY AN EXPERT TO LUMBER MEN.

He fears the Spruce Will Be Exhausted in a Century by the Present Demands and Methods of Both the Pulp and Saw Mills—A Call for Scientific Forestry.

A discussion is now going on among lumbermen, woodsmen and forestry experts as to whether or not the spruce forests of Maine are in danger of destruction from careless and wasteful methods of cutting and from the immense demands made upon them every year by pulp mills and saw mills.

Henry Grinnell, an expert from the forestry division of the United States department of agriculture, who has been making a tour of inspection in the northern Maine woods for one of the big pulp companies, went to Bangor the other day and in an address to lumbermen at the board of trade rooms declared that with a continuance of present methods of logging the forests would be exhausted in less than 100 years.

On the other hand President F. S. Lyman of the Cushman Fibre company of Augusta, one of the most experienced men in the state in all matters pertaining to lumbering, says that there is more spruce standing in Maine than can be cut off in countless years, taking account of the growth, that the end of the spruce supply is so remote that worry on the subject is absurd.

Mr. Grinnell told the Bangor lumbermen that it required two or three centuries for a spruce tree to attain a size suitable for lumber, but Mr. Lyman says he has cut good sized spruce on land that had been mowed for grain 40 years before. The general opinion among the older lumbermen seems to be that the Washington expert's theories on some phases of lumbering are not entirely accurate, at least as applied to Maine.

It is generally conceded, however, that a reform is needed in lumbering methods in this state and the present discussion must result in great good. The owners of timber lands, the paper and pulp manufacturers and the lumber mill owners are all interested in the situation. The preservation and propagation of the spruce forests must be more carefully looked after, for the benefit of all.

E. W. King of Orono, state land agent and forest commissioner, is making arrangements to ascertain as soon as possible after the spring opening the amount of standing spruce in Maine. There has had a practical experience of more than 25 years in the woods of northern Maine. He knows the counties of Penobscot, Piscataquis and Krowstook, as far as the lumber growth is concerned, as thoroughly as any man living.

He says there is a vast amount of spruce in the Alleghany country, and now that the railroads are penetrating that region in various directions the timber can be more cheaply brought to market. When the winter is ended Mr. King proposes to send experienced woodmen into the forests to explore and report the condition and extent of the growth.

"What the state of Maine needs," says Mr. King, "is a modern system of forestry, adapted to conditions in this state, which in many cases will radically differ from systems practised in other countries."

In certain sections lumber and paper companies have invested large sums of money in mill plants and the success of the venture depends upon the future supply of timber. Such companies would find it more profitable to adopt a system of forestry which would give the best results.

In my opinion, the timber on the Kennebec and Androscoggin is cut to much better advantage than they cut on other waters of the state. The reason for this is that on those two rivers the land is owned largely by the companies that own the mills, while the reverse is the case on the other rivers.

For instance, on the Penobscot the wild lands, with few exceptions, are owned by one class, who sell permits to the lumber operator, after permitting him to cut on the land, and then pay out to the manufacturer, often by means of a stampage by one scale and selling the logs by another.

The influence of situation and soil on the character of the distribution of spruce is very marked. It is not a fastidious tree, for it occupies all situations and soils—low, wet swamps, mountain, rocky slopes, and the tops of abrupts and ridges, as well as good soil. The best spruce is found on moderate slopes with fruitful soil.

the sawmills in the Province of New Brunswick, although the land is owned by residents of Maine. The contemplated extension of the Bangor & Aroostook railroad from Ashland to Fort Kent will bring this timber to the Maine pulp and sawmills, where it rightfully belongs.

In the opinion of Mr. Ring, the amount of spruce now standing in Maine has been greatly underestimated. Good Judges say that there is now standing in the state not less than 27,000,000,000 feet of spruce, and they say that this, with the increase by growth, is sufficient to keep all the sawmills and pulp mills fully supplied for an indefinite period.

The total log cut in Maine is about 600,000,000 feet annually, and half of this is used by the pulp mills. Some regard the coming of the pulp mills as a calamity, but a prominent pulp manufacturer points out that the pulp mill is a blessing rather than a curse, because it makes a use into paper ten times as much money is expended as in making the tree into lumber.

"If the spruce is to be cut," says this pulp man, "why not get as much benefit from it as possible?"—New York Sun.

BOTH FOOD AND MEDICINE. The Fruit Cure for Some of the Ills of the Human Body. The curative value of fruit is becoming more and more insisted upon by those who make a study of dietetics. Grapes are recommended for the dyspeptic, the constipative, the anaemic, and for those with a tendency to gout and liver troubles. Plums, also, are said to be a cure for gouty and rheumatic tendencies. The acid fruits, especially lemons and oranges, are particularly good for stomach troubles and rheumatism.

It is not sufficient, say the advocates of the fruit cure, to eat a small quantity at breakfast or dinner. One should eat from two to eight pounds of grapes a day, or, if oranges are the curative agent, the number to be eaten in a day may vary from three to six.

A healthy condition of the body depends upon a perfect balance of foods taken. There are many other factors entering into the question, but this feature must not be forgotten. Few people there are who can keep healthy without fruit.

Now absurd, some one says, to be told to eat fruit when everybody eats it. Yes, but how do you eat it? Do you take a definite amount of it, the same as you do of meat and potatoes, or do you eat it as you can find?

If you suffer from an acute attack of indigestion after a dinner of soup, meats, pickles, sauces, salad, cakes, pastries, with spices and condiments enough to blister the skin, to say nothing of the delicate lining of the stomach, pray do not ever that indigestion arises from the morsel of fruit taken at the end.

Be honest with your stomach for a month. Eat no more than you need of simple food, into which the true luxuries of nature, such as apples, oranges, pears or other fruit, shall enter. Try, if only as an interesting experiment, to eat sparingly of the cruder articles of diet, and more of those suited to your real needs, and see to it that fruit forms a part of each meal.

But there are so many kinds of fruit that I cannot eat. "There it is again. Because you cannot eat seventeen kinds of food at one meal, ending with fruit, it is of course, was the apple of the strawberries that did the harm."

But doesn't fruit make the blood thick? "It certainly does, and we are mighty glad of it. Ask any doctor who has practiced medicine for ten years with his eyes open, and he will tell you that the great majority of grown-up folks have blood too thick."

The minerals and natural acids of the fruit are the very best conceivable remedies for this thickened condition of the blood. Fruit then becomes both a fruit and a medicine—a necessity and a most delightful luxury.—Syracuse Clinic.

UNCLE SAM'S CHIEF POISONER.

Not Generally Known That This Government Maintains One.

In a little house in South Washington is located a Federal institution without which the Smithsonian Institution and National Museum could not exist. It is the department of the chief poisoner, Mr. Joseph Farmer.

The role, or chief poisoner was not unusual in countries ruled by despots, but it may be a surprise to many to learn that such an office is maintained by our republican form of administration. However, Mr. Farmer, unlike his cotemporaries in Turkey, Spain, Arabia, etc., is not engaged in putting obnoxious and exuberant statements out on exhibit in the institution and museum beyond the reach of thieves, rust and cockroaches.

Everything that is received by these institutions, whether it is a rare book, a Phipps two foot, or a stuffed and mounted animal, is sent to Mr. Farmer to be poisoned. He is an expert in the preparation and use of preservative compounds. For stuffed animals and birds he finds that arsenical compounds bring the best results. Every object of metal receives a coating of something that prevents rust, while fabrics, basketry, silks, furs, etc., are poisoned in much the same manner as stuffed animals. Even the shelves and cases of the Museum, in which the objects are placed, have passed through Mr. Farmer's hands and have been treated to a fluid that causes a bug, moth or cockroach to think that he is walking over a red hot iron from the minute he strikes their surface. By these means the museum is forever freed from vermin.

Annual Losses by Fire. During the year 1900 there were 79,249 fires in the United States, which burned 109,092 pieces of property and destroyed values represented by \$169,929,895. Of these fires 29.13 per cent originated from defective flues and stove pipes, overheated stoves and stove pipes, friction in machinery, faulty installed or degenerated electric wires and lights, oil stove accidents and explosions of gas, oil, chemical, dust, etc. Lamp accidents, sparks, careless use of matches, cigars, cigarettes and tobacco pipes, ashtrays, hot coals, open fire places and grates, plumbers' furnaces, candles and gas jets were responsible for 23.85 per cent. Property exposed to fire originating on other premises was destroyed to the extent of \$1,03 per cent. Fire originating from crime and mischief, such as incendiarism, tramps, burglars, drunk men, lunatics and mischievous children were responsible for 8.52 per cent. Fires of unknown origin burned 21.15 per cent. It is estimated, however, that at least 50 per cent of the fires of unknown origin are caused by incendiaries. Of the causes which may be considered an avoidable lightning was responsible for 2.15 per cent of the loss. Spontaneous combustion caused 4.25 per cent, the result of careless or ignorant handling of inflammable material.

Exploring Tibet. The Japanese Buddhist priest Mr. Nokai, who went to China in November, 1898, to visit Lassa, Tibet, to study the Lama philosophy, is now making his third attempt to reach that forbidden land, his two previous attempts having ended in failure. The first attempt was made by way of Szechuen and the second by that of Kansu, and now he is trying the Yunnan route. Miss E. R. Selmore, Foreign Secretary of the National Geographical Society, is confident that he will reach Lassa this time.

The Royal Visit to Ireland. It is said on pretty good authority that the projected visit of the King and Queen to Ireland will not take place for some time. The story is that the "disturbed" districts of Ireland are increasing in number, and that during the winter it may become necessary to take such strong measures that it would hardly be desirable to have a royal visit for some time.

MORE VALUABLE THAN GOLD.

Why Recent Discoveries of Platinum in Alaska Are Important.

The price of platinum, one of the rarer of the precious metals, now exceeds that of fine gold, being \$21 an ounce. In 1890 the price was only \$10 per ounce, but owing to the gradual increase in demand it has been steadily rising. Platinum somewhat resembles silver in appearance, but has a rather duller luster. It is extremely resistant to acids and atmospheric agents tending to corrosion, and would be much more largely used were it not for the rather limited supply and resulting high price. The demand is in excess of the supply, and its price will probably continue to rise.

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