

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: FREELAND.—The Tribune is delivered by carriers to subscribers in Freeland at the rate of 15¢ per month, payable every two months, or \$1.50 a year, payable in advance.

Common fairness demands that those States which propose to tax bachelors in order to promote matrimony should also provide a penalty for the maiden who says no.

It is claimed that the son of a Kansas farmer is the rightful heir to the throne of Servia. If the young man will go on farming and behaving properly he may, however, be able to live it down.

According to an apparently authentic article in a French periodical not less than 20,000 aristocrats are at present confined in the prisons of Europe.

If the operations in South Africa shall prove, before they have ended, to have cost a billion dollars, to what fiscal expedients must the United Kingdom resort when she enters upon a contest with such a power as Russia in Central Asia?

Duels illustrate as well as anything else the difference between the Slav and the Gaul. The Slav, if the dueling pistol goes wide, betakes himself to the rapier and a finish. The Gaul betakes himself to a coffee house and drinks to his opponent's dreadful valor.

The manufacture of illustrated postal cards in Germany is a productive industry. It is said that the Government derived a daily income of \$15,845 from this source alone last year.

The French Government is to have an official residence erected in Washington on a two-acre tract located on a high knoll commanding a fine view of the National Capitol.

Who but Uncle Sam would have thought of supplying dentists for his soldiers? Who but Uncle Sam's soldiers would have created a demand for such a supply? It brings back Spanish war memories when the toothbrush in the hat of every American private created more of a sensation among the foreign attaches than many of the military manoeuvres and tactics.

An article in the Cosmopolitan calls attention to the advantage of a "no fence law," and presents the startling figures that Indiana alone has fences whose computed value is \$200,000,000, and which if placed in a single line would fourteen times encircle the globe.

Do Eels Breed in the Sea? The breeding of eels is a mystery. No body ever saw any of their eggs. The ancients used to have a notion that eels were developed from horse-hairs.

He Was Feedy. A truthful and humorous explanation of success is given in this little dialogue from Puck.

Yentifu rains have fallen in South Russia and a splendid harvest is assured. The Sultan Ibrahim, of the province of Wadal, in the Soudan, has been assassinated.

The Leyland steamer Assyrian, from Antwerp for Montreal, with 2,000 tons of cargo, went ashore off Cape Race.

IF I KNEW.

If I knew the box where the smiles are kept, No matter how large the key, Or strong the bolt, I would try so hard— I would open, I know, for me.

TROUBLE WITH A PYTHON.

By William T. Hornaday, Director of the New York Zoological Park

THE superb reptile-house of the New York Zoological Park was rapidly nearing completion. Its great main hall was swimming with workmen, who were concreting the alligator pool, finishing the big wall cases, dividing the central "installation" for turtles, and doing a hundred other things.

Fortunately the floor boards of the cook house were nine inches wide, and in a short time one of them was removed. Down went four heads, and all four came up again, very hastily; "There he is!"

Close beside the opening in the floor lay about a bushel of big brown and yellow coils, and above the pile hovered the massive head of the python, threatening to strike the first living thing that came within reach.

The python waited until we had placed the boards to the best possible advantage, then uncoiled himself, shoved the boards out of position as if they had been so many straws put there for his amusement, and quickly disappeared under the anti-eater's cage.

In a short time the python's head again appeared at one of the long, narrow openings made by the carpenter, but as Mr. Dittmars took a favorable position for grabbing the creature by the neck, close up to the jaws, it struck at him most viciously.

Clearly, it would not do for any of our men to be seized by that savage creature; for although the python was of course not poisonous, and although we might even prevent it from wrapping itself around any one of us, the laceration of a man's hand by that big, muscular mouth, filled with four rows of hook-like, backward-pointing teeth, would have been a serious matter.

As its five yards of length semicircled around the cook-stove, part of its body passed under one of the floor openings. This was our opportunity, and in an instant two of us seized it and triumphantly hauled up about six feet of the serpent's body and tail.

How big and muscular it was! Its skin was as smooth and glossy as satin and gleamed with rainbow iridescence. It writhed and worked in our grasp, and pulled downward with such power that it required all the strength of the chief forester and myself to retain any portion of it within our grasp.

All this time Mr. Dittmars kept trying to seize the python by the neck, but it was constantly alert, anxious to seize him, and gave him no opportunity whatever. It was evident that with our unaided hands we never could master that savage creature without an accident to some one.

I quickly made a very serviceable moose. Back I ran to the cook-house. Mr. Merkel and Mr. Muzzie, red in the face and perspiring profusely, were clinging desperately to the last two feet of the python's tail; and the python was in a perfect rage. It darted to and fro under the half-demolished floor, striking out viciously whenever it seemed possible to reach a man, and manifesting great willingness to fight any one.

"We can't hold on here much longer," exclaimed the forester, desperately. At last the python started to move straight toward my face. As I shifted my nose into line, he ran his head through it, the nose flew taut behind his jaws, and he was caught.

"That small line will cut his head off!" cried Mr. Dittmars, in real alarm for the safety of our prize snake. "Better let me cut it!" He whipped out his knife and poised the open blade over my precious bit of line.

"No, no! Don't cut it. We've got to control his head this way or we'll never master him without getting hurt. Let go the tail and grab up the body through that next opening."

Dropping my line and stick I, too, took hold close behind the head and we began to walk away with our captive. As that magnificent and wonderfully powerful body emerged from under the floor, the other men laid hold of it at intervals and bore it along.

"Keep it out straight, boys, and don't give him a chance to get a coil around any of us!" Truly, it must have been an extraordinary procession that we made as we marched across the yard with that big snake and dumped it into its cage. The hunt had lasted nearly an hour.

As They Chose. While waiting for the train the bride and bridegroom walked slowly up and down the platform. "I don't know what this joking and guying may have been to you," he remarked, "but it's death to me. I never experienced such an ordeal!"

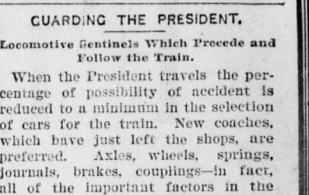
London and Paris have long had cemeteries for dogs and cats, but New York has been without one until lately. Now, however, a burial-ground of three of four acres has been opened at Hartsdale, in Westchester County, and is being immediately taken advantage of by the bereaved owners of pets.

Alabama Beaten Biscuit—One quart of flour, one tablespoonful lard and butter mixed, teaspoonful salt. Mix into a stiff dough with water. Pound until the dough is soft or blisters. Roll out until three-quarters of an inch thick; cut out with a small biscuit cutter; mark with fork holes. Bake in moderate oven until pale brown.

Crumb Pie—Soak a pint of bread crumbs in milk. Beat three eggs; add half a cup of sugar. Line two pie plates with crust and stew over enough raisins to cover bottom. Add the bread crumbs to egg and milk, sitting in a bit of cinnamon, pour over the raisins and bake about thirty minutes.

Frozen Apricots—Boil two cups of sugar and four cups of water ten minutes. When cold add one can of apricots cut in small pieces. Freeze as usual, and when nearly stiff stir in two cups of whipped cream, measured after whipping. It is delicious without the cream, but, of course, is not so rich.

Picotta—This is the national soup of Italy. Cook a half cup of rice in a pint of stock and rub through a sieve. Thicken a quart of boiling milk with a tablespoon of butter and two of flour; add a cup of grated cheese and the rice stock, a teaspoon of salt. Serve quite hot with bits of toasted brown bread.



HOUSEHOLD HINTS:

ART IN THE HOUSEHOLD.

In line with the present fad for brass house decorative pieces one clever housewife has chosen a huge brass pot to stand on the hearth of her living room fireplace, that holds wood in winter and a pot with a growing plant in summer. It is unusual and effective in the extreme.

There is an unwritten law in house-furnishing ethics against the means by which the groups of trophies, arms, swords, knives, etc., so popular for usual decoration these days, are hung showing. Hooks and strings are not permissible, but nails should be used so disposed as to be invisible.

Another suggestion for the rejuvenation of wall covering is to paper the ceiling of a very low-ceilinged room in white or pale ivory, and run it down a foot or so on the side walls to a white or cream picture moulding, as the case may be. This adds very much to the effect of height. The plain white ceiling thus loses itself above you and never accentuates its own limitations.

Half sash curtains are entirely passe. The most approved window dressing at present consists of lace or thin stuff curtains, window sill length, hanging straight down against the glass. Inside ones of soft silk hang over these, pushed close to each side, but with a balance in the centre across the top to form a continuous line.

Old-fashioned ball fringes are redivivous for adorning bed hangings. Dimity spreads are very fashionable just now, too, as are Anatolians.—Philadelphia Record.

HOUSEHOLD RECIPES.

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French Subjects of Great Britain. At a recent sitting of the Court Royale of the Isle of Alderney, the oath of allegiance to his majesty the king was administered to the judge, jurats, king's procurator and other officials with due and fitting ceremony, says a London newspaper.

Estimated national wealth at the beginning of the twentieth century, \$100,000,000,000.

GUARDING THE PRESIDENT.

When the President travels the percentage of possibility of accident is reduced to a minimum in the selection of cars for the train. New coaches, which have just left the shops, are preferred. Axles, wheels, springs, journals, brakes, couplings—in fact, all of the important factors in the make-up of a train—are carefully examined and tested before being allowed to depart with their precious human freight.

As the train glides beside rivers, through valleys and over mountains, new faces appear. Quiet men, who seem to know no one except the conductors and other railway employes, slip into some vacant seat in a sleeping car, or sit and smoke in the combination car just behind the engine.

"Suppose," I remarked to one of these officials, when we were together on a President's train, says Henry Litchfield West, "that some evil-disposed person should displace a rail for the purpose of killing the President?"

"Any attempt to wreck this train, with design upon the life of the President," was the emphatic reply, "would have to be carried into execution in less than five minutes. Just before we left the last station, an engine, with two men in the cab, slipped out upon the main track, and is now just ahead of the President's train.

"The track is clear, of course?" "The track is not only clear at the present time, but it has been for the past twelve hours. Not a wheel of a freight train has turned all day."

The pilot engine ahead is on the lookout for danger. Three miles behind the President's train is another engine, following steadily so as to be available in case of any mishap.

Westminster is to be thrown open to the public. This is one of the oldest and most interesting parts of the Abbey, the greater part of the fabric belonging to the reign of Edward the Confessor. It was used in early Norman times as a royal treasury, and a robbery from the chapel in the reign of Edward I. of treasure valued at £100,000, created a great deal of stir.

Chapel of the Pyx. The ancient Chapel of the Pyx at Westminster is to be thrown open to the public. This is one of the oldest and most interesting parts of the Abbey, the greater part of the fabric belonging to the reign of Edward the Confessor.

The Largest Ship in the World. The Celtic weighs 36,700 tons, the Park Row building only 20,000 tons. She measures 700 feet, only nine feet longer than the Great Eastern, but will draw eleven feet more water. She will carry 2742 passengers and crew, and 12,000 tons of cargo.

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