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A scientist paid \$25,000 for a collection of eggs, and they were not very fresh at that.

The late William Shakespeare was a careful man in money matters. If he knew the prices that copies of his First-Folio edition are fetching now, he would wish that he were living at this hour.

The use of the wheel resulted in the bicycle face and now the links are charged with producing the golfing spine. All of our pleasures and pastimes seem to be productive of corresponding penalties.

The unscientific will not be reassured to learn from scientists that only the melanolestes pictus is the true "kissing bug," and that the anopheles maculipennis is the only mosquito that carries malaria.

Steam turbine engines and Texas oil as fuel are new prospective agencies upon which promoters of fast transatlantic navigation rely for the future four-day boat.

Some of our British friends who desire to exclude foreign crews from Henley frankly admit that they are averse to long and rigorous preparation for the contests on the Thames.

A New York physician raises his voice against the abuse of massage. By this he means the excessive thumpings, pinchings and rubbings which the sick receive at the hands of lusty nurses who have not been properly trained in the art.

It is said that six-sevenths of the marriages which have taken place in Ohio, Kansas, Indiana, Missouri and Illinois within a period of six weeks were between young men and women who were not able to keep house.

How They Do Things in Europe.

The movement in the municipal assembly to stop the overcrowding of the open cars may not lead to an immediate cure for the evil.

THE DESERTED SCHOOL.

BY RICHARD BURTON.

There broods a pathos of a time long past In every nook and every grass-grown way; The fences lean as tired out at last, That once pent in so many lads at play.

Stacy's Chimney-Top Party.

By Edward William Thomson.

WHEN the first great woolen factory was put up at Cornwall, Ontario, by the Scotch-Canadian capitalists who are now Lord Moun-Stephen and Lord Strathcona-and-Mount-Royal, their contractor for the building was John Stacy.

It cannot be truthfully said that men came flocking to his invitations. The chimney, which stood about twenty-five or thirty feet clear of the factory building, was a plain shaft of brick with an unrailed iron coping.

"They're afraid of the height," I suggested, being young and innocent enough to imagine that the contractor might really be puzzled. "Look at that now!" he exclaimed, eyeing me with mock admiration.

"And so the party won't come off?" I said, ignoring his irony. "Troth, it will! There's yourself and your chief, Mr. Bell. Ye will represent the noble art of factory architecture."

"Well, done, sor," said old John. "ust put up both your hands and I'll relp you up by the shoulders." He was afraid to take hold of Macklem without such a warning, for the

strained nerves might break down at an unexpected touch.

But Macklem kept his lower hand on the rung, and spoke, if speaking that could be called which was little more than a motion of ashen lips.

"Put an oyster in my mouth!" his lips whispered.

He gulped it down with difficulty. "Now I've lunched with you as I said I would," and suddenly he put one foot down as if to retreat.

The sole of his boot came hard on George Stacy's left hand. At this contact with something unexpected Macklem's strength gave way and he fell in a dead faint.

His face fell forward and his legs sprawled down in George Stacy's front; he slipped down over the rungs until the youth jammed the limp figure against the ladder by pushing his own body forward.

Old Stacy gave a loud cry, fearing his son must go down, too, and he made a movement as if to help him by getting on the ladder, which might not have borne the addition of his heavy frame.

When he returned with the remedy the party had all descended from the chimney top.

It was fully fifteen minutes before the stimulant and the fanning of his face and chafing of his hands revived the merchant. Then, like the famous "consular of Rome," the first words he spoke were of the fight:

"Faith, you did, then," cried old John. "And a bolder deed I never saw. Only it wasn't necessary. Bedad, I'm ashamed of me foolish prank in tempting you up, Mr. Macklem. If it wasn't for my boy being a better man than his father, 'tis a murder I'd feel meself this minute. Faith, it's a strong sow! ye've got in that little wake body! If it wasn't so senseless of ye to insist on ascending for the sake of an oyster, I dunno but I'd call ye a hero."

"I guess George was the hero on this occasion," said Mayor MacDew.

The affair illustrates one thing worth remembering in days when newspapers make a fresh set of heroes every time armed men do anything indicating normal human courage.

Government Miners and Assayers. Next to our agricultural resources the mining wealth of our land is the most important, and the agitation made some time ago to establish a new department, with a Cabinet Minister at its head, to look after the mining interests of the United States.

In all these positions under the Government some scientific training or knowledge is necessary as a preliminary. The fear or favor of political pull is less than in most other departments. The work is all of a scientific or semi-scientific character, and a mere political follower or ward henchman can hardly cut a decent figure in such a position.

Some Wealthy Jewish Peddlers. The recent sale of a large number of east side tenements proved something of an eye-opener to the brokers who put through the deal, concerning the financial resources of the inhabitants of that district.

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Sealing Wax in a New Form. A new form of sealing wax has recently been devised. It differs from the ordinary stick wax in that it is enclosed in a glass tube, from which it may be poured by heating the cylinder.

The Bank of France compels customers checking out money to accept at least one eighth in gold coin.

CURIOSITY AND SCIENCE.

Much of the Progress of Science Due to the Desire to Unravel Mysteries.

Curiosity, it may be safely said, is the handmaid of science. And to the men who have found something mysterious in the common occurrences of life, and whose curiosity has been sufficiently aroused to unravel the mystery may require an extraordinary logical power and an imagination with which not all of us are blessed.

No doubt many a man before the time of Columbus had remarked the exotic fruits and branches tossed up by the waves of the Atlantic on the shores of the Canary Islands.

Then we have Newton's apple. It matters little whether or no the apple did fall, or opportunely strike Newton while he was sitting in his garden.

Robert Mayer, a ship's surgeon, cruising in the East Indies, noticed that the venous blood of his patients seemed redder than that of people living in temperate climes.

Chemists speak familiarly and learnedly now of the law of substitution, by which they are enabled to explain so many of the eccentricities of carbon compounds.

Such anecdotes can be told ad infinitum. Enough have been given to show clearly how simple things are often straws which have guided the current of scientific thought to epoch-making discoveries.

When the Japanese peasants get themselves up for a pilgrimage to a city for the purpose of laying in a stock of finery they present the quaint appearance imaginable.

At Nagano it appears that many of the poor old dears from the country get so bewildered by the magnificence of the places they go to and the distractions of shopping that they quite lose their heads and consequently their way.

When a party of pilgrims is to have distinguishing badge. At Nagano it was the commonest thing possible to see some ancient dame rushing about wailing, "Where is my party? Where is the purple iris party?"

There is the yellow-towel-round-the-neck party?" and then she would be told that "yellow-towel-round-the-neck party" was on its way to the station, or that the "purple irises" were still saying their prayers in the temple.



Picture Moldings. Picture moldings to be correct may either match the wall covering or the woodwork of the room.

The Carving Knife's Edge.

The amateur carver may encounter many difficulties before the "art of carving" is mastered, yet it is a consoling thought that the majority of the difficulties may be overcome by keeping the carving knife in good repair.

The conversation turned the subject to carving knives, and the veteran said that "carvers" were harder to keep in order than the ordinary table knives, because the one who carves does not make use of the steel as much as he should.

It may be an acid in the beef, or it may be the moisture, or the heat, or all three," said the expert, "but there is something about hot roast beef that takes the edge off a knife and makes it rip where it should cut, and the fact that the knife is not affected that way by mutton or ham makes me think that the dullness is the result of the action of beef ingredients on the blade."

Good Way to Clean Matting.

To clean matting, sweep it twice—first with a stiff broom, working along the grain of the straw; then crosswise with a soft broom dipped in warm water, rinsing with clean water.

Very light matting is best washed, after sweeping with weak borax water or rather wiping with cloths wrung out of it.

Little used matting, as in spare chambers or upper summer rooms, should be swept very clean, then wiped with a cloth wrung out of sweet milk.

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Mint Sherbet—Boil together one quart water and one-half pound sugar five minutes. Remove leaves from ten good-sized stalks of mint. Wash carefully, chop fine, then pound to a pulp.

Puff Omelet—Stir into the yolks of six eggs and the white of three beaten very light, one tablespoon of flour mixed into a teaspoon of milk, with a dash of salt and pepper.

Creamed Corned Beef—Scald a pint of milk with a slice of onion and a stalk of celery; stir into this one-fourth a cup each of butter and flour creamed together; let cook fifteen minutes, stirring until thickened and then occasionally add a dash of paprika and strain over one pint of cold corned beef cut into dice; turn into a pudding dish and cover with half a cup of cracker crumbs mixed with two tablespoons of butter; set in the oven to reheat and to brown the crumbs.

Pineapple Cake—This delicacy requires immediate consumption. Beat a cup of butter to a cream with two of sugar, add five beaten eggs and half a cup of milk. Sift two teaspoonsful of baking powder through three cups of flour and add to the eggs, sugar and butter. Bake in jelly tins. Grate a pineapple, using a coarse grater; pour off the juice; add a cupful of ground cocoanut, sweeten with powdered sugar and spread between the layers; cover the top with plain boiled icing and sprinkle thickly with grated cocoanut.