Abandoning the Missouri.

There are indications that the long and costly struggle to keep the Missouri river a great highway of commerce is to be abandoned and that the river will be permitted hereafter to pursue its erratic course to the Mississippi without attempts by United States engineers to keep it in order. Millions of acres of land have been swept away and deposited elsewhere. In one place a tract of 1,700 acres was transferred in a single night from Iowa to Nebraska by a change in the course of the river.

Horse Power.

A horse power is the force required to lift a dead weight of 33,000 pounds one foot a minute. To find the horse power of an engine multiply the area of the piston in inches by the average steam pressure in pounds per square inch. Multiply the product by the travel of the piston in feet per minute and divide that product by 33,000. If an engine is rated at 73-horse power it wil raise 33,000 pounds one foot 73 times in one minute.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is a liquid and is taken internally, and acts upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free. Sold by druggists, 75c.
F. J. CHENEY & Co., Props, Toledo. O.

English shipbuilders get their guns and boilers in Germany.

FITS permanently cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. $2 trial bottle and treatise free Dr. R. H. KLINE, Ltd., 931 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

The average salary of clergymen in the United States is $900 a year.

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

The first trackless trolley in America will be run in Franklin, N. H.

I do not believe Piso's Cure for Consumption has an equal for coughs and colds—JOHN F. BOYER, Trinity Springs, Ind., Feb. 15, 1900.

It's usually youth and not learning that makes young people so smart.

SURGICAL OPERATIONS

How Mrs. Bruce, a Noted Opera Singer, Escaped an Operation. Proof That Many Operations for Ovarian Troubles are Unnecessary.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—Travelling for years on the road, with irregular meals and sleep and damp beds, broke down my health so completely two years ago that the physician advised a complete rest, and when I had gained

MRS. G. BRUCE.

sufficient vitality, an operation for ovarian troubles. Not a very cheerful prospect, to be sure. I, however, was advised to try **Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Sanative Wash**; I did so, fortunately for me. Before a month had passed I felt that my general health had improved; in three months more I was cured, and I have been in perfect health since. I did not lose an engagement or miss a meal.

"Your Vegetable Compound is certainly wonderful, and well worthy the praise your admiring friends who have been cured are ready to give you. I always speak highly of it, and you will admit I have good reason to do so."—MRS. G. BRUCE, Lansing, Mich.

$5000 forfeit if above testimonial is not genuine.

The fullest counsel on this subject can be secured without cost by writing to Mrs Pinkham, Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be entirely confidential.

Good Things to Eat

from Libby's famous Hygienic kitchens, where purity prevails. All meats used in

LIBBY'S Natural Flavor Food Products

are U. S. Government Inspected.

Keep in the house for emergencies—for suppers, for sandwiches—for any time when you want something good and want it quick. Simply turn a key and the can is open. An appetizing lunch is ready in an instant.

LIBBY, McNEILL & LIBBY, CHICAGO.

Write for our free booklet, "How to Make Good Things to Eat"

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THE BEST FOR THE BOWELS
10c. 25c. 50c. All Druggists
Genuine stamped C C C. Never sold in bulk. Beware of the dealer who tries to sell "something just as good."

HAMLIN'S WIZARD OIL FOR TOOTHACHE
ALL DRUGGISTS SELL IT

DROPSY NEW DISCOVERY; gives quick relief and cures worst cases. Book of testimonials and 10 days' treatment Free. Dr. H. H. GREEN'S SONS, Box B, Atlanta, Ga.

In Bat Land.

A good little bat, when the day is nigh,
Flies home to his snug little bed;
As soon as the sun is up in the sky
No bat should be seen overhead.

They sleep all day, tucked out of the way,
And what seems the strangest of all,
Their heads hang down where their tails ought to be,
And they cling by their toes to the wall.

When the sun has set and the birds are at rest,
And the moon and the stars are on high,
Then each little bat pops out of his nest
And goes for a sail through the sky

How topsy-turvy their life must be!
They breakfast at 8 p. m.;
And just at dawn they are ready for tea—
But it doesnt seem queer to them.
—Washington Star.

Talking Stones.

Contrary to the general belief, city boys are often at a loss to know how to amuse themselves in the country. They do not understand how to make the most of the opportunities at hand. Here are some hints of use to such lads:

There is a particular class of amusements to which boys are much given, which are but little understood by the older people. These are the amusements which have to do with imagining oneself something quite different from what one really is.

It is usually a very reckless, bloodthirsty individual whom boys choose to represent. Perhaps they form themselves into a band of outlaws, possibly the famous crew under the lead of Robin Hood; it may chance that they will turn pirates, and the leading spirits will be known as Kidd or Morgan; or else the boys suddenly become Indians, with a chief named Sitting Bull or Rain-in-the-Face.

In whatever game of this sort the boys may adopt a great deal must be imagined. It was largely to escape ridicule, which every boy dreads, but partly, also, because they liked the idea of writing in such a fashion that it could not be read except by their own fellows, that a crowd of boys in the upper part of New York State were led to evolve a form of cipher by means of which they could leave messages intelligible only to a few chosen spirits.

Unless one was in the secret, these messages looked like nothing except a few sticks and stones scattered by the roadside; but to those who had worked out the stick and stone alphabet, the letters were perfectly intelligible.

In playing at being Robin Hood and his band, which was the chief amusement of these boys, this means of writing was of great assistance in gathering the band, and of making known to late comers the commands of their leader.

At certain rendezvous details of the plan for the day would be left, and in this way different members of the band could at any time learn where their fellows were to be found and in what they were engaged, making arrows, searching for seasoned hickory out of which to fashion new bows, or, possibly, holding a tournament to prove the efficiency of the band in the use of their weapons.

The method of leaving messages by means of sticks and stones is quite simple. One afternoon of practice should perfect any boy in its use.

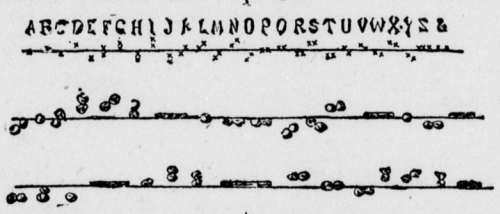
The alphabet is given in the diagram accompanying this article. The black line can be drawn in dirt or scratched on a boulder. Each of the crosses about this line represents a stone.

One stone placed across the line, as shown in the diagram (see the first cross at the left of the line), represents the letter A. A stone placed so that its lower edge just touches the line represents the letter B.

A stone placed so that its upper edge just touches the line represents the letter C. A stone placed just above the line, not touching it, represents the letter D. A stone placed just below the line, not touching it, represents the letter E.

Two stone placed vertically across the line represents the letter F. Two stones placed horizontally across the line represent the letter P.

Two stones placed obliquely across the line, slanting from left to right, represent the letter K. Two stones placed obliquely across the line, slanting upward from right to left, represent the letter U. Three stones placed with their lower edges touching the line represent the letter Z. Two stones with a slight space between them, placed so that their lower edges just touch the line, represent the character &. This is usually contracted in stone-written messages to one stone, A, answering in place of "and." The context will always make this abbreviation intelligible.

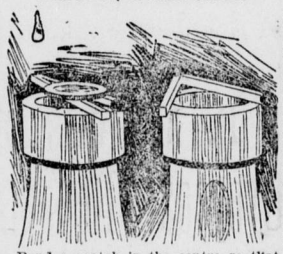


The remaining letters of the alphabet explain themselves. Considerable space must be left between words, or an improvement on this is to lay a small twig between your words.

When a boy has familiarized himself with the alphabet, the sticks and stones in the diagram will be found to read: "Making arrows at the big spring."

When the messages indicated to a member of the outlaw band that his fellows were engaged in some sort of work which would keep them moving about, as, for instance, searching for new camping grounds, new springs, or the proper kinds of wood from which to make bows and arrows, he would find his companions through his knowledge of the woods where they were most likely to find what they wanted, and by tracking them.—New York Sun.

What a Drop of Water Can Do.



Bend a match in the centre so that it forms an acute angle, and place it over the neck of a large bottle; on top of the match place a piece of money, a cent, for instance, as shown in figure. The trick is to put the money into the bottle without touching the match or bottle.

Dip your finger in water, holding it over the place where the match is bent, and allow one or two drops to fall on that point. The two sides of the angle will open slowly, allowing the money to drop into the bottle.—New York Press.

WASHINGTON PUZZLE PICTURE

Washington is signing the capitulation of Fort Necessity. Find the Indian Half-King and Queen Aliquippa.

A Cat and Mouse Game.

The players stand hand and hand in a circle, the mouse being inside and the cat outside. They dance around, raising their arms and lowering them alternately, which gives the cat a chance to jump in at one side, while the mouse jumps out at the other. The cat is now a prisoner and goes round "miauling," but as the dance continues she soon gets out and chases the mouse, who darts in to save herself. If she gets in by herself, the cat pays a forfeit, but if puss gets in also it is the mouse who has to suffer for it.

Disposing of Sewage.

Plants for the destruction of sewage by cremation are now operated in ninety-seven cities of the United States.

Farm Topics

Lambs in the Market.

Lambs bring twice as much in market as sheep, including the wool derived from the sheep, and the market is seldom overstocked with lambs.

Evaporated Corn.

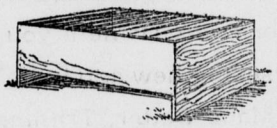
It takes about ten ears to average one pound of evaporated corn, and 100 pounds of fresh cut corn will make a trifle over twenty-five pounds of the finished product of high grade. If the corn is hard and nearly ripe this yield would be increased but at the expense of quality. Such corn will sell at from eight to ten cents per pound in car lots, according to the market. Most of those engaged in evaporating corn have increased their business gradually and pay from twenty-five to forty cents per hundred ears, or about $9 per ton, delivered at the factory in the husks.

A Profitable Crop.

It is safe to say that the market gardeners near our large cities realize greater profits from lettuce than from any other vegetable. It is a very hardy plant, and when well under way withstands not only quite a degree of cold, but also the heat. If the plants are partially protected by being set out on the sunny side of ridges, they progress much more rapidly in growth than when not so carefully managed, and the quicker they can be grown the better the quality. If the plants are set out in rows wide enough to admit the free use of the hoe, and well manured, they will become solid, but when sown broadcast on rich beds they also furnish a large quantity of tender leaves.

Feeding Large and Small Chickens.

Where large and small chickens run at large in the same lot the feeding of



A FEEDING BOX.

them becomes a difficult matter, as the larger crowd the weaker and take most of the food.

Get one or more big but low dry goods or grocery boxes and remove a part of each side, as shown in the cut, making the opening just high enough to permit the smaller chicks to enter. Stretch a wire from side to side at the top, and throw feed inside for the younger broods. They will quickly learn to start for their own quarters when the feed dish appears.—New England Homestead.

Where the Hog Leads.

For quick returns the hog is far ahead of the steer or sheep. He is easily fitted for the slaughter at six months old, and at that time, if he has been well fattened, eighty per cent. of his live weight is in dressed meat. But, as the saying goes, every part of him excepting the grunt and the squeal is utilized. The bristles, the intestines or sausage casings, the blood and the bone, all play their parts, while the liver and heart are favorite food with many. The steer will need about three crops of corn to fatten him, and often not more than fifty per cent. of his weight is dressed meat, while it is unusual to find one that does not shrink over forty per cent. One crop of corn will fatten both the fall and the spring pigs each year. All of this is a decided advantage in favor of the keeping of swine, and those who have done so and avoided the attacks of cholera and swine plague have been successful and prosperous in their business.—Kansas Farmer.

Farmers and Breeds.

The breeds of sheep are being improved every year, and farmers who have not familiarized themselves with the characteristics of sheep should bear in mind that they are behind the buyers, who can distinguish at a few moments' examination exactly what kind of a sheep from which the wool was sheared, and its fitness for the purpose for which it is desired. The buyers know the breeds, the kind of wool peculiar to each breed, and all about them, for it is "business." A farmer would sneer at a carpenter who professed to be a carpenter and yet could not do a piece of work in that line; and yet, it may be claimed, there are hundreds of farmers who profess to be farmers, and who would rebel if their knowledge of the business should be questioned, but who, at the same time, cannot tell as much about the products of the farm as many of those who know nothing about farm life. There are hundreds of farmers who are not able to distinguish breeds of sheep, and who do not know the particular purposes for which a breed is most suitable, and still they pride themselves on their calling as a business which they intend to make profitable. If such farmers could be brought to a realization of the fact that they are really deficient in knowledge it would be to their interests. Every year we witness the shipment of the products of the farm to market, where the buyer fixes the grade, although he has no experience on the farm. Farmers as a class are not business-like, for they rely too much on the judgment of others. It is not intended to imply that they should not seek the advice of others, but when the farmer surrenders everything to hard work he should begin to educate himself in every possible way to improve his chances.—Philadelphia Record.

Competition for Standard Oil.

Consul F. W. Mahin writes from Reichenberg, June 16, 1902: "The Austrian refiners of petroleum have effected an organization for export purposes. It is announced that they intend to invade France, Germany, Switzerland and Italy, and wrest those countries, if possible, from the American company which now supplies their demands for petroleum, and that they also propose contesting certain markets with Russia."

Rents are falling in Buenos Ayres.

The Okapi.

The okapi, the strange animal a short time ago discovered in Central Africa by Sir Henry Johnstone, is now thought to have been known to the ancient Egyptians. The old monuments show a socalled "animal of set," a desert quadruped variously supposed to have been a fox, a muskrat, a dog, a camel and even a fabulous animal. A study of the pictures convinces Prof. Weideman that this creature was the okapi, which early hunters exterminated in Egypt.

In Humbolt and Mendocino counties, California, there are 36 sawmills at work upon the famous redwood forests, which are gradually disappearing, the value of the output of the year 1900 being nearly $5,000,000.

Half-Sick

"I first used Ayer's Sarsaparilla in the fall of 1848. Since then I have taken it every spring as a blood-purifying and nerve-strengthening medicine."
S. T. Jones, Wichita, Kans.

If you feel run down, are easily tired, if your nerves are weak and your blood is thin, then begin to take the good old standard family medicine, Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

It's a regular nerve lifter, a perfect blood builder. $1.00 a bottle. All druggists.

Ask your doctor what he thinks of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. He knows all about this grand old family medicine. Follow his advice and we will be satisfied.
J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

Cross?

Poor man! He can't help it. It's his liver. He needs a liver pill. Ayer's Pills.

Want your moustache or beard a beautiful brown or rich black? Use
Buckingham's Dye
50 cts. of druggists or R. P. Hall & Co., Nashua, N. H.

R·I·P·A·N·S

I have been a great sufferer with piles for years, and I have tried everything I heard of, and have been in the hospital at times. I have had bleeding piles, and felt terrible. An aunt of mine came from the country to see me and she made me take Ripans Tabules. I first took two four times a day, then I took one at each meal, and then one every day. At the end of two weeks I felt a great change. I thank Ripans for relieving me of all I suffered.

At druggists.
The Five-Cent packet is enough for an ordinary occasion. The family bottle, 60 cents, contains a supply for a year.

King Edward VII. is to establish a new order, it is said, which will confer honor on distinguished women. Since the Baroness Burdett Coutts received her title no woman has been elevated to the peerage because of her philanthropic benefactions.

Concessions have just been granted to construct and run 27 branch lines of the Swedish railways. The new lines will cover a distance of 250 miles in all, and it means that Sweden will again have occasion to purchase a large quantity of rolling stock.

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TAKE NO SUBSTITUTES
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CATALOGUES FREE
SHOWING FULL LINE OF GARMENTS AND HATS
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$3 & $3.50 SHOES UNION MADE

W. L. Douglas shoes are the standard of the world.

W. L. Douglas made and sold more men's Goodyear Welt (Hand Sewed Process) shoes in the first six months of 1902 than any other manufacturer.

$10,000 REWARD will be paid to anyone who can disprove this statement.

W. L. DOUGLAS $4 SHOES CANNOT BE EXCELLED.

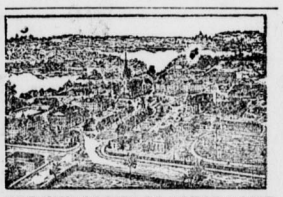
1899 sales, 1st 6 months, $1,103,820 | 1902 sales, 1st 6 months, $2,340,000

Best Imported and American leathers, Heyl's Patent Calf, Enamel, Box Calf, Calf, Vici Kid, Corona Colt, Nat. Kangaroo. Fast Color Eyelets used.

Caution! The genuine have W. L. DOUGLAS' name and price stamped on bottom.

Shoes by mail, 25c. extra. Illus. Catalog free.

W. L. DOUGLAS, BROCKTON, MASS.



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Rooms to Rent, moderate Charge to students over seventeen preparing for Collegiate Courses.

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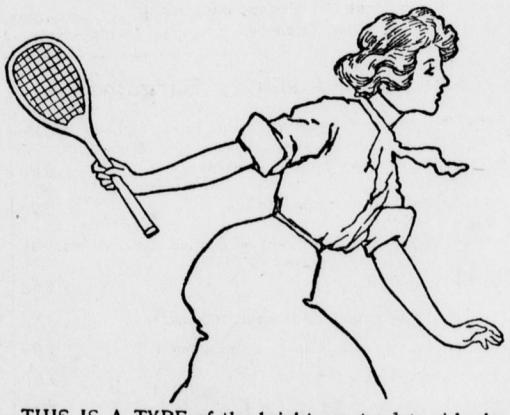

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☞ Much that all should know about the skin, scalp, and hair is told in the circular with CUTICURA SOAP.