

WOMAN R. F. D. CARRIER.

Miss Mary Cheek Has Had Rogular Route Since 1902.

Mary E. Cheek until recently was the only woman carrying mail on rural free delivery routes.



MARY E. CHEEK

She has been regular carrier from Toledo, O., since the route was established in 1902 and has been on duty winter and summer. It is hard work, but Miss Mary says she "loves" it and that she believes it has benefited her health greatly.

Best of Kitchen Bouquets.

A noted cook gives the following as the best of all kitchen bouquets: Take one onion, one celery root, one carrot, one sweet potato, one parsnip, one red pepper, one shallot and from one to four clove garlics, according to taste. Remove the seeds from the pepper, scrape the carrot and parsnip, peel the onion and potato, and chop all the vegetables very small. Mix with them large bay-leaves and a fourth of a teaspoonful of cloves, mace, cinnamon and allspice; many cooks prefer to omit the cinnamon. Mix all together and season with a teaspoonful of salt and a teaspoonful of white pepper. Put a layer of the vegetables in the bottom of a saucepan, sprinkle well with brown sugar, then add another layer of vegetables and another of sugar. Proceed in this way until all are used. Put in a quick oven when they have baked to a rich brown add half a cupful of cold water, and simmer and stir on top of the stove until a rich brown syrup has formed; it will require fifteen or twenty minutes. Strain off the syrup and bottle, corking it tightly. Keep in a cool place. A very little of this added to soups, stews or sauces will give richness both in color and flavor.—Mary Foster Snider.

TO HOLD THE WATCH.

Contrivance of Great Utility for the Hours of Night. This novel little holder for a watch is intended for hanging upon the wall by the side of a bed, and into which a watch may be slipped at night-time, and be easily seen when required.

A piece of stout cardboard of the shape shown should be used for the

The Owl Increases in Numbers. Happily the true character of owls is coming to be better understood. There are still some who regard them with awe as "death-boding," and there is testimony which cannot be gainsaid to prove that occasionally individual owls, both brown and long-eared, have been known to kill a young partridge or young pheasant. But these are young doubt exceptional cases—aberrant individuals like sneep killing dogs—while the proof is overwhelming that the generality of owls confer incalculable benefit on man by the destruction of rats and mice and moles, as well as of many species of insects which are "noxious" from the human point of view. All the British species of owl are, in the writer's opinion, now increasing in numbers, the brown owl conspicuously fast.—London Times.

The Convict Ship.

Readers of "The Convict Ship" will be interested to know that until recently one of these craft was in existence. The ship a few years ago was moored and exhibited at the Thames. It had taken to Australia between Blackfriters and Westminster in its time 137,000 poor wretches expelled from England for various offenses. The vessel sank in Sydney harbor, but was later raised and sailed to England. It had seventy-two cells, a black hole and a chapel. The ship began its voyage to Australia in 1791 and sailed eighty-one years, in that time it carried to imprisonment and exile 116,842 men and 20,319 women.

American Pictures Accepted.

Two pictures by a St. Louis sign painter have now been accepted by the Paris salon. The artist is Gustav Volk, known in St. Louis as the head of a company for decorating billboards and known in Paris as a landscape painter of rare ability and exquisite workmanship.

A Queer Selection.

"Fight the Good Fight" seems rather a sinister choice of hymns for the marriage service. Yet it is often selected.

The Wise Husband.

Bronson—I've just given \$100 for this diamond ring for my wife. Woodson—It's a beauty! But isn't it rather—er—extravagant? Bronson—Not a bit. Think what I will save in gloves!

THEY WON'T TELL THEIR AGE.

Savings Bank Clerks Have Trouble with New Women Depositors.

On the first of the year the savings banks are particularly busy with folks opening new accounts. But just because they are new accounts the depositors are not necessarily young folks. Perhaps that explains why the clerks have difficulty in getting new women depositors to tell their age.

One bank worker says it is no joke to try to get some of the women to give information about their age. They are very apt to hesitate and then to say they can't exactly recall the year in which they were born, but that their age is about so and so.

"Now, as a matter of fact, they know perfectly well the number of the year, but in the confusion when they are trying to conceal it they can't just make the right abstraction," said the bank clerk.

A Case Worth Trying.

Mr. F. Philander Towersby, a most excellent citizen, though not noted for legal prodigality, received recently a consignment of very rare Tokayer Ausbruch. He sent one bottle of the delicious wine to Justice Fordyce of the Supreme Court, who happens to be one of the most eminent connoisseurs in America, and with the bottle sent a note asking his Honor's opinion of the vintage.

Mr. Towersby received next day this reply: "My dear Sir—I beg to thank you for the confidence you repose in my judgment as shown by asking for my opinion.

"But inasmuch as I am a lawyer, many years of training and experience make it impossible for me to give an opinion on anything but a case."

Making the Thing Clear.

The superintendent of a Sunday school class in Philadelphia, recently called upon a visitor to "say a few words" to the class, the members of which are mostly children of tender age.

The visitor, a speaker well known for his verbose and circumlocutory mode of speech, began his address as follows: "This morning, children, I purpose to offer you an epitome of the life of St. Paul. It may be, perhaps, that there are among you some too young to grasp the meaning of the word epitome.

"Epitome" children, is in its signification synonymous with synopsis.

"War of Jenkins' Ear."

While the British parliament was debating the question of war with Spain in 1740 a war that was being hotly urged by the people of the southern colonies and by the colonial and English traders, one Jenkins, a sailor, appeared before parliament and exhibited one of his ears that had been cut off by the Spaniards. This turned the scale against Walpole's peace policy, and the war became known as "The War of Jenkins' Ear."

WARNING TO THE PUBLIC.

The Appleton Family Adopted the Fletcher Method of Chewing.

If any member of the Lysander John Appleton family invites you to a meal, here's a pointer: Don't accept. The Appletons are adopting the Fletcher method of chewing their food, and in order not to make any mistakes they count as they chew. This is a sample of the conversation heard at the Appleton table: "Have you heard," asks Mrs. Appleton, putting a piece of bread in her mouth, "that one, two, three, four, five, six" (counting her chews)—"a widow on North Fourth street—seven, eight, nine, ten—is to be married!" She swallows the bread and takes a bite of meat. "I guess it is really—one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve—no. Her mother—thirteen, fourteen—told me so." The bite goes down and the visitor takes a long breath. The guest hears so much counting in the next hour that he doesn't know if he is at dinner or in a kindergarten. Moreover, under Fletcherism the Appletons don't set as good a table as formerly. Their girl refused to wait two hours at every meal while they counted their chews, and quit, and Mrs. Appleton takes so much time in chewing that she has little time left for cooking.

How the Frog Changes Color.

The chameleon changes his hue with his environment. A short time ago who could venture to point out all the molecular and ethereal vibrations whereby the chain of action is made complete between external environment and peripheral tissue change? Yet Sollaud found that the which the frog harmonizes itself more or less with the color of its environment are governed by the action of two reflexes, both originating in the retina; and by his investigations he is able to map out the paths from the brain to the periphery by each of the reflexes. Now let us picture to ourselves the delicacy of this process. First, the green foliage, causing vibrations in the ether in certain wave lengths, sets up certain molecular vibrations in the retina, which, transmitted to the brain, issue forth at the periphery in such form that neither the skin nor the pigment granules in it are changed irreversibly, but certain molecular combinations are made for the time, or certain intramolecular changes of the atomic structure are set up in the pigment for the time, by virtue of which a protective color is given to the animal.

Census of the Bison.

The journal of the New York Zoological Society gives a census of the American bison, according to which, in place of all the hundreds of thousands of those animals which formerly roved the plains, only 2,947 were known to be in existence on January 1, 1905. Of these, 929 were in captivity in the United States, and 41 in Canada. Since that date the Park herd has been sold to Canada.

HOW TRACKS ARE LEVELED.

Unique Methods Used to Make Travelers Comfortable.

Curiosity is often displayed by travelers over the method employed in making rails after rails of trackage so level that scarcely an undulation can be felt as the whizzing train reels off the laps. This levelness is maintained by the "whitewash" car.

The "whitewash" car is an ordinary vehicle fitted out with a sort of whitewash machine. As the cars run over the rails at a moderate gait, the developed sense of the division officials notes any inequalities, and at each one a valve is pressed, whereat a dash of whitewash falls on the track at the points where later the working gangs get busy to make things even.

This homely "whitewash" car is giving way rapidly, however, to a more modern and scientific arrangement in the way of a handsome coach elegantly fitted out with many comforts, and in which is to be found a delicate instrument. This latter is so constructed that it registers all unevenness in the tracks on paper, which has indicated on it the mileage and names of stations along the way, so that when a run is completed it will be shown just where repairing needs to be done. The indicating sheet is sent to the proper department heads of the company, and by them the work of making the roadbed level is prosecuted.

A Punctual Penitencer.

A gentleman one day noticed a hungry-looking dog prowling round his yard, and struck by the poor brute's famished appearance, he fetched a large bone and by no means a bare one, which he threw to the four-footed vagabond. It was exactly twelve o'clock when the bone was given and carried off.

The giver thought no more of the matter, but evidently the dog did, for on the following day at the same hour he made his appearance, with an expectant look about him which told that he hoped for a further contribution.

Amused at the effort to establish himself as an out-pensioner, and desirous of knowing whether the dog's arrival at this particular time was a mere chance, the gentleman gave him a second supply of food.

Punctual to time, the dog presented himself on the third, looking even more confident than before. He was duly fed, and for a great length of time this self-selected penitencer made his daily appearance at his patron's door with notable punctuality.

One is led to wonder whether the dog may have regulated his own movements by observing those of some individual in going to and from his work, and whether when the four-footed animal was a few minutes late it might be because the big was unpunctual or his clock slow.

Famous Woman Explorer.

Mrs. Marie Robinson Wright of Georgia is believed to hold the record for having accomplished more in the way of penetrating countries hitherto unknown than any other living woman, with the possible exception of Mrs. Fanny Bullock Workman. She is called by some "the Columbus of South America," from the fact that she, undaunted by hardships and perils in the countries she has visited, has opened to the pioneers of trade and commerce a new paradise that blooms south of the equator, where untold wealth awaits development at the hands of civilized man. She estimates that she has traveled 200,000 miles in pursuit of her work.

The French Schoolboy's Hard Day.

French children are often on their way to school a little earlier in the morning. If they have concluded their lessons by 9 o'clock in the evening it is only by dint of great application. Young men studying for the higher professions have appointments with their tutors at 5 o'clock in the morning in summer time; otherwise they cannot accomplish the mountain of work that lies before them. In all branches of art the labor of the tyro is immense. At the Conservatoire the student is carried to a point which provokes the astonishment even of laborious German students.

Special Stomach for Specifics.

Royal households receive all manner of beautiful and curious gifts, many of which are not accepted. When the Prince and Princess of Wales were about to start on a tour round the world, all sorts of antidotes for seasickness were received. One drug-gist sent hundreds of anti-seasick powders, one of which was to be taken on every day while at sea. The prince said, "If this fellow expects me to take these special powders, he should have sent along a special stomach as well."

Swift-Flying Pigeons.

B. A. Fox, of Hunt's Mills, Me., tells of a pair of pigeons with a record of flying from Minneapolis to Boston in fifty hours without taking a morsel of food on the trip. For the last thousand miles they flew in the teeth of a fierce snowstorm. He has another pair of the same breed as those that flew from the balloon of Andre, the Swedish north pole explorer, and several pairs that can make nearly a mile a minute.

Real Cold.

An American and a Scotsman were discussing the cold experienced in winter in the north of Scotland. "Why, it's nothing at all compared to the cold weather we have in the States," said the American. "I can recollect one winter when a sheer jumping from a hillock into a field became suddenly frozen on the way and stuck in the air like a mass of ice."

A Bird School of Languages.

In Paris is a school in which parrots are not only taught to speak "pure Parisian," but in which they are instructed in "the leading languages of Europe." What an interesting babel they must make together when school is dismissed! It is not stated that a way has been found to make the unappreciated "parrot talk" less intelligible and more melodious than the usual speech of parrots.

THE CONJURER CONFESSES.

He is Deliberate in Action Thus Producing Deceptive Effects.

That "the hand is quicker than the eye" is one of those accepted sayings invented by some one who knew nothing of conjuring—or, as is more likely, of some cunning conjurer who aimed still further to hoodwink a gullible public. The fact is that the best conjurer seldom makes a rapid motion, for that attracts attention, even though it be not understood. The true artist in this line is deliberate in every movement, and it is mainly by his actions that he leads his audience to look not where they ought, but in an entirely different direction.

Mr. David Devant, who for a number of consecutive years has entertained London with his ingenious tricks, has said: "The conjurer must be an actor. By the expression of his face, by his gestures, by the tone of his voice, in short, by his acting, he must produce his effects."

Women as Mayors.

America had women as mayors before England, Australia or even New Zealand. In the four States where women have full suffrage it is not rare for women to be elected as mayors in small cities and give good service. A woman was mayor of Taylor, Kan., for two terms and declined a third election. She guided herself on the fact that more miles of sidewalk were laid in her administration than in that of any previous mayor. Her husband always expressed himself as pleased that she should hold the office, and even her worst enemies never said that she neglected her children or the duties of her household. The office kept her busy about an hour each day.

Japanese Story Tellers.

The professional story teller is a good deal of an artist in his way. He knows how to select or originate short, popular tales, and how to relate them in dramatic fashion. The lowest class of story tellers who will find seats on the street-corners with a crowd of eavesdroppers around them. The higher class are formed into guilds, and these are hired to go to private parties to amuse the guests. Sometimes they will be in demand at two or three houses in one evening, that picking up several dollars. Unless he can earn his living by his recitals, the teller cannot become a member of the guild. Translations from English tales are now extremely popular with the Japanese.

Kipling His Own Critic.

"I was sitting with Kipling in his garden at Rottengrad when a street organ struck up 'The Absent Minded Beggar.' Kipling was silent one moment, and then he said, 'If it was not outside I would kill the man who wrote that.' This interesting revelation was made by the Rev. J. C. Harria, pastor of Kingston Congregational Church, in a lecture on Kipling. It was hard to believe, he said, that the man who could write 'The Recessional' could descend to the level of 'Pay! Pay! Pay!' No man was more keenly alive to his own blunders than Kipling.

An Inopportune Interruption.

Prof. Brandon Matthews, the brilliant writer and teacher, was discussing literary quaintness at Columbia. In illustration of the quaint, he said: "A little girl I know was very bad one day. She was so bad that other corrections failing, her mother took her to her room to whip her. "During this proceeding, the little girl's older brother opened the door and was about to enter. But in her prone position, across her mother's knee, the little girl twisted round her head and said severely: "'Eddie, go out! Can't you see we're busy?'"

Liquid Sheep.

A business communication in Arabic recently reached a Manchester firm, and when translated by a Syrian interpreter proved to contain a request for the price of coppering "two water sheep" of certain given dimensions. The translator was confident of his version, but admitted that he did not know what "water sheep" could be. For the moment even the heads of the firm were puzzled, until it struck some one that this was the nearest synonym in the vocabulary of a pastoral people for "hydraulic rams."—Manchester Guardian.

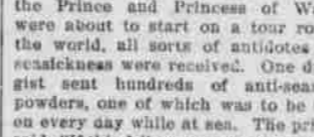
Life.

Report by a young English school-girl of a lecture on "Phases of Human Life—Youth, Manhood, and Age": "In youth we look forward to the wicked things we will do when we grow up—this is the state of innocence. In manhood we do the wicked things of which we thought in our youth—this is the prime of life. In old age we are sorry for the wicked things we did in manhood—this is the time of our dotage."

A Woman's Unique Distinction.

Dr. Wenteckova, a Russian, who studied and received her degree at Zurich, has accepted a report in a Vienna paper, received an appointment as a member of the faculty of the University of Moscow. The woman who has received this unique distinction, has made pathology her special study. Her appointment is especially remarkable because the university which extended the call to her admits no women as students.

60 YEARS' EXPERIENCE



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FATHER KNEW WHAT TO DO.

A Child in a Subway Train Who Cried Once Too Often.

An Italian with his wife and two little children got into a New York subway train bound uptown. There were seats enough, so the wife with one child in arms sat down. The man, carrying the other infant, prepared to take a seat.

The moment he sat down the little girl in his arms set up a cry. She wouldn't stop until the man got up. For a time, as long as he remained standing, she was quiet. The moment he started again to be seated she wailed again.

So he had to remain standing. The child then reached for the cord by which the signals are given from car to car. It was too high above her head, so she cried again.

The father tried to divert her attention to the straps as being more worthy of her notice. But she wouldn't be appeased. What was he to do? Soon answered. He turned the baby over his knee as he sat down firmly and gave her something to cry for. A shocked look came over that little girl's face and then, after a few last howls, she was very silent.

A Narrow Escape.

When Mr. Hartman returned an hour later than usual, Mrs. Hartman asked him the reason, and his good-natured face was solemn as he said: "I had had one narrow escape from drowning. Katchen," he said. "How was that happen?" asked his wife, as she helped him unwind the knitted scarf from his neck. "Tell to me it at once, Hans."

"It was at the ferry that I came late," said Mr. Hartman, "from the blocked cars, and the boat she was just starting. A man he called me 'Jumps!' 'Jumps!' and for one moment I thought to make as he said. But I reminded myself to be cautious, and wait, and in one minute more, Katchen, came a great patch of water showing! Then I took hold of the post where I stood, and said to myself, 'Hans, you were the wise man that you jumped not at first when that man advised.'"

The Clarinet.

The clarinet has the richest, sweetest voice of all the wood-wind instruments, although its sound does not travel quite so far as that of the oboe. Whenever an occasion happens, there are two melodies to be played at once, the clarinet takes the lower of the two, while the violin plays the upper and more important one. But in a military band, where there are strings at all, the clarinet plays the chief melody. The bass clarinet is not so smooth or so sweet as the higher ones. It has a rather chokey sound, though softer than that of the saxophone. "From the Drum of the Saracen to the Great Orchestra" in St. Nicholas.

Physicians Have long been looking for a harmless headache cure.

It has been produced by an eminent chemist of the National Capital. It is known as BROMO-PEPSIN. Besides curing, every form of headache instantly, Bromo Pepsin is equally and as promptly efficacious in chronic and acute indigestion and the nervous disorders incident thereto. It is as efficacious and pleasant to take and may be had of all up-to-date druggists at ten cents a bottle. It comes as a boon to mankind and womankind. For sale at C. O. Armstrong, Druggist.

NOTICE.

The Commissioners of Pike County will hereafter hold Regular Meetings the first Monday of each month, between the hours of 9 a. m. and 4 p. m. excepting in the months when Court may be in session, and then during Court THEO. H. BAKER, Commissioners Clerk

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