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A sword in the Dijon museum has just been identified as that used by Joan of Arc and presented to her by Charles VII. of France. On one side of the hilt is engraved a figure kneeling before a cross and the inscription "Charles VII." while the other side bears the name "Vaucouleurs." The sword also bears the arms of France and of the town of Orleans and the date 1419.

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HIS HASTY LUNCH

By Mabel Claire Smith

Sam Elwood was a very big, very bashful and very good looking young fellow of perhaps twenty-three years. He lived with his father and mother on a Missouri farm and, since a paralytic stroke had permanently disabled the elder man two years before, the work of the 200-acre place had fallen into Sam's capable hands. The one thing Sam feared was a girl.

"If any girl wants Sam she'll have to do the courting," Mrs. Elwood once remarked, unaware that the youth in question was within earshot. Sam'd never in this world screw his courage to the popping point.

This assertion was so true that Sam's ears tingled whenever he thought of it. It had grown to be a very sensitive matter by the time a distant connection of the family came to visit at the farm.

When he heard that the visitor was a young lady he groaned in anguish of mind. He planned to keep out of her way as much as was possible, eating his breakfast from the pantry shelves, taking his dinner to the field with him and skimming for his supper. He didn't know just how he could avoid sitting at table with her on Sunday. He thought seriously of staying in bed all of Sunday. The one objection to that was the extra trouble it would cause his mother. She would not understand his indisposition when he had never been ill since his babyhood. Still, if nothing better occurred, Sam resolved to have a headache the first Sunday, at least.

"Sammy, it's a shame you act so unbecomable," remonstrated his mother, at the end of the first week when the only glimpse of himself Sam had permitted the guest was two inches of vanishing countess, out of the kitchen door, the third morning after her arrival.

"Virginia Dare is a mighty nice girl without a speck of harm in her whole little body. She helps me about the housework and rubs your pa's back and chirks him up as if she was an own daughter. I wish you could get acquainted with her, Sammy. She talks real pleasant about you."

"Shucks!" muttered Sam, his ears tingling familiarly as he grabbed a paper bag of small cakes from the pantry shelf and fled upstairs, a light step outside the kitchen door having warned him of the need of haste in his supper raid. "Got to fill up the hollows with cookies tonight, I guess," he sighed, when the door was safely shut



"Ma's Getting Real Fancy in Her Old Age."

and he was gingerly examining the unusually tidy appearance of his room. "Ma's getting real fancy in her old age," he commented, staring respectfully at the crisp white curtain tied back with rose-patterned ribbon at both sides of the window.

"The bed's punched up some, too," he went on, as he turned back the covers. "Jiminy! Clean sheets and pillow cases when I haven't had them on more'n a week! Ma certainly is getting fxy. I guess I'd better scrub up some to match the other clean things. Lucky ma remembered to put some towels in here. Blessed if she didn't fill up the water pitcher, too! I'll have to tell her not to do that any more. I'm plenty able to pack up my own wash water. Ma's got enough work to do waiting on pa and that girl without wearing herself to frazzles looking after me."

Shaking his curly brown head reprovingly, Sammy made his toilet and, attired in a frilled night dress which his mother had made for him with her own fingers and which he wore sorely against his wishes merely to avoid hurting the good woman's feelings, crept himself on the edge of the bed and began to consume his cakes.

He crunched and munched away for several minutes before he noticed anything peculiar about the cakes. He had swallowed three of them and was trying to masticate the fourth. Somehow, that fourth cake did not appeal to him. None of them were good, but Sam had made allowances for his mother's forgetfulness about putting in sugar, or baking powder, or salt

more than once before, so he had crunched away with cheerful resignation on these.

"Jiminy!" muttered Sam, hastily putting the uncasten cakes on the nearby stand. "I feel as if I'd been eating soap and meal; flavored with beer! What in time made ma bake cookies like those? Ah-h! I'm feeling awful queer—sort of sick and puffed up and funny all over! Jiminy! I'd give a dollar if I dared sneak down to ma's room and ask her for something to take. That girl sleeps right across the hall from ma, though. She'd see me sure as fate. Ah-h! I'm sicker-every minute!"

By this time Sam was rolling about in his bed, groaning with pain and nausea. His head was hot and his feet and hands were cold. He could not get up for the swimming sensation in his head, and all he could do to help himself was to groan and toss from one side to the other.

In the intervals of his groaning spells he thought he heard some one moving quickly about in his parents' room just beneath his. He wondered if his mother had heard him and was coming to his relief. In anguish of body and mind he strained his ears to catch the sound of approaching steps.

"Come in," he called, weakly, when the longed-for knock sounded on the door. "Do hurry, for mercy's sake!"

The door swung slowly open, as if the knocker was strangely reluctant to enter. A figure, rather hastily arrayed in a blue kimono sprinkled with roses, her hair hanging in two thick yellow braids down her back and her feet encased in small blue velvet slippers, stood on the threshold, a candle in one white hand and a bottle and spoon in the other.

"Oh," she exclaimed, the color rushing over her small, flower-like face as she met Sam's horrified stare. "Your mother was called to sit up with a sick neighbor an hour ago, and your father called me a minute ago to see what was the trouble with you. He said he had heard you groaning and tumbling around for some time, and he feared you were ill. You know your father is confined to his bed, so he could not come up here himself. Oh, you are ill, I'm sure!"

she cried, a quick change coming over her as she noticed for the first time since her arrival the glassiness of his eyes and the scarlet flush in his face. "Let me feel your pulse!"

In a few swift steps she reached the bed and placed her cool fingers for a brief space on his brawny wrist. Next she felt the clamminess of his hands and the heat of his head, her manner growing more and more concerned.

"What have you been eating?" she presently asked, taking up the paper sack and examining the contents. "Mercy on us!" she gasped, looking wonderingly toward the patient. "Surely you knew better than to eat yeast cakes!"

"Yeast cakes!" thickly muttered Sam, in astonishment. "I thought they were funny. Sure to rise, I guess," he added, with a forlorn attempt at a joke.

The girl said no more. Her energies were occupied in dosing the patient with mustard and warm water, applying hot water bottles to his feet and an ice water bag to his head.

At the end of a strenuous hour Sam was resting much better and his nurse felt safe in leaving him for the remainder of the night.

What Sam's experience taught him, during the time he lay there, tormented with pain, watching the sympathetic face of the zealous little nurse as she flew in and out of the room with hot water, mustard, and one thing and another for his betterment, was evinced by his conduct toward the young visitor during the remainder of her stay.

"Looks mighty like Sam was sprucing up like other fellows, ma," remarked Sam's father, after his son had spent 15 minutes before the hall mirror in a vain endeavor to get his tie to suit him. "I don't know but what he'll be plenty able to do his own courting by the time Virginia comes again."

And Sam, with tingling ears, stoutly intimated his opinion that he would.

ANCIENT TOOTHACHE CURES

Treatments Used by the Old Romans in Curing and Preventing Such Ills.

If it be true that ancient remedies are always the best, it may be of interest to those afflicted with dental troubles to know how the ancient Romans dealt with such ills. The Quirites recognized two types of treatment, the magical and the medical. The following—we quote the Hospital—are some of the prescriptions advised by the magicians: Take the head of a dog that has died of rabies, mix the ash with oil of cyprus and inject the product into the ear of the affected side. A water snake's vertebrae will serve to scarify the gum provided that it be obtained from a white-skinned snake. Or for the same purpose may be used a lizard's frontal bone obtained when the moon is full, or, if that fail, a chicken bone will do, provided that it be dried in a hole in the wall and thrown away immediately after use. It is good treatment to inject into the ear oil of lemon, in which has been macerated either mallow bugs or sparrow's dung, even should this last give rise to itching. A worm fed on a particular herb or a cabbage caterpillar can conveniently be placed in a hollow tooth, but it is equally simple to chew an adder's heart. Prevention being better than cure, a sovereign preventive will be found in the eating of two rats a month

What You Make It.

Life in itself is neither good nor evil; it is the scene of good or evil, as you make it; and if you have lived a long day, you have seen all. One day is equal and like all other days; there is no other light, no other night. This very sun, this moon, these very stars, this very order and revolution of things, are all the same your ancestors enjoyed, and that shall also entertain your posterity.—Montaigne: Essays.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets regulate and invigorate, stomach, liver and bowels. Sugar-coated, tiny granules, easy to take as candy.

Number "30" Under Ban.

A curious reminiscence of the treason of Judas survives in Belgium. Among the fisher folk of Blankenberghe and other ports the number of 30 is banned. When bringing down the price of their wares in order to tempt purchasers, they always pass from 31 sous to 29 sous, and in the same way they refuse to give 30 sous for any purchase, preferring to pay an extra sou, if they cannot succeed in abating the price asked.

Don't cringe—don't flinch, Should fortune pinch And all seem lost; With might and main, TRY, TRY again At any cost.

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I AM taking the above text for the reason that I want to instill into the people self-reliance, self-ability, self-sovereignty. I want every person to feel that they are above deception, hatred, selfishness, jealousy, envy or revenge. I want the person who is pinched by poverty, who has suffered great reverses, who is weighted down with some great sorrow to become acquainted with the reasoning power of Hope. I want them to take Hope as a companion, as a counselor, as a friend, as a medicine, for Hope is an ambassador from God. It is a teacher that shows us the beautiful. It fills our souls with songs and our tongues with praise.



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History.

What is history but a registry of the successes and disappointments, the vicissitudes, the follies, the quarrels of those who engage in contention for power?—Paley.

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Measuring a Field.

The area of any rectangular piece of land, that is, one the corners of which are square, is obtained by multiplying the length by the breadth

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A Boston girl who was watching a farmer milk a cow adjusted her glasses and said: "It is all very plain except that I don't understand how you turn it off."

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A certain small maiden had set her heart on having a turtle for a pet, and, giving her father final instructions as to be set off on a southern journey, urged him to "Please be sure to get a great big lady turtle that will born a lot of baby turtles right away."

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Nature Lover's Anniversary.

John James Audubon, the naturalist, was born May 4, 1782, and the following, from his autobiography, explains his love for all of nature: "The productions of nature soon became my playmates. I felt that an intimacy with them not consisting of friendship merely, but bordering on frenzy, must accompany my steps through life."

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Gallery of Old Roman Villa.

A subterranean gallery filled with ancient statues still standing on their original pedestals was the startling and interesting discovery accidentally made a few days ago at Genzano, near Lake Nemi, Italy. The gallery is partially choked with loose earth and rubbish and the statues have not yet been identified. Evidently the gallery belonged to a Roman villa or a temple.

Escaped Death Thirteen Times.

John H. Rice of North Hempstead, L. I., on his thirteenth escape from death, the last time in an auto accident, remarked that he was a lucky man. Here are some of the things that have happened to him: Left leg cut off by train, shot out eye cleaning a revolver, lost an arm by fall from a tree, was saved three times from drowning.

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