

THE OBSERVER

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A PEST MAKES GOOD.

For a long time those people who wondered why Providence made snakes and mosquitoes also made guesses as to the purpose in the universal scheme of things of the prickly pear. Was it created for desert landscape gardening? It seemed possible that it might have some utility for mankind concealed about its ungainly form.

In South Africa someone got the idea, several years ago, that stock would feed on the prickly pear and cactus was imported in quantity. A severe disappointment awaited the cattlemen. The prickly pear flourished in such abundance and with such rapidity as to put to shame the proverbial green bay tree; but as food for stock it was about as good as dog biscuit for humans.

Not long ago there was a severe drought in South Africa. The grass was burned up by the sun. The stock were threatened with famine. Only the prickly pear seemed to like the dry heat. Its stalks seemed to convert the parched soil into moist vegetable tissue.

Meanwhile in another place where the supply of wood pulp was low, someone decided to try cactus fiber in the manufacture of paper. He claims that his product was of very satisfactory quality. Now the South African government has decided to look at the prickly pear as a very interesting plant.

STARVATION IN SYRIA.

It never has paid to be a Christian in Turkey, or the domains ruled by her. The pitiful history of Armenia

has aroused indignation in Christian lands and has brought protests which the Turk often promised to heed, and heeded not. The latest victims of the Turkish religio-political hatred are the Christians of Syria, who are reported as starving while Turkey makes no response to offers of American relief.

Asiatic Turkey, hemmed in by the Russians on the east, the British on the west, the Arabian deserts on the south, the Black sea on the north, may be described as being in about the same state of siege as is Germany. But unlike Germany she has neither the resources nor the organization to feed her inhabitants.

Three times has the United States offered aid, and still the Turkish government shows no disposition to allow help to penetrate to the unfortunates. Now word has gone to Constantinople that further disregard of our offers is likely to strain our relations with the sublime porte.

SOUTH AMERICA FOR TOURISTS.

Now that war prevents travel in Europe, Africa comes to the front with inducements. Egypt and the Nile valley are temporarily closed to pleasure seeking tourists, but they are not all Africa. There is a vast region almost unknown to Americans, possessed of a fine summer climate when we are shoveling snow, and full of interesting objects of nature.

South Africa is taking advantage of its opportunities. Word comes that a new hotel has been erected at Victoria Falls, the most marvelous cataract in the world, where the Zambesi river, a mile wide, pours its waters over a ledge 400 feet high into a narrow gorge, where its shattering spray forms a dense mist which won for the fall its native African name signifying "thundering smoke."

Chicago's record for June brides was broken. Marriage is the one game that all people are sure they can succeed in.

Germany and France are killing off all non-producing dogs as useless consumers. Are they maintaining the family gold fish still?

And it is said that moving picture theatres drove 600 saloons out of

business last year. Notwithstanding this great work we still wish she'd let us stay home a night or two.

The Earl Wasn't Such a Bad Scout.

London, July 2.—(By mail)—An Earl isn't a bad sort of scout at all. Joseph Eichwald, a San Francisco tobacco salesman, called the Earl of Limerick "Earl," invited him to "have a little something" and got away with it while astonished Britishers gaped in amazement. Further than that, the dice-box being handy, he taught the Earl to shoot craps and learned from him an equally fascinating British pastime with the dice. It happened aboard the American liner St. Louis, from New York to Liverpool, Eichwald, long on conviviality but short on formal English etiquette, spied His Grace seated at a green-covered table in the smoking room. Two friends were with him. "I'd like to ask the Earl to have a drink," he confided to his traveling companions. "Well, why don't you?" asked one of them. Eichwald did. "Hey, Earl," he called across the room. "Have a drink?" The Earl would, when he recovered from the momentary shock, and moved over to the American's table to have it. Eichwald's companions, an Australian and an American from St. Louis, began nudging the dice for sevens, "evens and "points" pair tuppence apiece. Then he talked co-star in the little smoking-room skit, seized the bones and faded the pair tuppence apiece. Then he talked to the dice. "Oh-h-h! Ba-aby dice! Tum over fo' pop-ah!" he pleaded. "Mm-mm, Dice! Oh—seven." His Grace leaned over the table, watching the bones intently, trying to "make" the game. It was beyond him and Eichwald explained that "if you make seven or eleven on the first roll, you win; two, three or twelve you lose the 'fade' but not the dice" and on down through the intricacies of the negro game. Then the Earl took the bones and the quartet shot an imaginative game in this method, with 50,000 pounds at stake on each turn, Eichwald scarcely downing an impulse to slap him on the back and call him "Limmy." No, indeed; an Earl isn't a bad sort at all. The Earl of Limerick is a little round man, with a partly exposed pate, a sorrel, close-cropped beard and mustache and an inborn aversion to the poetical metre bearing the name of his line. Limericks, he said, were not invented by him, though wherever he visits he is called upon to tax his ingenuity to devise jingles about people whose names simply are not rhyme-able. "I have just been touring part of the States," he said. "I went to Newport and got as far west as Philadelphia. Next time I come over I am going to visit a gentleman in Dallas, banker who tells me Texas is a beautiful state. I am also going to visit the Grand Canyon and that valley I've heard so much about; the Yosemite."

Dixon Denounces Parents.

The present habit of turning night into day in our highly illuminated towns with all sorts of exciting entertainments keeps the nerves keyed high and upsets the equilibrium. Children especially are apt to suffer from late hours. For the first two years of life, eating and sleeping are the two great essentials. Babies should sleep from 15 to 20 hours out of the 24 and other children from 10 to 14 hours. It is not an unusual thing to see babies in arms or very young children being carried about until their parents' bed time. This is injurious to the children and cannot be made up by additional rest the next day.

Permitting children to remain up late is a strain on their nervous system which, while it may not be immediately apparent, is bound to exert a detrimental influence in the long run. Oftentimes the ill effects are perfectly apparent to the intelligent observer. Irritableness and any of the train of evils which result from an over-taxed nervous system may result from continually robbing the child of sleep. A regular bed time should be set for children according to their age, ranging from 6 o'clock for babies to 8 o'clock for children of eight or nine and this should be regularly adhered to. This is a matter of the utmost importance in establishing a sturdy constitution in childhood.

With adults, irregularity and short hours of sleep are often a factor which pre-disposes to ill health. Occasionally one will find an individual who has an unusual capacity for work with less than the ordinary amount of rest, but for the ordinary man or woman this would end disastrously.

Organized Sneezers Preparing For Convention

Bethlehem, N. H., July 27.—Nobody nose how many members of the National Hay Fever association will attend the annual convention up here in the White Mountains August 31. But there are 200,000 sneezers, sneezers and sneezettes enrolled and a good many thousand of them will be here, from all over the country. According to the report of President John R. Pinover, these sneezers sneeze some seventy-three sneezes a day for an average of forty-one sneezey days a year. This gives us 6 billion, 3 million, 200 thousand and sneezes to look forward to this year. Most of these young explosions will as usual wait until they catch their victims in the middle of the preacher's prayer or some place like that before demanding expression. In volume of noise these sneezers

New Silk Petticoats
They have just arrived and their variety in style, color and price is interesting! Of taffeta, flounced and frilled and ruffled to hold milady's skirt a little fuller!
New shades of blue, wisteria, gait, and emerald green, reds, navy and black—many in changeant effects, to harmonize with the new Summer costumes. Priced at \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00, \$6.50
JUST RECEIVED
An Assortment of Striking Motor Veils
In ever color of the rainbow with self colored borders—large one, 2 yards long. Priced \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2.25
Ahoy! New Middy Blouses
Entirely different than anything ever shown before. All white middy material with collar, cuffs, pockets and belt cretonne. Buttoned down the front—giving the new Russian blouse effect. Only a limited number of these stunning new blouses. Priced \$1.75
Henderson Corsets
Reflect the Newest and Latest Ideas in Authentic Corset Styles
It is not only woman's privilege but her duty to dress stylishly tho not necessarily expensively, because—
When she is fitted in one of the new Henderson Corsets her gown will be conspicuous for it's attractive lines.
The successful dress pays tribute to the corset worn underneath. Henderson back and front laced corsets are designed for every style of figure and any woman can be properly and correctly fitted. Ask to see the new styles that we have recently received of Henderson Back and Front Laced Models, at \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00 and upwards.
"NEMO" Corsets \$3.75 to \$5.00
M. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE



The Careful Man and his wife
pat their money in the bank where it is safe from fire, burglars and their own temptation to spend it.
HUSBAND AND WIFE BOTH SHOULD SAVE MONEY. WHAT'S THE GOOD FOR ONE TO SAVE AND THE OTHER TO SPEND.
JUST ASK YOURSELF TODAY: "WHO GETS THE MONEY I EARN?" DO I GET IT OR DOES SOMEBODY ELSE GET IT? IF SOMEBODY ELSE IS GETTING IT CUT HIM OFF. YOU EARNED YOUR MONEY; IT BELONGS TO YOU. KEEP IT. BE A CAREFUL MAN AND BANK YOUR MONEY.
BANK WITH US
WE PAY 4 PER CENT INTEREST
6 1/2 % Money for Improved Farm Loans
La Grande National Bank
LA GRANDE, OREGON
Capital \$200,000.00, Surplus \$50,000.00, Resources \$1,000,000.00
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The Mothers
Bright Finish
THERE is always a charm and individuality about the old spoons which the early makers forged and wrought by hand. Absolutely plain, bright polished silverware is always rich and impressive and in our Mothers Patten we have given the look of chasteness and dignity which the hand wrought spoon had. Designed from a very old pattern it is a perfect reproduction of the style our forefathers used and loved so well, and meets the demand in every way for a plain, bright finished Colonial pattern.
Made in Sterling Silver only, and stamped with the Trade Mark: Lion, Anchor and letter G.
Expected to Top Western League.
Omaha, Neb., July 27.—If O. M. Jinx doesn't blight all chances, the Omaha team in the Western league will be topping the circuit when the season closes, the dope sheet indicates today. With six pitchers working



Made in Sterling Silver only, and stamped with the Trade Mark: Lion, Anchor and letter G.



Which insures quality and purity of design
Siegrist & Co.