

THE WEST SIDE.

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"Now, Mary," said the latter, as the pupil took her place in the class, "I told you yesterday to ask your mother to mend your dress. Why didn't you do as I told you?"

The child hesitated a moment, then meekly said: "Please, teacher, mother goes to church every evening and says that she has got no time to fix things for me."

The teacher blushed—yes, blushed for the mother who parades her religion and neglects her home—but said not a word.

This is a very actual fact, says the *Minneapolis Tribune*. The incident occurred in one of the public schools in this city recently. Are there many mothers like this in the city, that boasts of her scholarly preachers, her churches and schools?

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TOURIST SLEEPING CARS.

In the average barber shop of Germany you are seated in a rude chair, with mysterious arrangements for the head which you never feel quite in the right place and the officiating artist wields his razor about your face with a vehement vigor that you can understand should kind, nervous prostration in one who had disturbed his nerve centers by forms of industry not commended by medical advisers. The friction of the swift razor, keenly wiping the skin, is, however, sufficient to fix the attention of the patient closely and spare him from imaginary evils.

One accidental young German of my acquaintance could shave the average six-beeper of the razor. I have known him to do this, and when the deed was done he seemed to think his work was accomplished, but, on being admonished that the situation was unsatisfactory, he would dip the corner of a towel, not selected from a pile of fresh ones, in a shallow basin of water and rub the sharply-cleaned and smarting cheeks softly twice, using three fingers each time. When any-thing was done, he would say, "I have done it," and the application of "vinegar," an aromatic and pungent fluid, which makes a distinct impression on the skin just rasped. That young man could never be induced to dress the hair unless after cutting or shampooing. There was a small comb in the neighborhood that the customer was at liberty to apply to his own locks, and that finished the proceedings. It is proper to say that the price of the operation was only 5 cents, and that the shave, though rapid and rough, was not bad in itself, while the artist was in his non-professional capacity, a truly pleasant youth, who palated in water colors when unoccupied by his trapping trade.—*Marat Hinkley*.

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LEPROSY.

How It Raged in Europe During the Middle Ages.

We have no certain knowledge as to the manner in which leprosy was conveyed into Europe, says the *Fortnightly Review*, but there is evidence to the effect that in the last century before Christ it had established itself in the Roman empire. Its subsequent spread throughout Europe can easily be accounted for; wherever the Roman eagles went the germs of the disease went necessarily to accompany them.

From this source Spain, France and Germany sooner or later became infected, and enable us to trace the progress of the maldy in Europe during several hundreds of years. The records that were taken to check its spread in the seventh and following centuries sufficiently indicate the alarming frequency of the disease and the virulent character it had assumed.

Leprosy hospitals would appear to have been established in Norway somewhat later than in other European countries. History tells us that in the Frankish kingdom these institutions were founded in the eighth and ninth centuries, in Ireland about the year 800, in Spain in 1007, in England in the eleventh century, in Scotland and the Netherlands in the twelfth, and in Norway in the thirteenth century. During and after the crusades, leprosy spread with extraordinary rapidity, and leper hospitals were rapidly multiplied all over Europe.

It is estimated that in the twelfth century there were 2,000 such hospitals in France alone, and 19,000 in the whole of Europe. The terrible ravages of the disease that it seemed as though some antipathic new plague had been sent to punish mankind. Indeed some historians have asserted that the leprosy of the middle ages was introduced for the first time from the east by those who returned from the crusades. As a matter of fact, however, leper hospitals existed in England some years before any of the crusaders retraced their steps westward. The soldiers of the crusades undoubtedly brought with them many cases of severe leprosy, and an extremely virulent form of this became ingrained upon the disease already prevalent throughout Europe.

Will We Have American Quinine?

Adolph Sutro is trying the experiment of raising cinchona trees in the grounds above the Cliff House. It is from the bark of about a dozen varieties of this tree that quinine is extracted, and if they will thrive in this climate the trees will become very valuable.

Moreover, the cinchona is a very showy tree and highly ornamental, some of them growing to a height of eighty feet. The enormous medicinal consumption of the bark of cinchona has caused the tree to be extensively cultivated in India and Java. It grows in high altitudes in New Grenada, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia, where there is a great deal of moisture. It has been tried in America in Arizona, Florida, near the seacoast, and Mr. Sutro thinks some of the varieties will grow here, where there is a moisture in the atmosphere all the year round.—*San Francisco Examiner*.

An Odd Industry.

Mme. Vanard, a poor woman in Paris, arrived at competency by collecting orange peel, and thereby not only helped herself, but gave occupation to others. She became a rich person, a great benefactor to the poor, and a habitué of the opera. Her husband was a distiller of spirits, and when he died she tried for some time to carry on the distillery alone, but without success.

Talking over matters one day with a friend, she said to him: "I have a friend, who was much struck with a remark that he made, to the effect that there was a fortune to be realized in the orange and lemon peel which was daily thrown away by the hundreds of thousands of people who habitué of the opera. Her husband was a distiller of spirits, and when he died she tried for some time to carry on the distillery alone, but without success.

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