

# Stayton Standard

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## EARLY BRIDGE BUILDING.

Ancient Babylon Seems to Have Been the Pioneer in the Art.

Bridge building is one of the ancient arts, though no definite record of a permanent bridge appears before 2200 B. C. This was the time of Nimrod, the third ruler after Noah. The river Euphrates flowed most inconveniently through the city of Babylon, so the decree went forth that a structure be devised to cross the stream. The result was an arched bridge of brick 600 feet long and 30 feet wide.

Some thousand years later Nitocris, then queen of the Babylonians, seeking something new to occupy her mind, decided that another bridge was needed to handle the vast crowds which thronged to that city of mystery. Her engineers were consulted, and, marvel of marvels, a wooden bridge resting on stone piers made its appearance, the first of its kind in the history of the world! The stones in the piers were fastened together with huge chains of iron, with melted lead poured into the crevices.

While the problem to the eyes of the modern engineer would appear trivial, it was a vast undertaking in those days, so marvelous, in fact, that the course of the entire river was changed in order that the engineers might view the foundations on which the arches were to rest. Herodotus records that the bridge was of equal magnificence with the rest of the buildings of Babylon.

Aside from these, no bridges of importance seem to have been built in Asia Minor, with one possible exception. The fabled Colossus of Rhodes is thought by some historians to have been a bridge, but as no remains have ever been found there is only theory to support the claim.—Edison Monthly.

## A SERBIAN BARGAIN.

In This Sale the Buyer Had It About All Her Own Way.

In her book "Experiences of a Woman Doctor in Serbia" Dr. Caroline Matthews tells how she had set her heart on acquiring one of the gayly embroidered canvas bags used by the Serb peasant girls for marketing. They could not be bought at a shop, and the country folk were not tempted to surrender them for any reasonable price.

"I met a man leading a pack horse, and on that horse were strung some bags, and one of those bags was a glorious color, new and fresh. Have that for me, I would! So I went into the middle of the road and quietly stopped the man."

"The man seemed amazed and rather inclined to resent being brought personally to a standstill. I launched forth in very halting Serbian, on the weather, on the pony, and then out came my cigarette case and we were friends. 'Only one of the mad English!' I suppose the fellow thought."

"The moment was ripe. I raised the bag, emptied the parcels on the saddle and, placing some money beside them, looked at the man in a friendly way. He smiled. 'A new kind of game,' he thought. 'Without a word I held out my hand. In Serbia when a bargain is concluded in the selling of a horse or cattle the men shake hands and so make the bargain legal. It is quite a little ceremonial. My new friend took my hand. The deed was done. The bag was mine.'"

## Story of Empress Eugenie.

Of one of the visits the Empress Eugenie made to the Paris hospitals during the cholera plague that afflicted France in 1865 the following pretty incident is told: At the Hospital Beaujon the empress took the hand of a dying victim, who, mistaking her identity, kissed her hand and murmured, "I thank you, sister." The nun who accompanied the empress whispered: "You are mistaken, friend. It is not I, but our good empress, who speaks." "Nay, sister," retorted the empress quickly; "he has given me the sweetest of all names."

## Modern Berlin.

It was Frederick II., styled the Iron, who constructed the first building on the site of modern Berlin. This was a castle which was the first domicile of the Brandenburg electors. It was much damaged in the Thirty Years' war, but after this the town started to loom up around it. However, its present strength dates from the formation of the German empire and it ranks third, after London and Paris, in population of the cities of Europe.

## Wanted to Patent a Circus.

P. T. Barnum once came to the office to know if he could patent the three ring circus. In technical parlance his three ring circus was an aggregation and not a combination to produce a new result. Therefore it was not patentable, which information highly incensed the showman. "It will be adopted by every circus just as soon as I make it known," he declared. And it did.—Scribner.

## SWISS CHEESE STONE.

Material of Which Native Houses in Bermuda Are Built.

When a native of Bermuda decides that he wants to build a house he goes to some quarry where the soft, rich, creamy coral sandstone has been stripped of its thin earth covering and begins sawing. He or some one employed by him, with a long, coarse toothed saw, cuts out blocks of stone measuring about two feet long, one foot wide and six inches thick. As soon as he has quarried enough of these blocks he allows them to stand in the open air for a few weeks to harden, for when first cut they are as full of holes as a Swiss cheese and almost as soft. The hardening period over, the blocks are placed one on top of another to form the walls and one beside another on a supporting framework, overlapping a little at their upper and lower edges, to make the roof.

When the building has been erected the Bermudian covers his outside walls and roof with a thick coat of whitewash, which hides all the cracks and joints and holes in the stone and gives the house a smooth, beautiful finish which is very pleasant to the eye and just as pleasant to the sense of touch. Even the big chimneys, the porches and the fences are built of the same stone.

These white roofs have another important office, for the rain that falls upon them as it runs off is caught and led into cisterns. It is easy to understand how important this is when one learns that there are no streams or wells in Bermuda and that the islanders are thus entirely dependent on these cisterns for their water supply.—Joseph Lauren in St. Nicholas.

## YANKEE CURIOSITY.

How Ben Franklin Used to Save Time and Avert Questions.

The Yankee is proverbially inquisitive, and Charles H. Sherrill recalls in "French Memories of Eighteenth Century America" some amusing comments reported by the Marquis de Chastellux, which show that the reputation was well deserved more than a century ago.

"He says," declares Chastellux, repeating a traveler's tale, "that the Americans are the most inquisitive people he has ever seen. Their curiosity is pushed almost to impropriety. When he asked his way they only answered, 'You apparently come from Philadelphia.' When almost famished he asked for food. Instead of serving him they said: 'You seem to be in a great hurry. Is there anything new in the north?'"

"He also relates that Mr. Franklin (who possessed a sense of humor in addition to that habitual calm which so surprised the Europeans, whenever he was traveling in Connecticut, a section noted for its curiosity, was accustomed on entering an inn to call all the family together and announce in a loud tone: 'I am Benjamin Franklin. I was born in Boston, and I am a printer by trade. I am coming from Philadelphia, and I am going back there at such and such a time. I do not know anything new, and now, my friends, will you tell me what you can give me for supper?'"

## Modest Blackmors.

That the author of "Lorna Doone" was one of the best fruit growers in England is brought out by Hildegarde Hawthorne in an article on Blackmors which she contributes to St. Nicholas. Indeed, it was of his fruit that he loved most to talk, according to Miss Hawthorne. Of his writings or of himself at all it was very difficult to get him to say a word, for he was shy and modest to a high degree. If you tried to make him talk about his books he would always slip quickly away to something about peaches or nectarines or plums, or he would ask you to come out to see his garden and wander there happily, pruning shears in hand, pointing out his prize fruits and telling you just what must be done to bring each type to perfection.

## All Happens in a Second.

A second is the smallest division of time in general use, and when we consider that in one year there are about 31,558,000 of these periods it would certainly seem as if it was enough for all practical purposes. But, after all, a good deal can happen in a second. A light wave, for instance, passes through a distance of about 186,000 miles in this length of time. The earth in itself moves in its orbit at a rate of about twenty miles a second.

A tuning fork of the French standard vibrates 870 times per second to produce the note A on the treble staff.

## Saving Talk.

"Do you believe in telepathy?" "You mean," responded Miss Cayenne, "the art of communicating thought without audible speech?" "Something like that." "I am not sure whether it could be made to work or not. But I know a number of people who ought to try it."—Washington Star.

## Encourages Fine Buildings.

Our city planners might well imitate the example of Buenos Aires, which every year exempts from taxation the most beautiful building erected within the preceding twelve months and awards a medal to the architect.—Youth's Companion.

## The Stopper.

Lottie—He wore my photograph over his heart and it stopped the bullet. Tottie—I'm not surprised, darling; it would stop a rock.—London Sketch.

## WASTEFUL AMERICA.

Is Frugality Practically a Lost Art in This Country?

We are undoubtedly the most wasteful people in the world. In America frugality is almost a lost art. Countless men and women are actually suffering, both physically and mentally, because they do not know how to stop waste in their own homes.

Waste is a devastating thing. It goes on under our eyes; it goes on while we sleep—it is always going on. There is as much difference between honest wear and tear and waste as there is between an honest man and a thief. We waste our time, our money, our food.

In a household about 85 per cent of the heat from the furnace is wasted. Our children take more than they can eat and waste the rest. But before we correct them we should look at our own plates. The amount of gas wasted in jets unnecessarily kept burning in a single day all over the United States would, if we could compute it, be a staggering indictment of our folly.

The American business man goes on the principle that it is easier for him to make more money to pay for the waste in his home than it is to "waste" his time in trying to stop it. His wife is unconsciously influenced by his example.

What can we do about it? Something, anyway. We can talk about it, gesticulate about it, think about it and make up our minds right now to fight it in every way possible.—Life.

## IT WAS TURN ABOUT.

After the Farmer Got Through the Blacksmith, Had His Say.

While the village blacksmith toiled manfully over the old farmer's plowshare the owner of the share recounted at some length the wonderful success he had had with three litters of pigs he had marketed that day.

"Them pigs were less than eight months old," the farmer ran on, "and they brought me 10 cents a pound, or a little more than \$400. Why, a few years ago those same pigs would have brought me only half as much. I tell you, the farmer is having his harvest now."

The smith, having finished sharpening the share, handed it to his customer. From a well worn purse the farmer took two dimes, the usual price for the job, and dropped them into the smith's hand.

"You'll have to come again," said the smith, still holding the money in his outstretched palm. "I charge 30 cents since the first of the year for sharpening that size plow."

"Why, how now?" the farmer exclaimed testily. "That's an outrage. Why have you raised the price on me?" "To buy some of that high priced pork you were tellin' me about," was the smith's calm reply.—Youth's Companion.

## A Royal Superstition.

Canterbury cathedral, England, like most Catholic cathedrals, is decorated with innumerable niches for statues. At Canterbury a series of these niches is occupied with statues of kings and queens of England, and there are only four niches left unoccupied. An old tradition has it that when all the niches are filled the throne of England will come to an end. Queen Victoria was approached with a view to a statue of herself being placed in one of the four remaining niches, but her late majesty was aware of the old tradition and refused. One wonders whether in the future there will be four monarchs of England sufficiently indifferent to superstition to defy the tradition and allow their effigies to fill the unoccupied spaces.

## Peafowl.

The origin of the peacock was in India and Ceylon, and this is why we see so frequently the bird on the art objects of these countries. Peacock shooting is still a recognized sport in some parts of India, but its former popularity as a table delicacy has ceased, though the flesh is white and is said to resemble a pheasant in flavor. The eggs are also edible. For the production of the feathers these birds are bred in France, but to a small extent, as they are difficult to rear, because in a big area they wander off, and if inclosed within narrow limits they become mischievous.

## Right Thing to Contemplate.

Life is so full of miseries, minor and major; they press so close upon us at every step of the way, that it is hardly worth while to call one another's attention to their presence. People who do this are merely dwelling on the obvious, and the obvious is the one thing not worth consideration. What we want to contemplate is the beauty and the smoothness of that well ordered plan which it is so difficult for us to discuss.—Agnes Repplier.

## New Coin Designs.

It is provided in section 3517, chapter 944, revised statutes of the United States, that the director of the mint shall have power, with the approval of the secretary of the treasury, to cause changes to be made in the designs of coins not often than once in twenty-five years.

## Pretty Cool.

Haller—Say, when are you going to pay me that ten you borrowed? You know I'm married now. Staller—Oh, are you? That's too bad! I wanted to touch you for five more.—Exchange.

## A Born Leader.

"That man was born to lead." "What makes you think so?" "Even his own daughters obey him."—Detroit Free Press.

## MOST POWERFUL ORGAN.

Famous Old Instrument in St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

The organ of St. Paul's cathedral in London is the most powerful in the world. There is a weight of three tons on the bellows, and some of its giant pipes disappear from view in the recesses of the enormous dome. Some of the smaller pipes are up by the altar, and the rest are either hidden away behind the long row of choir stalls or are seen towering on either side of the choir gates. But all are controlled from a little organ loft in which is scarcely room for anyone beside the organist seated at the keyboard.

There are five rows of keys and two tiers of over 100 ivory handle stops. The organist showed how, by pressing with his thumb one of a row of buttons as he played, whole combinations of stops were pushed out or pushed in. He demonstrated, too, how with the slightest pressure he could transform the sound of the organ from the softest and sweetest of tones to a volume which rolled and seemed to shake the entire building.

The organ is a very ancient one. It was built between the years 1624 and 1700 by one Bernard Schmidt, a celebrated German organ-maker, and cost over £2,000. Schmidt was merely responsible for the inside work, the case being supplied by a joiner for just over £330, while the carving on the case cost nearly £110. The organ has since undergone entire reconstruction, but all Schmidt's pipes have been retained and are now doing as good service as when they were made.—London Mail.

## Radium Minerals.

Minerals that carry radium are fairly easy to determine. One of them, pitchblende, as generally found, is a black mineral about as heavy as ordinary iron, but much softer. The principal radium mineral, carnotite, has a bright canary yellow color and is generally powdery.—Indianapolis News.

## Also Colored.

"Yes I was used to putting coloring matter in artificial butter." "Well, didn't you deserve it?" "Perhaps. But what made me mad was that the magistrate who imposed the fine had dyed whiskers."—London Opinion.

## Wrong Time.

"So she refused you?" "Yes, but it was my own fault," said the young stockbroker. "I proposed on a declining market."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

## Little Things.

"It's the little things that cause us the most annoyance," said the parlor philosopher. "That's right," agreed More Man. "The people who live next door to me have seven children, the oldest being ten."—Town Topics.

## Friends and Foes.

Dear to me is the friend, yet can I make even my very foe do me a friend's part. My friend shows me what I can do; my foe teaches me what I should do.—Schiller.

The hate which we all bear with the most patience is the hate of those who envy us.—Gifford.

# Blossom Time in the Golden State

A friend just back from Southern California says: "The weather was fine, in fact too warm for heavy clothes. Many were bathing at the beaches. Oranges were ripe in the valleys, while the mountains nearby were covered with snow."

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## Change of Schedule To take effect Oct. 15th

STAYTON-SALEM  
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AUTO STAGE

Stand in front of Klett's Billiard Parlor, opposite Oregon Electric Depot, Stayton, Phone No. 93

## Every Day, Sundays Included

Lv Stayton for Kingston, connect motor.	8:15 a.m.
Ar Kingston for Stayton.	9:30 a.m.
Ar Stayton.	10:30 a.m.
Lv Stayton for Salem.	11:00 a.m.
" Sublimity	11:15 a.m.
" Aumsville	11:30 a.m.
Ar Stayton.	11:45 a.m.
Lv Stayton, meet Oregon Electric.	12:00 p.m.
Lv Oregon Electric depot at Salem.	12:15 p.m.
Ar Turner.	12:30 p.m.
" Aumsville	12:45 p.m.
" Sublimity	1:00 p.m.
" Stayton.	1:15 p.m.
Lv Stayton for Kingston, meet motor.	1:30 p.m.
" Kingston for Stayton.	1:45 p.m.

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