

LAMENTS PASSING OF RUSSET

New England Journal Voices Regret That Famous Apple Is Becoming Increasingly Scarce.

The russet apple seems to be in a fair way to extinction. It used to be the commonest of our New England apples, but it is seldom seen nowadays.

In Rhode Island the principal varieties are the Baldwin and greening—both fine apples, easy to sell and easy to "keep," fine of color and flavor.

Perhaps there are localities where the russet flourishes as of old, but it is out of fashion in this neighborhood. Let its friends arise in its behalf, and see that it does not wholly disappear.

Apple lovers with only small tracts of ground might at least pledge themselves to set out one russet tree. A bearing apple tree is as good as money in the bank.—Providence Journal.

SAVAGE TRIBE ON TIBURON

"White Cannibals" Said to Inhabit Pacific Island Believed to Be Rich in Pitchblende.

Tiburon Island, in the Pacific, four miles off the Mexican coast, is inhabited by a tribe of "white cannibals" who are said to be descendants of the Dutch, Swedish and German prisoners who escaped from Mexican prisons several centuries ago.

In addition to poisoned arrows used by the natives the cannibals also use an ancient blunderbuss in attacking their victims. They are supposed to number from 500 to 2,000 persons.

Tiburon is said to have rich deposits of pitchblende, from which radium is extracted.

Catfish Made to Change Names.

Some catfish have been nosing around in the mud of the rivers to the north of Rio Janeiro for 31 years without knowing their right name. They supposed their name was "Steindachneria," under which they had been baptized by Carl H. Eigenmann and Rosa Smith Eigenmann in 1888.

Not Allowed to Abdicate.

A Russian refugee, widow of a nobleman who was also an engineer, living in California and translating into English some of her contributions to Russian magazines, tells this story as illustrating the unpreparedness of Russian peasants for self-government.

A soviet representative was addressing a large gathering of peasants in a certain district. After a long speech in which he told them the government was overthrown, the czar was dead and they were free, he sat down.

Paris May Tax Visitors.

The Paris municipal council, at its closing meeting of the old year, voted a resolution in favor of the capital being officially "closed" as a watering place. The object of the motion is to enable the city to collect a small poll tax on visitors in order to swell the municipal revenues, as is already done in other watering places.

Fly That Is Farmer's Friend.

There is a general prevailing opinion among farmers that cut worms make horse flies. This is erroneous. Cut worms and army worms are sometimes parasitized by large Tachinid flies which, to the casual observer, somewhat resemble the horse fly.

Autos for Cuba.

The United States has shipped to Cuba in the past few years 12,045 passenger automobiles and 1,438 commercial vehicles, or one for every 189 persons.

LADEN WITH SPOILS OF WAR

Chinaman Who Worked With Allied Forces in France a Wonderful Sight When He Returns.

Pick and spade heroes of the Chinese republic, who soldiered so hard in France for an allied victory, are returning to the homeland with the choice pickings of the salvage piles of Europe on their backs.

"The little children run before them in terror, the aged resign themselves to the coming of the long-forboded evil spirits wreaking vengeance for the loss stick left to go out before the village god."

WHY SIGN BEFORE YOU READ?

Too Many Seem Pleased to Affix Their Signatures to Anything Put Before Them.

Judge Albion T. Wright said at a lawyers' banquet in Cincinnati: "Sign here, please." Gentlemen, it's astonishing how these three simple words hypnotize thousands of people, causing them to affix their signatures to contracts and agreements that they will regret all their lives.

"I signed the paper without reading it," a witness said to me one day. "Mr. Blank told me what its contents were and I naturally thought that I could trust him."

"Yes," said I, "but you should have remembered that when a person asks you to sign something he, for his part, doesn't trust your word—he insists on having it in black and white. Well, then, why should you take his word when he won't take yours?"

What the Sun Gives Us.

The cost of light per ounce has recently been worked out by Dr. Charles Davidson of Greenwich observatory, says London Tit-Bits. It takes an appalling amount of light to weigh an ounce, he says, and the cost, as supplied by gas and electric light companies, works out at something like £10,000,000.

The sun showers down on us 100 tons of this valuable stuff every day, says the doctor, yet we often neglect this free gift and prefer to pay £10,000,000 an ounce for a very much inferior quality.

If the sun charged us for his magnificent light at the same rate as the gas and electric light companies, we should have to pay £57,344,000,000,000 a day, or about 21,000 million pounds a year; but the sun does not charge—he gives it to us all without money and without price.

Making Study of Genetics.

In order to learn more about inheritance in cattle and other animals, information is wanted by L. J. Cole, of the genetics department of the Wisconsin college of agriculture, about the similarity of the duplicate parts of double monsters, such as double-headed calves, or calves with one head and two bodies.

This information can best be obtained, says Mr. Cole, from specimens with white markings, where a comparison can be made of the extent and shape of the two parts. These freaks are often mounted or preserved and the genetics department would appreciate information as to where photographs or sketches can be obtained.

Put Them in Trenches.

"The trouble encountered in holding the big British dirigible at her moorings," said Forest Hillers at the office, "gave me an idea which I think I will pass on to the war department. If a trench had been dug at Mineola, say 1,000 feet long and as wide and deep as the balloon, she could have been anchored in it, shielded from the wind, and perfectly safe."

Seeing Life in the Army.

An English soldier who had enlisted in London for two years' service mournfully described his duty as being "to ride a funeral pair." Further explanations showed that his time was spent in driving the gun carriage horses at military funerals in London—soldiers, ex-soldiers, veterans, hospital cases, and so on.

Noise as a Thief Catcher.

To aid in the capture of automobile thieves a Los Angeles man has invented a clamp to be locked about a tire which makes a loud noise each time it strikes a pavement and leaves an easily followed trail.

ASSERT POWER OVER DEATH

Two East Indiana Make Extraordinary Claims, Naturally Some-what Hard to Prove.

The dead can be brought to life. This remarkable claim has just been made by a woman doctor of Rangoon (Burma).

She claims to have prepared certain remedies, which are to be taken internally and applied externally for a week, at the end of which any dead person will revive! As may be expected, she keeps her remedies a secret and she will not disclose their ingredients to anybody, writes S. B. Banerjee of Calcutta.

She further claims that the dead person, when revived, will have a new mind and better features. The treatment to be completely successful must be continued for a month or two.

The Burmese doctor has created a sensation in the country. Some are scoffing at her, while others are urging the authorities to test her claims.

In this connection, I may state that some time ago a Hindu doctor made a similar claim and requested me to secure a dead body for him. Now, no Hindu or Mussulman will allow any experiment to be made on the dead body of a near and dear relative. Their religion forbids such experimenting. Soon after the doctor had asked my help, a distinguished Hindu knight, whom I knew, died. I was urged to sound his relatives. I did sound them, but my request was rejected. I approached certain doctors, but they all laughed at me and refused to help me.

The Hindu doctor, I regret to say, will not disclose his mode of treatment. He will not charge anything. He wants to be judged by his results. But who will care to help him?

NOT ALWAYS PACIFIC PEOPLE

Chinese Have Had Great Military Past, But Have Not Fostered the Fighting Spirit.

Writing of the romance of military Instigula, Col. Robert E. Wylie doubtless surprised some of his readers in the National Geographic Magazine when he informed them that the first military medal was probably awarded by a Chinese emperor, some 1,900 years ago. The statement falls pat with an article by Mr. T. L. Leo, a Chinese student of the history of his own country, published in Asia magazine, in which Mr. Leo looks back to Chinese military practice, in the early centuries of the Christian era, and shows how the treatise on the "Art of War," written by the ancient Chinese military leader, Sun Wu, corresponded to the maxims of Frederick the Great, which were in turn expressed by von Hindenburg.

Sound and Light as Power.

Starting, steering and stopping a model auto by blowing an ordinary police whistle, an English scientist recently gave a striking demonstration of the possibilities of distant control of machinery. The performance is the subject of an illustrated article in the Popular Mechanics Magazine. The little electrically driven car, with 98 manlike passengers, started forward at the first blast of sound. Another note from the whistle turned it around and a third stopped it at its starting place. By blowing whistles of varying tones, a series of small electric lamps were selectively lighted. Control by light rays was illustrated by the ringing of a gong connected to light sensitive cells, when the illuminator of a hand lamp was thrown upon them, thereby reducing their electrical resistance.

J. P. Paid No Attention.

Jack Rowan is "some" boy. The neighbors all admit that. His original sayings and slang, repeated after hearing it from incautious neighbors, are well known in his part of Thirty-seventh street.

"Jack," said his mother one day, "go across the street and get J. P."—J. P. being his baby brother. Jack has reached the mature age of three and three-quarters, while J. P. has just got around the corner of two.

Presently Jack came back without J. P., and to his mother's questions as to why he did not bring his brother, said: "I talked with my mouth, and J. P. wouldn't pay any attention to me."—Indianapolis News.

Pass the Word On.

"Read this to the man who cannot read English," is the request of the Tappan Zoo high school, Pleasant, N. Y., at the beginning and close of the handbills calling attention to the night schools. The bill calls the attention of the alien adult to the proper place where he can learn what is meant by liberty; his rights, privileges and duties; about his government and how to secure his citizen papers. The school is open to both men and women.

New Use for Old Tires.

A Hutchinson motor tire dealer has half-soled his shoes with strips from a highly guaranteed tire in which he deals figuring that if the tires are guaranteed good for 8,000 miles under a car weighing a ton the mileage under his own 140 pounds ought to be practically unlimited.—Kansas City Star.

Advertisement for Ochoco Wh'se Co. featuring 'All Kinds Of Seed Grain INCLUDING Seed Wheat Recleaned Oats Recleaned Barley Seed Rye Field Corn and Alfalfa Seed'. It also lists 'Special Orders Attended To At Once' and 'Highest Price Paid For Hides and Pelts'. Stockmen are advised to get supplies of salt here.

Large advertisement for 'Lumber' with the headline 'Material is again coming in from the mill and your wants can now be more readily supplied'. It includes the text 'GET READY FOR IRRIGATION' and lists names of lumber companies: R. W. WALLACE, W. H. LOHNIS, H. HOLMAN, E. J. BARRETT, NELSON & PUGH; J. W. FINCHER, R. G. SMITH, A. B. ROLLER. The main company is 'TUM-A-LUM LUMBER COMPANY' with address 'PRINEVILLE, REDMOND, CULVER, MADRAS, GATEWAY'. It also mentions 'Successor to SHIPP & PERRY' and 'PLANNERS AND MATERIALERS OF HOMES AND FARM BUILDINGS'.