BOXING THE COMPASS.

The Test Between a Sailor and a Landlubber.

Boys who live in seaport towns are sometimes asked to "box the compass." If they can do it quickly and accurately, they are fine sailors and may grow up to be the captain of a four master. If they miss a point or can only do it slowly, they are landlubbers and will never see blue water. To box the compass means to name all the points in order just as fast as you can speak. This is the way an old down east skipper will rattle it off: North, nor' by east, nor'-nor'east, nor'east by north, northeast, nor'east by east, east-nor' east, east by north, east, east by south, east-sou'east, sou'east by east, sou'east, sou'east by south, sou'-sou'east, sou' by east, south, sou' by west, sou'-sou'west, sou'west by south, sou'west, sou'west by west, west-sou'west, west by south, west, west by north, west-nor'west, nor'west by west, nor'west, nor'west by north, nor'-nor'west, nor' by west, north.

Can you do it?

If a needle is drawn a few times over the ends of a horseshoe magnet, it becomes magnetized. Push such a magnetized needle through a small cork. Place the cork in a bowl of water, taking pains to see that the cork when it floats on the water will carry the needle in a horizontal position or "on an even keel." Another way is to cut about three inches from a hollow straw (such as is used to suck lemonade) and to push the needle inside the straw. The straw will float and carry the needle. Now observe what happens. The floating needle will slowly swing round till it points north and south. The straw will behave in the same way. Push it in any other direction, and the moment it is free it swings back again.

We do not know who first observed the fact that a floating magnetized needle will point to the north. Nor do we know precisely when or where some unknown inventor used this idea to make a compass. All we know is that the Chinese made and used compasses more than 2,000 years ago.

When men began, perhaps 10,000 years ago, to sail upon the water, they used marks upon the shore to guide them on their way. Long years after they observed that a certain star kept at all times the same place in the sky, and they used this pole star as a guide in steering their ships. Today a steamship starting down the Hudson river for Europe is guided by the pilot, and he uses the buoys, beacons and other guide marks to steer the ship down the bay. Off Sandy Hook he gives up the ship to the captain, who instructs the helmsman to steer northeast by east, east by north or whatever course he selects, and the helmsman, watching the compass, keeps the ship headed in that direction.—Dallas News.

COOKING HINTS.

Chocolate is greatly improved by adding a teaspoonful of strong coffee just before serving.

In adding flour to gravies, always use a flour dredger and there will be no lumps in the gravy.

Some housekeepers vary the flavor of potato salad by boiling the potatoes for it in stock, or, if it is more convenient, in the soup kettle.

In using sour milk the proportion for gingerbread, biscuits, cake or almost any dough or batter is one teaspoon of baking soda to two cups of sour milk.

If making a gelatin dessert on a hot or a wet day, add a little more gelatin than the recipe requires, half as much again if you wish to mold fruit into the jelly.

Eggs a la ranigote is made by boiling eggs three and a half minutes, roll in beaten egg and fine bread crumbs, fry in deep fat; when brown, drain on paper, garnish with parsley and serve with ranigote sauce.

To make a small shortcake take a pint of pastry flour, rub in lard the size of an egg, teaspoonful cream of tartar, half teaspoonful soda, salt, and mix with sweet milk. Bake in quick oven.

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I believe Thedford's Black-Draught is the best medicine on earth. It is good for any and everything. I have a family of twelve children, and for four years I have kept them on foot and healthy with no doctor but Black-Draught. A. J. GREEN, Elzwara, La.

FORCING A FASHION.

How Hats Were Introduced to the South African Savages.

Andries De Villiers, a Boer, was the person who first introduced hats among the South African natives, says the Hatters' Gazette, and profit, not philanthropy, was his motive. One morning many years ago he chanced in Port Elizabeth to come across a consignment of damaged hats offered for a mere song. He bought the whole lot, packed them away in his wagon and started for Kaffirland.

When he reached Tembuland, he unloaded his stock, opened his kegs of liquor, without which no trade was made in those days, and began business. But he found his venture likely to prove an unprofitable one. The natives did not want hats. They wanted blankets and beads and looking glasses and above all liquor, but they looked askance at hats. Then a bright idea came to Andries. He wanted to introduce those hats. He did introduce them. His simple expedient was to refuse to sell anything to a Kaffir unless he bought a hat too. The Kaffirs wanted his goods, so they bought the hats.

When a Kaffir buys anything, he feels bound to make use of it. The natives therefore donned their head gear and returned to their kraals. Now appeared the brilliancy of the trader's idea. Fashion rules the world. It is as strong in Africa as in America, and when those who had stayed at home saw the travelers return in all the glory of this strange covering they felt behindhand and old fashioned. Their desire to possess the latest thing in hats became intense. They paid Andries a visit, and his stock no longer hung heavy upon his hands. The hats were soon sold.

This happened some time ago, and now every trading store keeps a supply of hats constantly on hand. They are said to be manufactured expressly for the natives, and no one who glances at the show will doubt it.

A JUGGLER'S TRICK.

Clever Feat of Illusion Performed by an East Indian.

The wonderful feats of East Indian jugglers have formed the theme of many a letter from travelers in the orient, but none is more surprising than that for which an old seadog vouches. While he was an officer on board a P. and O. steamship two natives came aboard at Madras, he says. They were a juggler and his assistant. After they had performed a number of minor feats and gathered quite a crowd around them they called for a sack and a piece of sailcloth.

These having been provided, the chief juggler made a small tentlike structure with the canvas and some stools. He then placed his assistant in the sack and allowed a sailor to tie the knot which bound him a fast prisoner. This done, the chief carried the sack into an open space, warning the people to stand back some distance, and then carried on an animated conversation with his assistant, whose replies could be distinctly heard coming from the sack. Suddenly the chief rushed forward, picked up the sack and dumped it overboard, where, to the horror of the passengers and crew, it sank out of sight.

Immediately the captain rushed forward and seized the man, under the full belief that he had murdered his companion, but the juggler only smiled and, pointing to the canvas, asked that it be raised. This was done, and the supposed drowned man was discovered squatting on the deck. So realistic had been the throwing overboard, however, that it was some time before the surprised passengers could realize a murder had not been committed.

Church and Workmen.

It would be an exaggeration to say that all working people feel antagonistic toward the church. Their general attitude is rather that of indifference. The thinking poor are well enough aware that there is nothing unnatural in the situation and that if the tables were so turned that world advantage shifted to their side it would probably remain unchanged. At times their feeling, especially toward the clergy, is curiously sympathetic. "Say," remarked a labor leader of vivid mind to the writer—"say, I'm awfully sorry for ministers. Most of them are real good men. They know well enough what Christ meant, and they'd like first rate to preach if they dared. But, Lord, how can they? They've got to draw their salaries; they've got families to support." All this quite without a touch of irony.—Vida D. Scudder in Atlantic.

Pulling Out the Pegs.

Susie, aged four, had been out in the country on a visit. On her return she urged her mother to let her keep a cow.

"But, Susie," said the mother, "there is no one here to take care of the cow and milk it."

"Oh, yes, I'll do that, mamma."

"Can you milk a cow? How do you do it?"

"Oh, I know how. I'll just pull the pegs out like the man does."—Lippincott's.

The Responsibility.

Anxious Father—Do the best you can for him, doctor. That is all I can ask. If it is the will of Providence—

Surgeon—Don't try to place the responsibility on Providence in this case, Mr. McJones. You bought the toy pistol for the boy yourself.

His Art.

"Oh, Mr. Growelle," gushed Miss Nupson, "how did you ever learn to paint such beautiful pictures?"

"I asked a man once," replied the artist, "and he told me how."—Indianapolis News.

WHY WE ARE AGENTS

Here Are Some of the Convincing Facts That Caused us to Take the Agency for the Fulton Compounds, the First Things Known that Cure Chronic Kidney Diseases.

First, let it be distinctly understood that every one of the cases below had been diagnosed by one or more physicians as chronic and incurable; second, note the certainty of the results as shown by the recovery also of the friends they told who were similarly afflicted with supposed incurable kidney diseases.

N. W. Spaulding, President Spaulding Saw Co., San Francisco, had a recovery in his own family and told several others who recovered.

Adolph Weiss, capitalist, San Francisco, recovered himself and told two friends who recovered.

Dr. Carl D. Zizik, pioneer druggist, 802 Pacific street, San Francisco, recovered himself and gave it to more than a dozen patients who recovered.

Charles Engelke, editor of the German paper, San Francisco, recovered himself and told it to a number who recovered, one of them being Charles F. Wadsler, the Sixth street merchant.

R. M. Wood, editor Wine and Spirit Review, recovered himself and told it to several who recovered, among them being an old-school physician.

Edward Short of the San Francisco Call recovered, also three of his friends, viz: William Martin, Captain Hobhard of the Honolulu route and William Hawkins of the U. S. Quartermaster's Department of San Francisco.

John A. Phelps of the Hotel Repeller, San Francisco, and two of his friends, etc. etc.

The kidneys are the sewers that strain the poisons out of the system. We can stand the derangement for a short while, but when the interference becomes chronic (permanent), as first expected by Bright, it is only a question of how long before death will ensue. It is then called Bright's Disease and incurable. All kidney troubles develop into this form about the 8th to 12th month. The above cases were incurable by all other known means. People having kidney disease should begin at first with the only known thing that will cure it if it has reached the serious stage. Fulton's Renal Compound for Bright's and Kidney Diseases, $1; for Diabetes, $1.50. John J. Fulton Co., 408 Washington street, San Francisco, sole compounders. Send for pamphlet. We are the sole agents for this city.

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A GOOD PRESCRIPTION.

Laughter as a Stomach Cure and an Aid to Health.

Worry is but one of the many forms of fear, so that worry tends to the production of indigestion. Indigestion tends to put the body of the subject in a condition that favors worry. There is thus established a vicious circle which tends to perpetuate itself, each element augmenting the other.

It is necessary to secure a cheerful, wholesome atmosphere for the dyspeptic. He should eat his meals at a table where there is good fellowship and where funny stories are told. He should himself make a great effort to contribute his share of this at the table, even if it be necessary, as it was in one case under my care, for him to solemnly and seriously collect funny paragraphs from the press, and at first interject them spasmodically during lulls in the conversation at the table. The very efforts and determination of the man to correct his own silent habits at table, to correct his feelings of discouragement and worry, were in themselves a promise of success. The effort made was adequate to the obstacles to be overcome. He succeeded, and the spectacle of that man trying to be funny at table when he felt thoroughly discouraged and blue is one we shall never forget.

Laughing is in itself also a useful exercise from the standpoint of digestion. It stirs up all the abdominal organs, it increases the circulation of the blood, it increases peristalsis, it increases the secretion of gastric juices. Five minutes' deliberate laughing after each meal would be an excellent prescription for some people.—Family Doctor.

THE BIRTH OF JAPAN.

Curious Legend of the Creation Handed Down by the Japanese.

The following is the curious legend of the creation as it is told in Japan: Clouds formed the bridge on which once god Yzanaghi and his spouse Yzanuma stood pondering on the riddle of existence, whether the beginnings of worlds and the beginnings of life lay slumbering in that sea of chaos. Yzanaghi, apparently more enterprising than philosophically inclined, seized his shimmering spear and plunged it into the black and seething flood. Pulling it up again, he discovered seven salt drops on its diamond point, which, dropping, condensed and formed the island of Cusokorosima.

Thereupon Yzanaghi and his spouse selected the spot of earth which had thus been created as their permanent dwelling place and peopled it with innumerable genii of animal and plant life and spirits of the elements. And around this "palace of immortality" rose eight other islands—Awadsi, the island of foam; the mountainous Cho, Yamato, blessed with fruit; Yyo, unsurpassed in its beauty; the quinquangular Tsikousi, Sado, rich in copper and gold; Yki, one of the pillars of heaven, and Oko, surrounded by three satellites.

Such was the birth of Japan, of that curious land of Fusiyama, with its amiable population of artist artisans, its graceful teahouses, its glistening

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APPRENTICE QUARRELS.

Young French Workmen Travel Always Ready For a Fight.

Jealousies between the workmen's corporations in France result in "Homeric" combats, bloody battles. It is the one bad side of an institution that is otherwise so truly fraternal.

They start out in companies, rarely alone, to make their "tour of France." Before coming back to continue their work in their own villages the young apprentices go together from town to town to study on the ground the masterpieces of their trade and to see the best that the genius of their ancestors has produced. It is the knight errantry of the workman.

He earns his living en route, perfects himself in his profession, learns from one master and another, sees, compares, studies, admires. He gathers his humble harvest of souvenirs and impressions, enjoys the full vigor of his early years and passes his youth along the sunny highways.

Unfortunately there is disagreement among the "societies." In everything there is found a pretext for quarrels. The society of the Pere Soubise is jealous of that of Maitre Jacques, and the Enfants du Solomon take part in the quarrel whenever possible.

Two companies meet on the road. The two leaders, the "master companions," stop at twenty paces from each other.

"Halt!" says one.

"Halt!" says the other.

"What trade?"

"Carpenter. And you?"

"Stonecutter. Companion?"

"Companion!"

"Your society—country?"

And according to the reply they drink from the same gourd or fight. The melee becomes general. They fight, fist and stick, until the road is littered with those who are wounded, sometimes even to the death.—Harper's Magazine.

ORIGIN OF THE KISS.

The Greek Story of the Way In Which It Came Into Being.

Kissing is usually accepted as an agreeable fact, and its theory and history are ignored, but if kissing did not begin with Adam and Eve it began with the beautiful young Greek shepherdess who found an opal on one of the hills of Greece and, wishing to give it to a youthful shepherd whose hands were busy with his flock, let him take it from her lips with his own, says Science Siftings. Thus the kiss was invented, and perhaps the popular superstition against the opal may be traced back to the same incident, for osculation has wrought great tragedies in the world's history.

Kissing was once an act of religion. The nearest friend of a dying person performed the right of receiving his soul by a kiss, supposing that it escaped through his lips at the moment of expiration. It is said that kissing was first introduced into England by royalty. The British monarch Vortigern gave a banquet in honor of his Scandinavian allies, at which Rowena, the beautiful daughter of Hengist, was present. During the proceedings, after pressing a brimming beaker to her lips, she saluted the astonished and delighted monarch with a kiss "after the manner of her people."

The most honorable royal kiss on record is that which Queen Margaret of France in the presence of the whole court one day imprinted on the lips of the ugliest man in the kingdom, Alain Chartier, whom she found asleep. To those around her she said, "I do not kiss the man, but the mouth that has uttered so many charming things."

The Demon of Indigestion.

Cooks and housekeepers have a nobler mission than they as a class seem to be aware of. It is that of feeding the human being and keeping him in health and good working condition. A poorly fed man is likely to be miserable. Few if any of us are able to rise above conditions.

"A sick man, sir," said Dr. Johnson, "is always a scoundrel." The language is perhaps somewhat strong and lacking in charity, but it contains a good grain of truth. The dyspeptic, who sees the world given over to evil and daily growing worse, is very likely to think himself unable to swim against the current and to drift to disaster. "We are saved by hope," but without a good digestion faith, hope and charity are almost impossible.

Stories of Children.

Teacher—What is velocity, Johnny? Johnny—Velocity is what a feller lets go of a bumblebee with.

The Parson—My boy, I'm sorry to see you flying your kite on the Sabbath. Small Boy—Dat's all right, mister. Dis kite's made uv a 'ligious paper. See?

Small Ned, hearing a number of frogs in a pond making a hideous noise, exclaimed, "My goodness, but the froggies must sleep awful sound!" "Why do you think so?" asked his mother. "'Cause they snore so loud," replied Ned.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Limited Choice.

Father—Johnny, I see your little brother has the smaller apple. Did you give him his choice, as I suggested.

Johnny—Yes, father; I told him he could have his choice—the little one or none—and he took the little one.—Chums.

The Color of It.

"And you loaned him $2? Did you ever see the color of his money?"

"Well, yes. There was a good deal of dun to it before I got it."—New York Herald.

And Yet He Has Plenty of Sand.

The average boy is like an hourglass. He won't work for more than sixty minutes unless somebody turns him upside down.—Somerville Journal.

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