Cemented With Blood.

The greatest calamity that can befall a confirmed smoker is to have his cherished meerschaum broken, as frequently happens by a fall or other accident. When this happens, the fractured idol is generally taken to the jeweler's and the dismembered parts rejoined by means of silver bands. This, of course, is expensive, but when was the time that a Yankee could not overcome difficulties of this sort at trifling cost? A smoker of Biddeford, Maine, happened to drop a handsome meerschaum pipe from his knees to the floor, and the stem parted in the middle. His friends immediately expressed their sympathy with him, but the man was not in the least disturbed by the disaster. He simply drew his knife from his pocket, extracted blood from his arm with one of the keen blades, and rubbing the broken ends of the pipe in the fluid placed them together, and laid the article on a table to dry. It was a novel experiment, but it is said that it will work successfully every time, and that if a pipe is once broken and cemented with blood, it will never again break in that place.—[Biddeford Journal.

Appetites of Midgets.

It is wonderful what good appetites the miniature people have. Tom Thumb ate more than Chang, the Chinese giant. Any of the little folk will eat as much dinner as a man six feet high. Giants, as a rule, have small appetites. When we boarded Chang at one of the large hotels in Chicago, they thought he would eat a good deal, and so they charged him as much as if he were three men. Instead of going through the bill of fare from beginning to end and then repeating, he ate no more than the average boarder. It took three beds however, to make one bed for him to sleep in.

A very grotesque-looking South American dwarf, who used to be exhibited as a wild man without language who fed on raw meat and who was incapable even of understanding signs, would, after the exhibition was through every night, go over to a restaurant and order all the French dishes on the bill of fare, read a Spanish newspaper, talk French to the waiters, and ask questions of Americans in fluent English. He had an enormous appetite. He didn't weigh much, but he ate like an elephant. He used to polish off three apple-dumplings for dessert.—[Interview with a Museum Manager.

Affectionate Untruths.

There is a great amount of untruth about the formal terminations to many of our letters. Formality is doubtless always more or less false; but it seems a pity and a mistake that civilization should prompt us to utter falsehoods. . . Seeing then that very frequently not one of these affectionate phrases have a word of truth in them, would it not do just as well to terminate with the name of the writer and a greeting, the same as though we had met our acquaintance in the street? Face to face no one would pretend to talk such nonsense. Fancy telling half a dozen men that we were truly theirs, and a dozen others that we were ever their sincerely, and our receiving similar protestations every time we met. Foreigners kissing and hugging in the street would be nothing to it. Yet we write the unmeaning words, and be above expressing verbally. What we think to be necessary politeness in a letter we should consider ridiculous in reality, and an absurd parade of words if they were exchanged in person.—[Detroit Free Press.

Indian Home Making.

One of the new experiments at Hampton this year is taking several young married couples from different Indian tribes, and teaching them how to make a home. It has been very successful, and the dawning gentleness of the men to their wives and children, the new pride and tenderness of the women, their eagerness to learn how to sew, and their pleasure in cleanliness, are encouraging in every way. It is funny, and yet touching, to see the men with their children, their awkwardness in handling them, and yet their determination to carry the heavy youngsters and share the care of them with their squaws. And these are not the Creeks and Cherokees, but the warlike Sioux and Omahas.

Changing the Color of Birds and Flowers.

By the addition of different chemical agents to the soil, the colors of flowers may be variously altered. They may be darkened by iron salts proportionately to the amount of ammonia present in the plant. Tannin is present more or less in all parts of plants, as well as in the petals. Flowers may thus be made to assume the most manifold hues from pure rose to sooty black. Dahlias and portensias have been produced artificially black by these means. Aniline colors themselves . . . .

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