

BANDON RECORDER.

"Buttonholes Sold Here." "Button Holes For Sale Here" is a sign which peeps out through a rather dirty window of a lower floor tenement on the east side.

"You sell buttonholes here?" was asked. "Now, we make 'em!" she exclaimed, with as much disgust as a very squeaky voice was capable of showing.

"Well, the sign in the window says—" "Never mind the sign!" she snapped back. "What do you want with me?" She was finally persuaded to tell something of her new business.

"You see, it's this way," she began. "The working girls who live over here have to dress pretty well and do it on little money. Most of 'em makes their own clothes, but they have not too much time to do the work in. Now, if you was a woman you'd know that it was mighty hard to make buttonholes, specially by hand. Poor girls can't afford buttonhole machines. They make up the dresses and bring 'em over to us, and we put in the buttonholes at so much a hole, 'cording to the kind of stuff and how well they want it done. And that's all there is to it."—New York Tribune.

Be Sure You Read. The man who would like to know something about astronomy must lay out a little scheme of study for himself, get the books which are necessary and have them at hand the moment he is at leisure.

The man who wishes to know literature does not need to lay out an elaborate plan which fills him with discouragement by its very magnitude, but he does need to decide what author he is going to read next, and he does need to get the book and keep it within easy reach.

Almost all the great classics are now published in such portable forms that a man can carry a play of Shakespeare, the essays of Bacon, the poems of Tennyson or of Browning, a translation of "Faust," Matthew Arnold's criticisms, Emerson's essays or John Burroughs' charming transcriptions of nature in his coat pocket and substitute them for the newspaper which is thrust in his face by an eager newsboy and which he buys because he has nothing else to read.—Success.

A Youthful Financier. A correspondent asks, "Will some of your mathematical geniuses kindly tell me if I am absolutely devoid of the calculating faculty in not being able to see through the following three-cornered trick, shall I say? A beggar boy asked an old gentleman in the street for sixpence.

"What will you do with it if I give you one?" asked the old gentleman. "I'll turn it into ninepence quick," replied the boy.

"Give me the tanner, and I'll soon show you."

The boy got the money, darted off to a baker's shop and bought a three-penny loaf, with which he returned to the old gentleman and handed him back three pennies.

"How's this? You said you would make the sixpence into ninepence."

"So I have. The baker's got three-pence, you've got three-pence and I've got a three-penny loaf. That's ninepence."—Pearson's Weekly.

The Laughter of Savages. The general impression one derives from the accounts given is certainly that savage tribes are not victims of a sullen despair, but, on the contrary, have a large and abundant mirth. Their laughter and other signs of good spirits are of the most energetic kind. Darwin and a number of travelers assure us on this point. The Tasmanians, Ling Roth tells us, accompanied their long bursts of laughter with movements of the hands to the head and quick tapping movements of the feet. The loud, deep chested character of the men's laughter is sometimes specially noted. A recent visitor to central Africa regrets that under European influence the deep chested, hearty laughter of the men is being replaced by what is known as the "mission giggle" in the younger folk.—International Monthly.

A Devoted Mother. Although looked upon as vermin and destroyed accordingly, the weasel is a good mother and probably treats her young ones more kindly than many of her human enemies treat theirs. A weasel, carrying something in her mouth, was once seen to enter a hole in a tree. The observer, applying lighted straw, soon smoked her out. She then darted toward a stone wall, near which she was attacked by a terrier, which speedily slew her. She felt an easier victim because of the burden she had in her teeth. Anxious to see what this was, the onlooker went forward and found it was a baby weasel. The mother's nest in a field close by had been plowed up, and she had been searching for another home. As her youngster could not run she carried it in her mouth rather than leave it to perish.

Almonds. The world's almond crop, exclusive of those raised in California and the west, comes from Italy, Sicily, Malaga, Spain, France, Portugal, Morocco and Algiers. The highly prized Jordan almonds come from Malaga, Spain, and not from the Jordan river, as many people suppose. The common almond is the most indigestible of all the nuts and contains very little nourishment. There are many ways, however, in which it is advantageously used as a desert or as a flavoring. One peculiarity about the almond tree is that its leaves contain prussic acid and are therefore poisonous, while the fruit may be eaten with impunity.

Polly Larkin

"What if it was your boy?" The above is what Polly heard a gentle little lady remark to a party who was discussing the recent violent acts of the strikers. She was telling in highly colored language of an attack made by a dozen or more cowardly ruffians on a young man who was returning home after attending to his day's duty of driving a team for his employer, how they had jerked him from his wagon, beat him until he was unconscious, broken a couple of ribs, etc., "and it served him right, too, for encouraging employers and capitalist to put their foot on us poor working folks," she said, with an emphatic nod of her head.

The tirade went on for some time as each related an illustration to show how the strikers were "getting even" with men for doing their duty by brutally insulting and beating them. Then this little lady, who had listened with indignation to their conversation, asked the question, "What if it was your boy? How would you feel to have him brought home bruised and bleeding from many wounds, because he was doing his duty and endeavoring to aid in your support?" It was looking at the matter in a new light, and it brought home the horrors of the crime when it was their boy that might have been the victim. "The strikers are responsible for many a new-made grave and many a vacant chair in the home where the victim was idolized that the papers never made mention of. My boy was one of the victims. He is not dead, but he will be crippled for many a day, and possibly will be never as strong as he was before," she said quietly to a lady who had overheard the conversation.

What a strange mother, thought Polly, and how much of pure joy and happiness she has missed in this world. She never cradled the wee baby in her arms, and rocked it to sleep, while she sang some sweet lullaby; she never kissed the winsome little face that was turned to her for caresses; she never kissed away the tears that lay in great pearly drops on a grieved little face, and thus happily cured a bruised head; she never told the stories that all the little folks like to hear after they have laid their heads on the pillow and are waiting for the sandman to come; she never had the confidence of her children that should have been hers. Poor mother, she will reap the result of this loveless existence as she goes down the hill of life. She may have all of her bodily wants attended to, from pure duty not from affection, then she will realize that she has no pleasant pictures of memory to make the going out of a loveless life sweet and consoling. She has lived a hard matter-of-fact life and so she will die. Poor children, who can never tell of the sweetness of a charming home-life, and of the pleasure and the joy of childhood's days. They will keep that bitterness to themselves and listen with a wistful feeling at their hearts to others relating the happy little incidents of their days of auld-little-syne. Not a cheery picture is it?

"What if it was your boy?" Don't you think that sentiment ought to appeal to every mother's heart in the land? There would be more leniency shown to the boy who is denounced from his early babyhood up because of his madcap capers that are constantly keeping other people in hot water or on the ragged edge of expectation of something being done by that dreadful boy, who really never does anything with a thought of evil in his heart or bestowing a thought as to the result of his boyish pranks. Only the mother's heart or the father's, in some cases, seem to understand the boy, and while others censure they condone the offense and reason with the little culprit. You might as well try to harness the sunbeams and bring them under submission as to conquer such a boy by punishing him. You can reason with him and kindness will win in the end, but harsh words of censure and punishment will surely drive him away from the house to seek companionship elsewhere, whether it be good or bad. He may luckily find friends who will be the right kind of boys for him to mingle with, but the chances are they will be just the opposite and will lead him into paths he would never have strayed had he not been under the ban of someone's displeasure continually at home and among the neighbors because he was full of life and frolic and bent on having a good time. To be sure, there are boys who are just as naughty as they can be, cruel to animals and everything that comes in their way; but Polly believes there never was a boy that kindness would not help in place of hindering. If every woman in the land would, when she is disposed to censure boys for not being perfect, call to mind the question, "What if he was my boy?" I think the boys would have a better chance. Don't you?

There are two sides to every question, Polly," said a friend the other day in speaking of the above question. You believe in ruling by kindness and moral suasion. Now I was brought up strictly in accordance with the old adage, "Spare the rod and spoil the child." You have the scriptures to back my argument. I believe in laying on the rod or the slipper, either that is handy, so hard that he will have cause to remember it for some time afterward. I don't waste words, and my boy knows that I will not and that he will have to pay the penalty of his wrong-doing and mischief-making when ever I find it out, no matter if a week or a month has passed since he was guilty of the offense. I will venture to say that he never makes his mother his confidant, and in place of carrying his troubles or his plans to her and receiving comfort or advice, as the case may be, he will keep it to himself or go to some one else who has time to listen to only a boy and who understands him. "I know you are doing some hard thinking in regard to my method, Polly, by the way you look," she continued, "but as I said before, I have the Scripture for it and if my boy goes wrong, I will have the consciousness of knowing that I did my duty and cannot be held responsible. Some people think that I punish for everything and too severely as well. It makes no difference to me what they think. When I punish I try and make a lasting impression and every stroke counts one. It is no easy task now that my boy is getting so large and he swears that he will run away, over and over again, but I tell him he will soon come back. Some people make such a mistake in life, they ruin their children by lavishing too much affection on them. I never think of caressing or kissing a child of mine, it make them too babyish, and it does not run in our family to kiss and make over one another. It's all foolishness and too sentimental and drives all the good common sense out of their heads. Some children when they happen to take a tumble run to their mother to have her kiss and make the bump or bruise well.

FACTS IN FEW LINES

Germany pays \$1,500,000 a year for Norwegian salt herring. There are three telephone circuits between New York and Atlanta, Ga. American textile machinery in certain lines of manufacture is in good demand in England.

There has been since last year an addition to the grass area of Great Britain of 155,443 acres. Over one-third of the manufactured goods which are made in France are the products of female labor.

The Belgian government is drawing up a bill providing for the total suppression of Sunday newspapers. Many western mining sections are being supplied with electricity brought from fifty to seventy-five miles.

The import of American boots into Britain has during the past year increased in value by about £100,000. Some of the Missourians and many southerners urge that Missouri should no longer be classed as a southern state.

New Zealand sent Great Britain 1,487,197 hundredweight of mutton, valued at £2,657,450, in the course of last year. All British newspapers combined had a circulation of 99,000 in 1901. Their present circulation is estimated at \$50,000 a day.

The city authorities of Dover, England, have received authority from parliament to scrape the starting advertisements off the famous chalk cliffs of that coast. A large number of cuttlefish have recently been caught off the north coast of Germany. As they have never before been met with in these waters it is difficult to account for their presence.

Of all the European countries which enjoy representative government but four declined the bicameral system of parliamentary construction. These countries are Norway, Serbia, Greece and Bulgaria. According to a new Berlin police order, costermongers are to be almost entirely banished from the streets. Up to the present they have been allowed for a few hours in the mornings in a few side streets only.

There are now in operation in Belgium eleven extensive mills where cornmeal is ground. One mill at Alost has a capacity of 17,000,000 pounds per year. It is said that all the mills are crowded at present. The Nebraska state game warden has forbidden the farmers to fight the grasshoppers with poison, saying that the loss of birds and game is too costly a price to pay for the destruction of comparatively few insects.

A competitor in the recent Paris-Berlin motor race, while making seventy miles an hour in a cloud of dust, struck an archer who in the road with his car, which leaped high in the air and bounded back like a rubber ball. President McKinley's death occurred on the anniversary of the death of the Duke of Wellington, who died Sept. 14, 1852, and also on the anniversary of the death of General Montcalm, who was killed Sept. 14, 1759, at Quebec.

Paris now has automobile fire engines which measure six to ten feet and weigh two and a half tons, or when fully equipped, 6,380 pounds. They start to work instantly. The pump delivers twenty gallons a minute. A regular system of incapacitating men from serving in the Russian army by causing them to go temporarily deaf has been discovered at Odessa. The proprietors, Messrs. Schapiro and Essigmann, who did a great trade, have been arrested.

The Swedish government has under consideration the substitution of electricity for steam on all the Swedish railroads, the abundance of water power in the country not only making the project feasible, but holding out promise of a great saving. It is evident that Americans are wearing out a great deal of shoe leather these days. In Lynn, Mass., the center of the shoe trade, the factories are running full time, and great difficulty is experienced in getting enough hands to do the work.

In Dublin bay the little fishes are having a hard life owing to numerous sharks. One, a "bottle nose" gentleman, has been caught, and it measured five and a half feet long. Another, measuring eight feet, proved too strong for the line, which had to be cut. Last year there were registered in Paris somewhat over 5,000 motor carriages and about 11,000 motor cycles, the later comprising motor bicycles, motor tricycles and the like. Practically all of the French automobiles have been of the internal combustion type.

There is a small English village of the name of Allesley where the church bell is rung at 5 o'clock every morning in summer and at 6 o'clock in winter in order to arouse sleeping lie abeds and enable them to start work in good time. The curfew bell is also tolled at six o'clock each evening. The silk industry was introduced into France from Italy at the beginning of the fourteenth century when discontented Italian weavers established themselves at Lyons. In the sixteenth century the industry was introduced on an extended scale, and in 1750 France surpassed Italy and has since kept the position of leader.

There was an explosion at the rail way station in Santa Cruz one day recently which badly frightened the people waiting for the train. The entire bottom of a valise was blown out. The owner, who feared that he would be suspected as an anarchist, explained that two years ago he had placed dynamite caps in the valise while pruning trees and had neglected to take them out.

Noncommittal About His Health. Robert—Oh, I suppose Tom is all right, but he is so close mouthed. For instance, when I saw him today I asked him, "How are you?" and he gave me an evasive answer. Richard—And what was that? Robert—He said, "How are you?"—Boston Transcript.

The most disastrous times have produced the greatest minds. The purest metal comes of the most ardent furnace, the most brilliant lightning from the darkest clouds.

WORK OF THE LUNGS.

THE NECESSITY FOR PURE AIR AND PROPER BREATHING. Respiratory Gymnastics Tend to Strengthen the Resisting Force of Nature to Disease.—The Lesson of the Black Hole of Calcutta.

To my mind the part of the physical man upon which depends all the possibilities of mental resource is that part which has relation to respiration and which for its perfect work depends upon the quality of the air we breathe, the quantity respired and the method thereof. The apparatus for respiration consists of the lungs, which are double, the one on the right side having three lobes, the other on the left only two. We must always bear in mind that nature is generous in her provisions, and she has given us so much of lung tissue that a large part can be quickly exhausted and become inactive, yet life endure for its legitimate three score years and ten and its duties and activities continue unimpeded by any conscious lack. Under the microscope the lung tissue shows an infinite number of tiny cells or ultimate lobules. Some have estimated these at five or six hundred million, and, wonderful to relate, only with the first breath that the infant draws are both lungs ever filled with absolutely new air. All through life there is necessarily what we call a residual air, which may be of a greater or less amount, according to the breathing habit of the individual. It is said that the extent of surface through which the air breathed passes is approximately about 1,200 square feet, and the excretion from the lungs daily is over two pounds of poisonous matter. In fact, it is certain that at least one-third of the waste and poisonous matter caused by the activities of the organism, its growth, repair, decay, is excreted through the lungs.

Unfortunately, a great majority of mankind breathe very superficially, using only part of this large area of lung tissue. Even if persons are out of doors, unless by some activity, the deep cells of the lungs are not aerated for the simple reason that very few men or women know how to free the lungs properly. Detweiler states that "deep breathing not only ventilates the lungs and aids the circulation, but in many cases is able to strengthen the muscles of the thorax, especially those about the upper part of the chest." And I believe that we have a right to expect from respiratory gymnastics a real strengthening of the resisting force of nature to disease. Even if the lungs have begun to break down, honest effort in this direction will supplement medication.

One of the methods of correct breathing is to put the hands lightly on the hips, fingers backward; throw the shoulders well back, hold the chest up, chin in, and then inhale slowly through the nose as long as possible. When the lungs are filled, retain the air until some discomfort is experienced, then, forming the lips in the shape of a letter O, exhale as slowly and evenly as is consistent with comfort, making a slight blowing sound. Such an exercise for five minutes, clad only in one garment or, better, with no garment at all, night and morning, in a well ventilated room, will do very much in man, woman or child to develop the lung capacity, improve the carriage of the body and enrich the quality of the blood, which depends upon the activity of the lungs for its purification.

It is no wonder that so much care has been given by nature to the apparatus for the respiratory function, for we know perfectly well that man has lived as much as sixty days without food, he has been forced to exist for some time without water; but, alas, without air death must come in a brief space of time!

For instance, in 1756, 146 persons were confined over night in a small space not larger than 5,900 cubic feet, with only two little windows on one side. Within an hour all broke out in a profuse sweat. They were tortured with thirst and difficult breathing, and in three and a half hours the majority were delirious. Then when the morning came forty-three only lived to tell the tale. Another extreme case was at the battle of Austerlitz. Three hundred captured soldiers were confined in a small cellar, and within a few hours all but forty were dead. The reason is self evident. The air was insufficient for the demands of each individual, the poisonous exhalations from the body were thrown off through the lungs, and a most agonizing death ensued. It behooves us, then, most carefully to consider in arranging for the ventilation of homes, hotels, hospitals and jails not only that a proper quantity of pure air shall be allowed free circulation, but also to be watched lest this pure air shall be vitiated by retained impurities.

A great many investigations have been made to ascertain the relation of air to disease, and perhaps the simple statement of the fact that among all industrial classes those are healthiest and have the lowest death rate who are gardeners, farmers, agricultural laborers and fishermen—in other words, those whose occupations are carried on in the open air—will be a truth all can understand.

What a lesson, then, to all who may have families of children to rear! How important that every effort should be made to secure the largest amount of air space about the dwelling, plenty of room for the children to play out of doors, and in all means avoid having little ones sleep in an apartment which the winds of heaven do not visit.—Julia Holmes Smith, D. D., in "Pigman's Good Point."

Gentleman (to house agent)—The great disadvantage is that the house is so damp. House Agent—Disadvantage, sir? Advantage, I call it. In case of fire it wouldn't be so likely to burn.

In Leipzig the tram cars are furnished with some weekly journal and a leaflet giving particulars of theatrical and musical performances. The reading matter hangs on a hook at one end of the car, and passengers may take it to their seats for perusal.

CHOICE MISCELLANY

Danger in Carbolic Acid. Diluted carbolic acid has been used so freely and for so many years as a household remedy for dressing wounds that great importance attaches to the finding of Dr. Harrington, just made public, that hundreds of fingers have had to be amputated because this popular dressing was used on them for small and unimportant injuries. As the dilute solutions of carbolic acid cause no pain the dressing is particularly dangerous, for the patient does not dream that his fingers are being destroyed until the injury is beyond repair.

Gangrene is the result of unwise carbolic acid applications. One patient who presented himself had hurt the extremity of his index finger and had wrapped it for twenty-four hours in a rag soaked with a very mild solution of the acid. Yet in that short time gangrene had developed as far as the second joint, and the finger had to be taken off at once.

Dr. Harrington believes that any solution of carbolic acid between 1 and 5 per cent is dangerous. It is not the strength of the application, however, so much as the length of time during which it is applied. Other preparations produce the same effect in similar weak solutions. Hydrochloric, nitric, sulphuric and acetic acids cause gangrene when applied in a bandage to an extremity for twenty-four hours. But they are not remedies of ordinary household use, while carbolic acid is. Hence it is the more dangerous.

Saw a Midnight Rainbow. During the voyage of the steamer New England, which arrived at Vancouver recently from the northern fishing grounds, a most peculiar phenomenon was observed by the members of the crew. On Tuesday, just after midnight, Captain Freeman, the pilot, was astonished to see a clearly defined rainbow from horizon to horizon lying to the northwest of the New England's position.

A stiff gale of wind was blowing at the time, and the moon was up, and though its face was frequently obscured for minutes at a time by black clouds, the rainbow colors showed no evidence of fading even when the moon was entirely obscured.

Captain Freeman called up the crew, who are mostly fishermen from Newfoundland, and none of them had ever seen anything similar to this phenomenon before. For half an hour the rainbow was in plain view, and then it began gradually to fade away from its eastern end. Part of the time it was so dark that another ship near by could not have been seen except for lights, yet the rainbow was in full view.—San Francisco Chronicle.

The Filipino Schoolmaster. Captain Allan D. McLean, surgeon at the United States hospital at Muntinlupa, in the Philippines, writes thus to a friend in Detroit: "At present the general topic of the day is, What is Uncle Sam going to do with the new 'white elephant'—the 700 schoolteachers recently sent out here—he so philanthropically or unknowingly saddled upon himself. Without the commissary privileges their salary of \$75 a month doesn't even keep them in food. They cannot speak Spanish and never will learn to understand Tagalo. The general impression is that it would be cheaper for Uncle Sam to transport all the Filipinos to the United States to learn the language there than to attempt the schoolmaster scheme. They have only been here two weeks and have raised more powwow and disturbance than the whole army did during the palmy days of the insurrection. Since leaving the United States about 100 of them have been married, and the remaining 600 are buying themselves day and night to get into the matrimonial band wagon, the wheels of which never cease turning even in the Philippines."

A Unique Industry. Among the pine forests of the continental divide, forty miles west of Denver, and along the eastern foothills of the Rockies a unique industry is pursued in the early fall. It is the gathering of the seeds of the Rocky mountain conifers for exportation to all parts of America and Europe. Children of ten and twelve years earn enough to clothe themselves for a year. One old grandmother last year made her \$5 a day, and a family of Texas cotton pickers made \$200 one fall because they could pick with both hands. The seeds are sent to all the botanical gardens in the world and to the forestry departments of the German and American governments.

Teaching French by Phonographs. A system of teaching the French language by phonograph is to be tried in England. Several prominent French professors are devoting their energies to preparing phonograph cylinders carrying French lessons upon them. The phonographic records are accompanied by a book which contains thirty lessons, each of which corresponds to a phonographic cylinder, and each lesson is ingeniously illustrated. All that the student has to do is to set the phonograph in motion, and the book will explain what the instrument is saying. The object of this system is to give the French accent correctly.

The King's Precautions. Among the works which are taking place at Windsor castle is the pulling up of all the floors, which have not been touched since the beginning of the last reign, some not for a century. They are to be completely relaid on modern principles and are to be rendered fireproof. Since the burning of Sandringham the king has always had a great dread of fire, and he is taking advantage of the present opportunity of rendering the castle more secure against the devouring element.—Tattler.

The Young of the Sea Devil. You may find in the sea devil a curious illustration of nature's system for adjusting reproduction. The cod lays several hundred thousand eggs at a spawning because nearly all of them must necessarily be lost while floating on the waves and those which hatch are mostly devoured. But the sea devil, which produces but a single young one at a time, retains the latter in its belly until the infant creature is from four to six feet in length, so that when born it is able to take care of itself and is in no danger of being destroyed.

THE EYE OF AN ARTIST.

A Case Where It Was More Reliable Than a Sailor's Optic. Mr. N. Chevalier, the well known artist who accompanied the late Duke of Edinburgh on many of his travels, was once going from Dunedin to Lyttelton, New Zealand, by steamer. Anxious to catch the earliest glimpse of the coast he went on deck at dawn and was alarmed to see that the vessel was heading straight on to the land. Calling the officer's attention to the fact, he was told that it was only a fog bank. The artist maintained his point, but the second officer looked and confirmed his mate.

The artist then said: "Well, gentlemen, I will back my artist's eye against your sailor's eye, and I say that what you mistake for a fog bank is a low range of hills, and there is a range of mountains appearing above them."

But he was only laughed at, until the captain coming on deck found in the growing light that the artist was right and the seamen wrong. The vessel was only just time to avert disaster. The helmsman was dismissed in disgrace and the course given to the new steersman, but the vessel's head still pointed landward—the compass was all wrong.

The cause was discovered later. A commercial traveler had brought a box of magnets on board and deposited them in a stern cabin, causing what might have been a fatal deflection of the compass.

To return to the question of interpretation, the artist was dealing with the appearances which his eye was trained to see and his mind to interpret. A speck on the horizon might have remained a mere speck to him long after the sailors had interpreted the speck into a vessel of definite rig. There can be little doubt that the trained eye is accompanied by a sort of mental seeing, an instinct outrunning optics.

THE CHICKEN YARD. No henhouse that is frequently dusted with lime will be infested with lice. Lime purifies the quarters and dries them. It is cheap and should be used plentifully.

Always have the nests so low that the hens can jump in rather than be obliged to cluck down. If the fowls get too fat, oats as a single food are one of the best grains that can be given to lessen fat.

Mating birds to breed to a feather is a high art, to be acquired only by long practice, aided by close study. A flat perch is best because of being the most comfortable to the feet and the best support to the breast.

There are three breeds of fowls that are pre-eminently valuable as egg producers. These are the Minorcas, Leghorns and Black Spanish. A medium sized active male is twice as valuable as one that is large and extra heavy. If large size and weight are desired, select large hens, but the male should be active and vigorous.

When a fowl has canker and the mouth and throat are sore and ulcerated, wrap a soft rag around a lead pencil, dampen it slightly, dip in chlorate of potash and swab out the mouth clean and inject a drop of turpentine.

What Comes After Suicide? On the whole, it is something of a pity that some of these fellows who cut their throats, blow out their brains or swallow poisons in order to rid themselves of their troubles cannot come back, so they might tell others who are troubled whether relief lies in that direction or not. It is more than probable that what they then could tell would deter other reckless men and women from following in their footsteps, and for that, if for no other reason, their return would be welcome. As Hamlet implied, it is better to bear the ills we know than to fly to those we know not of, and there isn't much doubt that the suicides are not long in finding that out.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

The Peach Legend. Almost all fruits and flowers have their legend. One about the peach comes from Japan and tells how a poor, pious old couple were searching for food by the roadside. The woman found a peach, which she would not eat of, though starving, till she could share it with her husband. He cut it exactly in half, when an infant leaped forth. It was one of the gods, who had, he said, accidentally fallen out of the peach orchard of heaven while playing. He told them to plant the stone of the peach, and it brought them happiness, friends and wealth.

How a Plant Protects Itself. One little plant of South Africa protects itself by assuming a curious likeness to a white lichen that covers the rocks. The plant has sharp pointed green leaves. These are placed close together, with their points upward, and on the tip of each leaf is a little white, scaly sheath. The resemblance of the smooth surface these present to the lichen growing on the rocks, beside which it is always found, is so great that it is not till you tread on it that you discover the deception.

The Ivory Nut. The vegetable ivory nut of commerce is the albuminous seed found in the drupes of a dwarf palm. From these nuts European turners fashion the reels of spindles, small boxes and many other little fancy articles, which can be colored with sulphuric acid.—Chambers' Journal.

Antiprofanity. In Switzerland and Italy good people go about with little cards containing pledges against swearing. These are presented whenever the bearers hear some one indulging in profanity. The penalty for violating the pledge is a small self imposed fine, to be paid to charity.

Turns and Comes. Coffee reached Constantinople about 1554 and was of universal use in Mohammedan countries before the close of the sixteenth century. So essential was it deemed to domestic happiness that a Turkish law recognized a man's refusal to supply his wife with coffee as sufficient ground for her claiming a divorce.