

BANDON RECORDER.
CHOICE MISCELLANY

Trials of Russian Writers. People here so accustomed to regard Russia as an illiterate land that they will probably be surprised to learn that a popular book at a low price has been known to reach a sale of 2,000,000 copies within a few months of its appearance. Such is the avidity with which the Slav reader seizes upon what appeals to him.

In no other country, moreover, have writers been called upon to suffer for their literary opinions as in Russia. The story of many of them is a veritable martyrdom. Novikov, the first modern writer, whom the metropolitan of Moscow termed "the best Christian he ever knew," was imprisoned for fifteen years in the Schlusselburg and came out a broken man. Laskin was imprisoned and exiled. Radtschoff in exile ended his own life by suicide. Ryloef was hanged, with five other lesser writers, by Nicholas I. Pushkin would have died in exile but for being killed in a duel, and Lermontoff was also killed when in exile at the age of twenty. Tolstoy was broken by twelve years' hard labor in a Siberian convict prison. Pabolshin was condemned to a thousand strokes with the bastinado and twenty-five years' service in a penal regiment, and a similar fate was reserved for Shchedrin. The list could be extended to cover a page or two.—London Telegraph.

Poisons in Eggs. "Eggs may be poisonous even before they are laid," is the cheerful statement made by Professor Metchnikoff of the Pasteur Institute in the witness box. The whites may contain disease-breeding microbes. Those that heat or survive in a vegetating state up to 60 degrees C., or 140 degrees F. Consequently a raw or even partly cooked egg, however fresh, may always be poisonous owing to the possible presence of lively bacilli in the white and contained therein from the very beginning. The professor's evidence was given in a case before the first chamber, in which a pastry cook is being sued by twenty-five persons who had been made very ill by eating some of his cream tarts and by the heirs of a twenty-sixth, who died of it. Official experts, supported by M. Metchnikoff, stated at the hearing that the case is so utterly impossible even to make sure that without some containing white of egg included shall be innocuous, however fresh the egg, for the above reasons.—Paris Letter to London Telegraph.

A Plan For Raising Cars. Racing cars are furnishing a worthy and high function, and all motorists and riders of every shade of conservatism are indolent to these speed cars that beat their life out in a frail structure for the sake of quiet and unobtrusive motoring. The man that turns to course a flying chauffeur ought to know enough to praise him. He puts each part to a white hot test. An hour of a speed dash is worth a year of some bowling club. The experiments on the racing car, the results of which have been taken over and incorporated in the touring car, are long shots on the life of the rider. And this system of putting novelties through the burning fiery furnace is giving us the increasingly excellent touring cars.—Country Life in America.

Modern Cruises. Cruises are still possible. A whole French crew has undergone the experience of Selkirk. The three-masted vessel Anjou, owned in Nantes, was lost in the Pacific in February. All hope that the crew were alive had been given up when a few days ago the ship owners received a telegram from New Zealand announcing that the entire ship's company had been rescued safe and well after being three months on a desert island. The notice of the rescue is given in the Paris papers as Andipol, and it is stated to be near the Auckland group.

Explosions on Old Battlefields. The forests in the mountains known as London heights, opposite Harpers Ferry, took fire recently and burned with great intensity. After some time a series of explosions were heard which startled the inhabitants, and the excitement was so great that it broke windows in some houses in Harpers Ferry, across the Shenandoah. The explosions were caused by the bursting of shells which had been thrown on the heights at the time when General Mills surrendered to Stonewall Jackson in 1862. These had failed to explode when they were fired and had remained there for more than forty years.

The Deadly Cigarette. Another blow has been struck at the cigarette. Now comes a medical authority to declare that leeches applied to inveterate cigarette smokers die of nicotine poisoning after a short time. On the other hand, they cling to habitually pipe smokers without experiencing any apparent discomfort, from which it is argued that the cigarette smoker absorbs the nicotine while the pipe smoker does not. The investigator is silent regarding cigars.

A Profitable Crop. Catalpa is as safe an investment as the Bank of England and as fertile in dividends as Miller's Scotch-quick concern if a certain forest in Kansas is a standard of success. An average annual profit of 52 per cent maintained for twelve years on a 500-acre patch of catalpa is the showing of the late agent sheet of Mr. L. W. Yeggy of Hutchinson, Kan. Catalpa accounts for one-half of the success; sleepless management was the price of the other half of the triumph.—Country Life in America.

Holman Hunt's Paintings. Mr. Holman Hunt spent seven years on his great painting "The Triumph of the Innocents" and there was not at all satisfied with it, while "The Shadow of Death" took him three years.

I have seldom known any one who deserted truth in trials that could be trusted in matters of importance.—Paley.

POLLY LARKIN

Rev. Frederick F. Shannon, pastor of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church of Brooklyn, gave a merited rebuke to women who lavish not only affection, but wealth, upon their dogs, in a recent address before the Long Island Methodist Preachers' Association. He stated that in the city of Brooklyn there were women who spent a thousand dollars and more a year in clothes for their pebble dogs. They purchased ermine-lined coats costing the modest sum of two hundred dollars. They must fit just, and in each pocket of these dear little coats was tucked a dainty little handkerchief of real lace. One Brooklyn woman went so far as to have a Queen Anne cottage built for her dog. The rooms were papered and carpeted, the windows hung with lace curtains, and the tiny bed must be aired and sunned every day. At a certain hour of the morning a woman called to bathe, curl and perfume the little darling and then take him out for a walk. He has to have his meal served regularly to avoid a complication of evils that might follow if he was allowed to eat everything at any and all times. This precious dog must have its own dainty dishes of Haviland china, for he knows the difference at once and would refuse to eat of common table ware. It seems hard to believe that such simpatons as these women have proved themselves to be should exist in this era of enlightenment and progress, and shows them up in anything but an enviable light. It is the wealthy class, as a rule, who indulge in this dog fad, giving it far more attention than they would a little child, the latter being usually turned over to a nurse and is probably seen once a day for five minutes.

BRIEF REVIEW.

Disastrous Fortune Telling. An extraordinary case of madness, in which all members of a family, consisting of father, mother and four children, were simultaneously afflicted, recently occurred in Belgium. A party of strolling gypsies, who undertook to tell the father's fortune by means of cards, declared that he would be killed while serving in the army, and this prediction so impressed him and his family that in the course of the same day they all developed signs of wavering reason and before long had to be put under restraint. The gypsies, who were the source of the trouble, were arrested by the German police when crossing the frontier from Belgium.

Cause of Comets' Tails. A subject to which much discussion and theorizing has been devoted during recent years is the cause and character of the tails of comets. Many ingenious hypotheses have been proposed but none of them yet is generally accepted as the right one. F. G. Shaw, some time ago published a new theory. He attributes the tail to the action of the cosmic atmosphere on the sun's rays, which renders them more capable of being refracted and reflected by the nuclear dust in the neighborhood. That, in fact, is really no tail, but merely a local illumination of the interstellar dust. Shaw also explains the gegenschein by the same phenomenon.

A Deadly Disease. The American Board of Foreign Missions has received reports from its African missionaries relating to the peculiar disease known as the "sleeping sickness," which is seriously afflicting Central Africa, particularly the kingdom of Uganda. These reports show that there have been 4,081 deaths within the kingdom from this disease. It is believed that the malady is connected with the presence of the tsetse fly, which hitherto has not been supposed to be harmful to man, though fatal to cattle and horses.

Bedroom Suit Worth \$100,000. At Knole, Sevenoaks, Kent, England, the residence of Lord Sackville, there is a room called the King's bedroom, containing a bed made for James I. that cost \$40,000, a solid silver table, a toilet service of silver valued at \$50,000 and many other treasures that entailed the expenditure of much gold (\$100,000 in point of fact), when the apartment was furnished in the previous white metal.

Equal Suffrage in Iceland. In Iceland men and women are in every respect political equals. The nation, which numbers over 70,000 people, is governed by representatives elected by both men and women. Of all the sad fates of this sad world, there are none so sad as those of the little girl widows of India. There are 77,000 girl widows in India, who are three years old. India does not yet know that the quality of the mother must prove the quality of the men.

War History. An old dandy was watching the G. A. R. parade one Memorial day and was vigorously cheering the band. I suppose you were through the civil war, uncle?" said a bystander. "Ever step of it, sir!" "At the surrender too?" "Ever step of it, sir!" "What did General Lee say to General Grant?" "Never sold nuttin', sub; des chopped off his had 'n' went off!"

Climate and Consensus. In a book on his adventures in Tibet Colonel L. A. Waddell writes: "One curious result of the cold is the effect upon the speech of the people. A peculiarity of the language of the Tibetans, in common with the Russians and most arctic nations, is the remarkably few vowels in their words and the extraordinarily large number of consonants. For example, the Tibetan name for Sikkim is Hbrastrjongs. Indeed, so full of consonants are Tibetan words that most of them could be articulated without the need of a vowel. The Tibetans, however, do not seem to be aware of this peculiarity of their speech. The king was much amused at this and rallied his entourage on the suspicion evidently entertained as to their honesty. The bank having custody of the diamond finally agreed to its absence for one hour, charging \$225 as a premium on a special policy of \$2,500,000 insurance, the custodian accompanying the precious lump.

TRIPS OF THE OLD SIDE WHEELERS IN THE EARLY DAYS.

Trips of the Old Side Wheelers in the Early Days. In the early days there was a regular line of packets between St. Louis and St. Joseph, all side wheelers, and the average round trip occupied eight days. A boat left St. Louis every day for the Missouri river, and as there were fourteen boats in the line each boat made a round trip once every two weeks during the season. During the winter the boats ran between St. Louis and New Orleans.

SYDNEY SMITH.

As a Country Parson and as a Peace-making Magistrate. For twenty years Sydney Smith remained in Yorkshire, and though his ideas of clerical duty were not those of today, yet it will not be denied that he was a vigorous country parson, entering into the pursuits and the daily life of his humble neighbors and doing his utmost to improve their lot. His descriptions of his life and surroundings at Foston are among the most delightful of his humorous writings. Every one has heard of Anne Kay, the little country girl, "made like a mellestone," who, christened Bunch, "became the best butter in the county" of the renowned riding horse Calamity, which "tug me over his head into a neighboring parish as if I had been a shuttlecock, and I feel grateful that it was not into a neighboring planet;" of the ancient green chariot named the Immortal, "at which the village boys cheered and the village dogs barked;" of his four draft oxen—Tug and Lug, Haul and Crawl—of which "Tug and Lug took to fainting and required buckets of salt volatile and Haul and Crawl to lie down in the mud." As a magistrate Sydney Smith became famous for making up local quarrels and for dealing gently with poachers. The game laws, like a good Whig, he could not abide, and it stirred his honest wrath to reflect that "for every ten pheasants which fluttered in the wood one English peasant was rotting in jail." Like Charles Kingsley at Eversley in after years, he refrained from shooting. "If you shoot," he said, "the squire and the parson will both consider you as their natural enemies, and I think it more expedient to be at peace with both."—Rev. Canon Vaughan in Longman's Magazine.

BORN FOR A LAWYER.

Why His Mother Recommended Him to Colonel Ingersoll. Among the stories which Colonel Ingersoll related to tell was the following, says the writer of "Aunt Letty's Most Popular Men." While studying law with a firm out west the colonel called himself alone in the office one day. He was interrupted by the entrance of a raw boned, sharp featured country woman, who nudged into the room wearing a freckle faced, watery eyed five-year-old boy by the hand.

"Are you the lawyer?" she began. "On being answered in the affirmative she went on to say that she had brought her boy Jim to town for the purpose of sending him out at the 'lawyer's trade.' She was morally certain, she asserted, that Jim was a born lawyer and that all he needed was a diploma.

"But, madam," objected the colonel, "he is entirely too young to begin the study of law."

"Too young, indeed!" snuffed the fond mother contemptuously. "You don't know Jim. He was born for a lawyer."

Much amused, the colonel asked her what grounds she had for her belief of a future of the boy for her darling child.

"Why," said she, "when he was only seven years old he struck water, and he wouldn't do another lick if he got killed for it. When he was eight he got puzed and put on more airs than a jenny horse to a country fair, and now, Lord bless me, he jest freezes on to everything he can lay his hands on."

The First English Lighthouse. It is to the Romans, who left so many marks of their presence in England, that Britons owe the first lighthouse. This was, and is still, the Pharos watch tower to the south of the keep of Dover castle. This is remarkable as the only remaining specimen of Roman work in the castle and as the earliest piece of regular masonry ever existing in Great Britain. It consists of a cubic tower, 120 feet high, with landing courses of large Roman tiles filled with smaller stones. Its slope is octagonal outside, but square inside, the inner room measuring four feet and the walls being ten feet thick. Repaired again and again, it was used at one time as a government storehouse.—London Chronicle.

Keep Silence. When you see a sign that it, most of us do have a hand in keeping ourselves in order, temper, nerves, selfishness and longings, ambitions and desires all insisting to have a hearing, and down steps wisdom and orders control. Of course there are the cool headed, intellectual people to whom self sacrifice means nothing, and little they know of the light of the other passionate half. If health and discontent are the fruits of the sign, keep serene, say, "I shall control myself and be a cheerful philosopher," and all will go well.

POINT LACE.

The Result of the Genius of Barbara Utman of Saxony. A little known example of inventive genius in woman is that afforded by Barbara Utman of Saxony and her point lace so long in fashionable use all over the world. She invented the process and apparatus for manufacturing this beautiful handwork, which has since given employment to millions of operators and which, in its line, has never been exceeded. The apparatus looks like a long plumbion bristling with pins arranged to outline the pattern or design. The operator manages from ten to fifty parallel spools, allowing the thread to feed over the pins alternately until the design is completed. The spools or bobbins are purposely of different colors, so as to be easily distinguished. The process is slow and difficult to learn. Miss Utman found it while she was thousands learned it. Some few times when inventive ability was rare even among men, her ideas have been resorted to in the construction of machinery by which the lace is produced at wonderful lower rates, and yet Barbara Utman's lace still surpasses all.—London Queen.

THE AWFUL LONELINESS.

The Friend What made you close your season so early? The Actor.—The solitude, my boy; night after night, the appalling solitude.—Brooklyn Life.

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WOMAN AND FASHION

For the Season. If the vacation days are to be spent at the seashore the bathing suit will be an important article in the summer wardrobe. The ready made ones are usually ill fitting and unsatisfactory and lack the smartness and style that a well fitted suit gives to the wearer.

Any woman could easily make her own and would be well repaid for the time spent in the making. The model here shown is a particularly good one and as illustrated was made of black waterproof taffeta, trimmed with bands of white Serge, moirai, brilliantine, linen and silk are all used in the making, and dark blue and black are the favorite colors. The medium size requires six and three-quarter yards of forty-four inch material.

FASHION FANCIES.

Prunella is a cloth revival. Cloth is used to trim summer silks. Skirt yokes are by no means "out." The latest decolletage is wide rather than low. Tailored linen blouses are first choice for morning. Rosetta is best set off with a touch of cream and gold. Green and brown is a favorite combination in changeables. Lingerie sleeves are seen inside the sleeves of tailor coats. A cut out design in taffetas is a smart trimming for dannel serge.

TINTED WAIST LININGS.

The trick of putting a lining underneath a white blouse that will bring out the tone of the gown is quite a fashionable trick and a very pretty one. Red linen coat suits, for instance, carry pink muslin slips under white lingerie blouses. For this reason bolleball has come into favor for shirt waists. It washes perfectly and does not pull out of shape like many of the muslins.

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Silks make a notable feature of the season and are so thin and cool that they will be worn during the entire summer. Illustrated is a most attractive waist made of one of the pretty bolleball silks with cuffs and collar of lace. The model is high at the neck, the yoke being formed by a succession of shirings, but it can be cut low, with the sleeves in elbow length, so becoming and suited to evening as well as to day wear. The sleeves are the very newest and are shirred to form a succession of puffs. At the waist is the fashionable full belt, and the closing is made invisible at the back. In addition to the silk the model would be effective made from any reasonable material that is soft enough to shirr with success, both soft lace and flowered nets being much liked, while mousselines and silk voiles are many. For the medium size will be required six yards of material twenty-one, five yards twenty-seven or three and a quarter yards forty-four inches wide, with three-quarters of a yard of all over lace.

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QUALITY IN RANGE.

Savory and Salubrious All the Year Round and Served by All. Nearly all our vegetables and herbs appear originally to have passed through some preliminary stage in the laboratory of the medical herbalist before being admitted to the full honors of the kitchen. The fact is not so strange as it might at first sight appear, and its results have certainly been to the general advantage of mankind, for, though for the most part the old herbalist's prescriptions were of a kind neither to kill nor cure, his investigations of the specific qualities of plants were often useful. The ancients seem to have regarded sage as an herb of first importance to the physician, and the many traditions concerning it refer almost entirely to this aspect of the plant. "Why should a man die who has sage in his garden?" was one of the maxims of the famous school of health at Salerno. The belief in its virtues survived through the middle ages and was handed down with unaltered vitality to quite modern times. The writers of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries were full of its praise, and there was hardly an ailment of mind or body for which sage was not pronounced a cure or an alleviation. These spring the idea that as it was thus generally wholesome and recommended by the faculty the housewife prudently admit a dried water supply to her store-room. And so this "sovereign herb" gradually found its way into the kitchen, of which it has ever since remained an indispensable adjunct; not that it at once lost all its medical attributes. "He that would live for aye must eat sage in May" the proverb says. But the cooks soon began to take broader views. They pronounced sage to be equally savory and salutary all the year around and of special and peculiar value at the season of Michaelmas.

But this is advancing matters. Even the best of things eatable have had to overcome prejudice and slowly make their way, and in the case of mere condiments some help from the encouraging hand of fashion has generally been necessary. The rather nauseous brew known as sage tea was so common a domestic medicine to our forefathers that they could not at once accept the herb in the character of a savory adjunct. But we live and learn, and the merits of sage as a modifier of certain rich viands began to be acknowledged. It seemed to have a kind of natural affinity with roast pork, goose and duck and presently became the constant attendant of these dishes. Early in the eighteenth century an acknowledged authority had it that "sage is to grease and ducks, cock should stuff them with some sage and fine and a little pepper and salt and the same with a smoking pig."—London Globe.

OUR GOLDEN "COLD WAVES."

We Americans are always talking about our mountains of gold and coal and iron, of our fat fields of corn and wheat, but few of us ever realize that we have in our climate a great advantage over all other nations. In the cold wave which in summer and winter so often sweeps across the land and sends the thermometer tumbling 20 degrees in almost as many minutes we have a constant, a never diminishing asset of priceless value. The wave acts as a tonic, but unlike any tonic made by man, it carries no reaction. No other land has cold waves like ours. To the cold dry air of this periodic cold wave, which brings extraordinary changes of temperature, we owe much of the keen alert mind, the incessant, unremitting energy of our American race.—Century.

NAUSEA AND EGG SKIN.

In cases of violent nausea when all other remedies have failed the skin of a perfectly fresh egg is an almost immediate relief. If the first skin does not have the desired effect two more will cause a cessation without fail. This has been tried successfully in cases of cholera under the eye of a physician who acknowledged he had tried every known remedy in the pharmacopoeia. The egg skin is said to form a new coating temporarily for the stomach. The skin of an egg is the part that clings tightly to the inside of the shell. It can be given with milk or water and should be rolled up into as small a dose as possible.

LONDON PLAYHOUSES.

In the London playhouses there is an air of comfort and quiet luxury not always evident in our own theaters. The auditoriums are usually very small, but the seats and aisles are spacious, and the furnishings and decorations suggest a drawing room rather than a place of public amusement. The atmosphere is further accentuated by the evening clothes of the men, which are compulsory.—San Francisco Arizonian.

THE HIGH A HAIL.

When General Trepoft was chief of police in Moscow, before the establishment of the state liquor monopoly, he was told from the highest quarters to suppress the orgies at popular resorts in the town. A few days later the police raided the principal restaurants and at midnight, and the next morning General Trepoft asked of his august master directions for the prosecution of one member of the imperial family, two judges of the high court, a mayor and deputy mayor, several generals and many women well known in Moscow society, who, among others, had been arrested in the raid. The matter ended there.

HAS THE MOST LEGS.

The little creature which bears the distinction of owning more legs and feet than any other known organized being is the millipede, which literally means "thousand footed." There are several species of these curious worms, all possessing the characteristic of having a many segmented body, each segment provided with a pair of legs. Unlike the centipede—"hundred footed"—they are perfectly harmless.

IMPATIENT.

The Single Aunt.—You should be most assiduous to keep yourself unspotted from the world, Cornelia. You are so solicitous, are you not, to enter heaven after you cross the river? The Bud.—Yes, but, auntie, I'm not averse to a little heaven on this side.—Puck.

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