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In the rivers and lakes of New York state there is a bandit fish that roams at large and makes its living by robbing the gentlemen fish. It even attacks such vigorous fish as the black bass and the pickerel, fastening itself to them and sucking their blood until they are dead. The name of this bold bandit is the lamprey. Professor Gage of Cornell university has seen 12,000 of these lampreys spawning at one time in the outlet of Cayuga lake alone, and he has estimated that they kill more fish than all of the fishermen of the state put together. The lamprey is about the size and has somewhat the appearance of an eel. Professor Gage advises some manner of killing them by means of traps in the streams as they go up in the spring to

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MADEMOISELLE THERMOMETER.

I know of a restless young lass,
Who lives in a house made of glass,
And from her location
Marks each vibration
Of hot and cold waves as they pass.

When heat is announced, she will spring Tis very surprising
That simply by rising
So true a report she can bring.

To self elevation inclined She has such a volatile mind
That in every season
A suitable reason
For frequent depression she'll find.

Her temper mercurial thus Creates everywhere such a fuss That in conversation Affairs of the nation

A MORNING GLORY CULT.

This Flower Taking the Place of Chrys-Miss Eliza Rubamah Scidmore has an article on "The Wonderful Morning Glories of Japan" in The Century. Miss

Scidmore says:
As a floral sensation the chrysanthe-Sleeping Cars mum may be said to have had its day, the carnation is going, going, and seekers after novelty among flower fanciers are sighing for a new flower to conquer. It is hardly known, even to foreign residents in Japan, that that land, which has given us so much of art and beauty, has lately revived the culture of its most remarkable flower, the asagao, our morning glory. For size, beauty, range of color and illimitable variety there attained this sunrise flower precedes all others until its cultivation has become a craze, which is likely to spread to other countries, and-who knows-perhaps there introduce the current Japanese custom of 5 o'clock in the morning teas and garden parties.

Asagao, the morning flower, is more especially Japan's own blossom than the chrysanthemum, which, like it, came from China as a primitive sort of weed, afterward to be evolved by Japanese art or magic into a floral wonder

of a hundred varying forms. We who know and grow the morning glory as a humble back yard vine on a string-a vine with leaves like those of the sweet potato and puny little pink or purple flowers-are as far in the floral darkness as the Chinese, who know it chiefly as a wild thing of fields and bedge rows, the vine of "the little trumpets" or the "dawn flower," that is entangled with briers and bushes for miles along the top of Peking's walls. The old poetry and the old art do not seem to be permeated with it, as in Japan, where the forms of vases, bowis and cups, the designs and paintings of the greatest masters, repeat the graceful lines of vine and flower, and scores of famous poems celebrate the asagao in written characters as beautiful to the eve as is their sound to the ear.

The asagao was brought to Japan with the Buddhist religion, that particular cult of early rising. Scholars and priests who went over to study the new religion brought back the seeds of many Chinese plants. The tea plant came then, and Eisai brought the seeds of the sacred bo tree, and Tai Kwan, the Chinese priest at the Obaku temple in Uji. who may have introduced the flower to Japan, was one of the first to sing of the asagao in graceful outas, classic poems which scholarly brushes repeat "Asagaes bloom and fade so quickly, only to prepare for the mor-row's glory," is Tai Kwan's best known

How Punch and Judy Came to England. The heyday of the puppet show in England was during the last century. Long before then strolling showmen bad exhibited "drolls" or "motions" as the English puppets were known in the early days-to crowds of gaping rustics, but it was not until the time of Steele and Addison that the puppet show became a fashionable amusement, pat-

rouized by upper tendom. Pulcinella came to London in 1886. when an Italian puppet player set up his booth at Charing Cross and paid a small rental to the overseers of St. Martin's parish. His name was at once Englished into Punchinello, which was soon to be completely Anglicized as Punch.—Harper's Magazine.

A Contingent Name. The Syracuse Post says that a girl baby was recently brought to a clergy-

man of the city to be baptized. The latter asked the name of the baby. "Dinah M., " the father respon "But what does the 'M' stand for?"

interrogated the minister. "Well, I do not know yet. It all depends upon how she turns out." "How she turns out? Why. I do not

understand you." said the dominie. "Ob, if she turns out nice and sweet and handy about the house, like her mother, I shall call her Dinah May, but if she has a fiery temper and displays a bombshell disposition, like mine, I shall call her Dinah Might."

At Her Merey.

"So the telephone girl is taking her revenge, Whirly?" 'It's awful Every time I ring up she connects me with three or four wrong numbers in succession, and then sweetly informs me that the number which I really want is 'busy now.' "

An Enlanh. The danger of using porcelain letters on a tombstone is illustrated in a village cemetery not far from St. Louis. The

inscription reads: O Lord. She is thin! The final "e" bad been knocked off in a thunderstorm. -St. Louis Star.

The clergy of Russia are divided into active gentlemen or ladies to two classes—the white or village clergy, who must all be married, and the

A NATURAL WONDER.

The Tramp Red Sandstone Bowlder of the New Jersey Mountains.

Countless thousands of years ago vast stretches of glacial deposits came sliding across the state of New Jersey mounted the Falisades, pushed their way across the Hudson river, scoured over Manhattan Island and slid out into the Atlantic ocean, whither they disintegrated and sank into the deep or perbaps glided on to the other shore

But in their onward march these glaciers left indestructible evidence of their grinding stride, and today all along the palisades the trap rocks and bowlders are worn smooth where the mountains of ice and sand passed over them. In some rocks are deep scratches, all pointing eastward and showing which way the glacial deposits drift.d There is the evidence, mute, but indis putable

To the careful observer there are numberless other evidences of the presence of glacial influences in the past, but none is more convincing than the tramp bowlder that has finally settled down in the woods in the heart of Englewood borough. There it sits, a towering mass of rock weighing perhaps 200 tons and resting upon three points which in themselves find a purchase on a flat rock that is part of and common to the character of rock which composes the palisades. But, strangely mough and to the wederment of geologists, the tramp bowlder is red sandstone from the Jersey hills 25 miles inland, and the pedestal is metamorphite or soft granite.

Around this marvelous monument have grown trees that may perhaps be a century old, and they have completely hedged it in, while the rock itself has stood where it stands today for thousands of years. On the pedestal or that part of it which is protected from the action of the elements can be seen the deep ridges and scars made across its flat surface by the great grinding pressure of the body of ice and sand that passed over it countless years ago when New York was ice and snow clad and the world was a desolate waste in a state of chaos.

This tramp bowlder has caused geologists much wonderment and is regarded today as one of the finest specimens ever left in the wake of a glacier. It is equally astounding as though an explorer should find the bull of a steamboat in the Sahara desert. The only way it could get there would be through some great convulsion that had landed it from the sea in the heart of the inlaud sauds. -New York Journal.

BIRDS' EGGS.

The Reasons Why They Are Not All of One Shape. Why is there not a fixed form for all eggs? We can see no reason in the anat-

reasons for the shape of any particular egg in its later history. It is noticeable, for instance, that the

more spherical eggs, as those of owls, trogons and the like, are usually laid in holes in the earth, rocks or trees, where they cannot fall out of the nest, and that the eggs of the ordinary song bird, which makes a well constructed nest, are oval, while the slim, straight sided, conoidal eggs, tapering sharply to a point, belong to birds that construct little or no nest-to the shore birds, terns, guillemots and the like. Why Because these last drop them in small clutches and with little or no preparation upon sand or rock, where, were they spherical, they could only with difficulty be kept closer beneath the sitting bird, but conical objects will tend always to roll toward a center. An additional advantage is that eggs of the latter shape will take up less spaceform a snugger package to be warmed. In the case of guillemots the single egg laid is especially flat sided and tapering. and the species owes its perpetuation largely to this circumstance, since, were it not for the egg's toplike tendency to revolve about its own apex, the nces are that it would be pushed off the ledge of naked sea cliff where the

careless or stupid bird leaves it. This suggests a word in reference to the popular fable that sitting birds carefully turn their eggs every day or oftener in order to warm them equally. No such thing is done, because unnecessary. since, as we have seen, the germinal part always rises to the top and places itself nearest the influential-warmth of the mother's body. - Ernest Ingersoll in Harper's Magazine.

A Lucky Find. Two men walking on Campbell street toward Twelfth one night were accosted by a negro woman who was excited. 'Kin either one of you mens give me a match?" she said.

What for?" "I lost a quabtah down there, an I

want to hunt fur it." She was given several matches and ran ahead and began striking matches and looking along the sidewalk. When the two men came up, she had stopped hunting and had apparently found the

Well, did you find it?" inquired one of the men. 'No, but I done find this horseshoe an that's better u two quantuts," she

said. - Kansas City Star. Brette-I never saw such a cold au-

dience in my life. Light-Didn't they warm up a bit? Brette-Well, when they spoke of bringing out the author I believe some of the audience got hot, - Youkers

A contemporary mentions that there are schools in Belgium where the girls are not only taught housekeeping in all its branches, but the management of children as well.

Seven British regiments have been given permission to add the word "Chittral" to their colors.

SONG.

I would that my love were a lily fair And I would that I were a sunbeam bold, Still to be dressing her flowery hair All day long with my airy gold.

Or would that she were the dew that lies In th' rose and I the rose tree were. To fold my red leaves over her eyes And make my sweetness a part of her.

Would I were a breeze that is where it will And she a leaf in some lovely place. How I would cling to her, sing to her, till

Or would that she were a fawn so gay And I within some lowly bed Where oft her silvery feet would stray And dimple the turf above me spread. Nay, leave th' sunbeam the light that's his And leave the lify her ail. Told, And give me my maiden, just as she is, To kiss and sing to, to keep and hold! —New York Ledger.

A LAD WITHOUT GUILE.

How Grant Impressed His Comrades as

"He was a lad without guile," testifies General Longstreet. "I never heard him utter a profane or vulgar word. He was a boy of good native ability, although by no means a hard student. So perfect was his sense of honor that, in he numerous cabals which were often formed, his name was never mentioned, for he never did anything which could be subject for criticism or reproach. He soon became the most daring horseman in the academy." He had a way of solving problems out of rule by the ap-plication of good, hard sense, and Rufus Ingalls ends by saying: "When our school days were over, if the average opinion of the members of the class had een taken, every one would have said: There is Sam Grant. He is a splendid fellow, a good, honest man, against whom nothing can be said and from whom everything may be expected.'"

One of the keenest observers in his class, for a year his roommate, perceived more in him than his instructors. had the most scrupulous regard for truth. He never held his word light. He never said an untruthful word even 'He was a reflective mind and at

times very reticent and somber. Something seemed working deep down in his thoughts-things he knew as little about as we. There would be days, even weeks, at a time when he would be sient and somber—not morose. He was a cheerful man, and yet he had these noments when he seemed to feel some premonition of a great future—wonder-ing what he was to do and what he was to become. He was moved by a very sincere motive to join the Dialectic society, which was the only literary society we had. I did not belong, but Grant joined while we were roommates, with the

aim to improve in his manner of expressing himself."-McClure's.

Unauthentic Portraits of Franklin. It seems the height of absurdity to ner Portrait of Franklin at Twenty," belonging to Harvard university, as an authentic portrait. Where did Franklin, who was grubbing for funds to carry him home sided conversation with the Lord, but at the time this picture is supposed to it is evident that there is another party have been painted, get the money for to it as far as he is concerned. To hear the "purple and fine linen" in which he is arrayed, let alone to pay the artist for his work? Aside from Franklin's circumstances being against its authentic-

ity, his "Autobiography" is silent upon so important a subject as this portrait, and its history is purely mythical.

Another picture that has no better claim to be considered a likeness of Benjamin Franklin hangs in the Metropolitan Museum of Art and was painted by Stephen Elmer, an English still life painter. There is nothing to show that it was given the name of Franklin until 1824, when a plate engraved by Ryder and published in 1782, as "The Politician," was relettered and issued with

the name of Franklin. The last picture to be mentioned in this expurgatorial list is of the first importance as a work of art. It was painted by Thomas Gainsborough and is in the collection of the Marquis of Landsdowne, but it is clearly not Benjamin Franklin. It is, in my opinion, the por-trait of Governor William Franklin.— Charles Henry Hart in McClure's Maga-

The First Steam Power.

The power of steam was known to Hero of Alexandria, who exhibited what seems from the description to have been small steam engine to Ptolemy Phila delphus and his court about 150 B. C. Pliny describes a small boat, built by a 'magician' of Rome, which moved by means of a wheel, "driven by a pot of hot water." Watt's invention of a rotary steam engine was patented in 1769. The first railway locomotive was built by Trevithick in 1804. The first practical locomotive was perfected by Stephenson in 1829. As early as 1707 Denys Papin built a model of a steamboat, which was destroyed by a mob of boat-men. The first practical steamboat was built by William Symington in 1802. In 1803 Robert Fulton, in connection with Chancellor Livingston, built a steamboat which was tried on the Seine. In 1807 the Clermont began trips from

A Discreet Estimate.

New York to Albany.

"Papa," said young Mrs. Hunker, 'won't you please give George and me \$10,000? "What do you want that much money for?"

"We want to build a \$5,000 house." -Harlem Life. Did Him a Favor. Pedestrian (to footpad)-Money or

my life, is it? I was wondering how I was going to live through this week. Now I won't have to. Very kind of you. Shoot away. - Boston Transcript. The willow is one of the most adapt-

able of plants. A willow switch stuck in the wet ground will almost juavriably take root and become a tree.

In Garrick's time when the weather was warm the men in the pit took off coats and vests.

FRANKLIN'S GRAVE.

Reasons Given For Allowing It to Ecuals

Benjamin Franklin's grave is in a neglected condition. No appropriate stone rises over it, the ground round about it is uncared for, and the tomb of the great scholar and statesman is as obscure as that of a man whose name and fame were no part of the glory of

his country.

His grave is destitute even of a headstone. It is covered by an old fashioned marble slab which was placed there 100 years ago and is now worn and discol-

ored by age.
Nothing has been done to it since Franklin was buried there, and even the modest arrangements of the grave are not kept in the perfect condition that is expected of a great man's tomb. The earth on all sides is bare of grass, the common thatching of the commonest grave, and an air of desolution is

about the whole place. The sexton said that the descendants of Franklin would not do anything to repair the grave; neither would they ailow anybody else to do anything. Every day he has received offers of sub-scriptions from visitors, who are distressed by the forlors appearance of Franklin's resting place and who would like to see it improved. In reply he says, as he has been instructed, that Franklin wished it so, "being a plain man averse to display of any kind." Not long ago, at his own expense, he had the fading inscription recut, or else even the only distinguishing mark, the

name, would be gone. If he had not done so, the last resting place of the greatest man, outside of Washington, in American history would have been forgotten and unknown. Who is responsible for this condition of affairs? Not the living relatives of Franklin. The responsibility rests with the American people, to whom the man belongs. They should see to it in the future that what little is there to mark the grave is kept in bet-

ter order than it has been in the past. Before he died Franklin provided for his own gravestone and instructed a stonecutter of his acquaintance in every detail, even to the inscription which was to be placed upon it. He desired to be buried beside his wife, who had died some years before, and a common slab was to be placed over them both. The inscription arranged as he ordered

BENJAMIN PRANKLIN DEBORAH 1790

Everything was done as he desired, and the work was paid for out of his estate and stands today the same as when he died.—Philadelphia Times.

Wabbled When He Came to Possum, Old Uncle Claybrook is a very reliwith his Maker twenty times a day or oftener. His habit is to pray and then turn off into what appears to be a one

him reminds one very much of a telephone conversation. The other day he was going through his customary devotions, and when he got to the point of expressing thankfulness for the many blessings of life he broke off into a recounting of them, says Cicero T. Sutton of the Owens-boro Inquirer. "An den, dar's possum, Lord-how'd you ever think of makin possum? Possum jes' beats all. You jes' couldn't beat it ef you tried ag'in. Possum, he, he! Yes, dar's watahmillion. I hadn't thought of dat. Hit's jes' great. You couldn't beat hit neither. could you, Lord? Now, hones', couldn you jes' fix it so dey bofe git ripe at oncet? Ef you was to do dat, you mought go out an shet de do'. Dey wouldn't be no mo' sin an no mo' sorrow an no mo'

tribelation. Jes' try hit oncet, Lord, an see what a diffunce hit would And then "old uncle" began to hum a quaint negro camp meeting tune and stopped to look at a piece of liver in a butcher's stall as the best substitute for his loved possum or as best suited to the small piece of money which represented his total movable wealth.

A certain man who owns a row of dwelling houses over in the northwest quarter of the town has learned wisdom by bitter experience. A friend of mine went to him not long ago to rent one of the houses Do you lease it by the month or by

That depends on what you are going to have on your floors," answered the landlord "Are you going to have car-

the year?' she inquired.

"No." answered my friend; "we have rugs.

'You'll have to sign a year's lease then, ' the landlord made reply, smiling craftily "If you bought carpets and had them fitted to the floors, I know you d stay in the house as long as you could, but these rugs are too easily adjusted to any sized room You'll have o sign a year's lease if you have rugs. There are seven houses in my row, and six of them haven t kept a tenant longer than two years at a time for the last five years The seventh house-well, the people in it had carpets made and laid for it five years ago, and they haven't thought of moving Carpets, I'll rent

Lion Taming.

Washington Post

by the mouth, rugs, a year's lease. "--

Men who have had long experience with lions give them a very bad character There is said to be no art in so called lion taming but the art of terror ism, and no rule but keeping the lions stomachs full and their minds cowed. There never has been, and there never will be, say some, an appeal made to the iten s intelligence, because the lim-ited amount of that quality which he possesses is entirely dominated by his