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VOL. IX. FLORENCE, OREGON, FRIDAY, Apr. 28, 1899. NO. 52.

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Half Sick Half Well

Many persons have their good day and their bad day. Others are about half sick all the time. They have headache, backache, and are restless and nervous. Food does not taste good, and the digestion is poor; the skin is dry and sallow and disfigured with pimples or eruptions; sleep brings no rest and work is a burden.
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And the remedy?

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"BURNING STICKS."

Columbus' Impressions on His First Introduction to Smoking Tobacco.

It was on the island of Cuba, in the autumn of 1492, that the use of tobacco was learned by Europeans. Columbus makes the first mention of the weed in his diary under date of Oct. 15. When he and his men landed on Cuban shores, the kindly natives, who mistook them for messengers from heaven, brought them numerous offerings. Among these, as stated by the admiral in his diary, were some "dry leaves, which must be something much prized by them (the natives), for they had already brought me some in San Salvador as a present."

Little heed was paid to these leaves in the beginning by the Spaniards. They were in search of gold and saw no possibility of converting miserable weeds into that precious commodity. In the course of time they began to notice that as the natives went to and from their villages and the shore smoke escaped from their mouths, "in a truly diabolical manner." Soon they discovered that these unclad children of the wilds carried in their hands a "burning stick," which every now and then they would put into their mouths and blow out a cloud of smoke. This had a most heathenish look, as it is recorded, to the Spaniards, and they inquired, as well as they could by signs, into the custom.

They learned that the burning sticks were composed of the dried leaves so treasured by the natives, and that the custom of smoking the fragrant weed was supposed to lessen fatigue on long journeys. They tried it for themselves and found this actually to be the case. On many a troublesome jaunt thereafter they were refreshed as the pleasant perfume curled upward from their own "burning sticks."—Detroit Journal.

SPECULATING ON SHIPS.

How Underwriters Gamble on Overdue Vessels Posted at Lloyds.

When a ship is overdue, an opportunity is sometimes afforded for a gamble at Lloyds. It can be readily understood that underwriters who are interested in the "overdues" are only too willing to get rid of the risk by paying a premium on the insured rate to those who are willing, on their terms to relieve them of their responsibilities. The premium varies with the chances of the vessel turning up; the smaller the chances the higher the premium and vice versa.

The rates paying on "overdues" serve as accurate barometers of the probabilities or otherwise of the ship ever being heard of again. These underwriters who speculate on "overdues" are generally known by the significant name of "doctors." The insurance on an "overdue" may pass through many channels before the ship is, on the one hand, "posted" at Lloyds as "missing," or, on the other hand, she arrives in safety.

A ship is never "posted" until the committee is thoroughly satisfied that her case is hopeless, and until the owner is of the same opinion. Before "posting" a notice is put up for a week inviting any information concerning the vessel. If this elicits no news, the committee at its next meeting votes the ship as "missing," and a notice is posted accordingly. The loss is then settled and paid for. It may be incidentally remarked that "posting" at Lloyds constitutes a legal death certificate for any one on board the missing ships.—Good Words.

Smallest and Oddest Republics.

Goust is the smallest republic as to area, but Tavolara is the smallest republic as to population. Goust is only one mile in area. It is located on the flat top of a mountain in the Pyrenees, between France and Spain, and is recognized by both of those countries. It is governed by a president and a council of 12. It was established in 1648 and has 130 inhabitants. The president is tax collector, assessor and judge. Goust has no church, clergyman or cemetery. The people worship in a church outside of their own territory, and the dead bodies are slid down to a cemetery in the valley below. In that valley all the baptisms and marriages are performed. Tavolara is 12 miles northeast of Sardinia. It is an island five miles long by a half mile wide. Its total population consists of 55 men, women and children. The women go to the polls with the men and elect every year a president and council of six, all serving without pay. The inhabitants support themselves by fishing and raising fruit and vegetables. The republic has no army and no navy.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Market Quotations on Scalps.

The market price of "scalps," as agreed upon between the early French colonists of Louisiana and the Indians, with whom they bargained to fight out their battles with hostile Indians for them, varied with circumstances. At the time the French were at war with the Alibamons a "scalp" of one of the last named, when brought to them, was paid for at the rate of a gun, five pounds of musket balls and as much powder "On the 14th of March" (1704), writes De La Harpe, "a party of 20 Chicachos (Chickasaws) brought in four Alibamon scalps. They were given for each scalp a gun, five pounds of balls and as much of powder, according to the contract made with them."—New Orleans Picayune.

Sawed With Cables.

In the French quarries of St. Triphon stone is sawed with steel wire cables moistened with wet sand and passing in an endless rope over a series of pulleys. The wire, which runs from 1,000 to 1,300 feet per minute, is charged as it enters the cut with a jet of water and siliceous sand, which forms the cutting material. A running cable of 300 feet can make a cut 100 feet long.

Errand Running.

A boy of 15 thinks he is too old to run errands, but after he is 35 and married he begins again.—Atchison (Kan.) Globe.

We call your attention to the following prices. We invite comparison. We want your trade. If good goods and low prices count we will get it.

Guaranteed Fast Black *
* Ladie's and Men's Hose
10c. per pair.

Ladies' Shoes 90c. and up
Men's " 75c. " "
Children's " 20c. " "
Big Selection—Can save you money

Ready made Skirts.
Scotch Lawn
Fast Colors
Pretty Patterns
4c. per yard.

Men's and Boy's Clothing
Men's Shirts 25c. and up
Boys' " 20c. " "
Boys' Suits 75c. " "
Men's " $2.75 " "

Pretty Shirt Waists
30 yds. calico for $1.00
A. F. C. Ginghams 10c. per yard.
Duck Suiting at 8, 10, 12, 15, 20c. per yard : : :

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Ladies' Undervests 5c. and up
Childrens " 5c. " "
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50c. and up per suit.

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WILLING EXILES.

The English and Americans Are Important Factors In Paris Life.

"On and after this date," wrote Napoleon I to Fouche, "see that the English are expelled from Paris."

Such an edict would seem a very large order at the present day, but it was by no means a small one in Napoleon's time. What would the Paris of today be without its English colony? From Sir Edmund Monson, our embassador, to the pale boy who files the English journals at Neal's library in the Rue Castiglione the English are very important factors in Parisian life.

There has been an English colony in the French capital for many centuries, yet one might search in vain for a similar French colony in London. The Leicester and Soho square districts, although owning to a large French population, possess hardly a trace of the flavor or mien that distinguishes the quarter the English frequent in Paris, and it is not a fifth the size.

To speak broadly, Paris has within its walled borders a little London of many thousand persons—not squalid and impoverished, but boasting splendid mansions, fine shops, hotels, churches, hospitals and libraries, and all these to such an extent that it is difficult to believe one is not in the British capital itself.

The inhabitants of this colony might roughly be catalogued as follows: Retired people and gentlefolk who have seen better days, those who desire to have their children educated in the language, business people, authors, artists, students, journalists and professional men, those who have the best of private reasons for living out of England and cranks, which term includes certain individuals who for some cause or other have developed a feeling of hatred for the land of their birth. Nearly all are exiles of their own accord.

On Sunday the elite of the English colony turns out to the Church of the Embassy in the Rue d'Agnesseau. Here for a number of years Dr. Nayes, who was formerly a Leytonstone incumbent, has preached, and here a collection bag goes regularly round, and is as regularly returned in a condition of comparative emptiness. For your Englishman of the English colony is either in a condition to help largely support the church and does or else gives nothing at all.

One thing must be said about the English and Americans who go to Paris. They support the city. Without their patronage there is scarcely a big shop on the boulevards that would not close its doors within a few months.—London Mail.

Naval Impudence.

Fifty years ago the allowance of paint in the British navy was very small, and sometimes the officers had to pay large sums in order that their ships might maintain a decent appearance. One of them resorted to a humorous expedient, either to soften the heart of the navy board, or if that proved impossible, to express his opinion.

Sir John Phillimore painted one side of his old yellow frigate black and white and used the rest of the black paint in printing on the other side in large letters, "No more paint."

The navy board wrote to call his attention to the impropriety of his conduct and signed themselves, as they did officially, "Your affectionate friends."

To this Sir John replied that he could not obliterate the objectionable letters unless he was given more paint and signed himself in turn, "Your affectionate friend John Phillimore."

The navy board then called his attention to the impropriety of the signature, to which Sir John replied, acknowledging the letter, stating that he regretted that the paint had not been sent and ending: "I am no longer your affectionate friend, John Phillimore."

His frigate was allowed to retain [illegible] original [illegible] and perhaps the [illegible] board [illegible] punish [illegible]
[illegible] Youth's Companion

Getting Up.

The Duke of Wellington slept on an iron camp bedstead 18 inches wide and argued that "when a man wants to turn over it is time to turn out." Edward Everett Hale quotes this remark of the duke in the "Ten Times One Record" and takes issue with him. "The principle is well enough," says Dr. Hale, "but I think the detail is wrong. Sleep is far too important to be made uncomfortable." Dr. Hale goes on to tell of various ingenious devices for automatically waking a sleeper. A friend of his fixed his alarm so that at the forecordained moment the bedclothes were dragged from the bed. The same gentleman found another contrivance which worked better. "The alarm struck a match, which lighted the lamp which boiled the water for Rossiter's shaving. If Rossiter staid in bed too long, the water boiled over upon his razor and clean shirt and the prayer book his mother gave him and Coleridge's autograph and his open pocketbook and all the other precious things he could put in a basin underneath when he went to bed; so he had to get up before that moment came."

A Generous Admission.

The London Graphic tells the following story about Hans Richter in an article on conductors:

Dr. Richter's popularity with his men is easily intelligible, for while nothing escapes his argus eyed vigilance he always recognizes and acknowledges good work. A few years ago, while he was conducting—from memory, as usual—one of Erahm's overtures at St. James' hall, "a strange thing happened," as Mr. Haggard used to say. Band and conductor lost touch for several bars, and when the piece was ended Dr. Richter signaled to the orchestra to play the overture again from the beginning. This time everything went without a hitch, and at the close Dr. Richter turned round, and addressing the audience said, "Ladies and gentlemen, the mistake was mine, not the orchestra's," a generous admission which provoked a salvo of applause.

A New Obstacle.

The old obstacles that used to prevent the marriage of loving couples are out of date. The blood-and-thunder villian is a myth nowadays. The cruel father is only a tradition. Distance, absence and shipwreck in these days of cheap, safe and swift transportation do not count. The new obstacle is a common sense one. It is ill-health on one side or the other, and sometimes on both.

Men nowadays hesitate to marry a woman, no matter how beautiful, no matter how attractive, or interesting, or witty, if she is a sufferer from ill-health. All men worth having desire happy, healthy children. Any woman who will, may fit herself for the duties of wifehood and the exalted function of motherhood. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription banishes all hindrance in the nature of local ill health. It gives health, power and capacity to the delicate and important organs concerned in wifehood and maternity. It corrects all displacements, allays inflammation, heals ulceration, stops exhausting drains and soothes pain. It prepares for natural, healthy motherhood. It makes maternity easy and safe and almost painless. It insures a new-comer constitutionally strong and able to withstand the usual ills of babyhood. It is the greatest of nerve tonics and restoratives. Medicine dealers sell it and an honest dealer will not urge a substitute upon you.

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