

Backaches of Women

are wearying beyond description and they indicate real trouble somewhere.

Efforts to bear the dull pain are heroic, but they do not overcome it and the backaches continue until the cause is removed.

Lyda E. Plinkham's Vegetable Compound

Does this more certainly than any other medicine. It has been doing it for thirty years. It is a woman's medicine for woman's ills. It has done much for the health of American women. Read the grateful letters from women constantly appearing in this paper.

Mrs. Plinkham counsels women free of charge. Her address is Lynn, Mass.

Metal never rusts in the waters of Lake Titicaca. A chain or anchor can be left in it for two weeks and it will be as clean and bright as when it came from the foundry, which is probably owing to action of some of the chemical salts in the water.

SHAKE INTO YOUR SHOES

Allen's Foot-Paste, a powder for the feet. It cures painful, swollen, smarting, itchy feet, and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age. Allen's Foot-Paste makes tight or new shoes feel easy. It is a certain cure for Itching Nails, sweating, callous and hot, tired, aching feet. We have over 30,000 testimonials. Try it today. Sold by all druggists and shoe stores. By mail for 25c. in stamps. Trial package FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

The native commissioner at So bungwe, Africa, reports that the white rhinoceros is still to be seen on the wild in the districts between the Sanjati and Zambesi rivers. It was generally thought that the gigantic animal was extinct.

You Will Never Know what good ink is unless you use Carter's. It costs no more than poor ink. All dealers.

Over 800,000 pounds of tea is consumed in England daily.

Piso's Cure for Consumption is an infallible medicine for coughs and colds.—N. W. SAWKEL, Ocean Grove, N. J., Feb. 17, 1900.

A Vermont fox, close pressed by two hounds, dashed across a railroad track in front of an advancing train, which killed the dogs.

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children during the teething period.

In some interesting experiments by English botanists, "sleeping" plants, of those which had taken their nocturnal position, were placed in a dark room. On "awakening" next morning they took in the darkness their usual positions by day, even when that position had been made oblique by one-sided illumination.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

Genuine

Carter's Little Liver Pills.

Must Bear Signature of



See Pac-Simile Wrapper Below.

Very small and as easy to take as sugar.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

FOR HEADACHE. FOR DIZZINESS. FOR BILIOUSNESS. FOR TORPID LIVER. FOR CONSTIPATION. FOR SALLOW SKIN. FOR THE COMPLEXION.

Contains Purely Vegetable Matter.

CURE SICK HEADACHE.

DR. J. C. WOOD'S PURIFIER.

Tested and True.

WATERBURY'S CHAIN CURE.

To fully introduce our famous "SOUTHERN BLOOD" to the public, we have prepared a box of 50 pills for \$2.50 and express charge, an elegant little plate case, with a nice, open face. Waterbury's Chain Cure, which with proper care should last for years, also contains a chain of 50 pills. Send your name and full address—no money. We will send figures, water, chain and chain. After examination, you are satisfied, pay your \$2.50 and express charge. These goods are sent by express to the U. S. at these terms. The "Southern Blood" is as good as many 100-pills now offered. Address National Cigar Co., 812-814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000.

PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.

Best Cough Syrup. Best Good. One in a time. Sold by druggists.

How Bob Came to Be a Detective

Do you wish to become a detective? "Yes, sir."

"I suppose you consider yourself able to give points to any man in the force, don't you?"

"No, sir. I am only anxious to have a fair trial. I believe that I can become a useful member of the force after I have had a little experience."

"Well, sir, I am not fond of employing green men; but as you seem to have a modest opinion of yourself, I have some hope of making something of you. The chief has requested me to give you a trial, and so I shall have to do so. I shall give you a tough case to begin on, and if you make a success of it you shall have a permanent position on the force."

"Thank you, sir. I shall do my best." "The only clew which I can give you is this paper. It came into my possession entirely by accident. It was seen to fall from the pocket of a man who had been implicated in several burglaries, and one of my men, who happened to be standing near, picked it up and handed it to me. I think there is more in it than appears on the surface. Take it with you, and see what you can make of it."

Bob Westbrook took the envelope which the inspector—to whom he had made application for a position in the detective force—gave him, and left the office.

He had never done any detective work before, and had only been on the police force about eight months, but he was very ambitious, and desired to become a detective.

Going home, he retired to his room, and proceeded to examine the letter. The direction was as follows:

MR. ALBERT SINGLAIR, General Postoffice, London, E. C.

The postmark was that of Baywater, and the date Jan. 10. Inside was the following letter:

Baywater, Jan. 10.—Dear Albert: Meet Mary Owen as you promised me, and ask her to come at noon the day she gets the message. I have made a corner in some of the securities of which I spoke when at Tottenham the other week. If you court her, the house in Gloucester road shall be yours soon. On Monday, I expect to spend the evening with you without fail, and at that time I shall bring nine others. Expect us at 8 o'clock sharp. I shall then indicate to you how we had better divide the work, so that the profits may be large as possible. "JIM," G.

Bob read the letter over carefully several times, but could find nothing suspicious about it except the figure "G" in the lower right-hand corner of the page.

This puzzled him not a little, and as he studied the letter more the conviction grew upon him that underneath this apparently innocent communication there lurked some mysterious communication, which might prove the key to a deed of villainy.

In vain he puzzled over the letter; in vain tried every combination which his ingenuity could suggest. He applied heat in hopes of bringing out a sympathetic ink; but again in vain. He went to bed that night thoroughly puzzled and almost discouraged.

In the morning he again started to work, but in a more systematic manner. He tried every other line with no result; every third line, then every fourth line, and so on, but still with no result.

Then he began and tried every other word, but he met with failure.

Just at this point the mysterious figure G caught his eye. He started, as a sudden thought struck him. Could this be the key to the mystery? He would try, and accordingly he began, and then, with the first word, took every sixth word of the letter.

The result was certainly startling. When he finished he found that he had the following communication:

Dear Albert: Meet me at the corner of Tottenham Court road, Monday evening at 9 o'clock, to divide profits. JIM.

There evidently must have been some powerful motive of concealment here, else why should this note have been written, and the true meaning so carefully hidden?

Bob felt much elated at his success, and determined to make one of the party at the corner of Tottenham Court road on Monday evening.

On the appointed evening, a few minutes before 9 o'clock, a man was walking up and down the pavement at the rendezvous named in the letter.

He was evidently expecting some one, and every few minutes would look at his watch impatiently. After he had been waiting about ten minutes, another man walked slowly up the street.

The one who had been waiting advanced hurriedly, and seizing him by the arm, drew him into the shadow of one of the houses, and said, in a low, eager voice:

"Well, what news?" "Nothing much," said the other man, "except that I have been unable to dispose of all the swag."

"How much money have you raised?" "One thousand pounds."

"Good! You have some of the jewelry still?" "Yes, I only sold the diamonds."

"Do you think you can get rid of the rest safely?" "No, not just now. I think we had better divide them just as they are, and when the excitement is over we can dispose of them."

MANY MILLION PINS.

GREAT NUMBER USED IN AMERICA EVERY DAY.

Daily Demand Is Almost Fabulous—Complex Processes Through Which the Simple Little Implement Passes in the Course of Manufacture.

It requires an average of more than twenty million pins per day to sustain the falling skirts, replace the missing suspender buttons and meet the other needs of the American people. What becomes of all these pins is a question that nobody has been able to answer, but there is no falling off in the demand, so that this number must disappear in some manner every day.

It is hard to imagine anything simpler than a pin, and it is a striking proof of the complications of our modern industrial system that every pin in the course of its manufacture passes through a dozen separate processes, involving the greatest skill on the part of the operatives employed and the action of a great amount of automatic machinery.

The pin makes its appearance at the factory in the form of barrels of coiled brass wire. The first process is that of straightening this wire. The coils are placed on revolving racks, and fed from these into little machines, from the vise-like grip of which they emerge perfectly straight. Thence the wire is fed into the pin-making machine, which is almost as complicated as a printing press. A sharp knife cuts the wire off into uniform lengths of the desired size. As each little length of wire drops from the knife it falls upon a small wheel, the edge of which is notched into grooves just large enough to hold the bits of wire.

Each piece is carried along by the wheel until an iron finger and thumb seize and hold it firmly, while an automatic hammer, by a single smart blow, puts a head on one end. Then the empty pins fall upon another grooved wheel, which revolves horizontally. As they move on in the clasp of this second wheel the projecting ends pass over a number of circular steel files, which neatly grind them to a point. Further on they encounter a pumice stone, which smooths off the filed end, and then they drop into a wooden receiving box. So far no workman's hand has touched the pins in their progress from the reel. The cutting, heading, pointing and smoothing have all been done by the wonderful automatic machinery.

From the wooden boxes the pins go to the "whitening" room, where they are cleaned in revolving barrels filled with sawdust and receive a nickel coating in big vats. Then they are dried in the sawdust barrels and are run through a "sorting" machine. It is impossible to get the better of this machine.

The big department stores and wholesale dealers buy their pins by the case. A case contains 108 dozen papers, 300 pins in each paper. A single order from the largest stores usually calls for 100 cases, or nearly 50,000,000 pins.—New York Herald.

WAYS OF TURKISH CENSORS.

Violation of Their Rules Brings the Most Exemplary Punishments.

It is well for those having business with the Turks to have a good understanding of the laws and regulations in force in the sultan's domain if they would avoid trouble. An honest German merchant met with a sad adventure a few weeks ago on account of something which he had not dreamed of—violating the laws of the Turkish censor. The German was in the porcelain business, and the only thing that he ever thought of writing was entries in his ledger. But he got an order from a Turkish merchant for 25,000 coffee cups, and he filled it, and straightway became a violator of literary laws. He had packed up the coffee cups in old German newspapers, and that settled it. The Turkish censor seized the whole shipment. He insisted on reading each newspaper, and only after he had become convinced that there was neither intention nor danger of smuggling insults of the sultan or of his harem into the country, the prophet was the shipment released.

Now the German is wondering whether, if he packs his next shipment in straw, the Turkish censor will hold it up as being a reflection on his mental furniture.

WORST PARASITES

Upon the Human Race Are Aristocrats of China and Spain.

The aristocracy of China are the most useless human beings in the world. It is no uncommon thing for the ancestors of some man who has done service to the state to be enabled backward for several generations, and no aristocracy can be more useless than one which consists largely of those who are deceased. Among more advanced nations, the aristocracy of Spain is probably the most useless. The strain of Moorish blood running in many of the oldest families in that peninsula appears to conduce toward an indolent pride, which prevents their members from taking part in any professions but those of the army and navy—now open to them to a limited extent. The constitution of 1876, by making the Upper House of the Cortes, or parliament, consist largely of life members, and those mainly elective, deprived many aristocrats of the opportunity of usefulness as politicians, while the backwardness of agriculture and the poverty of much of the land are excuses given by others for not employing themselves upon their own estates. The Spanish noble, moreover, generally prefers foreign health or pleasure resorts to his own country.

An American who has spent more of his life in Spain than in his own country, recounts a conversation he had with one of Spain's greatest living statesmen about the Spaniard's national dream.

"Senor," said the Spanish grandee, "we do not want to shine as a commercial nation. We do not like work. We have in the past filled the proud position of the greatest empire. It was very fatiguing. At the present day Spain has got back to her senses. We teach our youths to be refined—to be gentlemen."

ELOPEMENTS RARE IN FRANCE.

Parental Consent Required No Matter What the Age of Parties.

Eloping is a very infrequent occurrence in France, a fact that is due in large measure to the peculiarity of the French law pertaining to marriages. Not only must the contracting parties—up to any age—have the written consent of their parents, but also in case of the death of their parents they must obtain the consent of their grandparents. Here is a case instanced by a correspondent whose friend Suzanne B. was engaged to Henri S. Both were orphans, yet it was several months before the ceremony could be performed because of the number of papers and certificates which were necessary for the celebration of their nuptials. No less than fourteen certificates were absolutely indispensable, and Suzanne, as well as her fiancé, was obliged to show in default of their parents' presence or written consent: First, her father's death certificate; second, her mother's death certificate; third, her father's father's death certificate; fourth, her father's mother's death certificate; fifth, her mother's father's death certificate; sixth, her mother's mother's death certificate; seventh, her own birth certificate. Several months elapsed before all these papers could be got together.

When at last all was ready Suzanne B. appeared at the altar and inquired when she might be married. "Have you the consent of your counsel de famille?" (family council, which regulates the affairs of orphans and minors) was the question. "No. My parents died intestate." "Then you can't be legally married." "But I have no counsel de famille." "Well, then, get one as soon as possible," was the reply. And poor Suzanne was forced to write to all her relatives in all corners of France—many of whom she had never seen—and ask them to come up to Paris to form a counsel de famille. After much expense, worry and trouble, not to speak of lawyers' fees, etc., the various members of the counsel de famille were at last collected together to give their consent to the marriage of Suzanne and Henri.

The French peasants who live near the sewage farms have entered a protest because of the contamination of their wells.

The population of the earth as estimated by Ernest George Ravenstein some few years ago for the Royal Geographical Society was 1,487,900,000.

The velocity of light is 192,000 miles in a second of time. From the sun light comes to the earth in eight minutes. From some of the fixed stars the light takes from four to ten thousand years to reach us.

In the London Hospital for Consumption the basis of treatment is rest in the open air, graduated exercise and good feeding. No window in the open ward is ever closed, and during the cold weather the consumptive patients are kept warm with extra clothing and artificial heat. It is encouraging to note that practically all the early cases and 70 per cent. of all cases improve considerably under the open-air system.

RECENT INVENTIONS.

For preserving timber from decay an Australian has patented a new treatment, consisting of immersing the timber in a solution of arsenous acid and an alkali until thoroughly impregnated, after which a coating of sulphate of copper is applied.

In a new boat-driving gear a short propeller shaft is set in the rear of the boat, intermeshing with a large gear wheel mounted on a horizontal shaft with pivoted levers connected to the shaft by cranks to rotate the propeller and drive the boat.

Clothes are automatically cleaned in a new wash boiler, which has a false bottom into which the water falls from the main boiler, with a series of tubes extending vertically to the top of the boiler, through which the water is driven by the increased heat and steam in the false bottom.

Leaves can be rapidly and cleanly picked up from lawns by an Ohio woman's invention, which has a large hopper mounted on wheels, with fan blades set in the mouth of the hopper close to the ground, to be rapidly revolved by gearing inside the wheels, thus fanning the leaves into the hopper.

Dressmakers will appreciate a newly patented pair of scissors, which is provided with a marking pencil set in a sleeve attached to one of the blades, with a tape measure secured to the opposite handle, designed to be opened in line with the pencil point, to accurately mark the cloth for cutting.

An adjustable spring for baby carriages has been patented by a Canadian which can be increased in stiffness as the baby grows, having a duplex hinge joining the outer ends of springs, running from the frame and the body of the carriage, with means for adjusting the movement of the hinge.

A new burglar alarm has two telescoping tubes, with the end of one tube closed, and a piston mounted in the other tube which connects with a metallic contact spring to complete an electric circuit, a cord being run from the window or door to the closed tube, which moves the piston when the cord is disturbed.

In Germany a man has patented a reading or writing desk which will be found convenient for use when standing, having a flat tablet formed of several sections hinged together, with braces and straps to hold the tablet in a convenient position for use, the whole folding in small compass to be carried in the pocket.

Over and Over.

William Hawley Smith, in his "Walks and Talks," tells of a remark made by an Irish friend, which might be applicable in many cases.

He used to be very fond of hearing the bishop preach, and always went to service when that dignitary held forth. I met him on the street one Sunday when I knew the bishop was preaching, and asked him why he wasn't in his pew. "To what he replied: "Trot! I don't go to hear the bishop any more."

"Why, what's the matter?" I said. "You haven't gone back on a good man, have you?" "No," he answered, "but it's the truth 'I'm tellin' you, when you've heard the bishop a half-dozen times, all after that is variations!"

Quite Sufficient.

An amusing clash of etiquette and wit is recorded as having taken place over the affairs of a wealthy English widow.

Her husband had lately died, and she refused to let her hounds follow the hunt, contending that they should not be allowed to go out when they had been so recently bereaved of their master.

"Don't you think," said a sergeant at law, discussing the affair with a famous legal light, "that if the hounds had each worn a band of crape around their necks, the impropriety would have been obviated?"

"I hardly think the crape would have been a necessity," was the answer, "if the hounds had been in full cry!"

Brief and Pithy.

An American law journal has quoted the charge to a jury delivered by a certain Judge Donovan, as the shortest charge on record. The judge said: "Gentlemen of the jury, if you believe the plaintiff, find a verdict for plaintiff, and fix the amount. If you believe the defendant, find a verdict for defendant. Follow the officer."

But an English periodical caps this brief charge by quoting a shorter one, delivered by Commissioner Kerr. He said to a jury: "That man says prisoner robbed him; the prisoner says he didn't. You settle it."

Natural Hot Water Clock.

One of the most curious clocks in the world, says Science Staffings, is perhaps that which tells the time to the inhabitants of a little American backwood town, and which was constructed some time ago. The mechanism, which is nothing but a face, hands and lever, is connected with a geyser, which shoots out an immense column of hot water every thirty-eight seconds. This spouting never varies to the tenth of a second. Every time the water spouts up it strikes the lever and moves the hands forward thirty-eight seconds.

Mary Johnson's Novel Damage Suit.

A supreme court jury has awarded the sum of \$2,300 to one Mary Johnson as compensation due to her from the Nassau Railroad Company for injuries sustained under circumstances which are a menace to all patrons of the road. As a result of the sudden stoppage of a car the plaintiff was heavily sat upon by a man unknown to her, but sufficiently identified as being "a very fat man."

Gotham's Heavy Expense Account.

Gross expenses of the State of New York in the year 1898, it is computed, amounted to \$25,000,000, of which nearly 10 per cent. was necessary to pay the deficit of departments which exceeded in 1898, or in previous years, the appropriation made for them.

In nine cases in ten, when a woman dies, the neighbors say that she could have been saved if her husband had gotten scared soon enough.

Most men need a pair of pants that are neither too short nor too long.