

THE GOOD OLD DAYS.

Proofs That They Were Not What They Are Said to Have Been.

Men ninety years old remember when there were no steamboats, but all travel on the water was done by the slow uncertain means of sailing vessels...

Men sixty years old remember when there were no railroads, but all travel on land was done by stages, by wagons, by ox teams, on horseback and on foot...

Men fifty years old remember when there were no photographs, but only paintings and drawings, made at great prices...

Men of that age also remember when no steamboat crossed the ocean, and it was believed that they never could, but now hundreds of steamships are plowing every ocean...

Men forty-five years old remember when there was no electric-plating, but every thing in that line was done in the old-fashioned, slow way.

Men of that age also remember when there were no telegraphs, but all messages had to be sent by the slow-going mails.

Men twenty-five years old remember when there were no telephones, but all the messages now spoken through them had to be sent by note or special messenger.

All these grand and useful inventions have been made within the memory of men now living. The younger generation can never appreciate them as those do who remember the want of them and therefore the great convenience they are to the world.

We often hear of "the good old days of yore." Why deprive our children of the enjoyment of those old days? Why not pass a law forbidding steamboats from plowing the waters, railroads from running on land, telegraphs from sending messages, telephones from being used, all furnaces, steam heaters, etc., to be taken out of the houses and other buildings...

When one goes home on a freezing night he can sit by a wood fire, roasting on one side while freezing on the other, and reading by the dim light of a tallow dip instead of the blaze of a gaslight or the more agreeable light of kerosene...

CARELESS FARMERS.

Inexcusable Negligence Which Would Bankrupt Any Other Business.

Capital in tools with which successfully to work a farm is no insignificant sum, and if they are well cared for, well housed and intelligently handled it will prove a profitable investment...

The extra time, labor and expense involved in getting those tools in running order for use will detract from the satisfaction of farm life. And this is only one of the fruitful sources of loss and unpleasantness...

Make all your hives and frames from one hive fit accurately into another, and you will thus be able, in future management, to get some benefit from the movable comb principle.

VALUABLE EXPERIMENTS.

Why Calves Should Not Be Deaned Even If Not Fed a Drop of Milk.

Prof. Henry and Armsby, of the Wisconsin Experiment Station, have been making a careful and elaborate series of experiments in stock feeding. Among others was one in raising 16 common calves picked up in the dairy districts...

The first period, embracing 14 weeks, ended with the calves weighing 4,494 pounds. We will suppose they cost \$2 each, or \$32. They were fed \$28.80 worth of ground oats, corn, wheat and barley...

Let us take the calves at the end of the second period—after 12 more weeks—and we find they weighed 6,139 pounds, which, at four cents per pound, would be \$245.56. Deduct the actual cost, including milk at 25 cents per 100 pounds...

At the end of six weeks more, the calves weighed 8,137 pounds; which, at four cents would make them worth \$325.48; and it had cost \$43.16 to feed them for this period. Adding all the costs, we find them \$292.37, leaving \$33.11 or \$2.07 per calf, net gain for feeding 30 weeks.

The lesson in this is, that the time to have sold the calves was at the end of the second period, ending December 21st, or probably a little earlier in the fall...

When does a woman cease to be young, or rather to be entitled to that epithet? This is the delicate question which a French Prefect has undertaken to answer. Some years ago a certain will left the sum of 10,000 francs, the interest of which was to be given annually to a young, unmarried woman of the working classes...

How Long Is a Woman Young?

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—I say, my man, are those grapes fresh? "Oh, yah, schust picked."

—Well, now, how about the chickens? "Dem is schust picked, too." —Harper's Bazaar.

THE WOMEN OF TURKEY.

They Are Neither Sentimental Nor Corrupt But Overly Fond of Sweets.

The dress of the women at home is not very elegant, nor does it fit them very well. It is usually a loose garment made of glossy calico in gaudy colors, tied around the waist with a cloth belt, and wadded and padded in winter like a mattress...

Neither the rich nor the poor among Turkish women own watches; they do not know how to use them. Nevertheless, since commerce has been able to extend its influence to the harem, even clockmakers have succeeded within recent years in getting their goods into the harems of a few wealthy Pashas.

The dress that the Turkish women wear when they go out is simple, uniform and absolutely free from caprices of fashion. Moreover, it is, with very little change, the same to-day that it was a hundred years ago.

Their veil, or yachmak, is made of two muslin bands more or less thick, one of which covers the forehead, and the other the lower and upper part of the face as far as the eyes.

The Turkish woman is neither sentimental nor corrupt, neither passionate nor cold, neither good nor wicked; but she is a gourmand. She is fond of sugar-plums, confections, sherbet and especially tobacco, which she rolls into slender cigarettes, and the smoke of which she swallows with delight.

The Young Man Waited.

A West Virginia farmer and father, who was asked for his daughter in marriage by a young man in Wheeling, thought it over for awhile before replying:

"George, you'd better wait a few days."

"For why?"

"Well, as it is now I kin only give Sarah a cow and a feather bed. Some fellers from New York are looking at my hill to see if there's coal there; some chaps from Cincinnati are going to bore in the medder for natural gas, and a party from Pittsburgh are exploring 'tother hill arter iron. Guess I'll wait and see if I can't also buy her a kaliker dress and a pair of calfskin shoes."

A great marble deposit has been found in Inyo County, Cal. The marble is of superior quality, hard, solid and free from flint. A recent test resulted in crushing an inch cube of the Inyo marble at 25,000 pounds pressure, while Vermont marble was crushed at six thousand pounds and Italian marble at ten thousand pounds.

BAPTISM OF A BELL.

A Curious Ceremony Recently Performed in an Old French City.

An imposing ceremony took place on a recent Sunday in the Church St. Ouen, of the baptism of a bell. We went early to secure good seats, but were far too late. Every place in the center of the building from entrance to choir was so closely packed that there was no room for "just one more."

AUTHENTIC FIGURES.

Value of the Leading Farm Products of the United States.

Table with 2 columns: Product Name and Value. Includes items like Wheat, Corn, Hay, Pork, etc.

The Indian corn and half the hay produced may safely be relegated to the production of butchers' meat and fowls, other grains eaten being fully sufficient to cover export corn and that used as human food.

The Dear Little Baby.

"Ma," said the baby at the supper table, "I know why this cake is called angel cake."

"Do you?" replied the mother without much interest.

"Yes; it's because it's made by an angel. That's what pa told the cook."

N. Y. Sun.

A laborer in Vermont recently bought a lot of land which subsequently developed into a very rich marble quarry. His was a hard lot, but it had its compensations.

AMERICAN GYPSIES.

A Startling Statement Made by a Well-Posted Friend of the Race.

That there are from 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 Gypsies in America to-day is an assertion I confidently make, based upon a quarter-century's earnest study of, and more than three years' actual companionship with, this people in their homes and tents and upon the road; from careful inquiries in all parts of the country involving much correspondence; from actual lists of Gypsy families and heads of families in my possession, and from most moderate computations made with these aids after careful scrutiny by reliable Gypsy chiefs has been secured.

COURT ETIQUETTE.

The Queen's Rigid Regulations in Regard to Divorced Women.

One of the papers recently announced that the Queen had sent a message to a lady who was divorced from her husband a few years ago, but who was perfectly blameless, and whose position excited general sympathy...

ROAD CONSTRUCTION.

The Old Way of Working Roads Superseeded by the Contract System.

The annual gathering of farmers to work out their road tax with pick and shovel "has the law directed," to use an old phrase, is fast giving way even in the West to better methods and implements. Even the plow and dump scraper are now being largely superseded by machine labor.

A Mighty Bright Joke.

"Eight dollars and seventy-five cents for gas," exclaimed Jenkins, angrily.

"Just think of it, Mrs. J. Eight seventy-five."

"Oh, well, I wouldn't raise a fuss about it."

"Not raise a fuss about it! You don't expect a man to make light of a gas bill like that, do you?"

"You might as well, I have never yet met success in making light of the gas."

—Merchants' Transcript.

The modern waltz is called "the fashionable shamble" by a disaffected observer.

INFLUENCING A RULER.

How Oriental Nations Make Their Desires Known to Their Sovereigns.

The oldest way probably is to mob the ruler in a respectful way. A vast crowd appears before the sovereign or satrap on his day of audience, tears his clothes, casts ashes on his head, and cries aloud as one man for mercy or justice, specifying afterward the particular cause of its great grief. The sovereign, who even when bad is usually conscious of some responsibility to God, as a rule listens patiently, and, unless his own interests are directly affected, grants the prayer of the petitioners, more especially if they are only asking for a life or two. To execute somebody in a public way, and thereby at once to strike terror and conciliate the populace, is an exercise of power which, to men who are at once intensely willful and desirous of producing great effects, is exceedingly pleasant.

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