

# The Oregon Scout

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## OPEN-AIR TREATMENT.

### The Influence of Country Trips on Consumptive Tendencies.

There is a strong conviction that life in the open air serves an excellent purpose in warding off threatened attacks of phthisis or in curing it. Generally, however, it is believed that to obtain the benefits of air a locality distant from the patient's home is imperative—on the mountains, by the sea, at the South or in the North, etc. As a matter of fact, most patients are unable to leave their homes. If treated at all, they must be treated in the State in which they reside.

Many years ago a physician who had spent nearly eighty years in Vermont, over fifty of which he was in active practice, told the writer that shortly after he began the practice of medicine he broke down, and was told by his medical advisers that he was attacked by consumption. He took his horse and wagon, and for three months spent his time in riding about New England and New York. He would travel far and near, daily, according to his inclination. At the end of the period he returned to his home and professional work, and continued it almost without interruption till nearly eighty years of age. He died at last, not from any disease, but as the "deacon's one-horse shay" vanished, all at once without any apparent cause.

In minor forms this observation of the effects of open-air travel has many times been confirmed by the reports of careful observers. Dr. H. I. Bowditch (Med. News) gives a valuable contribution in support of the value of open-air travel to consumptives. In 1808 his father had all the indications of consumption. With a friend he took a tour of New England in a one-horse chaise. The first day he traveled twenty-five miles, but his exhaustion and haemoptysis was so great that he was urged to return home to die. But he pushed on, and every day brought him improved health. After his return home he took regular open-air exercise, and died of carcinoma of the stomach thirty years later, at the age of sixty-five. One lung presented evidence of an ancient cicatrix at its apex, but both were otherwise healthy.

He says that his father married his cousin, who died of chronic phthisis two years before his father. Of eight children, one died at birth, and one at eleven. All the others arrived at adult age and married, several being still living. Of the ninety-three direct descendants of his father, not one was phthisical. This result was attributed to the journey, supplemented by the following out-door exercise, and careful regulation of the health of his children.

Dr. Bowditch thinks that many patients die from want of open-air treatment. He directs each of his phthisical patients to walk daily from three to six miles; never to stay at home all day unless a violent storm be raging. If the weather be very cold he directs them to wear respirators. He forbids standing still on the street to talk to friends. He thinks that by following this plan patients may be cured at home, and while still conducting their business; this seems sound sense. Better use the air at our doors and near our homes, before we fly to other air hundreds or thousands of miles away.

To those unable to walk sufficiently far to reach the best air near home without excessive fatigue, it is advisable to use a horse and buggy, or a team driven by the patient, which is far better. The therapeutic value of a spirited span of thoroughbreds, to one able to manage them, is very great, and these, too, can be added to the effects of the open air proper. Consumptives are only one of many classes of people who would be thus benefited.—Detroit Lancet.

## THE DAYS OF TERROR.

### Hundreds of Innocent Victims En Route for the Guillotine.

A never-ending procession of victims passed down the Rue St. Honore to the Place de la Revolution—the old Place Louis XV.—where the principal guillotine had been erected. There were guillotines, however, in several other parts of the city; and it was no uncommon matter for a person going out shopping in the morning to meet with three or four processions of unhappy beings proceeding to execution. A well-organized band of furies usually accompanied them, shouting and howling insults and cries of "Death!" Early in 1794 protests were made by residents along the lines of route to the guillotines, that sensitive persons were beginning to avoid those streets, and that this did great harm to their commerce. They therefore petitioned that the routes should be at least occasionally changed. Later on another request was made to the National Assembly concerning the unhealthy condition of the Place de la Revolution, literally steeped in blood, which emitted a horrible and dangerous stench.

Strange, however, as it may seem, many of these executions, notably those of important personages, were attended by great numbers of apparently respectable people, and the *Moniteur* contained many advertisements to the effect that "So-and-so hires out chairs to witness the guillotining of, say, Louis XVI., or Mme. Roland, or indeed of any conspicuous person, at so much an hour." A contemporary engraving representing the execution of Louis XVI. shows us a crowd of well-dressed people, comfortably seated in their chairs, placed on a high and well built wooden stand, and not a few of them are using their opera glasses. Duval is shocked when he records that during the massacres of September "on dansait en banquette." In fact the gay and volatile nature of the Parisians could not be wholly suppressed, and some by no means badly intentioned people made a sort of fete of the tragic events which were perpetually occurring.—Saturday Review.

## LADIES AS SERVANTS.

### Success of an Experiment Tried in an English Family.

It is so often said that the plan of engaging ladies as domestic servants does not succeed that it is satisfactory to hear at least one case where the plan has been tried most satisfactorily by a lady who has a domestic establishment both in London and in the country.

The eternal servant question cropping up in a recent conversation with this lady (writes a lady representative), I asked her how the plan of employing educated women of the upper classes as servants had answered. "It has been entirely successful," was the reply, "and my servants are now always ladies. I have one, a housemaid, a charming girl, who is the daughter of a medical man, and all of whose male relations are professional men, and who does her work as thoroughly and as well as any ordinary servant could be expected to do it."

"Then you do not find that after the glamor of novelty is worn off the lady servants begin to find it rather unpleasant to do menial work?" "Not in the least. If they are real ladies (and it is, of course, only in cases where they are that it can succeed) they will know that menial work does not lower them. Of course, I try to avoid giving them so-called 'dirty' work as much as possible. For instance, blacking grates is very unpleasant work, and very ungrateful work, too, for the result is never lasting and never particularly effective. I, therefore, have only grates decorated with tiles as much as possible, and with the smallest part of ironwork requiring blacking. Again, in order to avoid scrubbing, I have the floors covered with a material which only requires wiping. A great many arrangements can be made in this way to make housework less hard and unpleasant, and if we, the mistresses, would only spend a little more thought on these matters I am sure there would be fewer complaints from and about servants."

"At the same time," the lady went on, "I always insist on my servants fulfilling every duty they have undertaken to perform. If they engage to black my boots they have to do it, and do it regularly and well. But this does not prevent me from having them in my drawing-room after dinner, and playing a game of whist or any other game with them. Their lives are, even under the most favorable circumstances, rather monotonous, and when we can put a little color and brightness into them I think it is our duty to do it."

"Then, do they take their meals with you, too?" "No; as a rule I find that they prefer to take their meals together separately, and as they have to cook and serve the meals this is a more convenient arrangement. But otherwise I treat them as equals, and I have not found that they abuse this treatment."—Pall Mall Gazette.

## A MODERN PARABLE.

### They Who Smile Upon the World Shall Grow in Beauty and Happiness.

Two shrubs were planted near a paling fence. The soil was good, and with plenty of sunshine, and being protected from the north wind, they had every opportunity of growth and bloom. But one of them was deeply offended at the fence. It was ugly—so near—stark and stubborn; and nothing would do but that this fence must be driven away. And so, with a soured spirit it struck at the fence day and night, bogging every wind and breeze to help it drive the enemy off the premises. The other shrub did not notice the fence, but looked out cheerfully the other way, where it saw waving trees, green grass and beds of roses and other flowers. It spread its sheltering foliage over a nest that had been built beneath it, fostered a group of violets that sought its shadow, and loaded up every breath that came with fragrance to be carried off to any and all who would receive it. Days passed, and a bluebird that had watched them from its perch assumed a little reckoning, and this was its conclusion: The fence stands and is unharmed. The plant that was cheerful and tried to be useful, turning itself kindly towards the open world beside it, is handsome in a wealth of foliage and flowers. The birdlets beneath it are chirping its praises, and the violets are blessing it day and night. But the one that fretted at the fence and fought it, is torn and shagged, and its buds that might have been beautiful are blighted and blackened. It is always so. They who smile upon the world shall grow in beauty and happiness; but they who fret, and scold and fight, while the objects of their buffeting remain unchanged, wear themselves away into tatters and decay.—United Presbyterian.

## A HOME IN A CANOE.

### The Strange Residence of an Explorer in Southern Africa.

I have been leading a strange but far from disagreeable life. I have been exploring and surveying a large district between Old Calabar and the Cameron. To do the water part of the journey I hired at Old Calabar a large native canoe with a house in it, an arrangement faintly resembling the house-boat on the Thames.

At one end of it is a large box of sand. On this my cooking fire is made. A fire, in fact, is kept burning day and night, so that with a few minutes' notice I can have a cup of tea or cocoa.

In the house, which has two small windows and two sliding doors and a thatched roof, there is just room for my bed, dressing bag, table, chair, and canteen. The canteen is a wicker-work box, with knives, forks, plates, etc. There are also shelves and hooks in the house, by which a lot of things are stowed away in a surprisingly small space.

Outside the house, in the forward part of the canoe, is a clear space with a level floor and small seats around, sheltered by an extension of the thatched roof. Here, in daytime, I put my table and sit, either eating my meals or making my survey, as the canoe glides along, propelled by eighteen paddlers. This is really most pleasant, writes H. Johnston, the celebrated explorer, from Cape Colony. The motion of the canoe is so smooth that I can write or draw unshaken, and when my table is laid with a white cloth, napkin and bright silver, it at once provokes an appetite.—London Telegraph.

## AMONG THE SEALERS.

### An Interesting Account of Life on the Fur Seal Islands.

It was interesting to note the difference in character crop out as the community gradually took upon itself civilization. Some were naturally prudent, and easily saved a surplus; others would be in debt at the end of the year. In 1877 a small proportion of their number, perhaps ten per cent., had invested about ten or twelve hundred dollars with the fur company; another ten per cent. were always in want; the remainder spent what they received. The best paid class, the ablest workers, received over four hundred dollars each for their season's work, and as they could obtain a large part of their food from the resources of the island without cost, and received their houses furnished, rent free, their needs were few. To foreign ways in clothes and fashion they inclined very naturally. The year before my coming sealing-parties had brought to the island considerable quantities of ready-made clothing as an article of trade, and the men were consequently fairly well-dressed; but only a small quantity of cloth suitable for dresses had been taken, and the women had not begun to make their clothing in any regular form. But in time, with some assistance, their ready adaptability made them a very well-dressed people. Before I came away the wives of those who had been saving sent their measures to Sitka with orders for silk dresses for church wear, and the young men arrayed themselves in broadcloth, wore gloves and well-blacked boots, and carried perfumed handkerchiefs.

As my time was not fully taken up with my duties, and good fortune brought to me an abiding place of unusual size for St. Paul, I seized the happy chance of making my house a meeting-place for the people, and especially for the children. Later we fitted up a school-room, which we also made a place for social entertainment, and kept the school open eight months in the year. We were greatly assisted in our school duties by illustrated books and papers sent to us; for so unvaried and barren was the scenery of the island, which was all of the world these children had ever seen, that it was well-nigh impossible for them to comprehend physical objects of the simplest nature. What a mountain might be beyond their understanding, and the difficulty of explaining the appearance of a great forest to children who knew no vegetable growth larger than the purple lupine on their gentle slopes, was greater than one can tell. It was necessary, however, to exercise the strictest censorship in our illustrated lessons, as it was difficult for all to comprehend caricature even in its simplest forms; even the most impossible pictures they believed represented facts.

I found the people living in separate families, and, as far as I could see, there was no more immorality among them than would be found in any decent civilized community. The women were modest in deportment, the children obedient and respectful to their parents, and the men always manifested a disposition to assist me in all my efforts.

In character they were mild and gentle, with the expression of settled melancholy habitual to those races which have no amusements. In this respect, however, they changed greatly as opportunity developed the merriment latent in their nature. The children when first taught to speak did so in a serious way, and the utter absence of any thing like hearty laughter in a group of them always affected me strangely. It seemed as if their avenues of expression were closed to pleasure, and later, when they had learned the simple games I taught them, it was a great satisfaction to me to hear my rooms ring with their merry voices.—Captain Charles Bryant, in Century.

## ANCIENT VOTING METHODS.

### Leaves Used for Ballots More Than Two Thousand Years Ago.

Before the New York Academy of Anthropology in University place L. Bennet, one of the trustees, undertook to present the history of voting in the form of a regulation paper. His research, however, was too comprehensive and exhaustive for one reading, and he was compelled, for lack of time, to defer the presentation of the American branch of the subject. His investigations went back to the fifth century before Christ, when the Greeks voted by ballot as the expression of the individual will. Democracy was comparatively unknown before the discovery and use of the ballot. In ancient times leaves were used for ballots. They were rejected when it was found that they could be easily broken and tampered with to secure false counts. Black and white stones, small pieces of brass, and other convenient material were used by the pioneers in voting before paper was known.

Athens set a high price on her citizenship after the great principle of popular representation was adopted. Citizens who did not come out and vote were fined. The Syracuseans used at one time olive-leaves for ballots. Rome, at an early day after democracy was introduced, borrowed the ballot-box system of the Greeks, but never took kindly to it. The Australian system of to-day is a revival of the practice in Rome two thousand years ago. The voting classification in Greece in olden times was both social and territorial—not unlike the arrangement in this country in Presidential elections. Many of the ancient systems of voting were corrupted by extravagant favoritism, and bribery was not uncommon.

Probably the most extraordinary system of voting was in Hungary, where the ballot-boxes were immense casks, and the ballot-poles from four to six feet long, which the citizen carried and deposited for his favorite candidate with peculiar pride. This form of ballot would probably be popular in Ireland, where its handy use as a weapon would be appreciated.—N. Y. Times.

The impassioned orator who exclaimed, "I smell a rat; I'll nip him in the bud," has been fairly outdone by the esteemed journal, which says: "The low, measured tread of justice dawned"—Helen (Mon.) Independent.

## SEA-OTTER HUNTING.

### A Pacific Coast Industry About Which But Little Has Been Written.

It is not generally known that some of the most valuable fur-producing animals are killed off the coast of the new State of Washington, and it is remarkable that the extent of territory where these animals are taken is so extremely limited, being only from Damon's Point, at the northern entrance to Gray's Harbor, up the coast to Point Greenville, a distance of about twenty-four miles. The animal referred to is the sea-otter, the fur of which is manufactured into the robes of the potentates and princes of the Old World.

The fur of the sea otter requires no plucking of hair or coloring; in fact, the most valuable skins are those which are speckled throughout with a silver-tipped hair, which is known as the silver-tipped fur, the addition of this hair adding 25 to 50 per cent. to the price of the skin. The hunters build for themselves derricks about 40 feet high by taking three slim poles, or pieces of timber, each about 40 feet in length, and bolting them securely together at one end for the top, then spread them about 25 feet apart at the bottom, giving the appearance of a huge tripod. These are set on the ocean beach, about midway between high and low tides, the foot of the poles being embedded in the sand from two to three feet. The structure is then thoroughly braced and a ladder built to the top by nailing pieces at convenient distances, crosswise, on the inside. About 18 inches below the top of the tripod cross timbers are secured to the legs, and upon these cross timbers a floor from 4 to 5 feet square is laid, and on the oceanward and two adjoining sides walls are built up from 3 1/2 to 4 feet in height. On the land side a door is constructed to allow the hunter easy ingress to and from his "crown's nest." On the top of the tripod, which extends about 18 inches above the floor, a seat is constructed, and around the inside of the wall a row of shelving is placed. At low tide, when the wind is propitious, the hunter lies himself to his crown's nest, armed with a good pair of glasses, a Sharp's rifle, a lunch and a little something to keep himself warm, and for six hours he scans the line of the ocean just outside the breakers, where he must expect his game to appear. When the tide begins to flood, his range is about 600 yards, but as it runs in the range is shortened to 200 or 300 yards. Even at these latter distances it requires close calculation to know just how to shoot to overcome the rise and fall of the ocean swell and the effect of the wind upon the shots. It is said that not one out of 100 bullets of the best marksmen is effective. When the tide is full the derrier stands in the midst of the breakers, and a landlubber feels a little squeamish, looking down from the dizzy heights on the rolling waters below. The shooting is generally done on a flood tide, so the animal, when killed will wash ashore, and even then it is sometimes three or four days after one is killed before it is beached. Undoubtedly many others are killed and never become ashore. Each hunter marks his bullets with marks known to other hunters, and when an otter is found on the beach, the first duty of the finder is to look for the bullet and ascertain who is the right owner, for the sign is respected among the hunters as sacredly as marks and brands are among stockmen. When an otter comes ashore with no bullet in him, as frequently occurs, the bullet having gone clean through the body, and no notice having been given, it belongs to the finder.

An average skin is about 5 feet long by 12 inches wide (double), or, when cut, 24 inches wide, and in the hunter's hand is valued at from \$90 to \$120; but these prices leave a handsome margin to the fur men who handle them. In Russia an overcoat made from these same otter skins brings from \$1,000 to \$2,000, while in China even more is sometimes paid. The season for killing sea otter extends from May to October, and so scarce is the game becoming that four a season is considered doing well by any hunter. In fact, some pass the season without taking any. The hunters have a rule among themselves, which is strictly observed, that only one derrier can be allowed within a range, i. e., about half a mile, thus giving the whole beach a regularity of appearance not elsewhere observable.—Portland Oregonian.

## WHOLESALE SMUGGLING.

### A Guatemalan Who Carried a St. Ck of Jewelry in His Boots.

A distinguished-looking passenger who obtained a first-class passage on the steamship *Normandie* on the voyage to this country was arrested by Custom House Inspectors Brown and Donohue just after the big vessel reached her dock. The trio went to United States Commissioner Shields' office, where the passenger was charged with having attempted to smuggle a large quantity of jewelry. When questioned by Commissioner Shields the prisoner said his name was Michael M. Coloma, and that he was bound for Guatemala, his native land. He denied having attempted to smuggle any jewelry, and explained that he was in transit to California and wished his jewelry to be sent in bond. Inspector Brown then told the story of Coloma's arrest. He said that when Coloma was questioned by Custom House Inspector Leddy regarding the dutiable property in his possession, the passenger said he had nothing further than a few trunks of clothing which he desired at once forwarded to California. Brown and Donohue learned that Coloma had been seen with a large quantity of jewelry aboard ship. They searched Coloma and found nearly a peck of jewelry in the legs of his boots. A number of additional pieces of jewelry were found secreted in the lining of his coat, and when a further examination was instituted, it was discovered that Coloma wore a chamois belt around his waist in which were concealed nearly one hundred pieces of jewelry. The whole find was valued at \$5,000, and consisted of diamonds, watches and rings.

"How did you happen to have such a quantity of jewelry in your boots?" asked Commissioner Shields.

"O, I carried it there for safe keeping," answered Coloma.

He was held in \$3,000 bail for examination. Coloma said he was a planter, and had been traveling throughout Europe for his health.—N. Y. Star.

## FARWELL AS A WITNESS.

### The Illinois Senator Twists a Lawyer Very Much Out of Shape.

A gentleman from Chicago, chatting with a party of acquaintances about some of the laughable features of the testimony given by newspaper men before the Dolph "smelling" committee, was reminded of an experience he had once with Senator Farwell as a witness. "Mr. Farwell," said he, "owned a building on Washington street jointly with me and wanted to get the whole, so he sent an agent to me to propose a trade. I accepted finally his proposition to give me a building on the West side and \$5,000 to boot, but I distinctly told the agent I would pay no commissions. More than a year afterward the agent brought suit against me for \$1,250, claiming that the trade was a \$50,000 transaction and that he was entitled under the law to 2 1/2 per cent. commission on that amount. As his first step toward establishing his claim was to determine the value of the buildings he informed me that he was going to take Mr. Farwell's deposition; so with our lawyers we went, at the appointed time, to the gentleman's office.

"Mr. Farwell," said the agent's lawyer, after the nature of the case had been explained to him, 'did you trade buildings with this defendant on such and such a date?'"

"Yes, sir," said Mr. Farwell.

"On what terms did you make the trade?'"

"I gave him \$5,000 to boot."

"Exactly! Now, Mr. Farwell, will you please state on oath what, in your opinion, was the value of the building which the said defendant traded to you at that time?'"

"It was worth about \$5,000 more than the one I traded to him," said Mr. Farwell.

"The lawyer looked at first a little confused. Then a bright thought struck him.

"Now, sir," said he in a mandatory tone, 'tell us what you considered the building worth which you traded to him.'"

"Well," answered the witness quietly, 'I thought it was worth about \$5,000 less than the one he traded to me.'"

"The lawyer was now in a dignified rage.

"Come, sir," said he, 'I am not to be trifled with. Will you, sir, or will you not, tell me how much this building was worth?'"

"No, sir," said Mr. Farwell, 'I won't tell you any thing about it. But I will tell you something a good deal more to the point,' and opening a drawer in his desk he took out a book of check stubs.

"There is the stub of a check for \$500," said he, 'which I gave to my agent in full payment of all commissions, and I believe there is a law in Illinois which prevents an agent from collecting commissions from both parties to a transaction. Now, sir, if that is all you want to know you may run along and let me attend to my business.'"

"I have seen men set back," continued the Chicago man, "but I never saw one so badly twisted out of shape as this lawyer was. I never heard another word about the suit, and I haven't paid the \$1,250 yet."—Washington Cor. N. Y. Tribune.

## RIPENING BANANAS.

### Gas Makes the Only Great That Will Take the Place of Nature.

Few people outside of those directly interested in the fruit business know exactly how the large quantities of bananas which come to Boston are cared for by the dealers. Two or three large steamer loads of the yellow fruit come to Boston weekly. When they arrive about nine-tenths of the bunches are perfectly green. In fact, all of them were green when they left Jamaica, the yellow ones having ripened on the passage up.

The green bunches have to be handled and ripened with great care, and it was for the purpose of seeing this done that the writer visited one of the oldest fruit and produce commission houses in the city.

"You see," said a member of the firm, "bananas are divided into four classes or grades, the finest bunches being known to the trade as 'golden veils.' These are the very best fruit grown, and in a cargo of say 15,000 bunches there will be only from 200 to 400 bunches of 'golden veils.' Next to these come No. 1, then come eight hands, and the small bunches are styled No. 2's and are the cheapest. These are the kind that are sold by street hawkers.

"The moment we receive out fruit we hang the bunches up in our hot room."

He then led the way to his fruit ripening room, which is a double-decker, and is built into the left wall of the store.

"These two rooms are heated by gas," he continued, and the temperature is kept at about seventy. There is no heat that will perfectly ripen bananas or other fruit but that from gas. We have tried every thing else, and we found that all but the gas shriveled the fruit, ripened it too quickly, or ripened it unevenly; therefore, everybody in the business now uses gas."

"This heat-ripening process is, of course, only for the winter time, for as soon as the weather begins to get mild we take away the gas heat, allowing the fruit to ripen in a natural manner, and when the hotter months are reached we are obliged to hang up our fruit in the cellar."—Boston Globe.

## Pretty Cotton House Gown.

For house gowns in the morning nothing can be prettier than the one-piece dresses of percale or gingham, made to open low at the throat over a chemise and broad collar of tucked nainsook. The front breadth is gathered on each shoulder, opens in the middle to button below the waist line, continues to the foot, and is held to the figure by a pointed belt coming from the sides and widened at the back into a corselet, which receives the fulness of the back of the waist. The corselet and the hem at the foot are finished with the narrow white ladder-stitched heading so much used by French needle-women. Three straight breadths, forming the sides and back of the skirt, are gathered with a standing ruffle on the edge of the corselet. The full sleeves are gathered to buttoned wristbands. Large pearl buttons fasten the front from throat to belt.—Harper's Bazar.

## STORY OF A NECKLACE.

### The Manufacture of Pearl Beads in the Time of Louis Quatorze.

The pretty Duchess of Eife has been photographed in evening dress with a single string of pearls about her neck. There is somehow about this string of beads a singularly pure and girlish air, and it is the one necklace that is always in good taste for a young girl. As you clasp the string of pearl beads about your own neck I wonder how many of you know of the romance connected with those which were first made?

Love, which governs all the world, comes in this story. In the time of Louis XIV. there was a maker of pearl rosaries and necklaces who was famous for the exquisite beauty that he gave them. The ladies came from far and near to buy these wondrous beads, for from no one else could they be gotten. Vainly did his rivals try to imitate the perfect whiteness and polish of the beads manufactured by him. With all his prosperity he was very unhappy and dreaded to sell his necklaces because of the poison (said to be mercury) with which he used to give them their great beauty. One day his son was astonished to hear him say, as he sold a particularly beautiful pearl rosary: "Infamous man that I am! May this crime be my last!"

Soon after war was declared between France and Flanders, and the old man was very happy, because he thought no more necklaces would be ordered. His only son was about to be married, and the sweet little girl whom he had cherished so pleased the father that he had said "Ask of me any thing, for I am glad to give so sweet a daughter." With great glee she answered: "O, father, make for me one of those beautiful necklaces, such as only you can make." The unhappy man was speechless with horror, and wandered through the woods all night wondering what in the world he would do. When the daytime came he threw himself on a bank beside the water to rest, and there, floating on top, was an iridescent substance, at which he could not help but look; it seemed so like his own pearls. He searched for it and found that the effect was caused by the scales of a small whitefish. He collected some, experimented with them, and succeeded in producing with them the whiteness and polish for which he had formerly been forced to use the poison. On the wedding day he clasped around the neck of the beautiful bride the handsome string of pearls that he had ever made, and she kissed her sweet, red lips he knew he could be happy, for there was not a particle of poison in them. The truth of the story lies in the fact that to this day the method of making pearl beads discovered by Martin Jaquin is still the only one. So if you wear about your neck a string of beads like that which delighted the heart of the lovely Ursula, and if you have to thank the man for having invented a necklace free from taint of poison, you must remember that he perhaps would never have made his great discovery if the whim of a woman had not driven him to it.—Ladies' Home Journal.

## TOO MUCH SYMPATHY.

### Something About the Real Tenderness of a Highly Sympathetic Age.

People who do not see the dangers which beset society on every side, who do feel very keenly their own needs, are far less likely to sympathize with those who see the perils around us, and who are not so penetrated with want, than the latter are likely to sympathize with them. The consequence is that there is a marked drift in the ocean of public sympathy toward the mood of the most ignorant and most needy; and, as there is no clear standard by which to measure, the tendency certainly is for public sympathy to favor the desires of those who are at once the blindest and the most destitute. If we hear of a particular guilty paricide, public sympathy is much more inclined to pity him than to blame him. If we hear of a strike that is undertaken in the dark without any clear principle, and that is willing to plunge the rest of the community into serious trouble in order to win its way to success, public sympathy at once prepares to go a long way with it, finding the sense of grievance on that side very persistent and angry, and the sense of duty on the other side at best only clear and calm.

Once let the claims of sympathy become those which appeal most strongly to public feeling, and it is evident that no class will profit so much by it as the class which feels all the more strongly, because so ignorantly and with so little power to care what will be the consequence of the proposed revolution to others, the depth and intensity of its own cravings to be better treated and better fed. The real tendency of a highly-sympathetic age is toward uncertainty of feeling, a pendulous vibration, now to this state, now to that, but with a very decided leaning toward the feeling of that class which is least enlightened and least disinterested, because it has the advantage over the feelings of other classes of being most persistent and more vehement. To a public opinion which veers about with every strong expression of liking or disliking, hoping to find some practical compromise among those bewildering fluctuations of hearts, the most useful advice is to find a fixed standard of right and wrong feeling, and to endeavor to sympathize only with the right feeling, and steadily to harden itself, not only against the wrong, but against mere vacillation, where neither right nor wrong is clearly visible.—Spectator.

—The Complications of Modern Society.—"Clara—"I thought you had decided that every thing was over between you and Harry, and yet you've been sitting there for over an hour thinking of him." "Maud (dejectedly)—"Well, I can't make up my mind whether it would be better to sue him for breach of promise or to make up with him, marry, and then sue for a divorce and alimony."—Drake's Magazine.

—"What are you working at now?" said one young man to another. "Nothing." "It strikes me you ought to have had that done by this time."—Washington Post.