

# The Oregon Scout

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## BAD NEWS FOR BLONDES.

Reasons for Thinking That Fair Hair is Becoming Extinct.

In forming opinions as to whether fair-haired persons are less numerous in a particular locality now than formerly, the element of age has to be considered. A person who has spent his childhood in a fair-haired district, and visits it again after a lapse of years, may easily imagine that the number of fair-haired persons is fewer than formerly, merely on account of the class of persons from whom he draws the inference being more adult than those of whom he has recollections formerly.

From the rate at which hair darkens from childhood to adult age we have some valuable observations, which show that the hair of light-complexioned male children darkens from 55 per cent. during the first five years of life to 33 per cent. at 45 years, and dark hair with light eyes is found to increase in about the same ratio. Darkening of the female hair and eyes with age takes place to a much less extent than among males. It would appear, therefore, that in estimating the increase or diminution of fair-haired persons in a particular district observations on females are much more trustworthy than on males, from the fact that they are much less liable to variations; but, on the other hand, it must be remembered that the color of a woman's hair is more liable to alter according to the tint which is considered the most fashionable at a particular time.

Besides the blending of fair-haired races with the dark stocks, there are other elements which Dr. Beddoe has shown may account for the diminution of fair hair in England, and these should not be overlooked. He considers that the xanthous temperament is less able to withstand the unsanitary conditions existing in the crowded populations of our great cities than the melanotic, and that in this way the law of natural selection operates against its increase.

Again, as a large majority of women live and die unmarried and childless, it is probable, in his opinion, that the physical qualities of the race may be to a small extent molded by the action of conjugal as well as natural selection. In support of this he has given statistics showing that of 737 women only 55.5 per cent. of those with fair hair were married, against 79 per cent. with black hair, while 37 per cent. with fair hair were unmarried, against 18 per cent. with black. On classifying those with red, fair, and brown hair as "blonde," and those with dark brown and black hair as "dark," we have 359 of the former and 361 of the latter. Of the blondes he found 60 per cent. were married to 70.5 of the dark, and 32 per cent. of the former were unmarried to 21.5 of the latter.

If during several generations this preference among the male sex for wives with dark hair should continue, it is reasonable to suppose it would exert an influence decidedly adverse to the increase of fair-haired persons being maintained. On various grounds, therefore, it would seem as if the fair hair so much beloved by poets and artists is doomed to be encroached upon and even replaced by that of darker hue. The rate at which this is taking place is probably slow, from the fact that nature is most conservative in her changes.—British Medical Journal.

## LAST SLAVE VOYAGE.

The Shipping, Stowing and Feeding of a Cargo of Slaves.

During the embarkation I was engaged separating those negroes who did not appear robust, or who had received some trifling injury in getting on deck, and sending them to an improvised hospital made by bulk-heading a space in the rear of the forecastle. The others, as they arrived, were stowed away by the Spanish mate; so that when all were aboard there was just room for each to lie upon one side. As no one knew what proportion the men were, all were herded together. The next morning the separation took place; the women and girls were all sent on deck, and numbered about four hundred. Then a close bulkhead was built across the ship and other bunks constructed. The women were sent below, and enough men sent up to enable the carpenter to have room to construct additional bunks. A more docile and easily managed lot of creatures can not be imagined. No violence of any kind was necessary; no violence of any kind was necessary; it was sometimes difficult to make them understand what was wanted; but as soon as they comprehended immediate compliance followed.

The negroes were now sent on deck in groups of eight and squatted around a large wooden platter, heaping full of cooked rice, beans and pork cut into small cubes. The platters were made by cutting off the head of flour or other barrels, leaving about four inches of the staves. Each negro was given a wooden spoon, which all on board had amused themselves in making during our forty-day trip. Barrel staves were sawed into lengths of eight inches, split into other pieces one and a half inches wide, and then shaped into a spoon with our pocket-knives. It was surprising what good spoons could be made in that manner. A piece of rope yarn tied to a spoon and hung around the neck was the way in which every individual retained his property. There not being room on deck for the entire cargo to feed at one time, platters were sent between decks, so that all ate at one hour, three times daily. Casks of water were placed in convenient places, and an abundant supply furnished day and night.—George Howe, M. D., in Scribner.

It Was Conclusive.

Mrs. Liveway (of Chicago)—Yes, young Mr. Laker wanted to marry our Susie, but I put my foot right down on it.

Mrs. North River (with a glance at Mrs. Liveway's feet)—Well, that covered the ground.—West Shore.

## GOD'S PROVIDENCE.

A Belief That Helps the Unfortunate to Bear Their Burdens Nobly.

Nothing so helps the unfortunate to bear their burdens as a belief that those burdens are a part of the providence of the world and come to them with purpose and design, and, although not easy to bear now, have a future benefit not only to themselves, but to the whole universe at large. This belief begets a spirit of humility which in itself gives the strength to bear more than half of the hard load, for with its coming departs all that defiance, all that fighting with fate, which is as useless as it is desperate. And with the willing spirit of humility comes also a capacity for reliance and trust, for dependence on supreme and fatherly care, that makes all pain seem lighter than it could seem otherwise, and that gives one all the satisfaction that the little child has when sobbing out its grief after any hurt upon a mother's breast. It is a tremendous thing for one to possess this sense of the fatherhood and providence of the power that rules the universe; one who has it fully ceases to struggle, rests in the divine arms, and no matter what deprivation, effort, loss or sorrow comes, that person remains satisfied with the divine will, sees the sun behind the shadow, feels that grief and trouble are temporary but better things are eternal, and finds it easier to endure with that help, as if one were carried over on strong wings.

But one who does not possess this faith in God's providence has the woes of the world, so far as they affect one's self, to carry all alone, has to fight with the sun in the face, has a burden under which the giants of old would have staggered. The folly and futility of the effort are as certain as if one undertook to make a world one's self, or to hold it in correlation with the other worlds. It ends either in stony indifference that has its consequence in an equal indifference to pleasure and satisfaction, so that if one no longer suffers, neither does one any longer enjoy, or else in madness. The moment that the effort is surrendered comes peace, comes absolute abandonment of all one's self-reliance and resistance, comes complete surrender to the all-surrounding power, in which alone is recompense for trouble or hope of relief. They that disbelieve in God's providence are no wiser than they that believe in it, they themselves openly declare that they do not believe because they do not know, and meantime knowledge is wisdom, and they certainly are no happier. Thus it seems self-evident that in the beginning of misfortune to be able to experience not only non-resistance and submission to fate, but acquiescence and loving trust, is the part of religion and duty, to be sure, but that it is also, in view of its capacity of producing comfort and happiness, the part of worldly wisdom also.—Harper's Bazar.

## A MUSCULAR HEN.

She Vanquishes Biddy and Adopts a Family of Kittens.

At Stafford Springs, Conn., a determined old hen wanted to sit. Her owner removed her eggs, whereupon in querulous mood she quit her nest and blustered about the homestead, finding a great deal of fault with life. While she was doing that the family cat discovered her artistically wrought and rounded nest, curled upon it and deposited live kittens in it. Then biddy came back, pitched into pussy, fairly drove her off the nest, flew in and sat down on the kittens, evidently inferring they were a new kind of chickens, she had hatched in a moment of mental abstraction. For a day or two the hen brooded away and the unhappy cat stalked about the premises watching for an opportunity to get back her own. At the end of three days the hen had to quit the old stand for food and water, and promptly the cat slipped into the nest and taking the kittens one by one by the cuff of the neck, transported them all to the distant part of the hay-mow.

Then came biddy home again. When she found the fledglings flown she raised another noisy row all about the farm. She looked aloof and aloft vainly for awhile, for the missing brood, and finally found them ranged like pegs, on a telegraph pole arm alongside the parent cat. Again another battle and the old cat had to fly from the furious hen pecking, but she took along one kitten in her teeth, while the hen held the field of battle, and four feline spoils. With the kitten in her teeth the cat scaled a high scaffold and made for herself a new home, with her one offspring by her side. The old hen is still encamped on the rest of the kittens in the new-made nest. She lays not, neither does she cackle, but it really looks as if she was going to bring up the four kits in spite of all drawbacks and setbacks. The Stafford Springs man has watched the proceedings impartially, but with interest, and he fancies he is proprietor of the only case of cat and hen abduction and readjust on. Who can beat this novel sight?—Oh o Farmer.

## How to Stop Hiccoughs.

Hiccough is produced by a spasmodic twitching of the diaphragm. If it happens when a person is just breathing in, it produces a sort of guttural noise. If the person has strength of will enough he can take hold of his diaphragm and hold it down, that is, by taking a deep breath the diaphragm is contracted so that it can not contract any more. The spasms of hiccough occur in rhythmic order, once in so many seconds. Ascertain the length of the interval and then, about five seconds before it is time for the hiccough, take a deep breath deliberately and slowly, and hold it until you have passed two periods. This will break up the rhythm. Frightening a person has the same effect and explains the philosophy of that mode of cure. Hiccough is usually due to irritation or some other disturbance of the stomach. Remove the cause and break up the habit.—Dr. J. H. Kellogg.

He Never Went to College.

Mr. Ransom—My dear, I think you must be mistaken in your opinion that young Skimgullet is a college bred man.

Mrs. Ransom—Why?

Mr. Ransom—I drew him into conversation about foot-ball and he doesn't know an iota about it.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

## POISONOUS PLANTS.

Four Rules for Identifying Poison-Ivy and Poison-Sumach.

There need be no trouble in identifying the poison-ivy in any of its forms. The hairy trunk will often serve us, but there are two other features which are of much more value. First let us remember that its leaves are always grouped in threes whatever the outlines of their more or less wavy margins. In some sections the plant is always called the "three-leaved ivy." And this naturally leads me to a consideration of that other vine with similar habits which is commonly known in the same localities as the "five-leaved ivy," and a leaf of which I have here pictured under the title of "an innocent victim." This is a leaf of the *Ampelopsis quinquefolia* (quinquefolia—five leaves), also called Virginia creeper and woodbine. Look at the leaf, and fix its form in your mind. This is one of our most beautiful native climbers. It is allied to the grape-vine, is perfectly harmless, and is the one plant that has to suffer from suspicion, being often destroyed under the impression that it is the "poison-ivy."

The writer knew of a person who possessed a beautiful home upon the Hudson, and whose deficiency in knowing of this one little page of botany cost him a severe loss. His children were suddenly prostrated with ivy-poisoning, and one of his "ninth hour" neighbors came in to offer him some learned advice. Something in this style: "Well, Squire, it's fetched 'em at last. I've been tellin' Betsy all along that the pesky stuff would ketch ye arter a while. Well, that, goodness and truth! Time an' time agin, when I've been goin' by the gate an' seen them air children playin' in the summer-house yender, it's made me feel 'tarnal ticklish, an' I've sed time and agin, an' told Betsy so tew, that I'd bet my best gobbler they'd be broke out afore a week, an' now they've done it; an' if you take my advice, you'll cut the pesky weed down an' burn it before the hull on ye is ketched. You needn't look so surprised, Squire. What I'm tellin' yer is fer yure own good. That air weed is pizen-shumake, an' it'll nigh on to kill some folks."

Such advice, coming from a practical farmer in whom the "Squire" had perfect confidence, was immediately acted upon. The vines which had embowered the beautiful arbor for a generation were sawed off at the ground. And to think that a peep into the botany might have saved them!

Four things need to be committed to memory to insure safety against our poison-sumachs:

First. The three-leaved ivy is dangerous.

Second. The five-leaved is harmless.

Third. The poison-sumach have white berries.

Fourth. No red-berried sumach is poisonous.

Both the poison-ivy and poison-sumach though unlike in appearance of foliage, have similar white berries growing in small slender clusters from the axils of the leaves. In all other sumachs the berries are red and in close bunches at the ends of the branches, and far from being dangerous, yield a frosty-looking acid which is most agreeable to the taste, and wholesome withal. With these simple precepts fixed in the mind, no one need fear the dangers of the thickets. Nor need any one repeat the hazardous exploit of two young ladies whom I know, one of whom, as a committee on church decoration in a country town, brought her arms full of the scarlet autumn branches of the venomous sumach; while the other once sent the writer a really beautiful group of carefully arranged rare grasses and mosses generously decked with the white berries of the poison-ivy. Both the severe penalty of their botanical innocence.—William Hamilton Gibson, in Harper's Young People.

## AN UNIDENTIFIED EXIT.

A Collector Tackles a Red-Headed Woman With a Bull.

"I beg your pardon," he said, as a woman came to the door in answer to his knock. "I am looking for a man with a hare-lip and a wooden leg named Johnson."

"Is it his wooden leg that is named Johnson, or are his hare-lip and wooden leg both named Johnson?" she demanded.

"I didn't mean, of course, that his wooden leg was named Johnson. I—"

"Then what did you say so for?"

"Permit me to explain, madam, I was only—"

"I haven't asked you for any explanation, have I?"

"Certainly not. My object in trying to find out—"

"Have I asked you to state why you are trying to find out any thing?"

"Of course not, madam, but being a stranger in the neighborhood—"

"Do you mean that I am a stranger in the neighborhood?"

"No, madam, certainly not. I—I—I—good morning, madam."

He paused a moment when safely outside the front gate to mop the perspiration from his face, and then started down the street.

"If ever I tackle a red-headed woman with a bull on her nose for information again," he said to himself, "may I be essentially dog-goned!"—Jury.

## Ought to Know Him Better.

"Notice any thing peculiar in the water yesterday, Rambo?" said Baldwin.

"Yes; it seemed to leave a sandy sediment in the bath tub," said Rambo.

"I mean in the taste of it."

"In the taste of the water? Do I understand you to ask me if I noticed any thing peculiar in the taste of the water?"

"That's what I asked you."

"Baldwin," exclaimed Rambo, in the tone of an injured man, "let's talk about the census."—Chicago Tribune.

## A Grand Opportunity.

Madame Murray Hill—I hear that your son got a position immediately after graduation.

Madame Harlem Heights—Yes, he has become private secretary to an actress.

Madame Murray Hill—Well, but is there any chance of advancement.

Madame Harlem Heights—Yes, indeed. He has a chance to become her second husband.—Munsey's Weekly.

## TREASURY FRAUDS.

Many Have Been Attempted, But Not One Proved a Success.

Among the inheritances from the administration of Mr. Buchanan was an application for the reissue of a lot of coupon bonds alleged to have been destroyed. The claimants proved the facts as clearly as human testimony could—that these bonds, each with six coupons attached, were deposited in a locked mail-bag in Frankfurt, transported to Liverpool, and there delivered into the hands of an agent of the post-office on board a steamship which was wrecked by collision, and went, with all its mails, and all but two or three of those on board, to the bottom of the sea. The completeness of the evidence was itself a source of suspicion, and, much to the chagrin of the claimants, Secretary Chase affirmed the decision of a bureau officer that the duplicates should not be issued except by the direction of Congress. On the application of the claimants at the next session, Congress passed an act directing the issue of the duplicates. The claim was again presented with the act, and the duplicates were demanded. The same bureau officer again represented his suspicions to the Secretary, and, with the sanction of the latter, the present regulation was adopted, interposing a delay of twelve months after proof of the claim before the actual issue. This rule was vehemently assailed by the claimants through the press; they even charged the officer with intentionally nullifying the authority of Congress.

At this time the coupons of bonds redeemed were in packages in the Register's file-room. There was little need of their examination, and no attempt had been made to arrange them in consecutive order. Books were now made with one page appropriated to each bond, and a space for each coupon, while a force of clerks was detailed to place each redeemed coupon in its appropriate space.

At the expiration of the year the claimants came for their duplicates. They were assured that they would now be issued unless some satisfactory reason could be shown for further delay. The books were sent for, and in their proper spaces were found all the coupons which had been proved to have sunk to the bottom of the sea! A few months later the bonds themselves were presented for redemption and, no adverse claims being made, they were paid.

What was the explanation of this mystery? I do not know. The pressure of official duties and the anxieties of war which occupied us so incessantly prevented any further investigation, and the inquiry will probably never be answered.

The next fraud which I recall was a success as far as the department was concerned. The loss of the money was prevented by an accident.

The course of proceeding for the collection of a claim for army supplies was usually this: The contractor made his collections through his banker. His monthly account was made up in conformity with all the rules of the War Office, and transmitted to that office with a letter of directions where the draft should be sent. The War Office approved the claim if correct, and transmitted the account, the letter, and the action of the War Department to the Secretary of the Treasury, by whom it was sent to the proper auditor, whose duty it was to audit the claim. If he decided that the claim was a proper one, it was sent to the Comptroller, who revised the action of the auditor, and, if correct, approved it, sending the account with the accompanying documents to the Secretary, who issued the warrant for its payment. This warrant was countersigned by the Comptroller, and entered on the books of the Register; the Treasurer then drew his draft upon one of the depositories for its payment, and the draft was sent by mail according to the original letter of instruction, which constituted one of the file papers. The file was then sent to the Register's file-room, and there remained. It comprised all the papers, showing a complete history of the transaction.

On the occasion in question the cashier of one of the Washington banks came to the office of the Register with a draft just issued for more than \$80,000, payable to a well-known Massachusetts contractor, and regularly endorsed. It had been presented by the head porter of Willard's hotel, a reliable man, who said that the payee was ill and unable to leave his room. He had therefore requested him to collect the draft in notes, if possible, of \$1,000 each. Without any apparent reason the cashier said his suspicions were excited, and he went with the porter to the hotel to see the payee, and be sure that the transaction was all right. But the sick gentleman had disappeared. He had probably watched the porter, and finding that there was delay in the payment, had vanished.

The file was sent for, and the letter found directing that the draft be sent to the contractor at Willard's hotel. He was communicated with by telegraph, and said that the letter was a forgery. He had given the same directions in this case as in his former collections.

This fraud was consummated by an outsider with the assistance of a clerk in the treasury. No outsider could have obtained access to the files in order to remove the true letter and substitute the forgery. Such a fraud could not be prevented by any system. Fortunately the suspicious or the prudence of the cashier prevented any loss.—L. E. Chittenden, in Harper's Magazine.

Bilkies' Popularity.

Guest—I understand that Bilkies is one of the most popular men in your city.

Host—Did Bilkies tell you that?

Guest—O, no; I have not met Bilkies for years.

Host—Ah! Then you have been talking with his wife.—N. Y. Weekly.

Cause and Effect.

Proprietor (astonished)—Whew! Three hundred subscribers in one mail. I wonder what is giving our paper such a boom?

Managing Editor (gleefully)—I killed our funny man's jokes on death by electricity.—Texas Siftings.

## A TALK ABOUT OATHS.

How People Swear and Where Some Expressions Come From.

"You need not have looked severe because I said that didn't I care a dam," said a gruff old Senator in conversation with the Sunday-school reporter of the Washington Star. "That is not swearing. The expression has a very different meaning from what is popularly supposed, and was originated by the Duke of Wellington. A dam in India is the smallest piece of money known, and not to care that much means simply that one is very indifferent. That was all the phrase was intended to signify. The word 'damn,' from the Latin verb meaning 'to condemn,' is a very different thing. Curiously enough, it seems almost invariably to be the first word in our language acquired by foreigners, and it has always been such a favorite with the English that in the last century the French always referred to them as the 'Goddams.' A distinguished Gallis writer of that epoch said that English was a beautiful tongue and that 'Goddam' was the basis of it. 'People of that nation,' he remarked, 'have a few other words which they use in conversation, but the principal one is Goddam. You can go anywhere in England if you know that.'

"A funny misapprehension also exists as to the expression: 'Go to the duke.' People generally suppose that 'duce' means 'devil,' whereas as a matter of fact it is derived directly from the Latin 'Deus'—'God.' So when any one tells you 'go to the duce' he is unconsciously uttering the best of good wishes for your welfare.

Speaking of Latin always reminds me that among the ancient Romans it was considered the thing for each man to have some particular god to habitually swear by. Some swore by Jupiter, others by Mars, others by Minerva, and so on. The demi-gods, like Hercules and Castor and Pollux, were also made use of in the way of oaths. Castor and Pollux were usually appealed to as the "Twins"—"by Gemini"—the phrase whence we get our exclamation "by Jiminy." It was thought very improper for Roman ladies to swear by the male gods, but they were permitted to take the name of the Twins in vain, and also especially that of Venus. In moments of great aggravation they might go so far as to cry "Mecastor!"—"by Castor!" The Greeks swore by the cabbage, which was the most prized of vegetables, and even to this day the same oath is often heard in Italy, while in France a lover is being intensely affectionate when he calls the lady of his heart his "petit chou" or "little cabbage." "By jingo" is from "Jincoo," the Basque name for God. Barbarous tribes have been accustomed to swear by the head of their ruler. Queen Elizabeth is said to have been a very hard swearer, as ladies were very apt to be in her day. Louis IX. of France forbade the use of his courtiers of such oaths as 'Pardieu,' 'Cordieu,' 'Tetedieu,' and so on. There chanced to belong to one of the ladies of the court a small pet dog named 'Bieu.' The courtiers made up their minds to swear by the dog instead of the Deity, and hence came the pious and the corbieus of later times. Pythagoras had a favorite oath which most people would consider not sufficiently forcible to be satisfactory. He swore by the number four, which the Greeks regarded as symbolizing perfection.

## FAMILY FASHIONS.

Suits for Little Boys and Wraps for Little Girls—Children's Hats.

The first colored dress which is put on little boys after they are a year old is of gingham, and is made with a plaited waist with rows of insertion between the plaits and a skirt laid in side plaits. When the boy is about three or four years old, according to his size, he is considered large enough to be put in a suit with the kilt separate from the waist. These suits are made of Scotch plaid and plain wools of light weight, white pique and white flannel. The kilt is laid in flat, broad kilt, and if of wool is ornamented with a decoration of squares of braid. The jacket is square and short, to show the blouse vest of white linen or white or yellow China silk entirely around. Short white socks, which display the bare leg, are worn with black or tanned boots.

A long coat of pique or white wool, with a cape, is worn by little girls up to five and six years of age, when the child is considered old enough to wear a reefing jacket of dark navy-blue chevrot, or of the pretty striped flannels that are now used. A great many mothers, however, retain a long coat till the child is at least ten years old, because they find there are many cool days when the light reefing jackets are not enough protection in the country. The long wraps made for little girls are usually loose in front, reaching to the bottom of their dress-skirts. They are made of plain and fancy cloths and rough chevrot cloths in navy blues, browns and also of light drab and gray coachman's cloths. Dainty little jackets in mixed covert cloth, in stylish Oxford and Cambridge mixtures, are imported for little girls. The favorite wrap for older school-girls is a tailor-made jacket of serge or mixed English tweed, finished with stitched edges and plain bone buttons.

Considerable difference is now made in the first hat worn by a baby boy and girl. The little girl's bonnet is a variety of the French cap, fitted closely around her head, while the little boy wears a hat of shirred lawn or crepon, made with a puffed crown, and a ruche of lace next the face. As soon as the boy puts on a separate kilt, he wears a sailor hat of white straw. The little girl of three, when she is too old to wear a cap, has a leghorn straw hat in white or in some of the various colors which have been brought out this season, simply trimmed with ribbons and flowers. Forschool-girls there are large hats, with brims projecting over the eyes, to be trimmed with tips or ribbon bows. Sailor hats are worn by girls in their "teens," and are now more popular, it is possible, than ever before.—Helens Rowe, in Good Housekeeping.

## RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL.

—Short sermons in warm weather will succeed better than the long ones.

—There are sixteen girls' schools in Turkey with over 1,600 young lady students.

—Self-organization is the most important element in education.—L. A. Cooper.

—The great fact is that life is a sacrifice. The only question is, whom will we serve?—Faber.

—When we get to Heaven we will find that we have all had something to do in building it.—Ram's Horn.

—The last stone of the spire of Ulm Cathedral was put in place on May 31, and that cathedral now reaches higher than any other in the world, or 530 feet.

—A proposition is advocated to erect a great Tabernacle in Chicago at the World's Fair with a seating capacity of 20,000, to be used by all religious denominations.

—President Dwight announces that during the last year the gifts and bequests made to Yale amounted to \$716,000. In four years the college had received \$1,244,000. Requests amounting to \$400,000 are dependent on the life of one person.

—To see the light of God and to choose the darkness is the most hopeless condition into which any one can fall. It is probably that which is meant by Christ as the sin against the Holy Ghost, for which there is no forgiveness.—Donald MacLeod, D. D.

—The work of preparing a commentary on the New Testament, which was begun fourteen years ago, under the auspices of the American Baptist Publication Society, by Dr. Hovey, has been completed. It is called the "American Commentary on the New Testament."

—The great movement in the American Baptist Mission among the Telugus in India, in which 30,000 converts have been gathered in twelve years, still continues, and is spreading into the interior of the country. In the Nalgunda District fifty-two were recently baptized in one week.

—Education in Paraguay is free and compulsory. In 1877 only 20 per cent. of the adult Paraguayans and 60 per cent. of foreigners could read and write. There were in 1888 160 public elementary schools with 28,526 pupils, over 100 subsidized schools, and a national college with 15 professors and 150 students.

—The fact that three religious bodies within two years have taken steps toward the establishment of the orders of deaconesses indicate a growing conviction on the part of the church that women can find a congenial and suitable field of service in some such way as that in which they used to minister in the primitive church, and as the Roman Catholic sisters have ministered all through the Christian centuries. The Presbyterians have taken only provisional action, but the Methodists and Episcopalians have already worked the idea out into definite shape.—Congregationalist.

## WIT AND WISDOM.

—Hear both sides and all shall be clear; hear one and you may still be in the dark.

—Do not persecute the unfortunate, as it is like throwing stones on one fallen into a well.

—The reason why gratitude is so rare is because memory is less stronger than expectancy.

—A piece of Limburger cheese is like a tack in one respect—you can always find it in the dark.—Puck.

—The sublimity of wisdom is to do those things living which are to be desired when dying.—Taylor.

—School Boy—Our principal is not a lightning teacher, for lightning never strikes twice in the same place.

—Asking papa is a court of appeal. Love at first sight and a runaway match is a supreme court.—N. O. Pleavane.

—"He is too lazy to go to sleep." "Oh! the idea." "Fact, nevertheless. He just simply falls asleep."—Terre Haute Express.

—Every one has a mission; the mission of the crying baby is to make old bachelors and maids contented.—Atechson Globe.

—It is a melancholy fact and much to be regretted that good people who want only what is right often get what is left. Dallas (Tex.) News.

—A New York lawyer owns a lead pencil which he values at \$100. If it is a pencil that can't be permanently borrowed, it is worth it.—Norristown Herald.

—He—"Ah! sweetheart, what is more delicious, after all, than love's young dream?" She—"Well, a little ice cream is sometimes very nice after dancing."—Munsey's Weekly.

—Briggs—"Tompkins is engaged to a widow, I hear." Briggs—"Yes; that's just like him. He is too lazy to do any of the courting."—Terre Haute Express.

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