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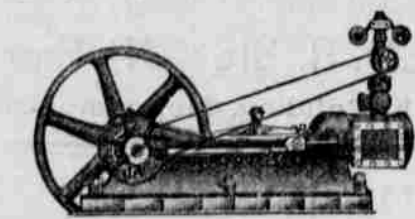
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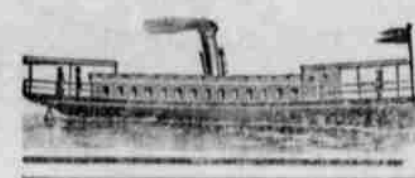
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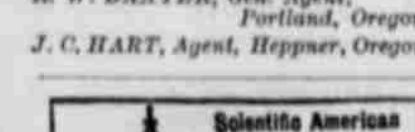
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HE HAS HIS TROUBLES.

Trials of a Messenger Boy for the Telegraph Company.

A telegraph messenger probably sees as much of the other side of human nature as a doctor. One told an Acheson Globe writer recently that a woman never opened a telegram without turning pale, and, when the message was not alarming, they looked disappointed. He delivered about two death messages a day, four birth messages, a great many business messages, and once in a great while a love message that makes him shiver to carry it. He carried one recently to a young man in town that read:

"How are you to-day darling?"

The answer went promptly back by the boy and was to this effect: "I am better, love." He carried a message of death to a colored woman, and after reading it her emotion overcame her to such an extent that she caught the messenger in her arms and soundly boxed his ears. Another colored woman refused to open or sign for a message, but walked to the door, beat her breast, and screamed, supposing it announced a death. When all the neighbors had come in, one more venture some than the rest read the message. It was simply a notice that the woman's sister would come up from Leavenworth that evening to see her.

A "CLEAN" SHAVE.

Precautions Which Might Be Adopted for the Safety of Customers.

Nothing is easier than for contagion to be conveyed from a diseased to a healthy skin during the act of shaving, and many cases have now been recorded, says the Medical Press, proving that diseased processes have in this manner been propagated. Probably the readiest manner available to the barber for preventing such untoward occurrences would be by sterilizing his "instruments" by means of heat, either by steam or boiling water. Razors should be made so that their handles would not suffer from the exposure to high degrees of heat, and the rules should be enforced that in no case should any of the "instruments" be used consecutively by without having first been submitted to the sterilizing process. Under this rule, then, each customer would be given of having a "clean" shave in more senses than one. Of course, also, on the principle of a "fresh pot of tea for each customer," a freshly scalded-out lather pot should be included with each shave. Unless these or similar precautions be carried out in barbers' shops, cases of the conveyance of infectious skin diseases from customer to customer cannot fail to occur.

IN THE STREET CAR.

Some Observing Individual Notes a Womanly Eccentricity.

"Have you ever noticed," said a man-about-town to a reporter for the Philadelphia Record, "that nine women out of ten when they enter a street car invariably take a seat on the right hand side of the car? I have frequently wondered at it, and a solution of the mystery did not occur to me until a few nights ago. I boarded a Girard avenue car which was entirely empty, and sat down in the forward left-hand corner. At the next crossing a woman got aboard and sat down opposite me. At the next street two more women got in and took seats alongside of the first. After a time there were seven women in the car, all sitting in a row, leaving me to enjoy alone the comforts of the left-hand seats. Then three men jumped aboard and sat down on my side. Finally another woman joined us, and instead of taking a vacant seat near the door on the 'ladies' side' she walked the entire length of the car and sat down alongside of me. This eccentricity on her part impelled me to watch her more closely than good manners possibly warranted, but I solved the mystery to my satisfaction. She paid the conductor with her left hand! She was left-handed; see? And all the women on the other side were right-handed, of course. Fact!"

THE ARMY RATION.

Experiments to Produce a Concentrated Food.

Nothing Found to Take the Place of the Old-Fashioned Ration of Bacon and Hardtack in Suitable Bulk.

The recent experiments of the United States government to test the value of a concentrated army ration have quite naturally proved a failure. They were instituted by the secretary of war with a view to reducing the bulk and weight of food without impairing its nutritive functions. This appeared to be necessitated by the fact that the American army is more in need of possible improvements in this line, in view of the heavy, tedious and long transportation of supplies across the plains and through districts that are incapable of affording the proper amount and quality of food in times of emergencies.

The German army, for example, when moving in small bodies always purchases supplies on the march as wanted. The same is true of the French, Russian, Austrian and other European armies, but at the same time the soldiers usually have in their knapsacks what is called an "emergency" ration, of some kind. The soldiers of the Japanese army in the late war with China carried an emergency ration of rice in a little tin case strapped to the top of their knapsacks.

The reports made by the different military departments to which the questions were referred are interesting as bearing upon the value of food products generally and on the physiological questions involved in the digestive and nutritive processes more particularly. Theoretically speaking, it would appear that the problem had been solved regarding the amount of food necessary to sustain life and the varieties of substances that give in minimum compass the greatest amount of nourishment.

All the observers agree, however, that the old-fashioned ration of bacon and hardtack in suitable bulk is the most practical that has ever been suggested. The quantity of food necessary to keep a soldier in good condition is fixed at 22 ounces. The latter amount is increased for obvious reasons to 26 ounces.

When the theories were put to a practical test the result was as might have been anticipated. Various concentrated food tablets were employed in Colorado, but more than half the men who were victims to the experiment became candidates for hospital treatment. The following extract from the report speaks very significantly on some very essential and striking facts:

"A company of the Seventh infantry, at Fort Logan, near Denver, was detailed and furnished with condensed rations, consisting of coffee, soup, bread and bacon. The coffee and soup were antipathetic. Various concentrated food tablets were employed in Colorado, but more than half the men who were victims to the experiment became candidates for hospital treatment. The following extract from the report speaks very significantly on some very essential and striking facts:

"All this goes to show that not only very much is to be learned regarding laboratory feeding, but that we are also far from the proper appreciation of nature's complex requirements of food taking. Thus far the human laboratory, with its multiple, interdependent, and complementary methods, has a monopoly of its own in fixing the proper standards for digestion, assimilation and subsequent growth. There is a natural law pervading the whole that must not be violated by too radical attempts at modification or improvement. The stomach must earn its living in its own way, as by such purely physiological efforts in bringing each and all of its mechanical, vital and chemical functions into play, it can best maintain its health, activity and usefulness. No prepared or concentrated food can relieve it of any or all of its activities in that gradual conversion of a legitimate quantity and quality of food that constitutes a natural and perfect digestion. In such an aspect a moderately full stomach is something more than a feeling. Its work must be distributive rather than restrictive. It must be healthfully distended with food bulky enough to occupy space properly; otherwise, its most important function is hampered, while for lack of mechanical stimulus the intestines become stagnated into almost helpless inactivity. Hence it is easy to see how the experiments failed and the victims paid the penalty of outraged physiological laws. So far, at least, there is not sufficient reason, because a man becomes a soldier that his stomach should be puckered around a desiccated soup tablet or that it should wrestle alone in some dark corner of an accommodating fold with some soggy and glazed albumined. - Medical Record.

LET DOWN EASY.

How a Fair Guest Deceived the Governor's Intentions.

When Mr. Tilden was occupying the gubernatorial chair of the state of New York and had under consideration the appointment of a judge a friend of Judge Peckham, who was a candidate for the place, was urging the judge's claims, and besought the assistance of a lady, who at that time happened to be a visitor at the gubernatorial mansion. Although at that time everything seemed reasonable to indicate the appointment of Judge Peckham, the lady secured her questioner that his candidate had no chance whatsoever. Sure

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