

BURNS, OREGON.

—The boundaries of Scotland embrace 186 islands. —London has a police army of 13,849 men. The chief has a salary of \$10,500 a year.

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

—Speaking generally, the average length of life in England is forty-four years; the average length among the upper classes is fifty-three years. —Steel-framed cars are now being manufactured in England, with a view to lightness and greater durability than if wood were used for the purpose.

TO MAKE CIDER VINEGAR.

A Quick Process of Producing a Pure and Wholesome Article.

Any farmer can easily change all the cider he is likely to have into vinegar by the following quick process: The requirements are, first, a cask; second, a box made of four wide boards, fifteen to eighteen feet long, with a bottom board "upright of holes," this is to be placed full of cider, and leading into this box there must be an automatic fountain.

These provided, each person can determine where it will be most convenient to improvise the factory, whether in barn or wood-house. If he has no better place he can put the fountain in his house at a second-story window, the box and cask being outside the window. Instead of the cask, I used (with first-rate success) two headless salt barrels, one above another, the lower one with one head full of holes. It may be possible that the barrels are better than the box, because air is admitted where they join, and they do not allow the porous contents to settle readily and pack as a straight box would.

Most of this was barreled, and the rest was used, alternately with new cider, to replenish the fountain. Some- times I used twice as much of one as of the other, as fast as it became good. Vinegar I kept on barrel full except what was wanted to mix with new cider in continuation of the process. When there was no more cider to work up, the vinegar in the saw-dust was got up by putting water in the fountain, and as it descended in the saw-dust it "displaced" or pushed the vinegar downward. When the water began to come through tasting only a little of vinegar, it was turned off.

The last lot of vinegar may be mixed with that previously made, and the total measure will be fully equal to the original quantity of cider, and if the cider was pure and unwatered, the vinegar will be so intensely strong that it may be largely diluted.

During the process considerable heat is generated, the saw-dust and liquor becoming quite warm. It may be that this heat may be increased or diminished to advantage by turning on a large amount of cold cider at once, or by having the cider warm when it is turned on—more especially at the beginning, when every thing is cold. However, without warming the cider, I succeeded as above. The original recipe prescribed mixing a small quantity of honey with the cider. This is not necessary. The recipe also called for beech-wood shavings, as though nothing else would answer. The fact perhaps is that the shavings and saw-dust of all kinds of wood that will not communicate taste or color, are about equally good.

Some people object to the quick-process cider; but there is no reason why the simultaneous absorption of oxygen by all parts of the cider from the pure external air should make a vinegar less wholesome than that which is one or two years in "making itself" by absorbing oxygen through a bung-hole from the poor quality of air in a cellar where the cider is fermenting. Fresh-made, quick-process vinegar is free from animalcules and will remain so for many years without "singing," becoming "motherly," or "ropy." If in full vessels tightly corked.—Cor. Rural New Yorker.

—The Milwaukee (Wis.) Union accepts the following challenge of Boston Courier: "If you can show us anything prettier at this season than a girl of nineteen, with golden hair, rosy cheeks, ruby lips, and dressed in white, tulle, with a blue ribbon around her neck, let us see it." Yes, we can. Her sister, sixteen months older, with raven hair, tumbled unkempt down her dusky shoulders, her two eyes shining like ripe chimpanzees, a coral necklace around her dusky throat, and a bunch of holly leaves and red berries stuck in her saffron courage over her guttering heart. There, now, sir.

BESS.

When you talkin' 'bout yer beauties, With their purty eyes 'n' lashes, An' their lips like cherry fruit is When the rain sleet it splashes, With their cheeks like plum-ripe peaches, An' their looks like sunbeams flashes—Way, listen at yer speeches, Say'n' 'sobody but I jes' Let my thinkin' loose on Beas.

ONLY AN AMATEUR.

How He Played the Part of an Organ Grinder.

The organ man at the gate had been grinding away at the popular tunes which filled his music-box, and left room for a running accompaniment of grunts and groans, for full fifteen minutes. At length the nurses, and all the children under their charge, had gaped over the fence, and thrown him plentiful largess of small change, and pitiful boards of a larger grudge had thrown sundry five-cent pieces from upper windows; now the head of the house, hard at work in the kitchen, as she usually was, did the same.

"Some won't encourage 'em," she said to Sally, her assistant-in-general; "but I say they help boarders to keep lively; and if your summer boarder gets low-spirited you're apt to lose her; so take the beef the folks have left on their plates, warm it on the grid-iron, and put it on a clean plate, with hot potatoes and turnips—there's enough of that on the plates, too. What the eye don't see the heart don't grieve for, and I don't believe an Eye-talian grinder would care anyway if he did know."

And Sally, obedient to the behest, called to the grinder to "Come in." While he was feeding within young Mortimer came back from fishing. He was, in the city, as regularly fashionable as any one else, but out amongst the mountains he elected to live in a red shirt and knickerbockers, a great fisherman's hat, and a big leather belt, in which he presented something of the appearance of a theatrical bandit, being dark, handsome, and romantic-looking. He put down his rod and the small string of brook trout he had brought home with him, within the gate, and went back again to look at the brown box the organ grinder had left outside.

"Why, it's an organ," he exclaimed; "but I say they help boarders to keep lively, and if your summer boarder gets low-spirited you're apt to lose her; so take the beef the folks have left on their plates, warm it on the grid-iron, and put it on a clean plate, with hot potatoes and turnips—there's enough of that on the plates, too. What the eye don't see the heart don't grieve for, and I don't believe an Eye-talian grinder would care anyway if he did know."

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SUNFLOWER CHORUS.

Something Entirely New in the Way of an Evening's Entertainment. There was a church festival in Hensonsvale, and this is the way in which Miss Belle Abbott introduced a new feature into the well-worn list of such entertainments.

A placard was prominently displayed at the festival reading: "SOMETHING NEW. DON'T FAIL TO SEE IT." All were kept in mystery until the appointed time, when the manager, stepping before the curtain, spoke of the statue of Memnon in Egypt, which was accustomed to greet the rising sun with song.

"More obliging than Memnon," he said, "certain stately American sunflowers have been found ready and willing to sing whenever called upon. Ladies and gentlemen," he added, "I have been fortunate enough to secure for our festival a cluster of these remarkable additions to our native flora, and have the honor of presenting to you our Sunflower Chorus."

The slowly drawn curtain revealed upon a dark background thirteen large, yellow sunflowers, with leaves and stalks complete, and in the center of each a human face. Music came from the piano near the stage, and to its accompaniment the cluster of human sunflowers sang numerous selections from familiar operas, popular songs, and melodies and college pieces.

The Sunflower Chorus was voted a grand success, and those not in the secret begged Miss Abbott to tell them how it was done. And this was her explanation: One foot behind the stage curtain, hangs another curtain of dark brown cambric, ten feet square; attached by rings to a wire stretched nine feet from the floor; the cords to the first and last rings, and drawing the curtain tightly, fastened these strings to the wall on each side. The top being now secured, let the curtain hang naturally; wrap the surplus cloth about a strip of wood twelve feet long, two inches wide, and one inch thick; fasten this to the floor by two large screws, and the flower screen will be tightly stretched.

Group the singers in a picturesque cluster behind the screen, with their faces pressed against the cloth, and at distances from the floor varying from one to eight feet; mark the position of each face, and cut, in the screen a hole into which the face will closely fit. Arrange the flowers and leaves, which should be fully prepared beforehand. The rays of the sunflowers may be cut from yellow paper, and the leaves and stalks from green paper. Paste the rays around the openings, then arrange the stalks and leaves in proper position.

When the paste is dry, remove the strip of wood from the bottom of the screen, unfasten one of the cords at the top and slide it back until needed for use, when it may be easily put into position. In summer the natural stalks and leaves of the sunflower may be used instead of those made from paper.—St. Nicholas.

HUMAN SACRIFICE.

Horrible Customs Prevailing in the Upper Congo Region. The revolting custom of human sacrifice is carried on to a horrible extent on the upper Congo river, principally by the Ba-yanzi tribes. All slaves, both men and women, are liable to this barbarity. These people are under the impression that a man dying in this world is simply transferred to another, there to carry on exactly the same existence, requiring the same food and attendance. Upon the death of a chief his relatives or friends kill about half his slaves, men and women, to go with him, they say, to attend to his wants and to serve for his protection, it being very *infra dig* for a chief to make his entry into the next world without a certain following. The women are strangled; a rope is put around the neck of the victim, a man climbs a tree and ties the rope to a branch, the woman being held up, so that when they let her go she is swung in mid-air in her dying struggles. These cause great merriment among the spectators, not thinking that at least a great many of them will share the same fate sooner or later. The men are beheaded. The victim is seated on a log of wood; two stakes are then driven into the ground, one on each side of him, and as high as his shoulder; lands are then put around his body, inclosing it in these stakes, then two stakes are driven by his knees and two by his ankles, one at each side, and he is securely bound to them with a rope. A ring of cane is then put around the neck, with several leaders of string, which are drawn up and tied in a knot above his head; a pliable pole about eighteen feet long is then driven into the ground, and a slit in the cloth for the man's head; a small piece of rope is fastened to the top of the pole and the other end of the rope is made fast to the knot above the man's head. This being now at very strong tension, the whole body is quite immovable, and the neck is stretched to its full extent. The executioner then makes his appearance. He makes a chalk mark on the poor fellow's neck; then, with one blow, severs the head from the trunk. The spectators at this seem to lose control of themselves. They tear down the head from the pole and point to a ghastly scurmage for it, often resulting in a free fight.—Illustrated London News.

—Never cast dirt into that fountain of which thou hast some time drank.—Hebrew Proverb. —A doctor sent his bill to a widow for "doctoring your husband until he died."—Harper's Magazine. —We complain that our life is short and yet we throw away much of it, and are weary of many of its parts.—Jeremy Taylor. —You shall be none the worse to-morrow for having been happy to-day, if the day brings no action to shame it.—Thackeray. —There is an admirable feature about wife fence. The patent-medicine man can't paint a legend on it in regard to his liver-cure.—Pack.

PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL.

—George Westinghouse, Jr., the inventor of the Westinghouse air-brake, is rated at seven million dollars. —Mr. Powderly has received nearly eighteen thousand letters, and has answered ten thousand of them within the past year. —M. Dikler, the executioner of Paris, is fond of birds and music. He has a large and well-stocked aviary, and is a capital performer on the violin.

—Wurtemberg, Germany, has a remarkable mind-reader in the person of a peasant girl nineteen years old, who, if asked a question in the day-time in a language unknown to her, will respond to it after dark in same language. She is said to shed her hair periodically. —Joseph M. Douglas, of Nevada City, Cal., an eccentric miser whose wealth is estimated at five million dollars, was recently fined one hundred dollars and put in jail for twenty-four hours for contempt of court. He didn't mind the confinement, but the fine nearly broke his heart.

—It is definitely known that Victoria Colonna was buried in a small and obscure church in Rome, now being demolished. Sant' Anna dei Falegnami and the archaeologists and literary people of that city are anxiously expecting the discovery of the "cypress wood coffin, lined with embroidered velvet," placed in the grave.—N. Y. Independent. —Lord Rosebery, speaking of "Volapuk," says that he regards with awe the scheme for elaborating a language for international correspondence; but he does firmly believe that within a century correspondence in the same tongue will be carried on in some form of shorthand, and that the stress and pressure of public life will make it a necessity.

—A bachelor in Frankfort, Germany, advertised for "a helpmate of agreeable exterior and good education; money a secondary consideration." He received 3,643 offers. Of these, 2,137 came from Germany and 237 from Frankfort. There were 1,827 who said nothing about their fortune, and 1,816 gave their wealth at various figures from \$250 to \$50,000. Photographs accompanied 3,112 of the offers and it cost the advertiser nearly \$250 for return postage on them. He picked out a poor Hanoverian maiden and married her.

—German papers relate that the singer, Marie Fullo, who recently died in St. Petersburg, left diamonds valued at 150,000 to the eldest son of the Czar. She stated in her will that she selected him as her heir because she had received the diamonds from a near relative of his, and knew of no one better entitled to them than the heir presumptive of the Russian crown. It is said that the young Grand Duke Nicholas intends to turn the diamonds over to several religious institutions.—Boston Transcript.

FASHIONS FOR AUTUMN.

Something About the New Styles in Jackets and Millinery. A warm jacket is one of the first additions to the wardrobe when preparing for the cool autumn and winter days. Braided cloth coats are imported for autumn in dark shades that may be worn with various dresses, such as navy blue, gray-blue, brown, green and dark steel gray. The materials used for these tailor-made garments are fine corkscrews, diagonals and Meltons, and the braiding is done in the same color in very elaborate designs, or in mixed braids, with some times added to the prevailing color, or else some gold braid or cord is used carefully to lighten up the vest or revers. There is a tendency to lengthen coats slightly, especially in the back, and many are of even length around the sides and back. Single-breasted coats will be more seen in fine, smooth cloths, the double-breasted fronts being reserved for garments of rough, Scotch tweeds. Vests remain in favor, some being very slender, and others genuine waistcoats set in the underarm seams of the coat. The backs are fitted by one or two forms on each side, the middle forms lap in the middle seam, and the waist line is defined by two buttons. Collars are very high, with buckram interlining. Sleeve are close-fitting, with buttons and button-holes on the wrists. Pockets may be set outside along the hips in square shapes or braided, or be intermediate, with only one or two buttons on the opening. Small fancy buttons are used on vests, while plain lasting or bone buttons are used on the coats.

Openings of millinery at the wholesale houses show the various materials already noted made up into bonnets and round hats for the early autumn and for winter. Soft felt bonnets of the pliable felt made up in folds and plaits on a frame precisely as cloth would be used, are shown for general wear. There are also stiff felt bonnets with rows of pinking all over them, or else merely pinked edges for those who prefer them. The square of felt which forms the soft folded crown sometimes furnishes the twist or corrugated folds that edge the front of the brim, also some pointed ends that are tied in a bow on top, or else made to stand erect. The embroidered felts showing small flowers done in the shade of the felt, or else with beaded wheat or leaf pattern in borders, are considered most dainty. A twist in front and pointed pinked ends of rich ruffled falls are sufficient trimming for full-crowned felt bonnets, though a tift of quills or of curved curls' plumes may be added.

The newest bonnets have longer crowns, not indented at the ends, and many have long pointed poke fronts filled in with a slight face trimming. The coronet fronts of beads, of feathers and of velvet are also largely imported. Trimmed bonnets of velvet from many of the best French millinery houses retain the same close shapes as in vogue here, adding a trimming of breadth, and making the trimming slightly lower.—Harper's Bazar.

—"What a lovely cow, Uncle James!" exclaimed a Boston girl the morning after her arrival, "and how comically she shakes her head."—"Yes, but don't you go too near that cow," continued her uncle, "he's an ugly critter."—Field and Farm.

CARE OF CHILDREN.

The Necessity of Teaching Them System in the Daily Acts of Their Lives. Children are apt to seek the society of other children at about the sixth year of their ages. This should be a watchful period of the parents, as friends and ships contracted at this time have a very decided influence on their child. Morals and manners of their child, nearly every child is influenced for good or evil through early associations. If allowed to be constantly with the nurse, their language and manners will, in nearly every case, be identical with those of the nurse. A mother should spend the greater portion of every day in the society of her children. If to rid herself of their noise she permits them to seek companions outside, she has no one to blame but herself if their manners and morals are corrupted. All children require companionship of those of their own age, but it is very essential that the parents should choose these companions.

Children can be readily taught to be neat and tidy in their habits, by example principally, for they imitate closely the actions of their elders. A closet or other convenient place should be given them exclusively for their toys, provided there is no play-room; then let it be understood that when play is ended, all toys are to be returned to their proper place. If this rule is disregarded, the withdrawal of a favorite toy for a time, as punishment, usually has the desired effect of causing them to be more careful in the future; this device may have to be resorted to more than once, but it usually is successful in the end.

Patience should be the watchword of every mother, for if she loses patience, she is herself, so to speak, lost for the time, and nothing is gained; she not only throws herself into a worried state of mind, but perplexes, saddens, and sometimes angers the child, whom she so earnestly desires to guide and govern in the right way. If a mother is not naturally patient, she should by all means cultivate the virtue; by judicious use of it, much good will be gained in the end for mother and child.

It is a mistaken notion to coddle children, with the idea that they must be saved from all manner of care and trouble when at home, the mother often doing a great many things, endless errands, etc., thinking, "well, I will save them this now, let them enjoy home while they may." This is mistaken kindness. They will not think one bit less of home for being taught to take a little responsibility on themselves when there, and will be all the more fond of the mother whose care they will thus learn to share.

Children should be taught system in the daily acts of their little lives and the habit will never forsake them in after life. A time for every thing—for playing, for eating, for sleeping. Punctuality in all things should be inculcated upon. To be truthful, punctual and well-mannered augurs well for the future of any child. I have been well said, "the child is father to the man." Alas, how few mothers think of this advice during the early training of their children, thinking that when grown up all the faults will disappear, exclaiming, when they turn out contrary to expectations: "I can not understand why this is so, I always was a kind mother!" A mother should not only be kind but firm, correcting at once any fault the child may have committed, not postponing the punishment until some other time on account of its being an unpleasant duty.—Mrs. Ella L. Munroe, in Good Housekeeping.

GROWTH IN CHILDREN.

An Interesting Chapter on the Subject of Variations in Human Stature. The rate of growth in children varies according to sex. Thus, at the age of seven or twelve years, boys are larger and heavier than girls; but from that age on the evolution of the girls is more rapid, and they soon overtake the boys and pass them, till the age of fifteen years is reached, when the boys regain the ascendancy, while the girls remain nearly stationary. A curious relation has been discovered between the growth of children in stature and in weight. M. Malling-Hansen, director of the deaf and dumb institution at Copenhagen, has for three years weighed and measured his pupils daily, and he has observed that their growth does not take place regularly and progressively but by stages separated by intervals of rest. Weight also increases by periods after intervals of equilibrium. While the weight is increasing, the stature remains nearly stationary, and vice versa. The maximum of increase of stature corresponds with a minimum period of augmentation of weight. The vital forces appear not to work on both sides at once. These variations are subject to the influence of the season. During autumn and early winter, growth does not take place regularly and progressively but by stages separated by intervals of rest. Weight also increases by periods after intervals of equilibrium. While the weight is increasing, the stature remains nearly stationary, and vice versa. The maximum of increase of stature corresponds with a minimum period of augmentation of weight. The vital forces appear not to work on both sides at once. These variations are subject to the influence of the season. During autumn and early winter, growth does not take place regularly and progressively but by stages separated by intervals of rest. Weight also increases by periods after intervals of equilibrium. 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