

The Observer.

More City Official Paper.
OFFICIAL PAPER OF SHERMAN CO.
MORO, OREGON.

D. C. IRELAND & SON, EDITORS
C. L. IRELAND, MANAGER.

Send for advertising rates.

To insure publication, articles for The Observer must reach the office before noon Wednesday. The mail closes daily.

When you remit for The Observer use an express or postoffice money order, registered letter, or bank draft, payable to D. C. Ireland & Son.

A Blue Mark here will answer an inquiry, when entered upon our calendar, giving the date of the paper as the date at which your current subscription expires.

We are here to do printing, and if you want some done bring it to us or let us know and we will see you. If you think we are not extensive enough for your consideration—oh, go 'long.

Difficulty in having your Observer changed may be avoided by sending the desired alteration to this office. Always give the name of the office from which you want it changed, as well as the one to which it is to be sent.

Before coming to the city to trade readers are requested to examine The Observer advertising columns. Its the active, wide-awake business man who advertises, consequently he is the most accommodating, sells the cheapest, and deals the most liberally in every way.

Did it ever occur to you that it costs no more to produce printing than it does to produce printing that is pleasing to the eye than the other kind. The Observer is equipped with all modern facilities for doing good work at the very minimum of cost. Try us with an order and if it is not executed to your perfect satisfaction you need not pay for it.

FRIDAY, DEC. 14, 1906

IN THE PERSIAN DESERT.

Curious Way in Which Water is Procured for Yazd.

Almost in the center of Persia lies Yazd, a city of perhaps 40,000 people, on the great caravan route. It is a city of the desert, says the author of "Five Years in a Persian Town," but how complete that desert is and how large it is hard to realize.

In going from the Caspian sea to Yazd one sees a strip of green country thirty miles wide along the sea and another twenty miles in diameter round Teheran. Aside from that there is nothing but waste.

The desert in Persia, however, is of many kinds. There are places where the ground is absolutely bare except for the thick crusts of salt that lie like snowdrifts, streaking the plain in every direction. There are also places equally salt where the proximity of a certain amount of useless water produces a larger quantity of plant life than in the ordinary desert. For the rest there is a vast waste of sandy patches and of gravelly soil, fertile enough when water can be brought to it, sometimes flocked with dry, brownish shrubs, sometimes quite bare.

Two desert plants never touch one another. In the most favorable places two very tiny shrubs may be found within two yards of each other, but with a single exception one does not see at the central Persian spot a route a place away from the hills with enough natural growth to modify the color of the distance.

Even in the oases no seed comes up that is not purposely sown; no plant seems to have any association with the rest. One fixes the eye on each of them individually as upon a single unit, not as on a part of a field or a garden.

The water for these oases is brought by the most difficult means imaginable. It is found in abundance at the foot of the mountains, perhaps 300 feet underground. When a well has been sunk and plenty of water found a hut is made for the nearest place in the desert which is lower than water level in the well. Such a spot is Yazd, thirty miles from the sources which water it. In a line with that place other wells are sunk thirty or forty yards apart, each shallower than the one before, and then from the selected site a tunnel is run to the first pit, from that to the second, and so on back to the wells, even though they be fifty miles away. Through this underground channel flows the life giving water.

Sometimes it happens that a sudden hard rain falls in this desert country. It brings many disasters, for the sun baked mud roofs of the dwellings are caved in, their walls are washed away, and other damage is done them. But, most of all, too much water washes sand and gravel in these "Quana" channels, and until they are again dug out no water comes to town.

It has happened at Yazd that a single rainy day, the water from which had dried away or sunk into the ground before the best summer has, by filling the channels, caused a water famine in the city for three months.

Kingfishers are Weathercocks. There is a very quaint old world superstition in connection with the kingfisher, which I fancy still obtains here and there in remote parts of the countryside. The superstition is this: If a stuffed or dried kingfisher be suspended by a thread or string from the beam or ceiling of a room its breast will always turn in the direction of the prevailing wind. How the notion first arose and how, in the light of common sense and inquiry, it has been so long perpetuated it is hard to say, but it has long existed and still exists. I have a clear recollection as a youngster of going into a humble cottage in the shires and seeing a stuffed kingfisher thus suspended as a weather vane—Country Life.

Japanese Finger Napkins. The Japanese have a picturesque improvement on finger bows. At the conclusion of the repast a tiny basket, woven of exquisite straw and in ornamental design, is placed before each guest. This basket contains a filmy, satiny, paper napkin, printed with apple blossoms, chrysanthemums, lilies or some other attractive design, and twisted lightly into a flower-like shape. Before being placed in the basket the napkin has been slightly dampened with perfumed water, the scent corresponding with the design, and this napkin the guest uses instead of slipping the hands in water.

Send for free sample.

Scott & Bowne Chemists
500-510 Third Street
New York
50c and \$1.00
All Druggists

Evil Eye Charms. The True Italian Talisman is in the Shape of a Tiny Hand. In Italy the aristocracy still protects itself from the evil eye, and the multitude is still devoted to the little evil eye charms to secure immunity from disaster. The true evil eye charm of the Italians is in the shape of a tiny hand, the index and the little finger being pointed out and the third and fourth fingers being held down by the thumb. The charm, however, is merely a representation of the way in which the Italian holds his hand. When pointed outward he wishes to cast the evil eye on an enemy, or when turned toward himself he thinks to protect himself from its malicious spell.

This little charm can be bought in Italy of various materials, coral, tortoise shell, silver and gold being the ones in highest favor. The coral charms are those worn by the poorer classes, since of a cheap grade of the material they can be bought for a few cents. Naturally the aristocracy prefer them of gold. In Italy money these tiny things then cost the equivalent of about \$3. Sometimes they are seen exquisitely modeled, the fingers and nails being as carefully chiseled as marble statuettes.

Another small hand that the Italian wears as a charm is known as the Manus Panthea, a facsimile of which is to be found in the museum in Rome. It is referred to in various Egyptian papyri, and indeed was worn by the ancients to prevent disease and witchcraft and the evil eye from taking hold of them and to induce love and amiability.

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INDUSTRIAL ITEMS.

The first factory for making bricks of sand and lime was built in the United States in 1801. Now about 140 plants are in operation in various parts of the country, and their yearly output is about 400,000,000 bricks.

It is stated that there are millions of acres of land in India and large regions in our own southwest that are well suited to ostrich farming as South Africa. The present demand for the best feathers exceeds the supply.

A piece of leather, with the assistance of the latest machines, can be transformed into a pair of boots in thirty-four minutes in which time it passes through the hands of sixty-three people and through fifteen machines.

FLOWER AND TREE.

The largest cactus in Europe grows near Dresden. It is 150 years old and averages 40,000 blooms a year.

The leaves of the arum, or preacher in the pulpit, large, arrow-shaped and glossy, have often caused death.

The narcissus blooms best in a bright but rather cool room. The room should be frost proof, but unheated, to get the best results.

Thrifty plants will use all the water the soil in their pots can take up night and morning if the pot is well drained, which should always be the case.

The Extinct Mammoth. Perhaps the most interesting native bird of the Sandwich Islands was the pua, which has been extinct comparatively only a few years.

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NEW TODAY.

Office Supplies. We carry a surprisingly large and complete stock of office supplies.

Inks for Copying, Typewriting, and Book-keeping. Letter and Bill Files, and Filing Cases.

Look here for the next thing you are needing. Observer Book Store, Moro, Oregon.

Incubator for Sale. One Sure Hatch Incubator for sale, hot water system, capacity 160 eggs. Price \$10.

Milch Cows for Sale. I have a very fine Jersey cow, and an excellent Durham cow, which I wish to sell.

Watches Repairing, etc. Send your watches, jewelry, etc., needing repairs, to me, and I will guarantee perfect satisfaction.

To Buy, Sell or Exchange. Any person or persons having horses, cattle, houses, lots or household goods for sale, exchange, or parties desiring to buy such property, will find THE OBSERVER a good medium for advertising and securing a customer.

Grain and Stock Farm. For Sale, 1040 acres, deeded, Over 700 acres plow land, 600 now in cultivation.

Brick Yard for Sale. The Moro brick yard property, adjoining and west of the Court house, is for sale.

J. M. Parry. Notary Public. Attorney for the State School Fund for Sherman County.

The Russian Clergy. The clergy of Russia is divided into two classes—the white or village clergy, who must all be married, and the black clergy, or monks, who are vowed to celibacy.

The Norman. The Normans introduced their own style of writing letters into England, and according to an edict of William the Conqueror, all legal documents were written in the Norman hand.

The Eardrum. Great care should be taken of the eardrum, particularly if weakened by disease. Small pressure, a "box" or a slight blow on the side of the head, violent coughing or even a kiss on the opening of the ear will endanger the eardrum.

Varnish For Glass. A varnish for glass is made by dissolving pulverized gum tragacanth in the whites of eggs well beaten. Apply with a brush very carefully.

Sherman County Courts. Circuit Court, Hon. W. L. Bradshaw, J., 2d Monday in March, and 1st Monday in October, annually.

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Phallmont Livery Co. Wasco, Oregon. Clark & Mercer Bros., Props.

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Solace to Tender Feet</