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Baking Powder is absolutely pure. No other equals it, or approaches it in leavening strength, purity, or wholesomeness. (See U. S. Gov't Reports.) No other is made from cream of tartar specially refined for it and chemically pure. No other makes such light, sweet, finely-flavored, and wholesome food. No other will maintain its strength without loss until used, or will make bread or cake that will keep fresh so long, or that can be eaten hot with impunity, even by dyspeptics. No other is so economical.

If you want the Best Food,
Royal Baking Powder
is indispensable.

FACTS ABOUT NIGHTINGALES.

Interesting Remarks About Birds That Sing While People Sleep.

Nightingales range in price from fifteen to twenty and twenty-five dollars. The true nightingales are the birds from Germany. The season for them in the bird stores is from October to May. A bird dealer says:

The prevailing opinion is that the bird is delicate and seldom lives long in a cage. This opinion is contrary to the facts. Not only does the nightingale live in a cage for many years, but he grows stronger and sings better constantly; and there are many authentic cases of the bird's breeding and rearing its young while so confined. When properly cared for the bird will live for fifteen years; and there are cases on record of a bird having lived twenty-five years.

Within the past few years it has become fashionable to have one or more of these birds in a house. Lovers of bird music have learned how to care for them so as to elicit from the nightingale most charming harmonies. He has a natural song, and like the American mocking bird, is also a mimic. His cage may hang by itself, but the more singers there are in the cage room for him to contend with and surpass, the wider will be his range of voice. Each country has its nightingale. America has the red Virginia nightingale. The hedge singers, or tree nightingales of Africa, and the beautiful and very lively nightingale of China, are all fine songsters and singers.

The nightingale is fond of an abundance of heavy food, and likes a variety, making no objection to a dinner say of four, five or six courses. As he is a soft bill bird his regular diet should be prepared food—using first a bottle of the moist food, and then a box of the dry. Both of these should have fresh grated carrot mixed with them, and also one-half teaspoonful of ants' eggs that have been soaked. Meal worms, beetles and spiders are given daily. Some raw leaf scraped fine should be given them. If insects are scarce, feed currants mixed in the food. Gravel should be supplied.

The whole of the upper part of the bird is a brown, the breast a dull white shading into a brown, and the throat and belly a pale gray; the tail reddish brown, long and rounded. The full length of the bird is six and a half inches. He is imported from England and Germany, most of the nightingales coming from Germany. However, the nightingale is met with all over Europe, from Sweden to the Mediterranean; also in central Asia and in the middle of Siberia. Spain is fortunate in having great numbers; their voices are heard from every bush and hedge. The divilites of San Morera have been described as the nightingale parvula.

The flight of the bird is undulatory, though light and rapid, but for a short distance. That these birds, however, are capable of great exertion while on the wing must be evident to any one who has witnessed the encounters of two contending rivals to drive each other from the field.

The nightingales nest about the middle of April. After that they are in constant song. Some pour forth their trilling notes through the fog, bright light, just as the mocking birds whistle during the moonlight nights of springtime and early summer. However, generally they sing only in the daytime, except during the breeding season, when the desire to please and attract their mates renders the male birds excited and restless.

The nest is built of leaves, dried grass, bits of bark and roots, lined with finer grass and horsehair loosely put together and placed in some hollow in the ground in the root or stump of a tree. There are five eggs in a nest, and one nest in a season, unless the eggs or the young are destroyed, in which case there is another hatch laid. The molting season begins in July, after which, when the birds are in new full plumage, the autumn migrations begin. They travel in families or small parties. They journey to distant lands, returning to Europe in April. The male shows himself two weeks earlier than the female. They generally seek their former haunts.—New York Evening Sun.

Accosted For.

"Bobbster seems very fond of you lately, Marston."

"Yes. One of his notes is due next week."—Epoch.

These are 419 trees within the limits of the United States and territories, sixteen of which, when perfectly seasoned, will sink in water.

One of Lightning's Freaks.

I was an apprentice on a ship, and in going up the River Hooghly we collided with another vessel and damaged our side, which necessitated our going into the graving dock at Calcutta for repairs. One afternoon, while two of the workmen were sitting on a stage over the side, a violent thunderstorm burst over us, with lightning such as can only be seen in the tropics.

Suddenly there was a blinding flash, and one of the men on the stage gave a yell and dropped off into the dock. The other man, however, sat bolt upright on the stage, with his hammer in his hand. He was very quiet, and no wonder, for he was dead-struck by lightning. The man who was knocked off had his arm broken, but that was by the fall. He was otherwise quite uninjured, though the two men were not more than a foot apart on the stage. The dead man was lowered to the dock floor. He was an ordinary built man, but after death he became as heavy as lead; in fact, he had to be lashed to a plank and hauled up on one of the "slides" to the ground above. There was not a mark visible on him.—London Tit-Bits.

A Durable Varnish.

To make jet black varnish that can be used for furniture, or for small wood handles that will make them smooth, shining, hard and solid, so that they will not get dim by handling or lose their gloss, take of asphaltum, three ounces; boiled oil, four quarts; burnt umber, eight ounces, and enough oil of turpentine to thin.

The three first named ingredients must be mixed and incorporated by the aid of heat; then take the mixture out of doors and away from the fire, and, before it cools, gradually add the turpentine. The work is given several coats, each one allowed to dry perfectly hard (it is best, if possible, to harden it in a japanner's oven), and the last coat is rubbed down with tripoli, applied with a soft cloth, then with a few drops of oil.—Detroit Free Press.

Golden Horseshoes.

Roman writers inform us that Commodus caused the hoofs of his horse to be gilded. Nero, when he undertook short journeys, was always drawn by mules which had silver shoes, and those of his wife Poppaea had shoes of gold. From a passage in Dio Cassius there is reason to think that the upper part only was formed of those noble metals, or that they were perhaps plated out of thin slips. When Boniface, Marquis of Tuscany, one of the richest princes of his time, went to Beatrice, about the year 1098, his whole train was so magnificently decorated that his horses were shod with silver. The nails were even of the same metal.

Frances Got the Chicken.

"I want some more chicken," said four-year-old Frances at the dinner table.

"I think you have had as much as is good for you, dear," replied Frances' mamma.

"I want more." And Frances pouted.

"You can't have more now; but here is a wishbone that you and mamma can pull. That will be fun. You pull one side and I'll pull the other, and whoever gets the longer end can have her wish come true. Why, baby, you've got it! What was your wish, Frances?"

"I wish for some more chicken," said Frances, promptly.

She got it this time.—Harper's Bazar.

Trying an Experiment.

A prominent Gotham journalist recently applied for the fifth or sixth time, to a wealthy friend for a temporary loan.

"Don't you know," was the reply, "that it is very painful to be always lending money?"

"No, I didn't know that," replied the journalist; "I never did anything of the kind in my life, but if you will let me have twenty dollars I'll lend some fellow a nickel just to see if what you say is so."—Texas Siftings.

Made No Difference.

"Here you are, still at it. You'll just ruin your complexion with tan and freckles."

"Oh, I don't care. I'm engaged."—Harper's Bazar.

Texas and New Mexico lands, full of gnats, creeping, crawling, walking and inanimate things, are the homes of a species of oak (Quercus grisea) which is about 1 1/2 times heavier than water, and which, when green, will sink almost as quickly as a log of iron.

Steering Swardfish.

A sward-fishing vessel is usually a small sloop or schooner of from five to fifty tons, swinging probably not over fifteen or twenty, as but few men are needed. The fish are speared, and, as they do not swim in schools, but alone or in parties of three or four, the boat sails about at random until it meets with its prey.

On the bow of the vessel a stand or "pulpit" is rigged, made of iron framework and just large enough to contain the skipper. Standing on the bowsprit enclosed in the "pulpit," the skipper stands ready to throw the harpoon, which he holds in his hands, deep into the swardfish's body. The harpoon pole is twelve or fifteen feet long, and one end is inserted in an iron dart with 1 1/2 inch bars. Tied to an eye in the dart is a line which runs aft to the stern, where it is wound around a bony lying near the mast at the tiller. There is always a man aloft in the rigging in the lookout, and one, which is usually the skipper, in the pulpit.

When the lookout spies a fish he sings out to those below and directs the steering till the bow is over or near the swardfish. The man in the pulpit stands ready with well-poised harpoon and at the critical moment strikes. About three times out of four he hits his mark. When he does he cries out, "Throw over the bow!" and over it goes, fast unwinning as the infuriated fish swims swiftly away, dragging it behind him. The fish are picked up by men in a dory, who take the buoy aboard and tow the swardfish alongside the vessel, where he is hoisted aboard by means of a rope and tackle. He is then decapitated, cleaned and put below, well packed in chopped ice.

Frequently when the men in the dory attempt to tow the swardfish to the boat he turns on them, if he is not too nearly dead, and attacks the dory. Many are the men who have had a sword injure them, and hardly a season passes but dozens of small boats are wrecked or sunk by being pierced by them.—New York Telegram.

The First Production of an Old Opera.

"What think you of a Newgate pastoral among the thieves?" Swift once remarked in Gay's presence. Gay was inclined to think a comedy having scenes laid in the famous prison might be better still. When he mentioned his idea to Swift, the doctor did not much like the project, and when the play was written neither Swift nor Pope thought it would succeed. It was offered to Colley Cibber and his brother managers at Drury Lane, and was promptly rejected.

Gay then took it to John Rich, proprietor of Lincoln's Inn Fields theater. Rich accepted the play, and it was speedily put in rehearsal. The following announcement was printed in The Daily News on Jan. 20, 1728: "Never before acted by the company of comedians at the Theater Royal in Lincoln's Inn Fields. The present Monday, being the 25th day of January, will be performed 'The Beggar's Opera.'"

On the night of its first representation Gay's many friends assembled at the old playhouse in the Fields. A vast crowd of "women of quality and men of parts" was present. A ballad opera was a form of entertainment new to the public, and its success was assured before the curtain fell. The acclamations which rang through the house were said to have been deafening. For sixty-three consecutive nights "The Beggar's Opera" was performed that season. Nor was that all. It drove the Italian opera, which it horsed out of town. Its songs were sung in every drawing room, its verses printed on the fans of ladies of quality. In the character of the heroine, Polly Peachum, Miss Fenton gained such fame and fortune.—Chambers' Journal.

Making Both Ends Meet.

When young people find themselves for the first time earning their own living, with no father to fall back upon, they are apt to be astonished at the way their money goes. It never seems enough. Everything costs a great deal more than they thought it would, and when they have to buy a three dollar garment out of an eight dollar weekly salary it comes home to them with new force that three from eight leaves only five.

They had often done such sums at school on their slates, and it seemed quite natural, but now, when their board and washing cost \$5.50, it is something awful to find that their wages for a week will not quite pay for board and trousers too.

Then for the first time black care settles down upon the young soul, and he wonders that, out of all the instructors of his childhood and youth, no one ever took the trouble to explain to him this fearful difficulty of making both ends meet. Perhaps he now remembers the cloud that hung over his father's brow, and the anxious look upon his mother's face, when business was dull, or work was slack, or unexpected expenses had to be borne.—Youth's Companion.

Fortunes from Small Inventions.

The ordinary stylographic pen has made a large fortune for its inventor, and now a similar pen for shading in colors has been invented, which annually brings in to its inventor the snug income of \$20,000. Some years ago metal tipped and beveled shoes and boots for city use were the great rage, and the man who first thought of this simple device for saving shoe leather reaped a fortune of a million dollars in ten years. Before that day another man had accumulated a fortune in inventing the old-fashioned brass tipped shoes, which prevented little boys and girls from kicking a hole in the soft leather uppers.

Such simple devices were hardly worth the money which they realized for the inventions, but they took the public eye, and many millions of them were manufactured annually for a long time. Today, however, they are little used and the patents yield the heirs of the inventors very little money.—George E. Walsh in New York Epoch.

Sold!

Old Ann (on her deathbed)—I am just making my will, my dear Heinrich; I know, alas! too well that you are not religiously disposed and have no desire to promote the cause of—

Nepew (hastily)—Beg your pardon, aunt; quite the contrary.

Ann—Heaven be praised; then you will be glad to hear that I have left all my property to the church.—Humorist's Blatter.

A "DONNET AND NECKTIE" EVENING.

An Enjoyable Method of Entertaining a Jolly Crowd of Young People.

For nice whimsicality and absence of all stiffness in an evening party the "donnet" party cannot be excelled. Invite from ten to twenty of the nicest girls you know, and ask each to bring with her a pair of scissors, a thimble and an old bonnet frame of any age, size or shape. If some of them come from grandma's trunks in the parrot instead of from last year's hat box, so much the better. The frames must be absolutely bare, but each young lady will be asked to contribute enough material—old ribbon, silk, velvet, artificial flowers or feathers—to trim an average bonnet, allowing generous measure.

Send invitations to as many young men as girls, and ask each to bring of any stuff whatever, enough to make a necktie, whether "four-in-hand," "puff," "claudet" or plain straight bow. And tell each one to come provided with a thimble.

When your guests have assembled the first step is to divide the company into pairs. The "partner cards" having all been drawn, the lady and gentleman holding No. 1 go together to the tables where the fringes, ribbons, etc., have been arranged, and while he chooses a bonnet and the materials which he thinks most appropriate, she picks out from another pile the pieces of goods which she thinks will make him the most becoming necktie.

Then they secure a supply of the needles and thread provided by the hostess, and sit down to sew; while pair No. 2 come forward, and so on until each lady is busily engaged with a gentleman and a necktie, and each gentleman is giving his attention to lady and a bonnet. As neither is supposed to give the other any help or advice, the fun is endless.

At the expiration of the time set the hostess rings a bell, and each pair of contestants present themselves with bonnet in place, and necktie arranged with all the art its fair maker can muster. As he comes before the committee every gentleman must, if requested, make a little speech, pointing out the chief merits of its production, and the difficulties which attended its manufacture. When the review is over the committee—consisting of the hostess and, if possible, several other noncontestants—retires to compare notes, and soon the award of prizes is announced. Two of these will be sufficient—one to the gentleman who, all difficulties considered, has produced the most artistic and becoming bonnet, and the other to the lady whose necktie is pronounced most satisfactory. The prizes may be neckties or handkerchiefs, court plaster cases (for the needle wounds), scarfpins, hatpins, bonnet boxes in the shape of hats, etc.—Edna Warwick in Ladies' Home Journal.

America May Rival France in Perfumes.

There is no essential peculiarity of soil or climate in the flower farming region in the south of France which is not reproduced over great extents of territory here. What is required for the purpose is merely an altitude of at least 300 feet above sea level, a calmer soil, shelter from cold north winds and freedom from the white frosts of lower areas.

Attempts have been made in Florida to raise orange blossoms for market, but their failure was due simply to the circumstances that low lying lands were selected for their cultivation, trees bearing the edible fruit being used for the purpose. Experience has shown that flowers of all sorts grown high above the sea have a finer and more intense bouquet.—Washington Star.

Precocious.

"They say Mozart played on the piano at the age of six."

"That's nothing. I've got a little girl only two years old who plays on the piano every day."

"What does she play?"

"Dolls."—Harper's Bazar.

SCRATCHED TEN MONTHS.

A troublesome skin disease caused me to scratch for ten months, and has been cured by a few days' use of SSS.

M. H. Wolff, Upper Marlboro, Md.

SWIFT'S SPECIFIC

I was cured several years ago of white swelling in my leg by using SSS and had no symptoms of return of the disease. Many prominent physicians attended me and all failed, but S. S. S. did the work.

PAUL W. EMBERTON, Johnson City, Tenn.

Treatise on Blood and Skin Diseases mailed free.

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"German Syrup"

I simply state that I am Druggist and Postmaster here and am therefore in a position to judge. I have tried many Cough Syrups but for ten years past have found nothing equal to Boschee's German Syrup. I have given it to my baby for Croup with the most satisfactory results. Every mother should have it. J. H. HOBBS, Druggist and Postmaster, Moffat, Texas. We present facts, living facts, of to-day Boschee's German Syrup gives strength to the body. Take no substitute.

SWIFT'S SPECIFIC

Plan's Remedy for Catarrh in the Nose, Throat, Ear, and Cheeser.

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ANTI-FERMENTINE

Is a HARMLESS preparation in tablet form for preserving ALL KINDS OF FRUIT WITHOUT COOKING. One package preserves fifty pints of fruit or a barrel of cider, and only costs 60 cents. Fruits preserved with Anti-fermentine retain their natural taste and appearance. Ask your druggist or grocer for Anti-fermentine.

"I'm going West," said Blooge, "with an invention that will make my name familiar in every corner." "What have you invented?" "A new quartet for Kansas."

THREE TROUBLES.

Three things which all workingmen know give the most trouble in their hard-strain work are: Sprains, Bruises and Soreness.

THREE AFFLICTIONS.

Three supreme afflictions, which all the world knows afflict mankind the most with Aches and Pains are: Rheumatism, Neuralgia and Lumbago.

THREE THINGS.

3 to do are simply these: Buy it, try it and be promptly and permanently cured by the use of



CURE THAT COUGH WITH SHILOH'S CURE

THIS GREAT COUGH CURE promptly cures where all others fail. Coughs, Croup, Sore Throat, Hoarseness, Whooping Cough and Asthma. For Consumption it has no rival; has cured thousands, and will cure you if taken in time. Sold by Druggists on a guarantee. For a Lame Back or Chest, use SHILOH'S BELLADONNA PLASTER, 2c.

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THE BEST KIDNEY AND LIVER MEDICINE.

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Cures Bright's Disease, Retention or Non-retention of Urine, Pains in the Back, Loins or Side.

HUNT'S REMEDY

Cures Intemperance, Nervous Diseases, General Debility, Female Weakness and Excesses.

HUNT'S REMEDY

Cures Biliousness, Headache, Jaundice, Poor Stomach, Dyspepsia, Constipation and Piles.

HUNT'S REMEDY

ACTS AT ONCE on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, restoring them to a healthy action, and CURE'S when all other medicines fail. Hundreds have been saved who have been given up to die by friends and physicians.

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SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

HUNT'S REMEDY

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First-class service and the highest standard of respectability guaranteed. Our rooms cannot be surpassed for neatness and comfort. Board and room per day, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75 and \$2.00; board and room per week, \$7 to \$11; single rooms, 50c to \$1. Free coach to and from hotel.