

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

ABSOLUTELY PURE.
All other baking powders leave traces of alkali or acid in the food. Royal is indispensable where finest, most wholesome food is required.

Senor Sagasta has formed a new Spanish Cabinet, the personnel of which is as follows: Minister of Foreign Affairs, Marquis de Armas; Minister of Finance, Senor Montero Rios; Minister of Public Works, Senor Moret; Minister of War, Senor Dominguez; Minister of the Interior, Senor Gonzalez; Minister of the Colonies, Senor Maura. The Ministry of Marine has not yet been filed.

Use Enameline Stone Polish; no dust, no smell.
TAY GEMMA for breakfast.

NOTHING LIKE IT.
40 YEARS OF PAIN CURED. THE CASE.
N. ALBANY ST., ITHACA, N. Y., Dec. 19, 1887.
For over 40 years I have been a victim of rheumatism. I was persuaded to try St. Jacobs Oil. I have used two bottles, and a man more free from rheumatism never walked our streets. My limbs that were once stiff and lame are now as light and limber as in my youth.
JOS. EDELL.

AFTER FIVE YEARS.
ITHACA, N. Y., July 5, 1887.
Suffered many years—injury to hip resulting in rheumatism, muscular weakness and contracted cords. Two bottles of St. Jacobs Oil relieved me so that I now walk about and attend to daily duties at 62. I heartily endorse it.
JOS. EDELL.

"German Syrup"

My acquaintance with Boschee's German Syrup was made about fourteen years ago. I contracted a cold which resulted in a hoarseness and cough which disabled me from filling my pulpit for a number of Sabbaths. After trying a physician, without obtaining relief I saw the advertisement of your remedy and obtained a bottle. I received quick and permanent help. I never hesitate to tell my experience. Rev. W. H. Haggerty, Martinsville, N. J.

Health has its weight. We cannot go far above or below our healthy weight without disturbing health. We cannot keep health and lose our weight.

It is fat that comes and goes. Too much is burdensome; too little is dangerous. Health requires enough fat for daily use and a little more for reserve and comfort. That keeps us plump. The result is beauty—the beauty of health.

A little book on CAREFUL LIVING shows the importance of keeping your healthy weight. We send it free.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, 133 South 5th Avenue, New York.

ASTHMA CURED
DR. TAFT'S ASTHMA REMEDY
The Best Waterproof Coat in the World!
TOWER'S FISH BRAND SLICKER
The Fish Brand Slicker is warranted waterproof, and will keep you dry in the heaviest storm. The new FISH BRAND SLICKER is a perfect fitting coat, and covers the entire outfit. Beware of imitations. Don't buy a coat if the "Fish Brand" is not on it. Illustrated Catalogue free. A. J. TOWER, Boston, Mass.

CATARRH
The Best Remedy for Catarrh in the Best, Easiest to Use, and Cheapest.
Sold by druggists or sent by mail.
N. P. N. U., No. 472—B. F. N. U., No. 549

AT A FIRE IN JAPAN.

FUNNY LILLIPUTIAN METHODS OF JAPANESE FIREMEN.

Fire Engines That Are Very Little Service in Fighting Flames—Plucky Hook and Ladder Men Who Show No Judgment in Their Work.

Suddenly our practiced ears caught the distant boom of the fire bell. Everybody else heard it and the effect was electrical. While one of the men ran up the ladder and began to hammer away at our station bell, the officers hurried on their uniforms and sprang on to their horses, kept ready caparisoned, the captain arming himself with a huge wisp of horsehair, the lieutenant seizing his standard—a spear, from the end of which hung a horse tail. Meanwhile, with much shouting and no doubt bad language, the "brigade" had harnessed itself to the three squirts, and the procession was formed—officers leading, engines next, hook and ladder men with their three visitors, bringing up the rear. Out we went into the snowbound street, up which a fierce northeaster was sweeping. All Shinagawa seemed to have sprung into active life during the few minutes which had elapsed since the first notes of the fire bell.

Men, women and children swarmed out of every doorway, clustered about the first floor balconies, and even crowded the roofs, all chattering, gesticulating and uttering exclamations of terror and wonder as they gazed at the broad lurid glare in the sky. Far away as they were from the scene of conflagration, there was no retiring after their first curiosity had been satisfied. A man in Victoria street, Westchester, who sees the reflection of a fire, say, in the city, may go to bed with a certain sense of security, but because two or three miles separate the Japanese spectator from the burning houses he can be by no means sure that in the course of an hour or so he may not have to rush out of his house with as many of his lares and Penates as he can gather together.

When we reached the locality of the fire a striking scene was presented to our eyes. From half a dozen houses the flames were bursting forth with almost demoniacal noise and fury. Half a dozen more had already been gutted and were mere shapeless shells of smoldering timber. Hundreds of men and women were staggering out of the houses in the line of fire beneath the weight of their humble household goods, while piles of bedding, domestic utensils, stocks in trade and all sorts of lumber lay about in the snow. More than one quartet of men swiftly passed us, bearing on their shoulders a shapeless something wrapped in dark cloth, and we knew that the fire had claimed other victims than mere shanties of paper and wood. Our squirts got to work with commendable smartness, and, as there happened to be an abundance of water, were soon pouring their feeble dribbles on the flames.

Thud! thud! thud! went the squirt handles, but the flames seemed to roar with laughter and dance as if in mockery of the poor little thin streams of water which were turned on them, and drove the lieutenant from house to house with such rapidity that more than once it seemed as if nothing but a miracle could save him. Meanwhile the hook and ladder corps was hard at work, and if we smiled with contempt at the puny efforts of the "engines" we could not withhold our hearty applause at the indomitable pluck, the energy and the activity of the poor little fellows who manipulated the hooks and ladders. Salamander-like, they seemed to revel in work where the flames were fiercest and the danger greatest.

But our bones all this heroic dash and self sacrifice unbacked by common sense? We three representatives of the west watched it all with almost a feeling of anger that, for the sake of a little pride pocketing, such a wanton destruction of hearts and homes, such a risking of valuable lives should be tolerated by a people in so many other respects advanced thinkers and practical reformers. One engine from Walling street or a single American fire company could have nipped the fire in the bud an hour before, but we were invited guests, and besides, being quite aware of the delicate grounds upon which the relationship between us and our Japanese hosts stood, were diffident in proffering advice.

But at last we could stand it no longer, for the fire, ably seconded in its ravages by a brisk northeast wind, threatened to consume the entire quarter as far as the city boundaries. So we pushed our way forward to where the captain was thundering anathemas and exhortations in a manner which plainly betrayed that he had lost self control, and with due humility suggested that if the hook and ladder company was to turn its attention to a group of yet unburned houses standing in the direct line of the fire instead of wasting energy worthy of a better cause upon houses which nothing could save a gap would be created over which the flames, furious as they were, would hardly leap.

The old gentleman did not welcome our suggestion with enthusiasm, nor did we expect that he would. Indeed he affected to treat it cavalierly, and under the plea that we were standing in a dangerous position motioned us back into the crowd. But we had the satisfaction of observing that the extreme urgency of the situation had prompted him to act on our advice, and we presently saw the hook and ladder company limber up and dash off at the double toward the group of houses indicated by us. The inhabitants of these shanties, snatching outside with their heaps of goods and chattels, evidently clinging with true Old World tenacity to the hope that the gods or the firemen or something would save calamity of their homes, re-nonstrated warmly when the hook and ladder men told them they were about to take the unheard of step of pulling down untouched houses, but the captain riding up soon silenced their objections in a hurraque which from its sound was evidently very much more forcible than elegant, and the work of destruction, or rather of salvation, commenced, and in a very few minutes the hooks and battering poles had made an open space which was an effectual bar to the progress of the flames. But even they seemed to be imbued with a spirit of patriotism, for they made fierce efforts to leap the gulf and so nullify the counsel of the "foreign devils."

But feebler and feebler grew their leaps, and gradually they subsided into a grumbling and snorting and hissing which seemed to express almost in language baffled rage. So at 4 o'clock in the morning the great Shinagawa fire was staid, and we returned to the fire station with our hosts and their bruised and singed subordinates.—Temple Bar.

How Dudley Felt About It.
"Can you stand on your head?" he asked; "I'm too high up."—Youth's Companion.

Fishing for Sponges.

The British consul in his report on the trade of Tripoli remarks that the sponge fishing on that coast is entirely in the hands of Greeks, and is carried on by means of numerous small craft, employing about 700 men among them. The fishing takes place in the summer months only and is effected by machine boats provided with proper diving apparatus, or by trawlers and harpoon boats. The diving machines, as the divers have time to select and cut them, naturally secure the best sponges, but the trawl nets and harpoon boats, which can only fish in comparatively shallow waters, to a greater or less extent damage the sponges by tearing them from the bottom.

The best sponges are found to the westward of Tripoli, the quality becoming inferior toward the east. The diving is dangerous, owing to the presence of sharks, and other accidents to be met with, such as remaining too long under the water or diving beyond the proper limits, which often exhausts the divers and proves fatal to them.—English Mechanic.

Mails in Early Days.
Boston's first newspaper, The News-Letter, contains the following advertisement, which is an exact copy of the original spelling, capitalization, etc.:

By order of the Post Master General of North America:
These are to give Notice, That on Monday night, the Sixth of this Instant, December, the Western Post, between Boston and New York, runs out at once a Fortnight the Three Winter Months of December, January and February, and to go Alternately from Boston to New York and Hartford to Exchange the Mayles of letters with the New York Flyer on Saturday night the 11th Current. And the second turn He sets out at Boston on Monday Night the 20th Current to meet the New York Flyer at Hartford on Saturday night the 25th Current to Exchange Mayles. And all persons that send Letters from Boston to Connecticut from and after the 15th Instant are Herely Notified to first pay the Postages on the same.

Hardly an Encore.
A quartet was giving a concert before the patients of the insane hospital and was singing a number into a rather mournful cadence and a subdued refrain. The audience, with the best of good humor, such as invariably characterizes the audiences at the hospital, heard it to the bitter end, and when its last note had died away an old lady with a virtuous and dignified air of recollection on her face popped suddenly up out of the audience, and turning toward the stage said reverently, "O Lord! forgive them, for they know not what they do."—Lewistown Journal.

An Excuse That Was Too Weak.
As two Portland police were taking to the station a man who had been having a great old celebration in his house, he asked "because you were making too much noise," replied the officer.
"I was only talking."
"You talked too loud."
"My wife has been deaf two years and I have too."
But this did not satisfy the police, and the anxious inquirer spent the night in the station.—Bangor (Me.) Commercial.

Didn't Want Water.
Mamma—What is your kitten meowing for?
Little Daughter—I is tryin to find out, but I can't.
Mamma—Perhaps she wants water.
Little Daughter—No, 'tisn't water. I jus' heard her over a tub an' asked her and she meowed "No."—Good News.

When One's Thoughts Fly Homeward.
It is when a man gets his bill at a seaside hotel where he and his family are staying, and finds that he is charged more per day than he can earn per week, that he begins to appreciate a longing desire to be back in his own little dining room looking up to that dingy old motto that says, "God bless our home."—Texas Siftings.

Cats Destroy Field Mice.
Cats destroy great numbers of field mice, though the sight of a tabby in his woods arouses the virtuous wrath of the orthodox keeper quite as much as the hint of a two legged poacher lying in one of his pleasant covert.—Edinburgh Scotsman.

A HERALD OF THE INFANT YEAR.

Only the last thirty years or more run the century, and the segment will represent the term of the unbounded popularity of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. The opening of the year 1888 will be signalled by the appearance of a fresh Almanac of the Bitters, in which the use, derivation and action of this world famous medicine will be fully set out. Every body should read it. The calendar and astronomical calculations to be found in this brochure are always astonishingly accurate, and the statistics, illustrations, humor and other reading matter rich in interest and full of profit. The Hostetter Company of Pittsburg, Pa., publish it themselves. They employ more than sixty hands in the mechanical work, and more than eleven months in the year are consumed in its preparation. It can be obtained without cost of all druggists and country dealers, and is printed in English, German, French, Welsh, Norwegian, Swedish, Holland, Bohemian and Spanish.

A Labor of Love.—The Vear—And were you at the ball last night, Mrs. Ham botham? Mrs. K.—Yes; I was snapping eight young lads dies there.

A VALUABLE REMEDY.
BRANDRETH'S PILLS purify the blood, stimulate the liver, strengthen the kidneys, regulate the bowels. They were introduced in the United States in 1833. Since that time over sixty millions of boxes of BRANDRETH'S PILLS have been used.
This, together with thousands of convincing testimonials from all parts of the world, is positive evidence of their value. BRANDRETH'S PILLS are purely vegetable, absolutely harmless and safe to take at any time.

A Texas boy described hushen as "f like what don't fight over religion."

For coughs, sore throat, asthma, catarrh and other diseases of the bronchial tubes, no more useful article can be found than "Brown's Bronchial Troches."

RUPTURE AND PILES CURED.
We positively cure rupture, piles and all renal diseases without pain or detention from business. No cure, no pay. Also all Private Diseases. Address for pamphlet, Dr. Porterfield & Loney, 88 Market street, San Francisco.

A SOVEREIGN REMEDY.
Dr. Parker's Sure Cough Cure. One dose will stop a cough. It never fails. Try it. Price, 25 cents a bottle. For sale by all druggists. Pacific Coast Agent, Geo. Dahlbender & Co., Druggists, 214 Kearny street, San Francisco.

The proper thing for a jury is to be firm, but not fixed.



ONE ENJOYS
Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation permanently. For sale in 50c and \$1 bottles by all druggists.

TUTT'S HAIR DYE
which imitates nature in perfection; it acts instantaneously and is perfectly harmless. Price, \$1. Office, 39 & 41 Park Place, N. Y.

ELY'S CREAM BALM—Cleanses the Nasal Passages, Alleviates Pain and Inflammation, Heals the Sores, Restores Taste and Smell, and Cures CATARRH.
Gives Relief at once for Cold in Head.
Apply into the Nostrils.—It is quickly absorbed.
Sole Druggists or by mail, ELY BROS., 36 Warren St., N. Y.

THE COST IS THE SAME.
WOOD PICKETS
THE HARTMAN STEEL PICKET FENCE
Costs no more than an ordinary clumsy wood picket fence that obstructs the view and will rot or fall apart in a short time. The Hartman Fence is artistic in design, protects the grounds without costing them and is practically everlasting. ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE WITH PRICES AND TESTIMONIALS MAILED FREE. (Always mention this paper in writing.)
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And All Kinds of MILL SAWS. Also Saw Repairing.
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Leading Features for 1893.
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To New Subscribers who will cut out and send us this slip with name, address and \$1.75 we will send THE COMPANION FREE to Jan. 1, '93, and for a full year from that date, including the Double Holiday Numbers at Christmas and New Year.
36 THE YOUTH'S COMPANION, Boston, Mass.

Souvenir of the New Building in colors, 42 pages, sent on receipt of six cents, or FREE to any one requesting it who sends a subscription.



Mr. Herman Hicks
"Three years ago, as a result of CATARRH, I entirely lost my hearing and was Deaf for More Than a Year. To my surprise and great joy when I had taken three bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla I found my hearing was returning. I kept on until I had taken three more and I can hear perfectly well. I am troubled but very little with the catarrh. I can order this remarkable cure." H. Hicks, 30 Carter street, Rochester, N. Y.

SHILOH'S CURE.
Cures Consumption, Coughs, Croup, Sore Throat. Sold by all Druggists on a Guarantee. For a Lane Side, Back or Chest Catarrh's Ferrous Plaster will give great relief.—25 cents.

SHILOH'S VITALIZER.
Mrs. T. S. Hawkins, Chittenden, Vermont, says: "Shilo's Vitalizer SAVED MY LIFE. I consider it the best remedy for a debilitated system I ever used." For Dyspepsia, Liver or Kidney trouble it excels. Price 25 cents.

SHILOH'S CATARRH REMEDY.
Have you Catarrh? Try this Remedy. It will relieve you. Price 50 cents. This Injector for Insensible treatments is furnished free. Shilo's Remedies are sold by us on a guarantee to give satisfaction.

MANN'S BONE CUTTER
Will cut Dry or Green Bones, Meat, Veal and all Green Cut BONES will double the number of eggs—will make them more fertile—will carry the hens safely through the melting period and put them in condition to lay when eggs command the highest price and will develop your chickens faster than any other food.
Feed Green Bones and use Greenzone to kill the lice, and you will make \$100 per cord more profit.
Send for Catalogue and prices.
PETALUMA INCUBATOR CO., PETALUMA, CAL.

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Who is suffering either in his mind or body, from the injuries or weakness of nervous system, or from any other ailment, and cannot get on, and cannot get any good, send for the book "The Weak Man's Friend," by Dr. Cole & Co., Portland, Or. This book contains the best and most reliable remedies for the various ailments of the nervous system. Write today. Reliable Remedies sent privately to any address.

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Now is a splendid time to apply. For reliable, prompt, effective service, or information in any claim write to LEWIS HEININGER, P. O. Box 376, Washington, D. C.

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514-418 FRONT ST. SAN FRANCISCO

YOUNG MEN! The Specific A. No. 1.
Cures, without fail, all cases of Gonorrhoea and Gleet, no matter of how long standing. Proves a sure cure, it being a natural remedy. Cures every case of this disease, has failed. Sold by all Druggists. Manufactured by The A. No. 1 Medicine Co., San Jose, Cal.

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of commission, to handle the New Patent Chemical Ink Erasing Pen. Agents making \$40 per week. Monroe Pen Manufacturing Co., N. 80, LaCrosse, Wis.

OPIMUM Morphine Habit Cured in 10 to 20 Days. Agents making \$40 per week. Dr. J. STEPHENS, Lebanon, Ohio.

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A Positive Power. Requires No Licensed Engineer. Your Wife Can Run It. PALMER & REY, San Francisco, Cal. and Portland, Or. No Batteries or Electric Spark.

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The Youth's Companion New Building. Three acres of floors used entirely by The Companion.