Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

# Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

### Origin of a Famous Saying.

Euclid, who is sometimes called the father of mathematics, taught this subject in the famous school at Alexandria. Being asked one day by the king of Egypt (Ptolemy Soter) whether he could not teach him the science in a shorter way, Euclid answered in words that have been memorable ever since, "Sire, there is no royal road to learning." Not many scraps of conversation have lived, as this reply has, for nearly 2,300 years.—Exchange.

### Great Field For Science.

A learned French scientist, catching the cue from Professor Garner's investigation of the monkey language, has turned his attention to the vernacular of chickens. If he can only induce spring pullets to tell their age, he will not have lived in vain.—Augusta Chronicle.

Teach children to say, "Yes, mother (or father)," and "No, mother," and to say, "Yes, sir (or madam)," to old people or to those who adhere to the old ways of speech.

The advice of your dentist should be sought as to the proper tooth powder to use, as many of the compounds on the market contain harmful acids and gritty substances.

Travelers by rail in Russia are divided into three classes—civil, military and convict, with the further subdivision of paying and nonpaying.

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CONSUMPTION.

### PHILOPENA.

We had both of us said we would rather
It be "give or take" philopena—
Whatever one gave to the other
In any way during that e'en
The other should verily repay,
A gift and a keepsake to be.
She meant to get faith I will say,
But I—well, who could have blamed me?
For soon as our compact was sealed
I gave her a kiss on the cheek—
"Philopena!" I cried, "you must yield
And pay me another next week."
She had promised; she knew she was caught,
And the bright color mounted her brow.
And she said, "I will pay it I ought,
But—let it be even with—now!"

—Abbie F. Brown in Yankee Blade.

### The Cost of Ginseng.

In England we have been accustomed to pay high prices at certain times for drugs, such as quinine, cocaine and others, but a drug is used in New China which in actual value far surpasses anything which has been known here.

The substance in question is called ginseng and is the root of Aralia quinquefolia. It is so highly valued as a tonic and stimulant medicine in China that it is sold at from 20 to 250 times its weight in silver, sometimes for 500 times that amount. Authorities state, however, that it possesses no important medicinal properties. Next to China the drug is produced in good quality in Corea and is the principal article of export from Corea into China. So much is this the case that the Coreans are loath to part with any seeds of the plant lest their practical monopoly in this root should be invaded.

The wonder is that with such a much used commodity at such a price steps are not taken to cultivate it in sufficient quantity so as to adjust the balance between supply and demand. The reduction, for example, in the price of quinine was largely the result of increased cultivation of the cinchona plant, and the same may be said of cocaine in respect to the cocoa plant.—Pearson's Weekly.

### The Man Got a Whipping.

Some few years ago in the depths of winter an old pair had ascended the "wooden hill" for their night's rest. They had been there some time when the old clock struck 2. The next minute they were startled by their bedroom door opening, and in walked their son Will, with a face as long as a fiddle.

"Well, Will," exclaimed the fond father, "what is the matter?"

"There's a man in the house," said the hopeful.

The father jumped out of bed, snatched up the poker, the wife following suit with the tongs, and they went downstairs, followed by Will. The house was searched, but no man was found.

"Where's the man?" said the father.

Will, with a twist of the few bristles on his upper lip, straightened himself, and pointing to his breast said:

"Father, here he is."

It was his twenty-first birthday! He got a whipping for it, man or no man.—Yankee Blade.

### Wholesale Plating.

One of the most remarkable illustrations of progress in electrical appliances is electrolitic painting. Hitherto if copper or other metal had to be deposited electrically a bath of solution was needed. Now all this is changed, and a ship's hull can be plated as easily as a spoon or a teapot. Instead of a bath, insoluble salts, ground to a fine powder and mixed with water are used. This mixture is painted on the metal to be plated by a fine wire brush, to which one pole of a dynamo conductor is attached, the other pole being connected to a plate. Not only pure metal, but all sorts of alloys can be used.—Exchange.

### What Aluminium Is.

There are many misconceptions about aluminium that are widespread and which it seems difficult to correct in the public mind. Aluminium is not section for section, a very strong metal. It is only one-half as strong as wrought iron. It has a very low elastic limit. It is not rigid, but bends under a transverse strain readily. It is in its alloys that its utility commences to appear. With 8 to 12 per cent of copper or aluminium bronze we have one of the most dense, finest grained and strongest metals known.—New York Telegram.

### For the Canary Bird.

Canary birds are often covered with vermin. They may be relieved of them by placing a clean white cloth over their cage at night. In the morning the cloth will be covered with minute red spots, so small that they can hardly be seen with the naked eye. These are the parasites, a source of great annoyance to the birds.—Philadelphia Press.

### Very Polite.

"How do you like your new music master?"

"He is a very nice, polite young man. When I made a mistake yesterday, he said, 'Pray, mademoiselle, why do you take so much pains to improve upon Beethoven?'"—Philadelphia Telegraph.

The throne, the grandees, the high ecclesiastics, the captains general, the admirals and the ministers of state in Spain wield a very powerful influence in Spanish politics and control the upper house of the cortes.

The thinnest tissue paper measures 1-1200 of an inch in thickness. The Krupp gun works claims a machine which will roll iron so thin that it would take 1,800 sheets to make an inch.

# BOYHOOD TRADITIONS

## HOW SCIENCE HAS RUTHLESSLY PLAYED HOB WITH THEM.

**Even the Horsehair Snake Is Declared by the Naturalist to Be a Humbug—Still Clinging to That Belief and Presenting Pretty Good Argument.**

Science plays hob with the fond traditions of rural schoolboy days. How many ugly but useful toads have been left in undisturbed possession of a garden bed because to handle them was but to cover your hands with warts and to kill them would force your cows to let down bloody milk? What boy would have crushed a cricket, assured as he was that its mate would come at night and avenge its death by eating up that rash boy's clothes? What man lives today who, as a rustic lad, has not held the stilted daddy-long-legs prisoner by one hairlike shank and informed the globular insect that unless it forthwith pointed out the way in which the lost cows had gone instant death awaited it, and when did daddy-long-legs fail to raise one slender leg and indicate, according to boyish belief, the direction the straying kine had gone? And the devil's darning needle, that big eyed thing that lived and prowled for nothing else than to sew your ears up, and the magic eel skin tied round your leg, or neck, or arm, to keep the cramps away when you went in swimming, and the snake that swallowed its young, and greatest of all, that vivified hair from a horse's tail, wriggling and gyrating in the roadside mud puddle, the horsehair snake.

But science has stepped in and solemnly and seriously said that these are all myths. It is a shattering of idols, but I fear that to science must be granted all it denies about them, except as to snakes swallowing their young. I have been an open mouthed and wide eyed witness of that interesting trick too often to let even profound scientists stand up and declare that it isn't so.

I hold out a little, too, for the horsehair snake, for I have in my mind a certain vagrant horsehair that I once put in an oyster keg filled with rainwater, and either that horsehair in the course of a few weeks took on the semblance of life and form of a horsehair snake and kept it up all season in a bottle to which I transferred it, or else it disappeared, and the germ of what we supposed was a horsehair snake happened to be in the water and developed there. I have always insisted that I made a horsehair snake. I have heard many veracious persons declare that they have done the same thing.

"But you are all wrong," says Nicholas Pike, the naturalist. "The horsehair snake, or hairworm, is the Gordius aquaticus, and it is common in most fresh water ponds and rivulets. Though no larger around than a coarse cotton thread, they have two mouths, one on each side of the head. They lay scores and sometimes thousands of eggs. The eggs are deposited in strings, like a chain, on the sides of shallow ponds or creeks, and they are greedily swallowed by various aquatic insects. Then from the time the egg is hatched the first part of the worm's nutriment is spent as a parasite, absorbing nutriment from the body of its unlucky host. The large water beetles are subject to these parasites. They have been found in a cricket. They are graceful swimmers, but when taken from the water they twist themselves into such an intricate knot that it is almost impossible to unloose it. They are called Gordius from this, the Gordian knot.

"I have no doubt that one reason why the idea of the horsehair snake has been propagated is from ignorant persons who have had various insects in clear water watching them for study or curiosity. Knowing that they put in only certain live creatures, and some day finding these live worms, they were astonished. The chances are that the worms were developed from a pet beetle that in its native pond made a feast on some ova of the Gordius, to be paid dearly for later when these hatched."

But there was no pet beetle or any other insect in my keg of rainwater. The horsehair went away, and the snake or worm appeared. I don't believe the horsehair ever swallowed any Gordius ova. I can't imagine any reason why a horsehair should turn into a snake or worm when kept in the water, but why not a horse's hair as well as a cow's hair or a deer's hair? Science had better not tell any of the few old settlers of northern Pennsylvania or any other locality where the pioneers were frequently their own tanners that cow's hair and deer's hair will not turn into worms under certain conditions or science will get a black eye. In the pioneer days, when a settler wanted leather for boots or shoes, it was not an uncommon thing for him to make a vat by hollowing out a pine log, and using wood ashes instead of lime in removing the hair. When the hide was taken out of the vat it would be placed in a creek to soak out the alkali.

I have more than once heard the sons of such pioneers tell of finding curious worms swimming about these hides where they were lying in quiet pools. These worms were about two inches long, somewhat thicker than a cow's hair, and always in various stages of development from the hair as it came off the hide, some being for a part of their length simply hair, while the rest was the living worm, white and semitransparent. Some would be still fast to the hide, but wiggling to get loose, when they would swim about with a hair for a tail. These worms were never seen except in the pools with the hides, either cow or deer. The more I think of these well authenticated cow hair worms the more I am inclined to defy science and hold out for the horsehair worm.—New York Sun.

### A Theory as to Swiggins.

"What makes Swiggins such an unconscionable liar?"

"Stinginess. He has as many facts as anybody, but he hates to give them out."—Exchange.

### FAR AND WIDE.

Not on this broad continent alone, but in malarial breeding tropical regions, in Guatemala, Mexico, South America, the Isthmus of Panama and elsewhere, Hostetter's Stomach Bitters affords to inhabitants and sojourners a protection against malaria. The miner, the freshly arrived immigrant, the tiller of the virgin soil, newly robbed of its forests by the axe of the pioneer, find in the superb anti febrile specific a preserve against the poisonous miasma which in vast districts rich in natural resources is yet fertile in disease. It exhilarates disorders of the stomach, liver and bowels, fortifies those who use it against rheumatic ailments brought and fostered by outdoor exposure; it fuses genial warmth into a frame chilled by a rigorous temperature, and robs of their power to harm miasmatic morning and evening mists and vapors laden with baleful disease; strengthens the weak, and conquers incipient kidney trouble.

The greatest drawback to prohibition is that most of its enthusiasts talk as if they had been drinking.

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FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

[SEAL] A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.

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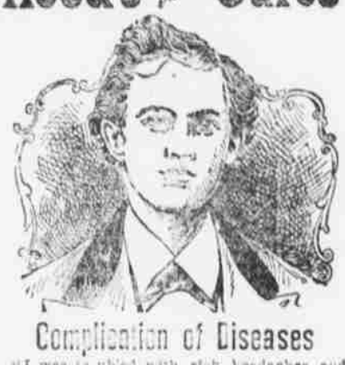

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