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## WEEKLY NEW YORK LETTER

New York, March 28.—Something was observed yesterday in good street, in which the smart New York boys showed off in great style.

Several men were gathered on the sidewalk, among them a young man about 25. He wasn't troubling anybody when suddenly

about 12 years old ran up to him and jumping up to reach his face. The man pushed the boy away, but he had no more released than he sprang again at the face, again delivering a lot of blows that must have made him

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show was all over at 2 o'clock.

A southern lady, in a diary which she kept throughout the Civil war, tells of a bonnet which she made and which was regarded as "quite stunning." "The author of Dixie After the War" quotes from the diary as follows: "We had been wearing coal-scuttle bonnets of plaited straw, trimmed with cornshuck rosettes. I made 15 one spring, acquired a fine name as a milliner and was paid for my work. I recall one that was quite stunning. I got hold of a bit of much worn ribbon white and dyed into exquisite shades of green with a tea made of coffee berries. Coffee berries dye a lovely green; you might remember that if you are even in war and blockaded. When the northern belles appeared on the streets of Richmond they did not seem to have on any bonnets at all. They were tiny, three cornered affairs, tied on with narrow strings, and all their hair showing in the back. We thought them the most absurd things. But we made haste to get some. The Yankees introduced some new fashions in other things besides clothes, that I remember vividly, one being canned fruit. I had never seen canned fruit before the Yankees came. Pleasant innovations in food were like to leave lasting impressions on one who had been living on next to nothing for an indefinite period."

New York probably never before was so dirty as when she came out of the snow drifts of the month. There has been an unprecedented number of snowstorms we have had this season, one succeeding another, so that the streets had no sooner said farewell than another dropped its burden upon an unswept street. The snow was not removed very fast, and gathered filth and blackness, especially after it had been piled up in heaps ready for the carts, which were very tardy in coming to take the heaps away. In some of the streets the snow heaps were as black as coal, and were covered with everything and anything that business men and housewives had to throw away. Nobody has any respect for a snow heap, and seems to consider it the proper place, for the repose of anything that they wanted to get out of their sight, and so they threw the things in full sight of everybody else. Of course the public opinion in the cost of the removal of the snow. The fact is that New York is way behind in the matter of handling the snow. The reason is that it is necessary for New York to provide in its snow removal and street repairs some work for the men who vote the ticket. If the superintendent in charge of the work could happen in some inland village he would find some object lessons that would teach him how to remove snow at one-tenth the cost, and almost ten times the rapidity. When a snowfall happens in one of these villages, out comes bright and early two or three horses, which are harnessed before a slanting board, that performs the work of a snowplow, and as the horse walks along the snow is shoved up to the curbs, where another plow finds it, and forms it into heaps. In New York the trolley cars could be furnished with great arms that would scrape the snow from a section of the street, as the snow brushes do with the snow on the tracks. It is not an exaggerated estimate that one trolley car could remove more snow in one sweep down the length of the track than two hundred horses. The snow is

slowly removed. When it is light the men wait until it hardens, partly melts and freezes again, and so the work is made very much more costly and slower in progress. Some of the owners of property are remarkable for the rapidity with which they tackle the problem. Old St. Paul's church, the church in which Washington worshipped, and which bears the name of General Montgomery on its front in a tablet to his illustrious memory, has a great stretch of territory to clear of the nuisance, but it is generally the first to have its sidewalks free of ice and snow. An army of men with shovels, picks, ice-choppers of every kind known, attack the snow before sunrise, and by the time the army of New York's workers have come along the walks are clear. Others let the snow stay, and pedestrians have to go through all the stages of which snow awaits itself to make itself disagreeable, and slip and slide over the disgraceful walks, while the owner goes scot free New York could just as well be free from a snow storm's effects at the end of the day as not.

Many men of renown, of riches, of enterprise, of speculative character, rise high in New York, and then a sudden reverse of fortune hits them, and down they go. Many of these, most of them, drop out of sight completely; others get into something smaller, and work along with the respect of their acquaintances, while still others are treated with contempt. None of the latter equals in dropping low the king, as he is usually called, of some money making scheme. Here's a green goods king James McNally, who made \$600,000 in getting his fellow citizens out of honest dollars by palming off upon them cunningly devised counterfeits. The other day a little weazened, paled man, shabby and clinging to the bar, awaited sentence in a magistrate's court. When asked where his home was he cried out "Aint got no home." "Wants to be committed," said the policeman, who brought him in. The magistrate took the formal blank handed to him and read: "I am destitute of any means whatever, and pray that I may be provided for by the city." "Workhouse, three months," said the magistrate. "Thank you," said the little man. "McNally, McNally, James McNally," said Clerk Anthes, as the paper reached him. "Well, if that isn't Jimmy McNally the green goods king." McNally had reached the end of his string. The king was "a dead one, sure enough," as he admitted while awaiting some additional formality before starting for the workhouse. "And of all the thousands who were glad enough to help me get away with a million dollars there is none to say 'Long live the king,'" said McNally, bitterly. "They don't even take interest enough in me to wish I was dead."

OLD TIMER.

### Saved Her Son's Life.

The happiest mother in the little town of Ava, Mo., is Mrs. S. Ruppel. She writes: "One year ago my son was down with such serious lung trouble that our physician was unable to help him; when, by our druggist's advice I began giving him Dr. King's New Discovery, and I soon noticed improvement. I kept this treatment up for a few weeks when he was perfectly well. He has worked steadily since at carpenter work. Dr. King's New Discovery saved his life." Guaranteed best cough and cold cure by J. C. Perry, druggist; 50c and \$1. Trial bottle free.



### THE MAGIC DIAL.

A Puzzling Fact That Seems Akin to Mind Reading.

Ask any of your playmates to think of some hour of the day. Tell him to deduct it from 20 and remember the remainder. You produce your big clock dial and inform him that you are going to count around on the dial and that when you have counted the number corresponding with the remainder that he must remember, he must stop you.

Suppose he thought of 5 o'clock. Five taken from 20 leaves 15 remainder. You now count promiscuously (mentally, not orally), pointing at each count with a pencil to one of the hours on the dial (which must be provided in advance and is made by cutting out a circle of cardboard and marking on it with ink the twelve figures of the clock face).

Be sure when you make the eighth count to point to the "12" and thence in regular rotation backward toward the left. When you come to the figure "5" you will be stopped, as this will be the fifteenth count, corresponding to



THE MAGIC DIAL.

the remainder, 15, which he was to remember. You will thus know that 5 o'clock was the hour thought.

If this trick be repeated more than two or three times it is well to vary the number from which the deduction is to be made. Thus instead of deducting, as in the foregoing example, 5 from 20, the person addressed may be told to deduct the hour thought of from 18, but as 18 is only six hours more than 12 you must be sure to make your sixth (not the eighth) promiscuous count be at the figure "12" on the dial.

In the first example, with 20, the eighth count was made at "12" because 20 is eight more than 12. If 22 be the number adopted the tenth count must be made on figure "12" 22 being 10 more than 12, and so on with any other number.

When your friends see you are able to tell the time they thought of from different numbers to be deducted from, then they will be more mystified than ever and will become convinced you are a real mind reader if you don't let them into the secret.

### THE FUNNY FROG.

How Would You Like to Be in His Bed All Winter Long?

Among the many creatures that sleep in the winter are the frogs, with their very long hindlegs, short forelegs and with big black eyes on each side of their very big mouths.

When the cold days come and the water begins to freeze in the pond the frogs know that it is time to go to bed for the winter. Down they go and their families with them to the bottom. Then they begin to dig with their long hind feet into the soft mud. They work themselves down into their beds backward until at last they are covered under the mud, all except the tips of their noses.

There they go to sleep. After awhile they have an ice spread over them, and they can sleep safely all winter. They do not get hungry all this time. When spring comes and the sun grows bright and warm and Jack Frost carries away their covering, old father frog begins to push his nose up out of the mud until his ears are uncovered. Then he nudges mother frog. "Wake up!" he says. "Don't you hear everybody busy up there?" And, oh, how sleepy she is, poor thing! But he had tried the water and found it warm, and they must not rest any longer.

### Conundrums.

What is it that has neither flesh nor blood, yet has four fingers and a thumb? A glove.

What is it that no one wishes to have and yet when he has it does not wish to lose it? A bald head.

Why is a historical event like a parcel untied and tied again? Because it is recorded.

### A Spoiled Story.

Young Tommy was a reckless chap as ever you did say. He crept into the pantry once And ate a pot of pie— No, no; I mean a lot of pie! The pie did not agree with Tom, So very large a piece. He felt so ill he hastened off To find a pot of grose— Dear me, I mean a grot of grose!

He wept with pain and doubled up As tight as any clam. "Oh, dear, I feel as bad as when I ate that lot of lamb— No, no; I mean that lot of jam!"

This story gets so mixed at times Under my very eyes. I'll stop. So far what I have said Seems like a lack of pie— Dear me, I mean a pack of lies! —A. D. Benedict in St. Nicholas.

### PHENOMENA OF HABIT.

The Importance of Correct Training For Young Children.

The most important years, the years that give the trend for life, are the early ones, when the little dimpled hands are outstretched, when the baby soul is reaching forth and receiving ideas and impressions, when manners are formed and habits have their beginnings. To leave the babies to irresponsible hired hands and lavish care and expense on half grown children is the blunder of those who are ignorant or inexperienced as to vital issues.

President King of Oberlin college, in his admirable treatise on "Rational Living," has this to say to young people, and I commend it to mothers:

"Nowhere are the physical and physical so completely interwoven as in the phenomena of habit. The mind's initiative constantly comes in, but it is as constantly seconded by the nervous system. The time limit in habits is one of the strong evidences of the close connection of body and mind. It is a startling fact to face that a man's personal habits are largely fixed before he is twenty, the chief lines of his future growth and acquaintance before he is twenty-five and his professional habits before he is thirty. We are becoming bundles of habits. With every young person one must, therefore, continually urge: Are you willing to retain just the personal habits you have now? You cannot too quickly change them if you wish to make thorough work. From your early morning toilet, through the care of your clothing and the order of your room, table manners, breathing, tone of voice, manner of talking, pronunciation, gesture, motion, address, study, to your very way of sleeping at night—all your habits are setting like plaster of paris."—Margaret E. Sangster in Woman's Home Companion.

### A WOMAN'S CARES.

They Seem to Pursue Her Everywhere Through Life.

"I wish," said the matron, "that some way could be devised to give women vacations. Every summer we hear wails about the poor men who have to stay in the city while their wives flee to seashore and mountain, but really it is the women who never get any vacation. The dictionary defines a vacation as 'intermission of a stated employment.' Now, what intermission of her stated employment does the mother of a family ever get? She may change her environment, but the same old cares and worries are with her still. To a father the material cares of a country cottage may be only an interesting diversion. It is positively exhilarating to him to go walking or swimming or fishing with the children, of whom he sees comparatively little during his working days, but to the mother these things are merely the same old grind. The only way for her to secure an intermission of her stated employment is to get away from her children, and I have yet to learn how that can be accomplished. But it is not only mothers who cannot get any rest. A woman's cares, whether she be married or single, pursue her everywhere. There is no wilderness so wild as to let a woman escape altogether from the cares of the toilet. Neither can she escape unless she flees altogether from society the obligation to be agreeable and entertaining. But who expects a man to be agreeable when he is tired?"—New York Tribune.

### DRESS HINTS.

Simplicity of taste in dress is good taste.

In fastening the skirt band to the skirt hold the skirt toward you and take care to match the center of the skirt to the center of the belt.

Finish goods and all articles dyed with aniline colors which have faded from exposure to the light will look as bright as new after sponging with chloroform.

A mixture of alcohol, one part, and water, three parts, wonderfully freshens black dresses and suits. They should be sponged all over on the right side, then pressed on the wrong side, while still damp.

It may seem superfluous to mention so simple a matter, yet not all dress-makers or professional seamstresses appreciate the importance of putting patches on with the twill or nap of the goods going the same way in patch and goods patched.

### The Right Kind of a Girl.

Let a girl be ever so graceful in the dance, let her be ever so elegant of walk across a drawing room, ever so right in conversation, she must possess some other qualities to convince the great average run of young men that she can be a manager of his home. Frugality, woman instincts of love for home, an eye to the best interests of her husband and the careful training of her children—these are the traits which make the good wife of today and which young men look for in the girls they meet, says Woman's Life. Men may sometimes give the impression that they do not care for common sense in their sweethearts, but there is nothing they so unfailingly demand of their wives.

### The Salamander.

Some housewives may not know what the salamander used in cooking is. It is a circular iron plate, to which is attached a long handle. When any article of food is to be browned the salamander is made red hot in the fire and then held over the article. An ordinary fire shovel may be used instead of a salamander, but it is not especially good for the shovel to be heated so intensely.

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