

FOR THE LADIES

A Hard-Working Woman. All day she hurried to get through. The same as lots of women do. Sometimes at night her husband said: "Ma, ain't you ever tired?" An' then she'd kinder give a hitch. An' pause half way between a stitch. An' sorter sigh an' say that she was ready as she'd ever be. She reckoned.

An' so the years went, one by one: An' somehow she was never done: An' when the angel said as how: "Mis' Smith, it's time you rested now." She sorter raised her eyes to look a second, an' then she took: "All right, I'm coming now," says she. "I'm ready as I'll ever be, I reckon."

Home-Made Tooth Soap.

A nice tooth soap, or a sweet-smelling tooth powder, may be reckoned among the toilet articles which are the delight of every well-organized woman.

But the best tooth soaps, in the language of the little girl "cost money," and many a woman has been compelled to buy something less dainty than she wanted, because she could not afford to buy the gilt-edged variety.

Here is a tooth soap which may be highly recommended. It is sweet smelling, nice tasting and cleansing without having in its composition any ingredients which could possibly harm the teeth. Indeed, it is so mild that those who require a "gritty" soap must add pumice stone to the compound.

For the tooth soap get of powdered orris root a quarter of a pound, of powdered myrrh two ounces, of powdered white soap three ounces, of powdered castile soap one ounce and of oil of lavender two drachms. Mix with one pound of precipitated chalk.

This makes quite a large quantity. But the soap keeps well. Should you not feel equal to mixing the ingredients yourself a druggist will toss them together for you, without charging you any more than the separate ingredients would cost if bought singly.

For the delicate teeth of children a good powder can be made from two ounces of castile soap, powdered and dried; one ounce of cuttle-fish bone, powdered; four ounces of honey and a dash of lavender perfume.

Interior Novelties.

An attractive dining room lately furnished shows the walls covered with an embossed paper of a light olive brown with Venetian damask design, outlined by a raised gold tracery, enclosing the soft old olives, dull blues and greens, harmonizing with the wood-brown and oak trimmings. The frieze is of a soft leather color and scattered over it are architectural design heads. This design consists of garlands festooned from roses and knots of ribbon in soft hues and inclosed between flutings; in groups of three roses are set between and a frieze of three lobes a row of pearl ornaments in gold. The effect is very beautiful.

The surface of the ceiling is paneled and divided into squares by beams of carved oak coming from carved oak bracket supports. Each of these panels is filled with canvas and treated in solid mat gold. The floor is hard wood and overlaid. Over it are scattered a number of handsome rugs.

The large library table is of highly polished oak. The low, broad divan and several chairs are of oak and upholstered in handsome leather.

In a pretty little flat where every inch of space is utilized, one room answers for both library and living room. The library consists of a combination book case and screen, an easy chair and one straight backed one for writing.

This screen is in three parts, the middle section being fitted with shelves for books. Small drop shelves are fastened part of the way down the sides with panels. There are used to hold a lamp, vase of flowers and quaint pieces of bric-a-brac.

In the angle formed by the two panels of the screen is a triangular-shaped shelf which holds an inkstand, penholder, pens and blotter.

Above this shelf on either side are fastened two large portfolio envelopes which are made of stout buckram and covered with pretty chintz. Writing paper, envelopes, stamps, postal cards, newspaper wrappers, &c., are kept in these envelopes.

Burlap portieres are very handsome and effective. A good quality can be obtained for fifteen cents a yard.

A heavy rug nine inches in depth with several rows of dark work above it should be dyed a rich red.

Chrysanthemums, poppies, tulips, nasturtiums and orchids are all effective designs for these portieres and should be painted in a bold, conventional manner with palms, ferns or grasses in the background.

It is said upon good authority that not more than two of the swinging couches of India are in existence in America. One of these is in Chicago and it is a marvel of beauty and general utility. It consists of a wooden divan made of teak wood, richly carved. It is five by three feet and is covered with a mattress, and over that is thrown a large soft rug of rich hue. An adjustable pillow is placed at either end and each is covered by a small rug. This novel divan is suspended from the ceiling and clears the floor about six inches. The chains by which the divan is suspended are of brass, heavy and very beautiful. Each separate link is of a different size and shape and a dome-like pendant, strung round with tiny musical bells which tinkle with each movement of the couch, is placed about midway of each chain. It is surprising that more Americans do not possess these novel and delightful couches. Certainly nothing could be more truly delightful for an Oriental room.

A Pretty Table.

A work table, which was an original idea with its maker and owner, will bear description and copying. The table foundation was an oblong top piece with a broom-handle tripod, upon which it rested firmly. These can be bought in any furniture store, plain, gilded or white, for fifty or seventy-five cents. Over the top was fitted a flat cover of cream cretonne covered with daisies. A straight piece fourteen inches in depth, sewed to the top piece on every side, was the foundation for a double row of shirred pockets, of the cretonne on three sides. The fourth side had only one deep pocket for large pieces of work.

A bow of yellow ribbon finished one corner, and to this was attached, by hanging narrow ribbons, scissors, emery and needle book. A small cushion of pink pins stood on the top beside a little lacquer tray as a temporary catch-all for old buttons, spoons, etc. An advantage of the bag cover was that it was not fastened to the table, but could be taken off, turned inside out, shaken free of dust and restored in a moment of time and with great ease.

Useful Recipes.

JAMME BOND CARS.—Two cups of sugar,

one cup of butter, one cup of milk, three cups of flour, whites of five eggs, three teaspoons of baking powder. Bake two-thirds of this in two layers. To the other third add half a cup of stoned and chopped raisins, two tablespoons of molasses, one teaspoon of cinnamon, half a teaspoon of cloves, a little nutmeg, the yolks of two eggs and more flour. Bake in one layer and place between the other two.

ICE CREAM CAKE.—Two cups of sugar, one cup of butter, one cup of milk, two cups of flour, half a cup of corn starch, whites of four eggs, two teaspoons of baking powder.

ICING FOR THE ABOVE.—Two cups of sugar, two tablespoons of cold water, the whites of two eggs. One and a half teaspoons each of rose water and vanilla. Boil the sugar and water until it threads, then add the well-beaten whites and beat well, adding the flavoring last.

CHOCOLATE CREAM CAKE.—Whites of four eggs beaten stiff, one cup of white sugar, half a cup of butter, half a cup of sweet milk, two cups of flour, two teaspoons of baking powder, one teaspoonful of vanilla. Bake in flat pans.

FRUIT.—One and a half cups of granulated sugar, half a cup of sweet milk. Boil five minutes, stirring constantly, then add one teaspoon of vanilla. Stir until cool and thick and spread quickly on cake. Have two squares of Baker's chocolate melted and pour over the white frosting.

ANGEL'S FOOD.—One and a half cups of pulverized sugar. One cup of flour after sifted. One teaspoon cream of tartar. Whites of eleven eggs. Sift the flour and cream of tartar four times, then use one cup after it is sifted. Beat the eggs stiff, add the sugar, then one teaspoon rosewater and the flour. Beat lightly but thoroughly. Bake slowly in an ungreased tin for forty minutes.

CONCERNING SALADS.—Salads are not as universally appreciated as they used to be. To many the preparing of a salad seems a laborious task. It is not as much work as it appears to be, as many of the dressings, which are the chief part, can be prepared beforehand. The dressing should not be added to a salad just before serving, as it becomes watery if mixed long before being used. This is an excellent way to dispose of remains of fish, vegetables, poultry and meats of various kinds.

CELERY SALAD.—Separate the stalks of four heads of celery, cut in pieces an inch long and pour over it half a pint of mayonnaise dressing.

AVOCADO SALAD.—One quart of steamed apples rubbed through a sieve, six tablespoons of salad oil or melted butter, salt and pepper to taste, one teaspoon made mustard and one teaspoon of sugar. Serve cold.

LETTUCE AND HAM SALAD.—Chop fine one slice cold boiled ham and cut up one head of lettuce. Serve with the following dressing: Mix together thoroughly one-fourth cupful of salad oil or melted butter, one-fourth teaspoon of pepper, one teaspoon of made mustard, one-half cupful of vinegar and salt to season.

THREE COOKIES.—One cup of butter, one cup of sugar and three eggs. Beat together to a cream, add flavoring to suit, then just enough flour to roll over very thin. Cut out with biscuit cutter, and bake in a quick oven to a very light brown. Watch them constantly as they burn very easily.

OMELET WITH BAKING POWDER.—Beat in one dish the yolks of half a dozen eggs and the whites in another dish. Both must be made as light as possible. Sift a teaspoonful of baking powder and a pinch of salt over the whites then add the yolks, beating as quickly as possible to mix thoroughly; then pour into a well buttered, very hot frying pan. Cover closely for a moment; then remove the cover very carefully, turn the omelet if necessary, slide it out of the pan upon a hot plate and serve immediately.

The Kitchen Floor.

It must be of something that will stand the tramp of many feet in a farm-house. Boys and men, with heavy boots, pass over it many times a day. Rainy weather makes muddy feet; and although an attempt at cleaning may be made with the broom and scraper at the back door (and not always, either), there is still enough adhering to them to leave "tracks" on the kitchen floor.

A clean floor is a delight to the tidy housewife, and a soil one an annoyance which must be removed at the first opportunity. The material of which the floor is made has much to do with the amount of labour required to keep it clean.

If hard wood is chosen, the tracks will not show so plainly, but the floor is very hard to keep clean. Oak gives good wear, but is apt to splinter up after a little while, and the soil of her who wields the mop over it. An oak floor must be oiled. This gives it a beautiful finish, bringing out the grain to best advantage.

Perhaps the most commonly used of the hard woods, and one which gives the most satisfactory wear, is white ash. It has a very straight grain; not liable to wear rough, and it care and labour are freely expended upon it, it will be perfectly white and clean. Not a speck of grease must fall upon it, as it is almost impossible to remove it. White ash was the material used in our grandmothers' days, when their floors were said to be "white enough to eat on."

White pine makes a floor which may be kept clean and white with soap and water; but it does not last very well. The grain is too open, and it soon wears out.

Norway pine is another variety for flooring now much used, and it is considerably cheaper than the white pine. If care is used in its selection, using the straight-grained boards only, it makes a very good floor. It may be oiled or left without. If the former, no soap nor hot water must be used in cleaning it.

A painted floor is more easily kept clean than any of these, but it must have a coat of paint every few months. Once a year is not enough—it must be kept well covered. Nothing looks more shabby than a floor from which half the paint is worn off, leaving a strip around the baseboard to show its original color.

A pine floor is best if paint be applied. Norway pine is much, but the best of white or yellow pine is do better.

Now as to the paint. In color get it as near the shade of the "tracks" as you can, then it will not so readily show every footprint. Never choose a dark color; nothing shows dirt and dust worse than a dark kitchen floor.

It is all very well to say, mop the kitchen floor every day, but the fact is the busy house-mother does not have time to do it, and although a painted floor is easily cleaned still the space has to be gone over just the same.

My experience with painted floors teaches me that a stone gray or drab—not too dark—is most satisfactory from a keeping clean standpoint. As to the paint, don't try to mix it at home, unless under the supervision of a professional painter. Buy that put up by some reliable firm and use it according

to directions. It is usually prepared to dry as rapidly as is consistent with its wearing well.

If necessary a woman can paint a floor as well as a man, and as quickly, too, after a little practice.

If you have a wide brush—three inches is a good width—the work can be more easily because more rapidly done. Keep the paint well stirred up from the bottom, and brush lengthwise of the boards, spreading it well by brushing down evenly. A thin coat is better than a thick one, for the latter will almost certainly peel up after it is used.

Don't expect to cover the old floor entirely with one coat of paint. Let it stand, if possible, until perfectly hard before walking upon it. It should be ready in 24 hours. Saturday night after supper is a good time to paint it. In the morning, if you must use the room while getting breakfast, lay down pieces of lath and on these strips of board where it is necessary to walk. The floor may not be used much on Sunday, and by Monday morning will be hard and nice.

After the floor is washed it well with clear cold water to harden the paint. Try it in a couple of weeks give it another coat of paint in the same way.

If the floor is badly worn three coats are none too many, then you will have a floor that will last until next year without becoming bad with work.

If there are cracks in the floor fill them with putty, before beginning to paint. A gallon of paint will cover a room fifteen feet square with three coats, and costs not more than a dollar and a half. No soap or strong sands should ever be used on a painted floor.

BIRD LIFE.

Wonderful Facts Recorded by a Naturalist in Southern Latitudes.

Mr. Bowdler Sharpe, F.R.S., in a paper on the "Curiosities of Bird Life," speaking of the nesting of birds, mentioned the tailorbird, which makes the framework of its nest by sewing together with cotton twine plant leaves; the weaver bird, whose wonderful structure is tied, knotted and woven in a manner which would take human skill; the oil bird, of the West Indies, which builds its nest in a cave; and the hornbill, of India and West Africa, which boxes the female up in a tree before she lays her eggs, leaving only an aperture large enough to introduce food. If the male is killed, the other hornbills in the vicinity undertake the feeding of the imprisoned female and her young.

Next Mr. Sharpe mentioned some of the acrobatic building birds, and then gave an account of the sunbird of Africa, as supplying an illustration of Darwin's great theory of selection, and an explanation of the development of bright plumage in birds. In one variety of these birds, he said, the plumage was of an unrelieved brown color in the male and the female, but in other varieties, while the female birds presented no variations, the male birds displayed a steady development of brilliant plumage. The first advance was found in two yellow tufts at the side of the head; the next had the yellow tufts and bright green head feathers in addition; the third had green feathers as well as head; and the fourth had a brilliant red breast besides all the other distinctions. The theory suggested that the most brilliantly-colored bird was the most recent development. The bird of New Zealand made as light-colored bird, the female and the male of which were of the same plumage merely. The male bird had a short curved beak, and the female a long curved beak, and the natives said that in extracting grubs from trees the male bird dug away the bark, and the female dug down for the grub. With the female of the East Indies, the female bird was, in violation to the rule, handsomer than the male, and she used her strength to compel the male bird to hatch the eggs after they had been laid.

Mr. Sharpe also addressed some examples illustrative of protective resemblance and mimicry in birds. The owl parrot of New Zealand, he pointed out, had perfectly formed wings but could not fly, and it evaded pursuit by rolling into a bank of moss the color of its back. With the female of the butterfly quail, the presence of danger, stuck out its feathers, and that resembled one of the little brown cactus plants which were characteristic of its habitat. As to mimicry in birds, the brown oriole and the brown honeyeater of the Philippines were two wonderful examples. These different species resembled each other exactly in plumage, though they were not related in any way. The oriole in each island presented marked variations from the oriole in the other islands of the group, and the curious fact was that exactly the same variations were found in the corresponding specimens of the honeyeater. Another curious fact had been observed in the Philippines islands. It was the universal rule that where the male and female birds differed in plumage the newly-hatched young should resemble the female; but the black-cool, a species of the Cuckoo in the Philippines, was an exception to this rule. The male black-cool was black, but the female was brown, and it was the habit of these birds to deposit their eggs in the nest of the black-ryna. If therefore the ordinary law obtained, and the young resembled the female, as soon as the eggs were hatched the myna would discover the intruder and eject or destroy it. As the young resembled the male cool, however, its color was not distinguishable from that of the young mynas, and it was accordingly reared by its foster-mother.

An Ancient Birdland.

For ages before its occupation by man New Zealand swarmed with great wingless birds, which found here their carnitorous enemies, but an abundance of vegetable food. The moas not only existed in vast numbers, and for thousands of years, but had such diversity of form as to embrace no less than seven genera, containing twenty-five species—a remarkable fact which is unparalleled in any other part of the world. The commonest kinds in the North Island were only from two and one-half to four feet high.

Those of the South Island were mostly from four to six feet tall, while the giant forms reaching twenty and thirty feet were always rare. Immense deposits of moa bones have been found in localities to which they appear to have been washed from the hills in tertiary times. Skeletons on the surface of the ground, with skin and ligaments still attached, have given the impression that these birds had been exterminated in very recent years but other facts point to a different conclusion. Tradition seems to show that the moa became extinct in the North Island soon after the arrival of the Maoris in New Zealand—that is, not less than 400 to 500 years ago—and in the South Island about 100 years later. They they make no allusion even from the borders of the Black Sea and from the edges of Siberia to the Black Sea and from the edges of

CANADA'S POSTAL SERVICE.

Gratifying Increase in all Branches of the Department for 1892.

The Report of the Post-office Department, contains many interesting items. To an untravelled Englishman, an ignorant foreigner, or an unappreciative Yankee, perhaps the most significant illustration of the Canada's territory and development is the fact that Mails were carried last year on 13,303 miles of railway—an increase of 1,182 miles over the preceding year; that 45,000 miles were covered daily by the service, and over 14,000,000 miles during the year.

The principal portion of this increased mileage, and additional service to the public has, of course, been in the newer provinces of Manitoba, British Columbia and the North-west Territories. The Northern Pacific and its Brandon branch; and the Canadian Pacific especially, with its innumerable branches and extensions, are doing much to promote this great measure of comfort and pleasure to the settler in these rapidly developing portions of the Dominion. Meantime, the external service has not been neglected. A contract for one more year has been entered into with the Allan and Dominion lines for the carrying of our Mails between Quebec, Halifax and Liverpool. And there is reason to hope that a still faster system may be in operation before very long. The Pacific Ocean Mail Service, carried by the Empress line of the Allan and Dominion lines for the carrying of our Mails between Vancouver, Yokohama, Hong Kong and Shanghai, shows a most gratifying development. As compared with 61,375 letters transmitted between Canada, China and Japan in 1891 there were 109,411 in 1892, and 34,900 newspapers last year, as compared with 20,112 during the previous year.

The cities throughout the Dominion also show a marked appreciation of the free delivery system. During 1892 the Letter Carriers in our eleven cities carried 901,932 letters, post-cards and newspapers, an increase of 44,000 over the preceding year. Toronto heads the list with 372,449; Montreal comes second with 156,720; Hamilton is third with 62,367; Montreal exceeded three million in number, out of which only 147 cases of abstraction of contents or total loss of letter were reported. The number of these were made good, and the number is less than last year, which seems to prove the efficacy of the precautions taken. The Report in this connection warns persons who write to the Department complaining of loss or delay to send the envelope or cover with their complaints.

It is interesting to note that the Department is preparing some changes, which we think will commend themselves to the public. Letter-cards, similar to those in Great Britain, Austria and other European countries, will shortly be issued, as well as larger sized postal cards than the one now in use, which it is supposed will be found convenient for price lists, notices, etc. Postage stamps of the value of twenty cents and fifty cents will also be issued. They should be very useful in pre-paying parcel postage. The Letter Department is always a curious one to investigate, and its returns are suggestive of a degree of carelessness in the public which it is difficult to understand. Over one million letters are reported as having passed through this Office during the year, of which 29,911 were actually received and investigated, and its returns are suggestive of a degree of carelessness in the public which it is difficult to understand. Over one million letters are reported as having passed through this Office during the year, of which 29,911 were actually received and investigated, and its returns are suggestive of a degree of carelessness in the public which it is difficult to understand.

The business of the Money Order Branch continues to grow. In 1892 the value of Money Orders issued was \$3,352,000 in 1891 it was \$2,478,000, and last year it was \$3,823,000. In the Post-office Savings Bank the deposits are reported as exceeding \$22,000,000, and the most gratifying point in this part of the statement is that an analysis of the deposits shows it to be a widespread and essentially popular investment in small savings. Fifty-two thousand people deposited from one to ten dollars each; 25,000 from eleven to twenty dollars; and 39,000 from twenty-one to fifty dollars.

Arrangements are announced for an increase in the limit of weight in parcels addressed to or received from the United Kingdom, together with a reduction in the rate of postage for each pound in excess of one pound, from 20 cents to 16 cents. Money Order conventions have also been consummated with the Leeward Islands, Bermuda and British Guiana.

How Cigarette Papers are Made.

It is true, as is generally believed, that the cigarette is more hurtful to smokers than the pipe or cigar?

This is an important question to which it would be difficult to give an answer without a solid basis. This basis and the reasons in support of it can be obtained by a visit to the factory of Gascourt in Nantes.

Admirable precautions are taken for the absolute purification of the elements composing the paper which is intended for such delicate use. In the first place, only perfectly new material is used, such as trimmings of hemp and flax.

The sorting is done by women with the most delicate care.

After the sorting the material is placed into an enormous cutting machine, which chops it, after which it is placed in a fan which does the bolting. Then comes the mashing process. The material, reduced to small particles, is put into two enormous galls containing a preparation of lime and soda.

Then it receives another mashing, which takes away all trace of foreign substances. The water used in this cleansing is constantly renewed until it becomes perfectly limpid. It is not supplied from a river or watercourse, but from two artesian wells, which give about four hundred thousand quarts an hour of pure water. When thoroughly cleansed the material is placed in a new apparatus, which completes the crushing. It is then pressed in a hydraulic press.

After all this it still retains a grayish tint, which must be removed. Up to whitening in a recent period the whitening was obtained by chlorine, which was evaporated one way or another. At the Gascourt factory the use of chlorine is forbidden. It is replaced by an electric process. In this way no impure organic material and no trace of chlorine or any kind of salts can remain.

Powerful cylinders having finished the crushing to the point of extreme fineness, the paste finally passes to the machines which transform it into paper.

The paper is first transported to the general depot in Paris, and from there is exported to Vienna, New York, Jersey, London, St. Petersburg, Moscow, Odessa, &c.

Moscow has the finest churches of Russia, and the people consider the city so holy that they make pilgrimages even from the borders of the Black Sea and from the edges of Siberia to the Black Sea and from the edges of

NOTES ON SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

VERY INTERESTING.

Some people suppose that rosewood takes its name from its colour, but that is a mistake. Rosewood is not red or yellow, but almost black. Its name comes from the fact that, when first cut, it exhales a perfume similar to that of a rose; and, although the dried rosewood of commerce retains no trace of this early perfume, the name lingers as a relic of the early history of the wood.

A revival interest is to be noted in the attempts started some years ago, particularly in France to manufacture silk from wood pulp, and by methods, as proposed by M. Chardonner, similar in principle to that employed for converting wood into paper. It is well known that, a few years ago, large works were built at Besancon, and preparations for manufacturing silk in this way were projected, and carried out on a somewhat extensive scale; the results were that though remarkably satisfactory specimens of silk made by the process in question were shown, it was found that the fabric so manufactured could not be woven successfully in large pieces, and that it was of so highly inferior quality as to be a source of great danger. To overcome these difficulties very thorough experiments have for some time past been under way, and with such results that the company having the industry in charge claims to be able to furnish a substitute for silk possessing all the essential qualities characterizing that article, and which is expected to be put upon the market at about one-half the cost of the genuine article, dress pieces, ribbons, &c., being included in the prospective goods.

In his recent work on mechanical and industrial progress of late years, Dr. Benjamin Peacock states that no department have the improvements and advances been productive of greater results than that of agriculture. This is seen, he declares, in the general substitution of iron and steel in nearly all kinds of farming machinery, which, with other improvements, has increased in effectiveness, and at the same time reduced its cost from twenty-five to fifty per cent. An instance is afforded of this in harvesting machines, the binder having been perfected so that twice as much is used instead of wire, a simple fact which has added a vast stimulus to the grain growing of the United States.

The salt mines of Nevada throw into the shade all others known in the United States. One bed alone covers 15,830 acres and no bottom to this salt has ever been discovered.

The Manhattan Elevated Railway, New York, carries a larger number of passengers than any other American railway. The figures are given as 525,000 a day, or 191,625,000 yearly.

Paris has 87,655 trees in its streets, and each tree represents a cost to the city of seven pence. This makes, in round numbers, £290,000 worth of trees in the streets.

A curious circumstance in connection with the recent epidemic of cholera at Hamburg was the departure of all the birds from the city only a few days prior to the outbreak.

The building societies of England and Wales alone have a membership of over 600,000, and a share and loan capital of upwards of £50,000,000.

There is a curious snake in South Africa that lives wholly upon bird's eggs. It has no teeth or signs of teeth in the mouth, the whole dental array being located in the stomach.

The honour of instituting the first quarantine is claimed by the Venetians. Vessels were kept from intercourse with the shore for forty days. The Italian quarantine means a space of forty days, which is also the original meaning of the English "quarantine."

The city of Chicago is now beginning to feel the influence of the World's Fair in the great increase of crime within its limits. Such an event always draws the criminal element from all sections, and it will require the most strenuous exertions on the part of the authorities to prevent the inauguration of a veritable reign of terror.

Photographs of growing plants show some marvellous results, especially among the climbers. The young stems are said to move in a succession of irregular circular or elliptical curves, which vary in every direction. These movements are due to the irregular growth in various parts of the stem.

An extraordinary case is reported from Halberstadt. A soldier in a cuirassier regiment, who took part in the celebrated death ride at the battle of Mars-la-Tour, was severely wounded in the left ankle. The man was removed to the hospital at Guedlinberg, where he remained for over a year. Doctors, after making many attempts to discover the bullet, at length gave up the search and discharged the man, who has been an invalid ever since. The other day, after twenty-two years, the doctors at the hospital at Halberstadt succeeded in extracting the shot, which was imbedded in the bone. The patient is said to have experienced immediate relief after the operation was completed.

The most beautiful unmarried young princess in all Europe is the youngest daughter of the King of the Belgians, the Princess Clementina. She is just twenty-two years of age, very tall, has beautiful dark hair and eyes and carries herself like a queen. She has had a sad life on account of the misfortunes that have befallen her family. The suicide of her favorite brother-in-law, the Archduke Rudolph, and the death of Prince Baudouin of Flanders, who had been mentioned as her possible husband, have combined to impress her with the feeling that she should spend her days in the retirement of a convent. But a marriage with the Crown Prince of Italy or Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria is being discussed. She has a beautiful young girl friend, the Princess Josephine of Flanders, who is fair-haired, blue-eyed and always happy, and is the greatest heiress in all Europe.

How to Choose Oranges.

The expert orange buyer does not select the smooth, clean-fruit invariably, nor does he object to a heavy percentage of rough, dirty skins. The latter are not always easy to sell, but they invariably give the greatest satisfaction. This is because in the case of oranges, as with almost any fruit, beauty is only skin deep, and the insects which infest orange groves and extract sweetened from the fruit, much as bees draw honey from the finest flowers, only attack the sweetest and choicest to be found. The effect of their effort is to roughen the skin by perforating it, and hence dust is retained, instead of either falling or being brushed off the untouched skins. The fruit within the latter having been rejected by the insects on account of a lack of sweetness is not so palatable as that in the rougher looking skins; and it is decidedly a good plan to follow in the footsteps of the busy little creatures who can tap an orange, and ascertain how sweet it is in a manner no man could attempt.

Vegetable Curiosities.

Some very pleasant surprises for children may be obtained by getting fruits to grow inside of glass bottles. Some, especially of the cucumber family, can be inserted into the narrow mouths of bottles while young, the bottles attached to the branch, and after full growth it will be mysterious how these fruits got inside the bottles or jars.

Besides the pleasant surprises many a useful lesson on plant growth can be furnished by these tests. It is stated that King George III of England, in the earlier stages of the insanity which subsequently overtook him, desired to express his surprise to those who were dining with him as to how the apple got inside the dumpling; but with these fruits in glass jars the surprises to even sane people are quite as interesting to intelligent people as the apple dumpling was to this unfortunate monarch.