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MIRAMICHI ADVANCE

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BUSINESS NOTICE

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The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" having its large circulation distributed principally in the Counties of Kent, Northumberland, Gloucester and Restigouche, New Brunswick and in Bonaventure and Gaspe, Quebec in communities engaged in Lumbering, Fishing and Agricultural pursuits, offers superior inducements to advertisers. Address

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Chatham, N.B., Sept. 24, 1898.

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About the House.

ORANGE BLOSSOMS.

Oh, beautiful, waxen bride flowers,
So pure in your dainty white,
Opening your delicate petals
Catching the sunshine bright.

Resting among the green leaves,
Shedding your perfume sweet;
Oh, lovely tropical flow'ret,
Your beauty is most complete!

Oh, beautiful, waxen bride flowers,
May she whose brow you entwine
In that unknown, mystic future,
Emulate a life pure as thine.

THE BABY'S CLOTHES.

"A baby's clothing should be drawn over its feet and not slipped over its head," said Miss Marianna Wheeler, superintendent of the "Babies' Hospital, of New York City," whose long experience in training nursemaids makes her an authority on all subjects pertaining to the care of infants.

"Nothing is more awkward than to attempt to dress a young baby in a sitting posture. It should lie on the nurse's lap until quite able to sit alone. If the clothes are put on as I describe there will be no fighting and crying, but, instead, the child will be fond of being dressed. For the first four months there should be a snug flannel band over its bowels. Later this should be replaced by a ribbed knitted band, of wool, of course, and made like the top of a sock. It must be drawn over the feet and should be worn through the second year.

"I am sure that nearly all intestinal troubles in young children are caused by their bowels getting cold. It is the one place which must be protected if you would have a healthy child. There are three weights of these bands which I recommend, medium, thin and gauze. The very heavy should never be put on, and the same rule should be followed in selecting flannel garments.

"It is most important that a baby's clothes should fit the body. If too tight they frequently produce vomiting after feeding, while if too large they crumple into folds and cause discomfort. No pins or buttons should be used, but all bands about the body must be basted. The openings should be neither in the back nor front, but under the arms, where any irregularity will be least felt by the child.

"I disapprove very decidedly of putting veils over a baby's face. When the weather is so cold or so windy as to render a veil necessary no young child should be sent out of doors, but instead given its airing in a well ventilated nursery. Veils affect the eyes, and are as a rule uncleanly. In the majority of instances a mother never thinks of having the baby's veil washed. They wear the veil for an entire winter, so you can imagine the condition. Then, aside from this, a child's face is all the better for being exposed to the air, not only because it allows her to breathe more freely, but it is healthy for the complexion.

"The greatest care should be taken not to keep children too hot, and while light wraps may, and as a rule should be, kept on them in the early morning and late afternoon, in the middle of the day they should be removed. A common mistake among others, especially in furnace-heated homes, is using excessively heavy clothing for their children. They usually live in a warm nursery, their circulation is active and they perspire more freely than a grown person. For these reasons the heaviest flannels should never be used, even in very cold climates, but extra heavy wraps be put on when they are taken out."

PEAT-MOSSES.

There are beds of peat in our country, and several attempts have been made to utilize them for fuel, as is done in Ireland and some parts of Scotland. The peat mosses, of which the beds are formed, belong to the lowest family of the moss tribe. They are familiar objects in our tamarack swamps, where their gray-green, hemispherical masses lie thick upon the ground, to the exclusion of other vegetation except cranberries, which spin their thin vines over them, and a few pitcher-plants and grasses. Every year the axes of the plants increase in length and the older stems of former years sink lower into the bog. In this way the center of the bogs, especially of those fed by springs, becomes considerably higher than the circumference. When peat moss has thus been growing for many centuries, filling perhaps what was once a lake, the remains of the stems become matted together by the pressure of the water-logged fresh areas above, and after a time become compacted into what is known as peat, probably one of the stages in the production of coal. It is not altogether certain, says Prof. McMillan, and coal was developed from mosses like the living peat mosses, but it is perfectly certain that it originated in ancient swamps by the same general processes which are building the peat-bogs of to-day.

Hundreds who read this paragraph will have clambered over masses of peat moss—growing upon the old stems far below, which are gradually being converted into peat as outlined above—in the search for huckleberries. They would recognize the long ghostly gray threads, thick set with gray "leaves" which seem made up of many overlapping, acute pointed scales or bracts, and which look a little like miniature catkins, but they never thought anything about them—except that the moss was hard to walk over, and afford a good harbor for snakes. That is the way with us. Wonderful processes are going on all around us, in nature, but we are blind to them.

Peat mosses are so simply and easily propagated by the development of branches that they rarely fruit. But occasionally they do so—sometimes a whole bog will be in fruit at once. When you find at the terminal of one of the branches a little cluster—generally three—of egg-shaped bodies, each rising on a slender stalk from the end of the branch, you may know that you have the fruit-body of a peat moss in hand.

"The fruit-body is a little egg-shaped black capsule with bulbous base, the whole shaped somewhat like a dumb-bell with one end larger than the other, and a short neck between. The smaller end of the dumb-bell is imbedded in the enlarged cushion-like tip of a slender, erect leafless branch of its vegative plant. Around the bottom of the capsule may be found a thin broken membrane which is a relic of the wall of the egg-organ in which the capsule began its existence. Peat moss capsules open by little circular lids, which when the capsule is ripe, separate from the bowl part, allowing the spores to escape."

CHILDREN'S POCKET MONEY.

I believe that children can be best taught the worth of a dollar by earning and spending the dollar. I have known parents who clothed and fed their children well and gave them spending money on special occasions. I have known other parents who gave their children a weekly allowance. I have known still others who explained to their children that their help was needed to make the home—father and mother could not do it all—but that if they shared in the work they should also share in the income—in a word they formed a family partnership. And I am free to confess that the results after years of observation lead me to prefer the partnership plan.

The objection has sometimes been made when children were paid for work they became unwilling to do anything without money returned. It has not been so with children I have known.

I have noticed that when money was given children it was spent thoughtlessly; when it was earned it was not parted with without careful consideration.

I have noticed also that children who were allowed to share in the family income and help select their own clothing were not only satisfied with less, but were far happier than children for whom everything was provided by the parents. Furthermore, they learned how to be self-supporting and when they reached manhood and womanhood were industrious and self-reliant.

ORIGIN OF MARRIAGE CUSTOMS.

The oldest known love letter in the world is in the British Museum. It is a proposal of marriage made to an Egyptian Princess, and it was written 3,500 years ago. It is in the form of an inscribed brick, and is therefore not only the oldest, but also the most substantial love letter in existence.

The first silver wedding dates back to the time of Hugh Capet. Two servants had grown gray in his service, a man and a woman, and, what could he give them as a reward? Calling the woman he said: "Your service is great enough, for the woman always finds work harder than a man, and, therefore, I will give you a reward. At your age I know of none better than a dowry and a husband. The dowry is here—this farm from this time forth belongs to you. If this man who has worked with you five and twenty years is willing to marry you then the husband is ready."

"Your Majesty," said the old servant, "how is it possible that we should marry, having already silver hairs?"

"Then it shall be a silver wedding," and the King gave the couple silver enough to keep them in plenty. This soon became known all over France, and it became a fashion after twenty-five years of married life to celebrate a silver wedding.

The practice of the wife's assuming the husband's name at marriage is a Roman custom. Julia married to Pompey became Julia of Pompey. In latter times married women signed their names in the same manner, but omitted the "of". In Iceland the opposite has been the custom. There the husband assumes the wife's name.

The word wedding is derived from the wed or security which the Anglo-Saxon bridegroom gave at espousals for the due performance of his contract. This wed was held by trustees, and in addition to it the bridegroom wore an espousal ring. As for the wedding ring, it was first designed by Prometheus, according to tradition, and fashioned out of adamant and iron by Tubal Cain, and was given by Adam to his son to this end, that he therewith should espouse a wife.

The wedding cake is the remains of a custom whereby a Roman bride held in her left hand three wheat ears, and many centuries later, an English bride wore a chaplet of wheat. The bridesmaids threw grains of corn or small bits of cake upon the heads of the newly married and the guests picked up the pieces and ate them. The wedding cake did not come into general use until the last century and was then composed of solid blocks laid together, iced all over, so that when the outer crust was broken over the bride's head, the cakes inside fell on the floor and were distributed among the guests. Bridal favors are of purely Danish origin. The true lover's knot was first designed by Danish hearts and derived its designation from the Danish truelofa—"I plight my troth."

The throwing of the slipper comes from the custom of the bride of the father giving a shoe to the new husband in token of transference of power over her, the bridegroom lightly tapping the bride's head with it.

The best man is a survivor of the band of friends who accompanied the suitor in his wife-winning and kept watch for him over the bride's tribe, while the lover sought the opportunity to carry off his prize. The honeymoon journey is the hurried flight of the husband with his wife to escape the vengeance of the pursuing tribe. The presents given the bridesmaids and ushers are simply a relic of the bridegroom among his personal friends so that they would assist in the capture of his chosen bride when the day arrived on which he had determined to carry her off. In the fifteenth century, a bride—if one of the aristocracy—often received twenty rings from her relatives and six from the bridegroom—two when he became interested in her, two for the espousal and two when they were married.

THE PROPER TEMPERATURE.

Each living room should be supplied with a thermometer. A uniform temperature of about seventy degrees is considered most conducive to health and comfort. Susceptibility to colds and similar disorders are superinduced by over-heated apartments. One who dwells in a temperature of eighty degrees must expect to pay the penalty for such unhygienic conditions.

NO EYE FOR COLORS.

(Overheard on the Riviera.)

He. Oh, Gwendolin, do come out and look at this lovely sunset; the orange tints are simply grand.

She. My dear Percy, how can you be so foolish? Don't you see that I have on a blue dress? Besides, orange never suits my complexion.

AVERSION TO THAT ALSO.

Lord Wolseley, Lord Roberts, and Sir Evelyn Wood have all written considerably for the press. Sir Redvers Buller has never written anything but dispatches to the War Office, and shows his aversion to any other channels of publicity.

FEEDING A GREAT ARMY.

DETAILS OF THE PROCESS BY WHICH IT IS ACCOMPLISHED.

It Is a Mighty Task, Calling for Enormous Supplies and an Immense Amount of Labour—Easy Enough at Home, But on Active Service It Is a Different Matter.

It was Frederick the Great who said: "A general who does not provide himself with enough provisions, even if he were greater than Cæsar, would not be a hero very long."

And Coligny put it even stronger when he said: "When it is desired to build up an army, it is necessary to commence with the stomach."

It is very probable that ninety-nine people out of every hundred think of an army as a great aggregation of fighting men, armed to the teeth with rifles, swords, and what not, while they never once give a thought to the "men in the rear." Yet these men in the rear are an important part of the fighting machinery. When an army is encamped in a friendly country there is not so great a difficulty in feeding it as when it is penetrating hostile territory, and has separated itself from its own country. And yet in either case it is no light task to furnish and distribute the food that is to keep, say 30,000 hearts in the right place. This is the work of the commissary department.

EASY ENOUGH AT HOME.

When an army division or an army corps is encamped at home, the problem of getting supplies is comparatively simple. Sometimes they are furnished on contract, sometimes bought in large quantities a week or more in advance of the time at which they will be needed The commissary general is responsible for the procuring of these supplies, and having them deposited at a depot within easy reach of the troops. Each company of a regiment has its cooks; each regiment has its commissary depot where supplies are kept sufficient for, say, a week or ten days for all the men. Men are detailed from each company to assist in the work of getting the supplies from the regimental depot to the company kitchens every day. Others are detailed to help transport the supplies to the regimental depots from the general headquarters whenever the stores in the former are getting low. As all supplies are issued from headquarters only on orders and receipts are given for everything secured, it can be seen that there is an immense amount of clerical work necessary to the smooth and uninterrupted work of the department.

When the troops are in barracks the work of the kitchen can be better attended to than in the field. Ranges and all necessary utensils are on hand and hot meals are served to the different mess tables with regularity. When in the field, either field stoves are used for cooking or partially covered trenches are constructed, with an opening for the huge coffee kettle and an oven for the baking of bread.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

Suppose an army to have landed on a foreign coast. The first move after the landing of the men and arms is to secure a convenient spot for a depot of supplies. These are landed and piled high on the shore until there seems to be a mountain of boxes inextricably mingled in the general mass. Gradually these are separated into different piles and order begins to make its appearance out of chaos, until all the supplies are properly housed. For an army of 30,000 men and 10,000 horses for three months, it is estimated that there are necessary 11,000 tons of food and forage. This must be made up of palatable and strength-giving supplies, with a proper proportion of meat, vegetables, coffee, and flour for bread, or biscuits. The meat is generally canned, although sides of bacon are abundant, and even herds of live cattle are taken along for fresh meat.

Whenever any important move is to be made by the army, each soldier is usually supplied with rations for a day, which he carries in his haversack. These he is not to use unless ordered to do so. There are, besides, two days' rations carried in transport for each fraction of a command to tide the troops over the march. In the English army there are even wagon arrangements for cooking meals on the march, great quantities of soup being heated and meat and potatoes being prepared while on the march. But when the army moves away from its base of supplies, then it is that the feeding problem becomes more complicated.

A GREATER TASK.

There are always a number of men detailed from each regiment to assist in the work of bringing up supplies. The keeping open of a line of communication with the base of supplies is the first thing that a commander must see to, for it means the safety of his army. If this line of communication is but a day's march, the work is simple, and it does not take many men detailed to wagon-driving to replenish the impoverished stock of the regimental or division larder. But when the distance is increased to sixty or a hundred miles the trick is one of great difficulty. There are along this line of communication two lines of transport wagons constantly on the move and in opposite directions. The one line is for wagons filled with stores and supplies for the army. The other is made up of empty wagons going back to the base for other loads. Easy stages are made of the journey. For instance, one lot of loaded wagons will start from the base and go an easy distance, when another lot of empty ones will be coming in the opposite direction. The drivers and horses will be exchanged, those on the loaded wagons returning with the empty ones to the base of supplies and those on the empty wagons taking the loaded supplies one stage nearer the army, at the end of which the same thing is repeated. There is thus a series of relays through which the transportation of supplies and ammunition, too, is being constantly carried on.

ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES.

Within easy reach of the army is established a second base of supplies where a great amount of stores is accumulated in order to enable the army to extend its operations further from its principal base. Of course, a railroad makes the thing doubly sure and quick. But there is usually a good deal of wagon hauling to be done even with the railroads, because it is not often possible for an army to confine its operations to the line of rail communication. In any case, from the nearest base of supplies are brought to the division or regimental wagons, which are filled on requisition and receipts are given for the supplies received. A week's supply or even ten days' food should be at hand with the army. From the regimental depots the company gets its food for each day, and it is transferred to the company kitchen. Here are great kettles of coffee steaming over the fire with bacon or other meat cooking in the pans. Thus the food which started as the contents of one of the boxes in the mountain of supplies on the shore, finally comes to the plate of the soldier to give him strength.

Sometimes a flying column takes no commissary train with it, cuts itself off from its base of supplies, and moves swiftly through the country, taking a few days' rations. This cannot be done unless the country is thoroughly known and can be depended on for food. One of the most remarkable incidents of this sort on record is a performance in India by Gen. Lord Roberts. But Lord Roberts is above all things thorough in his organization of his supply column, for he served for many years in the commissary department in India.

THE VOICE OF EXPERIENCE.

Sir George Head, writing of his experience in charge of the commissary in the Peninsular war, says that 3 o'clock every morning found him in the presence of the commanding general where he was told of the movement of the army for the day. He would then go to his own quarters where he found scores of representatives of the different parts of the army waiting for information. Sometimes, he says, he was obliged to ride out in the rain and scour the country for wheat to be made into flour for that night's distribution. The worst try or such a position can scarcely be imagined, for even after a supply of wheat was found, it had to be transported to mill, ground and carried to a convenient place for distribution among the parts of the army, which operations required the services of many men and teams.

WEATHER SIGNS.

Various Ways by Which You May Foretell Whether We Will Have Rain or sunshine.

If swallows fly near the ground, there will be rainy or windy weather. If chicks seek shelter, it will be wet. If chickens and other fowls pick their feathers, the weather will be cloudy and damp. If, during severe frosts, roosters crow very early, the thermometer will rise. When ducks bathe and quack, there will be rain. When they are quiet there will be a thunderstorm. If a cat searches for a warm place, the weather will be colder. If it scratches a door, table, or other object with its claws, there will be windy and snowy weather. If dogs roll in the winter, there will be snow; if in the summer, rain. If mice make their nests above the ground in ricks, the autumn and winter will be rainy. If they make their nests under ricks upon the ground, the spring will be fair. If they make their nests before the snap in August, rainy weather will begin in August.

Fish appear on the surface of water before rain, and go to the bottom before a strong wind. If smoke sinks to the ground when there is no wind, in winter it will snow, and in summer it will rain. If smoke rises even during bad weather, fair weather will follow. If at sunset there are no clouds, the next day will be fair; if the sun sets in clouds, the next day will be cloudy, and perhaps rainy. If the setting sun is red, the next day there will be a strong wind. If the horns of the new moon are long and sharp, then in winter the whole month will be cold, and in summer fair.

STRAW IN THE ORCHARD.

It often happens that the farmer is in doubt as to how to dispose of his surplus straw. He frequently comes to the conclusion that he should spread it in the orchard, under the impression that it will act as a mulch, then decay, and become available to the roots of his trees. This is a three-fold mistake. First, the straw, though theoretically worth about $3 a ton as manure, loses much of its nitrogen when it is compelled to decay as slowly as it does when spread in this way. Second, it becomes a harbor for mice and other vermin, which, particularly if the orchard is a young one, may render great damage by gnawing and perhaps girdling the trees. Third, it keeps the upper layer of soil moist and thus encourages the growth of roots near the surface. This is dangerous to the life of the trees, since should the mulch be removed at any time, or should an unusually dry spell occur, the roots would not exchange their then dry position for a deeper one supplied with water.

The farmer can buy and feed a few extra stock to eat part and trample down the rest of the straw, and thus form good manure with no less of the straw's nitrogen. He should gain instead of lose upon the investment, to say nothing of preventing a possible loss in his orchard.

WANT OF EXPERIENCE.

Smith, throwing down comic (?) paper in disgust—Upon my word these so-called comic papers are too ridiculous to ranything.

Robinson—What's the matter now?

Smith—Why, a silly-headed joke about a fellow pawning his overcoat. If the daily editor had any experience, he'd know that the things go in arithmetical progression, commencing with the waist-coat, and ending with the overcoat. I can't bear such foolishness.

And then they went forth and sought solace at the nearest internal Varnishing Shop.

SHE COULDN'T TELL A LIE.

Of course, I wouldn't lie, even to a conductor, she said, but I just couldn't bear to pay fare for Ethel.

How did you get out of it?

Why, I told him she was five years old yesterday. She was, you know—also the day before, and the day before that, and, in fact, every day for the last two and a half years. I didn't say that she wasn't more than five, but merely that she was five. Or, I couldn't bring myself to tell an untruth.

BORN AGAIN.

Mamma?

Yes, dear.

Mamma, is it twoo 'at God makes mens out o' dust?

That's what the Bible teaches us.

Well, 'en, mamma, it mus' a' bin rain when Uncle Jack was born.

Why, what do you mean, my dear?

Well, when 'lection time wuz here an' Uncle Jack wasn't 'lected Alderman, he said 'at his name wuz

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ROBERTS DEMANDED FREEDOM.

Lord Roberts before he left England refused to abide by any plan of operations which the War Office would like to have thrust upon him. He said that while he conducted the campaign in South Africa it would be necessary for him to be perfectly free from restrictions if they wished for success.

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The Mauser bullet makes a clean perforation of bone and muscle. Soldiers shot through both cheek bones have lost the sense of smell and taste, but are otherwise quite well. Most of the wounds are in the hands and arms.

PROFESSIONAL.

Mr. Thespian, to his wife, who also belongs to the profession. I've got passes for the Lyceum, my dear, and if you'll run upstairs and put on your best hair we'll go in and see the show.