GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1900.

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"Oh, you surely do not mean that!"
Mary Montcaim here interposed. "I am sure I think she has been very modest ever since we have been here, and in my opinion Lord Wallace is the one who throws himself in her way. I think we ought to be fair toward her," the girl concluded, her sense of justice prompting her to say this much in Shirley's defense.

her to say this much in Shirley's defense.

"Well, at all events, there is clearly some mystery connected with her past; don't you think se?" Lurline inquired.

"Either with hers or with Mr. Hartman's." Mary replied. "He seemed to be completely thrown off his balance for a moment when she told him who she was; as if he had been suddenly confronted by some very unpleasant remembrance."

"Really, I never thought of putting such a construction upon the circumstances," cried Lurline, with curling lips. "It struck me that he was simply shocked upon discovering her identity, after all his high praise of her doings on board that vessel, because of some derogatory secret concerning either herself or her family, which he knew. You saw how abruptly he turned away from her, and he has not even looked at her once since, for I have been watching them both all day."

day."

"I had not observed it," answered Miss Mentcalm, who, though inheriting some aristocratic notions, was really a noble-hearted girl, and aimed to hold herself above all petty suspicion and spite. "Nor I," said her sister; "and surely Bhirley does not betray any consciousness of fear of having anything disagreeable revealed in connection with her life."

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"I am sure you are both exceedingly obtuse," retorted Lurline, irritably; "I have scarcely taken my eyes off the girl since the affair happened, and she has appeared troubled and preoccupied—she is not nearly so gay as when we started on our trip. Look at her now! Mr. Herbert St. Clare is msking a fool of himself pouring meaningless flatteries into her ears, and, for once, she does not hear a word that he is saying. I will wager my emerald ring"—and she turned a magnificent one upon her finger—"that she is absorbed in thinking over what has occurred, and planning how she can best turn suspicion from herself."

The Misses Montcelm involuntarily glanced toward the object of their conversation, and it certainly seemed as if Lurline's suspicions might be correct. Shirley was sitting beneath a great pine tree, on a rustic seat, with Mr. St. Clare. The young man was chatting away in the most voluble fashion, and apparently oblivious of everything but the rare beauty of his companion; but while there was a polite smile on the fair girl's lips, and her attitude appeared to indicate that she was attentive to his conversation, her eyes were downcast, her white brows slightly contracted, as if from pain or anxiety, and, to a keen observer, it was evident that she realized but very little of what was being said to hes.

"But she does not seem like a girl who has an unhappy secret, or anything of a

but very little of what was being said to her.

"But she does not seem like a girl who has an unhappy secret, or anything of a dishonorable nature to conceal," remarked Alice Montcalm, who, though she could not feel quite the same toward Shirley as before the revelation of her position, did not wish to judge her uncharitably.

"Oh, you cannot always tell!" snapped Miss Lovering, vindictively: "a girl as clever and poor and proud as Shirley Livingstone is sure to be artful. Of course, she regrets being obliged to earn her living in the way she does, and so will adopt almost any means to better her condition."

FOR RHEUMATISM

"I am afraid that you are a trifle unjust in this respect. Miss Lovering." Miss Montcalm returned, in a tone of gentle reproof; "for, if Miss Livingstone had regretted, or been ashamed of her position as companion to Madame Marton she might have ignored what was said last night, instead of making the fact more conspicuous by so openly and composedly avowing it as she did."

Miss Lovering laughed out derisively at these remarks.

"My dear Miss Montcalm, you amuse me, you are so refreshingly innocent," she said. "Could you not understand that all that was done for effect? Of course both Lord and Lady Wellace knew that she was Madame Marton's maid, or companion, as she more elegantly puts it; and, with their high notions regarding truth and honor, she doubtless argued that she would stand very ill with them if she should be guilty of any deception or subterfuge regarding the matter. She knew well enough that if Lord Wallace was democratic enough to invite her to Ivyhurst as an equal, she would only increase his admiration for her by taking a bold stand and posing as a martyr to my unlucky remark. I own that it was uniucky, for I did not dream that the girl would have the face to make any reply to it."

The Misses Montcalm regarded the malicious girl with unfeigned astonishment for they had both given Shirley credit for having been singularly conscientious and courageous in so openly avowing her position, when by simply keeping silence she might have avoided becoming so unpleasantly conspicuous.

Again Lurline laughed out mockingly as she met their wondering glances.

for having been singularly conscientious and courageous in so openly avowing her position, when by simply keeping silence she might have avoided becoming so unpleasantly conspicuous.

Again Lurline laughed out mockingly as she met their wondering glances.

"I perceive that neither of you has a suspicion of what is so patent to me," she observed.

"And what is that?" imquired Mary.

"That Shirley Livingstone is playing a very bold game—that she is using all her arts to become Lady Wallace, and the mistress of Ivyhurst."

"Why! Miss Lovering! I never thought of such a thing!" exclaimed both sisters in one breath.

"But haven't you noticed how especiatly sweet she tries to be whenever she is with him?"

"I have observed that Lord Wallace appears to admire her very much," said Alice Montcalm, looking greatly shocked over Lurline's suspicion; "but it did not occur to me that he had such serious intentions as you suggest; neither have I thought Miss Livingstone forward in her deportment in the slightest degree."

"Don't you consider it forward for a girl in her position to fiirt with every young man whom she meets, and monopolize their attentions?" jealously snapped Miss Lovering.

"I know that she has received a great deal of attention," thoughtfully remarked Mary Montcalm; "but," she added, frankly, "it cannot be denied that she is really the prettiest girl at lyyhurst, and you know that she has received a great deal of attention." Still, "she concluded gravely, "I hope his lordship will not be so inconsiderate of—of propriety as to marry Miss Livingstone."

"I should suppose that one such experience would be sufficient for him," remarked the elder Miss Montcalm, with more sharpness than she had yet manifested.

Then, flushing hotly, as she suddenly becam aware that the conversation had degenerated into vulgar gossip, she abruptly arose and proposed that they return to the company. But Lurline Lovering secretly resolved that before the day and parted with evident regret when it was time for the party to return to L

charmed by the floating melody.
On their arrival at Lyyhurst they found awaiting them a most appetizing repast, of which every one partook with hungry zest, their long sail and day in the open air having aroused the kcenest appetite. Afterward the mail was disturbed, and all adjourned to the drawing room to peruse their letters.

Madame Marton seated herself at a table about midway of the room, and Shirley took a seat beside her, while near by, under a brilliant standing lamp, were sationed Lurline Lovering and her mother, and the other guests were scattered in similar groups about the apartment.

were scattered in similar groups about the apartment.

Shirley was the only one among the company who had received no letters. The poor child had no friends to write to her, and since Clifton's letters had ceased to come to her she often felt as if she was left entirely out in the cold. She sat beside madame now, feeling strangely sad and depressed as she watched the beaming faces of those around her; but, after awhile, she dropped her head upon her hand while her mind reverted, with almost painful wonder and curiosity, to her adventure of the morning.

[To be Continued.]

[To be Continued.]

way to reach the blood is through

the skin. Nature put these

million of pores in your body so

that poisons could come out and

soothing healing remedies could

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E CENTRAL PROPERTIES CONTROL DE C

Grading Up Strawbetries. Bixteen years ago I adopted the fol-lowing plan: I alway to t my plants in spring, and then keep there watch dur-ing the summer when noeing and cultivating for plants which show qualities superior to their fellows, and set a numbered stake by them. A record is kept in a field book on a scale of one to ten. Careful examination is made at stated periods during the season. Foliage, disposition to make strong fruit buds, and few runners are carefully noted. The next spring when buds begin to show many of the plants are discarded and from the remainder are discarded, and from the remainder one-half the buds are removed to pre-

vent pollen exhaustion.

It should be remembered that these plants are grown in stools or hills, and all runners removed as fast as they appear, to encourage the habit of forming seed buds instead of runners. Since such plant is really many plants consolidated, the fruit stems must be treated as individuals. When the fruit is set it is thinned to three or four berries to the stem. Since strength is developed by exercise, they must be allowed to bear some fruit. I am firmly convinced that if the blossom buds are removed every year, they will lose the habit of forming fruit buds and throw their strength into the formation of runners the same as a pollen ex-

hausted plant. When berries are ripe, their size color, firmness and flavor are carfully noted in the scale-book, and footings made, and the plant showing the most points of excellence is then taken as the "mother" of all the future plant-ings of that variety. It is given high tillage and irrigation, and runners are potted as fast as they appear, and transferred to the special propagating bed, where they are allowed to make runners for next season, when the search for new and better varieties is continued as before. Thus year after year we are throwing out the weak-lings and accumulating the good qualities in the plants upon which we are to bestow our labor and use of land.— Michigan Contributor American Agriculturist.

Economic Value of Birds.

The economic value of birds to man lies in the service they render in preventing the undue increase of insects, in devouring small rodents, in destroying the seed of harmful plants, and in acting as scavengers. Based upon re-liable statistics, leading entomologists estimate that insects cause an annual loss of at least \$200,000,000 to the agricultural interests of the United States every year, exclusive of the damage done to ornamental shrubbery, shade and forest trees. In the air swallows and swifts course ever in pursuit of insects, which constitute their sole food. When they retire the night-hawks and whip-poor-wills take up the chase, catching moths and other nocturnal insects which would escape day-flying birds. The woodpeckers, nuthatches, and creepers attend to the tree trunks and limbs, examining carefully each inch of bark for insects' eggs and larvae, or excavating for the ants and borers they hear at work within. On the ground the hunt is continued by the thrushes, sparrows and other who feed upon the innumerable forms of terrestrial insects.

The Moral Value of a Garden.

In gardens, as in life, one must gain experience at first hand. Books are sometimes as deceptive as the flowers that bloom only on the faces of seed packages. As Huxley's gardener said: They'll say anything in them books. But there is no better place in which to cultivate the moral virtues than a garden, and one may come in time to take pride not only in one's sweet peas, but in the sweet principles gained from contact with the soil. Of course, in a back yard patience is always to be found sitting on the back steps smiling at the garden, and no one would un-dertake to cultivate the soil without first cultivating her. Humility, too, must go hand in hand with the gardener, for often just as he begins to think that full surely his garden is a-ripening there comes a frost, a killing frost, which nips the roots and causes the gardener to bid farewell to

all his greatness. Contentment must fill the heart of the gardener. That eminent horticul-turist, Prof. Bailey, declares that if he were to choose a motto for his garden gate he would take the remark that Socrates made when noting the luxurles in the market: "How much there is in the world that I do not want." If one should be successful only in cultivating johnny-jump-ups, he or she should be satisfied with these and think not of the sweet williams outside of the gate. There is no doubt that in the heart of the persevering gardener all virtues will bloom, and that in the fall he will be able to present his friends with seeds gathered from his own homegrown philosophies.

Value of Roots For Feeding.

According to the tables sent out by Prof. Henry in "Foods and Feeding," the artichoke is the most valuable root for feeding, as while it has but twenty pounds of ary matter in one hundred soothing healing remedies could go in. The only thing that goes in where the roots of Rheumatism are located is Griffiths' Menthol. Liniment. First open the pores by bathing the painful parts with Liniment. First open the pores by bathing the painful parts with warm water and good soap, wipe dry, then rub Griffiths' Liniment at the bottom of the list at \$1 06. Never having grown artichokes we have not known much about their value for feeding. All the others we have used, and our experience would rank them about as in the analysis, unless it were to change places with flat turnips and mangel-wurtzels. But the farmer has another matter to consider, and that is the cost of production. We believe we can grow, or any other man can, with a little trouble four times as many ruta little trouble four times as many rutabagas on an acre as he can potatoes, unless in a section like Aroostook county, Me., which is well adapted to potato growing, and in other like sections, and on any soil we can grow twice the weight of mangels that we could of sugar beets, and more pounds of common beets or flat turnips than of carrots, which we think give the least value per acre, as they show the lowvalue per acre, as they show the low-est value per ton. — Massachusetts Ploughman.

Poultry.

There has been so much talk about the hens that are expected to lay 200 or more eggs in a year, that we desire to suggest that such a hen may not be more profitable than one that produces twelve dozen. She may have the ability to produce an egg nearly every day in the week during the summer, when eggs are selling for a cent-apiece, and persistently be non-produc-

tive in winter, when they are worth three or four cents each. Under these conditions she would prove less pro-fitable than the less praise hen that laid well in the winter. Here is where we have found more profit in Brah-mas and Plymouth Rocks than in the Leghorns. The fanciers who want from \$1 to \$5 a dozen for their eggs for hatching, do not care to have even for hatching, do not care to have even as many as twelve dozen eggs a year from a hen, but want most of them to come from February to June, hatching their own chickens when they can no longer sell eggs, in order that the pullets may not begin to lay in winter, when po one wants to buy pure bred eggs. The period of prolific laying can be very nearly regulated by time of hatching the pullets and by the method of feeding them, so as to bring method of feeding them, so as to bring about early maturity, or to have them mature more slowly, and attain great-er size and vigor when they begin, which is expected to result in a greater proportion of fertile eggs. The pullet that is forced to begin laying at five months old often will be found to lay very small eggs, not only at first, but ever afterward, or at leat until she has taken a rest while moulting.

Poultry and Small Fruit.

Small fruits and poultry make good combination, each being a benefit to the other. The poultry needs both sunshine and shade, and they find both where there are small trees and rows of bush fruits. They need some-times places to hide away from the hawks, and the trees or bushes furnish this, or at least, a much better chance for escape than the open fields. The fields are better for having grass and weeds kept down, and for light but daily applications of fertilizer worked into the soil, and this the poultry attend to, when yarded among the trees. The fruit is better if the insects are kept away, and fowl will be glad to pick up every bug or worm that ventures within their reach. Many people have succeeded in growing peaches and plums where the hens were kept under the tree, which they could not do before. Among the bush fruits, currants and the berries. the hens greatly increase the yield and improve the quality if they are kept there when there is no fruit for them to pick. Let them in when the bearing season is over, and allow them free run there until the bushes bloom again and small chickens will do but little damage even to the ripe fruit, if they are not lacking for green food, which case they may do as much in-jury by picking the leaves as by pick-ing fruit.

### The Great Spring Medicine Cures When All Others Fail.

MAKES FRESH, PURE RED **BLOOD FOR FALE AND** SALLOW PEOPLE.

It matters not whether the trouble be rheumatism, neuralgia, kidney disease, liver complaint, nervous debility, dyspepsia, or diseases arising from foul and impure blood, Paine's Celery Compound is guaranteed to make you well and strong.
Paine's Celery Compound, unlike

other medicines, is a true and rapid banisher of disease; it makes the blood pure, so that life and energy flow quickly to every muscle, nerve and tissue. Nature's medicine prompt-ly restores strength, vigor, appetite and good digestion; it gives sweet sleep and repose to the wearied and restless. The experience of physicians and their kindly words in favor of Paine's Celery Compound should be a sufficient guarantee to you that it is the medicine you require. One bottle experimented with at this season will be sufficient to cause the most skeptical to continue with the medidine until they are cured.

### Masonic Stories.

[From The Toronto Star.] In the new Windsor Magazine is a story of a Canadian Mason meeting, a Boer Mason in a critical moment, and it reminds T. P. O'Connor of similar stories which he tells in the current number of M. A. P.

During the present war the tie of the brotherhood has been recognized both by Boers and Englishmen. A colonel of a Canadian regiment at Modder River, on a Sunday morning stroll, strayed too far from his camp, when he suddenly found himself covered by a rifle of a Eoer. By a fortunate impulse he made the customary sign, and cried out, "Don't shoot—" The Boer immediately threw down his gun and hurried to the colonel, informing him that he belonged to "De Broederband in Pretoria," and was a member of General Cronje's staff. He begged him to return at once to his camp, and made him accept a valuable

camp, and made him accept a valuable coin as a souvenir of his escape.

The "Fiscal Minister" who was accredited from the State of New Granada—now Colombia—to the government of Lord Palmerston, was a worthy and eccentric Spanish gentleman, named Senor Raphael de Ayala.

He came over both to represent his adopted country at the Court of St. James' and to consolidate the Colom-James' and to consolidate the Colombian debt-in fact, it is his hurried familiar to holders of Colombian bonds. In his time he had been a prominent Freemason. "Once a Mason, always a Mason," but, so far as in him lay he had quite severed his connection with the craft some little time before leaving New Granada—as it then was—for London, and for the same reasons which prevailed with a former grand master of England, Lord Ripon. However, in one of the almost monthly civil wars of the New Granadians—nouveaux gredins. De Ayala always called them, for they treated him badly—he fell into the hands of the communications.

A woman's advice may be no great thing but a man is a fool that doesn't take it " is true and the will probably advise you to try Blue Ribbon berflow Teal.



### "Straight Front."

Low bust, long waist, cut away hips - that is fashion's latest corset decree.

The "N.C. TAILOR-KUT" corset with the straight front is a genuine straight front

It gives a graceful curve to the back and hips; it supports,

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Circulation of air is necessary to renew oxygen, to evaporate moisture, and to keep the feet hardy and healthy.

The Resilia Centresole acts as an effective air pump, bringing in a current of fresh atmosphere, at every step.

Goodyear welted-\$5.00 grade.

"The Stater Shoe"

## The SLATER SHOE STORE

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oner and judge were personally unknown to each other, but when the firing party was being ordered to make ready outside the walls of the improvised court house, poor De Ayala saw reason to forget for the moment his abandonment of Masonry and to make the long familion size. the long-familiar sign as a last chance of success. To his de-light, it was returned by the military medico - so implacable a moment be forg. And the good converti lived to hobnob with Palmerston, and to tell the tale to his son, Mr. Fernan de Ayala, of champagne fame, who told

The other little Masonic story which the Windsor article recalls to me is of a distinguished man of letters who was "initiated" a few days ago. Here is the story from his own lips as I heard it this morning: "They asked me to recite something when the social part of the function came on," he said. "I gave them Kipling's 'Mother Lodge,' When I came to a certain line, I made particular gesture to illustrate ita curious movement I'd often seen natives make in the east. As soon as I did so, there was something like consternation round the tables. I was courteously pulled up and asked if I had been made a Mason before that evening. I said 'No' most emphatically, and I suppose I looked so bewildered that they say at once that my sign—or my choice of it—was a fluke. So I went right on to the end of the poem.
But I was told afterwards that I'd given something of a scare by making correctly one of the most advanced signs on the very services. signs on the very evening of my initia-

him badly—he fell into the hands of the enemy's troops.

Their commander was an ambitious medical man, who insisted upon a solemn trial and lengthy interrogatories—Latin republics run to that kind of thing—although it was a foregone conclusion from the start. Pris-

THE LAND OF SUNSHINE

English Tourists Find Pleasure in the Que

of the Sahara.

[London Daily Mail.] Nowhere within such easy reach of England can the Oriental world, with all its dreaminess and vivid color, be seen so England can the Oriental world, with all its dreaminess and vivid color, be seen so free from western influence as in Southern Algeria, which has the desert for its bounds. Then here's to the desert and to El Kantara and Biskra in particular, which lord it over all the other cases and form the keys to the Sahara. For such a week-end as one can spend there it is nothing that it involves over three days of travel. Leaving London on Monday you can get to Marseilles in 24 hours, and another 24 hours will land you at Algiers or Philippeville, while Thursday will see you bathed in sunshine and blue sky, and, if you wish, in hot sulphur spring with a temperature of 112 degrees I ahrenheit. At whichever port you land you at once plunge into the Arab world, or, rather, it dashes at you—a splendid wave of color—consumed with the desire to carry your baggage.

There is plenty to do at Biskra. A month might easily be spent in the market place watching the Arabs as they ply their trade. Caravans are constantly passing in and out of the oasis, and these are full of interest. Outside the town is a negro village. Other oases are near at hand, and can be reached on foot. Those who want to de a real bit of desert travel can go south to Tuggurt, a three days journey (223 kilometers) by diligence, and as they go they will be certain to see that wonderful optical delusion, the mirage.

Pimples, blotches and all other spring troubles are cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla—the most effective of all spring medi-No woman's waist can compare with

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and for all time there is only one way to do it. The quickest