

Miscellaneous.

How to Recite a Poem. BY THE REV. CANON FLEMING, B. D., CHAPLAIN-IN-ORDINARY TO THE QUEEN.

Our girls are frequently taught how to sing a song. We cannot all sing, but we can all recite, if not faultlessly, yet pleasingly, for God has given to most of us a voice and mind, and by the application of these we are enabled to recite to the advantage of ourselves and others.

It is said that new ground soil mixed with the manure for the melon patch will prevent rust and brown patches on the melons and keep the vines green longer than usual. Experienced growers have discovered that melons and vines do rust on new land as they do on old even in seasons of extreme wet.

We frequently see the use of charcoal for fuel advocated. If pulverized finely and mixed with soft food it will do not let our young friends recite a poem. Daily practice alone develops the memory, strengthens the voice, making it liquid and pliable, and gives command of the breath, which is quite an indispensable to a speaker as a singer.

Another of the sons of Guinness, the great stout brewer, has married into the peerage, Capt. Guinness having married a daughter of the late Earl of Howth. They were joined at Howth, where her father has resided 70 years without interruption, and in direct succession. Her brother is the third Baron.

The British Board of Customs is endeavoring to prevent the introduction of the Colorado beetle into England. The beetle has been caused by the rumor that fishermen in the West were gathering potato beetles and securing them in small boxes for transportation to England, where they were to be turned loose to prey upon English crops.

There is a man in California who has a snake in his stomach, and is obliged to drink large quantities of whiskey to keep the reptile quiet, as it causes him great pain when he is lively. When much abate for general excess as this comes smilingly to the front, the temperance people sit down and fold their hands and think it is just so easy to carry the fight any further.

A little girl about five years old, before retiring the other night, was told by her mother that if she did not keep the cover on the bed she would be punished. This annoyed the little one very much, as she found it difficult to manage the cover. It was her custom to repeat a short prayer before going to bed. After the usual prayer she added: 'God bless papa and mamma, and help me to keep the cover on, for Christ's sake. Amen.'

Lady readers who have not treated the magic properties of borax have been losing a great help and comfort. If you use you will never be without a bottle on the toilet table. It removes stains and dirt from the hands better than soap, and at the same time softens and smooths the skin. It is splendid for washing the hair, and without injury, cleanses brushes and combs in a few moments. For washing purposes it saves both soap and labor. It will extract the dirt from articles of delicate texture without rubbing. It is only necessary to put the articles to soak with a solution of borax over night, and need only to be rinsed in the morning. Two table-spoonsful of pulverized borax dissolved in a quart of water, of which enough is added to cover a pair of blankets will cleanse them beautifully. It also saves great labor in washing paint. It is said to drive away ants and roaches, if sprinkled on the shelves of safes and pantries.

A Southern gentleman says that he has found by experience that if a plank, not less than two feet across, is whitewashed on both sides and fastened in the ground, rabbits will not come within twenty yards or more of it.

Never keep an old hen. After the second year hens, as a rule, diminish in laying power. Of course the quantity of eggs a fowl will lay as well as the season for laying can be regulated to a certain extent by care and feeding.

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Burlington Hawkeye: One day this summer we rode fifty miles in a railroad car seated behind four men who were playing with those awful little whistling the devil-cards. They played entire till the end of the ride. They played a little seven-up, pool, and occasionally a trifle of poker. We never heard a dispute. Their bursts of merriment occasionally at some unexpected play repeatedly drew our eyes from our book. They never quarrelled and never called names one another. After we got out at our station, we sat at a window and watched a party of young men and maidens playing croquet. Fifteen minutes we saw two persons cheat successfully. We heard the other player who did not cheat accused of cheating five times. We heard four distinct bitter quarels. We heard a beautiful young girl tell two lies, and a meek looking young man tell three, and finally we saw the young girl throw her wallet against the fence so hard that it frightened a horse, the other young girl pounded her mallet so hard on the ground that it knocked the buds off an apple—they both banged into a young man's face, and the two young men looked sheepish and went off after a drink. Now, why is this?

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Agricultural. Joker's Corner.

Castle or Sheep. An esteemed correspondent desires us to give our views upon the question of cattle or sheep raising, for the farmer, and we may as well state in the outset that so many side questions are involved in the main one, it is not so very easy to give a concise answer.

There is a cockroach that makes his home on our desk, writes the editor of the Milwaukee Star, that has got more sense than a delinquent subscriber. He, if it is his own—we are not clear on that—comes out and sits on the paste dish, and draws in a long breath. If the paste is fresh he eats it and wiggles his polonaise as much as to thank us, and goes away refreshed. If the paste is sour and smells bad, he looks at us with a mournful expression and goes away looking as though it was a mighty mort to play on a cockroach, and runs about as though he was offended.

Sheep also begin to multiply much more regularly, rapidly, and with much less outlay than cattle. The duties of the general farmer are generally many, and with his multiplicity of cares he finds it difficult to devote that time to cattle raising which the business requires to make it profitable.

Another Offer. We will send FREE to anyone, (con- veying on the above offer) who will send us the names of twenty-five subscribers accompanied with the Cash, a copy of

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