

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

DOUBLE DIAGONAL PUZZLE.

Of letters seven, seven words,
Each placed beneath the other,
Diagonals, if downwards read,
Two states of life discover.

1. This names a room to which I go each night :
2. This winds thro' town and thorp from left to right :
3. This in the battle field is seen to shine :
4. This to and from the pasture leads the kine :
5. This word you'll find denotes the Science of Life :
6. This names the wisest man in peace or strife :
7. This is a gem that shines in regal crown.

Now, reader mine, your answer please write down.

J. B. C.

Solution of Double Acrostic, published last week :—

M I O N A O
E L I Z A B E T H
D I A N A
I M M E R
O H I L I
A C H M E T
L O N D O N D E R R Y

TIT-BITS.

HINTS TO HOUSEKEEPERS.—The juice of half a lemon is, to the taste of many, a delightful addition to iced or warm tea. Of course no milk is used with it.

Half-a-teaspoonful of common salt dissolved in a little cold water will instantly relieve "heart-burn," or dyspepsia.

Dainty sandwiches are prepared as follows: Cut some bread in triangular or round pieces very thin; butter evenly and cover with layers of cucumber, chicken and ham, seasoning to taste.

Never serve sardines in the tin boxes in which they are packed. Lay them carefully in a pretty majolica or porcelain sardine dish, to be had in every china store, or serve them in any small flat dish.

It should be known that a small quantity of vinegar will generally destroy immediately an insect that may find its way into the stomach; and a little salad oil will kill an insect that may enter the ear.

Tracing paper may be made by immersing best tissue paper in a bath composed of turpentine and bleached beeswax. A piece of beeswax an inch in diameter dissolved in half a pint of turpentine is said to give good results. The paper should be allowed to dry for two or three days before it is used.

What is the legend of the Edelweiss? "Once there was a maiden," so the legend runs, "so fair, so pure, so heavenly-minded, that no suitor was found worthy to win her; and so, though all men sighed for, at last she was metamorphosed into a white star-like flower, and placed high up on the loftiest mountain tops, close to the snows she resembled, to be for ever a type of the womanhood that is purest and most lovely." And because the owner was only found through peril and toil and upward struggle, it became a saying that to win the love that was highest and noblest was to "pluck the Edelweiss" and no higher honour could any lady merit than to have the little white flower placed, as her own emblem, within her hand.—

"Far up on sturmiest Alpine crest,
Where winds of tempests blow,
They say that, all unfearing rest
A flower upon the snow.

A tiny flower, pale and sweet,
That blooms o'er breath of ice;
And glad are they on any day,
Who find the Edelweiss."

A CURIOUS INDIAN LEGEND.—One of the sights of Delhi is an enormous iron shaft known as the pillar of Rajah Deva, which has connected with it a curious tradition bearing on the present name of the city. The pillar is a solid shaft of metal, sixteen inches in diameter and fifty feet in length, so firmly planted in the earth that not more than one half appears above the surface. It has numerous characters, in Sanskrit, deeply cut into its face, commemorative of the powers of the Rajah Deva, who, it is stated, "obtained with his own arm undivided sovereignty over the earth for a long period." The pillar is supposed to have been in its present position for no less than 1500 years—that being the period given by General Cunningham, one of the most distinguished of modern archaeologists. It is said that a holy Brahmin assured the Rajah that the pillar had been driven so deeply into the earth that it reached the head of Vasuki, the Serpent King, who supports the world, and consequently had become immovable; whereby the dominion was insured in perpetuity in the dynasty of its founder, so long as the pillar stood. The king was incredulous, and ordered the monument to be dug up. Sure enough, the base was found reddened with the blood of the Serpent King, and commands were at once issued that the pillar was to be restored to its original position. As a punishment for the Rajah's want of faith, however, no force that could be brought to bear was sufficient to sink it into the ground as before, and ill-fortune pursued him for ever afterwards. Hence the city derived its name of Dhili, from the fact that the shaft remained loose (dhila) in the ground. It is now firm enough and remarkably well preserved, but the site is eleven miles outside the walls of the present Delhi.—Once a Month.

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