

HOUSEHOLD.

Household Hints.

Old newspapers have many uses in the household. They are excellent for polishing windows, mirrors, and all kinds of glassware. Several thicknesses placed under a carpet keeps it from wearing out and keeps the cold wind from coming up through the cracks and around the baseboards. The majority of housekeepers cover the shelves of pantry and cupboard with them, which gives them a neat appearance, and when they become soiled, they can be changed for fresh ones without scouring the shelves. An illustrated paper may be a source of enjoyment to children, if they are allowed to cut out the pictures and paste them in a scrap book, thus keeping them amused while mamma is busy.

Tooth brushes that have been discarded for toilet purposes may be used in the kitchen for cleaning lamp burners, silverware, and many other things that a cloth fails to clean properly.

Whisk brooms and floor brooms may be cleaned by dipping them up and down in a pail of clean, hot suds, then rinsing in clean water, and hanging them up in the sunshine to dry. They look better, keep their shape and last longer for an occasional washing.

Almost every housewife has centerpieces, doilies and other nice table linen that requires frequent washing. Do not send them to the washerwoman with the other clothes, for if they are treated in this way their beauty soon disappears. Wash with warm, soft water, rubbing gently between the hands, never on the washboard. Use ivory soap, and after they are thoroughly cleansed, rinse in clear water to which a little bluing has been added. Prepare a thin starch and dip the pieces in it. Hang them smoothly upon the line till dry, dampen and iron on the wrong side; this shows the needlework better than if the ironing is done on the right side. If the pieces are fringed, count out the fringe while it is still damp.

A pad or a small tablet, and a lead pencil, hung up in the kitchen or dining room is invaluable to the busy housekeeper, for she often thinks of things needed about the house, and if they are not written down at the time, they are apt to be forgotten when she goes shopping. This saves her a great deal of worry, and quite often an extra trip, if the article is one she cannot get along without.

A table fastened to the side of the wall in the kitchen with hinges, so it can be let down when not in use, is a great convenience especially when there is an extra amount of cooking to do, or during the canning season.

For Feminine Fingers.

A lovely pin-cushion can be made of three bags, each four inches high; one of black velvet, one of old gold, and one of garnet-colored velvet. Paint or embroider a spray of flowers on each one. The tops of the bags are lined with bright-colored silk or satin. The three bags are set together and tied with a bright ribbon about an inch from the top, letting it flare like a sack. Stuff with cotton and add sachet powder; can be hung at windows where the curtains are drawn back, or on the backs of rocking chairs, etc. Would make a suitable birthday gift for a friend.

To make an umbrella stand, take a five-gallon jar; paint white on the inside, or desired, inside and out; paint all of the edges gilt, and put a band of gilt near the top and bottom. If desired, paint or transfer a bunch of showy flowers, or a stork, etc., on the side. A smaller jar, decorated in this way, makes a pretty newspaper holder.

Pretty hairpin receivers can be made of the small wooden kegs in which carpet tacks are sold. Gild the outside. A small circular cushion of silk or velvet can be glued on the top and a fall of narrow lace added if desired.

Keeping the Oven Clean.

When anything boils over in the oven it should be allowed to burn to a char, as it then may be easily scraped off and brushed out. After this the oven should be thoroughly aired. It is a great mistake to bake a delicate dessert or cake or pie in the same oven with a dish of meat which has been flavored with onions or strong spices. The flavor of the meat will invariably affect the more delicate dishes. The shallow closet under the baking oven, commonly called the heating closet, where dishes may be temporarily kept warm after they are cooked, should be kept as clean as the stove oven. It is certainly a very disagreeable and hard job to clean a stove when it has been neglected, but it is a small matter to keep a stove clean if you begin at the beginning.

Some Good Recipes.

Maryland Corn Bread.—The good old-fashioned way of making corn bread seems to have gone out of style; people are in too great a hurry nowadays to wait the proper length of time for "sweetening," so called. In Maryland and Virginia, the home of corn bread, the batter is made over night, so as to assist in the sweetening. Take a pint of white meal, sift well, and add two or three pinches of salt. Take two eggs, beat them for a few minutes until well mixed. Then take a half pint of sweet milk, add a little warm water, pour the milk into the meal, and stir the mixture well until all the lumps are well dissolved, add the eggs and beat the batter for some time. Cover the bowl well and put in a cool place for the night. In the morning stir the batter, pour in a little more milk so as to thin it, take a teaspoonful of melted butter, stir it well in. Grease your pan with butter and bake in a quick oven. Serve hot.

Caramels.—The following is a fine recipe for caramels: Take a tablespoonful of butter, one cupful of sugar, quarter of a cupful of milk, one teaspoon-

ful of vanilla. Mix in a granite copper saucepan, heat slowly until well dissolved. If chocolate is desired for a flavoring, add two teaspoonfuls of cocoa. A little lemon juice added will prevent the sugar from granulating. Boil slowly, trying the mixture every few minutes by dropping into a little cold water. When it thickens and hardens quickly it is done.

White Potato Salad.—Take five boiled potatoes and cut them in thin slices. Mix one tablespoonful of vinegar, one of oil, a pinch of salt, a little pepper, one small onion minced fine, one egg sliced or chopped, and a little mustard.

Fairy Toast.—Take stale sponge cake, cut in slices half an inch thick. Lay on platters on which you wish to serve it. Beat the whites of three eggs to a stiff froth, then continue with the egg beater to beat into it one small glass of genuine jelly, leaving out one tablespoonful to put on top of slices. Any jelly you prefer can be used. Heap the jelly frosting on each slice of cake until it is all used up, and in the centre of each put a lump of jelly or the frosting. Make a soft custard of the three yolks of eggs, one pint of milk made by using one-quarter of a can of Gail Borden Eagle Brand Condensed Milk to a little less than one pint of water, and one tablespoonful of corn starch, flavored with vanilla. When cooked pour the custard around the cake, but do not pour it on the frosting. As you serve each slice take a spoonful of custard with it.

PERSONAL POINTERS.

Items of Interest About Some of the Great Folks of the World.

The Pope has granted the French author, Boyer d'Agen, permission to write his biography, and for this purpose has given him access to the family archives of the Count Pecci, in Carpineto.

Sir William Arrol, the builder of Forth Bridge, is described as a tall, pleasant-faced man, frank, honest and good-humored. He has supported himself since he was nine years old, when he began life in a cotton mill.

Cecil Rhodes always keeps open house in his magnificent South African home, but in the evening he retires to a little cottage in the garden, uninhabited even by a servant, where he studies and sleeps, absolutely alone.

Two Frenchmen named Assassins, finding their name troublesome, had it changed to Berge, which seems innocent enough. Unluckily it turns out to be the name of the assistant executioner, who will probably succeed Mr. Deibler.

A valuable arm chair is in the possession of the Earl of Radnor. It originally cost \$50,000, and was presented by the city of Augsburg to Emperor Rudolph II. of Germany, about the year 1576. It is of steel, and took the artist about thirty years to make.

Miss Mary H. Kingsley, a niece of Canon Kingsley, has penetrated to some portions of the Cameroons Mountain where no white explorer has ever been before. Her only companions are a party of native Africans, furnished from the nearest military station of the German government.

Among the members of the Social Democratic party in Germany is a slim, fair lady, of about 40, who wears a blood-red silk blouse, black dress and dark Tyrollese hat. She is the Duchess Pauline Mathilde Ida, of Wurtemberg, a sister of Duke William, who now stands so near to the throne.

Autograph collecting is Sol Smith Russell's fad. His weakness is a belief in superstitious fancies. He gives an odd turn to the latter, calling thirteen his lucky number, and prefers to begin his annual tour on Friday. The old, dilapidated hat which he wore in "A Poor Relation," he has had for 20 years.

Mr. Labouchere, with all his attempts to play the cynic, is really one of the few men who are perfectly at home in any society, high or low. He has friends with all politics and creeds, and some friends with none; an inexhaustible stock of anecdotes is one of his "properties," as popular as his cigarette case.

Mrs. Eunice Russ Davis, the only surviving member of the Women's Anti-Slavery Board of Boston, and the oldest woman abolitionist in the United States, observed her ninety-fifth birthday anniversary at her home in Denham, Mass., last week. Her father was a white man and her mother a full blooded Narragansett Indian.

Abdur Rahman, the Ameer of Afghanistan, has unusual architectural skill, and is said to design his own palaces. Stone and marble, both of which are to be found in considerable quantities near Cabul, enter largely into their construction, and they contain many things specially manufactured in Europe for the Afghan court, including electric lights, pianos, and the phonograph.

The most interesting schoolboy in San Francisco in all probability is the great grandson of the late King Greig of Fanning and Washington Islands. King Greig was a merry monarch, though his subjects numbered hardly more than a hundred persons. He used to make frequent visits to San Francisco and Honolulu. But on his island home, which was his by right of discovery, he spent his life manufacturing copra. His son, George B. Greig, is the present ruler.

Queen Victoria's aversion to the employment of electricity as a motive power is a further evidence of her curious conservatism in not viewing with immediate favor new adaptations of the forces of nature. Thus the Queen early life was highly apprehensive of travelling by rail, and although now quite at her ease in a long railway journey, she, unlike the Prince Consort, who took immediately to conveyances by steam, preferred for many years to travel by road between Windsor and London.

The Exodus.

Moses may easily have written the Pentateuch and the Israelites of his day have read and understood it. Prof. Sayce told the recent Church Congress at Norwich, for the age of the Exodus was as literary as that of the Renaissance in Europe. Babylonian cities had libraries then, some of them 6,000 years old, and when Abraham was born a Chaldean poet was ending a long period of verse by writing a poem in 12 books.

PURELY CANADIAN NEWS

INTERESTING ITEMS ABOUT OUR OWN COUNTRY.

Gathered from Various Points from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The population of Ottawa is 49,500. Wallaceburg has a Jack-the-Hugger. Lindsay is to have a "Boys' Brigade." There is an ice famine at North Bay. There is a scarcity of water in Delhi. There are 442 coloured citizens in Hamilton.

The Darbyites are holding meetings at Lefroy.

An orchestra has been organized at Hillsburg.

London doctors protest against "lodge doctoring."

The Seneca Indians near Caledonia have the measles.

The population of Berlin is 8,394, an increase of 616.

Kingston's assessable property has decreased \$76,000.

Lambton has decided to erect a county House of Refuge.

A fine school house is being built at Jarret's Corners.

Canadian nail makers have combined and run up prices.

A cat at Jarret's Corners eats two cobs of corn daily.

The Sarnia merchants want the early closing by-law repealed.

The Berlin Public Library is spending \$300 for German books.

Typhoid fever prevails at St. George and diphtheria the other day.

A new iron bridge is being put over the Thames in Stratford.

The Vanessa cheese factory has been burned, at a loss of \$1,000.

A five-foot Canadian lynx was caught at Chetwynd the other day.

A Lindsay dog, 18 years old, is cutting his third set of teeth.

Last month 2,878 cars of live stock passed through St. Thomas.

The old Horton tavern stand at Gainsborough is to be remodeled.

The old Sarnia immigrant sheds are converted into a brick yard.

It is said that 1,250,000 square miles of the Dominion are unexplored.

Mr. Hugh Graham, Montreal, carries \$150,000 insurance on his life.

There is an increase of \$23,000 in Galt's real estate assessment this year.

Five wooden bridges have been erected in Middlesex county last summer.

A 47-pound watermelon was grown in a Leamington garden this season.

Next year Simcoe will have a first-class bicycle track and athletic grounds.

Kingston is bidding for the G. T. R. shops now stationed at Belleville.

Mr. E. Morgan, of Delhi, has paid out over \$14,000 for eggs since January.

Joseph Fallowfield, of Brampton, has fallen heir to \$200,000 in England.

A \$20,000 infirmary is being built in connection with the Hamilton asylum.

A new settlement of Mennonites at Didsbury, Manitoba, is progressing finely.

A bicycle company has been organized in Goderich with a capital of \$100,000.

The water in the Holland River is three feet lower than the ordinary level.

Rev. Mr. Clatworthy, Troy, has accepted a call to the Leamington Baptist church.

Montreal loses \$40,000 by a change of plans in a bridge agreement with the C. P. R.

Rev. J. B. Duncan has resigned the pastorate of the Perry Sound Presbyterian church.

Amherstburg is looking for a chief of police who will serve for less than \$12 a month.

A mail bag stolen eight years ago has just been found in a chimney of the City Hotel at Guelph.

The centennial anniversary of the settlement of Scarborough township will take place next June.

If the G.T.R. shops are removed from Brantford the company must repay the city \$32,500 bonus.

The net debt of Canada increased by \$6,292,000 from the 30th June, 1894, and the 30th June, 1895.

The Gifford Good Templars have decided that 40 chickens are more profitable to a farmer than one cow.

Two peach trees in a Kingsville orchard which always bore blood-red fruit this year produced white peaches.

At Berlin a fine well of water has been struck at a depth of 172 feet, the water being impregnated with sulphur.

At Ottawa two young men had to pay for a lady's dress they damaged by tobacco spit, and had to pay \$6.50 in costs besides.

R. D. Grant, of Glencoe, Ont., has been appointed second assistant on the staff of the collegiate school at Portage la Prairie.

It is said that Jacobs & Sparrow are endeavouring to secure the site of the recently burned opera house in St. Catharines.

The late Mr. Mellanley, of Port Colborne, bequeathed \$20,000 to the Methodist church, \$10,000 to the superannuation and a like amount to the home missions.

Michael Connolly has settled his claim with the city of St. John, N.B., for \$15,731 for improvements to the west side of the deepwater wharf. The original claim was \$44,000.

Hamilton City Council has decided to apply to the Legislature for an extension of one year to enable the H. G. and B. Co. to earn the city's bonus by extending its line to Beamsville.

Bicyclists in Walkerville are restricted by a recent by-law from riding faster than eight miles an hour within the limits of the town. They must sound a bell at corners and crossings at night. The maximum fine for conviction is \$20.

G. Gold, of Karney, has a hen which lays a shellless egg the shape of the figure eight, the yolk being in one end and the white in the other end. James Week of the same place has a giant potato so far as vines are concerned.

The vines spread out would easily fill a wagon box, some of them being six feet long and as thick as a broom handle.

FRESH GOLD FIELDS.

The Latest Information From The New Auriferous Region in South Africa.

Most of the speculation in South African mining stocks, which has become such a wild craze in Europe, is confined to the mines and prospects of the Witwaters Rand, in the south part of the South African Republic. The great gold fields to the north of this republic, however, have been taken into account in the recent estimates of the future productivity of the country. These northern fields are in Matabeleland and Mashonaland, the first of which was practically forbidden ground to all white men until the results of the recent Matabele war opened the vast country to European enterprise. The second region, which adjoins Matabeleland on the east, was first traversed by Montagu Kerr about ten years ago. He told the writer, later, that he did not believe there was anything in Mashonaland to attract white enterprise, which illustrates the fact that the pioneer explorers are now and then deceived as to the real value of a country. A few of the latest facts about the gold discoveries in these northern regions are given in this article.

If the mining claims that have been pegged out in Matabeleland and Mashonaland, up to last September, were placed side by side they would form a belt 1,600 MILES LONG.

This gives some idea of the extent of the gold fields, though nobody yet knows how far they stretch, away to the north. Nearly 60,000 claims have, thus far, been located. Not a great deal of development work has yet been done. Very few shafts have been sunk. The hopes of the miners, therefore, are largely based upon the very encouraging promise of the surface scatchings. There is not a particle of doubt of the great extent of the auriferous ledges or reefs, as they are called in South Africa. Experts who have gone to Matabeleland from this country and Australia say they never saw so much visible gold as is found there. There is no doubt of the marvellous richness of the surface quartz. Will they pinch out, or will they pan out well far beneath the surface? The experts say, concerning this important question, that it is most improbable that the auriferous quartz lies only on the surface. It would be unprecedented if all these reefs were to pinch out, and if a small fraction fulfil their wonderful promise, the prosperity of the country is assured.

So far everything seems encouraging. Development work has been carried on with much energy during the past summer and the results thus far seem to confirm the highest expectations of the miners who went into raptures over the first prospect.

It is a curious fact that in Matabeleland very little original prospecting has yet been done, and very few claims have been pegged out on virgin reefs. Nobody knows who the ancient miners were that covered this country ages ago with their diggings. But there is still plenty of trace of their work. It was very imperfect. They secured only a part of the outcrop gold, and the miners of to-day have simply pitched upon these ancient workings upon which to exercise their industry. In this way the ancient prospectors did a good turn for the modern miner.

The work is further advanced in Mashonaland, because the country has been opened two or three years longer. The

SURFACE INDICATIONS

are about the same in both regions, but in Mashonaland quite a number of mines have been considerably developed, and it is found that the richness of the ore extends far below the surface. As yet, however, the output has been small, and for an excellent reason. It is so enormously difficult to bring anything into the country. Nearly all goods and machinery have thus far been transported nearly a thousand miles by ox wagon. The freight charges on nearly everything taken into Mashonaland are on the average about three times the value of the articles. Only one large quartz crushing mill has yet been taken into the country, and it cost \$50,000 to get it from Cape Town to the mines where it is now at work.

The railroad from Beira, on the Indian Ocean, to Mashonaland is pushing forward. It has now been extended clear across the fly belt, which was so fatal to oxen that freightage, up to this time, has been practically cut off by the much shorter route from the Indian Ocean. Another railroad from Cape Town is pushing on toward Matabeleland, and will ultimately be extended to Fort Salisbury, the capital of Mashonaland. These facilities will work a revolution in the progress of mining and other development, and neither region will have a fair chance to become prosperous and develop its great mining and agricultural resources until the railroads reach them.

There are extensive farming and grazing lands, the climate has been proved to be healthy, and there is no doubt a great future before these large territories, which are just beginning to be turned to the uses of civilized peoples. They are, however, no place for white laborers, for the natives are willing to work and supply all the unskilled labor needed, and as the gold is all extracted by quartz crushing, there is no chance for placer mining.

Future Coal Mine for France.

A singular fact is recorded—namely: that on the shores of Brittany, between St. Malo and St. Lunsaire, in the vicinity of the St. Enogat station, at a place called Port Blanc, the tides have lately displaced a considerable amount of sand, say, to the depth of some nine to thirteen feet. Accompanying this remarkable phenomenon is the fact that forests known to have been buried for periods covering some eighteen or twenty centuries have now been brought to light and a vast forest has, it appears, been discovered in the process of transformation into coal. Ferns and the trunks and barks of trees are to be seen in an advanced state of decomposition, showing, in fact, the films and flakes which are found in coal, and, while some of the trunks are sixteen feet in length and still very distinct, they are becoming rapidly transformed.

SOME LATE CABLE NEWS

GREAT BRITAIN TO SEND AN EXPEDITION TO ASHANTEE.

The *Bridegroom* is Missing—Postponement of a Fashionable Wedding—An Effort to Settle the Shipbuilders' Strike, etc., etc.

A despatch from London says: The wedding of J. A. McLean, an officer of the Royal Irish Lancers, to a daughter of Mr. Seymour Forbes, a Yorkshire landowner, which was fixed for Thursday morning in All Saints' Church, London, was unavoidably postponed through the failure of the groom to appear at the time appointed, and the large and fashionable throng which had gathered to witness the ceremony were obliged to depart in a disappointed frame of mind. The bride, with the bridesmaids and page, waited at the church for the groom until the hour fixed for the wedding had passed, and then departed for her home in great distress. Diligent search failed to discover any trace of the groom, and his valet upon being interrogated professed complete ignorance of his master's whereabouts.

The Government has deputed Mr. Gerald Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, to use his influence with the Belfast and Clyde shipbuilders to induce them to arrange terms with their dissatisfied employees, the Belfast strikers and locked-out Clyde engineers and other workmen.

The Admiralty have decided to increase the strength of the British Mediterranean squadron by the addition to the fleet of six ships.

The *Dramatic Mirror* says that Mr. George Alexander, manager of the St. James' Theatre, with his company will appear in the United States in 1897 under the management of Mr. Frohman.

The Chronicle announces that the War Office has arranged for an expedition to Ashantee. This leaves no further doubt of the accuracy of the report from Accra, on the Gold Coast of Africa, that the King of Ashantee had declined the ultimatum offered him by Great Britain, to the effect that the King should have a British commissioner in his country, and that he should place Ashantee under British protection. The despatch of the expedition indicates that Great Britain has determined to reduce the King of Ashantee to complete subjection.

The strike of engineers and others in the Clyde ship-building yards is spreading, and will embrace all the litters and engineers now working.

J. W. Taylor, a cabin passenger on board the steamer *Catalonia*, which sailed from Liverpool for Boston on Thursday, was arrested upon the arrival of the steamer at Queenstown upon the charge of having embezzled £4,000 from a loan office in Oldham, Lancashire. Taylor was travelling under the name of Jackson.

Hints on Advertising.

Prudence is important in advertising. A man can be enterprising in this, as in everything else, but he should never forget that he has no right to spend what does not belong to him.

A good advertisement should first of all contain truth, next ideas, then knowledge of human nature, and if this is well mixed up with brains, it will prove a specific for the cure of dull business.

Advertising schemes that made millions twenty-five years ago are worth nothing now. The world keeps moving and old plans are getting exhausted and giving place to new ones very rapidly in this progressive age.

Confidence is important in advertising. Those who have little faith in what they attempt rarely succeed, and this is why so many new beginners are unsuccessful at first. If you have no faith by all means employ an agent that has.

Some people imagine that advertising and stock speculating are similar. There never was a greater mistake, for there is no risk in advertising a good article in a legitimate way if you know how to do it. And, if you do not, get somebody to help you, who does.

Men of character are generally successful and they are more apt to have enemies than those who do not succeed. Human nature is envious and the saying that "a man is best known by his enemies," applies especially to advertising agents, of which the most successful ones have the most detractors.

Out-door Life in Paris.

Sitting at one's ease upon the pavement in front of a boulevard cafe, particularly between the hours of 6 and 7, and from 10 or 11 o'clock until long past midnight, is a form of enjoyment which only the true Parisian can appreciate to the full. Sipping absinthe before dinner or drinking light beer after it has an attraction which no Englishman can thoroughly understand. Strangers, however, very readily fall into the habit of passing the time away at a cafe in the open air, but to them it is always a mystery how these large establishments can be remunerative when an average customer will, upon an outlay of half a franc, monopolize a chair and a table for perhaps an hour.

Anxious for Criticism.

Scribbler—I always make it a point to submit my poems to friends, for suggestions and criticism, before publication, and I have brought some pages for you to look over.

Bibbler—Um—yes, of course; but why not take it to Nibbler? Scribbler—Huh! He's a born idiot! The last time I showed him a poem he found fault with it.

Asking Too Much.

Cholly—Maud asked me last night what I thought of her.
May—That's her exactly. Always asking for impossibilities.