

Royalty on Runners.

The unhappy Ludwig of Bavaria, who was drowned some years ago, was the first King of modern times who made a business of reviving the splendid trappings of royalty used in olden times on so extensive a scale. With him everything in the line of furnishings had to be gilt, or of the most precious material obtainable for the purpose. His passion for erecting fantastic castles and villas made him a bankrupt, and these buildings are now used for show purposes only.

Some of the finest specimens of this sort of decoration built by the order of King Ludwig are the various carriages and sleighs designed for the King's use on state occasions. Among them is a sleigh which attracts the attention of all lovers of the picturesque. It is a very gorgeous means of conveyance, rich with precious metals, splendid furs, and all the modern improvements money can command.

Seated behind its high glass windows, enveloped in stately robes, the half-crazy monarch used to ride over the dangerous passes of the Alps before daylight. His horses wore a string of small electric lights on their collars. Electric lights were also fastened to the helmets and caps of the cavalymen that galloped in front of the sleigh.

"The mad King is coming," the poor peasants used to say, for they had learned to expect him on any extremely dark night, if the moon were not shining.—Harper's Young People.

The Secret of Attractiveness.

A certain plain girl whose eyes are almost a deformity, because they have no sockets, and whose complexion is unpleasantly muddy, is in constant demand by her own sex, and the most popular woman of her set with masculinity, while her handsome younger sister has to take up with the left-over in companionship. One who is under the spell of the plain daughter's charm explains the fascination as the simple art of being a perfect listener.

"We all," he says, "old and young, male and female, like to talk, and she has the knack of leading us gently on to express our opinions, with the closest interest in every word."

Every girl will admit that she would rather be popular than be president, and yet how many will clutch at this key to certain attraction? Few will think even that it is worth the cost of the precious privilege known as holding the floor when the tailor-made miss exploits herself and discusses her conquests.—New York Recorder.

His Wife Ruled for Him.

Otto Ehlers, the famous German traveller, tells of an easy going Chinese prince whom he visited in the Laos states while on his way from Siam to Tonquin. The present ruler leaves the cares of affairs chiefly to his wife. He has had his throne placed in the palace kitchen, so that he can receive visitors and watch the preparation of his meals at the same time. The subjects seem to be content with his manner of administration, and admire the democratic spirit manifested in his choice of a throne room. The dynasty, however, promises to become extinct, as the prince's son and heir is a confirmed drunkard and is unmarried.

Popcorn Balls.

Boil molasses as for candy; when cooked, pour over the corn, which must be nicely popped and placed in a pan; stir with a spoon until cool enough to work with the hands. Grease the hands with butter, form the corn into balls, and lay them on well-buttered dishes.

WM. T. FRANKLIN.

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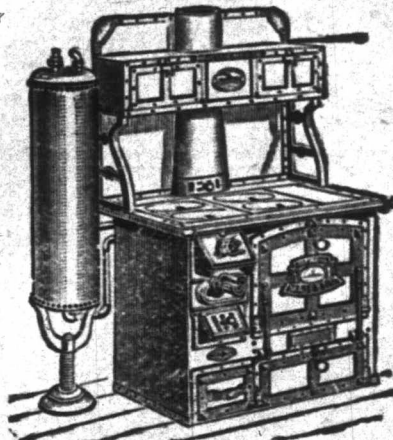
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