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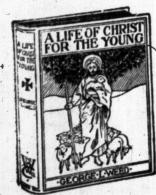
Planet, Farming, Life of Christ for the Young, Ideal Cook Book

The large announcements that have been appearing in these columns for some weeks past have given readers an idea of the generous offer we are making subscribers for the season 1899-1900. We briefly summarize:

-The Twice-a-Week Planet, than which you will grant there is no better and brighter home newspaper in your district, yearly subscription

Farming, weekly of Toronto, an ideal paper for the farm and nome -Life of Christ for the Young, by Geo. L. Weed, particulars of which are given below..... Ideal Cook Book, a work of more than 300 pages, thoroughly

practical, substantially bound in oilcloth Would cost you, taken individually \$4 00 Our combination price of the two books and the two \$2.00



"Life of Christ for the Young," by Geo. L .. Weed, is a particularly attractive book, 400 pages, with 75 full-page half-tone illustrations. It has received the commendation of representatives of the leading Christian churches, irrespective of denomination. The author, both by training and sentiment, is thoroughly qualified to write such a book, and has personally visited the Holy Land, enabling him to speak from experience of the scenes described. It is bound in handsome cloth with embossed front cover. The publisher's price is \$1.00. We specially recommend this book to our readers.

Balance of 1899 of Planet and Farming Free to all New Subscribers

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PLANET. CHATHAM, ON f.

DREYFUS'S HOME.

A GREAT TRAGEDY THAT COST NEARLY 12,000 LIVES.

Have Some Verdure Now-How Name A Cruel Mismanaged Enterprise-How Salvation and Isle du Salut Come to Be

The island on which Dreyfus was imprisoned, within sight of the South American coast and twenty-seven miles from Cayenne, French Guana, is known as Devil's Island (Ile du Diable), while the three islands in the little group are known together as Salvation Islands (Hes du Salut). The contrast between these names is certainly striking, and the way in which they became applied to these little rocks is interesting, and calls to mind one of the greatest tragedies in colonization that ever occurred.

The islands have considerable verdure, but in the early days of French Guana they had a reputation for sterility which they did not deserve, and on this account no use was made of them. They were named lles du Diable, and were thought to be of no value until thousands of wretched immigrants from France who were per-ishing among the pestilential swamps on the Konrou river fled to them in the hope that they might escape death. It was in 1763 that about 13,000 per-

sons from Alsace, Lorraine and Saintonge were landed on the banks of the Kocrou, France was smarting under the humiliation of having beeen compelled to cede Canada to England, and the bright idea occurred to some of her public men to replace the lost territory by dubbing Guiana "Equatorial France" and sending thither fleet after fleet of colonists. A more cruelly mismanaged enterprise was never known. The men who aroused in France enthusiasm for emigration new nothing whatever of the country to which they invited the poor victims. They recalled that in Canada the French had greatly enjoyed the sport of skating, and accordingly a large supply of skates was sent with the colonists to tropical America. It was thought, also, that in their leisure hours they would require amusement, and so a company of actors was sent on one of the ships to build a theatre in Equatorial France. Those who provided these means of diversion however forgot to send sufficient food supplies, and no arrangements were made for landing and housing the settlers. The Chevalier de Turgot, who was appointed leader of the empedi-

tion, took care to remain in France. The unhappy victims of this blunder began to perisl, by thousands; and they thought that if they could only get away from the plague spot where they had landed they might have a chance to live. They were told that the three islands which they saw off shore were the Iles du Diable, and that they were worth nothing for hu7 man uses. "At least," cried the poor unfortunates in their desperation, "they are swept by ocean breezes. These is no poison in the air among those islands. We will call them Hes will save us from utter extinction." This is how it happpened that the three islands came to be known as

group they are known by no other The immigrants gathered up what was left of the supply of provisions and 3,300 men, women and children, all that were left of the 13,000 who had landed on the neighboring coast, crowded upon the narrow, rocky area which could comfortably hold only about 400 persons. They landed on the islands without shelter or clothing, and being exposed to bad weather and having only the scantiest supply of food their suffering was great and most of them died on the rocks which they had hoped would help to save their lives. A few hundred of them at last succeeded in getting back to the French port from

which they had sailed. The Salvation Islands were not occupied again until 1852, when the ransport of convicts to Guiana began, Saint Joseph and the Ile Royal now form the convict station proper. On English maps the three islands are called the Salut Islands, and the name lle du Diable, originally extended over the group, now applies only to the sland on which Dreyfus was a prisoner, and which was occupied only by im and his guards.

A Little Railway Like a Fence. "The greatest novelty in the way of bicycle railway," observed an offi-tial of the naval observatory to a reorter, "runs between Smithfield and fount Holly, N. J., a distance of about hree miles. The fare for the ride is ive cents, but each passenger has to work his own transportation. It is imply a one-track road, about the leight of the second rail in the ordilary country fence. Indeed, it seems is if one was riding on the top of a ence. Tremendous bursts of speed annot be made on it for the reason bat it is quite dangerous to go as fast s you can, for there are breaks in he rail at a half a dozen places, or it least places where there would be reaks if the gates were not closed. Three or four country roads cross the ail at different points. The bicycle used is of special build, and besides aving the wheel which takes the fait, as two smaller ones below which run long on either side of the lower rail f the fence, thus keeping the bicycle n the fence trail. There is but one rack, and when parties meet, one as to get off and take his machine for the rail so as to let the other

RUBBER OYSTERS SAVED HIM.

Buginess Was Rad, So This Genius In-

"Speaking of oysters," said the major, "puts me in mind of the time I went into the patent oyster business. It was when I was with Smith & Coleman, formerly proprietors of the St. Nicholas and Astor houses, New York, respectively, but at the time running. the Metroplitan in Washington. Business was bad and we cudgeled our brains how to build it up without incurring extra expense. Finally they left it to me. I concluded to try a plan that would either make or break

business. "There were some old rubber mats in the store room, and I had the boys wash them thoroughly and then cut them up in pieces about the size of a domino. Taking about two hundred of these pieces. I went to De Mar, the chef of the hotel, and famed for his fried oysters, and asked him if he could cover the chunks of rubber with butter and brown it without getting the rubber so hot it would smell. He tried it and succeeded beautifully, and when I had placed the patent oysters in a chafing dish behind the bar they looked as appetizing as the real bivalveever looked when properly fried.

"My first customer was Smith, one of the proprietors. He saw the oysters and said, Good heavens, major, we can't stand that. Fried oysters will break us. Why, I know fellows who will stand here and eat a dozen.'

"I told him I didn't think they would and as he wanted to try one I passed it out on a plate with the regulation fork. He chewed on it a while and then took it out of his mouth and looked at it. Just what he said doesn't matter, but he went out and But effectively. Women value them. sent Coleman in for an oyster. In an hour or two the run had commenced; every fellow that got an oyster went out to get a victim. General. O'Burns brought in Frank Turk, John Chamberlain introduced Chester A. Arthur to the dish, Sunset Cox, Sam Randall, ers were brought in only to say, suit of a very peculiar profession, says Allen G. Thurman and a host of oth-'Don't give me away, I want so and so to have an oyster,' and they'd go and get them.

"Teddy Quinn came to me, and says he 'Major, I want a dozen of your oysters put up in a box for my friend Flannigan of Troy, N. Y., to take with him for lunch on his journey home to morrow. Flannigan had his wife with him, and they did not open the oysters urtil they got to Wilmington, and there Flannigan went out to get some coffee for her while his wife opened

the lunch. "She, good kind soul, asked several ladies sitting near to help her eat the oysters, and in truth she needed help to eat them. When Flannigan came back with the coffee there was a coach load of about as angry women as can be imagined. Flanigan tried an oyster to see what the trouble was, and when he got home he wrote me a letter. But the patent oysters boomed the business, and I was known for many a day as the cubber oyster man. -Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

GOOD SHORT STORIES.

General Butler was one of a com mission to examine young applicants for admission to the bar, and before Salvation Islands and the name has him came a youth who failed miserclung to them ever since. As a ably on all that pertained to jurisprudence, case law, sumptuary law; unwritten law and due process of law. Finally Butler asked: "Wht would you like to be examined in? You have failed in everything we have suggested." The reply came: "Try me on the statutes: I'm up on them." Butler shook his bead solemnly. "My young friend," he said. "I'm afraid you won't do. You may be ever so familiar with the statutes, but what is to prevent a fool legislature from repealing all you know?"

> An amusing anecdote is told of the pride the empress of Austria took in her magnificent chestnut tresses, which fell down to her ankles: She used to have her hair brushed for hours every day. Her majesty was particularly anxious that the dresser who brushed her long braids should avoid pulling out a single hair. This, of course, was an impossibility, and the unfortunate maid concealed carefully in the pocket of her apron any hair which became entagled in the brush. One day the empress, happening to glance into the looking-glass before which she sat. caught sight of the maid concealing a small roll of hair in the above-described fashion. Jumping up from her rocking chair her majesty grasped her attendant's hand, exclaiming: "I have caught you at last!

are ruining my hair!" With a presence of mind which would have done honor to an expert liplomat the maid replied, unhesitat-

"I implore your majesty to forgive me; it never happened before. I only wished to have some of my soverign's hair to put in the locket which my little girl wears around her neck as a alisman."

Whether the empress believed this elever invention or not I do not know, but shrugging her shapely shoulders she resumed her seat, laughing heartily, and the next day she presented her maid with a locket enriched with diamonds, saying, with a mischievous twinkle in her eyes: "I think this is the kind of talisman

your little daughter deserves for having such a clever mother." His Recklessness Explained.

"Young Hammerhead seems to be on his knees to every woman he meets.

"Yes, he has his trousers creased by

American Beauties.

world over. Unfettered and queens it as meled the American woman queens it as does no other



cloud the complexion.

cloud the complexion.

Mrs. Mary E. Lewis, of Tanner, Gilmer Co.,
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Discovery, 'Favorite Prescription' and 'Pleasant Pellets,' cured me when doctors and other
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and everything I ate would almost cramp me to
death. Was very nervous and could hardly walk
across the room. I only weighed ninety pounds
when I commenced talking these medicines six
years ago. I now weigh one hundred and forty
years ago. I now having better health than ever

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets act gently

A NEW INDUSTRY.

It is the Pusiness of Making Haunted lice, sos Habitable.

In the canny north of England is a man who gets his living by the purciser," or "curer of haunted houses." He makes it his business to call on house and estate agents in various parts of the country and inquire as to the houses of ghostly reputation they have upon their catalogues. Then for an arranged fee, ranging from £ to £5 according to the circumstances of the case, he undertakes to rid the premises of their visionary visitant, which function he invariably fulfills to the salient satisfaction of all concerned.

His methods are a mystery to all but himself, for he is engaged ejecting the phantoms from their favorite promenades. One of this gentleman's envious detractors avers that he has dealings with the powers of evil. All that is known of him in the locality where he resides is that his religious convictions are decidedly unorthodex and that he is an enthusiastic patron of spiritualistic seances. Indeed, he will readily travel a score of miles to be present at one of these perform-

Fully aware of the stigma attaching to a haunted house, and its consequent depreciation in value, agents having such tenements upon their books are only too glad to secure the services of this extraordinary exorcist. Nearly every district in Great Britain has its haunted houses, so that business is usually brisk with this uncanny indi-

He has, however, been heard to remark that when all the historical ghosts in the kingdom are laid it will be comparatively easy to raise more by judicious converse with country folk, most of whom are incurably superstitious. He asserts that he has no fear of anything supernatural and he will often spend successive nights alone in houses which most folk carefully avoid. At present this exorciser is earning at least £200 a year by his weird art. He says that he will confide his secret to his son, who will suc ceed him in his unique calling.

Bald-Headed Soldiers, "When the Tenth Regiment comes home from the Philippines the people of Western Pennsylvania must be prepared to welcome an aggregation of

bald-headed heroes." These were the words of Corporal John J. McKnight, who arrived in Pittsburg the other morning after a fifty-four day trip from Manila, where he secured a discharge from Col. Hawkins's regiment while on the firing line. The soldier is going to his home at Greensburg, and while taking off his hat to some old friends who greeted him at the Rush house made the above remark about the bald-headed heroes. His own hair was disappearng and he hastened to assure his vistors that he was not alone in his af-

"Yes," he said, replacing his headgear, "the heat in the country occapied by our troops between Manila and Malolos is intense enough to literally singe your hair. Of course, we keep our hats on. Death by sunstroke was the fate of those who went bareheaded, and we suffered continually during the day. Much complaint was made against our heavy campaign hats, but we received no re-issue and made the best of it. I am not exaggerating the conditions when I say that more than 50 per cent. of the American soldiers in the Philippines are destined to become baid. When the boys come back you will thing that they had been recruited from the front rows of the theatre."-Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

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