

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

The Master Key.

Every breast a corner holds, Pure as the nasal day; Though by sin a sorrowful folds Hidden from the world away.

Through the callous crust of years, Reaching to the tender part, Home's sweet name will start the tears, And unlock the secret heart.

-Ladies' Home Journal.

Appearance of a Woman's Feet.

On the principle that "All that ends well," the appearance of a woman's feet is of supreme importance. Treat your shoes tenderly. Have one pair saved to rainy weather. For rubbers ruin fine leather. Avoid varnish and blacking of all kinds, and substitute vaseline. First, rub your shoes with a piece of old, black silk, then apply the vaseline with a soft, black kid glove.

desirable for travelling dresses. Roseberry woollens are in neutral colors, with Persian designs forming diagonal stripes, so that, though made straight, they give the fashionable bias effect. Some of the India woollens have borders in lovely oriental effects, in high and low relief, shaded silk and out velvet in arabesque or embossed work in Moorish or Greek devices.

A lovely costume is in resida hunting and hellebore fashions, a color combination on much affected this season; the hunting has a narrow ribbon border showing stripes in Persian colors, in which the green and purple predominate; there are each side of the falls falling on each side of the back drapery quite to the foot, edged all round with a narrow gaseorette, as are also the arm-holes and collar; vests of folds of the hunting showing the bordering between, and gird sleeves, of the hunting to the elbow, from there to the wrist of the falls, trimmed with several rows of bordering.

Three Stylish Spring Bonnets.

P.1. blue and black is the favorite combination in hats and bonnets of the latest importation; here are three of them:— A wide-brimmed hat of shirred lace, turned up at the back with an exquisite bow of pale blue gros-grain ribbon, in the centre of which is a tiny bow of black velvet ribbon; drooping from this, all over the crown, are bunches of pale blue sweet peas, with black velvet bow on the brim to front.

A Marie Stuart capote is of black braid, with fine wreath of pale forget-me-nots under the edge all round; a part-looking bow, of pale blue gros-grain ribbon, stands on one side of the pointed front; there is a smaller bow or knot of ribbon at the back, from which depend the long ties of blue ribbon.

A hat with projecting brim, narrow at the back, is of black open-work braid; the brim is faced with shirred pale blue crepe; the crown is of black point d'esprit over a puff of pale blue; at the back is artistically arranged a bunch of beautiful, nodding, pale blue tufts, from which depends a scarf, of the point d'esprit, a yard and a half long, to be wound about the neck and fastened on the left shoulder.

Buying a Wedding Trousseau. In buying a trousseau I advise every young woman to commence with underwear, gloves, shoes, history and such articles as do not change much in a year, while the hats and gowns should be the last selected, as then one is more apt to have the latest styles.

Choosing a Sweetheart. Choose your sweetheart carefully, wisely and tenderly, my dear girls, says a writer in The Ladies' Home Journal. Remember he is to be more than even this to you some day—he is to be your husband, for surely you are not one of the girls who have a sweet heart here and one there, and give a little love to this one and a little to that one until when the real one appears the perfect bloom is gone from the peach and she cannot give him what he offers her.

DOMAIN OF SCIENCE.

CAUSES OF THE MISSISSIPPI FLOODS.

The writer sums up here the points which he has endeavored to make clear: that the greatest tributaries to the Mississippi are not due to the melting of winter snows; that since the upper Mississippi valley freshets occur as late as April and the floods of the Missouri occur in June and July, and further, as both of these rivers are at a low stage during February and March, they cannot and do not materially contribute to the floods of the lower Mississippi, which occur in late March and early April; that if all the water in the upper Mississippi and lower Missouri rivers was impounded, leaving St. Louis a city on a dry creek, the floods of the lower Mississippi river would none the less continue; that the floods in the central Mississippi valley, between Cairo and Red River landing, could not be materially ameliorated by increasing the number of outlets into the Gulf below Red River landing, since, as the outflow measurements show, the Mississippi river is unable to carry bank-full flood water which pours by Victoria into the valley below the mouth of the Red River, in a measure, distinctive floods, and that their treatment must be individual, as they are somewhat independent of the central Mississippi valley, where the flood periods are much prolonged beyond their prevalence in the delta region. In fact, any method which increases the flow of the river or the rapid discharge of water from the Mississippi valley above Victoria must insure to the disadvantage of the delta country. On the other hand the augmenting of the flow of water in the delta country can only incidentally and slightly ameliorate the flood conditions of the central Mississippi region.—Gen. A. W. Greely in North American Review for May.

THE EARTH IN DANGER.

Prof. Joseph F. Jones answers, in a recent issue of the Popular Science Monthly, the question, "Is it safe to drill the earth too much?" The professor assumes the earth to be a hollow sphere filled with a gaseous substance, called by us natural gas, and he thinks that tapping these reservoirs will cause disastrous explosions, resulting from the lighted gas coming in contact with that which is escaping. He compares the earth to a balloon inflated and kept distended by the gas in its interior, which, if exhausted, will cause the crust to collapse, affect the motion of the earth in its orbit, cause it to lose its place among the heavenly bodies, and fall in pieces.

Another writer thinks that drilling should be prohibited by stringent laws. He too thinks there is a possibility of an explosion, though from another cause. Should such a disaster occur, "the country along the gas belt from Toledo through Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky will be ripped up to the depth of 1,200 feet or 1,500 feet, and flipped over like a pancake, leaving a chasm through which the waters of Lake Erie will come down, filling the Ohio and Mississippi valleys, and blotting them out forever."

Still another theorist has investigated the gas wells with telephones and delicate thermometers, and he announces startling discoveries. He distinguishes sounds like the boiling of rocks, and estimated that a mile and a half or so beneath the Ohio and Indiana gas field the temperature of the earth is 3,500°.

The scientist says an immense cavity exists, and that here the gas is stored, that a mile below the bottom of the cavity is a mass of rearing, seething flames, which is gradually eating into the rock floor of the cavern and thinning it. Eventually the flames will reach the gas, and a terrific explosion will ensue.

NOTES. Notwithstanding the many and vigorous protests made by American electricians, who emphatically object to such an ignominious use of their past labor, it seems certain that the New York electric traction law will be put into effect next week. No one is more fully aware

of the certain and instantaneous life-destroying power of electricity than the makers and handlers of electrical apparatus; but they deplore the progress of this enactment which is liable to cause exaggerated and needless alarm. The electrician who instructed and assisted the law makers has been thoroughly scored by the electrical press, and by the fraternity at large he is looked upon as a Tipperary man looks upon an "informer." It is said that the Auburn prison officials have decided to admit representatives of the press associations as witnesses, and it will be interesting to observe how the "gold niggers" will evade or defy the law which provides that no details of the execution shall be published.

The Electrical World of the 5th Inst says that the first German Catholic church to be lighted electrically is the Strasbourg Cathedral. Arc lights have been used outside with grand effect and inside with incandescent lamps. It was feared that the electric light would spoil the dim religious aspect, but the interior, as a whole, is said to be highly satisfactory.

FARM AND GARDEN.

THE BEST BREED OF CATTLE.

This is a question often asked, and as often answered in one way or other by the partisans of different breeds. The experiment stations have sought to decide the question by feeding experiment, and what they have not reached positive conclusions they have at least drawn some inferences that will be of value. Prof. Johnson of the Michigan Agricultural college gives the following as his conclusions after testing most of the principal breeds:

- 1. The experiments seem to indicate that there is but little difference in the cost per pound of raising steers of the different breeds under the same conditions. The superiority of the beef lies in the early maturing qualities which enables the feeder to turn out a well ripened, at two instead of three years.
2. That calves brought up on the stall, when properly fed, will make as much growth and be equally as valuable for feeding as if they were allowed to suck their dams.
3. That there is likely to be a wide margin of difference between the judgments of the feeder, the butcher, and the consumer, when they pass upon the bullock in the live classes, in the carcass competitions as well as in the testing of the edible qualities of the meat.
4. That the prejudice resulting from a lack of information may be, too often, the basis of our estimates of the comparative value of the breeds.
5. The early maturing breeds may be kept until ripe, thus lessening the value of the carcass for the consumer.
6. The lesson is very emphatically taught that all average native steers, weighing from 1,100 to 1,300 lbs. at three years, or often much less, cannot be raised on a well kept stall, well bred steers, weighing from 500 to 800 lbs. more at the same age, may. The value of good blood for beef production cannot, then, be overestimated. It only can with good care and skillful feeding, in these and with the present markets, bridge the margin between loss and profit for the grower and feeder.
7. That the quality of beef produced by a combined grain ration, in which wheat, bran, oats and some oil meal form the principal part, is preferable to that produced by a corn ration exclusively. I believe these animals would have had a much less percentage of meat valuable to butcher and consumer if corn had entered largely into their grain ration.

Lesson the Water Drops Taught. A little Spanish boy, wearied with the drudgery of learning, ran away from school. As the sun grew hot, he sat down to rest beside a spring that gushed from a rock. While reclining in the shade, he noticed that the constant dripping of the water had scooped a hole in a hard stone beneath. "If the light drops can, by continual falling, accomplish so hard a task," he thought, "surely by constant effort I can overcome my unwillingness to learn." He returned to school, persevered in his studies, and became famous in after years as a great saint and doctor of the Spanish Church.—St. Isidore, of Seville.

The Wardrobe of Queen Bees. An inventory taken in the year 1600 of the wardrobe of Queen Elizabeth enables us to estimate the sumptuous attire with which the virgin queen at once delighted and astonished her subjects. She had at the date named 99 robes, 126 kirtles, 269 gowns (round loose and French), 136 forpates, 125 petticoats, 27 fans, 86 cloaks, 53 saveguards, 85 doublets and 18 lap mantles.

GOOD MILK. There are many differences of opinion regarding what constitutes good milk. Authorities differ as to the lactometer, etc., as a guide, as the chemist can prepare counterfeit milk, resembling the original in appearance only, above the average, but chemical analysis will detect at once, hence is the only infallible criterion of a pure article. The results of two hundred samples analyzed give the following average component parts of good milk:

Table with 2 columns: Component and Amount. Includes Water (840 parts), Milk sugar (45), Oil (butter) (40), Casein (cond.) (40), Phosphate of lime (17), Chloride potassium (9), Phosphate magnesium (4), Soda (free) (3), Chloride sodium (salt) (2). In every 1,000 parts.

NOTES. We cannot too often repeat to inquirers after the best cow feed, says the Jersey

Bulletin, that no one food known will either bring or keep a cow up to her best work in butter-making. Short fine, nut-tions grass is as good or better than any other one thing, but the best of grass needs to be reinforced by more or less of grain. So the very best conceivable ration of grain needs to be reinforced by grass or some other succulent food, such as good corn silage.

Food values and analyses are well enough, but the farmer who keeps a sharp eye on his book, and notes the appetite of each animal, will give them more than all the "profession" in the country. We do not mean to infer that the tables of feeding values are useless, or that the efforts of scientists are futile, but animals differ in characteristics, and the only way to know is by practical observation.

Dr. Hoskins well says: "How completely has the idea of the inexhaustible nature of the soils of the level West been exploded! Within half a lifetime these soils have reached the point where they are utterly unprofitable, without intelligent culture and fertilization. As regards permanent fertility, the farm lands of New England are much superior to most western prairie land. Easy tillage is to offset superiority, while for endurance and easy renewal, the valley land of a hill country area, and always will be superior. The wash of the hills and the overflow of the streams are a perpetual renewal which the prairie can never enjoy. 'We will lift up our eyes to the hills, whence cometh our help.'"

The skin of the potato is a layer of cork cells, and when injured it heals by the formation of a new layer of cork. When the tuber grows in water, or in a wet soil, the cork layer thickens at various points, producing many little warts on the surface and rendering the cuticle less resistant to decay. If the excess of water continues for a considerable time, the cork cells in the stem and the flanges of the tuber become discolored. But if the decay is arrested the cork layer forms between the decayed and healthy parts and the potato is "scabby." The trouble is, therefore, the result of excessive moisture from a wet soil or wet weather.

Spasmodic salting is all wrong for any animal and especially for horses. It may cause colic and often does. The horse eats too much salt at a time, is only salted now and then, and when this is the case, the cells of the stomach are irritated and congestion takes place, and excessive thirst. The horse then drinks too much and a chill follows, and this makes more congestion, and inflammation may follow, and colic and a set back, if not death. What is the use of such doings? It is just as easy and easier to be more cautious and to keep salt before the horse all the time and then it will partake as directed by all its instincts, and only a lick will be eaten. Prepare the horse for the constant supply by giving it a little every day for a week, and then no harm will come.—Farm Journal.

Teach Boys Sense.

Let us stop teaching boys that their careers will be failures unless they become rich or famous, and that life consists of miracles. There are higher positions in your grade than the Presidency of the United States. The best part of history is not written at all. Your father, on whose memory you love to dwell, was not known beyond the farm; just nobody; that was all. Fidelity is the only true nobility; for it is the only one that can be universally applied. Perhaps it is not as a nation that we are in our studies and newspapers that instill our young people with these erroneous ideas. But, however they get them, far too many have them. They jump at the "big prizes" and fall, where a lesser aim might be reached. But, after all, it may be in this way that the unduly ambitious can learn the lesson of life.

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An inventory taken in the year 1600 of the wardrobe of Queen Elizabeth enables us to estimate the sumptuous attire with which the virgin queen at once delighted and astonished her subjects. She had at the date named 99 robes, 126 kirtles, 269 gowns (round loose and French), 136 forpates, 125 petticoats, 27 fans, 86 cloaks, 53 saveguards, 85 doublets and 18 lap mantles.

Her gowns were of the richest and costliest materials—purple, gold tissue, crimson, satin, cloth of gold, cloth of silver, white velvet, cloth and satins of dove color, drake color, horse-hair color, and a very popular color known in those old times as "lady blue."

Some of the queen's dresses are worthy of special note, says the London Lady. A frock of silver cloth, checkered with red silk like bird's eyes, with demi-sleeves, a cut of crimson velvet twisted on with silver and lined with crimson velvet. A French kirtle of white satin, cut all over, embroidered with loops, flowers and clouds of Venice gold, silver and silk. The fore part of one dress was white satin, embroidered every line, with border of the sun, moon and other signs and planets of Venice gold, silver and silk of sundry colors with a border of beasts beneath likewise embroidered.

Other gowns were adorned with bees, flies, spiders, worms, trunks of trees, panias, oak leaves and mulberries, while some were resplendent with rainbows, suns, clouds, fountains and flames of fire. Her kirtles were of fantastic devices, some being in the shape of flowers and butterflies, and those on one gorgeous dress were in the similitude of birds of paradise. Altogether, the Virgin Queen when arrayed in all her glory, must have resembled a preliminary edition of "The History of Animated Nature."

A LUCKY MAN.

Wm. Klein, of 931 Euterprize alley, Capitol Hill, was the holder of one-twentieth of ticket No. 64,385, which drew the first capital prize of \$300,000 in the drawing of the Louisiana State Lottery Company, on the 11th of this month. Learning that his ticket drew a prize, he gave it to the First Nat. Bank, for collection, and in a week's time the check for the amount duly arrived. McKeenport (Pa.) News, February 28.

THE GLORY OF MAN STRENGTH VITALITY! How Lost! How Regained, THE SCIENCE OF LIFE

KNOW THYSELF THE SCIENCE OF LIFE A Scientific and Standard Popular Medical Treatise on the Errors of Youth, Premature Decline, Nervous and Physical Debility, Impurities of the Blood.

EXHAUSTED VITALITY UNTOLD MISERIES Resulting from Polity, Vice, Ignorance, Excesses or Overexertion, Enervating and unting the victim for Work, Business, the Married or Social Relation. Avoid unskillful pretensions. Possess this great work. It contains 300 pages, royal 8vo. Beautiful binding, embossed, full gilt. Price only \$1.00 by mail, postpaid, concealed in plain wrapper. Illustrated Prospectus apply now. The distinguished author, Wm. H. Parker, M. D., received the GOLD AND JEWELLED MEDAL from the National Medical Association for this PRIZE ESSAY on NERVOUS AND PHYSICAL DEBILITY. Dr. Parker and a corps of Assistant Physicians may be consulted, confidentially, by mail or in person, at the office of THE PEARSON MEDICAL INSTITUTE, No. 4 Bulfinch St., Boston, Mass., to whom all orders for books or letters for advice should be directed as above.

EVERYBODY Should keep a box of McGALE'S PILLS in the house. They are carefully prepared from the Bestnarr, and contain nothing injurious. As an Anti-Bilious Pill, they cannot be equaled. FOR SALE EVERYWHERE.—25 cents per box.

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DRUNKARDS may not be aware that intemperance in drink is just as readily cured as any other disease which medicine can reach. We say cured, and we mean just what we say, and if you happen to be a victim of this habit and wish to rid yourself of the desire or taste for liquor, you can do so if you will take

Pfief's Antidote for Alcoholism. Ordinarily one bottle is sufficient to effect a complete cure in from three to five days, and a comparatively trifling cost of \$1 per bottle. No one thus afflicted should hesitate to try it. We guarantee the result. For sale by all druggists.

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TO PARENTS. Never neglect the health of your Children during the Summer season. If they suffer from Colic, Diarrhoea, or Teething Pains, use Dr. GODDARD'S INFANT'S SYRUP, and you will give them immediate relief.

Irish Marriages and Deaths. MARRIED. ALLEN-WALLACE—April 7, at St. Mary's Church Athlone, Thomas Allen, Bank of Ireland, Maryboro' son of Richard P. Allen, Pall Mall, London, to Ellen Mary, youngest daughter of the late William Wallace, solicitor, Athlone.

DIED. BRENNAN—March 31, at his residence, Clonmore, County Wick, after a short illness, James Brennan, aged 69 years, at his residence, Curragh House, Kilmurry, county Cork.

DIED. BARRY—April 8, Richard Barry, at his residence, Curragh House, Kilmurry, county Cork.

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