

Miscellaneous.

Interesting to Smokers. FIVE MILES ABOVE THE EARTH ON A TRAPEZE. The aeronaut Higgins went up the other day from Crofton, near London, on a trapeze attached to his balloon, meaning to come down by a parachute; but an accident happened to the parachute in a strong current of air and he had to cut it loose. This caused the balloon to shoot up 6,000 feet higher, and on reaching that altitude he met another current which brought him back, and he saw nothing until he passed through some sheet ice snow. He could hear the sound of trills, however. All of a sudden he found himself in darkness, caused, he presumed, by snow and thick atmosphere. He was in this snowstorm, as near as could be judged, for at least ten minutes, and when he had passed through it the sun was shining beautifully. Below him he could see what appeared to be snowy mountains rising up and down for miles and miles. He could see a distance of some forty miles, and was able to discern the sun glinting on the sea at Brighton. He found the air getting very sharp and keen, and long icicles were hanging from his moustache, and he had no snow rubbed from his eyes. He was in this snowstorm for some minutes he was quite dead. He now seemed to be descending on the mountains of snow, and he thought he was getting near Hastings or Brighton. He could smell the sea. Thinking he was coming down, he pulled the balloon partly over on one side to allow some of the gas to escape at the mouth. The balloon then turned round three times, and he remarked to himself, "I am descending." He did nothing more to the balloon, merely sitting on his trap and watching for terra firma, which he did not see for some considerable time. At length he saw some ploughed fields. When he was about 2,000 feet from the earth he prepared to descend by hanging by one arm to his little trapeze rope as if he were using his parachute, and got safely to earth—thirty miles from where he started. He thinks he got about five miles above the earth.

ACTIVE POISONING. Even the process of boiling could not extract from the meat the nicotine poison. Crises on any meat that may be exposed to absorption in proportion to their fineness and facility. Thus the fat most readily influenced by tobacco smoke are, in their respective order, the fat of horsehead, of pork, of veal, of beef, and finally of mutton. Hatched meat is more readily affected than large pieces; thus, a few puffs of smoke directly projected on to sausage meat will give it a characteristic and unpleasant taste. The juices of meat are equally dangerous. The juices sucked out of some very peculiarly saturated with tobacco smoke was injected into a rabbit, and

DEATH RESISTED. In a few moments. Fresh-killed meat is more readily impregnated, and stands in order of susceptibility as follows—pork, veal, rabbit, poultry, beef, mutton, horse. The effect also varies considerably according to the quality of tobacco, and the end of a cigar or pipe has the most injurious effect on any meat that may be exposed close to the smoker. A few jets of smoke from Belgian tobacco on a dish of raspberries will suffice to entirely destroy the delicate flavor of the fruit and to render it unpalatable. In such cases it is best to denote that care should be taken not to allow smoking where foods, especially moist foods, such as meats, fats, and certain fruits, are exposed.—Lancet.

A Paralyzed Comedian. Gus Williams, the comedian, says the Chicago Herald, was tendered a benefit in Boston in 1872. He was a great favorite in that city. The benefit was to occur on Friday evening, and along about Wednesday, John Stetson, the world painter, who was manager of the theatre where Gus was playing, approached the comedian on the quiet and said:

"Gus, my boy, your friends are to present you with a watch at your benefit next Friday evening. I understand you are to be broken up when they came upon the stage with it, so I thought I would tell you confidentially, what was in the wind. Now you can write up a neat little speech for the occasion and prepare yourself for the ideal." Gus thanked Stetson heartily. He was pleased with the idea of getting a watch. He carried a cheap one, which kept good time, and this he gave away to the property man at once, in order that the presentation committee might see that he had no time-piece.

When he went to the room at the hotel that night he wrote out a pretty, impromptu speech, in which he said that when he gazed at the face of the beautiful watch he would see the faces of his Boston friends; when he saw the hands he would be reminded of the Boston hand of good fellowship; the spring when he looked at it would suggest the well of friendship; the chain would bind him to Boston, etc. It was a neat response and he studied it carefully.

He knew that when he sprung it they would think him a wonderful extemporaneous speaker, and he shook hands with himself. Well, the evening Friday night came at last. The vast house was packed with his enthusiastic friends. At the proper time the presentation committee filed out on to the stage and faced him. He bowed himself for the ordeal. The chairman stepped forward and presented him with a watch. They might well have hit him over the head with it, as he was unable to speak a word.

Where Chocolate Comes From. Chocolate is made from the seeds of the cocoa tree, which is found only in tropical climates, and bears a fruit some what like a cucumber in shape, inside which are the brownish seeds or beans, which form the cocoa beans of commerce. The principal constituents of these beans is a soft, solid oil called cocoa butter, and frequently adulterated with roasted hazel nuts or almonds, rice meal and other ingredients. The best chocolate is prepared by first burying the fruit until the pulp is decayed and only the beans are left. The beans are roasted and the shells removed. The chocolate is then ground between stones, the friction heat of the grinding melting it so that it is a soft molten mass as it drips from the stones and is poured into moulds. The melted chocolate is pressed in a cloth until all the oil is expelled; the sediment is found very slowly to prevent re-melting, and the powder: boiled into flour through silken sieves, and then it is called cocoa, which makes a lighter, less nourishing, but more readily digested chocolate.—New York Sun.

A Boston clergyman holds that the interests of the laboring classes would be much better promoted by the general adoption of the Saturday half holiday idea than for all the schemes for cutting down the hours of labor to eight hours. An hour less work in the day, while it would reduce a man's earnings, would be of much advantage to him in the way of giving opportunity for recreation, while the Saturday half holiday has been found to work admirably wherever it has been adopted.

Moses Had Ashtoria. My husband had asthma for eight years, which never coughed, and his lungs were not affected. He could neither rest, work, nor get relief from any medicine he tried. Some time ago we got Hagar's Peppermint Balsam, and after taking six or eight bottles his cough is entirely cured, the asthma greatly relieved, and his lungs greatly benefited. Mrs. Moses Cook, Ashtoria, Ore.

Farm and Garden.

Rigby Potato Digger. Parker F. Barleigh of Waterbury, Conn., advertised the Rigby Potato Digger, describing its success in using it. In order that my readers may understand my own method of potato culture I will give in detail the work done upon a 13 acre field of potatoes planted by me in 1889 and upon which the digger rendered its final test. This field enjoys the distinction of being the first one in Aroostook to be planted, hoed and dug wholly with horses, there never having been any hand hoes used upon it. This crop was one of the most successful ever raised in the county and the potatoes went into my cellar free from the bruises and mutilation which are always an accompaniment of hand hoeing. The place selected for this field of potatoes was a piece of pasture land that I broke up very late in the fall about the time the ground froze. In the spring I harrowed it thoroughly lengthwise of the furrows so as not to turn the sods. The ground thus prepared I planted with an English potato, and in the fastest steamer plying between Nova Scotia and the United States. Fitted with Triple Expansion Engines, Electric Light, Bilge Keels, etc. The steamer CITY OF ST. JOHN leaves Portland, Me., every Monday morning, returning for Yarmouth and intermediate ports, returning to Yarmouth every Thursday at 10 a. m. For all other information apply to F. Crosshill, Station Agent, Bridgewater, N. S. W. A. CHASE, L. E. BAKER, Secretary and Treas.

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WARMING THE CALF.—The custom of warming the calf from the cow when it is only three days old is sometimes very injurious. If set for milk the calf is very nervous disposition, the soon learning the habit of holding up her milk. There is another thing common to the calf, and that is the call at so early an age. The milk from cows that have recently come in is very rich, and it is not unusual to deprive the cow of her calf so early, but wrong to use the milk. Keep the calf on the milk until it is old enough to be sold.

The Household.

Fashion Notes. The Shetland tweeds are the materials for the tailor-made costumes of the spring season. Shaves of the new spring dresses are made very long, entirely covering the waist. The belts for tailor suits are of tan leather, and are wider than formerly. Mauve is the leading color, and will hold its own through the season. The much bedecked sunshades carry the day. Plain ones are only for traveling or simplest use. Among the notable fancy models is that of Roman silk, which makes a very gay effect, and is very popular, and velvet continues to be very popular, and is even used as trimming for the handsome gingham and challies. Small collarettes of piece velvet, shaped to fit the neck, are noted with evening costumes. In some cases they are headed and fringed with pearls or precious stones. For street dress the highest style will be plain, unadorned skirts in a single mass of fabric from waist to feet. The polonaise is less favored, much more picturesque, and will doubtless be very popular. Black hats and caps are almost universal this spring. Gray straws are frequently seen in the milliners' windows, also in brown, greens, etc., but on the street, and at afternoon entertainments, as yet, one sees little but black. Vests are worn longer, and should cover the chin. Plain lace and fish net is used. Sailor hats are getting rarer still in the home and lower in the front than in the back. They are not trimmed when worn with a band of ribbon, but have a large bow in front that stretches half way around the crown. Lace shoulder caps seem likely to be in high favor for late spring and summer wear. Especially pretty ones are finished with a collar of ribbon loops, producing a vandyke effect. The prediction that one and two-button gowns are again to be worn, does not seem at all improbable, when the rapidly increasing length of sleeves is taken into consideration.

Simple and delicious fruit puddings are of fruits, fresh or dried, steamed and sweetened to taste, poured hot over this slice of loaf bread, the crust removed, and sweetly spread with butter, or the bread may be carefully toasted. Fill a pretty shaped dish with alternate layers of bread or toast buttered and hot steamed fruit, the latter forming the last layer; pour over the whole the juice from the fruit. Serve hot with good pudding sauce, or cover with a plate until cold, then set on ice. Serve with powdered sugar and cream, or a hard sauce, made by creaming half a cup of fresh, sweet butter, and beating gradually into it a teaspoonful of powdered sugar. Beat to a snow the white of an egg, add this slowly with whatever flavor may be desired. Fruit juices, fresh or preserved, a spoonful or two of jelly melted or diluted make dainty puddings. Half of the sauce may be flavored and colored with strawberry or red currant jelly, the other half with orange, lemon or pineapple juice or extract. Heap in a pretty, fancy glass a large spoonful of each alternately, do not smooth it, leave it with a frothy appearance. Place on the ice until needed. In the summer stewed currants and raspberries mixed are especially nice, or stewed apricots and peaches. In the winter candied fruits or preserves may take their place—peaches, or small fruits. These puddings are known in our family as emergency puddings, from the ease and celerity with which they can be prepared. For winter they are quite as good served hot. As soon as the stewed fruit is poured over the bread, the dish is brought to the table accompanied by rich hot sauce.

Line a gracefully shaped dish with slices of stale cake, cover with slices of oranges, peeled and seeded, powder thickly with sugar, sparsely with grated orange-peel. Fill the dish in this manner; choose sweet, juicy oranges. Pile high on the oranges, which must form the top layer, sweetened cream whipped very stiffly, and place all on the ice until removed to the table. Pineapple is equally delicious thus served. If preferred the cream may be heaped on a separate dish. Chop fine, half a pound of figs, mix with three ounces of butter, and gradually two eggs frothed lightly, two and one-half ounces of powdered sugar, quarter of a pound of grated bread-crumbs and one ounce of rich sweet milk. Mix the ingredients thoroughly together. Butter and line a pudding-dish with bread-crumbs and bake; or it may be boiled, in which case sprinkle the mold with bread-crumbs, cover closely and boil three hours. In either case serve with hard sauce flavored with fresh lemon-juice.

—I knew a mother one who prided herself upon the fact that her boy never wore out his clothes, and only outgrew them. As she showed me a little pair of pants, neat and clean and whole, which the boy had outgrown, a picture of the child stood out instantly in mind, as I had so often seen him taking his solitary walks with his careful nurse, and looking like a child from another sphere at the rollicking play of my boys in the old garden. The carefully preserved garments told their own story of a life bent to serve things. It is the blessing of motherhood, this of putting the outer above the inner, in the training of children, of emphasizing the value of things rather than their use, exalting that which the merest huckster would despise, teaching a child that he values things more than people, making the life of the soul and the body to bend to the laws of perishable garments that cloth them.

—There are thousands of children who give way to their nerves. Now, why then, my talk to them about these curious little strings that should be made their servants, not their masters. A prominent physician in this city says the man or woman who gives way to their nerves, and is on a level with brutes that have no reason. It is our duty to encourage and help them. Be patient with them. They are the making of one future successful man and woman first, and then be indulgent toward the opers of your overnervous children.—Christian Union.

—Well, Dennis, did that porous plaster help your lame back? "Fwell, doctor, I can't say that it has helped much, yet, but maybe it will. You know it was only last night I got it. You told it: 'What do you mean?' 'Mame, sure, it's the same that O'chawell' chawed for half an hour on the worlding, 'then O'chawell' told it to you. Seems to me of they'd give you a little more, an' not put so much pepper in, they'd be able to chaw up, and wouldn't give a shalpeen's innards. Don't they have any soft of soft for wild people with no teeth in their mouths?"

—The pastor of a church in Upper New York, whose hearers are among the richest in town, but are ignorantly in their contributions, has been trying to induce poor people to come to his church, and recently, through the columns of the local papers, extended to them an invitation to attend. Last Sunday at the close of the service he said: "Brethren, I have tried to reach the poor of our town, and induce them to come to my church and break away from their poverty. I infer from the amount of the collection just taken—\$7.35—that they have come."

—Jack Post (presumably in love with his employer's daughter)—"I'm Casimire in my servant." "Ye, sir." "Jack Post (horribly disappointed)—"Well, I'm glad to hear it. He might catch cold and break away from his good night."—Dry Dog Chronicle.