

MR. CANNON BOOKED.

Senator Hoar has never been accused of being a humorist. In fact, he is, as a rule, the gravest of all "the grave and reverend senators."

But occasionally he shows that he has a spark of the humorous in his composition. One day recently the Massachusetts statesman, "Uncle Joe" Cannon and several others were talking about a certain speech attributed to Charles Sumner.

"When I die and go to heaven, I will look up Charles Sumner at the earliest possible moment and say to him, 'Charlie, I am sure you never said the things attributed to you by 'The Record.'"

"But suppose you do not find him there?" "Uncle Joe" asked, with his blandest smile.

"In that event, Joe," said the veteran Massachusetts statesman without moving a muscle of his face, "I will have to beg that you deliver the message to him."

Where it Will Fall Down. After the world had waited a long time a capitalist finally came forward and endowed a theater with \$10,000,000 in the name of pure art.

The curtain had gone down on the third act, and the audience was applauding wildly.

"You'll have to come before the curtain and make a speech," said the manager, going behind the scenes.

"I will not!" exclaimed the star actor. "It is not art. It destroys the illusion."

"But the audience is growing wild. Some of the people have begun to hiss their displeasure at your refusal."

"Let them hiss. What do we care? We are not dependent upon audiences for the support of this theater."

"I know it, but here's a note from the man who gave the ten millions. He says if you don't come out he'll insist on your being fired."

And pure art continued to get it in the neck.—Chicago Tribune.

American Ways in Jamaica. When you arrive in your hotel in Kingston, Jamaica—and here it may be remarked that the town contains but one hotel worthy of the name—you are at once made aware that the establishment is conducted "on the American plan," says a correspondent in the London Daily Mail.

The guidebook says so, and the inevitable iced water confirms the statement. Outside, on Harbor street, the fine system of electric trams makes you, as an Englishman blush to the hat brim. Call a bus—it is a buggy of the American pattern—and drive to the railway station, and once more the handwork and enterprise of the Americans are in evidence, for the engine is of United States design, and the cars are of the same make.

One is therefore not surprised to learn that an American started the railway business in Jamaica and eventually sold out at a handsome figure to the government of the colony.

Author and Censur. Apropos of the census, a well known author got into trouble with the man who called for his "return." The final column of the paper says that you are to "write the precise infirmity, if any, opposite the name of the person, and if the infirmity dates from childhood add 'from childhood.'"

Under this heading my friend put "authorship," and the census man spent some time in arguing with him that authorship was not an infirmity.

"You try it, and you'll know better," said my friend. "I'll put measles there if you don't go away." And the census man went away, still grumbling.—London Express.

Abbreviation the Soul of Wit. The following is an announcement in the advertisement columns of the latest number of the New York Herald:

"As useful Companion, Daily or Evening. Wanted, sit. by thorough comp. sup. yng. pers.; gd. Fr. Germ. Eng. scholar; typewr. gd. seamstress and pack."

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

An Absentminded Man Who Went Shopping.

Young, married, studious, visionary and very absentminded, he approached the young lady at the counter as though walking in his sleep.

"Please let me see a sample of your left hand pockets," was the surprising request.

"Beg pardon?" "Sample of left hand pockets." "B-e-g pardon?" And the clerk showed how tall and dignified she could be.

"Possibly you want me to show you some buttonholes, needle eyes or invisible perforations for embroidery."

"No, I think not. I recall none of those as on the list. I'm acting for my wife, you know—charming woman, but so unpractical; thinks that the house must be attended to, no matter what becomes of the shopping. You have no left hand pockets?"

"No pockets of any kind. Possibly you wanted the opening to the pocket or a pump for inflating the pocket." And the several clerks who had gathered around looked at everything but the customer.

"It might be. I confess that I'm a little uncertain as to just what my wife did ask me to get. Come to think of it, I have a list; forgot all about it—butter, vegetables, oysters, sweet potato—Ah, here it is—'sample, left hand pocket, two yards.'"

"Then feel in your left hand pocket," laughed the clerk, and all the other clerks laughed.

He did. There was a sample of narrow ribbon. The combined talent of the clerks matched it, and the customer wondered why they all beamed so benignly on him.—Stray Stories.

Obeying Orders.



"Good gracious, Bridget, whatever are you turning out the seat of that chair for?"

"Sure, mum, ye said I was to commence 'spring cleaning' this morning."

A Matter of Preference. "Did you know that Mr. Abernethy was a fine hypnotist?"

"No. Is he?" "Yes. He's engaged to that very fat Miss Mushmellow, and you ought to see him hold her with his glittering eye."

"I'll bet he'd rather do that than hold her with his trembling knee."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Proper Place. Mrs. Gabbie—I met Bessie Taucklotz today and went to the matinee with her.

Mr. Gabbie—Why, you haven't seen her for a long while, have you? Mrs. Gabbie—No; so we decided to go somewhere where we could sit down and have a nice, long talk.—Philadelphia Press.

Wealth Brings Freedom. Silas—These blamed civ table manners are all bosh. If I only had a few thousand dollars, I'd show you how to eat with my hands.

Cyrus—Suppose you had a few millions? Silas—Gosh! Then I'd sharpen the carvin knife on my boot!—Chicago News.

Easy to See. Brigham—I saw you and your wife dining at the new restaurant last evening.

Burnham—How did you know it was my wife? Brigham—I heard you say, "I guess we'd better have some roast beef."—Boston Transcript.

Henry's Failing. "Do not weep," they said to the mourning widow. "Remember that Henry has gone to a land flowing with milk and honey."

"I know," she sobbed, "I know. But poor Henry always was so careless about his rubbers."—Baltimore American.

The Hub Growing Captious. We read that Lady Dufferin "christened" the Shamrock. "Named" would have been just as good an expression, if not better. Yet it must be admitted that the verb "to christen," in the broad sense "to name" or "to christen," is used by many careful writers, and doubtless such usage will before long silence the punctilious critics.—Boston Journal.

A Possible Substitute. Saccharine tablets had a place on many tea trays almost as regularly as the cubes of sugar. The taste for their sweetening properties has to be acquired, but once that is established they are found to be a satisfactory substitute for persons to whom sugar is forbidden.

ILLUSTRIOUS FARMER MARR.

The center of population in the United States has been established. It is not merely four miles east and two miles south of Columbus, Ind. To be accurate, it is in the far southeastern corner of Farmer Henry Marr's clover field, and the Chicago Tribune tells us how to get there.

Go down to Columbus, Ind., and ask the man at the livery stable to drive you out to Hen Marr's place. After you get to Hen Marr's you go round the corner and past the barn. Then you keep straight on until you come to a white mule and a black mule eating straw out of a stack.

Take a turn to windward and bear off sharply on a long tack, as the mule has a reputation for kicking. Pass the black dog to starboard and the pigsty to larboard. After getting out of the long lane come about and stand across the "east 40," south by southeast.

Away over in the far corner there is a single melancholy fence rail sticking up in the ground. Approach this rail with uncovered head and in respectful silence, because it marks the center of population of the United States.

A picture shows Farmer Marr standing, grim and solitary, in the clover field, the "center man" in the center of population. It requires a long stretch of the imagination to believe that this agricultural desert is the center of anything except clover tops and that Farmer Marr has almost 19,000,000 respectively east, west, north and south of him. But for all these doubts Farmer Marr is the center man. It has been so officially declared.

Gas at \$1,000 a Cubic Foot. No one has ever suggested that helium, the element which until recently was thought to exist in the sun, but which was discovered in the gases contained in certain minerals by Professor Ramsay, would be of any practical utility.

At present, moreover, it is not likely to be, for it is the costliest of all elements. The method now being pursued for capturing this element in workable quantity shows that its separation and concentration involve an enormous expense, and the helium obtained costs \$1,000 per cubic foot. The same amount of money would at the present time purchase over 1,000,000 cubic feet of coal gas.

The price of helium, therefore, at present is more than a million times that of coal gas. The present costly research is being undertaken, among other things, in order to see whether helium can be solidified. To gain this result temperature will cease to play a part, for absolute zero will have to be reached.—Lancet.

Some Answers. The members of a girls' class in an English school were asked a few questions. One was interrogated as to what was meant by "bearing false witness against your neighbor."

"It was," said she, "when nobody did nothing and somebody went and told of it." Another was asked how beef tea was made, and she replied, "Buy a tin of beef extract, and follow the directions on the lid."

"What are warmth producing foods?" a third girl was asked. The reply was, "Cayenne pepper and Jamaica ginger."

A Rapid Analysis. It is the custom in the University of Rochester for the professors to give various compounds to the students to analyze without telling them what they are. George Van Vrooman received a bottle containing a dark substance. He heated a platinum wire redhot and plunged it into the bottle. In an instant, when an explosion occurred, he found that the shattered bottle had contained gunpowder. As he lay in the hospital, nursing his wounds, it was little comfort to him to know that he had made an unusually rapid analysis.

Dreams. Dr. Reid had a blister applied to his head, and the plaster which was put on afterward causing excessive pain he dreamed of falling into the hands of Indians and being scalped. A whisper in the ear is sufficient to produce a dream, and it is related of a certain officer that his companions in this way conducted him through the whole process of a quarrel which ended in a duel, and when the parties were supposed to meet a pistol was put into his hand, which he fired and was awakened by the report.—Cassell's Magazine.

Home Training. Carving is one of the most difficult and essential duties. If mothers would carefully train their children as soon as large enough to wield a knife to carve a fowl or roast of meat, having them practice daily under their supervision until awkwardness and embarrassment are overcome, it would save much perplexity in after life. With the requisites, which consist chiefly of a sharp knife easy to handle and a careful attention to detail, a child of 12 years of age may become an expert in a few weeks, capable of presiding with grace and dignity at the head of the table. This plan has been successfully tried by a wise housekeeper and should be recommended to every lover of an orderly table.

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ALL OVER THE HOUSE.

Hints on Controlling Odors That Arise in the Kitchen.

Odors are subtle, withal searching. In dealing with those in the kitchen an ounce of prevention is worth at least a ton of cure. The heavy smell of stale grease, most clinging and most offensive of all, comes more than anything else from slopping or sputtering over, which a very little care in range management prevents.

The acrid smell of burned or scorched things is positively painful—so much so that a cook's first lesson ought to be that fire was given for cooking, not burning. Leaving unwashed pots and stewpans to dry and simmer on the range is a fruitful source of ill odors easily remedied. Dissolve two pounds of washing soda in a gallon of boiling water and keep a bottle of it handy. As you empty cooking vessels pour in soda water an inch deep, shake it well all around the sides and leave it until washing time. If the pots and pans keep warm, so much the better. The soda will do its work more perfectly.

Onions, turnips and all the cabbage tribe, which smell to heaven, may have their scent somewhat abated by care in the boiling. The odor comes from their essential oils, which volatilize. If the vegetables are prepared some hours before they are wanted and left to soak in weak, cold water, rinsed and put over the fire in fresh cold water they throw up this essential oil largely in the form of steam. Let them come to a boil before putting in the salt and skim very clean. After the salt is in add a dash of cold water. It will throw up a second steam, which must be removed at once. Cook all such vegetables uncovered. A lid strengthens the odor tenfold and makes it more offensive.

How to Arrange Wild Flowers. The natural grace and beauty of wild flowers render them very effective for decorative purposes, and now that the pretty, shy blossoms are beginning to appear in field and in wood these floral visitants of the spring will find a welcome place on the family dining table or in the formal scheme of decoration for midday's spring luncheon.

Wild flowers charm by what is apparently an unstudied arrangement, but underlying this pretty simplicity is a strict adherence to the laws of beauty.

A safe rule is to avoid mixtures while securing variety by the aid of foliage. Choose only one or a few kinds of flowers at a time and take care that they are either of striking form or color. In grouping them let there be ease and lightness of arrangement. Crowded flowers in a mass are fatal to artistic effect. Formality can be avoided by the judicious intermingling of grasses and sprays of leaves and by choosing blossoms of different form and size to be placed together.

Plod Less, Plan More. The whole plan of our civilization and of woman's highest welfare lies in making the present need bend to the future requirement, in accepting present loss for future gain, in taking long and longer chances. We women need surely to study these duties more scientifically, more as a whole, instead of this daily whittling away of our lives over the separate parts.

The great object of life is life—restful, strong, beneficent—and we women who desire earnestly "the best things" for ourselves and our households must do less plodding and more planning, less sacrificing and more intelligent contriving; we must have less guesswork and more accurate knowledge. We need to gird ourselves daily for a climb to the "thinking levels," where we may feel the cool breath of heaven and receive inspiration from the larger view.—Stilletta Paton Burke in Woman's Home Companion.

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To produce the best results in fruit, vegetable or grain, the fertilizer used must contain enough Potash. For particulars see our pamphlets. We send them free.

GERMAN KALI WORKS, 23 Nassau St., New York.

Schedule of the RALEIGH & CAPE FEAR RAILROAD. IN EFFECT JUNE 2, 1901.

SOUTH BOUND TRAINS.

Table with columns for Stations, No. 5, No. 3, No. 1, and times for A.M., P.M., and A.M. Stations include Lv. Raleigh, Caraleigh Mills, Caraleigh June, Sylvania, Barnes, Hobby's, McCullers, Banks, Austin, Willow Springs, and Ar. Sippahaw.

NORTH BOUND TRAINS.

Table with columns for Stations, No. 2, No. 4, No. 6, and times for A.M., P.M., and P.M. Stations include Lv. Sippahaw, Willow Springs, Austin, Banks, McCullers, Hobby's, Barnes, Sylvania, Caraleigh Mills, Caraleigh June, and Ar. Raleigh.

All schedule trains carry passengers. Approved: JOHN A. MILLS, Pres. and Gen. Man.

NOTICE!

The undersigned having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Aquilla Narron, deceased, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to me daily verified on or before the 20th day of April, 1902...

NOTICE OF INCORPORATION.

NORTH CAROLINA—Johnston County. Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of State has issued to E. J. Holt, T. R. Crocker, H. D. Ellington and S. S. Holt a certificate of incorporation as follows: 1st. Name, Holt Hardware and Buggy Co. 2nd. Purpose, General Hardware and Merchandise, Vehicle Manufacture and Repair Shops, etc.

NOTICE!

The undersigned having qualified as administrator on the estate of C. R. Pearce, deceased, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to me daily verified on or before the 10th day of May 1902...

NOTICE OF INCORPORATION.

NORTH CAROLINA, Johnston County. Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of State on the 30th day of April 1901 issued a certificate of incorporation to W. M. Sanders, W. L. Woodall and others under the name and for the purpose, etc., as follows: 1. Name, Smithfield Improvement Co. 2. Purpose, To erect hotel and buy and sell real estate. 4. Existence, twenty years. 5. Capital stock, \$2,000 to commence when \$500 is subscribed. 6. Value per share, \$10.

NOTICE!

The undersigned having qualified as executor on the estate of George B. Bridges, deceased, all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same to me daily verified on or before the 15th day of May 1902...

WHITE'S BLACK LINIMENT.

25c. BOTTLES REDUCED TO 15c. "I have used White's Black Liniment and his other horse medicines with great success and found them to be as represented. W. L. FULLER, "Smithfield, N. C." For sale by ALLEN LEE, Smithfield, N. C. Druggist.

Southern Railway.

THE STANDARD RAILWAY OF THE SOUTH. The direct line to all points.

Texas, California, Florida, Cuba and Porto Rico.

Strictly FIRST-CLASS Equipment on all Through and Local Trains; Pullman Palace Sleeping Cars on all Night Trains; Fast and Safe Schedules.

Travel by the Southern and you are assured a Safe, Comfortable and Expeditious Journey.

Apply to ticket agents for Time Tables, Rates and General Information, or address, R. L. VERNON, F. R. BARDY, T. P. A. C. P. & T. A. Charlotte, N. C. Asheville, N. C.

NO TROUBLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

S. A. HARDWICK, G. P. A.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

WILMINGTON & WELDON RAILROAD And Branches AND FLORENCE RAILROAD. (Condensed Schedule.)

TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

Table with columns for Dated January 13, 1901, and times for Lv. Weldon, Ar. Rocky Mt., Lv. Tarboro, Lv. Rocky Mt., Lv. Weldon, Lv. Selma, Lv. Fayetteville, Ar. Florence, Ar. Goldsboro, Lv. Goldsboro, Ar. Wilmington.

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

Table with columns for Dated July 22, 1900, and times for Lv. Florence, Lv. Fayetteville, Lv. Selma, Ar. Weldon, Lv. Wilmington, Lv. Magnolia, Lv. Goldsboro, Lv. Weldon, Ar. Rocky Mt., Ar. Tarboro, Lv. Rocky Mt., Ar. Weldon.

Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, York Division Main Line—Train leaves Wilmington 9:00 a. m., arrives Fayetteville 12:05 p. m., leaves Fayetteville 12:35 p. m., arrives Sanford 3:05 p. m., arrives Fayetteville 4:25 p. m., leaves Fayetteville 4:30 p. m., arrives Wilmington 9:25 p. m.

Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, Bennettsville Branch—Train leaves Bennettsville 8:05 a. m., Maxton 9:05 a. m., Red Springs 9:55 a. m., Parkton 10:41 a. m., Hope Mills 10:55 a. m., arrives Fayetteville 11:10. Returning leaves Fayetteville 4:45 p. m., Red Mills 5:00 p. m., Red Springs 5:45 p. m., Maxton 6:15 p. m., arrives Bennettsville 7:15 p. m.

Connections at Fayetteville with train No. 78, at Maxton with the Carolina Central Railroad, at Red Springs with the Red Springs and Bowmore railroad, at Sanford with the Seaboard Air Line and Southern Railway, at Gulf with the Durham and Charlotte Railroad.

Train on the Seaboard Neck Branch Road leaves Weldon 8:55 p. m., Halifax 4:17 p. m., arrives Scotland Neck at 5:08 p. m., Greenville 6:57 p. m., Kinston 7:55 p. m., returning leaves Kinston 7:00 a. m., Greenville 8:52 a. m., arriving Halifax at 11:18 a. m., Weldon 11:33 a. m., daily except Sunday.