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A Few Facts.

It is generally known that nature has placed at man's disposal all things necessary for his comfort if he will but utilize them. For example, take the trees in the forests—they are man's; yet, if not used they are worth but little—only "raw material," so to speak; but when the skillful hand of mechanical genius converts that raw material into elegant and useful articles of furniture, the latter then become what we call "finished products" and pass into the hands of the furniture dealer, and are sold by him to the people. The Emporium has in stock a full line of the most desirable offerings. All of them of elegant and exclusive designs and if you desire to furnish, re-furnish or supply any pieces not now in your sets, you will find this week a good time to do so. Blair is determined to reduce his stock, and will continue this special sale until and including the 28th inst., but no longer.

No. 45 Patton Avenue.

THIS MORNING'S NEWS.

The fact that Porto Rico contains no large unoccupied areas has led some observers to represent the entire island as thickly populated. This is not the case. While a large part of the available land has been at some time under cultivation, there are many districts in which not more than 10 percent of it is now in use, except for stock raising. Mafeking, the South African town in which a British garrison is besieged, lies in the open, bare veldt, which is as flat as a pancake. A few isolated kopjes, an ant heap here and there, a clump of bushes under three feet in height—these are the only things that break the monotony of the landscape. The town is practically defenceless. Mafeking is 870 miles from the Cape and 144 miles north of Kimberley. It is a simple little township of a few hundred souls, and its only importance lies in the fact that it is a trading station with the far north. Steel ties on the Mexican Southern railway have given great satisfaction, and they will be adopted by the entire line, 228 miles long. According to the Railway Review, these ties have been used for eight years on 141 miles of the line. They are of pressed steel and are five feet five inches long, the track being three feet gauge and the weight of the rail 50 pounds per yard. The tie is an inverted trough with flaring sides. The rail fastening consists of a U-bolt passing up through the tie from underneath the clips. Steel ties are not used on bridges or at switches nor around shops and round houses. Before laying, the ties are coated heavily with tar to prevent oxidation. The Turkish council of ministers was occupied recently with the affair of Sylvia Gemelli, a young Italian girl, who was placed in the hands of a Turkish officer. On representations being made by the Italian embassy, Abdurrahman Pasha, minister of justice, refused to hand over the girl alleging that it would be contrary to Mussulman law, and that the girl had attained her majority and had embraced Islamism. The Italian embassy declined to accept this reply, and declared that the girl, being an Italian subject under age, was subject to the authority of her father. This incident assumed an acute phase, and the Italian embassy at Constantinople addressed an ultimatum to the Porte, declaring that if the Italian subject, Sylvia Gemelli, was not handed over to the embassy at once diplomatic relations would be broken off. The girl was the next day conveyed to the embassy and handed over to her father. The British ship Vestrate, which arrived in New York Thursday from Tchilo New Caledonia, brought 2,750 tons of nickel ore. It is the first shipment of ore direct from New Caledonia on the first vessel, it is said, that has ever sailed from that place for New York. There is a scarcity of nickel in America, chiefly because of its use in the making of armor-plate.

BON MARCHE. Has added more shades to their stock of FRENCH FLANNELS, dresses and complete in all colors. More NEW SILKS for waists, a large new stock LACES just in. VALENCIENNES LACES in brand new styles and nice quality—both for handkerchiefs and trimming purposes. REAL and IMITATION TORCHON LACES. EVERLASTING TRIMMING. 'VENICE' LACES in Butter color. New Black Chilly Laces and Bands. ALL OVER LACES. EMBROIDERIES—low advanced fully 1/3 per cent, since we brought our extra fine stock. You not only get the pick and choice of an extra large well selected stock of embroideries, but you get them way under what they are worth. You will find an exceptional good stock of Dry Goods at

The New York Tribune has an editorial on the "Market Value of a Good Name," in which it says that the unscrupulous methods of some American shippers cause many lines of American products to bring lower prices than they should in the markets of the world. It advises the better class of shippers to establish an association and says: "The foreign buyer would soon learn to look for an association mark and respect it if it proved worthy of respect. The shippers who preferred to be tricky or careless would be left to suffer for their own misdeeds." The market value of a good name is not limited to the shipper of apples, butter or pork but extends to every line of business, whether transacted by individuals or communities. A good name is a valuable possession, a possession not gained without effort and not to be lightly parted with. Shakespeare puts the matter in a brief sentence which shows not only the value its possessor places on his good name but the heinousness of the crime of the man who would rob him of it. A community or a state depends for growth and prosperity upon its good name quite as much as does an individual. A history of honest dealing and just laws, equably administered, is not only a history for a state or community to be proud of, but it is a bid for the class of citizens and the permanent investments that every community or state desires.

That Protean malady, the grip, has taken a particularly disagreeable and vicious form this season, a combination of croup, whooping cough, pink-eye, quinsy, lumbago and other disgusting and annoying ailments which may or may not be signified by distinct names and descriptions in medical books. Adults whoop and children complain of rheumatic pains and all sneeze and wheeze and croak. In spite of its prevalence and varied symptoms, it does not seem to be especially contagious in this country this season, though it is reported to be not only prevalent but fatal in London, Berlin and some other European cities. Those who have suffered from it, however, should be careful to avoid after effects by guarding against the changeable weather of this time of year and by carefully building up the general health. An ounce of prevention is often better than a pound of cure, in all matters.

When General French came to the relief of Cecil Rhodes the latter's situation seemed hopeless. There were Boer laagers everywhere and not a drop to drink. The laager came when the laagers went. The author of the Goebel law has much to answer for. Except for that infamy it is doubtful if the North Carolina legislature of 1899 would have dared to pass the Simmons law.

The Philadelphia Record says: "John Dammond, who is stopping at the Hotel Walton, is a much travelled man. There are few habitable portions of the globe that he has not travelled, and he has met with many strange adventures. He recalls with more than usual gusto his sojourn in the Transvaal, in South Africa. During this visit, which terminated about six months ago, Mr. Dammond came in contact with Paul Kruger, president of the republic, several times. His description of this wily old statesman is somewhat different from the one usually published. Mr. Dammond declares that Kruger is worth at least \$100,000,000, and this immense fortune he is said to have accumulated by exercising the autocratic power he possesses. For instance, he owns a railroad and all shippers must pay 15 cents a ton per mile. Hauling by any other vehicle is punishable by imprisonment and fine. Whenever the Supreme court renders a decision that is not pleasing to him, Paul has calmly reversed it and appoints new judges, without taking the trouble to notify the offending judges. Mr. Dammond declares that there is not an American citizen in the Transvaal who does not wish heartily to see the British win."

The United States steamship Nero has been making soundings between Manila and Honolulu in the interest of the cable to connect our chief island ports in the Pacific with this country. The Nero reports the deepest ocean soundings that have yet been recorded. The exact location of this deep is not given, but between Guam and Manila a large area has been discovered where the soundings showed 5,260 fathoms (31,560 feet), which is 120 feet less than six statute miles. In November last the Nero was reported to have found a depth of 4,300 fathoms about 500 miles east of Guam. All measurements of depth and heights are referred to sea level, and the depth now reported is 2,558 feet farther below the level of the sea than the summit of Mount Everest, the highest known part of the world is above it. The deepest sounding hitherto made in the waters between Guam and Luzon was 19,795 feet, almost directly east of the north end of Luzon and not quite half way to the Ladrones, of which Guam is the largest member.

BLUE HILL BEAN KILN IT TAKES IN ALL THE BEAN POTS IN THE TOWN.

This Unique Oven Bakes For Families, the Boarding Houses and the Hotel—How "Ole Dave" Linscott Started It and Made It Big. There is a comfortable little town, called Blue Hill, because it is situated under the brow of a little mountain of that name, way down in one corner of Hancock county, Me., which claims distinction as being the only town in the universe which has a town bean kiln—"bean kill," the natives call it. It is an old institution, whereby over 90 per cent of the beans eaten in the town are baked. Blue Hill doesn't vary from the average New England village in its loyalty to baked beans. Its profound respect for the bean as a staple article of diet may perhaps be especially marked, because it is of its beans that the town brags. As in other places, tastes differ, and while some cling to the original big, fat "yaller eye," others like the smaller pea bean, while the epicureans delight in the diminutive Californian pea bean. But this is all a matter of taste. The plebeian "yaller eye" and the aristocratic Californian all come together on the level in the bean kiln. There are baked beans and baked beans. There is the New England golden brown kind, baked, with plenty of corn fed pork and something more than a dash of molasses, for some 24 hours over a slow, steady fire. Nothing different is allowed in New England, although Boston has pre-empted the trade mark. Then there is the pale imitation, which is as dust and ashes to the wanderer from the New England fireside when, with disappointment, he encounters them outside of New England.

The average person in charge of a New England cuisine "picks over" the beans Friday night. Having picked out all the foreign material which may have been left in the process of winnowing the thrashed beans in the wind which whistles around the northeast corner of the barn, the beans are "put to soak" until Saturday morning, when they are potted, with a generous slice of salt pork on top, sweetened with more or less molasses or sugar and perhaps spiced with a little mustard. Then they are baked all day Saturday in a slow oven or, at Blue Hill, sent to the "kill." The beans are first "broached" on Saturday night, when the top layer is removed for supper, care being taken not to "mush" the balance, portions of which are served Sunday morning and as many times subsequently as the supply permits or the good nature of the "boarders" allows. Beans are the great staple of the lumber camps, of the coasting vessels and wherever convocations of hungry men gather together to satisfy their appetites. But about the great and only institution of Blue Hill.

It was away back in the sixties when the Linscotts went to Blue Hill. They were brickmakers from Hackensack. One of the family, while on a visit to some of his people in Blue Hill, chanced to get mired in a mud puddle and while scraping the clay from his boots noticed that the consistency and grain was that of the finest brick clay. He prospected a little and found that the hills about the place were of the same kind of clay and that sand of prime quality was close at hand. Blue Hill bay was a natural harbor. There was a steady demand for bricks everywhere, and so it was that the Linscotts went to Blue Hill and started the brickmaking business. The Hackensack people were enterprising, and their crew of employees grew larger and larger until it absorbed all the available natives, and it was necessary to import men from the neighboring towns. This necessitated a boarding house, and so it was that Mrs. Linscott's big four story frame house became the shelter of 40 or 50 abedded men with enormous appetites. They were not particular as to the menu so long as there was plenty of food, and Mrs. Linscott's beans were pronounced just about right.

Although the house was equipped with a spacious brick oven, what with the bread and pies and puddings and other things the capacity was considerably strained. Mrs. Linscott was complaining of this when her husband, "Ole Dave" Linscott, said he'd see about it. He talked the matter over with the foreman, and so it happened that one Saturday afternoon work was a little slack the crew turned to and built an enormous arrangement in the Linscotts dooryard. It was like a huge brick oven as much as anything else. They called it a "bean kill," because it was not much of anything else. The firebox was arranged to take four foot wood, and the arrangement of flues and drafts was the result of many conferences and the consensus of opinion of all the expert brick burners of the works.

"Build 'er big enough," said David, and it was big enough for hundreds of bean pots. The "kill" was a great success. Nothing was ever seen like it. No such beans were ever tickled the palate of a hungry brick worker as came out of the Linscotts' bean kiln. Then the neighbors began to bring their beans, just as a sample order. And when they brought them once they did again. Finally the "kill" became so extremely popular that thirty David thought there might be a chance for a "speculation," and so a fee of a cent per pot was established.

And this was the origin of the kiln. The original structure has been rebuilt and altered many times. The Linscotts got rich and moved back to New Jersey, but their successors kept up the kiln. The price has been advanced with the increased price of wood, but the custom has not fallen off, as more people have moved in, and the town has become a famous summer resort. And now of a Friday night all the youngsters of the village may be seen about sunset heading for the "bean kill" with the family bean pots. In the summer time buckboard loads of guests from the Blue Hill Inn drive down and peer into the fiery furnace where "Shadrach," "Meshach" and "Abednego," the three huge pots from the sapper mine, the quarry and the spoil mill boarding houses, are going down their fiery ordeal—Santas Elvada!

Mrs. Snoper—I wonder if it is true, as Dr. Jacobs says, that the baby of today has a better chance of living than the baby 50 years ago? Snoper—Certainly it is. The baby of 50 years ago is half a century old now.

The Hammond Typewriter, Waterman's Ideal Fountain Pen, Hurd's Celebrated Stationery, Crane's Celebrated Stationery, Carefully Selected New Boods, Engraving. BAINBRIDGE'S BOOK SHOP, 47 Patton Avenue. Late of San Antonio, Texas.

Imported and Domestic Cigars Sold by the Box at Factory Prices at the Berkeley Cigar Stand. Asheville Foundry and Machine Shop GEO. E. B. WELLES, Prop. [Practical Machinist and Mechanical Draughtsman. Having bought the Asheville Foundry and Machine Shop and remodeled the machinery with a new stock of tools and fixtures, I am now prepared to do all kinds of light and heavy Machine and Foundry work. Knowing that this establishment has been run in a very unsatisfactory manner for a number of years, therefore all work from henceforth will be guaranteed to be first class in every particular. Believing I can make prices satisfactory I hereby solicit a share of your patronage. Respectfully, GEO. E. B. WELLES. Telephone 488. Residence Telephone 483. NO. 8 BUTTRICK ST.

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WAS AGUINALDO CAPTURED? W. E. Curtis in Chicago Record, February 18: An army officer, who has just returned from the Philippines, says that it is generally believed that Aguinaldo was recently a prisoner for four days in the hands of General Young and that, being released without revealing his identity, he has taken refuge in the mountains of the southern part of Luzon disguised as a Chinaman. The orders of General Otis are to disarm native prisoners, give them a square meal, talk to them kindly, explain the intentions and policy of the American authorities and set them free unless they are men of rank or suspicious characters. One day about two months ago General Young captured a part of Aguinaldo's body guard, which was attended by twenty or thirty Chinese cargadores or burden bearers. The entire party was detained four days and the Filipinos were closely examined for information of the fugitive chief. Although questioned separately their stories seemed to agree. They explained that, being exhausted by the hurried march and the lack of food and rest, they had fallen to the rear of Aguinaldo's party and were unable to catch up with it before they fell into the hands of the troops. They spoke freely of Aguinaldo's movements and plans, gave the names of people who were with him and confessed that they were glad to give up the fight. They said that Aguinaldo was trying to reach some seaport where he could find a boat that would take him to Hong Kong or some other neutral port where he could throw himself upon the protection of a foreign government and that he had abandoned everybody and was sacrificing everything for his own safety. The members of the Filipino body-guard were so candid in their statements and professed such eagerness to remain with the American troops so that they could get food and protection that nobody thought of examining the half-naked and exhausted Chinamen who huddled together wherever they could find shelter and snapped like starving dogs at such food as was placed within their reach and when General Young moved on, the soldiers gave them worn-out shoes and clothing and as liberal an allowance of rice as they could spare, warning them not to take up arms again, but to go back to their homes and settle down to useful labor. Sometime after one of the Filipino bodyguard came into a town where there was an American garrison and confessed that Aguinaldo was among the burden bearers disguised as a Chinaman and almost frightened to death for fear he should be betrayed and discovered. The informant explained that the party captured by General Young was not made up of stragglers, but was the remnant of Aguinaldo's escort, and that every one of them expected to be shot or hanged as soon as they fell into the hands of the American soldiers. In order to save themselves they agreed to make the explanations narrated with the hope of securing their own release and sending their captors on a wild goose chase. After this incident Aguinaldo, accompanied by two companions disguised as Chinamen entered the mountains and continued his flight to some seaport where he hoped to secure means for leaving the island.

FLORIDA GRAPE FRUIT AT... HESTON'S. If the system is overworked nature needs aid to restore the body to a normal healthy condition. The best medicine to do this is the Bitters. It will cure Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Constipation, Nervousness, Malaria, Fever and Ague. HOSTETTER'S CELEBRATED STOMACH BITTERS. Private Board. House in suburbs in far e shady grove, good table with abundance of fresh milk butter, eggs, etc. Mile from court house on electric car line. Telephone 295. Rates low. Information at Mr. J. M. Ray's, on Lookout Mountain car line, or Ray's book store. Instruction in Short Hand. On March 1st I will begin an additional day, and night class for the instruction of young men and women in stenography and typewriting. I teach the Munson system of stenography, which is the standard in the United States government departments, and the best for law and commercial work. Information as to cost of tuition and other particulars may be had by calling at residence, or writing or telephoning me. Private lessons will be given to those unable to take class instruction. MISS FANNY EMANUEL, Teacher of Stenography. Phone 394. Residence No. 50 Flat St. City. Base Ball and Tennis Goods for 1900 at Bloomberg's. Want advertisements reach the people. One cent a word.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN.

MISCELLANEOUS. AGENTS wanted for the best typewriter on the market, the "Pittsburg Visible" writing in sight at all times; exclusive territory given. Address Binkley Hardware Company, Pittsburg, Pa. WANTED.—Boarders — Comfortable rooms; excellent table; reasonable prices. Address P. O. Box 6, Hendersonville, N. C. 3-26t. A GENTLEMAN desiring a quiet, comfortable home, can find delightful accommodations at 44 North French Broad avenue. 3-6t. TO LEND—One thousand dollars, on short time notes, in sums of not less than \$100.00. Also \$1,000.00 to lend on city improved property. Apply to L. A. Farinholt, real estate broker, N. 49 Patton avenue. 316-1f. TO EXCHANGE—Good paying improved real estate in center of Asheville for stock farm in Tennessee or Kentucky, or a cotton farm in eastern North Carolina. Address "H. C. Gazette. SECOND HAND FURNITURE—All kinds of furniture bought and sold. Also shoes repaired. It will be your interest to give me a call. W. O. HUDSON, 36 North Main St. 202-2t. SELECT PRIMARY SCHOOL—Mrs. Williamson of No. 94 Woodfin street, requests your patronage. 177-26t. TENTH YEAR. MRS. DRESSER—Teacher of piano and violin; graduate with honor of New England Conservatory of Music, Boston. Beginners receive special attention. Advanced piano pupils taken. Terms low. 69 Charlo e street. MISS NORA WARE—Pianist and teacher in stringed instruments. Corner of Spruce and Woodfin streets. ROOMS AND BOARD. WANTED—Boarders at the Tuxedo, 75 Haywood street. Two more rooms left at \$5 per week; good table; excellent location; near postoffice, on car line. Apply at once. 9-6t. BOARDERS DESIRED—Persons desiring a quiet, homelike boarding place, where tubercular patients are not taken, can find the same at 58 Orange street. Halls, as well as rooms, comfortably heated. Good fare and pleasant service guaranteed. Call and examine rooms and ascertain terms. 6-1f. BOARDERS WANTED—At sunny Side Cottage on Sunset Drive. Among the pines, 40 feet above Battery Park. Hack at frequent intervals to and from the city. Terms reasonable. 316-1f. PRIVATE BOARD Rock ledge, Haywood street, central. Well warmed high elevation. One front room, one single room vacant. MRS. L. V. COLE. FOR RENT. FOR RENT—Two furnished front rooms without board; suitable for two gentlemen; no sick people taken. 71 Spruce street. 7-6t. FOR RENT—Furnished rooms with board; water and conveniences on same floor; rates reasonable. 104 Bailey street. 5-4t. FOR RENT—Three furnished or unfurnished rooms, suitable for light house-keeping. Modern conveniences. Water on same floor. Apply 18 Starnes Ave. or 14 Patton Ave. 310-1f. FOR RENT—A flat of four pleasant unfurnished rooms with modern conveniences. Address 38 SOUTH FRENCH BROAD AVENUE. 209-6t. FOR RENT—One boarding house of twenty rooms; steam heat; electric lights and call bells; large verandas; elegant location; modern improvements; two complete bath rooms; also one complete furnished flat of five rooms and four unfurnished rooms. O. D. Revell, No. 31 Temple Court, third floor. FOR SALE. FOR SALE—Or exchange—town lots and land in Florida. Address Z. L. care of Gazette. FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.—Lot at Pinebluff, N. C. Address N. S. M. care Gazette. PRIVATE BOARD. House in suburbs in far e shady grove, good table with abundance of fresh milk butter, eggs, etc. Mile from court house on electric car line. Telephone 295. Rates low. Information at Mr. J. M. Ray's, on Lookout Mountain car line, or Ray's book store. Instruction in Short Hand. On March 1st I will begin an additional day, and night class for the instruction of young men and women in stenography and typewriting. I teach the Munson system of stenography, which is the standard in the United States government departments, and the best for law and commercial work. Information as to cost of tuition and other particulars may be had by calling at residence, or writing or telephoning me. Private lessons will be given to those unable to take class instruction. MISS FANNY EMANUEL, Teacher of Stenography. Phone 394. Residence No. 50 Flat St. City. Base Ball and Tennis Goods for 1900 at Bloomberg's. Want advertisements reach the people. One cent a word.