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THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

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NO. 29.

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Combs, perfumes,
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Office at residence, opposite Baptist Church. All work at reasonable prices. In Office Mondays and Saturdays.

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For Mothers!

This delicate and purest of child health food is the most entirely natural, and gives relief to the most delicate mothers.

It gives relief to the most delicate mothers, and puts them in condition to do their work perfectly.

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A GREAT JOKER

Paris Thought the Announcement of Masson's Death Another Trick.

When Paul Masson died in Paris, the news spread rapidly all over the city. But nobody believed it. They said in the cafes, "It's only another of his tricks." And Paris laughed loudly, as she had been laughing for years at the pranks of the harebrained joker, who was always gravely before the public with some plan, scheme or practical joke, not at all funny in itself, but always so idiotic as to excite laughter. This time, however, it was not one of Masson's jokes. He was really dead.

Masson was a mystifier. Some thought he was crazy, but he was not. Others, and they were more nearly right, regarded him merely as a lover of notoriety. He was at heart, however, a joker. Often a malicious one at that, and none enjoyed his pranks half so much as he did himself. His idiosyncrasy was a sort of intrinsic humor, and in nearly every case inflicted pain upon his victims or caused them no end of trouble. People laughed because they were so impossible. None but Masson could contrive such situations.

He was originally a judge at Chandermon and proved to be a judicial mountebank of the most obnoxious sort. He first came into general notoriety by denouncing in Le Figaro, in a letter signed "Rosario," an imaginary epistle of Jesuits. His object was to get from the government a commission to make an investigation into the identity of "Rosario."

He returned to Paris with his name in the public mouth, and immediately announced that he was to be forthwith married to a young negress from Dahomey, then in the Jardin d'Acclimation. He gave out that the ceremony was to be performed at a Hindu temple and that M. Maurice Barres was to pronounce a discourse. All Paris was straightway in a hubbub of curiosity and excitement.

He it was who sent to the press a letter of resignation with the forged signature of a well known Radical deputy, M. Maujan, making thereby another sensation, but this was nothing to his prank of forging the signature of the well known art amateur Osiris to a promissory note for 50,000 francs for the new Salon and sending it to Meissonier.

Once he issued invitation cards in the name of the Duc d'Orleans to all the best-known men of Paris. The prince was confined in the Conciergerie at the time, and the commission and general misunderstanding that followed were a nine days' talk, and after the terrible railway accident at Saint Mande, in which so many passengers were burned to death, this indefatigable clown conceived the idea of presenting the Academy of Sciences with a scheme for preventing fatal railway accidents in future.

Engines were to be provided with inclined planes of wood in front and behind, fitted with rails, enabling the colliding trains to slide one over the other. The institute submitted the suggestion to its railroad committee, and M. Masson was overjoyed.

He issued in the name of General Boulanger a volume of "Political Thoughts" which had the merit of being characteristic, and on the strength of this and other works, including "The Diary of My Youth," by Prince Bismarck, he became a candidate to the French academy. These are only the more notable of his pranks. His whole life, almost every act of it, was a practical joke.—New York Herald.

Rosetti's Menagerie.

What an extraordinary menagerie was that which Rosetti kept in the large garden of his house in Cheyne walk! Peacocks, whose screaming so disturbed the neighborhood that Lord Cadogan had a clause inserted in all new leases whereby the tenants undertook not to keep peacocks; a fallow deer, whose principal delight it was to pull the feathers out of the peacock's tail, by stamping on them with its fore feet; a couple of kangaroos, mother and son, one of which killed the others; two armadillos which used to burrow into the adjoining gardens, to the great annoyance of the owners, and to crown all, a meecoon, which was continually getting lost and which was on one occasion discovered in a cabinet, where it had gnawed in pieces a quantity of the poet-painter's manuscript verses.

The Japanese New Year.

The Japanese literally "turn over a new leaf" on New Year's day; the house is cleaned and swept, new garments are made, the family shrines are brightened up. All debts are paid, and even the streets are elaborately decorated with bamboo, pine and other native plants and festoons of tiny oranges. The national flag—the rising sun on a white ground—floats from every house front; the girls, in their best clothes, powdered and painted, play basketball and shuttlecock; the boys fly kites—great monsters painted on paper stiffened by bamboo strips—and the very small children play with pretty balls made of cotton and wound with various colored silk threads.

All work stops, and for three days presents are exchanged. These are usually wrapped in paper or in decorated boxes of wood or paper.—Chicago Record.

TOO GOOD AN IMITATION.

A Circular Rainbow.

A circular rainbow was once observed in India by Lieutenant Wheelock about the middle of August. Mr. Wheelock was climbing a mountain spur at sunrise. The atmosphere was clear, but there was a heavy fog hanging over the valleys. As the sun rose a rainbow, round as a circus ring, was seen in the fog which all but obscured one of the beautiful lakes which are so common in India. Mr. Wheelock is a trained meteorologist and was not at all astonished to see a circular rainbow, knowing, as he did, the conditions under which it was formed. But what attracted his attention in particular was the presence of a bright spot in the exact center of the beautiful, variegated band composing the circular "bow." This spot was so intensely luminous that the observer thought that it might be a bush fire some distance away, but this supposition was soon dispelled by further developments.

Slowly and regularly and from all sides at once the bright center spot became surrounded by circles of radiating light, each containing all of the primary colors—in fact, each was a perfect miniature circular rainbow. This wonderful phenomenon lasted for about two hours, or until the sun had risen to such a height that the reflection sank below the mountain side. Mr. Wheelock watched it until it faded away, pronouncing it the most beautiful and wonderful sight he had ever beheld.—St. Louis Republic.

Don't Laugh.

A village innkeeper in the midland counties tells how he was cleverly tricked by one of his customers. One day he was talking to a bar full of people, and saying that no one had ever been able to get the better of him, when a strange man entered, and, hearing the remark, said to a neighbor: "I'll bet you a sovereign I will do him."

"You won't," said the landlord. "I will," said the man. "If you'll put a sovereign under that mug and place it on that table, I will take the money without touching the mug."

"You won't trick me," said the man. "And to let you see I am not afraid, I will put two—in fact, I will place three sovereigns under it. There you are," he added. "All is ready." And he stood with a smile on his face, while the others looked on, very eager to see how the scene would end.

Leaning under the table, the man extended his hand, and presently withdrew it with 3 sovereigns in his palm. He showed them all around, amid much wonder. The landlord, getting rather warm in his excitement, caught up the mug, whereupon the man picked up the money beneath it and walked out, amid much laughter, as the landlord shouted, "Done at last!"

Moving a Factory at Work.

A remarkable feat was accomplished—moving a factory in which the machinery was maintained in operation. The shop referred to is situated in Boston and was moved to make room for the work being done in the elevation of the tracks of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad. The movement of the shop was about 300 feet in one direction and 80 feet in another and was effected without suspending work, the shop being operated just as if nothing unusual was going on.

Ancient History.

"Pa," said the schoolboy, "who were the Angles?" "They were tribes that inhabited England several centuries ago, and from which the country derived its name."

"Your father has been reading up on ancient history lately, I guess," said the maternal aunt, with an almost imperceptible sneer. "Well, as I was not alive at that period, it is necessary for me to read to know something about it," replied the father with emphasis on the "I" and a meaning glance at the spinster.

The First Encyclopaedia.

The first encyclopaedia was compiled by Amphilargus in the thirteenth century. The famous French encyclopaedia, by Diderot, D'Alembert and many other noted scientists, was compiled between 1781 and 1780. The Chinese have an encyclopaedia in 6,109 volumes, comprising all the books of value in the Chinese literature. It was compiled by command of the Emperor Kang Ho in 1661.

India Rubber Streets.

India rubber, in spite of its growing scarcity and expensiveness, is meeting with favor as a paving for streets. It was first tried on a bridge in Hanover a little more than a year ago and has proved so successful that experiments with it for ordinary roadways are being made in Berlin and Hamburg. It is said to be perfectly noiseless, unaffected by heat or cold and less slippery and more durable than asphalt.

Country Supervisors Should be Advised.

Country supervisors should be advised and instructed to scrape all roads in their respective townships at least three times a year—spring, summer and autumn, particularly in the latter time—then roll down hard the surface of road after each scraping by heavy rollers. This will prevent the roadbed at all times and give at very little expense just what we want.—Good Roads.

MADEMOISELLE THERMOMETER.

I know of a restless young lass, Who lives in a house made of glass, And from her location Marks each vibration Of hot and cold waves as they pass. When heat is announced, she will spring To quickly make note of the thing. 'Tis very surprising That stably by rising So true a report she can bring. To self elevation inclined, She has such a volatile mind That in every season A suitable reason For frequent depression she'll find. Her temper mercurial thus Creates ever where such a fuss That in conversation Affairs of the nation Are slighted, this maid to discuss.—Julia M. Cotton in New York Christian Advocate.

A MORNING GLORY CULT.

This Flower Taking the Place of Chrysanthemum in Japan. Miss Eliza Ruhamah Goldmore has an article on "The Wonderful Morning Glories of Japan" in The Century. Miss Goldmore says: As a floral sensation the chrysanthemum may be said to have had its day, the carnation is going, going, and seeks after novelty among flower fanciers are sighting for a new flower to conquer. It is hardly known, even to foreign residents in Japan, that that land, which has given us so much of art and beauty, has lately revived the culture of its most remarkable flower, the asago, our morning glory. For size, beauty, range of color and illimitable variety those attained this sunrise flower exceeds all others until its cultivation has become a craze, which is likely to spread to other countries, and—who knows—perhaps there introduce the current Japanese custom of 5 o'clock in the morning tea and garden parties.

Asago, the morning glory, is more especially Japan's flower blossom than the chrysanthemum, which, like it, came from China as a primitive sort of weed, afterward to be evolved by Japanese art or magic into a floral wonder of a hundred varying forms. We who know and grow the morning glory as a humble back yard vine on a string—a vine with leaves like those of the sweet potato and puny little pink or purple flowers—are as far in the floral darkness as the Chinese, who know it chiefly as a wild thing of field and hedge rows, the vine of "the little trumpet" or the "dawn flower," that is entangled with briars and bushes for miles along the top of Peking's walls. The old poetry and the old art do not seem to be permeated with it, as in Japan, where the forms of vases, bowls and cups, the designs and paintings of the greatest masters, repeat the graceful lines of vine and flower, and scores of famous poems celebrate the asago in written characters as beautiful to the eye as is their sound to the ear.

The asago was brought to Japan with the Buddhist religion, that particular cult of early rising. Scholars and priests who went over to study the new religion brought back the seeds of many Chinese plants. The tea plant came then, and Elial brought the seeds of the sacred rice, and Tai Kwan, the Chinese priest at the Okawa temple in Uji, who may have introduced the flower to Japan, was one of the first to sing of the asago in graceful outas, classic poems which scholarly brushes repeat today. "Asagoes bloom and fade so quickly," only to prepare for the morrow's glory," is Tai Kwan's best known verse.

How Punch and Judy Came to England. The holiday of the puppet show in England was during the last century. Long before then strolling showmen had exhibited "drolls" or "motions"—as the English puppets were known in the early days—to crowds of gaping rustics, but it was not until the time of Sisson and Addison that the puppet show became a fashionable amusement, patronized by upper tenfold.

Poleinella came to London in 1666, when an Italian puppet player set up his booth at Charing Cross and paid a small rental to the overseers of St. Martin's parish. His name was at once Englished into Punchinello, which was soon to be completely Anglicized as Punch.—Harper's Magazine.

A Contingent Name.

The Syracuse Post says that a girl there was recently brought to a clergyman of the city to be baptized. The latter asked the name of the baby. "Dinah M.," the father responded. "But what does the 'M' stand for?" inquired the minister. "Well, I do not know yet. It all depends upon how she turns out."

A Difference.

"So," said the woman with the red flowers in her bonnet, "you contemplate getting married." "Yes," was the demure answer. "I thought it over. He said that if I refused him it would break his heart. And I couldn't think of assuming any such responsibility."

"I suppose you have thought seriously of what you are about to do." "Of course. I realize perfectly that marriage is a lottery."

"My dear, it's worse. When you try your luck in a lottery and fail to draw a prize, you can tear up the ticket and try it over again."—Washington Star.

It Wasn't Out.

Some one told the youngest the other evening to go to the window and see if the moon was out yet. "Oh, no, indeed," replied the young, whose notions of celestial illumination are upon strictly terrestrial principles, "it's still lit."—New York Star.

To Cure A Cold in One Day.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of J. C. Ayer & Co.

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ROYAL BAKING POWDER.

Absolutely Pure.

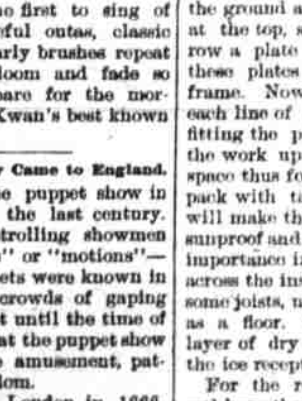
ROYAL BAKING POWDER
ABSOLUTELY PURE

MAKING AN ICEHOUSE.

An Ornamental Structure That Meets Modern Requirements—How to Build It. The whole secret of keeping ice lies in the building of a suitable place for its storage and surrounding it on all sides, top and bottom with some dry, nonconductive material. A writer in American Gardening, who has had to do with many icehouses, gives the following details, with illustrations, of a house that will meet all modern requirements. He says: As icehouses ought to be built above ground and near two large trees, the site should be high and dry. To insure perfect dryness at the bottom it will be well to first of all mark out on the ground the size of the building—that is, its ground space, two feet, filling in again with some good drainage, such as rock or large gravel. From the bottom of this pit lead a drain to some lower part of the ground, so any water accumulating may be carried off.

Procure some posts 4 by 6 inches across and 10 or 11 feet long of good lasting wood, and put into the ground so as to stand 8 feet above. Make a double row of posts opposite each other, as shown on the ground plan at cut 2, putting the rows at intervals of about 2 feet and the posts of each row at about 8 feet distance. Well firm the posts into the ground and line them off squarely at the top, spiking on the top of each row a plate of wood 4 by 6, staying these plates so as to form a double frame. Now plank up the inside of each line of posts with 3 inch boards, fitting the pieces closely and carrying the work up to the wall plates. The space thus formed between the boards pack with tan bark or sawdust, which will make the sides of the house both waterproof and airproof. Matters of prime importance in preserving the ice. Lay across the inside and upon the ground some joists, upon which put loose planks as a floor. Cover the whole with a layer of dry straw a foot in depth and the ice receptacle is ready.

For the roof use 3 by 4 inch joists and have them long enough to form a pitch of full 35 degrees and also to extend over the outer wall far enough to carry the roof quite 4 feet beyond the wall plate. Short struts as shown in the first illustration may also be added to better support the overhanging roof. To the rafters, thus made secure, nail closely fitting boards. Make a superstructure here 6 inches in height, and board up as before to form a box roof and pack sawdust into it. Cut a doorway through the roof, through which to put in and take out the ice. At the top of the whole insert a piece of stovepipe to afford ventilation, covering it by erecting four short posts 3 feet high, on which is to be fixed a pointed cap. The house is now complete. Take the ice from the purest water possible. The blocks are best cut about 2 feet square, and while they are being



ing thrown in have a man on the floor to spread them over evenly and with a heavy hammer break enough ice to fill in the space between the large blocks. The whole space may be rendered compact by throwing water over the layers of ice. When the house is filled to the level of the wall plates, get joists across, resting them on the wall plates, covering over by a floor of loose boards, leaving space for a trapdoor, and upon this floor a layer of tan bark or sawdust 6 inches in thickness.

Thawing out Pumps. For thawing out pumps that are overlaid and allowed to freeze up during cold weather American Agriculturist advises as follows: Take a three-quarter inch gas or other pipe 6 feet long, remove the top of the pump, push the pipe down beside the lifting rod until it sets on the ice, then insert a funnel in the end of the pipe and pour in boiling water. The pipe will pour as the ice is melted, and when a hole has been thawed, the hot water soon melts the ice, and the pump is opened. This may be done in from 10 to 30 minutes.

Farmer Hoey—I hear your wife took a prize at the county fair for an loaf cake. Farmer Rakus—Sure. "Did they cut it?" "Cut it! They couldn't break it with an ax if they tried. That same cake has been taking prizes for the last eight years."—Yonkers Statesman.

New Potatoes in Winter.

The Milwaukee Wisconsin reports, as a novel delicacy in the Milwaukee market, new potatoes, tender and in every sense as delicious as the ordinary July production. New potatoes in midwinter, it is claimed, are the result of some secret process discovered and practiced by an extensive potato grower at Genesee, Wis.

Look At This!

For 30 days we will sell you this Organ DELIVERED AT YOUR HOUSE, with nice stool and book for only \$55.00—generally sold at \$75.00. We have secured three counties for the celebrated Standard Rotary Sewing Machine—the lightest-running and most noiseless machine made. We have sold ALL KINDS (now have all kinds in stock) but the standard downs from all. 75c a week buys one from Ellis. ELLIS FURNITURE CO., Burlington, N. C. C. B. ELLIS, Manager.