

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

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## Jane Seymour's Ghost Haunts Hampton Court

In a recent article by Alberic Chauvet on "The Ghosts of Fontainebleau," published in L'Illustration (Paris), according to a translation in the Kansas City Star, the writer said:

"In England, at Hampton Court, it is admitted that Jane Seymour, third wife of Henry VIII, comes back in the dead of night to wander through the corridors. Her ghost—a wrath with disheveled hair outlined in white light—has been seen, it is declared, on the little stairway which leads to the private apartment once occupied by the young queen. It is even claimed that the apparition has been photographed—witness the souvenir postcards sold by the caretaker at the castle."

It is frankly admitted that the postcard is intended simply to show what Jane's wrath looks like when it is photographed.

It will be remembered that Jane Seymour, Henry VIII's third wife, was married by this Bluebeard monarch the day after the execution of his second wife, Anne Boleyn, in May, 1533. Jane Seymour was then barely twenty years old. Hampton Court is one of the largest of the royal palaces of England, is of brick with crenelated walls, and was built by Cardinal Wolsey in 1515 as a gift to Henry VIII. More than eight hundred of the thousand-odd rooms are today occupied by members of the British aristocracy who are lodged there gratuitously by the crown. It would appear from this that if the ghost of poor Jane Seymour still haunts the corridors of Hampton Court it runs the risk of encountering plenty of living persons.

## Chewing Gum Industry Demands Lots of Mint

Gum-chewers have so increased in numbers that the demand for flavoring extract for the gum results in a constantly increasing price therefor. The acreage in the production of the plant in two Michigan counties exceeds 4,000 acres.

Peppermint as a flavor is today in great demand everywhere. The peppermint men say this is largely owing to its use in the manufacture of chewing gum. Oil of peppermint is now also employed to test steam boilers. If the odor of the oil escapes it indicates that the boiler is unsafe. A boiler that will hold the smell of the oil is said to be capable of holding any pressure to which it is ordinarily subjected.

Peppermint is raised on marsh land formerly given over entirely to the production of hay. This land, formerly worth from \$1 to \$10 an acre, now brings \$100 to \$200 an acre. The land is used over and over again for the same kind of a crop without rotation, though muriated potash is employed to maintain the soil in the desired state of fertility. In September the crop is cut with a mowing machine.

## Rescuing the Oldest Bible.

The modern art of the camera has come to rescue the oldest known Bible from the inevitable deterioration of the years. Portions of this Bible belonging to the University of Michigan are being photographed, partly to preserve the disintegrating fragments and partly to put the fading papyrus in a substantial form available for study. Only two professors have access to the fragments. One of them, Doctor Sanders, spent eighteen days piecing together one of the pages photographed.

## Feeds Chickens Before Self

At the recent Country Life conference held in St. Louis a moving picture film was shown of a farm boy and his prize flock of chickens. The birds were fine because the boy had a scientific knowledge of chicken culture and had applied his knowledge to the care of his flock. But the boy was a mouth breather and showed further effects of malnutrition. The chickens were better cared for than the boy.

## Old French Farming Families

The Merite Agricole is to be conferred on French families that have tilled the same soil for three centuries. There are 750 such families in France. One family has held the same land since the reign of Charlemagne. Another family at Colombes, near Gap, has worked its farm for 1,000 years.

## Revolvingly Speaking

He—Remember when we first met in the revolving door at the post-office?

She—But that wasn't the first time we met.

He—Well, that's when we started going around together, wasn't it?—New Orleans Times-Picayune.

## Farms Auctioned for Taxes

Five thousand small farms were auctioned off recently in Arkansas at a federal receiver's sale to satisfy tax assessments levied against the land for the construction of highways.

## Business English Is Growing Much Better

Business English is growing better. So says Mrs. Alta Gunn-Saunders, director of business English work at the University of Illinois. She believes the English of sales letters has reached a standard as high as the general standard in advertising and in journalism.

To her way of thinking awkwardness and crudities of style are disappearing. She sees greater consideration for the artistic quality of the descriptive and narrative parts of letters. Slang, colloquialisms or slouchy English she would not have—she likes her English "moral, social and artistic." Evolving is "a free, plain, tradesmanlike style becoming to the nature of its subject matter."

But where shall we tap the source of that style? Familiar is the sign "Tradesman's Entrance." Under that sign is a portal to give admittance to the crisp speeches of butchers, bakers and candlestick makers—men of importance with scant time to dress words in ceremonies of speech. From them come no "stereotyped and inflated diction," condemned by Mrs. Saunders. Their words get up and walk around in our ears. Their words carry the tang and savor of their business. Possibly it might be desirable to denature the raw material of their conversations before drawing upon them for letters, but if men's minds are to be spared for a crop of sales, success will be no nearer for calling the spade an "oblong instrument of manual husbandry."—Nation's Business.

## New York Woman Acts as Surgeon for Birds

Acting as a surgeon for birds is the occupation of a New York woman who performs operations upon her feathered charges and cares for their various ills. Rheumatism, indigestion and fevers are some of the ailments she has treated. Surgical operations are performed in a completely equipped room on the third floor of the hospital she maintains. With several assistants, she is called upon to minister to the needs of more than 2,000 birds in the summer months when families leave for vacations and bring their pets to be "boarded" in the wards of the hospital while they are gone. The birds like to be amused and show interesting characteristics, their keeper declares. Balls, beads and ribbons hung from the cages keep them from pulling out their plumage and music from a phonograph seems to cheer them when their own songs are silenced.—Popular Mechanics.

## Albino Partridge Bagged

An Albino partridge, mounted, is exhibited here by George Suggs and Albert Rountree. Shot some miles from this city, it was one of a covey, conventionally colored, but was the only white bird in the flock, says a Kingston (N. C.) dispatch to the New York World. It is almost entirely white, a few feather tips only showing the familiar brown of the species.

The bird has aroused keen interest on the part of Eugene Wood, the coroner and noted sportsman, who last year claimed to have discovered a flock of white crows near Grifton.

## Chickens Dig Gold

Using her chickens as gold diggers, Mrs. Robert Rankin of Yreka, Cal., has a collection of gold nuggets ranging in size from that of a pinhead to a buckshot which she has taken from the craws of the chickens. The Rankin home is northwest of Yreka, where placer gold is often found on the surface of the ground, and where ambitious boys and girls can sometimes pan out enough "dust" to supply them with pocket money.

## Same Knife and Fork

In every meal but three in the last thirty-two years A. E. Flinn of Luray, Va., has used the same knife and fork. Both the knife and fork were found by Mr. Flinn, one in the east end of Luray and the other in the west end of the town. The knife and fork have almost been worn out of all semblance of themselves, but it would require a fabulous price for the owner to part with them.

## Tribute to College Girl

Dr. Katherine Bement Davis, who has had long official connection with the penal institutions of New York city, says that in her twenty-five years' experience with penology she has never known a college girl graduate serving time for criminal offense in a penal institution.

## Many Telephone Talks

During the year 1921, the number of telephone conversations in the United States totaled 17,520,000,000 or an average of 43,000,000 a day. In France, where the telephone system is operated by the government, and is much less developed than in this country there were only 632,000,000 conversations in 1921, a daily average of but 1,515,400.

## Machines Aid Surgery

At the recent convention of the American College of Surgeons at Chicago, Dr. Fred H. Albee of New York, an authority on reconstructive surgery, in telling about machine-driven surgical instruments, said:

"One of the best points about automatic machine-driven surgical tools is that they reduce the shock of operation, because of the speed. This may be exemplified by the fact that a man when shot with a steel-jacketed, swiftly moving bullet, often does not realize he is shot until the blood begins to flow. But when a man is shot with a slowly moving, soft-nosed bullet, he is knocked down, so violent is the shock."

"The same thing applies in operations when mallet and chisel are used. There the shock is vastly greater than when the cutting instruments work swiftly and surely, cutting the bones to a true size. Holes are cut to the right size and dowels of living bone are made to fit exactly."

## Mars Coming Close

The most important astronomical event scheduled for 1924 is the near opposition of Mars next August. Every fifteen or seventeen years the opposition of Mars occurs when the planet is not far from perihelion, or the point in its orbit nearest the sun. The planet is then about 38,000,000 miles nearer to the earth than it is at its most distant opposition, which occurs when it is near aphelion, or the point farthest from the sun. The last close opposition of Mars occurred in September, 1909, when Mars came within 36,150,000 miles of the earth. On August 22 of this year, a few hours before it comes into opposition with the sun, Mars will be at a distance of 34,600,000 miles from the earth, which is very nearly, if not quite, as close as it can ever come to the earth, and about one and a half million miles nearer than it was fifteen years ago.

## Composer of "The Rosary"

Ethelbert Nevin composed "The Rosary." He was born in Vinestra near Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1862. He began to attract attention when ten years old by his excellent piano playing and when he was twelve he was sent to Dresden, Germany, to study.

After returning from Germany he settled in Boston and became a well-known teacher and concert player, but in 1893 the charm of Europe, especially Italy, was too strong to be resisted, and the next seven years were spent abroad, says the Detroit News. The influence of southern Europe is very evident in the dreamy, romantic tone of much of his later music. In 1900 he became a music instructor at Yale university and was in this work when stricken with heart failure. He died in 1901.

Few modern composers have excelled Nevin in perfection of melody, critics say. While "The Rosary" is his masterpiece, "Narcissus" has received no small amount of popularity. Other compositions by Nevin are "Water Sketches," "Day in Venice" and "Twas April."

## Man and Wife as Friends

The idea of married couples having merely a casual acquaintance with one another is not so new after all. A German expedition dug up tablets in Assyria during the war which indicate that a wife lived usually with her parents rather than with her husband. But her husband was not without his rights. If she became a savior of the famous "eternal triangle" friend husband might lawfully kill her or at least cut off her ears.

## Magyars Given Credit

In the popular mind so little credit is said to have been given to the Magyar race for its significant activities in world development, but it is a fact that for more than a century, during which time the activities of the Turks were at their height, the Magyars stood as the bucklers of Christendom against them. The particular Magyars were those who inhabited what was known as Hungary.

## Dogs for Food

The Chinese get into the dietary of the Chinese is obtained from a special race, raised for the purpose, of which the characteristic is the color of the tongue. That organ should be of a blue-black color. These dogs are fed on milk and rice for about two months until they reach a certain weight. The number of edible dogs eaten annually in China is estimated at 5,000,000.

## Golden Spike

On May 10, 1869, the last spike of the railroad connecting the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific was driven. It was made of gold. The spike was first tapped by President Leland Stanford, of the Central Pacific, governor of California, next by Vice President T. C. Durant, of the Union Pacific and the rest of the driving was done by the chief engineers of both roads.

## BILL BOOSTER SAYS

OHAWI HAWI OLE ASE DOOLITTLE, THE TOWN KNOCKER, HAS DONE HIS BIT TOWARD CIVIC IMPROVEMENT AT LAST! HE'S MOVED AWAY!



## At the Place of Wealing

The "Place of Wealing" is a small quadrangular area near the mosque of Omar in Jerusalem, enclosed by ordinary dwellings on the west and by the ancient wall of Haram on the east.

This wall, consisting of several courses of huge stones, is believed by the Jews to be a portion of the court of Solomon's temple, and the only part of that structure now remaining.

For centuries the descendants of Abraham have repaired to this spot to mourn over the calamities that have befallen Israel, and to pray for the coming of the Messiah. In former years they were forced to pay a large sum for this melancholy privilege.—Detroit News.

## Epoch and Era

Epoch and era are usually used synonymously. In history either one denotes a fixed point of time, commonly selected on account of some remarkable event by which it has been distinguished, and which is made the beginning or determining point of a particular year, from which all other years, whether preceding or ensuing, are computed. Some writers distinguish between the terms epoch and era. According to them, both mark important events, but an era is an epoch which is chronologically dated from; an epoch is not marked in this way. The birth of Christ was both an epoch and an era, according to this view.

## Petroleum Jelly

There is obtainable in various quarters jellies of solidified petroleum, a perfectly transparent product possessing the same colors as the petroleum used for its manufacture. It is made in the form of jelly of sufficient consistency to be carried and handled like any other solid body. It can easily be cut into pieces and may be conveyed in cardboard boxes without danger. The physical properties are the same as in liquid petrol, evaporation is not easy, and its heating power is very intense, as also is its combustive power. When ignited it does not melt, but burns like wood or coal.

## Telephone Voice

Tests prove that the human voice can be transmitted by telephone clearly only when the speaker's mouth is close to the transmitter. To speak four inches from the instrument is equivalent to lengthening the line more than 200 miles; two inches away, 128 miles. Lower-pitched tones are transmitted better than those of a high pitch.

## Birds Bathe in Dust

Many types of land birds take their bath in dust in order to rid their feathers of insects. These same birds bathe in water at times also, and, of course, birds that live on the water never take dust baths. Whenever a bird's feathers are not sleek and clean it may be inferred the bird is not well.

## His Kind Act

"I did one charitable act today," remarked a merchant, as he sat down to dinner. "I'm glad to hear it, dear," rejoined his wife. "Till me about it." "Oh, one of my clerks wanted an increase in salary, so that he could get married, and I refused to give it to him."—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

## Dash of Pep

Lazy Farmer—My crop was a rank failure. The land is a spotted sandy patch of junk. A dying gleam. Neighbor Buss—Just try this fine chaser. All it requires is to be tickled with a bee. Then watch it laugh.

## Says Prehistoric Birds of Kansas Had Teeth

Birds once had teeth. But it was a long, long time ago. In fact, it was in that period of the earth's history when much of North America was covered by broad, shallow seas that were dotted with low and almost barren islands. And upon these islands roamed some of the strangest of all the thousands of odd creatures that have lived in past ages—birds that could not walk, and that had long beaks, armed with sharp teeth. These birds, described in Science and Invention by Carroll Lane Fenton, department of paleontology, University of Michigan, are known from their skeletons, which have been preserved and turned into stone in the chalk beds of western Kansas.

Hesperornis, the western bird, as this ancient dweller of Kansas has been called, measured nearly five feet from tip to tip of his beak to the tip of his toes. In shape he was a good deal like the black and white loon, or hell diver of modern rivers and lakes, but, unlike that bird, he swam by means of his legs and feet alone, never trying to use wings.

Indeed, he could hardly have done so, for after ages of drowse, his wings had disappeared entirely, and there remained but a few bones to show where they once had been. But stout legs and paddle-like feet were all he needed to get about, either on the surface or below. His body was shaped like a submarine, while his neck had the driving force of a heron's. Once a fish was caught in the bird's long beak with its backwardly directed teeth, it had no chance to escape.

## Early Americans Tied to Coast by Need of Salt

Early American settlers were tied to the coast by the need of salt, without which they could not preserve their meats and live in comfort. Writing in 1762, Bishop Spangenberg says of a colony for which he was seeking lands in North Carolina: "They will require salt and other necessities which they can neither manufacture nor raise. Either they must go to Charleston, which is 800 miles distant, or else go to Boling's Point in Virginia, on a branch of the James and also 800 miles from here, or else they must go down the Roanoke. I know not how many miles where salt is brought up from Cape Fear."

An annual pilgrimage for salt thus became essential. Fishing furs and ginseng root, the early settlers sent their pack trains after seeding time each year to the coast. But when discovery was made of the salt springs of the Kanawha and the Holston and the Kentucky and central New York, the West began to be freed from dependence on the coast. It was in part the effect of finding these salt springs that enabled settlement to cross the mountains.—Detroit News.

## Worse to Come

Having been served with a wedge of some yellow substance, the husband poked at it cautiously with his fork, and finally turned it over on his plate, asking: "What is this?" "Pound cake. What of it?" the wife replied. "Nothing," said the husband. "I thought my section weighed more than a pound. What are you going to make next?" "Marble cake," said the wife defiantly.—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

## Convicted

A young fellow was engaged in a clerical capacity by a friend of his father. He was, however, shiftless, and nothing he said could be relied upon.

One day his employer called him into his private office and gave him a lecture. He dwelt chiefly on his prostration and wound up by saying: "You know, James, that you are always lying." "Sir," said James, "I would have you remember that I am a gentleman." "There you go again," said his employer.

## Suspicious

Jack—So your father demurred at first because he didn't want to lose you.

Ethel—Yes, but I won his consent. I told him that he need not lose me; we could live with him, and so he would not only have me, but a son-in-law to boot.

Jack—Huh! I don't like that expression "to boot"—Boston Transcript.

## Fable of the Unusual Cop

Once there was a traffic cop who was kind and considerate and who never failed, when the engine died on the street, to come over and say: "That's too bad. But don't get excited. Take your time getting her out. The people behind don't mind." The copper died from being kissed so much by motorists.—Motor Age.

## AIM OF FARMING.

It is to Produce Salable Products.

Raleigh, March 18.—Where does marketing begin? The aim of a man seeking profits on the farm is to produce a salable product. If that is the case he must employ balanced farming methods. In this way does Correll Shumaker, specialist in marketing for the State College of Agriculture, state the case far better attention to growing crops for market.

He says, "There was a time when all good farmers prided themselves upon the fitness of their family cows. If Bossy's bony structure was not completely concealed with a heavy layer of fat it was thought that she had not been properly treated. Owners of cattle in poor condition were looked upon as being guilty of careless and inhumane treatment. Present-day testing methods prove the fallacy of this old belief. We find that some fat cows may be very poor milk producers. Cows capable of heavy production may become poor producers if not fed a properly balanced ration. One sort of ration may be conducive to the production of flesh, another to the production of milk and butterfat."

"In like manner a farm, although having every appearance of being fat, may not be profitable. It may be capable of producing fine profits if carefully managed, and yet even bounteous yields of poor quality crops or light yields of very high quality products may leave the owner with a loss at the end of the season. A farm, then, like the cow, needs balanced rations. The rations of the farm are the methods employed. Poor seed may be planted in good soil and yield poor results. You may sow good seed in good soil and get an inferior crop if you fail to combat diseases and insect pests. Heavy yields may bring only a small income if the product is not salable."

"Every phase of the farm work has its bearing upon marketing. Seed selection, seed treatment, time and manner of planting, cultural practices, pest control, time and manner of harvesting, and the method of preparing the harvested product for the market—all are essential in the production of a commodity acceptable in the market."

## How to Bed Sweet Potatoes.

Sweet potatoes should be bedded in a laurel heated hot-bed about six weeks before it is time to set them in the field, recommend horticultural workers of the Agricultural Extension Service.

To make this hot-bed an excavation 12 to 18 inches deep should be made under the frame and in this should be placed stable manure to a depth of 8 to 12 inches. This should be watered if dry and well packed. On this should be placed 3 to 4 inches of clean sand in which potatoes have never been grown.

After heating has reached the highest point and dropped to 80° or 85° F., the potatoes should be firmly placed in the bed leaving at least an inch of space between them. If the potatoes are too close, the sprouts will be so crowded that long spindling plants will be produced. After placing the potatoes, cover them with sand to the depth of about an inch, and when the sprouts begin to force their way through the surface apply 2 inches more of sand.

The temperature of the bed should be between 70° and 75° F., until planting-out time. The bed should be thoroughly watered after the potatoes are put in and later waterings should be given whenever the soil becomes dry. The water should be applied lightly using a sprinkling can for the purpose.

Only disease-free seed should be bedded and this is secured by treating the potatoes in a solution of corrosive sublimate 1 ounce to 8 gallons of water for 8 to 10 minutes.

It took 54,118 acres of land to produce 27,000 bales of cotton in Union county last year. This year the slogan is "40,000 bales on 40,000 acres" and the people are responding, reports T. J. W. Broom, County Agent.

## MONEY FROM THE PEACH ORCHARD.

All it Needs is Care and Attention Proves This Owner.

When fruit trees have been planted in the home orchard they should receive some care and attention finds J. T. Brown of Wilmington, N. C., who recently followed in instruction a given him for orchard management by extension horticulturist B. F. Payne of the State College of Agriculture.

Mr. Brown had a small home orchard of some 200 trees all about six or seven years of age. These trees had only given a small return annually. Mr. Brown had always pruned them carefully but did not give the other vital things needed in orchard management. He had not sprayed and fertilized. Seeking more information about these matters, he called on County Agent J. P. Herring who had Mr. Payne to visit the orchard and suggest the best methods of handling it. Every suggestion made by Mr. Payne was carefully followed by the owner with the results that his orchard paid better returns last year than ever before.

Here is his cash statement:

Cost fertilizer	\$18.00
Cost spraying materials	14.00
Total cash spent	\$32.00
Sold 256 crates	\$639.77
Canned 20 crates	50.00
Value of crop	\$689.77
Cash spent	32.00
Difference	\$657.77

This statement shows that the profit from practicing good orchard management gave Mr. Brown a return of over \$600 to pay him for his labor and energy expended in caring for the little orchard. Mr. Payne says there are many other orchards in North Carolina that would return equally as good amounts if the owners would decide to use better methods of management and would become thoroughly imbued with the idea that there are certain things that must be done at the right time.

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