

BUDGET OF FUN.

HUMOROUS SKETCHES FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Prediction Not Verified.—A Just Question.—His Explanation.—Fred's Query.—A Merciful Man.—Etc. Things Were Dull, Etc.

"Then all is over between us, Jane?" "Yes, all, I am glad to say."

"What is your opinion of Maxson?" "Yes, for publication I have no opinion of Maxson, and privately I have even less."

"How are things in your business?" "Dull, I'm glad to report."

"When is his funeral?" "Truth."

"Your marriage was the result of love at first sight, wasn't it?" "Yes, it was."

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NECESSITY VS. LUXURY.

Two bachelors, as bachelors are wont, were talking of getting married.

"Well," said one, "I want to get married but I'm poor, and I haven't been married but a girl with money that will have me."

"Aw, you make me tired," said the other. "What's the money got to do with it? What you want is a wife."

"That's all right, old man," protested the first, "but you see we've got to have the necessities before we proceed to the luxuries."—Detroit Free Press.

A MEAN TRICK. Hostetter Mc-Ginnis had been paying his address for several months past to Miss Esmeralda Longfellow. She had not given him the slightest encouragement, and he was about to commit suicide when she threw him into a spasm of delight by asking him if he would do her the favor of giving her his photograph.

"Whenever anybody who looks like that comes to the door tell him I'm not at home."—Texas Siftings.

Examples of Extreme Longevity. Recent articles on "Old People of the Present Century" lead me to believe that a chapter on the old people of the past century and preceding centuries would interest readers and lead old people to hope to live still longer, says a writer in the old magazine called "Old People."

Thomas Parr, commonly called "Old Parr," was aged one hundred and fifty-two years and some months when he was presented to King Charles II. in the year 1675.

The old man was born in 1482 and died sixteen years after he was presented to the king at London, November 24, 1651, aged 168.

About the same time the Countess of Arundel presented to the queen a middle-aged woman, aged 107.

John Galsworthy, in July, 1705, in the county of Northampton, England, aged 128.

Francis Scardil Hougi, surnamed "Huppazoli," died January 27, 1702, aged 114 years ten months and twelve days.

At the village of Venetia, in the province of the Venetians. He was born March 13, 1587, at Casal, in the Montserrat, where Sixtus V. held the see of Rome.

He wore the esocock in the time of Paul V. and Urban VIII, which he quitted in 1702, when he was costumed by the daughter of a certain nobleman surnamed Capra.

He left behind him forty-nine children by five wives. At one hundred his white hair appeared black, his beard and eyebrows were changed to the same hue at one hundred and twelve, and having lost all of his teeth at 110, he cut two large ones in his upper jaw one year before he died.

Matthew Littler, called La Ronce, or the Heron, died November 19, 1792, at the village of Venetia, in the province of the Venetians. He was born at 115 years of age; he served in the wars in Italy in the reign of Henry IV. of France.

Catherine de la Croix died in October, 1708, in the diocese of Lyons, aged 113.

Jean Carriere died January 16, 1709, near Langres, France, aged 115.

The curate of Saletort, in the Pais de Caux, France, died July 17, 1709, aged 116.

Nicholas de Bezares died November 23, 1709, near Issoudun, France, aged 107.

The wife of Sagonne, a notary at Margaux, in Medoc, France, died October 3, 1709, aged 116.

John Mensard died January 3, 1710, in Berry, France, aged 110. He had ten wives.

Big Animals Becoming Extinct. An article by Mr. Bryden in the last Proceedings of the British Zoological Society says that the days of the giraffe are numbered. A few years ago a herd of seventy or eighty of them were often met in various parts of Africa.

Mr. Bryden says that nineteen giraffes are now a large herd. They have been hunted so mercilessly, both by natives and foreign sportsmen, that they are rapidly becoming extinct.

The intelligent African King Khama has, however, taken the giraffe under his protection and hopes to save it from extermination. He has forbidden the hunting of the giraffe in his large domain, and in this way he hopes they will multiply in his country.

It is an interesting fact that Russia has preserved the European bison from extinction by setting apart a forest of Lithuania for them and permitting no one to molest them.

Recent explorers in Southwest Africa say that the fauna has changed greatly during the last thirty or forty years.

Dr. Henry Schlichter, in a paper he read before the British Association a few weeks ago, says that antelopes, lions, buffaloes, rhinoceroses, giraffes and other large animals which were met with in abundance when the country was first explored are no longer to be found in any part of Southwest Africa except their ceaseless slaughter by European hunters, as well as by the natives since the latter have possessed breech-loading guns.

The most important among these animals, the elephant, has wholly disappeared from the Archipelago, except in the neighborhood of Lake Ngami.

Anderson, one of the early explorers of this region, said that 1200 pounds of ivory could be bought at Lake Ngami for a musket. According to Livingston, the ivory trade in the Lake Ngami region was worth \$3,000,000 a year.

Various kinds of animals would doubtless increase again if some protective measures were taken in their behalf, but there are not many Khama who have sufficient foresight to endeavor, in the interests of their own people, to prevent the extermination of these valuable animals.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

WOMAN'S WORLD.

PLEASANT LITERATURE FOR FEMINE READERS.

A ROYAL SCOUR WOMAN. Dom Pedro's daughter, the Countess d'Eu, who lays claim to her father's hereditary "right" of ruling Brazil, is most unpopular among the Brazilians.

She is not up to a bigot and has very eccentric notions of economy. According to the stories told of her she used to scrub the steps of the royal palace with her own hands as an example for the encouragement of thrift among the people.—Chicago News.

WANTED: A SKIRT STRETCHER. And now is the day for some clever woman to invent a skirt stretcher which can be expanded and hung inside the skirt when it is not doing duty upon its owner. Skirts are made so very contracted that the fair wearers frequently have the mortification of finding that the front of their skirts are "bunched" out even as men's trousers become kneed. A skirt stretcher which could be placed inside the skirt, and which would adapt itself to the proper size, would supply a long-felt want.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

THE DAUGHTER OF AN EMPEROR. Senorita Josephine Turbide, the youngest daughter of the Mexican Emperor Turbide, died a few days ago in the City of Mexico.

The lady was born in the year 1812, and was eleven years old when her father was banished from Mexico. After his return to Mexico and execution in 1824, his family was granted a pension. Owing to the attempt of Maximilian to restore the Turbide dynasty, the Mexican Republic stopped the pension over twenty years ago.

Princess Turbide, the only surviving child of the Emperor, has been living all these last years in straitened circumstances. Captain Frank Mullins, a large-hearted and chivalrous Irishman, years ago attached himself to her fortunes, and has served her with a fidelity and single-heartedness most rare and notable in this prosaic age.

Her death leaves Don Augustin Turbide the only surviving representative of the family in Mexico. He is a grandson of the first Emperor, the son of an American lady. The young Prince was adopted by Maximilian as his political heir.—New Orleans Picayune.

APPEARANCE OF A WOMAN'S FOOT. On the principle that "All's well that ends well," the appearance of a woman's foot is of supreme importance.

Treat your shoes properly. Have one pair made of rain weather, for rubber, suit fine leather. Avoid varnish and blacking of all kinds, and substitute vaseline.

First, rub your shoes with a piece of old, black silk, then apply the vaseline with a soft, black kid glove. If you insist on your dressmaker facing your shoes with velvet or velveteen instead of braid; you will lessen your shoemaker's bills and be saved from the purple bluish on the instep caused by the movements of the shoes in walking.

When polished shoes come out of the dust pan, rub them with a soft, black kid glove. If you insist on your dressmaker facing your shoes with velvet or velveteen instead of braid; you will lessen your shoemaker's bills and be saved from the purple bluish on the instep caused by the movements of the shoes in walking.

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HOUSEHOLD MATTERS.

PERFUME FOR GLOVES.

Mix two ounces of spirits of wine with four ounces of extract of ambergris. Rub the inside of the gloves as well as the small piece of cotton wool which has been previously dipped in the mixture, it will give them a pleasant and lasting perfume.—New York World.

TO SPONGE CLOTH. All heavy wool cloth for gowns, cloaks or jackets should be sponged before cutting. This prevents shrinking in damp weather and the showing of spots of water.

To sponge cloth, cotton cloths, preferably pieces of sheets, are wrung out in cold water and spread smoothly on the right side of the goods till it is entirely covered. The goods themselves are then rolled up and left twenty-four hours with the damp cloth in them.

Care should be taken that the damp cloth is not too thick, and that the rolling is even, else the wrinkles will print themselves in the woolen cloth and are difficult to remove.—St. Louis Republic.

DON'T MEND YOUR GLOVES WITH SILK. It is a very common habit, but a great mistake, to mend gloves with silk, as the silk will cut the knit more than fine cotton thread, thus showing the mend far more plainly.

For the same reason, according to a correspondent of the Housekeeper's Weekly, it will not hold the edges of the knit so firmly, but instead will cut through in time.

Use a good quality of sewing with cotton thread. The manufacturers understand the difference in the material and use the most satisfactory. Turaid of all shades, especially put up in twist for glove mending, could be bought for a trifle less than the ordinary quality.

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AGRICULTURAL.

TOPICS OF INTEREST RELATIVE TO FARM AND GARDEN.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY. Microscopical examination of pus taken from the jaw of a bullock suffering from lumpy jaw at Peoria, Illinois, recently gave the startling discovery that the spores are smaller than the blood corpuscles.

They can thus readily circulate through the veins to all parts of the body. And it is thought this fact makes the disease highly contagious, though we do not quite see that this should follow. However, we believe it good policy to destroy any animals known to be affected.—Noblesse Farmer.

GOOSEBERRY MILDEW. The New York Agricultural Experiment Station has for the past three years successfully combated gooseberry mildew, by commencing to spray as soon as the young leaves begin to unfold, and continuing at intervals of from eighteen to twenty days, except in case of heavy rains, when it is necessary to spray more often.

The fungicide used is potassium sulphide (liver of sulphur), the half ounce to one gallon of water. By forcing hot water the sulphide will dissolve more readily. Commercial liver of sulphur costs but from fifteen to twenty cents per pound, and one gallon of the solution is sufficient to spray ten or twelve large bushes if applied with a forcing pump. The ammoniacal solution and the bordeaux were also effective.—New York Observer.

THE CHEAPEST FEEDING MATERIALS. Lined cake is the staple food with many farmers. It is the material which this article will advance beyond a reasonable price, and the farmer should cast about to see if there is not some food which can be bought so as to pay him better.

A good lined cake is the best food for a rural purpose because it contains a fair proportion of the different forms of feeding matter that animals require; and one of its great features is the oil, a substance not strongly represented in grain and pulse. It is only because the feeding conditions are well balanced that it is preferred to other foods, and if other foods are mixed so as to possess the same properties equally good results are obtained.

The oil is the chief difficulty, but that may be easily overcome by buying the lined cake instead of lined cake, for then the whole of the oil is obtained. Lined cake contains about four times as much oil as lined cake, so if in making a mixture we bear this point in mind, the most difficult part of the problem will be solved.

Of course, the lined cake must be crushed or soaked. To supply the oil and linseed matter which is found in the cake we have to turn to the pulse crops, beans, peas, lentils, maize and barley.—Mark Lane (England) Express.

SOILSOLING. In the June report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture a plan for testing the merits of soilsolving is given, which was subsequently recommended on this page as worthy the attention of farmers.

The plan in this way determine without soilsolving the amount of fertilizer which will be sufficiently profitable to justify the additional expense. Briefly stated, the plan consists in soilsolving narrow strips, say about two rods in width, through a field planted the crop across the strips and leaving the remainder of the field in the direction of No. 1 row, and every second row to be soilsolved.

According to a more recent report the theory and practice of soilsolving has been thoroughly and practically tested at Medicine Lodge, Kansas, during the past season. The strips were soilsolved in the direction of No. 1 row, and every second row to be soilsolved.

Another piece of ground was plowed and sown in the usual way, but not soilsolved, and also planted to corn of the same variety. Both fields received the same care and cultivation. The grounds which were soilsolved yielded about eighteen tons of corn to the acre; while on the other piece, which was not soilsolved, the yield was only about ten tons.

Mr. Mohler, the Secretary of the State Board, recommends that farmers who intend to sow alfalfa should by all means soilsolve. If the soil is unplanted it is the more important. This plan sinks its roots down from five to ten more feet into the soil, provided the hard and dry condition of the soil allows. It is this deep rooting which enables alfalfa to endure the severest drought, hot winds or any other calamities which the farmer may encounter. When a good stand of this plant is secured, it will last for a generation or more, yielding valuable crops each year.—New York World.

Look out for bee moths. Turkey's will degenerate very rapidly, by imbrication. Do not allow the poultry to run with the fattening hogs. You will find farm-yard manure a good much for all apple trees. If it pays to work with and run an incubator at all it will pay to manage so as to get all there is in it.

Trim out the rough and tangled. Burn the trimmings on land that will not be plowed, or at least where it will not kill grass in pasture or meadow. Snyder, Agawam, Stone's Hardy and Western Triumph are reported to be varieties of blackberries that prove hardiest at the Ottawa (Canada) station.

Be sure the quince tree did not bear the last season, whose fruit was it? Did it have plenty of manure? If not, why not? Have you given it any for the next crop? If an accurate account was kept, we think it would show that more house plants are killed in winter from an over supply of water than a shortage. See that your vines have just the right amount.

The Rural New Yorker calls attention to the Palouse apple, a seedling of great hardiness, a good keeper and fine as regards quality. The original tree was raised from seed brought from Illinois in 1879 by George Rusby, of Colfax, Washington.

Some years ago, when grafting the grape was first advocated as a means of protecting certain varieties against the phylloxera, the editor of the Rural New Yorker tried many experiments. He now says "that one method proved practically, viz., slit-grafting in early spring below the surface and heaping the earth about the stock, after they had been firmly bound together without the use of wax."

Peas when grown as a field crop should be sown about four inches deep, which can be done with a steel drill, or by sowing upon the surface and then plowing four inches deep with narrow furrows. They yield about 1 1/2 tons of seed to the acre, when ground, make one of the best grays for stock feeding, and are particularly for milk cows. Two pounds of pea meal is supposed to have a feeding value equal to six pounds of wheat bran.

CURIOSITIES.

A snail has 30,000 teeth. Spiders usually live two or three years.

A coal black deer was recently seen by a party of hunters in the woods of Maine. White deer, which was once extremely rare, are now said to be plentiful in eastern Maine.

A prominent Indianapolis (Ind.) business man has two cats that are better retrievers than most dogs. Each year about \$50,000 is expended in sprinkling the asphalt-paved streets of London, England, with sand to prevent the horses from slipping.

A valuable find of skeletons belonging to the fourth dynasty was recently made in Egypt. This is the earliest known date of Egyptian remains.

Ches was played by the Chinese 170 years before the Christian era, and probably long before that, for the ancient Persians are supposed to have known it. The Hindoos have a cocoanut festival every year at the end of the monsoon. During the festival athletic contests take place and wandering minstrels recite their tales and poems.

Zoo's fables were not written by their author. They were related and handed down until the fourteenth century, when they were collected and published by a monk.

A cribu snake is one of the interesting pets at the Central Park (New York), menagerie. It has a taste for devouring other snakes and it is feared by them all, even the poisonous.

Acorns are prized as an article of diet among some tribes of Indians. They are pounded into meal, which is mixed with water and kneaded into dough for baking in the style of hockeak.

An enormous crab of the Malay Islands lives upon the fruits of the cocoanut which it secures by climbing the tree. It breaks the nuts either by hauling them down or by beating against the rocks.