

Close Shooting. An Englishman who lived many years in Africa says that it is now several years since he ventured to take one of the most daring shots that ever was hazarded. His wife was sitting in the house near the open door, and the children were playing about her, and he was without not far away busy with a wagon. Suddenly, he says, though it was a Monday, an enormous lion appeared at a short distance, slowly advanced, and laid himself quietly down in the shade upon the very threshold of the door. My wife, frozen with fear, remained motionless in her place. The children took refuge in her lap, and the very they uttered attracting my attention, I hastened toward the door. My astonishment and horror may be imagined when I found the entrance of the door. The lion had not seen me, and I glided gently, scarcely knowing what I meant to do, to the side of the house and to the window of my chamber in which I knew my loaded gun was standing. By a happy chance I had set in a corner close by the window, so that I could reach it from the outside, and, still more fortunately, the door was open so that I could see the whole danger of the scene. There was no time to think, for the lion was beginning to move, perhaps with the intention of making a spring. I called softly to the mother not to be afraid, and then fired. The ball passed directly over my boy's head and lodged in the forehead of the lion immediately above the eyes of the lion. There was an instant of fearful suspense. Then I fired again; but the second bullet was thrown away for his majesty never stirred after the first shot, and I leaped over his prostrate body to clasp my wife and children in my arms.—Youth's Companion.

**WONDERFUL** are the cures by Hood's Sarsaparilla, and yet they are simple and natural. Hood's Sarsaparilla makes **PURE BLOOD.**

**Vertical Writing.**

The introductory remarks to an exercise by Miss Slocum, of the Goldsboro graded school, before the Wayne County Association January 25th.

Vertical writing originated in Europe, and, strange as it may seem, was the product of hygienic rather than pedagogical investigation. Indeed, it has been said that eminent medical specialists, in searching out the cause for the increasing prevalence of spinal troubles traced them to sloping writing. The agitation in favor of vertical writing began several years ago, and noted physicians, having given it a fair test, declare it to be the hygienic, the easiest and the most natural. Vertical writing is a reform, not merely as to the style of the letter, but is primarily a reform as to posture—that to prevent spinal curvature, the pupil should sit in an upright position, with the paper placed directly in front of him, the edges of the paper parallel to the edges of the desk, the feet firmly on the floor. The vertical hand will naturally grow out of this posture. Some one has said: "Writing has but one main purpose—communication of thoughts." To the reader, that is the best writing from which he can get thought most rapidly, and with the least strain upon the eyes. To the writer, that is the best style that admits of the most hygienic position, easiest movement and greatest rapidity. These conditions certainly prevail in round, upright letters.—Institute Monthly.

The chairman of the Republican executive committee in Cabarrus is a negro. In Union there are two chairmen who are blackguarding each other. The secretary of one of these chairmen is John Hart, a negro, who served a term in the penitentiary for larceny.—Raleigh Press.

**Some Don't's.**

Don't abuse a paper unless you pay for it. Borrowers are the greatest fault finders a newspaper has to contend with.

Don't expect a paper to abuse the town government for your special benefit.

Don't take a paper cut of the post-office for five years and then refuse to pay for it because you "never subscribed for it nohow." You could have refused it four years and eleven months before.

Don't get mad if your visitor's name does not appear in the personal columns. Perhaps you did not tell the editor: he's not a mind reader.

Don't stop a paper if your three column contribution is condensed into eight lines. The condenser may have done you a great favor.

Don't cuss the editor because his opinions do not conform to yours. If they did he might be at variance with some eight or ten thousand other persons.

Don't delay paying your subscription because it is a small matter. If all the subscribers did the same way it would kill the paper in six months.

Don't get mad if the editor holds up your communication a few days. He is the best judge when there is room or not. And don't get mad if he does not print it. He knows or ought to know whether it is best to publish it or not.—Greenville Reflector.

"Half a span of angry steel" will produce no more fatal results than a neglected cold or cough. For all throat and lung diseases, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is the best medicine. It is invaluable in cases of croup, whooping cough, bronchitis and la grippe.

**Coronation of the Tsar.**

Nicholas II., emperor of all the Russias, who ascended the throne in October, 1894, is to be formally crowned at Moscow next month and the ancient capital will be the scene of a series of impressive pageants. The actual ceremony of coronation will take place May 26th, in the cathedral in the Kremlin, but the fetes and spectacles which precede and follow have been so arranged as to include a celebration of the twenty-eighth birthday of the tsar, May 18th and the birthday of the tsarina, June 6th. The tsar and tsarina are to arrive at the Petrovsky palace near Moscow on the first mentioned date, and make their triumphal entry into the city three days later. Fetes, pageants, concerts, balls, dinners and processions will follow each other daily until June 7th, when the ceremonies will conclude with a grand review of troops. Most of the governments of Europe and Asia will be officially represented at the coronation.—Youth's Companion.

**A Novel Team.**

A traveller will not meet every day with a sight so strange as one reported, on the authority of a St. Louis gentleman, in the Washington Star, as having seen in western North Carolina.

I was driving over a mountain road, says this gentleman, when I heard a wagon ahead of me coming around a bend. The next moment my horses shied, and began trembling with the most abject terror. They would not advance a step. I jumped out of the wagon and stood by the horses quieting them till the strange team should pass.

"Don't be skeered, stranger," the driver of the team called out. "They won't hurt nothing."

He was driving a team of full grown bears. The cart was loaded with logs, and they were making about as fast time as a yoke of oxen would have done. The bears paid no attention to me or my horses, but went stolidly about their business.—Youth's Companion.

**Original Observer.**

The want of money is the root of much evil.

Maid of Orange, ere we part, loan me a dollar to give me a start.

Children are brought up on bottles but men are brought down on them.

An Orange girl says she is just like a wheel, because she has nine fellows.

A frown is the shadow of ill-temper which shuts out the sunlight of good cheer.

Most of the shadows which cross our path in life are caused by standing in our own light.

The bright side of life is that which catches the reflected gleams of Heaven and re-echoes its harmonies.

Bonnet strings will be worn very short the coming season, but bonnet bills come long as usual.

When it comes to getting presents we would much rather receive a girl's hand than her father's foot.—Orange (Va.) Observer.

**Mexico and the Monroe Doctrine.**

President Diaz has devoted a large part of his message to the Mexican Congress in the first week of April to the Monroe doctrine. He explained that Mexico had not felt called upon to define its attitude upon the boundary dispute between Venezuela and British Guiana, in the absence of such information as was possessed by the United States. Now as that crisis has passed, he expresses the opinion that Mexico should assist the republics of this hemisphere against the attacks of Europe, if such attacks are possible. He suggests that each of these republics should adopt a declaration like that of President Monroe making it clear that any attempt by a foreign power to curtail the territory or independence, or to alter the institutions of any one of the republics would be regarded by others as an attack upon themselves.—Exchange.

**Jefferson's Ten Rules.**

- 1. Take things always by the handle.
- 2. Never spend your money before you have it.
- 3. We seldom repent of having eaten too little.
- 4. Pride cost more than hunger, thirst and cold.
- 5. Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly.
- 6. Never put off till tomorrow what you can do to-day.
- 7. Never trouble another for what you can do yourself.
- 8. Never buy what you do not want because it is cheap.
- 9. How much pain the evils have cost us that have never happened.
- 10. When angry, count ten before you speak; if very angry count one-hundred.

**Useful Gum-Chewing.**

Even so disagreeable a habit as gum-chewing may once in a while serve a useful purpose, as witness an incident narrated by the Chicago Journal:

A guest was washing his ring in a washbowl, when the diamond came out and started for the sewer. It could be seen at the turn in the pipe, but was out of reach.

The clerk of the Auditorium Annex, in which the accident occurred, appeared on the scene. He was equal to the emergency. He called a bell boy and sent for a package of chewing-gum. When it was brought the boy chewed gum as he never had before. Then putting the soft, plastic quid on the end of a long lead-pencil he reached for the diamond. His aim was true, the diamond stuck in the gum, and was brought out safely.

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**Imitation Furs.**

After the furrier, chemist and dyer have got through with the rabbit skin it may be a sealskin, a sable, an otter, a Siberian squirrel, a mink, a marten, a beaver or any other fashionable fur. The transformation takes place in the shops which sell felt to hatmakers, carpet weavers and felt manufacturers, and Paris and London are the principal centers for this industry. In those cities millions of rabbit skins are dressed and treated, and the bogus furs are sent out to robe men and women of all parts of the world.

Rabbit skins are not the only pelts which are transformed into furs that bear the names of animals living in ice and snow. Monkeys from Africa and South America send their skins to the furrier to be made into fine raiment. Cats are skinned to supply the demand for sealskins and beaver. The shaggy curls of the Newfoundland dog are made into buffalo robes, and the skins of fox tailed squirrels are sold as imitations of rare furs.

The United States buys more imitation furs than any other country, and millions of them are sent to China to line the mantles and robes of mandarins. Large numbers of rabbit and cat skins are treated and dyed in this country, but the French furrier has the credit of producing the best imitations.

The furrier's trade is not a healthy one, for the dust and short hairs which are beaten out of the skins fill the lungs and thus shorten the lives of many workmen. This is not the case, however, with American furriers, for machinery and improved appliances used in this country and better ventilation serve to keep the air of the workshops comparatively free from the injurious dust. In making fur clothing many skins are sewed together, and the workman not only must have the skill necessary to conceal the seams, but must be able to perfectly match the several skins.—Chicago Record.

**Theatrical Managers Today.**

A vast and disproportionate army of theatrical managers, men whose daring desire it is to see their names in 2 by 4 letters and their faces in five colors on the advertising boards, has sprung up by the opportunity afforded for the exercise of the art of getting something for nothing. By imperceptible degrees the position of the actor has been entirely changed. Once he was a person who possessed a certain power and was entitled to a certain consideration. He knew how to act and what was necessary toward the making of a good play. His opinion was deferred to and his judgment sought. The commercial prosperity of the old time "agent" has, however, made that member arrogant in these regards, and he now no longer defers to the experience of the man who plays. The latter must conform his conduct to the direction of the box office man, and much and great is the dissatisfaction resulting from this reversal of function. Not the least important of the dissatisfied parties is the public. It sees, without knowing why, that there is something wrong with both actor and play, and it naturally blames the actor. He is the one responsible to it. No agent can represent the actor in his work.

If the actor is blameworthy for helping to break down the rational organization of the theater, the manager is equally so for thrusting himself into the actor's place and presuming to dictate how and what plays shall be performed. Does it not always happen that the pleasing power of any given play or set of plays is referred solely to the actors, and do they not eventually become the actual controllers of the theater, no matter how assiduously the agent of their work tries to keep his name in print as the head of "my theater" or of "my company"?—Forum.

**Up In the Morning.**

The servant question would be easily solved if all girls were as smart as the one in the following story:

A mother, commending her daughter for a situation, was asked if she was an early riser.

"An early riser!" she exclaimed. "Well, I should think so. 'By, she's up in the morning and has breakfast ready and makes all the beds before any one else is up in the house!"—Youth's Companion.

**Inscrutable Mystery.**

"Mamma," asked the little girl, peering in between two recent leaves of the magazine, "how did they ever get the printing in there?"—Chicago Tribune.

**Consumption AND ITS CURE**

TO THE EDITOR:—I have an absolute remedy for Consumption. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been already permanently cured. So proof-positive am I of its power that I consider it my duty to send two bottles free to those of your readers who have Consumption, Throat, Bronchial or Lung Trouble, if they will write me their express and postoffice address. Sincerely, T. A. SLOCUM, M. C., 183 Pearl St., New York.

**NOTICE.** I WANT every man and woman in the United States interested in the Opium and Whisky habits to have one of my books on these diseases. Address B. M. Woolley, Atlanta, Ga., Box 862, and one will be sent you free.

**Prevention** better than cure, Tutt's Liver Pills will not only cure, but if taken in time will prevent **Sick Headache,** dyspepsia, biliousness, malaria, constipation, jaundice, torpid liver and kindred diseases. **TUTT'S Liver PILLS ABSOLUTELY CURE.**

**Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Ry.** JOHN GILL, Receiver. **CONDENSED SCHEDULE** In effect Dec. 8, 1896.

NORTH BOUND. NO 2 DAILY. Leave Wilmington 7:25 a m. Arrive Fayetteville 10:35 " Leave Fayetteville 10:55 " Leave Fayetteville Junction 10:57 " Leave Sanford 12:10 p m Arrive Climax 2:25 " Arrive Greensboro 2:56 " Leave Greensboro 3:05 " Leave Stokesdale 3:59 " Arrive Walnut Cove 4:31 " Leave Walnut Cove 4:38 " Leave Rural Hall 5:17 " Arrive Mt. Airy 6:45 "

SOUTH BOUND. NO 1 DAILY. Leave Mt. Airy 9:35 a m Leave Rural Hall 11:05 " Arrive Walnut Cove 11:35 " Leave Walnut Cove 11:45 " Leave Stokesdale 12:12 p m Arrive Greensboro 12:58 " Leave Greensboro 1:03 " Leave Climax 1:32 " Leave Sanford 3:19 " Arrive Fayetteville Junction 4:30 " Arrive Fayetteville 4:33 " Leave Fayetteville 4:45 " Arrive Wilmington 7:55 "

NORTH BOUND. NO 4 DAILY. Leave Bennettsville 8:25 a m Arrive Maxton 9:23 " Leave Maxton 9:29 " Leave Red Springs 9:55 " Leave Hope Mills 10:35 " Arrive Fayetteville 10:52 "

SOUTH BOUND. NO 3 DAILY. Leave Fayetteville 4:38 p m Leave Hope Mills 4:58 " Leave Red Springs 5:42 " Arrive Maxton 6:12 " Leave Maxton 6:13 " Arrive Bennettsville 7:20 "

NORTH BOUND. NO 16 MIXED DAILY, except Sunday. Leave Ramsauer 6:45 a m Leave Climax 8:35 " Arrive Greensboro 9:20 " Leave Greensboro 9:35 " Leave Stokesdale 10:50 " Arrive Madison 11:50 "

SOUTH BOUND. NO 15 MIXED DAILY, except Sunday. Leave Madison 12:25 p m Leave Stokesdale 1:28 " Arrive Greensboro 2:35 " Leave Greensboro 3:10 " Leave Climax 3:55 " Arrive Ramsauer 5:50 "

**NORTH BOUND CONNECTIONS** at Fayetteville with Atlantic Coast Line for all points North and East at Sanford with the Seaboard Air Line, at Greensboro with The Southern Railway Company, at Walnut Cove with the Norfolk & Western Railroad for Winston-Salem.

**SOUTH BOUND CONNECTIONS** at Walnut Cove with the Norfolk & Western Railroad for Roanoke and points North and West, at Greensboro with the Southern Railway Company for Raleigh, Richmond and all points North and East, at Fayetteville with the Atlantic Coast Line for all points South, at Maxton with Seaboard Air Line for Charlotte, Atlanta and all points South and Southwest. J. W. FRY, W. E. KYLE, Gen'l Manager, Gen'l Pass. Agent.

**ORINOCO TOBACCO GUANO** Rocky Mount, N. C. Sept. 27, 1895. F. S. ROYSTER—Dear Sir:—For the last four years I have used no other than the so-called high grade, high priced tobacco fertilizers, and can say with the use of Orinoco Guano this season I have realized in growth, color and body more satisfactory results. Very truly, JOHN H. TERRY. F. S. ROYSTER GUANO CO. FARMER, N. C. & NORFOLK, VA.

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**Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.**