

France is the only European country which has today fewer able bodied men than it had thirty years ago.

The Iron Age denies that Krupp, at Essen, Germany, is the greatest producer of crucible steel in the world, and gives that honor to a Pennsylvania concern.

It has been computed that in a single cubic foot of the ether which fills all space there are locked up 10,000 foot tons of energy which has hitherto escaped notice. To unlock this boundless store and subdue it to the service of man is a task that awaits the electrician of the future.

In this country 2,500 women are practicing medicine, 275 preaching the gospel, more than 6,000 managing post offices, and over 3,000,000 among independent incomes. Since 1880 the post office has granted over 2,500 permits to women, and in New York City 27,000 women support their husbands.

Mormonism has taken a considerable hold in New Zealand, mainly among the Maoris, the latest statistics showing the sect to have 3,476 members in New Zealand, of whom but 242 are Europeans. The annual conference was held recently, and hundreds of Maori members, including several leading chiefs, attended. Twenty Mormon elders are at present in New Zealand trying to spread the faith.

There are many misconceptions about aluminum that are widespread and which it seems difficult to correct in the public mind. Aluminum is not a metal, it is a chemical element, a silvery white metal. It is only one-fifth as strong as wrought iron. It has a very low elastic limit. It is not rigid, but bends under a transverse strain readily. It is in its alloyed state its utility commences to appear. With about twelve per cent of copper or aluminum bronze, we have one of the most dense, finest grained and strongest metals known.

The flock of England note is five inches by eight in size, and is printed in black ink on Irish linen paper with ragged edges. The notes of the Bank of France are made of white water-laid paper, printed in blue and black, with numerous cryptographical and allegorical pictures, and running in the middle from the twenty franc note to the 1,000 franc note. The German bank notes are printed in green and black. They run in denominations from 5,000 to 1,000 marks. Their paper bills are printed on silk fibre paper. Italian bills are of all sizes, shapes and colors. The smaller bills, five and ten lire notes, are printed on white paper in black ink, blue and vermilion inks. The 100 ruble note of Russia is printed from top to bottom with all the colors of the rainbow, blended as when shown through a prism.

The Patent Office at Washington has a collection of pens that illustrate the difficulties with which penmen had to contend before they found a suitable instrument with which to write. There are the styles used by the ancients, the instruments for writing on wax tablets, and the quill pen, and the other that like a paper-knife. There are the brushes used by the Japanese and Chinese of the present day, and quills of every variety, together with an infinite number of steel pens. But the most curious are some quill pens with steel points. They were made in an effort to do away with the constant necessity for the mending of the pen, a process that few could perform properly and that everybody hated. The effort was very ingenious, but unnecessary, because the points could not be made to stay.

It is interesting to note the striking differences in amount and degree that characterize the correspondence of representatives from different sections of the country, says the Washington Star. The mail of representatives from the New England and north Atlantic States is comparatively light, that of representatives from the middle States is moderate, and from the south and west, and that of the western and southwestern and southern States is exceedingly heavy. In other words, it seems that the people of the older States, particularly of the thirteen original States, which had their existence before the Union was established, lean but lightly upon the federal government and have but few wants to express in correspondence to their representatives at Washington, while residents of the newer States, whose State governments were created simultaneously with their admission into the Union, are apt to look to Washington for nearly everything they want. In the old States along the Atlantic seaboard the people by instinct and tradition rely upon themselves and upon their State governments, while in the later admitted States, especially those beyond Illinois to the north and west, as for example Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and Missouri, the people appear by custom to be more dependent upon the general government. Particularly is this the case in States where conditions of acute unrest and dissatisfaction prevail from industrial or financial causes.

FARM AND GARDEN.

DATE FOR COWS.

Owing doubtless, to the conditions of life abroad, foreign farmers are more thrifty than American. This is exemplified in the manner many of the Germans handle their oats which are intended for feed. As soon as the oats are taken to the barn, they are run through a feed cutter, and cut into inch lengths. The advantages of this method are the need of less room, readiness at all times for feeding, and immunity from mice, which can not work among the finely cut straw.

HOUSE MEAT.

In France and Germany there are many stores where horse meat alone is sold. Such meat is highly esteemed. As a soup meat it is considered by many superior to beef and the soup is described as a beautiful amber color, floating alike to eye and palate. Of course horses are not raised expressly for the butcher, but whenever an animal meets with an injury it is sold to those making a business of slaughtering horses. All animals are inspected by Government officials before killing, so that there is little danger of any diseased meat being sold.

The French reason that the horse is a cleanly animal, far superior in such respect to the hog or even the cow, and that the preparation and expense have alone operated hitherto in keeping him from entering the field in competition with them. Here is a chance for horse keepers who have long demanded a change from beef to mutton, and then back again to beef. When cooked horse flesh is said to be rather soft and tough. (New York World.)

FEEDING OF COWS.

Seventy and one-half millions of acres of maize are grown yearly in the United States, mostly for the grain, but the entire of the fodder is also increasing. Feeding experiments conducted by H. J. Patterson, of the Maryland Station, show that all parts of the corn plant contain valuable food materials, the dry matter having nearly the same composition. The corn stalks and husks contain sixty per cent of the total digestible matter produced by the plant, the blades eleven per cent, and the cobs twenty-five per cent. The corn fodder from one acre produced as much digestible matter as two tons of timothy hay.

When corn fodder was contained in the corn cobs from the same acre, the stalks contain seventy-two per cent of digestible matter, the stalks, six per cent, and the cobs one per cent, the total being sixty per cent. The smaller hills, five and ten lire notes, are printed on white paper in black ink, blue and vermilion inks. The 100 ruble note of Russia is printed from top to bottom with all the colors of the rainbow, blended as when shown through a prism.

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PLANT PLANTING.

All the plowing that can be done during the fall months should be in preparation for the spring work. The early sowing of seed may be greatly hastened by this timely preparation. The land will be much benefited by the exposure to the frost and the tillage during the winter. It will be broken down and pulverized and reduced to an almost insuperable fineness in this way, thus rendering a thoroughly portion of it available as a source of plant food. The first crops may be sown several days earlier by the preparation thus made, and this surface is often equivalent to the sowing of the soil. For barley it is equally successful, for every experienced barley grower knows how nearly the mellowness of the land has to do with the successful growth of this crop. Indeed, it is the same for all other crops. Time taken by the farmer in this way is worth a great deal to the farmer, and the opportunity of sowing these advantages should not be lost.

Fall plow land, especially if it is at all heavy and clayey, may be sowed without spring plowing by means of a thorough harrowing with any of the earlier harrows, the action of which is in effect much like that of a plow, cutting the soil and turning it to a sufficient depth to cover the seed. This has been done some years during February or March, when the oat sowing has been done and finished long before the land could be turned by a plow. This is precisely what this valuable grain wants for its best growth, a cool soil and an early start, so as to escape the summer heat by which the grain is so much deteriorated. This grain needs as long a season as can be afforded, and thus the fall plowing and early harrowing by such an implement as is referred to are of the most essential benefit. (New York Times.)

FATTENING FOR MARKET.

It is useless to try and raise all your fowls for the prize pen. Some of

them are bound to be culls. So the best plan is to weed out the less promising stock at an early date.

Remove such birds—and especially all the imperfectly feathered or ill-shaped cockerels—from among their mates. Place them, fifteen or twenty together, in a closed coop, that is clean and comfortable for them to eat and rest in, without crowding each other. Give them fresh water to drink, with a little cayenne pepper thrown into it, two or three times a week, and feed them all they will eat up clean three times a day, upon boiled corn and wheat meal with potatoes (a little salted), one part of each; into which, while hot, stir a pound of common lard, beef tallow, or chandler's scraps (perfectly sweet, mind), to six or eight quarts of mash.

Feed this out when warm—have a basin of coarse gravel handy, which they will eat all they need of, to assist digestion—occasionally mix a little powdered charcoal in this food (which latter is an excellent purifier, and guards against the souring of their food in the crop) and in two or three weeks your birds will be at their best. Kill, dress and market them, and thus make the wisest disposal you can make of all your surplus or undesirable fowls.

While this process is going on, say, on a farm, it will be observed that the birds are in close, compact coops, open only in front. These may be placed in the barn, or anywhere most convenient for the time being. They will not suffer from a body, from the cold. The coops should be set on the ground, with straw or leaves for a flooring. The heat of the fowls' bodies will serve to keep each other warm enough in the thickest of the cold. They have to exercise, and they have nothing to do but eat, rest, sleep and grow fat. This method is simple, economical and the best trouble-free. In twelve to twenty-four days, at the outside, birds thus treated should be in their best condition for slaughtering. (Farm, Field and Fireside.)

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Bekin chicks are profitable. Get quality and action with size. All hens are fat when they wish to set. Blackhead is a good egg-producing food. It gives to the egg a more uniform color and a more uniform size. Hens and ducks are very fond of pebbles. Pebbles favor best from fallow or virgin woods. What is one of the best egg-producing foods. Five good fowls are better than fifty poor ones. Chopped is entirely discarded by hens about to lay. It is best to keep only one or two varieties of poultry. A sprinkling of fresh earth is one of the best disinfectants. It is economy to supply green food to hens in confinement. Whenever fruit is grown a spraying apparatus is a necessity. A common-sized joint bit is generally the best to drive treenails with. A sudden change of food will often cause a shrinkage in the cow's milk. The bit should be made as pliant as the horse's can be, and have him safe. Dry and old smells should be carefully avoided about the milking place. Cereations should now be taken from the ground and set in their benches. A small patch of grain sown where the fowls can get at it will promote winter laying. The insects that chickens gather when allowed the run of the farm are a good substitute for manure. Do not let the light from the window in the stable fall directly in the eyes of the horses. Do not be tempted by extra prices to part with the early pullets which will soon be laying. Although the horse market is dull, there is still a good demand for the better classes of horses. Wheat and buckwheat when the flesh of poultry; yellow corn gives the flesh a yellow tint. Hens cannot produce eggs unless their food contains the elements of which the egg is composed. Cows require very little exercise, and should not be compelled to travel over a large area in search of pasture. For the first few weeks game fowls are rather delicate. Afterwards they become hardy and are excellent table fowls. Fowls which feather and mature early are generally considered good egg producers, good sitters and good mothers. All kinds of farm animals do better if given salt frequently. The best plan is to put it where they can have access to it at all times. Hens that are molting should be well fed and given comfortable quarters, so that they may resume their laying and continue through the winter.

Some Valuable Treasures.

Uncle Sam has some very valuable treasures of gold in the National Museum. They are of great worth intrinsically, apart from the historic interest attaching to them. Among these are three massive caskets of solid gold, each as big as a four-pound candy box. They were gifts to Gen. Grant from the cities of London, New York and Glasgow, respectively, containing the freedom of these towns. There is a gold card of invitation to a ball, which was sent to the hero of Appomattox by friends in San Francisco. It was enclosed in a silver envelope, with the address engraved on the outside and an ordinary 2-cent stamp affixed. Also there is a gold scimitar, sent by the Emperor of Morocco to Thomas Jefferson, as well as many gold-hilted swords with solid gold scabbards. Two of these were given to Gen. Shields by the States of South Carolina and Illinois as tokens of appreciation for services in the Mexican war. Congress purchased them from the General's family for \$10,000.

In the same collection is a gold box set with a big N in diamonds, which was presented by Napoleon III. to Joseph Bonaparte, the inventor of the life-saving car. There is also a medal of gold worth \$5,000, which was given by Congress to Francis B. Pickens in recognition of his service to humanity. It is the most valuable medal ever conferred by this Government on an individual. Francis died about six months ago, being long past 90. Some time previously he had surrendered these trophies to the National Museum, and during the last years of his life he constantly haunted that institution, keeping an eye upon the case containing his gold box and medal, while watching with gratified interest the movements of his achievement. A such treasure protected only by glass, are in reality coveted by a system of burglar alarms, so that nobody could touch a single article without sounding the whole building. Once a year all of them are cleaned, though their brightness is but little dimmed, the cases being air tight. There are ever so many golden valuables besides those mentioned, such as the big chunks of gold in the form of shoes most commonly which serve for gold in China, and Japanese gold coins as large as tea plates and bearing curious hieroglyphics—Chicago Times.

Smokeless Powder.

Every country has some form of smokeless powder. France claims to produce, one of the most perfect forms of explosive. Germany has a powder with which it is well satisfied, and Italy has still hopes of ballistite. Corbit, besides being safe, gives the very high initial velocity of 2,800 feet per second to a projectile, and develops a maximum pressure within the gun of 10,000 pounds per square inch. It is a very powerful ammunition, ahead of gun powder.

Thirsty Vegetation.

Roots draw enormous quantities of moisture from the soil, and by this means it is discharged into the atmosphere. For example, the common sundew was found to exhale twelve ounces of water in twelve hours, and an oak tree with an estimated number of 700,000 leaves would in the same way give off something like 700 tons of water during the five months it carries its foliage.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures



Mr. H. C. Allen, of Atlanta, Georgia, writes that he was afflicted with **Flying Rheumatism**, the intense pain being in the lower part of the body to the right of the hip, and in the lower part of the left leg. He was unable to walk for two months, but he is now well and in good health.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Stands at the head in the medicine world, and is the only one that cures in a short time. It has a larger sale than any other medicine. It is a sure cure for all the ailments of the blood.

"German Syrup"

Two bottles of German Syrup cured me of Hemorrhage of the Lungs which other remedies failed. I am a married man and, thirty-five years of age, and live with my wife and two little girls at Durham, Mo. I have stated this brief and plain so that all may understand. My case was a bad one, and I shall be glad to tell anyone about it who will write me. **PHILIP L. SCHENCK, P. O. Box 45, April 25, 1896.** No man could ask a more honorable, business-like statement.

RISING SUN STOVE POLISH

Do Not Be Deceived! It is the only one that cleans and shines the metal of the stove, and keeps it from rusting. It is a sure cure for all the ailments of the metal. It is a sure cure for all the ailments of the metal. It is a sure cure for all the ailments of the metal.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

White is the color of grief in China, Japan and Siam. Solon was the first to establish an exact amount of gold in the coinage. National grants in aid of education were first made in the United States in 1803. The first law degree is believed to have been conferred by the University of Paris, 1143. A chestnut tree 212 feet through and 2,000 years old, stands at the foot of Mount Etna. Uncle Eph Plunkett, of Mirabella Falls, Texas, has taught a rattlesnake to shake his tail to music. Salt blown from the ocean during the recent hurricane has destroyed plants and trees about Nantux, Conn. A student in a New York restaurant the other day created excitement by ordering an egg eaten by six girls.

The first mention of a naval uniform occurred in 1748, when an order was issued by the British admiralty requiring a uniform and describing of what it consisted. The doors which form the entrance to the houses in Lapland are never more than four and a half feet high. Yet the Lap does not have to stoop when he goes inside. A continental note bearing the date of the year 1779 is claimed to be in the possession of J. N. Carter, of Arkansas, Ga. The bill has been in the Carter family for over a century.

Gloves, which are now extensively used in the manufacture of umbrellas and dress pieces, is a product of silk and wool of the quality, its high degree of lustre being due to the silk which it contains. Over 1,000 serious visitations of locusts to Europe are recorded. In the year 541 Italy, Spain, France and Germany were all ravaged by African locusts. After destroying every green thing they died in such immense numbers that the effluvia caused a pestilence that carried off 1,500,000 persons.

Verdon, Texas, is the home of an absent-minded person. One day recently he was hurrying with a big package, which he wished to express, and, seeing that he could not get to the depot in time, had down the package so that he could run faster, and, after a hard run, reached the train, but was surprised that he did not have the package.

The Bank of England note is not of the same thickness way through. The paper is thicker in the left-hand corner, to enable it to take a better and sharper impression of the vignette there, and is also considerably thicker in the dark shadows of the centre of the note and under the figures at the ends. Counterfeit notes are invariably of one thickness.

A curious relic is at the mercy of public sale by the death of a waiter in Paris. He had served at a table in the city where Gaudetta, Floquet, Cushman, Perrier, Jules Ferry, et al. frequently dined. The table is marble, and the famous men covered it with signed epigrams. An American offered the waiter 10,000 francs for the table, but he refused it.

In Olden Times people overlooked the importance of permanently beneficial effects and were satisfied with "transient action, but now that it is generally known that Syrup of Fig is permanently curative of constipation, well informed people will not buy other laxatives, which act for a time but finally injure the system.

Malaria is cured and eradicated from the system by Ross's Iron Bitters, which act on the blood, tones the nerves, aids digestion, acts like a charm on persons in general ill health, giving new energy and strength. If human nature is to hate him whom you have injured.

If afflicted with sore eyes use Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye-water, Druggists sell at 25c per bottle. If you don't want to be detected don't be a chronic prover.

Beckham's Pills are the best and most reliable. Beckham's Pills are the best and most reliable. Beckham's Pills are the best and most reliable.

Old Time Methods of treating Colds and Coughs were based on the idea of suppression. We now know that "feeding a cold" is good doctrine.

Scott's Emulsion of cod-liver oil with hypophosphites, a rich fat-food, cures the most stubborn cough when ordinary medicines have failed. Pleasant to take; easy to digest.

MERCURIAL... About ten years ago I contracted a severe case of blood poisoning. Leading physicians prescribed medicine after medicine, which I took without any relief. I also tried mercurial and potash remedies, with unsuccessful results, but which brought on an attack of mercurial rheumatism that made my life a misery.

INGLESIDE RETREAT... For the treatment of Women. Scientific treatment and strict supervision. Medical apparatus for ladies' use and fitting comfortable. Address: The Retreat, 1125 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

10 CENTS... For the treatment of Women. Scientific treatment and strict supervision. Medical apparatus for ladies' use and fitting comfortable. Address: The Retreat, 1125 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

SHOULD be used wherever yeast has served heretofore. Yeast acts by fermentation and the destruction of part of the gluten of the flour to produce the leavening gas. Royal Baking Powder, through the action of its ingredients upon each other in the loaf while baking, itself produces the necessary gas and leaves the wholesome properties of the flour unimpaired.

It is not possible with any other leavening agent to make such wholesome and delicious bread, biscuit, rolls, cake, pastry, griddle-cakes, doughnuts, etc.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 WALL ST., NEW-YORK.

Lord Norbury.
While practicing at the bar, Toler became a master of repartee. He acquired facility by constant practice, as he never lost an opportunity of firing off a joke, good, bad, or indifferent. When Lord Eccles late, a dull Sassenach, was made Lord Chancellor of Ireland, he gave a dinner to the Irish bar, whose members he had heard were extremely witty. Being totally guileless of wit himself, he determined to be at least entertaining. Accordingly he related some of his best bar stories, which, however, were not up to the high standard of his audience.
At length skating became a subject of conversation, and his lordship said that in his boyhood all danger was avoided, for before they began to skate they always put blown bladders under their arms, so if the ice happened to break they were buoyant and saved.

ALL RUN DOWN.
Tired, Sleepless, Discouraged. Swamp-Root Cured Me.

With local applications, it is not so much the set of the disease, as it is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. (Halls' Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Halls' Catarrh Cure is not a snake medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years, and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best of botanicals, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two elements is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh, Syphilis, Gonorrhea, etc.)

Swamp-Root Cured Me.
It has helped me more than any other medicine I have ever used and I feel that I owe my recovery to it. The Swamp-Root cured me of my Catarrh of the bladder, and I feel that I owe my recovery to it. The Swamp-Root cured me of my Catarrh of the bladder, and I feel that I owe my recovery to it.

W. BAKER & CO'S Breakfast Cocoa

Unlike the Dutch Process No Alkalies. Other Chemicals are used in the preparation of W. BAKER & CO'S Breakfast Cocoa which is absolutely pure and soluble. It has more than three times the amount of Cocoa than any other Cocoa. It is rich in Starch, Arrowroot or Sugar, and is far more economical, containing more than one and a half times as much Cocoa as any other Cocoa. It is delicious, nourishing, and EASILY DIGESTED.

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SHEPPARD'S STOVES AND RANGES

The Best for Either Heating or Cooking. Excel in Style, Comfort and Durability. 260 KINDS OF STOVES AND RANGES. ASK YOUR STOVE DEALER TO SHOW YOU SHEPPARD'S LATEST CATALOGUE. IF HE DOES NOT HAVE ONE, WRITE TO: ISAAC S. SHEPPARD & CO., BALTIMORE, MD. LARGEST MANUFACTURERS IN THE SOUTH.

How Shall I Warm My House?

ALVA HUBBARD & CO., STEAM AND HOT WATER HEATING APPLIANCES. BALTIMORE, MD. WASHINGTON, D. C.

AN IDEAL FAMILY MEDICINE

WATERBURY'S COMPOUND... It is a sure cure for all the ailments of the blood. It is a sure cure for all the ailments of the blood. It is a sure cure for all the ailments of the blood.