

THE COMMONWEALTH.

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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NO. 30.

SEND YOUR ADVERTISEMENTS IN NOW.

THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Points and Paragraphs of Things Present, Past and Future.

The shirt-waist man was "put out" recently at Suffolk court.

According to instructions Sheriff Baker cleared the court-room of the man in the delightfully cool summer garment. The following is related about a wager which the incident provoked:

"When the Sheriff had driven them out one of the excluded wagered another shirt waist man \$2 he could not attend court without a coat. The man who accepted the bet was of short stature and he stayed inside long enough to win before being observed."

Few possessions on a farm or even on a fairly good-sized lot in town pays as well as a cow. The Monroe Journal reprints some facts from the Mooresville Enterprise that are worth remembering. Mayor C. V. Voils in 1890 purchased a cow 18 months old for \$25. He kept her eleven years, during which time the cow produced 4,000 pounds of butter, which at the low price of 15 cents per pound was worth \$600. Mayor Voils sold her for \$25 and said the milk and the fertilizer from the stall had been worth the feed.

THE COMMONWEALTH believes in every man having a cow if she can be allowed some grazing ground or some exercising ground, but to keep cows in stalls or too small pens all the time is a waste of space and cruelty to animals.

The flying machine is coming, it seems, after all. Mr. Santos-Dumont a Frenchman, is said to have about succeeded in making a flying machine that will not only go, but will go where he wants it. It is described as a cigar-shaped balloon propelled by a petroleum motor and capable of speed of twenty miles an hour. He gave an exhibition at Paris recently, and this is what is said of the exhibition:

"M. Santos-Dumont appears to have his machine under perfect control in the air. At a recent trial he sailed five times around the Longchamps race course at a good rate of speed following almost exactly the same line every time.

"Afterwards he made his way directly to several designated points and landed exactly where he started.

"This achievement has attracted much attention and convinced many scientists that the flying machine will soon be so perfected that it can be put to practical uses."

The question was recently asked by the New York World, What is the best use to which Mr. Carnegie can put his \$275,000,000 which he wishes to give away?

A number of persons have expressed the idea that the best thing would be for Mr. Carnegie to make provisions whereby the unhappy, and suffering dinizens in the crowded city tenements in the North could be given an opportunity of taking up farm life in the country.

The Atlanta Journal approves of the plan and says that of all the States Georgia is far and away the best one in which to launch such an enterprise.

THE COMMONWEALTH rises to ask, What is the matter with North Carolina? We had an idea that North Carolina is about the best State in the South for almost anything good.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven Catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and, therefore, requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for any case it fails to cure. Address, circulars and testimonials.

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

INSECTS FOR FOOD.

Men of Science Proclaim Cockroaches and Locusts Rare Delicacies, if Properly Prepared.

A French entomologist, M. Daguin, recommends insects as an article of food. He speaks with authority, having not only read through the whole literature of insect eating, but having himself tasted several hundreds of species raw, boiled, fried, broiled, roasted and hashed. He has even eaten spiders prepared according to the following recipe: "Take a plump spider, remove the legs and skin. Rub over with butter and swallow. However, he does not recommend them, but this may be prejudice on his part. He states two objections to spiders. They are not insects, and they feed on animal food.

Cockroaches are a foundation for a delicious soup. M. Daguin follows the recipe given by Senator Testelin in a speech delivered in the senate on February 12, 1878: "Found my cockroaches in a mortar; put in a sieve, and pour in boiling water or beef stock." Connoisseurs prefer this to red bisque. M. Wilfrid de Fonville, the French scientist, prefers the cockroaches in the larval state. The perfect insect may be shelled and eaten like a shrimp; that way Dr. Gastler, member of the national assembly of 1848, used to eat them.

Caterpillars are a light food of easy digestion. Not only African and American native races but Frenchmen appreciate them. M. de Lalande, astronomer, had dinner every Saturday with the zoologist, Quatremer de Jonvalle. Mme. de Jonvalle, who knew his tastes well, in the afternoon all the caterpillars she could find in her garden and served them on a plate to her guest. The most popular insect food is the locust. It is eaten fried, dried in the sun, ground in flour, broiled (among the Beduin), boiled in milk (a Moroccan recipe), or fried and served with rice as in Madagascar. The Jesuit Father Canoub thinks that locust flour might become popular in Europe as a condiment. Travelers' opinions on locusts differ. Amicis finds they taste like shrimps, Niebuhr like sardines, Livingston like caviar.

FRICION AND SPEED.

A Clear Explanation of a Law That Has Seemed More or Less of a Mystery to Everybody.

The following explanation of why friction is less at high than at low speeds is due to Capt. Galton, who gave it in connection with the Galton-Westinghouse brake trials in England. Railway and Locomotive Engineering, in a discussion of the subject, calls it the clearest explanation yet given. Says the writer:

"It should be borne in mind that any two surfaces which are placed in contact are not perfectly smooth surfaces, but have small inequalities or roughness upon them. The figure shows in a very exaggerated form what two surfaces in contact may be supposed to be like.

THE LAW OF FRICION.

When the two surfaces are at rest relatively to each other, the hills of the upper surface will fit closely into the hollows of the lower one. But if the surfaces are in rapid motion past each other, the upper surface will not have time to fit itself into the lower, but will take a position like that shown in the figure. Then any point A of the upper surface would first be dragged up to the vertex A, and would then fly across the space A C, till it struck some point O on B C. As the speed was greater, the distance through which O would fall in the passage would be less; consequently the distance O C would be less, and the work of dragging O up to the vertex C would be less also. Hence it might be seen how the actual work done per foot-run of service, or, in other words, the apparent coefficient would be less as the speed was greater."

Liquid Air for Blasting. In the new Simpton tunnel experiments have been made with liquid air for blasting purposes. The cartridges consisted of wrappers filled with paraffin and charcoal soaked with liquid air. When placed in the shot holes they were detonated with gunnition primers. The use of these cartridges was discontinued because they had to be fired within a few minutes after being taken out of the liquid, else their power was gone. But the problem of adapting liquid air to blasting is still being studied in Germany.

A Safe for Every Flat. The latest convenience in the New York apartment is a private safe, built into the wall, and so arranged that only the tenant is acquainted with the combination. This makes it possible for the flat dweller possessing valuable silver, jewels and papers to keep them in his apartment instead of in the vaults of the safe deposit or the bank.

Texas Leads the World. Texas produces about a third of the cotton of the country. In peach production the state ranks next to Georgia.

SCIENCE IN WARFARE.

Naval Fight of the Future a Contest Between Flying Machine and Submarine Boat.

Navies are soon to disappear, according to a critic who has been watching recent mechanical development. He knows that nothing is more likely to become obsolete than an existing naval institution, the moment something better is discovered, and he points to the rapid extinction of wooden warships propelled by sails when the Merrimack Monitor fight demonstrated that with such vessels the greatest squadrons under the ablest commanders were at the mercy of a little iron monitor.

Man's command of the air through aeroplanes and flying machines, and his utilization of a water-blanket to protect submarine boats, will, says this critic, render ships that float on the surface worthless. The floating warship, he says, will be subject

to attack from above and from beneath by enemies which it cannot reach.

He draws, therefore, an interesting and thrilling picture of a naval battle of the future, which includes a fight between a flying machine and a submarine boat. This, he says, is not so improbable as it seems.

"The flying machine can, he says, see the submarine beneath the surface when it would be invisible to men on a vessel, just as the fish hawk can locate its submerged victim. As the aeroplane can move with celerity, it can hover over the submarine until the latter is compelled to come to the surface for air or rises for attack. Then it can drop dynamite bombs upon the submarine and train rapid-fires upon its thin shell.

The submarine, however, will not be quite helpless. A well-aimed shot from its bow rapid-fires (which can be uncovered the moment the nose of the boat rises above the surface) would instantly put the flying machine out of business, thus clearing the way for other submarines to rise to the surface or for a bevy of friendly flying machines to come up. Meanwhile, there would be no vessels in sight.

The critic does not, however, utterly extinguish ships. They can, he says, act in a subordinate capacity, dependent upon the preliminary fighting which must be done between flying machines and submarines to clear the mouths of harbors and make navigation safe. It is admitted that a big dynamite or gunnition bomb dropped from the air upon the deck of the strongest warship afloat might be likely to destroy it. Moreover, a submarine getting home a single torpedo upon the bottom of such a ship would sink it.

But naval officers (ever conservative and properly waiting for demonstrated superiority before accepting so-called improvements) comfort themselves with the reflection that command of the air and of the submarine world is far from being actually achieved, and that so far as anybody can see navies will remain in existence for a few years yet.

WARM WEATHER DIET.

Meats, Heavy Soups and Hot Bread Should Be Used Sparingly from June to October.

"It is astounding," said a physician to the writer, "how little thought the people give to their food in relation to various seasons of the year. To this very carelessness I lay much summer sickness, often an illness that ends fatally. Take the matter of left-overs. A warming hash, ragout or meat pie is all right for the depth of winter, but not for weather when the blood needs cooling. I would entreat every housekeeper not to buy a morsel of pork, ham or sausage from June till October. Reserve even beef, lamb and veal for the cooler days of summer, and in long hot spells let meat alone entirely. Nature provides for these burning days with vegetables and fruit, tender chicken and fine, firm, white-fleshed fish. If you have left-over foods to be utilized, convert them into chilled, appetizing salads instead of ragouts. If soups are a necessity, let them be thin consommé or chicken soup, not purées or bisques. I would prohibit pie and rich cake, and let fruit, ices, delicate jellies or milk puddings take their place. I'd also put a veto on hot breads. If people could turn an X-ray on the poor, overworked stomachs I'm called to care for all summer long and see the mischief done by overeating and eating things that have no business to be cooked in hot weather, they would realize I am speaking earnest truth." — Good Housekeeping.

THUMB MARK NONSENSE.

There is No Truth in the Notion That the Marks Never Change Throughout Life.

"A tremendous amount of nonsense has been written about thumb marks," said a New Orleans physiologist, who has a liking for the by-paths of science, reports the Times-Democrat. "It is claimed, you know, that the curious skin configurations of the ball and thumb is never the same in any two people and that it never changes from birth to death. The first statement is, of course, correct, as no human being in the world is exactly like any of his fellows. But the assertion that the thumb marks never change throughout life and would serve as a means of identification from the cradle to the grave, is, to say the least, a decided exaggeration. I have given the subject a careful investigation and have shown by a number of experiments that the configuration is liable to such changes as render it entirely unrecognizable when compared with a print of the original markings. The alterations may come from a variety of causes—anything, in fact, that will destroy the outer layer of skin.

"I took an India ink impression of my own thumb several years ago and not long after I blistered both of them pretty severely while rowing on the lake. As usual the outer skin peeled off and it occurred to me one day to take a new impression and see whether the flesh surface was an exact fac-simile of the old. I was astonished at the variations and all my preconceived ideas of the immutability of the mark were knocked higher than a kite. It is true the changes were more in the nature of a distortion of the former patterns than a complete rearrangement of the lines, but they were so pronounced that any value the marks may have had for identification purposes was entirely lost. They excited my interest and I persuaded a few of my friends to loan me their thumbs for experiments. I first took India ink impressions and then removed the top skin with a solution of arnica. The skin that came off was a mere film— not nearly so thick as in my case—yet in every instance there were distinct and unmistakable alterations in the lines. One man's second print was so changed you would never in the world have identified it with the first. Another modifying cause is the tendency of the thumb to develop little horizontal creases as one grows old. This is especially true of mechanics and other working people who use tools, and eventually the creases will break up the skin configuration to such an extent that it is equivalent almost to a rearrangement of the pattern.

"Yes, I know that popular belief is dead against me on the subject," added the doctor in response to a question, "but there are a lot of things we take for granted in the world that won't bear scrutiny."

WYOMING'S SOAP MINE.

All Ready to Use When Taken from the Earth and Cut into Cakes.

Wyoming has a soap mine. A deposit of a whitish material, in composite form, containing just enough sulphates, potash and pumice to give gritty essential, has been discovered six miles west of Newcastle, in the northwestern part of Wyoming, says the Denver Times.

The deposit lies in a fissure and dips into the ground like a vein of mineral. The vein, so-called, is 15 to 18 feet wide, and runs the length of a quarter section, which for 20 years up to date was used as a stock pasture. Probably a building of commodious dimensions, fitted with machinery that will cut the slabs of mineral soap into sizes for commercial use, will cover a portion of the ground.

FASHIONABLE FEMININITY.

Lowest Attractions in Materials and Make of Aisy Summer Costumes.

The newest blouses and fancy waists close either at the back or they show the revised style of fastening on the left shoulder and under the arm, says the New York Post.

Thus far, the exhibit of imported gowns and costumes in black, white, or black and white combinations have proved the most elegant and attractive of the season. Wholly novel effects in black and white mixtures in silks, fancy satins, laces, nets and airy melanges in French millinery are set forth in artistic and beautiful form.

The new gimp shirt waist is supplied with a shawl collar that is nearly covered with lace and insertion. The gimp is joined to a closely-fitted underwaist that has a trimmed front, the neckband finished with a turn-down lace collar. The gimp portion is tucked all around the neck to the depth of a deep yoke. The close sleeves are finished with turn-back cuffs, and sometimes they reach only to the elbow; and, again, gathered undersleeves are added that match the gimp in fabric.

A very handsome summer toilet of embroidered black mousseline de soie is made over a foundation of white liberty silk. The tucked skirt, trimmed with a wide band of white Venise guipure, opens down the front over a shirred petticoat of the mousseline de soie. The blouse waist has a front of Venise guipure, and yoke and sleeves shirred and banded with straps of black velvet ribbon. The pointed girdle is of velvet, and the collar and sleeve frills are of the handsome lace.

The exhibition of flowered batistes, organdies, French lawns and India muslins this season is more attractive and beautiful than any display of similar textiles ever made in this city. The array of French batistes is notably dainty and elegant, and some of the most charming gowns for June bridesmaids and graduates have been made of embroidered batiste, lavishly finished with soft ecru lace flounces, scarf-fronted fichus draped low on the shoulders, and yokes and undersleeves of plain batiste deftly gauged. Hand-embroidery and hem-stitching have been used in place of lace and insertion on some of the most exclusive of the batiste and other transparent "dresses" gowns of the summer.

"Celestial blue" is the name of the very newest of the tints of this still remarkably popular color. It is an even more beautiful shade than blue or turquoise blues, and bleu celeste appears among the lovely crepes de chine, batistes, creped satins, summer brocades and taffetas, as well as in the list of dainty belt and neck garnitures in chiffon, velvet or satin, and in hat fabrics and trimmings innumerable.

Dressmakers very frequently select the corselet skirt for traveling, outing and beach promenade costumes for morning uses, and when worn over a trim shirt waist of China silk, dimity or other fabric, the effect is chic and pretty on a fairly slender figure, the corselet top going away with all the details of a waist of the ordinary kind that calls for careful fastening, belting and adjusting. A short Eton jacket is the almost invariable finish for these skirts, the most novel models being made with rest-front sections and an Aigon collar. The jacket always matches the fabric used for the skirt, which, as a rule, is cut with five very shapely gores, and is made variously with suspender tops, with simple pointed corselet effect, or with the front of the girdle portion slashed and laced across with silk cords.

GIRLS WITH POOR VOICES.

Need of Elocution Lessons is Often Apparent When Speaking in Public.

The most noticeable defect in an otherwise excellent dramatic performance recently given in this city by a set of college girls was in the matter of voices. Of the large cast there was just one young woman who possessed a voice of anything like requisite quality. Hers was both rich and carrying, and it was an added pleasure to listen to her lines as she spoke them from the contrast with the others, says the New York Sun.

Thin, throaty tones or, worse, those with a distinct nasal intonation, are bad enough to the sensitive ear when used in the key of ordinary conversation. When it is needed to expand such voices to the declamatory point, then lack of volume, displacement and mellowness are painfully evident.

Faithful practice may do much to correct faults of emphasis and inflection, but the most sanguine coach will not undertake to make over a poor voice in a course of three or even six weeks' rehearsals. The possibilities of the speaking voice are beginning to be understood. Parents are discovering that it is a wise plan to cultivate in their daughters and their sons, too, for that matter, an agreeable voice for the speech of life.

Instructors in the art of developing the exquisite mechanism and wonderful capability of the human speaking voice are springing up on every side. It cannot be long before it will be a positive reproach to a woman of education at least to speak in shrill, nasal or unplaced tones.

Killing for Coconut Tarts.

Cook in top of double boiler for about ten minutes a cupful of milk and a quarter of a pound of freshly grated coconut, then cool; beat two eggs and a quarter of a cupful of sugar until light, add a teaspoonful of cracked nutmeg, fill into small patty pans lined with pie crust and bake in a moderate oven.—Housekeeper.

Value Received.

"Kitty, did you have a good time at the matinee?"

"Oh, lovely! it was a beautiful play—I cried right straight through the whole thing."—Detroit Free Press.

A Poor Pretense.

A man who pretends to know everything merely succeeds in making himself laughed at.—Washington (Ia.) Democrat.

WILMINGTON & WELDON R. R.

AND BRANCHES. AND ATLANTIC COAST LINE RAILROAD COMPANY OF SOUTH CAROLINA. CONDENSED SCHEDULE.

TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

DATED	Jan. 15, 1901.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Leave Weldon	11:50	8:55	6:00	3:05	12:10			
Ar. Rocky Mt.	1:00	9:52						
Leave Tarboro	12:21		6:00					
Ar. Weldon	1:10	8:02						
Ar. Rocky Mt.	2:20	11:12						
Ar. Fayetteville	3:30	12:22						
Ar. Florence	4:40	1:32						
Ar. Goldsboro	5:50	2:42						
Ar. Weldon	7:00	3:52						
Ar. Rocky Mt.	8:10	5:02						
Ar. Fayetteville	9:20	6:12						
Ar. Florence	10:30	7:22						
Ar. Goldsboro	11:40	8:32						
Ar. Weldon	12:50	9:42						

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

DATED	Jan. 15, 1901.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Leave Weldon	7:30	4:35	1:40	8:45	5:50			
Ar. Rocky Mt.	8:40	5:45	2:50	9:55	7:00			
Leave Tarboro	8:51	5:56	3:01	10:06	7:11			
Ar. Weldon	9:40	6:45	3:50	10:55	8:00			
Ar. Rocky Mt.	10:50	7:55	4:00	11:05	8:10			
Ar. Fayetteville	12:00	9:05	5:10	12:15	9:20			
Ar. Florence	1:10	10:15	6:20	1:25	10:30			
Ar. Goldsboro	2:20	11:25	7:30	2:35	11:40			
Ar. Weldon	3:30	12:35	8:40	3:45	12:50			
Ar. Rocky Mt.	4:40	1:45	9:50	4:55	1:00			
Ar. Fayetteville	5:50	2:55	11:00	6:05	2:10			
Ar. Florence	7:00	4:05	12:10	7:15	3:20			
Ar. Goldsboro	8:10	5:15	1:20	8:25	4:30			
Ar. Weldon	9:20	6:25	2:30	9:35	5:40			

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Ar. Fayetteville	12:00	9:05	5:10	12:15	9:20			
Ar. Florence	1:10	10:15	6:20	1:25	10:30			