

ROANOKE BEACON.



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"FOR GOD, FOR COUNTRY AND FOR TRUTH."

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NO. 31.

SELF ABLUTION.

New the Custom of Washing One's Self Once Fell Into Desuetude.

Until about the year 1650 all the barbers in France and most other countries of Europe practiced the art of surgery. In dark and dirty shops they shaved and bled, cut hair and applied cupping glasses, opened tumors, and performed surgical operations still more difficult and dangerous. They were despised as laborers, as everyone was despised who made a practical application of his knowledge in the form of a trade regularly followed.

As a class they were much liked by the common people, who applied to them for all ordinary medical service, but as society became more refined, and consequently more exacting in respect to neatness, it became necessary to separate the care of the hair and beard from the treatment of diseases, not only because the association of the two professions was often repugnant in itself, but there was great danger of the transmission of disease. Louis XIII first ordered the separation of the two professions, directing that the barbers should confine themselves to the hair and beard and operations incidental thereto, but the shoavers and haircutters appealing to parliament the matter dragged on for nearly 40 years, and was not definitely decided until the issue of an edict by Louis XIV. in 1678.

As a French writer remarks, this was none too soon, it being absolutely necessary that there should be a trade whose business it should be to care for the general neatness of the public. At this epoch the Parisians, and much more the inhabitants of the other cities of France, had almost lost the habit of cleansing the face and hands with water, to say nothing of other parts of the body. In the dark ages it had not been quite so bad, there remaining in Gaul something of the Roman custom of bathing, which gradually disappeared, owing to the opposition of the monks and clergy. In 1292 there were 26 public baths in Paris, then a small city.

They were arranged for steam or hot water, a person being able to take one or both kinds as he desired. They were expensive for the period, a complete bath costing four francs, which restricted their use to persons in easy circumstances. They were not opened till daylight, the streets not being safe before that hour. To prevent promiscuity it was ordered that the men should go in the morning and the women in the evening, but the rule does not seem to have been very well observed, since in the course of time they acquired a very bad reputation and fell into disuse.

When they were heated in the morning the fact was announced after the manner of the period—by criers who made the round of the city. Bathtubs were common in private houses at the same epoch, made usually in the form of a half hog-head, the use of metals for the purpose being unknown. Wash basins were also familiar objects in the palaces of kings and in the castles of the nobility. Charles V of France had 24 of the latter, all solid gold, besides others of silver.

Various instances are related of baths magnificently arranged offered to kings of France when subjects happened to entertain them, so Louis XI among others, this king including an affection of neatness in his brief list of virtues. There were bathtubs at the barbers' shops, used indiscriminately, as it would appear, by the well and sick, a circumstance that helped to render neatness unpopular, and keep the people from visiting them.

Therefore, the public baths being discontinued for want of patronage, and those at the barbers' shops feared for sanitary reasons, the practice of bathing common to a certain class in the Dark and the early part of the Middle Ages disappeared. Having ceased to bathe the person, the hands and face became equally neglected, the application of water once a week being considered sufficient among the nobility, and once a month, or not at all, among the common people.

In 1640 a book called "The Laws of Gallantry" appeared in Paris, suggesting among other things that it would be well to go once in a while to the baths, and to wash the hands at least once a day. The face, it is added, should be washed almost as often. When society had arrived at such a degree of refinement that it seemed desirable to wash the face almost every day, it began to see that it was not a very sensible thing to be shaved or have the hair dressed by one who performed common acts of surgery.

So the barber's duties became a trade apart and the surgeon's duties a nobler profession. For generations after it became a sort of habit to wash the hands and face, water was rather tolerated than loved, and was used sparingly. Most people confined themselves to the use for the morning toilet of perfumed alcohol, applied to the face with a cotton ball or sponge. Louis XIV lived among an elegance and magnificence such as no king before him and none since had known.

He bathed often, changed wigs several times a day, had relays of barbers for his wigs, bath, and beard, and yet suffered from diseases caused by neglecting some of the most elementary laws of neatness, and shared his superb royal couch with fleas and even more disgusting parasites. Throughout the Middle Ages and down to a date not long preceding the French revolution neatness was supposed to be a virtue appealing

only to the eyes.

If the principal garments and shoes were reasonably clean, one did not trouble himself greatly about what they might conceal. A manual of politeness, published in the 17th century says one should keep the head, teeth, eyes, and hands clean, and the feet sufficiently so not to "faire mal au cœur a ceux avec nous conversons." The Parisians, who preferred cold baths 100 years ago, or at the commencement of this century, took them in the Seine without paying serious attention to those who were passing along the quays. The Paris of to-day is more scrupulous, but, as swimming baths are numerous, one observes the proprietors without being incommoded.—San Francisco Chronicle.

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

The mission for lepers in India has established a new center of their own in Neyoor, Travancore, South India.

The mission house of the Baptist mission at Irebu, on the Congo, has been destroyed by fire, entailing a loss of over \$1,000.

The Salvation Army has 9,349 regular officers, 18,000 voluntary officers, 80 training homes, with 400 cadets and 2,844 corps.

Asia, the cradle of the human race, has 103 Young Men's Christian Associations. "Darkest Africa" has 18, and Oceania, comprising the island of the sea, has 16.

Tarsus, the place toward which Jonah was traveling when he had that unfortunate encounter with the whale, has a flourishing Y. M. C. A., and Jerusalem also has a branch of this great organization.

In Switzerland a new law has just gone into effect, which provides that employees of railways, steamboat companies, and other agencies of transport chartered by the government or carried on under its directions, shall have 53 days of rest in the year, of which at least 17 shall coincide with Sunday. The same law forbids freight traffic on Sunday.

There has been little mission work accomplished in Patagonia, but the Roman Catholics have a mission center at Videmia, in the southern part of the country. They have 12 colleges with 5,000 students, and an industrial school with 80 apprentices of carpenters, blacksmiths, bootmakers, tinkers, and tailors. They have also a dispensary and the only hospital in the territory.

The mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, is finding special opportunities for work among the immigrants that come pouring in in hundreds. While the work at the capital is conducted in Portuguese, that of the colonies is in Italian and is under the care of a native of Italy. In two of these colonies there are organized churches, which have secured ground, cut timber, and obtained material for chapels.

LITTLE PEOPLE.

Little girl at the circus when the lions came in: "Are they wild yet, or have they been converted?"

A Wise Lad.—"Johnny, do you know your alphabet?" "Yes." "What letter comes after B?" "Oh, lots of 'em. Twenty-four altogether." — [Harper's Young People.]

Aunt Isabel—Gracie, those crusts are not hard; if I were you I'd eat them. North Side Two-year-old (pushing them under the edge of her plate)—No, auntie; if you was me you wouldn't eat 'em, but if I was you I would. — [Chicago Tribune.]

Five-year-old Rosamond, whose father is very clever at making charades, was seated at dinner one day when several guests were present. They were all giving conundrums, when the little girl quietly said, "Papa, I have one." "Well my child, what is it?" "Why is the bark of a tree like a dead kitten?" The answer, "Because it can't mew," was greeted with roars of laughter.

What Bessie Gave.—"The governess was awful cross to-day," the children said in the evening. "Well, mamma, maybe we were bad; but we soon pacified her. I gave her a big, rosy apple; Fanny gave her a hearty kiss, and Fred gave her a promise to be good hereafter." "And, Bessie, what did you give her?" mamma asked of the youngest. "I," stammered the youngest. "I—I gave her the—the slip!"

A Rockland, Maine, boy had long teased and prayed for a bicycle. One night his father brought home a tricycle and the mother suggested to the lad that he pray real hard that night for the "bike." Next morning he found the tricycle by his bedside. But that boy was an expert. Turning to the little chair which to him represented the throne of grace, he exclaimed: "Look here, God, do you call that thing a bicycle?"

Whoo.—A little Indian boy who attends school at Oldtown, Maine, takes an intelligent interest in his lessons, and does not simply learn them by rote. The teacher had been giving instruction in punctuation, and closed by saying emphatically: "Now, when you come to a period, you must stop." A little black-eyed girl then got up to read, and went on in a reckless manner, paying no attention to the periods, whereupon the bright little Indian boy poked her in the side, and called out lustily: "Whoo." — [Youth's Companion.]

PATERNAL LOVE.

Old Homestead.

Our first and best love is the love that greets us at the first awakening of our eyes, a love so true and unselfish, so constant, that it is the richest blessing that the Almighty has bestowed upon lives, and one of its best qualities is that it is ever mutual, for who could resist its noble influence? And yet with all its purity it still is subject to that old adage "that the course of true love never did run smooth." When in our infancy and earliest childhood we cling to that love, only too happy if by our obedience and strongest effort we can please our dear parents; but as we grow older and our character forms we are apt to act up to the promptings of our own consciences, our own judgment. Then here arises the first stumbling block that ruffles the course of our love. It is not that the love has grown less—it is still the same faithful love—but it is one of the ills that flesh is heir to, for what parents would be glad to possess a child who had no character, no judgment of its own, but was merely a figure-head, to be led wherever chance might lead it, and when the last moments arrived with what peace of mind could a parent leave such a child to battle alone with the world? With what patience and untiring efforts should we endeavor to make that difference as small as possible, and strive to make up for it with every attention and consideration, for were our opportunity to extend from the first awakening to our last sleep we could not repay our debt to our parents. And here arises one of the saddest subjects—one that reflects the least credit upon human nature. It is the much-discussed subject of parents-by-law. In the first place, if we love our parents, how could we mistreat the parents of the companion of our selection, for, according to the golden rule, how could we do unto another as we would little like to be done by?

Then, again, there is a deeper, purer view that can be taken of this most distressing subject. I think that treating parents by law without patience and consideration not only reflects upon the love which we possess for our own parents, but also upon the love we bear towards the companion of our selection, for were it not for the patience with which they nurtured their child we could not have what God considered his choice gift to Adam. For mere gratitude's sake this unkind feeling should be expelled from the hearts of men. We should be very considerate towards aged people. Remember their years; their days of enjoyment are over, their hearts are very sensitive, and an unknown future seems to stretch before them. Their eyes are dim and their feet are weary, so, whether they are your own loving parents or total strangers, remember the veneration due to their years and to their experience.

ROSA CHOKER,
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Snap,
Energy,
Schools,
Morality,
Harmony,
Churches,
Cordiality,
Advertise it,
Talk about it,
Write about it,
Sell property cheap,
Good, healthy location,
Advertisements in the papers,
Patronize its merchants,
Good country tributary,
Elect good men to office,
Help all public enterprises,
Honest competition in all prices,
Faith exhibited by good works,
Make the atmosphere unhealthy for croakers, loafers and dead beats. Let your oject always be the welfare, growth, promotion and prosperity of your own town. Speak well of all its public spirited, enterprising and liberal citizens, and be one yourself.

WEIGHT AND YIELD OF EGGS.

Fanciers' Journal.

Geese, four to the pound, twenty per annum.
Bantams, sixteen to the pound, sixty per annum.
Houdans, eight to the pound, fifty per annum.
Ginners, eleven to the pound, sixty per annum.
Turkeys, five to the pound, thirty to sixty per annum.
Ducks, five to six per pound, thirty to sixty per annum.
Polish, nine to the pound, 150 per annum.
Plymouth Rocks, eight to the pound, 100 per annum.
Dark Brahmas, eight to the pound, and about seventy per annum.
La Fliche, seven to the pound, 130 per annum.
Crevcoeurs, seven to the pound, 150 per annum.
Hamburgs, nine to the pound, 150 per annum.
Game fowls, nine to the pound, 130 per annum.
Dominiques, nine to the pound, 130 per annum.
Black Spanish, seven to the pound, 130 per annum.
Leghorns, nine to the pound, 160 to 200 per annum.
Black, white and buff Cochins, eight to the pound, 100 or less per annum.

GAME IN NORTH CAROLINA SOUNDS.

Newbern Journal.

Haps and Mishaps, a New York periodical, publishes the following allusion to Northern hunters in this region:

"At this season of the year many of our business men turn their attention to out door sport, and many find the greatest sport with their fowling-pieces as their companions. A famous retreat for sportsmen is found on the islands, bays and sounds of North Carolina. These bays and sounds at this season of the year abound with wild game. This is undoubtedly due to the large quantities of wild celery that grows on the marshes along the shores of the Currituck and Croatan sounds, making grand feeding grounds for wild fowl of every kind."

"The large number of gun clubs, composed of prominent Northern business men, that are seen in the cabins of the Old Dominion Steamship Company at this season of the year, show convincingly the strong hold this section has upon them in search of rest and recreation; a recent trip South, through the bays and sounds of North Carolina, satisfied the writer. A more delightful and inexpensive outing, with complete rest and comfort, could not be had at any season of the year than a trip by water from New York to Newbern, North Carolina, or Richmond, Va., by the popular Old Dominion route."

THE TREASURY IN CLOSE QUARTERS.

News and Observer.

We have heretofore directed attention to some of the peculiar methods of bookkeeping employed by the Treasury Department at Washington, but a Washington correspondent of a leading commercial daily of New York has been recently investigating this subject, and on the 22 ultimo telegraphed to his paper that "the steady shrinkage of the net cash balance cannot continue much longer without compelling Secretary Foster to draw upon his gold reserve to meet current obligations."

The Chicago Herald takes this telegram for a text, and enlarges upon it in this way:

For months past it has not required much study of the monthly statements of receipts and expenditures to find out that

there must be a shrinkage of the net cash, but there seems to have been a deliberate purpose on the part, not only of Republican party organs, but even of financial journals which profess to be non-partisan, to conceal the true state of the case. The abandonment of the attempt at concealment by one of the latter just before the assembling of Congress may signify that the secretary means to make a clean breast of it in his annual report, either because he has exhausted the artifices by which he has contrived to make a fair showing, or because he wishes to bring the Democratic house face to face with the prospect of a deficit and the necessity for either increasing the revenue or authorizing an increase of the public debt.

The correspondent referred to says that the Treasury is getting into closer and closer quarters "in spite of the most careful management and the adoption of every resource to increase the available cash." One of these "resources" was the change in the forms of Treasury statements and the entire suppression of the monthly statement of assets and liabilities, so as to swell the apparent total of available cash and to keep the items from public scrutiny. Another resource was the change of trade dollar bullion into "standard" dollars. Still another was to recoin fractional silver and get as much of it into circulation as possible while retaining full legal tender money in the Treasury. These and perhaps some other resources have been pretty much exhausted, it seems, and now the danger of a deficit must be admitted.

The correspondent says that the monthly demand for \$10,000,000 for pensions (the appropriation calls for an average of more than \$11,000,000) is getting to be a heavier load than the Treasury can carry. Only about \$8,500,000 had been drawn on this account up to the 23d, and yet the net cash balance was \$4,000,000 less than at the beginning of the month. He further says that the receipts from customs are discouragingly small, and bid fair to be less this month than in any previous month—about \$13,200,000 against an average of \$14,700,000 for the four months ending Oct. 31. The receipts thus far would indicate a total of about \$170,000,000 for the year, or about \$19,000,000 less than the department estimates.

It is true that the secretary can borrow if necessary to maintain an adequate reserve against greenbacks and other gold obligations, and under pretense of borrowing for this purpose he can borrow to meet current expenses. But the administration will hardly be willing to do this on the eve of a national campaign. It would greatly prefer to have the Democratic House incur the odium of increasing the taxes during the approaching session.

SHIP YOUR COTTON.

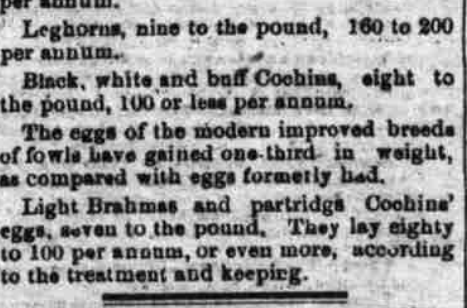
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NOTICE.
NORTH CAROLINA.
Washington County.
In the Superior Court.
Stephen Johnston vs
Emma Johnston
The defendant above named will take notice that an act in entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Washington County, being an action for divorce. And the said defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the next term of the Superior Court of said county to be held on Monday 23d day of October 1891, at the Court House of said county in Plymouth, N. C., and answer or demur to the complaint in said action or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in complaint.
T. J. MARRINER,
C. of C.

NOTICE.
The firm of Carrington & Co., of Danville Va., hold notes against me for the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars which they are offering for sale. I hereby notify all persons not to purchase these notes as they will not be paid.
RUFUS SWAIN,
Oct-31.