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PROF. W. F. MASSEY, Editor of "Practical Farmer," says of

THE EASTERN SHORE OF MARYLAND.

"It would seem that if farmers in less favored places could make a living the Eastern Shore farmers ought to get rich." Again he says of some Maryland lands along Chesapeake Bay, "Your land is naturally as good wheat land as exists, and with any decent farming should average 40 bushels per acre."

OF TALBOT COUNTY, he says, "Talbot County, Md., has long been famous as a wheat growing section. There is no better wheat land in the United States in my opinion."

FORESTS DUE TO FOGS.

Peculiar Climatic Conditions Found to Exist in the Congo Valley.

A peculiar climatic feature exists in the southern part of the Congo valley for ten degrees south of the equator. The rivers and lakes are found to be bordered with a dense vegetation, which extends out from the water a distance proportioned to the extent of the water surface. Adjacent hills and mountains are often covered with dense vegetation on one side and are bare on the other. Beyond this bordering vegetation there are plains, almost treeless or with small scrub growth and thin grass.

The explanation is given as follows: From May to October there is a dry season, with hot days and fairly cool nights (often 50 degrees Fahrenheit). The evaporation of the daytime is followed by condensation into fog at night. This fog moistens the country adjacent to the water surfaces and causes a luxuriant growth of vegetation. The morning winds blow the fog against the exposed sides of hills and mountains and up the valleys of tributary streams. Wherever the fog is not carried the country is dry.

The natives reflect this characteristic of their hills by shaving off the hair from one side of their heads. Dense forests are found where the fogs prevail, while out of range of this moisture there is only a sparse vegetation.

ABSOLUTE SIGN OF DEATH.

Reaction of Litmus Paper Will Show Infallibly Whether Life Is Extinct or Not.

Henry D. Varigny reviews in the Paris Temps a book by MM. Brissemoret and Ambard which he thinks interesting in itself and an invaluable contribution to biology. The book devotes itself to the search of an absolutely infallible sign of death, a quest made important by what is feared and believed to be a too prevalent danger of burial alive. This is the safeguard already called the Brissemoret-Ambard sign.

The instruments for obtaining the sign are simple enough—a hypodermic syringe and a piece of litmus paper. Any doctor may make the test with ease. The sign itself grows out of a well-known fact, which is the change that occurs in the liver and spleen from the alkaline state of life to the acid state in death. It may be said without paradox that life is alkaline, death is acid.

Experiments made show that this change occurs with great rapidity. In animals it is noticeable within a quarter hour after the last breath. But two hours after death the process has markedly proceeded and 24 hours afterward the acidification has advanced to extreme intensity. It would seem, therefore, as Brissemoret and Ambard point out, that there is afforded a sure means of ascertaining the presence of death and even of fixing the time at which it occurred.

ONE OF THE WONDER SPOTS

Land of the Midnight Sun as Viewed from the Heights of the North Cape.

Hammerfest, the most northern town of Europe, is bleak and desolate, but, seen by the witch-light of the midnight sun, it touches the imagination more than many of the world's most favored spots, writes Jean Murray, in Four-Track News. The traveler passing through Norway finds himself constantly seeking for words that will express his wonder and admiration, but when at last he stands on the North cape, in the light of the midnight sun, and looks out over the awful solitude, he no longer longs for words to express what he feels, but stands and gazes into the glorious northern light that glimmers on the glittering waves of the Arctic sea, while thoughts too deep for words well up in his soul. He feels that after this hour he will have a greater reverence for this wonderful world wherein he is permitted to spend his little span of life, and that, if in future years the touch of discouragement and discontent falls upon him, he will remember this moment when he stood on the lonely heights of the North cape, looking out over the blue Arctic into what seemed the shining dawn of eternity, and feel that it is well to have lived, if only for this.

Humanized Telephones.

The French telephone service has ust accorded to the public one of those little amenities of civilization which might with obvious advantage be extended throughout the world. In every public office there will henceforward be hung a white linen handkerchief, treated with a chemical solution, with which every person can cleanse and disinfect the plate or tube before using it. If he will only do so also after breathing into it himself for several minutes, so much the better. These handkerchiefs are renewed daily.

Time Wasted.

Whenever I see a youth looking for "a soft snap," I pity him. There can be no doubt where he will end, if he does not change his tactics. If he does not brace up, take stock of himself, and put vim and purpose and energy into his life, he will surely join the great army of the "might-have-beens."—O. S. Marden, in Success Magazine.

After the Wolves.

Despite the fact that bounties offered by stockmen of the Bear creek country in Wyoming aggregate $42 for each wolf killed, the animals are becoming very numerous and so bold that stock is attacked in corrals. Special trappers will be employed by the stock association as soon as wolf pups are born, which will be early in March.—Reg[illegible]n.

NATIONALITY ESTABLISHED.

"Him" Was No Dago Because He Had Some Uncles Who Were "Cops."

There might be room for argument over the proposition that the trade or profession makes the man; but in certain cases there could be no doubt about the relation of calling and extraction, says Youth's Companion.

A worker among the children of New York's slums was endeavoring to get together a class of boys for the singing teacher at her settlement.

Happening upon a little boy hanging about a corner fruit stand, the settlement worker accosted him, and explaining about the class, asked him if he would not like to join. The child grinned and seemed willing.

Then the lady espied another boy, still smaller, whom she had not noticed at first. He, too, was hanging about the fruit stand, and evidently belonged with the other.

"Oh, and your little friend there," she said, pleasantly, "wouldn't he like to come and sing, too?"

The first child's coloring spoke indisputably of Italy, although his speech smacked of the Bowery. The smaller boy's hair was also dark. When no reply came to her question, the lady went on talking, trying to ingratiate herself.

"Your friend is Italian, too?" she remarked, interrogatively.

At this the little Italian stared hard at the lady, then broke into fluent speech.

"Him," he exclaimed, pointing to the smaller child, "him a dago?" Then with a derisive laugh, "I guess nit! W'y, him's got three uncles wot's cops!"

SHE OWNED A PIANO.

But Possession of It Did Not Weigh Against Her Chances for Relief.

A little girl at a recent Christmas entertainment in one of the college settlements talked grandly to visitors about "our piano." Pieces played on the piano to amuse the children evidently brought the subject to her mind, relates the New York Sun.

One very practical woman who contributes much to the support of the settlement heard the child's remarks.

"It seems to me," she said, rather censoriously to the head worker, "that a child whose family owns a piano isn't really suffering for need of help. There are plenty who are really in need, and I don't think it right to exclude them in favor of one who owns a piano."

Seeking out the child, the head worker questioned her closely.

"Did you say you had a piano at your house?" she asked.

"Yes, indeed," responded the child, cheerfully.

"Is it yours or your mother's?"

"It's mine; Santa Claus brought it to me last year."

Light began to dawn on the settlement worker's brain.

"And how large is your piano—as big as that?" pointing to the upright in the room.

"Oh, no, mine is a teenty weenty bit of a one, just about so high," and the little girl leaned down and measured a distance of 12 or 15 inches from the floor.

It turned out to be a child's piano, presented by the settlement itself a year previously.

TOWN SAVED BY FOREST.

There Have Been Instances Wherein Planting of Trees Has Done the Work.

Baby forests are some of Uncle Sam's pets. Successful forest planting has been done for some time in Nebraska, and now a new nursery is being planted in California near Santa Barbara. Seeds of trees suited to the climate there will be grown and in about two years the seedlings will be ready to be transplanted to their permanent locations. The upper water shed of the Santa Ynez river now is quite bare or sparsely covered with chaparral. This is the water shed which supplies the town of Santa Barbara with water, and it will be the first scene of attempt at reforesting. Good forest growth is essential both to preserve the water and to avoid the washing down of silt. If unchecked this would ruin the reservoir. The enterprise is one phase of the national endeavor to induce and to conserve the rainfall as well as to distribute the resulting water by the irrigation work. Italian irrigation has been termed the most economical in utilizing water supply, and the most highly developed system of administrative control. India's system is said to illustrate examples of irrigation on the largest scale, and America's yields the most rapid deevlopment.

Buffalo in New York.

New York city has in its zoological garden a herd of 35 bisons, survivors of the herds that once trampled the plains. Fifteen have been offered to the United States government as a gift. The plan is to put them in the Wichita Forest reserve. Bisons do not thrive in a city park, but the government herds nearer to a wild state are increasing. The American buffalo may be saved from extinction, after all.

In the Crowded Car.

"There's one thing I notice about Mr. Sulfisch when he rides," said the horsey girl, "he bounces up and down in his seat—"

"Huh!" interrupted the observant girl, "whenever I see him riding he just bounces down in his seat and hides behind his newspaper."—Philadelphia Press.

YELLOWSTONE GEYSERS.

One New Spouter That Will, It Is Believed, Prove a Permanent Feature.

Reports received at Northern Pacific headquarters from officials of the Yellowstone Park association indicate that the new geyser in Norris Basin, in the great national reserve, is a permanent additional attraction. It has been named the "Skyrocket," because of the peculiar appearance it presents when it spouts, and its coming has, it is believed, proven the death of the "Constant" geyser, located in the same basin.

"The Skyrocket" plays at regular intervals, three times a week, and spouts boiling water to an immense height. An odd fact in connection with its coming is that it was born on Washington's birthday, playing the first time it spouted to a height of 200 feet. The noise accompanying the discharge was terrific, and attracted the attention of troopers in the park. An entire cavalry troop witnessed its birth.

The new geyser is one of the most beautiful in Yellowstone park, and successfully competes with others which are world famous in beauty and grandeur. The "Skyrocket" is located about 30 miles from Old Faithful geyser and the new Old Faithful Inn, and within convenient reach of the Norris Geyser Basin lunch station, at which all tourists stop while making the great circle through Wonderland.

This is the second geyser born recently in the Yellowstone park. "Splendid" geyser was born last fall, and played intermittently for a brief period, but is now practically quiescent. Its periods of activity apparently come once in ten years.

Giant and Midget.

Illustrating what the telescope and the microscope have done in extending the powers of vision, an astronomer calls for a violent effort of imagination. "Imagine," he asks, "a man capable of seeing in a natural way what the ordinary eye sees with the aid of a large telescope, and also the size of a man who could plainly see with his natural eye what we see with a powerful microscope. The first man would be a giant several miles tall, and the second a midget a very small fraction of an inch in height."

Be Greater Than Your Position

A distinguished theological professor once said: 'If I had a son, I should tell him many times a day to make himself as big a man on the inside as possible.'

Young men too often want to be big men on the outside; to occupy positions which fit them as a turtle's shell fits a clam.

Never mind your position, young man. Whatever it may be, try to fill it. The duties which you have to perform may seem trivial; but because it is a small position is no reason why you should be a small man. You may be big inside, you know, if you are small outside.

The young man who applies himself to internal growth, as it were, is bound in time to find a place where he will be able to use every power he possesses.

At any rate, better be a big man in a small place than the opposite. A pinch of powder in a small cartridge can make a deal of noise and drive a bullet a long way. What can it do in a Krupp gun?—Success.

A Safe Cough Medicine for Children.

In buying a cough medicine for children never be afraid to buy Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. There is no danger from it and relief is always sure to follow. It is especially valuable for colds, croup and whooping cough. For sale at Harry Roberts' drug store.

Only the man who has no boys of his own is capable of giving expert advice on how to raise sons.

How much the sum of human happiness in the world is due to this one feeling—sympathy.—F W. Robertson.

Boating, Shooting, Golf, Tennis

Through the winter months are at their height at Pinehurst, Aiken, Augusta and all Florida resorts via the Southern Railway's unsurpassing train service. Full information from Chas. L. Hopkins, D P. A., 828 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

The pleasantest things in the world are pleasant thoughts, and the great art in life is to have as many of them as possible.—Bovee.

Plenty and peace breed cowards;
hardness ever
Of hardiness is mother.
—Shakespeare.

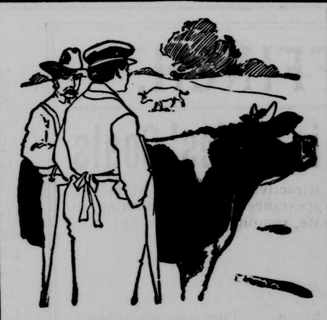
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How unworthily of immortality do I bear myself, when my impatience cannot wait a year for a promised blessing.—Amos R. Wells.

It is faith in something and enthusiasm for something that makes a life worth looking at.—O. W. Holmes.

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