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CHIVALRY AND MATRIMONY.

Time Honored Notions of Olden Days Which Don't Stand the Test.

We all want to consider the days of chivalry as the golden days—never to be recalled—for womankind. This is by implication a rank injustice to our own time.

With all its fine expressions of ardent devotion to the fair sex and the multitude of its exquisite pretensions, chivalry was the degradation of the highest and tenderest human instincts—the veritable curse of the course of true love. Such a statement presents itself to the romantic believer as a terrible counterblast, but it is true, nevertheless. The records of the treasury and the law courts of those days, in furnishing the experience of popular life deeply marked by the worst shades of modern shortcomings, provide the fullest proof.

Chivalry did not make marriages, at least in the sense of those born of love's young dream; it entirely ignored all sexual affections and sold its victims with ruthless indifference to all mutuality.

There were not two parties to its bargains. There was only one, who was always the third of the group and the one interested, not in satisfying the yearnings of the impassioned, but in a pecuniary sense of their value. He was the vender and might be either king or baron. But whichever he was, he was the incarnation of unscrupulous power. The matrimonial transactions of chivalry were mercenary. To them there were no "contracting parties" in the shape of whispering lovers, ardent swains and coy maidens. On the other hand, there was but sullen indifference or hating compliance. Chivalry canted about its faith in women and the purity of its own motives, because it could not sing of love. It may be said that it so canted because it knew it must cant.

It knew that its marriages had not been made in heaven and of ethereal sentiment. They were coarsely bargained for, either in the king's exchequer or in the open market place. Chivalry knew itself as a social falsity and the parent of lust. As a consequence the "lower orders" have had to give us the nomenclature of our love affairs. Chaucer, the very mirror of the era of chivalry, has typified lust with his master hand, but he has no picture of the gratified tenderness of longing youth. In his surroundings it was not suffered to exist. These surroundings had no terms to enumerate the ardent swains and coy maidens of rusticity. But if the aristocracy can produce no one instance of the coy maiden, and the rustic sweetheart remains to mock the dubious fiancee, it has a wealth of the arts of diplomacy, and an inexhaustible list of the terms of intrigue. Chivalry gave expression to the word "maitresse," which may have and had the funniest of meanings.—New York Herald.

SOMETHING ABOUT BEETLES

Their Strange Habits, Instincts and Means of Getting Food.

You are all familiar with the common black beetle known as the tumblebug, and perhaps may have seen it rolling a ball with its hind legs, pushing it backward. The ball contains the egg of the beetle, and the creature is taking it to a place of safety.

A green beetle spotted with white is called the tiger beetle. He is a clever fellow and very cunning in his manner of securing his prey. He will dig a hole a foot in depth and then crawl to the top and form himself into a bridge across the chasm, burying his head in such a manner as to appear like something inanimate, but he will be on the alert for the unwary creature that makes an attempt to cross on his back. In an instant the bridge will give way and the prey will be precipitated into the hole. The beetle will follow and quickly dispatch the game, when he will return, reform the bridge and allure another victim.

Old fashioned furniture is often completely ruined by the larvæ of a beetle called the anobuim. A peculiar sound like the ticking of a clock is made by these beetles when they call to each other, the noise being made by striking the jaws against their resting place, and often in old houses filled with old furniture the superstitious, when they hear this peculiar sound, imagine the place to be haunted.

Another beetle is found in dark cellars, where it thrives upon dust and trash. It is so difficult to exterminate it that it is looked upon as something uncanny, and the ignorant regard its presence as an ill omen.

The sacred beetle of Egypt is not unlike our own common beetle, and the female lays her egg in the same way, wrapped in a substance which is to protect it and furnish food. She rolls it up into a ball with her fore legs, sometimes carrying it a long distance upon her head; digs a hole in the earth, deposits her egg laden ball, covers it up, and leaves it to attain its perfect development.

The sexton beetle is a curious creature. He has a thick body and powerful limbs and a most acute sense of smell. No sooner does a small animal die than the sextons gather about the body and begin to put earth upon it. In a few hours the dead animal has been covered and the beetles have laid their eggs in the carcass, which is to nourish the larvæ.

A remarkable creature is the bombardier beetle, and it is provided with a strange means of defense. It lives in a community under stones, and when disturbed discharges a fluid of a very penetrating odor, much like gas, which explodes as it comes in contact with the air and passes into vapor. Eighteen explosions can be made in succession by one bombardier, and while these are being thrown off like a volley of artillery the beetle effects its escape. The fluid is like nitric acid to the taste. It causes a sharp pain if placed upon the tongue and leaves a yellowish stain.—Our Animal Friends.

TWO CLASSES OF READERS.

Those Who Like Dickens and Those Who Adore Thackeray.

"About 15 years ago readers used to be divided roughly into two classes—those who 'liked Dickens' and those who 'adored Thackeray,'" writes the critic Droch in The Ladies' Home Journal. "Each class used to view the other with more or less contempt. Of the two the Thackeray people felt themselves considerably superior to the Dickens people. There were not so many of them, for one thing, and that in itself gave them a feeling of exclusiveness (something like the attitude assumed by George Meredith's admirers of the present day). But Thackeray's complete works for $3.99 rapidly abolished the aristocracy. Artificial barriers do not long count for much with a great writer.

"You no doubt very soon found out that in certain moods there was nothing more satisfying to you than 'Pendennis,' and at another time the best novel that you ever read was 'David Copperfield.' I have no doubt that in the long run deep in your heart you will cherish a finer affection for the one than the other. That is a matter of temperament and your surroundings. The one you like best fits best into your life as you are making it. You will discover that a change of scene or occupation often brings you into sympathy with a writer whom you never before appreciated. A great sorrow will sometimes reveal George Eliot to you; a little journey in England will show you new beauties in Trollope; a wave of war feeling in Europe and people begin rereading Tolstoi's 'War and Peace.'"

Reparation.

John Butts, Sr.—I want to leave my property to my two sons—one-tenth to my youngest son, John Butts, and nine-tenths to my eldest son, Royal Chesterfield Chauncey de Peyster Butts.

Family Lawyer—H'm! Do you think that's quite fair?

John Butts, Sr.—Yes. I want to make some kind of reparation to Royal for allowing his mother to give him such a crack jaw name.—Puck.

BECOMING INDIANS.

CLAIM THAT AMERICANS ARE DEVELOPING ON THAT LINE.

Increasing Resemblance In Faces to the Aboriginal Type—A Study of Heads, With Especial Attention to the Residents of Pennsylvania.

It is an extraordinary question in anthropological science which has been propounded popularly of late. The influence of environment upon the race resident in the United States must in the course of four centuries produce certain marked and undeniable physical results. It is not generally acknowledged by American anthropologists that there is a tendency of reversion to the type indigenous to the soil. But foreign students of race, with more perspective, have offered interesting food for reflection. A writer in the Chicago Times-Herald, commenting on the assertion of the French authors that on this continent the American white man has varied toward the Indian type, offers a supporting study which is curiously fascinating—possibly vastly important.

First, the familiar faces of the caricaturists' creation are called in as witnesses. The Yankee and the southron—large and loose limbed—of these pictures are types, even as the stout, full faced John Bull is a type found in another environment. Both American favorites of the cartoonist have high cheek bones and usually excellent straight noses. These witnesses are not, of course, scientifically admissible. The faces given us by the caricature makers are impressions, not testimony.

Scientific, however, is the study offered of the Pennsylvania Germans—a happy, thrifty, frugal people, who have been subjected to American conditions for nearly two centuries, with very little intermingling with other races, much less than the English people in New England or in Virginia.

It is true that the pervasive and beguiling Irish have intermarried somewhat with these old Pennsylvania settlers, but in the main it is a very exclusive, pure blooded Palatinate stock. Data have been secured relative to a large number of school children and to adult males from 25 to 50 years of age, and many copies of portraits of original settlers. It appears that stature increases and that other important generalizations may be made, tentatively of course. The increase of finger reach is marked, and the head measures are important.

"The anthropologist places considerable value upon certain proportions or relations between measures," says the student of the subject. "Thus the length of the head and the breadth of the head, when compared, give numerical expression, which is called the cephalic index. To find it the length is divided into the breadth and the result multiplied by 100. A head one-half as wide as it is long would have an index of 50; one three-fourths as wide as long would have an index of 75; one as wide as it was long would have an index of 100. There is no race whose head is normally so wide as to have an index of 100 or so narrow as to have one of 50. The higher the index, of course, the broader and sounder the head; the lower the index, the longer and narrower the head. Germans generally are notably round headed. Topinard gives for some people of Lorraine the index of 85.3. The average index of 100 Pennsylvania Germans is 81.9, which is notably less and narrower. The heads of our northern and eastern Indians are still longer and narrower. We cannot at present make a further comparison with profit. What we have already said may prove erroneous when we learn the actual Palatinate type. We assume now that the Palatinate Germans were of medium stature, light haired, blue or light eyed, round headed, with a finger reach of 1.043. We find that the Pennsylvania German children are dark in hair and eyes, that the men are probably of increased stature, that heads appear to be lengthening, that arm reach appears to be increasing. In all these respects the Pennsylvania German varies from the assumed Palatinate type and in the direction of the Indian. If our assumption proves valid, we may claim that our evidence shows change, which, if continued, may form an Indian type from the German."

All this, it must be noted, is absolutely distinct from any of the reasons for discussing the tendency of Americans to revert to original types from the infiltration of the red Indian blood itself in the veins of the white race. From the days of the old French and Indian wars fireside tales of New England intermixture of that sort have been common enough. A recent novel has expressed the country knowledge in New England that there is an occasional "streak" from ancestry that approached New England from the west as well as that which approached it from the east across the Atlantic. In the western states and territories the great numbers of half breeds whose descendants find their way into the life of cities brings to bear a curious and unreckoned force in the development of the fiber and sinew of the race in North America.—Boston Transcript.

Decline of the Leech Trade.

The medicative leech is now practically a thing of the past. The falling off in the demand for leeches by the medical profession is quite astonishing, as may be judged from the fact that in the year 1845 the two largest hospitals in London called for about 50,000 of them, whereas now these institutions order only 50 or 100 leeches at irregular and infrequent intervals.

We are informed by well known leech importers that the trade in leeches has been subject to such fierce competition that the price has been brought down almost to nil. The quotation for a single hundred leeches at the present moment is fixed at a rate which is little more than half what the great hospitals paid for their enormous leech supplies in 1845.

At that time the importation of leeches was carried on by means of sailing boats plying to and from Smyrna; but, owing to the difficulties of transfer and the irregular arrival of the boats, many attempts were made to conserve and breed leeches in England. One enterprising man established three ponds "on his own" at the top of Brixton hill and used to dispose of many thousands of leeches weekly. His successors, however—our informants—have a gross annual output of only 40,000, not a tithe of the business done half a century ago.

Assuredly the leech has seen his best days. With the old regime, when cupping and bleeding were the sheet anchors of surgery, the leech all but disappeared. So constant was his employment in mediæval times that his name furnished a synonym for the medical profession, and the doctor came to be known impolitely as "the leech," perhaps a subtle allusion to the rapacity for fees which characterized the profession in those times.

At present the Hungarian speckled leech is most in request. It is unsafe to use the leeches found in some of our ponds in England, for their bite is dangerous, often giving rise to blood poisoning.—Household Words.

Looking Forward.

"When I am rich," he said haughtily, "I will return and taunt you with the opportunity you have missed."

"When you are rich," she answered calmly, "I trust you will offer to pay for the broken leg of that spindle limbed gilt chair."

And he went forth with a hollow groan.—Cleveland Plain Dealer

Keys are made, to a considerable extent, by machinery, special dies for each variety being employed to cut the wards so as to fit a particular lock. The hollow keys, formerly made altogether by hand, are now in great part manufactured by a machine.

There seems to be no garment or other article of wearing apparel pertaining to woman on which a miniature may not be appropriately used as a pendant.

THE PUMPKIN.

Ah, on Thanksgiving day, when from east and west,
From north and from south come the pilgrim and guest,
When the gray haired New Englander sees round his board
The old broken links of affection restored,
When the care wearied man seeks his mother once more
And the worn matron smiles where the girl smiled before,
What moistens the lip and what brightens the eye,
What calls back the past like the rich pumpkin pie?

Oh, fruit loved of boyhood, the old days recalling,
When wood grapes were purpling and brown nuts were falling,
When wild, ugly faces we carved in its skin,
Glaring out through the dark with a candle within,
When we laughed round the corn heap, with hearts all in tune,
Our chair a broad pumpkin, our lantern the moon,
Telling tales of the fairy who traveled like steam,
In a pumpkin shell coach, with two rats for her team!

—John G. Whittier.

DENSITY OF POPULATION.

The Most Thickly Peopled Spot In the World Is In New York City.

In The Century is a paper by Mrs. Schuyler Van Rensselaer on "Places In New York," in the course of which the author says: Cross the Bowery now, and you will enter the famous Tenth ward, a true tenement house district, forming part of the most crowded city quarter in all the world. As a whole, the city of New York below the Harlem river (the Island of Manhattan) is more densely peopled than any other city in the world, counting 143.2 persons to the acre, while Paris counts 125.2. Then one-sixth of the entire population of all New York, reckoning now with the parts above the Harlem, too, is concentrated upon 711 acres of ground. Here, on the lower east side of our town, in the summer of 1894, there dwelt some 324,000 souls, averaging 476.6 to the acre, and a certain section of this great area, the Tenth ward, showed a local acre average of 626.26. The most thickly peopled spot in Europe is the Jew quarter in Prague, but it is only one-fifth as large as our Tenth ward, while it shows a density scarcely greater than that of the whole of the 711 acres in which the Tenth ward is contained—485.4 per acre.

Nor is this the worst that our 711 acres can reveal. Sanitary district A of the Eleventh ward, bounded by Avenue B and Second street, Columbia, Rivington and Clinton streets, contains 32 acres, and in the summer of 1894 each of them bore 986.4 human beings. This is the very thickest, blackest coagulation of humanity in all the known world. No European place of anything like the same size even approaches it, and its nearest rival is a part of Bombay where the average population over an area of 46.06 acres is 759.66.

Yet it should be remembered that, while our acres are thus more heavily burdened than any others, places can be found in European as in Asatic towns where people are more uncomfortably crowded within doors. There the houses are low, but New York tenements are very lofty, and thus our floor space to the acre is much more extensive. Moreover, although we are now more crowded than ever before, our sanitary state steadily improves. During the decade which closed with 1874 our death rate was 30.27 per 1,000. During the one which closed with 1894 it was 24.07.

GIRL LIFE IN MEXICO.

She Has Considerable Freedom, but It Is of the Right Kind.

Mexican home life is unique. It differs very essentially from the domestic life of the Anglo-Saxon race, for it is founded on respect for parents. The influence of the Catholic church is powerful in maintaining a high grade of family behavior. There is a sweetness and a charm about a well ordered Mexican home which is a revelation to northern people who have imbibed a false idea of matters here. The women of the best Mexican families are naturally of a gentle disposition, but they command obedience, and rarely spoil their sons, whom they idolize. There are exceptions, but they are not enough to break down the general social discipline.

As for the girls, no reputable Mexican father or mother would allow for a moment the thought of permitting a girl of any age to be on the streets after dark unless accompanied by an older person, a trusted servant or elder brother. So, even among girls of the humbler class, there is no street strolling in the evening. They may, in warm weather, go to the alameda, or public park, when there is a band concert, but always under escort. They may go to a tertulia, or evening party, but with some competent person. They may dance, mildly flirt, on such occasions, but they are always under the watchful eye of a relative. There is plenty of proper freedom for young girls, and a larger liberty in the cities than formerly, but they are not allowed to run about without escort, and a very careful eye is kept upon them by parents and relatives, even to distant male cousins. Such a thing as a young girl or young woman of any character or family being upon the street at night, alone and unattended, is unknown. Your daughter goes to visit a friend in the afternoon and stays to tea. Then the gentleman and lady of the house, the gentleman alone or an old servant brings her home. So the streets of this big town are never the scene of foolish, flighty girls being followed and "picked up" by strangers.

And as for men who insult young girls and women, the remedy is usually a sudden and fatal one. In milder cases the newspapers give minute descriptions of the "satyr" who has insulted a lady, and the public is asked to take warning. One fellow, who, in an interior city, made an insulting remark about a lady standing at a window, was conducted to the alameda, and, in view of the chief part of the town's best society, was held down on a stone bench and caned until he yelled for mercy, and was then ordered out of town on the next train. He went. In another city a male teacher, who was "too fresh" in his conduct toward young girl pupils, was waited on by a deputation of gentlemen and asked to favor the city by his permanent absence. He, too, went.

The etiquette regarding the protection of women from molestation and insult is such as prevails in the southern states of the American Union. There is no fooling on the streets, in the theaters and public places with respectable women. There is something left here of the old Spanish idea of the sacredness of womanhood, and the line is sharply drawn between honest women and the other kind.—Boston Herald.

The Clerk Paid It.

During Andrew Jackson's presidency a certain clerk in the treasury department showed a marked disinclination to paying his board bill. He had signed notes, but his landlady could collect no money. In despair she went to the White House to see Jackson. She told her story, and he requested her to get the clerk's note for the account. She obeyed and carired the note to Andrew Jackson, who, after glancing over it, affixed his signature to the back. "Now, madam," said he, "put that in the bank, and we shall see which of us shall have to pay you the money." The note was duly deposited and was paid by the clerk, who afterward apologized to Jackson and promised to mend his ways.—Exchange.

The father of biography was Plutarch. Critics are generally agreed that the model biography is that of Johnson, by Boswell.

Champion Shot of the World.

Miss Annie Oakley writes: "Myself and many of the Buffalo Bill Wild West Co. have given Allen's Foot-Ease, the powder to shake into the shoes, a most thorough trial, and it does all it not more than you claim." It instantly takes the sting out of Corns and Bunions. Allen's Foot-Ease is a certain cure for swollen, hot, aching or sweating feet. Sold by all Druggists and Shoe Stores, 25c. Sample sent FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

MILITARY SCIENCE.

Simplified Fortifications, Bicycles and Automatic Guns Are Modern Features.

It seems to be the general opinion among United States army officers that the development of military science in the immediate future will be in the direction of simplified fortifications, greater utilization of the bicycle and the extended use of some form of automatic gun. The modern army engineer sees little use in raising great mounds of earth such as used to be done when hasty and even permanent works were needed. The bigger the earthwork the greater the mark for the enemy's guns. A hole in the ground has been the theoretical formula for fort building, and now that we possess fieldpieces with disappearing carriages it can be practically carried out. A gun that is capable of rising out of an innocent looking hole, pouring forth great volleys of death dealing bullets and then sinking out of sight, leaving hardly a trace of its presence and certainly nothing to fire at, is formidable enough to invest the new theory with all needful logic. It would be to an enemy what the hollow road near Waterloo was to the cuirassiers of Napoleon.

The rifle of the future will be the automatic rifle. This is the conclusion of military men not only of this, but of other countries. General Wille, a German army expert on the subject of firearms, says decisively that it will ultimately be the rifle in general use by the armies of the world. Its particular point of merit is its capacity for doing away with the mechanical operation of loading. In effect it does its own loading, leaving the soldier free to attend to the business of firing, thus concentrating his attention on his opponent and rendering his aim surer.

As pointed out by General Wille, the force of the recoil of the automatic gun is employed for charging and closing the breech, and the firer has only to let off the shot in order again to load the weapon, so that the number of shots discharged without an effort is precisely the same as the total contents of the magazine. The only comparatively weak part of the automatic gun lies in its springs, but, as they have been found after tests made in Austria to withstand the wear and tear of from 10,000 to 14,000 discharges, this does not count for much.—New York Sun.

ROYAL HUNT TOMFOOLERY.

What It Costs to Maintain the Famous Sport.

A year or two ago, says the editor of London Truth, I took up the matter of the royal buckhounds, for I have always thought that anything with less of the redeeming feature of sport than to cart a tame deer to some spot, turn it out, hunt it with dogs, and, having hunted it down, put it back in its cart for another day's "sport" cannot well be conceived. When I was engaged in this crusade, I received many letters assuring me that the deer like being pursued by dogs, although how the animals conveyed their singular idea of pleasure to the writers of the letters was not explained to me. Now that the bishops have joined the crusade, we may hope that the cruel tomfoolery of this royal hunt will soon cease.

The country pays the costs. The salary of the master of the buckhounds (£1,200 per annum) is always enjoyed by a nobleman, the occupant of the post changing with a change of ministers. Besides this there are salaries to huntsmen, whips and others, the purchase and keep of horses and hounds, etc. I should suppose that the total outlay must be about £3,000 per annum. This is defrayed, it is true, from the civil list. But when the amount needed to maintain the sovereign was investigated in order to arrive at the total necessary, this expenditure was included in the estimate.

It is suggested by the bishops that the quarry should cease to be deer and should henceforward be a red herring. But the idea, as an attribute of majesty, of the sovereign keeping a lot of dogs to run after a red herring is childish.

Grant Drilling the Home Militia.

Grant left West Point in midsummer and spent his furlough in Bethel and Georgetown. He was invited by the officers of the militia to drill the troops at "general muster," which took place at Russelsville during August of 1844.

William Wilson and Peter Wamax are two of the few witnesses living who remember the splendid occasion.

It impressed itself ineffaceably on young Wilson's mind because it seemed wonderful, even revolutionary, to see a young lad such as Cadet Grant looked, ordering the pompous old officers about. "He looked very young, very slender and very pale.

"He was dressed in a long blue coat, with big epaulets and big brass buttons, and his trousers seemed to be white, though they may have been a light gray. He wore a cap and a red sash around his waist, and he rode his horse in fine style.

"I was particularly struck with his voice—that is, his way of using it. The old men barked out their commands. You couldn't tell what they said. Noise seemed to be their idea of command, but Grant's voice was clear and calm and cut across the parade ground with great precision. It was rather high in pitch, but it was trained. I could tell that, though I was only a boy."—Hamlin Garland in McClure's Magazine.

The Circle County.

The oddest shaped county among the 3,000 which go to make up the separate divisions of the various states is Warren county, Tenn. It lies almost exactly in the geographical center of the state mentioned and is about as near a perfect circle as any division of land could possibly be. The circle would be perfect but for the fact that there is a short stretch of the northern boundary line which follows a small stream for a short distance. It is bounded by Cannon, DeKalb, Coffee, Grundy, Van Buren and White counties and is in no way remarkable except in shape.—St. Louis Republic.

His Opportunity.

Fuddy—There seems to have been quite a change come over Blowser. They say he gets up to speak almost every evening at the revival meetings in the Beulah street church.

Duddy—Yes, it gives him an opportunity of calling people names. It is some satisfaction to him to be able to call folks sinners. And, then, you know, it isn't actionable, as "thieves" and "rascals" would be. But you make a mistake when you think that a change of heart has made any perceptible change in Blowser himself.—Boston Transcript.

The fortifications of Vicksburg, Atlanta and other points in the south were of earthworks, hastily constructed, though the positions chosen were generally of great natural strength.

The distance between Cape Town, South Africa, and Washington is 6,684 miles.

The Shakers have made a great hit. Their Digestive Cordial is said to be the most successful remedy for stomach troubles ever introduced. It immediately relieves all pain and distress after eating, builds up the feeble system and makes the weak strong.

The fact is, foods properly digested are better than so-called tonics. The Cordial not only contains food already digested, but is a digester of other foods. Food that is not digested does more harm than good. People who use the Cordial insure the digestion of what food they eat and in this way get the benefit of it and grow strong.

The little pamphlets which the Shakers have sent druggists for free distribution, contain much interesting information on the subject of dyspepsia.

Lazol is not a mixture of drugs. It is nothing but Castor Oil made palatable.

It Will Surprise You.

On receipt of ten cents, cash or stamps, a generous sample will be mailed of the most popular Catarrh and Hay Fever Cure (Ely's Cream Balm) sufficient to demonstrate its great merit. Full size 50c.
ELY BROTHERS,
56 Warren St., New York City.

Ely's Cream Balm has completely cured me of catarrh when every thing else failed. Many acquaintances have used it with excellent results.—Alfred W. Stevens, Cladwell, Ohio.

A FEMALE MEMBER.

EVERY GANG OF COUNTERFEITERS HAS CONTAINED A WOMAN.

It Is a Weakness of the Sex, and They Are Frequently Very Clever—Some of the Women Who Have Been Convicted of Making and Passing "Queer" Money.

Women have a weakness for counterfeiting. The first person ever executed for that crime was a woman. She was an English woman named Barbara Spencer and was put to death in 1721 for making false shillings. She was strangled and burned at the stake. Curiously enough, her accomplices were acquitted.

Nancy Kidd was one of the most remarkable female counterfeiters ever known in this country. She belonged to a family of noted forgers. She carried on her nefarious trade for more than 30 years in Chicago, and was arrested there many times. On one of these occasions a lot of fiber paper was discovered on her person. The government officials were completely at a loss to know how she had obtained this. Finally she confessed that a chemical solution had been used to wash the faces of the notes and make them perfectly clean. Thus she was in the habit of taking $1 bills and changing them into larger denominations. The government authorities released her in return for this valuable information and for telling them what the solution was. However, they had her shadowed by detectives and finally caught her with $17,000 worth of counterfeit money in a box. She was found guilty upon seven different indictments for counterfeiting and was sentenced to eight years in the state prison, where she finally died.

One of the cleverest tricks ever played on Uncle Sam was invented by a woman who lived in Philadelphia. Her plan was to take $10 and $20 goldpieces and with a small drill worked by steam power to bore out the insides and then refill them with some base metal, being very careful that they should weigh exactly the right amount when she had finished. This she accomplished by drilling through the milled edge of the coin, and then, after filling the hole, cover it with a little of the extracted gold. In this way she made $7.50 on every eagle and about $16 on every double eagle. The officials of the secret service say that this is the safest device ever invented for cheating the treasury.

Counterfeiting is very apt to run in families. This, of course, is natural, as a father brings up his son or daughter to follow his profession. Women who would otherwise be good are often led into this sort of crime by marrying men who carry it on as a business. But sometimes it works the other way—women teach their husbands how to make false money. This is what happened when Ben Boyd married Mary Ackerman of Indiana. Her father was one of the most successful counterfeiters of his day, and his daughter had a thorough acquaintance with the art. Mrs. Boyd carefully taught her husband all the secrets of the trade, and he became one of the most famous forgers of the age.

They carried on the business with such a high degree of skill that they were not captured for years, and when at last the secret service Hawkshaws did run them down not a single counterfeit plate, note or coin was found in their possession. When their house was searched, $8,000 in good money was found. This small amount was all the money they had accumulated during all their years of crime. Of course the officers could not touch it. Afterward sufficient evidence was secured to convict them, and they were sent to prison. They both claimed to be converted while in state prison, and after their release settled in Chicago, where they apparently lived an honest life.

A case that annoyed the secret service very much was that of a woman who employed a clever dodge. She went to a large shop and selected a valuable shawl. To pay for this she handed the clerk a United States treasury note for $1,000. He took the money and disappeared, not returning for several minutes. When he came back, she asked him why he had kept her waiting, and he confessed that he had taken the bill to a bank near by to be sure that it was good. She pretended to be very angry and said that she would not buy the shawl on any account and walked out of the shop. A little later in the day she returned and said that as she could not find any other shawl that suited her as well in the other shops she had decided to take it in spite of the insult offered her. She gave him the $1,000 bill, and, getting the shawl and the change, left the shop. The owner of the shop afterward discovered that the note he finally accepted was a counterfeit. The first bill had been good, but on her return she gave him the false one, which was a wonderfully clever imitation. The secret service was much agitated about this and several others of the $1,000 bills which turned up, but they have since captured the plates.

Practically every gang of counterfeiters ever arrested has had women associates. In the office of the secret service in Washington there is a large frame, 4 feet square, filled with the photographs of women who have either made or passed false money. Men almost always employ their wives or daughters for the purpose of "shoving" their counterfeits.—Washington Post.

Set Out Trees In the Spring.

Spring is a better time to set trees than fall, because at that season trees are beginning to grow and will, therefore, be in a condition to respond more readily to treatment, while in fall they are unlikely to establish themselves before cold weather sets in. Preserve the roots to the fullest possible extent and do not disturb the tree until after it has ripened and has shed its foliage. If the roots are cut away, as they almost invariably are in spring planting, be sure to cut back the top proportionately.—Eben E. Rexford in Ladies' Home Journal.

The First Steam Power.

The power of steam was known to Hero of Alexandria, who exhibited what seems from the description to have been a small steam engine to Ptolemy Philadelphus and his court about 150 B. C. Pliny describes a small boat, built by a "magician" of Rome, which moved by means of a wheel, "driven by a pot of hot water." Watt's invention of a rotary steam engine was patented in 1769. The first railway locomotive was built by Trevithick in 1804. The first practical locomotive was perfected by Stephenson in 1829. As early as 1707 Denys Papin built a model of a steamboat, which was destroyed by a mob of boatmen. The first practical steamboat was built by William Symington in 1802. In 1803 Robert Fulton, in connection with Chancellor Livingston, built a steamboat which was tried on the Seine. In 1807 the Clermont began trips from New York to Albany.

A Discreet Estimate.

"Papa," said young Mrs. Hunker, "won't you please give George and me $10,000?"

"What do you want that much money for?"

"We want to build a $5,000 house."—Harlem Life.

Did Him a Favor.

Pedestrian (to footpad)—Money or my life, is it? I was wondering how I was going to live through this week. Now I won't have to. Very kind of you. Shoot away.—Boston Transcript.

The willow is one of the most adaptable of plants. A willow switch stuck in the wet ground will almost inavriably take root and become a tree.

In ten days a letter from New York will be delivered in Brussels.

A Pertinent Rejoinder.

"I always try to make as many friends as possible," said the woman who gossips.

"Of course," replied Miss Cayenne. "If one had no friends, how could one discuss their private affairs?"—Washington Star.

POISONING THE FOUNTAIN.

If the fountain of life is poisoned at its very source, there can be no health in any part of the body. When a woman has any disease or weakness of the delicate organism of her special organs of sex, the fountain-head of her physical existence is poisoned and she cannot be healthy in any respect until this one fundamental trouble is cured.

The family physician may make the very common error of ascribing all the trouble to superficial causes; he may prescribe for neuralgia, indigestion, insomnia, or headache, when these are merely symptoms of some deep-rooted malady of the distinctly feminine organs.

Any woman suffering from these delicate complaints may be completely cured right in the privacy of her own home (without recourse to mortifying examinations and "local treatment") by Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription.

It gives health to the special organism of womanhood. It purifies all diseased conditions; gives elastic strength to the ligaments, and vitality to the nerve-centres. It promotes good digestion, sound sleep, and freedom from pain.

It is the only medicine devised for this one purpose by an educated, skilled specialist in this particular field of practice. It is the only medicine which insures prospective mothers against the dangers and sufferings of motherhood.

Dr. Pierce's thousand-page illustrated book, "The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser" contains several chapters devoted to the special physiology of woman, with advice and suggestions for self-treatment which every woman ought to read. A paper-bound copy sent absolutely free on receipt of 21 one-cent stamps to pay for mailing *only*; or, cloth-bound, 31 stamps. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

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under my own supervision and compounded in the most pharmaceuticle manner. He extends to all a happy and prosperous New Year, and invites you to call. Resp'y,
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