

### Tanning Human Skin.

Not only during the French revolution were human skins tanned, but several books have been bound in this uncanny material, among others a magnificent Latin Bible bound in leather made from a woman's skin. During the reign of Napoleon III, a copy of the "Decretals" written on human skin was found at the Sorbonne and carried to the Tuilleries. Jean Ziska, the celebrated chief of the Hussites, gave orders that after his death his skin should be tanned and made into a drum, so that the noise made by the skin would frighten his enemies and put them to flight. It was, however, during the French revolution that this kind of tanning had its greatest development. A person one day presented himself at the bar of the convention and informed the assembly that he had discovered a simple and original method of obtaining leather in abundance. The committee of public salvation gave him the use of the chateau of Meudon, where he installed himself and worked very mysteriously. In exchange for this concession he gave to the members of the committee boots made of human skin. This Meudon tannery soon acquired considerable notoriety. A large number of volumes were bound with this leather, and Philip Egalite, duc d'Orleans, encouraged the industry by wearing at a Paris royal ball a pair of breeches made of human skin. Human skin is tanned in the same manner as the hides of horses and cattle, and, like them, can either be made into parchment or leather. It has a characteristic appearance, and one can never be deceived in it.—*Shoe and Leather Review.*

### The Percentage of Poor Eyes.

Only one person in fifteen has both eyes in good condition, and in seven cases out of ten one eye, generally the right, is stronger than the other. It is found that just as people are right or left handed, so are they right or left sighted, and while apparently looking with both eyes, they often really use only one. Out of twenty persons whose eyes were tested by a German doctor, two only were found to be left sighted. The reason of the greater strength generally possessed by the right eye is not altogether understood, but probably the natural tendency to the greater use of the right side of the body has something to do with it. In using weapons, for instance, mankind has been taught for ages to assume attitudes in which the right hand and side have most exercise, and this discipline has undoubtedly had its effect on the eye. Old sea captains, after long use of the telescope, find their right eye much stronger than the left, the direct effect of the exercise. This law is confirmed by the experience of artists. If a person who has ears of equal hearing power has cause to use one ear more than the other for a long period, the ear brought into requisition is found to be strengthened, and the ear not used loses its hearing in a corresponding degree.

### Buttermilk for Freckles.

Do the early summer freckles prove stubborn? There is usually a clamor for "freckle cures" about that time of the year, and the very best thing that proves reliable year after year is simply common buttermilk. Secure it as fresh as possible; it will be found that no thing can equal this fresh buttermilk for removing tan, freckles, sunburn or moth spots. It has the great advantage that it does not injure the skin, but makes it soft and white. Take a soft sponge and bathe the face, neck and arms before retiring for the night, then wipe off the drops lightly. In the morning wash it off thoroughly and wipe dry with a crash towel. Two or three such baths each week during the summer months will take off and keep off the tan and freckles and keep the skin soft and smooth.—*Philadelphia Times.*

### Lemon Juice for Rheumatism.

A little girl up on the west side was to give a splendid birthday party one day last month, but the day and the presents arrived and found her in bed paralyzed with rheumatism. She is only seven, and her parents and even the family doctor thought it a remarkable and uncalled-for malady. But the carefully guarded only child suffered as terribly as the most neglected little mortal who had spent cold nights in the streets and had invited the awful disease in every way. Finally a doctor was called in, who, among other things, knows a thing or two about inflammatory rheumatism. He sniffed at the array of liniments, pronounced them "harmless," and prescribed lemon juice—l-m-o-n juice, pure and simple—a wine-glassful every morning. The little girl is now well. Here is another bit of medical advice.

The Manx people believe that it will desert or wizen a baby if anyone steps over it or walks around it.

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### Extemporaneous Proposal.

Young Bellamus hitched forward in his chair, pulled up his trousers a little at the knees, glanced at his cuffs to see that they projected the proper distance beyond his coat sleeves, and nervously began.

"I have something to say to you, Kate. I—don't turn your face away from me, please. You have not been eating onions, have you?"

"Sir!"

"Neither have I. Listen to me. There is something resting on my mind—"

"Impos—"

"Resting on my mind, I say, and it has become a burden that I was going to shake off. Now, there isn't any use in your pretending you haven't any idea what I want to talk about."

"Assuming that I do, Mr. Bellamus—"

"Well?"

"Let it pass. Go on."

"That's right. You act like a good, sensible girl in deciding to hear me. You might as well, anyhow, because when I get started I'm hard to stop, and I am going to say what I came here to say this evening if it takes all—if it takes a quarter of an hour. That's the sort of desperate lover that I am, Kate Naggus, though I didn't mean to give the whole business away in one breath like that. I intended to lead up to it gradually. I don't suppose, however, the shock of surprise was very great. You had an idea something of the kind was coming, didn't you?"

"Rather."

"I knew you did. But it doesn't seem artistic to block out a regular form of doing something and then fly the track and jump across lots in order to get there sooner. What I intended to say was about like this: Ever since I have known you I have had a different feeling toward you from that which I entertain towards other—but before I go any further I'd like to have some kind of a hint as to whether I'm wasting my time or not. Somehow I don't feel quite as confident as I did when I began."

"He stopped a moment, took a long breath, and inquired uneasily:

"Is it any use for me to go on, Kate?"

The rosy lips of the fair young girl parted and she softly answered:

"Nit!"

"That settles it," rejoined Mr. Bellamus, recovering himself and drawing on his gloves. "It hasn't turned out exactly as I hoped it might, but I've saved at least ten minutes of valuable time for each of us, and that makes twenty minutes. I don't know what your time is worth, but my time, computed from a business point of view, is worth \$2.50 an hour. I will not detain you any longer, Miss Naggus. Good evening.—*Chicago Daily Tribune.*

### She Was Reckless.

The train was about ten miles west of Ypsilanti when an oldish man came into the car with a bill in his hand and called out:

"Kin any purson here change a \$10 bill fur me?"

Everybody was willing to try, and he finally got two fives. Then he wanted one of them broken, and he finally found a passenger who could give him five ones.

"I'll take 'em," replied the man, "but then I shall want some one to burst a dollar for me."

"Will two halves do?" asked a woman as she investigated her purse.

"Yes, if I can't get four quarters," he replied. "I'm sorry to make all this trouble, but you see how it is. The old woman has sorter decided to stop off at Ypsilanti and visit her sister fur three or four days while I go to Detroit and back, and she'll naturally feel a little queer without any money. I thought I'd give her a quarter, but if I can't get it, why I'll let her take fifty cents, though I know I'll never see any of it back. She'll go down town and run through a dollar in less than two hours, and I have to keep a curb on her."

He finally got a quarter, and the old woman had it tied up in the corner of her handkerchief as she got off at Ypsilanti.—*Detroit Free Press.*

"I will follow you to the utmost ends of the earth!" hissed the villain.

"No, you won't," said the heroine, calmly.

"Why won't I?" queried the villain, aglashed at her coolness.

"B. cause I'm not going there," she replied.

"Woman," said the dejected young man, "is a fake."

"Yes?" spoke one listener.

"Yes. It has not been so many moons since I saved up all my billiard money and lived on beans two weeks to blow myself on an opera and supper for a young woman. Then I asked her to marry me, and she said she was afraid I was too extravagant to make a good husband."