

**WHEN INDIANS FEASTED.**

**They Had Meat and Vegetables in Great Variety in Aboriginal Times.**

What did the Indians eat? Gabriel Thomas writing in 1696 tells up that "they live chiefly on Maze or Indian Corn roasted in Ashes sometimes beaten boy'd with Water, called Hominie. They have cakes, not unpleasant; also Beans and Pease, which nourish much, but the Woods and Rivers afford them their provision; they eat morning and evening, their Seats and Tables on the ground." Mr. C. C. Abbott tells in "Travels in a Tree-Top" of other vegetable foods known to the Indians; the roots of the golden club, arrowleaf and ground nut, besides various berries and nuts.

It is well known, says Youth's Companion, that extensive orchards were planted by these people. It may be added that, in all probability, the tubers of that noble plant, the lotus, were used as food.

It is clear that the Delawares were meat-eaters. It needs but little digging on any village site to prove this, and from a single fireplace deep down in the soil have been taken bones of the elk, deer, bear, beaver, raccoon, muskrat and gray squirrel.

The remains of deer were largely in excess, and as this statement holds good of every village site of the Indians, doubtless they depended more largely upon the deer than upon all the others.

If individual tastes varied as they do among us, we have certainly sufficient variety here to have met every fancy.

**THE AMERICAN GIRL.**

**She is Adaptable to an Astonishing Degree and is Unharmful by Self-Consciousness.**

The American girl is admired and liked at home and abroad, because she is the happiest, healthiest and friendliest of girls. Usually unharmed by any self-consciousness, she is not apologetic and morbidly sensitive, as are many girls brought up in the close, conventional air of European civilization. She likes the world, and is alive to everything beautiful and good in existence. She is easily pleased, and her unstudied, fresh enjoyment of simple pleasures gives happiness to everyone around her by its simple, wholesome expression through her face, figure and voice, says Woman's Home Companion.

American girls, when you study them critically, are not more beautiful than English or French girls, but somehow an American girl always contrives to make a pretty picture of herself, and neither she nor anyone else can explain how she does it. She is adaptable to an astonishing degree, and she can dress for a walk, an outdoor game, a dinner or a ball so as to make the impression that in each particular garb she is at her best. This power to change her appearance so as to look almost like another person is one of the American girl's chief charms, and she owes it to her keen appreciation of the people and circumstances around her. She has imagination and intuition, and a genius for fitting herself to the hour.

**WASH THE BANK NOTES.**

**Treasury Official Advises Bankers to Clean Them with Soap and Water.**

"If the bankers of the country only knew the great difference a lit-

tle soap and water makes in a dirty bank note there would be more clean money in circulation," said a treasury official recently. "If you have never seen the operation, just spread a soiled note out upon a marble slab and use a small brush that has been well soaped, and go to work scrubbing, lightly, of course. But a few strokes is necessary to secure a clean note. I give my personal attention to all the paper money brought into my household, and I tell you I feel repaid for the little work it causes.

"I can see every reason why there should be a person employed in the banking houses for this particular duty," continued the official, according to the New York Mail and Express. "Certainly the neglect in doing so gives ample cause for complaints from the patrons concerning the dirty, oily notes that are too frequently handed to them. They may be full of germs which, of course, are dangerous; and this risk could be easily eliminated by the simple use of soap and water."

**THE FLOWER OF THE ORIENT.**

**Courtesy and Attentiveness of the Japanese Among Themselves is Charming.**

It is still true that westward the course of empire takes its way, but any one who disdains the teachings of the east must be a superficial student of human life and manner, says Youth's Companion.

A company of Japanese, a baron and baroness with their suite, have been visiting the United States for the study of certain commercial conditions. As they sailed away on a great ocean-liner they showed to marked advantage among the throng of American and English tourists.

They were short, swarthy, plain of feature, as we count plainness, save for one extremely pretty young woman. But they had the manners of great nobles. They were gentle of bearing considerate of the claims and the pleasures of others, low-voiced, unconscious—or seemingly unconscious—of rude stares or noisy comment.

Their courtesy among themselves was beautiful to watch. It was noticeable that the radiant girl was not more devotedly attended by the men than were the middle-aged women, who had no slightest pretension to beauty.

Among the crowd of loud-speaking, pushing, self-satisfied dwellers in this western hemisphere this little group of easterners were like some white, still bloom of one of their own exquisitely blossoming trees—the final product of ages on ages of the cultivation that forgets nothing, omits nothing that may enhance the charm of social life and intercourse.

**METEORS MAY END WORLD.**

**There Are Many Traveling Through Space at Rate of Hundred Miles a Second.**

The earth is moving around the sun at the velocity of 18 miles a second, while the sun, with all its attendant planets, is being hurried on toward the great fiery constellation of Hercules at a far greater velocity. The very fact that small meteors exist proves the possibility of the existence in space of meteors of inconceivable magnitude—even great, black, dead worlds may lie in our path, like breakers in the path of a ship.

Fifty miles a second is not an un-

usual velocity for heavenly bodies, and some are known to move at a speed even in excess of 100 miles a second—500 times the speed of a rifle ball. Small meteorites, which reach the earth at a velocity of from 20 to 30 miles a second, are instantly consumed by the friction generated with the atmosphere. Large meteors, however, occasionally reach the earth, escaping destruction from their size, but are found to have their surfaces fused from heat generated by the passage through the atmosphere.

Although it is not probable, says the Pittsburg Gazette, still it is possible that the earth may some time encounter such a shower of small meteors, perhaps in the form of a comet, that the heat of combustion from friction with our atmosphere and the poisonous gases thereby generated might destroy all terrestrial life.

**GREAT WEALTH OF BASLE.**

**Swiss City is the Richest of Its Size in Europe if Not in the World.**

The richest city in Europe and probably in the world is Basel—or Basle, as it used to appear in the school geographies—in Switzerland. The returns published by the tax administrator show the assessed valuation is more than \$110,000,000 and the total population is 124,000, an average of more than \$1,400 for each man, woman and child in the city. The assessed valuation of Basel equals the total revenue of the 88,000 houses and buildings in Paris, says the New York World.

Of the 124,000 inhabitants of Basel, there are 180 who are rated as millionaires. Inasmuch as the amount is reckoned in France this means that the wealth of these 180 persons exceeds \$200,000. There are 175 who have between \$100,000 and \$200,000; 170 who have \$100,000 and 895 have from \$20,000 to \$100,000. Within 15 years the wealth of Basel has increased \$60,000,000, and the population has almost doubled, which is a most remarkable showing for a town that is 1,500 years old. It has always been famous. It was the important stronghold of Helvetius in the eleventh century, and Erasmus died there in the sixteenth century.

**FEW MEN DYE THEIR HAIR.**

**Unless It is Gray and They Are Looking for Employment, Says a Communicative Barber.**

Hair dye among men has almost passed out of use, says the New York Sun. One barber, who has for years been employed in the best of the city barber shops, told a Sun reporter the other day that he had not been called upon to dye the hair or beard of a customer for 20 years.

"I remember," he said, "that the last time I had to do it was toward the end of the winter of 1882. Since that time there have been so few applications to have anything of the kind done that we do not now even make any preparations for the jobs, and I don't believe that there is a bottle of any kind of hair dye in the place.

"I can remember, however, when the situation was very different. In the old days men dyed their mustaches and even their hair on the slightest provocation. Red-headed men used to dye their hair as a matter of course, and as soon as the gray hairs began to appear the customary resort was to the dye. But that is all changed now.

"There are, of course, many men

who still dye their hair and beards, but they are not the kind that patronize the expensive barber shops. I think it would be found that most of them did it for business purposes. "As it is hard for them to get certain kinds of work when they are gray haired, they are compelled to resort to dye. But men have, as a rule, quite given up the use of it."

**DEMAND FOR POSTAL CARDS.**

**The Government Printer Turns Out 3,000,000 a Day and That is Not Enough.**

One of the most noticeable developments in the post office department is the increasing use of postal cards. The number circulated through the mails is increasing every month and to supply the demand the United States postal printing office up in Bumford Falls, Me., is being run night and day, reports the New York Sun.

It is now turning out 3,000,000 postal cards daily and still the demand increases. New York, Chicago, Boston, Pittsburg, Detroit, Cincinnati, Baltimore and Troy use more postal cards than other cities.

One of the newest and increasing uses for postal cards is to secure opinions on all sorts of subjects. Whenever a business concern, a social organization or a political body wishes to test the state of feeling on any point now it circulates postal cards.

They are printed so that all the

**Mount Pelee's New Cone.**  
Within a month the new cone formed recently in the crater of Mount Pelee, Martinique, has increased about 330 feet in height.

**No Whistling in Buenos Ayres.**  
Any person caught whistling in the streets of Buenos Ayres is liable to be arrested. The police alone have the right to whistle.

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