

NOTES AND COMMENTS

In a certain rural community there is a white-haired veteran of the farm who is nearly fourscore years of age and who can still do a good day's work at his accustomed labor.

Some of them tried hard to readjust themselves when they were in middle life, with the result that they were completely used up.

When an active, energetic man returns after years in an office his first need is a preachment from the local doctor on the need of caution.

But let it be understood that age is the determining factor. It is a great pity that more country boys do not stay on the farm and that more city boys do not join the ranks of the returners.

Sir William Osler's suggestion that the lock be turned on the day that is gone and the door be not opened on the day that is to come was only a bit of counsel to a hurrying generation to observe the day at hand and not jump over it to reach another nor ignore it in regret for one that had gone.

It would take away the memory that identifies and enriches and the anticipation which bewitches. Therefore, folk protest that they will not lock themselves in a cell of twenty-four hours and have nothing behind them but a door barred across the entrance by which they came and nothing before them except a door barred across the exit by which they will go out.

AVOID RICH DISHES.

Austrian Physician Says They May Cause Arterio-Sclerosis. Do you smoke too much, and are you addicted to the consumption of rich dishes? These are frequent questions to be pondered by all those who would avoid arterio-sclerosis.

Lecturing on the subject of arterio-sclerosis, which he termed the Damocles sword suspended over the heads of us all, Prof. Adolf von Struemeff, the eminent physician and physiologist, of Vienna, Austria, gave some valuable suggestions as to how this disease might be avoided.

As for tea and coffee, there was much less to be said. Strong, black coffee certainly did produce nervous affections of the heart, but it had little effect upon the arteries, and tea was injurious only in isolated cases.

The man who pays as he goes may not go very far but he always gets there.

Fashion Hints

Seen in Paris Shops. Voile flouncings are being used for lingerie dresses.

Tubing is as much used as ever on the new spring wraps. Smart tub frocks are made of linen, pique, or sponge cloth.

The suitlike dress is conspicuous among the spring costumes. New blouses are made of cotton voile, marquisette, and linen.

The small hat has received the approval of Paris for this spring. The blouse with the contrasting sleeve is quite the vogue in Paris.

Children's aprons made with Russian closings are novel and pretty. In millinery all black effects are fashionable, as are also all white effects.

For girls and little girls plain strictly tailored coats are in good style. The finest hats are of malin, while hemp is the Paris modiste's second choice.

Many simple three-quarter sack tailor coats have girdles of black satin ribbon.

The newest thing in cretonne bedroom furnishings is the small flowered pattern.

There are some short coats of chiffon or thin silk, to be worn with white lingerie frocks.

Little girls' coats have long revers and drooping shoulder seams, just like their mothers'.

The chic Parisian has adopted the looped up draperies, giving a fair display of foot and ankle.

Some of the most charming summer frocks are of chiffon, printed in small patterns and bright colors. Flowers will, of course, be worn to some extent, but this is decidedly a season of feather trimmings.

The bordered silks and cotton crepes, voiles, and marquisettes are among the loveliest of the spring materials.

Canton crepe is being combined with embroidered chiffon for greater lightness of effect as summer comes.

The plaited shirt bosom effect is a new feature of this season's blouse. The result is entirely soft and feminine.

Some of the new eton jackets are short all the way round; others run down into a postilion effect at the back.

The plainer dresses for little girls are made of nainsook, dotted swiss, mull, dimity, cotton crepes, and marquisettes.

Purple and blue, veiled with gold embroidered chiffon, makes a delightful wide giraffe for a gray chiffon gown.

White robes are in bolero effects, divided at the waist by high draped satin sashes of a contrasting color.

Black and white combinations of chiffon, grenadine, or voile have waist belts of bright blue, dull red, orange, or grass green.

Some of the latest evening toilettes are draped with mousseline scarfs, from which hang loose chains of strass and pearls.

Gold and silver thread stockings are one of the spring novelties. Another is the stocking of open net, which looks like voile.

There are many tailored suits with their short and three-quarter cutaway coats trimmed with white tulle plaiting with a pipot edge.

The director coat predominates and these seldom extend below the girdle in front; the backs reach below the hips and sometimes to the knees.

One of the most important features of the new models is the girdle. It may be broad or narrow, folded, draped, or smoothly fitted to the waist line.

A charming novelty suit is made bolero style; the coat is of bordered silk in black and white, charmingly combined with a skirt of black crepe meteor.

BOYS' GORGEOUS COSTUMES.

Choristers in King's Chapel Are Very Splendid. There are ten boys in London who every Sunday and on State occasions wear suits of clothes that in each instance cost something like \$200.

The lads thus expensively and brilliantly attired are the choristers belonging to the King's private chapel in St. James' Palace. When arrayed in their State suits they are truly a gorgeous sight.

Scarlet cloth is the foundation of this costume. Bands of Royal purple between rows of heavy gold lace are the adornments. Old lace ruffles are worn at the neck and wrists. These ruffles are so valuable and so difficult to replace that they are worn only on the most special occasions.

At other times the boys must take great care of their suits, which must endure three years. The "undress" suits are replaced every eight months.

This choir is one of the historical institutions of Great Britain, and many of its old-time customs, including the dress of the boys, are retained to this day. The choir has numbered among its singers such distinguished musicians as Sir Arthur Sullivan, Edward Lloyd, Sir John Goss and Dr. E. J. Hopkins.

It is the right of the head boy to demand a guinea as "spare money" from any officer entering the chapel wearing spurs. It is said that when Arthur Sullivan was head boy the Duke of Wellington would always come spurred to the chapel, in order that he might have the pleasure of paying the forfeit to his favorite chorister.

Naturally. "What caused that awkward break in the conversation?" "Somebody dropped the subject."

GROWTH OF ATLANTIC SHIPS.

Thousand-foot Liner Regarded as Dream of Few Years Ago. Not so very many years ago that distinguished naval architect, the late Sir William White, surprised the world by stating that if the conditions of trans-Atlantic traffic called for a 1,000-foot ship, it would be perfectly practicable to build and operate a vessel of that size, says the Scientific American.

Few of us at that time dreamed that there would ever be a call for such a huge vessel; yet so rapid has been the development of trans-Atlantic travel, and so industrious have been the dock and harbor commissioners on both sides of the Atlantic, that not only is accommodation in the way of channels and piers being made ready for such a ship, but, thanks to the enterprise of the steamship companies, the 1,000-foot ship is within sight.

The launch of the Vaterland (formerly known as the Europa) for the Hamburg-American Line has carried the trans-Atlantic liner up to within 50 feet of the 1,000-foot limit suggested by Sir William White as a remote possibility. If we remember rightly his statement was made at the time of the appearance of the White Star liner Oceanic, the first ship to exceed the length of the Great Eastern's (692 feet) and the first to exceed the limit of 700 feet. Since her appearance the progression has been rapid. She was followed by the Adriatic, 725 feet over all; the Lusitania, 790 feet; the Titanic, 882 1/2 feet; then by the Imperator, 920 feet; and now by this 950-foot ship.

A third vessel is building upon the docks at Stettin. She is to be larger than the Vaterland, and if her length is increased only by the freeboard of the Vaterland at her stemhead, this ship will have the distinction of being the first 1,000-foot vessel.

Frequently the question is asked, what is the limit of practicable size? How big will the liner of ten or twenty years hence be? In reply it can be confidently said that the physical limitations are those only of the depth of our entrance channels and the length of our harbor piers. Judged from the economic standpoint, from the point of view of revenue earnings for the steamship companies, there is every inducement to build these trans-Atlantic liners in ever-increasing sizes; provided, of course, that the speed be maintained within reasonable limits. It may be broadly stated that the larger the ship the less the cost of carrying a given tonnage of freight. The same principles which have led our railroads to build 50-ton cars and 300-ton locomotives encourages our shipbuilders to produce vessels 1,000 feet or more in length.

MENAGERIE CRAZE.

Keeping Wild Animals the Latest Fad in England. Few people visiting Cobtree Manor, Maidstone, England, a stately old country house, would imagine that they had alighted on the largest private menagerie of caged animals in England. It belongs to Mr. Tyrwhitt-Drake, who is the honorary-secretary of one of the strangest clubs in existence—the Amateur Menagerie Club—an exclusive organization, with Lord Lilford as its president and the Earl of Altramount as vice-president. It is devoted to the purpose of encouraging the keeping of wild animals and birds of private individuals.

The menagerie at Cobtree Manor includes two lions, four lionesses, four bears, three leopards, five wolves, four dingoes, two jackals, two camels, two foxes, a spotted hyena, a sacred Indian bull, and a number of strange cattle and birds.

An interesting animal is a spotted hyena from West Africa, who is said to have the strongest jaw in the world. He can crunch bones into powder which would break the teeth of the healthiest lions. But perhaps the most talented animal in the whole menagerie is a lioness that was presented as a cub to Queen Alexandra at the Bath Club some years ago.

Since then, under the careful tutelage of Mr. Tyrwhitt-Drake, this particular lioness has developed into a first-class circus performer. She vaults chairs with the easiest grace, sits up and begs, and goes through various evolutions at the bidding of Mr. Tyrwhitt-Drake once he has entered her cage. This is the only amateur-trained performer in the menagerie—a bear, who in the days of its youth was a wonderful trickster, firing off pistols, ringing bells, and doing all sorts of astonishing things. But with the advance of age Bruin has retired from the business—as his fellow-artists say—and now he performs no more.

Two other splendid inmates of the menagerie are the griffon vulture and the golden eagle. The whole collection is being lent by Mr. Tyrwhitt-Drake to Edinburgh this summer, where it will be on exhibition for three months.

A curious fact concerning Cobtree Manor is that the house was once the manor farm of Dingley Dell, immortalized in the "Pickwick Papers."

A Prudent Customer.

"You are the proprietor and a pharmacist of the first class?" "Yes, madam."

"And you know your business well?" "From the foundation."

"That is well. Give me two cents' worth of gum drops."

HEALTH

Colic. Colic is the spasmodic pain that sometimes occurs in one of the abdominal organs; it is the ailment that in childhood we call the "stomach-ache."

It is usually the result of eating something that is somewhat indigestible, such as shell-fish, pork or cheese, but it sometimes comes from eating too much food that in moderate quantity is perfectly wholesome. Colic from the latter cause is common in very small babies, who testify to their discomfort by screaming incessantly and at the same time violently drawing up their legs.

The chief symptom of simple colic caused by an error in diet is pain. The pain may be felt in one place, or it may move about from one part of the abdomen to another. Pressure generally relieves it a little, but sometimes there is so much tenderness that the lightest touch cannot be borne.

Intestinal colic is not always due to imprudent eating. Various serious disorders, such as gallstones, appendicitis and peritonitis, may give rise to the same symptoms. Lead colic causes severe abdominal pain, but in this case the condition of the patient makes the diagnosis easy. When the patient is down to a serious internal condition, the physician can quickly recognize the fact by the prostration of the patient, and by other symptoms that he has learned to associate with acute abdominal disease.

The treatment of ordinary colic is directed to relieving the pain and removing the undigested food. When the pain is very severe, it may be necessary to give an anodyne, prescribed of course by a physician; but milder attacks usually yield to the application of heat.

Very small children and babies need the same treatment as older people—apply warmth locally, and give medicine that will relieve the system of the offending substance at once. After the child has recovered, it is a good plan to arrange his diet very carefully, in order that he may not become subject to such attacks.—Youth's Companion.

Caring for the Eyes.

"Many women," says one of the sex who knows whereof she speaks, "have a curious vanity about their eyesight—and as a woman who has always been forced to wear eyeglasses I can understand it. Ever since girlhood I have been forced to wear eyeglasses. I've even been accused of wearing them for what is called 'effect'—but all the time I've known that they dulled the soft hazel color and the lustre, and that while nature had made my eyes as tender and expressive as my neighbor's they might as well have been zig lamps for all the play I could make of them. Finally, they aged me by at least six years, which was all very well at 18, but very hard at nine-and-twenty."

"So I sympathize with women who hate the idea of wearing glasses, but at the same time I want to point out that the way to avert the evil hour when they must do so is not by being careless and taking foolish liberties with the sight of which they are so vain, but by carefully refraining from doing the injudicious things we are all inclined to."

"Pardon me, young lady," said an old man to a young woman on a suburban train the other day, "but I travel with you frequently and I notice that, daylight or artificial light, you are always reading. Well, I am a medical man, and I am specially interested in eyes. I take the liberty of telling you that you are on the way to injure yourself permanently."

"Alas, you must not ask whether the warning was taken. It is enough that it is passed on to you who are reading this paper at this moment in train or car. Do not read in a rapidly or slowly moving conveyance—above all, if the light is artificial."

Ancient Beds.

In ancient times the beds we read about were simply rugs, skins, or thin mattresses which could be rolled up and carried away in the morning. At night they were spread on the floor, which, in the better class of houses, was of tile or plaster, and as the skins were not worn in the house and feet were washed before entering a room, the floors were cleaner than ours. After a time a sort of bench, three feet wide, was built around two or three sides of the room about a foot above the floor, and covered with a soft cushion, was used during the day to sit or lounge on and as a sleeping place at night. The bench was sometimes made like a settee, movable, and of carved wood or ivory.

Cats Marched to Service.

When Mulai Hafid, ex-Sultan of Morocco, succeeded to the Sultanate, he found the sacred city of Fez infested by rats. Without any loss of time he at once nationalized all the cats of Morocco and issued a command that many thousands of them should be marched into Fez for service. For some time a law has existed in Hong Kong making it compulsory to keep cats in every house, the number varying according to the size of the house.

Reason Enough.

"But, Peter, you should be grateful that you were saved from drowning, and not cry like that."

"Yes, but there come my aunts, and now I'll be kissed all the afternoon."

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, MAY 15.

Lesson VII.—Joseph meets his brethren, Gen., chap. 42. Golden text, Gal. 6. 7.

Suited his act to his words, Pharaoh promptly appointed Joseph vice-regent over all Egypt. "And Pharaoh took off his signet ring from his hand and put it upon Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck; and he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had, and they cried before him, Bow the knee; and he set him over all the land of Egypt" (Gen. 41, 42, 43). The subsequent narrative relates that Joseph at this time was thirty years of age, that he married the daughter of an Egyptian priest of high rank, and that during the years of prosperity and plenty two sons were born to him, Manasseh and Ephraim, who were ultimately to take the place of their father among his brethren in the list of the twelve patriarchs and heads of Hebrew families and tribes.

Verse 3. Joseph's ten brethren—Better, ten of Joseph's brethren. So large a company would make for safety against attack from robbers. The distance from the southern border of Palestine to the border line of Egypt was about one hundred and fifty miles. One of the Egyptian kings, Phtholmes III, led an army over the distance in nine days. The journey from Beerseba would be about two—and the journey from Hebron about three—days longer.

Went down.—At the suggestion of their father, Jacob (compare verses 1, 2).

To buy grain.—The amount of grain needed for their households, including servants, and for their cattle, would require a considerable caravan of asses, and perhaps camels, for its transportation across the intervening desert. This would be an additional reason for all of the ten brothers making the journey together.

4. Benjamin, Joseph's brother, Jacob sent not—Joseph and Benjamin were the sons of Rachel, the favorite wife of their father, Jacob. Since the death of Rachel and the supposed death of Joseph the affections of the aged patriarch naturally centered upon Benjamin.

5. Among those that came—Many other people from Canaan and other near-by countries came to purchase food in Egypt.

6. He it was that sold to all the people—Apparently Joseph had himself taken immediate charge of the sale of grain and other food-stuffs to foreigners. It is not probable that he anticipated the coming of some of his brethren from Canaan and was on the lookout for them.

Bowed down themselves to him—Thereby unconsciously fulfilling his earlier dreams recorded in Gen. 27, 7-9.

7. Made himself strange unto them—Took particular pains to hide from them his identity.

Said unto them—Speaking through an interpreter, as the subsequent narrative shows.

8. Ye are spies.—The desert frontier of Egypt was especially open to Bedouin raids. The Egyptian governor's suspicion of this group of tribesmen from Canaan would therefore be quite natural. Joseph found this method of procedure a convenient one for learning the facts concerning his father and Benjamin, without arousing the suspicion of his brothers by a direct friendly inquiry. Apparently also it was part of his purpose to put his brothers to the test, as to their present disposition toward each other and toward Benjamin and their aged father.

The nakedness of the land—The defenseless points offering an easy entrance.

11. We are all one man's sons—Thrown off their guard by the charge of being spies, they seek to disarm the governor's suspicions by volunteering full information concerning their home and family. Of their communicativeness Joseph promptly takes advantage, at the same time emphasizing his suspicion of their real purpose and character, thus forcing them to make a still further statement concerning themselves.

13. We thy servants are twelve brethren—More exactly, we thy servants were twelve brethren.

One is not—One of our number is no longer with us. They do not say that the absent one is dead, though this is the only inference to be drawn from their statement.

15. Hereby ye shall be proved—Their statement concerning themselves is to be put to an extreme test.

By the life of Pharaoh—This form of oath is known from Egyptian monuments belonging to the twentieth dynasty. Popular Hebrew forms of oath were, "As Jehovah liveth" and "As thy soul liveth."

16. Send one of you . . . and ye shall be bound—This command Joseph later reconsiders, contenting himself with keeping one of them as hostage and permitting the nine to return together into Canaan.

17. Put them all together into ward—His arbitrary treatment of them as criminals already convicted was quite in harmony with Oriental customs. This experience at the same time enabled them to realize how an innocent prisoner feels (like himself, Gen. 37, 24), who, in spite of his innocence, has the worst to expect.

We should feel pity for the man who is forced to take consequences that he isn't entitled to.

THE UNCHANGING CREED

It Is Shown In the Persuading and Prevailing Beautiful Life

"Ye are our epistle . . . known and read of all men."—II. Cor. iii. 2.

Some years ago, when Charles Dudley Warner was travelling in the Levant, he met in Jerusalem the patriarch of the Armenian church and held an interesting conversation with him. They talked of the dogma of the trinity and of the points of difference between the Armenian and the Latin churches. The old archbishop was not well acquainted with English idioms of speech and when Mr. Warner finally said that he believed a man's life was, after all, more important than his creed the prelate replied, "So am I."

And thus, whatever the religion—Armenian, Latin, Greek, Protestant—in the final analysis it finds its test not in the creed, but in the deed. Whenever the Christian religion ceases to be helpful men have ceased to believe it. And that is right; for when it ceases to be helpful it ceases to be Christian. But wherever Christianity has been able to bid men look, as Jesus did, and see the sorrows of the world comforted and the wounds of the world bound up, and the good news of the gospel carried with light and hope in it to the hearts of the poor, there the church has won allegiance and life.

Will Always Win Allegiance. Jesus Christ's life is an essential part of our creed. Not only that life at the end upon the cross, but all the way up to it. It makes no difference unto us whether the inventor of the telephone was a religious man or not—whether he profaned God's name or not. We use the telephone just the same. Shakespeare's character is not necessarily associated with Shakespeare's writings. The life of Homer is a matter of indifference, an immaterial thing compared with the poems he left. But it is not so with the religion of Christ.

Ours is a living creed. Our creed breathed; our creed walked; our creed had two hands; our creed wept; our creed had the heartache; our creed was weary in the march of charity; our creed hungered and thirsted; our creed was the man Christ Jesus. And the best argument for our religion is that you and I be like him.

The repellent Christian does us harm now. He who is bluff and rough; he who says "pay me the last penny"; he who pushes another who has no tears; he who is so busy that he does not know the young man who comes to him with a letter from an old friend; he who has no tenderness of heart;

He is in Our Way Now. The living argument, the letter known and read of all men, should be our record and that the record that will win men. Emerson voiced the verdict of the world when he wrote: "What do I care for what you say when what you do speaks so loudly that I cannot hear what you say?"

Men may be skeptical. They may analyze our Bible leaf by leaf and never again, as long as she lived, would she send an angry letter.—Youth's Companion.

Kathleen could not speak, but in her heart she made a resolve; never again, as long as she lived, would she send an angry letter.—Youth's Companion.

Young Folks

FEEDS HALF A MILLION DAILY

Splendid London Restaurants are Work of a Disgusted Artist.

It chanced that, to satisfy the inner man, one morning in the eighties, I strolled into a dirty—to me, repellent—little London restaurant, writes Joseph Lyons in the Strand Magazine. These unappetizing establishments were almost invariably small, being limited to the capacities for cooking and serving of the man and his wife, with, perhaps, one or two waiters. They were dark, stuffy little places, often infested with cockroaches; and as for their kitchens, they were things liable to cause nightmares—anyway, I prefer not to tell of them.

The city clerk who wanted a snack had to pay 8 cents for a cup of coffee or tea, a 2-cent tip and 2 or 4 cents for a bun.

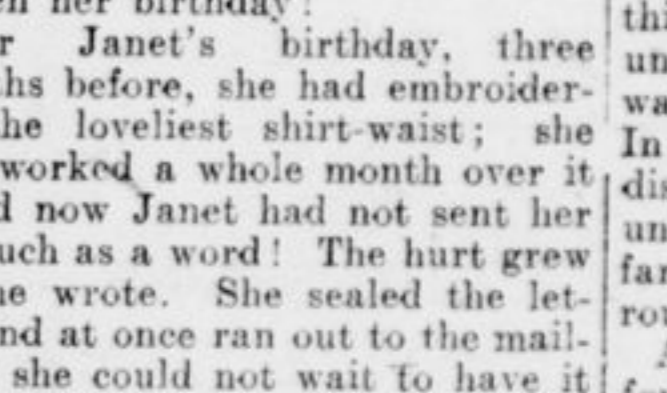
Well, on the occasion to which I refer, I entered the said "restaurant," ordered the least uninviting dish I could hit upon, and turned things over in my mind during the unconsciously long time I had to wait for the arrival of my repast. In a flash it came to me that I had discovered a simple, unspiced universal want—clean and decent fare in bright and congenial surroundings at a reasonable price.

And there and then was laid the foundation stone of a business which now feeds more than 500,000 men, women and children—a business, too, which finds work for nearly 16,000 employees, which possesses 250 branches (the number is steadily increasing both in London and the provinces) and which has no fewer than 12,000 agents throughout the country selling our "wares." Yes, in a small way—and I write it with due humility—a chance visit of a discontented artist to a dirty restaurant has exercised a considerable influence, indeed, over the lives of a very large section of men, women and children in Great Britain.

Wet Grounds. Father—Young Willoughby doesn't seem to call on Grace very often of late. Wonder if it's a case of dampened ardor. Son—I think likely. He proposed to her while out canoeing, and she threw him over.

A Different Complexion. Mistress—I saw the baker kissing you this morning, Mary. In future I shall take the bread myself. Maid—It won't be no use, mum. He don't like fair women.

Miss Vera Willing does his star trick just as Mr. Slowboy is pro



FIDO MAKES A MISTAKE.

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Continuation of text from the left page, including the 'Young Folks' section and the 'Fido Makes a Mistake' illustration.

Continuation of text from the right page, including the 'Young Folks' section and the 'Fido Makes a Mistake' illustration.