

THE CITY DIRECTORY.

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J. HALLIGAN & Co., 53 Brock Street. Family groceries, imported wines, liquors and cigars. VICTORIA WAREHOUSE, admitted to be the best place in the city to buy groceries, crockery, china, etc. THOMAS BROS., headquarters for Watches, ranging in price from \$3 to \$300; Silverware and Jewellery. A. M. BROCK, watchmaker, jeweller and engraver, has every facility for manufacturing and repairing jewellery in all its branches. Golden Diamond Watch Sign, 90 Princess St.

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THE LEADING INSURANCE AGENCY. A. R. MARTIN, FORD'S BLOCK, BROCK ST., KINGSTON. Agents for the following Companies: FIRE. Scottish Union & National Insurance Co.; Capital \$30,000,000. Imperial Insurance Co., of London, Eng.; Capital, \$7,750,000. British America Assurance Co.; Capital, \$600,000. Glasgow & London Insurance Co.; Capital, \$1,400,000. LIFE. British Empire Mutual Life Assurance Co., of London, Eng.; Capital, \$6,000,000. ACCIDENT. Norwich Accident Insurance Co.; Capital, \$1,333,333. All first-class Companies giving the highest security, the lowest rates, fair treatment, and prompt settlement. MARTIN'S REAL ESTATE OFFICE. Houses For Sale and To-Let; Tenants found; property appraised; rents collected. Money to loan.

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THE AETNA INSURANCE COMPANY, HARTFORD CONN. Cash Capital, \$4,000,000.00 Total Assets, January 1st, 1891, \$8,902,772.50 Losses paid in 63 years, \$3,400,000.00 The leading Fire Insurance Company on the Continent. Its Annual Premium Receipts in Canada and the United States are larger than those of any other Company, and it has an unblemished record of 63 years. JAMES SWIFT, Agent.

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SCIENCE AND PROGRESS.

ENTHUSIASTS ON PERPETUAL MOTION NOT ALL DEAD.

Professor Trowbridge Asserts That Birds Sleep on the Wing—The Scientific Toy Known as Magnetic Oracle Illustrated and Explained in Detail.

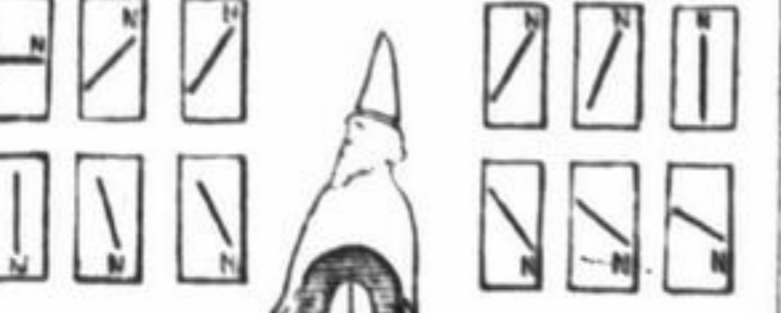
The scientific toy shown in the subjoined cuts, taken from La Nature, while far from new, is nevertheless ingenious and cleverly modernized by the constructor.



THE MAGNETIC ORACLE.

To make the oracle speak, write upon twelve prepared cards a series of questions relating to history, geography, science, customs, etc. One of the company takes one of these cards at random and reads one of the questions; then the card is placed under the magician's feet, in a groove made to receive it. Immediately the oracle turns on its axis, and after some oscillations becomes fixed in a certain position, its magic wand pointing to one of the numbers by which it is surrounded. On referring to the corresponding number on a list is read an admirably exact and accurate answer.

By varying at will the cards of questions and answers one may obtain from the oracle an indefinite number of replies. Nothing can be simpler than the process by which this result is obtained. The base of the toy, into which the cards slip, bears a vertical pivot on which rests the body of the magician, whose robe conceals a vertical U-shaped magnet, having its two poles near the base, as shown in Fig. 2.



DETAILS OF MAGNETIC ORACLE.

In each of the cards there is another magnet concealed, a straight rod, occupying a different position for each of the twelve cards. We see that in virtue of the well known laws of the attraction of magnets for each other, each time that a card is placed with its magnet in the base, the figure will turn round this axis and effect a series of oscillations round its own axis until the poles of the U-shaped magnet holder under its robe are opposite the contrary poles of the straight rod hidden in the card. If the base has been correctly marked previously, the dividing rod will indicate the corresponding number of the answer. Anybody with a little genius and a few tools can make an oracle similar to the one shown in the illustrations.

Birds Sleeping on the Wing.

The very interesting discovery announced by Professor Trowbridge, that birds have a power of sleeping on the wing, brings to mind, says a correspondent in Science, that it is not a recent observation, but was anticipated by Edgar A. Poe. In a poem which he says was written in his youth, and published more than thirty years ago, are these lines:

O, is it thy will On the breezes to toss? Or capriciously still Like the lone albatross, Incumbent on night (As she on the air).

To which he appends this marginal note: "The albatross is said to sleep on the wing." This poem, however, was criticized by another philosophic writer, John Phoenix, who gave it as his opinion that the poet invented the fact in natural history because he found there were no words to rhyme with "toss" but "hoss" and "albatross." This is now happily discredited; but the question remains, Who first "said it"?

Perpetual Motion Inventors.

George Stephenson, England's great engineer, began his experience as an inventor with the perpetual motion problem, for which he constructed a machine. His biographer describes it as consisting of a "wooden wheel, the periphery of which was furnished with glass tubes filled with quicksilver, and as the wheel rotated the quicksilver poured itself down into the lower tubes, and thus a sort of self-acting motion was kept up in the apparatus, which, however, did not prove to be perpetual."

Not a year passes but some new enthusiast lodges at the patent office the specifications of some machine for perpetual motion. This is not in itself considered evidence of insanity, but it is unquestionably regarded by some as proof of mechanical aberration.

Patent Maple Sugar.

Numbered with curious inventions for which a patent has been granted is one to an Indiana genius for patent maple sugar. The patent sugar in question is made by mixing an extract of hickory with an ordinary syrup, such as cane syrup or sorghum. This hickory flavored syrup is boiled down in the usual manner, and a product resembling maple sugar, in appearance as well as flavor, is the result. A deception made from the wood of maple, it appears, has been used for the same purpose. The inventor, therefore, claims as his invention the use of the hickory extract wherever it may be employed to impart an agreeable flavor.

A New Application of Electricity.

M. Garel has invented an electrical method of preparing paper stencils for letters, circulars, etc. In this apparatus a piece of very thin paper rests on a carbon block connected with one pole of a small induction coil, while the style, with which the writing is done, is connected with the other pole. On using the apparatus a series of sparks pass between the style and the carbon block, perforating the paper, which can then be used as a stencil in the ordinary way.

Value of Seaweed.

A hundred tons of air dried seaweed will yield, besides the salts, seventy tons of algin and fifteen tons of cellulose. The algin is a gummy substance, with fourteen times the viscosity of starch and thirty-seven times that of gum arabic. It is used for sizing, as a mordant in dyeing, in cookery, the making of confectionery, the manufacture of paper, to prevent the incrustation of steam boilers, and many other uses.

ALL AROUND THE HOUSE.

The Latest Novelties in Decoration—A Popular Indoor Game—Tested Recipes.

A novel and pretty fire screen is made of a square of plain white matting, raveled about three inches deep and finished around the edges with hempen rope. On the center is painted in oil a genre interior, or, if the amateur cannot manage that, any simple colored lithograph is put in its place and tacked at the four corners with hempen cords and tassels. Art Interchange describes the above as well as the following novelties:

The newest thing in baskets is the "fisher basket," painted and lined with copper colored India silk, finished on either side with copper and gold colored bows of satin ribbon, and placed on a gilded stand of crossed sticks. Baskets for soiled linen are much beautified by the same treatment, with a finish for the lid of olive and orange ribbon loops.

A cheap cane bottomed chair, to be had at any furniture shop for seventy-five cents, may be metamorphosed by painting it white and outlining and coloring the front of the wood work with a running vine and a cluster of white flowers. It is then cushioned in yellow satin or gold plush and decorated with bows of ribbon of the same shade.

A quaint picture frame is made of brown denim, with a tri-cornered piece of fish net drawn over the front, and a little basket of fish netting and cord suspended from the upper left hand corner. The picture should be a coast or fishing scene.

Bean Bag Parties.

At the now popular bean bag parties a smooth board about three feet long and two wide is provided and placed in an inclined position at one end of a hall or room long enough to give sufficient range. In the board is a hole about five inches square. The bean bags are generally made of colored ticking. There are usually ten bags of one size, and one quite large called Jumbo. A player pitches toward the hole and if ten bags fall into the hole it counts 100, ten being the number for each bag. Jumbo is double the others in size and counts twenty if he is thrown into the opening. When a bag does not go into the hole but remains on the board it counts five; if it falls on the floor five points are taken from the player's score. One hundred and twenty is the highest possible score. There is much fun in the game. A regular score is kept and prizes are sometimes awarded to the player who makes the greatest number of points.

Hints on Painting China.

The following points will be of interest to ladies in their first attempts at decorating their own china. An amateur advises:

Learn first to mix the paint to the right consistency. If too thick it will not flow readily from the brush, but will come off in lumps or streaks. If too thin, the work will look weak and washed out. A penknife is an excellent thing to have at hand. With it a broad or uneven line can be scraped and fined down to suit. Rub two pieces of fine sand paper together till much of the roughness is taken off, and with these carefully rub your work after it has been fired; this will brighten the polish. Use more flux with colors on earthenware than on china. Greens and browns in china colors can be mixed very much as in oil colors, but it should be remembered that they brighten with firing. Yellow eats out iron red when fired.

Delicious Buckwheat Cakes.

Scald one-half cup of cornmeal with three cups of boiling water; when nearly cold add equal parts of buckwheat and whole wheat or white flour to make the batter a little thicker than required, as it becomes thinner in rising. Add one teaspoonful of salt, one dessertspoonful of molasses and the proper proportion of whatever yeast is used. Beat well, and let rise in a warm room over night. In the morning dissolve one-third teaspoonful of soda and stir into the batter. One well beaten egg added is liked by some. Deliciously tender "buckwheats," which were the rule in our household, were so made, says a correspondent of Good Housekeeping, by placing the vessel containing the foamy batter, ready for baking, in the snow for perhaps an hour.

Harmless Dainties for the Canary.

An authority on birds advises that raw apple, cabbage leaf and plaitain should be provided and one of the other given to a canary every day the year round. Occasionally give a piece of bread soaked in milk, but never cake or candy. Once a week give boiled egg mixed with cracker. Never hang any birds in a draft or the wind, and never let them out of their cage. In molting time give a dusting of cayenne pepper to their egg cracker, or bread and milk.

Parsnip Fritters.

A very nice way to cook parsnips is as fritters. Take three large parsnips boiled till soft, scrape and mash fine, picking out all strings and lumps; add two beaten eggs, two tablespoonfuls of new milk and two of sifted flour, an even teaspoonful of salt and quarter of a teaspoonful of pepper; mix thoroughly; make into small cakes, flour them and fry brown in butter or oil; eat with butter.

Fashionable Sash Curtains.

No prettier material for sash curtains has yet been found than the thin Indian silks, almost transparent in texture, soft, delicate and yet rich in their many hues.

Decorative and Useful Boxes.

Various pretty and convenient boxes and cases for the dressing table may be contrived, by the exercise of a little ingenuity, with but small outlay for materials, as any one interested in such work is likely to have on hand much of what is wanted. For the foundation of the handkerchief box represented in the cut, a square paste board box that opens in the center is taken, and a fancy letter paper box usually serves the purpose. Make a tufted cushion of satin on the top and put an insertion of white lace around it with the same color underneath. The sides can be covered with satin, fastened with a very little white glue (carefully used), and the edges are most attractively finished with silver or gilt cord. Complete the box by putting a little perfume sachet inside.



HANDKERCHIEF BOX.

A convenient jewel case may be made by covering any box of suitable form (for instance one of the long, shallow cigar boxes) with black satin decorated with a design of flowers, principally in blue and crimson. Around the sides may be put a finish of an-tye lace. The inside can be lined with quilted satin or with plain satin. Neat and decorative work will make these home made contrivances a success.

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Rates of Cabin Passage from Portland or Halifax, \$50, \$65 and \$75, according to the position of steamer.

Return—\$100, \$125 and \$150. Intermediate—\$30. Steerage—\$20.

Steamers land passengers on the Railway wharf at Portland and Halifax.

The last train to make connection with steamer leaving Portland leaves Kingston every Wednesday at 1:45 p.m. Pullman Cars will be run through to Portland.

Last train to make connection with steamer leaving Halifax leaves Kingston every Thursday at 1:45 p.m.

SAILINGS FROM PORTLAND HALIFAX For Tickets and every information apply to THOMAS HANLEY,

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TRY IT ONCE AND YOU WILL TAKE NO OTHER Elegant Drawing Room Cars are run on all Express Trains between Kingston and Sharbot Lake.

No. 3 Express leaves Kingston at 12:40 p.m. Arrives Toronto 8:20 p.m.; Ottawa, 3:25 p.m. Montreal, 8:15 p.m.; Renfrew, 5:10 p.m. Passengers leaving by this train will reach Winnipeg in 60 hours.

No. 1 Mixed leaves Kingston 7:30 a.m.; arrives at Sharbot Lake 10:00 a.m., and Renfrew 2:45 p.m., connecting with C.P.R. Express for points east.

No. 5 Express leaves Kingston at 4:15 p.m., arrives at Sharbot Lake at 7:10 p.m.; Renfrew at 10:45 p.m.

No. 7 Express leaves Kingston at 11:45 p.m., connecting with C.P.R. Night Express Train at Sharbot Lake for all points east and west. J. H. TAYLOR, F. CONWAY, F. W. FOLGER, Asst. Supt. Ass. Gen. Pass. Agt. Supt.

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No. 1..... at 12:20 p.m. No. 2..... at 3:50 p.m. No. 5..... at 1:45 p.m. No. 4..... at 2:10 a.m. No. 3..... at 1:25 a.m. No. 6..... at 8:10 a.m. Mixed..... at 8:10 a.m. Mixed..... at 7:30 a.m. Mixed..... at 7:55 p.m.

Express Trains Nos. 3, 4 and 6 run Sundays included. No. 6 does not run on Monday. All Tickets good to return for six months. For rates and general information apply to THOS. HANLEY

Agent, Grand Trunk Railway, corner Johnson and Ontario Streets.

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