Useless Roads of France.

The engineer for the Seine and Marne departments in France reports that trials of a mixture of oil and petroleum as a dust preventive have been unsuccessful. In the summer of 1902 a coating of tar was tried on seven different lengths of road. After careful investigation during a period of twelve months, it was found that dust and mud had wholly disappeared and the cost of maintenance had been reduced. The tar forms an elastic skin, which deadens the sound of traffic and reduces the resistance. It appears that the tarring method involves no greater outlay than that for coating with oil.

Long Confined as Leper.

A remarkable story which has lately attracted great sympathy in Cape Colony, is that of a man named Aproskie, who, after having been confined on Robben Island for eight years as a person suspected of having leprosy, was recently allowed to return to his family as non-afflicted. He was formerly a shipwrecked sailor who took a farm at the Cape, married and prospered exceedingly. Mosquito bites were mistaken for leprosy by a field-cornet, who sent him to Robben Island. He returned home broken in spirit and financially ruined, his property having been sold for the upkeep of his children.

Cat Nurses Squirrels.

A Joplin (Mo.) dispatch to the Chicago Inter-Ocean states:

William Williams, a farmer living south of Avilla, near this city, has a cat that nurses a litter of squirrels. Four young fox squirrels were taken to the house recently from the nest where they were found, although the family cat had a litter of kittens, she exhibits motherly fondness for the squirrels, and makes regular trips back and forth from the house to the barn, and licks and nurses the squirdels as tenderly as she does her kittens.

HAD TO GIVE UP.

Suffered Agonies From Kidney Disorders Until Cured by Doan's Kidney Pills.

George W. Renoff, of 1953 North Eleventh street, Philadelphia, Pa., a

man of good reputation and standing, writes: "Five years ago I was suffering so with my back and kidneys that I often had to lay off. The kidney secretions were unnatural, my legs and stomach were swollen, and I had no appetite. When doctors failed to help me I began using Doan's Kidney Pills and improved until my back was strong and my appetite returned. During the four years since I stopped using them I have enjoyed excellent health. The cure was permanent."

(Signed) GEORGE W. RENOFF.

A TRIAL FREE—Address Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y. For sale by all dealers. Price, 50 cents.

Bugs Pressed Into Cakes.

That questionable epicurean tidbit, the snail, has a rival in Mexico in a species of bugs known popularly as "water boatmen." These aquatic insects are gathered in large numbers on the large lakes near the city of Mexico, and when dried are much prized as an article of diet by the natives. The immense numbers in which they are found on these lakes is indicated by the fact that they are now being gathered extensively for export, for use as bird and fish foods, at a price of less than 10 cents a pound. A food much relished by trout is made by passing the dry "water boatmen" through a coffee mill, grinding them as finely as desired, after which scalding water is poured over them to soften them. They are then mixed with 20 per cent. of mush, producing what is stated by the Bureau of Fisheries to be the best food for small fish that has been discovered during their many years of experience in this line of work. Caged birds, it is asserted, are equally fond of this aquatic tid-bit.

There can be no rest as long as you resist Him. So. 38.

The letter of Miss Merkley, whose picture is printed above, proves beyond question that thousands of cases of inflammation of the ovaries and womb are annually cured by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—Gradual loss of strength and nerve force told me something was radically wrong with me. I had severe shooting pains through the pelvic organs, cramps and extreme irritation compelled me to seek medical advice. The doctor said that I had ovarian trouble and ulceration, and advised an operation. I strongly objected to this and decided to try **Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.** I soon found that my judgment was correct, and that all the good things said about this medicine were true, and day by day I felt less pain and increased appetite. The ulceration soon healed, and the other complications disappeared, and in eleven weeks I was once more strong and vigorous and perfectly well.

"My heartiest thanks are sent to you for the great good you have done me."—Sincerely yours, MISS MARGARET MERKLEY, 275 Third St., Milwaukee, Wis.—*$5000 forfeit if original of above letter proving genuineness cannot be produced.*

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.

THE TALE OF POLLY WOGG.

Oh, a pollywog lived in a little glass tank,
With a goldfish or two and a snail;
And his body was fat and covered with spots,
But he sported a monstrous long tail.

He wriggled and twisted the livelong day,
And grew, this fat pollywog;
But never once did it enter his head
That he was akin to a frog.

Along in his sides, down next to his tail,
He had a bad feeling one day,
And before the next morning two legs had appeared,
To help him along on his way.

With his gills disappearing, he couldn't breathe well,
And two more funny legs came to light;
He stretched them all out and wiggled his toes,
And tried to make believe 'twas all right.

Four legs and a tail for one pollywog
Seemed so funny he wanted to laugh;
And then one night he happened to see
That his tail was shorter by half.

And it faded away—a little each day—
Till hardly a bit could he see;
Then it all disappeared, and pollywog found
A gay little froggy was he!

Then somebody put him in a little tin pail
And carried him down to the brook;
And all that I've told you you may see for yourself
If you'll just take the trouble to look.

—Clara E. Atwood, in Youth's Companion.

A ROBIN'S NEST.

Here on the farm, nests, birds and eggs are very plentiful. You may hear the birds' sweet little voices about all day long, especially after a thunder shower, when they seem glad to hop all about, singing and chirping away so pleasantly.

One cannot help but enjoy it as they go about their work or play. Birds are so tame here that a pair of robins have gone to work and boldly built their nest directly under the laundry platform, where the noise of the laundry machinery twice out of the seven days of a week has failed to frighten them away. They are only scared from their nest by passersby who go a little too close to their much coveted nest so as to make them feel unsafe, on which occasion they will fly off a short distance to some neighboring tree, and there they will chirp and hop about very excitedly with that true parent's devotion to their children, till they think that you are at quite a respectable distance, then they will again fly to the nest and young.

Now let us turn to see how and of what their nest is made. They arrange their nest in sort of layers which consists of mud, string, grass, horsehair, hay and rags. It is fourteen inches in circumference and is plastered with mud to the side of the building. In this nest a few weeks ago the robins laid four little pale blue eggs. Soon after these eggs hatched into featherless little birds. You can lie down on the laundry platform and peep through the cracks in the boards right into the nest, which is directly under these boards, and if you have patience you can see the very interesting sight of the mother bird feeding her young. As soon as the young ones hear the mother's wings flutter they will open their little mouths in the cutest way imaginable, and cry to their mother to feed them, which she readily does with the worm which she has gone and hunted up for them.

The robins are now about half-fledged and they of course slowly but surely begin to see, and their wings and feathers to grow. The mother robin bestows all her attention on her young, which are growing fast, and will very soon be flying as their parents do, and will also have gained the beautiful breast of red and bluish black wings their parents have.

These are fact developing in their young bodies. Robins are one of nature's beauties, and we should certainly treat them as such.—Charles F. S——, in B. F. I. Record.

UP AND DOWN.

Here we have the picture of a boy with a bottle standing on the back of his head. You will say, perhaps, that you can easily perform that little feat, and we do not doubt that you can. But this is only the first step in the amusing task that we are going to set for you.

We want you, if you please, to balance a bottle on the back of your head, and then to stoop down and pick up a silver quarter from the floor with your lips and rise again, all without letting the bottle fall or touching it with your hand. If you think the experiment might be fatal to the integrity of the bottle—that, in other words, there might be a smash-up—use a tin canister, or something of that kind, instead of the bottle.

But the use of the bottle makes the

HOW THE TRICK LOOKS.

feat decidedly more interesting, from the very fact that a smash-up is possible. The use of a tin vessel, therefore, would be too tame to suit most boys.

Now, if you will follow our directions closely, you may succeed in the feat, and bring the bottle out safe and whole.

First, bend the head forward until the chin rests on the breast; then balance the bottle in its place, on the crown of the head. Be sure to do the beginning well, and the rest will be easier than it looks.

Bend the knees gently, coming to the floor on one knee. Then lower the hands to the floor, and thus supported, push the feet gradually and slowly back until the face is able to reach the quarter.

Resuming the first position is merely going through these movements in reverse order. Slow, steady, even, careful movement is the secret of success in the feat.—Mail and Express.

HER FIRST EXPERIENCE.

A small boy, aged five, had a stepmother who was young and nervous. She had never had experience with children, and the small boy's slightest ailment tortured her into a panic.

Croup threatened one day, and the doctor was sent for in wild haste. As the doctor entered the room, the child raised his head from his pillow and croaked hoarsely, in apology for the hasty summons:

"You must excuse her, doctor, this is the first time she's ever been a mother."—Lippincott's Magazine.

PICTURE PUZZLE.

FIND THE TWO ATTENDANTS OF THE PRINCES.
—Mirror and Farmer.

Sturgeon Rare in Oregon Waters.

A sturgeon weighing 375 pounds was captured by a gill net fisherman near Astoria a few days ago and sold for $20.

It has been less than twenty years since sturgeons of that size were almost unsalable, and thousands of pounds of the big fish have been carried off to the Portland docks for fertilizer, after the consignees had refused to pay the steamboat freight on them.

The prodigal waste of these fish a few years ago, when their value was not appreciated, has depleted the supply to such an extent that they are now almost extinct.

It requires nearly as much time to produce a 370 pound sturgeon as it does to produce a six foot saw log, and the time is approaching when the big saw log, like the big sturgeon, will pass out of existence, with nothing growing up to take its place.—Portland Oregonian.

The Meaning of Orange Blossoms.

The orange tree is regarded as a prince among trees and the emblem of genius. A peculiarity of this tree is that it bears fruit and flowers at the same time. Its leaves are evergreen, and as it grows older it grows in beauty and fruitfulness, it blossoms filling the air with its fragrance. It is, indeed, a fit emblem of marriage promise and hopes.

The orange trees is considered typical of love because, though its fruit is golden and its flavor and scent delicious, its rind is bitter, and as every one knows who has experienced it, Cupid's dart causes pain. The orange is emblematic of gratitude as well as of genius and love.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

COUNTRY LIFE.

Why Newspapers of Small Towns Are So "Local."

A British visitor to this country not long since was quoted as saying that he estimated the character and quality of the people largely by the newspapers. A fairly accurate estimate may be made in this way, no doubt, but could not come from inspection of the papers which in all probability fell into the hands of this Englishman. He would naturally see the prominent metropolitan papers, and at furthest only the leading ones of the smaller cities. From the character of these he could draw certain correct inferences as to the people for whom they were printed. He would know, first, and most distinctly, that these people were full of enterprise and energy, and were ready for any commercial undertaking, however vast; he would learn that they were generous in a large way, somewhat boastful, rather careless, individually, of their public obligations, but on the whole having rather a high standard by which to measure public men. These and numerous other conclusions he could draw from the papers that would in all likelihood fall into his hands, but unless he made a study of the country press he would miss a view of these same people quite necessary to a proper understanding and estimate of them.

The metropolitan papers deal with affairs of general interest—foreign and national events, politics, matters relating to public men, news that concerns many classes of readers, etc.; the papers of small towns and villages deal with matters of another sort; they are in close touch with their readers and treat of local and personal affairs. Politics and outside news may have place in their columns, too, but merely in an incidental way. It is the local record that gives them interest and character and makes them valuable and delightful.

In a community where everybody knows everybody else there is a natural and perfectly proper interest in knowing that Uncle Jake Snyder is having his barn painted, that Sam Sweeney is having trouble with his eyes, that Farmer Johnson has raised the biggest tomatoes ever seen in the region, that John Jones visited his "best girl" on Sunday night, and so on, and so on, and so on. It is not love of trivial detail or petty gossip, but an outgrowth of neighborly and kindly feelings that calls for a recital of these things. To an outsider the personal comments may at times seem overly familiar, but with the free give-and-take of a small community they are not so considered by the persons concerned, but are regarded rather as family pleasantries. It is through these papers, indeed, that glimpses are to be had of the best family life of the country, the dinners, the picnics, the reunions, the gayeties, as well as the more serious phases. The relations of the people to each other are discernible. One who reads between the lines of these records of local happenings and doings can see the simplicity, the open-hearted hospitality, the kindliness of the men and women who are mentioned from time to time; their pursuits, their ambitions, and, alas, also, their sorrows are made clear.

Many a man long resident of a city takes regularly the little paper published in his old home and reads it eagerly, thus keeping in touch with his former associates; but even the stranger of sympathetic mind and a degree of insight finds a charm in such papers that more pretentious sheets cannot possess. They bring him into close relations with the people who, above all others, are representative Americans and who make the country what it is.—Indianapolis Journal.

My Oriental Dressmaker.

My Japanese dressmaker that came to the house wore a long blue cotton kimona and wooden clogs that he slipped off his feet at the door of my room. He brought with him the clumsiest pair of shears and a little hand sewing machine that was an undoubted patriarch among machines. He rested in a chair, but squatted with his feet under him, set the machine on another in front of him, and seemed happiest and least concerned with the things of this life when he was grinding the machine with one hand, guiding the work with the other, while his prehensile toes kept the long breadths of skirt from the floor. Perhaps the beatific condition came with the Buddhistic attitude. Who knows?

He wore a curious sort of a thimble that was not much larger than a ring on the inside of the middle finger between the first and second joints, and pushed his needle straight out from him, at an angle directly opposite to ours when we sew.

He spoke very seldom, almost never asking a question, but worked steadily at something, somehow, if not directed otherwise. He never seemed surprised when told that his calculations were all wrong, and invariably answered, "Can do," when told that I wished a thing altered.—Laura B. Starr, in Harper's Bazar.

The High-Falutin' Style.

The high-falutin' style may be fashionable, says London Truth, but it is not always informing. Miss Eva Powell, lecturing before a ladies' class upon vocalism, declared: "If you really want to sing, just open your mouth and let the radiating singing soul within you hurl itself forth," adding: "If you sing of a dewdrop you must see mentally the glistening beads of the meadow; if of a skylark, imagine yourself a bird." At this point an inquiring damsel caused the lecture to collapse by innocently asking about the "Honeysuckle and the Bee." Was she to imagine herself a flower or an insect?

"The Wolf's" Philosophy.

"Temptation is temptation, whether the man yield or overcome. Fire is fanned by the wind until it leaps up fiercely. Sop is desire like fire. It is fanned, as by a wind, by sight of the thing desired, or by a new and luring description or comprehension of the thing desired. There lies the temptation. It is the wind that fans the desire until it leaps up to mastery. That's temptation. It may not fan sufficiently to make the desire overmastering, but in so far as it fans at all, that far is it temptation. And, as you say, it may tempt for good as well as for evil."—Century.

POPULAR SCIENCE

The catalogue of orchids in the Kew Gardens of London describes 220 specimens.

A method of producing sleep and local anesthesia by means of electric currents has been devised by a French physicist, M. Leduc.

Manchester, England, sacrifices from £12,000 to £15,000 every year by declining to have advertisements on its cars, which are operated by the city.

An air compressor for dusting and cleaning purposes, shown in operation, is one of the new mechanical exhibits of interest to women at the World's Fair.

The percolation of a liquid through a porous solid is much affected by the temperature. It has been found that the internal friction is reduced as the temperature rises.

In India the power given off by a motor is sometimes expressed in elephant equivalents, a twenty-two-horse motor, says Motoring Illustrated, being described as a three-elephant vehicle.

A German chemist removes the nicotine from tobacco by steeping the leaves in a solution of tannic acid. The tobacco is then treated with a decoction of marjoram to improve its flavor.

An international exhibition of small motors and also of machine tools for various industries was held at Ghent, with the object of showing how means of production may be improved with the aid of motive power, especially electricity.

Two new ideas in street-car construction detail originating in Philadelphia are substitutes for the grab handles on the side posts of open cars, consisting of brackets which inclose the space between the back of the seats and the posts, and an entrance guard which slides upon the inside of the posts, and which when not in use is held under the curtain guards by gravity catches.

The new British torpedo boat destroyer Waveney belongs to the new class of torpedo boat destroyers, and has been built with a displacement of 550 tons and equipped with one 12-pounder and five 6-pounder quick-firing guns and two 18-inch torpedo tubes. The Waveney has been fitted with engines of 7000 horse-power, supplied with steam from modified Yarrow water-tube boilers, propelling her at a speed of 25½ knots an hour.

THE ADIRONDACK ELK.

Belief That the Deer Is Fast Becoming Extinct Not True.

Deer signs are about as numerous as usual. The talk about the deer starving in great numbers last winter is certainly not true in this section. Today I had a talk with our courteous and efficient game protector for Hamilton County, Mr. Robert O. Nichols, of Indian Lake, and he told me that he traveled his territory last winter on snowshoes a great deal, and later, when the snow crust would bear up the deer, he traveled on that. He saw but very few dead deer—five to seven being the largest number in a long distance—while in one day he saw 138 live deer. His judgment is that game wintered well as a rule. However, he said he could not speak from personal knowledge of the Moose River region, nor of the country around Long Lake west. From both these sections came reports of many deer dead from starvation. If these be true, they merely indicate a greater abundance of deer in those parts.

The elk seem to be thriving hereabouts. Recently a band of seven were seen in a cow pasture, feeding among the cattle. Some of the residents have a mistaken notion that the elk are driving out the deer. This cannot be, for the elk are too newly introduced and are as yet too few in numbers to drive out the deer, either by fighting or consuming their food. But another cause has undoubtedly operated against the deer. This place is practically surrounded by lumber camps, most of which are now in operation their third season. Leaving out of account whatever deer are eaten in these camps, the tendency is for the deer to retire to less disturbed portions of the forest, while the elk, introduced from semi-domesticated herds on private preserves, are less shy of man. This, I think, explains for this section the less than usual observance of deer where that condition exists.

Present indications are that the season will be lighter than usual for the hotels, but the region maintains its unsurpassed loveliness.—Correspondence in Forest and Stream.

If Our Eyes Were in Tune.

Suppose that our eyes were attuned to the vibrations revealed to us by the bolometre. Instead of seeing the stars that we now see we should perceive those whose light has long been extinguished, whose existence the methods of modern physics have enabled us to prove. The sun would appear surrounded by its corona, changing in form and position every instant, and we should no longer be obliged to wait for total eclipses to study this phenomenon. Currents of hot air would become visible like snow squalls and the science of heat would have no more secrets.

New Crease to the Trousers.

A feature of style said to have been introduced by the King is to have the creases in the trousers at the side and leg seam instead of back and front. Already a few West End dandies have adopted this plan, but as the effect of this innovation is to prdouce a thicker appearance to the leg, we do not anticipate any general adoption of this fashion.—Tailor and Cutter.

To Play Without Scenery.

There is a society in England which has as one of its chief objects to strip the modern stage of its elaborate scenery and to return to the days when the play was the thing, and not its setting.

How It Got Its Name.

Back in Clinton County, in a section which is rapidly becoming known through the development of its oil wells, is a village called Seventy-six. In the midst of the village is a waterfall, which greeted the eye of the first frontiersman who went to that part of this State when it was still a part of Virginia. He measured the depth of the fall and found it to be seventy-six feet. The accuracy of the measurement has never been called into question, and the inhabitants of the town to this day have their mails addressed to "Seventy-six, Ky." The fall is of little volume during the summer months, but it is of great beauty at all times. In the winter it is a roaring cataract, and Indian Creek frequently goes upon a rampage. The section was a favorite hunting ground of the Indians in the early days, and the creek derived its name from the number of spearheads and spikes which are found in the fields around.—Louisville (Ky.) Courier-Journal.

Mail Carried by Reindeer Team.

The capacity of the reindeer for team work is remarkable. His hoofs are very broad and do not penetrate the snow crusts. His average weight is about 400 pounds. He will swiftly draw a sled carrying 600 pounds, and with this load can cover thirty, fifty and even ninety miles a day. The reindeer teams now carry the mails from Kotzebue to Point Barrow, a distance of 650 miles—the most northerly post route in the world. No food is carried for the deer. At the end of his journey, or at any stopping place, he is turned loose, and at once breaks through the snow to the white moss, which serves as food. It costs nothing to feed him. As the white settlements increase in the mineral bearing parts of Alaska, and in many places remote from railway and steamboat transportation, the reindeer express will be one of the most important factors in territorial life.

Of Interest in the Home.

The wedding breakfast or luncheon is an occasion to be long remembered, and therefore should present a most attractive picture. The details of planning and preparing the wedding feast are given in an illustrated article in the October Delineator which is very suggestive in this regard. In the same number are illustrated and described various seasonable fruit confections, and there are also many choice recipes, including Dainty Novelties in Soup, Delectable Cheese Dishes, a Dozen Little Cakes and a number of preparations from a Southern kitchen. A series of notes on domestic science rounds out the household portion of the magazine.

FITS permanently cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. $2 trial bottle and treatise free. Dr. R. H. KLINE, Ltd., 931 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

The number of Chinese outside of China is estimated at over 7,640,000.

H. F. GREEN'S SONS, of Atlanta, Ga., are the only successful Dropsy Specialists in the world. See their liberal offer in advertisement in another column of this paper.

Holland to-day has 250 daily papers, as compared with only five in 1840.

I assure Piso's Cure for Consumption saved my life three years ago.—MRS. THOMAS ROBINS, Maple St., Norwich, N.Y., Feb. 17, 1900.

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Be sure you don't get one of the common kind—this is the mark of excellence.

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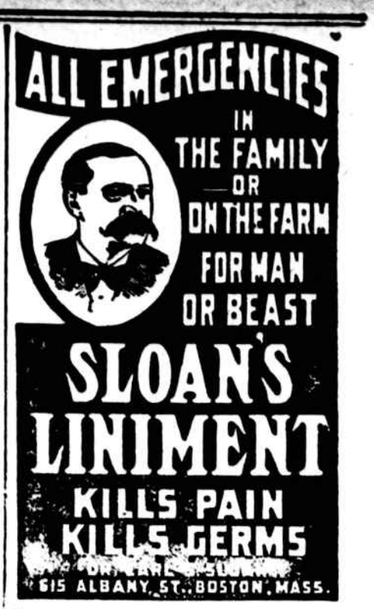

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25 CTS. PISO'S CURE FOR CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists. CONSUMPTION 25 CTS.

So. 38.

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"*I have worn W. L. Douglas $3.50 shoes for the last twelve years with absolute satisfaction. I find them superior in fit, comfort and wear to others costing from $5.00 to $7.00.*" R. S. McCUE, Dept. Coll., U.S. Int. Revenue, Richmond, Va.

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