

Americans are said to eat more than any other Nation.

Belgium is the only European country which has no navy.

With a population of hardly 2,500,000 Greece has a debt of \$164,000,000, or about \$75 per capita.

The trolley has invaded the land of the Pharaohs. Cairo, Egypt, is to have a system.

Mr. Selous, the celebrated English traveler and hunter, says that the great curse of the British Empire in Africa is drink.

Steam street railways are more common in Italy than in any other country. There are now nearly 2000 miles of such lines.

In Mexico two substitute jurors sit near the jury box in a trial. If one of the regulars falls ill a substitute takes his place and the trial proceeds.

It seems that many people in San Francisco save up their dead all the week in order to have the funeral on Sunday, and, according to the *New York Tribune*, a ministers' meeting was held the other day in order to protest against the practice.

Miss Willard announces in a recent letter that the plan of a special round-the-world trip with the Polyglot Petition will probably be abandoned as it is thought that taking up the work more gradually will be better suited to the interest of the various countries to be visited. The petition will this summer be presented to the Governments of Great Britain, Norway and Sweden, and probably Denmark.

The *New York Sun* remarks: There is no doubt that the population of the earth is far greater at the end of our century than it was in any other century since the creation of man. It is probably more than twenty times greater than it was at the beginning of the Christian era, though it has been kept down since then, in some measure, by war, famine, plague, and bad government. There are Frenchmen and Germans who like to take a pull in the dark at this question. There can be no harm in guessing how many people may be in the world when it is 1895 years older. There may possibly be between 2,000,000,000 and 3,000,000,000, with plenty of room for more.

A number of prominent New York physicians were recently interviewed in regard to the use of hypnotism in their practice. They all admitted that they resorted to hypnosis when other means failed, and that by this means they often cured obstinate cases of insomnia and of dipsomania. The cure of the drink habit by hypnotism is no new thing, but it is a novelty to find leading physicians resorting to it. In the same way some famous surgeons hypnotize patients who object to anesthetics, and in this way perform operations while the subject is unconscious of pain. The subject is a very interesting one, and despite the study made of it by many experts in medicine no one has yet been able to explain why one person is an easy subject and another a difficult one.

A plea is being made for the observance of a "bird day" in our schools, with the hope that it will create an enthusiasm and love for birds, and a love of nature which now has its beginning and ending in Arbor Day. If teachers are too busy to make that preparation necessary for a successful observance of such a day, why may not the women's clubs, as a writer in the *Outlook* suggests, shed their sweetness and light on the school children occasionally, and end the hour or two devoted to the work by a simple afternoon tea to their little guests? This surely would be a practical work, in the estimation of the *New York Post*, quite worthy their efforts, as well as of the Sunday-schools, and an occasional sermon from the ministers on an important chapter of human conduct.

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

SNAILS IN THE GARDEN.

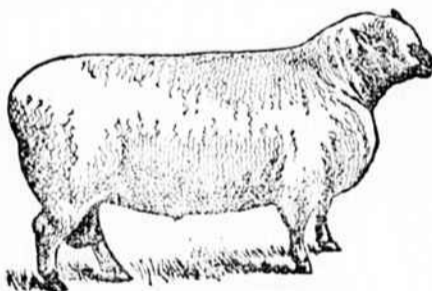
For some years snails or slugs have given me considerable trouble. The foliage of early peas and other plants was found badly eaten in the morning, always from the ground up. At first I could not imagine what animals had done this damage. When I discovered that slugs were the culprits I soon found means to get rid of them. Salt is the sovereign remedy for them, but lime is just as effective, and so is wood ashes and kainit and muriate of potash. I would fill up my knapsack sprayer with salt water or with lime water, and then go to the patch where I knew these slugs to be at work, usually at or after dusk, and give the plants a good spraying. That treatment will kill every slug touched by the spray. In the morning only grease spots are left of them.—*Boston Cultivator*.

RIGHT TIME TO FELL TREES.

When to hew timber that the best results can be secured has been a vexing question to lumbermen. "For strength, beauty and durability, I have found August, September and October the best, and February, March and April the worst months to cut wood. A red maple cut in September will keep in a round log perfectly white and sound until the next August, while one cut in March will begin to blacken and decay by the middle or last of June. This is not copied from any scientific work, but is what I have found to be a fact by many practical tests. Good birch cut in September will keep in a good condition until the next September, if left in the woods cut in four foot lengths, while if cut in March and left in the same way it will be nearly worthless by August 1—at least such is the result on my land. White pine, like red maple, keeps much longer if cut in September than if cut in March, and is not injured by the worms so much. I have found that wood dried slowly in a low, cool place is better than dried quickly in the hot sun, even though cut in summer. May this not, in a measure, account for wood being better in autumn, it having cold winter to dry in?"—*New York Dispatch*.

OXFORDSHIRES.

This is a comparatively new variety. It originated about 1830 by crossing



PRIZE OXFORD DOWN SHEEP.

the Cotswold with the Hampshire, but not until 1862 did the breed secure recognition in the prize lists of the leading shows. The Oxford is intermediate as to length of wool between the Southdown and the long wools. The aim of the originators of the breed was to obtain an animal that possessed the weight of the long-wool sheep with the quality and characteristics of the Downs, and the best types of the breed show how admirably they have succeeded in producing a breed which can hardly be surpassed in the production of both mutton and wool.

The Oxford Down is a well-made, round-bodied, short-legged sheep, in size about equal to the Hampshire. The fleece is thick, but not too curly. Its weight is estimated at about seven pounds per sheep. They have the dark faces of the Southdown and in appearance closely resemble the Shropshire, being, however, larger. They are very hardy, bear confinement well, fatten easily and produce excellent mutton. The Oxford Downs may be used with great success in improving the native stock of the country.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Cut up your old turnips, cabbage, etc., for the hens.

Don't blame the horse for balking if his collar does not fit or if he is overloaded.

The hen that is weary with chasing grasshoppers the "live long summer day" will enjoy a handful of corn for her evening meal.

Push the pigs and market them when six to eight months old. If of good stock and properly handled they should exceed 200 pounds at that age.

The late Hiram Smith declared that he believed he could reach the point where he could keep a cow on every acre of tillable land. He succeeded in keeping half that number.

Orchards and the dairy go well together. Cows like apples, and fed judiciously they make a desirable change; and there is always enough to fall to the ground to furnish the supply.

New England farmers have declared that by the administration of tuberculin their cows have been ruined. They say that the compulsory use of the remedy in Massachusetts is an outrageous injustice.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

Grease may be removed from woolen goods by sponging it with strong cold coffee.

Fine laces may be cleaned by being packed in wheat flour and allowed to remain twenty-four hours.

If a shirt bosom or any other article has been scorched in ironing lay it where the bright sunshine will fall directly on it.

Two parts of crude oil and one part of turpentine remove white spots from furniture and make a good a polish as one can desire to have.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

Crabs can see and smell, but cannot hear.

In a cubic meter of limestone Orbiigny found 3,000,000 sea shells.

Figures by experts in vital statistics prove that not less than 4,847,500,000 human beings die on our globe each century.

A curious fact has been noted by Arctic travelers—snow when at a very low temperature absorbs moisture and dries garments.

Samuel A. King, the aeronaut, says a man could get to the North Pole by balloon, but that getting back would be another thing.

A new fuel made in France is of coal dust compressed into bricks and soaked with chemicals, which make it last a long time in a glow when once alight.

An English scientist ascribes the increase and frequent recurrence of typhoid and cholera epidemics to the abnormal consumption of oysters on the Old World shores.

According to the *Electrical Review*, copper wires are used for Mexican telegraph lines so that they "will hold the weight of the birds and monkeys which crowd them at night."

In France a very good gas is made from the fatty material contained in the soapstuds, after washing wools and yarns. The wash water of a woollen mill with 20,000 spindles will annually yield enough of this substance to produce 1,000,000 feet of gas.

In experiments suggested by the fact that in a photographic dark room with ruby-glass windows a scarlet uniform will appear perfectly white, Herr H. W. Vogel finds that where white light is rigidly excluded the eye loses all sense of color and sees only in shades of black and white.

For heavy land there are few better correctives or disintegrators than lime. It is also useful on light soils, but on clays and marls its effect is most marked. A moderate quantity sprinkled over the clods of clay in trenching will crumble them up as nothing else will do except frost.

The theory that the moisture in the atmosphere has an important relation to such nervous diseases as epilepsy is broached with confidence. It does seem to be true that in comparatively dry climates the worst forms of the disease are rarer than in the localities where the air is heavily charged with water vapor.

Monument to a Wrestler.

Carl Abs, the recently deceased champion wrestler of the world, is to have a monument in Hamburg, the city where he spent most of his time and money. The athletic clubs all over Germany and Austria are now collecting funds for the purpose. That's a queer fact, even in this land of monuments. Imagine a monument being erected in Boston to John L. Sullivan!—*Chicago Record*.

LADIES' COLUMN.

PARASOLS A DISTINCT CULT.

Parasols this season have reached a distinct cult. They are essentially for sunshine, a threatening cloud bearing ominous import for their diabolical beauty. Many of gauze or chiffon are rose lined. A symphony in gray chiffon has a blush pink lining and a bunch of wild roses on the outside. It is needless to add that such sunshades (?) are not for indiscriminate or general use; they need a garden party costume and environment to fulfill their best and loveliest mission.—*New York Times*.

A FAMOUS SET OF DISHES.

The most famous set of dishes in the world is in the White House.

The first dish toward this famous set was selected by Martha Washington, and is an old-fashioned family soup tureen.

Every lady in the White House has made additions.

Some which will be greatly appreciated in years to come were contributed by Mrs. Harrison and are decorated by herself.

During her first term as first lady in the land Mrs. Cleveland presented to the White House a few very large pieces, which were given to her as wedding gifts.—*New York Journal*

THE WOMEN OF ARMENIA.

The Armenian women are excellent housekeepers. Their houses are models of neatness and cleanliness. They are good cooks also. Besides the household work and the care of the family and domestic animals, the manufacture of the family clothing devolves upon them. With the help of the simple instruments, needle and spindle, they make, with admirable skill, fine woolen and cotton cloth, shawls, carpets and silk embroidery. In all the public schools of Armenia manual training occupies an honorable place. Armenian women, like all other Orientals, are fond of bright colors. Red and yellow are common in their costumes. They wear a long garment of red, yellow or blue, an apron of red or yellow, and yellow shoes without heels. Their hair falls in two braids on the breast, which is adorned with gold and silver jewelry and with pinks and other flowers. They wear a cap embroidered with silk and silver. The forehead of a married woman is adorned with strings of gold or silver coins. In some provinces they wear on their arms a long row of silver pendants, which jingle when they walk. The beauty of the Armenian women is praised throughout the Orient.—*The Jaberwock*.

THE YOUNG HEART.

There are some things to which time is the only guide, and in so momentous a step as the choice of the companion of a lifetime "the unreasoning madness of love" can, in extreme youth, rarely be trusted. A young girl has so many illusions, so little knowledge of human nature, so slight an acquaintance with her own heart, as to make the risk always a serious one.

If love is given unsought, jealousy hides itself, but a mother's heart is quick to feel the tender troubles of her children, and her love and sympathy tactfully expressed, and, above all, giving no hint of blame, may be unspeakably comforting to the poor little love-lorn maiden.

Subsequently, she may help her tenderly "to live it down" if the love be hopeless, giving her own affection in double measure, and striving to make the girl happy by every means in her power. These heartaches are very real, as the mother knows by the responsive echo in her own, but they must not be indulged, or the suffering will last the longer. The child should be left alone as rarely as possible, and provided with congenial occupation that will leave her little time to brood and dream. A mother, too, may guard her daughter from exposing her feelings, which sometimes burst the bonds of self-control, and a lifelong sense of mortification remains for an impulsive word or act.—*New York Advertiser*.

FASHION NOTES.

Many novelties in jewelry are seen, including the square-cut Italian rings.

Broadcloths come in pretty shades of red and brown and green, and pinkish tans.

Embroidered Swiss muslin dresses

are to have a regular John Gilpin run this summer.

Plaid parasols are carried with plaid-trimmed gowns and are very fetching but rather gaudy.

There are those who say that the "Napoleon curl" has been done to death by actresses.

Sleeves and skirts, though as voluminous as ever, have banished the crinoline lining. Stiffening is out of date.

For tailor-made dresses, when trimming is to be used at all, there are half-inch passementeries made with overlapping sequins and put on like braid.

The jewelers recommend for style and good taste the sets of platinum skirt studs and cuff links, often daintily incrustated with little rubies and sapphires.

The demand by women of fashion for real laces and sheer muslins of Oriental delicacy of weave has made fine underwear more costly than ever before.

There are tiny watches not more than a third of an inch in diameter, and set like a cuff button. They are to be worn in the lapel buttonhole of a jacket.

A haircloth undershirt is now a regular part of the outfit of a well-dressed woman, and is necessary to hold the wide flaring skirts of the hour in place.

A Bevy of Birds at a Hotel.

A queer coincidence was the cause of considerable merriment in the lobby of the Grand Pacific yesterday. Early in the day D. Sparrow, of New York, registered and was assigned to his room. Within an hour T. J. Quail, of Gloverdale, Mass., spread his name upon the register, and he, too, went to his room. In the afternoon C. A. Partridge, of this city, registered for dinner, and remarked that if any notes came for him the clerk should hold them. Saturday afternoon L. R. Forrest, of Albany, N. Y., registered at the hotel, and all mail that came for the three men yesterday was put in his box. "It was the most appropriate place for it," said Mr. Parker, adding: "This reminds me of an annual game dinner."—*Chicago Inter-Ocean*.

To Start a Balky Horse.

An officer of the police detail said recently: "When I was a mounted policeman I learned of a most humane and kind method of curing a balky horse. It not only never fails, but it does not give the slightest pain to the animal. When the horse refuses to go, take the front foot at the fetlock, and bend the leg at the knee joint. Hold it thus for three minutes, and let it down, and the horse will go. The only way in which I can account for this effective mastery of the horse is that he can think of only one thing at a time, and having made up his mind not to go, my theory is that the bending of the leg takes his mind from the original thought.—*Farm and Field*.

Boots From Human Skin.

In 1876 the firm of Hahneholtz Brothers, boot and shoe manufacturers, New York City, made a pair of boots from human skin, which they sent to the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia. They were never put on exhibition, which shows that there was some humanity left in the exposition officials if not in the maker of the ghastly footwear. They were afterward sent to the Smithsonian Institution, but were not allowed shelf room.—*St. Louis Republic*.

A Unique Air-Stone.

The aerolite which fell near Oxford Junction, Iowa, in April, 1894, has been dug up by a syndicate which was formed for that purpose. It proved to be something unique in the line of air-stones, being almost as round as a cannon ball and only about ten inches in circumference. It is of some unknown metal, which bears a strong resemblance to bronze. It is evidently a fragment of a larger body, which passed over the United States and fell in Canada at about the same time.—*New York Weekly*.

The *New York Journal* says: "Temperance orators claim that fully fifty per cent. of crime is caused by liquor, but statistics show that of the 9600 murders in the United States in 1894, only 776 were attributed to liquor; about eight per cent."