

Japan, a few years ago a Nation of barbarians, is now making advantageous alliances with the most civilized Nations of the earth.

New York schoolmasters are urging that children be taught vertical handwriting, as it encourages them to sit up straight while writing.

Michigan people will have a chance to vote on a Constitutional amendment limiting the right of suffrage to those able to read and write.

It is noted in England that Lord Rosebery, Mr. Balfour and Lord Elgin, as well as Mr. Rhodes, who between them rule the British Empire, are all men under fifty years of age.

The belt line tunnel just opened under Baltimore was undertaken in order to avoid the transferring of trains across the Patapsco River. It is seven and a half miles long, being one of the longest soft earth tunnels ever driven.

From "an esteemed contemporary" the New York Mail and Express learns that "paper hosiery is supplanting woven goods, artificial cloth is made from woodpulp, natural fruits are artificially colored in Paris, and wooden matches are made of leather." About the only article of manufacture that is absolutely pure nowadays seems to be baking powder.

The New York Sun exclaims: "Every now and then the calamity howlers raise their voices to tell us that we are going to the dogs because the people from the country are crowding into the cities. Fancy pictures are drawn of what New England will be when its rural parts are a howling wilderness of unoccupied farms. The cry is, get back to the land and away from the wicked cities. It is a notable fact that so far back as the merry time of Henry VIII. and his six wives, the forbears of some of these same calamity howlers were making the same howl, and saying that the little London of the day was draining the yeomen from the rest of the country. It all goes to show that we can only be sure that certain things were to be, after they have been."

The use of the bicycle is spreading. The Rev. Henry Fairbank, a missionary of the American Board in Bombay, writes to the New York Independent that his touring has been much facilitated by a bicycle, which he was enabled to purchase through the kindness of friends in America. Whole villages turn out to see the "foot carriage." Some are much astonished at the speed of the machine. Others think he ought to go much faster, and frequently while going along quietly, men say "Now brace up, let us see what you can do." He is frequently asked whether the propelling power comes from his feet or his hands. Wherever he goes he finds plenty of people willing to come and listen to his preaching if they can only catch a glimpse of the horse that needs neither grass nor grain.

The center of our population in 1799 was about twenty-three miles east of Baltimore, in 1810, about forty miles northwest of Washington, in 1820, about sixteen miles north of Woodstock, Va.; in 1830, about nineteen miles southwest of Moorefield, W. Va.; in 1840, sixteen miles south of Clarksville, W. Va.; in 1850, twenty-three miles south of Parkersburg, W. Va.; in 1860, twenty miles south of Chillicothe, Ohio; in 1870, forty-eight miles east of Cincinnati; in 1880, eight miles west of Cincinnati; in 1890, twenty miles east of Columbus, Ind. Perhaps the most remarkable feature in this march is the directness of its westerly progress. In the half century it has not varied half a degree from a line west direction or gone north or south of a belt about twenty-five miles broad. Yet in this century it has moved across more than nine meridians, or a distance of 505 miles westward. In comparison with the center of population we may note the center of area which, extending Alaska to the northern part of Kansas

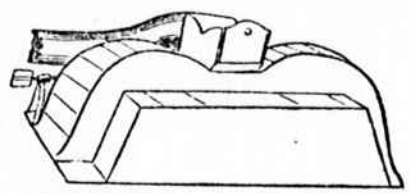
FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

TOMATOES REQUIRE RICH SOIL.

An old notion that relatively poor soil is better for tomato growing was long ago exploded. Deductions from experiments in Maryland indicate that potash tends to develop acid in the fruit, while phosphoric acid produces a larger percentage of sugar. Voorhees found that nitrate of soda, used in small amounts, or divided into two or more applications, increased the yield without delaying early ripening; but if larger quantities were used maturity was regarded. But it was concluded that nitrogen is the ruling element in the growth of the tomato, although its best effect depends upon the presence of a full supply of other elements. In general we hold that while heavy fertilizing does not lessen productiveness, the best fertilizers are those which hasten growth early in the season.—Atlanta Journal.

TO DEAL WITH DUST IN THRESHING.

Several methods of getting rid of the clouds of dust that are generated in threshing grain have been invented, although they have not yet come into extensive use. One of the latest schemes is that of Wellington C. Berkepile, of Indiana, Penn. Above and closely connecting with the threshing machine is a device called a dust-collector, which is represented herewith. Within the casing are mounted two rotary fans, whose position can be guessed from the outlines of the cover, and which are driven by power communicated to the shaft shown at the left hand of the figure. A suction is thus created, which draws air and dust from the interior of the threshing-machine and forces them up through the spouts which rise from the middle of the collector, and curve away, one to each side of the apparatus. In the illustration, the mouth of one of these openings is closed with a slide, and to the other, on the further side, is fastened a canvas tube, leading away to a distance. But these attachments may be interchanged to suit the convenience of the workmen. There can be no question as to the discomfort and annoyance of working in the dust which is raised by threshing, and anything which will really



mitigate such an evil is, of course, a boon to the farmer.—New York Tribune.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Open water dishes are disastrous to ducklings. They get wet, roll over on their backs and die.

You can't do better than work egg farming as the specialty, with poultry raising as an adjunct. And if you keep thoroughbreds you can make an extra dollar by selling eggs for hatching and fowls for breeding purposes.

The best food for laying ducks is scalded bran and table scraps. Ensilage will be eaten greedily by the ducks. Raw carrots are good food. Very little grain will be consumed if green food and table scraps are furnished.

On many farms geese can be made more profitable than any other fowl. True, feathers are cheap, but in any town where there are many Israelites, or Germans, fat geese are a ready sale at good prices, and they are easily and cheaply raised.

Plant all kinds of hardy trees just as early as the ground will permit. By planting early the trees will get the benefit of the heavy spring showers and the soil become settled around their roots. Of course, in a heavy, wet clay soil you may have to delay a little to have it dry off and become friable enough to handle or work easily with the spade.

RECIPES.

Custard Pie—Fill a good-sized, deep plate with a custard made of three well-beaten eggs, two cups of milk, half cup sugar, a little salt and cinnamon. Bake in a quick oven until a knife comes out clear.

Lemon Custard—For two pies wet four tablespoonfuls of corn starch with a little water, pour on three cups of boiling water. Add the juice of

two lemons, two cups sugar, the yolks of three eggs and a bit of butter. Pour into deep plates lined with crust and bake. Make a meringue by beating the whites of the eggs and adding five tablespoonfuls of sugar. Spread over pies and return to the oven to brown.

Apple Pies—Now that the few remaining apples are getting dry and tasteless, we put into each pie a tablespoonful of tamarind jelly which we prepared to eat with meats by stewing the tamarinds in a little water, straining, adding an equal bulk of sugar and boiling until quite thick. The pies require a little more sugar, but their flavor is very much improved. If you have no jelly, stew the apples and flavor with lemon juice and nutmeg.

Cream Pies—Roll out two crusts a little thicker than for ordinary pies, place on a rather flat plate with a sprinkling of flour between; bake and split open with a thin knife as soon as taken from the oven. For filling for two large pies, put in a double boiler two cups of milk, when hot stir in two heaping tablespoonfuls of flour, wet in a little cold milk, two eggs, half cup sugar and a little salt. Boil until thick, remove from the fire, add lemon or vanilla flavoring and put between the crusts.

Care for Baldness.

There is no denying that medical and surgical invention and skill have accomplished marvelous things, yet in respect of many forms of suffering they are not at all progressive. We do not know just how far hair on the head is conducive to good health, although we fancy there would be fewer catarrhal troubles if the scalp were not denuded of hair in so many instances, but it is certain that baldness is a source of mental suffering quite as acute as and far from enduring than the pain from diseases to which medical men have devoted close attention.

To the matter of reclothing denuded surfaces with skin, the surgeons have paid grave attention, and thanks to the discoveries of the cellular pathologists they are able to plant skin cells from the epidermis of other persons, which grow and form a new covering. Yet no surgeon has ever tried to plant on the bare scalp of the veteran theatre-goer hair-growing cells from another head and so attempt to abolish baldness.

There would be a tremendous advantage in having the power to choose the particular kind of hair one wears. That persons are not satisfied with the hirsute adornment with which nature endows them is apparent in the widespread custom of bleaching and dyeing the hair. If it can be shown to be practical to implant hair germs on a bald head, it would be practicable for the bald-headed man to select the color of hair which he prefers.

There is no remedying the bald-headed that there is no cure. No matter how many wearisome bottles are poured over the scalp, increasing its ivory polish, each new announcement vouches the faith and dollars of the bald. If baldness involved nothing more than this, it would warrant the close attention of the surgeon to the matter.—New York Advertiser.

Chinese Opinion of Europeans.

Edward Walker, a former missionary and hospital director at Soo Chow, showed me the other day a copy of the pamphlet that was circulated some twelve years ago in Hong Kong against the Christian mission work. It affirms that Europeans do not belong to the human race, but are descended from monkeys; this race of wild beings worship neither the heavens nor the earth; they do not honor their parents, nor have respect for their forefathers; they come into China under the pretense of preaching a religion, but really come to take the eyes and brains of dying people and the blood of children; with these they make medicinal pills which they sell in their country and thus secure shrewdness.—New York Press.

Loneliest Man in All England.

The home of Timothy Tarn, in the parish of Dutton, near Appleby, Westmoreland County, England, is the most isolated dwelling place in the three kingdoms. No human being lives nearer than eleven miles.

LADIES' COLUMN

THE WOMAN IN WHITE.

White is still greatly favored for evening wear and will probably be as fashionable for summer gowns this year as it was last. It is to be hoped that will be the case as there is nothing so cool and pleasant and nothing endured laundering so well.—New Orleans Picayune.

THE HOUSING BUILDER.

Very often indeed the amateur dressmaker finds herself face to face with some difficulty which she thinks it impossible to surmount and she is discouraged and almost willing to give the whole thing up.

One of these self-confessed difficulties is the adjusting of hooks and eyes so that they will not unfasten and leave an unsightly gap.

This difficulty is obviated by sewing on the hooks and eyes alternately, instead of the hooks all on one side and the eyes on the other. Sewed in this way and placed close together, not more than half an inch apart, the dress will stay hooked. This is the method employed by the best dressmakers.—New York Advertiser.

HOW TO DRESS FOR A PHOTOGRAPH.

The greatest number of sitters are utterly ignorant as to how materials, colors and styles of costumes will appear in the finished portrait, and the operator is blamed for what is, as a rule, not his fault.

As a rule it is well—and should be required—to avoid very positive patterns, such as large plaids, checks, wide stripes and much jet or other glittering trimmings and much jewelry.

Sharp contrasts in materials, trimming or style of cut are a decided detriment to a pleasing portrait, and, as a rule, the tone of color should harmonize with the sitter's complexion and hair.

Glistening silks are difficult to light well, as is any material which does not easily lend itself to soft folds.

Dead lustrous silks, soft woolsens, crapes, fleecy tissues and similar materials are always effective.

One should soften by rendering indefinite the line between skin and dress, both at neck and wrists, remembering always that, however well a costume may appear in reality, it alters before the camera and may call attention to what might otherwise pass unnoticed.—Photogram.

FASHION NOTES.

Summer outdoor and garden dresses are to be made low neck.

Newest things in hats are of narrow ribbon looped on a foundation.

The Napoleon caprice has produced a new collection of caps and saucers.

Black lace shoulder capes are among those conspicuously exhibited at the shops.

Sunshades will illustrate what may properly be called the acme of elegance.

Women wear now the wide lace collars that used to be monopolized by infants.

Old-fashioned straw "hats" trimmed with falling lace, will be among summer hats.

One reason for the popularity of striped goods is that they add to the figure the height that the large, out-standing sleeves seem to take away.

Sleeves show the 1890 tendency, and are prettily ruffled on to the long, flat shoulders.

Women are wearing white linen collars with colored shirts precisely as gentlemen wear them. The cuffs, however, are of the colored cotton.

When the skirt is made of very narrow goods it is quite the right thing to have all the seams followed by a narrow glittering application of gimp.

The most up-to-date trimming for hats is flowered chine silk ribbon, but it is far from a cheap trimming, and therefore will not become too common.

All over open work cottons are in great demand. They are invariably spread over lining of contrasting color to secure the popular perforated effect.

Cream lace collars, finished like a yoke of heavy lace, with a frill of a lighter kind, having a design also in thick outstanding patterns, are to be worn as much as ever.

BLOWN UPON A CORAL REEF.

One Hundred and Eighty-eight Lives Were Lost on the Colima.

The following special dispatch from The San Francisco Chronicle's correspondent in the City of Mexico, contains awful tidings of the Colima's fate:

"About 8 o'clock on the morning of the 27th, ult., in latitude 1838 north, and longitude 104 degrees, fourteen minutes west, the Colima was struck by a powerful wind and was driven upon a coral reef and sunk, with a large hole stove in her side near the prow. Captain J. F. Taylor, after displaying masterly skill in the management of the vessel, was killed by a falling mast. The first pilot and first engineer were also killed and soon after the boat struck the reef and went down in 130 fathoms of water.

Nearly twenty-four hours later the coast line steamer, San Juan, picked up sixteen survivors and carried them into the port of Manzanillo. Five others swam ashore at Coahuaynacok and five more—three cabin passengers and two sailors—were subsequently rescued by a government boat sent by the Pacific Mail at Manzanillo.

"One hundred and eighty-eight persons are known to have been drowned and twenty-six were saved."

INSTRUCTIONS TO OUR CONSULS.

The state department at Washington had a telegram from the United States consul at Mazatlan, Mexico, Wednesday night announcing the report of the wreck of the Colima and stating that there were about half a million dollars' worth of American interests on the vessel and that 170 lives were reported as lost. Assistant Secretary of State Hoke, on the receipt of this message immediately cabled United States consuls at Acapulco and Mazatlan to do everything in their power to help the survivors. These instructions were very broad and under them our consuls can charter a vessel to help the shipwrecked Americans and incur any reasonable expense to help them.

The Examiner, San Francisco, Cal., publishes the following from its correspondent at Mazatlan, Mexico:

"MAZATLAN, May 31st (via Galveston, May 28th).—The steamer San Juan has arrived here with 21 passengers picked up on Tuesday from the wreck of the steamer Colima. From the passengers your correspondent has learned some of the particulars of the dreadful disaster which they say happened on Monday at noon when the Colima was about 48 miles out of Manzanillo and 10 off shore. All the rescued are badly bruised. They were all picked up from pieces of wreckage and rafts, with the exception of A. J. Sutherland, who had clung to a boat after it had capsized five times, and drowned all the others who attempted to escape from the wreck in her. All about were lashed by the fiercest gale of years and buffeted by the angry sea for about 24 hours.

"The steamer was heavily laden and had a large deck load of lumber. When the storm struck her, she made bad weather of it, the captain having great difficulty in keeping her head to the sea. The wind increased in fury until it is said to have been the fiercest storm known along this coast in twenty years. The sea rose rapidly. Waves washed over the vessel and started the deck load. As the waves rose and the waves increased the management of the steamer became impossible. One of the seas, a mighty wave, struck her with such force that the beams trembled as if she had struck on a reef and most of the passengers thought this the cause of the shocks.

"The passengers were pretty badly stunned by being pitched about, but rushed upon the deck in a panic. Here they met another danger. The gale tore parts of the deck load of lumber from its fastenings and hurled the heavy planks about with appalling violence. Many were struck and maimed. At least one passenger was killed by having his head crushed by flying timbers. The survivors say that the officers of the steamer were brave and active in this crisis. Captain Taylor stood upon the bridge with Chief Officer Griffiths. At an order Griffiths ran forward to superintend the launching of life boat No. 3, while Second Officer Langhorn was in charge of boat No. 3. The latter was successfully launched and filled with passengers. Then the ship went down and Langhorn's boat was capsized. All in both boats are supposed to have perished.

"Captain Taylor went down with the ship, and as the vessel sank he blew three blasts of the whistle as a good-bye signal. The engineers and firemen went down at their posts. Night clerk Berry was in his room and went down with the vessel. Third Officer Hansen was among the saved. He sprang from the ship as it went down and succeeded in reaching a piece of wreckage. There he clung for 24 hours, washed and buffeted by the waves. He saw men and women sink about him and was powerless to render aid. He saw naked and mangled bodies floating by, and the horror of it made him sick. Hansen says that as the steamer foundered her boilers burst."

KILLED AT A SAW MILL.

The Boiler Exploded Because of the Recklessness of the Fireman.

The worst disaster in the history of Caldwell county occurred near Doyersville, P. O. N. C., about 12 miles from Lenoir, on Wednesday. It was the explosion of a boiler at Dault's saw mill, resulting in the instant death of E. L. Dent, the firm's tender and Gordon Oxford, and fatal injuries to Mr. Jones, who died five hours after the explosion. It seems that the safety limit with this boiler was 100 pounds pressure, but the fireman recklessly weighted down the safety valve and was trying to get 125 pounds. The result was a sad one. The two young Oxforths had been working in the woods nearby, and had come to the mill for water; the others were employes.

Supplemental Chinese Exclusion Act Upheld.

The Supreme Court at Washington affirmed the constitutionality of the supplemental Chinese Exclusion Act of 1894. The case was that of Lem Moon Sing, merchant of San Francisco, who sought to return to this country in contravention of the act, and who in his pleadings denied the right of the collector of customs or of the deputy collector to exercise judicial functions as provided by law and to pass upon the question of his exclusion. The Supreme Court in an opinion distinctly affirmed the right.

Free Coiners Organize in Jacksonville.

A large number of citizens met at the board of trade rooms, Jacksonville, Fla., and formed a bi-metallic league. A committee was appointed to push the work. Resolutions were adopted denouncing the demonization of silver as a crime committed by Congress at the instigation of creditors. The resolutions also demand the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, independent of other nations, and the restoration of its full legal tender quality.

Wheelmen of Corning and Elmira, N. Y., have raised \$1400 to build a cinder path between those cities.