

Catfish Advertiser.

THOS. J. ADAMS, PROPRIETOR.

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NOTES AND COMMENT.

Millions of men in India live, marry and rear apparently happy children upon an income which, even when the wife works, is rarely above fifty cents a week.

A Chicago clerk recently threw a book agent forcibly out of his office, after refusing to take the man's card in to his employer, and was justified by the judge before whom he was tried for assault, who established as Chicago law the theory that such forcible measures in dealing with book agents were justifiable.

The Boston Herald says: The latest agitation in English society throughout Her Majesty's empire has been caused by the sad truth that dancing is going out of fashion. It may be said that the terpsichorean art is dying a natural death, and in its last throes now calls upon the world to know the reason of its decay.

Here is a great truth poetically expressed in Profitable Advertising: The wheels of true love never run. Always a number comes. Then does the business of the man who would succeed forever. And never to him does force call. That most successful plan of advertising spring and fall. And ever when he can.

Spain, once a proud conqueror, has suffered, and yet suffers discomfort. Once the richest country in the world, she is now impoverished. Once the ruler of America from Florida to the furthest south, she fights for the only remnant left to her, an outlying island. She shows the wind and reaps the whirlwind. She went up like a rocket and came down like the stick.

Says Harper's Weekly: Pursuant to a resolution of the last Congress, the Philadelphia mint is to begin to make experiments with new metal and combinations of metals to determine whether any improvement can be made in our present copper and nickel coinage. It may give us aluminum cents in place of the copper pieces now in use, and possibly a new species of five-cent piece, a nickel and half of copper, or a nickel and half of nickel. It might suggest a five-cent piece of pure nickel, or a nickel and half of copper, or a nickel and half of nickel. It might suggest a five-cent piece of pure nickel, or a nickel and half of copper, or a nickel and half of nickel. It might suggest a five-cent piece of pure nickel, or a nickel and half of copper, or a nickel and half of nickel.

There are many new things in the bicycle line offered for 1897. Every up-to-date manufacturer will introduce new attachments and alleged improvements in the details of his machine, while the freak inventor has become more than busy with his strange and wondrous devices. In the great mass of inventions there are some few things of real value. The construction of bicycles to order is yet in its infancy, but it is a growing industry, and thousands of devices which will never become general will be utilized by individuals. The most radical departure in 1897 will be an increase in the dimensions of pneumatic tires. The average tires are now from one and a half to one and three-quarters inches wide. Tires in 1897 will reach a width of two and a half inches. Wheels thus equipped will look awkward at first, but the safety itself was unguinely in its day, when contrasted with the high wheel. The wide tire is safer than those now in use. It reduces the likelihood of side slips on damp roads, which is really the cause of four out of five cycling accidents.

A bombshell has been thrown into European politics in the form of a statement in Prince Bismarck's official paper, the Hamburger Nachrichten, to the effect that within a year after the organization of the Triple Alliance he arranged a secret treaty with Russia by which Germany was to hold aloof if Russia was attacked by Austria, and Russia was to hold aloof if Germany was attacked by France. The abrogation of the treaty was coincident with Prince Bismarck's sudden retirement from office, and Count Caprivi, who succeeded him, refused to endorse it. Alexander III, indignant over this, immediately turned to France, and the result was the present Franco-Russian alliance. These general facts are not new, at least to the domestic bodies, but the publishing firm just now has created a great stir. How serious a stir is caused by the fact that immediately after the fact of bringing the news to trial for publishing State secrets. The Nachrichten retorted that if they pushed too hard it would tell all that it knew, especially in connection with the Prince's degradation from office. The talk of trial ceased immediately, and Emperor William thought best to write a personal letter to Emperor Francis Joseph in regard to the matter, assuring him of Germany's loyalty to Austria, and Count Herbert Bismarck made haste to declare that the matter appeared without his knowledge or consent.

An electric light is never an ornament to a man's nose.

AT THE BARRACKS.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A UNITED STATES SOLDIER.

Visit to an Artillery Post—From First Call for Reveille to Lights and Taps—Tour of Duty.

A SOLDIER in the army of Uncle Sam, be he "buck" private or colonel of a regiment, is obliged to soldier up to the handle wherever he may be stationed. The daily routine as practiced by the three main arms of service—artillery, cavalry and in-



A VIEW OF THE QUARTERS.

fantry—is precisely the same in the chain of posts around New York Harbor as it is in Fort Yuma—or in Vancouver barracks, Oregon. For each arm, in every post, the military day is essentially the same from reveille to taps. In one post as well as the other the soldier has to have his ears cocked for the calls of the trumpeter, has to do his share of fatigue duty, has to "hump" his post when on guard and has exactly the same intervals of rest in which to "hit his bunk"—the passive act of reclining known in the army vernacular as "bunk fatigue."

A Washington Star reporter recently spent an entire military day at the barracks, under the protecting guardianship of the soldierly looking adju-

tant, in mounting the new guard, selects "cleanest" man—that is, the soldier whose uniform fits him best, and whose countenance is of the most dazzling glisten—to act as orderly for the commanding officer.

The orderly for the commanding officer simply follows that dignified gentleman around during office hours, and does not, like the other men of the guard, have to walk his "two hours on and four off" post during the weary length of twenty-four hours. He gets the night in his bunk. The struggle for the prize of orderly is a fierce contest between the men known as "orderly buckers," on account of the frantic desperation with which they begin days in advance of going on guard to clean up in order to capture the plum. Each battery has one or two conspicuously successful "orderly buckers," and when one of these goes upon guard, pitted against the "buckers" of the other batteries, all hands take a tremendous interest in the outcome of the battle of cleanliness, and around pay days, bets are often made as to who is to be the winner.

The whole battery will often help to "work up" the kit—belt, cartridge box and rifle—of the "orderly buckers" in whom it takes the most pride, and when, after all these voluntary efforts, their man loses, the adjutant is pronounced "partial" and "unfair." The adjutant is himself often at a loss as to which man of the guard to pick for orderly, for it occasionally happens that several men are equally well gotten up. In such cases, these few best men are drilled for the prize. If this manner of selection only narrows the thing down to two men, who decline to obey wrong "trick" commands given by the adjutant in drilling them, and are both equally proficient in the manual of arms, then the two draw straws for the orderly's billet.

Meanwhile, by the time the guard has been mounted, recall from fatigue is sounded, in order to give the men of the working parties time to shift their uniforms for drill with their respective batteries.

It is a laborious drill that calls for the donning of the brown canvas fatigue uniforms. There are also separate drills for "instrumentation," meaning the uses of the numerous instruments employed in range-finding, "charting," gauging the strength of the wind and the density of the atmosphere, etc. A soldier must possess a well-developed scientific temperament, in order to enter understandingly into "instrument drill."

"Cordage drill" is another bete noir of artillerymen. Here is where the soldier who has been to sea either as a marine or a bluejacket gets in his strong work.

"Cordage drill" is for the purpose of teaching the men proficiency in the tying of the innumerable knots used in the moving of pieces of heavy and ordnance. It looks simple enough to see another man tie a "timber hitch," a "figure-eight knot," a "sheep's shank" or a "granny," but it is not easy by a whole lot. The soldier who has had experience as a "deep-water man," however, regards it as child's play. All of the soldiers of the heavy batteries are given an examination every year as to their mastery of these various drills, and for respective degrees of proficiency,

are given first, second and third gunners' medals, not unlike those worn by the "distinguished marksmen" of the infantry.

The heavy artilleryman has to master more different kinds of drill than the soldiers of any other arm of the service. Besides the drill on the big guns he must be quite as proficient in infantry tactics as the "doughboy." He carries the same rifle and is required to learn the same evolutions as the infantryman, in order to prepare himself for field and riot service at any time. There is any amount of battery and battalion drill in infantry movements at the barracks. Then there are certain days set aside for drilling in the hated "mechanical maneuvers," which consists in the mounting and dismounting the heavy old guns by means of hydraulic jacks, "gins," "garison" slings and other appliances.

The light battery at the barracks, like light batteries of eminence, with their "Napoleonic" brass pieces of ordnance, hauled by horses, has a distinct drill of its own, not unlike that of the cavalry, and nearly all of the post calls for the light battery are different from those to which the heavy batteries respond. It would require a separate chapter to treat of the superbly organized light artillery of the United States army—undoubtedly the best in the world.

Recall from drill is blown out in time to give the men a chance to clean up for dinner. Dinner mess call is sounded at noon. After dinner the "one soldier, one bunk" idea predominates. Except the men comprising the afternoon fatigue parties, and the few detailed from each battery to bind the red crosses upon their arms and take part in the hospital corps' drill, under the direction of one of the army surgeons or a hospital steward, all hands are permitted to indulge after dinner in a general loaf. The banjoists, the violinists, the guitarists and the mandolinists get out their instruments. Many of them play well. Nearly all of the soldiers sing well.

Sweetly, pathetically, humorously and martially the majority of them take part in this midday musicale. In every outfit there are always two or three big dancers of eminence. These are dragged to the center of the quarters to contribute their little act to the entertainment. The fun of this kind is a good deal more hilarious than ordinarily, a few days after pay day, when the canteen becomes for a time a veritable mint. About a week after pay day the quarters begin to take on a gloomy atmosphere, and there is a general complaint of "heads."

A good many of the soldiers devote a portion of their afternoons to letter writing. American soldiers are

decorated with aquinas. The wrists are completed by a deep frill of dainty lace. The basque, of becoming length,

hat has the edge covered with beaver. The brim is wider in the front than at the back, where it is rolled up against the crown. The trimming is of loops of velvet and silk or fine ostrich

feathers, are made over coat lined linings with the lower portions fitting snugly to the arm, after the prevailing fashion. The neck has a close standing band and stock of ribbon. The model is adapted to all reasonable fabrics, including silk, satin, velvet, novelty, etc. Made up in costly fabrics it may be worn on full dress occasions or may do service as a theatre waist.

To make this basque for a lady in the medium size will require two and three-fourths yards of forty-four-inch wide material.

Slender bands must encircle the finger of the engaged maiden. And each band is studded with jewels of a different sort.

The middle band is set with diamonds, which should be small but

WINTER STYLES.

NEW BASQUES AND WAISTS FOR WOMEN AND MISSES.

Modish Basque in Which a New Color Scheme is Exquisitely Blended—Simple and Stylish Waists.

The first large engraving a modish basque is delineated, introducing a dainty color scheme so exquisitely blended as to be pronounced an fait. The materials selected, writes May Mantou, are a handsome novelty, the ground, gray, with the stripe shown gray and green with the most thread of yellow interwoven. The revers are of velvet in a shade known as forest green, and the full vest, deep girde and collar are fashioned in canary-colored silk, one of the most popular colors of the sea-



LADIES' SLASHED BASQUE.

son. The free edges of the basque are decorated with sequins. The wrists are completed by a deep frill of dainty lace. The basque, of becoming length,

A ROGUE PLANT.

It Lies in Wait for Flies and Other Insects.

Here's the picture of a rogue of a plant that lies in wait like a highway robber for unwary flies and other insects and when they appear it swallows

them up and their friends never hear of them again. It has been given the botanical name of *Sarracenia*, but it is commonly called the pitcher plant, from the fact that its leaves are rolled into the form of pitchers, in which many a poor fly is caught. The flies are attracted to the plant by its greediness which it gives off, and in their greediness they go a little too far and are killed. Botanists do not know exactly why the plant should wait a dinner of flies, but there must be some good reason for it, else its pitchers would not be so attractive. By experiment they have found that the plant will live just as well where the flies cannot get at it at all. So all the evidence would indicate that it is just a rogue, killing flies because it really enjoys the sport.



A BANDIT PLANT.

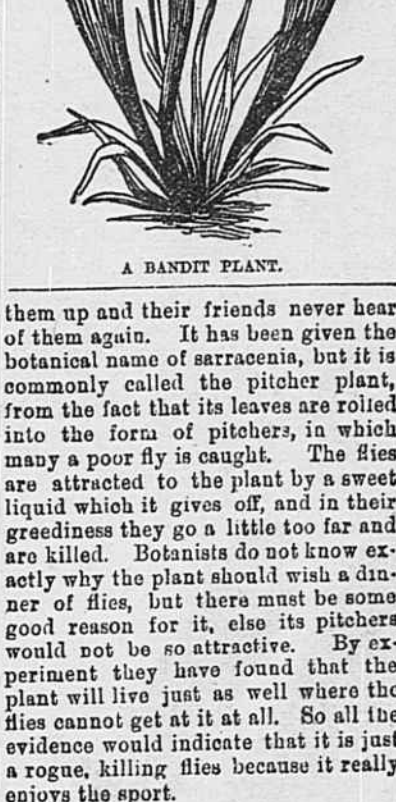
hat has the edge covered with beaver. The brim is wider in the front than at the back, where it is rolled up against the crown. The trimming is of loops of velvet and silk or fine ostrich

MOTHERS READ THIS.

The Best Remedy.

For Flatulent Colic, Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Hæmorrhoids, Cholera Infantum, Teething Children, Cholera Morbus, Unnatural Drains from the Bowels, Pains, Griping, Loss of Appetite, Indigestion and All Diseases of the Stomach and Bowels.

PITT'S CARMINATIVE is the standard. It carries children over the critical period of teething, and is recommended by physicians as the friend of Mothers, Adults and Children. It is pleasant to the taste and never fails to give satisfaction. A few doses will demonstrate its superlative virtues. Price, 25 cts. per bottle. For sale by druggists.



HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

TO MAKE HORSE RADISH SAUCE. Horseradish sauce is invariably served in Germany with all forms of beef, either broiled, roasted or boiled. To make it boil grated horseradish in gravy or plain water, heat up the yolks of one or two eggs with half a pint of cream and some tarragon vinegar; stir into the horseradish. Let the whole remain on the fire a few minutes, stirring all the time, and before it comes to a boil serve in a sauceboat. —Pittsburgh Dispatch.

NEW USE FOR NAPKIN RINGS.

While napkin rings are now generally banished from the home table, some persons do not want such handsome articles to lie forgotten in some dark closet, and they have conceived the idea of converting them into receptacles for salt. By covering one end with a piece of filter paper and putting on three tiny feet the discarded ring is transformed into a pretty little dish. If a ring is very wide it may be cut in halves and two dishes made from it.

A NOVEL FINE HERB GARDEN.

A careful housewife can keep garish and seasonings always at hand by having a little window garden in her kitchen, and she needs nothing more elaborate than old cans and boxes to hold her plants, providing she puts a good deep layer of pebbles in the bottom to provide some sort of drainage. Here she can grow parsley, which is finer in flavor than onions; tarragon—which is a delicious flavoring for vinegars for salads, thyme, sorrel, mint and whatever fine herbs find most favor in her household. —American Farmer.

ODD AND MARVELOUS.

The Colossal Recumbent Itok Elixir on Easter Island.

The accompanying picture is from a

feet across the back and six feet through the body, its computed weight amounting to 238,000 tons. The usual height of these wonderful busts is about twenty feet, having a weight of seventy-six tons each, by far the greatest portion being about this

These huge masses of stone were not only moved considerable distances from the still existing quarries where they were sculptured, but were placed in an upright position on vast platforms of some prepared for their reception, and were finally decorated by having the huge cylinders of stone placed on their heads, the whole indicating a surprising engineering knowledge and skill, recalling that exhibited by the ancient Peruvians in their mighty undertakings. The origin of these interesting antiquities is unknown. —Philadelphia Record.

The Plans Robus.

Here is a story of an orthodox robin. Some time ago I attended morning service in Ely Cathedral, where, during the prayers, a robin kept flitting about the building, joining occasionally in the service with a most "ohrrrrp." When the clergyman ascended the pulpit and began to speak, the robin deliberately perched himself on one of the pinnacles of the chancel-screen, quite close to the orator, and the louder did the robin sing, much to the amusement of the congregation. I have no recollection of what the sermon was about, but the robin's singing made a deep impression upon me. —London Telegraph.

Wallpapering by Machinery.

Paper can now be hung by machinery. The device has a roll on which a roll of paper is placed, and a paste reservoir with a feeder placed so as to engage the wrong side of the paper. The end of the paper is fastened to the bottom of the wall and the machine started up the wall, being held in place by the operator. A roller follows the paper as it unrolls and presses it against the wall. When the top of the wall is reached the operator pulls a string, which cuts the paper off from the roll.

Presence of Mind.

Irate Father—"Didn't I tell you not to go skating?" Quick-Witted Son—"Stay where you be, Pop. The ice is awful thin." —Truth.

STATISTICALS.

Statisticians agree that the population of the world averages 109 women to every man.

THE BUCKLE SHINING.

cleaning that they labor over, for the adjutant, in mounting the new guard, selects "cleanest" man—that is, the soldier whose uniform fits him best, and whose countenance is of the most dazzling glisten—to act as orderly for the commanding officer.

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A CLOSE ABOUT A CLOCK.

when the men of the batteries begin to prepare for dress parade. The men have to jump into their full dress clothes for this evening parade and look their best. The inspiration of the band's music as they march in review gives an additional eagerness to their shoulders and a dragonish swing to their movements. American soldiers are good to look upon. They must be perfect men physically to get into the service at all, and as recruits they are given much athletic training.

During the autumn and winter, first call for retreat is sounded during the progress of dress parade, and assembly for retreat goes at the conclusion of the march in review. Then the men answer to their names for the last time of the military day, the echoes of the evening gun reverberate through the post, the colors, while the band solemnly plays "The Star Spangled Banner," are struck, and the men of each battery are marched to their quarters and dismissed, to resume their everyday uniforms for snapper.

There is nothing in the way of duty to be performed by the soldiers after supper. If their names are not on the "black list," such of them as wish to visit the city may discard their uniforms, don multi, or civilian dress, and go—having handed in their names



CLEANING THE PIECES.

for leave to the "top," or first sergeant, during the afternoon. There is a fine post library for the readers. Then, there is always the canteen. It is not neglected. The card and checker players are numerous in the quarters during the long, cool evenings.

At 8:30 the flourish of the trumpeter's tattoo warns the men to prepare for bed, for the lights go out ten minutes later. When the blast is given for the extinguishing of the lights there must be perfect silence in the quarters. Those of the soldiers whose consciences are good are sound asleep by the time the sorrowful taps, the "wind pusher," is sounded. The deep silence of the night, except for the hourly calls of the sentries on guard—"Number five 12 o'clock, and all-'s well!"—that tell of the eternal vigilance of the soldier.

THREE RINGS IN ONE.

The engagement ring, which is almost a fac simile of the one worn by the modern girl's great-grandmother, is, as the illustration shows, really three rings in one.

Three slender bands must encircle the finger of the engaged maiden. And each band is studded with jewels of a different sort.

The middle band is set with diamonds, which should be small but



MISSES' BLOUSE WAIST OF BLUE MCHAIR.

Ivory white satin faced cloth, trimmed with galleon in black and gold. The waist is arranged over smooth linings fitted by single bust darts and closes in the centre front. The front droops slightly over the belt in blouse style, by round flaring cuffs. The close fitting collar of white cloth is decorated to match the vest and revers, and closes on the left side. A belt of the material encircles the waist, which may be substituted, however, for any one of the pretty leather or metal belts now in vogue. Waists of this style are extremely becoming to youthful figures, and may be developed in soft woolsens or silk. When made of serviceable materials, such as serge, camel's hair, chevrot,

perfect gem, uniform in size. The lower band must be set with the girl's own birthstone and the upper one with the birthstone of her fiancé. That is to say, if she chanced to be born in February and the other in October, the diamond would be surrounded by opals and amethysts.

AN UNUSUAL ATTIRE.

Zonaves and boleros of every kind and shape are still a conspicuous part of the bodices, but the madderchief blouse is perhaps the most unusual style. The material is draped in the desired form in some indescribable manner to give the soft, full effect, and Persian silk is especially pretty for this purpose, and may form butterfly pulls at the top of the sleeves.

GLOVES.

The gloves that enjoy the highest favor have only one button apiece in these days, and even this makes them almost too long for the sleeves that must fall to the knuckles.