

What Can Be Done With a Cent.

A few years ago the Episcopal church of a small Maryland town was in want of an alms basin. The congregation was for the most part poor, and few in numbers. The minister in charge appointed a young girl a committee of one to collect subscriptions. The amount needed was \$5, for an alms basin costing that much had been heard of for sale by a more prosperous parish, that had outgrown the one with which it started in life.

The young woman's first call was at the store of a well-to-do merchant. Asking something from him for her fund, she received the following reply, spoken in a very gruff voice: "I can give you nothing," but as she turned to leave, he added: "There, you may have that if it will do you any good," and suiting the action to the word, threw down on the counter a cent. Mortified and abashed, her first impulse was to leave it where he thrown it, but better judgment prevailing she picked it up, thanked him and left.

Without going further she returned home and told her mother that she would not ask for anything more and run the chance of such treatment a second time. "Take the cent, my dear," the mother said, "and show what you can do with it." She followed this advice and bought a small china doll, and, dressing it in some scraps which she had, sold it to a friend for her little daughter. Having increased her capital 400 per cent., she invested it in a spool of crocheting cotton, with which she worked several small articles, and the sale of these brought her in \$1.20. This was, in turn, used to purchase cotton material, out of which were made several dresses for small children, that netted, when sold, the desired \$5, when the alms basin was duly bought.

This story was told to a lady of Socialistic views, who was constantly complaining that she was not rich, and saying she could lay so little by it was not worth while to save; the answer was: "Yes, she got her \$5, but what a lot of work she had to do."—Kate Field's Washington.

Silver Garden Tools.

One of the absurdities of the application of silver to all sorts of things is its use in trowels for the use of the conservatory. Silver is no better suited for trowels than some other and cheaper noncorroding metals, since the used trowel, of whatever material, is always bright. An iron or steel trowel of the best material and workmanship costs \$1.50, while the silver trowel costs from eight to twenty times as much.—Chicago Herald.

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CONSUMPTION

HERB AND ROOT DIGGERS.

GATHERING NATURE'S REMEDIES FOR THE MEDICINE MAKERS.

Why Many Tennessee Moonshiners Were Changed Into "Diggers"—Sarsaparilla in Wild Profusion.

MUNDREDS of people are engaged in Tennessee, writes a correspondent from Milan, in digging roots and herbs and gathering leaves, barks, nuts and berries for the great pharmaceutical laboratories. They are known as the "diggers" of the State. The men and women engaged in the business know very little about pharmacy or the way science distills the secret juices of what they gather, but the business pays them.

Nature hid thousands of her secrets in the flora of the South, and the distilled extracts or powdered forms of her roots, barks, leaves and herbs enter into many thousands of preparations in the big laboratories of the manufacturing pharmacists. The rank weeds, grasses, flowers and shrubbery that grow wild in every county, and that other men crush under their feet are worth much money to the diggers, who can never hope to gather a thousandth part of the plants nature has provided so lavishly. The digger is a pretty shrewd fellow about nature. He was a weather prophet, a woodsman and a natural astronomer from infancy, and the encouraging pay of the pharmacists made him a mixture of business man, herb doctor and botanist. Diggers work in every part of the State, in the lowlands, in the swamps, along the rivers, in the big woods, in the mountains and in the outskirts of the towns and cities. When they are away from home on a collecting expedition they are provided with tents—outdoor life is typical of the business—and they wear overalls and heavy shoes, for most of the work is in the dirt. Generally the diggers begin at the head of a small river and move slowly down it until they have gathered thousands of bushels of roots and herbs and many pounds of bark. They use spades and trowels, and the use of the spade is a science with them.

There are squads and companies of them in the employ of the laboratories of New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, and other big cities all the year round. Those who are not connected with the laboratories keep well informed about prices, the demands of the pharmacists, and those articles which can be collected in season. One thing they gather is sarsaparilla, which grows wild in profusion, and is used in great quantities by medicine manufacturers. Alkanet root gives a fine red tinge to oils, fats, wax, turpentine, spirits and essences, and is also used to color pomade, ointments, hair oils and varnishes. The spirituous solution stains marble a deep red, and wax tinged with alkanet and applied to warm marble leaves a beautiful flesh color. The roots of golden seal, yellow dock, and gold thread are valuable to the chemist. The stalk of rhubarb makes excellent pies, and its root is used medicinally. The common plants that grow wild and are used in medicinal preparations are manifold. Blue flag grows by the brink of rivers, in swamps and meadows; burdock, used in blood medicines; sassafras, fennel, mullein, elderflowers, cotton root, all sorts of berries, buchu leaves, prickly ash, snake root, castor beans, ginseng, horehound, sweet ferns, and mandrake are other herbs gathered.

The trees drop berries, nuts and seeds, useful for oils and extracts, and there is always a brisk demand for such things. The seeds of the cones of the mountain pines are sold for \$2 a pound, and are gathered from the trees. The long bean of the catalpa tree is very valuable for its seed, and a bushel of shelled seed brings as much as \$50. The seeds bring big prices in sections where shade trees are scarce, and the demand from Texas alone takes all that is gathered. The collectors in climbing the trees of the pine and catalpa oftentimes find rivals in the little squirrels that hasten to pick the seed out of a cone or bean as soon as it ripens. Cannigre, which grows wild, is a species of dock, valuable for the iannic acid contained in it.

The diggers know how to treat barks, roots, leaves, berries, and herbs. The outer bark is never used, for they know that nature provides for getting rid of the bark of trees as the trunk grows. Barks are preserved by hanging them in paper bags in the dry and airy part of the herbarium. When gathered, roots are washed to get rid of the dirt and part of the mucous substance that would otherwise render them mouldy. The larger ones are cut, split, or peeled. They are spread on sieves or hurdles and dried in a heat of about 120 degrees in a steam closet connected with the herbarium, care being taken to shake them occasionally to change the surface exposed to the air. Thick and juicy roots like rhubarb or briony are cut in slices and strung up on threads to dry. Squills are sealed, threaded, and dried in the hot closet. Leaves are dried as quickly as possible by putting them between layers of absorbing paper.

Some small plants with roots and leaves entire, are removed from the soil with a garden trowel, and after washing are packed in small boxes al-

most airtight. It is impossible to remove some of the larger plants in one piece, and in such cases all the parts—roots, stems, leaves, flowers, and fruit—are secured. Sometimes the ends out are sealed with wax until they reach the laboratories. In the herbariums are many rare botanical specimens which have no intrinsic value other than to sell to colleges and scientific institutions.

The largest herbarium operated by the diggers is near Hickory Flat Mineral Springs in Henderson County, Tenn., and is the headquarters for more than a hundred men employed in this business, who prospect from there in tents over all the section between the Tennessee and Mississippi Rivers. In the mountain regions there are large herbariums, from which collectors are sent out also. Many hundreds of men and women are employed in the business all over the State, and for a backwoodsman who has studied nature it is the best-paying business he can engage in. The ordinary diggers receive from \$1 to \$3 a day, and men who have been in the business a long time and have become proficient botanists get as much as \$12 a day. They are paid according to their knowledge of common things, and especially of what the market demand may be.—New York Sun.

The Cutting of the Log Never Finished.

A gruesome sight at Strickland's Ferry, a few feet from the railroad station, is a rusty and battered circular saw, standing uncovered outside a small mill. The saw was stopped when partly through a log that it was cutting. The log is still on the carriage, with the saw set in the wood. A large piece has been broken from the saw's disk. It was here that a cruel accident occurred a year or so ago, when a workman was sawn in twain by this saw. The machine has been left just as it was when the accident occurred.—Lewiston (Me.) Journal.

The deficit in the English postal telegraph service for the fiscal year will reach \$2,700,000.

A YOUNG GIRL'S TRIALS.

NERVOUS TROUBLES END IN ST. VITUS' DANCE.

Physicians Powerless.—The Story Told by the Child's Mother.

(From the Reporter, Somerset, Ky.)
 Among the foot hills of the Cumberland Mountains, near the town of Flat Rock, is the happy home of James McPherson. Four months ago the daughter of the family, a happy girl of sixteen, was stricken with St. Vitus' dance. The leading physicians were consulted, but without avail. She grew pale and thin under the terrible nervous strain and was fast losing her mental powers. In fact the thought of placing her in an asylum was seriously considered. Her case has been so widely talked about that the report of her cure was like modernizing a miracle of old. To a reporter who visited the home the mother said:

"Yes, the reports of my daughter's sickness and cure are true as you hear them. Her affliction grew into St. Vitus' dance from an aggravated form of weakness and nervous trouble peculiar to her sex. Every source of help was followed to the end, but it seemed that physicians and medicine were powerless. Day by day she grew worse until we despaired of her life. At times she almost went into convulsions. She got so that we had to watch her to keep her from wandering away, and you can imagine the care she was."

"About this time, when our misery was greatest and all hope had fled, I read of another case, almost similar, that had been cured by a medicine known as Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Almost in desperation I secured some of the pills and from that day on the wonderful work of restoration commenced; the nervousness left, her cheeks grew bright with the color of health, she gained flesh and grew strong both mentally and physically until to-day she is the very picture of good health and happiness.

"It is no wonder that I speak in glowing terms of Pink Pills to every ailing person I meet. They saved my daughter's life and I am grateful."

The foregoing is but one of many wonderful cures that have been credited to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. In many cases the reported cures have been investigated by the leading newspapers and verified in every possible manner. Their fame has spread to the far ends of civilization and there is hardly a drug store in this country or abroad where they cannot be found.

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The good effects of anti-toxine in New York City are shown in the reduced mortality from diphtheria.

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by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

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To Clean Clothes.

According to the American Analyst the proper way of restoring old clothes is as follows: Take, for instance, a shiny old coat, vest or pair of trousers of broadcloth, cassimere or diagonal. The scourer makes a strong, warm soapuds, and plunges the garment into it, soouses it up and down, rubs the dirty places, and if necessary, puts it through a second time; then rinses it through several waters and hangs it up to dry on the line. When nearly dry he takes it in, rolls it up for an hour or two, and then presses it. An old cotton cloth is laid on the outside of the coat and the iron passed over that until the wrinkles are out; but the iron is removed before the steam ceases to rise from the goods, else they would be shiny. Wrinkles that are obstinate are removed by laying a wet cloth over them and passing the iron over that. If any shiny places are seen, they are treated as the wrinkles are—the iron is lifted while the full cloud of steam rises and brings the nap with it. Cloths should always have a suds made specially for them, as in that which has been used for white cotton or woolen cloths lint will be left in the water and will cling to the cloth. In this manner we have known the same coat and trousers to be renewed time and time again, and have all the look and feel of new garments. Good broadcloth and its fellow cloths will bear many washings, and look better every time because of them.

Recruits Commit Suicide.

There appears to be an epidemic of home-sickness in Breton. Eight hundred young Breton recruits were incorporated to the 162d French infantry regiment last week. On Monday last eight of them hanged themselves in fits of despair brought on by their enforced absence from their native villages. The young recruits are being carefully watched to prevent further suicide.—Chicago Herald.

Sport and slaughter are nowhere more synonymous terms than in Austria. During the last six seasons Prince Camillo shot with his own gun on his estates in Austria 1009 bucks and 529 does.

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