

WOMAN SWALLOWS PEARLS

Was Eating Sweets and Kistook Two Gems for Bits of the Candy.

The case of Senora Morales of Corveira, recalls the classic story of Cleopatra dissolving priceless pearls in a goblet of wine. Cleopatra, however, drank the pearls on purpose, says the Madrid correspondent of the Cleveland Plain Dealer, whereas Senora Morales declares that she swallowed them in a fit of absent-mindedness. The other day a handsome and richly dressed lady, with a box of candy in her hand, entered a Madrid jeweler's and asked to see some large unset pearls.

While examining the gems she helped herself liberally to the sweets. Suddenly, to the clerk's horror, she put two valuable pearls in her mouth and swallowed them before she had time to cry out. On learning what she had done, the lady expressed intense horror, but refused to pay for the gems, which were valued at 1,500 pesetas, declaring that she had not purchased them, and could not be held responsible for an accident.

THE JAPANESE CHARACTER.

Incident Which Illustrates the Combination of Strength and Gentleness.

Later that day, at a hamlet which could boast no officials and no societies, yet where our train stopped ten minutes, there stood a typical country schoolmaster, with his female assistant and their 20 elementary pupils, writes Anita Newcomb McGee, in "The American Nurse in Japan." In very broken English he bashfully told me he had been teaching his pupils about benevolence and charity, and how these virtues were exemplified by our coming so great a distance to aid the people of another land. To impress the lesson more deeply on their memories, he said, he had brought them to see and greet us.

SECRET OF JAP SUCCESS.

Always Ready for War and Possessed of Patriotism That Is Fanatical.

The result of the Japanese naval operations reveals the old truth that the mere possession of ships of the most powerful types, such as Russia possessed, does not mean naval power, says Cassier's Magazine. In spite of all the assistance which science has rendered in perfecting weapons of attack and in improving the mode of defense by armor protection and high speed, the character of the personnel—admirals, officers and men—and their war efficiency are the deciding factors in warfare. The Japanese exhibited this dominating fact in their contest of ten years ago against China, now they have illustrated it in an even more striking manner by crushing the Russian fleet in the far east.

FOR CARRIAGE GRACES.

Young Ladies Practice Entering and Alighting from Vehicle at Fashionable School.

Some of our modern modes of instruction are as exacting as those of an older time. Grandmother used to wear a wooden busk to make her straight, and to take lessons in eating with her knife and drinking delicately from her saucer. But the new "miss" has some equally exacting tasks. The New York Press says that there is one fashionable school for girls where deportment is a most important branch. It is not studied; it is practiced. In the back yard is an old brougham.

Identity Assured.

Tourist—Yes, while attending a bull fight in Seville I met a wealthy Chicago butcher.

Friend—How did you know he was a butcher?

"Because he was more interested in what the bull brought when killed than he was in the fight."—Chicago Daily News.

WAS A PROUD DISTINCTION.

Being a Private in the Revolutionary Army Was Something to Be Proud Of.

At the reception which followed a convention of Sons and Daughters of the Revolution, one handsome young woman was especially observed, relates Youth's Companion. She was not only beautiful, but she bore herself with great dignity. Surely she must come of unusually distinguished lineage, reflected the young man from the west. Having obtained an introduction to her, he could not resist the temptation to ask some questions.

"Your revolutionary family record," he said, tentatively, "is a remarkable one, I suppose?"

"Yes, it is," she replied promptly.

"My great-great-grandfather, a Massachusetts farmer, sent his six sons to Bunker Hill, all private soldiers."

While the young man was looking at her, somewhat surprised, she glanced cautiously round, as if fearful of being overheard.

"It is not generally known," she said, hurriedly, "that there is a stain upon our record. One of the six became a corporal."

"Still," she resumed, "the disgrace of it is lost in the record of the other five, who remained private even until the surrender of Yorktown. I confess that once I did not appreciate this thing at its true value. But attendance at many gatherings of the Sons and Daughters, and hearing the speeches and listening to the records and other statements has convinced me that beyond doubt those five ancestors of ours were the only privates in the revolutionary armies."

COLLEGE GIRLS MARRIED.

Statistics Which Are of Special Interest in Their Bearing on the Tenure of Life.

The University of Michigan has had 2,000 girl graduates since 1870, when the first co-ed was admitted to the college. Data collected by Helen L. Millon, a Michigan graduate of 1887, shows that these college girls have stood more than three times the chance of a long life which the average woman has, states the Chicago Tribune.

The girl graduates for the first 30 years of Michigan's educational venture are used in this comparison. They are matched against the death-census figures. Only the first 30 years of graduates were considered because the more recent girls are not yet within the age limits of this particular census death rate for women. Out of the first 1,184 girls to leave Michigan only 65 have died. The census death rate for womankind in general for the same period of time is 223 out of every 1,000.

Miss Millon says that failure to marry cannot be claimed as a reason for the unusual health of these college women. For in this first 30 years half of the girls have married. In the marriage question it is found that college women are on the "eligible" list much longer than the home-bred girl. A comparison of the wedding days of the fortunate half of the first 1,000 Michigan girls shows that nearly half of those married waited a few years after graduation before falling in love. The figures seem to indicate that a college woman does not become an "old maid" until at least ten years after graduation. Previous to this she is a "bachelor girl," and dangerous to unwedded men.

EGYPTOLOGISTS' TREASURE

Wealth of Antiquities Taken from a Pit Near Luxor in Upper Egypt.

Not since the remarkable discoveries at Memphis years ago have Egyptologists had such a wealth of treasures to examine as has been brought to light from a pit near Luxor in upper Egypt, reports Youth's Companion. For nine years the Service of Antiquities has been engaged in works there looking to the restoration of the Temple of Ammon at Karnak. While engaged on this the director of works, Mr. M. G. Legrain, discovered a great pit into which apparently innumerable statues and monuments had been thrown. An immense number of them have already been dug out and examined. They are all of the Ptolemic epoch, and nearly all bear historical inscriptions, from which it is possible to discover who and of what period are the persons represented. Eight thousand statues of gilded bronze are among the objects so far unearthed, besides more than 500 in granite, basalt, beryl, limestone, petrified wood and other materials. The work of excavation is especially difficult, as the pit is below the level of the Nile, and is constantly filling with water by seepage from the river.

WHERE COAL IS SCARCE.

Landlords of Southern Italy Save Fuel at the Expense of Comfort to Guests.

In the smaller hotels of southern Italy and of Spain, writes Mr. Hart in "Two Argonauts in Spain," the unfortunate tourists slowly freeze. The landlords display a touching solicitude about the stove. On days when fire is really needed to keep the guests warm they sometimes spend half their time trying to keep the servants from putting too much fuel on the fire.

TO EXCHANGE PROFESSORS

Harvard and Berlin Negotiating for a Transfer of Certain Educators.

Educators have long recognized the advantage gained by students who spend part of their collegiate years abroad by reason of hearing lectures and witnessing demonstrations at first hand. But since comparatively few can afford themselves of this advantage, Harvard and Berlin are negotiating for an exchange of professors says a recent report. This plan, if followed throughout the world, should result in benefit to the students of all highly-civilized countries. The chief difficulties will arise in that no country will desire to import professors when it has better in the same lines at home, yet no university will freely let favored professors off, even for a short time. But the difficulty is not insurmountable, since the conviction has arisen among men of science that they are under international obligations and this may carry the plan to success. The simplest means of inauguration is to invite distinguished professors to give four or eight lectures abroad. While a six months tour would be much more advantageous, operation of the plan must be begun on a modest scale, and if the idea is sound it will grow of itself.

Saving Antiquities for Science.

Within a few years past so lively a trade has grown up in antiquities from New Mexico and other parts of the southwest that an earnest protest has recently been uttered on behalf of anthropological science. The destruction of ancient ruins and the scattering abroad of relics left by extinct or disappearing races are regarded as a serious menace to the scientific study of American archaeology. Representations made to the department of the Interior have resulted in the issuing of orders to local government officers and agents of the land office intended to secure the protection of antiquities in New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado. It is also proposed to attain the same end by special legislation.—Youth's Companion.

Vast Area of Coal Fields.

It is estimated by experts that the area of American coal fields at present open to mining is more than five times as great as that of the coal fields of England, France, Germany and Belgium, the great coal-producing countries of Europe. While practically all the available coal areas of those countries have been opened to mining operations, ours have scarcely been estimated.

Highest Triumph of Art.

Artist—This still life is my masterpiece. Look at that bit of Stillson cheese.

Admirer—Fine! You can almost see it move!—Brooklyn Eagle.

HOT AIR PRESERVES FOOD.

Revolution in Household Economics Proposed by an Ingenious Inventor.

Starting with the problem of treating vegetables and fruits so they would furnish varied and healthful rations for troops sent to tropical climes or for armies of laborers engaged in such enterprises as digging the Panama canal, an ingenious inventor in the solution promises a revolution in household economics. By his process, says the Chicago Tribune, vegetables are treated with hot air in such a way they are rendered perfectly dry and yet are entirely uncooked, while the color, flavor and nutriment are preserved. As nothing but water is taken out nothing else is required for restoring the vegetable to its first condition. While the army and navy will welcome the success of the idea, its practical operation will prove of far more widespread value. In all cases where weight and space become factors in the transportation and storage of foods, as with hunters of gold and game, in the provisioning of ocean liners, and most important, in localities where freight rates make preserved foods as at present prepared a luxury, the great condensation produced by the elimination of the enormous proportion of water may effect radical reductions in prices. For instance, a case of canned spinach, containing 24 cans, weighs about 65 pounds, of which the spinach itself weighs a little over one-half. Its equivalent in the new form weighs about five pounds, two of which are the sterilized spinach, and the rest cartons and case. The keeping properties of vegetables and fruits thus prepared seem indefinite, as they are desiccated by the heat and require simply to be kept in a dry place.

CLAY SPLICED THE TWINE.

When a Store Clerk the Famous Statesman Had a Lesson in Economy.

It has been said that Henry Clay achieved success so easily that he quite misunderstood others and over-estimated himself. But he was eager to learn the best way to do whatever he had to do. In "The True Henry Clay," the author gives an instance of this.

"At 14 Henry became clerk in a store in Richmond, whither the family had removed. Stories are told of his willingness to do his duty, although the work was distasteful to him.

EXPENSIVE INDIAN DRESS.

Garment Trimmed with Elk Tusks That Has a Remarkable History.

L. C. Reiser, of Lancaster, Pa. is the owner of an Indian woman's buckskin dress trimmed with elk teeth, which is believed to be one of the most valuable garments of this sort now in existence. Over 1,500 elk tusks cover this squaw dress, says Field and Farm, and most of them are good specimens. They represent, of course, the death of not less than 750 bull elk. It is not known where all the elk were obtained.

POST-CARDS THAT WHISTLE

Musical Records Are Affixed to Pictorial Cards Used in the Paris Mail.

Picture post-cards that talk and sing and whistle may very soon find their way into American homes. Then, instead of writing stereotyped phrases, the next thing will be, says Pearson's Weekly, "the chance to send a greeting that shall have all the fervor and animation of the voice."

Paris originated this idea. Already post-card photographs of great singers and composers are accompanied by extracts from their successes; pictures of national flags by the anthems of different countries, and so on in endless variety.

To an ordinary pictorial card is affixed a very thin transparent gelatin disk on which is impressed a gramophone musical record. Through the center of the disk a small hole is pierced, enabling the post-card to be placed on an ordinary "talking-machine" and played in the usual way.

Paris, too, has another novelty of this kind in the Daily Post-Card, or more correctly the Carte Journal.

On one side is the usual space for name and address, but on the other is printed a reproduction of a photograph or sketch illustrating the most interesting event of the day, accompanied by half a dozen brief telegrams giving the news of the world.

The Carte Journal is published at a penny, and is on sale every afternoon at four o'clock. Some of the best-known artists have contributed drawings to this newspaper post-card.

TO EQUALIZE EXPANSION.

French Inventor Discovers a New Alloy Which Has This Effect in Metals.

By the discovery of a new alloy after much experimenting a French inventor claims he will be able to effect a saving of \$150,000 every year in the making of watches alone. The great discrepancy in the expansion of metals on heating, says an authority, has often proved a trying experience to metal workers, and is further complicated by the fact that in making alloys the change with temperature is often found to be quite different from a mere average of the constituent metals. But in the new alloy, a composition of nickel and iron containing 35 per cent of the former, the expansion under heat is barely more than quartz, which is almost immeasurably small. Already it has found favor with the French authorities for use in surveying instruments, where variations in climate render accurate measurements difficult. A far more general application will be found, however, in the case of clocks and watches. Regulation of the swing of the pendulum under the variations of summer and winter temperature is usually made by arranging a strip of some highly expansible metal to increase upwards from the bob on heating, so keeping the length constant. While this proves satisfactory, the new alloy promises to relieve the difficulty involved in the adjustment of such pendulums.

QUEER BRANCH OF STUDY.

Fencing for Girls Seemed to Be a Useless Craft for Them to Learn.

"It does beat all, Michael, what they're teaching girls now in these city schools," said old Mrs. Millikin, laying down the advertising section of a big daily which she had been reading closely for the last half-hour, relates Youth's Companion. "Of course when Jamie went to the farm school and they gave him digging and chores and such, it seemed right enough, for he was a boy, and was trying himself for making a living of the land."

"But what I can't make out is why ever city folks, and girls at that, and ones that don't need to be scratching to make ends meet, should be paying \$25 extra, as the paper here says, just to learn fencing."

"Does seem kind of queer, ma, come to think of it," returned the old man, at the other end of the table, "but seems like of late I've been hearing a lot of talk 'bout nature studies and back to nature' and simple lives and such, and maybe that's the city folks' way of getting at those things, though 't pears to me as if 'twould come handier for 'em to take a jaunt out in the country where real fences was, if they're so mighty anxious to be learned 'bout the building of 'em!"

Togo and His Men.

Frederick Villiers, the English correspondent, writes as follows of a meeting he had with Admiral Togo on board the latter's flagship: "The great man had a peculiar way of standing with both hands spread out on his hips and arms akimbo. I took a sketch of him in this position, and then I found a most amusing coincidence. His officers, from the chief of his staff down to the mid-dies, all aped their beloved chief and stood with their arms and hands in the same attitude."

Bathing Club.

The "All-the-Year-Round Bathers," a club for local gentlemen, the other Sunday morning bathed in the sea at Yarmouth. They were posed for a photograph on coming out of the water, when a heavy snowstorm came on. One of them has thus bathed daily for 23 years. The father of the club excels him by having bathed daily through 36 winters.

Equally Sweet.

Emeralds—Where are you and Jack going to spend your honeymoon? Gwendolen—With relatives up in Vermont.

"Why, I shouldn't call that a honeymoon, at all. It will be a maplemoon."—Chicago Tribune.

POLICE DOGS OF BELGIUM.

Shepherds Chosen as the Most Watchful Foes of the Criminal Class.

The police of Belgium have their strongest allies, the rogues, their most watchful foes, in the dogs that are attached as auxiliaries to the police department of the kingdom. The "dogs of Genus D'Armes," as the thieves call them, are trained at stations at St. Gilles and Schaerboek, outside Brussels. At the St. Gilles police barracks there is now an auxiliary dog for each man.

The dog's usefulness is widening; they are beginning to train dogs at Antwerp and other frontier posts for the Dutch custom house service, to catch smugglers.

The police shepherd dog is chosen for the police service, bloodhounds, mastiffs and dogs of other ferocious breeds are not trained for it. The dogs from France, the meadow country of France, are supposed to have a far remote wolf cross. They are patient, persistent, tenacious creatures, whether holding a thief or keeping a sheep in the marching line of the flock.

The Beauce dog has a stronger scent than it has been credited with. Some police auxiliaries have learned to distinguish the smell of dynamite and other explosives and to understand what this odor may mean when it lingers on the hands of an anarchist.

The Beauce dog, too, is taught to take to the water, but it is not so much at home there as a Newfoundland. However, its very muzzle is most useful in saving the drowning. A police dog named Tom, promoted for good work from Ghent to Brussels, has saved three children at different times.

The late Mrs. Isabella Bishop whose travels in different parts of the world secured for her membership in the Royal Geographical society, visited America when she was a young woman. She was unused to travel and was alone when she had the following experience, which is told in Blackwood's Magazine:

"Once, in a train going to New York, she was dreadfully tired, and yet she had a feeling that if she went to sleep the man sitting next her would pick her pocket. She struggled for some time against her inclination to sleep, but having for a moment given way she awakened to feel the hand of her neighbor gently withdrawing her purse from her pocket.

"In her purse besides some money, which was, comparatively speaking, of small moment, was her baggage check. That was the only thing that really mattered. If she accused her neighbor of theft, nothing was simpler for him than to drop the purse out of the open window beside which he was sitting. No, she determined she would leave any interference until they arrived at their destination.

"She secured the services of a porter, and, with apparent calmness, followed her traveling companion down the platform. Having described her luggage to the porter, she at the critical moment bowed slightly to the pickpocket, and, with an airy smile, said: 'This gentleman has my baggage check' and he immediately presented it to her."

SELF-POSSESSED TRAVELER.

Had Her Pocket Picked, But Didn't Lose Her Composure or Baggage Check.

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