#### MAPLESUGARMAKING

Gathering of the Sap by the Farmers of the Northern Woods.

Some Interesting Features of the Spring Work Among the Sugar Trees-Social Features of

The maple sap had again begun its annual flow, when all through the Adirondacks, as well as in the forests of neighboring northern states, farmers' families were busy gathering the one crop for which they neither plant nor till. The maple product of the United States has in years gone by been worth as much as \$1,250,000. The output and prices vary considerably, however, and no one can predict what will be the result of the harvest.

Old sugar makers have as many Ideas about "the run" as a crossroads weather prophet, and some of them are able to predict to a wonderful certainty just when the flow of sap will begin and how long it will continue. "When the wind blows from the west get ready to gather sap" is one of the stock maxims of the Adirondack sugar belt. It also holds good in Maine. In ordinary seasons "the run" begins about the first week in March and continues during the period in which short thaws and freezing spells alternate. As a certain amount of preliminary work in the sugar forest is necessary, the value of an accurate prophecy is great.

A few days before the first March thaw is expected the farmer goes into the woods and opens his sugar house—a shanty of rough boards, deserted, lonely and uninteresting during 11 months of the year. Pans and kettles are cleaned and a store of fire wood, cut during the short, cold days of winter, is piled about the house. A search is made for possible leaks in the roof, and all is ready for sugar and sirup making.

Then one morning the cry is heard that the sap is really running, and at once the farmhouse is deserted for the sugar house in the woods. It is the center of interest for every one from grandmother to the babies who are big enough to walk. Everything else is neglected until the crop is entirely harvested and the last bucket of sap boiled into syrup. Fortunate-Iv the season comes at a time when little could be done in the way of farm work.

On farms where the number of sugar maples is not large the farmers of to-day gather their sugar erops in much the same way their fathers did. They bore the larger trees and insert wooded spiles, on which buckets are hung. The sap is gathered by sturdy boys and men. who carry two large pails, one on either end of a yoke which fits across their shoulders. The sap is boiled in great iron kettles, under which fires are burning day and night when the run Is heavy.

On the larger sugar farms methods more modern are in use. Metal spiles have replaced the wooden ones, and more shoulders from carrying the sap are unknown where the gathering tank is used. This tank holds a hogshead, and is usually firmly fastened to a sled, to which two horses are hitched. The modern augar house has a storage vat, from which the sap is piped into the evaporating pan. This is supported by masonry, and does its -work rapidly. From the evaporating pan the syrup flows to the settling vat. Thermometers indicate accurately the progress of evaporation.

The social features of the sugar season have not been lost with the development of the commercial side. The opening of the season is still an occasion for festivity. Young men and women of the neighboring villages visit the camps for "maple wax," and even the children have "their "sugar time" games. It is a great occasion for "sparking," and many a happy country couple owe their union to the potent influence of the sugar odor in the crisp air of the woods, to soft words said in the flickering shadows of the camp fires. and the sleepy drone of the bubbling, boiling sap. It means ready money for all concerned, especially for the farmer, who can always drive good bargains with such a product.

### Social Calls by Telephone.

"Formal calls,' said a society woman, "are becoming obsolete. I mean the running in of an afternoon, chatting for five or ten minutes, leaving your cards and rushing off to the next place on your list. That sort of thing is growing beautifully less. I make mearly all my calls now over the phone. It is so much more comfortable and saves such a lot of time and bother. I just sit down in my own home and call up Mrs. Jones in her home. I owe her a call. If she is in she comes to the phone and although .I may have nothing in particular to talk about, we chatter away for several minutes, and before I ring off I impress upon her the fact that I am returning her call, and that she needm't expect me to come in person."-

#### Philadelphia Record. Big and Fast Steamships.

It appears that there are only 1,100 merchant steamships in the workl of cover 2,000 tons and capable of making 12 knots or over an hour. Of these 397 are British, 110 French, 106 German, 94 American, 41 Japanese, 34 Ital-Lan, 29 Dutch and 21 Russian. Great Britain leads all in speed, even in the mbips of 20 knots or over, the number in this class being: British, 7; German, 5; American, 4; French, 2; Russian, 1.-N. Y. Sun.

### OUR BOYS AT OXFORD

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Influence of Students from United States Will Be Felt. .

Predicted by English Writer That American Society, College Yells, Class Buttons and American Spirit Are Certainties. .

The London Speaker devotes a long article to the probable effect of the Rhodes' scolarships on Oxford university. It thinks it safe to ignore the influence of the Germans and colonials, saying the former will naturally gravitate towards a teutonic clique, but it will be too small to materially affect the settled life and traditions of Oxford. The colonials, of whom there are many already at Oxford, show no tendency to impress themselves on the life of the college, as distinct from the students of the united kingdom. It is in the American invasion that the Spectator anticipates the greatest changes. The writer of the article remarks:

"There are now two distinct classes of Americans at Oxford, the sons of rich men affected by a more or less acute form of anglomania, who are often more English than the English themselves. These may at times be ignored, for they will not want to participate in the Rhodes scheme. The second class is small. It consists of sons of English-born parents who have settled in America, but who wish to maintain English traditions. I believe that nearly all the new scholarships will go to Americans of this class. I have never heard of any pure-bred American coming either to Oxford or Cambridge, because he or his parents thought he could get a better education at those universities than at home. The result, however, will be the same, for whatever their fathers may be, the Americans who are sons of English parents are as American as anybody and are not likely to forget their nationality when they find themselves at Ox-

Arguing on these premises, the writer concludes that a hundred young American students, "glorying in their nationality," will become a potent factor in impresssing their personality on the staid, old university, with the natural result that an organized American society, college yells, class buttons and the young American spirit generally will sharply accentuate the existing differences between Oxford and Cambridge.

#### STARTS WITH ONE BABE.

Innovation in a Chicago Church Falls to Take with the Mothers of the Congregation,

One baby was the only visitor to the newly established creche of the St. James M. E. church, Chicago, the other Sunday. Rev. Dr. Coburn ,the pastor of the church, however, did not express any disappointment. He said:

"This is only the third Sunday the creche has been established, and I feel this way: If the creche will enable one mother to attend church service that otherwise would have to remain home Mr. Tuck's idea in suggesting the creche to me will have borne fruit. There is no objection on the part of the members of our church to take babies in the auditorium during church service, but the mothers feel delicate about it and have remained at home.

"I have no doubt about its final success, and when the mothers of our church become convinced that the babies will have every attention and care while they attend the service the movement will become popular. Ten years ago I had a crecheat my church at Ann Arbor, which proved a success, and there is no reason why the idea should not be popular in Chicago."

### TO BUILD NOVEL VILLAGE.

Walter Vrooman Has Plans for Extensive Experiment in Cooperative Community.

Walter Vrooman, the social reformer, announced the other day that he had purchased the land and completed plans for building a model village, or cooperative community, within a short distance of Kansas City, Mo.

The village, Mr. Vrooman says, will finally have a dozen factories for the manufacture of different kinds of articles, churches, schools, dwellings, stores and places of amusement, all

built at his expense. The village will be built and conducted along the lines suggested in a book written recently by Prof. John Dewey, of the University of Chicago. There will be playgrounds of all kinds, and one of the principal dwellings will be a house where children can live under the care of young women nurses and teachers.

Teachers May Whip Pupils. A court decision rendered at Mexico, Mo., gives teachers the authority to whip pupils whenever it is deemed necessary. E. E. Haycraft, whose 11year-old boy had been severely beaten by Miss Dollie Grigsby, a young schoolteacher of this county, had filed suit for \$2,000 damages against her and the directors of the school. The case was bitterly contested, having been tried twice in the Audrain county court and twice in the court of appeals at St. Louis. The higher court approves the verdict of the lower court, which is in

favor of the school-teacher. President an Easy Mark,

When it comes to be understood that the life insurance agents are entirely through with him, says the Chicago Inter Ocean, the gentlemen who can conceal a full set of the Encyclopaedia Britannica on their persons without fear of detection will be clamoring for audiences with the president.

#### SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

In Russia factories are usually near forests, wood being still the chief

Silver is naturally an antiseptic, and is therefore less liable than paper money to convey infection.

For \$129.31 first class, or \$90.71 second class, one can buy a ticket equal to a pass for a whole year on all the Swiss railways.

Many private companies are being formed for the purpose of working the enormous coal area newly discovered in the Campine district of Belgium.

All the new trains on the Central London railway are to be of fireproof construction, steel and asbestos being largely used. Other precautions for the safety of the passengers are being taken.

Pewter making, one of England's important industries 70 years ago, has almost been abandoned. Cheap glassware and tinware have driven pewter from the market.

The wasp, like the bee and almost every other insect, is infected with parasites. Wasps have been captured which had two or three dozen parasites clinging to their bodies.

A whistling moth is an Australian

rarity. There is a glassy space on the wings, crossed with ribs. When the moth wants to whistle, it strikes these ribs with its antennae, which have a knob at the end. The sound is a love call from the male to the f-male. A piece of genuine Japanese lacquer costs the native artist almost a life-

time to perfect, and is produced by hundreds of thin coats of l equer laid on at considerable intervals of time, the value consisting rather in the labor bestowed than in the quality of the material used. First-class lacquer work can scarcely be scratched by a

#### FIRST LADY OF ENGLAND. The Duckess of Sutherland Will

Have the Post of Honor at the Coronation.

The honor of walking next to royalty at the British coronation ceremonies belongs to the duchess of Sutherland, one of the handsomest and most talented women of England. She will hold that distinguished rank because of the fact that the duke of Norfolk, the hereditary master of ceremonies, is a widower, having lost his wife several years ago.

The duchess of Sutherland is not of English birth. She comes from the land of the heather and carries a soft burr in the turn of her tongue, which is no manner of detraction from her many charms. She was Susan Margaret McKinnon, the daughter of Charles McKinnon, before she assumed a coronet, and one of the richest heiresses in the British isles, says a London paper.

The duke is a landed proprietor who counts his acres by the thousands. By actual count he is lord of 25,400, his estates being among the most splendid in the country. He is now in his

The duchess is the most democratic in the whole Seymour (or St. Maur, as it was formerly written,) connection. She has a most winning and affable nature, is gracious without condescension and possessed of a broad charity that argues an optimistic view of the world. Fashionable society has at no time had great attraction for her, and it is a humorous irony that the proudest distinction of the forthcoming crowning of the sovereign should fall to the woman who least

Outdoor sport has at all times been her favorite recreation. She was awheel long before the bicycle became the fad of the smart set. She is also an excellent shot, and has been her husband's comrade in many an expedition for big game.

The duchess has, as well, no mean reputation as a litterateur. Her name is familiar as a magazine contributor, and her account of the beautiful Dart, known locally as "The British Rhine," is accounted the best description of that silver stream.

The duchess, should the priority of rank be strictly followed, will have for her immediate associates as attendants on her majesty the duchess of Beaufort, the duchess of St. Albans and the duchess of Leeds.

While it has been definitely announced that Queen Alexandra will have a quartette of duchesses in her train, there was a rumor (the wish in some quarters doubtless mothering the thought) that she would choose the four youngest or most beautiful. This would bring the American duchess of Marlborough into the coveted position with the duchesses of Sutherland. Westminster and Newcastle.

American Hospitals Abroad. A perfectly equipped and endowed hospital is to be established at Paris by the generosity of an American. It is to be called the Franklin hospital and is to be managed entirely by American physicians and nurses. We wish that such hospitals existed in all the principal cities of foreign countries, especially if gratuitous treatment of the poor is provided. Many travelers are poor and are also unable to speak the language of the country in which they may fall ill. In such cases there is a solicitude which doubtless prevents recovery. To hear one's language under such circumstances and to know that American methods of care and treatment will be used in his case is at least most comforting.-American Physician.

Polite to Both Kinds. "A man," said her dearest friend, "will always give up his seat in a tram car to a pretty woman."

"I never have to stand," she asserted, promptly. "Yes," went on her dearest friend, "most men also have the same regard

for age."-Stray Stories.

## THE INSIDE ROUTE

a tolera a Government Plans for a System of Canals and Channels.

Dangers of Cape Hatteras to Be Avoided by Constwine Vessels and Lives and Property

Cape Hatteras, the most dangerous point upon the Atlantic seaboard, will cease to exist as a menace to constwise navigation if the present plans of the United States government are carried out, the details of which will he called to the attention of congress at the present session, and an appropriation urged for their execution, states the Washington Star.

For genrations the name of Cape Hatteras has been synonymous with storms, shipwrecks and loss of life. All sorts of schemes have been proposed to minimize its dangers. Millions of dollars have been spent in attempts to properly-light the celebrated Diamond shoals, which surround Cape Hatteras. It was found impossible, after years of labor to build a lighthouse there. The heaviest and stanchest lightship ever constructed was placed at Diamond shoals only to be blown away from her giant mushroom anchors.

During all this time steamers lost their bearings, vessels were driven ashore and millions of dollars' worth of property and hundreds of lives continued to be lost. Every winter brought a long record of disaster on Cape Hatteras.

The sailors coming from San Francisco dreaded this one spot more than any other in the long voyage-round the Horn. The coastwise vessels tried to give it a wide berth. But it has remained as a permanent menace to navigation, and has done more to injure coastwise commerce on the Atlantic than any other agency.

The plan to avoid the cape contemplates an ingenious and thoroughly practicable system of inland canals and channels, by which the coastwise trade will be enabled to pass behind Cape Hatteras protected from the fury of the ocean the whole way down the coast by low lying sand bars.

The Dismal swamp canal, a miserable ditch of comparatively small importance, is to be deepened through its whole length. Here, bordered by cypress, gum and magnolia, large coastwise vessels can sail or tow in Bafety.

The extra insurance now put on ships because of Cape Hatteras and its dangers will, it is claimed, more than pay for the cost of towage in this new inside route The saving in time will be great, and the safety to human life will be an item of no small importance.

The magnificent fleet of yachts kept in northern waters can then pass up and down the coast in safety. When the inside route is finished a great advance in coastwise transportation is expected to take place.

An inside passage from Boston to Florida is believed by officials to be one of the possibilities of the future. The present plan is looked at as the first and most important step in this development.

To a large extent the proposed waterway is a natural one and to fit it for the passage of vessels of the larger class, as contemplated in the survey now being made, is simply a matter of dredging channels through the variour sounds lying back of the narrow strip of land which forms Cape Hatteras and the dangerous coast on its north and south

Hampton Roads, which will be the northern entrance to the inside passage, is considered one of the safest and most easy of access of all the harbors on the coast. Vessels will pass into the Elizabeth river at Norfolk and thence down the Dismal swamp canal to Pasquotank, into Albemarle sound, Pamlico sound, Core sound, Back sound and Beaufort harbor.

When the improvements contem-. plated are made it is probable that the "inside route" will be continued below Beaufort inlet. This will give the United States the greatest stretch of protected water in the world. It will be valuable in war time, as small warships and whole fleets of torpedo boats can pass from northern waters almost to the gulf without going outside.

### CAME TO MEND THE BUST.

And the Janitor Thought Re Was the Plumber Come to Mend the Waterpipe.

Daniel Chester French, the sculptor, is an Exeter boy and a graduate of Phillips Exeter academy. Like all Exeter men, he is very loyal, and has generously donated examples of his work to both town and academy, says a London paper.

A few years ago, one of the busts in the academy chapel had the misfortune to lose a mose, and as Mr. French was visiting the town he kindly offered to replace it.

Now, it happened that the bust was not the only thing in the scademy that needed mending, for the night before a cold snap had frozen and burst the main water pipe. The plumber, as usual, was late in appearing, and the old janitor was terribly upset. Mr. French put on his studio rig, packed what few sculptor materials he had with him into a bag, and went to the academy. He didn't know what part of the building the statue was in, says the New York Times, so he rang the bell, called up the janitor and said:

"I've come to mend the bust." "Indade, it is hoigh toime. I t'ought ye'd never come," stormed the irate janitor. "The wather is jist runnin' arl over the buildin'!"

### NEW COURT ORDER ON GIRLS. The King and Queen of England Put

the Fair Debutantes in Their Proper Place, Society is speculating not a little over an announcement which appeared in one of the London papers which de-

votes considerable attention to social

doings, to the effect that the king and queen have determined to reinstate the jeune illie and reform her. "She won't," this paper says, "occupy a prominent position at court. She won't be encouraged to hold her own against matrons, young or others. She will be very properly treated as a girl, nothing more. In these circumstances, therefore, we may reasonably expect that the young girl will soon be put back into her proper place, and that,

being there, she will regain the charm of simplicity she has lost." His majesty and his advisers have made a beginning. The lord chamberhain has courteously informed a young girl through her mamma, that in the future her attendance at court is desired for presentation purposes only, since it has been decided, after long and anxious deliberation, that only those women who have entered upon the holy state of matrimony can, other things being equal, count upon annual admission tickets.

A kindly hint that she may perchance be bidden to other and milder frolics and gambolings, such as ping-pongs and garden skippings, has somewhat tempered this cruel wind to the shorn lamb in question.

#### SHOWS INDOMITABLE COURAGE Harry de Windt, the Explorer, Suo-

ceeds in Reaching Verkhoyansk, Enstern Siberia.

Letters have just been received at London from Harry de Windt, leader of the expedition which is attempting to make its way overland from Paris to New York, dated Verkhoyansk, East Siberia, at the end of February. In spite of the forebodings of the officials of Yakutak, who strongly urged Mr. de Windt not to continue his journey, saying the conditions were worse this year than ever, the expedition reached Verkhoyansk, 600 miles morth of Yakutsk, February 28. The members of the expedition had a terrible experience while crossing the Verkhoyansk mountains. The cold was intense, 63 degrees below zero being registered. All the travelers were frost-bitten. Otherwise they were well and in good spirits, and were leaving the same day for Sredne Kolymsk, a town of East Siberia, 900 miles further on. which the party hoped to reach about the middle of March. Then it was their intention to push on 1,500 miles, to East Cape on Behring Strait. Probably the next news of the expedition will be its arrival in the United States via Behring's Strait.

De Windt mentions a report that Baron Toll's expeditionary ship & aria was stranded on the Siberian islands, with only seven tons of coal on board.

### WAYS OF USING ALCOHOL.

Apparatus and Machinery for Application of the Product.

Information has reached the Peruvian legation in Washington that a general exposition of the methods, apparatus and machinery and for the application of alcohol to the production of motive power, heat and light will he held at Lima during the month of September, 1902. Peru is one of the chief alcohol producing countries of the world, and the object of the exposition is to give alcohol producers an insight into the capabilities of alcohol in the industrial field. It is also believed that by encouraging the use of alcohol for industrial purposes its consumption as a beverage can be very considerably restricted. Gold, silver and copper medals and

honorable mentions will be bestowed on successful exhibitors in the order of merit. The Peruvian government has appointed a commission consisting of Mr. Jose Balta, director of public works; Mr. Eduardo Habich, director of the school of mines, and Mr. Alejandro Garland to formulate the programme for the exposition, collect the necessary data and communicate with manufacturers, inventors and institutions with the view of obtaining their support and assistance through the sending of exhibits.

Says Society Women Swear. There is an epidemic of profanity among society women and among the general public, according to Rev. John Withrow, of Boston. Dr. Withrow the other night quoted a physician as saying that women who pretend to have culture and position in society not only allow their husbands to swear at home, but even use oaths themselves. "There is now an epidemic of swearing," he said, "which poisons the mind and the heart," and he suggested as a cure that swearers learn verses of the scriptures and fire them at the oaths when they feel them coming.

### Auk's Egs Sold for \$1,260.

Another auk's egg was sold at Stevens' auction rooms, London, the other day to a purchaser who wished his name kept secret. The highest, bid was £252. This is by no means a record price in auks' eggs, as one sold in 1894 for 300 guiness. A stuffed specimen of the bird itself in a glass case was knocked down at £315, but the bones of another brought from Funk island by Prof. Milne fetched only 45 shillings.

Some Things Not Yet Cornered. New England is to have a bread trust, says the Chicago Record-Herald, but the dew and the air are still uncor-

### LAYS DOWN RULES.

Wife of Secretary Hay Fixes a Code of Etiquette for Cabinet Ladies.

Demands That the Wives of the Advisors of the President Shall Observe the Rules Prevailing in

Courts of Foreign Countries.

Mrs. Hay, wife of the secretary of state, has laid down a code of official: etiquette to end the friction which ! has existed for years. This was done after consultation with Mrs. Roose-E

When Signora Mayer Des Planches, wife of the Italian ambassador, arrived Mrs. Hay wrote the women of the cabinet circle and the wives of the justices of the supreme court, of the senators and of several representatives that the ambassadress would be at home on a certain day. She will pursue a similar course when Mme. Cambon, wife of the French ambassador, arrives next week.

For the first time it is definitely laid down that the cabinet hostesses and all other women in official life who mingle in society must make the initial call in the case of an ambassadress. The wives of ministers and of all minor diplomats must call on the cabinet women and on the semators wives first. The wives of representatives are expected to call on the diplomatic ladies first, and this duty is especially imposed upon those whose husbands served on the com-

mittee on foreign affairs. As the wife of the secretary of state Mrs. Hay has delicately conveyed to the diplomatic contingent that the same observance of etiquette is expected at this capital asin other countries. These women have been remiss in filling their social obligations.

Mrs. Hay's programme has been adopted by a large proportion of the official hostesses. Mrs. Fuller, however, still maintains that her dignity as the wife of the chief justice of the United States is such that she can call on no one but the preident's wife-hence no calls have been exchanged between her and the ambassadresses. Mrs. David B. Henderson. wife of the speaker of the house, has assumed the same position.

#### A NIAGARA WITHOUT WATER.

Lord Kelvin Predicts Time When the Great Horseshoe Will Be Transformed by Engineering.Feat.

Remarkable progress in electrical engineering was predicted by Lord Kelvin at a reception given in his honor by Columbia university, the American Institute of Engineers and other scientific bodies at New York. Lord Kelvin, who was introduced as the "father of electrical engineering," said in part:

"I fervently hope to see the day when we shall have the transmission of electrical power over 300 miles with a voltage of 40,000. With the wonderful transmission of power at Niagara falls my dream looks to be near fulfillment in the close future.

"And let me tell you American people there may be a time when the waters will flow no more over that great horseshoe, but instead there will be a beautiful growth of vegetation. far more superb than any water flowing in torrents over the precipice, water that will find its way down countless turbines, spreading light and power for hundreds of miles in all directions."

### NEW CHINESE LEGATION.

Prospective Building to Be One of Most Imposing Belonging to Foreign Nations at Washington.

Work will be begun on the new Chinese legation and it is hoped by the minister and others concerned that there will be absolutely no more delays in the work. The legation is located at Nineteenth street and Vernon avenue, and when completed will be one of the most imposing edifices belonging to foreign nations in Washington. It will cost \$65,000 to build and will contain large conservatories, ballroom, a large dining-room for official dinners and large drawing-rooms. It will be elaborately furnished, most of the effects to be brought from China. and all of the tableware will come from the royal kilns of Peking. The Japanese minister, Mr. Takahira, is now desirous of disposing of the Japanese legation property by exchange or otherwise, which is located in N street near Vermont avenue, in order to secure a more desirable official

Left the Vagrant Legious. "I want my legs," wailed an unfortunate cul de jotte in the corridor of the palace of justice, Paris, the other day. The cry attracted a curious crowd and the explanation of the legless man's grievances became known. Some time ago the assistance publique made him a present of a fine pair of wooden stumps. Bue he had the misfortune to be arrested for vagrancy, and with the usual red tape the artificial limbs were consigned to the registrar's office along

More Philanthropy. A Boston preacher says the society women of that city swear horribly. It has always been feared, says the Chicago Record-Herald, that close application to the study of Browning . would if carried on very long lead to .

with the man's personal belongings.

something bad. Rulers Breathe Ency.

Some of the effete monarchies of Europe will feel better, says the Chicago Inter Ocean when they learn that J. Pierpont Morgan is returning home without merging them.

# L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS

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