

AMERICAN ORANGE CROP.

Expectations of the Fruit and Orange Growing States as to the Industry.

In the last publication of the agricultural department a page is devoted to the orange crop of the United States, and the prediction is made that, if favorable weather prevails, the orange crop now coming upon the market will be the largest in the history of the country.

California expects to market more oranges than she ever did in any previous year almost twice as many as were produced there five years ago.

The importance of California's orange industry dates back practically to the winter of 1878-79, when there came into bearing, near Riverside, two trees of seedling fruit.

ALL-ABOUNDING NERVE.

Woman Merchant Who Was Not Lacking When Assurance Was in Demand.

The out of town merchant owed the Kansas City house \$200 for goods purchased the month previous, relates the Kansas City Star.

In 72 hours the Kansas City man received a reply, which he is carrying around and showing to his friends as a certificate of the nerveiest business proposition ever issued in Missouri.

"You will probably notice that the note is for \$300 instead of \$200, the amount of your bill. You see, I owe two other fellows who handle the same kind of goods as you \$50 each and I thought as long as you and I are going to pay your bill we might as well borrow enough to pay the other fellows at the same time."

"Why did you let him get away from you?" thundered the chief.

"He—er—took a mean advantage of me," replied the green detective. "He ran across the grass in the park, and—"

"Well, there was a sign there. 'Keep off the grass.'" Philadelphia Press.

Shocking Affair. Judge Linders—What is the prisoner charged with? Officer Pretzel—With electricity, your honor.

"How's that?" "He stole a battery."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Admonished. Lowcads (dependent)—I might just as well be dead. What good am I, anyway? Why, I believe that I've been refused by every girl in town!

Henpecke (excitedly)—Tough wood! Tough wood, quick, or your luck will change!—Smart Set.

Jewish Immigrants. The Jews are the only immigrants who, as a rule, bring their women with them.

QUEER GRIEVANCES.

Some Singular Suits Instituted for Legal Redress.

Practical Jokes, Broken Engagements and Other Odd Provocations for Procedure in Various Countries.

Recently the Indian department at Washington decided that paint and long hair are not henceforth to be worn by Indians on the reservations, an edict which aroused no little discontent among the tamed Redskins, who at least hoped to be allowed to go down to their graves after the fashion of their savage forefathers.

It is doubtful if he will be as successful as an Englishman who, some months ago, got \$25 from a Leeds barber because the artist of the latter brushed off the "tyke's" mustache for a joke while the latter was sleeping under the influence of the cup that inebriated, in the barber's chair.

Not long ago a Frenchman took a train to be present at a family dinner to which he had been invited; but the train straggled in late, and so prevented the hungry man from enjoying the meal, to which he had no doubt looked forward with sweet anticipation.

A case where good intentions paved the way to the Indiana law courts recently was that of Overshiner vs. Hosier. The cause of the litigation was a unique enough object, in all truth, being nothing more or less than a lost shirt, George Overshiner was a victim to the drink habit. Quite unknown to him, his sister, Mrs. Hosier, determined to attempt his reformation.

Broken engagements frequently result in actions for breach of promise, but it is seldom the gentleman sues the lady when she refuses to carry out the contract, though she it really is who does the promising.

Take, for example, the case of Clarence Manuel, who handed in a Louisville (Ky.) post office a telegram which was addressed to his sweetheart, Miss Bryant, inviting her to meet him in Louisville.

Your budding litterateur, juvenile actor or "promising" painter is not in a hurry when eating snails. They are comestibles that afford abundant opportunity for reviving the lost art of conversation.

The astronomer royal at the annual dinner of the Society of Engineers said that the American astronomers really seemed to monopolize the whole of the science. They had gone ahead, he was sorry to say, even of English astronomers.

Our Wares in Persia. American lamps, clocks, watches and locks have a steadily increasing sale in the bazaars of Persia.

Commonplace. "Her five o'clock tea was terribly plain."

"How so?" "Why, she gave them enough to eat!"—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Changeable. Clara—Are you an optimist or a pessimist? Clarence—When I'm tired I'm a pessimist; when I'm rested I'm an optimist.—Detroit Free Press.

BABY IS A SOLDIER.

Russian Court Decrees That His Nurse Shall Return and Fulfill Her Contract.

A peculiar incident, illustrating the tedious process of Russian law and the extreme tardiness of Russian justice, is told by A. Makiel, a recent emigrant from that country who was a witness in a case which required 17 years to get a decision.

Mr. Makiel came to Minneapolis on account of a dislike toward him in the neighborhood of Kishineff because he expressed sympathy for the homeless Hebrews. His attitude was considered nihilistic by some, and although he is not a Jew himself, he thought he would be better off in a free country.

In 1886 a boy was born to a nobleman living near Kishineff and, according to the custom, a nurse was hired to have sole charge of the child until he became old enough to be placed in the school. The nurse was compelled to sign a contract binding her to service for five years.

In the trial in the lower courts the case was decided in favor of the girl, but the nobleman had money, and the case was carried up by those mysterious methods known only in Russia until it finally reached the highest court of the land.

NEW YORKERS EAT SNAILS.

A Taste Acquired by Gothamites Who Have Sojourned in "Gay Paris."

Young men who have brought back from Paris tastes acquired in the Latin quarter are apt to affect a liking for snails, washed down with a small bottle of burgundy, says the New York Mail and Express.

Emerson looms out in the sky of literature cool in head and steady of nerve, but even he, like Swift, "died at the top."

Among the many thoughts which present themselves is the one of the few female geniuses. The most prominent in literature were Mme. de Staël, George Sand, and George Eliot.

The small proportion of great minds that occur in a given number of millions of people is beyond belief when computed. Prof. Schaler, in his book, "The Individual," avers that after the lapse of 1,000 years not one name in 100,000,000 is remembered.

It is common observation that in a man or woman who has talent of unusual sort in any special direction there is found one-sided characters who do silly things, or are extremely nervous, or are intolerably irascible of temper.

A Practical Mind.

The teacher was endeavoring to give the class some idea of the greatness of this country in a commercial sense. "Take the egg product alone," she said.

"What is it, Donald?" asked the teacher. "I don't believe it's true, Miss Adair," he said. "One engine couldn't pull that train."—Youth's Companion.

Her Idea of Economy. Wife—I had better take that hat for \$23.

Husband—But, I've only got \$20 with me now. I'll owe the odd three dollars.

"Oh, then, I'll take this one for \$30 three dollars is too insignificant a sum to owe."—Stray Stories.

British Shores. Not only is the British shoe made chiefly of American leather and by American machinery, but even the metal hooks and eyelets are practically all imported from the United States.

PENALTY OF GENIUS.

Mental Wreck and Physical Disorder the Price of Talent.

"Great Wit to Madness Sure is Close Allied" and "All Poets Are Insane"—Great Men "Die at the Top."

In a recent number of the Northwest Medicine is printed an interesting article by Dr. Ernest Crutcher, of Montana, on "The Penalty of Genius," which, if answering no other purpose, says the Chicago Tribune, is consolation to the soldier in the great army of the mediocre who makes a "carcass of his body and a jelly of his brain."

The geography of his abiding place may have something to do with the maxims with which he begins his reflections. "Genius, in one respect, is like gold—numbers of persons are constantly writing about both who have neither."

Nor is the list limited to poets, authors, statesmen and soldiers, for there is scarcely a musician whose name has not come down to us as famous who was not likewise in some way afflicted.

"Great wit to madness sure is close allied," said old Dryden, and he spoke truly. Macaulay declared "all poets insane." The writings of some of the giant intellects of history plainly avow uncontrollable impulses to insane acts and many toward suicide.

Swift, Johnson, Southey, Cowper, Byron, Shelly, Goldsmith, Luther, Lamb, Poe, Socrates, Richelieu, Goethe, Cromwell, Rousseau, Joan of Arc, Mozart, Chopin, Tasso, Beethoven—how long the list might be made!—all exhibited insanity in active form or were afflicted with hallucinations.

To undertake to catalogue all the noted men and women in the world of letters and music who suffered from nervous complaints, melancholia, or delusions of special sense would stretch the list out to startling length.

Emerson looms out in the sky of literature cool in head and steady of nerve, but even he, like Swift, "died at the top." It is a singular fact that the majority of the geniuses of history had some obliquity of mind or body.

Among the many thoughts which present themselves is the one of the few female geniuses. The most prominent in literature were Mme. de Staël, George Sand, and George Eliot.

Another thought is the smallness in figure of those possessing or being possessed by fine minds. The list of large or even tall men among the great is narrowed, and those which occur are Voltaire, Rousseau, Schopenhauer, Peter the Great, Johnson and Scott.

The small proportion of great minds that occur in a given number of millions of people is beyond belief when computed. Prof. Schaler, in his book, "The Individual," avers that after the lapse of 1,000 years not one name in 100,000,000 is remembered.

It is common observation that in a man or woman who has talent of unusual sort in any special direction there is found one-sided characters who do silly things, or are extremely nervous, or are intolerably irascible of temper.

Men and women of unusual mentality seem to hold it at the cost of physical degeneration. The greatest minds of history have been contained in contemptible bodies or frames that quickly became impaired—starved, perhaps—by the undue activity of the mind.

Joseph Chamberlain, in a recent speech, asserted that some of his opponents were as ignorant as the old farmer, who, being in town, was loaned an umbrella (something new to him) by a friend.

Men and women of unusual mentality seem to hold it at the cost of physical degeneration. The greatest minds of history have been contained in contemptible bodies or frames that quickly became impaired—starved, perhaps—by the undue activity of the mind.

Joseph Chamberlain, in a recent speech, asserted that some of his opponents were as ignorant as the old farmer, who, being in town, was loaned an umbrella (something new to him) by a friend.

"This seems hard to realize," she continued, "but the statistics are compiled by a well-known authority."

"What is it, Donald?" asked the teacher. "I don't believe it's true, Miss Adair," he said. "One engine couldn't pull that train."—Youth's Companion.

Her Idea of Economy. Wife—I had better take that hat for \$23.

Husband—But, I've only got \$20 with me now. I'll owe the odd three dollars.

"Oh, then, I'll take this one for \$30 three dollars is too insignificant a sum to owe."—Stray Stories.

British Shores. Not only is the British shoe made chiefly of American leather and by American machinery, but even the metal hooks and eyelets are practically all imported from the United States.

LITTLE POINTS IN DRESS.

Fashionable Follies That Will Be Features of the Costumes of the Spring Season.

In the newest fur trimmings ermine is ingeniously combined with darker furs. Britany embroidery adorns some of the collar and cuff sets, much in vogue.

Light toned velvets are much in demand for ball gowns. For the spring the voile costume will be the leader.

Walkingsuits of voile on the order of the French tailored style are the latest. Ribbons will be extensively used for millinery purposes this spring.

One of the season's novelties is ribbon with a gold effect.

Included among the ornaments for spring hats are large gilt and silver plaques.

Braids will play an important part in the trimmings of the spring and summer.

Popular patterns for buckles are the butterfly, Grecian head, ivy leaf with medallion, and Louis XVI. designs.

Gauze and tulle strings are predicted on the dressy creations in spring headwear.

In lace net effects lead for dress and hat trimming, the list including chandilly, point d'Alençon, Herre, point de Paris and Val.

A new combination for belt buckles and jewelry specialties is that of colored iridescent enamels with light silver or gold.

Golden brown, in combination with deep cream lace or a touch of gold trimming, continues the favorite color for receptions and afternoon wear generally.

Green will figure conspicuously in the millinery for the coming season and hats have already appeared adorned with shades of yellow and orange artistically blended.

JUST HOW TO RUN.

An Illustration That Certainly Left Nothing in Execution to Be Wished For.

Mike Murphy, Yale's athletic coach and trainer, has just begun to train a string of runners and hurdlers for the spring games. He was putting a number of freshmen through their paces on the circular track in the gymnasium, relates the New York Times.

"In chatting from the lone straggler to the sprint, at the finish," said the freshman, "it is better to draw in the arms a little, or wind you advance throwing the head back and the chest forward, so you or as quickly as possible. And you advise a reaching stride for instance running, or do you think the curve in the knee should be kept to some extent? I've always wanted to ask an authority about these particulars."

"Mike" regarded the inquisitive freshman a moment in silence. Then he shifted his cigar from one corner of his mouth to the other.

"You've drawn a awfully 'did you ever work on a farm?'"

"Yes," replied the freshman, wondering what that had to do with running.

"Well, suppose you were to get a mule away from the house—and were dead hungry—and some one gave you a dinner bowl. Probably you'd get home in a hurry—and you wouldn't pay particular attention to the size of your stride, either. That's the way you want to run—just remember that you've got to get there."

A TIN WEDDING.

In Celebrating It There May Be Sufficient Drillery to Make It Amusing.

There are so many things about the celebration of a tin wedding that can be made amusing that it is rather a mistake to take it too seriously. The best plan is to bring in as many droll features as the imagination will suggest, without making the provocation to amusement too much of an effort, says Woman's Home Companion.

It is not feasible to have the invitations sent out on sheets of tin, but to the cards on which the invitations are written may be attached little strips or tags of tin.

There cannot be very much done in the line of tin decoration, although I have heard of taking the sheets of tin from which tinmiths have stamped patterns and utensils, and putting these up as a background for flowers.

The many bright, irregular points of the tin caught the light, and in the openings were thrust bunches of flowers, ferns and greenery of different descriptions.

All the flowers that are put about the room should be in tin receptacles instead of in cases of glass or china. The bouquet carried by the bride should be placed in a tin funnel, to serve as a bouquet holder. If this is decorated with ribbons it will be very pretty.

The brightness of new tin will contribute to the gay effect and be of value wherever it is used.

Hashed Brown Potatoes. Chop four cold potatoes fine and add one teaspoonful of salt and a very little pepper. Put a tablespoonful of butter in the frying pan and turn it in all over, when it bubbles put in the potatoes and smooth them evenly over the pan.

Cook till they are brown and crusty on the bottom; then put in a teaspoonful of chopped parsley and fold over like an omelet.—Good Housekeeping.

Eskimos Never Wash. Each layer of dirt and seal oil is an extra protection against the cold. They never appear to be as dirty or untidy as Indians, but I have yet to see the Eskimo or Indian who would not be improved by an application of soap and water.—World's Work.

THE BUSINESS-LIKE GIRL.

She Was Right Up to the Business Young Man Who Proposed Marriage.

There was no sentiment about the young man. His had been a business training, and he carried business methods into his social life, relates Elliott Flower, in the Brooklyn Eagle.

"Will you be my wife?" he asked, bluntly.

"I'm not much of a lover," he added, "but I guess I'll make a pretty good husband. I might give you a whole lot of soft talk, but what's the use? Marriage is a contract and should be settled on a business basis. When I want anything in business I go after it bluntly. I generally know what I want, too, and I want you."

She gasped, but presently regained her composure.

"Fortunately," she said, "I've had a little business training myself, so we can discuss this proposed contract properly and dispassionately."

"I'm glad to find you so sensible," he told her.

"I can give you nothing better than a second option," she said.

"What?" he exclaimed.

"I might tell you that I am conscious of the honor you do me, but that I am already engaged," she explained. "That, with a suggestion that it is very sudden, would be the sentimental way, but I will merely say that the first option is already taken."

"Then there is no hope!"

"How foolish," she commented. "As a business man you ought to know that a first option does not necessarily mean a closed contract. If you don't want to take a chance on a second option, say so; if you do, I'll drop you a line if I find myself on the matrimonial market again."

"That's sort of coldblooded," he complained.

"That's business," she asserted.

"I—I don't believe I like business as well as I thought I did," he remarked.

"Very likely," she returned.

"I'd rather have a first option."

"A first option never has been, and never will be, secured by business methods."

"That's sort of coldblooded," he complained.

"That's business," she asserted.

"I—I don't believe I like business as well as I thought I did," he remarked.

"Very likely," she returned.

"I'd rather have a first option."

"A first option never has been, and never will be, secured by business methods."

"That's sort of coldblooded," he complained.

"That's business," she asserted.

"I—I don't believe I like business as well as I thought I did," he remarked.

"Very likely," she returned.

"I'd rather have a first option."

"A first option never has been, and never will be, secured by business methods."

"That's sort of coldblooded," he complained.

"That's business," she asserted.

"I—I don't believe I like business as well as I thought I did," he remarked.

"Very likely," she returned.

"I'd rather have a first option."

"A first option never has been, and never will be, secured by business methods."

"That's sort of coldblooded," he complained.

"That's business," she asserted.

"I—I don't believe I like business as well as I thought I did," he remarked.

"Very likely," she returned.

"I'd rather have a first option."

"A first option never has been, and never will be, secured by business methods."

"That's sort of coldblooded," he complained.

"That's business," she asserted.

"I—I don't believe I like business as well as I thought I did," he remarked.

"Very likely," she returned.

"I'd rather have a first option."

"A first option never has been, and never will be, secured by business methods."