

Y^e Quaint Magazine



Vol. 3

JUNE.

No. 4

YE QUAINT MAGAZINE,

19

Boston, Mass.

03.

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Pe Quaint Magazine

For the Collection of Odd, Queer and Curious Things.

VOL. III.

BOSTON, MASS., JUNE, 1903.

No. 4

A Rill From the Town-Pump.

Scene, the corner of two principal streets,* the Town-Pump talking through its nose.)



OON by the north clock! Noon by the east! High noon, too, by these hot sunbeams, which fall, scarcely aslope, upon my head and almost make the water bubble and smoke in the trough under my nose. Truly, we public characters have a tough time of it! And among all the town-officers chosen at March meeting, where is he that sustains for a single year the burden of such manifold duties as are imposed in perpetuity upon the town-pump? The title of

the town has. The overseers of the poor ought to make me their chairman, since I provide bountifully for the pauper without expense to him that pays taxes. I am at the head of the fire department and one of the physicians to the board of health. As a keeper of the peace all water-drinkers will confess me equal to the constable. I perform some of the duties of the town-clerk by promulgating public notices when they are posted on my front. To speak within bounds, I am the chief person of the municipality, and exhibit, moreover, an admirable pattern to my brother-officers by the cool, steady, upright, downright and impartial discharge of my business and the constancy with which I stand to my post. Summer or winter, nobody seeks me in vain, for all day long I am seen at

^{*} Essex and Washington streets, Salem.

munion-table of the humble meeting-house, which partly covered the site of yonder stately brick one. Thus one generation after another was consecrated to heaven by its waters, and cast their waxing and waning shadows into its glassy bosom, and vanished from the earth, as if mortal life were but a flitting image in a fountain. Finally the fountain vanished also. Cellars were dug on all sides and cart-loads of gravel flung upon its source, whence oozed a turbid stream, forming a mud-puddle at the corner of two streets. In the hot months, when its refreshment was most needed, the dust flew in clouds over the forgotten birthplace of the waters, now their grave. But in the course of time a town-pump was sunk into the source of the ancient spring; and when the first decayed, another took its place, and then another, and still another, till here stand I, gentlemen and ladies, to serve you with my iron goblet. Drink and be refreshed. The water is as pure and cold as that which slaked the thirst of the red sagamore beneath the aged boughs, though now the gem of the wilderness is treasured under these hot stones, where no shadow falls but from the brick buildings. And be it the moral of my story that, as this wasted and long-lost fountain is now known and prized again, so shall the virtues of cold water—too little valued since your father's days—be recognized by all.

Your pardon, good people! I must interrupt my stream of eloquence and spout forth a stream of water to replenish the trough for this teamster and his two yoke of oxen, who have come from Topsfield, or somewhere along that way. No part of my business is pleasanter than the watering of cattle. Look! how rapidly they lower the water-mark on the sides of the trough, till their capacious stomachs are moistened with a gallon or two apiece and they can afford time to breathe it in with sighs of calm enjoyment. Now they roll their quiet eyes around the brim of their monstrous drinking-vessel. An ox is your true toper.

But I perceive, my dear auditors, that you are impatient for the remainder of my discourse. Inpute it, I beseech you, to no defect of modesty if I insist a little longer on so fruitful a topic as my own multifarious merits. It is altogether for your good. The better you think of me, the better men and women you will find yourselves. I shall say nothing of

my all-important aid on washing-days, though on that account alone I might call myself the household god of a hundred families. Far be it from me, also, to hint, my respectable friends, at the show of dirty faces which you would present without my pains to keep you clean. Nor will I remind you how often, when the midnight bells make you tremble for your combustible town, you have fled to the town-pump and found me always at my post, firm amid the confusion and ready to drain my vital current in your behalf. Neither is it worth while to lay much stress on my claims to a medical diploma as the physician whose simple rule of practice is preferable to all the nauseous lore which has found men sick, or left them so, since the days of Hippocrates. Let us take a broader view of my beneficial influence on mankind.

No; these are trifles, compared with the merits which wise men concede to me—if not in my single self, yet as the representative of a class of being the grand reformer of the age. From my spout, and such spouts as mine, must flow the stream that shall cleanse our earth of the vast portion of its crime and anguish which has gushed from the fiery fountains of the still. In this mighty enterprise the cow shall be my great confederate. Milk and water—the TOWN PUMP and the cow! Such is the glorious copartnership that shall tear down the distilleries and brewhouses uproot the vineyards, shatter the cider-presses, ruin the tea and coffee trade, and finally monopolize the whole business of quenching thirst. Blessed consummation! Then poverty shall pass away from the land, finding no hovel so wretched where her squalid form may shelter herself. Then disease, for lack of other victims, shall gnaw its own heart and die. Then sin, if she do not die, shall lose half her strength. Until now the frenzy of hereditary fever has raged in the human blood, transmitted from sire to son and rekindled in every generation by fresh draughts of liquid flame. When that inward fire shall be extinguished, the heat of passion cannot but grow cool, and war—the drunkenness of nations—perhaps will At least, there will be no war of households. The husband and wife, drinking deep of peaceful joy-a calm bliss of temperate affections shall pass hand in hand through life and lie down not reluctantly at its protracted close. To them the past will be no turmoil of mad dreams nor

the future an eternity of such moments as follow the delirium of the drunkard. Their dead faces shall express what their spirits were and are to be by a lingering smile of memory and hope.

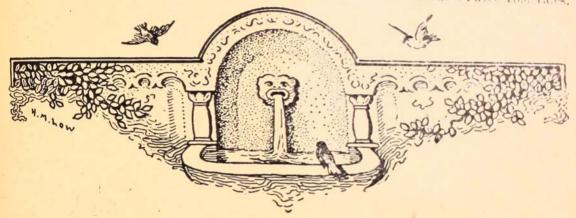
Ahem! Dry work, this speechifying, especially to an unpracticed orator. I never conceived till now what toil the temperance lecturers undergo for my sake; hereafter they shall have the business to themselves. Do, some kind Christian, pump a stroke or two, just to wet my whistle. Thank you, sir! My dear hearers, when the world shall have been regenerated by my instrumentality, you will collect your useless vats and liquor-casks into one great pile and make a bonfire in honor of the town-pump. And when I shall have decayed like my predecessors, then, if you revere my memory, let a marble fountain richly sculptured take my place upon the spot. Such monuments should be erected everywhere and inscribed with the names of the distinguished champions of my cause. Now, listen, for something very important is to come next.

There are two or three honest friends of mine-and true friends I know they are—who nevertheless by their fiery pugnacity in my behalf do put me in fearful hazard of a broken nose, or even a total overthrow upon the pavement and the loss of the treasure which I guard. I pray you, gentlemen, let this fault be amended. Is it decent, think you, to get tipsy with zeal for temperance and take up the honorable cause of the town-pump in the style of a toper fighting for his brandy-bottle? Or car the excellent qualities of cold water be no otherwise exemplified than by plunging slapdash into hot water and woefully scalding yourselves and other people? Trust me, they may. In the moral warfare which you are to wage and, indeed, in the whole conduct of your lives, you cannot choose a better example than myself, who have never permitted the dust and sultry atmosphere, the turbulence and manifold disquietudes, of the world around me to reach that deep, calm well of purity which may be called my soul. And whenever I pour out that soul, it is to cool earth fever or cleanse its stains.

One o'clock! Nay, then, if the dinner-bell begins to speak, I may as well hold my peace. Here comes a pretty young girl of my acquain ance with a large stone pitcher for me to fill. May she draw a husbar

while drawing her water, as Rachel did of old! Hold out your vessel, my dear: There it is, full to the brim; so now run home, peeping at your sweet image in the pitcher as you go, and forget not in a glass of my own liquor to drink "Success to the town-pump."

-Selected from that beautiful collection of stories, Nathaniel Hawthorne's Twice Told Tales.



Another Cat Story.

BY JOHN K. REYNOLDS.

People who like cats say they are intelligent, that they love people, "in their dignified, reserved way,"—that they reason, and that they seldom act from impulse.

They are certainly intelligent. They are worse than that. They are foxy. They like their little jokes. I have known one of them to impose upon the trusting credulity of a friend in a manner which—but I'll tell you.

I was down street the other night and got caught in a shower, and stepped into the hospitable mansion of my friend Robinson to wait till the clouds should roll by. He has a pleasant parlor, and there was a cheerful coal fire in the grate, so I settled myself in a comfortable arm chair, quite resigned to the moist state of affairs outside.

While we were talking my host was called away, and as I sat there gazing contentedly into the fire the family cat walked into the room. She was a very pretty cat, dignified and ladylike, and as I like to study nice cats, when there is nothing else to do, I called her to me and we soon became quite friendly. Cats always seem to like me. This one climbed upon my knee and sat looking up into my face, singing softly, and seeming to be very well contented.

Nothing occurred to mar the harmony of the occasion until, in an unfortunate moment, I obeyed an impulse to show off one of my few accomplishments, one which I have heretofore been rather proud of. I can purr. I learned it from a big, black cat I owned when I was living in California. He was a handsome, brave, brainy fellow, and up to that night I had a high opinion of him. But I begin to fear he was just as much of a "rounder" as any of them.

Well, I told the Robinson cat that I could do some of the things that she could, even if my finger nails were not as sharp as hers, nor my ears black and pointed. She seemed interested, and I began to purr. Just the same as she was doing, only perhaps a little louder and not quite so mellifluous. You see I had received my instructions from a much larger cat, and one of a different persuasion. I thought that perhaps she would snuggle up a little closer, or possibly want to play.

But, great cats! Of all the shocked and reproachful glances I ever encountered that cat gave me the worst. She started up, but hesitated a moment, looking straight at me as if she could hardly believe her ears. I kept on, doing my best, thinking she would begin to appreciate it soon. But she backed down from her position on my knee, still eyeing me indignantly, walked away some distance, casting contemptuous glances over her shoulder, and sat down with her back towards me. I could not get her to come near me again.

And now I feel fully persuaded that my unprincipled California tomcat deliberately worked off some back-alley depravity on me, his unsuspecting pupil, which was totally unfit to be uttered in the presence of a pious parlor cat like the one I was innocently trying to entertain. This shows how dangerous it is to make remarks without knowing exactly what one is talking about.

When Robinson came in he asked what was the matter with the cat. She was still switching her tail in an excited and indignant manner. I told him, and he said I ought to be more cautious about uttering sentences, parrotlike, in a strange language which I do not thoroughly understand. After this I am not going to purr before any but gentleman cats.

STRANGE EXPERIENCES.

If any of our readers have ever passed through any strange, peculiar or curious experience, we would like to have them write out the facts for this magazine. You may not lay any claim to being a writer, but never mind that, the facts are what we want.



Some C rious Coincidences.

An article in Good Words by the editor, Dr. Macleod, contains a string of well authenticated coincidences.

Thus, a sailor idly cuts his name on a piece of wood on Spanish shores and the waves carry it to his sister's feet on the coast of Orkney.

The Duke of Argyle startles a bird which is flying overhead and it drops a pine cone at his feet, the vehicle of a vegetable substance almost unknown to science.

A lady loses a ring and it is found next year by her servant in a potato which she is peeling.

In the same way a sportsman is said to have lost a ring on the moor. Next season he found it in a peat which he broke up and threw on a fire in a cottage.

This looks like a "variant" of a fairy tale, but the potato anecdote, at least, is authentic.

Quite recently, it is said, a young lady was travelling in an omnibus. In her purse she had all her portable wealth—threepence in coppers. Near her sat an ill-looking man, dirty, wearing a large, shiny ring, which she supposed to be paste.

When she alighted from the omnibus her purse was gone, her pocket was picked, and she; with confusion of face, had to go on credit for her journey. Arrived at home she searched her pocket afresh, and therein was the seedy man's shiny ring.

It proved to be an excellent large diamond, but advertisement did not discover the owner. He had stolen three-pence and a purse and had lost a small fortune, probably dishonestly acquired, in the process.

Such things as these keep occurring. To the disinterested gaze of the science of chances it does not seem odd that they befall; the miracle would be if they did not befall, for innumerable events are eternally happening, and extraordinary events must necessarily be among them It would be extraordinary, indeed, if some events were not extraordinary.

Thus a man puts his name down in the Club Derby Sweep, say opposite No. 68. He draws the winner. Next year, coming up late to town, he finds every number occupied except 68. He puts down his name there and draws the winner again.

The other sportsmen, had acted on the converse of the principle of Marryatt's middy, who always thrust his head, in action, through a hole made in the ship's timbers by a cannon ball, arguing that it would not be pierced twice.

These facts, of course, hit at the root of belief in dreams. Thus, a tourist fell asleep at Ventimiglia station, dreamed of 13, hurried back to Monte Carlo and backed 13 for the maximum. It came up three times running, and he was "on" every time.

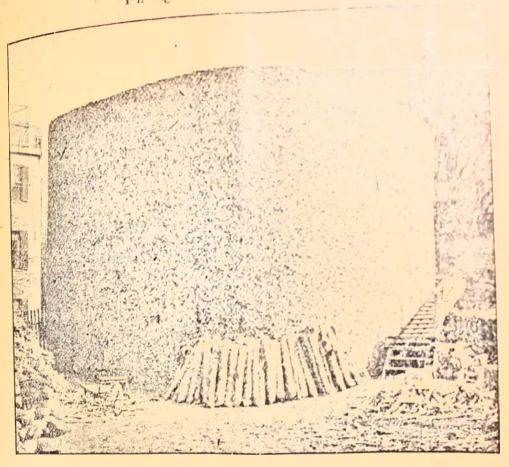
This kind of thing was mathematically certain to occur one day or other, and the adventurer nicked it. But the amateur would be very ill advised who backed his dreams, for of dreams there are millions every night and nobody can tell whether his vision is the one in the many millions which is destined to be fulfilled in a manner that seems extraordinary to the vulgar.

* *

Don't Worry.

No great work, no good thing was ever accomplished by worry No book fit to live was ever written, no noble thought ever evolved, no little home ever made sunny and happy by worry any more than Mozar ever performed rhapsody on a piano with tangled wires. In all the world there's no state so senseless, so useless as worry. Calmness is power and it may be cultivated by saying that whatever comes is best, by cheerfull searching out the lesson, and by minding our own business.

-Grant Wallace in San Francisco Bulletin.



A Giant Wood Pile.

This is a photograph of a pile of kindling wood in the wood-yard of the Roxbury Charitable Society, Boston, Mass. It is a little over twenty-five feet in height and contains rather more than one hundred cords of wood, all sawed and spilt by hand. It is valued at \$1000. It may be said to be monumental proof that "Weary Willie" and "Dusty Roads" do sometimes saw wood notwithstanding their well-known repugnance for the task, as the work was largely done by men temporarily out of employment. These men are paid in fuel, provisions, or clothing, whichever is most needed by the men or their families at the time. In the winter season sometimes as many as forty men are given employment in a single day.

The Jericho Road.

BY DAVID B. PAGE.



A traveler passed down the Jericho road, He carried of cash a pretty fair load, (The savings of many a toilsome day)
On his Jericho home a mortgage to pay.

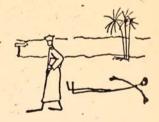
At a turn of the road in a lonely place, Two villainous men met him face to face.





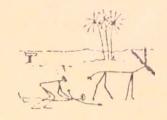
Hands up! they cried and they beat him sore. Then off to the desert his swag they bore.

Soon a priest came by who had a fold, He sheared his sheep of silver and gold. He saw the man lie bruised and bare, But he passed on by to his place of prayer.





Then a Levite, temple bound, drew nigh; He saw the man, but let him lie, And clad in silk and filled with pride, He passed him by on the other side. Next on the way a Samaritan came, (To priest and Levite a hated name.)



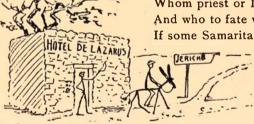


The wounded man he would not pass, He tenderly placed him on his ass.

He took him to an inn hard by, He dressed his wounds and bathed his eye. He paid the landlord his full score; If more was needed, would pay him more.



Ah! Many travel the Jericho way,
And many are beaten and robbed each day;
And many there be on the way in need,
Whom priest or Levite never heed,
And who to fate would yield, alas!
If some Samaritan did not pass.



Who is my neighbor? This is my creed—
My neighbor is he who hath a need.
And this my labor, to make the way
To Jericho safe by night or day;
To have the acts of all men right,
Then there'll be no robber, no priest, no Levite.



ASTROLOGY

CONDUCTED BY DR. DEROLLI

Lucky and Unlucky Days for June and July.

These predictions will not fit into every life with accurate details. They are safe ductions from planetary relations and will be found helpful and in the main quite corr Of course, to get at an individual experience and to take advantage of precise work act of each person must be studied.

JUNE, 1903

- 1. A bright, good, all-around day for mental activity and contact with people.
- 2. Forenoon best. Begin important moves then.
- Go fishing or most anything that gets you away from others: don't begin important duties.
- 4. Day improves as it goes on. Afternoon strong for all sorts of things. Use it.
- Not bad if you are not irritable: fine if you are nice.
- Rather mean. You can't get much out of this.
- Trinity Sunday. You ought to be real good. If you are wicked your plans will go astray.
- 8. Here is your reward for being good. It's a fine day for everything. Your mind is bright.
- Jupiter becomes morning star. Bodily activity: fresh air, sunlight, cheer! Will all help: the influences are good for you
- An off day. Keep still. Don't fight. Make no important moves or changes.
- Danger of impulsive acts: hasty words: be careful.
- 12. Things change; everything is now ready for prompt acts and decisions. Push things lively.
- 13. Another safe day. Bright as a button.

- 14. Sunday. Danger from accidents. We men especially should run no risks.
- 15. The day grows better as it develop After the noon it is time for you strongest endeavors.
- 16. Just ordinary. Nothing marked. B. natural.
- 17. For social or business uses this is all right.
- 18. A bad one. Watch to-morrow's papers and see if any calamities happened.
- to. First class. Through all business hours the tendencies are very helpful in all directions.
- Here is another, on these days you should make headway in social or business ways.
- 21. Sunday. The day peters out as it progresses. Do your best in forenoon.
- 22. Excellent afternoon for all your planning.
- 23. Fine. Start things. Be agreeable. It pays. Journey, Love, Trade—all good.
- The forenoon is good. Afternoon slim. Better be cautious for the day is risky.
- 25. Doubtful day, Influences quite mixed.
 Should not begin new or important plans:
- 26. Good by eleven in the forenoon. Gains for balance of day. Can then be used vigorously.
- 27. Better for a vacation than business, not strong for best bodily health. Careful of it.

- 28. Third Trinity. Featureless in its tendencies.
- 29. Good. Better for out of doors than for indoor life Walk. Take long breaths. Don't be afraid of fresh air.
- 30. Poor business day and poor socially unless you pledge yourself not to speak or act hastily.

JULY, 1903.

- I Good business day. Mind will be bright. Social side also good.
- 2 Bright mentally. Slightly controversial. Don't contradict.
- 3 Another safe day up to sunset: scrappy during evening.
- 4 Fire works and glory. It's a wide awake day. Enjoy yourself. Don't scotd neighbor's children if they awake you at 3 a. m.
- 5 Sunday: You will be glad to rest and you had better for it's a treacherous sort of a day. Look out for accidents.
- 6 Mean day. Take no risks. Do as little as possible that is new.
- 7 Well enough if you do not rustle round and fuss. Be quiet.
- 8 You will think and scheme, faster than you should act. Decide carefully: move slowly: take few risks.
- 9 You will be safer watching the full moon tonight than you will be in jumping into a new transaction.
- 10 This is all right. Great day for anything that builds up the body. Not bad socially or in business.
- II Pack your grip and clear out. Saturn and the moon will knock you out on business: and you will have to be very discreet in talking to your best girl
- 12 An elegant day to rest: to recuperate: but mean enough if you try to talk smart or say cutting things.
- Poor business day. An impulsive purchase will disappoint. Don't believe half you read yesterday, and don't speculate.

- 14 Feature beautiful to the type
- tact: astronomy to metal the transfer of tact: astronomy at the transfer of the tact of tact of the tact of ta
- 16 Keep up the youth work, the par-
- 17 Good for horseess up to \$ 10 m. But don't be suspicious or silly in the evening
- 18 Well enough for plans previously myle. Not very good for new ones.
- 19 Sunday. Only man is vile. It's a daisy day. Be as good as the day.
- 20 Excellent if not impulsive. For calmacts, perfect.
- 21 Don't. Here is a grand mixture. Guard against accidents. Take no risks on water or by land.
- 22 Something like yesterday. Handling words and acts with prudence you will get along well.
- 23 Good: like some folks—featureless: weak but safe.
- During waking hours a good day but poor towards night. Better to go to bed early. Sun enters sign of the Lion.
- 25 Fine for travel by sea or land. You will hate to work, and probably you won't work much.
- 26 Sunday. All the conditions are favorable. In most sections the day will be made to order and apparently for you.
- 27 Fine for all your plans, up to 9 p. m. The social side ought to be pressed.
- 28 Keep right at it, the conditions are good.
- 29 Another fine opportunity. Do your prettiest.
- 30 Here is another. It's your fault if these few past days do not bring good results.
- 31 It's too bad to have July peter out so poorly but surely this has no very good feature.

The weather predictions for the months of June and July, compiled by Dr. Derolli, will be found on page 25.



Good Health Department.



EATING FOR HEALTH.

BY AMOS WOODBURY RIDEOUT.

11 11 11

VEGETARIANISM.

Let no one infer from what I have said that I am irreconcilably opposed to vegetarianism. I am not. I yield to no one in my desire that no cruelty shall be done to dumb animals: but as I look around me I sometimes think that killing is the least of our cruelty. I own to a feeling of sympathy with the one who wrote:

"I would not reckon on my list of friends The man who needlessly sets foot upon a worm."

But this may be a morbid condition of mind. I notice that the normal man or woman is not troubled by any such compunctions. A strain of strenuousness seems to be a helpful factor in the life of the successful person.

I dislike the dogmatism of the average non-meat eater. I object to their disgusting talk about "eating corpse." No one indulges in that practise except a cannaibal—see the dictionary. They tell us we are loaded down with disease caused by meat eating but this is merely a bald statement without a particle of proof. It strikes me that if there was any truth in it the race would have become extinct long ago. In point of fact vegetarians who have given no particular study to the proper combination and amount of their food enjoy no better health than those around them. They are fond of picking out isolated cases of persons with great endurance or who have attained to a great age, being vegetarians, and pointing to these cases as proof.

But it is just as easy to find examples on the opposite side. It is not an uncommon thing to read of persons who have become centenarians or nearly so who have been addicted to the use of tobacco from their childhood, took their first "chaw" to stop a toothee he or something of that sort—you've all heard those stories. I read of an aged man some time ago whose daily tipple was a quart of brandy!

But I do not propose to adopt either smoking or drinking as a rueans of prolonging my life. These exceptional cases do not depend upon any one thing, a chain of fortunate circumstances, beginning back several generations perhaps, has combined to make them what they are.

As I said last month circumstances have to govern us to some extent, we cannot always adopt the ideal food. A person obliged to work long hours and perform excessive toil, can only succeed in maintaining health and strength in the largest degree possible by adopting a diet that will give the greatest amount of nourishment for the least amount of digestive strain, and it will be found that the flesh of animals can be used to advantage in this case. They should be freshly killed and properly cooked. Meat that has been kept for any length of time in cold storage, no matter how well preserved it may seem to be, has lost much of its nutritive value. This is true in a still greater degree with fish. The cold storage of food stuffs was a great invention from a commercial stand point but from a hygienic one it is an utter failure. Many of the diseases that seem to be growing upon us in frequency, such as appendicitis, etc., may be, for all we know, caused by the devious methods of Dives.

We eat too much meat, we eat it morning, noon and night, and have come to look upon it as the chief pillar of our gastronomic functions. We eat it highly seasoned and in strange combinations. We eat certain kinds habitually, while other kinds equally good we never touch. Which only goes to prove the truth of what I said before, that it is custom and habit that directs our daily doings in eating and many other things. But there is no occasion for our going to the other extreme of whole wheat bread, oat meal, potatoes and baked beans, thereby turning our system into a storage house for starch. Let us strike a happy medium between the two and whether you eat meat or not remember that at this season of the year there is a wealth of green vegetables which lend themselves in endless combinations to the making of delightful salads.

W. J. D., Rexbury, Mass, objects to my strictures on whole meal bread. Oats, barley, wheat and all cereals are only the culmination of man's cultivation of tall grasses intended more particularly, perhaps, for bird and fowl. They are full of calcareous matter ancessary to birds, which need the lime for the shells of their eggs. Man and animals don't lay eggs. When they cat cereals this is what happens: the calcareous matter which is held in suspense in the blood is precipitated to the walls of the arteries, especially during the sleeping hours, when the blood flows less rapidly and causes the stiffness experienced by so many upon awakening. It also causes the bones to become more brittle, like the shell of an egg. Snakes, alligators, turtles, chameleons and other reptiles as well as fishes lay eggs, but they are soft-shelled and none of these reptiles can be induced to eat cereals. The higher species of apes feed upon nuts and fruits and leap from branch to branch and to the ground and never break a bone. Let a man fall off a two-foot step and he is likely to break a leg or an arm.

It is not good food for you, occupied as you are. You should eat plenty of fruits and vegetables. This is the season for strawberries, go for them—but go light on the cream and sugar. Have at your dinner every day a salad of green vegetables, of which there is a wealth of material at this season of the year, lettuce, radishes, tomatoes, cucumber and then dandelions, spinach and carrots either raw or cooked. Two thirds of the drudgery of the kitchen may be done away with, especially "in the good old summer time," and the happiness of the housewife and the health of the whole family augmented in a like ratio.

"A new use has been found for old newspapers. They are first shredded, then washed, then steamed, then melted, then rolled, then toasted, coming out at last as a beautiful and appetizing health food."

This is taken from an exchange and is supposed to be a joke, but there is more truth in it than the writer realized, "many a true word is spoken in jest."

The latest breakfast food I have noticed claims to contain a large per cent. of "vegetable iron" and is supposed to make "red blood." If this keeps up we shall be going to the grocer for our remedies instead of the druggist.

Here's another one: A very small girl in a Harlem apartment was observed by a friend of the family eating a tertain cereal preparation. She seemed to eat, as the English are said to take their pleasures, sadly. "Don't you like that, my dear?" inquired the friend. "Not partic'ly" replied the little maid. "Why do you eat it, then?" persisted the inquirer. The daughter of the house paused with spoon on edge of bowl. "It's got to be eaten," she answered gravely. "The groceryman gives mamma a rag doll for every two packages she buys, and it's got to be eaten every morning." And she continued to eat cereal.—Ex.

Send along your questions.

Quaintly yours



Great activity characterizes you on both the mental and physical planes. This impelling force does not exhaust, but is vitalizing, and you have immense capacity for work, and unusual power of endurance. Even under severe nervous strain you would recuperate very rapidly. The only diseases you would be liable to, would be feverish complaints. You have always been greatly interested in Hygiene, and bodily culture on broad, practical lines. Would have made a good physician and surgeon.

You have very positive and clearly defined opinions, which you are always ready to express, and

fight for if necessary.

You are consistent, logical, and deal with demonstratable facts; for while you are quick and receptive in ideas, you reason out, sift and investigate, rather than trust wholly to flashes of intuition.

You are very quick to resent a wrong either to yourself or a friend, and while not seeking an ignoble method of revenge, you never forget it, and are not specially downcast when "the mills of the gods" grind the offender.

You never followed a beaten track in your life; you prefer the scratches and bruises which inevitably come to the man who cuts his own way through the wood. Your conversational ability is marked; you have the blessed gift of humor, and say just what you think to friend or foe, so

your remarks are not lacking in "ginger."

I do not know your birth date, but your handwriting indicates that you are under the influence of the planets Mars and Mercury. Uranus also plays an important part in your destiny—the trend of your mind and its literary expression indicates that.

You are extremely fond of outdoor life and animals. Nature appeals to you strongly. You love children; your impulse is always to help and protect anything that is small and weak.

You are exacting and jealous in your affections. Only a very wise and tactful woman could really manage you. The most successful one would be a woman born in the sign of Virgo.

You are prompt, just, and cautious in financial affairs, and can manage them, to good advantage.

I am, faithfully yours,

JEAN HIGINBOTHOM TUCKER, (GRAPHOS,)
Windsor Arcade, Fifth avenue, New York.

* *

THAT SPRINGY FEELIN'.

I've a sorter spring feelin' o' lazeiness, I'll state; You'd never ketch me fishin' ef I had to dig the bait; An' ef I hit the river bank, supplied with jug an' cup, The catfish bite so brisk, sir, they'd be shore to wake me up!

Ruther let my soul loaf
Roun' the medders wide—
Dreamin' on the river bank
Or driftin' with the tide.

It comes—that springy feelin'—'long 'bout this time o' year, When the bees air huntin' honey, an' the violets appear; A feller jest can't help it—you want to take yer ease, An' fall asleep in blossoms, to the lull song o' the breeze!

Ruther let my soul loaf
Roun' the medders wide—
Dreamin' on the river bank,
Or driftin' with the tide.

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BEGINNING with this number the subscription price of YE QUAINT is raised to fifty cents per year. We believe that at this price we can give you a better periodical and as we have many plans for improvement which we desire to carry out we have decided to make the change. To all of our old subscribers, however, we make this offer: if you will renew your subscription before July 10, we will accept it at the old rate. And by way of showing that we appreciate your company and as a still further inducement that you stay with us we will give to each renewing subscriber

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BRIEF BOOK REVIEWS

BY QUAINTICUS

I believe that book reviews should, as a general thing, be short and to the point. What is wanted is a brief hint as to what the book is, and then you will be able to judge if you are interested in it.

Hnman Culture, (Chicago, Ill.) This magazine is devoted to phrenology and allied subjects. It strikes me as being by far the best and brightest of the half dozen journals I know of devoted to that subject. It is hand-somely printed on heavy paper and is dignified but not dull. It is edited by Mr. L. A. Vaught and he rides his hobby hard. Yearly subscription \$1.00, single numbers 10 cts.

Opportunity, (Denver, Colo.) The motto of this semi monthly journal is "the right thing at the right time." It has sixteen large pages, is devoted in part to co-operation and kindred subjects, is profusely and handsomely illustrated and all for twenty-five cents a year. I wonder who pays the freight.

Suggestion, (Chicago, Ill.) This is a handsome publication of conventional magazine size now in its tenth year. It describes itself as "a popular monthly review devotes to the scientific discussion of suggestive therapeutics, drugless healing, hygiene, hypnotism, psychic research and to the natural laws underlying all forms of occultism." It is edited by Herbert A. Parkyn and Elmer Ellsworth Carey. Here are some of the contents of the May number. "Thirty-five years of Constipation," Herbert A. Parkyn, M. D. "The Annular Theory," Prof. Isaac N. Vail, "Suggestion in Education," Newton N. Riddell, "No Magnetism in Human Beings," Dr. Paul Edwards, "The Mission of Skepticism," Mary Fragee, "Does Medicine Cure?" I. Q. Unterbrink, Ps. D. These papers and ten other departments go to make up a very fine number of a very fine publication. Yearly subscription \$1.00. Single numbers 10 cts.

All the metaphysical magazines seem to be diligently occupied in promoting something, either directly or vicariously by means of their advertising columns. It runs all the way from rubber plantations to bicycle railways. It is fine now but how about the effect on their advertising pages in the sweet subsequently. But people's memories are short.

Weather Predictions.

JUNE, 1903.

Warmer weather coming eastward, during. opening days with severe storms in several sections, colder, with danger in south and west. Changes quick, with rain, possibly hail, turning to much colder from 10 to 14: some hot spells mixed in but of short duration. Very peculiar astronomical positions are in the heavens from 16 to 25. We should have many marked changes: very hot, lightning; much rain in some sections coming suddenly. Wind in all directions. Storms come from the west to the coast. Cool spell in northern states, following these storms. The last week of June should be full of threatening conditions: first warm, then quick wind and rain storms: a day or two of cool, clear weather, with lightning and thunder to finish. These conditions will be more dangerous in the west than eastward.

JULY, 1903.

The first five days of the month are subject to very unsettled conditions all over the country, perhaps in eastern sections extending well into independence day. A few days of better weather will be followed by several severe storms especially in the west running particularly from 8th to 11th. Marked heat follows these days, with thunderstorms. Cooler days in most sections should be shown from 17th to 20th. Eastward we shall have high dry winds. The closing week should show great heat, with decided fall towards 28th. In the valleys heavy thunder and quick down pours of rain.

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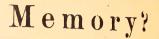
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