

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

Want of care does us more damage than want of knowledge.—Chicago Journal.
As an all-around optimist Cupid is pretty near the real thing.—Chicago Daily News.
Some people who give without hands shake the fist of the other hand.—Arlinson Globe.
Reason Enough.—Friend—"Why did you refuse that handsome young widow?" Miss Malinchance—"He hasn't any relatives that I can send his children to."—N. Y. Weekly.
A Mighty Difference.—Truckman—"That piece of machinery is too heavy for my horse to draw. It weighs a ton." Merchant—"What has he been used to drawing?" Truckman—"Tons of coal."—Town Topics.
As She Understood It.—She—"George Washington must have had a remarkable memory." He—"Why do you think that?" She—"I have seen so many monuments erected to it."—Detroit Free Press.
Modern Realism.—Modern Author—"Which is the photograph I took to Mrs. Forunderd's reception?" His Wife—"This is the one." Modern Author—"Very well. Tell my secretary to copy it off and send it to the High-tone Magazine. I promised them a new society novel this week."—N. Y. Weekly.
Stupid Man.—She (over phone)—"Those wrappers I spoke of are more expensive than I thought—\$8.98 and \$10.98. One is made of French flannel and the other of lady's cloth, but they're both pretty." He—"But which is the more expensive?" She—"Why, the \$10.98 one, of course. Stupid!"—Philadelphia Press.

EAT TONS OF PRUNES.

Crop Raised in California Would Fill Train Reaching from Chicago to Buffalo.
A Frenchman planted a prune tree out in California in 1870. It was the only prune tree in the state. All the prunes used in the United States at that time came from France. But now as a result of the prune tree that M. Pellar planted California every year ships enormous quantities of prunes not only to France but to all European countries, says the Chicago Tribune.

The growth of the prune industry in California all came from Pellar's single tree. It was found that the prune, which is a species of purple plum, thrives on the Pacific coast, and that the hot, dry weather of the country brought out its saccharine qualities. The first orchard was planted in the Santa Clara valley, just south of San Francisco, a region which is now the prune center of the state. It was only ten acres in extent, and began to yield in 1875. In four years the trees produced \$14,000 worth of fruit.

The size of the prune crop in California is so enormous that the most cynical boarder in any boarding house in Chicago would be surprised. In 1901 the state produced 150,000,000 pounds of prunes, and the total crop of the year just passed exceeded that of the preceding year by several thousand tons. If put into ten-ton freight cars the California prune crop of 1902 would fill a train reaching from Chicago to Buffalo.

The American prune has found its way into the European markets for the reason that it is sweeter and pleasanter to the taste than the fruit raised there. The California prune, for instance, is dried wholly out of doors, for the long period of absolutely rainless weather which prevails in California from July 1 to October 1 permits the drying trays to remain out of doors day and night. The French and other kinds of European prunes are dried in kilns for fear of exposure to rains, and the artificial heat fails to bring out all the rich sugar products of the pulp.

San Jose, the county seat of Santa Clara county, is the chief prune center of California, and in its mountain-encircled valley there are 3,567,140 bearing prune trees. There are, besides, great orchards of apricot, cherry, peach and olive trees, so that in this one county there are about 5,000,000 fruit trees. Fruit raising is carried on there on such a grand scale that for some orchards of prunes 30 acres are required in the busy season simply as a drying field for the fruit trays.

Food Adulterants.
A queer idea of what people are putting into their stomachs is conveyed by various bills on food adulteration pending in the Missouri legislature. It is to be inferred that candy is composed in part of terra alba, barytes, talc, lampblack, chrome yellow and various mineral salts and acids; that milk contains boracic acid, salicylic acid, salicylate of soda and formaldehyde; that some food preparations are compounded with arsenic, calomel, bismuth and ammonia as ingredients; and that jellies, spices, condiments, teas and coffees are not what they seem. European laws against the adulteration of food are far more effective than any yet put in force in the United States.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Difficult Theatgoing.
High class native Indian women rarely attend the theater, whether English or vernacular. On special occasions "pundahs" or veiled matinees, are given for women only. If perchance they go to the theater at night curtains boxes that permit them to see the stage without being seen are provided. The women are brought to and from the theater in sedan chairs or curtained carriages, from which they pass to the boxes under a silken canopy.—Albany Argus.

AN IMMENSE LARDER.

The Food Supply of a Modern Ocean-Going Steamer.

Mountains of Meat and Oceans of Liquids Go to Make Up the Sum Total of Sustenance for Passengers.

It is impossible to form an adequate idea of the eating and drinking capacity of the passengers and crew of an ocean liner unless one is privileged to inspect its larder and glance through the storeroom's list of provisions. A gastronome would rejoice over the quantity, variety and quality of the foodstuffs in this wonderful place, and those who only live to eat would find it absolutely fascinating, says the New York Herald.

The larder of one of the old-time liners is much smaller than that of the more modern ships, but there is nothing small about the provisions that go into it before each voyage.

A liner that carried on a recent trip 580 first and second class and 150 third class passengers and a crew of 301 had at the time of sailing the following supplies: 14,000 pounds of beef, 600 pounds of corned beef, 4,000 pounds of mutton, 1,000 pounds of lamb, 300 pounds of veal, 700 pounds of pork, 220 sweetbreads, 180 fowl, 400 broiling chickens, 350 turkeys, 90 ducks, 60 goslings, 72 capons, 300 pigeons and squabs, 160 partridges and 160 grouse. In addition there were between two and three tons of preserved meats, which the law insists must be carried by all liners so that in the event of a breakdown or other casualty there may be ample food for everybody.

The space allotted to the storing of sea foods contained 1,500 pounds of fresh assorted fish, 500 pounds of lobsters and 500 barrels of oysters. The only live stock consisted of six dozen green turtles, which were kept on deck and used as wanted. In order to keep them alive and kicking their eyes were frequently wet with sea water and they seemed to enjoy the voyage until the soup pot claimed them.

Eggs to the number of 12,000 were in that larder, and 700 pounds of butter, 160 gallons of fresh milk, 60 quarts of cream, 500 quarts of condensed milk and 700 quarts of ice cream.

Among the dry stuffs were 1,200 pounds of coffee, 540 pounds of tea, 2,000 pounds refined, 600 pounds granulated and 452 pounds moist sugar.

The vegetable department contained 72 tons of potatoes and thousands of barrels of kitchen garden produce. There were also 30 barrels of apples, 50 boxes of oranges and enough grapes and choice fruit to feed an army.

These are but a few of the principal contents of the larder of a comparatively small liner, which has seen many years of service.

The storekeeper has charge of the provisions. He knows what goes in and is taken out of the huge refrigerators, and keeps a strict account of everything that is used. When the chief steward makes out the daily menu he gives a copy to the butcher and the various chefs. They in turn submit a list of the materials needed for the meals for that day, and are handed in order on the storekeeper, who then distributes the supplies, exacting a signed receipt from each chef.

The contractors who cater to the larders of ocean liners are obliged to furnish the very best quality of foodstuffs that can be procured in the market. The magnitude of their task can be imagined when it is taken into consideration that the largest liner afloat uses 1,200 tons of food in a single year. The meat consumed in this period amounts to about 400 tons; the poultry and game number 60,000; the fish represent 45 tons; flour, 280 tons; coffee, 25 tons; milk, 10,000 gallons, and 300,000 eggs.

In view of these facts, it will be seen that those who intend to cross the Atlantic run no risk of starvation, and that the larder of the modern ocean liner may be called the glutton's paradise.

TATTOOED MAORI WOMEN.

The Custom Is Almost Universal Among the Natives of New Zealand.

Several English scientists lately returned from explorations among the Maoris of New Zealand have brought back a series of remarkable specimens of tattooing as a result of their researches. The most astonishing designs were found on the faces of the women, says the Chicago Chronicle. The faces and bodies of the women are so covered with these blue marks that they look as if they had on a tight-fitting chintz dress.

The tattooing of the women is coming to obtain the deep furrows is usually made of bone, having a sharp edge like a chisel and shaped in the fashion of a garden hoe. Another style is made of a shark's tooth. The tattooing of the women is commenced when about the age of 15 or 18 and continues until they reach middle age. Most of the masters of the art are professionals who go from village to village and are highly paid for their services. The pattern about to be engraved is first outlined on the face with a small stick dipped in powdered charcoal, after which the skin is gashed and the coloring or pigment is introduced into the cut flesh with a stick dipped into the liquid.

The coloring material used is generally the resin of a certain tree, which is burned, powdered and converted into a fluid.

A Montreal firm shipped last year to England 12,000 cattle, with a loss of less than one to the 1,000.

A WORLD'S WONDER.

Rapid March of Events in the Great Northwest.

Cities of the Pacific Attract Men and Money from the East Trade Possibilities of the Near Future.

In the northwest everything seems to have happened within the last ten years; events which would be of epoch-making importance in any country at any time have here crowded one upon another with wanton prodigality, so that the northwesterner, plumped down in the whirl of great things, can himself hardly grasp their full significance, contenting himself with confused superlatives, says Ray Stannard Baker, in March Century.

Think of this march of events! It was barely eight years ago that the gold fields of the Klondike were brought to the knowledge of the world, causing a rush of Americans to the northwest, and building up suddenly a new and important business, for the Puget sound ports, where the miners outfitted and took ship. Following the Klondike excitement came the various Alaska discoveries, and Seattle and Tacoma were and are the natural headquarters for most of the supplies shipped northward as well as the entry point for the returning miners with their treasure, not a little of which is left to enrich the people of the ports.

Hardly had the gold excitement calmed to the paces of a steady business enterprise when the Spanish war broke out, and these Pacific cities were thrown into the turmoil of visiting battleships and of provisioning and transporting the army of the Philippines. Then came the opening trade with our new insular possessions in the Pacific, the Chinese war and its call for equipment and its stir of soldiery and transports, followed by the recent commercial expansion of Japan, with its trade demands. And now an element has just entered into the calculations of the coast—the construction of the Panama canal—which will revolutionize whole departments of the world's trade and exercise a profound influence for good or evil on the cities of the northwestern coast.

Many of the events, it is true, notably the opening of the door to the far east, are mostly promissory assets; and yet their prophecy of a golden future has not been without its profound effect on the growth of the Pacific cities and the attraction of energetic men with money. To the Pacific ports will ultimately come most of the trade of the Philippines, worth \$60,000,000 annually, and a growing share of the billion dollars or more of the annual business of China, Japan, Siberia and the Dutch East Indies, to say nothing of the large foreign trade of Australia and New Zealand. Alaska, once regarded as a hopelessly distant and irreclaimable waste of mountains and snow, is also progressing with wonderful rapidity, not only in its mines, but in the development of its fisheries and in the utilization of its forests and its agricultural resources, so that to-day the Alaskan trade is of much importance.

While these world events were crowding upon one another, the development of the country tributary to the coast, upon which the solid progress of the cities must ultimately rest, was going forward with unprecedented rapidity. Western Canada was opening to settlement, is opening now, in a marvelous manner; railroads were building; schemes for irrigating the arid lands were in course of development; crop production was increasing; timber was being cut from an almost inexhaustible supply, to supplement the waning forests of Maine and Michigan; coal mines were being opened, and salmon caught—all the forces of industry working together with a rapidity which must always remain a world's wonder.

Migratory Sheep.
There are about 10,000,000 migratory sheep in Spain, which each year travel as much as 200 miles from the plains to the mountains. They are known as transhumants, and their march, resting places and behavior are governed by special regulations, dating from the fourteenth century. At certain times no one may travel the same route as the sheep, which have the right to graze on all open and common land on the way. For this purpose a road 90 yards wide must be left on all enclosed and private property. The shepherds lead their flocks, which follow after and around. The flocks are accompanied by provision mules, and by large dogs, to guard against wolves. The merino sheep travel 400 miles to the mountains, and the total time spent on the migration there and back is 14 weeks.—N. Y. Tribune.

Alas for the Grass Widow.
Traveler—Yes, we had many narrow escapes. In the course of one voyage we were driven upon an island where the natives were all cannibals, and we gave up in despair.

Excited Listener—But how did you escape?

"It turned out that the natives were vegetarians."

"And so you were all permitted to depart?"

"All but one of the women in our company. She was a grass widow, you know."—London Tit-Bits.

Gave Her Such a Scare.
Husband—Darling, I believe that I am failing.

Wife (in alarm)—Gracious! How often I have warned you, George, against your foolish speculations!

"I don't mean in business, dear; I mean I'm failing in health."

Wife (relieved)—O, is that all?—Stray Stories.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

A Pennsylvania hotelkeeper was fined 67 cents for swearing at his servant who would not get up when called.

A man who advertised for work and a music teacher received nine answers to the former advertisement and 99 to the latter.

Sheriff de Bragga, of the Queens county jail, New York, has purchased dogs to assist him in the capture of escaped fugitives.

There are 43 submarine valleys known where soundings show more than three miles of water, and eight where more than four miles has been registered.

The number of employees in the New York municipal service has reached 45,299, of whom 12,000 are teachers and 10,000 members of the police and fire departments.

Among the many interesting exhibits from Mississippi at the world's fair, St. Louis, will be an immense panel made from specimens of 86 different varieties of wood grown in that state.

It is told as a true story that John Chapman at Galena, Kan., fell down a 20-foot tramway at the Blind Tiger mine and dislocated his shoulder. He went home and stumbled down the cellar steps and in falling his shoulder was thrown back into place. He took a drink and returned to work.

A man with many eccentricities recently died in England. He was Harry de Spencer Kingdon, of Willingde, Devon, who was formerly known to fame as a breeder and exhibitor of mastiff dogs. In his home were found the embalmed remains of his mother, who died 40 years ago, and of his wife, who predeceased him by 15 years.

M. Jusseland, the new French ambassador to the United States, brought with him to Washington some Gobelins tapestries which have been donated by the French government for the decoration of the embassy there. These pieces are reproductions by the celebrated state manufactory of ancient tapestries. It is said that the cost of manufacturing the pieces in question exceeds \$10,000.

CANNOT FIND ITS SPECIES.

Singular Animal Brought from the East Indies Puzzles English Naturalists.

A very fine example of the binturong (arctictis binturong) has been received at the zoological gardens, says the London Standard of recent date. This curious animal is a native of the East Indies, ranging from Assam southward through Siam and the Malay peninsula to Sumatra and Java. Large specimens will measure about five feet in total length, of which the tail counts for nearly a half. The long, coarse hair is black, but there is a gray wash on the head and forelimbs and there is a little white over the eyes and on the throat; the ears are short and carry long tufts of hair. Its English name, "bear cat," is modeled on its generic appellation and records the difficulty early naturalists experienced in ascertaining the animal's true place in their schemes of classification.

Although it was at one time placed with the bears, it is now regarded as closely allied to the palm civets. In matters of diet the binturong is not hard to please. When opportunity serves it will take small mammals, birds, insects and worms. When these cannot be secured it will support itself on fruits, and in captivity it will take fruit of all kinds readily. The binturong is more active by night than in the daytime, and lives almost entirely among the branches of the trees of the forest regions in which it is found. It is remarkable as being the only true mammal of the eastern hemisphere which has a prehensile tail. It can wind this organ around a branch and thus the tail aids the animal in its arboreal life.

Hlyth showed, many years ago, that the young of this species could hang on to a bough by the tip of the tail. Whether the adults can suspend themselves in this manner has been doubted. There can, however, be no question that the tail is of considerable service to them, and that they use this "fifth hand" as a holdfast. The example which has just arrived at the gardens is nearly adult, and, though somewhat shy, is fairly tame, for, with a little coaxing, it will come to the front of the cage to take fruit from visitors. Like all new arrivals, however, it is somewhat distrustful. If one advances too near it darts forward with a spitting noise, like an angry cat, while the paw delivers a round-handed blow, like that of a bear.

New Fruits and Plants in Yucatan.

The United States consul at Progreso says that the fields and gardens of Yucatan are filled with useful vegetables and fragrant herbs unknown to the outer world. In the cultivated fields are grown species of Indian corn, beans, squashes and tubers for which, in this country, we have no name, because we have never seen nor heard of them. In the forests and jungles grow wild fruits, already excellent in quality, which could be made delicious by scientific cultivation. Mr. Thompson, the consul, avers that there are half a score of wild fruits which offer more promising results to cultivation than ever did the bitter wild almond, which was the progenitor of the peach. There are six varieties of Indian corn in Yucatan, and the natives speak of this plant as "the grace of God."—Youth's Companion.

In the Etoile East.

Charlie—That fellow there has killed his man.

George—Indeed? Deep-shooting, football, or automobilizing?—Judge.

THE NAVY AS A TRADE.

Secretary Moody Points Out to Young Men the Opportunities Open to Them.

"Not only the man behind the gun, but the man behind the coat should be the man behind the wheel, the man in front of the engine, and, not by any means least of all, the man in front of the galley range; each of these is the subject of solicitation thought by men who are distinguished as brilliant commanders of ships and of squadrons," said Secretary of the Navy Moody, apropos of the impending departure of enlisting parties for the navy, which are shortly to start out to cover the middle west and southwest, reports the Washington Post.

"I mean by that to convey forcibly that each of the many trades, callings and occupations which constitute the industrial life of a modern warship is being scrutinized for avenues of improvement; that there is a consistent and comprehensive effort being made to improve the conditions surrounding the enlisted men afloat, an effort which has already borne such fruit that I think I am justified in saying that in no navy are the conditions of comfort which surround the men of the navy of the United States approached."

"The system under which the navy department is training material for crews is, I believe, if continued along the present lines and with the improvements that experience will enforce, certain to give us the finest man-of-war men the world has ever seen. A boy from 15 to 17 years of age who enters the navy as an apprentice at nine dollars a month receives a good English education and a thorough training in seamanship. He has certain preferences in the matter of rating, and may easily, by good conduct and continuous service, work his way up through successive ratings which will give him from \$30 to \$65 a month; the latter pay, with the quarters and rations, equivalent to at least \$85 a month in shore employment. He is aided at all times, if he evinces an ambition to perfect himself in his profession, by instruction on board ship and in special schools established for the instruction of petty officers and advanced seamen, and is eligible, under certain requirements, to take the examination for warrant officers, positions ranking next after ensigns, and with pay ranging from \$1,200 in the first five years of service to \$1,800 after 20 years of service, with allowances and permanence of position and employment that makes the rank quite as satisfactory in a financial and social way as a very large proportion of the better-paid positions ashore. There is, also, the possibility of securing a commission as an officer, a possibility that has been realized within the past year by an ex-apprentice."

"The misshapen legs have to be clothed so as to hide their deformity, the crooked back has to be made symmetrical in appearance, and would be more than make up for the man's deformities and bring into prominence their points of beauty."

"The misshapen legs have to be clothed so as to hide their deformity, the crooked back has to be made symmetrical in appearance, and would be more than make up for the man's deformities and bring into prominence their points of beauty."

AMERICA'S IMMIGRATION.

Some Possibilities of the Future If the Swelling Tide Is Not Stemmed.

"To say that the great bulk of the American people sees in the recent phase of immigration to their country an unmitigated evil is probably not an exaggerated statement, says Gustave Michaud, in Century. If the reasons for such an opinion were asked, the answer would generally be that the newcomers are ignorant and shabby. For the student of man, however, these reasons have not the weight which they carry in the popular mind. When, as is the case with most of our present immigrants, ignorance has for its cause the lack of intelligence, but of the proper educational facilities, it is an acquired negative characteristic. As such it is not transmissible to offspring, and means absolutely nothing for the future of the race. The first Baltic people brought to Rome by the armies of Caesar were looked upon in contempt by patricians and plebeians alike. They were ignorant, rude, un-civilized. Fifteen centuries later, when the Renaissance swept over their land, the descendants of those same Baltic barbarians started a civilization which, in many respects, is now the first of the world. Placed in the highly-favorable American economic conditions, the generation of our Italian immigrants will promptly show us that they lack neither intelligence nor imagination nor artistic talent. That the recent turn taken by immigration will deeply and in many ways modify our national character is certain. That it will deteriorate it is not. Some of the modifications will be for the worse, some for the better. We can measure the extent of none, and ought thereby to be prevented from making sweeping assertions.

The most conspicuous physical change which will be brought about by intermarriage with the newcomers will be the least noticed by all but ethnologists. It is the change which took place in many parts of Europe after the great prehistoric Alpine invasion, and which is clearly seen in sepulchres posterior to that event. That change is taking place now, on a large scale, in the states of New York, Pennsylvania, and especially Massachusetts. We leave it to esthetes to decide whether it gives us reason to rejoice or lament.

The Wireless System.

The attorney of the Marconi company in London has stated that they expect shortly to encircle the earth with wireless messages, and hoped to apply his system to heating, to traction lines and to publishing daily newspapers.—N. Y. Sun.

Reversing the Old Positions.

"You think I make some pretty bad breaks, don't you, Fred?" asked the young wife.

"Yes, dear," replied the husband, kindly, "but they're not like the breaks another used to make."—Youkers Statesman.

MEN PADDING HIPS.

Latest Manifestation of Masculine Vanity That Has Been Borrowed from Women.

The newest manifestation of masculine vanity is hip pads. These are a concomitant of the padded shoulders, and a result of the fashion of having coats "shaped to the figure." Shoulder padding has long been in vogue, and as long as men's coats hung straight from the shoulder the padding there was all that was necessary to give the effect. But when tailors began shaping the coats to make them cling to the spine and show the waist line it was evident that the enormously broad shoulders of the thin young man were mostly padded. They resembled vases with the slender stem and bell-shaped mouths, says the Chicago Tribune.

To overcome this the poor, thin men whose vanity is in inverse ratio to their circumference borrowed hip pads. The pads are made of wool and flax hair, and latter being preferred because it is lighter and cooler. They are from one to two and a half inches in thickness. Each pad is distinct, but they are attached to a common belt. They fit smoothly over the hips and are fastened to the thighs to keep them firmly in place. Of course they are graded from the thickest part down to the thickness of the clothing. They are of irregular shape, being cut to fit the human anatomy, the greater diameter being about eight inches as a rule.

The pads are generally worn next to the skin. If discretion is used in padding the shoulders and hips, and the wearer will stand straight, the effect is quite convincing, but as a rule the subterfuge is not difficult to detect, because of the waspish waist of the vain wearer.

Says the Tailor and Cutter: "There is not a coat in a thousand made up without padding. Every year thousands of dollars, even tens of thousands of dollars, are spent in pads for men's coats. If men knew the many artifices the tailor has to resort to in order to make them presentable, they would be less ready to make him the butt of ridicule, and would be more than make up for the man's deformities and bring into prominence their points of beauty."

The misshapen legs have to be clothed so as to hide their deformity, the crooked back has to be made symmetrical in appearance, and would be more than make up for the man's deformities and bring into prominence their points of beauty."

NEED TARGET PRACTICE.

Marksmanship in Uncle Sam's Navy Has Not Maintained Its Superiority.

Admiral Dewey was recently credited with the statement that the gunners of the United States Navy had deteriorated in marksmanship since the battle of Manila bay. In an authorized statement in regard to that report, reports the Washington Star, he explained his position as follows:

"At the time of the Spanish war I believed the American navy possessed perhaps a higher standard of marksmanship than any other navy in the world. At that time no country paid much attention to target practice. Our efficiency in this direction was due to the action of Mr. Roosevelt, then assistant secretary of the navy, in taking the bull by the horns, dumfounding the navy department by expending large sums for constant gunnery practice. The result was apparent.

"After the Spanish-American war foreign powers, astonished at our proficiency, immediately began to pay more attention to marksmanship. They increased their appropriations for target practice. Many new appliances for working the guns were invented to excellent advantage. The result has been that the standard of target practice all over the world has advanced.

"But the United States has not increased the vigor of its efforts for the improvement of the gunfire to the same extent that other nations have. In the Caribbean this winter I found that the men had had little actual target practice for a long time. The necessity for it was apparent. Subcaliber practice is not enough. The men do not take the interest in this 'make believe' gunnery. They work better when they are firing the gun with full charges—they want to see the shot hit. Only with full charges can entire efficiency be gained.

"The accident on the Massachusetts, in which nine men were killed by the explosion of a charge in the eight-inch turret, is attributable directly to lack of practice. It is expensive, but necessary.

"I do not think we are deteriorating. I think our men can shoot as well as anyone. In fact, they are better marksmen naturally than any other nation, but they need practice. Other nations are improving. That is why we are not as superior as we were in the Spanish-American war."

An Increase.

Smith—I hear you are the father of a bouncing boy. Let me congratulate you.

Jones—I'm the father of two bouncing boys; twins, you know.

"Ah, indeed! Then permit me to extend my congratulations."—Chicago Daily News.