MAKING OF PLAYING CARDS

4 Supposed to Have Been Invented for Amusement of Deranged King of France.

The invention of playing cards has been variously attributed to the Chiinese, Hindoos, Arabians and Romans, but cards as now used were invented by Jacques Grirgonneur, a painter, in Paris, in the fourteenth century. They were supposed to have been first made for the amusement of Charles VI. of France, who was deranged. The French had particular names for the 112 court cards. The four kings were David, Alexander, Caesar and Charles; the four queens, Argine, Esther, Judith and Pallas; the four knaves or knights, Ogier the Dane, Lancelot, La Hire and Hector de Garland.

Cards seem originally to have been brought to England from Spain, probably having been introduced into that country by the Moors. The clubs, in Spanish, were not trefoils, as with us, but cudgels, I. e., "bastos," and the spades or swords, "capadas." Cards at first were stamped from wood blocks in outline and filled in by hand, but after the invention of engraving the best artists engraved them on copper and struck them off at once. "Columpines" were spades, "rabbits," clubs; "pinks," diamonds, and "roses," hearts. Human figures, opposed to those of flowers and animals, were the ancestors of court cards.

MILK IN THE COCOANUT

Delusion That Fluid Has Anything in Common With Real Milk Dissipated.

Probably everybody has wondered at times what kind of stuff the "milk" of the cocoanut is. One inducement generally held out by the dealer to the prospective purchaser is that the nuts are "all milky." Recent analysis, however, have dissipated the delusion that the fluid-has anything in common with real milk. It centains only four per cent. of solids, consisting chiefly of sugars 2.8 per cent.. the balance being made up of mineral matter and tartaric acid.

More than half of the sugar present is mannitol, the sweet principle of manna which is sometimes found also in wine as a product of normal grape sugar. The question has been discussed as to whether it would be profitable to extract the cocoanut water for the sake of its cane sugar. but as this amounts to only one-tenth per cent, the process would not be commercially successful, in spite of the water being a waste product. Even if the water contained five per cent. of sugar, as some specimens appear to have shown, the recovery of this amount would be unprofitable. The juice of the sugar cane yields mearly 20 per cent. of sugar.

Origin of Firewater. When the Hudson's Bay Trading company began its trading among the Indians it was found that by selling the Indians liquor they could more easily be induced to trade their pelt-

The first whisky or intoxicant of inferior quality was distilled in England and brought to America in large barrels, but in transporting it overland it was found more convenient to divide it into small kegs. The traders soon became aware of the fact that by diluting the whisky with water more Turs could be obtained. This was practised for some time, but the Indiana Bearned that good whisky poured on fire would cause it to flame up, whereas had the whisky been diluted the fire would be quenched. It was by this simple experiment that the term "firewater" became a common word among Indians.

A chief who had experienced the bad effects of whisky among his people said it was most certainly-distilled from the hearts of wildcats and the tongues of women from the effects it produced.—Red Man.

. Warming the Devil.

An almost incredible case of superstition is reported from Rihal, near Grosswordein, Hungary. The place has never before experienced an earthquake, but recently a series of violent shocks shook the neighborhood. some being so violent that the church bells rang. The villagers were great-By alarmed and consulted an old woman quack of the place, who declared that the shocks were the groans of

the devil, who suffered cold and hunger. Thereupon the peasants threw a 'number of calves and goats into a chasm outside the village to appeare the devil's hunger and set fire to the bishop's forest in the neighborhood to provide him with warmth. The quack land several peasants have been ar-

What She Missed.

'Is there anything worse," sighed the pretty girl, "than to be hungry and remember all the good things to mat you might have had but left on some other occasion? The other day I was at the swellest reception I ever attended; and the things to eat were ssimply heavenly. I will confess I did justice to everything that was handed me, but somebow I didn't get any of the rolled sandwickes with watercress in the middle, or any of the de-Hicious marrons glace. And, oh, the times since then that I have wanted Sone of those appetizing sandwiches, and that my mouth has watered for those marrons! And today for lunch "I had to eat corned beef hash."

MARRIAGE IN EARLY LIFE

Franklin Thought Early Unions Had Best Chance of Nappiness and Success.

Indeed from marriages that have failen under my observation. I am rather inclined to think that early ones stand the best chance of happiness. The temper and habits of the young are not yet become so stiff, and uncomplying, as when more advanced in life; they form more easily to each other, and hence many occasions of disgust are removed. And if youth has less of that prudence which is necessary to manage a family, yet the parents and elder friends of young married persons are generally at hand to afford their advice, which amply supplies that defect, and, by early marriage, youth is sooner formed to regular and useful life; and possibly some of these accidents of connections, that might have injured the constitutions, or reputation, or both, are thereby happily prevented.

Particular circumstances of particular persons may possibly sometimes make it prudent to delay entering into that state; but, in general, when nature has rendered our bodies fit for it, the presumption is in nature's favor, that she has not judged amiss in making us desire it. Late marriages are often attended, too, with this further inconvenience, that there is not the same chance that the parents should live to see their offspring educated. "Late children," says a Spanish proverb, "are early orphans." A melancholy reflection to those whose case it may be! With us in America marriages are generally in the morning of life; our children are therefore educated and settled by noon; and thus, our business being done, we have the afternoon and evening to ourselves.-Benjamin Franklin's Autobiography.

LEAVE THE PAST ALONE

Incident Which Shows How Unpleas-📉 anthess May Be Avoided by Letting Past Die.

John B. Moissant, the well-known aviator, refused with a smile to discuss his turbulent past among the revolutionists of South America.

"Leave the past alone," he said to a New York reporter. "Thus you avoid unpleasantness. Let me tell you about Judge Hangar.

"Judge Hangar was spending a sunmy autumn week at Atlantic City, and every morning on one of the piers he used to see a young lady whose face looked most familiar.

"The judge prided himself on his memory for names and faces, and yet somehow this young lady escaped him. But he was sure he knew her, and one morning, though she always studiously avoided his eye, he stopped and addressed her with courtly polite-

"'Pardon me, miss,' he said, 'your features are familiar, but, strangely enough, I cannot recall the circumstances under which we met. Yet I certainly remember our having met

"'Remember!' cried the young lady; and she rose from among her friends with angry-and aggressive air. 'Remember, you old scallawag! Well. you "ought to remember. It's not a year since you gave me eight months in the common pleas, and for two cents I'd pitch you over the railing into the water!""

Perch Feed on Trout Eggs. Dr. Tariton B. Bean, New York state fish culturist, received a package of yellow perch the other day from the president of the Fishermen's club at Penn Yan, which forcibly illustrates the destructive capacities of perch in the spawning beds of lake trout. Mr. Goodspeed accompanied the package with a letter in which he told Doctor. Bean that the state, hatchery employes in taking trout from Keuka lake for spawn one day captured in! a seine on the trout beds on the east shore about seven bushels of yellow perch. Apparently every perch had been feeding upon the eggs of the lake trout, which had been laid in abundance in that section of the lake and every perch had a bellyful of lake trout eggs.

Doctor Bean said he thought a mistake had been made in the past in planting perch in waters inhabited by trout, and announced that so long as he had any say in the matter there would be no more planting of perch in waters where there were trout.

Christian Girl No Girl at That. The request for "Christian Girl" at the Congress hotel in Chicago the other night, and the calls by a page for such a person created general amusement among guests and employes until it was learned that "Christian Girl" was a traveling man from Cleveland. O., stopping at the hotel and was wanted by a friend on the telephone.

"Have you a Christian Girl here?" a man asked Clerk Burke. "Well, I don't know," hesitated the clerk. "Wait and I'll find out."

"Say," replied the guest, "I don't want a female, a sure enough girl, I just want Christian Girl from Cleveland and he's no girl at that." The right Girl was found.

Too Many Bones. Bacon-Your dog is very fond of bones, I suppose? Egbert--Oh, yes,

Bacon-The more he gets the happier he is, I suppose? a.
Egbert-Well, can't really say that, for he does balk at shad.

SELF-RESPECT IS FESTORED

What Made College Girl's Spirits Rise During Discourse of Mrs. Society.

He was a fussily important society man, and he had no use for women of college education. But on one occasion he invited a young college graduate, the daughter of an old friend, to his house, to take afternoon tea. It was a windy day, and the girl arrived at his suburban home with her skirts blown about and her hair tumbling about her ears, a state of affairs of which she felt guiltily conscious for the whole of her visit. The lady of the house, Mrs. Society, poured tea, and discoursed of girls in general.

"I agree with dear James." she said. "that a college education is not the best preparation for the future life of a young woman." She peered into the cups to see if the maid had left them in good order, and glanced at her guest, who cowered in her beat, feeling intensely her disheveled condition, and dimly wondering if it were due to her college education.

Mrs. Society, seeing that the offending maid had left dust in the cups, frowned. "I think a college education usually unfits young women for the finer duties of domestic life," she said, and blew first in one cup, and then in the other, to remove the dust.

At that the college girl felt her spirits rise to the skies. "For," as she explained afterward, in telling the story "we did sometimes blow the dust out of the oups, when we gave -tea parties, but we usually did it before the guests got there."-Youth's Companion.

COMMUTER MADE. NOT BORN

Contrary to General Bellef, He is Not Merely Man Who Lives in Suburbs.

The commuter is peculiarly a product of modern civilization. He is made, not born. Contrary to the general belief, a commuter is not merely a man, who lives in the suburbs, but a man who, living in the suburbs, must use the railroad regularly in going to and from the city. Thus automobilists, farmers (gentlemen or otherwise), and local tradesmen are not

commuters. It requires great executive ability and perfect self-control to be a successful commuter. One must be able to sleep serenely until 7:30, get up. dress in dignified leisure. Fletcherize his breakfast, chatting pleasantly the while with his family, and then saunter down to the station without the slightest fear that he will get there either ten seconds too early or ten

seconds too late for the 8:02. The men one sees wildly running for the train, watch in one hand and a mutton chop in the other, and the men who get to the station five or six minutes too soon were never cut out for commuters. They should move back to the city, for they will never be successful. They are neophytes, tyros, bunglers, failures.

Every college in the country should have its course in commuting, for there could be no better training for a young man who is about to enter business, with its many exactions in the way of method and system .--

John Bright and the Carpet.

A characteristic story of John Bright is told by Mrs. T. P. O'Connor in her new book, "I Myself." He was at dinner one night with an M. P. whose wife by no means shared her husband's democratic sentiments. John Bright was sitting near his hostess, and she was rather annoyed at having him among her smart guests, and thought to give him a direct snub, so she said during a pause in

"Mr. Bright, this rug, I understand, was made by you, and I am very dissatisfied with it. I have only had it a short time, and it is very shabby and badly made."

"Is it?" said Mr. Bright, getting up deliberately from the table and taking a silver candelabrum which he put down upon the floor, and, getting upon his knees, closely examined the carpet. "You are quite right." he said. blithely getting 'up, "it is a bad carpet, and I will order my firm to send you another in its place." And then he calmly resumed his political conversation and the dinner went on.

If any form of oath is calculated

Official Oath in Siam.

to impress one, that which is prescribed to the state officials of Siam is likely to do so. Each official has to say: "May the blood flow from my veins, may crocodiles devour me, may I be condemned to carry water to the flames of hell in vessels without bottoms. After death may I enter the body of a slave. May I suffer the harshest treatments during all time in vears as numerous as the sands of all the seas. May I be reborn deaf, dumb and blind and afflicted with dire mala. dies. May I also be thrown into Narok -the lower regions—and tortured by

Tempting Salad.

Prea Yam, if I break this oath."

A nice salad, suitable for a lunchcon or dinner, is made by taking little round peppers, making a slit in the side and carefully extracting the fiber and seeds without breaking the sides. Fill the peppers with English walnuts, broken in small pieces and moistened with French dressing. Serve on crisp lettuce leaves.

WILL BE SADLY MISSED

Not Many Sons Would Care for Their Poor Old Mammy Like the Deceased.

"Luella was hired Monday, but last week it was Thursday before she came to do the washing," said an uptown housewife. "Laundresses are hard to get, so I didn't presume to ask her reason; late in the day, however, she offered it.

"I been over in Brooklyn stayin' with a pore ole lady that lost her only son, she explained. I intended comin back las' Sunday night, but she was feelin' so powerful bad I jes' couldn't bear to leave her. She misses him terrible. She's eighty-two, you see, and she hadn't any husban' nor chile but him. He was powerful good to herwouldn't let her do a thing for herself an' took fine care of her. Poor ole auntle! They ain't many sons like hers was!' and Luella wiped a tear AWRY.

"Too bad," I said; "and who'll support her now that he's gone?"

"'Oh, his goin' don't make no difference that way,' she answered cheerfully. 'Auntie'll go right on takin' in laundry work. He never earned nothin', but, I tell you, every afternoon when five o'clock comes 'round, an' he ain't there to get up from his chair an' make her a cup o' tea an' bring it to her, she'll miss him somethin' terrible. They ain't many son's would take care o' their pore ol' mammie that way. I kin tell you!" and Luella shook her head dismally over the filial depravity of her race."

CURIOUS CROWD IS STUNG

What Eager Mob Saw After Trailing Patrol Wagon Loaded With Policemen.

In the midst of the noon hour rush Saturday a patrol wagon clanged down the street loaded with half a dozen podicemen, turned into a cross street and stopped in front of one of the big department stores.

The patrol sergeant jumped out and hurried into the store, while a crowd of curious persons congregated around the wagon and a dozen of the bolder ones rushed into the store at the sergeant's back. The rumor quickly spread that the store had been raided. that the store was afire, that a masked burglar had tried to hold up the manager, and a large portion of the tide of pedestrians up and down the street was diverted to the patrol and the sidewalk of the department store.

The sergeant came out again. jumped up beside the driver and held a whispered conversation. Then he returned to the store, and the patrol drove slowly to the rear entrance of the big building. The crowd saw the ruse and surged behind. The wagon backed up to the curb, the policemen jumped out and entered the rear door. The crowd waited breathlessly. In a few moments the police came out with arms burdened down with bundles of winter uniforms.

"Stung." muttered the sergeant, as the patrol drove away again.-Philadelphia Times.

Progress of the Pen. Many trades, sedentary in appear ance, are the cause of a vast amount of motion. The carpenter who drives his plane over the plank, the polisher who leaves it shining like a mirror, the gardener who sweeps the paths, the carpet layer who drive his nails. the cellarman who puts the wine into bottles, the house painter who sweeps the wall with his brush, the wood cutter who wields his ax, the graceful typewriter who, in striking the keys of her machine, unbeasingly raises and lowers her delicate fingers—all these people move or cause movement in a part of their person. Add together all these rapid and apparently trivial movements, and you will discover that they cover at least once in the course of a lifetime the long route round the earth. It has been calculated, and the calculation is easy to verify, that the writer with a facile pen who blackens the paper for five hours a day at the rate of 30 words a minute will thus cover a distance of about 30,000 miles a year by, so to say, mere strength of wrist. That means a much greater distance than that of the circuit of the earth. And yet this unconscious hero has scarcely quitted his desk.

Old-Time Trotting Horse Men. There is no longer the old dyed-inthe wool trotting horse men of our younger days. A few years ago at a sale a shabby old man bid and bid for a horse, running it up to more than \$1,800, at which price he bought it. On being asked for the cash he coolly peeled up his trousers, peeled up his drawers, peeled down his stocking, and from the double fold brought but two \$1,000 bills. They had been so long in the fold, creased, that the paper was cut through and the bills fell in eight quarters to the table. The treasury redeemed them all right.

🐙 Poverty in Old New York. Knickerbocker Gossip-Yes, that is the rich Miss Guilders. They say her father hath five thousand pounds if

he hath a shilling. Stranger—And who is the beauty

Gossip-A beauty, yes; but, alas, her face is her only fortune. She bath but a miserable ten-acre farm on Broadway.—Judge.

BALL GAME OF CHEROKEES

Important Function is Preceded by Song and Dance Which Lasts All Night.

The ball game as played by the Cherokees is as important to them as football or any other popular game is to other people. The eastern band of Cherokees live on the Qualla reservation in western North Carolina.

The neighborhood in which I live, writes an Indian girl in the Red Man, is divided into four main sections, namely: Yellow Hill, Soco, Big Cove and Birdtown. The Indians living in one of these sections will challenge those living in another to a game of ball. They choose their players and agree upon the time and place for playing the game. It is generally played in an open field far different from the well-graded field upon which the game of football is played.

The evening before the game the Indians, the women included, hold a dance in their respective sections of the country. These dances are held in the open air, usually near some small stream. The women do the singing while the men dance. In their songs they make all kinds of remarks about those of the opposing side. These dances continue all night long. From the time of the dances until after the games the players are not allowed to est any food.

The following day the people from the different sections gather at the appointed place to witness the game. They either sit or stand around the edge of the field. The ball players each have two sticks similar to those used in the game of lacrosse, only smaller. The ball is tossed up in the center of the field and the game begins. The object is to get it around two poles placed at each end of the field a certain number of times. They cannot pick up the ball in their hands. The players who succeed in getting the ball around the poles at the end of the field the greatest number of times win the game.-Red Man Magazine.

WOLF HUNTING WITH EAGLES

Kirghiz Train Great Birds to Hunt Gazelle, Foxes and Even Wolves.

All wanderers are lovers of the chase, but for sheer love of sport and daring exploits the Kirghis take the palm, declares a writer in the Wide World Magazine. Central Asia is the home of falconry, which was not introduced into Europe until the Crusaders brought back falcons with them from their eastern wanderings. But imagine the ambition of the men who fly their birds at wolves and foxes instead of at quaits and partridges! Not content with hunting game birds with small falcons, the Kirghiz capture and train the great golden eagles, with which they hunt such game as gazelle, foxes and even woives. A well mounted Kirghiz falconer, carrying on his wrist one of these magnificent birds, is a fine sight. The weight of the eagle is such that the owner requires a support for his wrist, and the hunters are usually to be seen with a little wooden bracket that supports the arm against the hip. The eagles are hooded, as all falcons are, but can only be used in winter when they are hungry and keen. In summer they are fed on marmots and live a restful life, sitting in the sun in front of the tent doors. When gazelle or wolves are the objects of the chase, the earles are aided by long sleek greyhounds, of a small breed, the dogs running in and pulling down the quarry when the eagles have sufficiently bewildered it

Hanged the Clever Forger.

Of curious petitions against the death penalty being enforced, one recalls the eighteenth century case of William Ryland, who was sentenced for forging a bill for £7,114 on the East India House. The forgery was a work of art. No less than thirty signatures were imitated, and at the trial not one of the victims could swear that the signature was not his own. However, with the help of the paper manufacturers, Ryland's guilt was brought home. Then came the petition of his friends. So clever a man ought never to be hanged, they pleaded; his craftsmanship should save him. It gained a respite; he was allowed to finish a fine engraving he had begun, but nothing more. Though the engraver was a favorite of George III., that king quite failed to see how a forgery could be excused on the ground that it was a clever forgery,

Raises Young to Eat. The paradise fish, one of the new

wonders of natural history, raises its young to eat. The habits of this peculiar fish are also strikingly similar to those of a great many parents who show little more consideration for their offspring. The female drops her eggs carelessly anywhere she may be and the male gathers them up and places them in a bubble nest, which he blows, and awaits the hatching. When they are sufficiently grown he. eats them, keeping them housed up until he needs them. Some of the lite tle ones escape, of course, and as they are prolific breeders, the specie is perpetuated.

A Similarity. "Queer names those South Ament can soldiers have."

"Yea. Calling the roll sounds a. great deal like reading off the contents of a wine card."

SCANT ALLOWANCE OF SOAP

Captain Didn't Want to Hire Three Rooms to Get Hands and Face Washed.

When Fairmount inn was opened, among its first patrons was Captain Stringer of Marshby, He had long been a friend of Captain Larrabee, the father of the young proprietor of the new inn, and he wished to "see for himself what kind of a tavern Eddy would keep."

He was taken to one of the prettiest rooms, where the proprietor's wife awaited his epinion. He looked silently at all the modern innovations, but when he was at last asked to admire the pretty bathroom adjoining his bedroom, he spoke his word. "Is that little square cake o' soap

quired, indicating the cake in its nickel holder. "Why, yee," said the young woman. "One cake for each room, new for

all that goes with this fit-out?" he in-

each guest, of course." "Well, now, see here," said the captain, confidentially. "You and Eddy have got used to city ways, where it's all style, and save in what don't show; but let me tell you one thing, you're Hable to have a good many folks from Marshby and all around, that - knew the cap'n, and wish his young folks well. Now you furnish up a few rooms with some good liberal bars b' seap,

such as we're used to. "It'll cost ye a little more, but 'twill come to more'n it costs on advertising. You wouldn't want your father's old friends to tell that they had to hire three rooms at Fairmount inn to get them a good face-and-hands wash, now would ye?"-Youth's Companion.

NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN

People Who Never Change Their Minds Have Magnified Opinion of Their Wisdom.

"I never change my mind," I once heard an old woman say.

And from the way in which she said it she seemed to be quite proud of her attitude.

The funny part of it is that the people who never change their minds nearly always have a magnified opinion of their wisdom. They would be very much upset if they realized that others probably much better informed than themselves considered them merely obstinate and foolish.

But they seldom, if ever, see them selves in this light, so they continue to map out their lives in the same narrow groove, until perhaps one day they waken up, and, to their amazement, find themselves left far behind people whom they looked down upon as ignorant.

"A wise man changes his mind; a fool never," says an old proverb, and we should always keep this before us as a mentai danger signal.

"She simply won't be taught." I have often heard people say. Don't let anybody say it of you in future It is the people who are always willing to learn who get on best in this

world: If we keep our minds open as well as our eyes and ears we shall find that we are never too old to change our minds, and that we can learn something from everybody, even if it is only what not to do.—Home Chat

From Near the Hub!

From some examination papers in a Massachusetts-we repeat, Massachu-

"Capillarity is when milk rises up around the edge of the bottle and shows good measure." "The settlers gave a Thanksgiving

dinner to the Indians for their kindness and to the Lord for fair weather. They kept up their festivities for three days, eating all the time. A party of sixty Indian warriors came, rolling their warhoops down the hill." "Henry VIII., by his own efforts. increased the population of England

forty thousand." "Esau wrote fables and sold them

for potash." "The Lupercal was the wolf whe suckied Romeo and Juliet at Rome." "Lincoln has a high forehead which is a sign of many brains." Every-

A Strange Situation.

"Humor is a funny thing," said Binks. "It ought to be," said the philoso-

"Oh, I don't mean that way," said Binks. "I mean that it is a strange thing. Now, I can't speak French, but I can always understand a French joke; and I can speak English, but I'm blest if I can see an English

"Most people are," said the philosopher.

"Are what?" said Binks. "Bleet if they can see an English loke," said the philosopher. "It is a eign of an unusually keen vision."-

Three Great Danish Clans.

The Danish government recently found it necessary to grant heads of families the privilege of changing their names if they feel so disposed without incurring any legal costs. This is a necessary piece of legislation for the population of Denmark is divided into three great class—the Hansens, the Petersens and the Scerensens. In one town of 25,000 inhabitants over four-fifths bore one or the other of these names. Many of these have taken advantage of the new law and assumed more distinctive names.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS