

CULTIVATING SUNSHINE.

How It May Be Made to Delight Our Lives and Hasten Our Happiness.

Mental sunshine is almost as essential for our physical well-being as is the magic energy of the sun's rays.

"In ourselves the sunshine dwells; In ourselves the music swells."

A certain eastern governor who in his youth had been a shepherd and whom good fortune had raised to a high position, prepared in his palace a room in which were displayed the simple garments and implements which belonged to his humble shepherd life.

One such room that everybody needs is a sunshine room, into which should be gathered the happiest and most felicitous recollections.

It is not always easy to turn away from the contemplation of the present griefs and sorrows of life, and forebodings in relation to those which the morrow seems to have in store for us.

CURE FOR BRAIN FAG.

"Dr. Rest" and "Dr. Common Sense" Are the Best Specialists to Consult.

Is "brain fag" to be regarded as the distinguishing feature of life in the new century? Following on this alarming question, says the London Mail, comes a list of symptoms:

When the brain is tired it does not say so in words, but in symptoms; then we grumble and call these symptoms "brain fag."

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Home-Tried Lard. Home-tried lard is better and firmer than that bought, and it requires very little time to try it.

Country Gentleman. Gladys—Men are such conceited things! Why, one may see them any time gazing at a looking glass.

ONE-SIDED CONVERSATION.

Carried On by Telephone by an Anxious Husband Who Was "Snowbound."

During the recent snowstorm and tie-up some interesting one-sided conversations were heard over the public telephone at the Grand Central station.

"What!" he cried, "you don't believe. Now, Liza, can't you see for yourself that this is the worst snow-storm ever?"

"Isn't the snow falling hard as it can there at New Rochelle? Then doesn't it stand to reason that it's falling here? It's not far off, New York. Don't be unreasonable. Use your eyes and your senses."

"No. That's what I said. I can't get there for four hours, or five. No train."

"Yes. That's what I said. No train. Everything blocked."

"Don't believe it? Don't be silly, Liza. Of course there is no train, with the snow miles high, and piling up higher all the time."

"No. He isn't a pal of mine. No, no. I'm not going out to the theater with him this evening. I'm going to do nothing but stay right here in this station and wait for the train. I promise you."

"You don't believe it? Did you ever believe anything I said? Lord! I can't help it, whether you believe me or not, but I'm telling you the truth this time."

RUSSIA'S AIMS IN INDIA.

The Czar Is Charged with Coveting John Bull's Garden in Southern Asia.

If the account given of a catastrophe to the Orenburg-Tashkent railway recently given by a correspondent proves true it will be no misfortune from the standpoint of Asiatic tranquillity.

Later on another argument for pressing forward its completion came to the front. It would, said its promoters, shorten the distance to the nearest point of the Chinese frontier by no less than 2,000 miles.

Odd Bicycle Track. An Englishman has invented a road for bicycle riding which combines within the narrow limits of a short track the character of every surface encountered.

Work for the Stomach. For the average healthy man I think there is something to be said in favor of a good meal, even if a trifle heavy now and then.

The Girl Who Lolls. The girl who prefers to loiter about reading rubbishy books which make no call on her mental faculties, absorbing caramels or chocolates she does not require, starves her mind and overfeeds her body.

Beavers are not quite extinct in Germany. A few colonies exist along the Elbe, but they are small, and, although well protected, do not appear to increase in numbers.

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TITLES WON AND LOST.

A Florida Senator's Rise and Fall in the Estem of His Fellow Townsmen.

"Tom" Darby, a former state senator in the Florida legislature from Putnam county, is now a prosperous and a popular broker "on the curb," with an office not a thousand miles away from "No. 26," where all the stocks are said to go when they get right cheap and the "crowd" is selling.

When Senator Tom was only about 28 years old he had a good-paying sawmill down on the gulf coast close to Cedar keys.

He employed a lot of men, paid them their wages promptly, had a good balance always in a Gainesville bank, was a good fellow with and very naturally he soon came to be known as "Cap'n" Darby.

"I got me a good pair of high-stepping mares and a red-wheeled top buggy, in which I drove about a good deal looking after my numerous lumber camps and gangs of men."

Along came a gulf storm one day in the late autumn and the hurricane swept the whole coast to destruction.

He hustled to pull himself together and save the foundation of a new business out of the wreck, but it was uphill work.

"Things weren't going very well with me," says Senator Tom, "and one fine day as I was standing in front of the post office reading my mail I overheard a tall cracker say to another, looking in my direction: 'That's old man Darby over yander. What do you reckon he'd say if I asked him for a job?'"

"That settled me! From 'General' Darby down to 'ole man' Darby inside of two years was too much for me! I quit that country and went up to Palatka and into politics."

FOR FACIAL BLEMISHES. A Few Remedies and Suggestions for the Improvement of the Skin.

To remove yellow stains from the face, first dry an ounce of rose leaves, add half a pint of white vinegar and let it stand for eight or ten days; then drain off the vinegar and add to it half a pint of rose water.

Stains on the neck caused by a black or colored ribbon can be removed by bathing in borax water in the proportion of a tablespoonful to two quarts of water, and by wiping the neck with a lotion composed of one ounce of acetic acid, two ounces of glycerin and three ounces of rose water.

The diet is usually responsible for a red face. In such cases drink nothing hot, but take cooling drinks, such as lemonade or tea, cooled, but not ice cold.

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PAY FOR PRIVILEGES.

Americans' Enterprises in Mexico Are Bled to Death.

Government Officials Are Experts at Extorting Money—Promises Made to Foreigners Never Fulfilled.

The foreigner who contemplates commencing business of any kind in Mexico must first procure permission from the government in the form of a stamped document, obtained after much red-tape experience.

Furthermore, every blank book which constitutes the ordinary business office outfit, ledger, day book, order, sales and invoice book, must be regularly stamped in the government office.

The annoyances and at times indelicacies which the American must undergo in the preliminary stages of his business career in Mexico are intolerable.

The American reader of Mexican industrial literature is informed that concessions of a liberal character will be granted by the Mexican government to all industries and to those who introduce new industries the exclusive privilege for a term of years to manufacture.

As a guarantee of good faith and in addition to the \$100,000 which as a minimum must be invested, the government demands a deposit of \$5,000 to be retained in the treasury prior to granting the concessions specified.

In the event of the enterprise proving unprofitable the tax is exacted just the same. Regularly appointed government officers inspect the books for the purpose of determining the amount to be taxed, fines being inflexibly inflicted.

The foreigner who, on the strength of introducing a new manufacturing industry into the country, and with ideas formulated as a result of perusing Mexican railroad literature, formally applies to the government for the exclusive privilege of manufacturing, will be promptly informed of a monopoly or exclusive privilege in any line of industry in Mexico is against the law, and therefore will not be permitted.

When you find you are to meet a man who writes, get hold of something he has written and, by diligent study, commit enough of it to memory so that when you meet him you may quote it, apparently by accident.

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COWBOYS OF DUDE RANCH.

Plant for the Reformation of Rapid Young Men of the East in North Dakota.

Many a son of a well-to-do family in the east will read with interest the announcement that the Eaton ranch at Medora, N. D., once well known as the "dude ranch," has been sold.

The ranch is situated at the crossing of the Little Missouri river, along what is known as the Custer trail. The first owners, the Eatons, came from Pittsburgh.

For a number of years they engaged in the buying of wild animals, such as bear, elk and deer, for eastern parks and menageries. It was a profitable occupation, buffalo being carried for a time as a side line.

While one of the Eatons was paying a visit to his home in the east an old friend asked him, as a personal favor, to take charge of his younger son, a wayward youth, in the hope that in the west, away from metropolitan temptations, he might make a man of himself.

The young man looked upon it as a great lark, and came west in droves. The Eatons boarded them, furnished them with horses, guns and all necessary accoutrements and organized personally conducted excursions in the way of hunting, range riding, round-ups and the like.

Upon the ranch they erected a great, long building, divided by partitions into small rooms, in each of which were a bunk and whatever furniture was necessary. This became known to the cowboys as the "dude pen," and here the visitors slept.

Some time one summer was enough for them, but some of them remained, secured capital from home and today are among the substantial men of the state. They were a constant source of amusement to the cowboys of the range, largely from their fondness for immense hats, big revolvers, rattlesnake bits and leather "chaps."

THE VESUVIUS TROLLEY LINE.

Tourists May Now Visit the Volcano's Crater Without the Trouble of Climbing.

Modernism has made no more remarkable stride of late years than during the famous volcano range, where some showered dust and lava upon the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

The new railway has been constructed by the world-famous firm of Sook, who have worked the cable railway up the cone for the past 15 years.

The power station is situated at the lower end of the steep section and a large hotel at the upper station, known as the "Hermitage," from the terraces of which splendid views can be obtained.

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DIFFICULT TO MOVE.

Pianos Carried Across the Andes on Backs of Natives.

Instruments Lugged Many Miles Over the Mountains at Small Cost—How the Job is Done.

Moving day in some portions of South America is attended with far more inconvenience than it is in the cities of the United States, according to a gentleman recently returned from that region.

"Just imagine," he says, "being able to have a piano carried over 300 miles for a ten dollar bill, and that, too, by way of difficult paths over mountains 11,000 feet above the level of the sea. And yet that is possible in Ecuador and other of the countries traversed by the Andes mountains."

The pianos are carried by the natives, who, although seldom weighing more than 140 pounds and rarely being over five feet five inches in height, will carry as much of a burden as a burro, and sometimes more. It is a common sight in those countries to see one of these little fellows, with a load weighing fully 200 pounds suspended from the back of his neck, going along at his peculiar joggling gait, at the same time urging forward a burro.

The regular price for carrying a piano from Guayaquil, on the Pacific coast, to Quito, the capital of Ecuador, a distance of 320 miles, on the other side of the Andes, is 20 sucros, which is equivalent to about ten dollars in United States money.

"All you have to do is tell the first native you meet of your desire, and he will immediately call together a dozen of his comrades, as willing and eager to undertake the long, arduous journey as if it were for two blocks instead of over nearly 300 miles of the most difficult, desolate and God-forsaken country on the face of the earth."

The men will quickly secure a pole 25 feet long and about five inches in diameter of tough bamboo wood to the middle of which they will strap the piano in such a way that about eight feet of the pole will project from each end. Then six men will take their places at either end, and away they go at a dog trot on their long trip.

The first 75 miles between Guayaquil and the mountains is through a level country, and this section is covered in little more than two days. But after this country is passed, the route lies through the main range of the Andes, continually going up grade for 240 miles before they reach the top.

"After this meal they lounge around, talking and smoking cigarettes, until midnight, when they throw themselves on the ground for their night's rest; for they never sleep in a bed from one year's end to the other. Nearly all the natives are of mixed blood—Indian and Spanish."

There is no way of taking the pianos to the interior except by this method. On the other side of Quito, toward the Atlantic, lies another range of the Andes, which is almost as high as the one to the westward and still harder to traverse. After crossing the mountains toward the east lies an unexplored wild thousands of miles in extent.

It will take at the lowest 12 days to carry a piano from Guayaquil to Quito. Each man will receive about seven cents a day, or 85 cents for his work for 12 days, and out of this he must provide his own provisions. If they are lucky they may get another load back to Guayaquil.

Nearly every article of modern use comes from the coast, as comparatively nothing is manufactured in the mountains. Large mirrors and huge pieces of furniture have been brought over these narrow mountain trails in the same manner as the pianos.

Against Destiny. Why is a bottle of wine broken on a ship before it is launched? It is for the reason that made Polycares throw his ring into the sea—to give misfortune its share. They say to misfortune: "We give this to you. Be satisfied with it. Take our wine and take nothing else." It is the reason that impels the faithful Jews to break a cup at their wedding ceremony. It is a poor man's revolt against destiny's.

Few Wagons in Syria. Carts, wagons, drays, trucks, etc. are not employed largely in Syria and Palestine. On the farms a wagon of any description is hardly ever seen. Grain is brought in on the backs of camels and donkeys. Delivery wagons are unknown in Syrian cities.

Goals of Fate. Gladys—Men are such conceited things! Why, one may see them any time gazing at a looking glass. Tom (meaningly)—Yes, but it's always a good-looking lass.—N. Y. Times.

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