

HARVESTING THE WALNUTS.

Public Schools in California Are Closed When the Time for Laying In the Crop Arrives.

The culture of the English walnut has become an important industry in California...

The walnut tree begins to bear when six or seven years old, and nothing is known definitely of its age limit of bearing...

The harvest time begins about the middle of September and lasts nearly six weeks...

Boys and girls, men and women, Japanese and Chinese, are all pressed into service...

In certain rural districts the public schools close regularly for a "walnut vacation"...

DECORUM FOR GUESTS.

Rules of an Alaska Hotel for the Guidance of Those Occupying Rooms.

One of the best known of the early settlers of Alaska is Capt. Mayo, who has recently started a bunk house at Rampart in that territory...

The Best Bunk House North of Mexico.

First class in every particular. Every known fluid, water excepted, for sale at the bar...

Indians and niggers charged extra. Special rates to ministers and the gambling "prophets"...

Among the gems of the house rules are the following:

"Guests will be provided with breakfast and dinner, but must rustle their own lunch."

"Dogs not allowed in bunks."

"Candles and hot water charged extra."

"Towels changed weekly."

"As hints to guests are the following printed instructions:

"Craps, chuck-a-luck, horse poker and blackjack run by the management."

"Dogs bought and sold."

"Insect powder for sale at the bar."

"Always notify the bartender the extent of your poka."

A Rat's Tooth.

One of nature's finest implements is tooth of a rat. Its edge is as hard and sharp as the finest steel...

Food for the Hungry.

Mr. Yearner (soulfully). Oh, Miss Pleder—Mabel can you not see the hunger in my eyes? Can you not—

Miss Pleder (self-compassionately)—Oh, to be sure. How thoughtfully of me. Just wait and I'll get you a nice dish of pig's feet.—Philadelphia Press.

MISTREAT THEIR HAIR.

One Reason for the Scantiness of the Locks of Many American Women.

Relatively, the women of the United States have a smaller quantity of hair than their sisters in any other part of the globe...

"American women, as a rule, do not have abundant hair because they habitually mistreat it. With them a becoming coiffure is the first consideration, and securing that they ignore the commonest rules for the proper treatment of the hair..."

"Hair is better without being washed. That does not mean that it must not be cleaned, but the agent employed should not be water. What should be used is a cleaning preparation or hair tonic, mixed for the purpose, with a little oil...

"The present fashion has banished crimped and curling locks, and substituted instead the crisp masses of hair which frame the wearer's face like an aureole..."

"The hair suffers from the use of a comb to give substance to the structure. Another method of stimulating a dense growth, more popular because it dispenses with the use of false hair, is termed 'ratting'..."

INDOOR HAMMOCK.

As a Source of Comfort and an Ideal Resting Place It is Unexcelled.

The hammock in the minds of most people is associated with out-door life on the veranda and lawn...

PROTECTED THIRD RAIL.

Prevents Accidents from the Electric Current on Railways That Use It.

A protected third rail, which has so often been advocated for the elevated system in New York city, but has as yet not been judged a practical impossibility...

Condensed Eggs.

Condensed eggs are being largely exported to South Africa and are meeting with a ready sale...

An Indignant Host.

Lady of the House (a statement that you may have noticed before in other tramp jokes)—Now, my man, since you have eaten so heartily, you might tackle that pile of wood with the saw...

Status on Polished Tables.

Wood alcohol rubbed on a polished table stained or burned by a hot dish will restore the finish if followed by a polishing with linseed oil...

DO NOT CARE FOR THE HOUSE.

There Are But Few Men of Wealth Who Care to Enter the Lower Branch of Congress.

The formal announcement which Congressman Powers made while at home that he would not be again a candidate for congress, although no news to his associates and friends here, has occasioned the widest regret...

The fact must be faced that the body has ceased to attract the kind of men that it ought to have. More than Speaker Cannon's defiance of the senate would be necessary to restore the house to the place where a seat in it will be 'worth while' for the really big men of the country...

Membership still has its uses as a stepping-stone for persons who have an eye on the senate or some other coveted post. A set of rich young men are in consequence taking up congressional seats, notably Pennsylvanians, much as well to do people in the cities are buying up the abandoned farms of New Hampshire...

For a long time people have been allowed to live on these lands, and to build cheap houses and tenements without paying rent, but they were duly notified not to build substantial buildings of brick, which would be hard to remove...

Several committees have called on the governor concerning the matter. Those interested in San Juan and Santurce real estate are somewhat excited over the possible result of the grabbing of practically all of the valuable land by the United States government...

According to the last census, there were 2,144 people who lived on the Marina, but this does not count the people who are employed in the many shops and factories there, and who live in some other part of the city...

When President McKinley sent Mr. Robert P. Porter to Cuba to report on the commercial, industrial and financial condition of the island...

NEW CUBAN RAILROAD.

Line Between Havana and Santiago Has Been Completed Within Last Three Years.

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EXCHANGE OF POST-CARDS.

Hubbard Got His Pretty Short, But Wife Got Back at Him In Kind.

A wife who knew the aversion of her husband to getting writing and talking as he was about leaving home for the continent...

Seasons in the Philippines.

Though the Spanish ironically describe the seasons in the Philippines as "six months of mud, six months of dust, six months of everything," the temperature does not vary enough to lose tropical influence...

The Quicker the Better.

The late Henry Seton Merriman—his real name was Hugh Scott—was one of the swiftest writers the world has ever seen...

Received His Father.

The late Henry Seton Merriman—his real name was Hugh Scott—was one of the swiftest writers the world has ever seen...

WORRIES PORTO RICANS.

Contemplated Improvements at San Juan Reveal Congressionary Condition of the Capital.

While the contemplated improvements in San Juan by the navy department, which have already been begun, are hailed with delight by most of the inhabitants...

Those who occupy houses on the Marina adjacent to the navy department were served with papers long ago, warning them that they should not build any permanent houses, as they might be called upon to give up their property in the near future...

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PRAIRIE CHICKENS GONE.

Birds Once So Numerous in the State of Illinois No Longer to Be Found.

Fifteen years ago the greatest winter sport in central Illinois was chicken shooting. Hunters who tramped through snow-covered corn fields and over the stubble fields early could bag in a ten-hour hunt enough chickens to last a family a week...

The man who goes hunting in the prairie counties to-day is likely to kill a lot of time and burn a good deal of gunpowder shooting at peewees and field mice, but that is about the biggest game he will find...

I've been hunting four or five times this winter and I haven't killed a chicken. I haven't seen more than half a dozen since our harvest. Some people argue that the chickens have all been killed off by the hunters, but that is not true...

As a point in favor of this argument I want to tell of the hunting we did one winter. That will go to prove that chickens do migrate. That winter, it was in the early '80s, we organized a sort of country gun club...

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DIFFERENT MACHINE.

The One Used by the Writer Was Not the Kind That Did Fine Satisfying.

"A Washington man who puts in his mornings at home, writing things for the newspapers, and using a typewriting machine for the purpose, had an odd experience the other morning, relates the Evening Star..."

"A couple of days before his wife had engaged a new maid servant, who was almost as dumb as she was black, which is saying a great deal. In dusting around the writing man's work room the new maid servant had watched his manipulation of the typewriting machine with great curiosity, and on the second day of her employment she inquired of her mistress..."

"The writing man's wife didn't exactly penetrate the meaning of the question, and so she returned some evasive reply. On the following morning, after the mistress had gone off to do the market-bag, and while the writing man was learning off language on the typewriter for dear life, there was a rump at the front door. The maid servant answered the ring. The writing man paused at his work to listen to the colloquy at the door, and he heard a man's voice say something about 'a machine.' The maid servant made reply to this by saying..."

"Yesuh, dey got a machine in dis house—de gemman o' de house dun uses it."

"That so?" the writing man heard the male voice down at the front door say in a tone of some surprise. "Uses the machine-himself, eh? Is he in now?"

"Yesuh, he's in," the servant answered, and then she clomped up the stairs to the writing man's den and said to the busy occupant of it:

"Dey's a gemman a' de do' whut wats 'e say 'bout a machine suh?"

The writing man hustled down the stairs and found a good looking and decidedly talkative young man standing in the vestibule. There was a wagon out in front of the house.

"Good morning, sir," said the young man in the vestibule. "Your servant tells me that you use a machine—use it yourself?"

"Sure thing," replied the writing man, trying to frame up words to dismiss the visitor on the score of pressure of work. "Yop, I use a machine, but I'm perfectly satisfied with the one I've got."

"Is it up to date?" inquired the young man in the vestibule, with a businesslike chirking up.

"Well, it's all right as far as I need," replied the writing man, in a hurried tone, as he thought of the urgent "hurry" in his den upstairs. "Ain't no such thing as a free lunch, you know. I've got to come, considering that I've got through paying for it the other day."

"Robbiness!" inquired the young man in the vestibule, disregarding the writing man's expressed determination to stick to the "machine," he had.

"The writing man looked puzzled."

"Robbiness," he said. "Well, I don't know what you mean by that, but it has most of the new attachments, and I guess it fits all right with 'Robbiness!'"

"Got making and fitting and quilting attachments?" presently asked the young man in the vestibule.

Again the writing man looked bewildered by the unusual nature of the queries.

"Oh, it's a little 'nuff to see 'em," he replied, and then the young man in the vestibule looked a bit surprised. But he went ahead.

"Has it got the embolizing attachment?"

"Well, all of those things," said the writing man. "It does any old thing that I need to do on it, anyway."

"Excuse me for asking the question," said the young man, "but is your wife fond of your machine?"

"Oh, she doesn't use it at all," replied the writing man. "I'm the only one in the house that touches it. She never learned how to operate it. Wish she would. It'd save me a lot of work."

"The young man looked somewhat baffled."

"Well," he said, after a pause, "I've been sitting machines now for nearly ten years, all over the country, and I've know, sir, that you are the first man I ever met up with that makes his wife's clothes."

"The writing man came so close to falling down right there in the hall that there was no fun in it."

He pulled himself together, however, with a colossal effort, and after about four minutes he succeeded in straightening the thing out.

"The young man engaged in selling sewing machines had, naturally enough, taken the black maid servant's word for it, and the black maid servant, to whom the typewriting machine was something entirely new, had told him that 'de gemman o' de house spon' nearly all the all-time sewing on a machine."

"Gosh! I'm glad I staged that!" exclaimed the writing man to himself after the departure of the sewing machine agent. "If I hadn't it'd have been all over town in no time that my wife bullied me into making her clothes."

The late Henry Seton Merriman—his real name was Hugh Scott—was one of the swiftest writers the world has ever seen. Mr. Merriman once wrote at long intervals, but when he once set down at his desk, he would produce two or three chapters of 5,000 words each in an evening. Once he argued with Walter Pater, at Oxford, on this matter. "Nothing," Mr. Pater retorted, "nothing can be done well that is done in a hurry." "Nothing," said Mr. Merriman. "Nothing," said Mr. Pater. "How about making a train?"—Pittsburg Dispatch.

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