

A ripe tomato is the best known remedy for bee stings. One application is sufficient.

"At what period?" pausing, and scratching his head—"at what—ah! you've got me there!"

The Grand Duke Alexis is a prey to melancholy, and his visit to America is intended to cheer him up.

The world is now being swept by hurricanes and suicides—the suicides a little ahead at last accounts.

An Irishman said he did not come to this country for want. He had abundance of that at home.

The Hon. Teresa Yelverton is going to Japan and China, if nothing happens. We earnestly hope nothing will happen.—*Ex.*

This generation has grown so lazy that it is proposed to have elevators in the churches to take the people up into the galleries.

A Michigan man dislocated his arm the other day in putting on a clean shirt. He had not tried it for so long a time that he had entirely lost the "knack" of the thing.

Ministers are rapidly taking rank in New York as men of the world. They speculate, and are silent partners in divers affairs, mercantile and domestic.

"Now, my little boys and girls," said a teacher, "I want you to be very still, so still that you can hear a pin drop." In a moment all was silent; when a little boy shrieked out, "Let her drop."

An English farmer condensed his practical experience into this rule: "Feed your land before it is hungry, rest it before it is weary, and weed it before it is foul."

Poor-pay debtors in Canada are writing complaints to the papers that their remorseless creditors send them duns on open postal cards, which all who care may read.

The Abyssinian stretch has superseded the Grecian bend and the kangaroo droop among the belles of fashion. It is supposed that this will have a short run as the Madagascar flutter and the Fijian sprawl are waiting to be adopted.

A curate having been overhauled by his Bishop for attending a ball, the former replied:

"My Lord, I wore a mask."
"Oh, well!" returned the Bishop, "that puts a new face on the affair."

By having his wits about him and a plentiful supply of eggs, a man succeeded in saving the life of his wife last week, in Portland, who in a fit of abstraction, had swallowed a dose of corrosive-sublimate, thinking it was laudanum. Given over by the frightened neighbors for as good as dead, her husband at once administered to the terrified victim the whites of fifteen eggs, which completely neutralized the effects of the poison.

In a Western village a charming, well preserved widow had been courted and won by a physician. She had children; among them a crippled boy, who had been petted, and, if not spoiled, certainly allowed great "freedom in debate." The wedding day was approaching, and it was time the children should know they were to have a new father. Calling the crippled boy the widow said:

"George, I am going to do something before long that I would like to talk about with you. I am intending to marry Dr. Jones in a few days, and—"

"Bully for you, Ma! Does Dr. Jones know it?"

Ma caught her breath, but failed to articulate a response.

There is hardly another sight in the world so pretty as that of a company of young girls, almost women grown, at play, and so giving themselves up to their airy impulse that their tiptoes barely touched the ground. Girls are so incomparably wilder and more effervescent than boys, more untameable, and regardless of rule or limit, with an ever-shifting variety, breaking continually into new modes of fun, yet with a harmonious propriety through all. Their steps, their voices, appear as free as the wind, but keep consonance with a strain of music inaudible to us. Young men and boys, on the other hand, play according to recognized law, old traditional games permitting no caprices of fancy, but with scope enough for the outbreak of savage instincts; for, young or old, in play, man is prone to be a brute.—*Hawthorne's Blithedale Romance.*

Oiled floors for Kitchens.

I have, for several years, followed the plan of oiling uncarpeted floors, in order to avoid the labor of scrubbing them, and I find it works well. You can either oil or paint them, of course, but I consider the oiling preferable, on the following grounds:

It is cheaper.
You can apply it yourself.
It produces a pleasanter color.
It doesn't show tracks of dust, mud and such like: and, therefore, a floor thus prepared does not require so frequent mopping.

An oiled floor is better than a plain one in the following particulars:

It looks better.
It does not require scrubbing; which saves your back.
It is never to be mopped with hot water nor strong suds; which saves your hands.

Grease spots never hurt it; which saves your temper.

To prepare a floor, I take a quantity of the cheapest linseed oil I can secure, and apply with a common paint brush. I put it on smoothly, so that it will strike in equally all over and yet not stand in spots on the surface. I do this at night, after the evening work is finished, and find the place ready for us again the next morning. Of course it does not injure the oiled surface itself, to tread on it at once; but grease is liable to be tracked from it at first, to adjacent parts of the house. A new coat of oil applied once in six months, or even once a year sometimes, is sufficient to keep a floor in perfect order.

One may prepare to great advantage the floors of kitchens, pantries, and summer dining-rooms, back halls, stairways and porticoes, closets, bath-rooms and laborers' bed-rooms. It is also a good plan in children's apartments, particularly when you are training them to do their own room-work, to leave bare that end or side of the floor on which the bed stands, and to oil it. That portion of the floor under the bed can then be easily kept from dust, the sweepings can be more readily removed, and the children will be afforded free scope for their duck-like style of ablutions, without danger to the carpet.—*Western Rural.*

The following story is told of the first introduction of the stereoscope to the savans of France. The Abbe Moigno took the instrument to Arago and tried to interest him in it; but Arago unluckily had a defect of vision that made him see double, so that in looking into the stereoscope he saw only a medley of four pictures. The abbe then went to Savat, but he was quite as incapable of appreciating the thing, for he had but one eye. Becquerel was next visited, but he was nearly blind, and consequently cared but little for the new optical toy. The abbe not discouraged, called next upon Pouillette, of the Conservatoire des Arts et Metiers. He was a good deal interested in the description of the apparatus, but, unfortunately, he squinted, and, therefore, could see nothing in it but a blurred mixture of images. Under the circumstances, the wonder is that the stereoscope ever got fairly into France; but at the beginning of the year 1870 its manufacture had certainly reached a monetary value there of \$250,000 per annum.

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