

body from the effects of the scalding sun; and he was at the point of death for almost two months. His escort, meanwhile, went in pursuit of the Indians who had captured his wife, and were almost within reach of them when the savages, finding that the lady would be an incumbrance to them in their flight, killed her on the spot, and took to the bushes.

Whenever new troops arrive at the frontier, the savages make it a rule to test, if possible, the enemy's fighting qualities and efficiency in their own peculiar warfare. Since they have advantage of thorough knowledge of the country they are apt to get the better of the soldiers, unless they are commanded by officers who have experience in fighting the savages.—*The Overland Monthly*.

Eating by the Alphabet.

"Have you got anything here beginning with 'k' that's good to eat?" inquired a new customer at a well-known local delicacy market. "How will pickled kidneys answer?" replied the clerk, after a moment's thought. "First rate. Give me a dozen cans. The kitten's life is saved," exclaimed the strange patron with enthusiasm. "I told my wife," he continued, "that if I failed to send home a kangaroo, dead or alive, before 2 o'clock I should expect to find the kitten served up for supper, in the latest Chinese style. But your happy thought saved her. You see we all got tired eating the same things day after day, and so last month we agreed that during December we would eat up (or rather down) the alphabet, taking one letter a day, with bread, potatoes, tea and coffee thrown in as staples. So December the 1st, we inaugurated the dietary system, with a bill of fare consisting of apples in many forms, apricots pickled, asparagus, almonds and the staples. The next day's menu was beef, boots, beans, biscuits, buttermilk, bacon and bon-bons. The next day we feasted on chickens, codfish calls, clams, celery, cucumbers (20 cents each), crabs, cheese, cakes, crackers, crullers, carrots, canned currants, canned cherries, citrons, cider, catsup and candy. And so it has gone on. The fifth day would have been a fast day had it not been for eggs, but we made an Easter of it. Yesterday we dined, breakfasted and supped chiefly on jellies. Today your kidney suggestion saved us from starvation, while tomorrow we will grow fat on liver, lamb, lobsters, lettuce, etc. A queer thing about our new food departure is the number of things it has put in our mouths which we never thought of before."—*Buffalo Express*.

The Postage Stamp Myth.

For years past there has been an idea in the minds of many young people that there lives a man somewhere who will give \$1000 for 1,000,000 canceled postage stamps. In replying to a youthful correspondent, the *Syracuse Herald* says: "This canceled postage stamp myth, for such it must really be called, has been current among American juveniles

for nearly twenty years. In many households throughout the land it is believed in as unquestioningly as the Hindoo devotee believes in Brahma, or as the Mahometan in the prophet of Allah. Somewhere there is a person eager and willing to pay \$1000 for a million canceled stamps, and in many places industrious collectors have been engaged in the fond endeavor to gather up the necessary million. No one has ever stopped to inquire the meaning of a million, or to figure for a moment how long a time it would take for one person to collect a million stamps.

"An enterprising youth in search of stamps would think if he got a hundred a day he would be getting a great prize, and yet at that rate it would take him nearly twenty-eight years to gain the coveted million. Suppose he could collect one thousand a day every day in the year, it would still occupy nearly three years of his time, and then it would take nearly as long a time to count them out to the person paying the money for them, and there would be very little time left either for eating or sleeping, much less doing anything else in the way of daily duties. Thus it may be seen how foolish the idea is that, with great industry, a million stamps could be collected in many years and then recounted to a purchaser. And yet it seems like something that could be accomplished.

"A few years ago a pleasant story went the rounds of the papers telling how some young person, eagerly desirous of obtaining this \$1,000 for his education, went the rounds of the business offices, told his needs and gathered up all the stamps in innumerable waste baskets. In this way he obtained 1,000,000 of stamps, and, as the story goes, got the \$1,000. But if one critically examines the tale it will be seen what an impossibility it is. To sever the stamps from the envelopes, to count and bunch them, would take a very large amount of time. The most industrious worker could not possibly do this work at this rate of one stamp a minute, but supposing he did do this, it would only be at the rate of sixty an hour, or about 600 a day, for an ordinary day's work. At that rate it would take nearly five years to count them. Then, if they had to be counted again to the purchaser, it would take another five years.

Diphtheria Recipes.

Dr. Deriker, of St. Petersburg, who is the head physician of the Children's Hospital, and has treated no less than 2,000 cases of diphtheria, and tried all remedies, both internal and external, says that he has found the following a certain cure for the disease: As soon as the white spots appear on the tonsils he gives a laxative, usually senna tea. When the purgative effect has ceased, he gives cold drinks acidulated with lemons, limes or hydrochloric acid, and every two hours a gargle composed of lime-water and milk. Hot milk was also given as a drink, and the throat well rubbed externally with spirits of turpentine.

The Academy of Medicines in France offered a large sum of money for a successful cure of diphtheria, and this is the best obtained there: Equal parts of liquid tar and turpentine are put in an iron pan and burned in the patient's room. The dense resinous smoke gives immediate relief. The fibrinous matter soon becomes detached and is coughed up. This is effective in all cases of a moderately virulent type. Dr. Deriker claims that his method has been even more successful, reaching to the worst class of cases.

Both remedies are of such a character that they are not injurious if used with ordinary care.

IDAHO'S STATEHOOD.

The Boise, Idaho, *Statesman* of April 2 has the following proclamation of Governor Stevenson, calling for an election of delegates to a constitutional convention, to be held in Boise on the 4th of July next, to draft a State Constitution:

Whereas, It is desirable that the Territory of Idaho be admitted into the Union as a State, and it has been clearly indicated by leading men of Congress of both political parties that so soon as a suitable Constitution is presented to Congress such admission will be granted;

Now, therefore, I, E. A. Stevenson, Governor of Idaho Territory, fully recognizing the great advantages which Statehood will confer, and in accordance with the fully expressed wishes of the citizens of the Territory, do issue this my proclamation to the people thereof, and recommend to them that they take the necessary steps for such admission; that for this purpose they hold throughout this Territory, on the first Monday in June, A. D. 1889, an election for delegates to a Constitutional Convention to convene at Boise City, in said Territory, at 12 o'clock, noon, of the 4th day of July, A. D. 1889, for the purpose of framing a constitution for the State of Idaho; that such constitution, when so framed, be submitted for adoption or rejection to a vote of the people at an election to be held throughout this Territory, at a time hereafter to be provided for, and if adopted by the people at such election, to be then submitted to Congress for ratification, and the admission of this Territory as a State of the Union; that the qualifications of delegates to such convention shall be such as are now required by the laws of said Territory for members of the Legislative Assembly of said Territory, and such delegates must take the same oath of office required of such members; that the election provided for shall be conducted, the returns made, the results ascertained, certificates to persons elected be issued, and the qualifications for voters thereof shall be the same as now provided by the laws of said Territory for general elections therein.

That said convention shall be composed of 72 members, apportioned as follows:

Ada County 9, Alturas 6, Bear