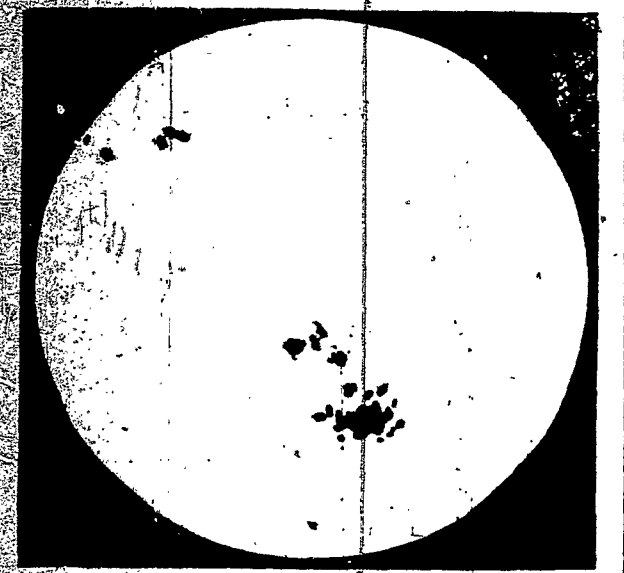


Science Progress.

SUN SPOTS.

A Few Facts About Them and How They are Photographed.

Sun spots are at present little understood, and their effect upon us here on earth are mere matters of conjecture. This last spot, for instance, now working its way round on the other side of the sun, the largest certainly for twenty years of solar photographic time, has greatly exercised the scientific. It has been accused of delaying telegraphic messages, perverting the truth



SUN SPOTS RECENTLY PHOTOGRAPHED.

of the magnetic needle and of causing blizzards and tornadoes. The only thing placed to its credit is a magnificent display of aurora borealis, and even that has something uncanny about it. These malignant influences, however, asserted by some, are denied by others. But observation records some interesting facts, according to a recent English writer. The spots travel across the disk of the sun in some thirteen days, and, barring dispersal, reappear in as many more upon the other side. Their movements appear somewhat erratic, but they are the only evidence we have of the time (twenty-six or twenty-seven days) which the sun is supposed to take to revolve upon its axis. Sun spots have been known upon the sun's equator, but more usually they are found in zones of 40 degrees from that point. The periods of maxima come about every eleven years—the next will be in 1893 or 1894.

The largest group of sun spots ever photographed at the Greenwich observatory is the one here illustrated, which was taken Feb. 13, its area being 3,860,000,000 square miles. In regard to the manner of photographing the sun an English interviewer reports the following information from the astronomer in charge: "The heliograph (apparently about twenty feet long) is almost exactly like an ordinary telescope, with a camera attached at the bottom. The object glass is four inches in diameter, and the image of the sun, after passing what in the ordinary way would be the eyepiece, is enlarged in a telescope. The light, however, passes through an enlarging doublet, which throws the image upon the sensitive plate as a circle eight inches in diameter. There is no need to look through the telescope, as a lens is mounted upon the exterior of the brass tube to show an image in the form of a spot of light upon a paper disk lower down the tube. This forms a 'finder,' so that when the spot of light is on the center of the circle the telescope is pointing straight at the sun."

"The plates used at Greenwich are the ordinary landscape plates. Those used for the sun are 'slow' plates, and those for the stars as rapid as can be got, and in every case they are carefully spotted, so as to be free from defects. A dust spot on a negative looks exactly like a star. In photographing the sun the exposure has to be extremely rapid, being frequently only one-thousandth of a second. If the exposure is short, the opening of the instantaneous shutter shown in the diagram is also small. The circle is the telescope tube at the small end. The rectangle is the metal shutter, and the two lines close together are the little slit in the shutter through which the light is allowed to pass. When the shutter drops the slit passes across the tube in the thousandth part of a second and the exposure is made."

Hot Water Lift by a Pump.
In answer to the inquiry, "Will a pump draw hot water; if so, how hot and how far will it draw it?" The Stationary Engineer says: "Owing to the fact that water will boil in a vacuum at a temperature of 98 to 100 degs. it is impossible for a pump to lift what might be called hot water any distance, for as the pressure of air is removed from the surface of the water, vapor is formed and fills the space, so that no difference in pressure between the surface of the pump and the air outside will be produced, consequently the water will not be forced above its level. If the supply of water is above the level of the pump, water will run in on account of its own weight, or, more properly, the force of gravity. With a good pump and moderately fast speed, it might be possible to raise hot water a few inches, but the distance would be so slight that nothing practical would be gained."

One Thing and Another.
It is claimed that the best charcoal is made from wood that is from fifteen to twenty years old.

An alloy for imitation gold, resembling color 12 carat gold, is made of three parts platinum and nine copper.

A telephone line between Manito and Pike's Peak is, according to The Electrical World, said to be the highest telephone line in the world, the two points being respectively 6,500 and 14,100 feet above the sea.

The Hortological Review tells of a soft alloy made of five parts bismuth, three parts lead and two parts tin, which melts at a temperature of 139 degs. Fahr. (less than boiling water, which is 212 degs.).

If a person is accidentally ignited in the house, throw flour on it as the best and handiest extinguisher; never throw water on it—that only spreads the flame, advises a scientific journal.

It is asserted that grindstones of the very best quality and capable of outwearing any natural stone are those now made of a mixture of pulverized quartz and powdered sand.

THE OVERHOLD

GLOVE MENDING.

A Convenient Outfit for This Purpose and How to Use It to Best Advantage.

It is well to have a little basket purposing for glove mending, that have come to mending, filled with the gray and black silk or cotton thread—for just lately cotton has come into vogue for glove mending, many claiming that it is less apt than silk to cut the kid, while it wears off and matches the color more perfectly. There should also be in the basket a paper of assorted glove needles, a bit of wax and a box of the tiny buttons which have been saved from the worn out gloves, as well as pieces of gloves of different colors. Good Housekeeping, which recommends the foregoing handy outfit, also says:

It is always advisable to buy gloves of the best quality and then to carefully pull them in shape, straightening the fingers, before putting them away after wearing, being sure that they are not damp with perspiration, sprinkling the inside with violet powder if there is the least trace of it, otherwise you may find your gloves mildewed, and wonder how they came to be so. A pair of gloves, the smallest rip properly mended, will last nearly as long again.

The best way to mend buttonholes that have a tendency to stretch or tear is to baste on the inside—with a fine needle always—a bit of kid the color of the gloves. Carefully follow the edges, stretching both patch and gloves alike, and then securely fasten the buttonholes to it—cutting incisions of the proper size and sewing to the edge of the buttonholes. If the seams in the back are torn out, a piece may be put under and so carefully sewed that it will not show.

A worn thumb or forefinger may be padded with a bit of alcohol glove, and thus made to do duty as shopping gloves for some time. Silk lisle thread or woolen gloves, if taken when first beginning to show wear, can be neatly darned, and are much more serviceable for the everyday purposes of life than cheap kid.

Fads, Fashions and Fancies.
Gleaned from The Jeweler's Circular are the following:

A novelty in plates for afternoon teas and receptions where refreshments are served has a circular well on one side, into which a coffee cup will just fit, thus enabling one to hold the plate and cup in one hand and use the fork with the other.

White leather purses have the corners bound with perforated ornaments of silver. When duly set forth they contain silver letter clip, paper cutter, stamp box, tiny pin cushion of rubber held by a silver band, and penholder.

Lamp shades made of what appear to be giant petals of different flowers in exquisite shades of rose green and orange have been introduced.

A sleigh on wheels, having for freight a napkin ring, salt and pepper boxes, is an oddity to be commended.

Finger bowls and plates of glass are covered with ornamental designs of gold and color.

Royal Dordan has never been more popular than at the present time.

Amber cigarette holders have tiny gold crabs and insects applied.

Melon shaped biscuit jars of cut glass have silver tops.

Butter Cakes.

An English cook's receipt for these is as follows: Five pounds of flour, 1½ pounds of butter and lard, 2½ pounds of sugar (mole), two ounces of carbonate of soda, two ounces of ground mixed spice, one pint of sour milk. Rub the butter, flour, spice and soda well together on the board, make a bay, put in the sugar, and wet into a nice bread dough. Let it lie for a couple of hours, then roll it down in sheets a quarter of an inch in thickness, and cut out with a plain 3½ inch round cutter. Place on greased tins, brush over with milk and bake in a moderate oven.

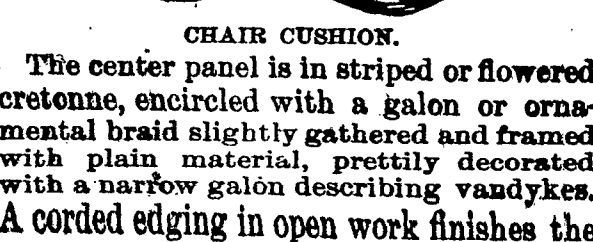
Window Drapery.

To those who are furnishing their apartments in the prevailing Chippendale style, we would suggest a treatment of window that would be most appropriate to such an apartment, the window draperies depending from a canopy. The draperies might be of green and green brocatel, with plain Genoa satin for the little flared curtains, and for upholstering the window seats.

This scheme is admirably adapted for a room that savors of the antique, and could be equally well carried out in shades of green and terra cotta.—Decorator and Furnisher.

A Useful and Pretty Cushion.

This shell-like cushion is most useful for the seats of some of the occasional chairs in wickerwork so much in vogue for the house, garden or beach.



The center panel is in striped or flowered cretonne, encircled with a galon or ornamental band slightly gathered and framed with plain material, prettily decorated with a narrow galon describing vandykes. A corded edging in open work finishes the whole.

Date Cake.
One and one-half cups of sugar, one-half cup of butter, the yolks of four eggs, one cup of milk, two large cups of flour, two spoonfuls of baking powder, a spoonful of almond flavoring and one-half pound of dates chopped fine. Bake in long sheets about two inches thick. Ice thickly, and place the dates (with the stones removed) at equal distances upon it. Cut it into squares when ready to serve.

Polished Yellow Pine.
Yellow pine, hard finished in oils, is the rival in beauty of appearance of any wood that grows, not excepting the costliest of the well known hard species, at least in the assertion of some workers in ornamental wood. It is susceptible of receiving and maintaining as high a degree of polish as any known wood, while, when impregnated with oil, it is well indestructible.

FASHIONS

NEW SPRING STYLES.

White Laces Again Fashionable—Ribbons—Trimming—A Graceful Tea Gown.

There is a reaction in favor of white laces again, and one sees already on the imported gowns, dresses and tabliers of white or cream lace, Flinders lace, point de Venise, Chantilly, Malines, etc., are all called into active service in the making of gowns. The milliners are also using lace with unparagon hand on the spring bonnets. Point gaze, point d'Alencon, applique point and oriental laces, the last in wreath and ribbon designs, as well as the popular guipure and Genoa laces, are all to be used. They are in clear white as well as cream.



A FRENCH TEA GOWN.

tinted, and are mostly in 8-inch widths. Cronstadt veiling, the large meshed Russian net, in both black and white, is to be used for deep face veils.

Ribbons are also employed in the trimming of dresses, and are to be seen hanging in long ends depending from a rosette or buckle, or in multifarious little knots of narrow ribbons of the various colors represented in the pattern of the silk, grouped in threes or fours for flots or rosettes.

In the cut here given is shown a French tea gown which not only affords a charming model for a gown, but exemplifies the uses to which laces and ribbons are being applied. The lace in this instance is white Flinders, over a foundation of daffodil yellow bengaline silk. It is draped in front with irregular bows of pale blue satin ribbon, showing gold.

Russian blouses are a feature this season. Lace blouses are made in the black or white flouncing or skirt lace, with a scalloped edge, which serves for the lower edge of the blouse and for the epaulettes of the Russian blouses.

Quaint Gowns for Little Maids.
In the accompanying illustration one sees two dainty frocks for little girls. The granny costume with its long skirt and



TWO Dainty Little Frocks.

puffed sleeves is decidedly quaint. The full skirt flutters the skirt around the bottom adds to the picturesque effect, as does also the sash with its huge bow and long ends. This frock is in pale green satin; the sash is in pink satin silk.

The other frock is in blue plush, made in a pinfold fashion, with a pink silk yoke and sleeves, both smocked and embroidered with blue. Other little dresses seen were equally pretty and free from elaboration. One was of cardinal sarron, accented with full sleeves and yoke and cuffs. Children's clothes are much prettier than they used to be.

A Pretty Spring Gown.

An imported gown seen, which exemplifies not only present fashions but the modes that are likely to continue to be in favor throughout the spring, was blue, with a slight check, including spots; the tint that pretty tulle lace with no one can fail to admire. The skirt was cut on the cross and displayed velvet panels—the material being caught up revealed it well. The full crossing bodice disappeared into a corset; there was a high collar, with the points turning down, and the sleeves were puffed and trimmed with horizontal bands of velvet. The crescent back of the skirt had two box plaits.

A Novel Whim.

One of the novel little whims of dainty women is a charm of dull gold or silver, made in the shape of an acorn or flower-deed and worn upon the bangle or chaste-ain. It is filled with perfume, which is permitted to escape drop by drop and thus keep the wearer enveloped in an atmosphere of supply fascinating odors. Women realize more and more the potency of perfume as an element of charm and continually desire new and new fragrances with no one so ready to surrender themselves to its fragrance.

Fashion Echoes.

Seamless corsets have been followed by a seamless dress.

A novelty in sailor suits for boys has a reefer jacket with brass buttons, and another is double breasted, having a vest joined with cord to match visible above the jacket.

Dress skirts retain their clinging fronts with fullness massed at the back.

Dresses for the house are made with a train or demitain.

Children in the fashionable world are taught to dance almost as soon as they can walk.

This season's silk petticoats furnish in their gay colorings a decided contrast to the gowns under which they are worn.

Belts are in demand and there is a fancy for very narrow ones with silver clasps.

Muslins are to the fore again, especially those with interwoven white spots and pointed sleeves in solid color.

GOOD HEALTH

THE DOCTOR AND TOBACCO.

The Late Sir Morell Mackenzie's Opinions and Suggestions About Smoking.

Sir Morell Mackenzie is credited with having expressed himself as follows in regard to the effects of smoking. He strongly objected to the cigarette, as being the worst form of indulgence, from the fact that the very mildness of its action tempts people to smoke nearly all day long, and by inhaling the fumes into their lungs saturate their blood with the poison. It should be borne in mind that there are two bad qualities contained in the fumes of tobacco. One is poisonous nicotine, the other the high temperature of the burning tobacco. Most people, however, can smoke in moderation without injury; to many tobacco acts as a useful nerve sedative; but, on the other hand, an excessive indulgence in the habit is always injurious.

To say that total abstinence from tobacco too heroic a stretch of virtue, Sir Morell said: "Let him smoke only after a substantial meal. Let him smoke a mild Havana or a long stemmed pipe charged with some cool smoking tobacco. If the character of the cigarette is repellible, let it be smoked through a funnel of tobacco. It is kept clean with ultra-Mohammedan strictness. Let him refrain from smoking pipe, cigar or cigarette to the bitter end, it may be added, rank and oily end."

The Abuse of Hypnotism.

One of the most striking warnings on record against the use of hypnotic experiments is mentioned by Dr. C. L. Tuckey in The Contemporary Review as the story of Irma Szandor, which Dr. von Kraft Ebling has given at length in a small volume. This young girl, a Hungarian by birth, was of hysterical constitution, and proved extraordinarily susceptible to hypnotic suggestion. She fell into the hands of persons whose ill judged zeal and curiosity carried them to lengths which seem almost incredible, and her life was ruined by cruel and senseless experiments. She was hypnotized several times a day for some months, apparently by a day who chose to practice upon her, and was made the victim of very painful and distressing suggestions. For instance, a pair of scissors was on one occasion laid upon her bare arm, and she was told that they were red hot and would burn her. All the effects of a severe burn were brought about by this suggestion, and she was made to believe that the shape of the scissors appeared on her arm and took months to heal. The unhappy girl at last became insane.

Treatment in Fainting Spells.

Fainting proceeds from different causes, the commonest being a disturbance in the circulation of the blood in the brain. For an ordinary fainting fit lay the patient flat. Great harm has often resulted from the treatment of ignorant persons in trying to make the patient sit up, or propping up the head with pillows. To send the blood back to the heart, the patient should be laid absolutely flat. Let the patient lie so that the feet are higher than the head, throw the clothes about the chest and throat open, sponge the face with cold water and give some cold water to drink. This is the treatment oftentimes followed in a simple fainting fit.

A New Cure for Headache.

The latest of "infallible cures" invented or discovered by foreign doctors is one for headaches, by Dr. Heinrich Weiss, of Vienna. Dr. Weiss makes no secret of his remedy, which has the merit of being extremely simple. You simply press the hand for a few minutes on the great inferior artery between the sternum and the navel and the headache goes. Dr. Weiss declares that this remedy gave immediate relief in the cases of twenty-three female patients suffering from violent headaches. Any one who chooses can easily try the method for himself, with the exception of the assurance that, if he fails, nothing worse can happen to him than to feel a little foolish.

WHAT TO DO.

Suggestions in Good Form for a Variety of Occasions.

Harpers Bazar solved the perplexities of a number of inquirers with the following useful paragraphs:

A "best man" attends his friend to the altar, holds his hat and keeps the ring until it is needed, and he sends the bride as handsome a present as he can afford—a bracelet, a glass, a piece of silver or a pretty bit of furniture, a set of teacups or a diamond star.

Wedding presents may be sent in any manner direct from a shop by your servant or by express. Attach your calling card, upon which you may write, "Congratulations," or "Love," or "I am so glad you are married."

Use the chaplain's name first—as, "Mrs. Smith, let me introduce Miss Robinson." In introducing a gentleman to a lady—even though he be "a celebrity"—say, "Miss Brown, let me present Mr. Jones."

Naturally the caller would first greet the member of the receiving party with whom she is acquainted and then be by her presented to the others. A card sent to an evening affair does not lessen the necessity of a call of acknowledgment afterward.

The ladies of the family should ordinarily take precedence of the solitary male guest, and he should be older than they, a clergyman or in some other way distinguished, when the girls may wait their turn.

It is a matter of choice at "afternoon teas" whether you have your apparatus at hand in the drawing room, and make and hand the tea yourself, or have it made outside and brought in by a maid.

It is not only "not correct," but is in wretchedly bad taste to put "No presents" upon a wedding invitation. Certainly send your invitation, whether the person be out of town or not.

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OUR YOUNG FOLKS

SAVED FROM A TIGER.

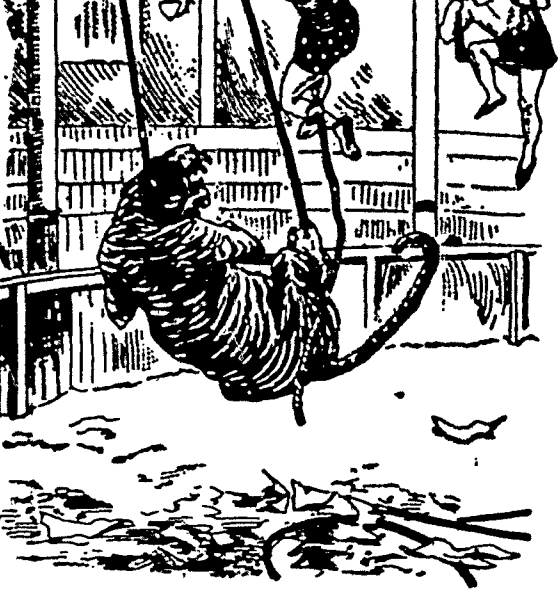
A Story of a Rescue Accomplished by Quick Wit, Courage and Agility.

Many years ago a small circus and menagerie in the course of its travels arrived at a little town in France. Lopez, the trainer of the wild animals, was also a clever acrobat. For some time he had been training a lad named Danielo as an acrobat, and now decided to permit Danielo to appear for the first time in public. In order to give his pupil confidence, the master began putting him through a few practice jumps before the hour for opening the circus to the public. Young Danielo having gone through part of his task was resting on the bar for a moment.

Suddenly Lopez, higher up, gave a start, and looked with amazement toward a corner of the circus.

"The tiger!" he cried.

"It was I," said the terrible animal. He had escaped from its cage and had found its way into the circus. Immediately it



JUST OUT OF REACH.

became aware of the presence of the two acrobats and prepared to spring at Danielo, who was within easy reach. Lopez perceived the danger of his young pupil.

"Climb up beside me," he shouted, "and haste! Seize one of the ropes and climb."

For the moment, however, Danielo had lost all his presence of mind, and it was quite a wonder that he did not fall to the ground.

Fortunately the lad recovered his self possession, and quicker than thought, just as the tiger sprang toward him, he seized one of the ropes near at hand and clambered upward out of immediate danger, while the tiger, instead of capturing Danielo, only seized the bar which the young acrobat had just left, causing it to swing to and fro and becoming entangled in the ropes.

It was, however, apparent that the animal would soon disengage itself and would probably make another spring, this time with greater ferocity.

Suddenly a large piece of raw meat was thrown into the circus just beneath the tiger. At the sight of this the animal dropped from the rope, pounced upon the meat and began to devour it. Then for the first time the tiger perceived the presence of another prey. Several yards away stood a young girl of twelve years of age. She attracted the animal's attention by calling to it, and in a moment the already enraged animal sprang toward her.

But the brave girl had anticipated this, and quicker than her enemy she ran down one of the passages familiar to her and entered a large cage consisting of two compartments. The tiger entered after her, but not before the girl had succeeded in reaching the second part of the cage and closed the door behind her.

As soon as Lopez perceived the child's action he leaped to the ground and followed after them, arriving just as the girl had closed the gate of the second cage. It was only the work of a moment to secure the tiger, and then Lopez, with his heart full of gratitude, entered the cage and closed the door behind him.

"My dear, brave Marie!" he cried with joy and pride, "you have saved us both."

Little People, Stand Together.

Fierce and strong the wind was raging— I seem fighting with it yet— When the lullies steepness braving, Two wee lassies there I met.

How could children face such weather, With whose tears upon around? Why, they firmly clung together, And contrived to keep their ground.



THEY FIRMLY CLUNG TOGETHER.

And I thought life would be smoother, And its hours not spent in vain, If folks stood by one another, Sharing nobly toil and pain.

Little people, stand together, Kindly, bravely—that's the way— Not alone in the bleak weather, But through life, dears—come what may!

A German Fable.
A famous hero in my story's theme, Who never was known to tire Of laying eggs—but then she'd scream: So loud o'er every egg 'twould seem The house must be on fire.

Any cock, who roared the walk, A wiser bird and older, Could bear no more; so off did stalk Right to the hen and told her: "Be quiet, hen—don't be so apprehend. Does nothing to the matter; It surely helps the eggs no whit. So lay your eggs and done with it. I pray you, madam, as a friend, Cease this superfluous clatter. You know not how't goes through my head!"

"Humph! very likely," madam said, Then proudly putting forth a leg— "Uneducated barnyard folk, You know no more than any owl The noble privilege and praise Of authorship in modern days. I'll tell you why I do it: First, you perceive, I lay my eggs. And then—review it."

THE CATHOLIC JOURNAL

APRIL FOOL.

The Names by Which April 1 is Known, with Some Theories About Them.

There are few who do not know that on April 1 the French equivalent for April Fool is Poisson d'Avril, or April Fish. The origin of both phrases is rather a matter of conjecture than of history. The observance of All Fools' Day, as it is called, is ancient and widespread in one form or another, but it usually includes sending one upon a "fool's" errand or playing other silly tricks. It is known in Germany, in Scotland, in France, and some say even in India, as well as in this country. The Romans had a feast of fools in February, but it is said that those who omitted to observe that could do so on April 1. By some it is connected with the vernal equinox and its celebration. As regards the French expression, it has more meanings than one. Bescherelle states that it is applied to the mackerel because that fish is abundant in April. In any case, "to give an April fish to any one" and "to make one an April fish" signify to cause one on the first of the month to believe a false report, to engage in some futile task, etc., in order to find an occasion for ridicule. So we see the word "poisson" is a corruption of "passion" and relates to the conduct of those who about the same time of year sent Christ from one tribunal to another and made him the object of mockery and derision. This is a beautiful and the real derivation remains to be decided.

Homestead Laws.

Under the act of March 2, 1889, no public land outside of the state of Missouri can be sold at ordinary private entry—that is, to parties not actual settlers.

The public lands of the United States not disposed of and open to settlement are divided into two classes with respect to price, one class being held at \$1.25 per acre as the minimum price, the other at \$2.50 per acre; being the alternate sections reserved by the United States in land grants to railroads, etc. Such tracts are sold on condition that the settlers receive a record of the district land officers to legally qualified parties upon conditions of actual residence and improvement under the pre-emption laws. Widows, heads of families, or single persons over twenty-one years of age, if citizens of the United States, or aliens who have declared their intention to become citizens, have the right of pre-emption to the minimum quantity of 160 acres each on becoming settlers and complying with the regulations.

Under the homestead laws a citizen, or an alien having declared his intention to become a citizen, has the right to 160 acres of either the \$1.25 or \$2.50 class after actual residence and cultivation for five years. Under the timber culture law a citizen, or one who has declared his intention to become such, if the head of a family, or a single person over twenty-one years, may acquire title to 160 acres on cultivating ten acres of trees thereon for eight years. By the act of Aug. 30, no person can acquire title under all the land laws an aggregate area of more than 820 acres of the public lands.

Superstitions Connected with Bees.

Many old beliefs are connected with bees and their ways. Bees will not thrive unless they are told all the events that take place in the family of their owner. If they are kept in ignorance of any occurrence, they make known their displeasure by leaving the hive and taking themselves off altogether. More especially must they be informed of any death in the household. If the information is withheld, the death of every stock would be a foregone conclusion. Then there is a meaning attached to the kind of spot chosen by the swarm to settle on. If it settles on the ground there will be a death in the family before the year is out. Lastly, bees will not prosper where there is ill will toward them.

The Age of Thimbles.

The Dutch have always claimed the credit of inventing thimbles, which claim was tacitly allowed until a few years ago. But unfortunately for the reputation of the Holland tailors, about the middle of this century the antiquarians delving in the ruins of Herculaneum uncovered a jeweler's shop and found half a dozen gold and silver thimbles of the most improved modern pattern, says The Jeweler's Circular. Since then several thimbles have been discovered in the Egyptian catacombs in mummy cases, antedating the Christian era fifteen or eighteen centuries.

A Popular Viennese Song.
A little grain of falsehood Is found in all that's said, It penetrates as heaven Waterever's uttered.

No man is what he seemeth, No woman what she appears: There's falsehood oft in laughter And falsehood even in tears.

Both fact and fit together go In everything we say or do, To a peck of truth—a pinch of lie, As the spice in the pudding to qualify.

Mr. Spurgeon's Pets.