

RABBIT FENCE IN AUSTRALIA.

Putting a Wall Around New South Wales to Keep out the Pest.

Everybody knows what a terrible pest the rabbit has become in Australasia. This little animal is an imported evil in the great British islands of the southern seas, for he did not exist among them until he was brought from England and turned loose to multiply in his new habitat.

This is an evil that sportsmen unwittingly inflicted upon the new country. It is well known that the Australasian countries are not rich in native fauna. After the British settlers began to arrive they gradually filled up the gaps in the local list of animal life by the importation of new wild and domestic species.

All of these varieties of animal life were a blessing to the country except the rabbit. The man who suggests a practical scheme for getting rid of this nuisance will make his fortune.

Efforts are continually making, however, to mitigate the evil, and among the devices that are beginning to be employed is a fence that is said to be rabbit proof.



CLOSING OUT PRICES.

- Solid Gold Frames, \$1.95
Best Gold Filled Frames, .80
Gold Filled Frames, .55
Aluminum Frames, .20
Steel or Nickel Frames, .05
Finest Lenses made per pair, .70

Will remain here a few days longer. -OPEN NIGHTS.- Boston Optical Co., 25 King St.

The People's Faith

Firmly Grounded Upon Real Merit - They Know Hood's Sarsaparilla Absolutely and Permanently Cures When All Others Fail.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is not merely a simple preparation of Sarsaparilla, Dock, Stillingia and a little Iodide of Potassium. Besides these excellent alteratives, it also contains those great anti-bilious and liver remedies, Mandrake and Dandelion.

Nor are these all. Other very valuable curative agents are harmoniously combined in Hood's Sarsaparilla and it is carefully prepared under the personal supervision of a regularly educated pharmacist.

Knowing these facts, is the abiding faith the people have in Hood's Sarsaparilla a matter of surprise? You can see why Hood's Sarsaparilla cures, when other medicines totally, absolutely fail.

Hood's Pills are the best after-dinner pills, aid digestion. 25c

extend a rabbit fence clear around the colony to its sea frontage. It is a modern China wall, erected to keep out, not barbarians like the ancient Mongols, but hordes of animal pests that threaten to over run the land.

PRIVATE MARKS IN WATCHES.

How Repairers can Tell When and Where Work was Done.

There was a crowd around the counter of a jewelry store where watches are received for repairs. A woman who was evidently in a hurry made her way to the place where the man with the magnifying glass stood, and handed a little watch to him.

'Will you please tell me what ails this watch?' she asked.

The watch doctor opened the case deliberately, peered into the works, and said: 'It needs cleaning.'

'My! that seems strange,' said the woman, 'you cleaned it only a few months ago.'

'Is that so?' asked the man, and opened the case once more and made another examination with the aid of a miniature microscope. Then he handed the watch back and said: 'We cleaned this watch in December, 1896, and it has not been in our hands since that time.'

'Is that so? I must be mistaken, but how do you know when it was cleaned last?'

The man explained that it was no trick of memory, but simply the result of a system. 'Whenever a watch is brought to us,' he said, 'to be cleaned, regulated, repaired, or fixed up, we put a tag on it which is numbered to correspond with a number in our work book. In the book we record the styles and make of the watch, the owner, what repairs are to be made, and the amount charged for the work, and when the workman finishes the job he puts the same number in microscopic figures on the edge of the inner case. A letter or sign also shows what has been done to the watch. So, you see, when a watch comes here, we look for a mark of that kind, and when we find it we refer to the book, and there you are.'

The women left the watch with the man of system, and when she had gone he said: 'That happens many times a day. We have the most fun with the people who say: "You guaranteed this watch for a year when you repaired it, and here it is out of order again." The glass usually reveals the fact that the watch was "due to break" months and sometimes years ago.'

All watchmakers keep records and mark the watches which are placed with them for repairs, but no two have the same system. Some makers mark the watch with the name of the workman, and a record numbered after it; some mark the date and the workman's initial on the case, and others have signs in conjunction with these designations to show just what work has been done on the timepiece.

The system of marking and recording watches is of much service to the police also, and lost and stolen watches are identified daily by means of the watchmaker's private marks. -Chicago Inter-Ocean.

At What Age is Man Strongest. The muscles, in common with all the organs of the body, have their stages of development and decline: our physical strength increases up to a certain age, and then decreases. Tests of the strength of several thousands of people have been made by means of a dynamometer (strength measurer), and the following are given as the average figures for the white race: - The 'lifting power' of a youth of seventeen years is 580lb., in his twentieth year this increases to 620lb., and in the thirtieth and thirty-first year it reaches its height, 656lb. At the end of the thirty-first year the strength begins to decline, very slowly at first. By the fortieth year it has decreased 8lb., and this diminution continues at a slightly increasing rate until the fiftieth year is reached, when the figure is 330lb. After the period of strength fails more and more rapidly until the weakness of old age is reached. It is not possible to give

statistics of the decline of strength after the fiftieth year, as it varies to a large extent in different individuals.

CURIOSITY ABOUT THE DEAD.

Unstars! Desire That Prompts Strangers to Invade the House of Mourning.

'Please, missis, may I see the die-lady?' The speaker was the biggest of a group of three diminutive street girls, and the door bell which had just pulled vigorously was hung with crepe. The reluctance with which, when finally convinced that the delight of 'seeing the die lady' was not for her, she led her little band of followers down the steps again was characteristic of a phase of public curiosity, but little known save to those who have personally experienced annoyance from it, but which is decidedly on the increase in Chicago.

Whether from religious, superstitious or merely curiosity-satisfying reasons, there are numbers of people in this city who make a practice of invading the houses in which death has entered, and peering the mourners with requests to inspect the body up to the door of the darkened house just mentioned crept that same afternoon, no less than half a dozen individuals of this description, and of social grades and characteristics widely dissimilar.

'I should like to pay my respects to the dead,' explained the solemn and obsequious colored man, who tiptoed thither in the gathering dusk. This man evidently had an idea of indulging in a social ceremony of some kind, and was really hurt as well as indignant to find his modestly preferred request refused.

'It's so lucky to say a prayer by a corpse pleaded the Italian vender, who also importuned for 'just a peep at' the dead body, while the lame beggar who insisted upon returning to the basement doorway again and again until threatened with arrest offered no reason whatever for his peculiar action. Nor are such incidents as these by any means confined to the class of individuals mentioned. There is a growing plague of the people who stream in at funerals, annoy and distress harassed mourners by their persistent petitions to be allowed to view the sacred dead, and who even make practice, where this is possible, of taking the trip to the cemetery. Well-dressed and ill-dressed, old and young, rich and poor, alike, these people are. Their persistence is exceeded only by their numbers, and the only thing which will send them to the right-about is a stern 'No.' Since the people whom they distress and torment are rarely in a condition to be stern and indignant, they are often enabled to satisfy their inexplicable desires. -Chicago Inter Ocean.

PAT REPLY SAVES SERGEANT.

His Colonel Overlooked One of His Numerous Sprees.

When one of the distinguished brigadier generals of the regular army was the colonel of an infantry regiment, stationed at a far Western post, he was known as a deep, steady drinker. Drink never showed on him, but it was pretty well known throughout his command that he was, to employ the army phrase, 'coked up' just about all the time. One of the first sergeants of this colonel's regiment was notable in the outfit as a corking fine soldier and tip-top non-commissioned officer, but he had one fault. He was bound to accumulate a huge, whooping jag every day and he had to be 'broke' - 'busted to the ranks, that is - a number of times for this reason.

He was generally made a top sergeant again, after a month or so as an uncheerful buck soldier for he was almost an invaluable man in the top soldier's billet. On one of the occasions when his first sergeant returned to his quarters after a two-day whirl in the town adjoining the post - he had been absent without leave for twenty-four hours - the colonel and post commanding officer visited the lock-up derelict at the guard-house.

'Look here, my man,' said the colonel, remonstratively, 'why in the devil do you engage in this kind of funny business? You're too good a man to ruin yourself in this way. You're the best first sergeant I've got in my command, and here you've gone and acted so again that I've got to break you. Why don't you quit it? Why will you persist in getting drunk every day? Why don't you drink like I do now?'

'Because, sir,' replied the top sergeant, with a grin, 'if I did I'd be dead in a week.'

The 'old man' grinned and walked off, and the first sergeant was not 'broke' that time. -Washington Post.

A Much Maligned Beverage.

'Death in the tea-pot.' Well cheap teas - steamed in lead of steeped - caused the saying. Good teas properly drawn, are a wholesome, as well as palatable drink; but they must be good, as, for instance, Tealy's Elephant Brand Indo-Ceylon Tea.

What She Wanted to Know.

At a dinner party, not long ago, a certain young gentleman (an enthusiastic golfer) started off with the whitebait to enumerate to his partner the details of a match that he had been playing that day. It was not until the dessert was brought

Advertisement for 'Quick Easy Washing' soap. Features an illustration of a woman in a polka-dot dress washing clothes in a tub. Text includes: 'No other soap on earth can do your washing so quickly so easily so satisfactorily - as SURPRISE Soap. It's a pure, hard, harmless soap, too. It will lengthen the life of your choicest linen. Only 5 cents for a big cake. Remember the name "Surprise."'

on that he suddenly behought himself that he had been doing all this talking; indeed, the young lady has not said a single word during the progress of the meal. It was possible that she was not interested in the subject - incredible, but still possible.

'I am afraid I have been boring you with this talk of the shop,' he said, in half apology.

'Oh, no; not at all,' was the pretty maiden's polite response. 'Only, what is gold?'

The American Soldier in Manila.

Some of the American volunteers in Manila have been possibly lacking in discipline, but they have not been without a rude Anglo-Saxon idea of justice in their relations with the people. A California paper has heard of an occurrence at Manila from some returning soldiers:

The city was crowded with American and Spanish soldiers, and they seemed to be on the best of terms. A native Filipino met a Spanish soldier on the bridge over the Pasig, and without provocation, spat in his face. The Spaniard was about to punish the native, when the Filipino ran to an American sentinel who was on guard on the bridge, and demanded protection.

It was sometime before the native could make himself understood, and then the American made a strict investigation into what had happened. When he had satisfied himself as to what the native had done, he handed his gun to the Spanish soldier, caught the native by the neck and the trousers, lifted him up, and threw him over the parapet into the river.

Then he took his gun from the Spaniard and calmly resumed pacing his beat as if nothing had happened, while the Filipino swam ashore and went his way.

Where Perfume Comes From.

It is an interesting thing to know that 4,200 species of plants are gathered and used for commercial purposes in Europe. Of these 420 have a perfume that is pleasing and enter largely into the manufacture of scents and soaps. There are more species of white flowers gathered than of any other colour - 1,124 in all. Of these 187 have an agreeable scent, an extraordinary

arly large proportion. Next in order come yellow blossoms, with 951, seventy-seven of them being perfumed. Red flowers number 823, of which eighty-four are scented. The blue flowers are of 594 varieties, thirty-four of which are perfumed, and the violet blossoms number 308, thirteen of which are pleasantly odoriferous.

The man who is always trying to create a sensation will very soon get so that he can't create even a disturbance.

A Colonel's Song.

Last Valentine's Day, all things being gay, Young Richard he mounted his dapple gray, And away he rode to Woodhouse Lee The parson's daughter Jane to see. Young Richard he put on his rosemary clothes, His shoes, his periwig, and his hose, Likewise a hat upon his head, And rode, with 'ibbon, green and red. Young Richard he rode abroad in state, At length he arrived at the parson's gate; A trusty servant ushered him in, This humorous courtship to begin. Young Richard he strutted about the hall, And so on for Miss Jane did call. Mistress Jane came traipsing down straightway: 'And, pray, sir, what have you to say?' Young Richard he bowed and he kissed his hand: 'That, madam, you soon shall understand. If you consent to be my wife, I am sure we'll lead a happy life.'

'If I consent to be your bride, pray, how for me will you provide? For I can neither sew nor spin, Nor can I do one earthly thing.' 'Oh, I can hedge and ditch and sow And sometimes to the market go With Farmer Johnson's cart and hay And earn me a sixpence every day.' 'Sixpence a day won't buy us meat.' 'That's sooks,' says Dick, 'I've a sack of wheat.' This humorous courtship ceased them quite; It caused them all to laugh outright. Young Richard he had no more for to say, So he mounted his dapple and galloped away.

Carrie Lee.

Memories of past days come o'er me, They are sad to tell; And methinks she's now before me, Whom I loved so well. Ah! those days with joy were laden, Deeper joy to me, For there was a little maiden, Gentle Carrie Lee.

Ah! she tripped at sunset's glowing, Loving well to hear the flowing Of its rushing tide. Gave she there one summer even, All her love to me; Angel a woe-for dies in heaven, Lovely Carrie Lee. Surely her young heart was lighter Than should long be here; Sure her pure soul was brighter Than those to her near. Ah! the moments pass but slowly, Sad are they to me, For sweet roses kiss the lowly Grave of Carrie Lee.

Large advertisement for 'Bad Blood' treatment. Features the text: 'Bad Blood is a good thing to be rid of, because bad blood is the breeding place of disfiguring and dangerous diseases. Is YOUR blood bad? You can have good blood, which is pure blood, if you want it. You can be rid of pimples, boils, blotches, sores and ulcers. How? By the use of Dr. Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It is the radical remedy for all diseases originating in the blood.' Includes a testimonial: 'Dr. Ayer's Sarsaparilla was recommended to me by my physician as a blood purifier. When I began taking it I had boils all over my body. One bottle cured me.' - BONNER CRAFT, Wesson, Miss. Ends with 'Take Ayer's Sarsaparilla'.