

FRIEND DICTIONARY

NEEDFUL A PIECE OF FURNITURE AS CHAIR OR BED.

No Cultured Home Well Furnished Without One—The Fascinating Study of Derivatives—Latin Words Sonorous; Greek Words Full of Color; Anglo-Saxon Derivatives Pithy—A Knowledge of Accurate Use Indispensable for Drawing-Room Conversation—Words That Have "Clang-Tint."

BY MARGARET E. BANGSER.
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A good dictionary is one of the necessary equipments of the cultivated home. It is as useful a piece of furniture as the chair on which one sits, the table at which one writes, and the bed on which one sleeps. A house without a dictionary is a poorly furnished home. Some people fancy that the chief use of a dictionary is to show how words should be spelled; others limit its use largely to definitions, but a dictionary is worth much more than a mere speller and definer. Besides these functions it includes the whole wonderful story of the human language and indicates how the stream of literature has flowed on and on from the very earliest days of written speech. The languages in which we converse with one another and by which we write are the composite productions of many ages, and our noble English tongue, so copious, flexible and rich, is derived from other tongues which have been spoken and written on this earth of ours, during the long centuries.

All the languages of Europe have a certain kinship and a common ancestry in oriental tongues. We talk rather stupidly about dead languages, by which we mean such languages as Hebrew, Greek and Latin. Practical men discuss the question whether or not their sons and daughters shall spend valuable time in acquiring these. One man decides that his boy shall not study Latin, as it would be, in his view, a waste of time, but he is quite willing to let him study Spanish and French, which are widely spoken tongues of to-day, and both of which are direct descendants of the magnificent Latin tongue.

When you take up the dictionary, you see at once that certain words are derived from certain sources. A word in common use may come from a Latin or Greek, an Arabic, a Teutonic or from an Anglo-Saxon source. As a rule the sonorous, reverberating and splendid words are derived from the dignified and strenuous Latin, which was the language of old Rome in the days when her eagles conquered the world.

Words derived from the Greek are often of honeyed sweetness and captivating music and at the same time are extremely picturesque, a single word in Greek often containing all that we would express in a phrase or a sentence and bringing up to the initiated a scene full of color and life fit for a painter's brush.

Anglo-Saxon words are usually terse, brief and full of pith. They are often one-syllabled words. The dictionary will show you this.

A thoughtful writer has said: "Among the many ends which we may propose to ourselves in the study of language, there is but one which is common and necessary to every man. I mean such a facility in comprehending and such a skill in using his mother-tongue that he can play well his part in the never-ceasing dialogue which, whether between the living and the living, or the living and the dead, whether breathed from the lips or figured with the pen, takes up so large a part of the life of every one of us."

A nice, exact and accurate use of words, the ability to choose the word that precisely fits the thought, cannot be obtained by anyone who does not know the dictionary. For example, to take a familiar illustration, one hears a careless person say of a wooden building falling in ruin: "Look at that dilapidated house! What a pity!" But it is only a stone house that can be said, strictly speaking, to be dilapidated and in the very word there is a picture of stones falling apart and mouldering in confusion.

The man who would address an audience with success and shine in the reciprocal talk of the drawing-room or set a good example in speech to his children must know something of the real meaning of words.

Apart from this, if one were stranded in a country inn, with no other book than the dictionary wherewith to while away the time, he might find no little satisfaction in studying what Edmund Rowland Hill happily called the clang-tint of words. There are words which carry the force of blows. There are words which have the ring of clashing steel. There are other words which sound like bugles blowing upon the blast. R. L. Stevenson was a past-master in the use of living words which clothed his fervent thought. Rudyard Kipling has the same happy magic in finding the exact word and the exact phrase.

Take some words of everyday use, such as cold, frigid, chill; or hot, arid, torrid. At once each word peculiarly suggests the condition it describes. But take the word rabble, defined in the dictionary as "a brawling, disorderly mob or crowd." This one word comes to us through the old Dutch, where it means to gabble; through the German, where it means to prattle foolishly; through the Swiss, where it means an uproar; through the Latin, where it means I rave; through the Gaelic, where it means a tumultuous crowd of rough or low people. One little common word, yet how much it conveys, and how much of history it contains.

Take the word quiver; or, on the other hand, may set our thoughts toward the shivering of the earth about to quake, or the trembling of the leaf upon the tree.

Take the common word quorum. Whoever is engaged on a board or committee knows the impossibility of proceeding with business until a quorum is present. This word now adopted into everyday English is pure Latin and carries us back to the days of Roman jurisprudence.

Such words as romp, frolic, rollick, embody an idea of wild and careless mirth. Crush and quell have a different

significance, the spirit of a nation may be crushed, the uprising of a people may be quelled.

A common English word familiar to everyone is speak. This word, as the dictionary shows us, goes all the way back through various languages to the early Greek, where it meant to speak or wood that would readily take fire; hence a speaky person is one whose temper takes fire at a touch.

Hurry, flurry, scurry, are all words that convey the thought of haste, with sometimes the addition of confusion. There is not in the language a more dissimilar word than spurn or a more pathetic word than squallor. The word tenure, used in legal conveyances and indispensable in defining the terms by which we rent or buy real estate, comes to us from the Latin and signifies to hold.

But we need not multiply examples. When you have a spare half hour go to the dictionary. It is not a volume to be read through consecutively. It is rather a volume to be frequently consulted and to be regarded as a useful and ever-ready friend in time of need. Only from the dictionary can you gain a concrete idea of the antiquity, variety and versatility of language. This divine enjoyment is the coronation of man lifting him above the whole brute creation, and worthily showing him as made in the image of his Maker.

Clang, profanity and corruptions of any kind debase language. Its clean cut and scholarly use is elevating and worth striving for. Any good dictionary will serve your purpose. Buy the best you can afford.

To the dictionary also we must look for the latest pronunciation. From time to time this changes, and it is, all things considered, better to be up-to-date than to lag behind the times. The dictionary is the ultimate court of appeal on points of pronunciation in English, and those who speak good English of course desire to pronounce it right.

A FINE COMBINATION.

Here is a Pretty and Practical Article to Present to One's Girl Friend.

A powder puff bag, jewel case and corset pad combined. This useful little article is made of soft silk, cotton and chamois. The powder puff bag is made separate and attached to the case. It is made of silk and lined with chamois and finished with drawstrings. The case



FOR JEWELS, SACHET AND POWDER-PUFF.

and pad are made with silk and cotton. A row of stitching divides the pad and case.

The case is lined with chamois and closed with a drawstring. It is finished around the edges with the buttonhole stitch and the monogram and a floral design, either hand painted or embroidered. This makes a dainty Christmas gift.

Many Stamps Used. More than 17,000,000 postage stamps are used in this country every day in the year, according to a post office official. This is about one stamp a day for every five persons, and means \$18,000 a year in the cost of gum alone. The daily consumption of stamps has increased by 2,000,000 during the last five years, or in other words, 700,000,000 more stamps are used each year than five years ago.

Mind and Body. That mental power helps to keep the body strong and to preserve it from decay cannot be doubted. The longest-lived men and women have been, as a rule, those who have attained great mental and moral development. They have lived on a higher plane than other men, in a serene upper region, above the jar, tumult and fret that weaken most lives.

For Perspiring Hands. Perspiring hands are almost always evidence of nervousness. It is a good plan to bathe them occasionally with white wine vinegar, dusting afterward with powdered orris root. Make it a practice to sprinkle the inside of your gloves with powdered prepared chalk. The girl who is annoyed with this trouble should get plenty of outdoor exercise.

Sage Advice. "Now, Lester," said Old Codger, addressing his callow nephew in a admonitory tone, "it is as proper that you should pay the fiddler as it is to liquidate any other debt, but it's a dumb fine exhibition of entry wild betwixt the eyes to inquire the fiddler's price before the fance begins."—Puck.

A French Belt. A striking French belt is of gray silk elastic, marked oddly with lavender and plum shades. It has a cut, seven buckle and is very wide—say, seven inches. There are others of this pattern in black, covered profusely with jet beads. Again, gray, with cut-steel beads.

A Sallow Complexion. Sallow complexions are often caused by unwise eating and a torpid liver. Make it a habit to take the juice of a lemon in a little cold water and with a dash of salt added. Take this every morning before breakfast.



VENTILATING HOG HOUSE.

The Importance of Pure Air and the Way in Which It May Be Secured.

The matter of pure air in the hog-house during the winter is important. Prof. J. H. Grisdale, of the Central Experiment Farm of Canada, in a pamphlet on "Bacon Pigs in Canada," has given illustration and description of a system of ventilation which seems practicable.

Described in a general way it may be said to consist of a number of hollow shafts or tubes placed inside the stable in contact with or close to the walls. These hollow shafts start about one foot or 18 inches from the floor and ex-



PLAN FOR VENTILATING A HOG HOUSE.

tend vertically upward to within three or six inches of the ceiling. At the top and bottom these shafts turn at right angles and traverse the wall. They are also open to the air, that is, inside or outside air, that shall flow through these shafts is controlled by means of dampers at the top and bottom as described below.

The number and size of these ventilating shafts will of course depend upon the size of the piggy and the number of swine therein. There should, if possible, be one or more on each outside wall. The total area of the openings through the walls at the bottom should show about three square inches per animal housed in the pen.

To illustrate, a piggy holding 30 head of swine should have four ventilators, each 2x10 or six ventilators, each 2x8 or eight each 2x6 inches inside measurement. The large area required is on account of half or more of the ventilators having to serve as outlets, as will be seen later, because while those ventilators on the side or inlets which the wind strikes serve as inlets the ventilators on the opposite side serve as outlets.

In the above diagram ventilators are shown on opposite walls and the swinging parts or doors set to allow air to enter by the way of E and G from the left and leave the pen by way of K and E through the shaft on the right entering it at the bottom K and going up and out at E, as indicated by arrows.

On the left, the trap or door H is set so as to prevent any air entering the stable or going out at that point, while G is set to prevent any air entering or leaving the room at opening C. The same may be said of doors L and K.

The doors are placed in these positions when the wind is coming from the left side, but when the wind happens to strike the right-hand side of the stable then the position of all ventilators should be reversed and the air should enter by way of F and L and leave by way of H and C. The ends of the ventilators should not project from the walls on the outside.

The trap doors may be constructed of wood or sheet zinc and may be controlled by means of projecting handle or by means of cords.

By letting the upper doors hang vertically some of the warmer air near the ceiling may be drawn off if the temperature becomes too high. If the wall be built double, the space between two studs may be used in the place of the shaft shown, and so nothing but the inlets and outlets show. Under such conditions the doors would have to be hung in the middle of the wall and would be somewhat more difficult to manipulate.

THE STOCK.

Sheepmen have four sources of revenue: Wool, lambs, manure and mutton.

Sheep eat weeds and grass of all kinds, yet are very dainty about their food.

Do not turn stock on the meadows in winter when the ground has been softened by rain.

It is the cold-climate that produces the best fleeces. The colder the climate the thicker the wool.

Sell the unprofitable animals now and put the feed into what are left. It means more profit and less labor.

Cows should be tied or stalled in a humane way, made contented in every particular and well and liberally fed.

No loud talking should be permitted in the stable during milking and anything that will excite the cows must be avoided.

The Toad. Unimpeachable investigators have shown that the most valuable "bird" to the gardener is the common toad, says the Rural New-Yorker. He does eat injurious insects—lots of them—and he never injures anything of value to man. Happy is the trucker who has a "flock" of toads. The next in useful order with insect destroying powers are domestic fowls, particularly the turkey. A brood of common chicks will gather up more harmful insects than a township of robins.

Mushroom Culture. Mushroom culture may be a fascinating occupation, but it seems to have become a profitless business for the growers, says an exchange. Inquiry among the growers and sellers reveals the business facts, first, that overproduction has cut the prices to a very low point; and, second, that there is no perceptible increase in the consumption of mushrooms in this country.

Profit in Wool. Wool is regarded as that farm product which brings the most money in proportion to what it takes from the farm, and with the least labor to the producer.

WHY THE LEAF FALLS.

Prof. J. C. Whittier Gives the Scientific Explanation of Nature's Process.

Prof. J. C. Whittier, talking to Missouri horticulturists, said: With the harvesting of the fruit crop the grower often thinks that attention to his trees is off his hands until the following spring, or at least until it is time to prune, late in winter. Nothing should be further from this practice, however, than to neglect to study his trees carefully at this season of the year. The whole annual cycle of growth of a tree is marked by many interesting and important changes, each of which is important in telling something of the tree's success or failure in life.

One usually associates the phenomenon of leaf shedding, if indeed he thinks of it at all, with death and decay, with a suspension of the life functions of the tree, and the usually fails to recognize that it bears an important relation to practical fruit growing. As a matter of fact leaf shedding is a very important function on the part of the tree. The tree wouldn't do it if it were not. The fruit grower should understand what it means. First, let us get in mind the important fact that it is a manifestation of life, not of death, and that the direct cause of leaf shedding is a process of growth.

It is apparent to any observer that the growing leaf is firmly attached to the twig. What holds it so firmly in place during the summer, and why does it fall upon the approach of cold weather? Take an apple twig, for example, and pull off a leaf that is still fresh and green. Where the stem of the leaf breaks off it leaves a fresh-looking wound. This is the leaf-scar. Just above the leaf-scar is a bud, which grew in the angle between the twig and the stem of the leaf. This was a safe, protected place for a bud to grow. Within the leaf-scar may be seen three whitish spots. With a reading glass they may be seen quite plainly. They look like wood, which they really are. They are the bundle-scars, where the woody fibers, which held the leaf to the twig, broke off. Three bundles of strong, woody fibers ran from the leaf stem down into the twig, thus holding the leaf firmly in place. It required considerable force to break the fibers and remove the leaf from the twig. Let us see what force is applied to accomplish this when the leaf sheds in nature.

It was observed that when a green leaf was prematurely pulled from the twig the leaf-scar presented the appearance of being a fresh wound. Observe a scar where the leaf has shed naturally. It will be seen that this scar is covered and protected by a brownish, cork-like covering, so that there is no such wound as was produced by pulling the leaf off prematurely. The cells which form this corky cover began to form before the leaf was shed. The growth beneath the point of attachment of the leaf stem exerted more and more pressure as they continued to develop, until they finally became thick enough to protect the leaf-scar and to push the leaf off, very much as an entering wedge may push a slab of wood from the trunk of a tree. As this corky cover pushes the leaf it also forms a protection for the leaf-scar.

MACHINE SHED FOR FARM. Plans for Structure Which Will Properly House the Various Farm Machines.

A shed 40x40 will afford sufficient storage room for the machinery of a farm of about 160 acres. The narrow building, say 24x60 or 72, may be preferred by the builder instead of the square shed. In many ways it is more convenient. The Breeder's Gazette shows the accompanying diagram of a shed suitable for the small farm. The

construction may be of the simplest. The location should be in a dry place, with a foot or more of clay filled in to take the place of a floor. By placing the posts 16 feet apart, two rows of machinery may be put in each space. It would be better, however, to make two spaces of 18 feet, so that wagons could easily be driven in side by side. This would necessitate strong plates and good braces. Storage under the roof for small tools may be had, and even a workroom up there is easy to construct.

SHORT HINTS ON DRAINAGE. A Little Talk as to What Is to Be Considered in Tiling a Farm Properly.

There are as many differing views on the subject of drainage as there are fields to drain. Nor is this strange, for there are so many varying conditions that must be considered; kind of soil, amount of water, length of ditch, fall to be secured, etc., that a rule for one case would not serve for another. But there are some points in common which are not disputed, says the Rural New-Yorker. Leveling can be guessed at only when the fall is plenty and the spirit level is satisfactory in cases where there is no deep cutting. In that case an engineer is indispensable. The proximity of the drains must be graded by the amount of water held in the soil. The depth should be sufficient to protect the tile (for that is the best) from injury in plowing; about three feet if the fall permits and one foot wide, which will be sufficient for three or five-inch tile. The former are most common, but where there is very wet, springy ground five inches is better. A fall of three inches to the rod is excessive and one and a half inch about the usual. If you build a stone drain an open throat is indispensable to prevent filling up, as also to be useful in cleaning out.

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ART AND LITERATURE.

Andrew Carnegie has ordered an edition of 500 copies of the "Poems" of Wilfred Campbell, a copy of which he intends to present to every one of the Carnegie libraries.

Mrs. Gertrude Massey, the painter of miniatures, has received 12 commissions from the king and queen of England, and not long ago painted a picture of the queen's Japanese spaniel, Marvel.

Mrs. Thyra Beckwith Gray, who won distinction as a writer of verse, died in Oswego, N. Y., recently at the age of 103. Much of her published work was accomplished after she had reached the century mark.

Sigmund Neumann, a 19-year-old schoolboy, not yet graduated from the gymnasium, is the author of a play called "Storms," which was successfully produced in the leading Frankfurt-on-the-Main theater last month.

Melmsner, the noted German sculptor, has completed for the city of Nuremberg the statue intended as a memorial to Peter Henlein, who 400 years ago substituted springs for weights in clocks and thus also made watches a possibility.

"Lower Depths," a play written by Gorky, the Russian, was produced recently in a French theater (the Nouveau de Paris), by Duse, the Italian actress. The chief promoter of the production was an American, a descendant of Edgar Allan Poe.

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