

**Unwelcome Eccentricities of the Sense of Smell.**

Hay fever and an analogous affection, attributed to the odor of roses when in bloom and variously known as rose cold, rose catarrh, etc., have been observed in many countries. The sense of smell, like the other faculties, is liable to undergo modification or intensification, so to speak, at times. Every one is aware how painfully acute the senses, especially those of hearing and seeing, become during exhausting illness and in certain nervous conditions. And the faculty of smelling is singularly subject to variation, both in disease and health.

Numerous well authenticated cases have been recorded of individuals, evidently in the enjoyment of good health, who have been suddenly affected by the smell of some flower or animal. Some persons cannot bear the scent of particular flowers, such as, for instance roses, and geraniums, and an anecdote is told of a distinguished general who, although he had gone through many campaigns with great bravery, always turned pale and fainted at the smell of roses suddenly held before him. Others again are visibly disturbed and annoyed by the smell of different animals.

Dr. Carpenter relates the case of a blind gentleman who could always tell by his sense of smell whenever a cat came into the room. Hay fever is more frequently observed in rural districts than in towns, and in the suburbs than in the central parts of large cities, and it is also more common in localities where grass is chiefly grown than those in which wheat crops are principally cultivated or which are situated near to the sea coast.

**The Skin Lotion of a Famous Beauty.**

All the way from Paris comes this recipe for lait virginal, the matchless tonic and lotion for the skin, to the use of which Ninon de l'Enclos attributed the preservation of her complexion, which was said to have had when its happy possessor was 70 years old the velvety freshness of that of a girl of 16. Here it is: Half an ounce tincture of benzoin, 16 ounces best rosewater, 10 drops attar of roses. Sponge the wet skin with this preparation after the bath. An equal weight of refined linseed oil added to this mixture and rubbed well into the arms and neck twice daily is said to be an excellent remedy for attenuation. The young woman who sends the formula declares that its use has transformed her scrawny neck and bony arms into a gratifying plumpness of outline.

**What Nervous Prostration Means.**

This is a disease from which women suffer desperately. Put into plain English, diagnosed, as it were, it means a horrible sort of depression, a sensation as if something were going to happen—a physical feeling as if one would sink through the earth. A prominent physician says that half the cases of nervous prostration, dyspepsia and insomnia that come to him for treatment are to be directly traced to an inactive liver.

**For a Refreshing Bath.**

Put to a cup of sea salt one-half ounce of camphor and one-half ounce of ammonia in a quart bottle; fill the bottle with hot water and let it stand 24 hours; then, when prepared to bathe with a sponge, put a teaspoonful of this mixture, well shaken, into your basin. A surprising quantity of dirt will come from the cleanest skin. The ammonia cleanses, and the camphor and the sea salt impart a tonic effect.

**she Was Grateful, but—**

She protested that she was not unmindful of his great service to her. She was sorry, moreover, that she could not control her heart's affections.

In brief, she lamented her inability to see her way clear to marry him.

"And yet?"

He seemed scarce able to believe his ears. "—You owe your happiness to me."

Her eyes filled with tears, and with trembling voice she admitted that he spoke truly.

"Who was it?"

He was almost fierce in his desperation.

"—told you?"

She instinctively moved to the farther side of the table.

"—the recipe for the lightning freckle remover?"

She was speechless with fright.

"Who, I say?" he demanded.

"Y-you," faltered the helpless girl.

With a scathing glare he tore from the room, leaving her to mope and mourn over her own ingratitude.

**Only at Certain Times.**



"Fred only puts on the smoking jacket I bought him when he is sick."

"I didn't know he was ever sick."

"He isn't, except when he tries to smoke."

**An Inauspicious Start.**

The man, whoever he was, who coined the epithet "pink of propriety" must have known our family physician, Dr. Curtiss. Fastidious and dainty in externals, he is no less so in all that pertains to the real man. More fallible people look on him as a stranger to human mistakes and foibles, and some who respect his skill fear to expose to him their weaknesses of body and soul. Imagine, then, the relish with which a mischance of his is enjoyed.

The other morning, after a particularly hard night, Dr. Curtiss was roused very early by repeated calls from his telephone. Everybody knows the innate maliciousness of telephones, especially at seasons when "Central" is sleepy or has important business on hand. This time the instrument exhibited total depravity, and it was only after a prolonged series of vain efforts that the doctor succeeded in communicating with his patients. When, therefore, he came down to breakfast, his overtaxed nerves were still tingling, but he controlled himself, and sitting down in his place bowed his head to ask the customary blessing. An exclamation of horror from his wife cut short the petition. He had begun the solemn and devout formula with "Hello!"

**How to Destroy Ants.**

Half a pound of flour of brimstone and four ounces of potash placed over the fire in an iron or earthen pan, until dissolved and united, then beaten into powder and a little of it infused in water. Wherever this is sprinkled the ants will die or leave the place.

**How to Wash Colored Muslins.**

Always wash colored muslins in a lather of cold water and soap. Never even rinse them in warm water. If green is a prevailing tint in the material to be washed, add a little vinegar to the water. For lilac or lavender tints use a little ammonia and for black a little salt.

**How to Make a Kite.**

Take two sticks of equal length and cross them so that they will be like the letter X, but with this exception: Have the V at the top smaller than the A at the bottom, so that the sticks will be crossed above the central line. Then take another stick, just two-thirds the length of either of the first sticks. Place this stick horizontally across the other sticks at the point where they cross each other. Bind the four sticks together at this point. Cut notches in all the ends, draw a string around and tie it tightly. Here you have your framework. Then cover this with paper, pasting the fold around the string. Tie strips of equal length from the top of one of the X sticks to the bottom, but not crossing. Then tie your kite string to these in the middle just above the central point, so the kite will have a tendency to go up. A good kite tail is made of pieces of newspaper tied together by a string.

**How to Oil a Belt in Machinery.**

Take the belt from its pulleys and put it in a warm solution of oil and tallow for a few minutes. Then plunge it into water heated to 100 degs. Fahrenheit and remove at once. The water will temper the leather at the same time that it drives the oil and tallow in.

**How to Remove Ink Stains with Cold Water.**

Ink stains can be removed if treated promptly while wet. Do not touch the spots, but get a cup, a spoon and some water. Hold the spots over the cup and drop the water on little by little. If this is patiently continued all marks will disappear. To remove a dry ink stain dip the part into hot milk and rub it gently until the spot is gone.

**How to Polish Tortoise Shell.**

Scrape the shell until it is perfectly smooth and rub it with very fine sandpaper. Repeat the rubbing with a piece of felt, dipped in fine powdered charcoal that has been moistened with water. A third rubbing with rotten stone and a fourth with a piece of some soft wash leather, dampened with sweet oil, complete the work. For the sweet oil substitute subnitrate or bismuth, rubbed in with the hand; it is better than the oil.