

### Marriage Made Happy By the Stars.

**A**RE marriages influenced by the stars? This novel theory that the future well-being of married people is determined by planetary conditions during the nuptial week has not a few believers.

F. E. Ormsby, a noted astrologist, interprets the mysteries of the heavens for brides and bridegrooms and has completed a careful study of the planets and the relative positions they will occupy during the ensuing months.

**WEEK OF MAY 13.**—A great deal of the tender and pathetic in people will be manifested by those who wed under the present solar halo, yet we would prefer another vibration, more calm, quiet and serene, than the one now in force. High-lit persons might be better satisfied with these intense forces, and for them the time may be considered fairly good.

**WEEK OF MAY 20.**—Favorable time for unions, especially large business consolidations, and the formation of large companies and the blending of people together for extensive work. A good time for recruiting armies and enlarging the capacities of various interests. This applies to marriage in a favorable way, and the week may be considered one safe to embark in.

**WEEK OF JUNE 1.**—After Tuesday it is not a desirable time to marry or form partnerships. The conditions are too changeable and too much of the impulsive and two-sided in human nature is in force. This is not good for man and wife. It breeds discord and discontent.

**WEEK OF JUNE 8.**—No time to marry any one, not even your own best lover. Make him wait awhile. This is really a regular season for runaway marriages. The papers ought to be full of such accounts this and next week; but the wise ones should observe the law and look out for breakers ahead.

**WEEK OF JUNE 15.**—Mercury will have passed from conjunction with the Earth to sign Capricorn, and Venus, having made a conjunction with Neptune in Gemini, a very marked change has been produced in the mystical figure of the heavens. Let every one that is ready get married this week. It is the best week we have had in a long time. The magnetic forces are superlative grand for unions. The planetary conditions are ideal.

**WEEK OF JUNE 22.**—This condition for the formation of unions is about all. Not very good, not very bad.

**WEEK OF JUNE 29.**—A good time. Venus is across the sun and there is nothing to show discord to speak of in the balance of the figure.

**WEEK OF JULY 6.**—Venus is still the ruling planet. Conditions favorable; will be mental and spiritual unions, more than physical, however, which is also very significant for higher and better living in the family.

**WEEK OF JULY 13.**—This is an excellent time to court, as well as a good period for unions. Mercury is very active on this side of the sun, and since a week ago has passed through the sign Taurus.

**WEEK OF JULY 20.**—This is a negative time for marriages. Still there are no confounding forces crossing one another. It is fairly favorable, so far as harmony is concerned.

**WEEK OF JULY 27.**—Marriage at this time means a large family, if there is any affinity between the natures of those who wed and the combination now on.

**WEEK OF AUGUST 3.**—Jupiter in conjunction with Mercury and Venus over in Virgo. Very favorable indeed for reproduction. But for such combinations the race would deteriorate physically.

**WEEK OF AUGUST 10.**—Plenty of money to all who vibrate in line with the controlling powers, and is a very favorable time for all to unite under.

**WEEK OF AUGUST 17.**—Postpone. Wrangling will ensue.

**WEEK OF AUGUST 24.**—This is a romantic time, a regular bicycling wedding tour season. The time is quite favorable for Neptune characters, and not so very bad for others.

**WEEK OF AUGUST 31.**—Mercury has now fallen in with the Earth, and Neptune, with his intent and forceful influence, brings upon us two extreme conditions. Too changeable a time for a wedding.

**WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14.**—Fair time. Many changes of location during life.

**WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21.**—Contracting parties will find in many instances the family cross hard to bear.

**WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 28.**—Unfavorable week for unions. Difficulty will be encountered in gaining a livelihood.

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 5.**—Mercury will be just entering the sign of Aries, making a conjunction with the earth. Mercury will stir up the minds of people. Marriages at this date signify mental and intellectual exchanges.

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 12.**—Marriage is afflicted and should be postponed to a more favorable time.

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 19.**—A propitious time for those contemplating matrimony.

**WEEK OF OCTOBER 26.**—Divorce the outcome. The planets forecast evil results.

**WEEK OF NOVEMBER 2.**—Planetary conditions anything but favorable. Mercury has left the scene, but the helio-centric influence presents a sad picture.

**WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9.**—Every couple ready to join hands should stand up. Of a truth marriages are contracted in Heaven.

**WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16.**—The conditions are more vital. Go ahead.

**WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23.**—Especially favorable for people born under Neptune.

**WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30.**—The last month of the year starts under active planetary forces. Mercury has made an opposition to the earth and other celestial bodies in the sign of Gemini. Under prevailing magnetic forces married people will be true believers.

**WEEK OF DECEMBER 7.**—Neptune is rolling strong. Favorable week.

**WEEK OF DECEMBER 14.**—Not as good last week, but not unfavorable.

### Novel Designs in Playing Cards.

**A**MONG the new designs in playing cards are cards of American manufacture which are known to the trade as "Royals." The fifty-three cards which comprise a deck of "Royals" are handsomely finished in old gold, and the kings, queens and jacks are in thirteen colors each. The pictures are good likenesses of the crowned heads or leading scions of royalty in Europe. The Queen of England, Czar of Russia, King of Italy, German Emperor, are all pictured. These cards are the most expensive ones in the market, and retail at \$2 a deck. Another new card is called the "Spanish," and represents kings, knights and pages as face cards. There are no queens in the "Spanish" deck. The cards are very odd. When "squeezing" them the player squeezes down horizontally, the indicators being in spaces as well as figures. For instance, the knight has three spaces in the frame, while there is no space in the king's frame, and only one in that of the page. The cards are "squeezed" down so that the player judges the value of his hand by these spaces. The figures are practically unnecessary. The cards are known as circles, urns, clubs and swords. These cards are apt to be confusing to any one unaccustomed to playing with them, although the manufacturers say

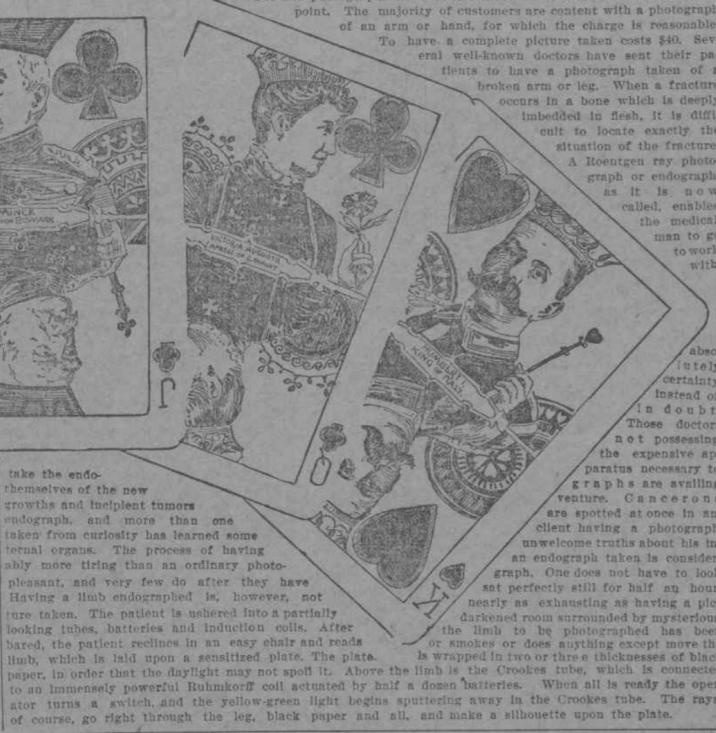


that they are self-explanatory. The new "full house" poker deck, which has caught the fancy of the lovers of the great American game, has eleven and twelve a six or eight-handed be enjoyed. The origin of New Orleans, which de-honors the Crescent City, distastefully threw open the doors make themselves at home. They pined that there were not cards regular deck eight cards—four elev- steadily increasing in favor in all large in the staid old designs of kings, queens, and jacks, and even in the spot cards, is a deck known cards which comprise the deck represent fifty-three differ- among dealers as the "vanity fair." The themes are sports and pastimes, and range through the whole realm of sport from the savage amusements of the aborigines to the modern trials of competitive skill, including even the new bicycle woman in highly colored bloomers.

On another new pack in light colors, known as the "Hastling Joe," the pictures represent sketches of various trades and occupations. The court cards are even more resplendent than those of the "vanity fair," and range from the bedecked queen of diamonds down to the jack of spades.

### Photographing the Vital Organs the New Fad.

**T**AKING advantage of the intense public interest which has been aroused in the Roentgen rays, a society has been formed in Paris to exploit commercially the mysterious "X" rays. Any one paying the price can walk in and have his internal organs or any part he pleases photographed by means of the cathode rays. The process takes about an hour, and at the expiration of that time the client departs with a cabinet photograph of his inside. Such a photograph is a pretty good gauge of a man's physical condition, and anything abnormal is at once shown with startling distinctness. The idea seems to have caught on, and promises soon to become the rage. Most people go merely from curiosity, but the photographs have considerable value from a medical standpoint. The majority of customers are content with a photograph of an arm or hand, for which the charge is reasonable. To have a complete picture taken costs \$40. Several well-known doctors have sent their patients to have a photograph taken of a broken arm or leg. When a fracture occurs in a bone which is deeply imbedded in flesh, it is difficult to locate exactly the situation of the fracture. A Roentgen ray photograph or endograph, as it is now called, enables the medical man to go to work with



absolutely certain instead of in doubt. Those doctors not possessing the expensive apparatus necessary to graphs are availing venture. Cancerous are spotted at once in an client having a photograph unwelcome truths about his in- endograph taken is consid- graph. One does not have to look perfectly still for half an hour, nearly as exhausting as having a pluck- darkened room surrounded by mysterious the limb to be photographed has been or smokes or does anything except move the wrapped in two or three thicknesses of black paper, in order that the daylight may not spoil it. Above the limb is the Crookes tube, which is connected to an immensely powerful Ruhmkorff coil actuated by half a dozen batteries. When all is ready the operator turns a switch, and the yellow-green light begins sputtering away in the Crookes tube. The rays, of course, go right through the leg, black paper and all, and make a silhouette upon the plate.

### Strange Bingo of London Thieves.

**U**NIQUE in English literature, if published, would be the collection of curious words, phrases and messages that a London prison chaplain has gathered in the course of his many years' service in the great penal institutions of that city. Some of them fell from the lips of convicts, others were copied from the walls of prison cells, and a few were intercepted notes from those who were "doing time" to their friends without the walls. Here, for instance, in his exact words, is a hardened convict's account of his recent exploits. It is as rich a specimen of "thieves' Latin" as has been seen the light for many a day. "I was jogging down a blooming plum," he told the chaplain, "in the Chapel, when I hunted a reeler, who was sporting a red slang. I broke off his jaw and boned the clock, which was a red one; but I was spotted by a copper, who claimed me. I was lodged before the beak. who gave me six days in the steel. The week after I was chucked up, I did a snatch near St. Paul's, was collared, lodged and got this bit of seven stritch." In ordinary English this means that the speaker met a drunken man who wore a gold watch. He broke the chain and possessed himself of the timepiece, but was apprehended by a policeman, taken before a magistrate and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. The week following his release he again attempted highway robbery, and this time was condemned to seven years' penal servitude. Of the queer phrases and words that the uneducated Cockney uses, the list is endless. There was one lady who complained to the chaplain that she had a "proportion" of the heart; another "skilled" with drink, (did it on the lips of the drink) and another was "doing time" for the theft of an "atlasma-cas-er."

Here is a letter, full of epistolary charm, that was found in a cell at Newgate: "Deere Jim I was in quod dem fourteen days, when I heard you was lagged. I blincked Polly's peepers, who called me names. She was fuddled and hit me fast, when I kolored her nut and give her a fine slugging and her mug was all over blind when the spiteful thing bit me she did, and fanked fight, when we were both taken by the Kopper, and the beak only give me fourteen days, and er got twenty-one for hitting me fast and been fuddled, cheer up Jim I am sorry you are lagged and I would with nobody will yohr in quod. Good by Jim from no try Sa Ilr."

A more elegant epistle is another one which was addressed to a prisoner, informing him of the death of his mother-in-law: "I have the pleasure to inform you," it runs, "that your mother-in-law has snuffed it. She met with an accident and was conveyed to the London Hospital, where she remained weeping and grinding her teeth for seven long weeks. I have offered up a prayer for her, and hope you will do the same, which you no doubt will. She was afterward taken to her last resting place."

Some of their twenty-nine children are dead, some are still living. Of the deceased children Mrs. Dominica Smith, of Mountain View, died at the age of twenty-seven years; Rosario, aged six years; Josie E., aged eight years; Ascension, aged one month; Maria Angela, aged eight years; John, aged eight days; Jesus Maria, aged one year; Heirides, aged one year; John (No. 2), aged twenty days; Lourdes, aged three years.

The names of the surviving children are Mrs. Jesus Epiphonia, of Gilroy, aged fifty-eight years; Mrs. Guadalupe Espinosa, of Mountain View, aged fifty years; Mrs. Andrea Sosa, of Mountain View, aged forty-eight years; Mrs. Rita Solletti, of Mayfield, aged forty-six years; Mrs. Louisa Mason, of Mountain View, aged forty-two years; Nicholas Robles, of Mountain View, aged forty years, and Secundino, Jr., of Mountain View, aged twenty-eight years. Ten of the children died before they were named. The names of the rest Mrs. Robles cannot remember. Asked if any of her twins she says to twice and one ever

### Great Scheme for Restaurants.

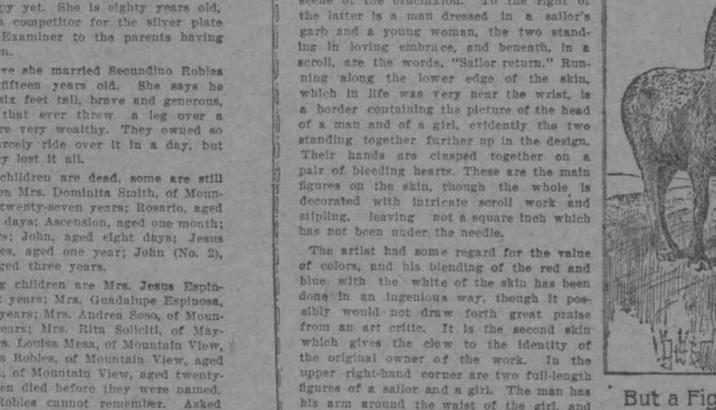
**G**REAT restaurants have some unprofitable customers. Occasionally they eat more than they pay for. An ingenious inventor, who presumably has had experience in keeping an eating-house, has patented a mechanical device which is calculated to do away with this evil. Evidently it is best adapted to the plan of feeding by which a large part of the male section of any urban community customarily gets its mid-day meal, i. e., by sitting on tall stools and abstracting the food in a more or less hurried fashion from a counter. According to the idea of the inventor, the customers occupy seats which are placed not upon legs, but on an endless revolving belt. The belt revolves at a slow rate of speed, so as not to cause discomfort to anybody. As it revolves, of course it carries with it the seats on which the customers are perched. The newest customer invariably takes the seat at the higher end of the counter, and while he proceeds to feed himself he finds himself carried slowly along the counter. He is thus able to reach whatever viands he likes best. It is not reasonable, however, that he should swallow a dollar meal for the low price of, say fifteen cents. Indeed, such an abuse of the hospitality of the establishment is rendered impracticable by the invention here described. At the end of five minutes, or ten minutes, or whatever the time determined, on may be, the customer finds himself at the lower extremity of the counter, where the belt drops him off. This contrivance is so strongly destined to be a great boon to restaurant keepers, who have hitherto had no satisfactory defense against an abnormal appetite. The only disadvantage of the invention is that it gives the rapid eater an undue advantage over the person who eats slowly and does not understand the art of substituting the knife for the fork in rapid gustatory exercise. But this machine puts an end to "the hungry man from Harlem," whose appetite and swallowing facilities are famous in the old-time song. When the landlord finds he has this gentleman on board of his merry-go-round, all he has to do is to press the button and start him off.



### Wonderful Tatooing on a Woman's Arm.

**O**NE of the best examples of primitive tattooing that have ever been seen in this city for years is now in the possession of Dr. J. H. Burtenshaw, No. 284 Amsterdam avenue. There are two pieces of skin, each about eighteen inches long, and varying in width from four to seven inches. The entire surface is covered with intricate designs. In the latter part of June, 1888, a plainly dressed woman applied for admission at one of the city hospitals. She gave her name as Katie Farley. Eventually she died. There was nothing particularly noticeable about the patient except her arms. From the wrist to the shoulder of each arm was a picture. Before internment took place the skin of the arms was removed and eventually reached Dr. Burtenshaw. To tan them might cause loss of color, and so they were chemically treated with a view to their preservation. The result has been successful, and with the exception that the flesh color has been super-seeded by a darker shade, the designs and coloring stand out as plain as they did in life. On the skin taken from the right arm is a series of Biblical scenes. In the upper right-hand corner is a reproduction of the Rock of Ages, with the peacemaker clinging to the cross. The work is crude, but the artist evidently had some idea of the rudimentary principles of drawing, for the arrangement of the lights and shadows and the perspective are excellent. To the left of the cross is a large flower pot, and the leaves of the plant it contains are outlined with distinctness. Below this design is an eagle directly over another bird of the same species. The second has a background of the American flag. In the lower left-hand corner is a scene of the crucifixion. To the right of the latter is a man dressed in a sailor's garb and a young woman, the two standing in loving embrace, and beneath, in a scroll, are the words, "Sailor return." Running along the lower edge of the skin, which in life was very near the wrist, is a border containing the picture of the head of a man and of a girl, evidently the two standing together further up in the design. Their hands are clasped together on a pair of bleeding hearts. These are the main figures on the skin, though the whole is decorated with intricate scroll work and stippling, leaving not a square inch which has not been under the needle.

The artist had some regard for the value of colors, and his blending of the red and blue with the white of the skin has been done in an ingenious way, though it possibly would not draw forth great praise from an art critic. It is the second skin which gives the clue to the identity of the original owner of the work. In the upper right-hand corner are two full-length figures of a sailor and a girl. The man has his arm around the waist of the girl, and



### Sheep That Butts Like a Goat.

**A** BIG, sturdy, pugacious Rocky Mountain sheep is a brutal proposition, but the specimen which came to New York last week, on his way to the Berlin Zoo, was the biggest, and most pugacious that the animal dealers here have ever had anything to do with. He is to sail on the steamer Lahn on Tuesday, and was to be the German deck hand who gets in his way! He is shippers know, the first that has ever been sent to the continent of Europe. He was taken captive in the mountains near Leadville, in January, but four months of captivity have not softened his temper. Somebody annoyed him at the animal store of William Bartels, where he was kept awaiting shipment, and with one punch of his potent horns he promptly butted out the whole side of the reinforced box in which he had been pent up. The big horn were very plentiful in the mountains once upon a time, but have disappeared almost as rapidly as the bison. European sportsmen have counted big horn hunting in the Rocky Mountains as even better sport than tiger hunting in India, but it is a sport that is well nigh payed out. Of late years the big horn have been more than shy. They make their homes upon the most inaccessible crags of the mountains, and when wounded manage to totter away into some rocky fastness to die, where the hunters cannot reach them. A fall over the rocks, which would dash the life out of a man or any ordinary animal, never bothers them. A fall over the rocks, which would dash the life out of a man or any ordinary animal, never bothers them. He just lands on his egregious horns, and likes it. He is not much on beauty, but he is marvellously durable, and a business-like-looking quadruped withal. He is brownish-gray in color, with a white muzzle, tipped with black. He is as big as a small donkey, and twenty times as ugly. His horns are all of two feet long, but Nature was not so generous to him in the matter of tail. He has just enough tail to wag, and it looks like the frayed end of a piece of rope. He eats anything and everything he can get excepting meat. This particular big horn cost \$300 in Leadville, and was sold to a German for \$1,000.



### Queer Substitutes for Tobacco.

**A**MONG the queerest inventions recorded at the Patent Office are ideas for tobacco substitutes. Apparently the whole vegetable kingdom has been ransacked for material to take the place of the herb nicotine in the manufacture of cigars, plug for chewers and fuel for the pipe. There is hardly a familiar herb whose leaves are not called into requisition. It is no less the case that the potato, the beet, the cabbage and the turnip help out the commercial supply of the weed. For the preparation of these plants and the imitative doctoring of them there are numberless ingenious processes.

Many of the patented substitutes, however, do not pretend to counterfeit tobacco. For example, one inventor has secured exclusive rights in the idea of making cigars with fillers of pine needles. The needles are to be gathered when they are green and "full of tarry matter." A wrapper of moist tobacco leaf is put around them, and the cigar when dry is intended to burn readily. It is wanted to cure throat and lung trouble. Another patent is for cigars of sunflower leaves, which are to be cut when the seed ripens. The use of a tobacco wrapper in this case is allowed to persons long accustomed to that weed.

A woman has secured a patent on cigars of eucalyptus leaves. She says that they, "unlike tobacco, leave a clean and pleasant flavor in the mouth." Also she claims priority in the notion of employing them for the pipe, for snuff, as tooth powder and, with suitable fats, in the manufacture of soap and candles. Another inventor proposes to use the leaves of Indian corn, prepared like tobacco, for chewing and smoking. The stalks of the corn are to be hulled in water to a syrup, which is to be added to quassia, or cascabela, or "other bitter botanical product." The leaves, having been dried in the sun, are to be dipped in this syrup before making them into cigars and plug.

A thoughtful individual has devised a preparation that is guaranteed to destroy the appetite for tobacco in thirty days. It is composed of gum resin, beeswax, white wax, poplar bark, Virginia snakeroot and cayenne pepper. Another substitute warranted to allay the craving is a mixture of spikenard, red clover, horehound, slippery elm bark, pennyroyal, wild cherry bark, hyssop, ginseng and tarred rope. All of these ingredients are to be dried, powdered and mixed in certain proportions. A patent has been granted for a plug tobacco consisting of gentian root, prickly-ash bark, saffras bark and extract of licorice.

Another patent is for a method by which the smoker is enabled to acquire a mild jag with each cigar he consumes. The manufacturer prepares a mixture consisting of one gallon of rum, one gallon of alcohol, quarter of a pound of oil of apple, half a pound of tonka bean, half a pound of valerian root and quarter of a pint of laudanum. This is to be put in a stone jug and kept tightly corked for a month.

It will then be ready for use. While the cigars are being packed in boxes, the end to be lighted of each one is dipped in the liquor. It is expected that nobody who gets used to cigars prepared in this way will be satisfied with any other thereafter. Such a liquor is known in the trade as a "saucy." All tobacco are treated with saucy before being made up into their commercial forms. By this means they are flavored in various ways, so as to adapt them to the tastes of consumers.

Mucilaginous substances in small quantities are added to cigarette tobacco so that the particles may hold together and not fall out of the paper wrapper. Some pipe tobacco are heavily charged with perfume by treating them with the essential oils of verbena, citronella, bergamot, cassia, musk and catechu. It is not true that cigarettes are commonly charged with opium and other injurious drugs. However, they are favored with essences of various plants, such as vanilla, stramonium, coffee, valerian and tea. Occasionally a few tea leaves are mixed with the tobacco. Among the flavors most used are the lemon, the orange, geranium, saffras, thyme, anise, mint and cinnamon. Honey and maple sugar are utilized for sweetening. A delectation of hay is sometimes applied to smoking tobacco.

The basis of a "saucy" is nearly always some spirituous liquor—usually rum. Sometimes wine is used. Glycerine is a common ingredient. More or less molasses enters into the composition of much plug tobacco. The rum preserves the tobacco and adds to the flavor of plug. The plug trade for the United States Navy is large, and it is required by the Government that the tobacco furnished in this shape for the use of its sailors shall contain no foreign substance except a limited percentage of licorice. Saltpetre is sometimes added to smoking tobacco to make it burn better. The tobacco leaves are dipped into the saucy or else sprinkled with it.

Several patents have been obtained for methods of spotting tobacco leaves. In a certain district of Sumatra which produces an exceptionally fine tobacco for wrappers, the leaves of the plant are commonly speckled in a curious way. One amusing theory advanced to account for this phenomenon is that the dew-drops on the leaves form small lenses, which concentrate the sun's rays and burn the spots. The fact is, however, that the spots are due to the work of a species of fungus that attacks the growing tobacco. The spots in question have come to be regarded as a sort of trade-mark of the tobacco yielded by the district referred to, and owing to the demand for speckled cigars the price of such leaves has risen enormously. So manufacturers at growers in this country have been engaged recently in devising processes for counterfeiting the Sumatra spotting. This is accomplished by sprinkling the leaves, either on the growing plants or after they are dried, with various alkalies and other chemical compounds. By such imitative methods certain ingenious farmers in Connecticut expect to add 50 per cent to the selling value of their tobacco crop during the coming season.

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