

A NOVEL GARTER



Here's the newest thing in garters, the clasps, sleeve holders or what not. A patent was recently granted on this little twist of silver wire that makes the place of a pin or a rubber band in half a dozen different ways. It can also be used by the shopper to hold up her skirt.

Substitute for Coal

Tests by United States government experts show that lignite can be briquetted for fuel without the use of any additional binding material.

Ball bearing shafting introduced into a shoe factory, saved 80 per cent. the power.

EXAGGERATED EGO

Nothing Like Having a Good Admixture of Self-Confidence

John Jay McDevitt of Wilkesbarre, Pa., who at one time became a millionaire-for-a-day and went broke after spending \$2,500 trying to brighten Broadway, New York, is a man who is quite conscious of his own importance. His deeds of greatness are not known to the general public, but McDevitt believes they are sufficient to merit lasting recognition. To make sure that his fame would go down to posterity John Jay had made at his



John J. McDevitt

The McDevitt Statue, and (inset) a picture of John Jay himself.

own expense a life-sized statue of himself which he presented to Congress at Washington. Not content with paying \$700 for the statue, he journeyed to Washington in a private train and hired a brass band to meet him at the station and accompany him to his hotel, while a committee of his friends attended the presentation.

HISTORY OF PAPER

Introduced into Europe About the Twelfth Century

From time to time, almost from the very earliest days of the war, there has arisen in many European countries a shortage of paper. Many factories, often unlooked for, have contributed to bring about this result, a scarcity of labor, the increased cost of shipping freights, and deficiency in the supply of the many and various ingredients which go to the making of paper in all its many forms of to-day.

The manufacture of paper was first introduced into Europe by the Moors, also about the twelfth century. They held a great part of Spain in those days, and the industry quickly grew. It was good paper, "cloth parchment" it is styled in the laws of Alfonso of 1263, and well styled, for it was stout of substance, and could withstand hard use. At Xativa, Valencia and Toledo the industry grew and flourished until the fall of the Moorish power, and then came a change. The Christian conquerors were less skilled, and the great industry deteriorated, both as to quantity and quality. Meanwhile, however, the Arabs had brought their knowledge of the craft with them when they invaded Sicily. From Sicily paper making ultimately spread to Italy, and there it became a great industry. From Italy it extended to France and Germany.

And then the art reached England, and, in Wynkyn de Worde's "De Proprietatibus Rerum," printed in 1495, at Caxton's Press, we find mention of a paper mill at Stevenage, in Hertfordshire, kept by one John Tate. Master Spielman, with his ten years' license from Queen Elizabeth to make paper at Dartford, in Kent, is the next great figure in the paper trade, and so on to the establishment of the famous mills at Maidstone, where John Whatman turned out his paper in and around the year 1760. In 1790 came the machine, and from the small mill at Broom's Barn, in Hertfordshire, where Fourdrinier, the inventor, first set up his plant, the industry spread all over the country.

FORESTS OF GREAT BRITAIN

Many Canadians who have not visited Great Britain suppose that there is little woodland in the old country, and it is natural to think of the United Kingdom as cleared of timber and cultivated like a garden. In England and Wales there are nearly 2,000,000 acres of forest, and large areas of uncultivated land on which it is the intention to cultivate a growth of timber. There are, it is estimated, 2,500,000 acres of afforestable land in England and Wales. Of course most of the British forests are held for park and estate purposes. The area of Crown forests in England and Wales is only 65,766 acres, made up mostly of the historical estates of the Crown. —Canadian Forestry Journal.

HOW OLD IS YOUR BRAIN?

Mental Development is One True Test of Age

What is your mental age? It makes no difference what your actual age is, you have what is now known as a mental age—somewhere between six months and twenty-five years or thereabouts. Among school children it has long been noticed that some, much older than others in point of years, were a good distance behind them mentally. The idea was evolved that if children, imbeciles, and criminals could be given simple tests to determine exactly how far advanced they were mentally a good deal of trouble could be saved—in children by placing them in the proper grade at school, in imbeciles to determine exactly what would be best for their welfare, and in criminals to determine the responsibility in a moral way for their crimes. Thus if a criminal were found to be only eight years old mentally, then the proper way to treat him, no matter what his actual age happened to be, would be the way a boy eight years old committing the same crime would be treated.

Binet has a good many tests that have been modified by experience into what are known generally as the Binet tests. They run all the way from recognizing a hand waved in front of the eyes for a tiny infant to remembering sequences of numbers and describing the various articles seen in a picture but for a moment, for older ones.

It is the endeavor of some humane societies to have a law passed to test all criminals, and that, if found of such mental age, they shall not be punished in the ordinary way. It has also been suggested that our own Civil Service use these tests instead of the oftentimes absurd examinations now used. Results from testing criminals have been startling and peculiar. In a great many cases grown men and women have not gone higher than ten or twelve years in mental age. In the case of children the tests have indicated other things besides their mental age—they have indicated the general vocation for which the child is best adapted.

Three things will insure success on the average farm, namely: Cows, Alfalfa, and Cream Checks. If a farmer gets the first two and looks after them properly the last will come naturally.

HISTORY OF SERIALS

The London "Standard" Was First English Paper to Print Serial

It is said that the Old Lady of Shoe Lane, as the now defunct "Standard" was nicknamed, was the first English newspaper to print a serial story, although to-day the papers which do not are to be counted on the fingers of one hand. The distinction of being the first weekly to do so belongs to the "Sunday Times." The story was "Old St. Paul's," by Harrison Ainsworth, and the author of that stirring story got a thousand pounds for the serial rights.

A well known editor, now dead, tells a good story of when Trollope came to him to arrange for the appearance serially of "Doctor Thorn." The editor offered the author two thousand pounds, but the latter wanted three. To this the editor objected, and the novelist offered to toss for the other thousand. The editor objected, and the matter was settled amicably. "But I felt unsettled," goes on the editor. "I felt mean. I had refused a challenge. To relieve my mind I said: 'Now that is settled, come over to my club, where we can have a quiet room to ourselves, and I will toss you for that thousand with pleasure. But Trollope wouldn't.'"

"Uncle Tom's Cabin" was written as it ran, and the authoress intended to bring it to an end in twelve instalments. It ran to forty-three. For the serial rights Mrs. Stowe got \$300, and thought she had done well. On the book she made \$20,000 in six months on a 10 per cent. royalty.

The first title in "All the Year Round," in the very first number, dated April 30th, 1859, is "A Tale of Two Cities," and the opening words are, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." It ran for half a year, and was one of the most successful serials ever written.

STARS AND PLANETS

There is a good deal of difference, as science has found out, in the visibility of stars and planets when viewed through a telescope by daylight. This varies according to the color of the heavenly bodies. The red or yellow stars are much more easily seen than the white ones. Unless the telescope is focused with the greatest accuracy often an extremely bright star will be absolutely lost against a daylight field. As a general thing the planets are much less visible in daylight than stars. The reason for this is that the telescope diminishes the brightness of the planet's disc as well as of the sky, and, therefore, does not heighten the contrast as in the case of the star. Two of the planets, however, Venus and Mercury, are better observed in daylight than in darkness. Saturn on the other hand, can hardly be seen even through a five-inch telescope, except at night.

BURMA GRASS FOR PAPER

Kaing Grass May Form a Good Paper Material

The possibilities of utilizing the kaing grass of Burma for paper making have for some years past been investigated by interested persons, in consultation with paper manufacturers in England, and it is now announced that the conversion of this grass into pulp and subsequently into paper can be accomplished in a simple and economical manner.

The yield of unbleached pulp is 39 per cent., calculated on the air-dry grass. This does not compare badly with esparto grass, from which about 43 per cent. of unbleached pulp is obtained. Kaing grass grows in great profusion in all parts of Burma, frequently reaching a height of ten feet. As a paper making material it may be classed with esparto grass, and is much cheaper, though the quality of the pulp is not quite so good as that obtained with esparto. Esparto grass is to a large extent cultivated, whereas kaing grass grows wild and is sometimes rank and coarse. By systematic cutting, however, over properly preserved areas, a finer grass of uniform quality can be obtained in a very short time.

Wreck's Sole Survivor

James Boyle, the sole survivor of the collision between the passenger boat Connemara and the collier Retriever off Greenore was the principal witness at the inquest at Killeel. He was still suffering from the effects of his experience and for some time was unable to proceed with his evidence. He told how the vessels collided and parted and how he got into a boat which twice capsized, but to which he managed to cling, eventually crawling ashore on his hands and knees.

Instead of Glass

Unbleached heavy cotton cloth may be used as a substitute for glass on hot beds and the material used for dressing it is three pints linseed oil, one ounce acetate of lead, and four ounces of white resin. Grind the acetate in a little oil, then add the resin and the rest of the oil. Melt in an iron kettle over a fire until it is well mixed and apply it to the cloth while warm.

For the first time since the Reformation service has been held in the ruins of the Abbey of Shaftesbury.

Hang up the lantern while working in barn or stable. Many barns are burned by lanterns being knocked over and starting fires.

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Letter Heads

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and Announcements

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