

THINGS WORTH KNOWING

The first printing-press was established in Australia in 1795.

The "Latter-day Saints" made their first appearance in Britain in 1838.

The Order of St. Patrick was founded in Ireland by George III. in 1783.

There are estimated to be in the United States about 18,000,000 children.

The army of the United States consists of 2166 officers and 24,644 enlisted men.

Roughly speaking, about 9,000,000 acres of corn are grown in the United Kingdom.

Railway sleepers are 8 feet 11 inches in length, 10 inches wide, and 5 inches thick.

In England, in 1546, millers were forbidden to grind their corn twice, as being pernicious.

In English law an eaves dropper is considered as a common nuisance and is punishable by law.

The Congo River is fifteen miles wide in some places. Steamers often pass each other, but out of sight.

The cities of refuge in Palestine were Hebron, Shechem, Kadesh-Naphtali, Bezer, Ramoth-Gilead, and Galan.

The metrical system of weights is used in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and Norway.

The number of Welshmen, or descendants of Welshmen, in the United States, according to the last census, is about 83,000.

In South Australia it cost the railway companies £16,000 a year to remove the vegetation that grows on the permanent way.

The South American pampas cover an area of 750,000 square miles. Pampas is an Indian word, meaning flats or plains.

The sex ratio of deaf-mutism in most countries is 55 males to 45 females; a most natural result, as men are more exposed in their outdoor avocations to accidents and ailments inducing such an infirmity.

It is proposed doing away with the old system of lightning rod protection and replacing the rods with narrow ribbons of copper, which will use up the energy of the lightning and save the building from destruction.

Standard gold consists of 22 parts pure gold alloyed with 2 parts of copper or other metal, and according to the quantity of alloy is called 9, 12, 15, or 18 carat—that is, that number of pure gold out of the twenty-four.

It is authoritatively given out that English society has expunged the word "lady" from its vocabulary. Henceforward, in polite conversation, only the good, plain and unmistakable word "woman" will be used in reference to the sex.

The waltz had its beginning in Germany, and thence was taken to France, shortly after which it was introduced into England. Hungary was the birthplace of the galopade or galop, and from Poland came the stately polonaise or polacca and mazourka.

The number of schools and colleges which were erected during the thirteenth century, is a startling proof that the spirit of inquiry and the love of knowledge were taking rapid and deep root in the nation. In Cambridge alone nine colleges were founded during this period.

The following are old country slang terms for money:—"A jockey," 4d; a "tanner," 6d; a "bob," 1s; a "half-a-bull," 2s 6d; a "bull," 5s; a "quid," £1; a "pony," £25; a "monkey," £500; a "kite," an accommodation bill; "browns," copper or bronze; "tin," money generally; "blunt," silver or money in general; a "plum," £100,000.

The tonnage passing through the Detroit river in 234 days last year (1890) exceeded by 3,000,000 tons the combined foreign and coastwise shipping of Liverpool and London, and by 10,000,000 tons the entries and clearances of all the seaports of the United States. About one-third of the whole steam tonnage of the United States is on the lakes, and the ratio is constantly increasing.

A western man has a scheme for decreasing drunkenness. He would establish a state inebriate asylum and compel those who make and sell liquor pay for its maintenance. He would tax the distiller \$1,000 the wholesaler \$500 and the retailer \$100 a year in its behalf. Then he would treat drunkenness as insanity and confine all drunkards in the asylum until they are permanently cured.

A new society of scientific research is the American Anthropometric society, lately formed in Philadelphia. Each member will bequeath his brain to the organization for examination in the interest of science and humanity. One purpose of the society will be that of studying the racial features of the brain, as in the case of the North American Indian, the Chinese, and the African, as well as the cerebral convolutions of famous thinkers.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat tells of a commercial traveller who probably carries the most unique "sample" in the profession. It is nothing less than a human body three years old, an example of the efficacy of a certain embalming fluid. For three years this mummy has been transported on the railroads as a sample case would; and, indeed there is no outward sign which would indicate the uncanny nature of its contents. In this instance the longer the body is preserved the more of an advertisement it is for the fluid in the veins of the "stiff." The box is zinc lined and does not exceed the limits of the railroad excess baggage rule in weight.

During last year there were no fewer than 8,451 cases of suicide in France, being at the rate of about 23 per day.

The French nickname for an Englishman is "Godam," from a familiar oath once common, and still too frequently used.

The average annual number of foreign emigrants leaving the shores of Great Britain for the ten years, 1875-1885, was 75,639.

An immense 200-ton piece of granite, which will dress to a pillar 6 feet in diameter by 45 feet long, has recently been quarried near Petersburg, Va.

A foreign watchmaker has patented a device by which, an hour or two before a clock runs down, the word "win!" will appear at an opening in the dial.

The buffalo are in no danger of becoming an extinct species. Since they have been placed under protection of government troops they have been increasing.

The overland telegraph is a world-wide institution, in which there is a total of 1,680,900 miles of wire, enough of the attenuated metal to go around the equatorial belt of the globe just 30 times.

The three loftiest mountain peaks yet measured on the globe are in the Himalayan range, India. Their heights are—Mount Everest, 29,002 feet; Kunchin-junga, 28,176; and Dwhalagiri, 27,000.

Of the presidents of the United States, eight have been of Welsh descent—John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, William Henry Harrison, James A. Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, and John Quincy Adams.

The longest railway tunnel in the world is that of St. Gothard, on the line of railroad between Lucerne and Milan. The summit of the tunnel is 900 feet below the surface at Andermatt, and 6600 feet beneath the peak of Kaststehorn, of the St. Gothard group. The tunnel is 26½ feet wide, and is 18 feet 10 inches from the floor to the crown of the arched roof. It is 9½ miles long.

Since the 1881 census the additions to British India have been as large as the area of the German empire. The Burmah province has increased in area from 87,220 square miles to 280,000 by the conquest of Ava and the Shan States, and the population by five millions. At the north-west end of the empire Baluchistan has been added, with an area of 160,500 miles and half a million of people.

In the United States the weights and measures originally introduced from England remain unchanged. The wine gallon is still the American gallon, the imperial gallon having never been introduced into the United States. The avoirdupois lb. is used for all commercial purposes, but the old troy weight is still used by jewellers, and apothecaries' weights based on the troy lb. are still in use.

The careful housewife knows well how rapidly dust gathers in articles which are stationary in a room; but the accumulation proceeds much more rapidly on bodies moving at great velocities. The moving body, in a given time, comes into contact with a greater quantity of air than one at rest, and consequently picks up more dirt. Express trains are notably dirty; and a special example of the same thing was offered recently at Owens college, where, during the foggy weather, some bright new belting, which was run continuously for four hours at a speed of 4,000 feet an hour, was black and loaded with dirt when stopped.

There is at present a veritable epidemic of suicide at Copenhagen. Those who put an end to their lives are either young couples who bring to a close, an affection which is contrary to the wishes of their families, or writers or artists who kill themselves in despair at seeing their works not appreciated by the public. The melancholy poetry of the North has a most tragic effect. A curious detail is that a majority of these unhappy persons are Finlanders or Swedes. They escape by committing suicide on Danish soil the law of their own country, which gives the bodies of all who take their own lives to the dissecting room of the medical school.

Fancy-dress balls, and all other masquerades, are failures in England. Perhaps, when England was Merry England, they may have been successful; but that was a long time ago; and the Puritans, if they did nothing else, gave a death-blow to masques. People keep on attempting to enjoy themselves in mongrel costumes which do not fit, but they very seldom succeed. Perhaps medical students may yet make themselves happy in "doublets of orange-tawny and silver, slashed with dirty light blue," a costume certainly cheap at fifteen bob for the night. But the general public has become too critical, if not of themselves, at least of their partners in these violent delights. A promiscuous dance in promiscuous costumes is an ugly medley.—Saturday Review.

There is a quaint old man in Manchester, England, who goes by the unique name of Gadagig Gigadab. His original name, so the story goes, was John Smith, but many years ago he began to brood over the possibilities of mistaken identity involved in such a common name. The name figured frequently in the criminal records, and he became abnormally apprehensive lest he might be confused with some of these bad John Smiths. At last what he feared so much actually happened. One morning the papers recorded the capture of an accountant in a bank for embezzlement, and through some blunder of the reporter the identity of the embezzler was confused with the subject of this paragraph, who was also a bank accountant. Then and there he determined to assume a name like unto no other ever borne by mortal man. And in Gadagig Gigadab most people will agree that he has done so.

At the commencement of the present century more than 200 offences, many of them very trifling, were punishable with death.

The largest fresh-water lake in the world is Lake Superior, in North America. It covers 43,000 square miles, and is thus one-third larger than Ireland.

The rate of wind varies from 5 miles an hour—a little breeze—to 80 or 100 miles an hour—a hurricane. From 30 to 40 miles an hour it is reckoned a high wind or a gale; at 50 miles an hour it is called a storm.

Slavery in the United States was begun at Jamestown in 1620. There were nearly four million slaves in the U. S. in 1860. The civil war cost \$2,775,000,000—about \$700 per each slave freed. In 1834 the indemnity for freedom of slaves in British colonies was about \$130 per slave.

The island of St. Helena was discovered by the Portuguese on St. Helena's Day in 1501. It belongs to Great Britain, and is situated in the South Atlantic, 1140 miles from the African coast. The port and capital of the island is Jamestown. From 1815 till 1821 St. Helena was the place of exile of Napoleon I. It came finally under the Crown in 1834.

One can cut glass with a scissor as easily as though it were an autumn leaf. The entire secret consists in plunging the pane of glass into a tub of water, submerging also the hands and the scissors. The scissors will cut in straight lines without a flaw. This result is achieved in consequence of the absence of vibration. If the least portion of the scissors is left out of the water, the vibration will prevent the glass cutting.—Post Dispatch.

A monument is to be erected over the remains of Davy Crockett, the famous Tennessee hunter, who killed 108 bears and performed various other deeds of valor. It is now more than sixty years since this picturesque old character was buried. The shaft will be of Tennessee granite and over 27 feet high. At the front base of the column the emblematic bear keeps faithful watch in front of the bronze medallion of the setting sun; on the right part of the shaft a bronze medallion with the distinctive badge (the rifle and knife crossed) of the pioneer settlers of the state is represented and a corresponding medallion on the left side shows the agricultural implements, early symbols of Tennessee's prosperity. One other medallion represents the grand seal of Tennessee, and on the front of the shaft a bust of Colonel Crockett looks down over the grizzly he loved to hunt so well. The bust will be as true to life as it can be made.

The Dangers of Spring.

Poets and novelists go into ecstasies over what they romantically call "beautiful spring," and "gentle spring," and while, no doubt, every one is glad to see winter release its icy grasp, "beautiful spring" is, after all, one of the most deadly seasons of the year. Sudden transitions from warmth to extreme cold, with piercing, chilling winds; from dry to sloppy, "muggy" weather, all combine to make the season a most trying one, even to the hardest constitution, while to those with weak constitutions the season is one of positive danger. Undoubtedly the greatest danger at this season of the year is from cold in the head, which very few escape, and which if not promptly and thoroughly treated, develops into catarrh, with all its disagreeable and loathsome effects. Catarrh, neglected almost as certainly develops into consumption, annually destroying thousands of lives. At this trying season no household should be without a bottle of Nasal Balm. In cases of cold in the head it gives almost instant relief and effects a speedy cure, thus preventing the development of catarrh. Where the latter disease has already secured a hold it is equally efficacious, and with persistent use will cure the worst case. From the outset it sweetens the breath, stops the nauseous droppings into the throat and lungs, dispels those dull headaches that afflict the sufferer from catarrh. Nasal Balm is not advertised as a cure-all—it is an honest remedy which never fails to cure cold in the head or catarrh when the directions are faithfully followed, and thousands throughout the country have reason to bless its discovery. Nasal Balm may be had from all dealers or will be sent post-paid on receipt of price (50 cents, small, or \$1, large size bottle) by addressing Fullard & Co., Brockville, Ont.—Adet.

Gen. Crook's Bravery.

A man proud of having served with Gen. Crook in his western campaigns was telling a number of stories of that noted general in an uptown club the other evening, and, in speaking of his fearlessness of the red men, said: "We had been fighting the Apaches, led by Mangus Colorado, for several months in '82, when one afternoon the hostiles sent a squaw into camp to say that they were ready to parley. We all advised Gen. Crook to take no notice of the offer. The Indians had frequently made these advances only to get our officers in their power and then attack them. The general said nothing, but took his gun, saying that he was going out to shoot ducks. Night came on and he failed to put in an appearance. A party was made up and a diligent search begun. After an hour's hunting Gen. Crook was found sitting under the lee of an arroya idly whittling a chip of wood, while the hostile chiefs sat all around him trying to make satisfactory terms of surrender. His informal meeting resulted in the surrender of Mangus Colorado, one of the fiercest of the Apache chiefs. He was succeeded in the command of the Apaches by Geronimo."—Philadelphia Press.

The Spring.

Of all seasons in the year, it is the one for making radical changes in regard to health. During the winter, the system becomes to a certain extent clogged with waste, and the blood loaded with impurities, owing to lack of exercise, close confinement in poorly ventilated shops and homes, and other causes. This is the cause of the dull, sluggish, tired feeling so general at this season, and which must be overcome, or the health may be entirely broken down. Hood's Sarsaparilla has attained the greatest popularity all over the country as the favourite Spring Medicine. It expels the accumulation of impurities through the bowels, kidneys, liver, lungs and skin, gives to the blood the purity and quality necessary to good health and overcomes that tired feeling.—Adet.

MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

Patti is preparing her autobiography, which will be published simultaneously in Paris and London.

The fund of \$2,500,000 which Mr. Peabody left for the poor of London now amounts to over \$5,000,000.

Joseph Macheca, one of the Italians killed in New Orleans, was a large ship-owner and his estate is estimated at \$2,000,000.

Joseph Hoffman, the pretty little boy pianist, who was the pet of New York ladies three short years ago, has grown tall, lanky and freckled.

Prof. Charles A. Young, of Princeton, the greatest of American astronomers, is short and very round shouldered, with a pair of very keen, flashing eyes.

At an autograph sale in Boston Tuesday, a letter from the great actor, Charles Kean, speaking of his reported marriage to Ellen Tree, was bid in by a young lady for \$5.25.

The original Rockefellers in America—the ancestors of the oil kings—were four brothers, who came from the Rhine provinces during the last century and settled in New Jersey.

The archbishop of Canterbury has accepted the presidency of the Palestine exploration fund, of which the late archbishop of York was the president from the foundation of the society in 1865 to his death.

The Czar has presented to the Shah of Persia 39 Kirghis horses of the purest breed and a modern battery of artillery with four guns, which are being conveyed to Teheran under an escort of Cossacks.

Mr. Renan says that the dead Prince Jerome could have written a better history of the second empire than any one else, and that if he had eschewed politics he would have made a great place for himself in France.

The Princess Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, who is soon to be a bride, is a tall and very handsome young woman. Her shoulders and arms and neck are perfectly proportioned and she has pretty, dark-blue eyes.

Mrs. Gen. Grant lives in the beautiful house near Central park presented to her husband, surrounded by comfort and luxury. Her maid acts as amanuensis and reader for the autobiography Mrs. Grant is slowly preparing. Mrs. Grant's eyesight is poor and has always been. Besides the maid the menage includes an English butler and two servants.

Mme. Carnot had 4000 guests at the last ball at the Elysee in Paris. She was attired for the occasion in a handsome dress of Louis XV. pekin, vieux-rose stripes on white ground, broche with vieux-rose flowers; vieux-rose satin tablier, trimmed with point d'Alencon, and a headress—small rose, feathers and diamonds.

The Comtesse de Martel de Joinville ("Gyp") and her mother, the Comtesse Mirabeau, declare that they assisted their relative, M. Bascourt, to arrange a copy of the Talleyrand manuscripts, which would have filled fifteen volumes, and that he admitted that it was impossible to publish this matter until the statesmen of his generation were dead. The ladies ridicule the idea that the recently published Talleyrand "Memoirs" are genuine.

One of the letters of Emperor William, written by him to Prince Bismarck, and which Bismarck refuses to surrender, it is said, expresses among other things a bitter animosity toward the writer's own mother. The negotiations undertaken by Count Waldersee to recover these letters for the emperor have entirely failed, and they are now among Bismarck's papers, locked up in the vaults of a London banker. If they were on German soil, the emperor would probably seize them by force.

Dr. Peabody, of Harvard, who has just entered the ranks of the octogenarians, is a little absent-minded at times. One summer day, having come to Boston from Cambridge, and having alighted from the car at Bowdoin square, he turned a sharp corner and collided with an elderly gentleman who was standing with his hat off, wiping the perspiration from his forehead, who held his hat in such a way as to give the appearance of begging. Dr. Peabody, seeing the hat, dropped a quarter into it with his customary kind remark. Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, who was holding the hat, put the money in his pocket, solemnly thanked his old friend, the giver, and passed on.

The Rev. Joe Cook does not allow his objection to Sunday newspapers to stand in the way of his ambition to have his Sunday sermons properly reported for the Monday's papers.

Paulus, the famous singer of Boulangism, has refused an offer of 30,000 francs a month to sing at Berlin. He replied: "Magnificent offer in the case of any other country, but in Berlin—never!"

Albani celebrated her 65th birthday on March 13. She sang Gounod's "Ave Maria" to the twenty or thirty friends favored with the entrée on such occasions, with a voice as unapproachable as ever.

The governor-general of India, the viceroy, receives a salary of \$250,000 a year, with allowances that include a gorgeous palace at Calcutta and a summer residence, all making his position worth \$500,000 a year.

Mr. Lidderdale, a Londoner, raised \$85,000,000 in four days, and yet he was not bustling with a view to buying his wife an Easter bonnet. It was simply a business transaction in the interest of Baring Bros.

John Stephenson, who built the first American horse car, is more than eighty years old, but still vigorous and energetic. His mind is yet busy with inventions, and he can accomplish as much work in a day as a man many years his junior.

Emperor William is "writing" a history of William I, in two volumes, assisted by his former tutor, Prof. Hinzpeter. Two hundred copies will be printed, to be given to the sovereigns of Europe, the Hohenzollern family, and the most important national libraries.

Mr. Dana's salary as editor of the New York Sun has been increased from \$25,000 to \$50,000 a year; that of his son Paul from \$150 a week to \$15,000 yearly; and a similar increase from a like sum was made for Chester Lord, the managing editor. Business Manager Laffan's stipend was increased to \$25,000 a year. The Sun is said to have made more money last year than in any other year of its existence.

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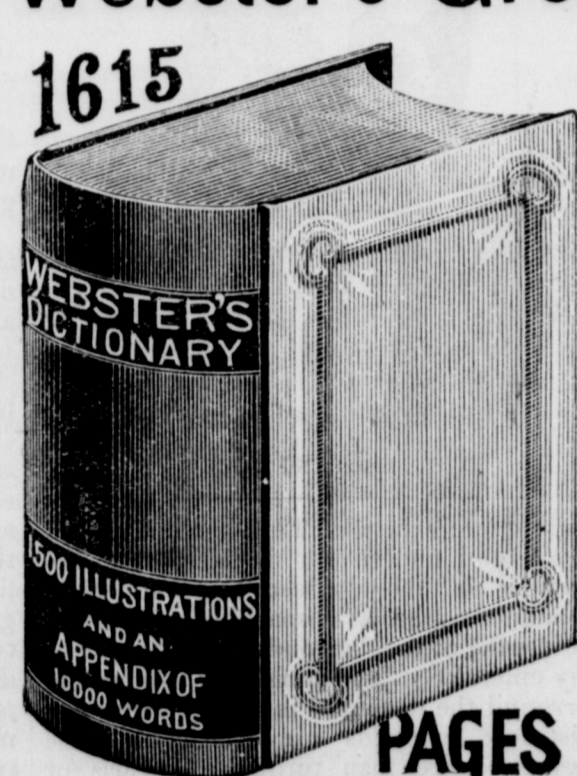
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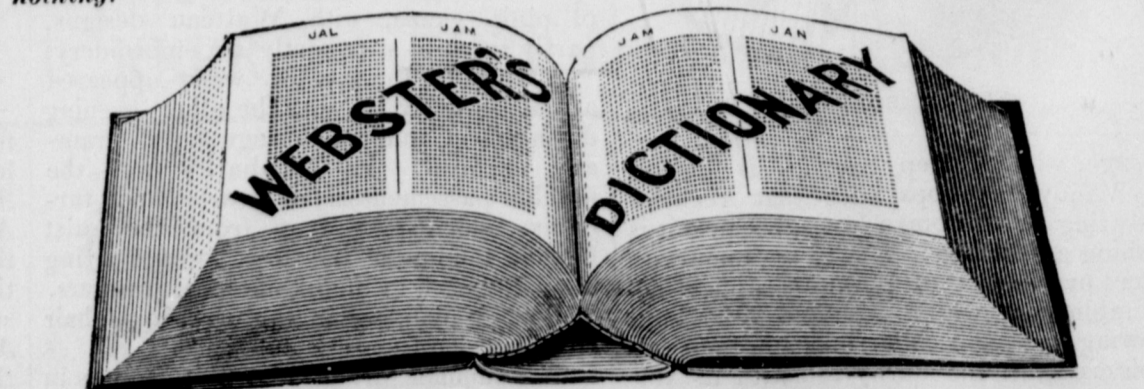
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