

THINGS WORTH KNOWING

There are 409 hills in Scotland above 3,000 feet high.

The construction of railways in India commenced in 1853.

The number of medical students in Edinburgh is about 2,000.

There are 32 railway tunnels in England over one mile in length.

Manitoba is said to have raised 15,000,000 bushels of wheat last season.

There are 48,045,755 acres of cultivated land in the United Kingdom.

In 1606 any one absent from church on Sunday was fined one shilling.

Kammerer, a native of Ludwigsburg, was the inventor of the lucifer match.

The first steam printing press was erected in the office of the London Times in 1814.

The number of passengers carried by railways in Great Britain in 1889 was about 480,000,000.

Of sheep there are 43,431,126 head in the United States, of the average value of \$2 each, and 50,625,160 pigs.

It is estimated that the population of England and Wales will reach no less a figure than 29,805,000 in 1891.

The quantity of tea imported into England, and retained for home use, in the year 1889 was 185,578,298 lbs.

At the present day sacred pigs roam inviolate about the Buddhist monasteries of Canton and elsewhere in China.

The use of espanto or Spanish grass in the manufacture of paper was introduced and patented by E. Rutledge in 1856.

In 1582 the seamen of England were computed at 14,295 men, and the number of vessels 1232, of which there were only 217 of more than eighty tons burden.

The Talmud is a book containing the ancient Jewish oral (or unwritten) law and traditions. It was compiled by the scribes between the sixth and third centuries B.C.

Between 1861 and June, 1889, there were as many as 4,603 vessels, British, colonial and foreign, wrecked on the shores of the United Kingdom, resulting in each case unfortunately in loss of life, the total number of persons perishing being 21,020.

A resident of Tampa, Fla., has a natural curiosity in the form of a pair of deer horns with a clearly defined hound's head on the tip of one of them, formed in a manner that makes it impossible that it should be a work of art.

A Syracuse, N. Y., man has a snake in his stomach, and unless the reptile gets what it wants to eat and drink it makes trouble. Port wine is its favorite tipple, but if it gets too much of the wine it acts as if it had delirium tremens.

The authorized coinage of the United Kingdom consists of the following pieces, some of which are issued only on special occasions: Gold: five-pound, two-pound, sovereign, half-sovereign; silver: crown, double florin, half-crown, florin, shilling, sixpence, groat, threepence, twopenny, penny; bronze: pennny, halfpenny, farthing.

Over 300 years ago, in the reign of Henry VIII., an Italian ship sank in the River Stout, at the entrance to the English port of Sandwich. The river, which is noted for frequently changing its course, recently shifted into an old channel and exposed the wreck of the vessel which since the year 1542 has lain imbedded in the sand.

Despite their subjugation to British rule the princes of India are still able to indulge in royal whims and extravagances. One of them recently had made at Paris a bed worth \$25,000. Its canopy is supported by four automatic female figures that wave fans to cool the air. The mattress is a huge musical box, which, when one lies upon it, plays operatic airs.

Rosemary is a small but very odoriferous shrub; the principal use of it is to perfume chambers, and in decoctions for washing. Its botanical name is *Rosmarinus*, so called from *ros*, dew, and *marinus*, alluding to its situation on the seashore. It is seen mantling the rocks of the Mediterranean in winter, with its grey flowers glittering with dew. It was used to stick around the coffin of the dead.

The proportion of American trade carried in American ships in 1870 was 35.6; in 1875, 25.8; in 1880, 17.18; in 1885, 14.76; and in 1890, 12.29 per cent. During 1890 no American shipping cleared for Germany, the Atlantic ports of France, or the Netherlands, and while 3,316,442 tons of steamers cleared for England, out of this only 38,192 tons were under the United States flag.

Rather an interesting change in the methods adopted in delivering and collecting the census papers is the circumstance that for the first time ladies have been put upon the list of enumerators, an arrangement which, though indicating a distinct recognition of the public services of women, may not be fully appreciated in some small towns and villages where gossip is a big part of the staple industry.

In Saxon *bord* means shield. In the Viking ships each warrior hung his shield on the side of the ship opposite to him, and above the aperture for his oar. The Viking held the steer oar, which was fastened to the right-hand side of the stern (stern is itself a contradiction of steer oar). The right hand side of the ship thus became the steer side, and as *bord* came to mean the whole side where the shields or bords were hung, the right side came to be the steer board (starboard) side, and the lower or lurking side became larboard.

Edward III granted to the city of London the privilege of having a gold or silver mace carried before the lord mayor, sheriffs and corporations, in 1354.

Banks were first established by the Lombard Jews in Italy. The name is derived from *banco*, a bench—benches being erected in the market-places for the exchange of money, etc.

The credit of being the first canal-maker in England is attributed to Morton, Bishop of Ely, who, in the reign of Henry VIII., constructed a cut for navigation as well as for drainage between Peterborough and the sea, 40 miles long.

Three of Grant's famous old army commanders survive—General Schofield, present commander of the army; General O. O. Howard, who commanded one wing of Sherman's army on its famous march; and General Slocum, who had charge of another.

The greatest known ocean depths yet measured are one of 4,655 fathoms off the north-east coast of Japan, one of 4,475 fathoms south of the Ladrone Islands, one of 4,561 fathoms north of Porto Rico, and two of 4,295 fathoms and 4,430 fathoms respectively, to the south of the Friendly Islands, in lat. 24.37 S., long. 175.8 W.

There are seven watches on board ship: the afternoon watch lasts from noon to 4 p. m.; first dog watch, from 4 p. m. to 6 p. m.; second dog watch, from 6 p. m. to 8 p. m.; first watch, from 8 p. m. to midnight; middle watch, 12 a. m. to 4 a. m.; morning watch, from 4 a. m. to 8 a. m.; forenoon watch, from 8 a. m. to noon.

In South Carolina the percentage of the negro population is 60.6, in Mississippi 57.5, in Louisiana 51.4, in Alabama 47.5, in Florida 47.1, in Georgia 47.0, in Virginia 41.7, and in North Carolina 37.9. In these eight states the first census showed a white population of 1,066,711, and a colored population of 654,308; while the census of 1880 revealed a white population of 4,695,253, and a colored population of 4,352,097.

From the official report of the Japanese census, taken on December 1, 1889, it appears that the number of houses in the whole of Japan is 7,840,872, and the total population 40,702,020. The above population divided according to classes gives the following results: Nobles and their families—3825; old military class, 1,993,637; common people, 38,074,558. These figures, compared with the census taken in 1888, show an increase of 38,046 houses, and of 464,786 persons.

History informs us that the product of the silkworm was first utilised in China 4515 years ago, through the encouragement of the Empress of Siling-Chi, to whom is attributed the invention of silk stuffs. The secret of silkworm culture was finally stolen from China, and ultimately spread all over the globe. For twenty years, however, the Chinese kept the secret faithfully; death was the penalty which anyone incurred who attempted to impart a knowledge to any outside nation, and their frontiers were guarded closely to prevent the secret from being carried abroad.

In June, 1646, Charles I ordered a gold medal to be struck for Robert Welch, an Irish gentleman, who, at the battle of Edgehill, recovered the standard of the king's own regiment, which had been taken by the parliamentary forces, and who also captured two pieces of cannon, for which services he had been previously knighted. This war medal, which bore the effigies of the king and Prince Charles, with the inscription, "*Per Regale Mandatum Caroli Regis hoc assignatur Roberto Welch, Militi*," seems to have been the first which was worn as a personal decoration in this country.

According to a recent estimate of the glass bottle production of the world, says *The Engineer*, the average daily output amounts to about 43,300 gross, the estimate in the United States being only 840, Germany, Belgium, Austria-Hungary turn out about 37,000 gross, or about four-fifths of the product of the world. France is so small as 100. England turns out 6000 gross daily. Of the other producing countries, Sweden makes the highest with 1516 gross daily. Other countries than those already named are practically nothing. The United States' share of the output is very small compared to other countries named outside of France.

During the Crimean campaign of one year and a half, 341,000 men were buried in the district of Taurida, which includes the Crimea. The Russians lost 170,000 soldiers; the English, French and Turks 156,000; and there were 15,000 Tartar victims. Of this total 324,800 were interred in the Crimea, including 210,000 in the neighborhood of Sebastopol. Those killed in battle were but 30,000, and, allowing an equal number for the losses from wounds, 281,000 must have succumbed from disease. The deaths of sick persons sent away from the seat of war were about 60,000 more, which makes the number of dead from the Crimean campaign alone over 401,000.

Some rare metals, possessing special qualities, are required for certain work. Thus palladium is used in making some parts of time pieces, and iridium for the points of gold pens, and the uninitiated have no idea of the value of such scarce products. Vanadium costs, for instance, 123,900¢, per kilogramme; zirconium, 79,295¢; and lithium, which is the lightest of metals, 77,090¢, per kilogramme. Rhodium, which is extremely hard and brittle, and is only fusible at a very high temperature, fetches, 25,330¢; and iridium, the heaviest substance hitherto discovered, costs 12,005¢, per kilogramme. It will therefore be seen that gold and silver are far from being the most precious metals, so far as their market value is concerned.

It is stated that the muskrat is enabled to travel under the ice of a frozen river or lake for a considerable distance by respiring against the ice roof where the bubbles of air collect and getting a fresh supply of oxygen.

In the Silvester-basilica of Rome have been discovered the tombs of six popes, among them that of Silvester, who succeeded in converting Constantine to Christianity, and who lived at the time of the council of Nice.

The Dryads were an inferior order of deities in the mythology of Greece. Their name is derived from the Greek word for an oak-tree (*dryas*). They were looked upon as the guardians of the larger kinds of forest trees, along with which they came into being, and with which they died.

According to the *Publisher's Circular*, the number of books published in the course of the year 1890 was 4414, and of new editions 1321, making a total of 5735. This does not reach the number recorded in 1889, when 4694 new books and 1373 new editions, or a total of 6067 works, were published.

Chili originally belonged to the empire of the Incas of Peru. It was invaded by the Spaniards in 1535, and subdued in 1541. The Spanish yoke was thrown off by a declaration of independence in 1810, which was finally secured in 1818. Santiago, the capital, is a beautiful city, in the heart of a noble country, with the Andes full in view.

The snowdrop consists of one bulb, two green leaves, and a single stalk bearing a solitary flower. The whole being so emblematic of chastity, it was anciently held sacred to virgins, and in later years was dedicated to the Virgin Mary. On the Feast of the Purification it was formerly the custom that her image should be removed from the altars and the place of it strewn with snowdrops. The ceremony was attended by maidens dressed in white, who walked in procession in the churches. It is more than possible that the name of "Fair Maids of February" was taken from them.

The Victoria cross was instituted in February, 1856, at the termination of the Crimean war, for the purpose of rewarding conspicuous acts of bravery performed by soldiers, sailors and marines. The decoration consists of a Maltese cross of bronze having the royal crest in the centre, with a scroll bearing the words "For valor." Soldiers upon whom it has been bestowed wear it with a red ribbon, and sailors with a blue ribbon, upon the left breast. Non-commissioned officers and men receive with the V. C. a pension of £12 and each additional act of valor, besides being recorded by a bar placed upon the suspending ribbon, entitles the hero to a further pension of £5.

The name by which we know an article sometimes gives very little idea of its character. Take the following list as an illustration: "Oil of turpentine" is not oil, neither is "oil of vitriol," nor "coal oil," nor kerosene. "Copperas" is an iron compound, and contains no copper. "Salts of lemon" have nothing to do with the fruit of the "Citrus limonum," but is the extremely poisonous oxalic acid. "Carbolic acid" is not an acid, but a phenol. "Cobalt" contains none of that metal, but arsenic. "Soda water" has no trace of soda, nor does "sulphuric ether" contain any sulphur. "Sugar of lead" has no sugar, "cream of tartar" has nothing of cream, nor "milk of lime" any milk. Oxygen means "the acid makers," but hydrogen is the essential element of all acids, and many acids contain no oxygen. "German silver" contains no silver, and "black lead" no lead. "Mosaic gold" is simply a sulphide of tin.

Everybody Knows.

That at this season the blood is filled with impurities, the accumulation of months of close confinement in poorly ventilated stores, workshops and tenements. All these impurities and every trace of scrofula, salt rheum, or other diseases may be expelled by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, the best blood purifier ever produced. It is the only medicine of which "100 doses one dollar" is true.

Delicacy of the Code.

The Majah—has that fellow answered your challenge, colonel? The Colonel—He has, sah; but I shall not meet him. He refused to meet me, unless I would promise to buy my coffin for his brother, who is a beastly undertaker.—*Er.*

Shocking Inference.

Cumso (reading)—A ship which recently sailed for Africa had on board 7 missionaries and 5,000 barrels of whiskey. Mrs. Cumso (indignantly)—Well, I do think they ought to send missionaries who don't drink.—*N. Y. Sun.*

All for a Postal Card.

Several Special Prizes valued at \$10.00 to \$30.00 will be given each day to the person in Canada from whom is received the best list of English words (of not less than three letters) formed from letters contained in the two words "Ladies Newspaper." This offer is made by the publishers of a large, 32 page, four column Journal, edited by women, for the intelligent women of Canada. Over two hundred valuable prizes are offered in addition to the above extra special prizes given daily. All fortunate enough to secure a prize in this Competition will obtain a valuable one, as none other will be given.

This competition will be upon an entirely different plan from any before offered in Canada, in fact, after the styles of those introduced by leading English publishers, and will be conducted in the same honorable manner which has governed English Competitions. The publishers of "The Ladies Newspaper" are not offering these competitions expecting to make any money from direct results, but will expend several thousand dollars in this manner for the purpose of introducing their journal.

The first object will be to make them strictly fair and impartial and establish an enviable reputation for the publication itself. Persons desiring to enter the competition may start at once, but send your address on a postal card and receive a free sample copy with full particulars. Address THE LADIES NEWSPAPER CO., Canada Life Building, Toronto, Canada.

MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

King Humbert of Italy has often said, "I should wish to be a journalist were I not a king."

Beethoven was once deeply in love, but lacked the courage to make his affection known, and so lived and died devoted to his art and averse to social pleasure.

A fine St. Bernard dog is John Greenleaf Whittier's companion in his daily walks. The poet is fond of pets, and owns two cats, three dogs and three horses.

Of Washington it is said that when his secretary, on some important occasion, was late, and excused himself by saying his watch was too slow, the reply was: "You will have to get another watch or I another secretary." Napoleon used to say to his marshals: "You may ask anything of me but time."

The Sultan of Turkey is at present an ardent student of the German language. He was able to carry on a short conversation in German with the ambassador recently sent by the Emperor of Germany to Constantinople. He professed great admiration for the poetry of Heine and Geibel.

The home of Olive Schreiner, the author of *Dreams*, and the *Story of an African Farm*, is at Matjesfontein, Cape Colony. The place consists of a farm, a hotel, a mill, a warehouse, a station, and a few mean houses, and lies in the very heart of the wilderness, surrounded by such scenery as Mrs. Schreiner has often described in her books—level wastes of gray sand and ragged ridges of rock.

When the late General Sherman visited Europe a few years ago, he was lionized by the officers at Gibraltar, and he afterwards related that some of them expressed surprise at the knowledge of military strategy which was displayed during the western and southern campaigns of the civil war. The general rather astonished his hosts by telling them that the strategy which the Americans carried out was the same as was taught by General Hamley in the British staff college.

Mrs. Bishop, better known as Miss Bird, the famous traveller, is a gentle-faced, gray-eyed lady, who wears the traditional breakfast caps and heavy, ugly house jewelry, the pride and joy of every Englishwoman's heart. Only very lately has she returned to her native land from a prolonged trip through Western Asia, where she went to establish a hospital in memory of her husband. In the Punjab she founded another hospital, as a memorial to her sister, and is now busy attending to the publication of a work on this latest journey through the Orient.

Lord Tennyson is well known for his apprehension of being mobbed, and many stories are circulated in regard to this monomania. One, in an English paper says that Lord Tennyson was taking a walk with a friend, when a fellow-creature was espied in the distance. "We must turn back," said the poet, "that fellow means to waylay us." His companion persuaded him, however, to continue on their path. They caught up to the enemy and passed him. He took no notice of them, whatever. "What an extraordinary thing," cried the irate poet, "that fellow seems to have no idea who I am!"

There are now many stories current concerning the house of Rothschild and the part its members have played in averting financial crises. Of course that assistance which the present head of the London firm gave to the Egyptian exchequer at a critical moment and under circumstances which elicited a cordial recognition from Lord Granville in the Lords, is being recalled. However, the most interesting incident refers to the panic of 1825. The Duke of Wellington sent for Nathan Rothschild one morning to ask his advice. "Now, Mr. Rothschild, what can be done for the city?" asked the duke. "Send down Cole," replied the laconic financier. "Coal!" exclaimed the duke; "what in Heaven's sake do you mean?" "Cole, the bank broker," came the reply. "Send him down to buy half-a-million of worth of Exchequer bills in the market, and it will put things straight." The advice was acted on and the panic was stopped. Nathan Rothschild was the hero of another interesting incident. There was a run on the once well-known bank of Mastermans. Rothschild was urged by his friends to withdraw his account. He at once marched down to the bank, which he found besieged by an angry crowd. Toss-

ing a bulky packet to a clerk he curtly remarked—"£200,000—place it to the credit of my account." This saved the bank. "I always tell my sons," once remarked Nathan, "that it takes a great deal of boldness to make a large fortune, but it wants infinitely more wit to keep it." They have since realized the wisdom of this observation.

Count Leo Tolstoi, the Russian novelist, reads, writes and receives his friends in his bedroom. It is an apartment some fifteen feet square, without a carpet, and always underheated. In one corner stands an old green leather sofa, on which he sleeps under a single rug. His couch is quite unencumbered with a mattress, sheets or pillows. Near the sofa there is a pile of boot lasts, awls, knives, leather strips, and all other sorts of shoemaker's materials. Weaving machinery, half-finished cloths, pitchforks, picks and shovels lie in the wildest confusion all over the rest of the room, so that a stranger, suddenly set down in it, would think himself in the quarters of a peasant, a weaver and a shoemaker. The only thing to disturb his belief in the occupancy of the humble trinity would be a great case of books, many in the most expensive bindings imaginable, for, with all his simple notions, Count Tolstoi is a bibliophile. The philosopher's daily life is occupied with all sorts of duties which a man of letters is usually supposed not to discharge. He rises at five o'clock, and for half an hour dashes ice cold water on his head, neck and breast. Then he draws on his clothes, which include only a blue-checked jumper of linen, a pair of trousers and heavy, ill-fitting peasant's boots. He never brushes his hair, and his apology for combing it is the thrusting through of it twice of the five fingers of his left hand. At six o'clock he leaves his room for the dining room on the second floor. There the count's guests and scholars, of whom there is always a burdensome number at the Jesnaja Poljana castle, are already assembled for tea. Their host never joins them in taking the great Russian beverage, however. He prefers coffee. The rest of the breakfast consists of white bread, fresh butter, cream, and a peculiar cheese which Tolstoi prepares with his own hands. Most of the breakfast party come and go from month to month. Three persons only are regular members of it year in and year out. They are the Countess Anna Michailowna and the count's two young daughters, Nadesda and Ljubov (Love). The conversation at breakfast is light, even to the point of frivolity. The daily news, the domestic affairs of the castle, and family matters at large are usually the subjects. Tolstoi chooses this style of topics; for he prefers to discuss his doctrine and his works only in his workroom. He devotes his time between breakfast and noon to cleaning stovepipes, polishing stoves, mending boots, shovelling snow in winter, and other like manual labor. From 12 to 1 he dines. His dinner, as well as his 6 o'clock supper, consists of milk and butter, and the same sort of cheese and bread as his breakfast. Count Tolstoi chooses this curious diet because he is a vegetarian. He defends the opinion that man has no right to kill and consume a living organism. The Russian painter, He, once asked Tolstoi: "Is not the vegetable a living organism?" The count thought profoundly for several minutes, and then replied: "Well, in time science may help us to such an extent that

we will not find it necessary to kill even a vegetable organism." From 1 to 3 o'clock p. m., Tolstoi receives the call of scholars and guests. He talks freely and deeply with all. He rarely plunges into a conversation of his own length, however, without setting out for himself and his visitor two glasses of peasant kvass of his own brew. Count Tolstoi's hours for writing are from 3 or 4 o'clock to 6. After supper he works at shoemaking for a little while or sees his family, then gets out of his jumper, trousers, and boots and crawls in between his rugs and green leather sofa for the night.

How to Become Rosy-Cheeked Women.

The political battle is over, but the battle with disease must be constantly and unceasingly waged else the grim reaper will come out victorious, and the loved ones will be gathered to their long home. On all sides may be seen pale and listless girls who should be enjoying the health and glow of rosy youth. Everywhere we are met with women young in years, yet prematurely old, who suffer in silence almost untold agonies, the result of those ailments peculiar to the female system. To all such, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills come as a blessing. They restore wasted vitality, build up the nervous system, enrich the blood, and transform pale and sallow complexions into glowing, rosy cheeks that alone follow perfect health. In a word they are a certain cure for all these distressing complaints to which women and girls are peculiarly liable. A trial of these pills will convince the most sceptical of their wonderful merit. For suffering men Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are equally efficacious. For overwork, mental strain, loss of sleep, nervous debility, and all those diseases that lead to broken-down manhood, they are a certain specific, stimulating the brain, reinforcing the exhausted system and restoring shattered vitality. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are nature's restorative and should be used by every weak and debilitated person. For sale by all dealers or sent post paid on receipt of price (50 cents a box) by addressing the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.—*Adel.*

Suitable names for wives—Sexton's wife, Bell; to get a wife, Marie; porter's wife, Carrie; jeweller's wife, Pearl; lawyer's wife, Sue; farmer's wife, Tillie; printer's wife, Em; pugilist's wife, Mollie; minister's wife, Grace; gambler's wife, Betty; gardener's wife, Rose; musician's wife, Viola; fat man's wife, Lena; undertaker's wife, Nell; fisherman's wife, Peggy; auctioneer's wife, Biddy.

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This is what "THE LADIES' BAZAR" will give to the person sending them the largest number of sentences constructed from words contained in the quotation: "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you do even so to them." Every week during the contest they will give a "Handsome Family Sewing Machine" valued at \$50.00, to the person sending them the largest number of sentences that week. If preferred they will give the winner a Solid Gold Watch instead of the Sewing Machine. Special prizes for Boys & Girls. They do not offer impossibilities. The above will be carried out to the letter. Everyone competing will have an equal chance. No dictionary required in this competition. Send 10c. for sample copy of "THE LADIES' BAZAR" and full instructions. THE LADIES' BAZAR, 4 Adelaide Street East, Toronto.—*A.* ap18.

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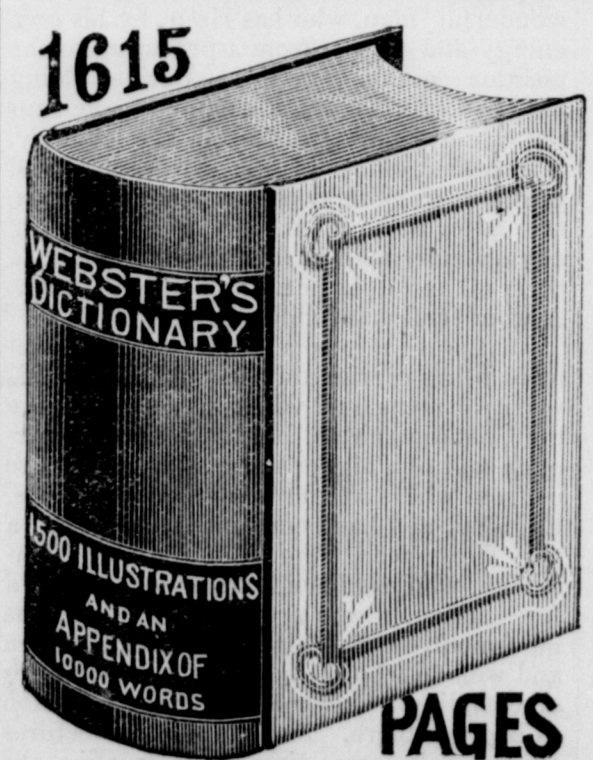


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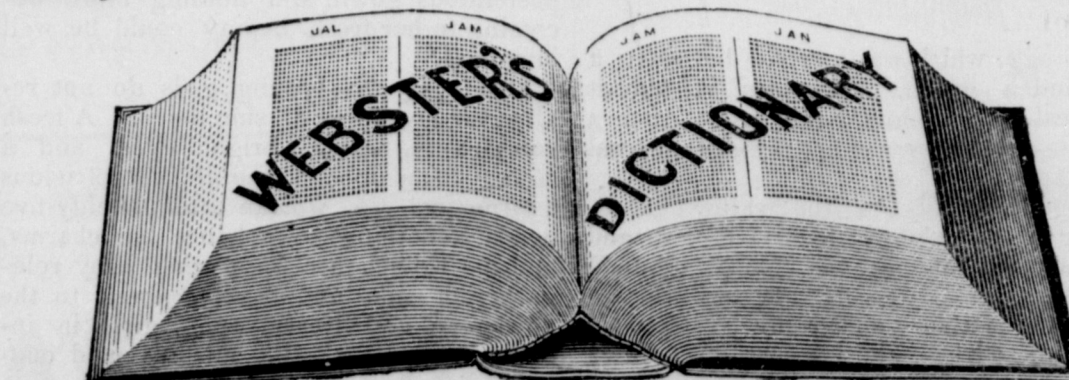
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