

THINGS WORTH KNOWING

There is generally a connection between the color of the eyes and the hair.

The average life of a woman is 44.62 years, and that of a man 41.35.

A depth of 4,655 fathoms was once sounded off the northeast coast of Japan.

More females than males, in the proportion of about 49 to 45, have black or brown eyes.

Of the 11,900,000 square miles of Africa, not more than 2,500,000 remain to be scrambled for.

The flag known now as the complete Union Jack or flag came in on the union of Ireland in 1801.

In a ton of Dead Sea water there are 187 pounds of salt: Red Sea, 93; Mediterranean, 85; Atlantic ocean, 81; English channel, 72; Baltic, 28; Black Sea, 26; and Caspian Sea, 11.

Dr. Houghton, calculating from the observed thickness of the rocks of this earth down to the Miocene Tertiary, and assuming a period of 8616 years for each foot deposited on the ocean beds, finds, for the age of the stratified rocks, a period of 1,526,750,000 years!

A good printer will set up 8,000 ems a day, or about 24,000 letters. The distance travelled over by his hand will average about 1 foot per letter. 1 foot returning, or 2 feet per letter. This would make a distance of 48,000 feet, or a little more than 9 miles, or about 3,000 miles in a year.

Thimbles (which are claimed as a Dutch invention) have been found at Herculaneum. The etymology of thimble is from thumb-bell, as it was formerly worn, like sailors' thimble, on the thumb. The Germans call the thimble "finger-hut" (finger-hat). A silver thimble is a very small thing; yet it takes more than twenty men, besides a great deal of machinery, to make one. The manufacture of thimbles was introduced into England from Holland, in 1695, by John Softing.

It is estimated that at least 90,000 Americans annually go to Europe to make the grand tour. This army of pleasure seekers pay \$12,000,000 to the steamship companies, and \$36,000,000 in hotel bills, presents and tips, the expenses of the ordinary traveller averaging \$8 per day for forty days. Four million dollars may be safely charged to presents. It will thus be seen that the total amount expended abroad by American tourists is not \$100,000,000, as has been wildly asserted, but less than \$50,000,000.

The banana produces per acre 44 times more food than the potato, and 131 times more than wheat.

A man of about 80 years, who has shaved regularly during his lifetime, sacrifices to the razor about 35 feet of hair.

Where parents differ in the color of their eyes, De Candolle finds that 53.9 per cent follow their father's in being dark-eyed, and that 55.9 per cent follow their mothers in being also dark-eyed.

In the early days the collecting boxes in the churches were opened on Christmas day, and their contents distributed the day after. From this gift to the poor came the Christmas box and boxing day.

The rock of Gibraltar is a peninsula about three miles in length and about seven in circumference. It hangs, nearly due north and south, from the mainland of Andalusia towards the African shore, just as a bunch of grapes hangs from a vine-branch.

The rearing of snails for cooking purposes is a thriving industry in many parts of France. Paris calls for a yearly quantity valued at more than half a million francs—no inconsiderable number, considering that the growers usually charge about five francs per hundred. The convents are good customers of the snail-farmer during Lent.

Remarkable evidence of the longevity of the clergy is afforded by the necrological roll of the Andover theological seminary for the past year, from which it appears that the average age of the 46 graduates deceased during the year was 76 years, eight months and ten days, a very extraordinary average for so large a group.

The Swedes have become very skilled in the manufacture of cutlery. The town of Eskilstuna, lying not far from the western end of Malar Lake, is now widely known as the "Sheffield of Sweden." Here are situated a dozen or more factories, which turn out the finest cutlery and tools. Eskilstuna razors, penknives, and scissors are well known and highly prized in almost every country.

The premier of England is the prime minister for the time being. If a commoner, he also fills the post of first lord of the treasury, for which he receives a salary of \$25,000 per annum. Mr. Gladstone when premier was also chancellor of the exchequer, but did not take the full salaries of both offices. The present premier is secretary of state for foreign affairs, with the annual salary of \$25,000 per annum.

Germany has added 2,265,000 to her population in five years; France, 1,000,000 in the same period; and Russia, 10,000,000.

The total number of Roman Catholics in the world is estimated at 220,000,000, of which there are in Great Britain about 5,650,000.

Upwards of one thousand million pounds of meats and one million cases of canned meat and barrels of pork are dressed in Chicago every year.

The vegetable kingdom is divided into two great groups of plants—those with flowers and those without—technically, *Phanerogamia* and *Cryptogamia*.

The British museum was visited last year by 530,172 persons, about one-seventh of whom came during the evening. This total is greater than that for any of the preceding four years, during each of which rather less than half a million passed the doors, but it is more than 54,000 less than the figures for 1885.

It is estimated that there are no fewer than 325 electric railways in the United States, England, Germany, Italy, Australia, and Japan, requiring over 4000 cars and 7000 motors, with 2600 miles of track, with a daily mileage of not less than 400,000 miles, and carrying 750,000,000 passengers annually.

A good illustration of the expansion of the world's trade during the past 30 years is afforded by the production of petroleum in the United States. In 1859, 84,000 gallons were produced in the Pennsylvania and New York oil fields, and in 1890, 689,028,966 gallons were exported from the various States which now produce the oil.

A mammal usually has several kinds of teeth in its jaw. Take the monkey, for example. Its front teeth are for catching up and snipping little parasites, the fleas, as does likewise a dog. Its incisors are for fighting, although in the carnivora they are employed to pierce the flesh deeply so as to open the veins and bleed the victim to death.

The artists who make the most money are the portrait painters. It is stated that when Prof. Herkomer went from England to the United States a few years ago he earned between \$200,000 and \$250,000 with his brush. It was a phenomenal episode in the history of art. He charged from \$1,500 to \$3,000 for a portrait. Sir John Millais is in great demand for portraits, and also W. Q. Orchardson, but these may be called kings of the profession, and even with them what they do one year is no criterion of what they may do in a year to come. It is impossible to say what the other painters make—that is, the landscape, figure and animal painters whose names are familiar to connoisseurs. Some of these artists easily dispose of their work, but such are really few. The greater number operate through dealers. Leaving out what may be called the star artists, such as the President, Millais, Tadema, Orchardson, and Herkomer, probably \$55,000 to \$35,000 a year is about the average earnings of an R. A.

In eight countries of the old world there is an addition of over 76,000,000 of the population to be sustained by food got from the ground, without anything like a corresponding increase in the cultivable area or in its productiveness.

At Waterloo there were 120,000 soldiers of the allies under Wellington and Blucher, and 72,000 French under Napoleon. The defeated French lost from 25,000 to 30,000 in killed and wounded—probably nearer the latter number—and the allies something like 17,000.

Cabmen have to pass an examination in knowledge of London streets before they can obtain a license, and this is far more necessary than might be supposed, for 691 men in the year 1889 failed in the examination, and not a severe one at that, while 1211 were passed.

Half a century ago it is said that there were not more than 8,000 Jews in Palestine; at the present moment their numbers are reckoned as not less than 100,000, of whom some 15,000 are settled in or close to Jerusalem, representing nearly half of the present population of the town.

The favorite instruments of the reigning sovereigns and princes of the day are of quite a variety: The Queen of Belgium is an admirable harpist; the Queen of Italy, to say nothing of her skill as a pianist and singer, is a graceful performer on the mandolin; almost all the English princesses play the piano; Princess Beatrice plays the harmonium in masterly style; the czar of all the Russias has a predilection for brass instruments and the banjo; Queen Victoria and her daughter Lucy (sic), play the organ excellently; the Prince of Wales is a regular virtuoso on the banjo; the princess, his wife, is an accomplished pianist; the flute beguiles the leisure hours of the Duke of Connaught; the violin is the favorite instrument of the Duke of Edinburgh; Prince Henry of Prussia both plays and composes for the piano and violin; the Empress of Japan is a highly skilled executant on the koto, a sort of harp; the national instrument of her subjects, the Queen of Roumania is a clever performer on the harp and piano; and, finally, King George of Greece devotes himself to acoustic experiments with balls and glasses, from which he obtains extraordinary results, he also plays the cymbalum, the instrument of the Hungarian gypsies.

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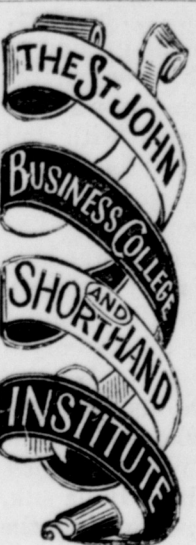
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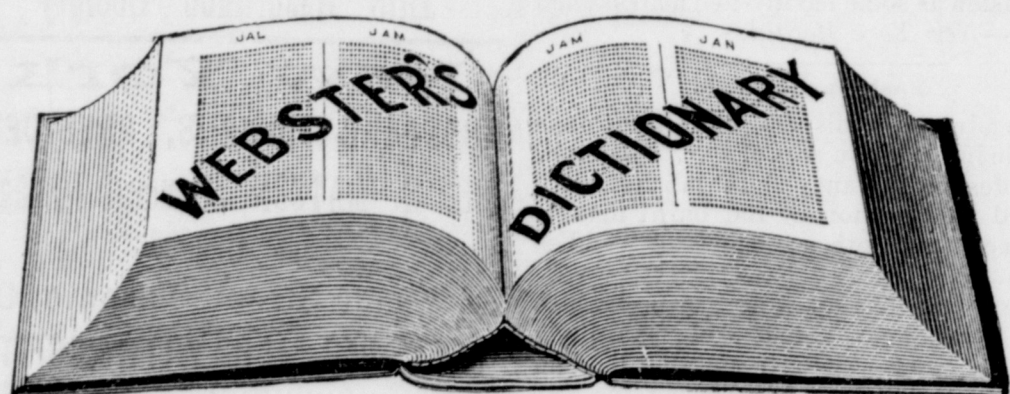
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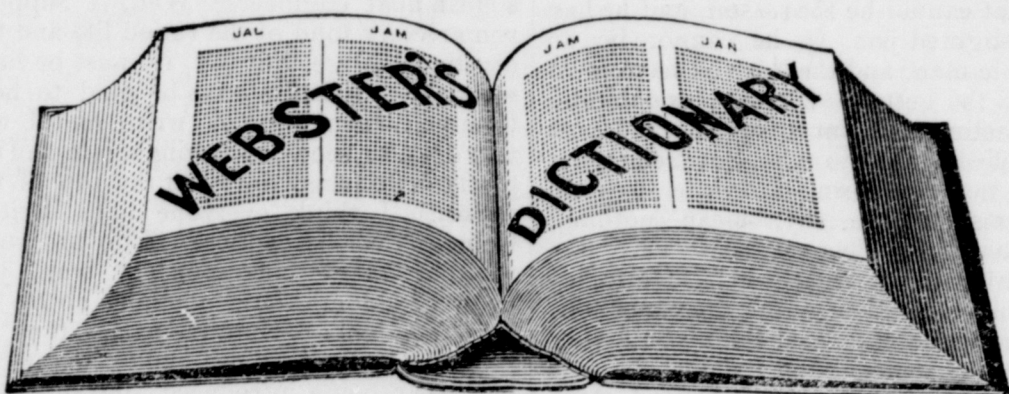
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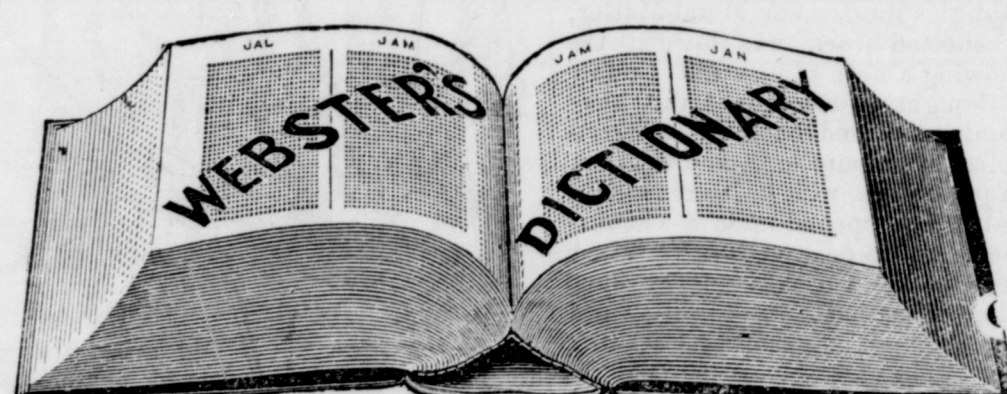
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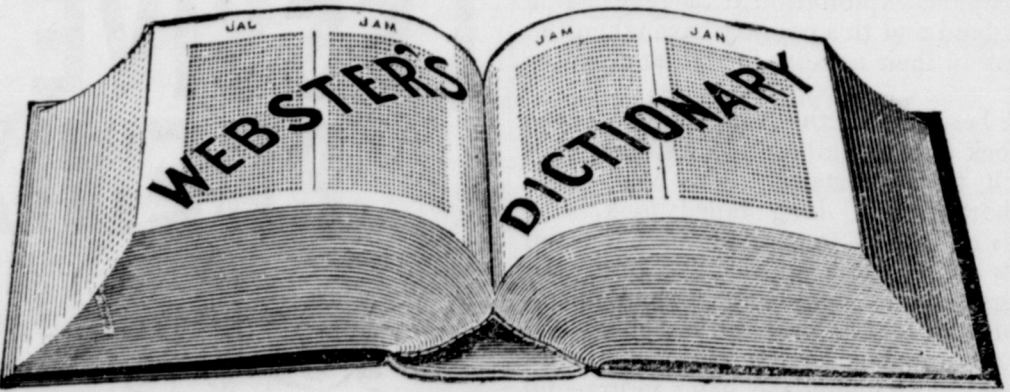


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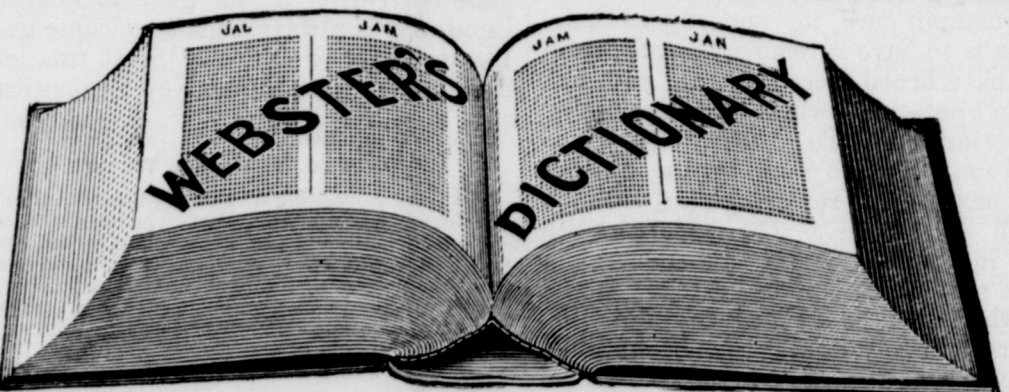


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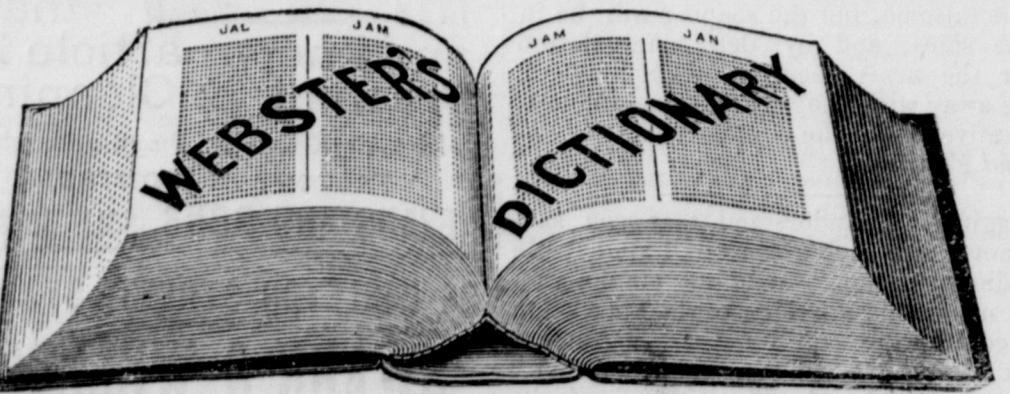


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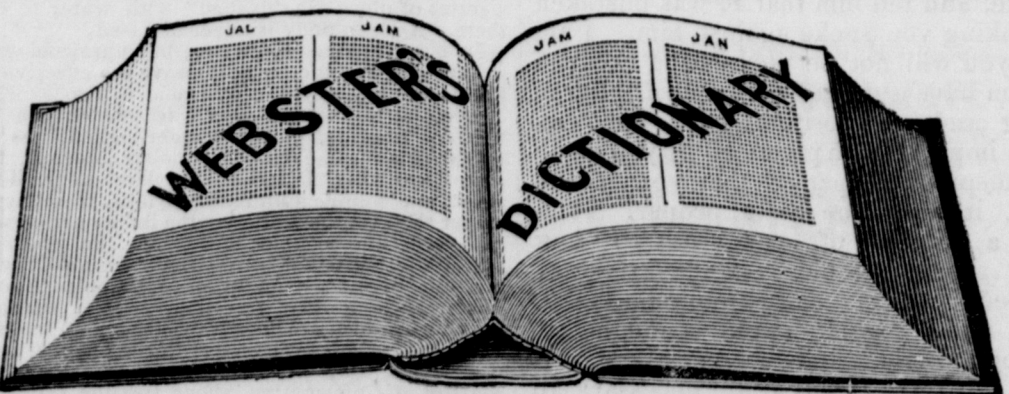


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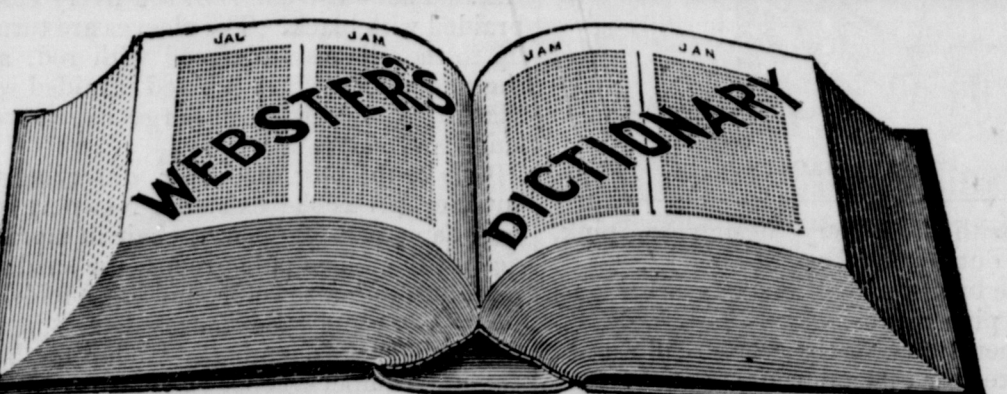
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