

THINGS WORTH KNOWING

Desertion from the army costs England £120,000 annually.

Some insects are in a state of maturity thirty minutes after birth.

Ten different languages are talked in the Austro-Hungarian army.

In a well-stocked hive there are from 15,000 to 20,000 working bees.

The population of Russia is increasing at the rate of over 1,000,000 a year.

St. Nicholas church, Yarmouth, is the largest parish church in England. It is seated for 5000 worshippers.

The following figures represent the population of Alaska in 1890: Aleuts, 900; Indians, 5,000; Esquimaux, 18,000; Chinese, 2,300; whites, 4,800; total, 31,000.

The wealth of the United States amounts to \$62,500,000,000, distributed among 13,000,000 families. There are 135,000 families which have an average wealth of \$186,000.

The most violent thunder storms in the world occur in French Guiana. The thunder there in an ordinary storm is almost deafening, while peal follows peal in quick succession.

The growth of horse-racing in the last ten years is illustrated by the fact that in 1880 the money added to prizes by the racing associations amounted to \$180,000. Now it reaches \$4,000,000.

The first canalmaker in England is said to have been Morton, the Bishop of Ely, who, in the reign of Henry VIII., constructed a cut for navigation between Peterboro and the sea, forty miles long.

A curious fact in the early history of pins is that when they were first sold in "open shop" there was such a great demand for them that a code was passed permitting their sale only on two days of the year—the 1st and 2nd of January.

Washington is the only city of its size in the United States which has no factory girls. Women who earn their living there are principally in politics, though there are a few employed in retail stores, photographic studios and private offices.

A fall of about thirty feet between Lake Superior and Lake Huron at Sault Ste Marie gives probably one of the greatest water powers in the world. It is to be utilized on the Canadian side by a race and on the American side by a canal 1,000 feet wide, and giving 236,000 horse power.

The great 125 ton steam hammer at the Bethlehem iron works is the largest in the world.

According to Jewish estimates, the number of Jews in New York is between 80,000 and 100,000.

The bowie-knife received its name from Colonel Jim Bowie, one of the most daring characters of the Western States.

A mile in 39 4-5 seconds, or at the rate of over 90 miles per hour, is the fastest run ever made by a railroad train.

The total cordage required for a first-rate man-of-war ship weighs about eighty tons, and exceeds \$15,000 in value.

Out of 1,145 strikes in England last year, in which 344,480 people took part, 476 were successful, 207 were failures, and 94 were undecided. The average duration of the strikes was 18 days.

The ruins of the palace of the Queen of Sheba have not been found in Mashonaland, whence the wonderful gold of Ophir is supposed to have come. But the Zimbali ruins show that this strange country was once the scene of a mighty civilization.

The Lascars always eat their food in the open air, with their faces toward the west, and the greatest insult a white man or "Giauor" can offer them is to walk between them and the sun while they are eating, causing his shadow to fall on their food, which thus, they consider, becomes unclean.

The Morse alphabet is most generally used in telegraphy or aerial lines, and the "needle and mirror" alphabet in sending messages by cable. Often in messages that have become ambiguous through errors in transmission the mistakes can be corrected by noting the letters that are most nearly alike in signalling. About 25 words of five letters each per minute can be sent by the Morse signals, about 60 per minute by the Hughes system, and about 350 by the Wheatstone system.

Potter's field, according to the statement in Matthew, xxvii., 7, was a piece of ground purchased by the priests with thirty pieces of silver rejected by Judas, and converted into a burial place for Jews not belonging to the city. Here is the passage: "And they took counsel and bought with them the potter's field to bury strangers in." With us the term denotes the ground where unidentified persons and the bodies of unclaimed paupers are buried; and the term undoubtedly had its origin in the transaction alluded to by Matthew.

Paris, with a population of 2,500,000 souls, has less than 100 negroes within its limits. Statisticians say that the whole of France cannot muster a negro population of 500.

The term lynch law signifies the infliction of punishment on persons charged with crime by persons without legal authority. It is supposed to have derived its name from John Lynch, a farmer of North Carolina, who, with his neighbor, tortured and even put to death fugitive slaves and criminals who at that time—the beginning of the last century—infested the Dismal Swamp. What is known as the Lidford law in England has the same significance.

According to military statistics there are no illiterate persons in Bavaria. Among 2,772 recruits enlisted in the army in the Palatinate there were only three individuals who could not read or write. But that district forms no exception to the rule. The general number of recruits from the entire population was 20,584, and among them were only six illiterate persons. Of the three illiterates of the Palatinate one came from Lower Bavaria and two from Upper Franconia. Oberpfalz, Central Franconia, Lower Franconia, and Swaben did not send a single illiterate into the army.

The practice of calling the United States government "Uncle Sam" is believed to have originated in the following manner: During the revolutionary war a man named Samuel Wilson was a beef inspector at Troy, N. Y., and was very popular with the men in his employ, who always called him Uncle Sam. After the inspection of the beef it was shipped by him to a contractor named Elbert Anderson, and was always marked "E. A. U. S." A joking workman being asked what those letters were the abbreviations of, replied that he did not know unless they were for Elbert Anderson and "Uncle Sam." The joke was kept up and spread until it became common to refer to all packages marked "U. S." as belonging to "Uncle Sam."

The origin of the once famous phrase, "Who struck Billy Patterson?" is as follows: About forty years ago, at one of the medical colleges of this country, the students had a trick of hazing every new man who entered the institution. They would secure him hand and foot, carry him before a mock tribunal, and there try him for some high crime with which they charged him. He would be convicted, of course, and sentenced to be led to the block and decapitated. A student named William Patterson was put through the court and sentenced in the usual solemn and impressive manner. He was blindfolded and led to the block, allowing it, to be sure, to go nowhere near Patterson's head. The students laughed when the trick was at an end, but Patterson was dead. He had died from what medical men call shock. All the students were put under arrest, and the question arose, "Who struck Billy Patterson?" On the trial it was shown that nobody struck him; but the medical students retained the expression, and it has come down through them to the present day.

Passports issued by the United States secretary of state give the name, age, residence and occupation of the holder, with a description of his person and appearance, which is meant to give the means of identifying him if necessary. They also assure to the holder the support of his own government in any difficulty, and claim for him the protection of all governments at peace with his own. The fee for a passport is one dollar, which is forwarded with the blank sent by the secretary of state to be filled out and certified to under oath.

The first European who mentions coffee is said to have been a physician named Prosper Alpinus, who went to Egypt in 1580 in the capacity of physician to a Venetian consul. This physician used his position to make himself acquainted with the botany of Egypt, and in 1592 he published in Venice his *History of the Plants of Egypt*. In this history he gives an account of a tree the seeds of which were much used by the Arabs and Egyptians for making a drink. The seeds of the tree he called *bon* or *ban*, and by decoction they were converted into a drink, to which he ascribes special qualities and virtues.

In the Elizabethan age facilities for locomotion were very scarce. Carriers' carts of a sort did struggle along; but for the most part movement was accomplished on foot or on horseback, and conveyance of goods by pack horses. Horse-litters were occasionally used. Coaches are said to have been introduced by Boomen, queen Elizabeth's own coachman; but they were little better, as Mr. Smiles remarks, than carts without springs, the body resting solid upon the axles. And those who used them paid a bitter penalty for the luxury. At one of the first audiences which the queen gave to the French ambassador in 1568, she feelingly described to him "the aching pains she was suffering in consequence of having been knocked about in a coach which had been driven a little too fast only a few days before." About a century later, the public vehicles were popularly known as "hell-carts," and, no doubt, well deserved the name. One grave objection to wheels was, it seems, that they broke up the roads! "King James," says Mr. Roberts, "proclaimed that carts and wagons with four wheels, carrying excessive burthens, so galled the highways and the very foundations of bridges that the king denounced them to the judges as common nuisances, against the weal public, and the use of them as an offence. By this proclamation of James I., in the year 1622, no carrier was to travel with a four-wheeled wagon, but only with a cart having two wheels, and only to carry 20 cwt. Anyone transgressing this was to be punished." At Weymouth, in 1635, "the authorities passed a bye-law, that no brewers were to bind the wheels of their carts with iron, as it wore away the pitching of the streets. Precisely similar was the complaint against hackney-coaches, 1638—viz., that they broke up the streets."

The best remedy for Summer Complaints is Fellows' Speedy Relief. Speedy in results as well as in name.

An interesting proof of the distant travels of a stork was discovered in the neighborhood of Berlin. For a number of years a pair of storks built their nest annually in the park of the castle Ruheleben. A few years ago one of the servants placed a ring with the name of the place and date on the leg of the male bird, in order to be certain that the same bird returned each year. This spring the stork came back to its customary place, the bearer of two rings. The second one bore the inscription: "India sends greetings to Germany."

INSTRUCTION.

Would you like to be earning something? Do you want to work more with your head and less with your hands for a living? There's help for you—write for it.

SNELL'S BUSINESS COLLEGE, Windsor, N.S.

KINGSTON

WOMAN'S MEDICAL COLLEGE.

FIRST OF ITS CLASS IN CANADA AND LARGEST LIST OF GRADUATES—new College building—well located—very best teaching staff—three Lady Professors—full Hospital advantages—affiliated with Queen's University—reduced fees to medical missionary students.

HON. DR. SULLIVAN, Dean of Faculty; R. V. ROZEAS, Q. C., President Trustee Board. Calendars for session 1890-91, on application to the DEAN OF FACULTY, Kingston, Ont.

Shorthand
LADIES and GENTLEMEN desirous of obtaining a thorough knowledge of Shorthand and Type-writing and an acquaintance with the duties of a business amanuensis, should enter for our evening courses—in session every evening (Saturdays excepted), 7 to 9. Apply to
J. HARRY PEPPER,
Conductor of Shorthand Department,
St. John Business College and Shorthand Institute

Trafalgar Institute,

(Affiliated to McGill University),
No. 83 SIMPSON STREET, MONTREAL,
For the Higher Education of Young Women.
President: REV. JAMES BARCLAY, M. A.
Vice President: SIR WM. DAWSON,
C. M. G., etc.
(Principal of McGill University.)
Principal: MISS GRACE FAIRLEY, (M. A. Certificate, with First Class Honors, Edinburgh).
The Institute will re-open with an efficient staff of Resident and Visiting Teachers on
TUESDAY, 8th SEPT., 1891.

A Preparatory Department for girls of ten years and upwards, has been established at the Institute, and is in charge of competent teachers.
The Fees payable by Resident Students are \$300 per Session, including Board, Drawing and Music extra.
A limited number of Non-Resident Students will be received into the Institute, the fees, per Session, for whom are as follows: (ordinary course—\$80.00 Preparatory Department (ordinary course—\$80.00 Upper School (ordinary course—\$100.00).
Copies of Prospectus and other information may be obtained on application to the Principal, at the Institute, or to
A. F. RIDDELL,
Secretary,
22 St. John street, Montreal.

INSTRUCTION.

DAVENPORT School for Boys, PORTLAND MANOR, Saint John, New Brunswick. A CHURCH BOARDING and DAY SCHOOL

OPENS SATURDAY, SEPT. 5.
PATRON—The Most Reverend the Metropolitan of Canada.
VISITOR—The Right Reverend Bishop Kingston.
The Head Master, Rev. F. F. SHERMAN, will be assisted by Classical and Mathematical Masters from England.
For Prospectus, Terms, etc., apply to the Head Master, or THOS. STEAD, Esq., St. John, N. B. 7-23 9w

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND SHORTHAND

Send for Circulars.

ADDRESS: J. B. MCKAY, KINGSTON, ONT.



SAINT JOHN'S cool summer weather, and our perfect ventilating facilities, make the summer season a most favorable one for taking a course of study in either of our departments. Many Teachers and College Students have, during recent summers, spent their vacations with us with gratifying results. Some have arranged to be with us this summer, and we hope to welcome many more. No vacations. Send for circulars.

S. KERR, Principal

SAINT JOHN

Academy of Art.

Studio Building: 65 Prince William St. ST. JOHN, N. B.

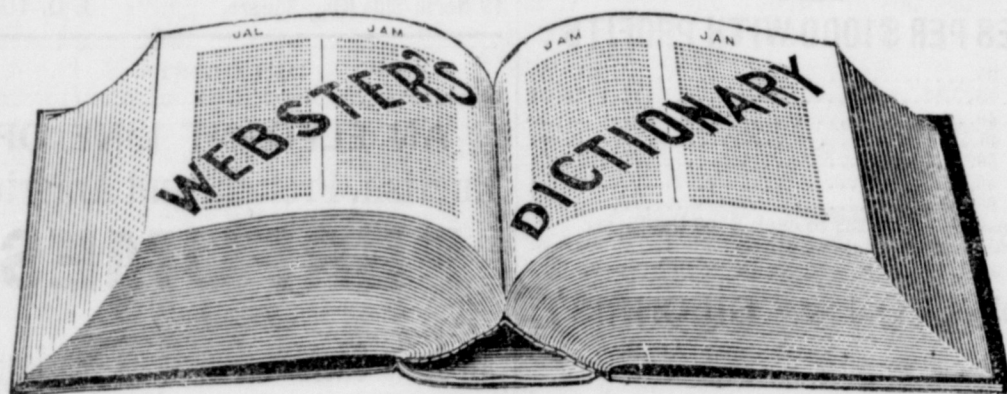
The aim of the school is to give pupils a good training in

DRAWING AND PAINTING. Pupils can commence at any time—week, month, or by the year.

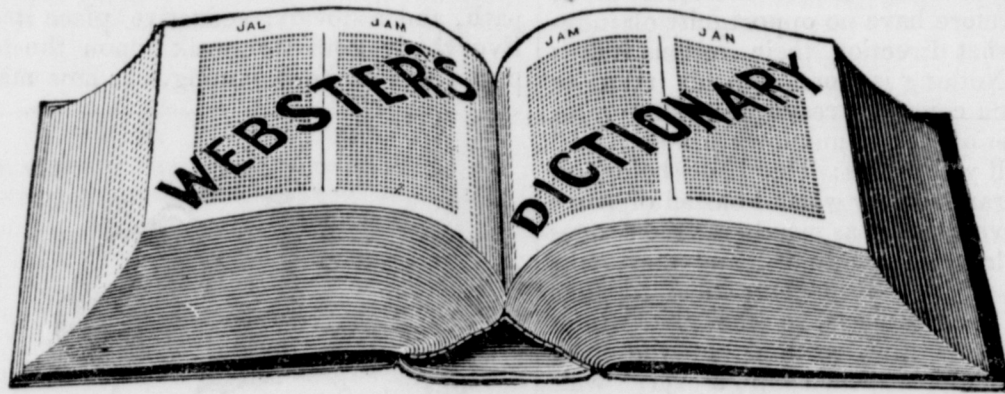
PRINCIPAL—JOHN C. MILES, A.R.C.A. ASSISTANT—FRED H. C. MILES.

Send for circular.

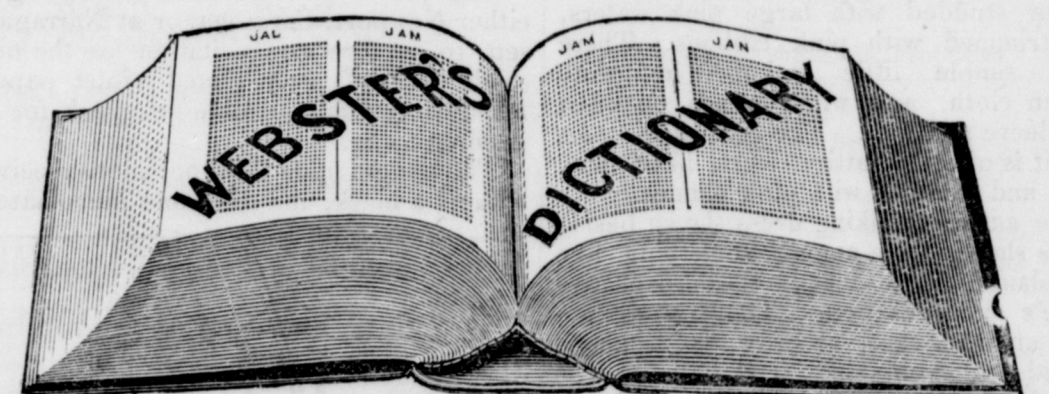
HAVE YOU A GOOD DICTIONARY?



\$3.75.

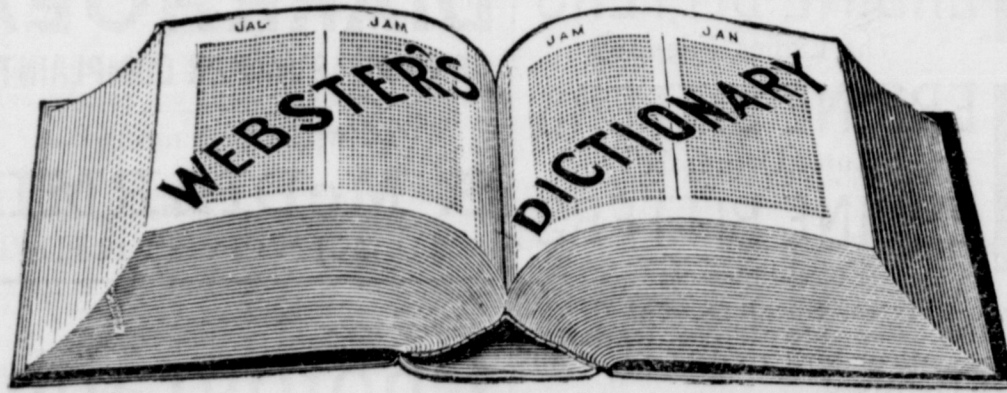


\$3.75.

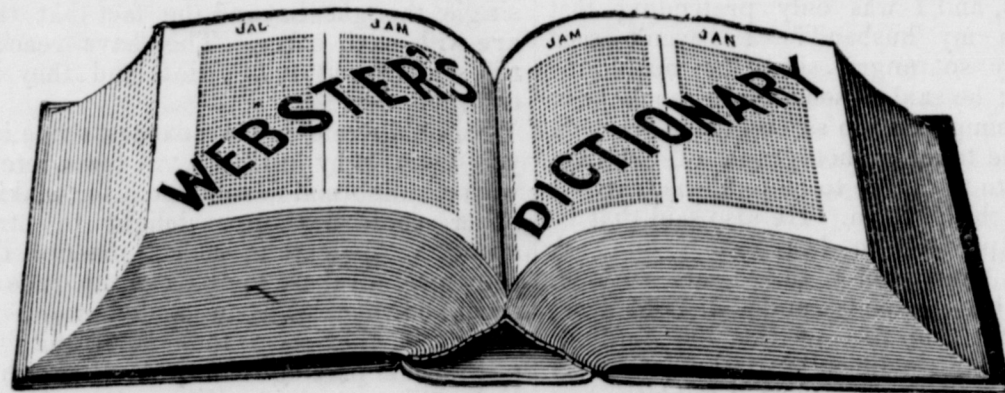


\$3.75.

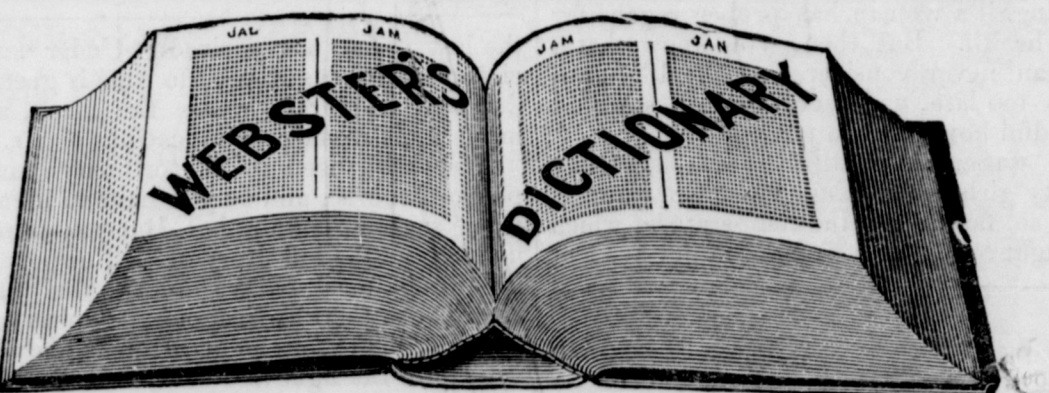
You can get PROGRESS for One Year and Webster's Unabridged Dictionary for \$3.75.



\$3.75.

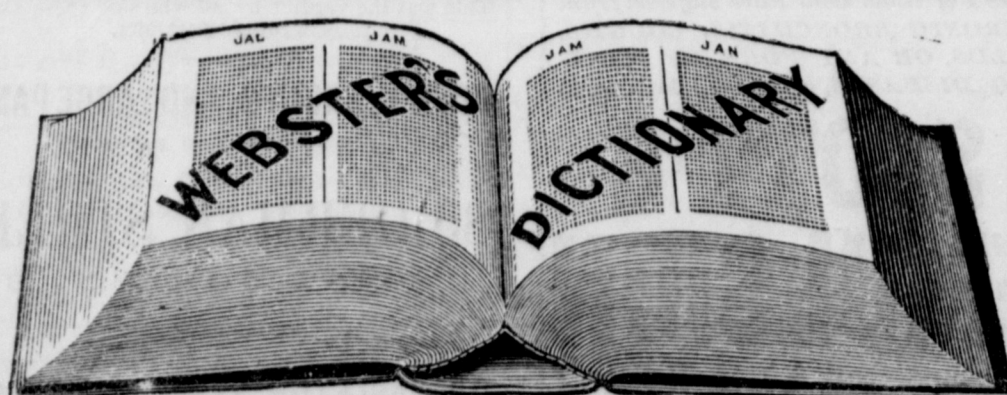


\$3.75.

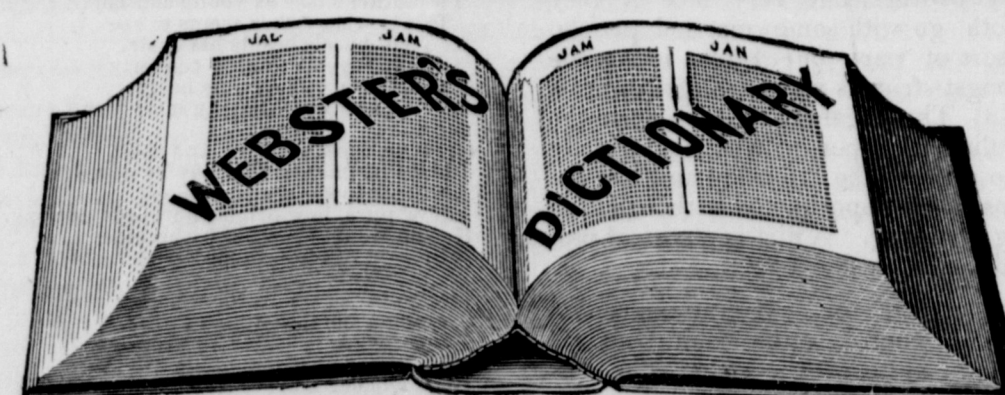


\$3.75.

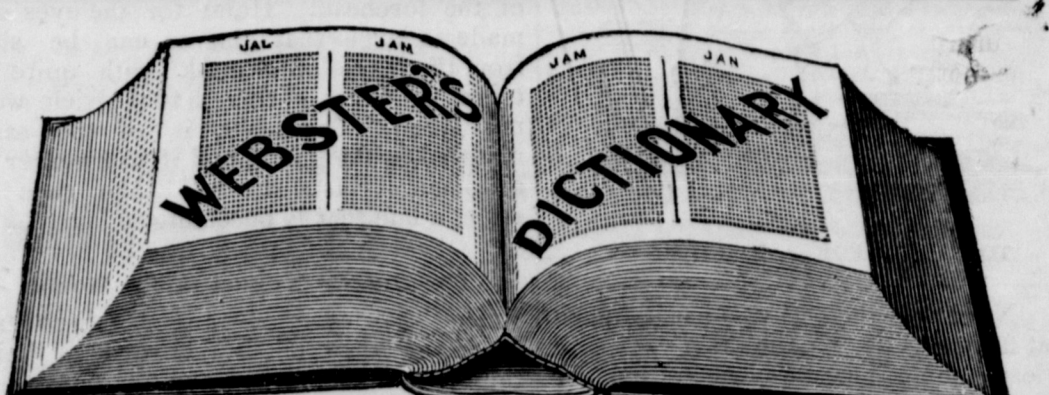
Hundreds have been Sold. All should have one.



\$3.75.



\$3.75.



\$3.75.

SEND YOUR POST OFFICE ORDER TO PUBLISHER OF "PROGRESS," ST. JOHN, N. B.