

# THINGS WORTH KNOWING

Glasgow has almost 150 miles of public streets.

Italy has 17 universities, 600 professors, and 11,140 students.

The longest verse in the bible is the 9th verse of the 8th chapter of Esther.

In 1841 the population of Ireland was 8,196,597; in 1891 it had fallen to 4,706,162.

It is said that out of every hundred lives insured in England, only five are women's.

There are about 400,000 "Y. M. C. A. young men" living in various quarters of the globe.

A dealer in artificial limbs estimates that 300,000 Englishmen have lost one or both legs.

Jupiter is the largest planet of the solar system, and the fifth in order of distance from the sun.

Eighty per cent of the highland regiments are Scotch, ten per cent English, and a like proportion Irish.

The best dancers are said to be the Americans and Russians. French and Italians, however, posture better.

The income of English bishops ranges from £3,000 upwards, the Archbishop of Canterbury having £15,000 a year.

It is not generally known that it was not till after the restoration that two baptismal names were given to the same person.

The Scilly Islands are situated about 25 miles from Land's End. The circumference of the whole group is about 30 miles.

Silver is the standard of monetary value in the following countries: Austria, Bolivia, China, Cochinchina, Columbia, Ecuador, East India Isles, Hungary, India, Japan, Mexico, Peru, Russia, and Tripoli.

The total length of the railways of the world amounts to 370,193 miles, or about 15 times the equatorial circumference of the world, and more than 124,000 miles in excess of the average distance of the moon from the earth.

There are 46,000 oil wells in the United States, with an output of 136,000 barrels per day. The refining capacity of the country is 140,000 barrels per day, while 15,000 barrels are consumed as fuel. A surplus stock is held in tanks of more than 35,000,000 barrels.

In 1890 there were in the United States 73,045 almshouse paupers—40,741 men and 32,304 women.

The recent census in Austria shows that there are 118,495 professed Jews in Vienna out of a population of 1,195,175.

The largest bells in the world are found in Russia and China. There are said to be only two church bell-founders in Britain.

About three-fourths of the earth's surface, or nearly 145 millions of square miles, are covered by the great sheet of water known as the sea.

France at the present moment can put into the field 2,400,000 armed men, Germany 2,520,000, Austria-Hungary 1,145,000, and Russia 2,495,000.

The average cost of making canals has been \$48,300 in the United Kingdom, \$50,000 in France, \$49,000 in the United States, and \$75,000 in Canada per mile.

Next to Great Britain, France has the greatest number of ironclads, Italy, Russia, and Germany, ranking third, fourth, and fifth respectively as maritime powers.

It has been figured out by a German scientist that Java is more subject to thunderstorms than any other country, it having an average 97 "thunder" days in the year.

No tea is now allowed to be brought into Great Britain unless a fair sample has been submitted to the government analyst at the custom house, and is certified by him to be wholesome.

According to the researches of Mr. Stevenson and others, the average force exerted by a wave of the Atlantic in winter time is about one ton on the square foot, and on several occasions, both in the Atlantic and in the North Sea, the winter breakers exerted a force of from three to three and a half tons on the same extent of surface.

An enthusiast on the subject states that each head of clover is composed of about sixty distinct flower tubes, and each of these contains sugar not to exceed the five hundredth part of grain. The proboscis of the honey bee must therefore be inserted into 500 clover tubes before one grain of sugar can be obtained. There are 7,000 grains in a pound, and as honey contains three-fourths of its weight of dry sugar, each pound of clover honey would represent the insertion of the proboscis into 2,500,000 clover heads.

The largest grapevine in the world is that growing at Oys, Portugal, which has been bearing since 1802, in which year it produced a sufficient quantity of grapes to make 165 gallons of wine.

The artificial incubation of eggs originated in Egypt, where it is still carried on. According to a consular report no fewer than 75,000,000 eggs are hatched in this way every year on the banks of the Nile.

A philological statistician calculates that in the year 2000 there will be 1,700,000,000 people who speak English, and that the other European languages will be spoken by only 500,000,000 people.

Lake Urumiah, in Persia, 4100 feet above the sea, is, according to British Consul-General Stewart, at Tabriz, the saltiest body of water on the earth, being saltier than even the Dead Sea. It is 87 miles long and 24 miles broad, and contains nearly 22 per cent of salt.

The name "King's Evil" was given to a disease not because it was a hereditary taint in the constitutions of any of the kings, but because, on the contrary, they were believed to be endowed with the power of healing those afflicted with it from the time of Edward the Confessor. The exercise of this gift of healing was regarded as one of the sovereign's religious duties, and was accompanied by a religious service.

According to a recent estimate of the glass-bottle production of the world, the average daily output amounts to about 46,300 gross, the estimate for 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 about 100 gross. England turns out 6000 gross daily. Of the other producing countries Sweden makes the highest, with 1516 gross daily.

It is well known that about 25,000 people are killed every year in India by wild beasts and reptiles, the larger number falling victims to poisonous snakes. It was recently discovered that the injection of permanganate of potash was a specific cure for cobra poisoning. The government discussed the project of furnishing the natives with hypodermic syringes and a quantity of permanganate of potash, but the scheme had to be rejected because it was found that it would entail an expenditure of £120,000,000.

The Light of Hope was a gigantic statue of Apollo, or the sun-god. It rested on moles on each side of the beautiful harbor of Rhodes, and vessels passed between its brazen legs. It was over 100 feet in height, and there were winding stairs by which it was ascended. The statue held in one hand a light for the direction of mariners. It was thrown down, presumably by an earthquake, and never rebuilt; but fragments of the statue remained for 900 years. At length a Jewish merchant bought the brass and loaded 900 camels with it. The value of the brass was estimated at \$150,000. At the present time the harbor of Rhodes is nearly useless, and the island has many times suffered from earthquakes.

Polo, as everybody knows, or ought to know, came to us from the East, where it has been practiced for ages, and held in such high esteem that nearly a thousand years ago Firdusi, the Persian poet, sang its praises in a poem which is still extant.

Wild horses are sociable in character, and protect themselves against carnivorous beasts by herding together in large numbers. In face of any great danger, such as storms and fires, they unite in still larger bodies, probably from a sentiment akin to the human one at similar crises.

Large bells for churches and religious houses were invented about four hundred years after Christ by the bishop of Nola, in Campania, in Italy. The metal used in the making of bells is an alloy of copper and tin called "bell-metal," the usual proportions being 80 parts of the former and 20 of the latter.

The number of seals at present existing is almost incredible. In 1874 Prof. Elliott made a most careful computation of the number of breeding seals and young on St. Paul's, one of the Pribiloff islands, and he estimated they were over 3,000,000, there being on an average twelve to fifteen cubs to one bull. Of the bachelor seals it was impossible for him to arrive at an accurate estimate, as they are constantly moving about on what is called their hawling grounds, but he could not put them at less than 1,500,000. These bachelors he describes as the only killable seals, and the annual value of those killed would be about 2,000,000 dollars.

Few are aware of the existence of Blue Beard's castle, which is situated a mile or two beyond that most charming summer-resort, Interlaken, Switzerland, on a lonely, well-shaded, mountain road. Upon looking up the wooded hillside, just at a bend in the lane, one sees the ruins of an old castle. Only moss-covered walls now remain, which are the haunts for bats, birds, and insects, but its stately columns indicate its early grandeur. Many doubt that such a character as Blue Beard ever lived, but in that portion of the world the story is believed and told by the natives until one readily fancies they see Fatima's sister at the tower window anxiously awaiting some sign of their protector.

The right arm is always a little larger than the left, but the left foot is almost always larger than the right, presumably because, while nearly every man uses his right arm to lift a weight or strike a blow, he almost invariably kicks with his left foot, while the longer he stands on his left leg and lets the right fall easily, because he has learned by experience that this is the best attitude he can assume to prevent lassitude and fatigue. This constant bearing of the weight on the left foot makes it wider than the right, and it often happens that a man who tries on a shoe on the right foot and gets a close fit has to discard the shoes altogether because he cannot endure the pain caused by the tightness of the left. If when riding on a street car you will take the trouble to notice, you will see that in laced shoes the gap is much smaller on the right foot than on the left, while with button shoes the buttons have to be set back ten times on the left shoe to once on the right.

The progress of Pasteur's cure of hydrophobia can be seen by the following summary of the reports of the Pasteur institute since it was established. In 1886 2,671 patients were treated, of whom 25 died—i. e., .99 per cent. In 1887 the number of patients was 1,770, and 13 of them died, .73 per cent. In 1888 1,622 patients were treated, and only 9—i. e., .50 per cent—died. In 1889 the number of patients was 1,830 and the deaths were 6—i. e., .33 per cent. In 1890, 1,546 patients were treated in the Pasteur institute and of these 11 died. The higher percentage of deaths for the last year is due to the fact that a large number of patients were brought to the establishment in an advanced state of the disease.

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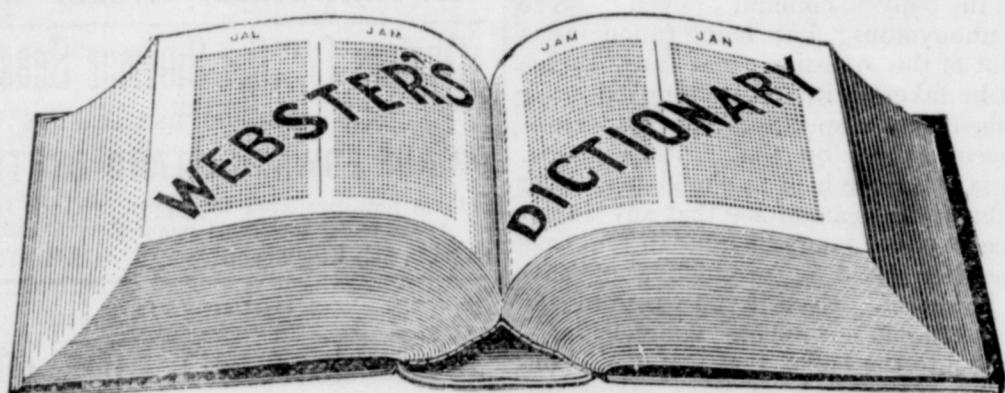
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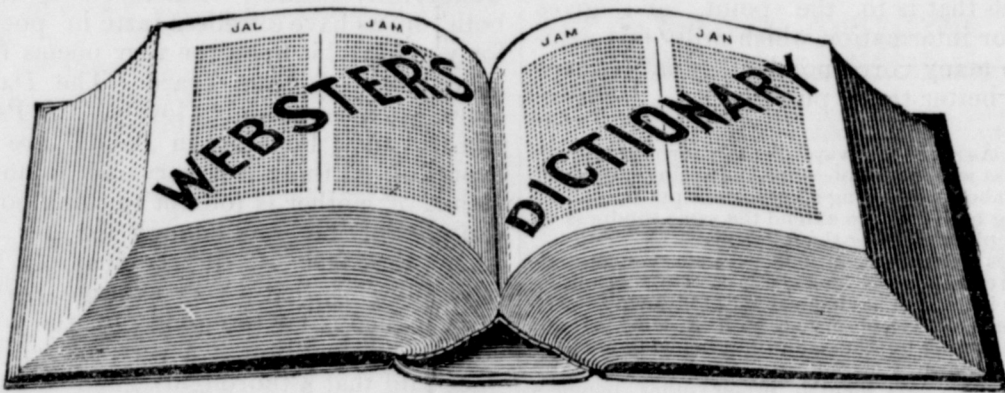
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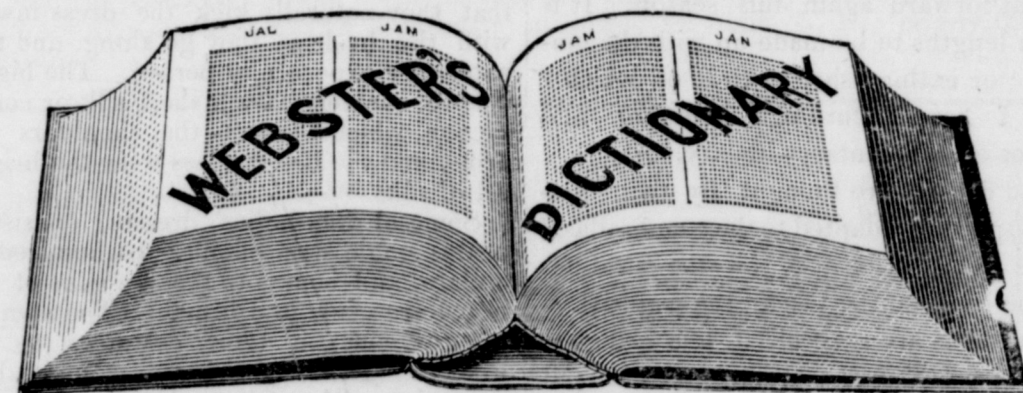
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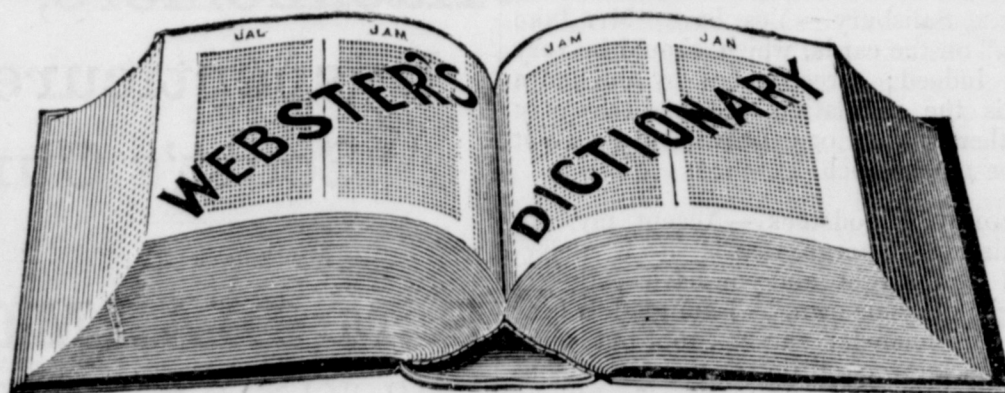


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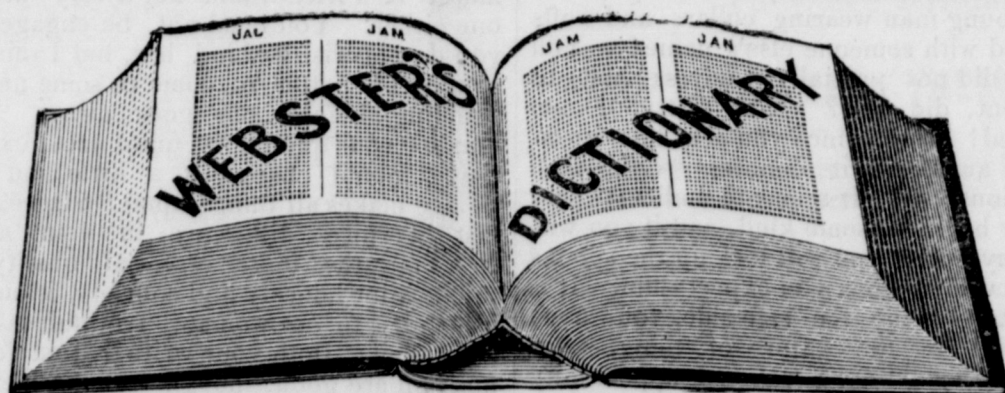


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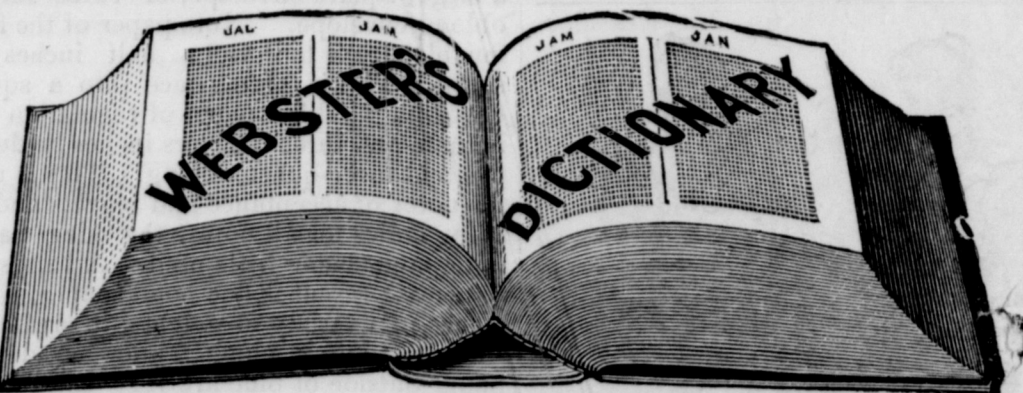
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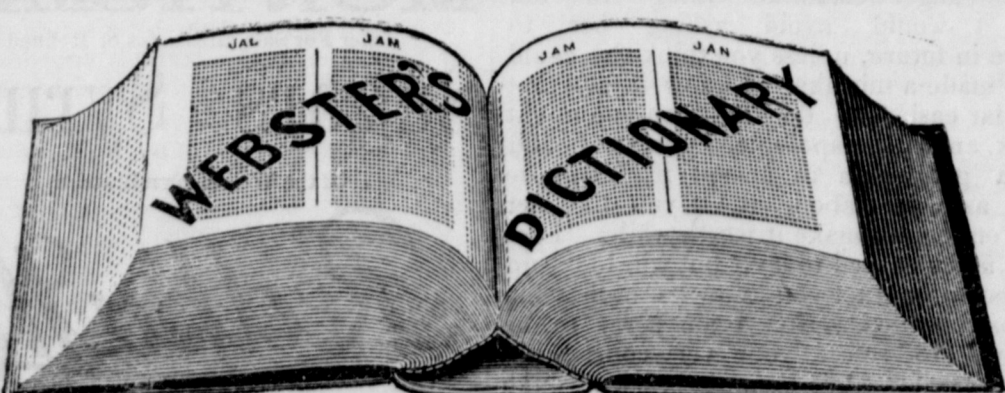


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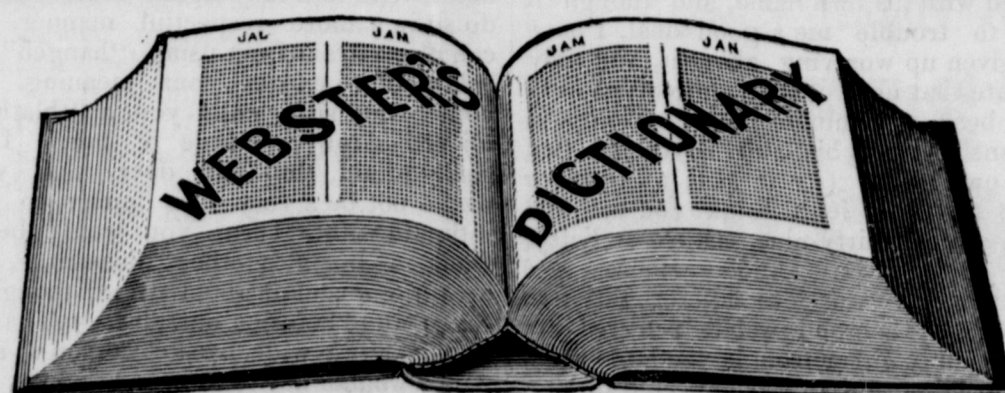


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