

THINGS WORTH KNOWING

The normal temperature of man is 98½ degrees Fahrenheit.

In the public libraries of the Australian colonies there are 51,000,000 books.

The newspapers of India number 559, published in sixteen different languages.

Earl means an elder. The words seigneur and senator are of similar meaning.

The London hospitals contain 8,000 beds, 75,000 in-patients, and 1,100,000 out-patients.

Sir, as a title, belongs to knights and baronets, and is always prefixed to the Christian name.

In the Sandwich islands, leprosy is so prevalent that the island of Molokai is set apart for lepers.

The Chinese have no straight streets or walls, because they believe the devil travels in a straight line.

The result of the census of the whole of Cape Colony shows the population to be one million and a half.

There are about 23,000 physicians and surgeons in the United Kingdom, or one to every 1600 inhabitants.

The Sikhs are a religious sect in North-western Hindustan which worships one only and invisible God.

Eucalyptus, or Australian gum-tree, sometimes grows 24 feet in 3 months; bamboo, 2 feet in 24 hours.

Mr. Glaisher states that in 3500 balloon ascents only 15 deaths have occurred; that is about four per thousand.

Mr. Glaisher, at 2 miles from the earth, heard a musket shot and a dog bark, and at four miles a railway train.

It is not legally compulsory on a master or mistress to give a discharged servant any character, and no action can be maintained for the refusal.

A will is revoked by a subsequent will, by marriage, or by burning, tearing, or destroying the will. It is not enough to obliterate it with a pen.

Deaths resulting directly or indirectly from drink are said to exceed 60,000 yearly or ten per cent of the total deaths in the United Kingdom.

Potatoes were introduced into Germany in 1710, into Russia in 1769, and into Scotland some years later. The man who sowed the first field of potatoes in Scotland died in 1850.

The name speaker, given to the presiding officer in houses of parliament, was first conferred on Sir T. Hungerford in the reign of Edward III.

In Paris the average attendance at the schools is about 91½ per cent. of those upon the register; in London the proportion is but 78 per cent.

According to the census of 1891 there are in Ireland 3,545,856 Roman Catholics, 600,236 protestant Episcopalians, 446,687 Presbyterians, and 55,235 Methodists.

The janissaries (the old Turkish soldiery, who had become utterly worthless and corrupt) were destroyed by Sultan Mahmoud II. in 1826, after a bloody struggle.

The maximum amount of alcohol, says Parkes, that a man takes daily without injury to his health is that contained in 2oz. brandy, ¾ pint of sherry, ½ pint of claret, or 1 pint of beer.

An apron is the royal standard of Persia. Gao, a Persian blacksmith, raised a revolt which proved successful, and his leather apron, covered with jewels, is still borne in the van of Persian armies.

Excelsior! is the motto of the United States, and has been made popular by the poet Longfellow. It means, "Aim at higher things still." The word is also used as the synonym of superexcellence.

Capital punishment was abolished in Italy in 1875; murders increased 42 per cent. The Swiss convention of 1881 reformed the constitution so as to permit the cantons to restore the use of capital punishment.

The Armada sent by Philip II. in 1588 for the intended conquest of England, and commanded by the Duke of Medina, comprised 132 ships, 3165 cannon, 10,854 seamen, and 23,200 soldiers.

One pair of rabbits can become multiplied in four years into 1,250,000. They were introduced into Australia a few years ago, and now that colony ships six million rabbit skins yearly to Britain.

The Russians are going to adopt military cycling. They held some test races lately between cyclists and cavalymen, and the cyclists took a message 35 miles and returned with the answer four hours quicker than the horsemen.

Written sheets of commercial and military information were issued by the Venetians during the sixteenth century, and read in public marts to those desirous of learning the latest tidings. For this privilege each citizen paid a coin called gazetta, hence the venerated name of "Gazette."

A lunar day is twenty-four hours forty-eight minutes. The siderial day is twenty-four hours, forty-four minutes, four seconds, or three minutes, fifty-six seconds less than the solar day.

The name sovereign was first applied to a gold coin issued in the reign of Henry VIII., otherwise called the double royal or rial, on which the king was represented in the royal robes.

The workers alone in the London hospitals amount to 6,000 persons, of whom some 1,300 are honorary medical officers who devote their time to the treatment of disease without fee of any kind.

In the reign of William III. (1689-1702) all child-stealers apprehended were branded with a red-hot R for rogue on the shoulder; M for manslayer on the right hand; and T for thief on the left one.

In 1890 Prussia had 727 agricultural schools with 11,144 scholars, 781 industrial schools with 93,029 scholars, 289 guild schools with 12,118 scholars. Thirty-five technical schools of various aims increase the total to 1,832.

In 1880 there were 85,671 physicians and surgeons in the United States. In Germany there were about 15,000; in no other country, probably, were there more. There were more doctors in the United States than in Europe in 1880, and there are more there now.

An infant loses from three to six ounces in weight during the first four to six days; by the seventh day it should have gained its birth weight; from that to the fifth month it ought to gain about five ounces per week, or about six drachms a day; at the fifth month it ought to have doubled its birth weight; and in sixteen months quadrupled it.

"Doctor" is a general name applied to all members of the medical profession, or, in particular, to holders of a medical degree of one of the universities. "Physician" signifies one who practices medicine as distinct from surgery, or, more correctly, one in consulting medical practice. "Surgeon" signifies one who practices surgery as distinct from medicine, or in many cases, one who practices surgery as well as medicine—a general practitioner.

Lynch law, pure and simple, is not lawlessness. Originally it was frontier justice. A man on the frontier was accused of crime; there was no organized court within hundreds of miles. The people in the mining town, or the emigrants, held a court; the captain of the train, or the oldest man, was judge; others were jury. The accused defended himself, and might be acquitted; if he was condemned, he was put to death promptly and decently. It was justice, not law, perhaps; and rough, as justice is apt to be. In time the trial was omitted. In the South, to this day, when the accused is a negro, the trial is merely formal; whatever the verdict, the negro is "lynched" as a rule. But that isn't lynch law, though we have perverted a word of honest meaning; that is simply mob violence. Charles Lynch, according to the *Century Dictionary*, is responsible for the name. He lived in Virginia 100 years ago, and died in 1785.

About 13,000 Italians land in New York every month. In Philadelphia there are 25,000 Italians; in St. Louis, 5,000; Chicago, 15,000; Baltimore, 3,800; Pittsburgh, 10,000; New Orleans, 25,000, and in Boston, 16,000.

Dutch military cycling volunteers have to pass a real examination before they are accepted for the manoeuvres, but when passed they get five florins a day, first-class fare travelling, and are lodged as officers at the expense of the State. They have to be able to ride 63 miles in seven hours, and 31 miles in two hours and a half.

The enumerated populations of the twenty-eight great towns of England and Wales for 1891 are as follows: London, 4,211,100; Liverpool, 518,000; Manchester, 505,300; Birmingham, 429,200; Leeds, 367,500; Sheffield, 324,200; Bristol, 221,700; Bradford, 216,300; Nottingham, 212,000; Salford, 198,100; Newcastle, 186,300; Hull, 183,300; Portsmouth, 159,200; Leicester, 142,000; Oldham, 131,500; Sunderland, 130,900; Cardiff, 128,900; Blackburn, 120,100; Brighton, 115,400; Bolton, 115,000; Preston, 107,600; Norwich, 100,900; Birkenhead, 99,200; Huddersfield, 95,400; Derby, 94,100; Plymouth, 84,200; Halifax, 82,900, and Wolverhampton, 82,600.

The Pharos at Alexandria was the first light-bearing tower of which we have any record. It was built of white stone, and stood on the island of Pharos, near Alexandria, in Egypt. It was 300 feet high and its light could be seen for many miles. Josephus states that its "beaming summit" could be seen for 300 stadia, or 40 English miles. It was twelve years in building. The Pharos or lighthouse was illuminated by huge wood fires. Previous to this time mariners were warned at night of their approach to land by coal and wood fires that were built on prominent headlands. The Pharos was erected under the reign of Ptolemy Philadelphus, B. C. 332, the same king who commanded the Septuagint or Old Testament to be undertaken in the Hellenic versions. Sastratus, the architect, immortalized his name by having it inscribed on the Pharos.

The Japanese Babies Have Fun. The Japanese baby is not only indulged, he is also treated with the greatest care and intelligence. He is judiciously fed and he is regularly bathed, either at home or in the public bath houses. A Japanese baby would appear to us a very droll creature. If you would know how he looks you have only to examine a well made Japanese doll. He has his head shaved, with the exception of four tufts of hair—one in front, one behind, and one over either ear. He wears bright and gaudy clothes (or did wear, for children, like their parents, sad to say, are gradually being arrayed in European fashion), and his loose jacket has very long and very wide sleeves. Very poor children go barefoot; either wear stockings and clogs, the stockings having a separate pocket for the big toe.

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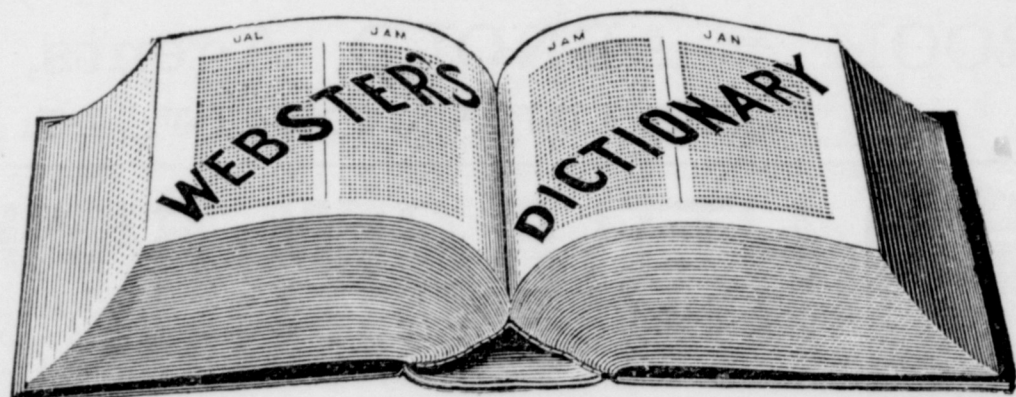
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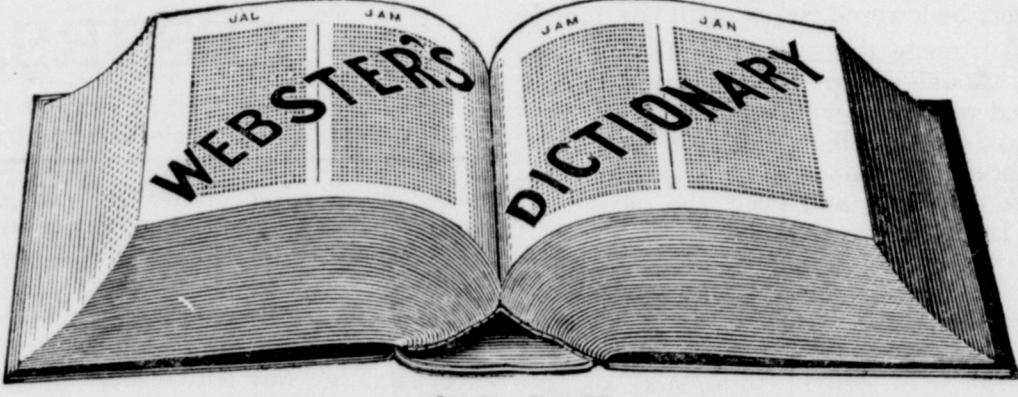
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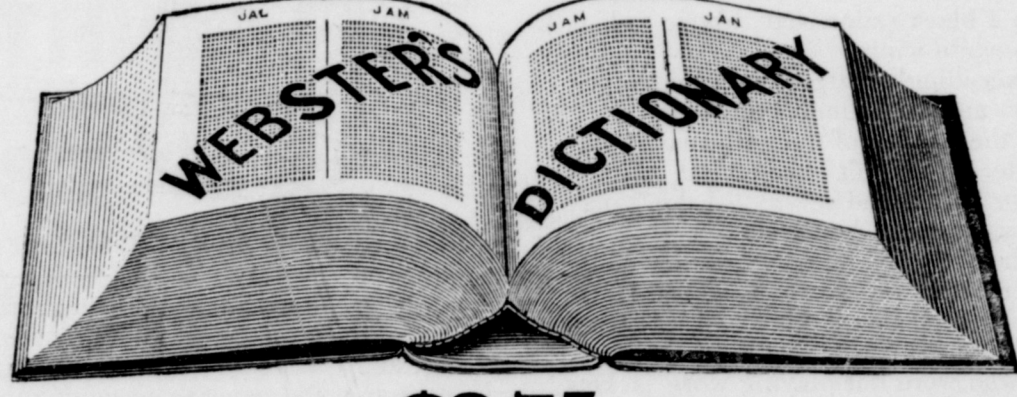
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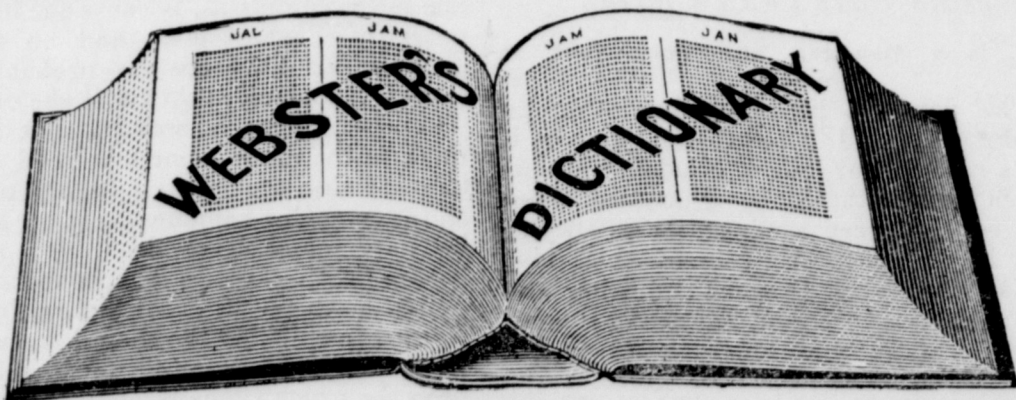


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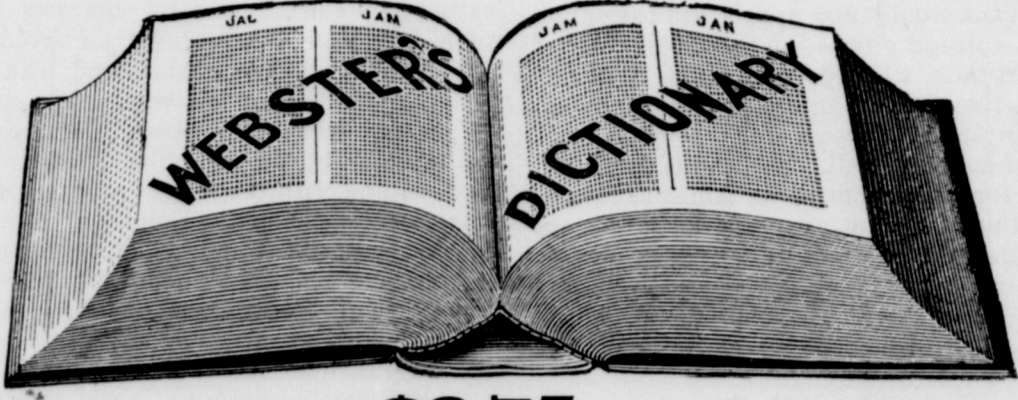


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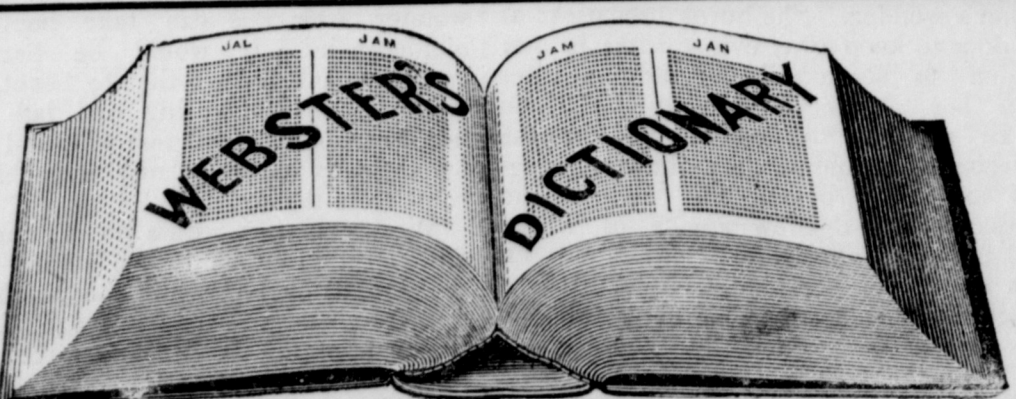


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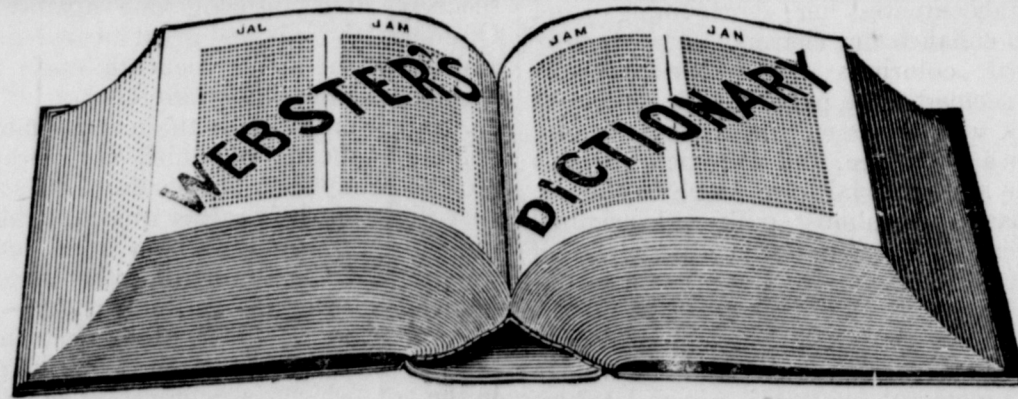


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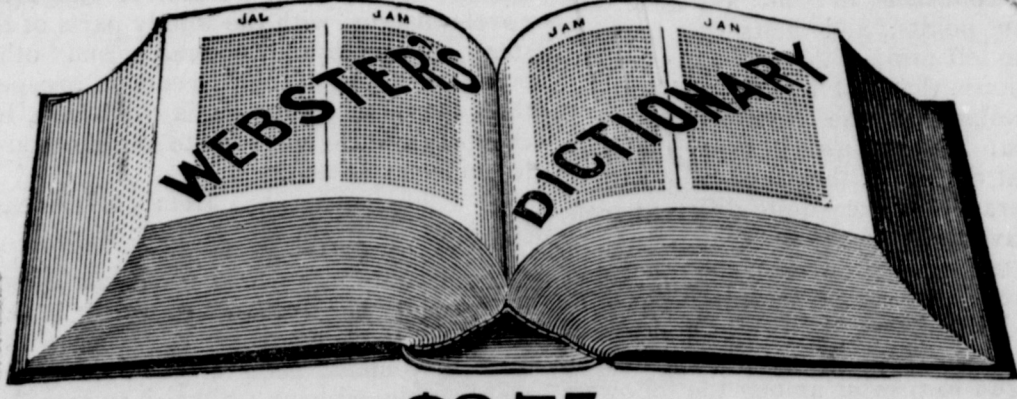
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