

# THINGS WORTH KNOWING

The Sultan's household numbers 6,000 persons.

Swans have been known to live to be 300 years old.

The Bank of England covers nearly three acres.

A cremated body leaves a residuum of only eight ounces; all besides is restored to the gaseous elements.

The Jains of India frequently undergo fasts of forty days, partaking during that time only of warm water.

The total number of Free Masons in the United States is 673,643; Independent Order of Odd Fellows, 637,471.

Six million persons, joining their outstretched hands, would extend over about 6,242 miles 224 feet. We assume the stretch of a man to be 5 1/2 feet.

There are nine metals which rank under the d-nomination noble. These are mercury, silver, gold, platinum, palladium, rhodium, ruthenium, osmium, iridium. The first four on the list are the only ones well known.

Slavery still exists in Turkey and other Mohammedan countries, in certain parts of Africa, in Siam, and in other parts of the eastern world. The slavery is complete; in some of the countries slavery for a term of years exists.

In the Warwick dialect the word "lad" means a "whim," and in at least two of the dialects the word "taddy" is used, signifying "frivolous" or "whimsical." Another use of the word is to describe a person who is difficult to please in trifles, and in that connection appears the words "to fad," meaning to be busy with trifles. The word has been in use among the humbler classes in England for some time.

The orthodox Jews in the United States have 316 organizations, 122 church edifices, seating capacity, 46,827; halls, 193; seating capacity, 24,847; value of property, \$2,802,050; communicants or members, 57,597; while the reformed Jews have 217 organizations, 179 church edifices, seating capacity, 92,397; halls, 38; seating capacity, 3,630; value of church property, \$6,952,225; communicants or members, 72,899. The real difference between the orthodox and reformed Jews is that the orthodox receive the Talmud or its interpretation as of equal authority with the Old Testament.

These are some of the essential elements to the legal validity of a negotiable draft, note or check: It must be payable in money, that is, gold, silver or bills, not in any kind of merchandise. Thus a note "payable in 100 calves" has been decided to be invalid; it must be payable without any contingency or uncertainty. A note promising to pay "\$1,000 out of the proceeds of ore to be raised and sold from any mine," is invalid. But a particular fund may be designated, as "I promise to pay out of the estate of B., deceased;" it must be payable at a certain specified time—a time certain to arrive. A note payable to A. B. "when he is 21 years of age" is not good, for he may not live to be 21, and so the time is not certain to arrive; But a note payable "on demand" is held to be good, for demand is in the nature of thing certain to be made at some time. The owner of such a note would not possess common sense if he never demanded payment; it must be payable to the order of a certain party therein named, or else payable to bearer. Otherwise it is not negotiable, although as a simple written contract it is good.

The oldest colony which Great Britain has in Australia is New South Wales, which received its name from Capt. Cook in 1770. The colony is situated in the southeastern part of Australia and lies between the 29th and 36th parallels of south latitude and the 141st and 153rd meridians of east longitude. It has an area of 310,700 square miles and a population in 1891 of 1,134,207. In 1890 there were 444,163 horses, 1,909,009 cattle, 55,986,431 sheep and 284,454 pigs in the colony. During the same year its exports of wool amounted to 243,738,266 pounds, valued at £9,232,672. The country is rich in minerals. The chief city and capital is Sydney, situated on the seacoast and surrounded by scenery of great beauty. The city has 115 miles of streets, 21,245 houses, a population of 386,000, and 3,800 acres devoted to public parks and squares. In 1890, nearly one-quarter the population attended school. On June 30, 1891, there were 2,185 miles of government railways in the colony, and also eighty-one miles of private railway lines.

China is an immense empire of Eastern Asia, comprising the eighteen provinces which constitute China proper and Manchuria, Mongolia, Tibet and some other dependencies which are more or less connected with the empire. China proper contains an area of 1,534,953 square miles, or nearly half as large as all Europe. Including the dependencies, its area is 4,468,750 square miles, or more than one-twelfth part of the land surface of the world. China proper is bounded on the north by Mongolia and Manchuria; on the west by Turkestan, Burma and Tibet; on the south by Burma, Tongking and the China Sea, and on the east by the Eastern Sea, the Yellow Sea and Korea. This area extends from latitude 44 degrees 50 minutes north to 13 degrees 10 minutes north, and from longitude 126 degrees 10 minutes east to longitude 97 degrees 30 minutes east. The capital of the empire is Peking, with a population of 1,000,000. Other large cities are Amoy, Canton, Chang-chau, Fu Chau, Kwang-sin, Nankin, Shanghai, Suchau and Wuchang. Rice is the principal food crop, and it grows in all parts of China. Mulberry trees abound, on which the silk-worms feed, whose culture is a leading industry of the empire. The chief exports are tea, silk, camphor, sugar and opium, and the main imports are cotton and woolen goods, kerosene and ginseng. Twenty-two Chinese ports are open

to foreign commerce. They are called "Treaty" ports, and their customs are controlled by European officials. The names of these ports are Canton, Tamsui, Foochow, Amoy, Hankow and Shanghai. China has but eighty-one miles of railways, but other lines are about to be constructed. There are, however, about three thousand miles of telegraph lines in the country. The Chinese army numbers about one million two hundred thousand men. The navy is composed of three ironclads, seven cruisers, thirty-five ironclad gun boats, nine torpedo boats and about one hundred other vessels. In 1888 the total imports of the empire amounted in value to about \$130,000,000, and the exports to \$115,500,000.

## "PROGRESS" PICKINGS.

Wilson—Why do so many women earn a living by their pens? Bumps—Probably because they're unable to keep their pencils sharpened.

He—Upon my word, I think I've gone through every experience except hanging. She—Cheer up; that may come yet. Judy.

She—Don't you think woman can do a great deal toward elevating the stage? He—Yes. She can lower her hat. Life.

Mrs. Dinsmore (to applicant)—Have you had experience as a nurse girl? O'Grainan—Faix, yis; me las' missus' kep two fine pups.

Shopper—Are those fast colors? Clerk—Well, I should say as much. You just wash it once, and see how fast they'll run. Boston Courier.

Pretty near the same thing—She didn't marry a lord after all. No; she married a baronet; but he gets as drunk as a lord. New York Press.

Briggs—Binger is getting to be a perfect dupe lately, isn't he? Griggs—Yes. You know he failed in business and has gone back to a clerkship.

She (carefully questioning)—Are you a married man? He (carefully answering)—I don't know. My latest telegram from Chicago says the jury is still out.

A rattle of poker-chips sounded in the collector's ears as he opened the door of the office. Is Mr. Brinkins in? he inquired. No, sir, replied the office-boy. He is out about seven dollars. Judge.

Mrs. Jones—What you doing there with my daughter, Mr. Bach? It's time for church, it we're going. Mr. Bach (placing engagement ring on the daughter's finger)—I know it's time; I'm just ringing the bells.

Jeweler—You will not take no for an answer? Porter, come and kick this fellow out! Undaunted Drummer—Now, while we're waiting for the porter, I'll show you the finest diamond jewelry you ever laid eyes on.

Mrs. Suburb—Are you acquainted with her personally? Proprietress (of Intelligence office)—Yes; indeed. She is a good girl. I have known her for years. She comes in here almost every week for a place.—Pack.

Young man (helplessly)—Doctor is there any cure for the liquor habit? Doctor (thoughtfully)—Y-es, one. Young man (eagerly)—What is it? Doctor (confidentially)—"Marry a woman bigger than you are."—New York Weekly.

Helen Hyler—You can't go, now, and leave me with this blazing open fire! I shall have to sit here alone until it burns out. Jack Lever—All right, I'll stay a little longer. (After a pause.) Ah, Miss Hyler! don't you think I had better put another log on?

I have heard a great deal about the servant girl problem, but I call the servant girl a blessing. You do? Yes. Before we could afford to hire a servant girl my wife kept me in hot water. Now she has a servant girl who keeps her in hot water and she hasn't time to attend to me.

Mrs. Inqui-Sitive—What was young Duddleigh saying to you a while ago? Miss F. DeSeakle—Nothing. Mrs. I. (in surprise)—Nothing? Why, he's been talking for an hour. He must have said something. Miss F. (carelessly)—I guess you don't know Duddleigh. Detroit Free Press.

Her Lawyer—Now, madam, don't you think that if we brought a little pressure to bear on him we could render the divorce proceedings unnecessary? Mrs. Mulvaney (Indade an' we couldn't, judge. O! had him under th' kitchen stove wid me settin' an' up at it fer four hours yisterday, an' divil th' more dacinter he bekem.

The manager of the dime museum was feeling pretty rocky when he met the snake charmer at dinner. How are your snakes today? he inquired by way of salutation. All in their cages, she responded pleasantly. How are yours? and the manager went out to the flowing hydrant in the back yard and stuck his head under it. Detroit Free Press.

Householder—I am going to move in the suburbs next Monday, and I'd like you to do the job. Mover—How many loads? I don't know. You moved me once, you may remember. Yes; I needed three wagons then to get through; but that was some years ago. Have you moved since? Yes, indeed, half a dozen times. Hum! I guess one wagon will carry all you have left. New York Weekly.

Pretty teacher (severely)—Did your mother write this excuse? Bad boy—Yes'm. Pretty teacher—Humph! It looks very much like one of your scrawls. Bad boy—Mamma wrote it; but, please ma'm, she had sister Jennie in one arm, crying with a bumped head, and brother Willie in the other with a cut finger, and a lot of sewing on her lap, and she was rocking the cradle with her knees, and she had in the cradle with her toes. Pretty teacher (in the evening)—I am very sorry, Mr. Poor-chapp, but I have changed my mind I shall never marry.

## MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

The German kaiser even insists upon a due observance of dress on the part of the little princes. The poor little fellows must change their clothes at least three times a day.

James Jeffrey Roche, who succeeded the late John Boyle O'Reilly as the editor of the Pilot, is a taking Irishman with a rich brogue, a keen wit, and a delightful smile. He is beginning to impress that part of New York society which takes an interest in intellectuals as a gitted poet.

The Duke of Richmond is one of the shortest men in the peerage. He is a great favorite of the queen, but seldom finds time to go to court. Although the race-course of Goodwood is on his land, and really belongs to him, he dislikes racing and regrets, it is said, that he cannot plow up the "prettiest race course in England."

In twenty-four days Handel wrote "The Messiah." Dr. Johnson wrote "Rasselas" in the nights of a single week. Schubert sometimes wrote four or five of his immortal songs in a single day. He was born in 1797, and died in 1828, yet he set to music 634 poems by 100 different authors, in addition to writing other musical works.

Du Maurier, who contributed so long and so attractively to the pictorial features in Punch, was once asked how he managed to keep up so well with the changes in women's fashions. His answer was: "Young man, when you have a wife and three daughters like those girls of mine you will know more about fashion than you want to know."

Mr. Gladstone started out as a theological student. Mr. Morse, who invented the electric telegraph, was a painter. Artemus Martin, one of the greatest mathematicians, began life a market gardener. Mr. Carnegie, the iron manufacturer, started as a telegraph operator. George de Maurier, who is one of the greatest of caricaturists, wanted to become a musician, but became an apothecary until he "took up" art.

Harriet Beecher Stowe says that a woman cannot work at dressmaking, tailoring, or any other sedentary employment ten hours a day, year in and out, without enfeebling her constitution, impairing her eyesight, and bringing on a complication of complaints; but she can sweep, cook, wash, and do the duties of a well-ordered house, with modern arrangements, and grow healthier every year.

The Siamese twins were sixty-five years old when they died, Jan. 17, 1874; they were married, and had several children. For nineteen years before they died they had lived in Salisbury, N. C., where they owned farms and slaves. They married in 1855 two English women, sisters; Chang had six children, Eng, five. Most of these were deaf mutes; and three died young. The twins were known by the name of Bunker; and they were Baptists by religion.

Emile Zola writes his novels as if he were conducting a commercial operation, and allows himself none of the eccentricities of genius save the indulgence of a passion for large and massive pieces of furniture. His writing-table and library chairs are of colossal proportions, as is also his ink-stand, which is early, takes a walk after breakfast, lunches at mid-day, and devotes the afternoon, from one o'clock to six, to writing exclusively.

The Czar is reported to have been plunged into the deepest affliction by the sudden death of his valet and confidential servant, Dimitri Varkoff, who had never been absent from him for a single day during a period of more than thirty years. Varkoff always slept in the room next the emperor's, and within the last ten years he three times saved his majesty from assassination; but these attempts on the emperor's life were hushed up and the exact details have remain a secret. Varkoff trained the ferocious mastiffs which always guard the Czar wherever he is, and when the emperor was travelling or when there was reason to fear treachery in the imperial kitchen, Varkoff cooked all his master's food. He was a man of dauntless courage and a Hercules in physique.

A Boston photographer surprised Mme. Adeline Patti recently by bringing her a photograph of herself taken forty years ago. She had, of course, forgotten its existence. The famous singer has given the picture one of the places of honor among the souvenirs of her luckless youth. Its age recalls Mme. Patti's—49 years—and she has none of the vanity, which is said to be common to her sex, of wishing to conceal her age. She was born February 19, 1843, and spent her childhood amid rather poor surroundings in the city where she now receives \$5,000 a night for singing—the highest price paid to any human being in the world for any kind of service rendered. Maurice Strakoske tells interestingly how Mme. Patti's mother sang "Norma" on the night of February 18, 1843, and how, two hours later, the infant who was destined to become the most famous singer in the world was born in the opera-house itself.

In person Miss Gladstone is tall and rather ungraceful, a defect which is intensified by her carelessness in the matter of dress—a very unimportant item in her busy life; but one forgets her want of grace in the charm of her face, which, without being really handsome, fascinates by its earnest expression. She wears her hair brushed from her face in rather severe style, and coiled in a knot at the back of her head. Her forehead is low, but well shaped; her mouth rather large, with full expressive lips. Miss Gladstone is of a very retiring nature, having a great dislike to publicity of any sort, and is by no means the "strong-minded" woman whom one would expect to find at the head of a college. Although her views on most subjects are extremely strong, this fact only serves to intensify her individuality, without detracting from her sweet and womanly nature. Many of the qualities which have endeared the "grand old man" to those around him reproduce themselves in his daughter, who resembles him in character as she does in appearance. Although her nature is a reserved one, and she is as a rule rather silent, she is when interested a most brilliant talker, and her powers of conversation constitute one of her great charms.

# "German Syrup"

Here is something from Mr. Frank A. Hale, proprietor of the De Witt House, Lewiston, and the Tontine Hotel, Brunswick, Me. Hotel men meet the world as it comes and goes, and are not slow in sizing people and things up for what they are worth. He says that he has lost a father and several brothers and sisters from Pulmonary Consumption, and is himself frequently troubled with colds, and he Hereditary often coughs enough to make him sick at Consumption his stomach. Whenever he has taken a cold of this kind he uses Boschee's German Syrup, and it cures him every time. Here is a man who knows the full danger of lung troubles, and would therefore be most particular as to the medicine he used. What is his opinion? Listen! "I use nothing but Boschee's German Syrup, and have advised, I presume, more than a hundred different persons to take it. They agree with me that it is the best cough syrup in the market."

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