

THINGS WORTH KNOWING

A ton of coal yields nearly 10,000 feet of gas.

Less than 800 persons own half the soil of Ireland.

The greatest depth of ocean yet discovered is a little over five miles.

Three times as much spirits are consumed in Scotland, according to population, as in England.

The average weight of the brain of a man is 3½ pounds; of a woman, 3 pounds and 11 ounces.

An infant at birth usually weighs one-twentieth of the maximum weight it ought to attain in middle life.

In the Chinese language, the same word may be either a noun, adjective, verb or adverb. The language is monosyllabic.

Fifty cities in the United States have a population of 10,000, 370, and twenty-two have a population of over 100,000 of each.

A cocoon of a well fed silk worm will often yield a thread 1,000 yards long, and one has been produced which contained 1,295 yards.

In Australia no newspapers are published nor railroads trains on the Sabbath. Telegraph offices are closed and all business is suspended.

The average of the pulse in infancy is 120 per minute; in manhood, 80; at 60 years, 60. The pulse of females is more frequent than of males.

The cocoanut trees of Florida are due to nuts washed ashore from a wrecked vessel sixteen years ago. Now the State furnishes all the cocoanuts used in the United States.

The most reliable authority on the population of the earth makes it 1,480,000,000. The figures for China have been reduced by 55,000,000. The increase since 1880 has been 79,000,000.

A man breathes about 18 pints of air a minute, or upward of 7 hogsheads in a day. The average weight of an adult man is 140 pounds 7 ounces. The weight of the circulating blood is about 28 pounds.

The eyeball of the owl is immovably fixed in the socket, hence the look of wisdom that that bird always appears to have. In the horse an eye in which white predominates indicates a vicious nature.

Blood travels from the heart through the arteries ordinarily at the rate of about twelve inches a second, while its speed through the capillaries is at the rate of three-one-hundredths of an inch per second.

The average height of an Englishman is 5 feet 9 inches; of a Frenchman 5 feet 4 inches, and of a Belgian, 5 feet 6½ inches. The average weight of an Englishman is 150 pounds; of a Frenchman, 136 pounds; of a Belgian, 140 pounds.

There are 4,422 rooms in the Vatican. The length of the statue museum alone is a fraction over a mile. Conservative writers say that the gold contained in the medals, vessels, chains and other objects preserved in the Vatican would make more gold coins than the whole of the present circulation.

Rats and mice are found almost everywhere on the earth's surface except in the central portions of the African and Australian continents and in the cold regions of the extreme north and south. Bats, too, are widely distributed, and are, indeed, found everywhere in the tropical and temperate portions of the world.

The ordinary load for a camel is 600 pounds for a long journey, though if the journey is to last only a week or 10 days, 1,000 weight is frequently placed on the back of an average animal, but not without strenuous objection on the part of the beast, which watches the process of loading with great anxiety, and frequently interrupts it by rising and refusing to kneel to receive more.

As a matter of fact, the average life of all the babies that come into the world is only about 38 years; very few live to be over 90, and not more than one out of 2,000 sees his 100th birthday. In the year 1889 out of every 1,000 persons living in following countries there died: in England, 18; in Norway, 17; in Sweden, 16; in Austria, 27; in Hungary, 32; in Germany, 23; in France, 21, and in Italy, 25.

The highest clouds, cirrus and cirro stratus, rise on an average to a height of nearly 30,000 feet. The middle clouds keep at from about 10,000 to 23,000 feet above the surface of the earth; the lower clouds seldom lower than 3,000 or higher than 7,000 feet. The cumulus clouds float with their lower surface at a height of from 4,000 to 5,000 feet, while their summits frequently extend upward to a height of 16,000.

Easter may come as early as March 22 and as late as April 25. Since 1803 Easter has occurred three times on the 19th, five times on the 16th, five times on the 1st, four times each on the 2nd, 11th and 12th, four times on March 31, four times on April 6, three times on the 4th, 5th, 7th, 8th, 10th, 13th, 14th and 22nd of April and 27th and 28th of March. March 22, 1818, was the earliest date upon which it has occurred. Nine days in March are represented, viz.: 22nd, 23rd, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st.

According to the estimates of French and German statisticians, there have perished in the wars of the last thirty years 2,500,000 men, while there has been expended to carry them on no less than the inconceivable sum of \$13,000,000,000 as the cost of war with Prussia, while her loss in men is placed at 155,000. Of these 80,000 were killed on the field of battle, 36,000 died of sickness, accidents or sui-

cide, and 20,000 in German prisons, while there died from other causes enough to bring the number up to the given aggregate. The sick and wounded amounted to 477,421, the lives of many thousands of whom were shortened by their illness or injuries.

"PROGRESS" PICKINGS.

He (passionately)—Do you ever think of marriage? She (frankly)—What else does a girl have to think about?

Rosalie—Now, don't tell any one what I have said. Grace—I won't. I'll stay home from the sewing class on purpose.

Old Country Lady (watching an elevator boy take up a load of passengers)—Lord a massy! How strong that young 'un must be to lift that 'ere thing.

Mother (to Jimmy caught in the act of smoking a cigar)—I don't want you to let me see you at that again. Jimmy—And I didn't want to let you see me this time.

THE WEATHER GRUMBLES.

If winter lingers in the lap of Spring, And lovely Spring is worthy of her name, Why blame him then, you hoary-headed rogues? How many of you would not do the same?

Visitor (to little Johnny)—Are the students in your class very bright? Johnnie—Guess you'd think we ought to be if you'd see the polishing off some of us get every day.

Bride (just after the wedding)—Alfred, you promised to give me a surprise after we were married. Say, what is it? Groom (widower)—I've got six children, my pet.

One of her pets—She—'I always have a great many pets about me.' He (tenderly)—'Am I one of them?' She—'Yes. You are my pet aversion.'—New York Herald.

"Ah," mused Mr. Hungry Higgins, as the "charitable officer" steered him toward the city wood-yard, "I have once more struck the popular chord."—Indianapolis Herald.

A clergyman one hot Sunday, observing a deacon asleep in church, called out: "Brother Austin, please open the window a little. Physicians say it is unhealthy to sleep in a hot room."

Tom—Which hill do you prefer for tobogganing—Corey's or Shaw's? Sallie—Oh, Corey's! It's much steeper, and the men have to hold on to—er—the er—to-boggan so much tighter, you know.

(He seriously)—"We must devise some means of obtaining your father's consent." She—"Well, let us put our heads together, and—" (but after that he did not care whether they had papa's consent or not.)—Puck.

A Valuable Bird.—Customer (to bird fancier)—"How much for this parrot?" Fancier—"Five hundred dollars." Customer—"Whew! Isn't that rather steep?" Fancier—"No—he can't talk."—Epoch.

I don't think," said Clara, "that these flowers match my complexion, do you?" "No, they don't," said Maude, "and you mustn't go out that way. But I wouldn't bother to change the flowers if I were you."

"What do those letters stand for?" asked a curious wife of her husband as she looked at his masonic seal. "Well, really, my love," he replied encouragingly, "I presume it is because they can't sit down." She postponed further questioning.—Texas Sittings.

Widower (to little daughter of attractive young widow)—You are growing very fast, Flossie. I suppose when you are as old as your mother you will be thinking of marriage. Flossie—Yes, for a second time.—Texas Sittings.

Van Trim—But you admit you love me? Madge—Yes. Van Trim—And your parents favor me? Madge—Yes. Van Trim—Well, how is it you won't marry me? Madge—I'm not quite sure yet whether Fido loves you as he should.

Dolley—"Well, old fellow, I asked Miss Amy last night to marry me, and she declined." Goslin—"Did she deliberate, as though hesitating to pain you?" Dolley—"No; she produced her negative by the instantaneous process."—Harper's Bazar.

Dukane—Beg pardon, Larimer, but what name was that you called your wife just then? Larimer—I called her "Revised Dictionary." "Isn't that rather an odd name to apply to the wife of your bosom?" "Not at all. You see she always has the last word."

Mrs. Gadding (retiring)—"We have had a very pleasant evening and we wish to return thanks for your kindness." Mrs. Planetung (the door being shut)—"The horrid creature! Return thanks! I'm sure I never thanked her for coming."—Boston Transcript.

(Mamma explaining to her little girl, aged 5, that everything she does and says is written down in a large book in heaven.) She asks: "Are all the naughty things, too?" Mamma—"Yes, dear." Child (pensively)—"Then I think I'll take a piece of India rubber with me."

Mrs. Dillingham (grass widow, glancing coquettishly up from book)—Do you know I have just made such an odd mistake. I've written it window instead of widow. Mr. Brown (crusty old bachelor, peering over his paper)—Quite right, madam, for whenever I see a widow I always look out.

"I am afraid you think I am getting up in years," said Miss May True, playfully to Cholly, as they sat looking at the flickering logs in the grate. "Not at all," said Cholly, gallantly; "you're not so old as you look. I mean," he added, correcting himself, "you look a great deal younger than you are."

Charlie—So you are to be married? Gus—Yes, and to the nicest girl in the world. Charlie, she's worth a million. Charlie—You don't say so! I congratulate you, old boy. Gus—Yes, she's worth a million of such girls as ones sees in society. Charlie—Oh, Gus (he murmurs as he goes off), poor devil, I pity him.

MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

The Empress Eugenie paid 1,000 francs (\$200) per ounce for a braid of hair that exactly matched her own.

Gertrude Souine, a pretty girl of 18 years who lives in a town in Aroostook Co., Me., has never been known to laugh or even to smile. While intelligent in other matters, she apparently cannot understand a joke and is unmoved by the keenest witticisms.

Wallett, the Queen's jester, died recently at Beeston, near Nottingham, aged 86. The deceased who was known for 60 years as one of the most versatile performers in the circus ring, earned his title through appearing before Her Majesty and the Prince Consort at Windsor in 1844, when he was a member of the Van Amburgh's Company.

The story goes that when young Mark Twain (Master Clemens) heard that his father had been presented to the Emperor of Germany, he said to his sire, "If this sort of thing goes on much longer there won't be any one left for you to meet except the Ruler of the Universe," which shows that Twain junior is an unflinching chip of the old block.

The Marchioness of Dufferin, it will be remembered, interested herself in securing more and better medical treatment for women in India, while her husband was viceroy of that country a few years ago. Now 400,000 of her sex get the benefit of attendance, and the staff which she was largely instrumental in establishing consists of nine women doctors and thirty-one assistants.

The newspapers of Athens relate that a Russian officer has brought to Prince George of Greece the cane with which the latter struck down the Japanese ruffian who made an attack upon the person of the Czarowitz at Tokio. The cane has been completely covered with gold and bears the Czar's monogram surmounted by the imperial crown and bearing the following inscription:—"To Prince George as a souvenir of his courage."

The young King of Serbia has to pass examinations just like the other young men, except that many might feel somewhat abashed by the presence of the number of distinguished men before whom he has to appear. These are the Metropolitan, the Prime Minister, and a large number of other court and state dignitaries. It is said that the young king is doing much credit to himself. When the examinations are over he will be provided with certificates by his professors, which documents will be placed in the court archives.

William Waldorf Astor, who is or is not the head of the house, always wears his overcoat collar turned up about his ears in winter, even on days that are clear and bright. His eyes are usually bent upon the ground. Occasionally he wanders into Delmonico's with a preoccupied air, sits down at a table in a far corner and eats an extremely modest lunch flanked by two bottles of ginger ale. He does not look up at all, though the eyes of half the people in the place are upon the man who owns \$200,000,000 worth of property. When he has finished his lunch he tips the waiter liberally, pulls on his overcoat, turns up the collar, tilts his hat very far down over his eyes and wanders forth with the Astor air of preoccupation.

James Berry, late public executioner of England, has started on a lecture tour. The subject of his lecture will be "Capital Punishment," in which he will deal with both sides of the question. In America, he said, he had already received guarantees for \$145,000 for twenty lectures, and his experiences will also be embodied in a book which will shortly be published. In regard to his professional work there are two points on which Berry specially prides himself. These are the abolition of steps to the scaffold, which inflicted unnecessary suffering on the criminal, and the addition of a spring to prevent the rebounding of the flaps of the scaffold on the withdrawal of the bolt. Under the old system by Calcraft, Marwood, Binns, and other executioners the doors of the trap sometimes used to fly back and batter the head of the criminal as the body fell into the pit. This is now averted by Berry's invention, and has thus robbed a very gruesome ceremony of at least one of its worst details. Personally Berry is a strong opponent of capital punishment, and expresses a hope that he may live to see the day when it will be expunged from the statute book.

Mr. Gladstone's courtesy is so universally known that it need not be enlarged upon at this time of day. Anxious as he is to please every one of his innumerable correspondents, there are some requests to which he cannot accede—locks of hairs, for example. If the right hon. gentleman possessed the flowing mane of a small army of aesthetic young men he would have been completely bald long since if he were as generous with his locks as with his postcards. The other day a young lady, who is also a warm admirer of Mr. Gladstone, applied for a small lock, but the G. O. M. replied to the effect that, as age had left him so little, he would have none at all if he were to grant even a few of the most pressing requests. The lady who wields all power at Hawarden at present is little Miss Drew, Mr. Gladstone's two-year-old grandchild. A recent visitor to Hawarden says: "I never saw a prettier sight than when she ran through the open door which divides the drawingroom from the Grand Old Man's sanctuary, and, pulling at the lapels of his dressing-gown, drew him imperiously away from Homer or the Blue-book, or whatever was engaging him. The first intimation we had in the next room was a peal of laughter on Mr. Gladstone's part at the obvious necessity of capitulating to that daring invasion, as musical and hearty as ever came from human lips, for his laugh is one of his greatest attractions. Presently the Grand Old Man and the little child, separated by eighty years of time, came hand in hand together into the drawing-room. Mrs. Gladstone runs to the piano, and strikes up a lively waltz tune, and in a second the two partners are dancing together, the Grand Old Man putting into his pirouettes a lot of funny, old-fashioned little steps, learned of our great-grandmothers seventy-five years ago, which it was impossible to view without delight and applause, although so much pathos mingled with comedy in the touch-scene."

"August Flower"

Mr. Lorenzo F. Sleeper is very well known to the citizens of Appleton, Me., and neighborhood. He says: "Eight years ago I was taken 'sick, and suffered as no one but a 'dyspeptic can. I then began taking August Flower. At that time 'I was a great sufferer. Everything I ate distressed me so that I 'had to throw it up. Then in a 'few moments that horrid distress 'would come on and I would have 'to eat and suffer 'again. I took a 'little of your medicine, and felt much 'better, and after 'taking a little more 'August Flower my 'Dyspepsia disappeared, and since that time I 'have never had the first sign of it. 'I can eat anything without the 'least fear of distress. I wish all 'that are afflicted with that terrible 'disease or the troubles caused by 'it would try August Flower, as I 'am satisfied there is no medicine 'equal to it.'"

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