

THINGS WORTH KNOWING

London has about 178 rainy days in a year.

The average man has 2,304,000 pores in his skin.

Berlin's 1,315,600 people have only 26,000 dwellings.

Musical notes, as now used, were invented in 1380.

There are more republics in the world than monarchies.

In Japan for every 100 men there are only 79.92 women.

The population of America increases by 7,000 persons a day.

There are thirteen miles of bookshelves in the British museum.

The widows in India comprise ten per cent. of the population.

As a rule the length of a face is the same as the length of the hand.

Among 200,000,000 of the world's population slavery still exists.

For every foot of stature a man should weigh twenty-six pounds.

In ten years the descendants of two rabbits will number 70,000,000.

The rent of land in England 300 years ago was about a shilling an acre.

There are in Great Britain and Ireland no fewer than 2,788,000 acres of woodland.

Of the fires of 1891, 64 per cent. were due to lamps and only 4 per cent. to electricity.

There are twelve obelisks in Rome, one in Paris, five in London and one in Central Park, New York.

The United States manufacture 65,000 hats every day, while England manufactures about 40,000.

A Chinese sect believes that women by embracing vegetarianism will become men on the judgment day.

The leaves of the life-tree, which is found only in Jamaica, grow after they have been severed from the plant.

The Japanese language has no swear words. The worst thing you can say to or of a man is to call him a fellow.

When a person in Sweden buys any intoxicating beverage, he must also buy something to eat at the same time.

The aggregate wealth of the United States is placed at \$63,648,000,000 and that of Great Britain at \$50,000,000,000.

Artesian wells were known at Thebes as long ago as the time of Timon, 2,000 years before the beginning of the christian era.

The United States has more than 500,000 bearing banana plants, 200,000 bearing lemon trees, 4,000,000 orange trees and 21,000,000 pineapple trees.

The three longest rivers in the world are: The Missouri, from its source to the mouth of the lower Mississippi, 4,575 miles; the Amazon, 3,944 miles, and the Nile, 3,500 miles.

The koto is a Japanese musical instrument, consisting of a long box over which are stretched thirteen strings of silk, each five feet long, and provided with a separate bridge. It is played with both hands, like the harp.

In 1774 Maskelyne, the astronomer royal of England, first calculated the weight of the earth. The weight, as estimated in Encyclopedia Britannica, (ninth edition), vol. II, page 783, is 6,000,000,000,000,000,000 tons.

Although whales grow to enormous size, sometimes eighty and ninety feet long, the throat is so small that it cannot swallow a bite as large as a tea-biscuit. This applies to the common whale; the sperm whale has a mouth large enough to swallow a man.

The Young Men's Christian Association was organized in London 1844 by George Williams, a junior clerk in a large dry-goods house. The first association in America was established in Montreal in 1851; the first in the United States at Boston, a few months later. The present aggregate membership of the 1,385 American associations is 225,000.

The quotation, "When at Rome, do as the Romans do," originated as follows: St. Monica and her son, St. Augustine, bishop of Hippo, being at Milan, asked St. Ambrose his opinion on the following point: At Rome they fast on Saturday, but not so at Milan; which practice ought to be observed? To this the Milan saint replied: "When I am at Milan, I dine, as they do at Milan; but when I go to Rome, I do as Rome does."

The greatest depth in the Pacific Ocean is between four and one-half and five miles, that of the Atlantic four and one-half miles. The average depth of all the oceans is from 2,000 to 3,000 fathoms. The bulk of water filling the Pacific, which is much the largest ocean in the world, is estimated to be one hundred and seventy million cubic miles, and the weight of this mass, at 64 lb. to each cubic foot of sea-water, is 714,961,481,070,000,000 tons. The Atlantic Ocean is not quite half as large as the Pacific, their respective areas being as follows: Pacific 50,309,000 square miles Atlantic 25,536,000 square miles.

A generation is the interval of time that elapses between the birth of a father and the birth of his son, and was generally used in computing considerable periods of time, both in sacred and profane history. The interval of a generation is consequently of uncertain length, and depends on the standard of human life, and whether the generations are reckoned by eldest, middle

or youngest sons. Thirty-three years have usually been allowed as the mean length of a generation, or three generations for every hundred years. In compiling pedigrees, great attention is necessary to the number of generations in any given period, as they form a guide to the probability of persons having sprung from any particular individual.

"PROGRESS" PICKINGS.

First Tramp—Did you get a bite at the last house at which you called? Second Tramp—Yes; and lost the seat of my trousers by it.

This is the season when female oarsmen take their first lesson in love-making by hugging the shore when gallant males are not by to do duty.

It often happens that a fellow who "won't go home till morning" can't go home until somebody pays a fine for him.—Binghampton Republican.

"She treated me shamefully," "Ah! but she treated me worse." "Impossible! She jilted me." "Yes; but she married me."—Baltimore News.

No, my son, you mustn't expect to get up in the world in a minute. Nobody can walk half so fast going up hill as coming down.—Boston Transcript.

Dennis (to Mike, who has fallen from the fourth floor)—"How yez landed yit, Moike?" Mike (faintly)—"Yis." Dennis—"Th' saints be praised!"—Judge.

Ethel—I just am almost sure that the market reporter boards here. Helen—Why do you think so? Ethel—Why, the very first thing in the report is "butter growing stronger."

"It's no use, mamma," protested the tired and sleepy little girl at church. "I can't hold my eyes open another minute longer. He's only got to 'finally, my brethren.'"

A country paper has this personal item: "Those who know old Mr. Wilson of this place personally will regret to hear that he was assaulted in a brutal manner last week, but was not killed."

"Yes, I admit that heaven is a beautiful and happy place, but still I think it is the cause of a good deal of misery on the earth." "How do you make that out?" "Matches are made there."

Hunker: "Halloo, Ricketts, when is your marriage to Miss Munn coming off?" Ricketts: "It has been indefinitely postponed." "What's the trouble?" "Oh, she married another fellow!"

Hotel waiter—"Shall I take your order now, missy, or will you wait till your mamma comes in?" Little girl—"I wish you'd take it now. Mamma never orders anything 'cept wat's good for me."—Good News.

Cholly Sniffers (out with Dolly Dimple)—"Pardon me for bowing to that shabby old codger, but I feel obliged to do it." Dolly—"Who is he, Cholly?" Cholly—"He is the head of our firm."—Clothes and Furnisher.

"What was done with that brawling woman last night who disturbed the neighborhood?" "A couple of police officers took her off." "Did they shut her up?" "They locked her up, but they couldn't shut her up."

"How do you get along with your bicycle?" "Well," replied the truthful young man, "sometimes one way and sometimes another. Sometimes the bicycle rides me and once in a while I ride the bicycle."—Washington Star.

An editor kept his tailor's bill "under consideration" for twelve months, and then returned it to the author with a lithographed note saying, "The editor regrets that he is unable to avail himself of the enclosed manuscript."

Judge—Do you plead guilty or not guilty to the charge of stealing those trousers? Prisoner—I simply did what I was asked to do, your honor. Judge—What do you mean? Prisoner—I obeyed a sign that said: "Hands wanted on pants."

Bloomer—"I understand that you have taken a cottage at the seaside for this summer." De Tootville—"I took two, side by side." Bloomer—"What do you want two for, with your small family?" De Tootville—"One for my wife's luggage."

First Lady—"I don't see how you can afford to let your lodgers owe you several weeks' rent." Second Lady—"Well, it's like this. When they're in debt it affects their appetite, they never like to ask for a second helping, so it comes cheapest in the end."

Husband—Will you go to the theatre with me this evening, dear? Wife—If you wait till I dress. Husband—How long will it take you? Wife—Just a minute. Husband—All right; we've got an hour and a half yet. Don't take more than an hour, and a quarter.

"I can't trust my husband to mail a letter or attend the smallest errand for me," she declared. "Does he forget?" inquired the visitor. "Yes, his mind is completely taken up with the book on memory culture that he is writing."—Washington Star.

Aunt Pauline (from the country)—"No, Sarah; I hope you'll never marry that young Mr. Instyle. Why, he's too lazy to black his shoes! Just look at 'em—all yaller!" Sarah—"Why, Auntie, those are russet shoes." Aunt Pauline—"More shame for him to let 'em get rusted."—Puck.

"What has become of the big man who used to beat the bass drum?" asked the private of the drum major. "He left us about three months ago." "Good drummer too, wasn't he?" "Yes, very good; but he got so fat when he marched he couldn't hit the drum in the middle."

"I tell you," he said, disconsolately, "women are altogether too business-like nowadays." "What's the matter?" "I proposed to the heiress yesterday." "Did she accept you?" "No. She took out her note book, wrote my name and address in it and said she would consider my application."—Washington Star.

MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

Miss Frances E. Willard, who has been active in platform work for twenty years, is prevented from engaging therein at present by her devotion to a helpless mother.

Queen Liliuokalani has an income, as queen of Hawaii, of \$20,000 and a revenue from the crown lands of \$200,000 more. Her standing army consists of 64 men, three of whom are generals.

President Carnot travels free on the French railways, a privilege not accorded in England even to royalty. But he makes a handsome return by unfailingly handing over at the end of every journey its ordinary expense, to be distributed among the subordinate and poorest paid servants on the line.

Years ago, when President Villard took a more active interest in railroad matters, and was less familiarly known to his subordinates, it was his habit to drop in occasionally on some ticket agent in a big town on his line, question him rather extensively about the company's business, and then pick up some useful hints as to the operation of the road before his identity was discovered.

When Mr. Gladstone takes up his quarters again at the official residence of the British prime minister, in Downing street, he will find many articles of his own left behind when he gave way to Lord Salisbury, to remind him of his former tenancy of the house. Among them is a clock which has never been allowed to run down, and still keeps accurate time, without having been cleaned in the six years that have elapsed since the G. O. M.'s retirement.

Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone are said to be almost inseparable and a delightful example of fresh, vigorous and happy old age. Mrs. Gladstone was Miss Catherine Glynne and became Mrs. Gladstone in her 29th year. She prefers old fashions to new ones, always dresses in black, wears a cap over her handsome and abundant gray hair, loves flowers and bare floors and understands the art of retaining her temper under the most vexatious circumstances. The Gladstones live at Hawarden castle, near Chester.

A remarkable instance of Shakespearean enthusiasm has recently been recorded in the case of Dean Burgon, who once passed an October night on a settle in the room in which the Bard of Avon is supposed to have been born, in the expectation that Shakespeare would appear to him in his dreams. The result proved unsatisfactory, the only consequence being that the sleeper was awakened in the early morning half dead with cold and completely disillusionized. The Dean himself was the authority for the statement.

Prince Bismarck is so proud of the first medal he received that he always wears it, even with his grandest decorations. It was presented to him for saving, at great personal risk, the life of a groom called Hildebrand, whose horse became unmanageable, and dashed with its rider into Lippener Lake. One day at a public reception a newly-appointed diplomat came up to Bismarck, and asked what the small, unpretending-looking medal meant. He replied: "I have the habit of sometimes saving a man's life."

Baron Alphonse de Rothschild used to be the most distingue member of the French branch of that family of millionaires, but all traces of his former dandyism have disappeared in his grief for the loss of his favorite daughter. A correspondent who met the baron in Paris recently, noticed that his snowy hair and beard showed signs of neglect and that he was not the well-groomed Parisian of former days. He walked listlessly, using a half-opened grey cotton umbrella for a cane, and his clothes expressed a lack of pride in his personal appearance.

So many French people of consequence, from kings and duchesses down, have been fond of posing as amateur cooks that it is not surprising to learn that Alexander Dumas took great pride in his culinary skill. He is said, indeed, to have been prouder of making a stew than of writing a successful novel or play, and he was the only frequenter of the famous Cafe de Paris who was ever allowed to enter its kitchen. George Eliot had a similar liking for going into the kitchen, and according to popular tradition, it gave her great gratification to make a good omelet.

Oliver Goldsmith's grave in the Inner Temple has at last been restored. The inscription has been recut, and the general appearance of the tomb, which used to look rather neglected, has been improved. It is not a very imposing erection, but there was something appropriate in the simple character of the memorials with which our ancestors used to mark the resting places of the distinguished artists and literary men of their day. No elaborate carving, for example, could equal the quiet dignity of the medallion tablet to the memory of Edmund Keam, placed by his son on the wall of old Richmond church.

Mohammed began the Koran at 35. Shelley wrote "Queen Mab" at 18. Keats wrote his "Endymion" at 22. Alexander Dumas wrote plays at 22. Disraeli wrote "Vivian Grey" at 21. Heine published his first song at 23. Corneille wrote "Meditation," his first drama, at 18. David is said to have written his first psalm at 18. Calvin published his "Psychopannychia" at 25. It is said that Horace wrote his first odes at 23. Mrs. Hemans wrote poetry as soon as she could write at all, and published her first volume at 14. "London Assurance," the first play of Dion Boucicault, was put on the stage when the author was 19. The "Brigands," by Schiller, made the author famous at 23.

In the recently published book entitled *An Englishman in Paris*, and attributed to Sir Richard Wallace, there is an interesting anecdote of the elder Dumas, illustrating the famous author's perennial flow of fine spirits. Sir Richard had gone to call on the creator of *Monte Cristo*, and had been ushered into a room adjoining the host's studio, the servant telling him to go in, as M. Dumas was alone. "At that moment," relates Sir Richard, "I heard a loud burst of laughter from the inner apartment, so I said, 'I would sooner wait until monsieur's visitors are gone.' 'Monsieur has no visitors; he is working,' replied the servant with a smile. 'Monsieur Dumas often laughs like this while at work.' It was true enough, the novelist was alone, or rather in company with one of his characters, at whose sallies he was simply roaring."

"German Syrup"

Here is an incident from the South—Mississippi, written in April, 1890, just after the Grippe had visited that country. "I am a farmer, one of those who have to rise early and work late. At the beginning of last Winter I was on a trip to the City of Vicksburg, Miss., where I got well drenched in a shower of rain. I went home and was soon after seized with a dry, hacking cough. This grew worse every day, until I had to seek relief. I consulted Dr. Dixon who has since died, and he told me to get a bottle of Boschee's German Syrup. Meantime my cough grew worse and worse and then the Grippe came along and I caught that also very severely. My condition then compelled me to do something. I got two bottles of German Syrup. I began using them, and before taking much of the second bottle, I was entirely clear of the Cough that had hung to me so long, the Grippe, and all its bad effects. I felt tip-top and have felt that way ever since." PETER J. BRIALS, Jr., Cayuga, Hines Co., Miss.

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