

THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

Icebergs sometimes last for 200 years. In 1530 oranges were first imported into England from Italy. The fashion of serving the fish before meats began in 1562. Ching Nung, B. C. 1998, taught the Chinese to make bread. In the twelfth century gloves with separate fingers were first seen. Wine skins, made of the hides of pigs, goats, calves and oxen, are still used in the rural districts of Spain. There are 950,000 persons imprisoned in 875 jails in Russia. The prisons were built to hold only 570,000. A chemical preparation of camphor is said to be one of the principal ingredients forming smokeless gunpowder. The polar bear, which inhabits the Arctic regions, sometimes measures nine feet in length, and weighs 1,600 pounds. In Great Britain the number of deaths from explosions in mines during 1892 was 126, against 251 in 1891 and 290 in 1890. A recent experiment has proved that carrier pigeons may be trusted to convey messages from ships several hundred miles at sea. A copy of the first edition of Columbus' letter, in Latin, announcing the discovery of America, printed at Rome in 1493, sold in London for £315. Two thousand one hundred and seventy stray dogs were captured in the streets of London by the police during last January, of which only 269 were claimed by their owners. Stockings made from human hair are worn by Chinese fishermen as the best preventive of wet feet. They are drawn over ordinary cotton stockings, being too rough for putting near the skin. There are now upwards of 3,000 light-houses in different parts of the world, the average cost of maintaining which is about \$2,500 each per annum, floating lights costing twice this expenditure. There are far more evictions in New York city than in the whole of Ireland. In 1890 the evictions in that city numbered 23,895; in Ireland, during the same period, they were a little over 5,000. Great Britain is amongst the lowest of civilized countries in regard to the tender age at which it allows child labour in factories. Seventy-six thousand children of ten years of age are now at work. The flounder lays 7,000,000 eggs annually; several others from 1,000,000 to 3,000,000; while the turbot is credited with depositing from 11,000,000 to 12,000,000 during each breeding season. There are estimated to be at present 40,000 elk, 1,500 deer, 400 buffalo, 1,000 black tailed deer, 300 mountain sheep, and plenty of bear, beaver and other varieties of animals in the Yellowstone Park. The cheque cannot be proved to have existed in the commercial transactions of Europe, outside of Italy, until late in the seventeenth or early in the eighteenth century; in England not till about 1760. Transportation from England dates back from the time of Charles II., when offenders were despatched to the North American colonies. It was abolished in 1857, since which time penal servitude has been substituted for it. Among trees the elm reaches the age of 335 years; the ivy, 450; the chestnut, 500; the olive, 700; the cedar, 800; the oak, 1,500; the yew, 2,800; while Humboldt computed the age of a baobab tree, a species of banyan, to be 5,700 years. An estimate made by the London Philatelist of the extent and value of existing postage stamp collections, based largely on the showings of a census taken for the purpose, places those existing in England at a total market value of £125,000, and those in the rest of the world at £100,000. There are now 2,268 newspapers published in the United Kingdom: 1,702 in England, of which 459 are published in London; 102 in Wales; 214 in Scotland; 166 in Ireland; and 24 in the smaller islands. Of these 146 are English dailies; twenty Scotch dailies, seventeen Irish, seven Welsh, and two dailies are published in the islands. The British parliament was opened in person by Her Majesty on January 21, 1886, and never since, her place having been taken by commissioners. It is interesting to note that the Queen made this last appearance at Westminster during the Salisbury administration, which was the first after the Redistribution Act had come into operation. Neither the lord mayor of London nor his lordship of Dublin receives a salary. But allowances to meet the expenses of hospitality are made to both: in the former case it is £10,000, and in the latter, £3,000 a year. It is said that the respective holders of the dignity have to supplement these sums by at least an equal expenditure from their own resources. Numbers of experiments have been made to test the speed and destination of corked bottles thrown into the sea in various parts of the world. The most remarkable example was that in which a bottle travelled 6,000 miles in about two years and a half—roughly. It travelled from 63 degrees south latitude and 60 degrees west longitude to Western Australia. The bronze statue of William Penn, which is to adorn the top of the high tower of the Philadelphia city hall, is thirty-seven feet high and weighs 60,000 pounds. Penn's nose is 13 inches long, his eyes are each 12 inches wide, his mouth stretches from corner to corner 14 inches, his hair is 4 feet long and his cuffs are 3 feet. The great buttons on his coat are 6 inches in diameter, his finger-nails are Chinese in their three-inch length, while his feet are 5 feet 4 inches long. Although the musk ox is still plentiful in the arctic regions of this continent, it is believed that there are not more than five or six mounted specimens of the creature in the United States. One of the latest received was ordered three years ago, and finally delivered after 1,700 miles of sledging and a great many miles of other travel. According to the best authorities the odor that gives the musk ox its name can not be traced to any one special secretion.

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exceeds all similar preparations. It is endorsed by leading physicians, is agreeable to the taste, does not interfere with digestion, and needs to be taken usually in small doses.

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I have recommended it to hundreds. I find the most effective way of taking this medicine is in small and frequent doses."—T. M. Matthews, P. M., Sherman, Ohio.

"My wife suffered from a cold; nothing helped her but Ayer's Cherry Pectoral which effected a cure."—R. Amers, Plympton, N. S.

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AT DEATH'S DOOR.

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Mr. Peter Lingley, Councilor, Petersville, Queens Co., N. B., says:

"Oct. 31, 1892.—Last winter I had a very severe attack of the Grip, which left me very feeble and reduced in flesh. I had no appetite, and was so nervous I could not sleep. I was under Doctors' treatment for months, but received no benefit. My friends thought I had consumed and I got so low that they were expecting my death at any day. As a last resort they decided to try

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NERVE AND STOMACH TONIC,

3 bottles of which

Rapidly Restored Me To Health.

I slept well, my appetite was restored and I soon became stronger, stouter and more vigorous than I had been for years. I cannot speak too highly of this medicine, as I feel that

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Mr. Isaac G. Stevens, Gate Keeper I. C. R. Dep't, St. John, N. B., says: I was with Mr. Lingley during his severe illness and was daily expecting to have to notify his relatives of his death.

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SPECIFICS.

"PROGRESS" PICKINGS.

Mrs. Pie.—What will you do if I give you a good breakfast? Tramp.—Eat it, mum.

Rob.—Where do Skye terriers come from? Sam.—Maybe from the sky when it rains cats and dogs.

He.—Women have no reason. She.—Yes, they have. He.—How do you know? She.—Because I do.

When a person considers himself as "one in a thousand," he naturally considers the others as ciphers.

Barclay.—Don't these street cars ever go faster than this? Houston.—Yes. When you're running to catch one.

A widower's second marriage will sometimes break up and destroy a home quite as effectually as a first-class fire.

Brown.—I'm glad I met your wife. She seemed to take a fancy to me. Jones.—Did she? I wish you'd met her sooner.

The market reporter who writes, "Butter is firm" lives in his own or his mother's house. The one who writes, "Butter is strong," boards.

Druggist.—We have port wine at three prices. Dick Hicks.—All right; I'll take it. Mother said she always paid that for what she got here.

The bird that won't sing and must be made to is a matter of very small consequence compared to the bird that can't sing but is willing to try.

The Fiance.—I overheard Clara Murray saying that you do not wear your own hair. Tell me, is it true? The Fiance (indignantly) It's false.

Jack.—I may kiss you, then? Perdita (blushing)—Some time in the future, Jack. Jack (eagerly)—When? Perdita.—Day before tomorrow.

Guest.—Why do you print your bill of fare in French? Fashionable Restaurateur.—Because I want my patrons to think I think they can read it.

Minnie Ball.—But you need not despair; I can quite imagine that some foolish girl might find her ideal in you. Jack Sharp.—I shall never be able to think so if you refuse me.

Daughter (looking up from her novel)—Papa, in time of trial what do you suppose brings the most comfort to a man? Papa (who is a Judge)—An acquittal I should think.

Mrs. Witherby.—Does your husband play poker? Mrs. Plankington.—Gracious, no. Why it was only this morning he said he was satisfied he never would know how to play the game.

First boy (contemptuously) Huh! Your mother takes in washin' Second Boy—O' course. You didn't s'pose she'd leave it hangin' out overnight unless your father was in prison, did ye?

"You laugh at my cooking sometimes, John," said the young wife, "and for that reason I have served a barnyard fowl today." "Explain, please." "Well, you can't make game of it."

"Don't you think 'dear' a tame word?" "It is, in the vocabulary of love, but when it is applied to the price of a woman's bonnet it assumes a strength that inspires the average husband with terror."

Green.—There was a time when I thought I knew everything. Brown.—Yes. And you think differently now? G.—I do. B.—What made you change your opinion? Well, the fact is I am courting a widow.

Little Girl.—Ma told me to tell you that the milk you sell makes the baby sick. Grocer.—Tell your mother if the baby does not thrive on fresh milk to boil it. Little Girl.—How long is the baby to be boiled?

Clerk.—Lady in front caught stealing goods. What shall we do? Head of Firm.—How is she dressed? Clerk.—Furs and diamonds. Head of Firm.—Beg her pardon, and ask if we shall send the bill to her house.

A gentleman apologized for words uttered in wine: "I did not mean to say what I did, but I've had the misfortune to lose some of my front teeth and words get out every now and then without my knowledge."

Doctor.—Will your ladyship please let me hear how you cough. Countess.—I don't feel so inclined at this moment. (To her maid:) Elise, just you cough in the same way as I have been doing all this morning.

Professor.—So you confess that the unfortunate young man was carried out to the pump and there pumped 'n. Now, Mr. Geer, what part did you take in this disgraceful affair? Student (meekly)—The left leg, sir.

Bereaved Widow.—I can't bear to see that agonized expression on the face of the deceased. Can't you make him look more natural? Undertaker (respectfully)—Not unless you let me take off that shirt you made for him, madam.

Friend.—Why do you write "Dictated" at the top of each of your letters? You have no amanuensis. Business Man.—No; but I'm a mighty poor speller, and if there are any mistakes in my letters the recipient will blame the stenographer.

Mudge.—What have you in all that array of bottles? Chappie.—Hair wator. Same bwand that the Pwince uses. Mudge.—But the Prince of Wales is getting bald every day. Chappie.—My dear boy, I can't help that, can I?

"How did you like the sermon?" asked the minister of the drummer. "Oh, I liked some parts of it first rate," was the reply. Your remarks about sins of omission didn't hit me, but when you talked about those of commission I must say you were getting pretty close."

Mabel.—Why, Claire, you are positively moping, and you are to be married to-day. Claire.—Yes, Mabel, I am worried. I know so very little about Jack, and—Mabel.—Of course, you little goose! Don't you know you wouldn't be marrying him if you knew all about him?

Small Son.—Papa, when I grow up, I think I'm going to be a great inventor. Papa.—That's encouraging certainly. What makes you think you have inventive genius? Small Son.—Why, I wanted to take a screw out, and I couldn't find any screw-driver, and so I unscrewed it with your razor.

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