

THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

Water-lilies are used for food in India, China and Japan.

More than 400,000,000 lbs. of soap are used in England yearly.

Paris has at the present time about 130 females registered as medical students.

The use of the wedding ring is first noted in Egypt, when the ring was the emblem of eternity.

There are 50 miles of electric railway and 1600 telephones in use in Grand Rapids, Mich., a city of 90,000 inhabitants.

There are 660 women journalists, editors, and authors, in England and Wales, according to the last British census reports.

The Bank of England, the first on the modern plan, was instituted in 1694. Now the banking capital of the world is £3,197,000,000.

The Russian soldier is more heavily burdened than any other. A foot soldier in the army of the Czar carries over sixty-eight pounds.

Eighty-five per cent. of New England farms are cultivated by their owners, and three-quarters of such farms are wholly free of mortgage indebtedness.

Besides doing a great amount of work for various Government departments, the inmates of Parkhurst convict asylum last year made 6,220 mail bags for the post office.

Germany and Austria have about 150 cookery schools. A four-years' course is necessary ere a diploma is granted. Most of the hotel chefs have diplomas from those schools.

Steel coffins for the bodies of those who die suddenly on shipboard are being carried in some of the transatlantic liners. The remains are placed in them and hermetically sealed.

Ninety-eight and a half per cent. of the locomotives on railways in the United Kingdom are fitted with automatic brakes; and 99 per cent. of the carriages and other vehicles attached to passenger trains are similarly equipped.

Immigration returns for October show the number of aliens entered during that month to have been less than half the average for the season. Last year 36,798 were landed in October, but this year the number sunk to 15,466.

It is estimated that damage to the extent of at least \$4,000,000 has been caused to the crops in the Northwest during the present year by a weed known as the Russian thistle. The department of agriculture is now investigating the pest.

Cremation is gaining favour in France and Japan. Last year, in the crematorium of the Pere la Chaise cemetery, in Paris, there were 3,741 cremations. In Tokio, the chief city of Japan, the average number of cremations is thirty a day.

It is certainly a fact that there is, and has been for many years past, an English postage stamp of the value of 45. For some unexplained reason however, its existence has been ignored in the successive editions of the "Postal Guide."

"Usury in Italy," says a British Consul, "is now extended to such a degree, and is so perfidiously exercised, that a sum of about £120,000 is employed in small loans at rates of interest paying between 40 per cent. and 1,200 per cent. per annum."

Depression in the shipping trade is reflected in the returns of Suez Canal receipts for the first nine months of this year. They were \$754,000 less than those for the corresponding period of last year. Hitherto each year has shown an advance on the previous one.

The woolen carpet which has covered the coiner's room in the San Francisco Mint for several years was recently taken and cremated. The precious ashes were scrupulously gathered together, and by an elaborate refining process the government recovered 279 ounces of gold, worth \$5,500.

The 9595 men who enlisted in the United States army last year represented some 200 different trades or occupations, including lawyers, doctors, chemists, school teachers, civil engineers and others from educated professions. The large majority, however, were drawn from the laboring and mechanical occupations.

Madame Rodriguez, a noted Parisian dressmaker, died recently in a lunatic asylum. Her fame was great, and she always refused to make dresses for women who had poor figures. A certain duchess had often desired to become one of her patrons, but Madame Rodriguez invariably said, "When you have shoulders I will dress you."

The fastest vessel in the English Navy is at present the new torpedo-boat destroyer, Havock, which was launched not long since. Although her contract speed was twenty-six knots—about thirty miles—per hour, the ship in question easily exceeded it on a recent trial run of three hours' duration, and even then it is said that she could, if necessary, have done a knot an hour faster.

The last annual "Lion Sermon" has been preached in London, and the legacy, left for the purpose two and a half centuries ago, will in future be devoted to other uses. Sir Richard Guyer, who subsequently became Lord Mayor, so the story runs, while travelling in Arabia was attacked by a lion. He fell upon his knees, and vowed to devote his life to charity if he spared the lion's jaws. The lion thereupon walked quietly away.

The question as to how sea birds quench their thirst has been satisfactorily answered. An old sailor says he has seen these birds at sea, far from any land that could furnish them water, hovering round and under a storm cloud, chattering like ducks on a hot day at a pond, and drinking in the drops of rain as they fell. They will smell a rain squall a hundred miles or even further off, and suds for it with almost inconceivable swiftness.

Chamois leather has been used for many articles, from a shoe to a card-case, but it is only lately that it has been called into requisition for sheets. The idea originated with a lady whose skin was of marvellous delicacy. Chamois leather sheets are now becoming quite popular, and ladies who patronize them travel about carrying with them their own sheets smartly trimmed with colored ribbon. Naturally only the very finest skins are selected.

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(Copy of letter.)

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Livery and Hack stable in connection with the house.
Coaches are at attendance upon arrival of all trains.
F. B. COLEMAN,
Proprietor.

EVOLUTION OF A TOUGH.

An Example of What Good Training May Achieve.

I have been watching a boy who is going to grow up in a thief and a rowdy, and while watching him I have had a chance to see how "gangs" are born and how rowdy life is developed in these big cities that compose New York. I suppose this little boy is 11 or 12 years old. He is small for his age; a wizened-faced, little-eyed, stunted rat of a child, with leathery skin and the complexion of a drumhead. He lives on a route along which I often walk between my house and my office, and my attention was first called to him by an extraordinary act of violence that he committed upon his mother. She ran screaming out of her tenement apartment into the street, with her apron up to her face and a knot of women trailing after her, says the Providence Journal. She screamed something about her need of water, and a great deal more about her eyes and her fear that she was blinded. The women hustled her into the courtyard behind the barracks where she lived and began to deluge her face with water from a running hydrant.

Little by little it came out that her boy, Tommy, had come home and demanded ten cents that he might go to a dime museum "wid de gang." She did not have the money, or did not propose to give it to him, and he became angry, and filling both hands with red pepper, rubbed the stuff into both her eyes before she suspected what he was about or could prevent the act. Tommy came down while the women were doctoring his mother and lurked at a distance, looking on.

Suspecting that he might not find favor in their eyes, should any of them see him, Tommy armed himself with an undersized cobblestone. They did see him, and brandished their great bare arms at him, and called him a choice lot of names. He, in turn, exhibited his bit of paving stone mechanically, and remarked: "Lemme alone, or I'll split you wid dis, see?" An Irish cobbler took the child, not very roughly, by the shoulder and told him he was a bad boy and would never be satisfied till he found himself in jail. "A-a-ah, rats!" said the little street urchin. "If de ole woman don't do de square thing by me I'll do her up cold, and den dey kin take me to jail if dey want to."—[Chicago Record.

Rites of a Pagan.

In the South Pacific Ocean is an island belonging to the Polynesian Archipelago, about thirty miles in circumference and which at its highest point is 1,200 feet above the level of the sea. This is Easter Island, formerly called Davis' Land, and has 2,000 inhabitants, who like all other South Sea Islanders are dark-skinned. It appears to have been of volcanic origin but the greater part of interest about it is not its people with their habits and manners, but the wonderful ruins which are found there. These consist of temples with statues twelve and fifteen feet high, some of them in rows, standing on wide platforms of solid masonry. The inhabitants of the island know nothing at all of these ruins, or of those who built them. Therefore, like many others, they may date centuries back, and perhaps are prehistoric. They evidently are the work of a race that has passed away and about which we can only conjecture. Who these people were, what they believed and what they did, are questions that like many others must remain unanswered.

Preparing for the Storm.

A correspondent in the North of Ireland sends the following account of an interesting incident that came under his observation. Being on a walking tour through Inishowen, and passing along the edge of Lough Swilly—the romantic "Lake of Shadows"—he noticed an immense gathering of crows on the sandy shore. In company with several others, the tourist was attracted by this novel spectacle, and began to wonder at the cause of it. An old man, who was working in a field near the place, offered an explanation. He said that the birds were picking up sand to ballast themselves in a storm, and that when they did so it was a sure sign of wind coming. He added that on shooting crows after a gathering of the sort he had found their crops loaded with sand. As a matter of fact, the gentleman concludes, a violent gale set in early next morning.

Fair for Both.

An eccentric poet composed some verses in eulogy of his pastry-cook, and sent him a copy of them to read. The man of dough was delighted with this appreciation of his bakery, and in order to show his pleasure, made a large cake and sent it to the poet.

The latter, however, was utterly disgusted upon finding that the usual paper, which covers the bottom and sides of a rich cake, was in this instance a part of the very manuscript he had presented to the pastry-cook. He accordingly upbraided the man for his ingratitude, but was met with the rejoinder:—

"Well, sir, I don't see how you can complain: you made poetry upon my pastry, and I've made pastry upon your verses, so we are just quits."

A Depleted Treasury.

There is a good story told of a certain actor-manager who, whenever going on the stage in any situation of great excitement, used to work himself up to the required pitch by kicking the property-man, it being understood that he should afterwards apologise and give the man a shilling.

One night, when the audience was a very small one, the property-man planted himself at the wings to receive the accustomed kicking, but the actor-manager restrained himself, and said, as he passed the man by:—"Not to-night, Barker, the treasury won't stand it."

Got Off Cheaply.

Blinks: His little love affair turned out to be pretty expensive. Although their engagement is permanently broken off, she absolutely refuses to return the fifty-guinea ring he gave her.

Grunder (confirmed bachelor): "Humph! It strikes me that he got off very cheap. Suppose she'd married him?"

For Nervous Debility & Dyspepsia.
USE HORSEFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.

DR. S. H. CHAPMAN, New Haven, Ct., says: "I have used it to a considerable extent in practice, during the past three years, and have found it a valuable remedy in nervous debility and atonic dyspepsia."

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For Burns, Scalds and Ulceration and Contraction from Burns. The relief is instant—the healing wonderful and unequalled.

For Boils, Hot Tumors, Ulcers, Fistulas, Old Sores, Itching Eruptions, Chafing or Scald Head. It is Infalible.

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DINNER A SPECIALTY.
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MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

Major Wissmann has reached Lake Nyassa, Africa.

Queen Victoria has rented a villa at Florence, where she will spend part of the winter.

The wife of Captain W. W. Gordon, of Savannah, was the first white child born in Chicago, and she doesn't look a day over forty.

Miss Helen Campbell, author of "Prisoners of Poverty," is taking the post-graduate course in social economics at the University of Michigan.

The Bishop of Banjaluka, Bosnia, fell into the water while going aboard a ship at Flume, and after being rescued, died of exhaustion.

L. G. Stevenson, son of the Vice President of the United States, and his bride, are passing their honeymoon at the Hotel Rindar, Paris.

Claus Spreckels is anxious to become a social leader in Chicago, but somehow, despite his great wealth in sugar, society is not "sweet" on him.

The German Emperor has a wardrobe containing more than 1,000 suits. He has been known to change his costume twelve times in eighteen hours.

Lobengula literally means "The Defender." He is the bearer of many grandiloquent titles, such as "The Great Elephant," "The Eater of Men," "The Stabber of the Sun."

Since his installation as Grand Master of the Freemasons, now nearly nineteen years ago, the Prince of Wales has granted warrants for new lodges amounting to 1,027.

The Duke of Argyll accuses Mr. F. W. Bain of plagiarizing his "Principles of Wealth Creation." He does not say that he got away with any of his wealth.

William T. Coleman, the California multimillionaire, has left one-twentieth of his great estate to be held in trust as a fund for relief of sufferers by earthquake.

Horace Greeley Perry is the remarkable name of a young woman who boasts of being the only woman editor in the State of Minnesota. She is also the youngest editor, being only 21 years of age.

Prince Peter Trubetskoi, the Russian nobleman who is painting Mr. Gladstone's portrait, is engaged to be married to a young English woman, Miss Ethel Wright. He is 6 feet 4 inches tall and said to be an unusually handsome man.

Max Muller acknowledges the debt of gratitude which students owe to the King of Siam, the "greatest, if not the only, monarch professing the Buddhist faith," for supplying funds for continuing the translation of the great books of the East.

Signor Paolo Tosti, who has just completed the two operettas which are to be acted by members of the Royal Family and other amateurs before the Queen at Osborne during Christmas time, is perhaps the most prolific song-writer of his generation. He has written nearly five hundred songs.

At Eton, Lord Rosebery (or Dalmeny, as he was then known) was a tall, slight boy, with a prim, demure, almost girlish appearance, that contrasted well with his family name of Primrose. He had an ever-beaming countenance, and never got into scrapes like Master Randolph Churchill.

The correspondent of a society paper says that Duke Carl Theodore of Bavaria is a most charitable man and an extremely clever oculist. He has established three hospitals for persons suffering from disease of the eyes—one at Meran, one on the Tegernsee, where he passed most of his time, and one at Munich.

Baron Fricks, a Russian nobleman, living in Copenhagen, has just turned 70. He is enormously rich, but his eccentricities have put him in disgrace with his family. He is travelling now with one coloured man, two monkeys, three bears, one lion, four pigs, forty parrots, innumerable cocks and hens, and a brand-new Hungarian wife of great beauty.

Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, whose maiden name was Smith (no guinea), possesses two wonderful crowns; the one purchased in Germany by the millionairess herself from a Princess whose husband had lost sovereignty, while the other, which she prefers and wears most often, is a diadem in every respect similar to that used by the Queen at the opening of Parliament.

Dr. Francis Parkman, the late historian, had a strict idea of justice. A friend met him one day walking along the street leading a street boy with either hand. "What in the world are you doing, Parkman?" asked the friend. "I found Johnnie here had eaten all the apple instead of dividing with his little brother. I am going to buy another for the younger boy and make Johnnie watch him while he eats it."

The Empress Eugenie has settled down into the solitude which best enables her to endure her memorable and cumulative sorrows. Her tall, sad figure goes in and out among us with only the recognition of silent sympathy. The Empress likes to have communication with as few people as possible. For instance, when she shops (she does her own shopping) she likes to be waited on by the same salesmen always.

Miss Singer, whose betrothal to Prince Edmond de Polignac is announced, will not by any means be the first Princess in the family of the famous American sewing-machine inventor. The elder sister, Winnetta, became Princess de Scey-Montebellard years ago; another sister is Duchesse de Decazes, a higher title, since—puzzling as it may seem—a foreign duke ranks above a prince when not of royal blood.

In connection with the recent gift of the Grand Cross of the Order of the Crown by the Emperor William to Monsignor della Volpe, the Grand Master of the Household of the Pope, it is remarked in the Italian papers that by so doing the Emperor has shown a remarkable spirit of forgiveness. On the Kaiser's first visit to the Pope, he let his helmet fall. Monsignor della Volpe immediately stooped to pick it up. At the same moment the Emperor stooped also, and their heads came in violent contact, putting the gravity of all present to a severe test.

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the Cream of Cod-liver Oil, and make your blood healthy, skin pure and system strong. Physicians, the world over, endorse it.

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—FRESH AND PICKLED PORK;
—TURKEYS, DUCKS AND CHICKENS.
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St. John, N. B.,
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62 Union Street.

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Government Analytical Chemist.

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