

THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

In Lapland dress fashions have not changed for 1,000 years.

The average depth of the Atlantic is about 14,000ft., or 2 2/3 miles.

The value of Canada's fisheries yield last year is announced as \$13,941,171.

There are 13,000 species of fishes, one-tenth of which inhabit fresh water.

Silver was first coined in Rome in B. C. 269, when Fabius Pictor set up a mint.

Roger Bacon, about 1280, anticipated application of steam power to navigation.

The average strength of a horse is seven and a half times greater than that of a man.

The coloured people in United States maintain seven colleges, seventeen academies, and fifty high schools.

The number of persons to the square mile in England is placed at 480; in the United States at seventeen.

Russia possesses at least one luxury in a breed of dogs, which are said to be naturally quite unable to bark.

London devours every year 400,000 oxen, 1,600,000 sheep, 500,000 calves, 700,000 hogs, fowls innumerable, and 9,800,000 gallons of milk.

At Wieliczka, near an Austro-Galician city, there is a salt mine that has been worked for six hundred years, and is still yielding fresh supplies.

Toll gates originated in 1267, when the sum of one penny was exacted for every wagon that passed through a certain manor in Northumberland.

It has been computed that about 36,000,000 babies are born into the world each year. The rate of production is, therefore, about seventy per minute, or more than one for every tick of the clock.

The human heart is six inches in length, four inches in diameter, and beats an average of seventy times per minute, 4,200 times an hour, 100,800 times per day. So, in the life of 80 years, the heart beats 300,000,000 times.

Saccharine has a rival. A new substance, called valzin, which is now being manufactured abroad under a patent, is claimed to be two hundred times sweeter than sugar and free from certain objectionable properties of saccharine.

The human hair is absolutely the most profitable crop that grows. Five tons of it are annually imported by the merchants of London. The Parisians harvest upwards of 200,000lb., equal in value to £80,000 per annum.

By a simple rule the length of the day and night, any time of the year, may be ascertained by simply doubling the time of the sun's rising, which will give the length of the night, and double the time of setting will give the length of the day.

The District of London called Seven Dials is so called from the fact that at the ancient limits of St. Giles' parish there formerly stood a column, raised in, to which seven dials were affixed, one facing each of seven streets which radiated from that point.

A pound of rice contains 86.79 per cent. of nutritive matter. Lean beef contains but 26.83 per cent.; fat beef contains 46.03 per cent.; potatoes, 23.24 per cent.; Indian corn, 82.97 per cent.; oats, 74.02 per cent.; rye, 82.79 per cent., and wheat 82.54 percent.

If the whole sea were formed into a square column reaching to the sun, it would be 93,000,000 miles long, and have each of its sides a trifle more than two million miles. The Pacific would reach up 53,000,000 miles, the Atlantic 18,000,000, and the rest of the sea the remaining 22,000,000 miles.

In a city like London a horseshoe lasts three weeks, but an attempt is now being made by one of the omnibus companies to make them last a month. The best wearing shoes are forged of old iron. Farriers do not entertain any belief in tradition that good luck is associated with the horseshoe, although stablemen do.

The average number of inhabitants per telephone apparatus in the various countries of Europe are not very creditable to England. For, while Sweden has an apparatus for every 300 inhabitants, Denmark for every 800, Belgium for every 1,000, Germany for every 1,200, England has but one to every 6,000.

Some of the flower badges of nations are as follows:—Athens, violet; Canada, sugar maple; Egypt, lotus; England, rose; France, fleur-de-lis (lily); Florence, giglio (lily); Germany, cornflower; Ireland, shamrock leaf; Italy, lily; Prussia, linden; Saxony, mignonette; Scotland, thistle; Spain, pomegranate; Wales, leek leaf.

The entire surface of the earth is 197 million square miles, or which 140 millions are covered by sea. If land and sea were spread out flat in squares, each side of the land-square would be 6,082 miles long, and each side of the sea-square 11,831 miles, while the two together, or the earth square, would have a length for each side of 14,035 miles.

The total surface of the earth would form a square, with each of its sides 14,035 miles long. We can talk of an average depth of the earth, but its contents amount to 260,613 million cubic miles, which would require as many mile tanks to hold as there are minutes in 4,350 years; this number of such tanks would be capable of holding 238,910 trillion gallons, a number so great that 750 million clocks, each ticking once a second, would not tick it in a million years. A cubic tank or box to hold the entire earth would have sides 9,387 miles long.

Mineral water syphons commonly in use are subjected when full to a pressure of about 150 pounds per square inch. The best of them are made in Germany and tested up to 200 pounds per square inch, but the most careful makers of mineral waters test their syphons bottles up to 300 pounds per square inch. The glass, after having been placed in ice-cold water, is suddenly plunged into boiling water. The loss from breakage in the testing process is very great. A syphon bottle has been known to keep pure and sweet for seven years a small quantity of mineral water accidentally left unused. This accidental test of water and bottle was thought highly satisfactory.

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POORLY PAID PARSONS.

Ways in Which Clergymen Add to Their Incomes.

That the clergy of the present day are but an illpaid body of men is a fact so widely known that it hardly needs repetition.

So it is not surprising to hear that clergymen turn about and supplement those scanty annual allowances in one way or another.

The writer is acquainted with a clergyman who for many years reared pigs and sheep, and coaxed the soil into yielding him miniature crops of hay and wheat.

And there are other country gentlemen who do no farming, but who nevertheless eke out their incomes by a little market-gardening.

But, perhaps, the commonest form of income-supplementing is the taking of pupils, or young fellows reading up for the Varsity, Civil Service, or army.

Some Varsity pupils pay their clerical preceptors as much as £200 per annum, and, as a rule, they take care that Jack does not become a dull boy through a superfluity of brain work.

Many not-too-well-off clergymen find literary work of material assistance to their coffers—or to the filling of their coffers, should we not say? One of the best-known author clergymen is the Rev. S. Baring-Gould, who, by the way, has a large family of daughters; and besides this well-known cleric there are others who, in a quiet, anonymous way, make nice, little additions to their incomes either as writers of leading articles, contributors to magazines and reviews, or as authors of theological works.

Many clergymen, too, write educational works of different kinds—chiefly those bearing on the rudiments of classics, and so forth; and besides these their correct proofs of scientific and other works for London publishers.

Those of the clergy who are musical often make money by writing chants, anthems, and hymn-tunes. A musical clergyman has far more chance of obtaining a cathedral stall than a brother pastor who knows no difference between quavers and minims.

Clergy who can get away from their own parishes for a Sunday can often manage to pick up stray guineas; and a vicar who does not reward his curate very liberally will often let the young gentleman go to a neighbouring place of worship and put a couple of guineas into his scantily-lined purse.

It is surprising what a number of scholastic clerics there are. It is to be feared that some school masters take orders from a purely business point of view. As a matter of fact, a northern bishop who was of this opinion abominably refused to ordain schoolmasters. However, clergymen who are not schoolmasters by profession often do a little "coaching" in their own parishes, and this is rather a commendable course of action than otherwise.

In olden times, the clergy used to turn to and work like labouring men; and surely there is no reason why clerical gentlemen of the present day should not supplement their incomes in any way, so long as such work does not really interfere with their priestly duties.

Old Lord—was a very keen whist player, but a few of his friends cated to play with him, as, unless the game was favourable to him, he used to abuse his partner in no very choice terms.

"On one occasion of a gathering at the Castle, one of the party hesitated to become his partner, but, on being pressed, agreed to play, "it his lordship promised no' to misca' him."

"The promise was given, but hardly had they commenced playing before by his lordship began calling his partner "tool and blockhead," at which the latter protested, saying—

"Noo, ma lord, ye promised no' to misca' me, ye know."

"I'm no' misca'in' ye, ye borh eediot!"

Cottolene A SHORTENING.

Down the street through the busy way A lady passed on marketing day.

The grocer, leaving off his work, Interrogated every clerk;

"What is it?" said he to the dame, "That answers to this curious name."

"You're not the merchant for my dimes, I see you're quite behind the times."

As from his store the lady fled, The grocer gently scratched his head—

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MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

The Duke of York has never got over his tendency to sea-sickness.

Rudyard Kipling was once offered a large sum—some thousands of pounds—if he would travel in America, reading his own stories, but he refused.

One of Mrs. Langtry's favorite costumes is a deep ecru muslin printed with pale mauve flower sprays and touched with pale mauve velvet.

Mrs. Harriet Ruth Tracy's inventions in the Liberal Arts building at the World's Fair include a fire escape, models of a safety elevator with automatic platforms, and a rotary shuttle for the lock and chain stitch.

Some time ago, in India, a large tigress killed the beloved husband of the eccentric Lady Dormer.

Worth, the great Paris dressmaker says that some years ago a Prussian heiress paid him firm £6,000 for a single gown, £2,500 being the cost of the lace alone.

Prince Louis of Battenburg has joined the ranks of the inventors. His effort in this line is primarily intended for sailors, being a ruler provided with rollers, by means of which the distance run by a ship, the time necessary for one ship to overtake another, and other maritime calculations can be readily made.

The Queen of Madagascar takes a State bath every year, being escorted to it by a solemn procession of attendants.

Of two kinds of wine especially, the Prince of Wales is acknowledged to be a first-rate judge—white Bordeaux and still champagne.

So accurate was Meissonnier in matters of detail that, when painting one great picture, he bought a wheat field and had a squadron of cavalry gallop through it to observe how the wheat fell; and when studying for his picture entitled "1812" he engaged a battery of artillery to drive through the snow, and sat down to copy their tracks.

In Windham County, Conn., lives Hulitt Hazewell, who, for twenty-five years, has made his home among the branches of an ancient chestnut tree on a farm owned by him.

There are few women writers of the present day whose words carry more weight than those of Mrs. Lynn Linton, who is now over seventy years old.

The "Homeward Mail" reports from Darjeeling the death of a Balaclava hero, Sergeant Nicholson, who, it is said, acted as spokesman for the survivors who were made prisoners, when brought before the Russian General.

On his last visit to Rome, the German Emperor is said to have expressed a whimsical wish to hold a midnight review of the Italian troops, but the King knew very well that his soldiers would not appreciate such a surprise.

Amongst women who are good speakers, both the Princess of Wales and the Princess Louise are capable of saying the right thing at the proper moment, and the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, Lady Randolph Churchill, and Lady Aberdeen can each speak in a thoroughly earnest manner almost without preparation of any kind.

General Sir John Hudson, K. C. B., who was accidentally killed recently, by being thrown from his horse, at Poona, received a commission as captain for his services in the India Mutiny and Persia.

A charming little story is being told of the octogenarian Premier and an octogenarian nautical assessor.

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