

THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

Money may be the root of all evil; but it is a root, nevertheless, that bears many flowers of everlasting beauty.

Since Jerusalem has become a railway terminus, eight hundred buildings have been added—dwellings, hotels, stores, shops.

The sword Washington wore at the time of surrendering his commission as head of the army, in 1783, may be seen at the Columbian Exposition.

Little holders for handling hot irons and pokers or dishes for cooking foods are made of asbestos. New York dealers in kitchen furniture sell them at 5 cents and sell thousands of them.

The plume of the Prince of Wales, worn on state occasions, is said to be worth \$50,000. The feathers are pulled from the tails of the ferriah, a rare and very beautiful bird found in India.

Paris has a fresh supply of water, through an aqueduct sixty-three miles in length, placing it ahead of cities in Europe in this particular. The allowance is sixty gallons daily for each inhabitant.

In November, 1892, France had 68 armored ships, 50 first class and 144 torpedo boats, 5 armored gunboats and 65 unarmored gunboats, 60 transports and tugs, 30 dispatch vessels and 16 trimming ships.

A significant feature of the visit of the Russian warships to Toulon was that the Russians bought largely of French and Russian Socialist, Democratic, Nihilist and other books which are prohibited in Russia.

Horse cars are said to have been first introduced into New York 60 years ago. There are now 19 street railways in that city, using 2,000 cars and 20,000 horses and carrying 226,000,000 passengers annually.

Impartial writers are credited with saying 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 European circulation.

It was William Langland who occupied thirty years in writing a single poem. This work, which was called, "The Vision of William concerning Piers the Ploughman, together with Vita de Do-wel, Do-bet, et Do-best secundum Wit et Resoun," was the work of his life.

Putting the population of the earth at 1,200 millions, there are 500 millions who do not eat flesh from religious motives, and at least 100 million Mohammedans only taste it once a year, while among the 400 million Christians a large number are vegetarians, in practice, if not by conviction.

Relics of the battles that accompanied Washington's retreat from New York are still found in the Washington Heights region. A police officer long stationed in that part of the city made an extremely interesting collection of cannon balls and military buttons picked up on the battlefield.

Chemists now turn scrap iron into ink, old bones into lucifer matches, the shavings of the blacksmith shop into Prussian blue, fuel oil into oil of apples and pears, the drainings of cow houses into fashionable perfumery, beggars' rags into new coats and tar waste into aniline dyes and saccharine.

The teapot which the Princess of Wales invariably uses every day at Sandringham is exceedingly curious and is said to be of priceless value. It is very old, in the shape of a stout Dutchman sitting astride a barrel of wine. The old man's cap serves for the lid, and a gold tap in the barrel lets out the favorite 5 o'clock beverage.

The fleetest locomotive in the world is said to be engine No. 885 of the Central Railway of New Jersey. The extraordinary record of a mile in 39.4 seconds, equal to 91.7 miles per hour, was made some time ago by this locomotive. In one journey it ran five miles in 20 seconds and it has now even beaten its own record of 39.4 seconds for a mile in some parts of a run recently made.

A gas balloon of 12,000 cubic feet capacity can carry one person; one of 18,000 feet, two persons; and one of 24,000, three persons. A balloon of 35,000 cubic feet is powerful enough to take five people in the car. The largest balloons are fire (Montgolfier) balloons; but one of 60,000 feet can lift one man only. Gas balloons can be constructed to carry as many as twenty passengers.

Down to the depth of 200 fathoms, where daylight disappears, the eyes of a fish get constantly bigger and bigger. Beyond that depth small-eyed forms set in, with long feelers developed to supplement the eyes. Sight, in fact, is here beginning to disappear. In the great abysses the fish are mostly blind, feeling their way about entirely by their sensitive bodies alone over the native service of rock at the bottom.

It is believed that lightning is visible at a distance of 150 miles, but it is still in controversy how far away thunder can be heard. A French astronomer has made observations on the subject, and he declares it impossible for thunder to be heard at a greater distance than ten miles. An English meteorologist has counted up to 130 seconds between the flash and the thunder, which would give a distance of twenty-seven miles.

The actual weight of gold in one thousand sovereigns or half sovereigns as they leave the mint is 256.82 oz. troy. In silver coins the weight is 3.06636 oz. troy; in bronze pence 2 tons 13 cwt. 2 qrs, 16 lbs.; or in halfpence or farthings 5 tons 18 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs. Evidently if one desires to secure bulk, halfpence or farthings should be selected! On the other hand £1,000 can be obtained in a single Bank of England note.

Speaking of the wasp as a paper manufacturer, Lord Brougham said she makes a paper as excellent as any manufacturer at Maidstone, and he held that she has, for sixty centuries, been acquainted with what was only discovered by man between 500 and 600 years ago. His lordship also states that, on examining the structure of wasps' nests, he found that she makes two kinds of paper—white and brown, the former being fine cambric—and both are glued together by a smooth and durable cement. The white paper took the ink just as well as if it had been sized.

THE KEY TO Comfort ON Washday IS

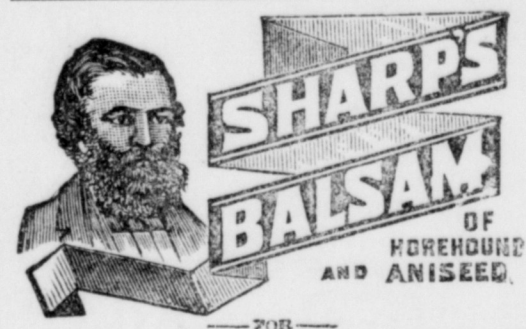


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Learning Another's Age.

There was once a wise king who was awfully curious. He was possessed of a desire to know everything, and was continually asking questions. Indeed, his thirst for knowledge carried him so far that he wanted to know the age of every person he met. But, being a king, he was exceedingly polite, and would resort to strategy to gain his ends.

One day there came to the court a gray-haired professor, who amused the King greatly. He told the monarch a number of things that he never knew before, and the King was delighted. But finally it came to the point when the ruler wanted to know the age of the professor, so he thought of a mathematical problem.

"Ahem!" said the King, "I have an interesting sum for you; it is a trial in mental arithmetic. Think of the number of the month of your birth."

Now, the Professor was 60 years old, and had been born two days before Christmas; so he thought of 12, December being the twelfth month.

"Yes," said the Professor.

"Multiply it by 2," continued the King.

"Yes,"

"Add 5."

"Yes," answered the Professor, doing so.

"Now, multiply that by 50."

"Yes."

"Add your age."

"Yes."

"Subtract 365."

"Yes."

"Add 115."

"Yes."

"And now," said the King, "might I ask what the result is?"

"Twelve hundred and sixty," replied the Professor, wondering.

"Thank you," was the King's response.

"So you were born in December, sixty years ago, eh?"

"Why, how in the world do you know?" cried the Professor.

"Why," retorted the King, from your answer—1260. The month of your birth was the twelfth and the last two figures give your age."

"Ha, ha, ha!" laughed the Professor.

"Capital idea. I'll try it on the next person. It's a polite way of finding out people's ages."

An Animal's Life.

Domestic animals generally live longer than their wild brethren of the same species. A dog lives about twenty years; a wolf somewhat less; and a fox about fifteen; that is, assuming the wolf and the fox to die a natural death. A cat lives about fifteen years in a neighbourhood where boys are scarce and good.

Pigs have sometimes reached the age of thirty; but it killed at that advanced period of life their bacon has a tendency to be hard and "reezy." The average age of horses is twenty-six or twenty-seven, though one has been known to reach the mature age of sixty-two. The present writer once drove a brisk little mare nearly forty years of age. Tramway horses rarely last longer than twelve or thirteen years.

A rabbit lives seven, and a hare eight years, unless their existence is cut short by traps or guns. In spite of his cheerfulness and foresight the squirrel dies at seven years of age. On the other hand, the good and mild camel lives long—sometimes to the age of a hundred. The bear passes away, a comparative youth, at twenty; but the lion holds the field much longer—the celebrated lion, Pompey, lived until he was seventy.

The elephant, however, if not the king, is the patriarch of animals. He averages a hundred years, and occasionally reaches the truly patriarchal age of four hundred. The story is familiar to schoolboys of the elephant which was turned adrift by an Asiatic potentate. Two or three hundred years afterward the animal was caught, and its identity was established beyond question by the ornaments it still wore.

But a thick hide does not always ensure long life; for the rhinoceros, against whose skin a bullet will flatten, dies at the early age of twenty-two.

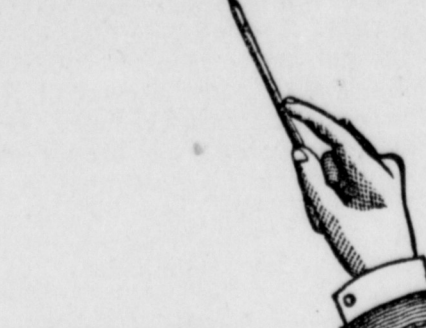
Safe To Wear.

The magnificent diamond in the Tiffany exhibit at Chicago, which flashes like an electric light as it goes slowly around on its revolving pedestal of crimson velvet, has been bought by Mrs. Charles T. Yerkes, the wife of the Chicago millionaire owning the north and south line of cable cars, for the sum of \$100,000. As to whether Mrs. Yerkes will be safe in wearing such a jewel is a matter much discussed by her friends. "She will be perfectly safe," assert some; "much safer than you or I would be in displaying our more modest ornaments. No man would be so foolish as to attempt to steal that diamond. It has been advertised all over the world. He could neither wear it nor sell it as it is, and he could carry it to no lapidary to be changed into other forms, who would not be thoroughly acquainted with its history." "But might it not be seized upon by some thief too ignorant to be aware of these contingencies?" "No; for such a person would be ignorant also of the value of the stone. Mrs. Yerkes may wear her diamond with perfect impunity."

Scotland's Sacred Sword.
The belt of the sword of State of Scotland has been restored to its place in the regalia of Scotland, in Edinburgh Castle, by the Marquis of Breadalbane, the High Lord Commissioner to the general Assembly of the Church of Scotland. After the battle of Dunbar, it became necessary to place the regalia of Scotland in a place of greater safety than Edinburgh Castle, and it was removed to the strong castle of Dunnottar, where Sir G. Ogilvy defended it. He had, however, only forty men, and could not hold out, and he allowed his wife to remove the regalia from the castle. It was then buried underneath the stones in Kinneff church, where it lay for several years. When it was restored, Sir G. Ogilvy, for some cause not explained, retained the sword belt. It was discovered in 1790, built in the garden wall of the house of Barras, near Stonehaven, and since then it has been handed down from father to son as a precious relic.

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15-Catarrh, Influenza, Cold in the Head, &c. .25

16-Whooping Cough, &c. .25

17-Kidney Diseases, &c. .25

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MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

Robert Bonner started in life at the printer's case on the Hartford Courant.

Miss May Frank, a student of Oakland, Cal., is soon to be ordained as a rabbi of the Jewish church.

Count Gourko, the celebrated Russian general, is very sick at Warsaw. A report of his death was premature.

Mme. Schliemann is personally superintending much of the work of excavating at Troy, which made her late husband so famous.

The Countess of Aberdeen has graciously signified her intention to become the patroness and honorary president of the Y. W. C. A. of Toronto.

Sir William Vernon Harcourt, Chancellor of the Exchequer in England, has arrived at Wiesbaden, Germany. He will consult Dr. Pagenstecher, the oculist.

Count Taaffe, the Prime Minister of Austria, has introduced in the Austrian Reichsrath a bill which will give the franchise to 3,000,000 persons who are not now voters.

The Countess of Flanders, who is destined eventually to become queen of Belgium, has a predilection for dogs and possesses almost as many canine favorites as Queen Victoria.

Lord Crewe, who is 81 years of age, and succeeded to the title in 1835, has had a seat in the House of Lords for 58 years. The noble lord is an English baron; family name, Hungerford Crewe.

Miss Jessie Ackermann, the second round the world missionary and president of the Australian W. C. T. U., has completed her trip. It occupied four years, during which time she traversed over 100,000 miles.

Tycho Brahe, the famous Danish astronomer, was born at Knudstorp, Denmark, in 1546, and was descended from a noble Swedish family. He