THINGS WORTH KNOWING

The rice crop of Japan is 5,000,000 tons. A good-sized whale yields about one

San Marino, the smallest republic in the world, has a population of only 8,500.

The carpets annually manufactured in Philadelphia are worth over £10,000,000.

of blind people than any other country in Eight thousand tons of gold have been

The United States has a lower percentage

mined throughout the world during the present century. In London alone 3,000,000 letters are

posted every day, and on an average 2,500,-000 are delivered. A Hungarian inventor claims to be able

for durable clothing. Twelve million pounds worth of leather is required every year to provide boots and

to make from wood pulp a fabric suitable

shoes for the inhabitants of Great Britain. Single eye-glasses are prohibited in the German Army. Even if a soldier has one good eve, yet needs glasses he must perforce cover both eyes with them.

Duelling in Russia has become so common that the Government has been compelled to decree a severe code of punishment. Killing an antagonist will involve six years

The Bishop of Marlborough, while travelling from the City to Finchley, was robbed of his watch and purse, as well as the notes of the sermon he was taking the journey to deliver.

A dispatch from St. Petersburg says the annual conscription added 252,592 men to the army. Of this number 70,948 are married. Only one-fourth of the whole number of conscripts can read or write.

Such a thing as a British soldier signing his accounts with a cross, so much in vogue years ago, is unknown. Every man is compelled to go to school until he passes an examination and obtains a certificate.

The stomach of an ostrich that died lately at the Clifton Zoological Gardens contained several miscellaneous trifles, such as pencil-cases and pocket-handkerchiets. It also attempted to digest a prayer-book.

A German physiologist has found that a small amount of alcohol is contained in the milk of drunken mothers, so that the children of such women may be imbioers of spirits from earliest infancy. Possibly this may have something to do with hereditary tastes for stimulants.

When a Chinese girl is married her attendants are always the oldest and ugliest women to be found in the neighborhood, who are paid to act as foils to her beauty. Some exceptionally ugly old women make their living by acting as professional attendants at weddings.

The War Office has been compelled to resort to a strange method in order to obtain recruits. It has directed all sergeantinstructors of Volunteers to attend cricket and football matches and sporting assemblies generally, and, by the circulation of leaflets and conversation, to inspire a desire for a military life.

American women are yearly growing more independent. The statistics show that over 3,000,000 women are earning independent incomes in that country. There are some 2,500 practising medicine, 6,000 managing post-offices, 275 preaching the Gospel, and in New York City alone 27,000 | ALL SIZES, BEST QUALITY HARD COALS. of them are supporting their husbands.

Bessie Bonehill, the music-hall singer, has a two-year-old son, and the two-yearold son has a bank account of £125. In one of her most popular songs she makes up as a ragged newsboy, and enthusiasts in the audience often toss coins on to the stage for her. These she has carefully banked for the boy, and hence the £125.

A gentleman of Denver and a young lady of West Virginia met on a railroad train one day lately, and by the time they reached Chicago they had been made man and wife. But even that speed record has been broken. A lady was granted a divorce in Tacoma (Wash.) last month within three minutes after she filed her petition.

In Ashantee parricides are tied hand and foot to stakes driven in the ground near a large ant-hill. The ants are then irritated by sticks thrust into the entrance of their dwellings, a guard is set at a respectful distance to prevent rescue, and the prisoner is left to be eaten alive. In forty-eight hours nothing is left of the criminal but a neatly-cleaned skeleton.

During the performance the other evening at Bootle of Wombwell's menagerie, Mr. John Singleton, manager of the Salisbury Hotel, entered the hon's cage for a wager. While in the cage he opened a bottle of champagne and smoked a cigar. He was loudly cheered, and on emerging from the cage was handed the amount of the stakes (£50) by Mr. Lewis, manager of the menagerie.

The city of Cork still observes the ancient custom of "throwing the dart." It is performed once in three years by the mayor, to show the mayor's jurisdiction over the harbor as admiral of the port. The mayor, in his robes, after making a short speech, advances to the prow of the vessel and casts into the sea the dart, which is made of mahogany, tipped and feathered with

On the African shore, near the Gulf of Aden and connecting the Lake of Assal with the main ocean, may be found one of the most wonderful rivers in the world. This natural curiosity in the shape of a river does not flow to but from the ocean toward the inland. The surface of Lake Assal is nearly seven hundred feet below the sea level, and it is fed altogether by this paradoxical river, the latter being about

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J. SIME, Proprietor.

twenty-two miles in length. A street was literally set on fire at Buda-Pesth, Hungary, a short time ago. A glass carboy filled with benzine accidentally tell from the car in which it was being hauled and broke, the benzine running over the street and through the slot into the conduit of the electric railroad. An electric car passed just at the time, and it appears that there was some sparkling between the trolley and the conductor in the conduit. This lighted the benzine, which burned with an almost explosive violence. The car was stopped and the frightened passengers dismounted through a sea of flame.



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Coaches are ix attendance upon arrival of all trains. F. B. COLEMAN,

WORKED BY A RUSE.

A Sailor's Plan to Recover His Former

The Russian Admiral Avelane, according to report, is of French extraction. When a midshipman he was serving in a ship which cruised during the summer in the Baltic, and among the crew was a man who had once been a captain, but had been degraded after grossly insulting a superior.

Avelane felt the utmost pity for the sailor, and did everything in his power to render his lot less intolerable. One day he told the ex-officer of his intention to throw himself into the sea when the next storm arose. "You will jump in and save me, and then the Czar will reward you by restoring your epaule:tes," he added. Much affected, the man replied that unluckily he could not

"That does not matter," Avelane said. ·Plunge in all the same. I shall look after you. and every one will think you rescued

The programme was carried out. Avelane threw himself overboard in a terrific storm; the sailor tollowed, and was kept afloat by the officer whom he was supposed to be saving. A report of the affair was drawn up, and soon the man was reinstated to the rank of which he had been deprived.

This off cer now one of the senior admi. als in service, lately celebrated the jubilee ot his entry into the Russian navy. Among his guests was Admiral Avelane, of whose valour and kindness he spoke in grateful terms, and a touching scene ensued.

Punster and Chemist.

"I want some consecrated lye,"he slowly announced as he entered the chemist's

You mean concentrated lye?" suggested the proprietor, as he repressed a smile. "Well, maybe I do. It does nut-meg any difference. It's what I camphor, any way. What does it sulphur?"

"A shilling a can ' "Then you can give me a can." "I never cinnamon who thought himself so witty as you do," said the chemist in a gingerly manner, feeling called upon to do a little punning himselt.

"Well, that's not bad, either," laughed the customer, with a syruptitious glance. "I ammonia novice at the business, though I've soda good many puns that other punsters got the credit of. However, I don't care a copperas far as I am concerned, though they ought to be birched without cloves till they wouldn't know what was the madder with them. Perhaps I shouldn't myrrh-myrro. We have had a pleasant

time, and I shall carraway-It was too much for the chemist, and he cellapsed.

Plain English.

The love of a good joke is not unknown even among those "childlike and bland" Celestials who are crowding together in several parts of the Australian colonies. A storekeeper, wishing to secure extra trade by advertising his goods in the Chinese language, made a bargain with a Celestial to paint a sign, expecting, of course, that it would be a very enticing one.

It did not answer his expectations, however, for the only perceptible effect it had on the emigrants from the Flowery Land was to excite a grin of the broadest dimensions. At length the puzzled storekeeper, by means of a considerable monetary inducement, obtained a correct rendering in English of the announcement, and found, to his intense chagrin, that it read : "Don't buy anything here; storekeeper a rogue."

True Merit Always Recognized.

A well-known society lady ir Montreal, a few days ago, spoke as follows: "For many years, during the autumn, winter and spring seasons, I have been subject to sore throat and hoarseness. Up to a year ago I found great difficulty in getting rid of this throat trouble. I consulted physicians and used many preparations without good results. A year ago I was induced by a clergyman to give your Harvard bronchial syrup a trial. I have been astonished and delighted with its effects, and am thankful that I now can use such an effective remedy. It gives quick relief, is pleasant to the taste, and never disappoints me. I have used my influence with several of my friends, so that they now keep Harvard bronchial syrup in their homes all the year round.

Up a Tree.

An amusing story, at the expense of one of Mr Spurgeon's theological students is told apropos of the great preacher's habit of sending the students into the pulpit, without any previous preparation, to preach from a text which they would find written on a slip of paper. One day a small man. with no gift for ready speaking, entered the pulpit and opened the paper, finding the rather dismaying text, "Zaccheus." He began with evident embarrassment-" My brethren, Zaccheus was a little man"-a long pause; then-"so am I." Another long pause."Zaccheus was up a tree. So am I."

How It Worked.

A Maine woman who had an irreligious husband kept driving at him until she finally got him to go to church. Now mark how she was rewarded. Instead of following the service he looked at the congregation, and noticed how muck more handsomely the other women were dressed than his wife. This fact pricked him to the heart as no words of the minister could, and the next day he gave his wife a hundred dollars, and told her to go and buy some clothes.

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USE HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE. Dr. W. W. GARDNER, Springfield, Mass., says: "I value it as an excellent preventative of indigestion, and a pleasant acidulated drink when properly diluted with water and sweetened.

"Where is Java situated?" asked a Chicago teacher. "A little ways east o' the Ferris wheel," answered several pupils who had attended the Fair.

Sixteen ounces of gold are sufficient to gild a wire that would encircle the earth.

"Shorter" Pastry

We are talking about a " shorten ing" which will not cause indigestion. Those who "know a thing or two" about Cooking (Marion Harland among a host of others) are using

instead of lard. None but the purest, healthiest and cleanest ingredients go to make up Cottolene. Lard isn't healthy, and is not always clean. Those who use Cottolene will be healthier and wealthier than those who use lard-Healthier because they will get "shorter" bread; wealthier because they will get "shorter" grocery bills-for Cottolene costs no more than lard and goes twice as far-so is but half as expensive.

Dyspeptics delight in it! Physicians endorse It! Chefs praise it! Cooks extel it! Housewives welcome it! All live Grocers sell it!

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immediate—the cure certain. WITCH HAZEL OIL For Burns, Scalds and Ulceration and Contraction from Burns. The relief is instant -the healing wonderful and unequaled. For Boils, Hot Tumors, Ulcers, Fistulas,

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MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT

The Duchess of Saxe-Coburg had all her children taught knitting when they were very young, declaring that she wished them always to be able to do something useful.

The last decree of the Emperor William is to the effect that when he goes to church all seats of which he can see the occupants, or from which he can be seen, shall be fi led by soldiers, so that he may not be distracted or disturbed in his prayers.

Her Majes y keeps all the Christmas, birthday and New Year cards sent to her by relatives, and has them bound in handsome scrap-books. The cards are so arranged as to show any inscriptions, such as " To my dear grandmamma."

Although the French President travels free on the railways during his official tour in France, his secretary calculates what it would have cost if paid for at regular rates. and this sum is handed over to be distributed among the poorest-paid of the railway men, and comes in helpful.

Sir Edwin Arnold has a high opinion of

his profession. "A successful newspaper

man," he once said, "must have the consti-

tution and hide of a rhinoceros, and a hairtrigger intellect. I am prouder of being a journalist than I should be if I were an Archbishop or the Lord Chancellor.' The latest Patti story is to the effect that the diva was taking a morning stroll in Wales, and call ng at a cottage, its in-

mate, with the naivete of a Welsh rustic, begged for a song. Whereupon the prim donna said "Shut the door," and then proceded to sing, as only Patti can, "Home Sweet Home. Lord Charles Beresford has won the

Royal Humane Society's medal on three successive occasions for the saving of lite. In one case, he sprang overboard, dressed just as he was, in a weighty shooting attire, with his pockets loaded with cartridges, and rescued a sailor who had fallen overboard off the Falkland Isles.

Dr. Bridge, the organist at Westminster Abbey, who is jocularly called by his triends "Westminster Bridge," is much given to salmon fishing, and is consequently tond of spending a holiday in Scotland. Dr. Bridge's residerce at the Abbey, known as Litlington Tower, is of great antiquity, having been built in the fourteenth century

Lord Burton writes to the Birmington Post: "The report of my daughter's engagement is quite untrue; whilst the fact that in 1884 my father's will was published in all the papers as proved at a little over £1,700,000 (of which I inherited about halt) should, I think, dispose of the absurd canard which attributes to me a fortune of

donna, possesses among her treasures an electric piano, which can be played either in the customary manner or by automatic action. It is, perhaps, not generally known that Miss Yohe has a considerable amount of Indian blood in her veins, her mother being a pure American Indian. On her father's side she is of Dutch extraction.

The Emperor of China's proper name is never mentioned; to pronounce it is a criminal offence. On ascending the throne, the ruler of the "Middle Kingdom" takes a name by which he becomes known to his people and to history. The present Emperor's real or personal name is Trai-tien; but, on being placed on the throne in 1875, he was given the style of Kwangsu, which means "illustrious succession.

The new Lord Mayor of London has had the electric light fitted to his State carriage. The ruling authorities in the City of London are not fond of innovations, but in this matter the Lord Mayor is at liberty to satisfy his own wishes. He is only tollowing a custom generally adopted in Paris by the more wealthy owners of carriages. The Prince of Wales also avails himself of this light of the future in his brougham.

The German Emperor's butler is an American. His wine-celler is a model of orderly arrangement. Each precious vintage-and some are almost priceless-has a separate enclosure railed in iron, and labelled with the name, age, price and number of bottles of the wine. No decanters are used on the Imperial tables: the wine is poured out by footmen from the original bottles, the utmost care being taken in the

The late M. Gounod stands exonerated from the reproach of vanity, which, like affectation, belongs to the weak and the young. Age and talent restore equilibrium, and vanity is superseded by legitimate pride. He one day compared the progress of modesty in his soul with the simultaneous whitening of his hair. "When I was very young, I used to say, 'I'; later on I said 'I and Mozart'; then, 'Mozart and I.' DEAR SIE, Now I say 'Mozart.'"

"Bil! Nye," the American humorist, is easily recognizable as a Yankee, apart from his marked nasal twang. Tall and lean, but broad-shouldered, he looks the keen, alert "Brother Jonathan." At first a lawyer, Mr. Edgar William Nye soon discovered that his natural bent was for journalism and a year or so from his opening an attorney's office found him editor of a local paper. That humor does pay sometimes is made evident by Mr. Nye's success, his books and lectures still securing him a substantial income.

Mr. Paul Blouet ("Max O'Rell"), who has recently returned from his wanderings. is well primed with a new supply of anecdotes. One which he let tall a day or two ago is one of his gleanings "out West." An intense jealousy, it seems, exists between the twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul respectively, and is foreibly illustrated by an incident at a church in the former city. The preacher began his sermon with the announcement, "Brethren, I shall take my text this morning from St. Paul." Immediately the congregation rose and left the building.

The Queen has now fifty-seven des endants, of whom four are or have been Sovereigns: the Empress Frederick. the Emperor William, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Grand Duke of Hesse. Nine others are heirs-apparent or contocts of heirs-apparent; the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, the German Crown Prince. Prince Albert of Edinburgh, Prince George of Greece, the newborn Prince of Roumania, the Princess Ferdinand, the Hereditary Princess of Saxe Meiningen, and the Duchess of Sparta. With these the late Grand Duchess of Hesse may be remem-



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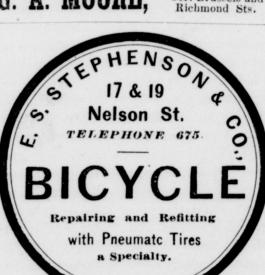
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I remain, yours, etc., W. F. BEST, Government Analytical Chemist.

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