THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

More than 400,000,000lb. of soap is used in England yearly.

A bank note 500 years old is preserved in a Chinese museum.

There are 20,000 trained nurses in England, Ireland and Scotland.

Every year the United States produce 565,000,000 pounds of tobacco.

English sovereigns were first minted in 1489. They were called by various nick-Steaming the face and then rubbing in

almond oil is a good thing for softening In Norway, persons who have not been

vaccinated are not allowed to vote at any

It has been ascertained by actual investigation that it takes a snail fourteen days to travel a mile.

A Frenchman must be forty years old to be a Senator and twenty-five to be a Deputy. They are chosen by direct vote of the people.

Down to the Norman conquest the Britons had "living money" and "dead money:" the former being slaves and cattle, the latter metal.

It may interest many to know that from an artistic point of view a woman's face is more beautiful when viewed from the left than from the right.

The total number of students who matriculated a Cambridge during the present academical year is put at 939, a slight falling off from last year. The longest word in the English lan-

guage is "palatopharyngeolaryngeal,"
"meaning of or pertaining to the palate,
the pharnyx and the larynx." The number of men employed upon the railroads of the United States is 784,000. The number of passengers carried last year was 530,000,000; the number killed was

Hand grenades for extinguishing fires are made by filling thin, spherical glass bottles with a solution of calcium chloride, sal-ammoniac, borax, or bicarbonate of

The largest dredger in the world, built for the Mersy England Harbour Board, was tested recently. It will raise daily 24,000 tons of sand, which will be carried out and discharged in deep water.

It has long been known to architects that the perpendicularity of monuments is affected by the rays of the sun. This phenomenon is due to the greater expansion of the side upon which the sun's rays fall.

The year 1901 will be the first one of the twentieth century; the year one was the beginning of the first century, and the year 101 was the beginning of the second century, and so 1901 will begin the twentieth

The Golconda Mines are now exhausted. At one time 60,000 men were employed in them. When the Sultan Mahmoud, who reigned 1177-1206, died, he left in his treasury over 400 pounds weight of gems

Of all living things trees, perhaps, are capable of longest life. English yews and California redwoods are supposed to have lived 1,000 years, and there are cedars of Lebanon which may possibly date back to

The lace-bark tree of Jamaica is one of the greatest natural curiosities in the world. Its inner bark is so delicate in texture that it might be mistaken for the finest product of the loom. It was formerly used by the natives for apparel.

The English, in its phraseology, is far richer than other languages. The total number of the words of the German, French, Italian, and Spanish speeches, combined, is about 180, 600, while the English contains 250,000, or 70,000, more words than the total of the four tongues above named.

A simple test by which to distinguish butter from margarine is to draw three or tour pieces of ordinary sewing cotton, slightly twisted together, through the piece to be tested, set light to it and blow it out almost immediately, and smell the smoke. It it is margarine, it will have the peculiar smell of a newly-extinguished tallow candle, but with butter there is no such smell.

For a cement for cracks in billiard-balls, melt white wax, resin and turpentine equal parts, and mix dry colored paints to match for color. Use zinc white for white, vermillion for red, smalts for blue, etc. Stuff melted paste into the cracks. It will be ready for use as soon as cold. It a piece is chipped off the outside, it must be plugged with ivory, using the cement for hold-

The largest room in the world under one roof, and unbroken by pillars, is at St. Petersburg. It is 120ft. long by 150ft. in breadth. By daylight it is used for military displays, and a battalion can completely manœuvre in it. Twenty thousand wax tapers are required to light it. The root of this structure is a single arch of iron, and it exhibits remarkable engineering skill in the architecture.

In Paris there are more than 65,000 cabs and carriages for hire, and a person can ride all over the city of light for a song. Each driver is required to furnish strangers with a card, by which they can see the regulation rates, and in the event of a disagreement he must drive to the nearest policeman and allow a complaint to be entered against himself. There is one peculiarity about the Parisian cabman-he seldom attempts to cheat. When trouble arises it is generally due to a misunderstanding, and not to a desire to take advantage

The pasture freaks usually referred to as "fairy rings" or "fairy circles" are generally composed of one or more circles of tall, green grass, separated from another circle equally as luxuriant by an intermediate strip of earth destitute, or almost destitute, of vegetation. A second class, and which is by far the less numerous, is a "fairy circle" of healthy-looking grass which gradually enlarges year by year, always in the form of a perfect circle. Their cause is attributed to the spread of the pores of a species of fungi which proceed by an aunual enlargement from the centre outward; for in the other species, a gradual encroachment upon the centre of

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PAPER AND ITS USES.

The Varied Forms in Which It is Made to Do Good Service.

Hardly any substance lends itself so readily to a multitude of uses as paper, which is, indeed, now treated as a sort of universal raw material, out of which nearly everything can be made.

Eastern nations have long known the extreme adaptability of paper for many purposes, which we are only beginning to recognize. The Chinese and Japanese make much use of it, but they are far outstripped by the Coreans, whose paper is made from the bark of a bush of the mulberry order. Besides the ordinary uses for writing and for books, they make of it string, lanterns, umbrellas, shoe soles, hats, boxes. coats, etc. They cover their floors, walls and ceilings with it, and, stretching it on frames make it serve for doors and windows.

Paper being a bad conductor of heat, a light and warm addition to the bed-clothes may be got by spreading a newspaper or two between the blankets. In Germany this quality is practically recognized by the manufacture of paper, bed quilts, which are very warm, and a great deal cheaper than those in general use.

Paper stockings are another German invention. A Berlin shoe-trade journal describes them as made of a specially prepared paper stock, which rapidly absorbs moisture, and keeps the feet dry and warm. The constant temperature thus maintained in the shoe is a great preventive of corns.

An ingenious native of St. Helens has devised a paper pipe, which is moulded from wood pulp or sheets of absorbent paper. The pulp is simply pressed into shape and dried. When paper is used it is wrapped round a core, and afterwards shaped by pressure. In either case the bowl is provided with a lining of porous earthenware to prevent burning.

Paper horse-shoes have acquired some repute in Germany. They are made from sheets of a particularly tough parchmentlike paper, compressed and cemented together by a special paste. Such horseshoes are impervious to water, and, as they are more elastic than the ordinary kind they improve the horse's walk.

A greater achievement in the construction of false teeth from paper by an American dentist, who guarantees that they will wear well, and last a lifetime. A Lubeck dentist has also made teeth of the same material, and a set of these is said to have been in use for thirteen years, and to be still as good as ever.

The paper wheels, of which a good deal was heard at one time, do not really contain much paper in their construction. The space between the tire and the hub is formed to contain a mixture of paper pulp with other materials, the whole being forced in under enormous pressure, which is maintained until the composition is set. It is, however, necessary to have a series of radiating spokes connecting the hub and the tire, so that the paper is used only as a filling in a not very essential place.

It will be readily understood that when paper is taken in the pulp stage, whether that consists of rags, wood fibre, or other ingredients, it is capable, by the addition of strengthening substances, of being moulded and compressed into many forms. At Bergen a church has been built of paperpulp, compressed by powerful machinery, and water-proofed with a solution contain-

ing lime as one of its chief constituents. The pulp may indeed be compressed to the solidity of iron and the 'Hospital' has described a portable hospital made of this compressed paper pulp, or "papier-mache." which is large enough to contain twenty beds. It is easily put together, and when taken down forms a load for three trucks, which are planned to form the base of the building when erected.

A Breslau manufacturer has built a paper factory chimney 50ft. high. It is built of bricks made of compressed paper united by a silicious cement.

It is intended to provide a paper dome for the new observatory building now being erected at Greenwich. The material is well adapted for the purpose, and has been frequently used for roofing, but never on so large a scale. The dome with its steel frame-work will weight over twenty tons, and yet will be so contrived that it can be revolved by a very slight pressure.

For decorative purposes, where strength and toughness are required, "cartonpierre" or stone paper is largely used. This is made of paper cuttings boiled with glue, plaster of Paris, and whiting, forming a composition which moulds beautifully, is light and yet very strong, and forms an excellent ground for painting.

The latest use to which paper has been put is as a substitute for window-glass. The panes of this specially-manufactured material are milky-white in appearance, and, while they intercept the light rays, they let the heat rays through, which is understood to be a desirable feature for the construction of greenhouses.

Remarkable developments are in process of working out, by which it is expected that ently clothed. from the ordinary wood or other pulp from which paper is made all sorts of textile tissues can be produced, equalling the best cotton goods in every respect. In 1880, silk, made from wood pulp, has exhibited, and the perfected process is now about to be put in operation, on a commercial scale, at Besancon, in France.

Same as The Common Folkl

Scene, an' English Railway station. Foppish Old Major-Give me a return ticket to G-, quick please.

New Clerk: Third class? F. O. M. (inturiated at unconscious insult)—Get out! What do you take me

New Clerk (calmly)—Three and nine- F. A. JONES, - - 32, 34 & 36 Dock St. pence return

Spoke From Observation.

Teacher: - What is the plural of man? Tommy: -Men. Teacher: - What is the plural of woman ! Jack:-Women. Teacher: - What is the plural of child? Susie :- Twins.

The Ways of the Law. "Can nothing be done for the prisoner, Mr. Brief ?"

"I fear not, sir." "The legal expedients are all exhausted, are they? "No; but the prisoner's money is."

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ness. Call at 43 King Street MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

Sir William Harcourt is said to be an enthusiastic amateur gardener.

A daughter of Emin Pasha, eleven years old, is being carefully educated in Europe.

to and from Scotland comes to £6,000 a year. B.T.F. It was Gladstone who said "America has a natural base for the greatest continuous empire ever established by man."

The Queen's railway bill for her journeys

The Duke of Westminster is credited with possessing the finest carriage horses. He recently paid 1,800 guineas for a pair.

Elizabeth Stuart Phelps was only thirteen when her first story was published, and she was twenty when her "Gates Ajar" brought her celebrity.

Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, M. P., who has the distinction of being the first Indian Member of Parliament, is the son of a Parsee priest. Mrs. Richard King owns one of the

largest ranches in the world. It lies about

forty-five miles south of Corpus Christi, Tex., and contains 700,000 acres. Marion Crawford says: "I write novels because it pays me to do so." Literature, he declares, tires him and it is only pleas-

ant in that it gives him a good living. The English publishers of the works of Henry Drummond report that the average sale of his several works is 1,000,000

copies. In America it is even larger. Alexandre Dumas recently told an interviewer that he was practically devoid of imagination, and that composition did not come easy to him, writing being physically and mentally tiresome.

When the infant daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Fife was baptized recently by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the irate infant cried so lustily that it was finally necessary to remove it from the church.

horseman. Notwithstanding the disadvantages of his lame and useless arm, he is afraid of no horse when once on its back. He is, however, obliged to rely on assistance in getting into the saddle. There are no fewer than five Irish peers who take their titles from places that are

The German Emperor is a very expert

not to be found in the map of Ireland. These are the Duke of Abercorn, the Earl of Sheffield, the Earl of Darnley, Viscount Bangor, and Viscount Hawarden. The Countess de Nurasol, Miss Etta Hughes, and Fraulein Paula, who are respectively the Spanish, English, and Austrian governesses of the Infantas of

year apiece, and a home in the Royal Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria is little renowned for anything save his huge collection of dressing-gowns. He has a perfect mania for this kind of useful garment, and has paid as much as one hundred guineas for an embroidered robe made up

Spain, receive salaries equal to £1,000 a

for him in Paris. Mrs. Rachael Foster Avery, who was the secretary of the recent Woman's Congress at Chicago, says that she sent out 8,000 personal letters in preparation for the meetings. She employed sometimes as many as twelve stenographers, and often worked

seventeen hours a day. The Duke of Devonshire owns 80,000 acres in Derbyshire, but none in Devon; Lord Derby some 50,000 acres in Lancashire, but none in Derby; Lord Leicester 40,000 acres in Norfolk, but none in Leicester, But one-third of the rural estates of the Duke of Bedford, worth

£150,000 a year, are in that county. The Queen of Italy is very clever at improvising tunes on the piano. Many of these are very sweet, but, as Her Majesty puts it: "I cannot remember them again tor the lite of me." In order not to miss these impromptu compositions, a phonograph has been fitted up in the vicinity of the piano, which "takes in" the notes, to be afterwards taken down on paper and

thus preserved. Captain Julian Viaud, the sailor-Academician of France, is generally credited with having taken his pen-name of "Pierre Loti" from the Japanese word for violet. This is wrong, as anyone with a knowledge of that tongue knows. The truth is that loti is a Maori word descriptive of a beautiful Polynesian flower, and was the name bestowed on the young lieutenant. when stationed at Tahiti, by the ladies of Queen Pomare's

Among the Queeu's chief enjoyments at Osborne is the sea bathing, which is arranged for the Royal Family in a peculiarly safe and convenient manner. Passengers by the steamers between Portsmouth and Southampton seldom fail to notice an abnormally large barge moored at the end of the jetty which protrudes into the Solent from the private grounds at Osborne. This vessel is so arranged that, when desired, the water rushes into it and forms a spacious bath, as comfortable as it is safe.

The Gaekwar of Baroda's rise from the ploughshare to the throne is like a romance. After the deposition of Mulbar Rao, the Indian government decided to allow Jumnabai, the childless widow of the Gaekwar, to allow the Hindu custom in regard to the succession; and after very careful enquiries concerning the habits and surroundings of her various relatives. Jumnabai intimated her desire to adopt the son of a cultivator, who belonged to a collateral branch of the family. The choice was approved by the government, and the youth was taken from the fields and placed under English tutors. He proved an apt scholar, and has since justified his selection.

Oscar Wilde, whose latest dramatic effort, a play entitled "A Woman of No Importance" has recently been produced in London, is by no means a tyro in this branch of literature, although of course "Lady Windemere's Fan" was the first of his works to attain prominent success. Some time ago two of his plays "Vera" and "The Duchess of Padua," were introduced to American playgoers. Mr. Wilde was born on October 16, 1856, and was educated in Ireland, afterwards going to Oxford, where, amongst other honors, he obtained the Newdigate prize for the best English poem. He came to London at twenty-three years of age, and by his daring attacks on conventionalism, rapidly reached that position in society which he

has since held.



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