

THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

The first lucifer match was struck in 1834.

The deer parks in England exceed 300. The largest is at Windsor.

It is said that over a hundred kinds of wine are made in Australia.

In 1503 the first English shilling was minted. It bore the King's image.

One pound of cork is amply sufficient to support a man of ordinary size in the water.

There are 18,000 typewriters at work in New York, two-thirds of the number being woman.

Pocket handkerchiefs, utilized in the manner they are to-day, were made at Paisley as early as 1743.

The largest room in the world, unbroken by pillars, is said to be a drill hall in St. Petersburg, 620 feet by 150.

On the death of a person in Madrid it is the custom to close for nine days an outer door of that person's late residence.

The Princesses of England's royal family have, on the average, married at the age of twenty-two; the Princes at twenty-eight.

Lord Mayors of London during the past twenty years have collected a little over £20,000,000 for charitable and benevolent purposes.

Of the 946 papers and magazines published in New York city exactly one-half—473—are issued monthly. The dailies number forty-six.

The records of Greenwich Observatory for twenty years show that fine weather is more common after a wet St. Swin's Day than after a fine one.

The progress of the illumination of the Dark Continent is indicated by the fact that 700 locomotives now cast the rays of their headlights through the gloom.

The United States is the soberest and most temperate country in the world. The compact population of England and Wales has a public-house for every 202 persons, while the United States has one for every 450.

The illumination power of a lighthouse at the Cape of La Heve, near Havre, is equal to 25,000,000 candles. A new light-house is to be erected on the headland of Penmarch, the light of which is to equal 46,000,000 candles.

In Japan doctors never ask poor patients for a fee. A proverb among the medical fraternity runs thus: "When the twin enemies, poverty and disease, invade a home, he who takes aught from that home, even though it be given to him, is a robber."

The British Crown plate includes a peacock of precious stones, valued at £35,000, which came from India; a tiger's head, with a solid ingot of gold for a tongue, and crystal teeth; and a magnificent gold shield valued at £10,000, which was made from snuff boxes by order of George IV.

Lobsters are not peace-abiding crustaceans. They cannot be persuaded to grow up together peaceably. If a dozen newly-hatched specimens are put into an aquarium, within a few days there will be only one—a large, fat, and promising youngster. He will have eaten all the rest.

The largest stationary engine in the world is used to pump out the zinc mines at Friedensburg, Pa. Its driving wheels are thirty-five feet in diameter and each weighs a little over forty tons. The cylinder is 110 inches in diameter, and the engine raises 17,500 gallons of water every minute.

The component parts of water, by weight and measure, are: Oxygen, 88.9 weight, and two by measure; hydrogen, 11.1 weight and two by measure. One cubic inch of distilled water at its maximum density, 39.83 degrees, the barometer 30 inches, weighs 252.7 grains. A cubic foot weighs 62.5 pounds.

Insects generally breathe through special pores in various parts of their body, and if these pores are closed by oil they are suffocated. Anyone may test this by dropping sweet oil on the thorax or back of a wasp; it very soon dies. For this reason oil has been found one of the best things to use for the destruction of insects.

A method of sounding the deep sea without using a line has recently been devised. It consists in dropping a lead containing a cartridge, which explodes on striking the bottom, and the sound is received by a submerged microphone apparatus communicating with the ship. The depth is estimated by the time occupied by the lead in sinking to the bottom.

Housewives in Florida scrub their floors with oranges. In almost any town in the orange-growing districts women may be seen using the fruit exactly as we use soap. They cut the oranges in halves, and rub the flat exposed pulp upon the floor. The acid in the oranges does the cleansing, and does it well, for the boards are as white as snow after the application.

Certain specimens of ants make slaves of others. If a colony of slave-making ants is changing the nest, a matter which is left to the discretion of the slaves, the latter carry their mistresses to their new home. One kind of slave-making ants has become so dependant on slaves, that even if provided with food they will die of hunger unless there are slaves to put it in their mouths.

Corals increase by eggs, spontaneous division and germination. The rate of growth has not been fully determined. Prof. Agassiz indicates the growth of reefs at Key West at the rate of six inches in 100 years, and adds that it is double that amount it would require 7000 years to form the reefs in that place, and hundreds of thousands of years for the growth of Florida.

Coin collectors have long felt great difficulty in making a complete collection of American specimens. The United States coinage of 1793 is very rare, and a dollar of the year 1794 has often sold for as much as one hundred dollars. A 1796 half-cent is so rare as to sell readily for fifteen dollars, and a half-dollar of the same year is worth sixty times its original value. While the half-cent of 1803 is common enough, all the other coins of that year are rare. The dollar of that particular date being the rarest of all American coins. Only eight are known to exist out of the 19,570 that were coined. The lowest price that one of these now changes hands for is, \$800.

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THE ARIZONA KICKER.

Its World's Fair Correspondent in Trouble on Account of His Views on Art.

A BRUTAL OUTRAGE.—Yesterday we received a private letter from our valued World's Fair correspondent, dated from a Chicago bastille. For the past two weeks he has been much annoyed and put out by the odd and eccentric ways of Eastern people, none of whom, it seems, wear buckskin suits or carry lassos on their shoulders. Monday last, while our correspondent was rounding up the stock in the art department, he came across a marble statue called "Sikey." "Sikey" hadn't any clothes on. Our correspondent estimated her at so much dead weight of marble and allowed for the carving, and his figures on her cash value footed up only \$250. It seems that a galoot from New York, who never heard the howl of a coyote nor witnessed a stampede of steers, undertook to give our correspondent some pointers on art, and the natural result of such a display of gall was that the said galoot ran up against a cactus ready for business. He went away and squealed to the police, and our correspondent was violently removed from the grounds and chucked into the bastille as a dangerous character. We beg to inquire whether this is the fourteenth or the nineteenth century, and whether the corset-encircled East owns any more of this great show than the untrammelled and unconventional West. The owner of "Sikey" put her value at \$20,000. Was it any wonder that our correspondent, who has had four different wives in his time, none of whom cost him \$500, bucked at the figures? We happen to know that he owns an onyx mine and three marble quarries, and who should be a better judge of a hunk of statuary? Half an hour before the fracas over "Sikey" commenced, that same ostentatious, egotistical jackanapes tried to make our correspondent believe that a certain oil painting was valued at \$25,000. The whole thing, frame and all, wasn't large enough for a poker table, and the man who brought it to this town and asked above \$50 for it would be looked upon as seeking to block the wheels of civilization. We have telegraphed our correspondent to find out who is running the show. If there is to be any discrimination against the West we shall order him home at once, and then proceed to make the hearts of 45,000,000 Eastern people ache for six months to come.

STRANGE ISLANDS.

Ther Discovery Brought Ill Luck to a French Admiral.

The Islands of Kerguelen, of which France has recently taken possession, were well named by Cook the "Land of Desolation." Their history, however, is not without interest; they were the cause of the rise and fall of a young French admiral of the last century.

In 1772, the Chevalier de Kerguelen, admiral in the French fleet, discovered these islands. As the exploring parties sent short distances into the interior of the largest island did not reach the further coast, De Kerguelen became convinced that he had discovered the greatest southern continent of which geographers had written much.

He hastened back to France, and petitioned to the king so earnestly to take possession of the new land that an expedition was fitted out for that purpose and placed under De Kerguelen's command. The land was soon found to be only a group of volcanic islands, and the admiral was forced to return to Paris and to acknowledge his mistake.

The admiral, stung by the ridicule of the people, called a court martial, which decided that De Kerguelen, who was then scarcely thirty years old, must lose his rank and be imprisoned indefinitely in the Castle of Saumur. He was soon released, but never served again in the navy.

The Kerguelen Islands lie half way between the Cape of Good Hope and Australia, and south of the route usually taken by vessels. They were visited by Cook in 1776, and later by Ross.

In Spite of the Precaution.

"Sandy," said the minister of I— one day to his man-of-all-work, "you must bottle the cask of whisky this forenoon; but as the fumes from the whisky may be injurious, take a glass before you begin, to prevent intoxication."

Now, Sandy was an old soldier, and could not have got a more congenial task than bottling whisky—unless drinking it; and, having received from his master a special licence to taste, went to work most heartily.

Some hours after the minister visited the cellar to inspect progress, and was horrified to find Sandy lying full length on the floor, unconscious of all around.

"Oh, Sandy," said the minister, "you have not taken my advice, and you see the consequence. Rise, Sandy, and take a glass yet; it may restore you."

Sandy, nothing loth, took the glass from the minister's hand, and, having emptied it, said—

"Heck, sir, this is the thirteenth glass I've tae in but I'm nae better!"

Due in Eight Hundred Years.

At Crews County Court, recently, John Stelfox, Manchester, sued John Mottram, Leeds, for 70s. The debt was an old one. The defendant was seventy-five years of age and receiving parish pay. The Registrar inquired if the plaintiff pressed for an order. The plaintiff did. The Registrar said the debtor must pay a penny a year, the first penny to be due July, 1899.

Good Ground for Grumbling.

Old Rooster—Why have you stopped laying?

Old Hen—It's too cold!

Old Rooster—Huh! Just like a female. As soon as it gets cool enough for me to crow without getting into a perspiration, you go and stop laying.

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7—Headaches, Sick Headache, Vertigo.	.25
8—Dyspepsia, Flatulency, Constipation.	.25
9—Suppressed or Painful Periods.	.25
10—Whites, Too Profuse Periods.	.25
11—Croup, Laryngitis, Hoarseness.	.25
12—Rheumatism, Erysipelas, Eruptions.	.25
13—Rheumatism, Rheumatic Pains.	.25
14—Malaria, Chills, Fever and Ague.	.25
15—Catarrh, Influenza, Cold in the Head.	.25
16—Whooping Cough.	.25
17—Kidney Diseases.	.25
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19—Urinary Weakness, Wetting Bed.	.25
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MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

Queen Victoria's railway expenses amount to £6,000 a year.

Queen Margherita of Italy on her silver wedding day received 2,000 begging letters.

John Strange Winter (Mrs. Arthur Stannard) has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

Rider Haggard has a constant companion in his study in the form of a large pet rat, named "Jack." It is an intelligent and affectionate creature.

Princess Beatrice seems to inherit her royal mother's fancy for straw plaiting. She takes a good deal of her work to a London hatter to have it blocked.

The diadem of the Russian Empress contains 2,536 large diamonds and a single ruby valued at \$400,000. The private jewels of the Empress of Austria are worth \$1,500,000.

Among the many decorations worn by the Queen of Portugal is a medal which was conferred on her several years ago, when she threw herself into the Tagus to save her children.

Miss Thornton, Queen Victoria's oldest servant, who has been State housekeeper at Buckingham Palace, has just resigned at the age of 80 years. She had been 40 years in her Majesty's service.

Gail Hamilton was appointed by James G. Blaine as his literary executor, and is preparing a biography of the statesman, with the co-operation of the Blaine family and with the special authorization of Mrs. Blaine.

It is said that the Duchess of York has spent a good many hours of her honeymoon "knitting comforts of a woolly nature" for her proteges. The Duke meanwhile read aloud to his bride, completing a charming tableau.

Mrs. Ellen C. Johnson, who is superintendent of an English prison for women, encourages the ones who improve by making successive changes in their dress. She has taken to the World's Fair dolls dressed to show the different grades.

The Duchess of Veragua is said to have been delighted with the scraps of slang she picked up among New York's 400. At Mrs. Paron Stevens' she said to the hostess that she thought the phrase "in the consumme" very expressive and hospitable.

Jules Verne has been a busy man. He is now 66 years of age and has written sixty-six books besides attending to other and various employments. He is now living a quiet, retired life at Amiens, of whose Municipal Council he is a member. His fame as a writer is world-wide, his books having been printed in many languages.

The German Empress rides daily on her gentle saddle horse, accompanied by her husband and the little crown prince. Occasionally the party is joined by Prince Eitel Fritz, but he is too venturesome a rider to be a pleasant companion for his royal mother, whose nerves are no longer so steady as in the days of her girlhood, when she was one of the most fearless riders in Germany.

The ex-Empress Eugenie has her house at Farnborough filled with souvenirs of the late Emperor and the Prince Imperial. An amusing curiosity is the dress in which she once paid a visit to the Eugenie Hospital, founded by her at Paris. Upon returning, it was discovered that several shreds had been surreptitiously cut or torn off the skirt, and preserved by the patients and nurses as mementos.

When ex-President Harrison retired from the White House, publishers overwhelmed him with offers of large sums for literary work. One firm, for instance, offered \$10,000 for a brief legal handbook, while a magazine editor tried to tempt him with the offer of \$2,500 for a political article. Every day almost, for months past, he has received some communication of this kind. But it is said that so far all such offers have been "declined with thanks."

About forty French women have been decorated at different times by the government. The first was Sargeant Virginie Ghesquiere, who fought in the wars of the Empire until she received a wound which led to the betrayal of her sex. Rosa Bonheur also wears the cross of the Legion of Honor, and Mme. Dieulafoy, the traveler, who affects masculine attire, wears her rosette in the buttonhole of her coat. Sœur Rosalie was decorated by Napoleon III in 1852.

Albert W. H. Vanderbilt, the eldest son and heir of the great millionaire, is a distinguished Yale College man. It is said that had he not been born with a golden spoon in his mouth, he would have been a distinct addition to American journalism, for when he was at school he got out a monthly paper, written, set up, and printed by his brother William and himself; and even now, on the top floor of the Vanderbilt mansion in New York, is a garret, containing a small printing press, cases of type, and all the paraphernalia of a miniature newspaper.

During the residence of the Queen at Windsor she has spent the morning of every fine day at Frogmore. Her Majesty drives down from the Castle, through the Home Park, about nine o'clock, and breakfasts at Frogmore, usually in a tent on the lawn. After breakfast the Queen does her morning's work in another tent, all the despatches, letters, and boxes coming down from the Castle, after they have been prepared for her by Sir Henry Ponsonby. During the morning two mounted grooms are kept busy riding between Frogmore and the Castle, with messages and letters, and about half-past one the Queen drives back in time for luncheon.

The Duchess of Edinburgh is a born tactician, it is said. When the Duke of Edinburgh was in command of one of the ships in the Mediterranean Squadron her Royal Highness spent three winters at Malta. While the Duchess was there the Russo-Turkish war broke out, and British troops were stationed at Malta. With a view to the probability of an outbreak of hostilities with Russia, the Duchess had accordingly on many occasions to entertain officers who might at any moment have to take up arms against her native country. It is the testimony of these officers that in such difficult circumstances her Royal Highness conducted herself with perfect ease and tact.

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