

THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

The annual match output is worth \$105,000,000.

An English gasometer holds 12,000,000 cubic feet.

Boston may lay pneumatic tubes for suburban mail.

Mexico's biggest gold nugget weighs 14½ pounds.

The average life of a ship is about twenty-six years.

The Austrian Navy has 129 ships, 411 guns and 8,740 men.

Over 2,000 tons of horse-flesh are annually eaten in Paris.

A lady's foot should equal in length one seventh of her height.

As a rule a man's hair turns gray five years sooner than a woman's.

The room in which the great Napoleon died is now occupied as a stable.

Eight-tenths of the soldiers in Russia and Serbia can neither read nor write.

About seven hundred and fifty languages are said to be spoken on this continent.

The daily consumption of needles all over the world, is estimated to be 3,000,000.

For hundreds of years, in Malta, bee stings have been a certain cure for rheumatism.

Recruits for the Chinese army are not accepted unless they can jump a ditch six feet wide.

A speck of gold weighing a millionth part of a grain may be easily seen by the naked eye.

Kiel estimates the surface of the lungs at 150 square feet, or ten times that of the external body.

Italy has the greatest proportion of criminals. They number 5,140 to every million of population.

The largest single arch in a stone bridge is that over the Rialto, at Venice. It is not quite 100 feet long.

The first degree of doctor of medicine was given in England in 1269; that of doctor of music about 1463.

In Morocco the face of a bride is painted white and red, and her hands and feet are dyed yellow with henna.

Two hundred and eighteen thousand tons of phosphate have been mined in South Carolina during the last year.

The ordinary honey-bee weighs one five-thousandth part of a pound when not loaded. When loaded, 1800 bees will make a pound.

Artificial flowers were first made by Italian nuns. They were originally used to decorate the shrines and altars in the convents.

The European museums contain wedding rings of wood, bone, ivory, brass, lead, tin, stone, iron, silver, gold and other substances.

Experiments are being made by the French Department of Agriculture to transform tree twigs and leaves into food for horses and cattle.

In China when a bank fails, all the clerks and managers have their heads chopped off and thrown in a heap along with the books of the firm.

Among the Kondeh people, who live on Lake Naysa, in Africa, the favorite form of suicide is to enter the water and allow one's self to be devoured by a crocodile.

In the past twenty years there have been built in London more houses remarkable for beauty, variety, and originality, than were erected in the preceding 200 years.

The largest engine is at Friedensville, Pa., its driving wheels are 35 feet in diameter, the cylinder is 110 inches, and it raises 17,500 gallons of water per minute.

The largest building stones are those used in the cyclopean walls of Baalbec, in Syria. Some of these measure 63 feet in length by 26 in breadth and are of unknown depth.

The largest magnet in the world is at Willet's Point, L. I. It is made of two condemned Dahlgren guns, each of 15-inch calibre, wound with eight miles of heavy cable and charged with electricity.

In Germany when the vote of the jury stands six against six the prisoner is acquitted. A vote of seven against five leaves the decision to the court, and in a vote of eight against four the prisoner is convicted.

The mourners at Persian funerals are supplied with little wads of cotton, which are used to wipe away their tears. The cotton is afterwards squeezed and the tears bottled and preserved. They are supposed by the natives of Persia to possess restorative qualities in cases of fainting.

An instrument has been invented for sounding the depth of the sea without using a lead line. A sinker is dropped containing a cartridge, which explodes on touching the bottom; the report is registered in a microphone apparatus and the depth recorded by the time at which the explosion occurs.

"Foolscap Paper" has a curious origin. It is said that this designation is derived from the fact that Charles I. granted to certain parties a monopoly of the manufacture of paper, and every sheet bore in water marks the royal arms. But the parliament under Cromwell made jest of this in every conceivable manner and ordered the royal arms to be removed and the fool's cap and bells to be substituted. Of course these were reversed after the Restoration, but the paper of the size of the Parliament journals always retained the name of foolscap.

An English scientist is quoted as authority for the statement that there are five times as many species of insects as there are species of all other living things put together. The oak tree alone supports 450 species of insects, and 200 kind make their home in the pine. Forty years ago Humboldt estimated that the number of species preserved in collections was between 150,000 and 170,000, but scientific men now say that there must be more than 750,000, without taking into consideration the parasitic creatures. Of the 35,000 species in Europe, however, not more than 3,500 are obnoxious or destructive. There are more than 100,000 kinds of beetles.

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THE BEST BOY.

He Will Become the True Gentleman, if He is Polite, Brave and True.

There are so many kinds of boys in the world, that it is very difficult to decide which sort I like best—but at last I think I most admire the boy who is polite, brave and true. I do not know whether I am right in putting polite first, but I do know that the polite boy is always liked and respected—liked among ladies and respected among his school fellows. I especially like the boy who is polite to his mother and sisters, for that boy will be polite to anyone. I also like the brave boy. I do not mean the boy who will fight and beat a boy bigger than himself, or the boy who will perform wonders on the football field; I mean the boy who is brave in defending a younger and weaker companion; the boy who is not ashamed to obey his mother, but who is ashamed to be caught in a mean or cowardly act; that is the boy I call brave. Then, too, I like the boy who is true. True, not only in the sense of not ever telling a falsehood, but true in his actions; true to his mother; and above all, true to his conscience and himself. My reason for liking the polite, brave and true boy is that he will become the true gentleman, even if he does spend his time in the workshop, even if his hands are often dirty, if he keeps himself pure from the rudeness, cowardice and falsehood of the world.

SENT THEM HOME.

A Very Clever Defense Case in an American Court.

Years ago, when the noted American lawyer, Thaddeus Stevens, was practising in Lancaster, Pa., he was employed to defend two bank officers who had been indicted for conspiracy, they having used the funds of the bank in speculation. All the legal talent of Philadelphia and the neighborhood had been engaged to assist in the prosecution. When the trial was opened, Mr. Stevens rose and, addressing the court, said: "It pleases your honours, presuming there are different degrees of guilt attached to the prisoners, my clients, I move they be tried separately."

The judge consulted for a few moments with his associates, who consenting, the motion was granted, and so recorded.

Waiting some time for Stevens to go on, the judge, at last becoming impatient, said impatiently—

"Proceed, Mr. Stevens, proceed. We are waiting for you, sir."

Stevens rose deliberately, and looking round the courtroom for a moment, said—

"Did your honours ever hear of one man being tried for conspiracy?"

"Then, waving his hand to his clients, he said: 'You can go home—you can go home.'"

And they did go home. The jury were discharged, and the court adjourned.

It Woke Them Up.

A month before the bombardment of Fort Fisher—in the last American war—began, the celebrated powder explosion occurred which was intended to blow down this solid earthwork, a mile in extent, with forty-foot traverses every few yards. Its failure was ridiculous.

That night, after the explosion of the powder-ship, some pickets on the beach were captured and carried on board the admiral's ship. Among them was a very solemn-looking soldier, who sat silently and sadly chewing tobacco.

As there was intense curiosity among the officers of the fleet to know the result of the remarkable experiment, one of them asked the solemn-looking "Reb" if he was in the fort when the powder-ship exploded, to which he replied in the affirmative, but without exhibiting the least interest in the matter.

Then the officers gathered round him and began to ask questions.

"You say you were inside the fort?"

"Yas, I was thar."

"What was the effect of the explosion?"

"Mighty bad, sir; powerful bad."

"Well, what was it?"

"Why, stranger, I tell you, it waked up pretty nigh every man in the fort."

How It Works in Hamilton.

Men and women are often influenced by the truthful testimony of those who have thoroughly tested a remedy. Many a brief letter of testimony has done more effective work than could be accomplished by columns of ordinary talk in the newspapers. Those who testify in favor of Harvard bronchial syrup do so for the benefit of suffering humanity, and with a firm belief that all must be benefitted who use the great cough remedy.

Mr. S. Kemp, of 133 Hughson Street south, Hamilton, Ont., testifies as follows:—"I take pleasure in recommending Harvard bronchial syrup, having used same in my family on different occasions with the very best results each time. I consider it a sure cure for coughs and colds."

We have no hesitation in recommending Harvard bronchial syrup to the old and young, rich and poor; it has no equal in this or any other land.

Ruskin's Idea of Childhood.

When John Ruskin on one occasion was addressing an assembly of men at Camberwell, he told them if they wanted to be perfect workmen they must become like children. And he gave them four marks of right childhood. To be modest is the first note of right childhood, according to this good and wise man. To be faithful is the second; there is nothing better than to be a trusty and trustworthy child. To be loving is the third; and it must be love that shows itself in real kindness and helpfulness. To be cheerful is the fourth and last essential; and the humble, trustful, loving child will be full of God's own cheer.

An Ill-Used Boy.

"William, my son," said an economical mother to her boy, "for mercy's sake don't keep on tramping up and down the floor in that manner. You'll wear out your new boots." (He sits down.) "There you go sitting down! Now you'll wear out your new trousers. I declare, I never saw such a boy!"

For Nervous Prostration.

USE HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE.

DR. GREGORY DOYLE, Syracuse, N. Y., says: "I have frequently prescribed it in cases of indigestion and nervous prostration, and find the result so satisfactory that I shall continue its use."

Miss E. Pauline Johnson, a Massachusetts poetess, is the daughter of a Mohawk chief.

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For Piles—External or Internal, Blind or Bleeding; Fistula in Ano; Itching or Bleeding of the Rectum. The relief is immediate—the cure certain.

WITCH HAZEL OIL

For Burns, Scalds and Ulceration and Contraction from Burns. The relief is instant—the healing wonderful and unequalled.

For Boils, Hot Tumors, Ulcers, Fistulas, Old Sores, Itching Eruptions, Chafing or Scald Head. It is Infallible.

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MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

It is said that the Queen's railway journey to and from Balmoral costs £500 each way.

Edward Bellamy, the author of "Looking Backward," is the son of a New England Baptist minister. He is married, and has two children.

The Queen of Greece is the president of a sisterhood devoted to the reformation of criminals. The queen herself personally visits the prisoners.

It is said that the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, better known as the Duke of Edinburgh, expends some hundreds of pounds a year in allowances to old sailors who have served under or with him.

Lord Salisbury is very short-sighted, and his reserve towards strangers is largely ascribed to this infirmity, of his friends. The marquis never forgets a man who has once done him a service, and will go out of his way to return it.

Perhaps the secret of Mme. Carnot's perpetually youthful-looking portraits is to be found in the fact that for the last fifteen years she has steadily declined to be photographed. She declares that she will never submit to the ordeal again.

Lady Brooke, now Countess of Warwick, is probably one of the best known society women of the period. She is beautiful and has gracious manners. Lady Brooke is an enthusiastic agriculturist, and she possesses a knowledge of the subject which many a gardener might envy.

Ismail Pasha—whose bad luck is traced by many Egyptians to his act, while Khedive, in letting Cleopatra's Needle come to this country—is not permitted now to leave Constantinople without the surveillance of a medical man, who is also a diplomatic spy. His condition is not so precarious as that of his creditors.

Until quite recently the prowess of the Queen of the Belgians as an accomplished horsewoman was little known; and comparatively few of Queen Victoria's liege subjects are probably aware of the fact that her majesty has not only long been an archer, but holds office as the dean of one of the oldest guilds of bowmen in Europe.

The Earl of Elgin, who has recently been appointed Viceroy of India in succession to the Marquess of Lansdowne, is a grandson of the distinguished Earl who, during his tenure of office as Ambassador-Extraordinary to Turkey, obtained the famous Grecian sculptures known as the Elgin Marbles, which are now in the British Museum.

Mr. Rider Haggard is credited with writing on an average between three and four thousand words a day, devoting, as a rule, five hours, per diem to literary work exclusively. He considers that six months is a fair time within which to complete a work of fiction, though, as a matter of fact, he wrote "She" within a period of six weeks.

Claud Leighel, called one of the greatest comedians in Italy, has a curious tad for carving portraits of himself, in character, on large horsechestnuts. One nut makes the head and another the neck and shoulders. His debut, curiously enough, was not made as a comedian, but in a tragedy named "The Passion and Death of Christ."

The Princess of Wales is a very graceful figure on skates, and exceedingly fond of the healthful exercise. She wears a peculiar kind of skating-boot, laced nearly to the knee, the upper portion being lined with fur. The heels are wide and low, and the skates, which have springs under the insoles, cover the soles of the boots. The whole of the under part is made of steel.

A lady who spends a small fortune on her foot covering is Mrs. Levi P. Morton. She is very particular about the make, and has them altered until they fit without a wrinkle—like her dresses. Patent leather, suede kid of four or five different shades, satin, silk, and velvet, with no two pairs alike, either in colour or decoration, such is a partial description of the lady's footwear.

The famous African explorer, Dr. Carl Peters, holds that big game, such as the elephant deer, and buffalo, will in a comparatively short time become extinct in the Dark Continent, owing to the yearly slaughter. He approves of exterminating the lion and tiger, but would like to see something in the way of an International Commission formed for the preservation of other wild animals.

The Prince of Wales wears a bracelet on his left wrist. On a recent occasion when he appeared in public, the gleam of the gold bangle was noticed by a very few individuals. The wearing of the bracelet is not, however, foppishness on the part of His Royal Highness, for the bangle has a history. It belonged originally to Maximilian, the ill-fated Emperor of Mexico, and it is a cherished possession of the Prince's.

M. Henri Rochefort, who now resides in London, is a much-expatriated Frenchman. Forced to flee from his native land in the days of the Empire, he was later in bad odour with the Republican Government for his share in the Paris Commune, and was transported to New Caledonia. Escaping thence he returned to France in 1880, only to go into exile again nine years afterwards when the Boulangist trials took place.

Signor Piatti, the most famous player of the violoncello, has recently completed fifty years' professional work in England. Piatti, who is of Bavarian birth, knew Liszt and Mendelssohn intimately, the latter writing for him a musical work, of which the MS. was unfortunately lost. Mendelssohn was on the same platform with him when he made his first appearance in London in 1844. Signor Piatti is the bosom friend of Sir Charles Halle, and it is most enjoyable to listen to their reminiscences of these bygone days.

Paul Verlaine, the eminent French poet, has been made much of recently by the highest literary circles of London, which city he has been visiting. He is thus described:—"An immense square skull, almost bald, with a forehead that overwhelms the face, narrow, greenish eyes like slips of jade rising outward in Chinese fashion, a long, thin moustache falling about sensuous lips that show red as blood in the midst of the parchment-colored skin; ceaseless movement and gesticulation of the hands and eyes and head."

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the Cream of Cod-liver Oil, with hypophosphites, and watch them grow Fat, Chubby, Healthy, Bright. Physicians, the world over, endorse it.

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Government Analytical Chemist.

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