

THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

There are seventeen crematories in the United States.

Prior to 1657 tea was sold in England for \$50 a pound.

In 1690 the first paper mill was established in America.

France gathers a window tax on more than 9,000,000 houses.

Neighbor was once only a high-boor, or the boor or farmer who lived nearest.

Azure, bazaar, chess, lilac, sash, scarlet, turban and orange are Persian words.

It is estimated that in Europe over 600,000 women hold public appointments.

Lawn is fine linen bleached on the lawn instead of the ordinary drying ground.

Ducats were originally duke's money; first made in the Duchy of Apulia in 1140.

Kid gloves are sewed with cotton thread, as it does not cut the kid as readily as silk.

Moscow's founding asylum, founded by Catherine II., is kept up by a tax on playing cards.

The Waltham watchmaking establishment employs 1,800 women among its 3,000 workmen.

The law limits the number of enlisted men constituting the standing army of the United States to 25,000.

Jerusalem now contains about 10,000 souls and the walls around it enclose less than half a section of land.

There are about 152,000 street cars in operation in the United States, most of them operated by electricity.

American railroadings is only about sixty-eight years old. The first railroad was begun in 1825 in Quincy, Mass.

There are 170,000 federal officeholders in the United States. Of these only 44,000 are governed by civil service rules.

Next to the Bible, Moody and Sankey's hymns have had a larger circulation than any other work in twenty-five years.

The English spend every year \$115,000,000 for sugar to sweeten their food; the people of this country, \$100,000,000.

Max Kaufman, a Berlin jeweler, has made a perfect ivory chariot with movable wheels, the whole weighing but two grains.

The longest artificial watercourse in the world is the Canal, 900 miles; the next is the Erie, 863. Each cost nearly \$10,000,000.

Richmond, Va., is built over a bed of chalk that contains 10,000,000 minute extinct shells to every cubic inch of the stratum.

In the orient drinking water is cooled by filling a porous earthenware jar, the evaporation being great enough to cool water on the hottest day in a few hours' time.

The wonderful miniature watch of King George III., which was kept for years as a curiosity in the Kensington museum, was about the size of one of our silver dimes.

The longest single span of telegraph wire in the world is over the River Krishna, between Bezvara and Bazwara, India, for a length of more than 6,000 feet, at a height of 1,200 feet.

The tower which is being erected by the Russians on the highest point of the Mount of Olives, at Jerusalem, is to be so high that both the Mediterranean and Dead Seas can be seen from the top.

Professor Lombroso, the Italian scientist, concludes after investigation that woman of the criminal and immoral type are invariably larger of hand and feet and smaller in the head than average women.

A cubic foot of fresh water weighs 62½ pounds; a cubic foot of salt water weighs 64½ pounds; a cubic foot of ice at 32 degrees weighs 57½ pounds. This is ascertained by weighing the different materials.

The first aerial voyage was made September 19, 1783, by a sheep, a cock and a duck to the height of 1,500 feet. The first human traveller through the air was M. Francois Pilate de Rozier, who mounted the following month in a free balloon.

The ten largest cities of the Union—New York, Brooklyn, Chicago, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, St. Louis, Cincinnati, San Francisco and Pittsburgh—furnish upward of 30 per cent. of the entire revenues of the postoffice department.

The ancient Persians burnt the books of the Phoenicians and Egyptians; Romans burnt the book of the Jews, of the Christians and of the Greek philosophers; Jews destroyed the Christian and pagan books, and Christians were equally destructive of pagan and Jewish literature.

There is a ripe side to the orange as well as to the peach. The stem half of the orange is usually not so sweet and juicy as the other half, not because it receives less sunshine, but possibly because the juice gravitates to the lower half, as the orange commonly hangs below its stem.

George III. is credited with having first dubbed the warriors of the law "The Devil's Own." When the Temple Company of Militia was paraded before the king he asked their commander what his men were, in private life. "They're lawyers!" "Then call them the Devil's Own," said his Majesty.

Captain John Ross, an old Pacific coast sailor, calls attention to the fact, not widely known, that the United States own 75 islands in the North and South Pacific. They are nearly all near the equator, and are mostly guano islands that Americans have taken possession of. The American coasting laws apply to them.

Paracelsus, the Teutonic scientist of the sixteenth century, is commonly credited with having discovered alcohol in the course of his experiments to find the "elixir of life." Instead of becoming immortal on earth, according to one account he died drunk. The real discovery of alcohol, however, probably belongs to a much earlier date.

Lac exudes from various species of Ficus. Shellac is prepared by melting natural lac and straining and compressing it into sheets. It is purer than the natural lac. Shellac is much used for lacquers and in the manufacture of sealing-wax. Some of the best gums are those of ancient origin. They are dug from the ground beneath the trees which yield them.



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QUEEN VICTORIA'S DAY.

How She Passes the Time from Early Morn Till After Dewy Eve.

The life which the Queen leads is this: She gets up soon after eight o'clock, breakfasts in her own room, and is employed the whole morning in transacting business; she reads all the dispatches, and has every matter of interest and importance laid before her.

At eleven or twelve Melbourne comes to her and stays an hour, more or less, according to the business he may have to transact.

At two she rides with a large suite (and she likes to have it numerous). Melbourne always rides on her left hand, and the equestrian-in-waiting generally on her right.

She rides for two hours along the road, and the greater part of the time at a full gallop. After riding she amuses herself for the rest of the afternoon with music and singing, playing, romping with children, if there are any in the castle (and she is so fond of them that she generally contrives to have some there) or any other way she fancies.

The hour of dinner is nominally 7.30 o'clock, soon after which time the guests assemble, but she seldom appears till near 8.

The lord-in-waiting comes into the drawing-room, and instructs each gentleman which lady he is to take to dinner.

When the guests are all assembled the Queen comes in, preceded by the gentlemen of her household, and followed by the Duchess of Kent and all her ladies; she speaks to each lady, bows to the men, and goes immediately into the dining-room.

She generally takes the arm of the man of the highest rank, but on this occasion she went in with Mr. Stephenson, the American Minister (though he has no rank), which was very wisely done.

Melbourne invariably sits on her left, no matter who may be there: she remains at table the usual time, but does not suffer the men to sit long after her, and we were summoned to coffee in less than a quarter of an hour.

In the drawing-room she never sits down till the men make their appearance. Coffee is served to them in the adjoining room, and then they go into the drawing-room, when she goes round and says a few words to each, of the most trivial nature, all, however, very civil and cordial in manner and expression.

When this little ceremony is over, the Duchess of Kent's white table is arranged, and then the round table is marshalled, Melbourne invariably sitting on the left hand of the Queen, and remains there without moving until the evening is at an end.

At about 11.30 she goes to bed, or whenever the Duchess has played her usual number of rubbers and the band has performed all the pieces on its list for the night. This is the whole history of her day. She orders and regulates every detail herself.

Call Him a Dangerous Agitator.

American temperance agitators would not enjoy themselves in Austria. A native of a small village, after a long cataleptic trance, a year ago, declared that he had been to heaven and had been commissioned by the Almighty to return and teach the peasants the wickedness of drinking spirits.

Noon the entire village took an oath of total abstinence. The district governor committed the man to the mad house, where the doctor's kept him for six months and then declared him sane. He resumed his agitation, and in a short time seven villages had taken vows of abstinence. The result was that a number of liquor dealers to whom the government had granted license refused to keep their contracts. The district judge gave orders that the dangerous agitator be arrested if caught preaching abstinence. The man has not left his house for weeks. Deputations come to him from far and wide to hear his words and to repeat them when they return home. The authorities are consulting the dealers by declaring that the peasants must soon drink again.

Jam from Roses.

The uncounted millions of roses grown in Roumelia are not merely turned to account by the rose farmers for sale to the manufacturers of that powerful essence which enlivened in long, slender, carefully-stoppered bottles lettered with gold, is still so popular throughout the East, although it has well-nigh gone out of fashion in most parts of Europe.

Many tons weight of their leaves, gathered and packed whilst they are freshly fallen are converted into rose-jam, one of the exquisite preserves, which constitutes a leading feature in the light but toothsome refreshment offered to the casual visitor in every well-to-do Oriental household.

Rose-jam, considered as a sweetmeat, is far superior in flavour and savour to the somewhat cloying preserves of more civilized countries.

In Memory of Two Men.

The following epitaph is to be found in the Cross Kirk Yard, Shetland, on a handsome mausoleum:

DONALD ROBERT ON.

Born 1st January, 1785; died 4th June, 1848, aged 63 years. He was a peaceful and quiet man, and to all appearance a sincere Christian. His death was very much lamented, which was caused by the stupidity of

LAWRENCE TULLOCH, of Clontarf.

who sold him nitre instead of Epsom salts, by which he was killed in the space of three hours after taking a dose of it.

Seasonable Suggestions.

Cease the music's merry strain, It is Lent!

Pleasant days will come again After Lent.

Smiles are not at all correct During Lent.

Now the time is to reflect All through Lent.

Even the skies above will frown, And the rain will tumble down, And my one umbrella's gone, It is Lent!

The Biggest Lottery of All.

Rose—Couldn't we get up a lottery for the benefit of the church?

Daisy—A lottery! Our minister is so opposed to lotteries that he has conscientious scruples about performing the marriage service.

Asthma Cured

By Schiffmann's Asthma Cure. No waiting results. Its action is immediate, rapid and certain. Price 50 cents and \$1.00 of Druggists or by mail. Trial package to convince the most skeptical, free. Address Dr. R. Schiffmann, St. Paul, Minn.

"She Looketh Well"

to the ways of her household." Yes, Solomon is right; that's what the good housekeeper everywhere does, but particularly in Canada.

But her ways are not always old ways. In fact she has discarded many unsatisfactory old ways. For instance, to-day she is using

the New Shortening, instead of lard. And this is in itself a reason why "she looketh well" in another sense, for she eats no lard to cause poor digestion and a worse complexion.

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MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

Miss Helen Gould of New York gave away exactly \$800 in money last month to the poor.

The tallest soldier in the Belgian army is Charles Louis Becaus, who stands 6 feet 6 1/4 inches in his stocking feet. He is allowed double rations.

To present a splendidly-bound copy of his book to the Sultan, F. D. Thompson, a New York clubman, will travel to Constantinople, 5200 miles.

William Dixon, a resident of Central New York, has three hands, the regular ones and another, much smaller, on his back just above the waist.

Mrs. Amelia Barr has tired of writing all novels, so now she is preparing a weekly essay in addition to the four novels a year which she contracts to turn out.

Dr. Mary Siganuma is an American, married to a Japanese official, and she is the first woman physician to whom the Japanese government has granted permission to practise.

Donald Mackay, who had been in the service of the Prince of Wales as his piper for twenty years, died recently, and at the funeral, at which eight pipers played, the Prince and his household were represented.

Miss Gertrude Mitchell of Liverpool, 18 years of age, has achieved the first place in all England and Wales in the examinations for the Queen's scholarship. Her triumph is gained over 4750 competitors.

Robert Buchanan, who is perhaps the best-known and best-praised literary man in England, has been setting traps for the critics, and has now taken revenge by exposing relentlessly some of their weaknesses.

Mrs. Wanamaker of Philadelphia will make a sensation soon in the charitable world by giving away a large building for educational purposes. She is a quiet woman in not very good health, but her daughters and her husband assist her.

Miss Helen Nicolay, the daughter of the Lincoln biographer, is a clever amateur artist, and her delicate little landscapes are always well hung at picture exhibitions. Miss Nicolay is also an invaluable assistant to her father, and helped with the seven-times-read proofs of the Lincoln biography.

Mr. Thompson, of Saltwood, the veteran East Kent fox hunter, has celebrated his ninety-second birthday. He has been in the hunting field during the present season, and in his ninetieth year he was often seen taking fences, brooks and other obstacles while young men "walked round."

Yung Monson, who recently escaped hanging in Scotland through a verdict of "not proven," is delivering lectures on the subject of his trial, and is filling the papers with hints of a forthcoming book on the mystery of young Hamtrough's death. He has also sold the privilege to Tausand of including a wax figure of him in the Chamber of Horrors.

To the long lists of distinguished Jesuits who have passed to their reward within a year in England has been added the name of Fr. John Walford, who came of a literary family, was for a time master of Eton school, where his eminent classical attainments won for him great distinction. At the age of 30 he was received into the catholic church, and at once entered the Society of Jesus.

William Lane Booker, the British Consul-General, at New York, who has just been knighted, remains thoroughly British in outward aspect after nearly forty years residence in America. He is above medium height, neither stout nor spare, ruddy, grizzled, blue-eyed, and slightly bent at the shoulders. He walks rapidly, and pays little attention to persons or things upon the street. It used to be said that one of his duties was to receive the rents from Queen Victoria's real estate in New York.

Lady Frances Wilsely, the heiress to her father's title, is a tall, graceful girl, with a round, lovable face, dark eyes and magnificent hair, which curls prettily round her brow and softens her high broad forehead, says a writer in the Ladies' Home Journal. She is slight and well made, and altogether an admirable example of the girl of the present day. It is easy to see by her every movement that she must excel in the sports and pastimes in which this generation of English women delights. But of all the forms of exercise dear to Miss Wilsely, that of riding is unquestionably the favorite. She is a splendid horsewoman, and is never so happy as when seated on Blackberry her pet mare. She has the reputation of being a wonderful straight rider in a hunting field. Dancing too is a favorite amusement of hers.

Put a Leading Question.

Professor Drummond, recalling some of his experiences with the interviewer in this country, said to a writer in a New York paper: "The day before sailing from New York I was called upon at my hotel by a representative of one of the New York dailies. On being shown in he at once began: 'How to Make Love?' I said, 'No.' 'What, did you not write that?' 'No.' 'Are you quite sure it wasn't you?' 'Quite sure.' 'Well, that's strange. However, you are going to lecture to-night?' 'Well, I am going to talk a little.' 'To whom?' 'To students.' 'What about?' 'Well—about—Christianity.' 'Ah! (whipping out his notebook)—What is your opinion of Christianity?'"

Just What It Was.

"What is a skeleton? Can you tell me children?"

The infant class looked puzzled. Their ideas on the subject were of the most vague description, and they seemed to think, hardly worth mentioning. The question passed down the class, almost to the very foot, meeting only a blank look or a shake of the head, until at last the smallest tot of all ventured a reply:

"Peathe, mith, it ith a man without any meat on it."

Between Rent Days.

"I tell you that idleness doesn't pay. The surest way for a person to get ahead is to keep moving." "I fancy you're right. That's the way four or five tenants got ahead of me last week."



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