

The World's Water.
The surface of the sea is 150,000,000 square miles, the whole surface of the globe is 200,000,000, and its greatest depth equals the height of the highest mountain, or four miles.

Free Lances.
After the crusades a great many knights and their esquires found themselves out of employment. Wand'ring from state to state, selling their services to any lord who was willing to pay them their price, they were given the very appropriate name of "free lances"—men who were at liberty to fight for any one who wanted them.

Air Cleaned Paintings.
In some of the European art galleries the dust is removed from the paintings and statuary by means of an air pump, a jet of air being thrown with great force against the articles which needs dusting.

Cromwell's Eyes.
In one of Carlyle's private letters written in London he says: "Oliver Cromwell had no squint, stare or deficiency of any kind in the eyes of him. One eye, probably the left, but I am not sure, was considered bigger than the other."

Whistling Cure For Stammering.
A most effective cure for stammering is the method adopted by the British army council, a half hour's whistling practice daily, regularly, with the tongue inflated only. Numbers of soldiers have been cured by this method.

Brushing a Hat.
A hat should always be brushed in the direction opposite to the hands of a clock. Otherwise the pile of the felt is taken out and the hat given a shabby, poor appearance.

Peruvian Silver Mines.
The old Caylloma silver mines in Peru are situated higher than any other in the world, being between 14,000 and 17,000 feet. It is believed that they were first worked by the Incas.

Washing Decanters.
After washing decanters turn them upside down and allow water from the hot water tap to run over them. In about five minutes' time they will be beautifully dry inside, and if the outside is carefully wiped and rubbed they will sparkle beautifully.

Norway's Wooden Churches.
Some of the wooden churches of Norway are fully 700 years old and are in an excellent state of preservation. Their timbers have successfully resisted the frosty and almost arctic temperatures because they have been repeatedly coated with tar.

How Government Money Is Thrown Away by Bungling Officials.

the military director (who now name estimates and controls the progress of expenditure) "are transient and changeable," and "require very expensive notions, and only get to know their work thoroughly by the time they are dismissed." The committee of Public Accounts next turns its vigilant eye on South Africa. It approves the expenditure of the Government in South Africa, but a contract with the municipal council of Stellenbosch in 1954 for a supply of 80,000 ellens per diem, the contract to run for twenty years. As the price of the ellens is not fixed, and the daily requirements of the troops are already much below the contract price, the committee is to obtain an equitable reduction in the annual payment. The committee then, wondering how it was possible that the Government should have a local command to bind the country to pay a large sum of money for a supply of goods which it could obtain at a lower price, asks the question to the home authorities for confirmation. The evidence is that the Government had disclosed bribery in connection with various contracts for supplies. In accordance with the bribery law, the Government had to pay a fine of 10 per cent. is recovered in such cases. In every establishment, the Government has a firm is automatically removed from the list of Government contractors. Under the Military Works Loan scheme, the committee's attention has been drawn by the controller and the auditor to the enormous expenses of the loss of public money to successive chances of policy. The Government has to pay a loss to the public of between £10,000 and £150,000 in erecting a Mount. The committee, which was closed July 1, 1959.

ramous *Lilac* tree.
The most interesting objects of interest in the gardens of Eastern Edge, Dumnow, Eng., the residence of the Earl and Countess of Warwick, are the *Lilacs*, of which one occupies a conspicuous position on the terrace. This tree is the finest specimen of its kind in the United Kingdom. It is a standard tree, 100 feet and a height of 16 feet and it so dense a growth and blossoms so profusely that it is called the *Lilac* bouquet of *Lilac* blossom. The tree is that commonly known as the *Prunella*, and described by the botanists as *Prunella*, but it is a native of either Persia or China. It was raised in the Royal Botanic Garden in 1786 by the cultivation of the *Lilac* tree and the *Lilac* tree is the commonest of British gardens. It was of the proportions at the middle of the 18th century, and it is now of such magnificent display of blossoms that in the flowering season Viscountess Lady Warwick's grandchildren, the Duke of Devonshire, and the Duke of Devonshire in London to enjoy the beauty and fragrance of the flowers.

Ideas and Inspiration Taken by
One Author From Another.

poets. Literature is not a repository of stolen goods. What seem like stealings by the steel pen are rather the output of the lapidary or a reissue of the mint or, better still, the borrowed words of a poet. "I have stolen," says it is wonderful," says Charles Reade, "how genius can borrow." "All literature," remarks Oliver Wendell Holmes, "lives by borrowing and lending," and he adds, "A good image is like a diamond which may be set a hundred times in as many generations and gain new beauties with every setting." This is not a question of originality. "The lighting a candle at a neighbor's lamp," observes Deane, "does not affect the originality of the wick and flame." "Genius borrows nobly." The transference is after a transmutation. For brass, the borrower brings gold, and for iron, the borrower brings wood, and for steel, iron. The crude ore is refined, and the raw material fashioned into a thing of beauty.

the morning roses newly washed in dew,
At midnight from "L'Allegro" speaks
Fresh blows roses washed in dew,
Milton is a very mine to man. Pope
his debtor. Milton's "Smoky Sor-
res"—a woman to the waist and
and a hanging foot for many a sea-
and old voluntee. Pope was made to
they. "They call me sin and for a sign
of sentences hold me; but, familiar
and a pleasant and the pleasure
Tavernum must have had in mind
Pope's:

Is a monster of a frightful mien
As a hater of the deed; but to seem
as too soon, familiar with her face,
A pleasant and the pleasure
Tavernum must have had in mind
Pope's:

Hanging in a golden chain
The world
when he wrote:

the whole round world is every way
bound by gold chains about the feet of
Penney. Indeed, derives much of his
quaint imagery and felicitous phras-
es from authors whose names, even

—S. B. Dunn in Circle Magazine.

USED BIBLE AS CIPHER

were afraid. The pet sister was a moonstruck
womans young lady and had long been
a goodly train of suitors a-sighing
Was this affair to be the grand affair for
the older sister hoped so, for she liked
the thought of a richly-cordially-theory
was just the sort she saw to be a proper
brother-in-law.

But the weeks passed, and not a bit
of definite news about the progress of
the affair did the older sister receive
In fact she felt that the matter
could excite. Loosely, she thought
must not go on. Recklessly trifling it
such important matters.

Then one night about 10 o'clock, James
as she was going to bed, came a telegram
which brought it up. It was from
The elder sister was country girl
enough to be thoroughly frightened by
the pale manila, black inked envelope
How ominous it looked! At length she
gathoured courage to open it. This is

THE SPECTER SWIMMER.

A Legend of the Sea That Still Appeals to Sailors.

The sailor as a class still holds fast to the superstitions that have been his special heritage throughout all ages. To him the sea is still peopled with phantoms. Men there are still who feel the sea believing in the power of the Swimmer, men who believe in the Walm of unholy fame and in the existence of the specter shark. Lucy to be seen at any time dodging in and out of the creeks and bays of the South Carolina coast. This is the tale of the Swimmer.

Near Cape Pinckney there lived a maiden in years when the world asked fewer questions than now, and with her lived her father sweetheart. In their wedding night, runs the yarn,

ad disappeared, whether with them
r through them was never known.

men enshrined her in a legend which
has her forever swimming the seas
in search of the man she loved
and hailing each craft she dears. A
Yankee, be he Yankee or Portuguese,
matter of fact in all things else or
grossly superstitious, believes firmly
that if you hear the hail of the Swimmer
on a dark night at sea and an-
swer it not woe follows swiftly.

1970-1971

**Death of Thomas Wakley Recalls
Dramatic Episode.**

terrible sentence passed on the Cato street conspirators, Thistlewood, Ings, Bruff, Davidson and Tidd, a sentence which prescribed that after being hanged their heads should be cut off and held up to the crowd, the executioner shouting, "This is the head of a traitor!" To carry out this sentence the sheriffs of London were in a considerable difficulty. The ordinary hangman was not equal to the task, and it was doubtful whether anybody could be found to wield an

fire of an hour, when he was aroused from his stupor by flames, immense volumes rushing down the staircase. Mrs. Williams had set fire to the house. The surgeon, with difficulty, arose and crawled through a skylight into the street. The house was completely destroyed, and no clue was ever found to the perpetrators.

It was not until the thought Mr. Wakley could not recover, but his strong constitution save him. He was, however, not at the end of his misfortune, for he was obliged to go to court to pay the insurance money, and he was forced to bring an action to clear his name. He was obliged to prove that he had himself set fire to the house.

He won the day, and the truth of

The grim humor of soldiers is not often displayed on tombstones, but here is an inscription from the cemetery at Winchester, revealed on a walking tour in those parts:

"In memory of Thomas Thetcher, a Grenadier of the North Regiment of Hants Militia, who died of a violent fever contracted by drinking small beer when hot, the 11th of May, 1764, aged twenty-six years.

"In grateful remembrance of whose universal good will toward his com-

Whether he died by musket or by pot.
"This stone was placed by the
h Hants Militia when disembod-
ed Winchester on April 26, 1802, in
sequence of the original stone be-
destroyed.—London Tribune.

Princess Royal's Health.
ere is still a great deal of anxiety
the health of the Princess
al, who is again leaving England
a long cruise with her family. A
known specialist is a constant
at her house, in Portman
are, London, and he feels very
arned about. Her Royal Highness

which has been boiled is due to the fact that the dissolved air which remained has been expelled in the

The giants of Tierra del Fuego, the Yana Indians, are stunted in intellect.

Elihu Burritt.

An early American peace-maker was Elihu Burritt, the blacksmith of Andover, Connecticut. It was mainly by his efforts that the Paris peace congress of 1849 practically owed its existence. Though now almost forgotten, the same principles were discussed and the same propositions laid down as

The kinetoscope was invented in 1893 by Thomas A. Edison, the first series of photographs being of the strong man Sandow at New York, March 7, 1894.

The sycamore has been called the Egyptian fig tree. The date of its being planted in England is not known, but it was very early. Mary, queen of Scots, brought over from France a young sycamore, which she planted in the gardens of Holyrood, and from this have sprung all the beautiful groves of sycamores now to be seen in Scotland.

Slot Machines.
The first coin in the slot machine dates back to Egypt's halcyon days. It was an automatic receptacle which held holy water and was placed at the doors of the temples in which the Egyptians worshipped daily. A tiny coin was dropped into the basin and immediately a certain amount of water was ejected.

Water as a Tonic.
Water is said to be one of the best nerve tonics, and physicians frequently recommend patients suffering from nervous prostration to drink plenty of water between meals. To some persons water is as bracing as wine, and is distinctly soothing when sipped slowly.

Private Soldiers.

It will surprise most persons, says the Army and Navy Journal, to learn that the cost to the government of maintaining a private soldier is but a trifle more than it was thirty years ago. It was about \$830 then and is about the same now.

Mending an Umbrella.
To mend an umbrella from which the handle has become detached from the reel rod fill the hole in the handle with powdered rosin, heat the end of the rod most red hot and put it back in the