

Facts and Figures.

The Bank of England contains silver ingots which have lain in the vaults since 1696.

Britz, a suburb of Berlin, is one large rose garden. The number of roses cut daily in season is about 13,000.

A dog show which opened at the Crystal Palace, London, recently, contained 3,503 entries, valued at \$1,250,000.

The elephants in the London Zoological gardens earn \$4,000 a year by carrying visitors about on their backs.

The oldest lighthouse in existence is at Corunna, Spain. It was erected in the reign of Trajan and was rebuilt in 1634.

A recent weighing of dandelion down has shown that 1,000,000 of the dainty parachutes are needed to make a pound.

Sea weeds do not obtain nourishment from the soil at the bottom of the sea, but from the matter contained in sea water.

Japan's Fisheries.

Japan leads the world in the economical and scientific development of its fisheries. It has more persons engaged in this industry than any other nation. Sharks are among the commonest food fishes of Japan. They are sent to the markets to be "butchered" like beeves in other countries.

The extent of the Japanese fisheries may be judged from the size of some of the nets employed by the fishermen. A net employed for catching yellowtails recently seen was more than a mile long. It had a bag 900 feet long, 250 feet wide at its mouth, and 125 feet deep. On one occasion 10,000 fish, averaging twenty pounds in weight, were taken at a single haul.

Windmills as Newspapers.

In Holland, births, marriages, and deaths, instead of being recorded in newspapers, are indicated by windmills. When a miller gets married he stops his mill with the arms of the

MAGIC BAKING
POWDER.
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TRIED IT?



GILLET'S
GOODS
ARE
THE BEST!



SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

Sir John Sinclair, a Scottish baronet, has presented gramophones and records to 300 asylums and institutions, on condition that they are played to the inmates for half an hour every day.

During the past 20 years 2,061 balloon and airship ascents have taken place in Germany, and only 36 cases of accident have befallen the 7,570 persons taking part in them. Consequently one trip in 57 comes to grief, or one aeronaut in 210 meets with an accident.

The Khedive of Egypt is one of the potentates who have profited, both morally and financially, from the protection of Britain. In addition to his annual grant of \$500,000 he has amassed an enormous private fortune, and his morals are infinitely better.

The most valuable desolate islands in the world are the Liakows, in the Arctic Ocean, off the mouth of the Lena, in Siberia. They are frost-bound and utterly barren save for arctic moss, but they contain such enormous quantities of fossil ivory that they are exceedingly valuable—in fact, although uninhabited save for the ivory diggers, and of themselves incapable of supporting life, they produce a revenue of \$5,000,000 a year.

wheel in a slanting position and with the sails unfurled. His friends and guests frequently do likewise with their mills, in token of the ceremony.

To indicate a birth the wheel is stopped with the arms in a slanting position, but at a more acute angle than for a marriage, and with the two upper sails unfurled.

Should a miller die, the sails of his mill are all furled and the wheel is turned round until the arms form an upright cross, in which position they are left until after the funeral has taken place.

The Mexican Bridegroom.

The bridegroom in Mexico finds marriage a very costly business. He is expected to buy the trousseau, and he is fortunate if he can satisfy the extravagance sanctioned by custom and prompted by ardent passion. Young men from the country are said to be often seen in the City of Mexico purchasing all sorts of finery for the ladies of their choice, and the spectacle they present as they consult the measurements, which they carry with them for all sorts of garments, is very amusing.



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