

THINGS WORTH KNOWING.

Russian farmers hold an average of twenty-seven acres to each family.

There were 315 suicides in New York last year, against 241 in 1892.

It is calculated that 27,000 widowers remarry as against 18,500 widows.

Business worries are said to be the cause of twelve per cent. of the cases of insanity.

Japan, according to a new census just completed, shows a population of 41,089,940.

Brandy contains more alcohol than any other spirits or wines—namely, 54 per cent.

Eighty of the towns in Great Britain supply the names of one hundred towns in America.

Wheat that is grown in northern latitudes produces much more seed than grain grown further south.

The old churchyards in the city of London contain, it is estimated, over 36,000 tons of human remains.

France now has 448,000 places for the sale of liquor, an increase of nearly ninety thousand in twenty years.

The death rate throughout the world has been estimated at 57 per minute; and the birth number about 70 per minute.

Malta has a language of its own, derived from the Carthaginian and Araman tongues. The nobility of the island speak Italian.

New York has the biggest gas tank in the world. It towers high above the buildings in West 55th street and holds 4,000,000 feet.

The railway mileage of Europe, Asia and Africa, now aggregate 159,655 miles. The railways of the United States reach 168,597 miles.

Postage stamps in the form of stamped envelopes were first used by M. DeVelay, who owned a private post in the city of Paris in the reign of Louis XIV.

Lemons were used by the Romans to keep moths from their garments, and in the time of Piny they were considered an excellent poison. They are natives of Asia.

When the ostrich is to be divested of its plumage, a long hook is placed on its head and it is then confined in a railed inclosure about three feet square. The birds rarely show fight.

The word alderman was originally written "ealdorman," signifying "elder man," which was used in the earlier parts of the Saxon period as a name of dignity, unconnected with office.

In 1835 the rate of wages in Europe was very low. Day laborers in Italy received 8 cents per day; in Russia, 12 cents; in Holland, 18 cents; in France, 30; in England, 40; in the United States, 84 cents.

The Czar of Russia receives no salary. His income arises from 1,000,000 square miles of land that he owns, comprising farms, forests, mines and other resources. He is estimated to be worth \$12,000,000 a year.

In the shop of a St. Petersburg watchmaker a human-faced clock is on view—the only one of its kind. The hands are pivoted on its nose, and any messages that may be spoken into its ear are repeated by a phonograph through its mouth.

There are 1,930 breweries and 4,791 distilleries in the United States. The Empire State of New York leads in the number of both, Pennsylvania being second. In breweries Wisconsin stands third on the list, and California fourth. Illinois is third in distilleries and California fourth.

If a train, moving at the speed of twenty miles an hour, were suddenly stopped, the passengers would experience a shock equal to that of falling from a second-floor window; at thirty miles an hour, they might as well fall from a height of three pairs of stairs, and an express train would, in point of fact, make them fall from a fourth storey.

London requires 600,000 cows to supply it with the products of the dairy, 84,000 being needed for milk alone. Nearly 11,000 of these "milk machines" spend their lives in sheds, and hardly ever see daylight, so to speak; 4,000 are engaged in delivering the products, and rather more than 30,000 hands are engaged permanently in the traffic.

The longest ocean cable in the world is that of the Eastern Telegraph company, whose system extends from England to India, and measures 21,000 miles. Africa is now completely encircled by submarine cables, which make up altogether a length of 17,000 miles. There are eleven cables across the North Atlantic, though not all of them are at present in use.

A piece of string makes a simple barometer. Take a piece of string about 15 in. long saturate it in a strong solution of salt and water, let it dry, and then tie a light weight on one end and hang it up against a wall, and mark where the weight reaches to. The weight rises for wet weather, and falls for fine. The string should be placed where the outside air can freely get to it.

Coffee has been in use from the earliest times in Abyssinia and Arabia, but it was not brought into Europe, at Constantinople, until the sixteenth century, and not into England until the seventeenth. The year 1659 is given as the date when this beverage was introduced in London, but to-day Europe consumes more than 6,000,000 bags a year, and the consumption constantly grows.

The first needles that were made in England were manufactured in Cheshire, in the time of Queen Mary, by a negro from Spain, but as he would not impart the secret, it was lost at his death, and not recovered again till 1566, in the reign of Elizabeth, when Elias Grouse, a German, taught the art to the English, who have since brought it to the highest degree of perfection.

It is believed that lightning is visible at a distance of 150 miles, but opinions still differ as to how far away thunder can be heard. A French astronomer has made observations on the subject, and he declares it impossible for thunder to be heard at a greater distance than ten miles. An English meteorologist has counted up to 130 seconds between the flash and the thunder, which would give a distance of twenty-seven miles.

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Annapolis, N. S., Dec. 20, 1893.

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Truly yours, S. A. DYER

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No extra charge.

I have the exclusive right for all time to use the method in this city.

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ROUGH ON THE DOCTORS.

A Ghost Story that is supposed to have a Moral for Somebody.

In one of the towns in Spain there was a certain man who was gifted with a very peculiar kind of second sight. Whenever he passed a doctor's he could see outside the door the ghosts of all those patients who had died during the time they had been attended by the doctor.

It came to pass that he himself fell ill, and it was necessary that he should seek the assistance of a physician, so he started out to find the best one he could. He went to the houses of all the medical men who were considered the cleverest in the place, but he found the doorways so crowded with ghosts that he feared to go in.

After traversing the principal streets and not discovering a single doctor worthy, as he thought, of confidence, he at last turned into an alley, and there, outside the house of a seemingly insignificant doctor, he saw a solitary little white ghost glimmering.

Thinking that he must be a very clever doctor who had killed one person, he went into the house and was attended to by the doctor whom he had thus discovered. As he was departing, the doctor said to him—

"My good sir, I cannot think who could have recommended you to come to an insignificant man like myself, for during the whole time I have practiced I have only had one patient, and I am sure that he could not possibly have told you."

DONERY ELECTRICITY.

Where a Waterfall Does the Cooking as Well as the Work.

Great Falls, Montana, appears fairly entitled to the distinction of being called the electric city. At Black Eagle Falls, three miles above the town, an immense dam has been thrown across the Missouri. Not only are the street cars propelled and lighted by electricity from the power-house, but they are heated as well by electric radiators placed in each car.

Elevators, printing presses, cranes and all kinds of machinery are operated by the ubiquitous force. There are automatic excavators, electric pumps and electric rock crushers. A not uncommon sight on the street is a mortar-mixer attached to an electric wire leading down from a pole.

The restaurants cook by electricity, the butcher employs it to chop his sausages, the grocer to grind his coffee and the tailor to beat his goose. The subtle fluid is a welcome blessing in every home; the housewives run their sewing machines and heat their flatirons by electricity; they bake their cakes in wooden electric ovens, that can be set away on a shelf like pasteboard boxes. They have electric broilers and teakettles.

What a singular anomaly when one pauses to think of the fact that the broiling steaks and heating flatirons through the instrumentality of a waterfall!

Why Oysters are Brain Food.

Urging the use of oysters as food, an exchange says: "Speaking roughly, a quart of oysters contains, on the average, about the same quantity of actual nutritive substance as a quart of milk or a pound of very lean beef, or a pound and a half of fresh cod-fish, or two-thirds of a pound of bread. But while the weight of actual nutritive material named is very nearly the same, the quality is widely different. That of the very lean meat or codfish, consists mostly of what are called in chemical language protein compounds, or 'flesh formers'—the substances which make blood, muscle, tendon, bone, brain and other nitrogenous tissues. That of the bread contains but little of these, and consists chiefly of starch, with a little of these and other compounds, which serve the body as fuel, and supply it with heat and muscular power.

The nutritive substance of oysters contains considerable of both the flesh-forming and the more especially heat and force-giving ingredients.

Dudes in the Crab Family.

Some species array themselves elaborately by gathering bits of seaweed, chewing the ends, and sticking them in the shell, so that they look like stones covered with weed. They spend hours, with the utmost perseverance, in making these pieces adhere, by trying the same piece over and over again till they succeed. These crabs have a fine sense of symmetry, too, and always put a red piece on one limb to match the red piece on the other, and a green piece to match a green piece, though how they know red from green in the dark pools where they live is hard to say, unless it is by taste or smell. When once their dress is completed, it improves the older it becomes, as the weed actually grows on them.

Date of the First Newspaper.

The first newspaper was the Gazette, published in Nuremberg in 1457 and thereafter at intervals. In 1534 appeared in the same city the first Neue Zeitung, an Hispanian and Italian, and at a date between these two appeared the Cologne Chronicle. These early newspapers are not contained in any library, so far as Hudson indicates; the earliest printed newspaper in existence is called the Gazzetta di Venice, is dated 1570, and is represented by a few copies in Venice, in the Magliabechian Library.

He Took all the Shoes.

A certain dog's master trained him to bring his shoes to him every day. One day the gentleman went with his dog to a hotel where almost every one put his shoes outside his door to be blacked.

In the morning no one had a shoe.

The dog had carried every pair into his master's room and piled them beside his bed.

Have You Asthma?

Dr. R. Schiffmann, St. Paul, Minn., will mail free a trial package of "Schiffmann's Asthma Cure" free to any sufferer. He advertises by giving it away. Never fails to give instant relief in worst cases and cures where others fail. Name this paper and send address for a free trial package.

His Sad Duty.

Mrs. Justwed—How fortunate I am in possessing a husband who always stays home in the evening. Her friend (sweedly)—I never thought he was very fond of pleasure.

Throwing a Kiss is something like dining in imagination on the rich bill of fare you sometimes see printed in the newspaper.

GOOD Food - Digestion - Complexion

are all intimately connected—practically inseparable. Though the fact is often ignored, it is nevertheless true that a good complexion is an impossibility without good digestion, which in turn depends on good food.

There is no more common cause of indigestion than lard. Let the bright housekeeper use

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MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

No German is a closer student of America than Bismarck.

Edgar Allen Poe was born in Boston eighty-five years ago, Friday, the 19th.

Irland claims the oldest twins in existence—Richard and John McGriff, aged ninety.

Princess May was named Louise, not after the Princess Louise, but after the Queen of Denmark, who is the first cousin of the Duchess of Teck.

Dr. Ernest Hart, of the British Medical Journal, estimates that cholera will be unknown 30 years hence, so rapid has been the advance of sanitary science.

There are few larger tea growers in Ceylon than F. A. Mackwood, an American. He is prominent in public life there as well as a leading man in the business world.

Many a child's heart has been gladdened by the Sunday school stories by "A. L. O. E." These letters stand for "A Lady of England." Miss Charlotte Mario Tucker, who died recently.

A few days ago there died in Christiana, at the age of a twenty-four, Dr. Henry Rink, a man who, besides other explorations, passed sixteen winters and twenty-two summers in Greenland.

"Never get tired of journalism," says Sir Edwin Arnold, "for it is the cleanest profession of all." During the last thirty years Sir Edwin himself has written, probably, more than 10,000 leading articles.

Under the direction of the Italian Folklore Society, the Queen of Italy devoted much time during the summer to the collecting of old folk-tales from the people in the Monte-Rosa valleys, where she spent a great part of her holidays.

Mrs. Cleveland is said to pay her servants extravagant wages and to treat them with great courtesy. They are allowed to have company and if there is a vacant attic or storeroom they may use it for dancing. They are required to attend some church.

John Byrnes is undoubtedly the oldest street-car driver in the world. He is employed on the Somerville avenue line, Boston, where he has driven cars for forty years, travelling in that time a distance equal to twenty-five times around the earth.

Among French journalists who have fought duels is M. Henri Rochetort, who on one occasion, so it is said, challenged M. Paul de Cassagnac, a rival editor and noted duellist, to an encounter with pistols at ten paces, one weapon only to be loaded. These conditions were refused.

A woman calling herself Mrs. Kitty Parnell, and claiming to be the widow of the dead Irish leader, has been victimizing confiding people in Kansas. She is described as being gentle as a kitten in getting into the good graces of the susceptible, and as sly as a cat in escaping the clutches of the law.

Mrs. Langtry is completing her reminiscences, in the form of a novel, having been at work upon it, periodically, for four years. She will publish, circulate and advertise the volume herself, and there will be no division of the profits. She is not in the habit of sharing money which falls in her direction.

Judge Stephen J. Field is 76 years of age. He has been a judge in the U. S. supreme court for thirty years. No other supreme court judge has served more than sixteen. Judge Field is the only Californian who has ever been honored with an important position in the federal government, executive judiciary, cabinet or military.

Justin H. McCarthy has translated nearly 150 of the poems of Hafiz, and his work has been published in England under the title of "Ghazels from the Divan of Hafiz." Hafiz was one who could sing most sweetly of his beloved's and of the worship of the grape, and Mr. McCarthy has most feelingly and with much grace rendered him into musical metrical prose.

Queen Mary of Hanover is probably the only Royal personage who enjoyed the luxury of reading her own obituary. While European papers were indulging in lamentations over her decease, she was walking about Kissingen in excellent health, and was greatly perturbed by the receipt of countless telegrams to her lady-in-waiting asking about her last moments.

A pen picture of Labouchere—a man of the world—keen, unbelieving, hard as nails; a mocker at everything, including himself—a "faneur" of the "faneurs," a boulevardier of the boulevardiers—with a sauntering gait, a slow, drawing and wearied voice and an eternal cigarette. His laziness is only physical and superficial. Mentally he is the most active, persistent, tireless of men.

Jan. 13, was the birthday anniversary of Samuel Woodworth (who was born Jan. 13, 1785), author of the "Old Oak Bucket." The orchard, the meadow, the deep tangled wildwood, and all the rest, including the old well and its pure sweet water remain the same as when he immortalized them in 1817. The place is in the village of Greenbush, in Schuette, Mass., and is still in the poet's family.

One of Prince Bismarck's hobbies has been the collecting of thermometers. Hardly a window in his house is without one, and altogether he has fully thirty of improved make about the place. The prince has all his life had a great fond