

Yet under steadfast men."

Russell was ordered into one of the boats carrying the women and children, for the purpose of commanding it, and he sat with dimmed eyes in the stern, some way of the doomed ship, watching the forms of his beloved comrades and fellows standing upright there. He saw the ship go down, carrying with it the hundreds of brave hearts. He saw those fearful creatures of the deep seizing their prey and heard the screams of scores of human beings torn to pieces by sharks. Then, just when all for him was safe, when to him was given (with honor) life, ambition, and glory, he saw a sailor's form rise close to the boat, and a hand strive to grasp the side. There was not room in the craft for a single person more without great risk of upsetting the boat.

But as the sailor's face rose clear at the boat side a woman in the craft called out in agony, "Save him! Save him! He is my husband!" No room in that boat for one more! But Russell looked at the woman, then at her children, then at the sailor struggling in the waves, with his eyes beseeching help, then at the dread sharks feasting on every hand.

Alexander Cumine Russell rose in the stern of the boat. With a bold plunge he jumped clear of it and helped that sailor into what had been his own place—and safety. Then, amid a chorus of "God bless you!" from every soul in the boat, the young officer—a lad of seventeen, mind!—turned round to meet his death. And those in the boat shut their eyes and prayed. When they opened them again Alexander Cumine Russell was nowhere to be seen!—Windsor Magazine.

The Most Curious of all Languages.

The word "pidgin" comes from the mispronunciation of the English word "business" by the Chinese, the nearest they could come to the proper pronunciation of the word being "pidzin" or "pidgin." To day, "pidgin" English is the universal medium; representatives of all nations use it, and the natives of many of the provinces have recourse to it. In a country like China, where there are as many dialects or, more properly, spoken languages as there are provinces, it is not an uncommon thing in provinces where trade with foreigners is carried on, for natives who do not understand each other's language to converse in "pidgin" English. One hears frequently in Shanghai, natives of Peking or Canton making their wants known to natives of Shanghai through the commercial language, "pidgin" English. This is peculiar, of course, only to those Chinese who are engaged in some form of intercourse or other with foreigners.

The "pidgin" English vocabulary proper contains perhaps forty words in all, and consists of murderously mutilated English words, as well as original native words and literal translation of Chinese idioms. These are also thrown in some Hindustani words, Portuguese, French, and Japanese words. Commodities are known by the terms applied to them whence they come. The verb "to be" seems to have no place in pidgin, the term "blong" seeming to answer most purposes of such a verb in all its forms. As for example, instead of saying, "Is it raining?" you would ask, "Blong rain?" The answer would be "Blong lain, or "No blong lain," as the case might be. The Chinaman has great difficulty in pronouncing the letter "i," and invariably gives the sound of the letter "l" in place of it. He never answers "yes" or "no." He repeats your question in the affirmative or negative as a statement.

"Have got" sometimes takes the place of the verb "to be," and also means in pidgin as it does in English, possession. Thus you would ask, as earlier illustrated, "Master have got?" for "Is the master or manager in?" "Have got," or "No have got," as the answer indicates clearly presence or non-presence. "My have got too muchee flend," means simply, "I have very many friends." "Too" is always used instead of "very;" thus, "too muchee" meaning "very much or many."—Burnett Goodwin, of Yale Alumni Weekly, in Leslie's Weekly.

Rare Old Dictionaries.

In a lecture on dictionaries at the British Royal Institution Dr. J. A. H. Murray stated that in the year 1604 was published the first attempt at a purely English dictionary, the "Table Alphabetical." The first book with the title of "An English Dictionary" was published in 1623. It is interesting to observe that these works were compiled chiefly for the use of "women and other unskilful persons." In 1721 appeared the first attempt at a complete dictionary of the English language, which was remarkable also for the introduction of the etymological treatment of words—that of Nathaniel Bailey. The special feature of Dr. Johnson's dictionary, based on this first dictionary, was the quotations, all gathered by Johnson himself and copied out by six assistants. They were printed without verification or reference, and the proofs were not carefully read; consequently many curious errors appeared—e.g., the confusion of coco with cocoa or cacao. In 1791 Dr. W. Kenwick introduced the marking of the pronunciation of words. With regard to the "Oxford Dictionary," Dr. Murray said that 2000 readers all over the world assisted; 100,000 volumes were contributed, and 6,000,000 quotations weighing six tons, were received. It was found that some words really had no existence whatever, and, though placed in former dictionaries, were merely printers' errors. He himself found a case in point. In one of Stevenson's books he found "charnel brean." Not being able to understand it, he wrote to the author, who replied that he had never corrected the proof, and that the real words were "charnel ocean."—Glasgow Leader.

Trouble With The Eyes.

A physician says: "The eye ball should be a clear, bluish white in color. If it has red streaks in it, there is trouble somewhere. If it is dull and yellow in color, that also is an indication of disease. And in most cases the seat of trouble is not in the eye itself, nor the cure in various eye washes. The stomach, which is accountable for most things, is generally accountable for the bright or lack-luster condition of the eyes. To make dull eyes shine, therefore, the best thing is antidysetpic medicine. One symptom of sick headache is the dancing before the eyes of innumerable specks. The proper treatment for this is a seidlitz powder and a darkened room. Darkness is the best possible thing for eyes that have much work to do, and merely to close them for five minutes at a time produces a rested feeling, which shows itself in their renewed brightness. Bathing tired eyes in water as hot as can be borne and then closing them for some time is an excellent daily practice. But absolutely nothing but water should ever be allowed to touch the eyes except by the direction of an oculist.

Baby's Danger.

The fact that so called soothing medicines put children to sleep is no sign that they are helpful. On the contrary they are dangerous and distinctly harmful—the little one has been merely drugged into temporary insensibility, the seat of the trouble has not been reached. Never give a child an opiate except under the watchful eye of a competent physician, and remember that all "soothing" medicines contain opiates. When your little one is not well, when it has any little stomach or bowel trouble, or any of the minor ailments of little ones give it Baby's Own Tablets, and it will be safe. This medicine is sold under a guarantee that it contains no opiate or harmful drug. Ask any mother who has used this medicine and she will tell you how her little one has thrived and grown well and strong after taking the Tablets. Mr. T. B. Mitchell, the well known druggist, Oshawa, Ont., says:—"I can safely recommend Baby's Own Tablets from the splendid results they have given my customers and from having used them in our own home." You can get the Tablets from any druggist or by mail from the Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., at 25 cents a box.

"Wife"—"Weaver."

"What do you think the beautiful word 'wife' comes from?" asks Ruskin. "It is the great word with which the English and Latin languages conquered the French and Greek. I hope the French will some day get a word for it instead of that of femme. But what do you think it comes from? The great value of the Saxon words is that they mean something. Wife means 'weaver.' You must either be housewives or housemoths, remember that. In the deep sense, you must either weave men's fortunes and embroider them, or feed upon and bring them to decay. Whenever a true wife comes home is always around her. The stars may be over her head, the glow-worm in the night's cold grass may be the fire at her feet; but home is where she is, and for a noble woman it stretches far around her, better than houses ceiled with cedar, or painted with vermilion, shedding its quiet light for those who else are homeless."

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