

printed in 1771, according to the scrap book of a friend,—that Shakespeare shut himself up all night in Westminster Abbey when he wrote the ghost scene in Hamlet?

Z.

Montreal,
March 20th, 1900.

11. WOMEN DISGUISED AS MEN.—I have seen somewhere that several women have been known, during a good portion of their lifetime, to have disguised themselves under the garb of man. Can any one give me some particulars about this practice, and let me know if any instances of the kind have occurred in America.

CURIOUS.

Vancouver, B. C.,
March 23rd, 1900.

12. WILLIAM PENN'S DESCENDANTS.—Did any of William Penn's descendants settle in England? I have a copy of a book published by Murray in London, in 1833, and entitled *Maxims and hints for an angler and miseries of fishing*. The author is R. Penn, F. R. S., who is claimed to have been a great-grandson of the founder of Pennsylvania.

T. J. WOODS.

Fairmount, Pa.
March 26th, 1900.

13. ORIGIN OF EPITHET FACTOTUM.—The following expression in Cavenish's *Life of Wolsey*: "He was Dominus fac totum to the King" seems to point to some ecclesiastical origin of the word. Does any one know the exact origin of this word?

B. B.

Ottawa, Ont.,
March 27th, 1900.

14. MADOC'S EXPEDITION TO CANADA.—Can any of your readers direct me to

the different authors who have treated of the alleged expedition of Madoc to America; or to any papers upon the subject which have appeared in any periodicals or transactions of learned societies.

A STUDENT.

Boston, Mass.,
March 11th, 1900.

15. AMERICAN RIFLEMEN.—I quote from an old sporting book entitled: *Rural Sports*, by the Revd. Wm. B. Daniel (London, 1813), the following paragraph:

"The *Certainty*, with which the AMERICANS, manage their *Rifle Guns*, PRIEST, in his *Travels in AMERICA*, gives this Account of. "During the late War, in 1775, a Company of *Rifle-men*, formed from the back Woodsmen of VIRGINIA, was quartered here (*Lancaster*, in NEW ENGLAND) for some time: Two of them *alternately* held a *Board*, only *nine inches square*, *between his Knees*, while his *Comrade* fired a *Ball* through it, from a Distance of *one hundred Paces*! The *Board* is still preserved: and I am assured, by *several* who were *present*, that it was performed, without any Manner of Deception."

Is this legendary board still in existence, and where? or is this simply a gratuitous affirmation?

A SHOOTER.

New Brighton, N. Y.,
March 5th, 1900.

16. USE OF COFFINS.—How long has it been the custom to inter the dead in coffins? In a *table of Duties*, dated 11th December, 1664, and preserved at Shoreditch church, (England), it is mentioned:

"For a buryall in the New Church Yard without a coffin, 00 00 08.
"For a buryall in y^e Old Church