

### Interesting Facts.

Three thousand marriages are performed every day all over the world.

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes was an enthusiastic amateur photographer. When he presented a picture to his friend, he wrote on the back of it, "Taken by O. W. Holmes and Sun."

France still holds the record for national debt. She owes \$151 per capita. Great Britain stands second and owes \$91 per capita. Germany is third with a debt of \$60 per capita.

It is authoritatively stated that President McKinley was snap-shotted by camera flenda 3,000 times during eighteen months. This is on an average of more than five times a day.

In a church at West Kensington, London, a notice was lately posted announcing the sale of five pews. One of the "advantages" of these pews, ran the notice, was that "the contribution box is not passed to them."

Statistics show that women live longer than men. For instance, in Germany only 413 out of 1,000 males reach the age of fifty years, while more than 500 out of 1,000 females reach that age. In the United States there are 2,583 female to 1,398 male centenarians. In France of 10 centenarians 7 are women and only 3 men. In the rest of Europe, of 21 centenarians 16 are women.

The Statue of Liberty in New York harbor is reasonably high up in the world; yet a California big tree would stretch out over its head a projecting limb two or three feet in diameter and gaze down upon its insignificance from a hundred feet above. There are California trees that are higher than Bunker Hill Monument, and the hill on which it is placed put together.

Any man who plants oysters in Chesapeake Bay can realize 90 per cent. profit annually. All that is needed is a sufficient amount of brains. There is a demand for a great many more oysters than are now produced there, and as many natural beds have become exhausted, oysters must in time be cultivated in the Chesapeake Bay, just as they are now cultivated in Long Island Sound.

The fact that persons who fall great distances often lose their boots in the descent has not yet been explained. Perhaps the most recent case is that of Charles James, of St. Agnes, who was unfortunate enough to fall a distance of 120 feet in Polbreem mine. During the fall both his boots (which had been tightly laced) came off, and were distantly covered in the shaft fathoms above him.

A physician who has recently returned from Persia, says that the natives still believe that human tears are a remedy for certain chronic diseases. At every funeral the bottling of mourners' tears is one of the chief features of the ceremony. Each of the mourners is presented with a sponge with which to mop his face and eyes, and after the burial these sponges are presented to the priest, who squeezes the tears into bottles, which he keeps.

The municipality of Paris is experimenting with glass paving material. A section of Rue du Havre has been laid with it as a test. It is pure glass subjected to a process called devitrification. The result is a hard, smooth, opaque, nonporous substance, which does not retain damp or odors. The inventors say that it combines the solidity of granite with the smoothness of asphalt. It is not affected by heat or cold. It, however, is expensive. Another drawback is its extreme resonance.

## Rally Day Programme

THE General Sunday-school Board has appointed **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th**, as a **RALLY DAY** in all Methodist Sunday-schools in Canada.

A Programme, which includes hymns, responsive readings, etc., has been prepared, under direction of the General Board. On account of printing a large edition we are able to supply this Programme at the very low price of **25 cents per hundred copies, postpaid.**

We have also a very attractive **Four-page Announcement Card**, for advertising the services of Rally Day, which will be sent to any address for **30 cents per hundred, postpaid.**

## The Epworth League Reading Course for 1901-2 is now ready

THE Course has been reduced from four books to three, and the price also cut down. We confidently expect that this will be the most attractive set of books that we have ever offered to the Leagues. The following is the selection:

### 1. Making a Life. BY CORTLAND MEYERS.

A book of inspiration and instruction on character building, which will delight old and young.

### 2. Poems of Whittier.

This volume has been chosen in response to a widespread desire on the part of Reading Circles for something of a high grade from standard literature. The works of the Quaker poet will be greatly enjoyed by the young people.

### 3. Japan, Country, Court and People.

BY DR. NEWTON.

This is declared by competent critics to be one of the best books on Japan ever written. It is fresh from the press, and is full of interesting descriptions of one of the most interesting countries in the world.

These three splendid books will be sold for **\$1.35**. If sent by mail, 15 cents must be added for postage, making the total cost \$1.50.

If a number of sets are purchased at once by a League they can be forwarded by express, thus greatly reducing the expense. We are determined to give the young people every possible advantage in order that the Course may be widely circulated.

Now is the time to organize a Reading Circle and secure the books.

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