

ELECTRIC TERMS.

A consulting electrical engineer, who was asked to put one of the less common electrical terms in plain language, said: "I am frequently resorted to for just such explanations, and nothing surprises me more than the haziness which still exists in the minds of even intelligent folks in regard to the simplest electrical terms. To most people the electrical units are still mere Greek, and comparatively few go to the trouble to take hold of the more common of them, such as 'volt,' 'ampere,' 'resistance,' 'electro-motive force,' etc., and fix their meaning once for all in the mind.

"Now, this is quite simple. The watt is the unit of electric power. It means the power developed when 44.25 foot-pounds of the work are done per minute or 7.375 foot-pounds per second. A foot-pound is the amount of work required to raise one pound vertically through a distance of one foot. When this is figured down so as to be denoted in horsepower, which is understood by every one, it can offer no difficulty, and if any one to whom the word watt is puzzling will remember that a watt is the one-seventh-hundred-and-forty-sixth of a horsepower he will have no more uncertainty about it. Having got so far, it is an easy gradation to the 'watt hour,' which is the term employed to indicate the expenditure of an electrical power of one watt for an hour. In other words, the energy represented by a watt hour is equal to that expended in raising a pound to a height of 2,654 feet. An even easier way of fixing it is to remember that two watt hours correspond almost exactly to raising a pound to a height of one mile.

"The understanding of such terms opens out some very curious facts to the uninitiated. For instance, a certain dry battery, weighing 6.38 pounds, was known to yield 130 watt hours. If this force were applied to raising the battery itself, it would lift it to a height of over ten miles.

"Again, in one hour the energy translated in an ordinary 16-candle power lamp weighing about an ounce would raise that lamp to a height of 400 miles at a velocity of nearly seven miles per minute. Yes, it pays a man to expend a little pains on mastering the ordinary electrical terms."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

TONGUES AND EARS.

No country in the world does more to entertain its children than Japan, says a successful young missionary who has been doing admirable work there. Even on the street corners stand men whose sole business it is to tell stories to little boys and girls.

One day I joined a group of little folks who were eagerly listening, and this is what I heard:

"Once upon a time a peasant went to heaven, and the first thing he saw was a long shelf with something very strange looking upon it.

"What is that?" he asked. "Is that something to make soup of?" (The Japanese are very fond of soup).

"No," was the reply; "these are ears. They belong to persons who, when they lived on earth, heard what they ought to do in order to be good, but they didn't pay any attention to it; so when they died their ears came to heaven, but the rest of their bodies could not."

"After a while the peasant saw another shelf with very queer things on it.

"What is that?" he asked again. "Is that something to make soup of?"

"No," he was told; "these are tongues. They once belonged to people in the world who told people how to live and how to do good, but they themselves never did as they told others to do; so when they died their tongues came to heaven but the rest of their bodies could not."

Wasn't that a good lesson for us all? —Selected.

THE GRAVEST DANGER.

According to Mr Carnegie, the very gravest of the dangers that beset young men who aim at success in business is the habit of drinking intoxicating liquors. He says in his book, "The Empire of Business:

"The first and most seductive peril, and the destroyer of most young men, is the drinking of liquor. I am no temperance lecturer in disguise, but a man who knows and tells you what observation has proved to him; and I say to you that you are more likely to fail in your career from acquiring the habit of drinking liquor than from any or all the other temptations likely to assail you. You may yield to almost any other temptation, and reform—may brace up, and, if not recover lost ground, at least remain in the race, and secure and maintain a respectable position. But from the insane thirst for liquor escape is almost impossible. I have known but few exceptions to this rule."

THE BROOK.

Rushing down the mountain, tumbling through the vale,
Sprinkling all the land about with spray,
Sliding under boulders which dot the hill and dale,

A little mountain brooklet pushed its way.

It helped to turn the mill-wheel of the mill upon the bank,

It made some pools where children love to be,

It helped the merry fisher as his hook and line he sank,

And it whispered as it ran into the sea:

"I'm glad I helped the miller, and made the children dance,

And I'm glad I made the fisher merry too;

I'm glad I did a bit of work when once I had the chance,

And now I'm glad I've made a larger sea."

OUT OF THE WAY NOTES.

An eminent physician asserts that rheumatism can be cured by a plentiful diet of ripe fruit.

A lion is a little more than half as strong as a tiger. Five men can easily hold down a lion, but nine are required to hold a tiger.

Some Indian muslins are so extremely delicate that when spread on the grass and moistened with the dew they are practically invisible.

The right hand, as a general rule, although more sensitive to the touch than the left, is less sensitive than the latter to the effect of heat or cold.

A curious tree, which grows in Malabar, is called the tallow tree, from the fact that its seeds, when boiled, produce a tallow, which makes excellent candies.

In China it is customary to invite a departing magistrate whose rule has been popular to leave a pair of old boots hung in a prominent place as a hint to his successor to follow in his footsteps.

An apron is the Persian Royal standard. A Persian, who was a blacksmith by trade, raised a successful revolt, and his leather apron, covered with jewels, is still borne in the van of Persian armies.

There is a special class of farm laborers in Sweden who are given so many acres of land for their their own use, in consideration of doing a certain amount of labor during the year for the owner of the farm. They are a sort of fixture to an estate, and their equal exists in no other country.

When large flocks of wild ducks and geese have to travel long distances, they invariably form a triangle, to cleave the air more easily, and the most courageous bird takes position at the foremost angle. As this is a very fatiguing post, another bird ere long takes the place of the exhausted leader.

A DANGER TO CHILDHOOD.

No mother would give her little one poison if she knew it, and yet all the so-called soothing syrups and many of the liquid medicines given children contain poisonous opiates, and an overdose will kill. When a mother uses Baby's Own Tablets she has the guarantee of a government analyst that this medicine does not contain one particle of opiate or narcotic that it cannot possibly do harm. This assurance is worth much to the mother who cares for the safety of her little ones. Mrs. Chas. McLaughlin, DeBolt Station, N.S., says: "I have used Baby's Own Tablets for cough, stomach troubles and other ailments of childhood and find them so valuable that I would not be without them in the house." Sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

A BABOON HERO.

The German naturalist, Brehm, tells this story of an adventure with baboons in Africa:

"Our dogs, accustomed to fight with hyenas and other beasts of prey, rushed toward the baboons, which, from a distance, looked more like beasts of prey than like monkeys, and drove them up the precipices to right and left. But only the females took to flight; the males turned to face the dogs, growled, beat the ground with their hands, opened their mouths wide, showed their teeth so furiously that the hounds shrank back discomfited, and almost timidly sought safety beside us.

"Before we had succeeded in stirring them up to show fight, the position of the monkeys had changed considerably, and when the dogs charged a second time, nearly all the herd were in safety.

"But one little monkey about half a year old had been left behind. It shrieked loudly as the dogs rushed toward it, but succeeded in gaining the top of a rock before they had arrived. Our dogs placed themselves, cleverly, so as to cut off its retreat, and we thought that they would catch it.

"That was not to be. Proudly and with dignity, without hurrying in the least, or paying any heed to us, an old male stepped down from the security of the rocks toward the dogs without betraying the slightest fear, held them in check with glances, gestures and sounds that seemed almost like speech, slowly climbed the rock, picked up the baby monkey, and retreated with it before we could reach the spot, and without the slightest attempt to prevent him on the part of the dogs.

"While the patriarch of the troop performed this brave and unselfish deed, the other members, densely crowded on the cliff, uttered sounds that I never before had heard from baboons. Old and young, males and females, roared, screeched, snarled, and bellowed all together, so that one would have thought that they were struggling with leopards or other dangerous beasts.

"I learned later that this was the monkeys' battle-cry. It was intended to frighten us and the dogs, possibly to encourage the brave old giant who was running into such evident danger before their eyes."

St. Nicholas: How many generations of men have been at work upon Shakespeare, Dante and Homer, without any danger of exhausting the mine of wealth these offer! And the Bible—it is as exhaustless as eternity. No one ever will come to the end of the riches in that great library of every species of literature. Every wise man who has ever made a list of the greatest books in the world has put the Bible first. It is said that young people are reading the Bible less than they once did; if it be true, it is sure they are employing their reading hours to less advantage.