

THINGS WORTH KNOWING

In the Old Testament only one woman's age is recorded, that of Sara, Abraham's wife.

The oldest building in the world is the Tower of London. It antedates Caesar's conquests.

The deepest mine in the world is the rock salt mine near Berlin, which is 4,175 feet deep.

The first King to whom the title of "Majesty" was applied was Louis XI, in France in 1463.

The Chinese, Japanese, Malays, Siamese, New Zealanders and the North American Indians are all but beardless.

The license law of Sweden forbids any person buying drink without purchasing something to eat at the same time.

For 200 years before the establishment of a republic, no son of a French monarch had succeeded his father to the throne.

The elephant's sense of smell is so delicate that when in a wild state it can scent an enemy at a distance of 1,000 yards.

The first regular passenger railroad built in the world was the southern portion of the Baltimore and Ohio, built in 1827.

It is curious to know that only a hundred years ago scarcely any European in the countries north of Spain had smoked a cigar.

It is estimated that over 100,000,000 of people now speak the English language, over 69,000,000 German and over 41,000,000 French.

The public wealth in the United States is \$1040 per inhabitant, as compared with \$1235 in the United Kingdom, \$1120 in France, and \$720 in Germany.

Many English surnames end in ford, ham (house), lea, ton (farm) and by (dwelling), from the old practice of naming persons after their native place. Ayleston, Griston, Habersham and Ormsby are examples.

Small singing birds live from eight to eighteen years; ravens have lived for 100 years, and parrots still longer, in captivity; fowls live from ten to twenty years; the wild goose lives over 100 years, and swans are said to have attained the age of 300.

A genius has arrived at the conclusion that a gold coin passes from one to another 2,000,000,000 times before the stamp or impression upon it becomes obliterated by friction, while a silver coin changes between 3,250,000,000 times before it becomes entirely effaced.

In the ten years ending 1869 the inhabitants of London died at an average annual rate of twenty-four for every thousand living; in the ten years ending 1889 that rate was only twenty. In other words, over 17,000 lives were being annually saved in that decade in London.

The idea of an envelope originated with M. de Vallier, early in the reign of Louis XIV. of France. In 1653, with the royal approbation, he established a private penny post, placing boxes at the corners of streets for the reception of letters, wrapped up in envelopes, which were sold at offices established for the purpose. The first machine for making envelopes was invented by Edwin Hill, a brother of Sir Rowland Hill. Messrs. de la Rue patented a machine for folding envelopes on 17th March, 1845.

The Hippocratic was a solemn engagement entered into in ancient times by young men about to commence the practice of medicine. The formula, which is ascribed to Hippocrates, ties the asseverator down, in the most rigorous manner, to the practice of his profession on the highest principles of humanity and honor, and pledges him to the most disinterested and exalted brotherhood with all those who are connected legitimately with the healing art, and to acts of kindness towards their offspring. In addition it deals with the whole tenor of his morals, and essays to secure the utmost purity in this relation.

The watch carried by the average man is composed of ninety-eight pieces and its manufacture embraces more than 2,000 distinct and separate operations. Some of the smallest screws are so minute that the unaided eyes cannot distinguish them from steel filings or specks of dirt. Under a powerful magnifying glass a perfect screw is revealed. The slit in the head is 2-1000 of an inch wide. It takes 308,000 of these screws to weigh a pound, and a pound is worth \$1,585. The hair-spring is a strip of the finest steel about 3/16 inches long, 1-100 of an inch wide and 27-10,000 of an inch thick. It is coiled up in spiral form and is finely tempered. The process of tempering these springs was long held as a secret by the few fortunate ones possessing it, and even now is not generally known.

There is little known in regard to the invention of glass. Some of the oldest specimens are Egyptian, and are traced to about 1,500 years before Christ. Transparent glass is believed to have first been used about 750 years before the Christian era. The credit of the invention is given by the ancient writers to the Phoenicians, a party of whom were driven ashore near the mouth of the River Belus, and lighted a fire with kali, a plant which grew there abundantly. They noticed that the sand, when mingled with the ashes of this plant, melted into a vitreous substance. Among the first cities noted for the manufacture of glass were Tyre and Sidon. There is every little reason to believe, however, that the world owes the art of glass-making to the Egyptians, who carried the art to the highest perfection; and that the glass works at Disopolis, capital of the Thebaid, formed the first regular manufactory of it. Glass was introduced into Rome in the time of Cicero, and some of the most beautiful specimens were made

before the Christian era. During the middle ages the Venetians were the most famous makers of glassware, and after them the Bohemians. Though the art of making glass and blowing it into all sorts of shapes was known so early, it was not used far windows until about A. D. 300.

Read the article "What Do You Think?" on the fourth page. It will interest you.

"PROGRESS" PICKINGS.

He lives uprightly now, no doubt, But this great fault has he: It is his pride to boast about How bad he used to be.

A little speculator.—"Father, just whack me a bit, will you?" "What for?" "Why, then mother'll give some apples."

—El Dia. "Have you ever had a wreck, captain?" asked the nervous passenger. "No, ma'am," replied the officer; "I'm a wreckless man."

Miss Antiquary.—"Won't your mother go with me?" "No, because it draws. Clarissa—Oh, I thought you called it your artist dress because you always paint when you wear it."

"Hello, Jones, what are you doing with your coat buttoned up to your chin?" "Are you sick?" "Jones—Hush, don't mention it. I have on a tie that my wife selected."

Chicago Inter-Ocean. "He: 'Before proposing, Miss Lulu, I wish to know if you have anything in the bank.' She: 'Yes, Mr. Poorman, I have a lover there. He is the cashier, and we are to be married next week.'"

School Teacher: "What little boy can tell me where is the home of the swallow?" Bobby: "I kin, please." School Teacher: "Well, Bobby?" Bobby: "The home of the swallow is the stummock."

The Young Man—Gracie, what is it your father sees in me to object to, darling? The Young Woman (wiping away a tear)—He doesn't see anything in you, Algernon. "What he objects to."

Ella—Do you believe in signs, Algy, dear?" Algy—"To tell the truth, darling, I always was a little superstitious." Ella—"Well, there is a sign over there that says 'Ice Cream.'"

—Harvard Lampoon. "I thought you said Tippler was a steady drinker?" "So he is." "You are mistaken." "How do you know?" "I saw him the other night and he was so unsteady that he had to hold to a lamp post for support."

A man had a donkey for sale, and hearing that a friend wanted to buy one, he sent him the following, written on a postcard: "Dear D—, if you are looking for an A1 donkey, don't forget me. Yours etc., F—"

"O, that must be too lovely for anything," said Hortensia, when she read an account of a stage robbery in the far West. "Lovely to be robbed?" asked Uncle John. "Lovely to be held up," said Hortensia with a rosy blush.

Jarvis—"What is the meaning of that passage of scripture which refers to things being hidden from the wise and prudent and being revealed unto babes and sucklings?" Jennings—"Why, have you never met a collegian just graduated?"

Conversation overheard on the beach between two children who were playing on the sand together. The small boy said to the little girl:—"Do you wish to be my little wife?" The little girl, after reflecting:—"Yes—The small boy:—"Then take off my boots!"

Landlady—"What! Going to leave us, Mr. Harginsdale?" "Hope you've no fault to find with the table!" "Boarder—No, the table's all right; but my room mate is an amateur photographer, and he insists on taking flashlight pictures of me every night when I'm trying to go to sleep."

Miss Fiddle—"Tilda, I want you to run down to the drugist's and get me some rouge." "Tilda—"Would you mind givin' me a orlah?" "I gave you the money, didn't I?" "Yassum. But dey might tink I wanted it fo' myself. I doan' want people to tink I paints."—Philadelphia Press.

"Bridget," said the head of the household, arrayed in evening dress, "I am unexpectedly called out for the evening, and I want you to see that your mistress gets this note as soon as she comes in, without fail."

"Yis, sorr," responded Bridget, "I'll have it in the pocket of the trousers ye've just taken off, then shall be sure to find it."

"Hosieus, what has become of that fine new meercam of yours?" "Broke it accidentally the other day while I was whipping that unruly boy of mine. It dropped out my pocket and was smashed all to pieces. I wouldn't have lost that pipe, Throckmorton, for \$50."

"What had he been doing?" "The little rascal had been—er—smoking."

"I must fix upon some place where I shall spend my vacation." "When do you take it?" "About the close of the summer." "Isn't it a little early to be thinking about it now?" "A good many things may happen before then."

"Oh, it isn't on my own account that I am anxious to fix upon a place, but for the satisfaction of my friends who are daily wanting to know where I am going to spend my vacation."—N.Y. Press.

MEN AND WOMEN TALKED ABOUT.

Harriet Beecher Stowe has passed her eightieth birthday anniversary, but did it in the quiet and seclusion best suited to her extreme age and weakness.

Carmen Sylva says that since her husband took the throne of Romania he has raised the artillery from one battery to seven hundred pieces of cannon, and carried the estimates up from seven millions of dollars to thirty millions of dollars. He has also "a magnificent palace furnished in carved wood, instead of a house looking like a barn."

Madame Christine Nilsson, the famous soprano, has two of her rooms in Madrid decorated in a rather novel fashion. The bed-chamber is papered with leaves of music from the operas in which she has sung, and the dining-room with the hotel bills she has collected in her tours through the world. They have been aptly styled "The Records of Din and Dinner."

The queen of Italy, once one of the most beautiful girls in the kingdom, is now one of its handsomest women. She is bright and witty in conversation, and learned, with a leaning toward blue-stockingism, but without pedantry. She is universally admired and loved by her subjects, and the attachment King Humbert has for her is an example of conjugal devotion in a royal household.

The latest story of Count Herbert Bismanck's ill-mannered and ungracious Rome recently he pushed rudely against an Italian officer of high rank, who turned to protest against such treatment. Without a word of apology the ex-chancellor's son retorted angrily, "I am Count Herbert von Bismanck." That, sir," remarked the Italian, "is an explanation of your conduct but not an excuse."

James H. Parnell, a brother of the late Charles Stewart Parnell, has been raising fruit on an extensive scale in Georgia for about twenty years. That is to say, his orchards are there, and he visits them about once a year. Just now he is in America for a short time. But the greater portion of the time he lives in Ireland. The claim is put forward that he is the wealthiest peach grower of this country.

The Duke of York (Prince George of Wales) is the youngest member of the royal family who can dance a genuine sailor's hornpipe. The steps he learnt while a young cadet, and it is told how that often he and his brother, the late Duke of Clarence, would get into a cabin together, and whilst the latter whistled, Prince George would step it out. An old man-o-war's man told the writer that for smartness in trying the various sailors' knots with the rope, the prince would want a lot of beating.

Leonard Whittion of Brighton, brother of the cheese inspector, James Whittion of Belleville, has continued to gain in flesh, and is now classed as the biggest man in Cananda. He weighs 400 pounds. His measurement is as follows: Around the shoulders, 5 feet 6 inches; chest, 5 feet 2 inches; hips, 6 feet 2 inches; neck, 1 foot 11 inches; arm at shoulder, 1 foot 2 inches; arm below elbow, 1 foot 5 inches; thigh, 3 feet 9 inches; leg, 3 feet. His head measurement around the temples is 29 inches. Ten years ago he did not weigh more than 150 pounds. He is under 40 years of age.

Mrs. Emma Drew, of South Norridge-work, Me., is accounted a smart woman for those parts. She carries on a farm, keeps a horse and cow, makes butter for market and sells a great many eggs, besides doing her housework and taking care of five small children. After her morning housework is done she puts up a lunch for the children and herself and drives to Martin Stream, where she instructs her own and seventeen other boys and girls on five days in the week. She also canvasses for various publications. After her morning housework is done she puts up a lunch for the children and herself and drives to Martin Stream, where she instructs her own and seventeen other boys and girls on five days in the week. She also canvasses for various publications.

It is well known with what affection the late Cardinal Manning was regarded by the very poorest in his own community; and he was very proud of his body-guard, as he called one or two rough laboring men who had constituted themselves his protectors after seeing him on various occasions struggling through a dense crowd on his way to his carriage after preaching. Lately these self-appointed guardians of his person always arrived of their own accord when he was fulfilling his public engagements, and, having performed their labor of love, they remained the next time their services were required.

The Queen of Sheba is supposed to have been a descendant of Abraham, a daughter of Keturah. The most learned writers claim that she came from Yemen, in Arabia. She is called by Christ "the queen of the south," and is said to have come "from the uttermost parts of the earth." The Ethiopians maintain that she was of their country, and is called "Candace" by them. Other writers show that both before and after the Christian era Ethiopia proper was under the rule of female sovereigns who all bore the appellation of "Candace," which was not so much a proper name as a distinctive title common to every queen. Pliny states that the centuries whom Nero sent to explore the country reported that "a woman reigned over Moero (an Ethiopian name of Sheba) called 'Candace,' a name which has descended to the queens for many years."

Herbert Spencer, who lives quietly in Regent's park among his books and with the society of a few old friends, is described by *The Paris Register* as "a singularly modest man, with gentle voice and almost feminine grace. He dines away from home often, haunts the Athenaeum club and occasionally visits a place of amusement. Comic opera is his delight, and he finds in it an offset to his lucubrations upon the data of ethics. Life is very pleasant to him. Fancy a man about five feet nine inches tall, wearing grey trousers, a black frock coat, a low-cut white waistcoat, highly polished shoes with cream-colored over-gaiters, an old-fashioned stand-up collar and a black cravat—eyes grey and soft, mouth firm, cheeks pinky white, bushy iron-grey whiskers encircling the neck—and there you have Herbert Spencer, the English philosopher. No matter how fine the day, he carries an umbrella."

Read the article "What Do You Think?" on the fourth page. It will interest you.

"German Syrup"

The majority of well-read physicians now believe that Consumption is a germ disease. In other words, instead of being in the constitution itself it is caused by innumerable small creatures living in the lungs having no business there and eating them away as caterpillars do the leaves of trees.

A Germ Disease. The phlegm that is coughed up is those parts of the lungs which have been gnawed off and destroyed. These little bacilli, as the germs are called, are too small to be seen with the naked eye, but they are very much alive just the same, and enter the body in our food, in the air we breathe, and through the pores of the skin. Thence they get into the blood and finally arrive at the lungs where they fasten and increase with frightful rapidity. Then German Syrup comes in, loosens them, kills them, expels them, heals the places they leave, and so nourish and soothe that, in a short time consumptives become germ-proof and well.

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