

Hairs Upon Horses' Lips.

The fine hairs about the mouth of the horse are organs of touch of extreme delicacy. They serve to a certain extent the same purpose as our finger ends, the whiskers of the cat or the trunk of the elephant. Sensitiveness is due to specially developed endings of nerves in the skin, which are continually sending messages to the brain. The lip hairs of the horse first receive the stimulus, which is communicated to the end organs and so passes on to the brain. They come into play when the horse samples a new article of food. He first smells it and, having so far satisfied himself, touches it delicately with these sensitive hairs. The upper lip moves softly in quick sympathy and confirms the opinion suggested by the hairs. The tongue judges finally as to the fitness of the food. When the horse wishes to drink these hairs assure him that the water is free from foreign matter on the surface, for he drinks from the surface only. They detect the smallest particle of dirt and guide him to the purest place.

The Simple Diet.

There is a certain banker and broker doing business not a hundred miles from the bank, says a London weekly, whose health for some time has not been all that he could desire. Not long ago he was complaining to his brother, when the latter after a careful survey of his brother's countenance said:

"What you need, old man, is plain country food. Come to my place in the country and we'll soon set you up. This rich food is proving too much for you. Take breakfast, for instance. All I have is two cups of coffee, a bit of steak with a baked potato, some light muffins or a stack of buttered toast, together with a bit of water-cress or lettuce. What do you have?"

For a moment the city banker gazed in hearty admiration at his brother.

"A cup of hot water and two slices of dry toast," he replied soberly. "But, Jim, if you think a simple diet like yours will 'set me up,' why, I'm perfectly willing to try it."

The Story of "Hard Hit."

"Mr. Orchardson, if I thought that by killing you I could paint a picture like yours I would stab you to the heart." Such was the remark made by Pellegrini, the famous caricaturist, to the Royal Academician, Sir William Orchardson, when at a private view he first saw "Hard Hit," the picture of the ruined gambler. "It was," said the artist, "the greatest compliment I could have had." Curiously enough, the model who sat for the ruined gambler was rather fond of cards himself. One day the artist noticed that he looked somewhat depressed.

Six Follies of Science.

The six follies of science are the squaring of the circle, perpetual motion, the philosopher's stone, the elixir of life, magic and astrology. In all ages men of undoubted ability have toiled early and late to unravel the mysteries supposed to be connected with these fascinating problems. It is not always remembered that such intellectual giants as Bacon, Sir Robert Boyle and Sir Isaac Newton sought the philosopher's stone. In the study of astrology Lilly was for a time even pensioned by parliament. Most of these "follies" conferred indirect benefits upon science, for in seeking one thing they discovered many another. The craze for the secret, or unknown, has still its hold upon men and is seen in palmistry and kindred cuts.

To Take No Chances.

Hamlet—Why in the dickens have you got that string tied around your tooth? Absentee—To remind me that I must have the tooth removed. Hamlet—But, goodness gracious, why don't you do as ordinary people and have the string tied around your finger?

Absentee (stiffly)—Because, sir, I don't care to have my finger removed.—Chicago News.

Mistake of a Comma.

This instance of what a mistake of a comma can produce has been noticed. "Lord Palmerston then entered upon his head, a white hat upon his feet, large but well polished boots upon his brow, a dark cloud in his hand, his faithful walking stick in his eye, a dark menacing glare saying nothing."—Circle Magazine.

Quite So.

"There seems to be a strange affinity between a ducky and a chicken." "Naturally. One is descended from Ham and the other from eggs."—Housekeeper.

Easy.

"She's made a fool of that young fellow." "Well, she didn't have to economize on the raw material."—Baltimore American.

Good Will.

Have good will to all that lives, letting unkindness die, and greed and wrath, so that your lives be made like soft airs passing by.—"Light of Asia."

The Hat Straw Crop.

The greater part of the straw employed for making summer hats comes from Italy. To obtain a suitable straw for this purpose the wheat is sown as thickly as possible in order that the growth of the plant may be impoverished as well as to produce a thin stalk. The Italian wheat blooms at the beginning of June and is pulled up by hand by the roots when the grain is half developed. Should it be allowed to remain in the ground a longer time the straw would become too brittle for the purpose for which it is grown. Uprooted straws to the number of about five dozen, the size of the compass of the two hands, are firmly tied together in little sheaves and stowed away in barns. After that the straw is again spread out to catch the heavy summer dews and to bleach in the sun. When the product has been sufficiently bleached it is put into small bundles and classified. The last step is to cut it close above the first joint from the top, when it is again tied up in small bundles containing about sixty stalks each and is then ready for the market.—Harper's Weekly.

The Languages of Paradise.

Every language has its admirers. In "Lucile" the author, Owen Meredith, maintained that when he heard French spoken as he approved he "found himself quietly falling in love." Edward Hutton is another instance of this linguistic fascination. In stating his preference in his enchanting "Cities of Spain" he recalls an interesting medieval legend. He says: "And as I listened to the splendid syllables of the Castilian tongue that rang eloquently through the twilight I remembered the saying of that old Spanish doctor of whom James Howell tells us in his 'Instructions For Forraine Travell'—to wit, that Spanish, Italian and French, these three daughters of the Latin language, were spoken in paradise; that God Almighty created the world in Spanish, the tempter persuaded Eve in Italian and Adam begged pardon in French."

Taste is Localized.

Taste is curiously localized in the mouth. Put a lump of sugar on the tip of your tongue and you will find it distinctly sweet. Then try it halfway back on the tongue and you will find it tasteless. All sweet or aromatic substances, such as wine, sugar and coffee, can be properly appreciated by the front half of the tongue, a piece of knowledge that every true connoisseur applies when he sips instead of taking a mouthful. With most other substances, however, the reverse is true. In these cases the tip of the tongue serves only for touching—it is the back part that tastes. The sides of the mouth, too, are quite insensible to certain substances—not, indeed, Put some salt or vinegar between the teeth and the cheek and you will find them absolutely flavorless.—London Standard.

Wrestling For Rent.

In several cantons of Switzerland the custom prevails of holding wrestling matches and other exhibitions of physical strength at their choral, gymnastic and rifle festivals. The champions taking part in these athletic sports belong to the most diverse ranks in the social scale. Thus at a recent festival at Grenchen, a little town in the canton of Soloure, a wealthy property owner and his tenant, a carpenter, stepped into the arena to wrestle according to the rules of the art. There were to be four rounds, or "falls." The stake for each "fall" was one quarter's rent. After the carpenter had thrown his landlord four times the "victor's" prize was awarded to him, and he accordingly found himself entitled to live in his house rent free for a whole year.

A Henpecked Astrologer.

Lilly, the astrologer and alchemist, could not see for himself sufficiently far into that future which he professed to be able to scan so clearly for others to guard him against making a fool of himself by marrying. He caught a vixen, "of the temper of Mars," to use his own words, and the fact that she brought him £500 as dowry did not count for much in the way of compensation, seeing that "she and her relations cost him £1,000."

Matrimonial Dyspepsia.

"Well, how do you like married life?" inquired the friend. "Not at all," replied the man who had married money and was suffering for it. "I'm a case of matrimonial dyspepsia." "Matrimonial dyspepsia?" "Yes, she never agrees with me; she's too rich."

His Deduction.

The Sunday school teacher had just explained to the juvenile class that the first parents were made from dust. "Now, Edgar," she said to a bright little fellow, "can you tell me who the first man was?" "Henry Clay," was the prompt reply.—Chicago News.

As to Truth Telling.

There is an eastern saying which runs: "It is good to know the truth and to tell it. It may be better, knowing the truth, to talk of date stones."—London Truth.

As Bill Nye Saw It.

Bill Nye described a five shot Colt's revolver as "Professor Colt's five volume treatise on the ventilation of the human system."—Kansas City Times.

His Suggestion.

Wigwag—I never knew such a fellow as Bjones. He is always looking for trouble. Henpecked—Then why doesn't he get married?—Boston Courier.

Why the Wind Waits.

In his book on "The Picturesque St. Lawrence" Clifton Johnson tells of the curious superstition of Montreal which explains why the wind is always blowing at the point where St. Sulpice and Notre Dame streets meet, close to the towering cathedral. It seems that one day, while the church was in process of building, the Wind and the Devil were walking down Notre Dame street, and the Devil after regarding with a frown of disapproval the graceful outlines of the new edifice rising before him exclaimed:

"What is this? I never saw it before." "Very likely not," responded the Wind, "and I dare you to go in there." "You dare me to do that, do you?" cried the Devil, with a sneer. "Well, I will go in if you will promise to wait here until I come out." "Agreed," said the Wind. So his satanic majesty went in. But he has not come out yet, and the Wind is still waiting for him at the corner.

The Spirit of Liberty.

It was in the town that modern democracy had its rise. Despite all the efforts of the kings and barons to prevent it, the spirit of liberty began to assert itself in the larger towns in the shape of the charters which guarantee to the people certain commercial and political rights—rights which, once obtained, were never to be surrendered. Before the middle of the sixteenth century there were many of these "chartered" towns which possessed the right of electing their own magistrates, sheriffs and judges and regulating their own taxes. The wretched serfs from the country were welcomed by the townspeople and aided to larger freedom. These free towns were first known in Spain, from which country they slowly spread over Europe. The burghers naturally offered protection and freedom to all who would flee to them from the feudal estates, and thus slowly, but surely, the good work went on until the ancient despotisms were destroyed.—Arena.

Reptiles That Walk Erect.

Lizards of several sorts can walk and run easily on their hind legs. The Australian water lizard, which is three or four feet in length, keeps quite erect when traversing long distances on land. It is found in the neighborhood of river banks and passes much of its time in shallow water. The frilled lizard of Queensland also travels on its hind legs on level ground, keeping the frill folded when running. When attacked it expands this fold of skin, which stands out like a ruff at right angles round the neck, giving it a most formidable aspect, so that dogs that attack and kill larger lizards will often retreat before a frilled lizard at bay.

There is also a tree lizard in Australia that moves in a similar way. All these species walk on all fours when merely moving about or going short distances.

A Tart Retort.

Mrs. Hoyle—Don't you think my boy is growing? Mrs. Doyle—Yes; he is pretty large for his mother's age.—Judge.

Evolution.

At what time of life may a man be said to belong to the vegetable kingdom? When experience has made him.

Medical.

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On November 23rd, 1909, Mrs. Johnson was interviewed and she said: "I still have unlimited confidence in Doan's Kidney Pills. They permanently cured me of kidney trouble and I have had no need of a kidney medicine during the past two years. Other members of my family have taken Doan's Kidney Pills and in each case benefit has been received."

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