

Hale's First Watch.

The first watch was a small clock of course. In 1477 Peter Hale, a clockmaker of Nuremberg, made a clock in the form of an egg, which could be carried in the pocket. The production of this cost a year's labor; it was considered one of the wonders of the world and valued by its maker at a price equal to \$1,500 at the present time. And yet it required winding twice a day and varied an hour a day from the correct time. Hale probably invented the fusee spring, but the hairspring was the invention of Dr. Robert Hooke, an Englishman, in 1658, and Hooke was also the first to use the lever escapement, in 1666. The use of jewels for the bearings of the pivots was introduced about 1700, and the compensation balance was invented in 1767. There is no doubt, however, that Gerbert, who subsequently became pope as Sylvester II, did construct a wheel and weight clock at Magdeburg in 996. And within the next 300 years a number of tower clocks of great size and elaborate workmanship were set up in the churches of Europe and of England.

First Airman Honored.

A tablet has just been unveiled in the Smithsonian institution at Washington to the memory of Prof. Langley, who first constructed a heavier than air machine which "flew." He died before he saw his hopes realized in any practical manner, but it is undoubted that to his researches, discoveries and experiments we owe the aviation of today. This tribute is the more appropriate because Professor Langley was soundly abused by many so-called men of science in his day, who insisted that he was engaged in a wild-goose chase, that he was expending money of the institution to gratify personal whims, which could not possibly benefit mankind under the terms of the Smithsonian will.

Lawn Mowers Not Wanted.

An American manufacturer has sent a souvenir lawn mower, which is now on exhibition in this consulate general at Callao, Peru, says Vice-Consul Dreyfus. However, there is no demand for lawn mowers in Peru, owing to the nonexistence of lawns, due to the absence of rain. The souvenir lawn mower is greatly admired by all visitors to the office. It may interest the novelty trade in the United States that while several people remarked that the lawn mower could not be sold in Peru this souvenir lawn mower might find a ready sale in the novelty stores of Lima.

Cure for Heart Disease.

Sugar is a splendid medicine for the heart in certain diseases of this organ. In others, such as oedema, it has no effect. Dr. Stanley E. Denyer reports in the Lancet the cure of a woman of seventy-seven with "rapid, irregular, feeble pulse, cyanosis and attacks of paroxysmal breathing" by the administration of four ounces of lump sugar every twelve hours, gradually diminishing the dose, for several weeks.

Swallowing Capsules.

To those who find difficulty in swallowing medicine in capsules, the following will be found efficacious: Place capsule in the mouth, having the head slightly lowered. Sip a small quantity of water, lift the head and swallow. The capsule floats on top of the water and will slip naturally down the throat followed by the water.—Home Department, National Magazine for May.

Big Men and Little.

The man who is big enough to get toward the top in any line of work usually is built on a big scale. Petty things are beneath him. He isn't interested in getting small advantages. You can be sure of him in all your dealings. It is the small man who bears watching.

Sand and Glass.

Sand is the main constituent of glass, constituting from 52 to 65 per cent of the mass of the original mixture, or from 60 to 75 per cent of the finished product, after melting has driven off carbon dioxide and other volatile materials. On the quality of the sand depend the transparency, brilliancy and hardness of the glass.

Checks Up the Hens.

In the effort to secure an accurate record of the hen's egg achievements, an aluminum crayon holder has been invented by which the chicken makes her mark as she leaves the nest. The crayon is mounted on the foot, and the color of the crayon indicates the particular bird.

Smoke.

Smoke is not composed of gases only, but of solid, or perhaps partly liquid, particles, which are mixed with the gases and carried along by them. It is three particles of matter that are visible to the eye, and not the gases themselves.—St. Nicholas.

Ad Hominem.

Man with the Bulbous Nose—One or two baths a week. I tell you, are about all a busy man has time to take. Man with the Bulging Brow—How do you know?

Open Road.

If a man has a message to deliver he must drive it home through women. It is the women who are listening today; women do not analyze; they realize.

Penny is Base for Dynamo. The smallest dynamo in the world was exhibited recently before the French Academy of Science in Paris. So small is this dynamo that its base would not occupy all the space of a penny. The instrument is a perfect miniature of a large machine and is a practical model in every respect. It works with a hum that sounds like the buzz of a mosquito. It weighs only one-fifth of an ounce, and is six-tenths of an inch thick. The little dynamo can be used not only as a generator, but as a motor, consuming, in this latter case, two amperes of electric current at a pressure of two and a half volts. A small pocket battery will operate it.

Helped Them Die.

Suicide has often been regarded as a luxury, and Marseilles, France, colonized from Miletus in ancient days, preserved a custom and a prison for many years under Roman rule. A dose of hemlock and aconite was allowed to anyone who could show sufficient reason why he should deserve death. "This custom," says Vastarius Maximus, "comes from Greece, particularly from the island of Ceos, where I saw an example. It was a woman of great quality, who, having lived very happily ninety years, obtained leave to die this way, lest by living longer she should happen to see a change of her good fortune."

Stories About Words.

"Tool" and "touch" are the words that Sir James Murray is at present pursuing for his great dictionary. "Man is a toolmaking animal" is a saying attributed to Benjamin Franklin, but Sir James wants positive evidence. Franklin is believed to have had his brother American man in his mind's eye when he said that. "In touch with" seems such an old and familiar phrase that it is surprising to learn that no examples of its use earlier than 1884 can be discovered. In that year there was a run upon the phrase, and Sir James surmises that it was then "used by somebody that had caught on."

Never Lost Standing.

Tecumseh, the famous Indian chief, did not lose his standing among his own people because of his disastrous defeat at Tippecanoe. In the American Historical Review an interesting "Journal" of the war of 1812 is published which contains this reference to the chief: "I have seen the great Tecumseh. He is a very plain man, rather above middle size, a noble set of features and an admirable eye. He is always accompanied by six great chiefs, who never go before him."

Cook Ovens in Mexican Villages.

In nearly every Mexican village may be found a rounded structure of dried mud resembling an old-fashioned beehive with a small opening near the ground. It is the oven which is utilized by the village for general culinary purposes. Early in the day the oven is thoroughly heated by building a fire in it, and after the coals are brushed down all the pots and pans containing the food to be cooked are placed inside and the oven is closed up. No further attention is paid to it until dinner time.

Ingenious Chemist.

There is a chemist in Paris who sold eggs at from \$1 a dozen upward and found plenty of customers for knowing how strongly many people object to taking medicine in its natural form, he used to impregnate the eggs with drugs of various kinds. Persons suffering from insomnia could be supplied with anti-pyren eggs, influenza patients with quinine eggs, gouty people with colchicum eggs, and others with different varieties, according to their complaints.

Women's Opinion of Women.

Men have an absurd notion that we can't admire another woman or admit her good points. It isn't so. We admire a pretty woman just as much as you do. The only difference is you men think that if a woman has a lovely face it follows as the night the day that she must have a lovely disposition. We know better, that's all.—From "Olivia in India."

Effort Wasted.

"What makes me really mad," said the woman, "is to spend minutes, maybe hours, trying to get hold of a white hair that shows up on my head like a dazzling light, yet which is tantalizingly elusive when I try to catch it, and then when I do finally separate it from the brown hair and give it a vigorous pull, to find out that I have snatched out a good brown hair and left the white one still shining!"

Cleaning Paint Brushes.

The most successful way to soften brushes which the paint has hardened is to place them in vinegar. Heat the vinegar to a boiling point and allow the brushes to stand in it for a few minutes. Remove and wash thoroughly with soap and water, and the brushes will be in perfect condition.

No Occasion to Worry.

Scientists have long declared that the earth will dry up and become as barren and dismal as the moon. But there is no occasion to worry about this, since it will not occur for more millions of years, probably, than we can count.

Born of Courtesy.

The appellation "Reverend" is purely born of courtesy. There is no legal warrant for its use.

Lives Long.

The yew tree lives four hundred or five hundred years.

When the Game Was Called.

Casey announced to his wife, Ellen, that he was going to the ball game. All day he was gone. Night came, but no Casey to take his place at the head of the table. Midnight and no Casey. One o'clock—2 o'clock—3 o'clock—no Casey. As the 6 o'clock whistles began to blow Casey stumbled up the front stairs into the house and awakened his wife. She hopped out of bed and met her letter half in the hallway. "Well?" said Mrs. Casey, determination written on her Amazon face. "Sal-rite, Illin," said Casey, weakly. "The game was called on account of daylight."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

Coffee in South America.

Although the greater part of the world's coffee now comes from South America, there are some states in that country where it is scarcely used. In Argentina, for instance, only the foreigners ask for it. Hence it is classed as a luxury and commands a very high price. The natives drink "mate" or Paraguay tea. Among the lower classes this beverage is drunk as freely as beer in Germany or tea in England. After dinner in Argentina many housekeepers serve, instead of coffee, a basin of soup, which strangers find some difficulty in swallowing.

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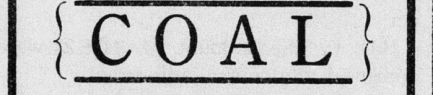
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