

Swiss Military Service.

The Swiss boy learns his drill at school, and from twenty to thirty-two he is liable to service if he is physically capable, and thereafter to fifty-two on demand—either in Auszug, Landwehr or Landsturm. Rich and poor, professional man and laborer, serve side by side in the ranks, and each canton supplies the men who have known each other and can stand shoulder to shoulder, with common memories of school life spent together.

Home Comforts of Old.

Apparently not all the queen consorts of history were lacking in a desire for creature comforts and one of them at least had sufficient inventive genius to attempt to warm up her huge barracks of a palace by having little iron carriages filled with red-hot ashes carried through her rooms to remove the chill. It was this queen, Isabeau of Bavaria, wife of Charles VI of France, who insisted upon a portable bath tub.

Women's Feet Growing Smaller.

The sex will rejoice to hear that an English scientist declares that women's feet are growing smaller. He claims that a study of former types of feet goes to prove that the feet of modern people are more shapely than those of their ancestors or those of the savage races. Perhaps, after all, the mistakes of ill-fitting shoes have not seriously deformed the general type of foot.

Water Cars in Milan.

The streets of Milan are watered from the electric tram cars. On these watering cars reservoirs have been adapted to the platforms and these reservoirs are emptied as the cars run, by means of perforated tubes placed fan shape at the front and back of the car.—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

Ambitious Birds.

Caged chaffinches are celebrated for their eagerness to compete with one another in singing. They deliver their songs alternately until one is exhausted and unable to take up his turn. So excited do the birds become that it occasionally happens that one of the competitors drops down dead.

Boric Acid for Styes.

Boric acid is a mild, soothing antiseptic and is one of the best remedies known for styes. Physicians recommend bathing and soaking the affected eye for half an hour twice a day in a warm saturated solution of mercuric oxide in vaseline.

Wealth in the Black Hills.

The Black hills region is the richest 100 square miles of territory in the world so far as known to mining engineers. This district produces working quantities of nearly every mineral product from gold to cement.

The Last Straw.

In the horrors of a siege, women who have viewed, brave-eyed, men butchered before their faces, have been known to break down at the sight of a wrecked canary cage.—William J. Locke in "Idols."

Regular.

"I don't see why you always call Doctor Pomp, especially when the case isn't serious." "Isn't serious? Every case is serious, and Doctor Pomp has buried our family as far back as I can remember."—Judge.

A Watch That Is 'Seen but Not Heard.'

If a watch or a small clock is to be kept on a table by a sick bed, a good plan is to cover the watch or clock with a tumbler. It will then be seen, but not heard.

No, Never.

A woman may have a poor memory, but she never forgets any of the things her husband promised he'd do for her after they were married.

How a Tree Grows.

If a nail is driven into a tree trunk it will always remain the same distance from the center of the tree and from the ground.

Pure Luck.

If there's no such thing as luck, how is it that now and then a man really gets a good piece of cantaloupe?

Or Potato Mashers.

There are twenty-four clubs, exclusively for women in London, not counting rolling pins.

Waterproof Matches.

Matches can be made proof against dampness by dipping them in very hot melted paraffin.

How to Keep a Secret.

There's only one way to keep a secret—that's to hang onto it yourself.

To Be Neutral.

To escape criticism: Do nothing, say nothing, be nothing.—Anonymous.

**Knew What Would Happen.**  
Monsieur wanted the picture hung to the right; madame wanted it on the left. But monsieur insisted that the servant should hang the picture according to his orders. Consequently Joseph stuck a nail in the wall on the right, but this done, he also went and stuck another on the left. "What is that second nail for?" his master inquired in astonishment. "It's to save me the trouble of fetching the ladder tomorrow when monsieur will have come round to the views of madame."

**Best Work Done in Maturity.**  
The history of human achievement shows that there have been a few geniuses who have accomplished their greatest work at an early age. But the great work of the world, the bulk of all the great achievements, has been done by men who developed slowly through years of observation and experience, their minds broadening and ripening and growing ever stronger, and these did their best work in their rich maturity.

**Remember Only Today.**  
Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities no doubt crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely and with too high a spirit to be cumbered with your old nonsense. This day is all that is good and fair. It is too dear with its hopes and aspirations to waste a moment upon the yesterday.—Emerson.

**Laughter Analyzed.**  
Laughter is a sign of high development. The nearer one is to the animal, the less one laughs. The more highly developed we become, the more do we perceive humor. For laughter, it must be remembered, is a sign that an emotion has suddenly been set free. It is like a touch on the trigger of a gun, the gun being self-restraint.

**Pupil of "Best Teacher."**  
"Cheer up, old boy," advised the married man. "You know 'tis better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all." "Yes," agreed the rejected suitor, jingling a bunch of keys in his pocket, "better for the forlorn, the confectioner, the messenger boy, the restaurant waiter, the taxicabman, the theatrical magnate and the jeweler."

**New Medical Term.**  
"Homograde" is the latest addition to the confusion of thermometers. It is designed for the physician, and gives variations from the normal body temperature in figures that can be instantly read and interpreted. With zero at the freezing point, 100 degrees is the accepted normal blood heat, and 270 degrees is the boiling point of water.

**Lucky Sparrow.**  
An Irishman tried to shoot a sparrow with a very old musket. He fired. The bird, with a chirp or two, flew away unconcerned in the foreground, and Pat was swiftly laid on his back. Picking himself up and shaking his fist at the bird, he exclaimed: "Be jabbers, ye wouldn't 'a' chirruped if ye'd been at this ind of the gun."

**To Ward Off Lockjaw.**  
It has been found that a number of viruses are taken up by charcoal so rapidly that they lose their toxic properties for the tissues. Berlin scientists are now experimenting to see whether lockjaw cannot be warded off by the simple expedient of applying charcoal to the infected wound.

**Modern Plowing.**  
In the United Kingdom steam plowing is generally carried on on the double engine system, introduced by John Fowler in 1855. The most improved plow in the United States consists of large engines drawing behind them a number of plows, sometimes covering a space of thirty feet.

**That Fixed Gaze.**  
When a woman gazes fixedly at her husband it doesn't necessarily mean that she is admiring either his manly form or his noble features. The chances are that she is looking him over in an effort to discover grease spots on his clothing.—Topeka Capital.

**Where Rain Never Has Fallen.**  
The driest place in the world is that portion of Egypt between the two lower falls of the Nile. Rain has never been known to fall there.

**Edible Birds' Nests.**  
The edible birds' nests of the Chinese are worth twice their weight in silver, the finest variety selling as high as \$30 a pound.

**Common Sense.**  
A handful of common sense is worth a bushel of learning—thus runs an old Spanish saying.

**Named After Inventor.**  
Macadamised roads are so called from John Loudon Macadam, their inventor.

**Optimistic Thought.**  
Arms are worth little without wisdom at home.

**On Talking Too Low.**  
"We Americans are of two kinds; we either talk too loud or too low, particularly in public places. A European family will sit down in public without feeling the necessity of putting a mute on the voice and retiring as though behind a wall. They are not noisy or gay, they do not toot on tin horns, but they say what they wish without lowering the tone to that painful depth which we mistake for a cultivated note. Let us be brave, and be ourselves; for nothing can be better than that."—Louise Closser Hale, in Century.

**First Idea of Steam Plowing.**  
The idea of the use of engines and machinery to plow the ground seems to have originated with David Ramsey and Thomas Wildgoose in 1618, but the motive power they proposed to use is not quite clear. Francis Moore in 1769 first attempted to use the steam engine for this purpose. The history of practical steam plowing dates from the invention of Fowler, assisted by Smith, in 1854.

**Hebrew or Jew?**  
The name "Jew" was used originally to denote one belonging to the tribe of Judah. After the return from the Babylonian captivity any member of the new state was called a Jew. The name "Hebrew" in its widest sense includes any member of the northern branch of Semites, including the Israelites, Ammonites, Moabites, etc. It is used, however, specifically to denote an Israelite.

**Two Sources of Income.**  
A Londoner was showing some country relative the sights of London one day recently, and was pointing out a magnificent old residence, built years ago by a famous and rather unscrupulous lawyer of his time. "And," the Londoner was asked, "was he able to build a house like that by his practice?" "Yes," was the reply, "by his practice and his practices."

**Field for Ambition.**  
"Yes, father," he said to old Mr. Hayseed, "I've graduated, and my education is complete. I s'pose I know about everything. Now I must choose a field where my abilities can be used to the best advantage. I want a large field where I will have plenty of room." "Son," replied the old man, "there is the ten-acre cornfield, and you kin have it all to yourself."

**And the Rumor is Probably True.**  
"The latest story on me, circulated by my fellow townsmen for the purpose of showing how mean my disposition is," grimly grinned old P. G. Pester, "is that instead of swallowing my sugar coated pills whole I chew them in order that I may taste the bitter ingredients of which they are composed."—Kansas City Star.

**Daily Optimistic Thought.**  
Not everyone is a huntsman that blows a horn.

**Daily Thought.**  
The first duty of a man is still that of subduing fear.—Carlyle.

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