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The Alert Man.
 "Calmness is a fine trait," said Mr. Biffly, "but does it always get there? You take the case of two men standing up in a car holding on to straps, both the same age, but one of them quiet and the other quick, and now let the man they are standing in front of get up to leave the car at a station, and suppose these two men are left at exactly the same distance from the seat, each with the same chance as the other for seizing it, which would get that seat? Would it be the calm, cool man who moved deliberately and always with some thought for others, or would it be the ever alert man, quick to move and always on the lookout, not caring a continental for what any body thinks and always ready to jump in any seat he can nab? Why, while the calm man is thinking it over about what he shall do and beginning to turn that way the alert man is in the seat. I certainly do admire the calm, tranquil man and his good manners, but it is the man ever on the alert that gets the seat in the car—and other things."
 —New York Sun.

The Back of a Glove.
 The meaning of the three marks on the back of a glove and the clocks on a stocking were two of the little mysteries of dress explained at a lecture on clothes in London. The lecturer said that the three marks on the back of a glove correspond to the fourchette pieces between the fingers, and in olden days these pieces were continued along the back of the hand, being used to conceal the seams. A somewhat similar origin was assigned to the ornamental clock on the stocking. In the days when stockings were made of cloth the seams came where the clocks do now, the ornamentation then being used to hide the seams. The useless little bow in the leather band lining a man's hat is a survival of the time when a hat was made by taking a piece of leather, boring two holes through it and drawing it up with a piece of string.

Fashions in Borneo.
 According to the rules of Bornean fashion it is deemed necessary to mold one's limbs into a more shapely form than that bestowed by nature. This is done really effectively by winding strong brass wire round the ankles, wrists, under the knees and above the elbows of children. Growth at these points is, in consequence, greatly hampered, with the result that the limbs come to be deformed or, according to Dyak ideas, brought into proper shape. The headdress consists of a curious headwork cap, and around his neck a braidwork to wear bangles of plaited fiber and strings of cowrie shells. These shells, by the way, as in other parts of the world, are used as currency. A yard of fiber or twenty to thirty cowrie shells represent the value of a penny. The white armlets are made of another species of shells.
 —Wide World Magazine.

What a Toad Enjoys.
 There are few things more amusing than to watch a toad submitting to the operations of a back scratching. He will at first look somewhat suspiciously at the twig which you are advancing toward him, but after two or three passes down his back his manner undergoes a marked change, his eyes close with an expression of infinite rapture, he plants his feet wider apart, and his body swells out to nearly double its ordinary size, as if to obtain by these means more room for enjoyment. Thus he will remain until you make some sudden movement which startles him or until he has had as much petting as he wants, when, with a puff of regretful delight, he will reduce himself to his usual dimensions and hop away, bent once more on the pleasures of the chase.

In Hearing.
 They stood upon the crest of the mountain and gazed off through the purple distances.
 "Darling," he whispered, bending closer, "give me a kiss—just one!"
 "No, Clarence," she answered timidly, "some one will hear us. There may be other ears around."
 "Other ears! Why should you think so, dearest?"
 "Oh, because I have so often heard of mountaineers I thought perhaps there might be some around, and—"
 But just then there was a mighty crash. A mountain goat had heard the awful pun and jumped over the cliff.—London Tatler.

Making Money Two Ways.
 Our five cent pieces, of course, are merely tokens, deriving their purchasing power from the fiat of the treasury. The metal blanks for them cost only about 14 cents a hundred. When the expense of stamping the designs upon them is added they come to something like \$3,510 a million—that is to say, for this amount the government produces \$50,000 worth of nickels, making a clear profit of \$46,490 on the transaction.—Saturday Evening Post.

Not Surprised.
 Real Estate Agent—I tell you, sir, the death rate in this suburb is lower than in any other part of the county. Near Victim—I believe you. I wouldn't be found dead here myself.—Chicago Journal.

Not Much.
 She—Well, I hope you are going to write a letter to the man who insulted you. He on actor—What, make him a present of my autograph? Not much.—Polo Mele.

Whatever disgraces we have merited, it is almost always in our power to re-establish our reputation.—La Rochefoucauld.

The Light of the Stars.
 Various endeavors have been made to estimate the light of the stars. In the northern hemisphere Argelander has registered 222,000 stars down to the ninth and a half magnitude, and with the aid of the best photometric data Agnes M. Clerke's "System of the Stars" gives the sum of the light of these northern stars as equivalent to 1-440 of full moonlight, while the total light of all stars similarly enumerated in both hemispheres, to the number of about 900,000, is roughly placed at 1-180 of the lunar brightness. The scattered light of still fainter celestial bodies is difficult to compute. By a photographic method Sir William Abney rated the total starlight of both hemispheres at 1-100 of full moonlight, and Professor Newcomb from visual observations of all stars at just 728 times that of Capella, or 1-89 of the light of the full moon.
 It is not certain, however, that the sky would be totally dark if all stars were blotted out. Certain processes make the upper atmosphere strongly luminous at times, and we cannot be sure that this light would be totally absent.—Harper's Weekly.

A Dutch Fishing Fleet.
 If the traveler wants to get a real glimpse of picturesque Holland, a glimpse which shall long be a happy memory, let him journey to the old fishing village of Scheveningen, not far from The Hague. Its fishing fleet is an imposing one and is best seen at night, when the boats are drawn up on the beach. Each has a number, and these are painted on the sides in such large figures that they can be read at a considerable distance. At night when the fishermen begin to come to land the women of the village walk down to the beach with their knitting in their hands to meet them. They wear their wooden shoes, some of which are made to look especially clean by an application of whitening, and they make a merry clatter as they go. Industry is characteristic of the women of Holland in all walks of life. They must always be at work of some kind, and it would seem as if more knitting needles must be used in Holland than in any other country in the world.—E. J. Farrington in Interior.

The Old Time English School.
 Until comparatively recent times public school boys in England had many hardships to endure. As late as 1834 a writer who spoke from experience said that "the inmates of a work-house or a jail were better fed and lodged than the scholars of Eton." Boys whose parents could not pay for a private room underwent privations that might have broken down a cabin boy and would be thought inhuman if inflicted on a galley slave.
 "They rose at 5, winter and summer, and breakfasted four hours later, the interval being devoted to study, after they had swept their rooms and made their beds. The only washing accommodation was a pump. The diet consisted of an endless round of mutton, potatoes and beer, none of them too plentiful or too good.
 "To be starved," says this writer, "frozen and flogged—such was the daily life of the scholars of England's noblest families."

A Losing Game.
 "By having a record kept at the cashier's desk of pay checks which patrons fail to turn in I sometimes make up my losses," said the proprietor of a large restaurant. "Today a man got a check for 65 cents. To the cashier he presented one for 25 cents. The latter, glancing at his missing check card, discovered that it was one of the listed ones. Detaining the man, he notified me. After being confronted with the waiter the beat wanted to pay both checks. I ordered a policeman summoned. The man's pleading led me to show him the list of missing checks, which amounted to something like \$80, saying that I didn't know but that he was the cause of them all. He offered to pay the lot if the matter would be dropped, and this proposition I accepted."
 —New York Sun.

Couldn't Forget It.
 "Saturday night some miscreant lugged off a whole cord of my wood, and somehow I can't forget about it," declared Silas.
 "Have you tried to forget it?" inquired his friend.
 "Yes. Sunday morning I went to church, hoping I could get it off my mind, and before I had been there five minutes the choir started in singing 'The Lost Chord,' so I got out."
 —Judge.

Reckless Gambling.
 "I'm afraid my husband is developing the gambling instinct," sobbed the bride.
 "What's the matter, dear? Has he been playing poker?"
 "No, but yesterday he offered to match pennies with Brother Frank to determine which one should pay the car fare."
 —Detroit Free Press.

Getting Down to Business.
 Mistress (to new servant)—There are two things, Mary, about which I am very particular. They are truthfulness and obedience. Mary—Yes'm, and when you tell me to say you're not in when a person calls that you don't wish to see which is it to be, man—truthfulness or obedience?

Defined.
 Precocious Child—Papa, tell me what is humbug? Parent (with a deep drawn sigh)—It is, my dear, when your mamma pretends to be very fond of me and puts no buttons on my shirt.
 He who loves goddess harbors angels.—Emerson.

The Talkative Barber.
 "The talkativeness of barbers long has been the subject for puns and jokes," said a barber. "I had always fancied the matter one of recent origin until the other day. You know in my profession we have a great deal of spare time. Well, the other day I was sitting on the bench waiting for the shaves and hair cuts to come in and to while away the time was glancing through a copy of Plutarch's 'Arche-laus.' Imagine my consternation when I happened on a line reading:
 "'A prating barber asked Archelaus how he would be trimmed. He answered, 'In silence.'"
 "Well, that got me. I never knew they even had barbers that long ago. I always supposed the ancients let their whiskers grow and that they wore curly locks as long as their togas, but it seems that the barber is an ancient relic and that his talking proclivities are a matter of history. I'll have to give it to the humorists there.
 "But, say," he whispered, "that man-icure girl over there has got us beat to a frazzle. I wonder if there's anything in Plutarch about her."
 —Kansas City Star.

The Sunny Side of Superstition.
 That there is anything genial, cheering or therapeutically valuable about superstition may seem a tall statement. The adjective generally associated with it is "dark." On the contrary, there is something very brightening about a four leaf clover. Who is not a little more of an optimist for picking up a horseshoe? What lonely farmer's wife, stormbound on a winter afternoon, with unwelcome leisure on her hands, but feels a little quickening of the pulse as she drops her scissors and beholds them sticking up in the carpet or discovers that she has laid an extra place at the table? Company signs are the commonest and welcomed of all superstitions. The scissors, the needle, the dishcloth, the fork, the Saturday sneeze, all inculcate hospitality and reward it by an unexpected visitor. If the needle slants as it stands up in the crack of the floor it foretells a gentleman. Run, young daughters of the house, and put a blue bow in your hair!—Atlantic Monthly.

Working It Out.
 The following note was delivered to a schoolmistress recently:
 "Dear Mum—I am sorry that Johnny won't be able to come to school today. He has gone with his father to act as timekeeper. The sum you gave Johnny last night was, 'if the road is one and a quarter miles long how long will it take a man to walk that distance twenty-six and a half times, his average rate of progress being three and three-quarter miles per hour?' Johnny ain't a man yet, so as dad's the only man in this house he had to go. They started at 4 o'clock this morning, and dad said he'd finish the sum in one day if he could manage it, though it would mean hard going. Dear mum, next time you want any information please make it 'woman,' then I can do the sum and dad can go to his work."
 —London Scraps.

A Custom of the Balkans.
 He or she who enters a house for the first time is supposed in the Balkan countries to bring it good or bad luck for the whole twelvemonth. This belief gives rise to a curious observance. The visitor before crossing the threshold picks up a stone (token of strength) or a green twig (emblem of health and fruitfulness) and lays it on the hearth. He also brings with him some grains of salt, which he casts into the flames, and then, squatting by the fireside, wishes his hosts "a prosperous year, a plentiful crop and many blessings." Then as the grains of salt burst and crackle in the fire he utters the following quaint formula: "As I am sitting, even so may sit the hen and warm the eggs. As this salt splits, even so may split the eggs of the clucking hen and the chickens come forth."

Reptiles' Eggs.
 Reptiles' eggs are not very attractive objects. In the case of crocodiles and many kinds of tortoises they are pale colored or white and resemble those of birds in shape. But the egg of the gopher tortoise is remarkable for its complete roundness. It might well be mistaken for a golf ball. Many snakes' eggs are soft skinned, brown as to color and look for all the world like a number of new potatoes.—Scientific American.

Enthusiasm.
 The organist sent a little boy to inquire of the minister what the first hymn would be. "Tell her," said the minister. "I would like 'Carol, Brothers, Carol!'"
 The little boy thought he said "Howl, Brothers, Howl!" and told the organist that the minister's selection was "Yell, Brothers, Yell."
 —New York Times.

Runs in the Family.
 Mr. Agile (to Mr. Stoutman, running for a car)—Hello, old boy! I thought you were too lazy to run like that. Mr. Stoutman (dangudily)—Easily explained, my dear boy. Laziness runs in our family.—Lippincott's.

Suspended Animation.
 "What is suspended animation?"
 "It's what happens at an afternoon tea when the very woman they have been talking about enters the room."
 —Puck.

Cramped.
 Knicker—How large is their suburban place? Hocker—Large! Why, they have to have folding beds for the flowers.—New York Sun.
 Bless the fools! What would we do if every one were wise?—Antrim.

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TO CHANGE from gas to coal lift out top burners, close slides at top burner openings, close front slide-draft, pull out cast iron false oven bottom, remove cover from same and place it into cover hole in regular bottom.

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BROIL WITH COAL, raise front two section, adjust swing brackets, attached at side of warming closet.

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 Our stock of Underwear is complete. National Wool, Fleece lined and Ballbrigan Shirts and Drawers which cannot be surpassed in price or durability. Our line of Overalls, Over Jackets, Pants, Work and Dress Shirts, Wool and Cotton Socks, Gloves and Mitts, will surprise you in price and quality.

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 Men and Boys' work and dress Shoes, Ladies and Children's shoes, Complete line and all sizes. Rubbers of all kind for Ladies, Children and Lumbermen's.

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 Cannot be surpassed in this line. Have everything from a darning needle to a sewing machine. Our line of Embroideries and Insertions are complete. Come look our stock over and be convinced.

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