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**Saving Time & Time Tables.**

To most people, especially when they are on the road, time is money, but time tables are not convertible into cash. In the pages of "Through Savage Europe" Harry De Windt gives a curious and amusing experience on a Russian railway some years ago. The patience of the Russians is in marked contrast with the impatience of American travelers. All Russians have a rooted antipathy to fast railway travel, if one may judge from an incident which occurred some years ago when I was travelling across the Caucasus from Batoum to Baku. We had reached a tunnel, at the entrance of which the train waited for at least twenty minutes.

"There is something wrong," I remarked to a fellow passenger.

"Oh, no," he replied: "we are only making up the time. This tunnel was recently made to avoid a long bend round a range of hills, and as it now cuts off several miles a short delay is necessary so as to fit in with the scheduled time."

"But surely we should save time by going on," I urged.

"Perhaps so," said my friend. "But then, you see, they would have to alter all the time tables."

**Form of Divorce in Old Rome.**

In the earlier period of the Roman republic divorces were quite unknown and were rare right up to the time of the Sullan wars. In the old days the husband and wife who wished to separate appeared for the last time before the common hearth, a priest and priestess being present. As on the day of marriage, a cake of wheat flour was presented to the husband and wife, but instead of sharing it between them they rejected it. Then, instead of prayers, they pronounced formulas of a strange, severe, spiteful character, by which the wife renounced the worship and gods of the husband. From that moment the religious bond was broken, and the community of worship having ceased to exist, the marriage without further ado was forever dissolved.—New York American.

**Floral Etymology.**

"Primrose" is one of those words that have shown popular association to be stronger than etymology. It has no real connection with the rose, but is the old French "primeole" and, anyhow, means only the "prime" or first flower (more or less) of the year. Our language has insisted upon making "roses" of all sorts of flowers. We have the tuberose, which is only "tuberosa," tuberous, and the rose mary, which is "rosmarinus," dew of the sea. On the other hand the "rose" has been dropped readily enough in cases where popular fancy could not see the flower. The alchemists called green vitriol "rose of copper," "cupri-rosa." In French this became "couperose," but English wore it down to the pointless "copperas."—London Chronicle.

**The Dancing Mania.**

The "dancing mania" of the middle ages came on the heels of the great plague known as the "black death." It was some sort of nervous disease and is now supposed to have been what is known as "St. Vitus' dance." It began in the year 1374 at Aix-la-Chapelle and spread all over Germany, the Netherlands and Italy. The dancers formed circles hand in hand and appearing to have lost all reason, continued dancing, regardless of the bystanders, for hours together until in their wild delirium they fell to the ground in sheer exhaustion. Panting and foaming at the mouth, they would suddenly spring up and begin the dance again, to be again exhausted, and so on until they died. The mania involved millions of people.

**The Twelve Jurymen.**

A prisoner is tried by twelve of his fellow countrymen. This custom is a thousand years old, and we get it from the vikings. The vikings divided their country up into cantons, which were subdivided into twelve portions, each under a chieftain. When a malefactor was brought to justice it was usual for each chieftain to select a man from the district over which he ruled and compel him to try the prisoner, the verdict of these twelve men being declared by the judge to be final.

**Made Her Mad.**

"I thought I overheard you and your wife quarreling a little while ago. What was the trouble?"

"She brought home a new hat, and after putting it on she turned to me and said she didn't believe it was becoming."

"Well?"

"I agreed with her."—Chicago Record-Herald.

**A One Sided Rule.**

Once when P. T. Barnum was taking tickets at the entrance of his circus a man asked him if he could go in without paying.

"You can pay without going in," said Barnum, "but you can't go in without paying. The rule doesn't work both ways."

**Not by Exclusion.**

He—I had a hard time getting a good wife.

She—Goodness! Have you been married several times?

"Oh, no. But I courted my present one six years."—Philadelphia Ledger.

**Usually the Way.**

Man—She is trying to keep her marriage a secret.

Man—How do you know?

"She told me so."

To forgive a fault in another is more sublime than to be faultless oneself.—George Bond.

**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 those 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. "What is the matter?" he asked. "I was awfully hard hit last night," he answered. "By Jove," replied the artist, jumping up with delight, "I've got it at last! 'Hard Hit,' of course! And that is how the picture got its name."

**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 rolled 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 their devotees discovered many another. The craze for the secret, or unknown, has still its hold upon men and is seen in palmistry and kindred cults.

**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.**

The essence 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"

**Generally Has That Effect.**

She—I wonder why Methuselah lived to such a great old age. He—Perhaps some young woman married him for his money.—Boston Transcript.

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