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RAINDROPS.

Some Carlous Facts Brought Out by Sel entific study.

How large is a drop of rain? Probably most people have a notion that raindrops are nearly all of one size, although it is a matter of common observation that in what is called a misty rain, or a drizzle, the individual drops are very small. The question of the size of raindrops is not so unimportant as might be supposed, and Mr. E. L. Lotte has collected many facts hearing mon it, and presented them to the loyal Meterological society.

He employed in his experiments sheets of slate made in book form so as to be readily closed, and ruled in inch squares. The impressions of the drops were caught on the slate and afterward carefully copied on paper.

He discovered that the size of raindrops varies from a speck so small as to be almost invisible up to a diameter

Every reader has probably noted that the raindrops preceding a thunderstorm frequently assume gigantic proportions, though he may not have suspected that they could ever attain so great a size as Mr. Lowe has discovered that they do. Other Interesting facts about raindrops which have been brought out by Mr. Lowe's experiments are that drops of the same size do not always contain the same amount of water, and that

some of the largest drops are hollow. The importance of these observations from a scientific point of view lies in the bearing of the facts thus ascertained upon the question of the manner of presipitation of the aqueous vapor of the atmosphere. From another point of view they are important as illustrating nature's power to introduce variety into her works, even when her hand is busied merely in forming drops of rain.

HOW WE FALL ASLEEP.

some of the Senses Drop Off More Eastly Than Others.

Scientific investigators assert that In beginning to sleep the senses do not nitedly fall into slumber, but drop of one after another. The sight ceases in consequence of the protection of the eyelids to receive impressions first, while all the other senses preserve their sensibility entire. The sense of taste is the next which loses its susceptibility to impression, and then the sense of of smelling. The hearing is next in order, and last of all comes the sense of touch. Furthermore, the senses are brought to sleep with different degrees of profoundness. The sense of touch deeps the most lightly, and the most easily awakened; the next easiest is the hearing, the next is the sight, and the taste and smelling awake last, Another remarkable circumstance deserves notice; certain muscles and parts of the body begin to sleep before others. Sloep commences at the extremities, beginning with the foct and legs and creeping toward the center of the nervous action, explains the American Analyst. The necessity of keeping the feet warm and perfectly still as a preliminary of sleep is well known. From these explorations it will not appear supprising that there should be an imperfect kind of mental action which produces the phenomena of dreaming.

REALS THE BLOOD. Quickens ation of the Liver and Kidneys. Clears the Spinion, makes the skin smooth. It does not Wheteeth, cause headache, or produce con-Satis-ILL OTHER IRON MEDICINES DO. tand Droggi Is svorg where recommend it N S Rithard of Marine, Mosea, sayar "1

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ever to take place. It would not do to say with Hamlet that "we will have no more marriages," and that all who are nos single "shall keep as they are:" but we are justified in thinking that the ratio of matrimonial happiness is likely to be increased according to the measure of marriages that are brought about by reflecting instead of emotional means. The system with which the critics find so much fault is not perfect, but it is much better than they represent it to be, or it would not have survived so long. With all their flaw-picking, they have not been able to devise an acceptable substitute for it; and un-

til they are able to do so it will continue to stand as the most beneficent of those great agencies which regulate and control the affairs of civilization.

Geffee in Gustemals. Guatemalans believe that there is no

better coffee in the world than that raised on their ewa plantations, and Central American coffee has of late years acquired a high reputation in the markets of the world. It is usual for wealthy Guatemalans to make sure of | It is lined inside with paper in imitation good coffee in traveling by taking along of silk and on it, in pencil, Lincoln had a store of their own. A long glass tube, written his name and address: "A. several inches in diameter, but tapering , Linvin, Springfield, Ill." It is this autoto a tunnel at one cud, is filled with | graph which adds so immensely to the

site the store of a popular hatter. Out rushed the hatter with the hat which the committee of Lincoln's friends had elected, and begged the precious privilege of exchanging it for the one which Lincoln wore. Without any suspicion that he was the victim of a "put up job" Lincoln good-naturedly complied with the request.

The late William Gibson, one of New York's greatest cario and relic hunters, secured the "shocking hat" and it figured conspicuously at many fairs and exhibitions for charitable purposes. When Mr. Gibson died, some eight years ago, the hat passed to one of his sons. who kept it under a glass globe in his Thore it was seen recently by factory. F. R. Kaldenberg, of this city. He wrote to his friend C. F. Guather, of Chicago, who has a large collection of Lincoln rolles, about it. Mr. Conther opened up negotiations and purchased for a good round sum the hat, which is intrinsically not worth five cents. The hat is an ordinary old-fashioned

stove-pipe" and was made by a batter at Springfield, Ill., named George Hall,

ome interesting details of two lawsuits now going on against Prince Sciarra-Colonna, says the London Daily News. In the first the government is charging him with the sale and exportation of rare pictures and objects of art to France, and in the second his creditors are suing him. As to the pictures, it has been found how the prince succeeded in exporting them. At the back of his palace is a theater, the Quirino. Into the courtyard of the palace large boxes were carried similar to those in which theatrical companies transport stage properties. Then the "Violin Player" of Raphael and pictures by Titian were packed in these, together with the scenery, and the whole was sent to France scheduled as "theatrical furniture." The "Violin Player" is famons as being one of Raphael's last works. It bears the date 1815-two years before his death-and it is interesting as bearing a resemblance to th painter. This act has been impagned as illegal, firstly, because the gallery i for wealth and position is but the entailed, and secondly, because, even if it were not so, the exportation of obdouble interest that fate exacts from its jects of art is prohibited unless the right of preemption is offered to the government.

Mining in Dolivia and Mexico.

behavior of a man who, on being sentenced to three months' imprisonment for swindling, looked at the judges for a moment, and then shouted at the top of his voice: "You are a set of donkeys!" Then and there he was condemned to an additional two years' imprisonment for "grossly insulting the bench." It might have been imagined that the punishment with which his outrageous conduct had been visited would have deferred anyone who might have felt inclined to follow his bad example from doing so, but, strangely enough, the next prisoner who was brought forward acted in precisely the same way. Sentenced to a month's imprisonment as a "rogue and vagabond," he cried out lustily: "You are a lot of scoundrels!" and, like his predecessor, will prolong his sojourn in jail for the space of two years. HOW WE SELLP.

Instand of Slumbering All Over at Once We do to Sleep by sections. According to the best writers on the subject, it has been ascertained that, in cinning to sleep the senses do not

ledly full into a state of slumber. has drop off one after the other. The ai tht ceases, in consequence of the protection of the cyclids, to receive impressions first, while all the other senses preserve their sensibility outire. The sense of taste is the next which loses its susceptibility to impressions. and then the sense of smelling. The hearing is next in order, and last of all mues the sense of touch. Furthermore, the senses are thought to sleep with different degrees of profoundness. table! The sense of touch sleeps the most lightly and is the most easily awakened; the next endest is the hearing; the next is the sight, and the taste and smelling awake last. Another remarkable circumstance deserves noticecertain muscles and parts of the body begin to sleep befere others. Slees commences at the extremities, beginning with the fect and legs and ercoping toward the center of the nervous action. The necessity for keeping the feet warm and perfectly still

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CURIOUS FACTS.

Origins of Some of Our Most Common Mathematical Signs.

The sign=of addition is derived from the initial letter of the word "plus." In making the capital letter it was made more and more carelessly until the top part of the "p" was finally placed near the center; hence the plus sign as we know it was gradually reached.

The sign of subtraction was derived from the word "minus." The word was first contracted in m, n, s, with a horizontal line above to indicate that some of the letters had been left out. At last the letters were omitted altogether, leaving only the short line.

The multiplication sign was obtained by changing the plus sign into the letter X. This was done because multiplication is but a shorter form of addi-

Division was formerly indicated by placing the dividend above a horizontal ine and the divisor below. In order to save space in printing the dividend was placed to the left and the divisor to the right. After years of "evolution" the i's were omitted altogether and simple dots set in the place of each. As with the others the radical sign was derived from the initial letter of the word "radix."

The sign of equality was first used in the year 1557 by a sharp mathematician, who substituted it to avoid frequently repeating the words "equal to."

Nature's Fluid.

The scarcity of water in Paris is indicated eleverly by a Parisian journalist, who represents a scene in a restaurant; time, the year 1895. A diner calls for a bottle of pure water. The water, aghast, goes to consult the patron, as Parisian proprietors like to be called. There is only one bottle of pure water in the house. Its date is 1872, and the price is fabulous. The patron hesitates to serve it to a stranger, but the sight of a large bank bill in the customer's hand is reassuring. The pure water of 1873. in a wieker-covered bottle, is brought out carefully and set before the stranger. Other customers look on with envious eyes, and one asks who the stranger is. "I believe," responds the patron, "that it is the prince of Wales.

British Army Discipline.

A singular anomaly in connection with British army discipline is reported. In a certain regiment were two officers. One was the husband of a wife who strayed from the path of conjugal duty; the other was the means of leading a wife (not the same, but another man's) from the same path. The first officer was requested to send in his papers, while the second was informed that, not being married, he ought to dine more irequently at the officers' mess

disparity of years keeps her youth as long as her temperament and disposition permit. When Baroness Burdett-Coutts married her very youthful spouse, Mr. Bartlett, she was a welleserved spinster of sixty odd. Now the gallant Mr. Burdett-Coutts, as he is alled, looks, it is said, fully up to that, while the baroness, who is close upon ighty, appears as bright and as energetie as in middle life. There is no preservation of health equal to a good art and an ample fortune, according

to the Boston Herald, and the aged wife of the ambitions young American is distinguished for both of these possessions. Old age can be held at bay until the very end. as Ninon de l'Enclos' career bears witness, but the conditions must be favorable and the years must be well gilt. Poverty never opt any woman young; yet, after all, perhaps there is a good deal of justice a the averaging of time, and this premature aging of men who marry thus

Ead of a Long-Lived Humbug. The cold bath is going out of favor.

There was, indeed, an element of hum-

debtors.



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sion Bounty, etc.

on the journey.

1891.

A King Pockets Cake.

Sebastian recently from the Spanish eighty whose cases were investigated capital, a luncheon, as usual, was given | never went to bed until well into the by the city in honor of the guests. As small hours, and did not get up again the repast was served at 5 o'clock King | until late in the day. Early rising tends Alfonso was not hutgry. In order to to exhaust the physical powers and to show his appreciation of the action of shorten life." And an English publicahis subjects, however, and to provide tion maintains that "long livers were against contingencies, he took two of really all persons who habitually abthe best pieces of cake from a plate, and "stained from bathing." What a consoremarking to a neighbor: "They are for lation this is to the lazy and the dirty! after awhile," placed them in his No doubt modern science is grand in gileased the people of San Sebastian.

ground coffee and through the mass is | value of the hat. poured cold water. A strong solution Rise Early and Die Early. of coffee slowly drips from the narrow Early rising and a sponging down in and of the tube and this liquid is carefully put up in air-tight vessels to be the merning have always been considwarmed in small quantities and drask | ered essential to good health and long life. That is a superstition, says a Corman writer on dieteties, whose abasevations have just been published. "At When the royal family moved to San | least eight out of ten persons over

pocket. This childish action greatly finding excuses for all the cranky | leas and vicious shames of fashionable mod- Washington Star, ora life.

in the noisy enjoyment of the man who in the dead of winter broke thin ice to gain ablution. The ghastly smile and the chattering of teeth gave the lie to his protestations of delight. The Japanese, whose civilization may well excite cuvy, shun cold water as neither refreshing nor cloansing. The poorest inhabitant has a fire of charcoal lighted under a movable tub. And just as hot en in summer is more cooling than the iced drink, so is hot water to be preferred to cold; nor need the advocate of this principle be necessarily a disciple of linhnemann.

-"I say," said the old subscriber, "what has become of the man who used to get up all those presidential tickets that would be sure to win for your paper?" "We had to give him a vacation," replied the editor. "He's been taken with a lucid interval."-

Several of the most important mining companies of the district of Colquechaca. Bolivia, have just been consolidated. This district is one of the richest of the silver-producing regions in the state, and the purposes of the combination are to settle existing disputes, the mines being all placed under one manage ment. This new company has a nominal capital of 12,600,000 Bolivian dollars and a complete plan for working the several mines, with connecting railways completely equipped and extensive peat deposits for the supply of fuel for many years. It is estimated that three of the mines alone have, with interrupted work, produced 40,000,000 Bolivian dollars' worth in the last ten years, and the other mines are still in virgin ground. The semi-official statistics of Mexico show that since 1821 the republic has produced 100,000 tons of silver and 300 tons of gold, representing a money value of \$4,520,000,000.

'low a Hindon Uses Clocks.

The Hindoo places a clock in his par lor, says a writer in Temple Bar, not because he ever desires to know what the hour is, but because a clock is a foreign curiosity. Instead, therefore, of contenting himself with one good clock he will have, perhaps, a dozen in one room. These clocks are signs of his wealth, but they do not add to his comfort, for he is so indifferent to time that he measures it by the number of hamboo lengths the sun has traveled above the horizon.