

A Popular Disease.
What American is there who has not been or is not going to be a president of something? Time was when the number of societies, clubs, organizations, chapters, associations, etc., was so limited that only about one in ten thousand could be a president. Now anybody, no matter how humble he is, can avoid the office.—Life.

The Great Eastern.
The dimensions of the one time world famous Great Eastern were as follows: Length, 692 feet; width, 83 feet; depth, 60 feet; tonnage, 24,000 tons; draft when unloaded, 20 feet; when loaded, 30 feet. She had paddle wheels fifty-six feet in diameter and was also provided with a four bladed screw propeller of twenty-four feet diameter. She had accommodations for 800 first class, 2,000 second class and 1,200 third class passengers, 4,000 in all. Her speed was about eighteen miles an hour. The Great Eastern was finally broken up for old iron in the year 1889 after a checkered career of some thirty-one years.

Four Kinds of People.
There are four kinds of people:
(a) Those who are grouchy at home and pleasant everywhere else.
(b) Those who are pleasant at home and grouchy everywhere else.
(c) Those who are pleasant both at home and elsewhere.
(d) Those who are grouchy everywhere.

Versatile.
It was at a reception, and the two friends had met.
"Do you know," said Ina, "it was as much as I could do to keep from laughing when Josephine was just telling us about her fiancé being so versatile?"
"Meaning Webb?" replied Kathleen, smiling. "Well, dear, he is rather versatile, you know."
"Nonsense!" cried Ina. "You know, Kathleen, he is a regular idiot."
"Yes," replied Kathleen, "but he's so many kinds of an idiot."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Not a Bad Way.
"I wonder how Ananias and Sapphira got along as a married couple. They were both liars."
"Probably they just accepted each other's little yarns and let it go at that."—Exchange.

Hen Trickery.
Since Australia is at the antipodes from us the hens there naturally lay best from May to November, contrary to the habit of hens here. It is now suggested that if a hen after her annual laying period in the southern hemisphere were rushed across the equator to the United States she might lay during the rest of the year at the same rate and thus establish a new "record" for a year's production. Still, it looks like a mean trick to play on a poor hen.—Youth's Companion.

Descriptive.
"Freddy," said the visitor, "I hear your father gave you a watch for your birthday. Was it a hunting case watch?"
"No, ma'am," replied Freddy; "it was a bare faced watch."—Chicago News.

Mocha Coffee.
The name of Mocha coffee is applied generally to the coffee produced in Arabia and Abyssinia.

Arms and the Men.
"I see you have your arm in a sling," said the inquisitive passenger. "Broken, is it?"
"Yes, sir," responded the other passenger.
"Meet with an accident?"
"No. Broke it while I was trying to pat myself on the back."
"Great Scott! What for?"
"For minding my own business."
"I see. Never could happen to me, could it?"
"No."
"And if it did I wouldn't be blame fool enough to tell it."
Then there was silence in the car.—Chicago Tribune.

Political Note.
"Pa, what is meant by 'emoluments of office?'"
"That's a high sounding word used frequently by politicians to denote their pay, my son, and it's like charity."

"How's that, pa?"
"It covers a multitude of sins."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Innocent Cause of It.
"How did you happen to leave your last place?"
"The house was burned down, ma'am."
"Well, of course you were not to blame for that."
"No'm. The lady what hired me wouldn't furnish fat kindlin', an' I had to start the fires with kerosene."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Saving Trouble.
"Can you tell me," said the good natured old gentleman, "why those golfers over there called me all those frightful names just now?"
"Why, what happened?"
"Oh, when they hit their ball over here I picked it up and threw it back to them to save them the trouble of coming for it."—Christian Register.

Another Denial.
At a dinner of the Gridiron club in 1913 Thomas F. Logan of the Philadelphia Inquirer was initiated as a member, and part of his hazing was to go about as a young reporter and interview the guests. Then he was questioned concerning the results.
"Did you interview the secretary of war?" he was asked.
"What did he say?"
"He denies it."
"What does he deny?"
"Why, what I asked him, and he said it didn't make any difference what; it was the immemorial custom of the war department to deny everything."—Arthur W. Dunn's "Gridiron Nights."

His Maternal Grandma.
A devoted father after a day's absence was met by his two little sons.
"Have you been good boys?" Silence.
"Have you been good boys?"
"No, papa. I called grandma a bad word," said the five-year-old, turning scarlet.
"Is it possible? What did you call your grandma?"
"I called her a human being."
The father, with a mighty effort, maintained his gravity and closed the scene decorously. "I must forgive you for once, but remember if you ever call your grandmother a human being again I shall have to spank you."—London Telegraph.

Man's Limitations.
Man has done wonders since he came before the public. He has navigated the ocean, he has penetrated the mysteries of the starry heavens, he has harnessed the lightning and made it light the great cities of the world.
But he can't find a spoon of thread in his wife's workbasket; he can't discover her pocket in a dress hanging in the closet; he cannot hang out clothes and get them on the line the right end up. He cannot hold clothespins in his mouth while he is doing it either. He cannot be polite to somebody he hates. In short, he cannot do a hundred things that women do almost instinctively.

A Very Old Rule.
The oldest mathematic book in the world is believed to be the "Papyrus Rhind" in the British museum, professed to have been written by Ahmes, a scribe of King Ra-us, about the period between 2000 and 1700 B. C. This "Papyrus Rhind" was translated by Eisenlohr of Leipzig, and it was found to contain a rule for making a square equal in area to a given circle. It was not put forth as an original discovery, but as the transcript of a treatise 500 years older still, which sends us back to approximately 2500 B. C. when Egyptian mathematicians solved, or thought they had solved, the problem of squaring the circle.

No Pity There.
Undutiful boys may see themselves held up as before a mirror in the following anecdote: A young Irish girl in giving testimony in a court of justice, when asked some questions in reference to the prisoner, replied, "Ar rah, sir, I'm sure he never made his mother smile." There is a biography of unkindness in that simple sentence.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Lucky Dog.
"My wife is excessively fond of her poodle. Actually I'm beginning to look on it as a sort of rival to me."
"Say, you're lucky. I'm only a sort of a rival to my wife's poodle."—Kansas City Times.

The Observant Beggar.
"Excuse me, sir," said the panhandler, shuffling up to Dubbleigh's side, "but you couldn't let me have \$15, could you?"
"Fifteen dollars?" echoed Dubbleigh.
"Great Scott, man, do you for one moment suppose I'd be fool enough to give you \$15?"
"No, chief, I didn't," said the panhandler, "but I sort o' hoped you'd regard it as a kind of personal assessment and scotch off \$14.99, leavin' me with a dime to the good."
He got it.—New York Times.

Cutting.
Young Wife—How fortunate I am in possessing a husband who always stays at home in the evening!
Bosom Friend—Yes; your husband never was much addicted to pleasure.—New York Telegram.

Big Ostriches.
That ostriches on a grew fifteen feet in height is shown by remains found in the island of Madagascar.

Tell It Not in Gath.
"Tell it not in Gath" means now adays "Keep it a secret" and is from the Old Testament. Gath was a Philistine city, but is sometimes used to mean "Judah." The reference is found in II Samuel 1. 20.

Distant Popularity.
"Does absence really make the heart grow fonder?"
"It does in some cases. There are persons who when they are a thousand or so miles away I can almost tolerate."—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

Books as Carriers of Disease.
The report of the commissioner of education undertakes to reassure persons who are fearful of the spread of disease through books by recording the results of recent investigation at Yale university. During the cleaning of the library a chemical analysis of the dust was made. About half of this was found to be mineral matter, while the other half was organic, including paper, wood fiber and molds. No mouth bacteria were found, and in general the analysis showed the harmlessness of the dust.

DO IT NOW.
Begin this very moment to live the right life. The man who postpones the day for living as he knows he ought to live is like the fool who sits by the river and waits till it flows no more, but it glides and will glide on till time is no more.

PATIENCE.
Be patient. God has all eternity in which to make plain the hidden things of your life.

BE TACTFUL.
Talent is something, but tact is everything. Talent is serious, sober, grave and respectable. Tact is all that and more too. It is not a seventh sense, but is the life of all the five. It is the open eye, the quick ear, the judging taste, the keen smell and the lively touch. It is the interpreter of all riddles, the surmounter of all difficulties and the remover of all obstacles. Tact is a wonder worker.

Mercurial.
The adjective mercurial, like many others, came into ordinary speech from the realm of astrology. In astrological language a mercurial man was one born under the influence of Mercury when Mercury was in the ascendant and therefore possessed of the mental qualities supposed to distinguish the beathen.

Strength of Bees.
Hundred of bees can hang one to another without tearing away the feet of the bees.

Would Help Him.
"I'll try to make you a good husband, my dear."
"And I have no doubt that you will succeed. Mother and I will abet your efforts in that direction vigorously."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Irish Sea.
The English channel is nowhere more than 300 feet deep. The Irish sea is 2,130 feet.

The Wild Elephant.
A wild elephant has such a delicate sense of smell that it can detect an enemy nearly a mile away.

MAP TO WHICH ENGLISH CENSOR OBJECTED.



The above map was published recently by the London Daily Mail as showing how the Germans, through the invasion of Serbia, successfully carried out with Bulgaria's aid and through the subsequent opening of the road to Constantinople accomplished an important step toward the materialization of the plan to strike at "the heart of the British empire" by invading Egypt and India. As a result of its publication Lord Northcliffe, proprietor of the paper, was severely censured by the government in the house of commons and threatened with prosecution in the courts. The map was reproduced by Daheim, a German illustrated weekly. Since it was first published the black line has been extended over the whole of Serbia and part of Montenegro. Germany aims, according to authentic reports, at the conquest and control of the Suez canal, through which passes the major portion of the traffic between Great Britain and India.

The Elder Booth.
A theatrical man, in an appreciation of Junius Brutus Booth, declares that "intellectually he stood above any actor of his own or any other time." In justification of this praise these claims are made. Booth had a knowledge of seamanship acquired as a midshipman, was an expert printer, had studied law and medicine, was an acute theologian and spoke eight languages fluently, besides being "the greatest actor who ever spoke the English language."—Exchange.

Refuge in the Office.
"What makes Bilgins in such a hurry to get to work in the morning?"
"He isn't getting to work. His family has moved and they're fixing up the house. He's getting away from work."—Washington Star.

Fish Culture.
The United States does more to stock its inland waters with edible fish than any other nation.

Acute Indigestion.
Acute indigestion is a catarrhal inflammation of the lining mucous membrane of the stomach caused by food which is indigestible or has begun to decompose. This condition is very favorable to the growth of disease germs.

The "Bull."
The origin of the word "bull" as the definition of a confused utterance is doubtful. Some philologists say it comes from the French boue—"fraud"—and others that it is derived from the Icelandic bull—"nonsense." Many definitions have been attempted, but the best probably is that of Sydney Smith. Writing of the difference between wit and "bulls," he says: "Wit discovers real relations that are apparent; bulls' admit apparent relations that are not real. The stronger the apparent connection and the more complete the real disconnection of the ideas the greater the surprise and the better the 'bull.'"

Wholly Inappropriate.
"I can't find any old clothes to put on the scarecrow," said Farmer Cornfossil.
"You might use some of the fancy duds our boy Josh brought home," suggested his wife.
"I'm tryin' to scare the crows. I'm not tryin' to make 'em laugh."—Harvard Lampoon.

Know What a Mole Is?
How dull the dictionary. It says "a mole is a permanent dark brown spot on the human skin." A California poetess refers to a mole as "a teardrop petrified by its own audacity."—Toledo Blade.

Wasps.
Wasps are said to rank next to the higher classes of ants in point of insect intelligence.

Where the Worry Comes.
"Are you not worried by your wife's absence?"
"No. It's her return that always worries me."

Early Irish Kings.
Beginning from A. D. 4, seven successive kings of Ireland were all slain, four of them by their successors.

Gales.
The average number of gales that sweep the world in a year is about sixty-six.

Mighty in Titles.
The ruler of Turkey in addition to the titles sultan and kha-khan (high prince and lord of lords), also claims sovereignty over most districts, towns, cities and states in the orient, specifying each by name and setting out in each of his various titles "all the forts, citadels, purlieus and neighborhood thereof" in regular legal form. His official designation ends, "Sovereign also of diverse nations, states, peoples and races on the face of the earth." All this is in addition to his high position as "head of the faithful" and "supreme lord of all the followers of the prophet," "direct and only lieutenant on earth of Mohammed."

The Safe Spot.
"So when you had 200 feet start to escape you ran instead directly up to the bear when your gun failed to work? I don't know whether you were a foolhardy hero or a rattled fool!" declared the doctor as he sewed up Smith's numerous wounds.
"I was neither," explained Smith. "I used remarkable judgment at a critical moment. You see, the bear was between Jones and myself. I saw Jones was about to fire, so I took shelter at the safest spot—with the bear."—New York Sun.

The Change of a Name.
How family names change in the course of many years is illustrated by the conversion of "Boteville" into "Thynne." An English deed bearing date in the closing days of the fifteenth century shows three brothers then flourishing—John Boteville of Boteville and Thomas and William Boteville. The trio are distinguished from all other Botevilles by the explanation "of the Inne," or family residence, the "Inne" to which had come to their joint possession. John's grand son was known as Ralph Boteville of the Inne, from which the transition to Ralph Thynne is easy. His descendants have been Thynnes ever since.

EXPANDING THE CHEST.

Proper Attitude to Assume During Breathing Exercises.

It has been the popular belief that when exercising certain arm movements during inspiration, such as holding the arms up, expand the chest and enable it to take in more air. According to Dr. James Frederick Rogers in an article in the Medical Journal, this is not the proper thing to do. He tested fifty persons of both sexes, ranging from sixteen to forty years of age, measuring carefully the quantity of air inspired when elevating the arms, as usually taught, and when standing still with the arms hanging loose. He found that in no single case did the arm movements increase the quantity of air inspired, but in many they actually decreased it. He also found that standing naturally is more conducive to deep breathing than lying flat or hanging by the hands.

"The raising of the arms," he writes, "does apparently increase the measurements of the upper parts of the chest, but the increase is due to the change in the position of the muscles in this region and to their contraction of stretching, which causes them to stand out from the thorax. For the muscles which lift the arms forward or side-ward or upward have nothing to do with the lifting of the ribs, and consequently no special effect upon the depth of inspiration."

"With very deep inspiration there is a drawing backward of the head and a straightening of the thoracic spine. In other words, the assuming of a very erect posture and, if any exercises are to be carried out as aids to deep intake of air, it seems that the drawing backward of the chin and the assumption of the most erect standing or sitting posture would be most useful as an aid or accompaniment of deep breathing."

London's Windmill.
New Zealand, we are informed, now boasts only a single windmill. In this respect London is equal with the Antipodes. On Brixton hill, just by the waterworks and only a few yards from the main road, stands an old mill intact with the exception of the sails, and still in use, though now electricity takes the place of wind as motive power. The mill was erected by a Quaker about a century ago, and has remained in the family ever since.—London Chronicle.

Pascal's Early Observation.
Blaise Pascal, who wrote a remarkable treatise on the laws of sound, was constantly observing the familiar occurrences about him even as a boy. When he was only ten years old he sat at the dinner table one day striking his plate with his knife and then listening to the sound.
"What are you doing with that plate, Blaise?" asked his sister.
"See," he replied. "When I strike the plate with my knife it rings, Hark!"
Again he called forth the sound.
"When I grasp it with my hand so," he continued, "the sound ceases. I wonder why it is."

Carthage's Great Snake.
The ancients firmly believed in monster serpents of all kinds and of both the land and marine species. During the wars with Carthage a great snake is said to have kept the Roman army from crossing the Bagradas river for several days. The monster swallowed up no less than seventy Roman soldiers during this combat and was not conquered until a hundred stones from as many different catapults were fired upon it all at one time. The monster's skull and skin were preserved and afterward exhibited in one of the Roman temples. The dried skin of the creature was 120 feet in length, according to Pliny.

Dumas, Father and Son.
A story is told about the two Dumas, father and son, which illustrates the pleasant relations between the two. The son had written his first successful novel, and the father wrote him a letter of congratulation, which he began in the formal manner of "Dear Sir." This letter throughout read as though addressed to a total stranger and merely thanked the author for the pleasure the book had given him. Dumas fils answered in this manner:
"Sir—I thank you most heartily for your kind letter. Praise from you is especially appreciated by me, as I have always heard of you as the most enthusiastic admirer of my father, who also makes some pretension of being a novelist."

The Eskimo Baby.
The clothing of the Eskimo baby is often very scanty. In fact, one occasionally sees a baby being carried in its mother's hood with only a cotton shirt on, despite the fact that the thermometer registers 20 degrees below zero. The mother's hood is the baby's cradle. Being made of seal or deer skin, it is warm and wind proof. The infant also has the benefit of the heat of its mother's body and is out of harm's way. If it were laid in a basket cradle in the tent it would be very much in danger of falling a prey to the wolfish Eskimo dogs that prowl round the door by day and night, ever ready to pick up a dainty morsel.

Nothing New.
"I see," said Bilkins, "that a French scientist has discovered a method for staying off old age."
"Well, what of it?" demanded Wilkins. "There's nothing new in that. A man can stay off old age by jumping off the Eiffel tower, or dropping a lighted match in a powder barrel while sitting on it, or by rocking the boat when he's out in the water, or by riding over Niagara falls sitting astride of a log. Those French scientists make me tired with their bullabuloo over nothing."—Harper's Weekly.