

Hits of Wisdom.

A wise woman will have her husband so well trained that when she tells him a thing once it will be enough. Men hate to have a thing 'dingdonged into them,' as some of them elegantly express it. I am a very even tempered man, but I think my self praise would suffer a severe shock if my wife should order me to order a barrel of flour which she first got up in the morning and then repeated the command six times at the breakfast table, twice while I was putting on my overcoat and gloves and then followed me to the gate to scream it out after me as I turned the corner. Men hate that sort of nagging.

A wise man will not tell his wife any lies, not even little white ones. If he must lie, he will be safer and wiser if he lies to some one less likely to uncover his duplicity. A wife is a regular ferret in a matter of this kind. I never told mine a harmless little fib in my life that she didn't expose me before the sun went down. It is wonderful what clever intuition women have in this direction. It is dumfounding to men who are not always absolutely truthful. The best of husbands often feel that there are things they won't "bother wife with"—little complications in their business affairs or little extravagant expenditures in the way of a hotel dinner or some other little harmless affair of which they would just a little rather not speak or in regard to which they may equivocate. But they'd better tell the truth and hold to it. It is always best in the end, as men find out the older they grow. I have found it out with, I trust, most of the years of my life still before me.—Zenias Dane.

Making Parchment Paper.

The operation of manufacturing parchment papers such as are used for wrapping butter and other similar objects is a very interesting one. Parchment is produced directly from the raw paper web in practically one operation. The sheet to be parchmentized is passed through sulphuric acid and then through rollers having a uniform action, which discharge the surplus acid, the expressed liquid being returned to the tank or vessel. The paper is then carried and passed through a washing apparatus as a tank, and also through sprays of water, being led and guided by rolls over which it passes, so that the free acid is washed off or removed as far as possible by mechanical washing. The sheet next passes through a bath of soda solution or alkali and then through nipplers to express surplus alkali, which is returned to the bath. Then the paper is carried through an apparatus to be further washed with water. Next it is passed through a bath of bleaching material, as "bleach" or the like, then through further washing apparatus, again passed between presses and squeezed, and then finally it is passed through a bath of glycerin, after the passage through which the paper is wound upon a roller or coiled up in a completed state of parchmentization.—Paper Mill.

Story of Landseer.

Landseer, whose fine stag hunts in the highlands have been popularized by engravings, represents one of the most extraordinary examples of the irresistibility of the artistic vocation. I have seen a most magnificent dog of his, chained to his kennel and carried away by floods. The day when, an absolutely unknown artist, he exhibited this picture at the Royal academy it attracted considerable attention, and a gentleman hurried off to the painter's to make an offer to purchase it. He rang at the door of the small garden, and on the wicket being opened, he saw a boy playing with a hoop with some other little fellows. He inquired of the children: "Does Mr. Landseer live here?" "Yes," replied one of the youngsters. "When can I speak to him?" "Now, if you like. I'm Mr. Landseer." "But," exclaimed the amateur, "it is your father I want to see. I have called about a picture of his at the academy." "Well," said the child, "it is I who am exhibiting the picture." He was then 14½ years old.—Henri Rochefort's Memoirs.

Gilded Beauties.

The eastern women, especially those in Turkey, paint their eyebrows with gilt paint, and at night the effect is very brilliant and oriental. When, by chance, a Chinese girl has eyes that are not quite so slanting as usual, she can safely lay claim to special beauty. Many Japanese women gild their teeth, while the beauties of the Indies stain theirs a brilliant red. Some of the Africans stain their teeth a jet black. Persian women pencil the outer corners of their eyes to make them look almond shaped, which is considered an especial mark of beauty. The women in many oriental countries die their finger nails with henna, others let them grow to an enormous length.

Temper.

Temper itself is not a bad quality. It is not to be destroyed, as we sometimes say. Without temper a bar of steel becomes like lead. A man without temper is weak and worthless. We are to learn self control. A strong person is one who has a strong temper under perfect mastery. There is a deep truth here—that our mistakes and our sins, if we repent of them, will help in the growth and upbuilding of our character.—Housewife.

Bessarabia.

One of the most productive sections of the world is the Russian province of Bessarabia, taken from Turkey in 1878. Its vineyards often yield 300 gallons of wine per acre. The average yield of wheat is 35 bushels, and of maize 60 bushels.

A Fashion Note.

Doctor (to female patient)—You've got a slight touch of fever. Your tongue has a thick coat— Patient (excitedly)—Oh, doctor, do tell me how it fits!—Facts and Fiction.

The Oyster's Beard.

Old fashioned cookbooks invariably order us to "beard the oyster." "I was quite an experienced housekeeper," said a well known cooking authority, "before I knew what the beard of an oyster was. It is, I believe, the little frill.

"The question then occurred, Why should this portion be removed? With our American oyster there is no occasion to remove it, and we never do it."

No doubt many a new housekeeper has felt guilty of omitting to do something that should be done when she served her husband oysters with their "beards" on. She felt doubly guilty when he praised them and declared they were the best oysters he had ever eaten. Probably she kept the secret until she consulted some old housekeeper, who promptly told her she didn't know what the beard of an oyster was, and that certainly no one nowadays ever removes it. This expression is generally found in old English works of the order of the Complete British Housewife. It is probable that this portion of the oysters of Great Britain is especially thickened with their coppery flavor and was formerly removed. Certainly no one today who eats his oysters at Delmonico's or at any famous restaurant finds the frill or any portion of the mollusk, except the shell, missing.

Adam Knew the Flood Was Coming.

An apocryphal book called the "Lesser Genesis" and well known to the early Christian fathers tells a wonderful incident in the life of Seth, the third son of Adam and Eve. When the goodly Seth was about 40 years of age, he was "rapt" up into heaven by a trio of angels and there told and shown what was in store for mankind. Among other things, the coming of the great deluge was made known to him, as was also the coming of the Saviour. When he returned to earth, Seth told his parents what had happened and of what he had seen and heard concerning the future of the human race. "And Adam was much grieved when it was made known to him that the world would be destroyed by water on account of the wickedness of his own children, but a great peace and calmness came over him when Seth told how the face of the earth would again be repopulated. His joy was exceedingly great when Seth related what was in store in the coming ages, and he was particularly glad to know that redemption should finally come through Jesus, the Christ."

The Pompous Colonel.

The following incident occurred at a ball in Berlin. A colonel advanced toward a young lieutenant, who bore on his breast as sole decoration a large badge richly set with diamonds. "Tell me, young man," he said, "what is that thing you have got there?" "It is an order, my colonel," replied the lieutenant. "An order!" exclaimed the colonel. "It is not Prussian, then, for I don't know it." It is an English order, my colonel," responded the juvenile officer. "Ah, indeed," said his superior, "who, for goodness' sake, could have given you such an order?" "My grandmother, my colonel," was the reply. "Your grandmother!" ejaculated the colonel, bursting out laughing. "What is her name?" "Her majesty Queen Victoria, queen of England," answered the young lieutenant, who was none other than Prince Albert of Sleswick-Holstein. The colonel suddenly disappeared.

Where Hotel Men Draw a Line.

Among annoyances to which hotels are subjected is one which means material loss at busy times. This is when a person telegraphs or writes for rooms to be reserved and upon arriving in town decides to go to another hotel. Very frequently rooms which could have been given to guests are vacant on account of this, and the careless hotel patrons appear to be the cause that they have inflicted any injury on the house. Sometimes, however, when a clerk calls upon them with a bill for the rooms that they didn't occupy they are open to conviction of wrongdoing and settle the bill. The matter has rarely been one of litigation, but the hotel man has the best end of it, and the proprietors' national association intends to make it so understood whenever it is necessary.—Hotel Gazette.

Making Love Up a Tree.

Billing and cooing among the Fijians is a curious feature in their social customs. It is decidedly against the rule to do any courting within doors. The gardens or plantations are the spots held sacred to Cupid, and the generally approved trysting place of lovers is high up among the branches of a breadfruit tree.

You may often walk around a plantation on a moonlight night and see couples perched 40 feet from the ground in the breadfruit trees, one on each side of the trunk, a position which comes fairly within the limits of a Fijian maiden's ideas of modesty.

To Take a Man's Measure.

Tailors can take a customer's measure very quickly by a device which measures three graduated brackets sliding on each other to fit on a man's back and arm, with tape measures attached to them at the proper positions for taking all the measures.

Remedial Trips.

New Family Physician—And now, my dear madam, will you briefly tell me what you have already done for your illness?

Madam—Europe and North Africa.—Detroit Journal.

The cost of a well bred pack of foxhounds is about \$5,000, and the annual bill for keep about as much.

The speed of the fastest Atlantic steamer is now greater than that of its express trains on Italian railways.

The first patent was issued to Samuel Hopkins in 1790 for making "pot or pearl ashes."

Diseases of Miners.

As to whether there are any diseases peculiar to the miners' calling there is evidence that, with one, or perhaps two, exceptions, there are none such. These exceptions are an affection of the eye, termed "nystagmus," and, in a lesser degree, that disease of the respiratory organs which usually goes by the name of miners' asthma. Nystagmus, although not a prevalent affection, is one with well marked symptoms directly traceable to the posture of the collier while at work.

The symptoms are oscillation with more or less of a rolling motion of the eyeballs, giddiness, with headache, and the appearance of objects moving in a circle, or lights dancing before the eyes.

In severe cases the person affected may stumble and be so much inconvenienced as to be obliged to stop work. Dr. Simeon Snell of Sheffield has given this disease special attention for about 20 years and has published the results of his investigations, which show beyond all reasonable doubt that nystagmus is confined almost entirely to those underground workmen who are engaged in boring or undercutting the coal, and is due to the miners' habit of looking upward above the horizontal line of vision, and more or less obliquely while at work lying on his side. It has been observed also in freemen and others who have occasion frequently to examine the roof, turning the eyes obliquely while doing so. Any other occupation in which the person may habitually turn the eyes upward and sideways will induce nystagmus.—Coal Trade Journal.

Artists' Failures.

"Do not, let me beg of you, be afraid of so called failures," said a well known artist addressing his class. "They are only stepping stones to success, the premiums we all must pay for experience. I may say, without vanity, that I have been fairly successful in my profession, and yet to one canvas that succeeded there have been as many as 40 which I have scraped down with my palette knife in disgust. Even if a student never succeeds, his very failures may be noble."

It is not only to art that this exhortation might apply. In every career, in every walk in life, the same point of view should be taken. Failures are not failures really—they are lessons; they are stepping stones. They should not be associated for a moment with despondency or hopelessness. Just as a child tumbles and picks himself up as a matter of course and runs gayly on, so should we children of a larger growth regard the ups and downs of life, never losing courage, however often we tumble. Young people especially should be taught that it is not always success that should be taken philosophically. The idea of a booby prize in games is a good one. There are many prizes in life for those who apparently fail, and even in worldly matters the last shall be first and the first shall be last in nine cases out of ten.—New York Tribune.

First Person Photographed.

It was in 1842 that John Draper, then a professor in the University of New York, made the first portrait photograph. The subject was Elizabeth Draper, his sister. Professor Draper had the idea that in order to produce distinct facial outlines in photography it would be necessary to cover the countenance of the person photographed with flour. This seems a strange notion now, and it proved not to be a good one then, for all the efforts of Professor Draper's early attempts were failures. Finally he left off the flour and then was quite successful. This so delighted him that he sent the picture to Sir William Herschel, the eminent English astronomer. Sir William was in turn delighted and made known Professor Draper's success to the scientific men of Europe. He also sent Professor Draper a letter of acknowledgment and congratulation, which has been carefully preserved in the archives of the Draper family.

Cruel, but Necessary.

The Eskimos dread the winter and take early precautions to provide against famine. As the season approaches the great herds of reindeer migrate southward, and the walrus or the seal are all that remain for food.

When an wind is blowing, the walrus is easily found on the outer edge of the ice packs. When it is blowing off the shore, however, the ice packs sail out to sea with the walrus on them. The natives then class their numbers in a list from the strongest to the weakest. The food that is in store is divided up, the weakest having the smallest quantity, the strongest the largest. Thus the mightiest hunters have strength to provide for the others.

It is a cruel system, but, nevertheless, a necessary one. If all were weak, all would die; if some are strong, they will save many of the weak.

Anticipating the Obsequy.

A poor man lay dying, and his good wife was tending him with homely but affectionate care. "Don't you think you could eat a bit of something, John? Now what can I get for you?"

With a wan smile he answered feebly: "Well, I seem to smell a ham a-cooking somewhere. I think I could do with a little bit of that."

"Oh, no, John, dear," she answered promptly, "you can't have that. That's for the funeral."—London Telegraph.

German Forts.

The two principal German fortresses on the Baltic sea are at Konigsburg and Danzig. Central Germany has three first class fortresses, Spandau, Magdeburg and Kustrin; on the French frontier, Metz and Strasburg, and on the Belgian frontier, Cologne and Coblenz.

The Serpent's Sight.

There is a tradition in many parts of Europe that when a serpent's sight grows dim with age he eats fennel and thus regains his vision.

Betrayed by a Flower.

To the monastery of the Grand Chartreuse women, as a rule, are inexorably refused admittance, only a very few having had the privilege of seeing the Carthusians (monks of the order) at home. A story is told of a French daughter of Eve, blessed with even a greater share of curiosity than that possessed by the generality of her sex, who, having heard from her husband and brother of their late interesting visit to the monastery, tried by every means in her power to effect an entrance there, but all to no avail. Determined, however, by hook or crook, to succeed, she at last hit upon the happy idea of presenting herself there dressed as a man, managing to persuade her husband to allow her to do so, and to take her with him on his next visit.

On arriving at the gates of the monastery she entered unchallenged with the remainder of the party, but while in the garden the conducting monk, leaving her side, gathered an exquisite rose, which he brought and presented to her with a courtly bow, proving that he at least was not deceived by her disguise. She, too, foolishly betrayed herself by her ready grace and charm of manner in accepting the rose, which she did most willingly. Needless to say that after this incident she never penetrated into the interior of the building nor saw what she was dying to see, but returned unsatisfied, a sadder and a wiser woman, with a high appreciation, however, of the keen discernment of the cloistered ones.

Wrong Conclusion.

The Canadian Gazette tells an amusing story of one who was too quick at drawing an inference. It happened that a Glasgow professor who was visiting Canada with the British association in 1884 was desirous of seeing something of northwestern life, and for this purpose repaired to an Alberta ranch.

I fixed him up as well as I could, the rancher says, but he complained that he did not like sleeping with his clothes on. So after the first night I stretched a cowskin across the shack and told him to put on his nightgown. In the morning my foreman came in while the gentleman was still sleeping. Observing the white nightgown, he said in a whisper:

"Rather sudden, eh?" "What?" I asked. "The death of the old man." "He's not dead; he's asleep," I explained. "Then what's he wearing his bled clothes for?" was the reply. "Never saw a chap laid out in bled clothes afore 'cept he were dead."

The Search For Truth.

In the search for truth no aid is so effective as the ever ready spirit of activity. He who postpones putting what he knows into practice until he knows more will find his journey a long and discouraging one. Carlyle well says: "Conviction, were it never so excellent, is worthless till it converts itself into conduct. Nay, properly conviction is not possible till then, inasmuch as all speculation is by nature endless and formless. Most true it is, as a wise man teaches us, that 'Doubt of any sort cannot be removed except by action.'" On which ground, too, let him who gropes painfully in darkness or uncertain light and prays vehemently that the dawn may ripen into day, lay this other precept well to heart, which to me was of invaluable service. 'Do the duty which lies nearest to thee,' which thou knowest to be a duty. The second duty will already have become clearer."

Enormous Lifting Power.

The shellfish limpet pulls 1,984 times its own weight when in the air and about double when measured in the water. Fleas pull 1,493 times their own dead weight. The Mediterranean cockle, Venus verrucosa, can exert a pulling power equal to 2,071 times the weight of its own body. So great is the power possessed by the oyster that to open it a force equal to 1,810.5 times the weight of its shellfish body is required. If the human being possessed strength as great in proportion as that of these shellfish, the average man would be able to lift the enormous weight of 2,976,000 pounds, pulling in the same degree as the limpet. And if the man pulled in the same proportionate degree as the cockle he would sustain a weight of no less than 3,106,500 pounds.—Worthington's Magazine.

Seeing Rome.

"How long have you been in Rome?" said Pope Pius IX.

"Three weeks," was the ready answer.

"Ah, then," said his holiness, "you have seen Rome. And how long have you been here?"

"Three months," was the answer.

"You, then," continued the pope, "have begun to see Rome. And you, sir," turning finally to the third of his visitors, "how long have you been here?"

"Three years," was the reply.

"Then you," said the pope, "have not begun to see Rome."

Tobacco Smoke and Flowers.

A remarkable effect of tobacco smoke on the color of flowers may be seen in the case of the field scabiosa named botanically Knautia arvensis, so frequently on the hills and commons from August till October. If its purplish blue blossoms, which form nearly globose heads, are held in the smoke of tobacco, their color will soon turn to a bright green, about the same color as the leaves.

A balloon was sent up from Berlin in 1895 equipped with self registering thermometers and barometers. It came down in Besnia with the instruments in good condition. The barometer registered an elevation of 53,872 feet, and the thermometer a temperature of 52 degrees below zero F.

Walked After His Head Was Off.

Dr. Loye, the French physician, who has greatly interested himself in the question, "What passes in the head of a decapitated human being?" relates the following remarkable story, which he says was taken from the archives of the Vienna courts: It was in the year — that Schoenberg, a well known bandit, and four of his associates were caught and condemned to death. They were already on their knees ready to pay the penalty of their bloody deeds by submitting to the awful fate of decapitation when Schoenberg addressed the judge, asking that his four companions might be pardoned on certain conditions. "If," asked the bandit, "after I am beheaded, I get up and walk to the first of my comrades, will you pardon him?" The judge thought that he was pretty safe in complying with the request. "Then," continued Schoenberg, "if I walk to the second, the third and the fourth, will you pardon them also?" The judge replied that if such a miraculous feat could be performed he would obtain pardon for the other three also. The bandit was now satisfied, and bending his head, he received the fatal blow. Instantly the head rolled down in the sand, but to the surprise and horror of all present the headless trunk arose and walked alone. Aimlessly, it appeared, the body walked around until it passed the first, the second, the third and the fourth condemned bandit, when it fell down and became motionless. Query, How could a headless body think?

The Short Stops of the Train.

Sustained journey speed, from end to end of a run, is not merely a matter of high speed between stations. It involves also making the station stops short. The more stops there are the more important is promptness at stations. The observant man who travels much cannot fail to notice the effect on trainmen, on station men and even on passengers of habitual fast running. All hands get trained to alertness and precision of movement. It is a fine thing to watch the handling of a very fast train at a station. It is invigorating to see the speed without haste of the inspectors and the baggage men, the quick and smooth change of engines and the cutting off of the dining car. I have seen the other extreme on a Southern railroad, where the easy going conductor ran past a flag station and then backed down a mile to let off one passenger. His serene indifference to time did not make me feel any safer on his train.—Engineering Magazine.

The Human Electric Battery.

The superstition that human beings should sleep with their heads to the north is believed by the French to have for its foundation a scientific fact. They affirm that each human system is in itself an electric battery, the head being one of the electrodes, the feet the other. Their proof was discovered from experiments which the Academy of Sciences was allowed to make on the body of a man who was guillotined. This was taken the instant it fell and placed upon a pivot free to move as it might. The head part, after a little vacillation, turned to the north, and the body then remained stationary. It was turned half way round by one of the professors, and again the head end of the trunk moved slowly to the cardinal point due north, the same results being repeated until the final arrestation of organic movement.

Peasant and King.

Henry IV, the idol of the French people, was also a king of phrase makers. During one of his tours through France he arrived at a small village and ordered that the most intelligent villager be sent to converse with him while he dined. When the rustic appeared, the king ordered him to take a seat opposite to him at the table. "What is your name?" asked the monarch. "Sire, I am called Gaillard," replied the peasant. "What is the difference," said the king, "between gaillard" (i. e., a jolly fellow) "and paillard" (i. e., a rake)? "Sire," was the reply, "there is but a table between the two."

White Slaves of Old England.

Eight hundred years ago all of the large cities of England had regular slave markets for the sale of white slaves from all parts of the kingdom. In the "Life of Bishop Wulfstand" the writer says: "It was a moving sight to see in the public markets rows of young people of both sexes tied together and sold like cattle—men, unmindful of their obligations, delivering into slavery their relatives and even their own children." In another part of this work it is noted that these slaves were "particularly young women of fine proportions and of great beauty."

Rule the "Roost" or "Roast?"

Steven Gardener, an under cook in the Cardinal Wolfe Wolsey hys house, and afterwards allowed of kyng Henry the eight to be a master cooke, and hys principall cooke for a longe tyme, ruled the roste in ye kynges house, as boldly and as saucely, as hys maister dyd before hym, as ye blowe upon his cheke that my Lorde of Warwyke gave him, may bare wytnes.—Spiritual Physic, 1555.

The Sensitive Cheek.

Nine out of ten persons, if asked what is the most sensitive part of the body, will reply the tip of the tongue. This is a mistake. Those engaged in polishing billiard balls or any other substances that require a very high degree of smoothness invariably use the cheek bone as their touchstone for detecting any roughness.

The largest farm in the world is in the southwestern part of Louisiana. It extends 100 miles north and south and 25 miles east and west. It was bought in 1883 by a syndicate of northern capitalists, by whom it is still operated. The fencing is said to have cost \$50,000. Rice, sugar, corn and cotton are raised.

Hamerton's Marriages.

Phillip Gilbert Hamerton heartily disapproved marriage made in the French manner. "And yet one morning," he says in his autobiography, "when I was writing on my desk (a tall oak desk that I used to stand up to) the idea suddenly came, as if somebody had uttered these words in my ear: 'Why should you remain lonely all your days? Eugenie Gindriez would be an affectionate and faithful wife to you. She is not rich, but you would work and fight your way.'"

"I pushed aside the sheet of manuscript and took a sheet of notepaper instead. I then wrote in French a letter to a lady in Paris who knew the Gindriez family and asked her if Mlle. Eugenie was engaged to be married. The answer came that she was well and that there had been no engagement. Soon afterward I was in Paris.

"I called on M. Gindriez, but his daughter was not at home. I asked permission to call in the evening, and she was out again. This was repeated two or three times, and my wife told me afterward that these absences were not accidental. At last we met, and there was nothing in her manner but a certain gravity, as if serious resolutions were impending. Her sister showed no such reserve, but greeted me gayly and frankly. After a few days I was accepted on the condition of an annual visit to France.

"From a worldly point of view this engagement was what is called in French une folie, on my part, and hardly less so on the part of the young lady. We had, however, a kind of inward assurance that in spite of the difference of nationality and other differences we were, in truth, nearer to each other than most people who contract matrimonial engagements. The electric affinities act in spite of all appearances and of many realities."

Food Peculiarities.

Dr. Sophie Lepper, the English food specialist, says in speaking of the peculiarities of various foods that blanched almonds give the higher nerve or brain and muscle food, no heat or waste. Walnuts give nerve or brain food; muscle, heat and waste. Pine kernels give heat and stay. They serve as a substitute for bread. Green water grapes are blood purifying, but of little food value. Blue grapes are feeding and blood purifying, too rich for those who suffer from the liver; tomatoes, higher nerve or brain food and waste; no heat. They are thinning and stimulating. Juicy fruits give more or less the higher nerve or brain, and some few, muscle food and waste; no heat. Apples supply the higher nerve and muscle food, but do not give stay. Prunes afford the highest nerve or brain food, supply heat and waste, but are not muscle feeding.

Wages of European Policemen.

London police sergeants, or roundsmen, are paid from \$8.50 to \$12 a week and constables, or patrolmen, from \$6 to \$8. In Dublin the wages are half a dollar less. In Glasgow the highest pay for a constable is \$6.75, for a sergeant \$8. An inspector gets \$700 a year and a superintendent from \$1,200 to \$1,500. The St. Petersburg chief of police draws \$2,500 a year, a sergeant from \$300 to \$400 and a patrolman from \$150 to \$220 a year. Paris pays \$5.25 to \$6.50 to patrolmen (agents) and \$7 to roundsmen. Patrolmen get from \$225 to \$260 a year in Vienna, from \$230 to \$300 in Amsterdam, and \$200 to \$320 at Brussels, where detectives may rise to \$480. The Turkish policemen get \$3 a week and the native policemen of Calcutta from \$4 to \$4.50 a month.

Where He Drew the Line.

Among the first stories recorded by Mr. T. E. Pritt in his "Anglers' Basket" is one about a Scottish laird who was relating the story of a fine fish he had caught one day to his friends at the dinner table. "Donald," said he to the servant behind his chair—an old man, but a new servant—"how heavy was the fish I took yesterday?" Donald neither spoke nor moved. The laird repeated the question. "Weel," replied Donald, "it was twal' pund at breakfast, and it had gotten to aichteen at dinner time and it was sax and twenty when ye sat down to supper wi' the captain." Then, after a pause, he added, "I've been tellin' leas' my life to please the shooters, but I'll be blowed if I'm going to tell less noo, through my old age, to please the fushers."

Jumping a Straw.

Some years ago the late Major Roddy Owen was at Aldershot and offered to back himself to make a horse he was riding jump a straw. Every one laughed, and although his fondness for horses was well known none believed he could accomplish the feat. A long straw was procured and laid on the ground. Owen proceeded to blindfold the horse and rode him at the mark, which the animal cleared with a bound that would have settled a five bar gate. When he returned to collect his bets, all the sportsmen had vanished.—Army and Navy Journal.

He Cheapened Pens.

Sir Josiah Mason was, according to his biography, walking in Bull street, Birmingham, in the year 1828, when he saw some steel pens, price three and sixpence each. Josiah was a hard up maker of splitting rings. No sooner had he seen the pens than he went home, made some better than those in the shop, sent them up to London and got a large order by return. At 30 years of age Mason's capital was 30 shillings. At 60 he had given away £400,000.

Niagara Ran a Sawmill.

The first use of Niagara's power was made in 1725, a primitive sawmill being operated. Nothing more was done in this line until 1842, when Augustus Porter conceived the plan of hydraulic canals, and in 1861 one was completed. The Cataract Construction company, from whose plant power has just been delivered in Buffalo, was incorporated in 1889.