

USE FOR A TELESCOPE.

Interesting Discovery One Woman Made by Use of the Glass.

"I thought it was a pretty fair port or telescope for one that wasn't very big," said Uncle Elias. "I rigged it up in the attic by the high north window and had it fixed so it would swing around easy. I took a deal of satisfaction in looking through it, the sky seemed so wide and full of wonders, so when Hester was here I thought I'd give her the pleasure too. She stayed a long time upstairs and seemed to be enjoying it. When she came down I asked her if she'd discovered anything new.

"Yes," she says. "Why, it made every body's house seem so near that I seemed to be right beside 'em, and I found out what John Pritchard's folks are doing in their kitchen. I've wondered what they had a light there for night after night, and I just turned the glass on their windows. They are cutting apples to dry—folks as rich as our cuttin' apples!"

"And actually that was all the woman had seen! With the whole house before her to study, she had spent her time, prying into the affairs of her neighbors! And there are lots more like her—with and without telescopes."—Christian Updick.

The Poisons of Illuminating Gas.
The poisonous properties of coal gas are generally attributed to its content of carbonic oxide; especially as no other substance of known poisonous properties has been found in it, and patients suffering from coal gas poisoning show the symptoms associated with the inhalation of carbonic oxide, including the peculiar bright red color of the blood.

From experiments made by Dr. von Vahlen, at Halle, it seems probable that we must revise this view, for on making experiments with frogs, animals particularly resistant to carbonic oxide, it was found that they were poisoned far more rapidly by coal gas than by the corresponding amount of the oxide. Other experiments with dogs showed that the poisonous effect of coal gas was twice or three times as great as that of the carbonic oxide it contained. Evidently there is some other constituent of coal gas which is poisonous, though what it is cannot yet be stated. Merely removing the carbonic oxide from coal gas will not suffice to render it non-poisonous.—Lronmonger.

Creeping Mountains.
Students who have made geodetic studies in the Himalayas and the Tibetan mountains have brought to light a very strange phenomenon, or one that must be regarded as very strange if it actually exists. It is no less than an apparent creeping of these gigantic mountain ranges, the highest on the globe, sideways toward the south, with a consequent shifting of the Great Rift hills. It is long been known that there are curious anomalies in the density of the earth under and adjacent to the Himalayas, but this suggestion of a creeping motion is novel. The surveys which are still going on may eventually disclose the real facts, but the operation on the Tibetan side is rendered difficult by the fact that access to Tibet is forbidden to foreigners, even when they come only in the name of science.—Youth's Companion.

Spain's Young King.
King Alfonso, to judge from his weak, narrow face and the silly fall of his lower lip as shown in all his pictures, indicating an example of mild adenoid idiosyncrasy, seems to be one whose brain has been arrested by enlarged tonsils and glands in the back part of the throat and head. He is just as little responsible for what is happening in Spain as any young show-off dude one might pick up anywhere in upper Broadway. Cervantes prefigured poor Don Quixote and Sancho Panza as the personification of Spain and her peoples; her nobles, like the Don of high, silly, girly-girlly ideals, but with utterly rotten judgments; her common people, like Sancho, of good sense and thrift, but misled by those higher up. Spain, like the United States, has always dangerously vibrated to outside influences.

AN UNTIMELY FALL.

Minister Confessed to a Dilemma of the Illustrated Text.

In a certain town in North Carolina, before the civil war, was an old Scotch Presbyterian church, the pulpit of which bore a strong resemblance to a flour barrel, says the Youth's Companion. It was fastened to the wall, and reached by a narrow winding flight of stairs.

Among the preachers who occupied the pulpit at different times was one who was noted for the vigor and enthusiasm of his delivery and the extreme energy of his postulations.

The congregation had often trembled for his safety, as he stamped and pounded in the old pulpit, but no catastrophe occurred until one day when he bent forward over the edge, and shaking the unstable structure, shouted: "The righteous shall stand, but the wicked shall fall!"

Before the words were fairly uttered there was a crash, and the old pulpit and its occupant came to the floor, together with much dust.

The minister picked himself up, and waving off the members of the congregation, said, dryly: "Brethren, I am not injured, and I don't mind the fall much, but I do hate the conclusion."

Electric Surgery.

The electric surgical knife now being tested by Prof. Hier of Berlin, has for a handle a glass rod six inches long, inclosed in a conducting wire, and the blade is probe-shaped and without spark appears at the end of the probe when a high-frequency current is passing. This spark cuts soft tissues much as a hot knife sinks through butter, operating more quickly than the ordinary scalpel, while it is claimed that healing more follows more rapidly than usual. More profuse bleeding than in ordinary operations is a disadvantage.

TRAFFIC OF DEAD SEA.

One Small Sailing Boat Carries Most of the Passengers and Freight.

"Many false and foolish reports about the Dead Sea—that strange and interesting lake—have been circulated," said Abraham S. Abrahams of Jerusalem and London, who is on a tour of this country.

"Much has appeared from time to time in papers and periodicals about steamboats navigating the Dead Sea," continued the banker. "This too is a fabrication. The only boat on the Dead Sea is a small sailing boat about twenty feet long.

"This vessel makes trips as the wind allows from the north end of the sea to the bay on the eastern side of the tongue that divides the water near the middle. At this terminal stone steamboats are moored. The whole concern is located. The whole concern is, in fact, in the hands of Jews, who, at a low rate, buy wheat and barley from the Arabs to be delivered on the seashore. From there it is shipped to the Jericho side and carried on donkeys to Jerusalem, where it finds ready sale at a good price.

"When adverse winds blow the little craft is in danger of being swamped, for the so-called Dead Sea becomes a living mass of waves. Not long ago I spent four nights as never will be forgotten on these waters, and the smartness of the old man at the helm and his boy with the sails saved us from being wrecked again and again. A charge of one mile, which is at 80 cents a trip, is made for each passenger, and for a unique voyage it is not exorbitant.

"There is some talk about a small steam tug being put on the sea, but the authorities are loath to grant permission. It will be a great boon when it does arrive, as it will bring the east and west sides of Jordan nearer to each other for communication and trading purposes."

Spinster's Strange Will.

An extraordinary will has been left by an elderly unmarried lady who recently died in Vienna. Her property, amounting to about \$250,000, is to be divided between her three nephews, now aged twenty-four, twenty-seven, and twenty-nine, and her three nieces, aged nineteen, twenty-one and twenty-two, to equal parts on the following conditions:

The six nephews and nieces must all live in the house formerly inhabited by their aunt, with the executor, a lawyer. None of the nephews is to marry before reaching his fortieth year, nor the nieces before their thirtieth; the share of the one so marrying will be divided. Further, the six legatees are admonished never to quarrel. If one should do so persistently the executor is empowered to turn him or her out of the house and divide the share. The executor is himself forbidden to marry or to reside elsewhere than in the house with the legatees.

The old maid is said to have made this peculiar will because her nephews and nieces continually worried her by asking her to give them money to enable them to marry—requests she always refused.—Vienna Correspondence London Express.

Value of Antitoxins.

During the course of diseases caused by bacterial infection, certain poisons (toxins) are developed in the blood by the bacteria, or exist in the bodies of the bacteria. Nature, in combating the disease, produces certain principles in the serum of the blood of the patient, called antitoxins, which antagonize the action of the toxins. These principles have not been isolated, but they are used to combat disease artificially by injecting blood serum which contains them into the tissues of a person suffering with the bacterial disease to aid him in neutralizing the toxins resulting during that disease. Antitoxins combating the poisons of snake-bite, pneumonia, tuberculosis, yellow fever, bubonic plague, cholera and other ailments have been prepared and used. The one most often employed in the diphtheria antitoxin, which is called simply antitoxin.

Human Antiquity.

The credit of inaugurating the line of research which has resulted in demonstrating the existence of the human race on this earth for tens if not hundreds of thousands of years belongs to the French paleontologist, M. Bouche de Perthes. Possessed by the energy and enthusiasm of a truly scientific spirit, he devoted himself from 1858 to 1864 to a thorough exploration of certain ancient caves, peat-mosses and deposits in the vicinity of Abbeville and in the shape of arrowheads, flint axes, knives, hammers, etc., which started the investigation that was to knock the accepted chronology to pieces and establish for man a record for antiquity of which the world of this day had never dreamed.

The Arithmetical Spirit.

"As a rule," said the cynic, "one may reckon the number of his true friends on the fingers of one hand." "Well," answered the good-natured person, "anybody who counts up his friendships the same as he does his money doesn't deserve by more."

Teach Agriculture.

In some of the public schools of Connecticut a course of agriculture has been introduced in some of the higher grades.

Overstocked.

Madge, as the oldest of a family of girls, has evidently heard and taken to heart the disappointment of her parents over the excessive femininity allotted by the fates of the family quiver.

When recently the fifth little daughter was born, Madge was playing in the garden with one of her sisters, and as a neighbor considered was decidedly rough with the child.

"Madge, don't treat your little sister so," remonstrated the neighbor. "You might kill her." "Well, if I did," was the cool response, "there's plenty more in the house."

SEEDS A CENT APICE.

They're from Glinning Though and Are Mighty Scarce.

Glinning seeds are worth one cent apiece or from eighty to one hundred dollars a pound. Dried root is worth \$6.25 a pound.

When first growing from the seed the glinning plants have two forks or stalks and one leaf on each stalk. The second year it adds another leaf on each part and the third year the plant grows in three parts with three leaves on each part and this year a seed ball forms.

This grows direct from the main stalk of the plant, and from four to five inches above the foliage. The average plant, says a writer in Outlook, produces from fifty to sixty seeds, and sometimes goes as high as 100 seeds. Wild plants yield better than cultivated.

The fourth and fifth years one leaf is added to each stalk. The fifth year the plant is full grown, having three forks and five leaves on each stalk. It grows from one to two feet in height, some times as high as twenty-seven inches. The leaves are broad and flat, about four inches long and two inches wide when full grown with scalloped edges.

It takes five years to grow the root from seed for market and eight months to germinate the seed for growth. There is more cultivated root now on the market than wild. The plants are found on high, dry land in the woods and never in swampy places.

Hopelessly Wrong.

"Heckling" is often an entertaining although sometimes a tiresome incident of English political meetings. The experienced public speaker usually is able to turn the laugh on the interrupter, but in the case reported by a writer in The Bits the man in the audience was victorious to the last.

A political speaker was attacking the government with more venom than reason. A man at the back of the hall at last cried out: "You're wrong sir!"

A little nettled, the orator continued without heeding. Presently, in answer to another strong assertion, came again: "You're wrong sir!"

The speaker looked angry, but continued on the warpath. "You're wrong sir!" again rang out.

Angrily addressing the persistent interrupter, the orator cried: "Look here, I could tell this man something about the government with more venom than reason. A man at the back of the hall at last cried out: "You're wrong sir!"

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Leather Money and "Leather Medals."

On the authority of Seneca, a curious account is given of a period when leather, appropriately stamped to give it a certain legal character, was the only current money. At a comparatively recent date in the annals of Europe, Frederick the Second, who died in 1250 at the siege of Milan, paid his troops with leather money. Nearly the same circumstance occurred in England during the great wars of the barons. In the course of 1259 King John, for the ransom of his royal person, promised to pay to Edward the Third of England three millions of gold crowns. In order to fill this obligation, John was reduced to the mortifying necessity of paying the expenses of the palace in leather money. In the centre of each piece there being a little bright point of silver.

In that reign is found the origin of the burlesque honor of conferring a "leather medal." King John having used them when he wished to confer honor upon some nobleman.

The Cannibal.

The queen of Denmark once paid a visit to the Danish colony of Iceland, where the good old bishop exerted himself to show her everything that was worth seeing. The queen paid many compliments to her host, and having learned that he was a family man graciously inquired how many children he had. It happened that the Danish word for "children" is almost identical in sound with the Icelandic word for "sheep," and the worthy bishop promptly answered, "Two hundred."

"Two hundred children?" cried the queen. "How can you possibly maintain such a number?"

"Easily enough, please your majesty," replied the prelate with cheerful smile. "In the summer I turn them out upon the hill to graze, and when the winter comes I kill and eat them."

For Convenience.

The depot of Meridian, Tex., is about a mile from the main part of the town. One night a sleepy, weary traveling man said to the driver who was driving him to the hotel: "O'man, why in the name of heaven did they put this depot so far from town?"

"The dorky scratched his head in thought and replied: "Well, how I'm forced to admit I haven't got no matter 'sistent cognition, but I s'pose dey done dat so as to have de depot as near as possible to de railroad."

Growth in the Levant.

After centuries the Near East is in the world's race for growth and progress. Port Said, fifty years ago a small Arab camp, now has a population of 50,000. From one hut in 1830 Piræus has grown to 80,000. Morelia, not in existence when Ibrahim Pasha anchored his fleet which it now stands, has 25,000. Beirut has multiplied 6,000 inhabitants into 150,000. Gera increased from 2,000 to 15,000, with virtually no growth till 1837, to 48,000.

Expert Opinion.

An English paper propounds the query, "Should a man marry his landlady?" The answer to this would seem to depend on the number of weeks the man is in arrears. Death and matrimony cancel these little obligations.—Chicago Tribune.

MOSQUITO CONQUERED GREECE.

Classed Land Fell Before Macedonia Because of Malaria.

Str James Crickton-Brown, an eminent English scientist, has been studying conditions in the Mediterranean basin at first hand and in the light of ancient history. He has come to the conclusion that Greece fell, not before the arms of the invading armies of the Orient, nor by corrupting vices, but because the mosquito got loose, went there and sapped the vital force of those heroes by injecting the germs of malaria. We presume that it must be true if a scientific man says so, although we should like a little more demonstration. It is hard to accept everything on faith in science as well as in religion.

Of course, all know that the Greece described by Herodotus and Thucydides and Xenophon is not the Greece of the present or even of the third century B. C. Every school boy who has been roused to enthusiasm over the battles of Marathon and Salamis, or Platen, Thermopylae and even those during the intercalary Peloponnesian wars; who has waxed enthusiastic over the theme of Pindar and Pindar, of Aeschylus and Sophocles, the Greece of the Parthenon, and of the Olympic games—every such boy has always felt a dull ache in his heart as he read of the sudden decline of all this grandeur and the fall of Greece into the hands of the Macedonians. He has often wondered why, and perhaps none of the explanations offered has satisfied him. We all know now, for the first time, that it was the mosquito and not a lack of brave men on the fighting line. No soldier could be expected to stand a sword or spear with several billions of malarial bacilli working on his interior economy.

The explanation, however, leaves much to be explained. Why didn't the mosquitoes go farther north and destroy the Macedonians as well? How does the learned scientist know that the mosquitoes came from Greece on a ship sailing from the marshes along the Nile? If we may trust the records of Crete there was commerce with Greece a thousand years before the age of Pericles. Why didn't the mosquitoes emigrate earlier?

How the Bishop Ewors.

Bishop Olmstead, of Denver, tells a Thanksgiving story illustrative of the fact that clergymen must keep very much farther away from evil than the ordinary man.

The bishop was once talking in Olmsteadville with an old fisherman about a neighboring divine.

"A very good man," the bishop said.

"A good man, yes," assented the old fisherman. "He wears a good bit for a preacher, though."

"Sorely!" exclaimed Bishop Olmstead. "I can't believe that."

"But I heard him," said the old fisherman, obstinately. "I sat beside him at our Thanksgiving treat, you know, sir. We were both backing away at a turkey leg. His got away from him. It slid across the table toward me, and a lot of cranberry sauce was scattered about."

"This led to him, sympathetic like, for I could not be worked up."

"These legs are a—tough, ain't they, sir?"

"Yes, George, they certainly are."

"Now if that ain't swearing," concluded the old fisherman, "what is it?"

Yes, But What Was the Lady's Age?

Toward the close of a recent lawsuit in Massachusetts, the wife of an eminent Harvard professor arose and with a flaming face timidly addressed the court.

"Your Honor," said she, "if I had told you I had made an error in my testimony, would it vitiate all I have said?"

Instantly the lawyers for each side turned themselves in excitement, while His Honor gravely regarded her.

"Well, madam," said the Court, after a pause, "that depends entirely on the nature of your error. What was it, please?"

"Why, you see," answered the lady, more and more red and embarrassed, "I told the clerk I was thirty-eight. I was so flustered, you know, that when he asked my age I inadvertently gave him my bust measurement."—"Every body's Magazine.

Wedding Fee in Installments.

Some of the "squires in rustic New Jersey seem to be pretty hard pushed for cash. To get the cash they do not hesitate to use most unusual methods. One of these J. P.'s advertised the other day that he was ready and willing to marry couples at any time, day or night, for a consideration of \$5 and that he was willing to accept \$1 in cash down and the rest in weekly installments of \$1 until the fee of \$5 was paid up. The very night after the first appearance of this advertisement the J. P. referred to was called upon to "make good" his bluff. Shortly after midnight a couple which had come in an automobile awakened him from sleep and asked to be married under the installment plan offered in the advertisement. And the J. P. was game and made good.

Varieties of Girls.

"There are three kinds of girls," says the Philosopher of Folly, "those who are pretty and foolish, those who are homely and sensible, and those that have nothing to preserve them from being old maids."

Let Us Hope So.

Thrown from her luxurious limousine the fair girl had late in the evening for many hours. Now, however, the operation was over, consciousness had returned, and she spoke faintly in the darkness room.

"Yes, mademoiselle!" The maid bent over her.

"You've told me—"

"An nasty almost sickening tremor in the low, weak voice."

"—did I, or did I not, have on my new \$5 silk stockings?"

DEVIL FISHING AS AN INDUSTRY.

Pacific Coast May Provide Much Esteemed Food for Japan.

A new industry offers for the fishermen of British Columbia—the pursuit of devilfish, otherwise octopus, or cuttlefish. Japanese say there is a market in their country for canned devilfish to eat. The public on this side of the Pacific does not generally regard the devilfish as edible, but in Japan it is esteemed as a food, and while it is not rated as fine a delicacy as green turtle or lobster the flavor is said to equal that of the clam.

The octopus hunts for a sheltering cave or an overhanging rock, where it lies in wait for prey. It abhors the sunlight. The Japanese fishermen simply provide a shady retreat for the octopus, and when it backs into the trap, it is hauled to the surface.

The powers of the octopus provide themselves with large earthen jars more than a foot in diameter, which are fastened to a rope and lowered into the sea. When the devilfish comes looking for a place to ambush its enemy the earthen jar appears to fulfill its needs. Backing into the jar the octopus permits its tentacles to wave about the seaweed. Half concealed it appears to be as harmless as a bunch of kelp, but when a fish comes along there is a swirl of the long arms and the victim is held by the suckers and forced into the rapacious maw.

The fishermen simply sets his traps, returns the next day and pulls them to the surface and removes the octopus from its hiding place.

Getting Legal Advice.

You would always find out who is telephoning to you—if you can. There's a Broadway lawyer who at present is wishing he had. The other day a lady rang him up and refused to give her name to his clerk, saying that she wished to talk on personal and private business. As soon as the lawyer himself picked up the receiver, before he could make any inquiries, she began: "Oh, please tell me, must there not be two copies of a lease?"

"Why," he answered, "it is usual to give one to the landlord's agent and one to the lessee. But who are—?"

"Yet, the fact that the wife of the lessee had never seen a copy of the lease wouldn't keep it from being legally binding?"

"No," slipped from the lawyer's quickly added: "But before I discuss the matter further may I ask to whom—?"

There was a pretty little laugh—he admitted it pretty even now. "Oh, I'm—Mrs. Brown, and I live on Broadway. You don't know me."—It was obvious, likewise, that he would not—but I've always heard your advice was no very valuable, and I wanted a lawyer, and so I just called you up. Good-by."

And when he asked for the number Central gave him the Grand Central Station!

Breakfast a Generation Ago.

Much we used to call it, and each child, bowl and spoon in hand, a big pitcher of milk held by, awaited the cooking process as mother stirred and stirred the mass bubbled and bubbled, says the Portland Oregonian.

The corn meal that went into it was taken from a big bin in a tin scoop and slowly shaken into the boiling water until the experienced eye showed that the mush was thick enough, and when done to the queen's taste it was ladled into the waiting bowls, the pitcher was brought into requisition, and the meal was over in short order.

Breakfast food we call it now. It is gingerly shaken by the kitchen maid from a highly ornamented pasteboard box, simmered until by dint of calling and ringing the breakfast bell the children come fretfully to the table, when it is duly served, smothered in sugar and cream, sniffed at and left as a contribution to the slop can. Yes, it costs more this way, but we have got to have it. And so, of course, we have to pay the bill.

A Chinese Smuggler.

An ingenious instrument for smuggling was discovered at Rangoon, when a Chinaman named Oheng was arrested at about 1 o'clock in the morning as he stepped ashore from a sampan. The prisoner was carrying what appeared to be a tin of kerosene, but on examination of the tin a cunning contrived smuggling outfit was discovered.

The corner of the tin, where the opening to admit the oil was situated, was in the shape of a cube four inches square and the other part of the tin was used as a receptacle for contraband, the bottom of the tin sliding out. In this hidden receptacle the excise inspector found fifty-five loaves of biscuit and fifty-two one-eighth ounce bottles of cocaine.

If the World Spoke English.

If the whole world spoke English, England, with her cunning and intellect, would have awayed if not ruled the world forever, for behold how she still aways us and pokes her finger in our eyes and pines any old time she likes. If England hadn't talked so fine New York and London could have stacked the pack and dealt the deck for good and ever.

Watch for the Blind.

A Swiss watchmaker of Neuchatel, who recently invented a watch for the blind, has been flooded with orders. The watch has no glass, and its face is of enamel. The hands are invisible and are placed inside the case. The figures work automatically, appearing a little above the enamel face as the hands pass underneath. A blind person can with a touch of his fingers tell the time in an instant. The watch costs from \$4 upward.

She Didn't Want.

An East Tennessee girl is credited with the following reply to a question as to whether she had been to the fair: "I didn't want. I didn't want to go; and, if I had wanted to go, I couldn't have gotten to go."—Good Housekeeping.

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NOTICE.

The Commissioners of Pike County will hereafter hold Regular Meetings the 1st Thursday of each month, between the hours of 9 a. m. and 4 p. m. excepting in the months when Court may be in session, and then during Court.

THEO. H. BAKER

Commissioners Clerk

For Rent

Furnished rooms to rent. Enquire of Mrs. Etta Patton, Corner Broad and Ann Streets, Milford, Pa.

Japan's Output of Buttons.

The button industry in Japan bids fair to prove a great success, says the Westminster Gazette. Shell buttons, we learn from the report of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, were first imported from abroad a quarter of a century ago, when the demand for the article began to be felt, and since then this branch of industry has gradually sprung up. Osaka and its environs being the centre. A great development of the industry has taken place of late, and large quantities of material are annually imported from the South Sea Islands, while the export to the Chinese and India markets has rapidly increased. According to the latest investigations, not less than one million yen worth is exported annually from Osaka and its vicinity alone. There are now about 70 factories in existence in Osaka.

Footnote to History.

Marc Antony turned impatiently to the energetic young man who had touched his elbow.

"Mr. Antony," said the young man, "can you tell me how much money Caesar left his family?"

"I cannot," said Marc abruptly. "I came to bury Caesar, not to appraise him!"

And the reporter, who was not very accurate, went away a d misquoting Antony, and made him famous.—St. Paul Dispatch.

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