

# Put to the Test

**German Dialect in Wisconsin.**  
It is two German women who are speaking in the presence of an Irish woman.

"Th' tap o' th' marnin' t' ye, Miss Bretschneider. 'Tis glad I am t' see 'er like ye. Ise yer daughter Gretchen goin' to the Hill th' mornin'."

"Faith an' she is. Ven me ver Heinrich can get th' bay horse away from th' ploughin' I t'ink I'll so me self, bein'ed."

"This is not travesty; it is a report of German dialect. The manner of speech came about naturally enough. When the Germans arrived here in full force the country was already settled, largely by Yankees and Irish, and the German had to buy his farm here or there. Thus a number of them found themselves located in the town of Erin, where, of course, they learned the language of their country. And I leave it to my fellow-citizens in Wisconsin whether a German cannot speak as broad and rich brogue as any son of Erin.—Charles D. Stewart in the Atlantic.

**Percolous.**  
The late Francis H. Leggett, New York's largest wholesale grocer, had a contempt for the morals of the average Wall street man, says the New Orleans Statesman.

Mr. Leggett used to say:

"I once hired an errand boy, who, after I had discharged him, no doubt was in the street. There he should be doing well."

"The boy was from the country. He only worked for me about two days. The last day he was with me I sent him out for a worth of stamps, giving him a \$5 bill."

"When he came back with the stamps he didn't offer me any change."

"Well," I said impatiently, "where's the change, Alfred?"

"There ain't any, sir," said the boy. "Stamps has 'em."

**FOR THE CONTRIBUTION BOX.**  
A Convenient Arrangement for Giving Early and Often.

A custom among attendees of the Greek Church at Tribesland explains the use of certain tokens which have been presented to the American Numismatic Society in this city.

According to the Journal of the society sometimes several collections are made during the service in these churches. Even should there be but one, the visitor may desire to make a special contribution at the shrine or picture of some of the saints whose impression he desires to secure, or he may wish to purchase a candle for use in some of the ceremonial in public or private devotions.

On entering the church, therefore, he exchanges a certain sum of money with the deacon at the gate for an equivalent amount of these tokens. He is thus able to respond to the call for the various offerings during the service or to deposit his gift at the shrine of the saint by using one or more of these tokens as he may be disposed, yet without any heavy demand on his purse. These church tokens are sometimes of brass and sometimes of paper.

**Value of "Stooping."**  
Always be civil. Try to treat rich and poor alike. Is not the poor man's 20 shillings as good as the rich man's pound? The working man's wife, with her basket on her arm, says Mrs. Thomas Lipton in the Strand, is entitled to as much respect as the lady who comes in her carriage. When Benjamin Franklin was ambassador at the French court, speaking to a young man, he said: "The last time I saw poor father he received me in his study. As I was leaving he showed me a short way out of the house through a narrow passage crowded by a beam overhead. Suddenly he cried: 'Stoop! Stoop!' I did not understand what he meant until I felt my head bump against the beam. He was a man who never failed to give good advice. 'You are going,' he said, 'and have got to go through it, and you will miss many hard thumps.'" I have never failed to be impressed by this lesson of humility.

**Tree-Culture in English Schools.**  
In an effort to stimulate the local fruit industry in the county of Suffolk, England, the East Suffolk Education Committee has instituted a system of establishing apple-trees in connection with the customary school gardens. A competent instructor has been engaged to visit the different schools, and many of the children are now as expert in the art of grafting and budding as a veteran horticulturist.

Only a nominal price is charged for these apple trees, and the villagers immediately recognized the opportunity that awaited them and have been eager to purchase the entire supply. A number of orchards have been established, and in a single town more than five hundred of these trees have been transplanted.

Canon Abbey, the head of the progressive and successful Framingham Agricultural Co-operative Society, is enthusiastic over the efforts made to restore to prominence the fruit industry and is superintending the work. Nearly three thousand of the young trees are now in stock, and a thousand more are to be produced this year.

**Ill Desperandum.**  
Percy Parkington rose and brushed the dust from his knees. Then drawing himself up to his full height, he gazed respectfully upon the form of Miss Mabel Muggins, who nonchalantly fanned herself the while.

"Very well, Miss Muggins," said in bitter tones from Percy. "I am very well. You have spurned me. I have treated you as I have spurned me twice. But, though despised and scorned, I shall not die! I will win! My name shall become known, and my riches shall become envied."

"Pardon me for interrupting you, Mr. Parkington," interjected Miss Muggins, "but when you shall have accomplished all that you say to again."

**Austria to Build Airships.**  
The first Austrian airship construction company has just been formed with a capital of 200,000 kronen, and it is understood that the war office is immediately placing an order for a dirigible. The constitution of the company is largely due to the fact that the efforts of the government to obtain a dirigible from Germany during the recent crisis failed.

# DEVIL FISHING AS AN INDUSTRY.

**Pacific Coast May Provide Much Esteemed Food for Japan.**

A new industry offers for the fisherman 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 shows the same habits as the cuttlefish. The Japanese fisherman simply provide a sturdy retreat for the octopus, and when it backs into the trap, it is hauled to the surface.

The pursers of the octopus provide themselves with large earthen jars more than a foot in diameter, and 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 sweep about the jar. The fisherman simply provide a sturdy retreat for the octopus, and when it backs into the trap, it is hauled to the surface.

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**Getting Legal Advice.**  
You should always find out who is electing you—first of all you can. There's a Broadway lawyer who at present is wishing he had. The other day a lady came to him 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 use one to the landlord's agent and one to the lessee. But who are—?"

"Oh, the fact that the wife of the elector has never seen a copy of the lease doesn't keep it from being a legal binding."

"No," replied the lawyer, who quickly added: "But before I discuss the matter further may I ask to whom—?"

"There was a pretty little laugh—she said it was pretty even now. "Oh, 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 so very valuable, and I want as a lawyer, and so I just called you up."

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

**Breakfast a Generation Ago.**  
Mush, 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 about 15 minutes. Breakfast food we call it now. It is gingerly shaken by the kitchen maid from a highly ornamented pasteboard box, slammered with a tin of butter 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 alms house. 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 Raoungon, when a Chinaman named Ohang was arrested at about 7 o'clock in the morning as he stepped ashore from a steamer. The prisoner was carrying what appeared to be a tin of soap, 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 hole the tin was the excise inspector found fifty-five tins of opium and twenty-one tins of opium.

**If the World Spoke English.**  
If the whole world spoke English, England, with her cunning and intellect, would have swayed if not ruled the world forever, for behold how she still sways and pokes her finger in our eyes, and also, old time she likes. If England hadn't talked so fine New York and London could have stricken the pack and dealt the deck for good and ever.

**QUEEREST OF CULPRITS.**  
Odd Court Episodes Related By W. W. Jacobs, the Humorist.

W. W. Jacobs, the humorist, tells the following story:

A lawyer defending a man accused of horsebreaking spoke like this to the judge:

"Your honor, I submit that my client did not break into the house at all. He found the parlor window open and merely inserted his arm and removed a few trifling articles. Now, my client's arm is not himself, and I fall to see how you can punish the whole individual for an offense committed only by one of his limbs."

"That argument," said the judge, "is very well put. Following it logically, I sentence the defendant's arm to one year's imprisonment. He can accompany it or not, as he chooses."

# THE BELLS OF THE BASTILLE.

**Still in Existence in a Private House in Paris.**

Comparatively few persons have ever heard of the bells of the Bastille, yet they are still in existence. After the destruction of the prison, says the Guelphonian, they found their way to the great foundry in Romilly, but the manager of the works disobeyed the orders he received and did not destroy them.

Now they are back in Paris, in a private house in the Avenue d'Eylha. On each bell is engraved, "Made by Louis Cheron for the Royal Bastille, in the year 1781," and they are further ornamented with the royal arms and a huge cross.

**Advices "Back to the Land."**  
There is just one way for the people of the city to find it possible to buy eggs, chickens, meat and flour for less money—that is for some of them to leave the city and go back to raising more hens, more cattle, and growing more wheat. The fact is that the country is getting top-heavy. The cities are eating too heavily on the producing areas. Farming is getting to be one of the most profitable businesses in the country, because the proportion of non-producers is getting so large. It is all a matter of supply and demand; just now the demand for foodstuffs is larger than it has ever been in proportion to the supply.—Denver Post.

**Results Becoming Manifest.**  
A year ago the rate of increase among tuberculosis organizations and institutions was one every other day, only one-half as fast as now. Less than a year ago there were 40 convalescents for every hospital bed provided. Today the number has been reduced to 20. Nearly 20,000 beds are now provided in institutions for treatment of consumptives, an increase of over 5,000. The number of special tuberculosis dispensaries in the United States has more than doubled, the number of anti-tubercular associations has increased 65 per cent, and the number of hospitals and sanatoria 52 per cent.

**First Love.**  
It is a popular fallacy that the first love is the true one, unique in its excellence, says an exchange. As well say that the first picture of a painter is the best of all he will paint in the course of his life; that the first speech of a man is the best; that the first composition, will be the best of the statesman, novelist, sculptor or musician, as the case may be. First loves have all the imperfections of uncertainty, of inexperience and ignorance. And it is rather by chance than by anything inherent in the nature of Cupid's ways that the first love turns out to be the true one.

**Spiritual Fellowship.**  
At one time the apostle Paul seems to make much of his having actually seen Jesus, but again he declares that even though he did know Christ in that way he knows him no longer, and he is constrained thereafter to know no man "after the flesh." However precious for the moment, the physical relationship, they cannot last. The spiritual fellowship is incomparably more worth while; which is what Christ died to teach mankind.

**A Dreary Land.**  
The country from Jerusalem to the Jordan valley is as dreary and desolate as could be imagined.

The hills look like great banks of rock and sand. Not even the Sahara itself looks more forbidding. It is the "country not inhabited," the "land of no man," which the scriptures were written in; and which is what Christ died to teach mankind.

**Somewhat Dry.**  
Governor Glasscock, of West Virginia, while traveling through Arizona, noticed the dry, dusty appearance of the country.

"Doesn't it ever rain around here?" he asked one of the natives.

"Rain? The native spat. "Rain? Why, yes, certainly. There's hailfalls in this yer town over the years old that hain't learned to swim yet!"—Everybody's Magazine.

**Lazy Samoans.**  
An Australian naturalist, Dr. Rechner, attempted some time ago to make a collection of Samoan fishes. He found it almost impossible to persuade the natives, who are so lazy that they seldom go fishing, to sell him any. An offer of gold tempted them no more than silver; they had caught their fish to eat them, and eat them they did.

**Interesting Information.**  
Darwin's "Theories on Evolution" were first made public in 1858. A. R. Wallace brought out the same ideas in the same year. The term Uncle Sam was first used during the war of 1812 and soon after the figure of the typical Yankee appeared in the cartoons.

**Poor Opinion of Countrymen.**  
One of the great intellects of England has stated that not above 50,000 people in all Britain can read and understand the ordinary London newspaper.

**Hans Breitman Says:**  
"Yes a politician makes a deficit he always tries to make der people ashamed of der deficit."—Cleveland News.

**Immuns.**  
Farmer Grayneck—"Horse you are going to gift the automobile lever, Harry, the everybody else?"  
Farmer Hornbeak—"Nope! I've been vaccinated in the pocketbook, and it took."

**Where Silence is Golden.**  
"You are an American, and yet you don't believe in free speech. How's that?"  
"I'm in the State Department."

# THE NEW DIAMOND FIELDS.

**Stones Small But Plentiful in German South Africa.**

From the methods used to locate the stones the new diamond fields in German South Africa might very well be called a "Tommy's Ground," says the Wide World Magazine. The diamonds are very small, but are exceedingly plentiful.

They are found in the open desert, where nothing but sand, unrelieved by the slightest sign of brush or shrub, is to be seen for vast distances. The men who search for the stones—needless to say, they are all natives—have ten miles to go every morning from camp.

The searchers work on their hands and knees, apparently regardless of the blinding sunshine, sifting the surface sand through their fingers. Most of them are old Kimberley boys and they are very keen on discovering stones. The district is hardly a paradise for the white man, being notorious for its frequent dust storms and terrific heat.

**A Disappointed Bird-Lover.**  
It is never hard to identify the bride and groom, and it is correspondingly difficult to refrain from a good-natured smile at their expense. A writer in the London Chronicle illustrates these truths thus:

"We tried to keep the railway-carriage to ourselves," said the girl who can approach a snake against her will, even when it is in her pocket. "At Birmingham the guard, closed the door, and in spite of Walter's screams, lifted a small girl into our compartment, making rather embarrassing apologies."

"She was a little girl of about seven, and she sat on the edge of the seat and stared at her."

"What is the matter?" said Walter. "I don't see the birds," said the small girl, plaintively.

"Birds—what birds?" asked Walter. "When I came from the other train your guard said to my guard, 'Oh, shove her along with the love-birds.'"

**Krakatoa's New Dress.**  
A unique opportunity to study nature's processes in restoring the vegetation of a land swept clean by a great disaster was afforded after the tremendous eruption of the volcano on the little island of Krakatoa in 1883. All living organisms were destroyed. In 1885 a number of plants had already established themselves on the devastated island, those in the interior being remarkably different from those on the coast, ferns especially preponderating. In 1897 further progress had been made, and in 1903 the forest trees had advanced so far as to make it evident that within short time the island will again be densely forested. It is believed that the first plants to establish themselves on the blasted soil—such as ferns, algae, mosses, composite and grasses—were borne thither by wind, and that ocean currents were probably the agents concerned in the importation of seeds and fruits.—Youth's Companion.

**An Elusive Menu.**  
The opeium is good to eat, but not being dealt in by any organized provision company, is sometimes hard to get. A tourist in Georgia, says a writer in the Washington Times, stayed overnight at the Palace Hotel, in a little village, and expressed a desire to taste Georgia opeium. The whole opeium, cooked in genuine Georgia style, with potatoes on the side, was placed before him within short time. "Two dollars extra for the opeium," said the landlord, when the guest came to settle.

"It's an outrage!" said the guest. "It's according to the way you look at it, stranger," said the landlord; "but it took me six nights' swamp-watering to catch that opeium, and when I caught him I caught the rheumatism with him."

**Fort Ancient.**  
One of the most interesting and disputed questions in American archeology is that of the origin and age of Fort Ancient, in Warren County, Ohio. The State of Ohio has recently purchased this site, which is to be turned into a public park. Mr. Warren K. Moorehead believes that Fort Ancient is 8,000 or 9,000 years old. He regards the more modern articles found in a grave in its vicinity as later intrusions. He does not, however, regard the question of the age of this most interesting structure as yet settled, and says that many years of study and exploration will be required to clear up the mystery.

**Japanese Wood for Sleepers.**  
The Atchafalaya railroad is about to experiment at Great Bend, Kan., with cocobolo and Japanese oak as material for sleepers. This wood is so hard that it is almost impossible to drive spikes into it, and screw spikes in bored holes will be used. It is expected that the sleepers will last from 25 to 30 years. They cost a trifle more than the American oak delivered in California. The reason for experimenting with them is that native oak is becoming scarce, and it is deemed wise to look for a substitute.

**The Rage Gift of Courtesy.**  
Courtesy includes not merely social kindness, graces of speech, absence of business associates and of all the fellow citizens with whom a man of affairs may have business to transact. It is not American to keep one citizen waiting all day at the door because he is poor, and to grant another citizen an interview because it is believed he is rich. Wisdom is not confined to a purse, and frequently much wisdom may be learned from a poor man.

**Proof of Success.**  
If every day we can feel, if only for a moment, the station of being alive, the realization of being our best selves, of filling our destined scope and trend, you may be sure that we are succeeding.—Bliss Carman.

**Just as Bad.**  
Courtesy over the telephone is a virtue, and it's just as offensive to the girl at the switchboard to be called a Dutch maid as it would be to be told that her hat isn't on straight.

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**NOTICE.**  
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