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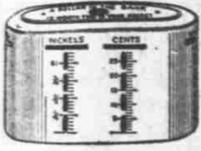
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The City of Pola.

Since the Austrians made the city of Pola their chief base in 1848 they have accomplished wonders there. It is claimed that with the assistance of submarines and aircraft Pola is virtually impregnable. Its commodious harbor, almost land locked, has been enlarged so that it easily contains the entire Austrian fleet. It is divided into two basins by a chain of small islands. The entrance is strongly defended, and an extensive system of fortifications on the hills inclosing the harbor insures complete protection. There is a good roadstead in the large channel of Fasana, which separates the mainland from the Brionian islands. The marine arsenal of Pola is a vast establishment with all the requisites for a large fleet. Artillery laboratories and powder magazines are situated on the north shore, and behind the arsenal is San Policarpo, with huge barracks and hospitals.—Argonaut.

Byron's Famous Swim.

Byron was cruising up the Dardanelles in a British warship, the Salsette, when he accomplished his famous swim from Abydos to Sestos, the distance (a little over four miles) being covered in seventy minutes. "You will smile at this exploit," the poet wrote to R. C. Dallas in a letter describing the swim, "but as it made an ancient immortal I see no reason why a modern may not be permitted to boast of it, particularly as I had no mistress to comfort me at landing." According to Hobhouse, his traveling companion, Byron "had previously made a more perilous but less celebrated passage, for I recollect that when we were in Portugal he swam from Old Lisbon to Belem castle and, having to contend with a tide and counter-current, the wind blowing freshly, was but little less than two hours in crossing the river."—Pall Mall Gazette.

He Wouldn't Give Thanks.

An eighteenth century clerical humorist, one Thom of Govan, the Glasgow Herald states, had a great fondness for days of national fasting or even of thanksgiving. At the close of the American war he commenced a sermon thus: "My friends, we are commanded by royal authority to meet this day for the purpose of public thanksgiving. Now, I should like to know what it is we are to give thanks for? Is it for the loss of thirteen provinces? Is it for the slaughter of so many thousands of our countrymen? Is it for so many millions of increased national debt? I see, my friends, you are all laughing at me, and I am not surprised at it, for were I not standing where I am I would be laughing myself."

Politeness in China.

In China parents are held responsible for the manners of their children. Accordingly, for the credit of their parents, people try to be polite. If you are mobbed in a Chinese town you should look straight at one or two of the people and say: "Your parents did not pay much attention to your manners. They did not teach you the rules of propriety." A remark like this will make the crowd sink away, one by one, ashamed of themselves.

Novel Proposal.

"Have you ever been engaged to be married before?" asked the young man. "Yes, six times," replied the sweet young thing. "Well, if your hand is not working just now I'd like to ask for it."—Yonkers Statesman.

Baby Army Officers.

It used to be the custom in England to buy commissions in the army for infants, and then they would be promoted as vacancies occurred. In this way a boy would have high rank when he was old enough to become a real soldier.

Argument Spoiled.

She—Too many men expect their wives to run their homes on practically nothing. They forget that no one can make bricks without straw. He—My dear, you are of that sort.—Silly Stories.

Recent Inventions.

A coat hanger to which is attached a clothes brush has been patented by a Denver resident.

A soldier has been invented which holds rimless lenses against the metal parts of eyeglasses without screws.

A tumbler with a compartment that can be filled with ice or hot water to keep its contents cold or warm has been invented.

Flies can enter a garbage can that a New York man has patented, but as they try to get out they are caught in a wire trap, which can be detached and the insects destroyed.

Current Comment.

It isn't a Mexican "crisis" now. They just call it any old thing and let it go at that.—Atlanta Constitution.

It took the revolution to remind the world that Portugal has been calling itself a republic.—Boston Herald.

Working for a safe and sane Fourth is worth while even this year, when gunshot and other wounds are so plentiful elsewhere.—Chicago News.

Only a year from now it will be time for the conventions to be held to nominate the next president. Why not begin to get excited?—Boston Globe.

Short Stories.

Luxemburg covers 1,000 square miles and has a population of 290,000.

The total circulation of money in the United States last year was \$3,419,168,868.

Uruguay has suspended specie payments until the close of the European war.

The bayonets used at the battle of Waterloo were about a foot longer than the modern weapons.

On the island of Rombon, one of the Philippines, an immense body of limestone is attracting attention.

Fashion Frills.

Even the shoemakers are realizing that something is wrong with the prevailing types of last. There is hope!—Chicago News.

Fall skirts are to show the ankles, according to the fashion reports. Well, what are the spring and summer skirts doing?—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

The old time fear of sun spots is rapidly disappearing. Some girls now wear them on their faces and call them blushes.—Albany Knickerbocker Press.

BRIGHT BRIEFS.

Keeping out of trouble is enough to keep every man busy.

Another big item in the war budget is that deadly gas bill.

An old man has as much use for advice as a young man hasn't.

You have to make some men talk, but most women are self starters.

The way of the transgressor is not only hard, but blamed slippery.

Before starting on the right track be sure you are headed the right way.

Most of the things postponed until tomorrow could have been done today.

Opportunity makes the man, but only when the man knows what to do with it.

Mankind is not half as proud of itself now as it was in the middle of last July.

At sixty man knows that he didn't know what he thought he knew at twenty.

An optimist is a person who smiles at knocks; a pessimist is a person who knocks at smiles.

The man who is irritable about home can exercise a lot of patience when holding the end of a fishing rod.

Napoleon Used Milton's Tactics.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is not the first English author whose writings have been studied for hostile ends by his country's enemies. Napoleon assured Sir Colin Campbell at Elba that he greatly admired "Paradise Lost" and had read it to some purpose. The plan of Austerlitz was borrowed from book 6 of that work, where Satan brings his artillery to bear upon Michael and his angelic host with such direful effect:

Training his devilish engine, impaled
On every side with shadowy squadrons
To hide the fraud.

This mode of warfare appeared to Napoleon so likely to succeed if applied to actual use that he determined upon its adoption and succeeded beyond his expectations. By reference to the details of the battle of Austerlitz it will be found to assimilate so completely with Milton's imaginary fight as to bear out the emperor's assertion.—London Chronicle.

Why Men Eat More Food Than Women.

That men eat 5 or 6 per cent more than women—not because they are gluttons, but because they actually require that much more nourishment—appears as a result of an investigation made in the nutrition laboratory of the Carnegie Institute at Washington by Francis G. Benedict and L. E. Eames, says the Literary Digest. The reason for the discrepancy seems to be that women have a smaller proportion of active tissue than men of the same weight and more inactive material, such as fat. The investigation disclosed that the average woman generates only 1,355 heat units in the twenty-four hours as against 1,638 produced by the man, or about 2 per cent more for the latter per pound of body weight. When groups were compared after careful selection of individuals of nearly the same height and weight the men were found to produce about 12 per cent more heat than women.

Marriage Superstitions.

In some parts of Germany the duties of the bridesmaids are tinged with superstition. It is one of their duties on the morning of the marriage day to carry to the bride a myrtle wreath, for which they had subscribed on the previous evening. This they place on her head and at night remove it, when it is placed in the bride's hand, she being at the time blindfolded. The bridesmaids then dance round her, while she endeavors to place the wreath on one of their heads. Whoever is fortunate enough to be thus decorated will, it is believed, be a wife before another year has passed. In removing the bridal wreath and veil the bridesmaids are careful to throw away every pin or the bride will be overtaken by misfortune, while any unwary bridesmaid who retains one will lessen her chances of marriage.—Dundee Advertiser.

The Meteoric Hypothesis.

The nebular hypothesis of La Place has been abandoned in favor of the meteoric hypothesis of Lockyer and planetesimal hypothesis of Chamberlain. All suns, planets and moons, by these two nearly identical theories, were made by the falling in from space of small comical bodies, such as the meteors now falling on the earth.

Trillions of years ago there was a meteor moving in space. It is now in the center of the earth. Another meteor joined this by collision, then another, and this falling in is now going on at a vastly diminished rate, so that comparatively few are now coming in, as may be seen on almost any clear night.—Edgar Lucien Larkin in New York American.

White Man's Graveyard.

Africa is a remarkably beautiful country. Its coast lines are picturesque, graceful, fascinating, alluring. Its seaport towns and cities are usually clean, pretty and reasonably healthy. Equatorial Africa has, until the last two decades, been called the white man's graveyard, but clean living, quinine, mosquito netting, sobriety and sanitary improvements have made Africa a place where one can not only exist, but live in as much comfort, take it all in all during the year, as in the city of New York.—New York Telegram.

Stale Candy.

Stale candy can generally be worked over by reboiling. In the case of acid candies, such as lemon drops, the candy is boiled, the acid is withdrawn by the use of lime or chalk, and the sirup may then be used in the manufacture of that or any other species of candy.

Taking Up Time.

"I like to have my friends extend their congratulations," said the newly appointed public official.

"Yes"
"But that last caller extended his over an hour and a half."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Refined It.

"Here's a dealer advertises a sale of hereditary mahogany furniture."
"Just what does he mean by that?"
"That's merely a polite way of saying secondhand."—Pittsburgh Post.

Inefficient Management.

Smythe (dismally)—Nell, I simply can't meet my creditors. Mrs. Smythe—Why should you? What in the world do you employ a secretary for?—Puck.

Setting a Veritable Record.

"I don't like him. He's as unreliable as the weather."
"As the weather predictions, you mean."—Philadelphia Ledger.

The fruit derived from labor is the sweetest of pleasures.—Yauvenargues.

Submarine Badge.

As a crown is the badge of kings, as three balls are the badge of pawnbrokers, so the badge of a submarine officer is a handful of cotton waste. When the half dozen officers of a modern submarine, clad in their black leather waterproof suits, come aboard a sailor stands on the tiny gangway to receive them, and to each he hands his waste rolled in a neat ball. The reason is that the steel doors and steel walls of a submarine sweat oil eternally. The steel seats sweat oil. The submarine officer before opening a door or before sitting down wipes the oil from the knob or from the seat with an unconscious gesture like that of pulling up the trousers to keep them from bagging. Jovial young submarine lieutenants say that even the dishes sweat oil on a submarine trip. They say that before filling their plates with meat they mechanically wipe the oil from them with their balls of oily waste.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

A Sharp Distinction.

A merited rebuke is not always a retort courteous. The rebuke that was administered to a party of intruding tourists by the old watchman who was set to guard the ruins of College hall at Wellesley not long after the great fire conveyed a keen but subtle reproach.

"Ye've got to keep out!" he ordered gruffly when he caught them trying to slip under the ropes that surrounded the crumbling walls.

The inquisitive visitors paused and eyed first the ruins and then their determined guardian.

"See here," a callow youth accosted him; "we're willing to risk it, and we'll take all the responsibility. What do you care if we lose our lives?"

"Ye've got to keep out. I ain't thinkin' of your lives; I'm thinkin' of me job."—Youth's Companion.

Nothing to Wear.

There are women who live to dress, and the more frequent and radical the changes are the better they like it. If their pocketbooks can stand it, no great harm is done. But the great majority of women can't afford to keep up with this pace. The result is that some stay at home because their clothes are not in the latest style, many are made unhappy, and others keep up with the procession, it matters not what may be the cost.

If a man can wear the same dress suit for eight or ten years and not look like a freak, why is it not possible to design an evening gown for women that will be in good style as long as it may be worn? It is absurd to hear a woman say, "I haven't a thing to wear," when she may have a half dozen gowns all in good condition.—Frances Frear in Leslie's.

Highland Mary.

Small as is the number of statues of women in Britain, there are two of one woman, concerning whom very little is actually known save that she was of humble origin and was associated with the life of Scotland's greatest poet. Passengers by the Clyde steamboats are familiar with the statue of Mary Campbell, whom Burns immortalized as Highland Mary, which overlooks the pier at Dunoon. There was a good deal of controversy about the memorial at the time of its erection, and the late Mr. Henley referred to it in his famous "Essay on Burns" as a "fantasy in bronze." Liverpool, with which Mary Campbell had no association whatsoever, has also chosen to commemorate her, and a marble statue stands in the palm house at Sefton park, encircled with choicest blooms all the year round.—London Mail.

Last Votes.

A parliamentary candidate lost quite a number of votes by making a generous promise to his own wife. He promised his better half that if he were successful at the poll he would buy her a new sealskin coat and hat to match. His wife was so pleased with this kindly offer that she at once went and told all her lady friends about it. Every lady to whom this piece of news was imparted, of course, said to the candidate's wife at once, "Oh, how very nice, dear!" but equally, of course, immediately went off home to her husband and said: "Take care you don't vote for Mr. A., dear. Fancy that stuck up Mrs. A. in a new sealskin while my old one is so shabby!"—London Express.

Kipling Wouldn't Talk.

Invited in 1899 to speak at a public dinner in London in aid of an orphan asylum Rudyard Kipling wrote:

"I simply can't make a speech in public. It isn't in my power—not for all the orphans in the world. I have experimented on grownup people, and the result wasn't pretty. I'd sooner thrash an orphan or give it its bottle than speak to the orphans' well wishers after a heavy meal."

For Permanent Peace.

"I have told you over and over, Tommy, not to fight with that little Jimson boy."

"If you'd let me finish the job just one time, ma, I wouldn't have to fight with him any more."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Libelous Demonstration.

"Why do you insist on singing?"
"Because I love music."
"The way you sing sounds as if you hated it."—Washington Star.

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Laundry Lines.

Wash and dry flannels as quickly as possible if you want them to be soft.

Tatting will look like new if when being laundered it is basted to a bath towel. Otherwise it is nearly always ruined.

Cornstarch is the best for starching cuffs and collars—wheat starch for delicate dresses, rice starch for fine French lingerie.

To set delicate colors in an embroidered handkerchief, soak ten minutes previous to washing in a pail of tepid water in which a desertspoonful of turpentine has been stirred.

Described.

"What kind of a guy is Jiggs?"
"Oh, he's the type that says, 'Lend me a couple of dollars for a couple of hours,' and then he loses his watch."—Buffalo Express.

He Blundered.

Mr. Dobb—I've saved that rose you gave me last month, Miss Antek, for though it is withered it still reminds me of you. Miss Antek—Sir!—Boston Transcript.

The man who sells news but one eye, but he who buys two.—Florida Times-Union.

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