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Lake Cayuga's Mysteries.

Lake Cayuga is one of the wonders of the eastern states. It is situated in west central New York and is upward of forty miles in length, with an average breadth of but three miles. One of its peculiarities is this: Although hundreds of persons have been drowned in its waters since the settlement of the adjacent territory, not a single corpse has so far been recovered, and it is a common saying that "Lake Cayuga never gives up its dead." Those who have made an attempt to fathom this mystery say that the bottom of this remarkable sheet of water is simply a series of large openings and crat-like cavities, the entire lake bed having the appearance of being one huge honeycomb, each of the well-like holes being reputed to be bottomless.

Another Cayuga mystery is its irregular tides. There is no stated time for their appearance, but when they do come they are very decided, the water often instantly receding 50 to 100 feet and as quickly returning with a roar that can be heard for miles.—Exchange.

The "Magic Mirror" of Japan.

The "magic mirror" of Japan is a disk of bronze, usually from six to eight inches in diameter. It is silvered on the front, which is a little convex, and there is a raised pattern on the back, which is rather concave. The polished pattern is generally a landscape, flowers, animals or Chinese characters. It is not visible in the front of the mirror, but when strong sunlight is reflected from the front of the mirror to a wall or screen the pattern of the back is visible on the screen in bright lines on a black ground. Professor W. E. Ayrton, F. R. S., with Professor John Perry, F. R. S., was the first to give the true scientific explanation of this magical effect. It seems that the design on the back alters the convexity of the front, making it flat—in fact, along the lines of the pattern. Consequently the light reflected from the front is not dispersed at these points of the design, and they appear brighter on the screen.—London Globe.

Fighting the Inevitable.

Nearly all great scientific discoveries have been combated and misunderstood even by the intelligent. Even Sir Charles Napier fiercely opposed the introduction of steam power into the royal navy and one day exclaimed in the house of commons:

"Mr. Speaker, when we enter her majesty's naval service and face the chances of war we go prepared to be hacked in pieces by cutlasses, to be riddled with bullets or to be blown to bits by shot and shell; but, Mr. Speaker, we do not go prepared to be boiled alive."

The last words he brought out with tremendous emphasis. Steam power in men-of-war, with boilers which at any moment might be shattered by an enemy's shot—this was a prospect he could not face.

Yet in a few years he found himself in command of the largest steam navy the world had ever seen.

A Mathematical Puzzle.

Here is a strange little puzzle, which has the same answer, independent of the fact that no two people solving the puzzle were born the same year and consequently use the same figures. Write down the figures of the year you were born and from this take away four. Add your age at next birthday if it comes before January, otherwise your age at your last birthday. Multiply the result by 1,000 and from this deduct 685,423. Substitute for the figures corresponding letters of the alphabet, as A for 1, B for 2, etc. The result is a Chinese table delicacy which is used in this country for engineering purposes. Strike out the first letter and transpose those that remain to form a word.

Anemia.

The word anemia is of modern origin. It was first mentioned by Albert Michel in 1732 in a thesis entitled "De Anaemia." However, if the nomenclature is new, the morbid condition indicated by the word was at all times well known. Hippocrates devoted several pages to a description of this particular condition, but Halle was the first to apply the term to a malady which was prevalent in 1802 among the miners of Anzin, in the north of France, and of which he gave a detailed description.

A Candid Critic.

Candid Critic—Awfully good song that! You ought to be with Carl Rosa. Jones (feeling rather flattered)—Really, do you think so? Awfully kind of you to—er—but Carl Rosa is dead. Candid Critic—Yes. I said you ought to be with him.—London Tattler.

Pears'

Everyone admires a clear complexion. It's an open secret that Pears' Soap has brought the glow of health to millions of fair faces.

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How Moles Work.

Moles are usually active at work in the early morning or late in the afternoon. It is not difficult to kill them with a pitchfork when they are working, the animals being located by observing the movement of the ground above them. If water is allowed to run into the burrow and fill it the animal when present can be forced to come to the surface to avoid drowning and may be easily killed. The best remedy for the damage done to lawns and grass plots by moles is prompt rolling with a heavy roller. By continued repetition of this the moles will be driven away at least temporarily.

Moles have few natural enemies. Their food consists chiefly of worms and insects that live in the ground, and their presence in large numbers at any place is an evidence of the abundance of their food. There is no doubt that they do much good by destroying many noxious insects. If it were not for the injury done to lawns by their throwing up ridges of earth along which the grass dies, or to gardens by their loosening the roots of young plants, moles would be more beneficial than harmful.—New England Home-stead.

How Smith's Friend Got Through.

They were out in Kansas about 100 miles and wanted to reach Kansas City. One of them had a pass for John Smith and wife. He was John Smith all right, but his friend could hardly pass as Mrs. Smith. Although they were practically without funds, they boarded the train. "Take a seat in the rear of the car," said Smith to his friend.

Then Smith went forward and sat down by a young woman. Soon they were talking like old friends, and the subject of tickets was brought up by Smith. He asked her to let him see her ticket. It was not of the variety that requires the signature of the purchaser.

Smith examined it until the conductor came through, and then he handed up his pass and the ticket. Pointing to his friend behind, he said, "The extra ticket is for him." The scheme worked. To this day the young woman does not know that she was once Mrs. Smith for a short ride through Kansas.—Kansas City Times.

A Queer Food.

A most singular food is the larvae of a fly common in certain portions of California and known as ephydra. This insect is found in such vast quantities in Lake Mono, Cal., that it is washed upon the shores in vast windrows and can be collected by bushels. The water of Mono is very singular, seemingly very heavy and smooth, like oil, so much so that it resists ordinary wind and refuses to become ruffled. When the larvae begin to appear the Indians gather from far and near and scrape them up, place the wormlike creatures on cloths and racks in the sun and dry them, when they are beaten up and husked, looking then like rice. The Indians call the food koo-chah-bee, and many bushels are collected at his time. That larvae are nutritious is shown by the condition of the Indians, who soon grow fat on the rich diet. Many birds are attracted by the larvae and gorge themselves with the singular food.

Tommy Knew.

Mamma (to a friend who is lunching with her)—I don't know why it is, but I always eat more when we have company than when we're alone. Tommy (helping himself to a third piece of cake)—I know why it is—'cause we have better things to eat.

Its Sustaining Power.

"A hundred dollar bill will sustain a weight of forty-seven pounds lengthwise," says a treasury statistician. It will also sustain a man for a couple of months in a fairly good boarding house.—Washington Post.

Sudden.

Tom—But isn't your love for Miss Plinium rather sudden? Jack—I suppose so. But, you see, her rich aunt died rather suddenly.

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