

ALL ABOUT NEEDLES.

The manufacture of needles is a subject full of interesting study. Nearly all of the needles used throughout the civilized world are made in England...

The first known needle-making was at Nuremberg in 1370, by Gaumer Gurtin, but these were crude in make and formed of rough material.

The early manufacturers had a very simple and awkward workshop, but at present the greater part of the work is done by machinery.

The most complicated and ingenious needle made is for the knitting machine, with a hook and automatic latch.

The largest steel needle is nearly two feet long, and is used in casing hams, Afghan and crocheted needles are made of wood or bone usually.

Water-Blasting. The value of water as an aid to blasting when used in connection with explosives is rapidly increasing in this country.

As a result of this process the following points of excellence among many others, may be briefly mentioned: The powder in exploding bursts the tube containing the water, and careful estimates show, with increased power or explosive violence, as the rendering force is extended through the water in accordance with the well-known principle of hydrostatics.

to slow to adopt an amelioration in the present crude and dangerous process of blasting, which will tend, and in no small measure, to render premature explosions in mines a thing of the past.

Capt. Kidd's Treasure. Mrs. Mary Cleaves, a bright-eyed, dark-haired, chatty little woman of middle age, writes a Portland, Me., correspondent of The St. Louis Globe-Democrat, recently resumed her labor of searching for the hidden treasure of Ovech.

My work was half-done. Wonderful wand! With this rod I can overcome any obstacle, great or small, and mind you, it has a strong affinity between heavenly and earthly things. I told you it was true; it is every time.

When we come to the higher walks of the drama catholicity of taste is still a prime requisite of good criticism. If I have a private partiality for five-act tragedies in blank verse—this thank heaven, is a mere hypothesis—let me not be taken for a snob.

There's nothing on earth so mysterious as a newspaper advertisement. The prime, first and last, and all the time object of an advertisement is to draw custom.

Water-Blasting. The value of water as an aid to blasting when used in connection with explosives is rapidly increasing in this country, as well as in the large mines and quarries of Europe.

A Mourful Prophecy of Woes. Professor Grimmer, in a pamphlet published in 1879, predicted seven years of disaster and famine, beginning with 1887 and ending with 1897.

From 1880 to 1887 will be one universal carnival of death. Asia will be depopulated, Europe nearly so.

Pen Paralysis. Many stenographers and persons who make their living by constant use of the pen or pencil are afflicted with pen paralysis; and, although, as a general thing, this trouble can be cured by a few months' rest, some of those writers afflicted with it never recover.

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company for years, and were getting good wages, have been compelled to give up their lucrative employment by telegraphers' paralysis.

Brand, who helps us to this quotation, gives an amusing extract from the *Connoisseur* to the same effect: "Last Friday was St. Valentine's Day and the night before I got five bay leaves, and pinned four of them to the four corners of my pillow, and the fifth to the middle; and then, if I dream of my sweetheart, Betty said we should be married before the year was out.

During the fourteenth century there can be no doubt that the companies exercised a very effective superintendence over trade and manufacture. The guilds were abundant with accounts of the exposure and punishment of frauds at the instigation of the companies.

A Wounded Lion. A very dramatic narrative of an encounter with a lion is published by an Algerian paper. It appears that for months past farmers residing near a forest in the African colony have been victimized by a lion.

True Even Unto Death. That was a touching story told by Mr. Gladstone when announcing the death of the Princess Alice in parliament.

Modern Dress and Antique Minds. Had the spectacle of a modern ball ever dawned prophetically on the vision of a seer of the sixteenth century, had he been told that the figures whirling and strolling in that almost unrecognizable crowd were for the most part virtuous women and men of approved morality, he would have lifted his hands in horror.

Whalebone. The market price of baleen is exceedingly variable, depending on the fashion of the day. It is not so valuable now as used to be the case some years ago, steel having superseded it for many purposes.

Among the plagues which infect Anglo-American seamen are a race of mad waters, the noblest of which comes from the Mersey to Sandy Hook and from Sandy Hook to the Mersey.

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after, as she was on Sunday at church, (at our Lady's Church in Sarum,) up pops a young Oxonian in the pulpit; she cries out presently to her sister, "This is the very face of the man that I saw in my dream."

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Keep. They garrison it like a fortress and consecrate it to the solemn service of their favorite game. "For a day or two," says the complainant previously cited, "the outsider was allowed his freedom, but after the first day he was not to be admitted."

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Why Watts Left Ellen Terry. It is the history that Ellen Terry was once the wife of Watts, the artist, and I think it is generally known that their living together as man and wife did not exceed the period usually allotted to the honeymoon.

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wishes to swallow the prey which has caught it employs its tongue, which is not less remarkable than the rest of the whale's structure. The tongue is not free except at the base, and with mammals generally, so that it is impossible for the animal to protrude its tongue from its mouth.

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The young couple appeared to be much pleased with each other, and in spite of the soft speeches and melting smiles after a while the young man suggested that they go out on the rear end of the coach and enjoy the beautiful scenery.

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