

Truly Answered. Boats trading in the Midway in former years rejoiced in rather curious names, and the following was only one of the many amusing incidents resulting from this: A boat named 'What's That to You?' passing a lockyard at night time was hailed as usual by the coast guardsman. "Boat aboy! Your captain's name?" "Captain X."

When the Men Crew. Willford in his "Nature Secrets" (1658) writes: "Beasts eating greedily and more than they used to do promote foul weather, and all small cattle that seem to rejoice with playing and sporting themselves forewarn rain. Oxen and all kinds of neat, if you do at any time observe them to hold up their heads and snuffle in the air or lick their hooves or their bodies against the hair, expect them rainy weather Asses or mules rubbing often their ears or braying much more than usually they are accustomed preaches rain. Hogs crying and running up and down with bay or litter in their mouths forewarns a storm to be near at hand."

Women and the Commune. The mad fury which seemed to have taken possession of the mob in Paris found its most enthusiastic exponents in the women, who were anxious to proceed to the extreme measures which the men deprecated. "Memories of Fifty Years" "The organized corps de petroleuses were a savage crew, who had no feeling of pity or mercy in their hearts and would have sacrificed even those they loved most dearly to the cause which they had espoused. They cooperated actively with the commune, deluging what public buildings they could with petroleum and then setting light to them, and most of the fires that broke out in Paris on the entry of the troops originated through their action."

His Chance to Vote. The chronicles of our vice presidents are notoriously barren of incident. This probably was the reason for the way Adlai Stevenson secured the exercise of a constitutional prerogative. It was one sleepy day toward the end of the term as vice president. The United States senate was plowing through the calendar and passing many bills. Bills are considered agreed to in the senate if no oral objection is raised after they have passed through the preliminary stages, but the usual form of asking for the yeas and nays is followed by the presiding officer. The vice president had said. "Senators in favor of the bill will say 'Aye.'" Pause. "Contrary, No." Not a single response. "The vote is a tie," announced Mr. Stevenson.

Two Dimensional Vision. Most people do not know that they ought to be very thankful for having both eyes in one plane instead of having them one on each side of the head. If the latter obtained no one could tell that an object had more than two dimensions until experience and the sense of touch educated the brain to it. Any one can try it for himself. Shut one eye and look at different objects. They appear flat. With binocular vision two views of each object are obtained and neither is exactly like the other, so the idea of depth comes in. The most easily shown example of the difference is as follows: Take a ring and hold it about two feet from the eye. With one eye closed it will take at least five trials to thrust a pencil through the ring, whereas with both eyes open it can be done on the first trial. All animals with eyes on opposite sides of the head labor under this disadvantage as do all insects. It is called two dimensional vision, as the idea of depth is not possible. All this is an account of the image thrown on the retina of the eye being in only two dimensions Philadelphia Press.

The Gullible Public. Two boulevardiers of Paris tell how they proved the gullibility of the public. They bet a friend 1,000 francs that by inserting three advertisements of three lines each in papers in the course of a week they would receive 500 francs without giving any explanation or making any promise to the senders. On a Sunday the following advertisement appeared: "Intelligent persons will send 5 francs to such an address." On the Wednesday the insertion ran: "Last possible day is Sunday. Send your 5 francs then, or refusal." The third on the following Saturday was: "All 5 francs posted after tomorrow will be unacceptably refused." By the Sunday morning seventy-seven postal orders for 4 shillings each had come in, and the next morning eighty-two more arrived. The gullible public had sent in over 500 francs. But 765 francs in a week having proved their point and won their bet, the two boulevardiers naturally returned the postal orders to the ingenious senders.

Political Passions of 1844. There were elements of picturesque and drama in the politics of the times and those who are lacking in the knowledge of history can find in her autobiography of a Whig rally which makes the political meetings of today seem tame, cut and dried affairs. It was in 1844, the year of Clay's defeat, and feeling ran high. At that particular time John Tyler was perhaps the most unpopular man in the Union. In the progress of his review of national affairs the orator at last came to the hated name. Instantly arose the majestic figure of Captain Cook, the local eccentric, clad in the scarlet English hunting coat he invariably wore. "The Lord have mercy upon the nation!" he cried, his voice solemn with wrath and sonority with the mint juleps for which the Bell was noted. "Fellow citizens, I always cry to high heaven for mercy upon this country when John Tyler's name is mentioned!"

Lured Into Bathing. In a railway carriage that the other day a London medical man told a good story which had come within his own experience. A mother was frequently bringing her child to him for treatment, but the doctor could discover nothing amiss except the need of a good wash. She was certain the infant was suffering from some terrible complaint and begged the doctor to do his best. He prescribed a daily wash with the water in which potatoes had been peeled. Never suspecting that this was merely a ruse to get the child washed, the mother followed the instructions to the letter. Roy cheeks appeared, and a clean, healthy looking child gladdened the mother's heart. She sounded the doctor's praises everywhere and advised other mothers to test the efficacy of potato water. It never occurred to her that precisely the same result would have followed the daily application of soap and water.

Cutting Off Noses. Ramezes II of Egypt cut off the nose of any person convicted of treason or arson. A famous Egyptian ruler punished offenders in the same way. After each nose had been amputated, he laid the nose in a mortar and added back even with the bridge the culprit was sent to a colony of noxious felons, the place of banishment being known as the phibacium, from the nature of the punishment its colonists had undergone. In England in 1671 Lord Coventry, then "great keeper of the British seal," had his nose cut off by order of the king because he had dared to ask some questions about an actress then playing at Drury Lane theater. A conscript who protested openly that he had been enrolled in the army of Frederick the Great in a fraudulent manner had his nose amputated by order of that sovereign, who spoke of the punishment as an "indelible mark on the front side of the face."

The "Sun Drawing Water." The phenomenon commonly known as the "sun drawing water" is due to rays of sunlight between the shadows of clouds. It is seen to best advantage when the atmosphere is somewhat hazy and when the sun is wholly or partly behind a cloud and is not in the higher part of the sky. Patchy stratocumulus clouds are most favorable for the formation of these rays, and they are probably most distinct when seen in the part of the sky below the sun, when they appear to extend either directly or somewhat obliquely downward. It is in this form that the effect is most commonly called the "sun drawing water." But such rays may extend in any direction, so that they diverge from the sun as a center. No rain need be falling anywhere near the observer, though it is not impossible for the rays to be visible at a time when rain streaks also are visible in part of the sky. The rain streaks, however, do not diverge from the sun, but are in lines of the falling rain - St. Nicholas.

Woodcarvers of Burma. The woodcarvers of Burma are the most skilled in the world. They select and cut out the best logs along the Irrawaddy river in the dry season, and these are thrown into the shrunken stream. There they lie until the freshets of the rainy season lift them and bear them down to the populous cities below. Then huge elephants are employed to drag the heavy logs from the stream and take them to the saw mills. They are then worked up into timbers suitable for the woodcarvers. The carvers use the figure of Buddha or some other emblem concerning the Buddhist worship in the greater work. The details are worked out in a careful way. Stems of boats are carved in an elaborate manner, and some of them would be worth a fortune in this country. The prow of the boat is usually ornamented with a figurehead of very elaborate carving. The art of wood carving is handed down in the families to Burma, the children being taught by their fathers - Wichita Eagle.

English of Long Ago. The king's English has changed as kings have come and gone, says the St. James Gazette. Here is a passage from the record of a crowning of long ago. "The cardinal, as Archbishop of Canterbury, showing the king to the people at the Hii parties of the said pitipitt, shall say in this wise, 'Sirs, I here present Henry (true) and rightful and undoubted heir of the laws of God and man to the coronure and rolli dignity of England, whilom hereunto crowned and appointed by all three estates of the land to tak upon him the said coronure and rolli dignity, whereupon you shall understand that this day is prefixed and appointed by all the piens of this land for the consecration enervation and coronacion of the said most excellent Prince Henry, willy ye stre at this tyme give your willies and assentes to the same consecration, enervation and coronacion? Whereupon the people shall saie, with a greete voice, 'Ye, Ye. So be hit King Henry' King Henry'." Washing the Mayor. A mayor particularly an English mayor is traditionally a man of weight and substance but there is only one municipality that insists that his honor get on the public scales and prove it. Of the thousands of quaint and curious customs surviving in "the old country" this is perhaps one of the most odd. The mayor of High Wycombe has to be weighed on Nov. 9 of each year. Inauguration day, and this custom has been observed for about six centuries. The mayor elect walks at the head of a procession consisting of the sun-burnt, the handle and the mare bearer. He is clad in cocked hat, silk stockings blue coat, and knee breeches. Upon marching the scales the mayor is placed upon the scales by the head constable, and a record of his avoirdupois is solemnly made in a book kept for this purpose. Harper's Weekly.

Distilled Gold. The investigations of a French chemist show that gold in the electric furnace boils freely at a temperature of 2,400 degrees C. In two or three minutes, it is said, from 100 to 150 grams of gold pass into the state of vapor. In condensing upon a cold body this golden vapor forms filiform masses and cubic crystals. At its temperature of ebullition gold dissolves a little carbon, which at the time of solidification is deposited in the form of graphite. In an alloy of gold and copper, copper distils first. In an alloy of gold and tin, the tin distills more abundantly than the gold, and when a large quantity of these metallic vapors is taken the tin burns in contact with the oxygen of the air, forming oxide of tin, colored purple by a fine dust of condensed gold. This is one method of preparing the color known as "purple of Cassius." - Harper's Weekly.

A Spanish Ship Treasure. In 1702 the largest bulk of treasure ever taken from a ship at sea was brought into London. It was the whole of the cargo of the Spanish ship Herminone, captured on May 21 by H. M. S. Active. The Herminone surrendered to the Active without an action, and the treasure was landed at Portsmouth and conveyed to London in twenty decorated wagons, with British colors over Spanish and an escort party of sailors. The strange procession reached London on Aug. 12, the day on which George IV was born. On being sold the treasure realized £319,708 in gold and the share of the officers and men of the Active was as follows. The captain, £65,033 18s. 6d. three com missioned officers, each £13,004 14s. 1d., eight warrant officers, each £4,336 2s. 2d., twenty petty officers, each £1,808 18s. 6d., 158 seamen, each £485 5s. 4d. Pall Mall Gazette.

The Amear Was Through. There were some interesting episodes in the life of Sir Charles Euan Smith. Once in the market place of an Af ghanistan town he was fired at by a native. He lodged a complaint with the ameer, who appeared to take no notice of the incident merely remarking, "That's all right." Sir Charles complained again and met with the same reply. He thought that the ameer was treating a serious matter with less consideration than it deserved, but he thought it advisable to do more on the subject. About a week afterward he was invited by the ameer to ride with him to some distance outside the town and the ameer invited after dinner. At length Sir Charles said, "Your highness has been busy of late. Oh, no, replied the ameer, they are your little lot." He had seized all the members of the would be assassin's family and hanged every one of them.

The Scleroscope. This little American invention has been described as a kind of mechanical finger intended to discriminate by delicacy of touch between various substances submitted to it. The ready detection of the degree of hardness and elasticity of various surfaces is its special function. It consists essentially of a light weight, like the hammer of a pile driver, which is allowed to fall inside a tube placed upright on the surface to be tested. The bottom of the hammer, which weighs only a few grams, is finished with a blunt diamond, intended to give it the requisite hardness. After a fall it rebounds and a carefully graduated scale on the tube, indicating the height of the rebound, shows the degree of hardness of the surface experimented with. On a piece of ordinary steel the hammer rebounds nine-tenths of the height of its fall - Youth's Companion.

Trial of a Dead Man. Christopher Hare's book on "Charles de Bourbon, High Constable of France," mentions the strange trial which succeeded the close of that turbulent career. He had died in conflict of the soldiers who sacked for this crime it was necessary to find a scape goat, so on July 25, 1527, in the presence of King Francois I, on his seat of justice assisted by the peers of France and the assembled chambers, Jean de Suris, first usher of the court, called Charles de Bourbon three times - at the bar of the parliament, at the marble table and at the marble seat, and then reported that the said de Bourbon had not appeared. The sentence was drawn up, then solemnly read out. The comestable de France, dead, was condemned, his goods returned to the crown, and the door of his palace by the Louvre was painted yellow.

The Brain is Very Adaptable. Each location makes a different call upon the brain and develops facilities and qualities peculiar to itself, so that as the various professions, trades and specialties multiply the brain takes on greater variety and strength to civilization as a mass, says Orison Sweet Marden in Success Magazine. When the world was young the brain of man was very primitive, because the demand upon it was largely for self protection and the acquisition of food, which called only for the development of its lower its animal part. As civilization advanced, however, there was a higher call upon the brain and a more varied development until today, in the highest civilization, it has become exceedingly complex.

Japanese Children. The Japanese child is exceedingly shy and retiring before its elders, and girls are taught to practice this more than boys. In the morning as soon as they are up the children go to their parents in turn, bow their heads to the ground and say "Good morning" or "How is your honorable health?" Before a meal they lift the chopsticks to their foreheads and bow in thanks, whether their parents are present or not, for the meal set before them. Before going out to school or elsewhere and on returning they must kneel before the mother and bow. When father or mother go out the children must go to the porch, kneel down and say "Deign to go forth" or "Honorable return," as the case may be. As soon as infants can bow their heads, the nurses train them in these respectful salutations. - Exchange.

Jury Penalties. Nowadays no penalty is enforced when the twelve men chosen to form the jury are unable to agree upon a verdict. Formerly, however, a refractory jurymen was committed to prison and the verdict of the eleven jurors was taken. In the reign of King Edward III the judges decided that a verdict given by a majority was to be nullity and recommended that the judges should carry the jury about with them in a cart till they should agree. The old custom that jurors should fast until they had agreed in their verdict prevailed long, but was mercifully relaxed somewhat in Tudor times, and during Queen Elizabeth's reign a banquet was usually given to the jury by the successful party to a suit. - St. Paul Pioneer Press.

To Husband and Wife. Preserve sacredly the privacy of your own home, your married state and your own heart. Let no father or mother or sister or brother ever presume to come between you or share the joys or sorrows that belong to you two alone. With mutual help build your quiet world, not allowing your dearest earthly friends to be the confidants of what concerns your domestic peace. Let moments of alienation, if they occur, be healed at once. Never, never, speak of it outside but to each other and confess and all will come right. Never let the tomorrow's sin still find you at variance. Renew and renew your vow. It will do you good, and thereby your minds will grow together contented in that love which is stronger than death, and you will be truly one. - National Magazine.

The Tale of a Key. There is a roll top desk in an office near Wall street which can be bought cheap. The owner is a commuter and has desk room in a large office. He came late the other day and discovered that he had forgotten his keys. No key at hand would unlock the desk. The maker could not give aid for an hour or more, and some papers had to be reached before noon. The desk was forcibly opened, and two inner compartments were smashed. Warm and tired from the exertion of wrecking his property, the man took off his coat and slipped into an office coat, in the pocket of which his keys jingled. Tableau! Before going home he confided to the office boy that he wouldn't care if he hadn't told. - New York Tribune.

Arctic Rock Weed. Drifting down from Alaska comes the greatest of all sea plants, the arctic rock weed, that grows in shape like a huge ship's banner and sometimes with branches 500 feet long. There are no signs of leaves, but at intervals of a fathom or so a knob, for all the world like the buoy on a drift net, grows around the stem, aiding, as does the buoy, in keeping the plant afloat and creating the impression that some nets have gone astray. - New York World.

Only Two Kinds. Little Lawrence's grandfather was very ill, and a trained nurse had been employed to care for him. When he became convalescent a young woman who had studied in a hospital for a short time was secured in her place. A sympathetic neighbor meeting Lawrence, the following conversation took place: "How is your dear grandpa this morning, Lawrence?" "He is better." "Have you the trained nurse still?" "No; the trained nurse has gone away, and the one we have now is half trained and half wild." - Woman's Home Companion.

The Effects. "I have come to you, my friend, for comfort. My best girl has treated me very badly. I was trying to explain something to her, but she gave me such sharp looks they cut me to the heart; she withered me with her scorn, crushed me with her coldness and stabbed me with her keen, edged tongue." "See here, man, you oughtn't to come to me for comfort. What you need is to go to a hospital for treatment." - Baltimore American.

Circumventing Papa. "Reginald, I'm awfully sorry, but papa says he doesn't want to see you coming here any more." "Bodacious, your father's wish is law. He shall not see me again if I can help it. What evenings in the week does he spend downtown?" - Chicago Tribune.

Entirely Apt. At first glance the novel's title, "The Rainbow," seemed to be lacking in significance, but as it afterward developed that the hero blushed crimson, was blue with the cold, had his lips grow gray, was seized by a black rage, fell into a brown study, grew green with envy, purple with indignation, livid with fear, yellow with chagrin and scarlet with embarrassment, the title proved to be entirely apt. - Puck.

Next Best Thing. "Say, Mayme, did you ever have any turtle soup?" asked a rawboned youth of the girl beside him. "No," admitted the maiden; "but," added she with the conscious dignity of one who has not been lacking in social experience, "I've been where it was." - Lippincott's.

Method in Her Breakage. "Augusta is an awfully bright girl, isn't she?" "Yes, indeed. When she is reading a novel on the front porch her mother never thinks of asking her to wash the dishes." "Why not?" "She's sure to break so many of them." - Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Trouble Ahead. Young Elstanth (to wife) - Didn't I telegraph to you not to bring your mother with you? Young Wife - I know. That's what she wants to see you about. She read the telegram.

Consistent Mrs. Biggle. Della - Mrs. Biggle is passionately fond of cream, isn't she? Stella - Oh, my, yes! She's such a crank on cream she's going to have her husband cremated. - Boston Herald.

Force of Habit. "A thousand stars are looking down on you this night," said the poetical young man to the girl. And she unconsciously put her hands up to arrange the position of her hat.

Misnomers. "Why do you always put a pitcher of water and a glass on the table before an orator?" "That," said the chairman of many reception committees, "is to give him something to do in case he forgets his piece and has to stop and think." - Washington Star.

High Praise. Frost - Are the descriptions of scenery in Besteller's novel good? Snow - Great. The best I ever skipped. - Harper's Bazar.

Force of Association. "How frigid that girl's manner is!" "No wonder. She is the daughter of a millionaire ice-man." - Baltimore American.

Hotel Was Crowded. "If you remember I slept in this hotel last night on a pool table." "I remember," said the clerk. "Well, did you find a set of false teeth in the corner pocket?" - Pittsburg Post.

Certainly Helpful. Optimist - Ah! It is cherishing our illusions that keeps us young. Pessimist - Yes, but only if we cling to the illusion that we are still young.

Made It Clear. Now, Clarice, says the Boston Globe don't get these things twisted: You don't bivalves, see through binoculars ride bicycles, which you had bivalves and merry bikes.

Quit Strong. Grocer - Good morning, Mr. Poppie. How are those eggs I sent you? Poppie - Better, thank you. They are gaining strength every minute.

Force of Association. "To ease another's heartache is to forget one's own." - Abraham Lincoln.

Demonstrative. Old Lady (speaking of her late husband) - I remind the last time we was together, and he turns round and sees me hidlike, "Come along, old struggle with!" he says. - London Tribune.

Woman's Home Companion. Purposelessness is the fruitful mother of crime. - Parisian.