

GIGANTIC SEA WAVES.

Force of Those Raised by Earthquakes or Violent Storms.

The term tidal wave is erroneously applied to almost any unexpected wave that inundates the seacoast or the shore of a great lake.

When an earthquake occurs beneath the sea the vertical movements of the sea bed generate a great wave, which is propagated outward from the center of the shock and reaches the land after the arrival of the earth wave.

STAGE-GHOSTS.

Keen's Contrivance to Make the Shade of Banquo Realistic.

I think it was Charles Keen who first resorted to illusion to make a stage ghost a little transparent, says a writer in London Hit Bits.

Later on, when Mrs. Ann Radcliffe's "Romance of the Forest" was staged at Covent Garden, the actor, responsible for the production arranged that the specter in the piece should be seen by the audience through a gauze of bluish gray color.

When the old playhouse in Drury Lane opened in 1744 with a performance of "Macbeth," Banquo's ghost was omitted. Although Mr. Keen's acting was fine enough to make the audience almost believe that they really did see the ghost, yet the people were not satisfied until the system they had been used to was readopted and Banquo's shade allowed to trail hoefully across the boards.

Reflecting mirrors and the cinematograph are coming in general use at the theaters and with them it has been found possible to manufacture ghosts capable of striking terror into the hearts of all followers of the occult.

Rudeness About Doors. Never mind if you do not happen to know the person who is coming to knock on your door.

At a club meeting held in a public house in a small village a discussion took place as to whether a hard or soft voice would best the longer.

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TOLESTOY'S HANDWRITING.

In the Revue de Paris Count Elie Tolstoy describes his mother's expectations as his father's amanuensis.

"Being very short-sighted, my mother had to bring her eyes close to the paper to decipher my father's frightful scrawl. The work often took her the whole evening and kept her busy until long after the rest of the household had gone to bed.

Elephant Skin. Elephant skin is very beautiful. Moreover it is durable. But it is hard to get.

Reading For Boys. Our young barbarians are primitive beings. Life is to them a picture of the actor of physical activities.

NOT MADE BY SPOOKS. House Noises at Night That Sound Like Ghostly Footfalls.

In old houses the boards and joists forming the floors are often in some way unstable.

Didn't Need the Hoe. Some time ago a hobo meekly tapped on the back door of a suburban home and asked for something to eat.

Pump Anchors. A pump is a queer sort of anchor, but it has been found to be the best kind of an anchor for a sandy bottom.

What is Instinct? Instinct is a generic term comprising all those faculties of mind which lead to the conscious performance of actions that are adaptive in character.

Entirely Out of Place. What a lovely day! Did you take your umbrella with you?

Easy to Talk Back Now. "I'll be that in days a few years ago did not talk back to their wives in the fashion that they do now."

Same Weakness. "How do you like your new teacher, Tommy?" asked a visitor.

Capitol. "Let me illustrate the difference between capital and labor," said the rich man to the laborer.

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FAMOUS DIAMONDS.

The Cullinan is the Rough Weighted One and One-third Pounds.

Until 1905 the largest diamond known was the Excelsior, found in 1868 at Jagersfontein by a native while loading a truck.

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SO EASY.

"While I was in Berlin last summer," said the globe trotter, "I stopped with an artist friend for the season.

"Oh, Mr. Jones, I never even imagined that drawing was so easy!" "Which reminds me of a story they tell of Joachim, the famous violinist."

Queer People of Papua. In the Girra country, Papua, a district of New Guinea, where the country is almost entirely submerged, the natives are said to claim descent from the dog.

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EXTREMES IN DAYLIGHT.

There is, in Reality, No One Longer or Shortest Day.

It is usual to regard Dec. 21 as being the shortest day in the year and Jun. 21 as the longest. But this impression is like so many others that are ingrained in the popular mind, is not a strictly accurate one.

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WHO WAS DUFFYDOWNDILLY?

Mother Goose, like all world poets, never told half the story.

"You are wandering along here in the rain just as if it was fine weather. You will catch your death of cold. Why don't you carry an umbrella?"

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FEATHERED SCAVENGERS.

Crows as Track Cleaners and Gulls as Government Workers.

As unique a crew of track cleaners and police as could be found anywhere is enlisted in the service of the Southern Pacific railroad.

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