

The dictograph has promoted even...
Good intentions keep a lot of fellows on the verge of doing something.

One good thing about work is that it keeps some people out of mischief.

We should all forgive and forget, but it's so hard to do two things at once.

Lucky is the man who can stand his experience at the rate he paid for it.

The firmest believer in heredity is the father of an abnormally bright boy.

Greatest of all conservation movements is that to conserve the babies of the poor.

The man who is governed by his conscience very seldom has to employ a lawyer.

The Sleepy Egyptian. Egyptians can lie down and go to sleep anywhere. They look around until they find a particularly busy place in the street where there is a patch of shade, wrap a dusty cloth around their faces, curl up and peacefully glide into a dreamless sleep.

As he did not seem to have anything to sketch or make notes on, I took out my notebook and offered it to him.

"No, no; be quiet," he said, and after a long pause he turned and walked back a few yards; then, with his back to the scene, he said:

"Now, see if I have learned it," and then he gave a description of the scene, perfect in every detail of arrangement and color, as he might have repeated a poem he had learned by heart.

"Then we went on, and soon there came another picture that appeared to me even more than the former. I tried to call his attention to it, but he would not look at it.

"No, no," he said; "one thing at a time."

In a few days I was at the studio again, and there on the easel was the picture.

It was a Good Scheme, but She Thought It Was Gony Too Far. It was an extraordinary notice: "Eloquently Typewriting Institution—Anybody wishing typewriting done, but having no money to pay for same, will be accommodated in this office between the hours of 8 and 10 p. m."

A young woman was tacking the sign on the office door when the man in a plain suit stopped.

"Who is the public benefactor?" he asked.

"Me," she said. "I thought I might as well advertise and save my employer's friends the trouble of hunting me up. They always have something for me to do. Even on days when I am so busy that I hardly have time to breathe they come in with rolls of manuscript and ask the manager if I have time to copy it. Sometimes that makes the manager squirm."

"Are you quite busy, Miss Jones?" he asks. "Quite. I say. Then the manager thinks. But he always gives in. 'Oh, well,' he says, 'I guess that isn't very important. Just let it go and copy this for me.' So I copy it, and Mr. — says, 'Thanks; you are very kind.' He never thinks of paying. It is the easiest way in the world to get typewriting done. I was afraid there might be a few men who had never heard of the scheme, so I have put this sign out for their benefit."—New York Post.

Catching a Thief. In Dowbury several years ago a gentleman present at a public gathering had the misfortune to have his watch stolen, a magnificent gold repeater. Standing up, he announced his loss and added: "It is now two minutes to 11. At 9 o'clock the watch will strike the hour, and as it is loud I ask every one to keep quiet. We shall then be able to put our hands on the thief." A dead silence ensued, and one individual, seized with a bad fit of coughing, endeavored to leave the room. He was promptly accosted, searched and the missing property found in his pocket. It afterward transpired that the watch would not have struck, as it was out of order.—London Express.

A Thorough Case. Every schoolroom is supposed to have its romancer, or hoaster. There was a mild epidemic of mumps in an uptown school not long ago, and a teacher asked the pupils in her room how many remembered having the disease.

A few remembered it, but most of them had never heard of it. Then the romancer attracted the teachers' attention.

"I get the mumps, teacher," he smilingly said. "I get it around my face so. And I get one by each eye—and one under my neck."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Crude Petroleum. Roumania holds the honor for the earliest production of crude petroleum, having put it on the market in 1857. Two years later the United States produced its first petroleum, 2,000 gallons. Italy was a producer the following year, and Canada, within twelve months, entered the field. Russia quickly followed, and for years these countries were the sole producers. Russia is now second only to this country.

Hawaii's Crater Lake. Waialeale, on Green Lake, on the island of Hawaii, is a body of fresh water in the pit of an old crater near Kapoho. This lake covers an area of about five acres and is fed by springs below the surface. A pumping plant takes water from this lake for domestic use and for irrigation purposes.

Whales. The whale is not a fish. In everything which characterizes a true fish and separates it from other classes, as reptiles, birds and mammals, the whale resembles the last named (the mammals) and differs radically and fundamentally from the fish.—New York American.

Tree Leaf Markings. Expert botanists have found that the age of trees can be told by the leaf markings—the older a tree the smaller and more numerous its leaf cells.

One third of experience is worth a whole wilderness of warning.—Lowell

WHISTLER'S CLEVERNESS.

The Artist Could Fix in His Mind Any Effect in Nature. It was Whistler's habit to memorize an effect in nature, and Mr. T. H. Way, in his "Memoirs," gives an example of his cleverness at it.

I shall never forget a lesson he gave me one evening. We had left the studio when it was quite dusk and were walking along the road by the gardens of the Chelsea hospital, when he pointed to a group of buildings in the distance, an old public house at the corner of the road, with windows and shops showing golden lights through the gathering mists of twilight.

"Look," he said.

As he did not seem to have anything to sketch or make notes on, I took out my notebook and offered it to him.

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Wireless in the Amazon Region.

In the Juamara region of the Amazon the natives use a crude system of wireless telegraphy, which, it is claimed, has been in operation for thousands of years. The transmitter found by an explorer was a hollowed trunk of a tree suspended from a horizontal pole stretched between two stumps. Inside the transmitter had been arranged much like a violin, and it was explained that when the instrument was struck smartly with a small rubber hammer a vibration was created that carried for miles over the hills. The receiver is very similar to the transmitter, except that it is placed on a hardwood platform, the base of the hollowed tree trunk being grounded on the platform. When the message is struck in the neighboring village, sometimes thirty miles away, this receiver catches the vibrations, causing a jerky, singing sound. The sound system, it is said, can be read by the members of the tribe, and in this way news of victories and other happenings are told throughout the countryside.—Argonaut.

Washing Day in Sicily. The Sicilians have the reputation of not washing themselves overfrequently, but if they are remiss in this respect they more than make up for it by washing their garments—washing, in fact, being a perennial occupation among the women. The songs of the women folk as they scrub the clothes of their husbands and children outside the doors of their homes, if living in a city, or in some brook or running stream, if living in the country, are a noticeable feature of lower class Sicilian life.

The long spikes on the prickly pear leaves and also plants make splendid natural pegs on which to dry the clothes, and in all the rural districts you will see them thus utilized, but if they do not happen to be sufficiently handy the clothes are often stretched out upon the mountain side to dry. The occupation and recreation of most of the poorer women may be summarized in three words—washing and gossip.—Wide World Magazine.

The Star Alcyons. The size of the star Alcyons and its distance from the sun are both unknown and, so far as can now be seen, must remain unknown. It has no parallel large enough to be measured by the most accurate modern micrometric methods.

That is, take a large telescope with you, go to Alcyone, turn, look back this way, then the entire diameter of the orbit of the earth around the sun, a huge ellipse, 188,785,000 miles in diameter. If a bright line in space so close could be seen, would appear to be so small that the telescope could not measure it. Not knowing the distance, the size cannot be known.

But, judging from its light when compared with that of other stars whose distances are fairly well known, it must be colossal—many times larger than our medium sized star, the sun.—New York American.

Art Criticism. It is related that almost the last work Sir Edwin Landseer was engaged on was a life-sized picture of Nelson passing through an archway on a white palfrey. This picture, in which the horse alone was finished, was bought by one of the Rothschild family and given to Sir John Lubbock to complete. One morning a celebrated art critic called on the painter and was much impressed by this work.

"Ah, to be sure," he said, going up close and examining a deer-head in the foreground of the picture. "How easily one can recognize Landseer's dogs! Wonderful, isn't it?" "Yes," he is wonderful," said Sir John, lighting his pipe. "I finished painting that dog yesterday morning and here you are this morning!"

German Army Shoes. Leather used for German army shoes is the result of many tests. It is rather dry compared with American vegetable tanned leather. However, it is made dry so that the oxidizing oils and fats will not rot the leather fiber during the many years that it may be held in storage. Every soldier when he gets his army shoes also gets a can of shoe dressing, with which he dresses his shoes. This keeps them pliable and water resisting. The boots are crimped. They have only two seams. They are practically water tight. The thread used for stitching them is hand-waxed. The absence of blackness of any nature tends to save the life of the boot. It rejects the sun's rays too.—Hill and Leather.

Argentina's Natural Bridge. In Argentina there is a natural bridge that is one of the most wonderful in the world. It spans the Rio Mendoza and is known as the Luna bridge. It is the work of nature and not as was once popularly supposed, of the Incas. The road on which it occurs was probably a highway made by the Peruvians. Incas, who took advantage of the phenomenon by leading their road over this natural bridge.

A Prosperous Scheme. "Doing any good?" "Yep. Got a business man's athletic class. Tuition, \$5 a year."

"Well, those rates are attractive, but too low to pay you."

"You don't get the idea. They all drop out in about two weeks. Then I start another class."—Judge.

Much Traveled. First Tourist—Did you ever see the Catskill mountains? Second Tourist—No, never, but I have seen them kill mice.

Vacuity dies hard. In some obstinate cases it outlives the man.—Stevenson.

DIGGING A POST HOLE.

He Worked Faithfully and Cheerfully, but Lacked One Essential. He was a vigorous worker, and he was digging a post hole in the bed of a river. A post was to be placed in it as part of the extension of a wharf.

He worked hard and got rapidly deeper and deeper.

He struck stones, but he reached down and pried them up.

He got thoroughly soaked, but he grinned cheerfully.

He sang at his task and was an inspiration to all the other workmen.

Five o'clock came, but he faithfully finished his post hole, though it took him ten minutes longer. He was no time server.

Then he climbed, dripping, out on the bank and walked home, happy in the consciousness of good work accomplished.

But he did not put a post into the post hole, and when he came back the next morning he found the hole filled again with mud and completely obliterated.

However, he cheerfully went to work again, singing as he labored, and dug the hole once more.

And the company paid the bill.

Moral.—Cheerfulness in good, zeal is better, but a bit of brain is best of all.—Christian Endeavor World.

SECRET OF SUCCESS.

Be Efficient and Do Things That Other People Do Not Do. A man has a weary time awaiting to rise in the world by force of sympathy, by getting somebody else to pull him along. You see such people standing around expecting compassion and a lift from some one who have succeeded.

But this is not the way success is attained. That comes by working for it, by being worthy of it, by doing one's best, if it comes at all. The world is full of failures because a man hangs back and depends upon others.

Efficiency is the greatest word in the language. There is no real progress without it. And what does efficiency consist of? Of sobriety, honesty, diligence, patience, happiness, unselfishness, good habits and putting in full time.

Of course a man can get rich by not caring for these. He can gamble, steal, defraud, pad payrolls and expense bills, borrow money and never pay, but such riches don't last. They drop a man pretty hard finally.

The only way is to start out in the world and do one's best without waiting to see what others do. As Steinmetz, the master electrician, said, "To earn \$100,000 a year do things other people don't do."—Ohio State Journal.

Vegetables and Diseases. Many strange and exaggerated accounts have been given of terrible diseases in human beings, lower animals and plants as a result of volcanic activity. In a prize essay by Dr. H. J. Johnston Lewis it is shown that there is no direct connection with disease, but that volcanic outbursts may indirectly cause or increase epidemic disease in several ways. The poisonous fumes may have irritating and depressing effects on the eyes and throat. The disturbance of water courses may bring about the infection of wells and surface supplies with sewage, and in interference with ventilation of houses may result from the accumulation of ejected materials. The moral depression from fear with hunger from the cutting off of food supplies may have the effect of lessening the resistance of the organization to infection.—Exchange.

Keeping His Secret. When Lord Wellington was commander of an army in India a certain rich man offered him \$50,000 for some secret information on a very important question. Wellington looked thoughtful a few moments, as if he were weighing the temptation. At length he said:

"It appears that you can keep a secret, sir."

"Certainly," said the man, feeling sure that he had gained his point.

"So can I," said Wellington. "Good morning, sir." And the man went away with a crestfallen air.

Foresight Defined. The children had read the word foresight in the reader, and the teacher was endeavoring to make it plain.

"Foresight," she said, "is looking ahead. Now, Freddie, you give me an example of foresight if you can."

"Well, foresight would be not to eat too much breakfast when you knew you were going out into the country to your grandmother's for dinner," explained the boy.—Indianapolis News.

Tipping in Austria.

"You know the value of tips in the United States," writes a man from Prague, who visited this country for the first time two years ago, "and you are more liberal than we are in that respect, but such a thing as tipping a railway conductor is not known to the tourist in America. Here in Austria the custom is so well established that the refusal of a conductor on a Buchsbruck train to accept a thoughtful passenger who had been allowed to ride alone in a compartment has caused unusual comment. The title 'White Raven' was conferred on the conductor, who emphasized his displeasure at being tempted by having the passenger summoned before a magistrate on the charge of attempted bribery. Do not let that trouble you, however, when you come here, because the tipping malefactor was discharged, and the magistrate's contemptuous look at the conductor indicated that his opinion of a man who would not take a tip was unfit for publication."—New York Tribune.

Boiled meat may lose some of its best foodstuff properties if too much water is used in its boiling or if it is taken from the water in which it is boiling, instead of allowing it to remain and re-cover by absorption some of its valuable properties. Eight pounds of beef after it is boiled will weigh six and a half pounds. After it is baked it will lose two pounds and six ounces. After it is roasted it will lose three pounds and ten ounces. Other meats lose almost in the same proportions when it is cooked. It will be noticed that roasting meat causes it to decrease considerably more than boiling. One great trouble, of course, in boiling meat is that it loses nearly 45 per cent of its mineral matter and 12 per cent of its fats and nearly 8 per cent of its proteins. Housewives should not worry over this, however, when it is known that there is a great percentage of nutriment in cooked meats, notwithstanding the loss by cooking, than there is in raw meats.—New York American.

Satisfied His Curiosity. Bayard Taylor's widest fame was won as a traveler and a lecturer on his travels. He prided himself on his poetry more than on his prose. One can imagine therefore the sort of grim amusement he felt in telling this story—and he often told it to his friends.

"I had delivered a lecture in a rural town out west, and several of my auditors were accusing me with expressions of their satisfaction. One person in particular was especially eager, saying: 'I am delighted, Mr. Taylor, to make your acquaintance. I have read everything you have ever written and have greatly enjoyed it all.' This was pleasant to hear, and, as he grasped my hand with evident friendship, I responded with a request for his opinion of my poetry. A look of overwhelming astonishment and perplexity came into his face. 'Your poetry?' he exclaimed. 'Have you ever written any poetry?' This, I need not tell you, fully satisfied my curiosity."—Chicago Record Herald.

OLD CUSTOMS THAT STICK. Blotting Sand in the Senate and Quill Pens in the Supreme Court. Oddly enough, though blotting paper has elsewhere displaced all other forms of drying ink and is extensively used in the senate by the senators as they write on their desks, the blotting paper being attached to a device with a handle to it and hung by a string from the desk, the old type of drying ink by means of sand still is resorted to, such as care to use it.

The desk of every senator has a sand-duster or pounce box, resting in a hole in the top of the desk, looking like an inkwell. The box resembles a pepper shaker, and they are used, for many of the old senators prefer to pour sand on their ink rather than blot it.

The supreme court also holds fast to some practices almost out of use today. In front of the rostrum on which the justices sit and in the space reserved for members of the bar are two long tables for the books and the sheepskins of the lawyers which may be needed by them as they present their cases to the court. On the tables are steel pens, blotters and bottles of ink, but also to be had is a collection of newly cut quill pens, fashioned by one of the attendants of the court, and they are used, for many of the older practitioners prefer them to the steel pens of this day.—Washington Post, Boston Advertiser.

It's a good idea to make an orator of every child, but it's a better idea to give him ideas to talk about.

'Twould take the average man about three days to do all the things he expects to accomplish tomorrow.

The fool smooths his neighbor's hens from his back yard, but the wise man flays up a snug place for them to lay in.

The kind of fellow who is too superstitious to take a job on Friday is never too superstitious to accept a loan on that day.

Here. "I suppose that you and your wife are two sons with but a single thought."

"That's about the situation, but about half the time she will not tell me what that thought is."—Philadelphia Record.

Big Page. Stout Wife—How do you like my masquerade costume? I'm a page. Husband—Page? You look more like a volcano.—Princeton Tiger.

In conversation confidence has a greater share than wit.—Rochefoucauld.

Linguistic Whimsicalities.

The following are a few linguistic whimsicalities: The Germans call a dimble a "finger hat," which it certainly is, and a grasshopper a "hay horse." A glove with them is a "hand shoe," showing evidently that they wear shoes before gloves. Poultry is "feather cattle," whilst the names of the well known substances oxygen and hydrogen are in their language "sour stuff" and "water stuff." The French, strange to say, have no verb "to stand," nor can a Frenchman speak of "kicking" any one. The nearest approach a Frenchman makes to it in his politeness is to threaten to "give a blow with his foot," the same to the reptile in either case, but it seems to want the directness, the energy, of our "kick." Neither has he any word for "baby" or for "home" or "comfort."

The terms "upstairs" and "downstairs" are also unknown in French. The Hindus are said to have no word for "friend." The Italians have no equivalent for "humility."—London Tatler.

Quers Resemblances. That persons who live together for a very long period not only acquire the same mannerisms, but grow a strong facial resemblance, is an established fact. But it is little known that the same condition often exists from mistress and servant being associated together for a long period of years. There is usually a strong desire on the part of most servants to ape their mistresses, and this, added to the fact of constant nearness, often extends to facial resemblances.

There are in a small town in New York state two unusual instances of this kind. Two widows live there, each of whom has been attended by a woman servant for more than forty years. In both cases the servants have become so like their mistresses that they are often mistaken for them, and their cases have attracted attention far and near. Their voices over the telephone are so alike that friends of the women have given up this method of communication.—New York Sun.

Words That Speak. Bang—"A sudden noise like that from a gun" is the definition given by the dictionary. But the explanation is befogging and futile, for a "bang" is, well, what better describes it than that simple word itself!

So many of our most expressive words seem similarly to have sprung from a desire to form with the lips a sound mimicking the thing described. Why waste words on a definition of the word "splash," for example? You hear all the abrupt, restless heaving of the waters in that one word.

And does even a baby need to be told what "buzz" means when a blue-bottle is leading a forlorn hope against the window?

"Tinkle," "whistle," "whine," "gurgle," "cackle," "icy"—these are only a few of our other eloquently descriptive words.—London Answers.

More than one chap that knocks no automobile would be a demon driver if he had the price.

When a woman is in love she acts like a fool, but when a man is in love it isn't altogether acting.

Ocean Ships Sow Seeds. During the last few years botanists have noticed that there has been a great leveling up of plants on the inaccessible islands scattered over the Pacific. The vegetation of two islands 1,000 miles apart is as likely as not to be exactly the same, while formerly there used to be marked difference. The reason is said to be the steamship. The Pacific is now covered with a network of steamer routes. At each port the wind pours a fine powder of almost invisible seeds over each ship and blows ashore some of those seeds received at previous ports of call. Thus ships are, without knowing it, altering the vegetation of the Pacific islands. Trains sow seeds too. At any rate, that is the explanation offered by botanists for the way in which the middle west is growing plants that once belonged to the Atlantic coast. Even the barren eastern slopes of the Rockies are now growing trees that were never planted by the hand of man. The trains have done the sowing.—Stray Stories.

The British government and Mrs. Pankhurst might arrange for her to spend her week ends in jail and the rest of her time as she pleases, so that she can make her speaking engagements at the government's convenience.

Soon we shall not be able to have any kind of complaint to make interesting in our lives. A London doctor has discovered a remedy for love-sickness, which was unnecessary considering how many there are who like the disease.

It is estimated by dictionary makers that for the past three centuries the English language has been accumulating an average of four new words every day. Yet it is not capable of any more eloquence than when the accumulation began.

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