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Too Well Done. "Yes, dear," continued the newly-made husband as he gazed despondingly at the steak that was broiled almost to a crisp.

MYSTERY OF QUICKSAND.

The Real Reason For Its Treacherous Quality Is Hard to Find. Many inquirers hearing or reading of the dangerous and mysterious qualities of quicksands have sought in vain to find the difference between these and ordinary expanses of sand.

It is thought by some that the difference between quicksand and other sand is accidental rather than fundamental. A certain amount of unnecessary mystery seems to surround this matter.

It must also be borne in mind that any surface in so good a contact with wet sand that the air is excluded will be held fast by atmospheric pressure, and, further, that an object so engulfed and tilted this way and that will rapidly become embedded and swallowed up.

It is by this simple process that the Goodwin sands have obtained so many victims. A large percentage of the vessels stranded upon them, however, float safely off on the rising tide, but now and then one is caught and doomed.

The Ground Around Notre Dame. The ancient and beautiful Cathedral of Notre Dame, in Paris, looks as if it had sunk in the ground. Other ancient churches give the same impression.

Antiquity of the Bee. The bee has been man's companion and friend from the very dawn of historic time. As far back as we can go we find the busy bee working for man's delight.

A-Line on Mother. "I don't see how I'm ever to get a chance again with this boy around," wailed the little widow with the small son.

Italy's Hot Springs. At Acqui, Italy, water from a natural hot spring is used to heat a large hospital. The building, formerly a school, has been piped, and the never failing supply of boiling water also furnishes all the water necessary for washing and cleaning purposes.

Why the Thread. Evanston--You've got a piece of thread about your thumb. Wilmette--Yes, wife put it there to remind me to mail her letter.

SEEING AMERICA AT LAST.

Try "Going Abroad at Home" and Learn to Know Your Country. I tried "going abroad at home" last summer. I found it well worth while and very rich in profitable returns of interest and picturesque views.

Another place holding a rich reward for those who turn aside from the beaten track to visit is Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson.

Travelers who have never traveled in the land which owes so much to Jefferson tell us that there is no variety in the United States—that one town is very like another—hopelessly American, monotonous, prosperous and hideously picturesque.

The world admits that our United States is rich in scenic splendor. Supreme among earth's spectacles of grandeur is the unspeakably sublime Grand Canyon of the Colorado.

The Loss of the Royal George. The post Cooper's story as set forth in the verses we all know on "The Loss of the Royal George" is fiction from beginning to end.

Japan's Devilfish. In Japan devilfish weighing up to 200 pounds are sometimes caught. These fish are amphibious. They are often seen wallowing on their tentacles, like giant spiders, in search of patches of sweet potatoes.

The Yellow Day. In 1881 in the northeastern United States a dry fog lasted from Sept. 1 to Sept. 10, culminating on Sept. 6 in the "yellow day." Its limits were determined as between 40 and 45 degrees of latitude and between 67 and 81 longitude.

Lost His Nerve. "Father, did Mr. Flubhub call on you today?" "Yes, my dear." "And did he have anything to say?" "Yes, he said it was lovely weather we've been having."

Handicapped. "I see old Van Gelf has given that worthless son-in-law of his a job in his office. What's the idea? The fellow certainly can't be of any use there."

THE SCOLD'S BRIDLE.

Brutal Punishment to Which Women Were Once Subjected. The brank or scold's bridle, or gossip's bridle, was neither more nor less than a muzzle. It was in general use in Great Britain from the sixteenth to the eighteenth century, and in Scotland as well.

With this cage upon her head and with the gag firmly pressed and locked against her tongue, the miserable creature, whose sole offense perhaps was that she raised her voice in defense of her social rights against a brutal and besotted husband or had spoken honest truth of some one high in office in her town, was paraded through the streets, led by a chain by the hand of a bellman, the bridle or the constable, or chained to the pillory, the whipping post or market cross, to be subjected to every conceivable insult and degradation, without even the power left her of asking for mercy or of promising amendment for the future.

And when the punishment was over she was turned out from the town hall or the place where the brutal punishment had been inflicted, maimed, disfigured, bleeding, faint and degraded, to be the subject of comment and jeering among her neighbors.

Some authors have been compelled to destroy their books in a singularly unpleasant fashion. When Bernard the Great, duke of Saxony, learned that he was criticized in some pamphlets he had the author arrested, and after putting him in the pillory for an hour with one of the objectionable works between his teeth made him chew it up and swallow it.

In 1668 Philipppus Oldenburger, a German jurist, published a description of his travels through Germany. A passage in this offended his hege lord, and Oldenburger was soundly flogged and then ordered to eat a copy of his book. It was only a duodecimo, but he found the task beyond his powers, and, after five years, pleaded successfully for a remission.

On one of the southern liners passing through the Bahama islands was a mother with her little daughter. When they came to the island of San Salvador, now more commonly known as Watling's light, the mother tried to explain to her child that San Salvador was the first place where Columbus landed after crossing the Atlantic in 1492.

An Obliging Model. A Wall street man was giving advice to young men. "Never undertake," he said, "to do too much. In applying for a position it is almost better to promise too little than too much. Remember the model." "An old chap, you know, applied to a New York artist for the post of model." "Well," said the artist, "what do you set for?" "Oh, anything, sir," said the model, fingering his beard nervously, "anything you like, sir—landscapes if necessary."

Galvani's Discovery. It is to the wife of Professor Galvani of Bologna that is due the credit of having discovered the electrical battery which bears his name. Some skinned frogs lay upon the table, and, noticing a convulsive movement in their limbs, she called her husband's attention to the strange fact, and he instituted a series of experiments, and in 1791 he laid the foundation of the galvanic battery.

Saloniki. For more than 2,500 years Saloniki has had a continuous history, though the city has not always been known by its present name. It was refounded and renamed by Alexander the Great in the year 315 B. C. It is said that Philip of Macedonia named his daughter Thessalonica because on the day he heard of her birth he won a victory over the Thracians.

OUR "CANDY NATION."

America is known the world over as "the candy nation," and, according to foreigners, the average American spends the day imbibing ice cream sodas and munching bonbons. But now medical science declares that this is the secret of the energy and strenuous life of the American and that the more strenuous he becomes the more sweets he will require; that actually 7,650,000,000 pounds of sugar that is consumed yearly in the United States might be increased to the improvement of the nation.

King Candy, science says, is an athletic trainer; a business partner that puts courage and energy into a man, a bold fighter of the demon rum and a heart specialist. The muscles of the body require sugar, and the more a man or a woman brings his or her muscles into play the more they demand sweets to stimulate them, and thus the craving for candy arises. The heart also requires sugar as a mild stimulant, since the heart is in reality a great muscle bag, and the man who has a big physical test of endurance before him is unconsciously warned of the need of extra sweets by a craving for candy or extra sugar in his coffee.

Thus the strenuous American craves and requires far more sweets than the less athletic or more phlegmatic men of other countries. The candy shop is also a rival to the saloon, for the man who munches on chocolates and takes an extra amount of sirup on his griddle cakes at breakfast has more muscular energy stored up than the man who does not. He therefore is not so easily tired, and the temptation that so often arises from weariness to "take one or two" is absent.

Her Mired Hair. In Washington the colored servants, as a rule, go to their own homes at night. The cook in the family of a clergyman not only does this, but of late has frequently arrived at the rectory too late to cook breakfast; hence her mistress told her that for each breakfast missed there would be a reduction in her weekly wages. Maria passively assented to this. The next day the mistress heard this conversation between the maid next door and the delinquent cook.

"Pears to me like you git to work mighty late." "I git to work when I git ready." "How does yo' manage about de breakfast?" "Oh, I pays de missus to cook de breakfast." "New York Times."

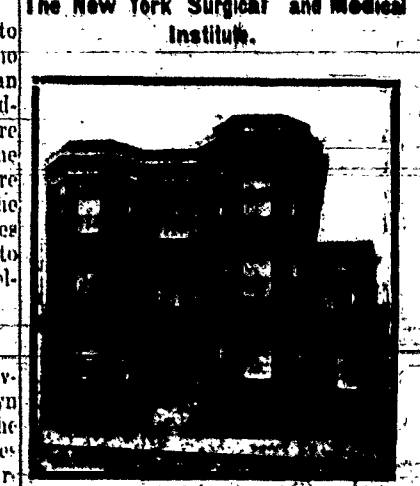
Not the Gardian Knot. "What is your name, sir?" "My name is Knott Martin, your honor." "Well, what is it?" "It is Knott Martin." "Not Martin again! We don't ask what your name is not, but what it is. No contempt of court, sir!" "If your honor will give me leave I'll spell my name." "Well, spell it." "K-n-o-double-t, Knott, M-a-r-t-i-n, Martin." "Oh, very well, Mr. Martin. We are through now, but it is one of the most knotty cases we have had before us for some time."

A Short Sermon. It is reported that a young man, being examined preparatory to joining the church, was asked, "Under whose preaching were you converted?" "Under nobody's preaching," was the prompt reply. "I was converted under my mother's practicing."

Gave Him Away Anyhow. Man of the House—Why did you tell my wife what time I came in this morning, after I expressly told you not to? The Cook—Shure, Oi didn't tell her. She asked me what time ye got in an' Oi told her Oi was so busy gettin' the breakfast that Oi didn't look at the clock.—Town Topics.



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