

HISTORIC WEAPONS.

Trophies Wreathed From the Crusaders Found in the Sudan.

Among the trophies of arms displayed on the walls of Windsor castle one of the most interesting of the long series is a group of weapons and armor sent to Queen Victoria by Lord Kitchener after the Dongola campaign on the upper Nile in 1896.

The trophy consists of a coat of chain mail, a number of spears and a long cross bladed sword. On the straight steel blade of the sword there is an inscription in odd fashioned letters: "No me equates sin raxon. No me entrastes sin honor."

The words are Spanish, but the same motto was inscribed on sword blades in the days of chivalry in most of the languages of Europe. Its meaning is the knightly rule for all who bear the sword: Do not draw me without reason. Do not sheathe me without honor.

The weapon was taken from the abandoned camp of Wad Bishara, the dervish general, after the battle of Hahr (Sept. 23, 1896). How came a blade with such a motto to be found in a Moslem bivouac in the heart of the Sudan?

The presence of these crusader swords in the Sudan is not so difficult to explain. In the thirteenth century the Mohammedan caliphs of Egypt not only carried on successful wars against the crusaders in Syria, destroying the last vestiges of the Latin kingdom of Jerusalem, but also defeated two attempts of the Europeans to invade Egypt itself, one of them led by St. Louis of France.

Enormous quantities of western arms and warlike equipment must have thus passed into the possession of the Mohammedan conquerors.—Chambers' Journal.

BABY TALK.

An Infantile Habit That Sometimes Sticks and Breeds Trouble.

Once in awhile a rare stammering case comes to the laboratory where there's nothing the matter with the child—the matter is with his dear mamma. In 1895 Dr. Witmer examined a boy of twelve who talked baby talk—a bright, alert youngster, to all appearances normal. But nobody could understand a word he uttered—except mamma; she understood it all perfectly. "I—aw—ow—ay" was to her ear "I want to go out to play" as plain as anything could be. It was her tender custom to reply likewise, and she took pride in the thought that she had never allowed her Willie to associate with the children on the block. She had encouraged him to be her baby and "kept him from growing up too soon" by prattling to him.

Except for his unintelligible language, the examination did not reveal a defect, physical or mental, in the boy, and Dr. Witmer was forced to the conclusion that the trouble lay in the persistence of an infantile habit of articulation for which the mother was solely responsible. Through sentimentality and overindulgence "she had almost ruined his chances for a useful and possibly successful life." (Psychological clinic, March, 1907.) Months of painstaking, expert labor had to be expended upon him to break up the habit his mother had carefully developed before he could even begin to make himself understood by any one else.—Dr. Witmer of Yale in McClure's Magazine.

Almost Disbelieved Her Eyes.

"Among the memories of my boyhood," said a New York man, "there is one odd episode that is particularly vivid. It is a conversation that I overheard one morning as I walked toward the Boston high school between two women.

"The women were talking about babies—their size, weight, health, and so forth.

"Why, when I was a week old," said the first woman, "I was such a little baby that they put me in a quart pot and put the lid on over me."

"The other woman was amazed and horrified. 'And did you live?' she asked.

"They say I did," her friend answered.

"Well, well, well," exclaimed the second woman. And she glanced at the other almost doubtfully."

About Matches.

John Walker, an English chemist, was experimenting in 1827 with an inflammable mixture for use on shipboard. One day Walker happened to rub a stick dipped in this mixture across a table. There was a report—the stick took fire, and because John Walker was no fool the match was born. The match's inventor put his wonderful invention on the market in April, 1827. The Walker match was as big as a lead pencil, and it cost a shilling a box. Because it could only be lighted by drawing it through a piece of sandpaper folded in two the Holden match supplanted it in 1833. The Holden was a lucifer. It lighted more easily than the Walker, so it put the Walker out of business. Sweden is today the home of the match industry. Sweden exports annually about 2,000,000,000 boxes of incomparable matches. But there is no statue to John Walker.—Exchange.

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"ON TO NATRON" IS CRY IN KLAMATH COUNTY

"On to Natron" is the signal that flies over the office of Engineer Hoey in this city. Mr. Hoey has been advised that the contract for the construction of the 25 miles of road on this end has been awarded to Erickson & Petersen, and in accordance with this information he is making preparations to push the line out. This contract will bring the terminus of the line near the head of Sprague River. No limit has been set for its completion, but no time is to be lost in carrying on the work. It will take about another week for Erickson & Peterson to complete their work in the yards, and as soon as this is done they will move their entire force onto the new portion of the line.

Women in Trousers.

In the pretty Alpine village of Champéry, in the canton of Valais, Switzerland, the peasant women wear trousers and waisteats in place of skirts and boleros, and the only distinguishing badge of their sex is a scarf knotted around their hair, the bright red ends of which float coquettishly over their shoulders. The women of Champéry work in the open air, performing the same kinds of labor as the men, and long ago their ancestors found that they could work more easily in trousers than in skirts.

Line of Least Resistance.

"A man will scrutinize the menu card for half an hour and then order a steak."

"Or examine a bushel of summer resort folders and then go to his usual place."—Kansas City Journal.

Mystified Mabel.

Mother (at lunch)—Yes, darling, these little sardines are sometimes eaten by the larger fish. Mabel (aged five)—But, mamma, how do they get the cans open?—Boston Transcript.

Spontaneous Combustion.

Spontaneous combustion can only occur when oxidation causes the temperature to rise to the ignition point of the material. Spontaneous combustion of the human body is impossible on account of the heat regulating effect of the 75 or 80 per cent of water contained. The enormous heat necessary to dry the tissues sufficiently would destroy life long before ignition could take place. An old idea was that the alcohol in a confirmed drunkard might promote combustion, but Liebig showed that even if the body could give off inflammable vapor and this could be come ignited the body itself would not be set on fire.

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