

Solvency of Gold.
Gold is one of the group of metals soluble only in that mixture of nitric and hydrochloric acids known as aqua regia. It has been found, however, that the presence of certain organic compounds renders gold soluble in hydrochloric acid. Thus a mixture of this acid and chloroform is found to be a solvent. Ethyl, or ordinary alcohol, methyl alcohol and amyl alcohol are among the other substances which give to hydrochloric acid the power of dissolving gold. The solution takes place slowly in the cold acid and more quickly on heating.

Doesn't Advertise.
"You take a cheerful view of life. I hope," remarked the optimistic person.

"Not enough to notice," replied the individual with a frown.

"You jest with me."

"I said, 'Not enough to notice.' I sometimes feel moderately cheerful, but I don't believe that makes it incumbent on me to go about wearing a fatuous smile and shouting, 'Oh, be joyful!'"—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Saw His Finish.
"Oh, oh," exclaimed impatient Mrs. Naggs, "I've bitten off the end of my tongue!"

"Well, I certainly feel sorry for myself," rejoined the heartless Naggs. "Hereafter there will be no end to your tongue."

Venezuela.
Venezuela received its name from the early explorers. Its coast was visited by Columbus in 1498, and the following year the name Venezuela ("Little Venice") was given to an Indian village built on piles seen by Ojeda and Amerigo Vesputi.

Poultry on the Farm.
Just as soon as farmers begin to run their poultry business on the same lines and with the same care as they do their modern dairies, using the best stock and breeding carefully, they will find it greatly to their advantage and make a success of this branch of agriculture. Their advantages for raising poultry are so much better than those in the towns, who have only a few lots, that they can easily outstrip all competitors and get much larger returns for their time and money than they are now receiving.—Kansas Farmer.

SAVE THE VOICE.

Do Not Sing Nor Talk When Suffering From Throat Fatigue.

Fatigue injures the voice. Excessive use of the voice weakens its carrying power. From overuse or improper use of the voice a chronic pharyngitis develops. Every one knows the symptoms of overuse of the voice. The voice is husky, and its use is followed by distress. There is an increase in secretion and a constant desire to clear the throat, and there are disagreeable sensations, as fullness, tickling and the like. After a long day of shopping, sightseeing or one's daily routine of work, it is quite common to be troubled by hoarseness, which does not indicate a "cold," but is merely fatigue of parts which produce the voice.

The muscular system all over the body is tired, relaxed. The throat, being a muscular structure, shares in this fatigue, and it should never be used for any particular purpose, like singing or reciting, until the whole body is rested. If one has arranged to use the voice at the close of the day or at any other time, it should not be when suffering from fatigue.

Public speakers and singers take care of their voices and never willingly use them long enough at a time to weaken them. Singing only one song extra may hurt the voice enough to impair its clearness, and frequent overdoing may result in a permanent weakness. Rest before using the voice and taking care not to use it too long when singing or speaking saves the voice and keeps it clear and sweet and gives it carrying power.

Luck In Name Only.
Lutsk, or Luck, to give it the Polish name, is another of the towns of eastern Europe which can point to a checkered history. It is traditionally said to have been founded in the seventh century. Four hundred years later it had developed into the capital of an independent principality. After a further lapse of four centuries we find it a wealthy place and the seat of a bishopric. But evil times awaited it. During the Russo-Polish wars of the sixteenth century its 40,000 inhabitants were exterminated, and Lutsk lost its importance.—London Chronicle.

The man of brains sees difficulties, surmounts or avoids them. The fool knows no difficulties.—La Bruyere.

WHISTLER'S BREAKFASTS.

They Were Famous Functions When the Artist Was in Funds.

An invitation to one of Mr. Whistler's "breakfasts" was prized by many persons almost as much as a royal command, more by some. Mr. Whistler brought together about his dainty, long, narrow breakfast table in its long, narrow room with pale yellow washed walls a symposium of those persons in London most noted for wit or endowed with rare original talent of some kind. Sprinkled here and there for the sake, no doubt, of half tones were others whose chief qualification was the power of chastened and judicious appreciation.

These symposiums were held by Whistler in his splendid studio, 33 Tite street, at present the studio of Sargent. Whistler did not steadily occupy that place, which a depleted treasury sometimes caused him to forsake temporarily. According to the widely known story, when the bailiffs came in to dispossess him for debt he pressed them into service as extra men to help serve one of his famous breakfasts, after which he would retire to a low, rambling workshop up an alleyway off the Fulham road. There in solitary quiet he would bring forth another masterpiece to startle the world and furnish him with the means of re-entering beautiful Tite street and taking up the thread of his more princely existence. —Princess Lazarovich-Hrebellanovich (Eleanor Calhoun) in Century Magazine.

CREMATION IN INDIA.

The Brahman's Funeral Pyre and the Ceremony of Burning.

After the body of a Brahman has been anointed with sesamum oil the big toes are bound together and the two thumbs. It is then lashed to a litter made of two long parallel poles, to which are fastened seven transverse pieces of wood. The shroud is very simple, a large piece of cloth wrapped round the body and bound with ropes of straw. If the dead Brahman leaves a will his face is not covered; otherwise the shroud is brought up over the head.

The burning ground, or ghat, is usually near a river that those who have taken part in the ceremonies may purify themselves as quickly and as easily as possible. Before erecting the funeral pyre a shallow pit is dug and partially filled with dry wood; the body is covered with splinters of dry wood and sprinkled with panchagarra, an inflammable liquid, and placed on the pyre and covered with branches and roots, like a hut.

The nearest relative or heir then takes a lighted taper and sets fire to the four corners of the pile and leaves at once to perform the ceremony of purification. The carriers, being of the lowest caste, remain until the body is entirely consumed.—Westminster Gazette.

A Paradoxical River.

On the African shore, near the gulf of Aden and connecting the lake of Assal with the main ocean, may be found one of the most wonderful rivers in the world. This curiosity does not flow to but from the ocean toward inland. The surface of Lake Assal itself is nearly 700 feet below the mean tide, and it is fed by this paradoxical river, which is about twenty-two miles in length. It is highly probable that the whole basin which the lagoon partly fills was once an arm of the sea, which became separated therefrom by the duning of loose sand. The inflowing river has a limited volume, being fullest, of course, at high tide, and has filled the basin to such an extent that evaporation and supply exactly balance each other.

Three True Steels.

Iron and carbon steel, vanadium steel and tungsten steel are pointed out by Professor J. O. Arnold, British metallurgist, as the three true steels. The second kind is iron and carbon steel with 5 per cent of vanadium, the iron carbide having ceased to exist, and vanadium carbide being present, and the third kind is iron and carbon steel having 11.5 per cent of tungsten, the iron carbide having been expelled by the tungsten. Iron and carbon steel hardens at 730 degrees C., vanadium steel just below 1,450 degrees, its melting point, and tungsten steel at 850 degrees to 1,200 degrees.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Weather Effects.

The weather affects man in more ways, it appears, than many suspect. For example, it is believed that pressure variation due to fluctuating winds have peculiar pathological effects, that certain electrical conditions of the air induced by low atmospheric pressure have a pathological effect on nervous subjects and that solar radiation has peculiar effects which vary according to the season.

Saving the Suffix.
Rex Beach tells how in the early days of the gold excitement in Alaska there came a young German from Illinois who, after prospecting for awhile, settled in Sitka.

His name was Henry F. Almondinger, and, wishing to Americanize himself as much as possible, he applied to the proper authority for permission to change his name to Henry F. Almond.

A few days later a man named John Smith applied to the same authority, and, after reciting a long catalogue of the ills to which he was subject owing to his unfortunately common name, he said in conclusion:

"And whereas I have noticed that you have curtailed the name of Henry F. Almondinger to H. F. Almond and have not disposed of the 'inger' which seems to be lying around loose, I respectfully request that the same may be added to my name."—Chicago Tribune.

Collapsible Stage Scenery.

Pneumatic scenery and stage settings are now used in an endeavor to make them more realistic and at the same time conserve the possibilities and convenience of the present type of flat and built up paper and wood forms. This is made of a rubberized fabric and so arranged that it may be inflated quickly and moved about with ease. The idea has been worked out in reproducing trees upon the stage, with the result that they appear very real from a short distance. A very large oak tree may be collapsed and packed in a small space for shipment.

ON GETTING STUNG.

Not Socially Nor Financially, but the Real Hornet Sting.

Ever get stung? Or, rather, who hasn't, says the North Carolina state board of health—"both with bees and otherwise. Hurts like the mischief, doesn't it—both getting stung by bees and getting stung otherwise? For either kind of getting stung prevention is better than cure, and discretion is the best part of valor.

Tact, diplomacy and good judgment will ward off many instances of getting stung in the social world as well as in the insect world. We offer no panacea or remedy for the former, but for the latter, seriously speaking, much can be done.

The first impulse in the case of an insect sting is to strike the offending insect, and in doing so in most cases we usually tear the insect away from its sting, leaving the sting in the flesh. It is the irritating poison on the sting that hurts so badly and causes such swelling, so the very first thing to do is to remove the sting it left in the flesh. Use a knife point or needle for this purpose. Then, don't scratch or rub the sting. That only makes bad matters worse. Apply a few drops of weak ammonia or spirits of camphor or ordinary tincture of iodine as quickly as possible.

The poison from hornet stings is soluble in alcohol, and therefore if the spot be gently bathed or washed in alcohol some relief is obtained.

Finally, if ammonia, camphor, iodine or alcohol is not available, gently rubbing a piece of wet soap over the sting helps the situation out somewhat. Always remember, however, that the most important first aid is to remove the offending sting and that prevention is better than cure.

Causes of Poultry Losses.

Many of the diseases commonly found among fowls are easily prevented by care and watchfulness. Here follows a list of some of the things that invite diseases on the farm: Crowding too many in one space, ill adapted food, feeding too long on one kind of thing, bad housing, dampness, not enough green stuff, not enough meaty matter, too little exercise or lice and mites.

Potatoes For Fowls.

When potatoes are used for fattening we advise the ration as follows: Three measures of cooked potatoes, two measures ground oats, one measure barley meal. The potatoes should be cooked with a lump of fat if possible; then mix liquor and all with the meals. When ground oats cannot be obtained use fine pollards or middlings.—Western Poultry Journal.

Honest Praise.

An honest compliment was that paid to M. de Vendome, who, while commanding the French army in Italy, dispatched a young nobleman to announce to his master the victory which he had gained at Suzzara. The latter while attempting to describe the battle became several times much confused in his narrative, when, although the king preserved his gravity, the Duchess of Burgundy, who was present, laughed so heartily that at last the young gentleman said, "Sire, it is easier for M. de Vendome to win a battle than for me to describe it."

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ENGLISH SPELLING.

Consider, if You Please, the Words Victual and Tongue.

Were you ever perplexed by English spelling? But what a foolish question! The rest of the world is agreed that the man who insists he is never at a loss for the correct spelling of a word is a prevaricator of the nth degree. But how did our speech happen to be thus encumbered? The French use countless silent letters, but there is such system about their literature that it can be mastered by the average mind. German is absolutely phonetic, as are most of the Romance tongues. Greek was pronounced as it was spelled, and Latin is simplicity itself for all that the classical scholars disagree as to the sounds of the vowels and a few of the consonants.

Mme. Bernhardt when she was urged to present her plays in the speech of the American people declared, "English is not a language; it is violent exercise, and its spelling is impossible." Many a schoolboy and girl will agree with her. What justification is there for such a word as "victual," which must be pronounced just as it was in the days when it was spelled v-i-t-t-l-e? And, while we are on the subject of our native tongue, how shall we justify t-o-n-g-u-e, a spelling that is monstrous in the light of the language's development? Up to the beginning of the nineteenth century that word was t-u-n-g, with here and there a pedantic faddist who put on airs when he wrote t-o-n-g-u-e. Our accepted spelling is an imitation of the French "langue" just as victual is an imitation of the Latin "victualia," handed down by half-baked scholars.—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

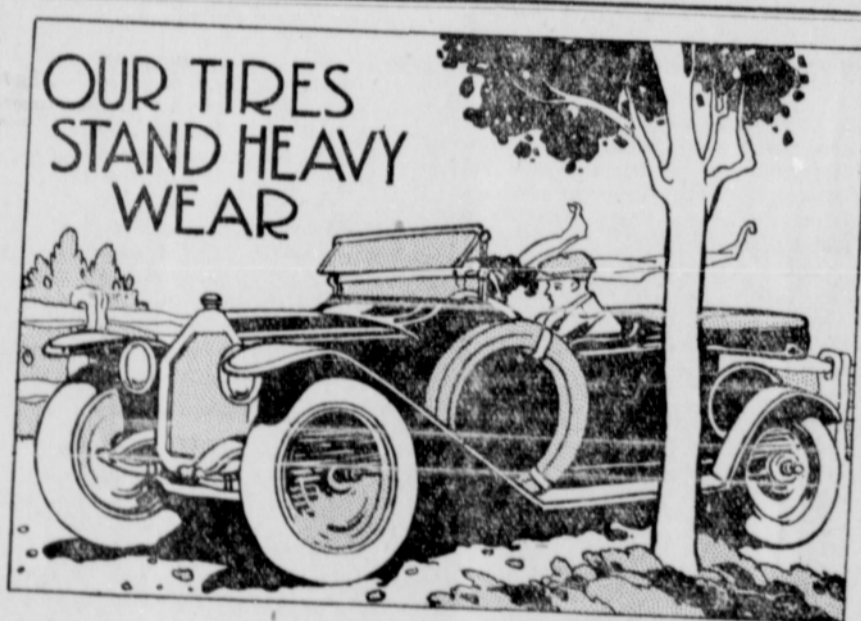
Went Back on His Authority.

Leslie Stephen's single meeting with Freeman, the historian, was in the nature of a collision. "I came in contact with him only once," he said. "He wrote a life of Alfred for the Dictionary of National Biography under my editorship, but declined to do more because we had a difference of opinion as to whether Athelstane should be spelled with an 'A.' That was, I confess, a question to which I was culpably indifferent, but I had taken competent advice, and my system (I forget what it was) had been elsewhere sanctioned by the great historian Stubbs. Now, as Freeman was never tired of asserting the infallibility of Stubbs, I innocently thought that I might take refuge behind so eminent an authority. The result was that for once Freeman blasphemed Stubbs and refused to cooperate any longer in an unscholarlike enterprise."

Professional Caution.

Burglar (just acquitted, to his lawyer)—I will drop in soon and see you.
Lawyer—Very good, but in the daytime, please.—Boston Transcript.

A fool's heart is in his tongue, but a wise man's tongue is in his heart.—Quarles



NO matter how powerful or steady your engine may be, your auto is worthless if it has poor tires. A car is no stronger than any one of its tires. In supplying tires and inner tubes we deal in only the standard, well tested makes, which wear well and are guaranteed.

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