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WHITE SEWING MACHINE CO.

MANY KINDS OF FLEAS.

About 400 Different Species Are Known to Naturalists.

One of the first naturalists who devoted themselves to watching fleas, with such microscopes as were then available, was Leeuwenhoek, a Dutchman, who lived at the end of theseventeenth century. Leeuwenhoek discovered that a small mite fed on the flea, and it was this discovery which inspired Swift's familiar lines:

So, naturalists observe, a flea
Hath smaller fleas that on him prey,
And these have smaller still to bite 'em,
And so proceed ad infinitum.

The flea's parasite, however, to be accurate, is not another flea or even another insect, but is a mite classed among the sarcoptidae. Linnaeus, writing in 1758, described only two species of flea. The first, which was the human flea, he rightly named *Pulex irritans*. The second was the chigoe of hot countries. To this, on account of its burrowing habit, he gave the name of *Pulex penetrans*. At the present day about 400 different species of fleas have been described and named by the small band of scientific men who have devoted themselves to their study. Most of these have been discovered within quite recent years, so it is probable that many new forms and varieties will be collected and observed.—Harold Russell in *London National Review*.

OLD TIME HAT STAMPS.

Death Used to Be the Penalty in England For Forging Them.

Hats have in England been subject to very severe protective enactments. The blocked beaver hat, for instance, imported by Sir Walter Raleigh from the Low Countries, won its way so rapidly that in 1571 Queen Elizabeth passed an act to protect the making of "thrummed" caps, made from wool, for the advantage of the landed proprietors, whose sheep furnished the material. The statute provided that every male person "shall on Sundays and holidays wear on his head a cap of velvet wool made in England, penalty, 3s. 6d. per day.

About a century later the law, for which there is nothing too high or too low, having taxed men's shoes, turned its attention once more to their hats and soon put a check on all improvements in the trade by requiring every vendor of hats to take out a license under a heavy penalty. Subsequently a stamp duty was imposed on all hats, which were officially marked inside where the maker's name now appears. The penalty for selling a hat without a stamp was £10, and the penalty for forging a hat stamp was death. Hence, no doubt, the modern custom of the man who goes to church, sits down, looks into his hat—to read his maker's name!—*London Chronicle*.

An English Sanctuary.

Beverley minster, 180 miles north of London, is the shrine of St. John of Beverley, who died in the year 721. In 938 Athelstan, king of England, gave several privileges to the monastery, one being the privilege of sanctuary. This was not merely for man slaying; it was open to all wrongdoers except those who had been guilty of treason. For ordinary offenses, such as horse stealing, cattle stealing, being backward in accounts or being in receipt of suspected goods, a man came into sanctuary about a mile from the monastery or church. There used to be four crosses on the main roads leading to Beverley marking the limit of the area. In cases of manslaughter and murder it was not sufficient to be within one of these crosses. Before the fugitive could claim sanctuary he must enter the church and seat himself in a stone chair known as the "frid stool" or "freed chair." To this place many fled for refuge from all parts of the country.

Appropriate.

The worshippers in a certain chapel had some trouble to keep their faces straight a short time ago. During the service some commotion was caused by a gentleman who accidentally ignited a box of wax matches in his pocket and was trying to put them out, while his alarmed neighbors struggled equally hard to help him. The minister, being shortsighted, could not make out the reason of the disturbance, and, thinking to diplomatically cover the incident, he innocently said: "Brethren, there is a little noise going on. Until it is over let us sing 'Sometimes a Light Surprises.'"—*London Answers*.

A New Reason.

Annette, aged three, has two very talkative little sisters, and sometimes she finds it difficult to make herself heard at the table. One day when the others had been monopolizing the conversation longer than she liked Annette raised her finger with a warning gesture and whispered half aloud: "Everybody keep still. My foot's asleep."—*Dellinctor*.

True Charges.

She—Did you see where some man declares that women are not honest? He—Well, he's right in saying so. She (fiercely)—When did you ever know me to do a dishonest thing? He (tenderly)—When you robbed me of my peace of mind and stole my heart, you dear little thief!—*New York World*.

The Language.

"This is a pretty state of affairs, isn't it?"
"Yes, it is a very ugly matter, but somebody will have to pay handsomely for it."—*New York Journal*.

A good way to be happy is to try to be useful and helpful.

A QUICK CHANGE.

The Sweet Taffy That Came After the Cold Roast.

"Say, Jen," said Katie, the brunette, with white side combs in her hair. "I see Mamie has bleached her hair again. Ain't it terrible?"

"Yes, perfectly awful!" replied Jennie. "She asked me if I would do it if I were she, and I said 'yes.' Don't she look perfectly dreadful—and it's getting streaked already. You could tell in a minute it was bleached, the roots are so dark."

"Sure, I noticed that!" responded Katie. "And, say, did you see the rag of a dress she had on yesterday? And it's fit—gracious! Looked perfectly dreadful, didn't it?"

"Perfectly dreadful," echoed Jennie. "Well, she wanted a pattern, and I gave her the one of that dark blue silk I had three years ago," said Katie.

"You did?"

"Yes, I did."

"Oh!"

"And the hat she was wearing," continued Katie. "Did you get your optics on that?"

"Yes."

"Perfect sight, wasn't it?"

"Where did she get it?"

"Oh, down at the Moody's. I helped her pick it out," was Katie's reply.

"Why, why, here comes Mamie now," she continued. "Hello, Mamie, you dear, sweet thing! How nice you look—too darling for anything!"

"Yes, indeed," added Jennie. "You do look perfectly charming. Say, let's all go and get some soda."

And the three friends walked away together.—*New York Times*.

PROCRASTINATION.

The Habit of Putting Off Doing the Serious Things of Life.

Much of the unhappiness and improvidence in life is caused by early habits of procrastination—habits contracted unconsciously perhaps when character is in its formative stage and at the very time when most attention should be given to the untrained nature. It is so easy to fall into a happy-go-lucky way of living, so easy to jog along unconcernedly, doing the things which suit us best and perhaps which count for the least and leaving undone all the acts and unspoken all the words and unexpressed all the thoughts and unused all the advantages which are really so essential to a better understanding of ourselves and the wonderful life being lived about us!

What a bright world of promise fulfilled this would be if responsibility could only be made half as attractive as some of the minor diversions which seem to furnish so much pleasure to their partakers! If the hard places could be made soft, the rocky roads smooth and difficult undertakings easy, there would be small need for putting off from day to day the task of fulfilling any task whatever. As it is, with the certainty that happiness unalloyed is not within the grasp of man and with the knowledge that sorrow and trouble must come at some time into each of our lives, it seems strange that for all our weak human nature we cannot learn the lesson that procrastination teaches and benefit thereby.

An Office Business Only.

A young man called at the office of a justice of the peace and with some hesitation made known his business, which was to be married. The justice replied that he thought he could perform the service and asked if the young man had his license.

"Yes, sir," the youth replied.

"Well, where is the young lady?"

"She—she's at her father's."

"Well, bring her here."

"She'd rather be married at home, squire."

"And you expect me to go there and marry you?"

"Yes, sir, if you please."

"Young man, said the justice, "this office of mine is like a department store. We sell matches here, but we don't deliver them at the house."—*Youth's Companion*.

Cats and Dogs.

According to a French investigator, domestic animals have a certain amount of reasoning power, often act upon reflex notions and can associate ideas from which they draw inferences. Dogs, and still more so cats, he says, learn to imitate the voice and movements of their masters or mistresses. He has noticed old watchdogs which when they barked had peculiar intonations which resembled the voices of their masters. Cats try by the way in which they cry to make their mistresses understand exactly what they want.

Appropriate Styles.

"That elocutionist believes in dressing the part for any recitation."

"How do you mean?"

"Why, when she read the story about the sailors deserted on the lonely island she wore a costume of maroon, and at her lecture on Celtic wit her dress was trimmed with Irish point."—*Exchange*.

Bad Combinations.

Rambo—I have a pair of glasses at home that make me see double. Baldwin—Yes; I've seen you using them. One is a beer mug and the other is a whisky tumbler.—*Chicago Tribune*.

The Particular Sex.

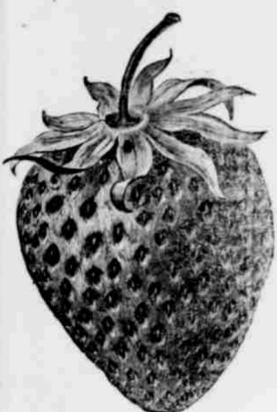
A blind girl lately discarded her affianced lover because a confidential friend informed her that the young man squinted.—*Philadelphia Ledger*.

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