

A WOMAN'S QUESTION.

Do you know you have asked for the costliest thing Ever made by the hand above...

The Ambassador's Eye-Glass.

I think I have already explained to my readers that the late King of Siam was very much given to using the longest and hardest words to be found in the English dictionary...

I well remember, one bright, sunny afternoon, full of the golden light peculiar to the autumn in Siam...

To tell the truth, I was never more puzzled in all my life. These girls were all more or less, prettier than the Siamese type. Even according to English ideas of beauty, they might be called lovely in every respect but the nose.

In addition to this deficiency of nose, the Siamese women blacken their teeth, black teeth being esteemed as beautiful by the fashionable ladies at the court.

The English dressmaker, the same pretty girl who had so captivated poor Maha Rhol, the Buddhist priest, cut up these superb silks and costly laces, threaded in gold, into robes.

The order of presentation was simply this: As these ladies could not speak a single English word, they were required

only to rise when the Ambassador from England was presented, to bow to him and retire backwards, but they were not to turn their backs.

Suddenly a silver flute gave the signal. The curtain vanished, and there were the great English Ambassador and the Siamese beauties face to face.

When I returned to my post, the Ambassador and King were gone, the curtains had been removed, and some of the older ladies told me that the King was furious at me for not having taught them better manners.

With many misgivings I entered his Majesty's presence. The moment he saw me he rushed towards me, crying: "Wherefore have you not educated these girls more scientifically?"

The greatest obstacle to being heroic is the doubt whether one may not be going to prove one's self a fool.

It is said by philosophers that no particle of matter is ever lost, but all goes into new forms in the eternal economy. Much more shall no throbs of love, no tenderness of the heart, no yearning of human affection be cast by as worthless.

No less than 14,508 babes under five years of age died in New York last year.

The Law of Newspapers.

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