

THE MARKING OF BILLS.

One of the Secret Service Methods is the Use of Pin-Pricks.

In their surveillance and apprehension of suspected persons government secret service officers often find it necessary to "mark the money" handled by such persons. There are various methods of so marking the national currency, one of the most novel of which is the pinprick.

The note to be marked is, say, the five dollar silver certificate bearing the vignette of an Indian chief in his full regalia of feathers and trappings and presenting a full face view. With the aid of a pin the secret service man makes two punctures in the bill directly in the pupils of the Indian's eyes. To the casual and sometimes even critical inspector of the note these pinpricks are invisible. If raised to the light, however, the bill will distinctly reveal them.

The markings are complicated by the following process: The pin point is applied in the twist of the large figure 5 at the two upper corners of the note. These tiny twists do not appear in the "necks" of the two figures 5 that are at both ends of the bottom of the note. The note is now pierced again, this time in the ends of the scrolls on each side of the word five in the lower center of the bill. The marking is now complete. In secret it is exhibited to one or more persons for purposes of identification and is then placed in the till or money drawer to which the suspected person has access.

It is said that the pinpricks will remain perfect for some time. When such bills are produced in court and their marking is explained under oath conviction is practically certain.—Every Week.

MELODY DEAFNESS.

To Those Who Are Afflicted With It Music Is Simply Noise.

Every one has heard of color blindness, but few people are aware that there is such a malady as tune deafness. It prevents those affected from appreciating music, which to the melody deaf is nothing but noise.

The most intelligent people often suffer in this way. Empress Catherine of Russia used to declare that for her music was a nerve trying din, and Napoleon I. hated any form of melody. Victor Hugo had to be coaxed by the composer who put his famous lines to music. "Are not my verses," he used to say, "sufficiently harmonious to stand without the assistance of disagreeable noises?"

Doctors say that the power to appreciate music depends upon a perfect combination of the nerves and brain. Some people's nerves readily carry musical sounds to the mind, while in others nerves impede their passage to the brain cells.

Good musicians are more often born than made. Nature has provided them with nerves which instinctively carry musical chords to the brain. That is why a good musician can memorize a tune after hearing it played over once. Every note has been clearly recorded in his brain.

Those with less sensitive musical nerves receive a dim impression of any music they may hear, and thus they are unable to remember it unless it is drummed into their brain by repeated playing.—Pearson's Weekly.

Our past lives build the present, which must mold the lives to be.—Sir Edwin Arnold.



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QUEER HAWAIIAN NAMES.

Such as Mrs. Oyster and The Man Who Washes His Dimples.

The natives of Hawaii are singularly picturesque in their choice of names. Mr. Schow, The Thief, The Ghost, The Fool, The Man Who Washes His Dimples, Mrs. Oyster, The Weary Lizard, The Husband of Kaula (a male dog), The Great Kettle, The First Nose, The Atlantic Ocean, The Stomach, Poor Pussy, Mrs. Turkey, The Tenth Heaven, are all names that have appeared in the city directory.

They are often careless of the gender or appropriateness of the names they take. A householder on Beretania street, Honolulu, is called The Pretty Woman (Wahine Maika); a male infant was lately christened Mrs. Tompkins; one little girl is named Samson; another, The Man; Susan (Kukua) is a boy; so are Polly, Sarah, Jane Peter and Henry Anna. A pretty little maid has been named by her fond parents The Pig Sty (Hale Pua). For some unknown reason—or for no reason at all—one boy is named The Rat Eater (Kameo Ole Ole).

The Rev. Dr. Coan of Hawaii possessed the love of his flock. One morning a child was presented for baptism whose name was given by the parents, Makia; when the ceremony was finished the parents assured the doctor that they had named the baby for him.

"But my name is not Michael," said the doctor, supposing Makia to be aimed thereat.

"We always hear your wife call you Makia," answered the mother. She had mistaken Mrs. Coan's familiar "my dear" for her husband's given name.

An old servant in Dr. Wright's family at Kohala caused her grandchild to be baptized in church. The doctor (Kauka); that was its only name. By way of compliment to the early physicians, many children were named after their drugs, as Joseph Squilla, Miss Rhubarb, The Emetic, The Doctor Who Peeps In at a Door.

Names uncomplimentary, or even disgusting, are willingly borne by their owners; others convey a pleasing and graceful sentiment. Among the latter are the Arch of Heaven (Ka Iia Lani), The River of Twilight (Ka Wia Lili), The Delicate Wreath (Ka Lei ma Lili), The name of Lili O Kalani, the queen now in retirement, means A Lily In the Sky—Youth's Companion.

WALKING FOR SPEED.

Arm Action, Body Balance and the Proper Leg and Foot Motion.

In starting on the track the novice should hold himself as erect as possible, without, however, leaning at all backward, the arms at the sides, with the forearms in a horizontal position, at right angles to the part of the arms above the elbows. He should have a feeling of being "well balanced on his pins."

The weight must be kept on the heels—therein lies the chief secret of walking fairly. Speed depends on two factors, the length and the frequency of the stride. Experiments prove that the length of the stride becomes greater as the frequency increases.

Arm action should be carefully cultivated. Properly used, the arms seem to act as levers to lift forward the body, besides helping to balance it. In each stride one foot should be always on the ground and at same moment of the stride some part of both feet should be on the ground simultaneously—that is, the first necessity. Second in importance is to have the walk "heel and toe"—that is, the heel of each foot should strike the ground unmistakably first and the toe of each foot should be the last part to leave it. One should not walk flat footed, with the ball of the foot or any part except the heel striking the ground before the heel does. Lastly, the knee should be "locked" at the end of each stride—the grounded leg should be stiff and taut as the loose leg swings out for the next stride.—Outing.

Story of a Dream.

Of course the medical sharps know it all, but let me tell what happened to me. I had a strikingly vivid dream in which I saw and spoke to a dead friend, and she emphasized what she said by laying her hand on my hair. A trick the dead girl had when living. The subject of her speech has no value. But when I woke I could almost feel her touch still. In a day or two I noticed my hair looked queer where she touched me, and it faded until I had four bars, almost white, across my red mop. Just such as would be made by four fingers.—Letter in New York Times.

Homemade Rat Poison.

Farm and Fowls give the following recipe for homemade rat poison: Barium carbonate is a poison which in small quantities is harmless to the larger domestic animals, but will kill rats and mice. Mix four parts of meal or flour and one part of barium carbonate and place where the rats will find it, or mix ordinary oatmeal to a stiff dough in water, with about one-eighth its bulk of barium carbonate.

Tracing a Thief.

A burglar who broke into an antiquary's shop in Paris was identified by means of a small strip of skin torn from his ear by the broken glass of a showcase. The piece of skin was preserved in a bottle of spirits, and it set on to a fresh scar on the man's left ear.

Catty Comment.

"When I hate anything to occupy my time, I hate to have a lot of foolish men hanging around me." "You are never idle, are you, dear?"—Baltimore American.

ILLNESS CHEAP IN PRAGUE.

Comparatively Few Doctors There, Yet the Fees Are Small.

According to a consular report, one may at least be ill in Austria and not dread the exorbitant doctor's bill that follows.

The city of Prague, with a population of about 600,000, has only about 800 physicians, or one for every 7,500 persons. A doctor charges for a day-time call in a middle class family only 60 cents, or 10 cents more than if the patient calls on him in his office. For a night call the doctor receives from \$1.20 to \$2, according to the distance. Only professors at the clinics of the two local universities charge more, receiving \$2 to \$4 for a house call and \$2 for an office visit. As in this country, the physicians give only prescriptions.

About 100 dentists practice in Prague. The average charges are: Drawing one tooth, 40 cents; cement filling, 60 cents to \$1; amalgam filling, 80 cents to \$2. The annual income of these professional men is estimated as follows: Head professor in charge of clinics, salary paid by the government, \$1,440 to \$1,000, and \$5,000 to \$11,000 from private practice; other professors at clinics, salary paid by the government, \$1,000, and from private practice, \$4,000 to \$10,000; general medical practitioners not attached to any clinic, \$3,000 to \$3,500, the average income of a dentist being \$5,000.

MAKING OTHERS HAPPY.

Why Put It Off Till Tomorrow When It May Be Done Today?

Why should we postpone our loving deed the being happy that goes with it? The wife we are going to show more affection for as soon as we have made a little more of a pile. The husband we are going to be more companionable and sunny with as soon as we get a little more service in the house, the children whose lives we will enter into more fully as soon as we feel the pressure of circumstances a little less, the people we are going to show how good we really are as soon as we have time—none of these ways of loving depends on the things we are waiting for.

Indeed, our opportunity comes more now than it will come when we have these things. The very pressure of our days bring us in contact with many people who most need a show of kindness and who will most warmly respond to it. The wife most needs and will most value love in her days when she is most being a helpmeet. The husband most needs and most prizes love in his years of struggle.

What are we waiting for? The kingdom of heaven is within and will not come of circumstances.—Nautlius.

Bjornson's Advice.

There is a story told of Bjornstjerne Bjornson that, arriving at a late hour at the town of Bergen, which was en route to receive him, he vouchsafed to the expectant people no finer words of wisdom than a general recommendation to go to bed.

In vain they appealed to him for "song or sentiment." The great Bjornmark, said he, gave the same advice under conditions all similar, and what was good enough for Berlin must suffice for Bergen.

Three years later, on visiting the town for the second time, the master novelist found a deserted city. Not a light burned in the dismal railway station, no banners waved, no addresses were read by portly burghomasters. In vain Bjornson asked for a cab.

"They have all gone to bed," was the reply. And so Bergen remembered.

First European Railway.

The first carriages that ran on rails in Europe were those of a horse railway between Linz and Budweis, in Austria. This was in working order in 1827. Locomotive railways were much longer coming. The first line in a modern sense was opened from Paris to St. Germain in 1835, but railway development was greatly hindered by a terrible accident on the Paris-Versailles line in 1842. The next was the Brussels-Malines line in Belgium. Belgium was also the first country to begin, in 1830, systematic plans for a national network of railways. Prussia followed in 1835 and Austria-Hungary in 1838. The first great trunk line in Europe was from Paris to Rouen, opened in May, 1843.

Family Pride.

Mrs. Blunt—Well, Louisa, I don't suppose you will attempt to deny that your original ancestors were stone age ruffians who lived in a damp cave. Mrs. Tree—If my earliest ancestors were a part of the geological period of which you speak they must have had a red sandstone chateau of their own on Flinthead avenue, with stucco decorations and running water on the first floor.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Poi in Hawaii.

Poi, the Hawaiian national dish, is made by pounding up the cooked root of the taro plant—the Arum esculentum of the botanists—with water into a thick paste. When slightly fermented it has a pleasant, fruity, acid taste.

The Solution.

"I wish I knew how Blanks lives without working?" "Open a grocery store in his neighborhood and you'll soon find out."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Parts of Speech.

Teacher—Thomas, what are the parts of speech? Tommy Tucker (after an exhaustive mental effort)—It's the way a noun talks when he stutters.

A great man is he who affects the mind of his generation.—Thoreau.

THE CIGARETTE BEETLE.

This Tough Little Pest Will Flourish Even in Cayenne Pepper.

A tiny but withal practically omnivorous little fellow, the cigarette beetle is known to science as Lasioderma serricorne. It is common in nearly all tropical and subtropical countries, and, as a sample of its catholic tastes, we may mention that it will breed in calais, rhubarb, cayenne pepper, rice, ginger, dried fish, upholstery, ergot, turmeric, books, cane work, gun wads, liquorice, saffron, belladonna and in pyrethrum powder strong enough to kill cockroaches—a varied catalogue to be sure. It is chiefly as a pest of tobacco, in various forms, however, that the cigarette beetle has become notorious. The greatest damage is done to the wrappers of cigars and cigarettes, through which it eats small holes.

The larvae live upon the tobacco leaf, and a very interesting fact is that the size of the adult beetles, into which the larvae eventually develop depends not only on the quantity, but also on the quality, of tobacco that has been devoured in the immature stages. Experiment has shown that in every case beetles obtained from selected cigars were double the size of those from low grade tobacco. It will be remembered that the cheese "skipper" is partial to the better cheeses; similarly, the cigarette beetle is somewhat of a connoisseur, for given a free choice cigarettes are always the first to be infested, while cheap grade tobacco and cigars kept in the same room will remain uninfested for years.

Apart from the actual destruction of the tobacco leaf, the larvae spoil its aroma and accordingly depreciate its value. It is some consolation to know that the adults themselves do no damage. This little beetle is most difficult to eradicate, and, to that end, an experimental X ray machine was specially built at great expense in America. The machine was to be capable of "sterilizing" cigars, on a commercial scale, at the rate of 40,000 a day; voltages of 44,000 to 75,000 and exposures as long as an hour were tried without the slightest effect upon eggs, larvae, pupae or adults—the experiment was a failure.—"Insects and Man," by G. A. Baland.

VICTOR HUGO'S VISION.

The Day When Weapons of War Will Be Regarded as Curiosities.

A day comes when you, France—you, Russia—you, Italy—you, England—you, Germany—all you nations of the continent shall without losing your distinctive qualities and your glorious individuality blend in a higher unity and form a European fraternity, as Normandy, Brittany, Burgundy, Lorraine, Alsace, all the French provinces, blended into France. A day will come when war shall seem as impossible between Paris and London, between Petersburg and Berlin, as between Rouen and Amiens, as between Boston and Philadelphia.

A day will come when bullets and bombs shall be replaced by ballots, by the universal suffrage of the people, by the sacred arbitrament of a great sovereign senate, which shall be to Europe what the parliament is to England, the diet to Germany, the legislative assembly to France. A day will come when a cannon shall be exhibited in our museums as an instrument of torture is now and men shall marvel that such things could be.

A day will come when we shall see those two immense groups, the United States of America and the United States of Europe, in face of each other extending hand to hand over the ocean, exchanging their products, their commerce, their industry, their art; their genius clearing the earth, colonizing deserts and ameliorating creation.

To you I appeal, French, English, Germans, Russians, Slavs, Europeans, Americans, what have we to do to hasten the coming of the great day? Love one another.—Victor Hugo.

Too Costly.

King George V. once wished to add the Green park in London, to his palace grounds, whether the people liked it or not. He inquired of his minister as to the cost.

His lordship, mindful of the general discontent then prevalent, answered: "The cost, sir? Oh, it would be a matter of three crowns!"

The king took the hint. The people kept their park and the sovereign his triple throne.

Dublin's Red Haired Club.

The Red Haired club of Dublin, which flourished years ago, was a society which barred out all whose hair was covering was not of the most pronounced auburn. In order that no one could gain admission by false pretenses it was required at the initiation of each member that the applicant wash his hair and whiskers in hot soda and water. This effectually took out any "dye" that had been used.

Mutual Help.

"Say, old man," quoth the farmer. "I wish you'd train my son to be a lawyer in your office. There's nothing in farming."

"I'll do it," assented the lawyer, "provided you'll take my son on your farm. There's nothing in the law."—Kansas City Journal.

Singapore.

Singapore is not well known, though it is one of the world's largest ports and comes within the first eight. It is an entrepot for the transshipment of the merchandise of the Malay peninsula and archipelago, besides considerable transshipments for Siam and Indo China.

OUR PUBLIC FORUM

III—Julius Kruttschnitt

On Financing Railroads



The farmers of this nation need to become better acquainted with the railroad men and their problems. It is only those who know that can give us information and the farmers of America should listen attentively to what the men who manage railroad property

have to say. Mr. Kruttschnitt, executive head of the Southern Pacific, has written an article dealing with the financing of railroads. He said in part:

"The financing of a railroad is a function which the people, through their servants, the Railroad Commissioners and the Legislators, have never attempted, but it is a most important problem, especially to sections of a State where new railroads are needed. The placing of securities has been left entirely with the promoter and owner of railroads.

"The immediate determination of what earnings the railroad shall be permitted to receive and what burdens it shall have put on it is in the hands of other servants of the public

—the Legislators and the Commissioners.

"Managing a railroad is quite different from managing a government where the money is raised by taxation. When the expenditures, for good reasons or otherwise, increase, taxes can be equally increased. The railroads, while servants of the public, cannot raise money with such ease and facility. The railroads must keep their expenditures within their incomes because while they have some control over their expenditures they have almost no control over their incomes, their rates being fixed by public authorities.

"There is not a railway manager in the country today who is not fearful that under the press of increasing demands the transportation systems of the country will, in a few years, break down, unless the railroads are allowed to earn larger funds wherewith to build it up. There are vast sections of the country, especially in the West, where more railroads are needed and they cannot be built unless the railroads raise new capital.

"People invest money in order to make money, and they are skeptical as to whether they can make money by investing in concerns that are dealt with stringently and unfairly. Railroad securities must be made more attractive to invite investments, and in order that they may be made more attractive, the roads must be allowed earnings that will enable them to meet the increased capital charges."

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