#### The Athena Bress

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER F. B. Boyd, Fublisher

Published Every Friday. Office, Corner Third and Jefferson Streets.

Entered in the Postoffice at Athenn, Oregon, as econd-lass Mail Matter.

Subscription Rates. One copy, one year .....\$1.50 When paid in Advance, (otherwise, \$2.00)

Advertising Rates. Display, transient, running less than one month, first insertion, per inch..... 25c Display regular, per inch..........121/2 Local readers, first insertion, per line, 10c

Subsequent insertions, per line ..... 50 Lodge resolutions, per line ........... 5c Church notices, admission, per line... 5c ATHENA. ORE., AUG. 16,......... 1912

#### PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH.

Descendants of the Germans Who Came to This Country In 1682,

To most Americans the word "Dutch" means German. The Dutch are Hollanders from the Netherlands. New York was first settled by the Dutch from Holland.

The first Germans came to this country in 1682 and settled at Germantown. It is estimated that the Germans and their descendants in Pennsylvania numbered 105,000 at the time of our revolution. The descendants of these are called the Pennsylvania Germans or Dutch. The word Dutch is a corruption of Deutsch, meaning German.

The early Germans were followers of Menno Simons, known as Mennonites. They were persecuted in their own country on account of their religious belief and when Penn offered religious liberty it was gladly accepted by them. The persecuted Germans came largely from the Rhenish palatinate, Wurtemberg, from the lower Rhine, Alsace, Saxony and Switzerland.

The southeastern counties of Pennsylvania, such as Lancaster, York, Berks and Lebanon, were chosen for settlement. These settlers spoke a variety of dialects, and, owing to segregation in religious communities, they clung to their mother tongue. English words have since crept in and as a result we have the somewhat picturesque language known as the "Pennsylvania Dutch." Their religious belief and their common interest have preserved this class with singular purity.-Philadelphia Ledger.

#### OLD TALLY STICKS.

Their Use In England Was Abolished With Disastrous Results.

the museum attached to the standards department of the board of trade, in Old Palace yard, London. a box containing a number of the old exchequer tally sticks, upon which, until an early period in the last century, it was the custom to keep the national

The tallies were notched sticks of seasoned willow or hazel, the notch on the edge representing the particular amount-the smallest for pence, a larger notch for shillings and the largest for pounds.

The system, which was first introduced by the Normans in the year 1066, was not finally abolished until the reign of William IV., and then only with disastrous results. An order was promulgated that the accumulated tal-Hes, amounting to many thousands, were to be destroyed, and they were accordingly burned in one of the stoves in the house of lords. By some means or other the stove became choked, the paneling caught fire, and in the end the whole of the palace of Westminster, with the exception of Westminster hall, was destroyed.

Some years ago a number of these old tally sticks were discovered in Martin's bank, in Lombard street .-New York Tribune.

Puzzles From the Greek,

If two are a few, why not three; if three, why not four, and by a gradually advancing increment of number why not 10,000, or any other number? Or, again, if the loss of a single hair does not make a man bald, why should the loss of two, of three, and so on, and inferentially the loss of all?

If, then, no addition or subtraction of a unit can transform a small number of wheat grains into a heap or a full head of hair into a bald head, how is it possible that either transition should ever be accomplished?

Take a grain of millet out of a bushel and let it fall on the ground, and it makes no noise. Take every grain in recession of 10,000, let the same hap-), and no sound is heard. Then colet all the grains back into the bushel and pour it out, and the result is a great noise. How, asks Zeno, can 10,-000 noiseless processes make one full of

> Honors at College. What was your son's social stand-

ing in college?" "Oh, very fair. Why, he almost got

into the Gibber and Squeak society!" "Indeed! How was that?" Why, you know they always hit

them on the back as a sign they have been selected, and George was hit on the back with such force that it knocked him down."

"Yes, indeed. He thought of course he had been chosen; but he found out afterward it was the class bully who hit him because he didn't like the set of his collar. But even that's a great honor."-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

She Hated It-Sure.

"I hate flattery," she said, "Of course you do," he replied. "Ev-

ery pretty girl does." Then she drew a long, deep sigh and permitted him to press her cheek against his own.-Chicago Record-Her-

Two Views of It.

Parson-Do you take this woman for better or for worse? Bridegroom-Well, I can't exactly say. Her people think it's for better, but mine think it's for worse. -Life.

#### GAY OLD FASHIONS.

Dandies of Past Centuries Would Make Solomon Look Sad.

Compared with the gay apparel worn by the dandles of the past ages the youths of our time in the gayest of gay raiment make but a poor show.

The bishop of Ely in the fourteenth century had a change of raiment for every day in the year. The Earl of Northumberland boasted no less than sixty cloth of gold suits at this time. In the time of Chaucer the men wore

clothes as many colored as Joseph's coat, so that while one leg would be a blaze of crimson, the other would be tricked out in green, blue or yellow without any regard for harmony or contrast.

Even as late as the middle of the eighteenth century, a dandy would dress himself in a vivid green coat, a waistcoat of scarlet, vellow breeches and blue stockings.

And the gentleman of a few years later wore, among other vagaries, a cont of light green, with sleeves too small for the arms and buttons too big for the sleeves; a pair of fine Manchester breeches; clocked silk stockings; a club of hair behind larger than the head which carried it; a hat not larger than a sixpence.

It was a common thing in the early part of the eighteenth century for a man of fashion to spend several hours daily in the hands of his valet. Among the many operations which took up this time was "the starching of the beard and the proper perfuming of the garments, the painting of the face and anointing with oils, tinctures, essences and pomatums .- London Standard.

#### TRAMPS OF THE SEA.

Their Work In Developing the Ocean Carrying Trade.

There are land tramps and sea tramps, but whereas the former lives by the labor of others, the world's business would be in great straits were the latter to be swept from the face of the ocean. While there have practically always been tramp ships since men have sailed the sea, it remained for the Yankee skippers to develop this phase of ocean carrying to its highest degree. Tramping on the ocean is only another name for trading, and many are the stories extant of Yankee skippers swapping beads, mirrors, calico, knives and other trifles for Ivory in Africa, and for commodities equally as valuable in other lands. The tramp steamship came into ex-

Istence during the war between the states, and it is to this type of vessel that England primarily owes her supremacy on the sea, she having encouraged the building of tramps more than any other nation. In times of peace they add to her prosperity, and where they enjoy a subsidy, as they do in some instances, they are used as transports and other auxiliaries in

times of war. Next to England comes Norway as a nation which encourages sea tramps and as her maritime laws are more elastic than those of Great Britain. many British tramps are sold to Norwegian owners, who make them pay after they have outlived their usefulness under the British flag.-Marine Journal.

Rook and Crook.

The rook appears to have become the bird whose name stands for swindlers in a distinctly unfair way. At first "rook" meant a dupe, then the verb "to rook" came to mean to cheat, and out of this was evolved "rook," a cheater-a complete topsy turvy process. It is curious that the same thing has not happened to "gull." Here also the verb came from the substantive meaning a dupe, and as the gull strikes one as rather a knowing bird one might have expected the same evolution as in the case of the rook. It should be observed, however, that "gull," a dupe, did not refer specially to the sea gull, the word having formerly meant a young bird of any kind, In Elizabethan English it signified a callow youngster who wished to be thought smart .- London Chronicle.

The Salamander.

In Andrews' "Anecdotes Ancient and Modern" (1789) one reads, "Should a glass house fire be kept up without extinction for a longer term than seven years there is no doubt but that a salamander would be generated in the cinders." This probably accounts for the popular idea that a salamander lives in the fire, a fallacy so far removed from the truth that the curious lizardlike benst so called cannot endure even the heat of the sun, but skulks away under stones to avoid it. It will never lose its reputation for fire eating, though, which lingers still in the heating utensil that is named after It.

Intexicated by Tobacco. Giving evidence against a man on a charge of disorderly conduct at Bow street police court, a constable said that the accused behaved in a very violent and disorderly manner in Lei cester square on Tuesday evening. He quarreled with a cabman, and eventyally the witness took him into custody, believing him to be drunk. At the police station the prisoner dealed that he had been drinking, and the doctor who examined him reported that he had chewed tobacco to such an extent that it had had the same effect upon him as alcohol.-Pall Mail Ga-

Real Laziness. The Little Russians-those of the south-are said to be cleverer than the Russians of the north, but they are inzy-just how lazy may be gathered from this quotation from Mr. Maurice Baring's book, "Russian Essays and

Stories:" "The Little Russian," said a Little Russian gentleman to me, "is so lazy that he will say to his wife, 'Little wife, say whoa to my horse. I have a pain in my tongue."

Progressive.

"When did you commit your first fatal extravagance?" "When my boss referred to my wages as my salary!

"And when did you perpetrate this ratest fully?" "The day my wife called my salary my "tocome." "-Cleveland Lender.

#### ZINC SMELTING.

Not a Modern Art, Since It Was Known as Early as 1798.

For many years the art of zinc smelting was supposed to be relatively modern among metallurgical processes and to be due to the invention of the Abbe Daniel Dony, a chemist of Liege, the story of whose accidental discovery in 1805 is classical.

The particular type of Belgian furnace may indeed be credited to Dony, but it has long been doubtful whether he was entirely unacquainted with previous undertakings. Thus it is well known that the manufacture of spelter was begun in Upper Silesia about 1798-1800 by Johann Ruhberg, who learned the art in England (where zinc smelting was then being carried on by the English process of distillation downward) and Bergrath Dillinger began

zinc smelting in Carinthia in 1799. As remarked by Ingalls in "Production and Properties of Zinc:" "It is incomprehensible indeed that ten years later there should have been no knowledge in Belgium of what was being done in this branch of metallurgy in England, the two countries being separated only by a narrow strip of water, while the news had previously penetrated eastward to the Polish frontier." -Engineering and Mining Journal.

#### MAKING CLOUD PICTURES.

Some Useful Hints That May Help Amateur Photographers.

Your cloud picture depends largely upon your choice of a subject. Rivers and small lakes, mountains and hills lend the best contrast, while trees in the immediate foreground come next. Wide expanses of level lands or vast stretches of water are unsatisfactory. If you desire an ocean cloud effect be sure to place a cliff or some prominent landmark in the foreground to break the monotony.

The exposure for cloud effects, made necessary by the laws of light and optics, is necessarily very rapid. Anomalous as it may seem, this does not presuppose an extra rapid lens. In fact, such a one may defeat the very object you hope to attain. I make my cloud scenes with an ordinary rectilinear lens by preference. The exposure with an eight stop should be the maximum speed of the ordinary shutter. If the day is exceedingly brilliant the stop must be correspondingly decreased. The great danger is in over exposure, thereby dissolving your cloud.-Charles Stuart Moody in Outing Magazine.

Meals In the Dark Ages. Few references can be found as to the manner in which a meal was served and eaten during the dark ages. As near as we can learn, the soup was put in a big bowl with ears, called a "porringer." There was seldom a spoon for each person. Those who had spoons dipped them into the porringer. and the liquid was carried directly to each mouth. Those who were without ringer, holding it by one of the ears, or else borrowed a spoon of their neighbor. The meats were placed in a large vessel in the center of the table. Each person present at the meal picked out with his fingers such bits as he desired. One or two knives answered for half a dozen guests. Those who were without knives borrowed from those who had them. As a rule, the guests at table used their own knives. There is no evidence that napkins were supplied to guests at this period. At any rate, no mestion

The London Bobby.

In humor, in urbanity, as in perfect control of his district, the London policeman is the nearest possible approach to perfection. To the stranger he seems the politest of all the Londoners. The shop people in London are, in the average, both stupid and rude; the supposedly well bred people in Hyde park, if a hapless vagabond were to come to them for information, would be either insolent or unintelligible; the policeman, however, seems invariably polite, wonderfully well informed and furnished with English that is not nearly so atroclously cockney as that of those who fancy themselves his betters.-"Vagabond Journeys, the Human Comedy at Home and Abroad," by Percival Pollard.

An Explorer's Stratagem.

Sir Harry Johnston, the famous explorer, once escaped from a very tight corner in Africa by a queer stratagem. A score or two of murderous natives had surrounded his tent, into which before rushing it they sent an envoy. The envoy was told the smallpox was in the camp, and a wretched Albino was sent out as the awful example. In five minutes the scared tribesmen had vanished. As Sir Harry well knew, they feared the "white disease" more than all the inventions of Maxim.

An Accomplishment to Be Revived. Tommy Harduppe-Can you whistle, Mr. Wigwag? Wigwag-No, my boy. My whistling days are over. Tommy -Then you'd better learn again. Wigwag-Why? Tommy-'Cause I heard pop say he owed you some money and you'd have to whistle for it.

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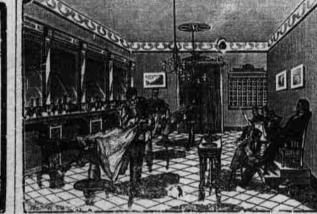
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