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Pretty Bad.

The barber was very busy and the shop was full of men waiting for him to practice his tonsorial art upon their heads and faces.

One man, Mr. Blank, became tired of waiting for his turn to come and started to leave. Although his beard had come out pretty heavy, he thought no one could notice it and that he could come back the next morning when Hughes, the barber, was not so busy. The barber, not wishing a customer to go away unattended to, accosted him by saying, "You're not leavin' us, is you, Mr. Blank?"

"Why, I don't need a shave, do I, Hughes?"

Hughes thereupon looked his customer over critically and answered him assuredly: "No, youse don't need a shave; all youse need is a hair cut on de face."—National Monthly.

"Going to England."

The Isle of Wight inhabitants are not alone in speaking of "going to England" when they leave their own fragment of the kingdom. A patriotic Cornishman also "goes to England" when he crosses the Tamar. Similarly inhabitants of the Balkan peninsula talk of "going to Europe" when they leave their own corner of the continent—in curious contrast with the people of our own island. We regard ourselves as both of and in "Europe," and accordingly it is only "the continent" that we visit. The record in the splendid isolation line is probably held by that minister of the Cumbræ. In the Clyde, who prayed for a blessing upon "the inhabitants of Great and Little Cumbræ and the adjacent islands of Great Britain and Ireland."—London Mirror.

A Question of Brains.

At a club frequented by doctors the discussion came up recently whether a person could live without a brain. During the discourse one of the doctors said: "When I was practicing medicine in Indiana a remarkable case came under my supervision. A man while out hunting had leaned upon his shotgun and the weapon had gone off accidentally, making a large wound in his head just above the ear. The brain was laid bare and in bringing the patient to the hospital a handful of the gray matter leaked out. He was trepanned and finally recovered, his mental faculties apparently as good as ever."

"Your story is interesting," interrupted an auditor, "but it sounds to me somewhat inconsistent."

"Why so?" questioned the narrator.

"Because," answered the other doctor, "if he had ever had a handful of brains he wouldn't have leaned on the gun."—National Monthly.

Great Crest of the Sierra.

Mount Whitney, the highest point in the United States, is not an isolated mountain peak, like Mount Shasta or Mount Rainier, but is the loftiest point in the great California crest or enormous saw tooth ridge of the Sierra Nevada, including many eminences almost as high. Mount Whitney is 14,501 feet above sea level. Among those of slightly lesser height are Mount Russell, less than a mile distant, 14,190 feet; Mount Williamson, 14,384 feet; Mount Muir, 14,205 feet; Mount Langley, 14,042 feet; Mount Barnard, 14,003 feet, and Mount Tyndall, 14,025 feet. The most distant of these is less than six miles away.

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By a strange freak of nature the lowest point of dry land in the United States is less than eighty miles from the highest. The lowest point is in Death valley and is 276 feet below sea level. It is said that from this point Mount Whitney can be easily seen on a clear day.

The deep things of this world are not engineered by sluggards.—James T. Fields.

Tobacco in France.

Twenty great factories work up the whole of the tobacco manufactured in France, and the right to retail is jealously guarded by the state. Permits to open tobacco shops are usually granted to widows of officers of the army and navy or of other employees of the government.—London Telegraph



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