

Daily Coast Mail

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Shaving in Egypt.

The earliest reference to shaving of the beard is found in Genesis xli, 14, where we read that Joseph on being summoned before the king shaved himself. There are several references to shaving in Leviticus, and the practice is alluded to in many other parts of the Bible. However, Egypt is the only country mentioned in the Bible where shaving was practiced. In all other countries at that time such an act would have been considered ignominious. Herodotus mentions that the Egyptians allowed their beards to grow when they were in mourning. So particular were they as to shaving at all other times that to have neglected it was to make oneself the butt of coarse and ridiculous jokes.

Even in this day and age when the Egyptian wants to convey the idea of a man of low condition and slovenly habits he always pictures to you a man with a full beard. This notion is very ancient, a fact attested by works of art found in burial monuments dating back thousands of years.

Southern Europe.

A traveler writes: "I have often been struck by the ease with which people in southern Europe are amused. In Paris 100,000 people go out to Longchamps for the Grand Prix race, and half a million people go out and line the roads on their return to see them come back. In Rome at the feast of the 'Divino Amore' 5,000 people go out on the Campagna to a spot where once stood a temple to Venus and hold a picnic, while 50,000 go out and line the Appian way to see them return. In Madrid this peculiarity is even more marked. On the Puerta del Sol about a thousand people stand around and do nothing outdoors, while crowds of people sit indoors or lean from balconies to watch them do it. And in Seville the idle rich sit in clubs and cafes on the Sierras to watch the lower classes walk by, while the lower classes walk by to watch the idle rich sitting in the clubs and cafes on the Sierras."

Reading the Bible.

How long will it take a person to read the Old Testament, with its 602,409 words, or the 181,253 words of the New Testament? And how long to read the 778,662 words of both?

A man can read understandingly 100 words every minute. By hurrying a man can read 160 words, or probably more. I will assume that a man can read critically—that is, carefully and understandingly—at least sixty words a minute. That is slow reading, being only 3,600 words an hour. Suppose a man should devote an hour a day to the Bible.

At this rate he would read 108,000 words in thirty days, or in a month's time. He would therefore read the Old Testament in less than six months, and he would finish the New Testament in less than two months.

Heating on Transcendental Hill.

Snipe shooting on an Irish bog is an excellent test of a gunner's skill and enthusiasm. An experienced bog shooter if he finds himself going down throws himself flat on his side or back and at the same time throws his gun to his attendant, generally an unshod "gosssoon," who rarely fails to catch it. The sensation of being bogged is very unpleasant, but if a man throws himself on his side or back there is strength enough in the post to support his body. "Forty-five Years of Sport."

General Life in Fiction.

Bishops do not often figure in the modern novel. When they do appear it is for the purpose of supplying "concealment." Deans escape fairly lightly; the dean of fiction has no worse vice than a "scholarly stoop" and an inveterate fondness for gossip. On the other hand, the archdeacon—in novels—is rubicund, fussy and self-important. While the rector may be a hearty sort of fellow with a bluff and bronzy manner, if you want a real physical villain he is invariably a vicar.—*Treasury.*

GOWN GOSSIP.

A faddish handkerchief has a little pocket in one corner with a buttoned flap to hold car fare.

Bishop tab stock collars are made of two fine embroidered handkerchiefs, one forming the collar and the other plaited to the center to make the tab.

Long or short, plain or plaited, one's skirts must flare at the hem. Special underskirts are designed to wear with walking skirts that this flare may be effected.

From frills and ruffles are not seen on the handsomest petticoats, their places being usurped by shaped volants, which are a mass of lace medallions and embroidery.

A new summer collar of stiff linen is a turnover, the usual height in the back, but sloping gradually to half that width in the front. It is very cool. Stout women will especially appreciate this collar.

The wide mourning hats, with their graceful veils of net bordered with crepe, are an improvement on the close bonnet swathed in crepe. The hats are much cooler, generally cheaper and are, as a rule, becoming.—*New York Post.*

POPULAR SCIENCE.

The most lofty clouds measured last year were at a height of 36,000 feet and moved at 149 miles an hour.

Professor Darwin says that ultimately the day and the month will be equal, being equivalent to fifty-five of our present days.

The experiments of Muller prove that if microbes be placed in a gun barrel the wound made by a bullet fired from it would be infected by the microbes.

The opinion of Sir John Herschel that the southern portion of the Milky Way, under the Southern Cross, is nearer to us than the northern is quoted against the assertion of Professor Wallace that we are in the center of the universe.

A star with a period of four hours and thirteen seconds has been discovered photographically at Potsdam, Germany. Hitherto the shortest day observed is that of a star in the cluster of Omega Centauri, which has a period of seven hours and eleven minutes.

ARTISTS THREE.

M. Georges Bertrand, the French artist, whose home is in Versailles, has just completed the largest picture ever painted. The subject is the "Obsequies of President Carnot."

One of the veterans of European art has passed away in the Danish landscape painter Vilhelm Kyhn, who died in Copenhagen, where he was born on March 30, 1819. He was originally a shopman.

James Guthrie, who was made Sir James Guthrie by King Edward during his recent visit to Edinburgh, is regarded as the youngest living artist to win a title on his artistic merits. He is forty-four years old. Recently he was elected president of the Royal Scottish academy.

TRAIN AND TRACK.

The Pennsylvania Railroad company has begun work on a \$10,000,000 terminal at Washington.

Americans are entering upon the construction of a seventy-mile electric railroad in Porto Rico.

French railways are making special arrangements so that dogs may travel comfortably for long distances.

For the comfort of its employees in the outlying districts one of the Russian railways is instituting traveling baths.

An electric line direct to the summit of Mont Blanc is to be commenced without delay by a French firm of railway engineers.

SOME MAINE EPITAPHS.

"She lived with her husband fifty years and died in the confident hope of a better life."

John K. (killed in the battle of Shiloh) was born in the state of New York, where the wicked came from troubling and the weary are at rest.

Here lies Bernard Lightfoot, who was accidentally killed in the forty-fifth year of his age. The monument was erected by his grateful family.

POWDER AND BALL.

A new rifle has been selected for the United States army, the bullet from which will penetrate twenty-four one inch planks of pine.

England has nine submarine war vessels built or building, and France has fifty. Their presence is expected to make blockades impossible.

Engineers and artificers for the French navy are to be trained on board an old transport which has been turned into a naval schoolship at Bordeaux. She will accommodate 400 cadets, who will go through a four years' course.

What He Married On.

"Tom Higgins married, you say, on \$10 a week? That took nerve, say now. What was he working at?" "Nothing. It was the girl that was earning the \$100."—*Washington Star.*

The Time For Recreation.

In this fast-paced age, when life everywhere is at high pressure, there is great need of emphasizing the importance, yes, the absolute necessity—of recreation.

What is work worth, especially brain work, when it is performed with jaded faculties, the energy of the brain cells being exhausted?

One ambitious of becoming a writer, for example, thinks he is saving time by forcing his brain beyond natural limits. He believes that what he does over hours is clear gain and that writing a chapter or an article after his day's work in an office, a factory or store is to his advantage. But sooner or later he will realize his mistake. Nature will not be cheated.

A man may profitably occupy his evenings in study or in some other occupation than that by which he earns his daily bread, but he cannot do a full day's work of any kind and then wisely attempt to do creative work in the evening. A fresh brain is absolutely essential to the production of original thought. Even a recognized author who forces too much work upon his brain will soon see that his writings are not as much in demand as they have been and that his reputation is waning.—*O. S. Marsden in Success.*

Dolly Madison.

There are many stories told of the tact and kindness of Mistress Dolly Madison when she was the first lady of the land. Her ready wit saved from confusion many a visitor to the White House who was not accustomed to the ways of polite society.

One of the most amusing of the stories is the tale of a country lad at a White House reception who was surprised in the midst of his enjoyment of a cup of coffee by the approach of his hostess. In his confusion the poor boy dropped his saucer and thrust the cup into his pocket.

Mistress Dolly, who, although her eyes were keen and searching, never saw anything that it was not intended she should see, chatted away with her guest so pleasantly of the weather, the crowd, and, finally, of the young man's mother, whom she had known or heard of, that he recovered from his embarrassment and was soon at ease and ready to accept the fresh cup of coffee which his hostess ordered, despite a certain curious and unexplained bulge in his pocket.

Fire Horses as Pets.

The horses of the New York fire department receive more petting probably than any other horses in the world. In nearly every engine house each of the stalls bears the name of the horse occupying it, large black letters on aluminum marking the quarters of Tom, Harry, Dick or Major, as the case may be. The firemen are proud of their dumb friends and not only do everything possible to make them comfortable when they are off duty, but take pleasure in providing them with little luxuries and tidbits. Loaf sugar, nougat and other candies are purchased by one fireman or another in each engine house almost every day, and passersby may often see the horses eating the sweets from the hands of their men friends.

All Was Well.

The old Bridewell burying ground in England is the resting place of Mme. Creswell, so often mentioned by Charles II. dramatists, who died in Bridewell prison and left £10 for a sermon to be preached at her funeral on condition that nothing should be said of her but what was well. The preacher got out of the difficulty rather neatly by saying: "All that I shall say of her is this: She was born well, she lived well, and she died well, for she was born with the name of Creswell, she lived in Clerkwell, and she died in Bridewell."

Not an Authority.

"You don't pronounce that word right," said the stranger, who was doing his first fishing in a northern Wisconsin lake. "Webster calls it 'mus-kellunge.'"

"I never heard of Webster," fiercely retorted the old guide, "but I'm willing to bet he never ketches a musky in his life!"—*Chicago Tribune.*

A Hint For the Flatterers.

"He rejected him, then?" "Yes." "He used to praise her beauty in glowing terms. I should think that would have made her fall in love with him."

"It made her fall in love with herself, and she hasn't had room for a thought about anybody else."

Grows Cautious.

"What kind of weather do you think we are going to have tomorrow?" "The indications," said the professional prophet, "point to more rain, but I have no personal opinion on the subject whatever."—*Washington Star.*

Shoes.

The talent of shoes is nothing more than doing what you can do well without a thought of fame.—*Songbird.*

He who devours the substance of the poor will meet in the end with a boner to his own.—*Schoolmaster.*

USEFUL HINTS.

How to Solve Several Perplexing Household Problems.

A quick and easy way to slip a rod through curtains is to pare the end of the rod, put a thumb on the end, and the rod will slip through quite easily without tearing the curtain.

To prevent windows from signaling clean them thoroughly and apply a small quantity of glycerin over the polish with a soft cloth. Rub briskly and lightly until the glycerin is well rubbed in.

To prevent portieres catching underneath the door when opened quickly screw a small ring such as is used for picture frames into the center of the door frame. To this fasten a length of blind cord sufficient to reach to the bottom of the curtain. Put another ring in the center of the door at the top, thread the cord through and fasten to the bottom of the curtain, and as the door is opened so the curtain rises.

Do not throw old incandescent mantles away. They make a splendid polish for silver. Put a little on a soft duster and rub on the article to be cleaned. It will polish beautifully without scratching or marking the silver.

Before cleaning out a fireplace sprinkle a good handful of tea leaves among the ashes. This makes the ashes lift easier and prevents the dust from flying about the room.

When machining soft materials such as silks or muslins pin or tack strips of paper along the parts to be machined so that the paper is next to the teeth of the sewing machine and the work uppermost. Then the material will not ruck or gather, as it otherwise would. Even chiffon can be machined in this way.

Never disturb an invalid by making a noise when putting coals on the fire in the sick room. Put the pieces of coal in paper bags and put both coals and bag on the fire.

How to Wash a Lace Collar.

To wash a lace collar first sew the lace with long stitches upon a double thickness of white flannel, plunge into warm soapsuds and wash, then rinse in clear water to which a little borax and bluing have been added. Gently squeeze in the hand, place between dry flannel and press till dry with a hot iron.

How to Draw an Oval.

Take two stout pins and stick them firmly into the table through the sheet of paper on which you wish to draw the oval, about two inches apart. Then tie together the ends of a bit of string about eight inches long so as to form a loop, leaving two loose ends, each about an inch long. When you have done this tie the loose ends into a smaller loop, which need not be larger than sufficient to admit the point of a pencil. Now place the larger loop over the two pins and, putting the point of your pencil through the smaller loop, stretch the string as far as it will go and circle all around the pins. You will find that in moving from one pin to the other the string forms an ever varying triangle and that the figure described in passing all around the pins is as perfect an oval as the most delicate instrument can produce.

How to Handle Horse Radish.

To have horse radish at its best buy the root, but do not grate it, as it is much easier and saves many tears if you wash and scrape it. Next cut into dice and put it through the finest cylinder of your meat chopper and then into air tight jars so as to retain the full strength until wanted for use.

How to Air Beds.

The directions for airing beds given in a domestic training school are worth noting. Place two chairs with seats together near an open window. Fold the counterpane neatly the long way and lay over the tops of the chairs, allowing the middle to sag down to the seats. Fold the blankets next and place over the counterpane, allowing a space between each for the circulation of air. Proceed in the same way with the rest of the bedclothing. Beat up the pillows and place them where they will get the air.

How to Clean Marble.

Marble can be cleaned by rubbing with a rather soft paste made of whiting or prepared chalk and water to which a little ammonia has been added. Rinse afterward with clean water. A rub with pumice stone and water will restore the polish.

How to Make Water Lily Salad.

Here is a salad that looks as pretty as it sounds and tastes as delicious as it both looks and sounds. Cut the whites of hard boiled eggs into pointed petal-like strips. Save out two or three yolks, but wash the rest. Mix with mayonnaise and fill the middle of the arranged petals with the mixture. Put the remaining yolks through a fine sieve, scatter over the petals to simulate pollen and cut lettuce into points to resemble the outer green.

How to Save Your Stockings.

To save your stockings sew a piece of chamois leather on the inside of the heel of your shoe. This will prevent it rubbing the stocking and so delay the appearance of those dreaded holes.

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Time Table

Steamer Flyer Steamer Blanche

LEAVES
Marshfield, 8 a. m.
Empire, 10 a. m.
Marshfield, 2:30 p. m.
Empire, 4:30 p. m.

LEAVES
Empire, 8 a. m.
Marshfield, 10:30.
Empire, 2 p. m.
Marshfield, 4 p. m.

Fare from Marshfield to Empire and return 75c.