

**FAVORITE AGES OF WOMEN.**

They Appear to Range Between Sixteen and Twenty-four Years.

It may seem strange that women have preferences for particular ages. An inspection of the census, however, leaves no room for doubt that certain years are preferred and certain other years disliked by the members of the gentler sex.

Of children fourteen years and under the number of boys is nearly 400,000 greater than the number of girls; at fifteen the boys are still 6,000 ahead of the girls; at sixteen the girls are 6,000 the more numerous, and each year thereafter until the twenty-fourth there is an excess of women over men. The favorite ages within these limits are eighteen and twenty. There are 24,000 more misses of eighteen than there are boys of that age, and the young ladies twenty years old exceed their masculine companions by 54,000. At twenty-four and twenty-five the numbers of the two sexes are nearly equal. Then the women begin to grow less with great rapidity. The most unpopular ages are thirty and forty. At the former age there is a difference of 78,000 between the two sexes; at the latter 83,000.

One peculiar circumstance is that there are more women twenty years old than there are girls of thirteen or fourteen or any age up to twenty. This fact conclusively demonstrates that twenty is a very healthful age. But if the younger ages are unhealthy, where did the increased number who are twenty years old come from? No women are born that old.

Only an unusually elastic theory can account for these peculiarities with becoming gallantry to the lovelier sex.—J. S. Gilman in Ladies' Home Journal.

**YANKEE DOODLE.**

The Original Version Dates From the Time of Oliver Cromwell.

The lively strains of "Yankee Doodle" are heard at every patriotic celebration, says a writer in Collier's Weekly, yet perhaps few of those whose pulses stir at the sound of the familiar notes are aware that it dates from the time of Oliver Cromwell and crossed the seas with the Puritans.

"Yankee Doodle" was one of the nicknames bestowed by the Cavaliers on the hated Roundhead, and a verse written upon Cromwell's entry into Oxford, riding on a small horse with a plume twisted into a sort of knot called a "macaroni," runs as follows:

Nankee Doodle came to town  
Upon a little pony,  
With a feather in his hat  
Upon a macaroni.

The transition from Nankee to Yankee—which came from Yengoe, the Indian word for English—was very easy, and the Royalists used it as a jeer at all New Englanders.

When the Colonials in Boston, preparing for the coming war, smuggled muskets into the country, concealing them in loads of manure, the Tories sang to the old tune of "Lucy Fisher":

Yankee Doodle came to town  
For to buy a froleok;  
We will tar and feather him,  
And so we will John Hancock.

When the British forces marched to the battles of Concord and Lexington their approach was heralded by "God Save the King," but when the "Yankee farmers" saw the foe in full retreat the strains of "Yankee Doodle" accompanied their flight, and from that hour, wherever the stars and stripes have floated, the once despised tune has been heard.

**Galileo's Wit.**

Galileo's wit, according to a biography, got him into trouble when he put into the mouth of Simplicio, the foolish opponent of the Copernican theory in his "Dialogues," an argument that Pope Urban VIII had himself devised and insisted on Galileo incorporating in the work. Galileo made Simplicio quote it as an argument he had from a "very eminent and learned personage." The enemies of Galileo persuaded Urban that he had been "made game of" and this was the offense of which Galileo was guilty. It was not for upholding the theory that the sun stands still and the earth moves that Galileo was tried by the inquisition. Urban himself had supported the Copernican doctrines, both as cardinal and as pope.

**A Continuous Smoke.**

In the Philippines the use of tobacco is universal. The native child acquires the tobacco habit as soon as it is able to walk. In the northern provinces especially it is no uncommon sight to see a child five or six years old puffing vigorously at a big cigar. The women smoke fully as much as the men and commonly smoke cigars where the men use cigarettes. In the northern parts of Luzon immense cigars often a couple of feet long and as thick as the wrist are used. Such a cigar is suspended from a rafter of the house by a string and smoked during the day by all the members of the family as desired.

**Impossible Shakespeare.**

Critic—Marvelous drama of yours, sir. There's a scene in that play that Shakespeare himself could not have written.

Author—Indeed! You are too flattering.

Critic—I was referring to that railway smash in the third act.—London **Star**.

**POISON OF THE RATTLER.**

Not Nearly as Dangerous as It is Popularly Supposed to Be.

"There is a good deal more fright about the bite of a rattlesnake than there is actual danger," said a well known physician recently. "I do not mean to say that the bite of a rattler is not a very serious thing, but I do mean to say that this particular sort of snake is really not so ready or apt to 'get in his bite' as some others.

"In the first place, there is the now generally credited fact that the rattler is the most honest of snakes. He doesn't 'pick a fight.' He doesn't lay in wait for any one. He won't run away, of course, for he is a plucky reptile, but he will curl up and give you a fair warning from those rattles of his before he attempts to strike. I remember once in the west finding a rattler just ahead of my horse's fore feet. I had no weapon of any sort, so I rode on, passing within a few inches of the reptile. The snake was curled and ready for my horse in case the animal side stepped, but as we did nothing of that sort we were allowed to pass in peace.

"Again, the truth is that the poison of the rattler does not get into the wound inflicted by the fangs in the average human being. For the average human being nowadays is clothed, and the holes in the fangs through which the poison comes are rather far up toward the roof of the mouth. Consequently very often the point of the fangs may enter the skin, while the poison dribbles out harmlessly enough upon the trousers or the boot. It is then that the 'victim' gets scared, fills up on whisky—a bad thing in bona fide cases of rattlesnake bite—and believes himself marvelously cured when he wakes up next day."—Philadelphia Press.

**APHORISMS.**

Set a beggar on horseback and he will ride a gallop.—Button.

The hearing ear is always found close to the speaking tongue.—Emerson.

To be conscious that you are ignorant is a great step to knowledge.—Diarmid.

Humility is a virtue all preach, none practice, and yet everybody is content to hear.—Selden.

A life spent worthily should be measured by a nobler line—by deeds, not years.—R. B. Sheridan.

Health is the second blessing that mortals are capable of, a blessing that money cannot buy.—Walton.

When a man assumes a public trust he should consider himself as public property.—Thomas Jefferson.

Everybody likes and respects self made men. It is a great deal better to be made in that way than not to be made at all.—O. W. Holmes.

**Little Henry's Questions.**

Little Henry was reading ancient history stories. "Pa," said he suddenly, "can I ask you a question?"

"I guess you can, Henry. You seem to have a fair command of English."

"Well, may I, then?" little Henry continued.

"Yes," said pa. "Fire ahead."

"That's funny," said little Henry. "I was just thinking of such things. Now, did the old Romans light their houses with Roman candles?"

"I shouldn't wonder," said pa, chuckling. "Nero, at least, indulged in a good deal of fireworks. Anything else?"

"Yes," replied little Henry. "Did the people of Athens do all their cooking with Greek fire?"

Then pa got mad and said he couldn't be bothered with any more silly questions.—Household Ledger.

**Laying the "Ghost."**

The Earl of Onslow tells a very effective story. His beautiful old place, Clandon, suddenly became possessed of a "ghost," and the servants of the place were almost terrified out of their wits by the noises they heard and the sights they saw or imagined. The reputation of the mansion became noised abroad, and at last Lord Onslow took a short cut to end the mystery. He assembled his servants and gave it out to them that he was determined to have no more of this sort of thing. For the future all members of his family would sleep with loaded revolvers by their side, and at the first suggestion of a noise they would send a bullet in its direction to investigate the cause. Clandon nowadays is quite commonplace in its immunity from the uncanny.—London Globe.

**An Irish Compliment.**

When Earl Spencer was lord Lieutenant of Ireland the people of Dublin called the beautiful countess, one of the loveliest women of her time, "Spencer's Faerie Queen."

But when their excellencies were about to return to England Irish gallantry was shown in a characteristic way. At the farewell banquet in their honor an Irish gentleman got up and said, with much fervor and many bows:

"We all hope soon to see you back again, you and the work of art by your side."

**Knew Paris.**

Bobson—I see that a Parisian countess is obliged to earn her living at the wash-tub. Too bad, isn't it?

Dacon Bingle (who knows some

thing about Paris)—Well, I don't know. Those Parisian washerwomen seemed to be a decidedly jolly lot.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

**Heartless Female!**

Young Wife—What do you do when your husband gets cross and wants to scold?

Wife (with experience)—I read him one or two of the letters he used to write to me before we were married.—Baltimore American.

**FENCES FOR ANGORAS.**

Two Objects Must Be Kept In View In Constructing Them.

The fencing for pastures is a matter which early concerns one who contemplates going into the business, for it is the current belief that goats will climb on to any shed of ordinary height or jump a fence that will stop other animals, says a report of the bureau of animal industry. While they will climb anything that is built in such a manner that it may be climbed easily, they will not jump any ordinary fence. They will, however, creep through if there is an opening large enough. The old fashioned "worm" fence, especially if it leans outward, will not stop goats. The angles in such a fence are an incentive and a delight to them. Indeed there are many hogs that will go over a fence of this kind. In building a goat fence there are other matters to be taken into account than simply that the goats shall be kept in. The animals themselves, especially the young ones, must be protected from dogs and wolves from the outside. In the southwest it is much more important to fence to keep vermin out than it is to fence to keep the goats in. So the double object must be kept in view in building a goat fence.

Such a fence must be dog proof and wolf proof. A hog at liberty which has once had the taste of chicken or lamb or kid is a greater nuisance than any wolf or dog and should be dispatched as being an enemy to other young live stock as well as kids. One correspondent of the bureau constructs a fence of ten barbed hog wires, with posts set twenty feet apart, having three stays between the posts. The lowest wire is only one inch from the ground, the next four wires three and a quarter inches apart and one-half inch added to every space above. It is necessary that all the wires should be kept very tight. This correspondent adds the interesting note that many wolves are killed by screw worms in wounds received while attempting to crawl through such a fence. A good fence may be made by woven wire three feet high drawn on the inside of the posts and a closely barbed strand of wire three or four inches above fastened to the outside of the posts to prevent animals from jumping in. A straight rail fence, if the rails are laid close enough, as well as an ordinary board fence will turn goats. Mr. Johnson of the bureau says that a five board panel fence four feet high is sufficient for goats. He also says that zigzag or worm fences are an incentive for goats to climb and that they will walk along the top of such fences as easily as on the ground. If they are permitted to climb on to the roofs of buildings it will not be long before they will have them completely ruined.

When the Lambs Are Dropped. Have your ewes drop their lambs at the time most suitable to your convenience. If properly provided with the necessary food and shelter, then early—the earlier the better, as you will have more time to care for them during the winter than after the spring work sets in. But if the proper provisions have not been made when they drop offspring later when weather has become settled and they will care for themselves.

Energy will do anything that can be done in this world, and no talents, no circumstances, no opportunities, will make a man without it.—Goethe.

**His Position.**

"Say, Chimmie, see dat man gettin' on de car? Dat's the postmaster general."

"Aw, gwan! He ain't no general—ain't got no brass buttons nor stars nor notin'."

"Aw, he ain't no soldier general. He's de man who hands out letters at de general delivery windy."—Kansas City Journal.

The great Piano House of Allen & Gilbert-Kamaker Co., of Portland, have placed a permanent representative in Coos county, in the person of Mr. E. M. Furman. This means much for the musically inclined of this county, as better goods at lower prices will be the rule. They do not handle pianos painted over in imitation of wood, and varnished, but the real walnut oak, or mahogany is always used. They do not handle cheap pianos, with celluloid keys but genuine ivory is the material used. They are not new-comers to this county, having at different times during the last quarter of a century placed their leading pianos with Coos county's best citizens. But in order to become better acquainted with you they offer to those who are thinking of buying an instrument in the near future the benefit of special prices which will prevail for a fortnight, following Jan. 1st.

We call your attention to the fact that the Allen & Gilbert-Kamaker Co. has the largest and most varied stock of artistic high grade pianos to be found in the west, and they sell them at the lowest prices possible, quality considered. You can buy on monthly or quarterly payments if you are not prepared to pay the cash. They also have pianos of various grades and prices, from the costliest Grand to the smallest Upright. They are well and favorably known as an up-to-date firm and their phenomenal success have advertised them as the square dealing piano house of Portland. They are constantly adding to their wareroom space, and have just now moved into new and spacious quarters, corner of 6th and Morrison St.

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