

SPEED OF SOUND.

An Easy Method of Judging the Distance It Travels. There is an old saying that if you can count five between the flash and the thunder you are safe. Modern science tells us that if you can see the flash at all you are safe, because if it struck you you would have no time to see it. The speed of lightning is about 180 times that of light.

MARRIAGE BY PROXY.

This Curious Ceremony is a Purely Dutch Institution. Some time ago a Boer in Pretoria was married to a girl in Amsterdam, in Holland, the ceremony constituting what the Dutch call handschen, or glove marriage.

BOYS WHO DID BIG THINGS.

Many of the World's Great Men Won Fame in Their Youth. Some of the greatest achievements in the world have been made by youth, and it will always be so in human history. David, the sweet singer of Israel, was a shepherd, a poet and a general before he was twenty and a king at the age of eighteen.

MADE THE CLERKS WORK.

A Senator Wanted Information and Found a Way to Get It. "Congress makes lots of unnecessary trouble for the government clerks," said a veteran employee, "but the worst case I know of occurred some years ago. A certain senator asked the comptroller of the currency to tell him how much stock a certain man had in a national bank. He was informed that such information was regarded as confidential and could not be given out."

BABIES UNDER THE SPOUT.

In Simla They Water the Youngsters to Keep Them Quiet. The native mothers in the neighborhood of Simla, in India, have a curious practice of putting their babies' heads under a spout of water in order to send the youngsters to sleep and to keep them quiet. When a new cart road was made some years ago in the locality mentioned there was a halting place, where rows of such children might be seen in a grove close to the road.

ORIGIN OF CINDERELLA.

The Dainty Footed Damsel Who Became a King's Wife. It has been said, "Not one girl in a thousand knows the origin of the friend of her childhood, Cinderella." Her real name was Rhodope, and she was a beautiful Egyptian maiden who lived 670 years before the common era and during the reign of one of the twelve kings of Egypt.

Franz's January Sale "BUY IT NOW FOR LESS"

Have bought no manufacturer's tag ends or bankrupt stocks, just quietly following the established custom of stimulating winter business by offering staple merchandise at a substantial reduction in price—with the result that stock is reduced before inventory, and room made for Spring and Summer Goods which must soon go on our floors and shelves. If you've a Furniture, Rug or Stove need—a desire for And-Irons, Fire Sets and Fire Place Screens, this is the best opportunity of the year to possess it.

Look for the "Red Tags" on almost every line in the Furniture Department. Brass Beds Reduced 15 per cent. \$18.00 Iron Beds... \$15.25. 12 Morris Chairs. Leather upholstered; to first twelve buyers, at just about cost. \$65.00 China Closet \$58.50.

AND-IRONS. Black Finish. \$1.75 Irons... Now \$1.55. Bright Steel Finish. \$6.25 Irons... Now \$5.35. Brass And-Irons. \$4.25 Irons... Now \$ 3.60. 3-Fold Fire Screens. \$2.95 Screens... Now \$2.50. Fire Sets. \$4.75 4-Piece Set... \$4.15.

RUGS. Note these prices on latest arrivals: \$13.50 Heavy Scotch Wool—9x12. \$12.65 Good Brussels—9x12. \$17.25 9x12—Axminster. \$19.50 Seamless Velvet. \$34.50 9x12—Wilton Velvet. Linoleum Remnants 35c Yd. up. Some large enough for small room. Sold at 60c to \$1.75 yard; now—35c—50c—75c—\$1.00 Yd. SPECIAL Ladies' Desk. Solid oak, finished, fumed or golden. Worth \$7.50. Only six to sell at the remarkably low price—\$5.49.

E. A. FRANZ CO. HOOD RIVER - OREGON. W. F. Laraway Doctor of Ophthalmology. Over 30 years' experience. Eyes Tested and Glasses Ground. Reference: Over 2,000 fitted in Hood River, U.S.A.

BATTLEFIELD BRAVERY. An Instance of Cool Courage in Face of Imminent Danger. Perhaps few stories of battles so thoroughly illustrate cool bravery in the face of real danger as the little incident at a reconnaissance before the battle of Ulundi, of which Lord William Beresford was the hero.

WHISTLER AT WORK.

The Eccentric Artist Had a Method That Was All His Own. In "Memories of James McNeill Whistler," by Thomas H. Way, the author allows us a glance at the artist's methods during his residence at the white house in Tite street, built from the designs of his friend, E. W. Godwin, the architect.

CHESTERFIELD'S LOVE LETTER.

A famous love letter, cautious and clever, is that written in 1661 by Philip, earl of Chesterfield, to Lady Russell. "Madam—The dullness of this last cold season doth afford nothing that is new to divert you; only here is a report that I am would know the truth of, which is that I am extremely in love with you. Pray let me know if it be true or no, since I am certain that no one but yourself can rightly inform me, for if you intend to use me favorably and do think I am in love with you I must certainly do so, but if you intend to receive me coldly and do not believe that I am in love I also am sure that I am not. Therefore let me entreat you to put me out of a doubt which makes the greatest concern of me."

After the Deluge.

She had just returned from her first trip to Europe and everybody was given an opportunity to know about it. One by one they gaily extirpated themselves, but at last she found a silent youth in a corner who proved to be an attentive listener. To him she rhapsodized on the beauty of life "abroad" and especially in England. It is difficult, however, for the most enthusiastic tourist to exist long with out eliciting from an auditor some expression of wonder or applause, so she sought to break her listener's respectful silence even at the expense of losing a little time herself. "Were you ever in England?" she asked.

AN ISLAND CITY.

Greater Hood River consists of forty-five islands. It might be called the Island City. Read the names of some of the larger, Manhattan Island, Long Island, Staten Island, Hart's Island, City Island, Riker's Island, North Brother Island, South Island, Blackwell's Island, Randall's Island, Ward's Island, Berrian's Island, Governors Island, Barren Island and Coney Island. Many small ones in Jamaica Bay have large names. One Island Island, Marble Hill, near Kingsbridge, has been made by the government channel cut through on the Harlem river improvements.

Human Nature.

"Why is it," asked the curious guest, "that poor men usually give larger tips than rich men?" "Well, sub," said the waiter, who was something of a philosopher as well, "it's like the old ge' man who went out to find out he was poor and rich man don't want nobody to find out he's rich."—Exchange.

Why Blackie Wore the Plaid.

Professor Blackie frequently stayed at Dr. Donald Macleod's house in Glasgow. One night, said the doctor, we were sitting up together. Blackie said in his brusque way, "Whatever other faults I have, I am free from vanity." An incredulous smile on my face roused him. "You don't believe that. Give me an instance." Being thus challenged, I said, "Why do you walk about flourishing a plaid continually?" "I'll give you the history of that, sir. When I was a poor man and when my wife and I had our difficulties she one day drew my attention to the threadbare character of my surtout and asked me to order a new one. I told her I could not afford it just then, when she went, like a noble woman, and put her own plaid shawl on my shoulders, and I have worn a plaid ever since in memory of her loving deed."

Man Who Beheaded Charles I.

The mysterious man who beheaded Charles I. remained the British analogue for the Man With the Iron Mask. Lilly, the lying astrologer, denounced Cornet Joyce at the restoration, but on Joyce on the fatal 30th of January was not in favor with Cromwell. The parish register of White chapel records the burial in 1649 of Edward Brandon, the common hang man, and opposite the entry a contemporary hand wrote that "he cut off the head of Charles the First." Brandon himself asserted that "they made him do it for £20," with which he drank himself to death.—Dundee Advertiser.

How Some Turks Tell Time.

Though comparatively few of the natives of Turkey use watches, yet they have an ingenious way of approximating the time, and some of them hit it with considerable accuracy. They take two cardinal points of the compass and then, holding their hands together in such a manner that the forefingers point upward and in opposite directions, they observe the shadow cast in the morning or evening at the certain hours one finger or the other will point directly at the sun. A comparison of the two shadows will determine the hours between.

A Case For Sympathy.

"I have three children who are the very lance of myself," said Jones enthusiastically. "I pity the youngest," returned Brown quietly. "Why?" asked Jones. "Because he's the one who will have to resemble you the longest," said Brown.—London Tit-Bits.

Good Nature May Be Costly.

"Don't look so glum, Pilkerton. Use cheery words. They cost nothing." "Cost nothing? If I speak too cheery words to my wife she asks me for some money." He trespasses against his duty who sleeps on his watch as well as he that goes over to the enemy.—Burke.

How Could She?

Student—I told you last night to wake me at 7 this morning. Why the deuce didn't you do so? Landlady—Well, sir, at 7 o'clock you hadn't come home.—Flegende Hunter.

Delinquent List, Hood River Irrigation District. Table with columns: NAME AND DESCRIPTION, Survey of Township, County, State, Assessed Value, Special Assessment, Maintenance, Penalty, Total. Lists various land parcels and their owners.