FACTS IN FEW LINES

Bank deposits have increased 85 per cent in ten years.

Fully 2,500 persons commit suicide in Russia every year.

The valley of the Amazon still remains almost unexplored.

One concern in Wurttemberg exports 5,000,000 harmonicas per annum.

Another lunatic asylum for London is to be built at Horton at a cost of $2,850,000.

The Spanish ship to the United States each autumn 300,000 barrels of Almeria grapes.

The United States uses nearly a third more coffee than the rest of the world put together.

At Canterbury cathedral there are always about forty workmen engaged in the structure.

Birmingham's sewage works are the largest in the world, after those of Paris and Berlin.

Los Angeles claims to have a greater stretch of attractive ocean beach in its vicinity than any other American city.

More work is put upon naval guns in target practice each quarter than they were required to stand during the Spanish war.

The Birmingham (England) police force consists of 709 Englishmen, 74 Irishmen, 29 Welshmen, 8 Scotchmen and 1 German.

A clever calculator estimates that there are in use by telegraph, telephone and trolley companies in this country 15,000,000 poles.

According to the United States census for 1900, there are 3,536 persons in the United States who are a hundred or more years of age.

Northern Nigeria is to have a new police force 1,000 strong, recruited in the territory and on the lines of the royal Irish constabulary.

The last census gave the value of poultry raised in the United States during the year 1899 as $136,891,877; of eggs produced in the same year, $144,286,158.

If two masses having exactly the same weight are presented to a normal man he will invariably estimate that mass to be the heavier which has the less volume.

A large area of coal and petroleum has been discovered in Kootenay, B. C., near the northeast corner of Idaho and within twenty-five miles of the Canadian Pacific railway.

The National museum at Washington has recently acquired one of the Marco Polo sheep from the Himalayas. Beside it the American bighorn and large Alaskan white sheep seem insignificant.

Mr. Jochelson, chief of the Jessup North Pacific exploring expedition, states that the tribes which he studied in Siberia all possessed characteristics in common with the Indians of North America.

In the election of 1892 there were in England and Wales 46,109 illiterates; in Scotland, 4,577; in Ireland, 84,919. At the 1897 elections the figures were: Illiterates in England, 28,521; Scotland, 4,062; Ireland, 40,357.

It is reported from Brussels that besides the $1,500,000 for the construction of a palace of peace at The Hague Mr. Carnegie has given $200,000 for the organization of an international library on diplomacy and international law.

A flock of ostriches at Phenix, Ariz., now numbers more than 1,000 birds. Their increase is rapid because a pair, barring accidents, will raise a brood each summer for seventy years. Each pair produces in feathers and eggs about $60 a year.

The vast bulk of the trade of the United Kingdom is certainly noteworthy. For 150 years down to the present time it has been practically a continuous growth. In 1902 the total of the exports and imports touched $4,330,000,000, the highest figure ever reached.

The secretary of the treasury has ruled, after obtaining the opinion of the attorney general, that American purchasers of the rights in the United States in foreign trademarks registered in the United States patent office have no protection against the invasion of their territory by the foreign manufacturer of the article covered by the trademarks.

One definite advantage in substituting khaki for blue cloth uniforms for the army in the tropics and in summer was not considered when the change was discussed in the war department, the anopheles mosquito not having at that time been exhaustively studied. The malaria breeding mosquitoes will not light upon substances having a yellow color, but swarm about blue fabrics.

The number of Americans who may enter the Transvaal or Orange River colony is limited to fifty a month, and each must have a permit, the blank application for which can be had of any British consul. And, too, an affidavit must be made that the applicant has sufficient means to support himself and family after arriving. Consideration of such application is often delayed for weeks, and those who grow impatient and arrive in advance of their permit are generally given the option of leaving the next day or imprisonment for six months, with a fine of $2,433.

A complete telegraphic system of shorthand has been laboriously worked [illegible] It consists in a reduction of the Morse alphabet to ten short characters or signals which are so manipulated by a key as to express anything and everything by them in such a way as to give the public greater privileges while at the same time immensely reducing the work of the telegraph operator. A set of automatic instruments is now being made which will, it is said, make messages so cheap that they will be largely used instead of letters.

Wet Coal Burns Best.

An accident has revealed to officials of the British navy that coal which has been immersed in water has higher evaporative qualities and longer endurance than coal fresh from the pit's mouth. Experts believe that experiments now going on will produce a complete revolution in coaling stations. If the coal can be kept under water it will last longer and be cheaper to guard and store.

As the coal burned by British war ships alone costs $10,000,000 a year, the item of economy in all the navies and merchant marines of the world if wet coal really does burn better will be considerable.

New York housekeepers found during the coal famine last winter that cinders intended for reburning went better when thoroughly dampened.

Some Hohenzollern Relics.

William the second to none has made a unique addition to the Hohenzollern collection in Berlin. In a plate glass show case is carefully deposited on a velvet cushion a strip of bark with the inscription:

"With this piece of bark his imperial majesty the emperor bound up the empress' broken arm after she was thrown from her horse at Grunewald."

It is a matter for speculation as to what honor would be done to a porous plaster which had been loyally adhering to his own imperial ribs for a month or so. It would probably be framed in diamonds and escorted to the museum by a regiment of guards playing a specially composed plaster march.—Modern Society.

The Missing Anchor Shackle.

Lying amid a pile of iron chains, anchors, cables, etc., in front of a Baltimore junk shop is a great double iron anchor shackle which has an interesting history. It weighs several tons and is of unusually fine forging. It was made in Russia for one of the czar's battle ships and in 1876 was sent to America as a part of the Russian exhibit at the Centennial at Philadelphia. After the close of the exposition it disappeared. Vain search was made for it, and the Russian exhibit was sent back without it. Years later it turned up with a lot of old iron which a steamer landed at Baltimore, and it has been there ever since. The Russian naval authorities are probably still hunting for it.

Scarlet Funerals.

They have a curious custom at the burial of married women in Brazil. The coffin, hearse and the livery of the driver must be bright scarlet, the four white horses drawing the hearse must be covered with scarlet nets, and scarlet plumes must deck the horses' heads.

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