

**Red Tape and Matrimony.**  
Some of the reasons why a Frenchman may not marry are given by a correspondent of a Paris newspaper. He has been trying to get married for three years and has not yet succeeded. French marriage law is a tricky thing to deal with. If the prospective bridegroom has not lived more than six months at his address at the time of the marriage he must get a certificate signed by the landlord and concierge of every house where he has lived previously till he gets back to one where he did live for six months. Birth certificates are required and the written consent of parents.

As no paper must bear a date more than two months old, it often happens that the marriage must be postponed to get the papers renewed. The man who had been felled for three years on a steamer, when he was called up for his periodical term of military service, and this threw his papers out of date.

Another time he arrived before the mayor with his bride, but the ceremony was not performed, as a certificate of his first wife's death was not forthcoming.

**Fascination of the Third Rail.**  
"You can talk all you want about the way some people want to jump off tall buildings, but the men who walk the elevated tracks can sympathize with them," said a man the other day whose business it is to work along the elevated railroad lines and see that everything is in good condition.

"Trackwalkers often have the same impulse to step on the third rail that climbers have to jump. You walk along and see that shining rod of steel and watch the sunlight glisten on it, and then the thought comes to you, 'If I step on that it will kill me,' and then you wonder how it would feel to just put your toe on it. Of course a fellow shakes those ideas off his mind, but they keep coming back, and I have known more than one man who has quit his job because he was afraid that he couldn't fight off much longer the impulse to stand on the track and put the other foot on the third rail, and when I hear of a trackwalker being killed by the third rail I wonder if the fascination of the third rail got the better of him."—New York Sun.

**The Title "Esquire."**  
The title "esquire" is derived from the French word *écuyer* (a shield bearer) and originated in the old days of chivalry, when, as is well known, each knight appointed one or more persons of gentle birth to carry his shield and perform other honorable services. These persons were known as squires, or, more accurately, *écuyers*, and were of such birth as would permit of their being in their turn created knights when they should have merited the distinction by deeds of valor or otherwise. In the reign of Richard II. the status of an esquire was granted for the first time by letters patent as a title of honor merely, no duties being attached. This method of creation is now obsolete, but it marks an advanced stage in the decay of chivalry, which decay resulted in the titles "knight" and "esquire" becoming wholly honorary.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

**A Lazy Man.**  
A worthy old citizen of Newport who had the reputation of being the laziest man alive among "them hilllocks," so lazy, indeed, that he used to weed his garden in a rocking chair by rocking forward to take hold of the weed and backward to uproot it, had a way of fishing peculiarly his own. He used to drive his old white faced mare to the spot where the tautog (blackfish) might be depended on for any weight, from two to twelve pounds, backed his gig down to the water side, put out his line and when the tautog was safely hooked started the old mare and pulled him out.

**A Slight Difference.**  
Undue rapidity of speech or indistinct utterance often leads to curious misunderstandings. An instance of this is given by Walter Seymour in his "Ups and Downs of a Wandering Life." "A clergyman," he says, "was sent for by a sick old parishioner who was not a churchgoer and who was deaf. The clergyman said: 'What induced you to send for me?' 'What does he say?' said the man to his wife. 'He says why the deuce did you send for him?'"

**A Patron.**  
"Mr. Carriman is very busy now," said the private secretary of the railroad president. "Is there anything I can do for you?"  
"Oh," replied the pompous visitor, "just a friendly call. I thought he'd like to know that I ride on his suburban branch now. I'm Colonel Nutt."—*Catholic Standard and Times*.

**Similarity.**  
"What a noisy thing that bass drum is!" remarked the chafin disgustedly.  
"Yes," replied the troubadour, "just like a human being, isn't it?"  
"Like a human being?"  
"Yes; it's the one with the big head that makes the most noise."—*London Telegraph*.

**Shaking Hands.**  
Few people know how to shake hands well. The general run of folk either give a limp paw and allow it to be shaken or else grasp yours in theirs and nearly dislocate it with their violence.—*London World*.

The wise are polite all the world over; fools are polite only at home.—*Bacon*.

**Lucky He Stuck to His Opinion.**  
Pride of opinion is perhaps the most common fault of us fairly educated and intelligent moderns. We form our judgments and then, as it were, defy any one to change them. It is said that no one has ever been converted by abstract argument.

At the time of the great disaster in Martinique the Italian bark *Orsolina* was taking on a cargo of sugar there. Her captain was accustomed to volcanoes, and he did not like the appearance of Mont Pelee. Not half his cargo was on board, but he decided to sail for home.

"The volcano is all right," argued the shippers. "Finish your loading."  
"I don't know anything about Mont Pelee," said the captain, "but if Vesuvius looked that way I'd get out of Naples, and I'm going to get right out of here."  
The shippers threatened him with arrest. They sent customs officers to detain him, but the captain persisted in leaving. Twenty-four hours later the shippers and the customs officers lay dead in the ruins of St. Pierre.—*Christian Herald*.

**A Miser's Luxury.**  
There was a Middlesex couple once who lived on a sum to shock the most reckless of our correspondents. Daniel Dancer was the man. He looked on saving as an art and saved for art's sake. His father left him a farm and eighty acres, and his sister helped him carry out his scheme of life. He let the land lie fallow, says the *London Gist*. It costs money to cultivate land. For food the couple believed in one day, one meal. The batch of dumplings baked on a Saturday lasted out the week. For clothing he depended on hay bands "swathed round his feet for boots and round his body for a coat." But Daniel had a weakness. He would buy a clean shirt each year. And out of this arose the tragedy of his life—a lost lawsuit over three pieces which, in Daniel's judgment, the shirt seller had wrongfully pocketed. He died in 1794 worth £3,000 a year.

**Gypsy Wordless Language.**  
To communicate with one another gypsies now use letters—and they use the telegraph, too, when necessary—especially in this country. But the modern Romany also follows the "patteran," tracing the footsteps or wagon tracks of his friends on the road by the same method employed by his ancient prototype, reading directions where no words are written as clearly as the gorgio does a roadside signboard. But the patteran can be read by the gypsy only—it is hidden and secret, although it may be in plain sight, as a signboard is open and public. The patteran may be formed of sticks or stones or grass placed cross fashion at the parting of roads in such manner that only a gypsy would instantly notice and understand. To him it means much—first of all, the direction taken by Romany predecessors.—*Century Magazine*.

**The Hungarian Crown.**  
The Hungarian crown worn at their accession by the emperors of Austria as kings of Hungary is the identical one made for Stephen and used at his coronation over 800 years ago. The whole is of pure gold, except the settings, and weighs almost exactly fourteen pounds. The settings above alluded to consist of fifty-three sapphires, fifty rubies, one emerald and 338 pearls. It will be noticed that there are no diamonds among these precious adornments. This is accounted for by the oft quoted story of Stephen's aversion to such gems because he considered them "unlucky."

**Battle of the Herrings.**  
The battle of the herrings was the comical name given to a fight between an English force and a French detachment not far from Orleans in 1429. The English were conveying a large quantity of supplies, mainly herrings, for it was Lent, to the army that was besieging Orleans. The English had 1,600 men, the French 6,000. The former repulsed the assaults and saved the herrings, so the battle was named in honor of the supplies.

**Willing to Take Them Back.**  
A letter came from the clothing firm saying that the cloth that had been sent them was full of moths. Was the wholesale house taken aback? Not it. By return post went a missive to this effect:  
"On looking over your order we find that you did not order any moths. It was our error, and you will please return them at once at our expense."—*Argonaut*.

**Couldn't Help Himself.**  
"He lived next door to a man for ten years without even learning his neighbor's name."  
"Can you imagine anybody being so unsocial?"  
"Oh, yes. You see, the warden wouldn't let them talk."—*Birmingham Age-Herald*.

**One Consolation.**  
"My wife is suing me for divorce," sighed the man. "I wish I were dead."  
"Cheer up, old boy. It's a whole lot better to have your wife spending all money than life insurance."—*Detroit Free Press*.

**Close Mouthed.**  
Caller—So your sister and her fiancé are very close mouthed over their engagement? Little Ethel—Close mouthed! You ought to see them together!—*Auckland News*.

**His Love.**  
"A case of love at first sight, eh?"  
"No, second sight. The first time he saw her he didn't know she was an heiress."

**Mistaken Modesty.**  
The lesson and significance of an experience incorporated by Mr. Maurice Baring in his book, "Russian Essays and Stories," are undoubtedly the mistake of underrating one's wares. One is likely to be taken at one's word. Once when Mr. Baring was competing in a civil service examination and appeared as a candidate in the German viva voce the German examiner asked him if he could speak German.

"Yes, a little," he answered modestly.  
"Oh," said the examiner. "I will then wish you good morning. I will no doubt have the pleasure of seeing you again the next time there is an examination."  
The next time there was an examination Mr. Baring presented himself again. The German examiner, who happened to be a different man, asked Mr. Baring if he could speak German. He replied:  
"Yes, I speak it as well as Bismarck spoke it, and my written style combines the solidity of Lessing's, the limpidity of Goethe's and the lightness of touch of Heine's, as you have no doubt observed from my written papers."  
"Then I need not trouble you any further," said the examiner.  
That time Mr. Baring got full marks.

**A Camel's Stomach.**  
The stomach of a camel is divided into four compartments, and the walls of one of these are lined with large cells, every one of which can be opened and closed at will by means of powerful muscles. When a camel drinks it drinks a very great deal. Indeed, it goes drinking on for such a very long time that really you would think that it never meant to leave off. But the fact is that it is not only satisfying its thirst, but is filling up its cistern as well. One after another the cells in its stomach are filled with the water, and as soon as each is quite full it is tightly closed. Then when the animal becomes thirsty a few hours later all that it has to do is to open one of the cells and allow the water to flow out. Next day it opens one or two more cells, and so it goes on day after day until the whole supply is exhausted. In this curious way a camel can live five or even six days without drinking at all and so is able to travel quite easily through the desert, where the wells are often hundreds of miles apart.

**A Bit Too Clever.**  
Holman Hunt used to tell how a carpenter saved one of his best known pictures from a serious error. The man was doing some odd jobs about the house and was found frowning at "The Shadow of the Cross" in the studio—the picture in which Christ, who has been sawing a plank in the workshop, rises to his full height and stretches, his shadow forming a crucifix.  
"Well?" asked the artist interrogatively.  
"Don't think much of it, mister," was the blunt comment.  
"Why?" demanded Hunt, amused, but a trifle nettled.  
"Any one that can saw wood without making any sawdust is a sight clever'n any I ever seed," was the answer.  
It was true—the floor was clean beneath the bench!

**Some Nautical Facts.**  
A knot is 6,080 feet long. The distance from New York to Liverpool is 3,064 nautical miles by the northern track and 3,139 by the southern track. The former course is taken by vessels bound for New York, the latter by vessels bound for Liverpool. From Liverpool to New York the distances are respectively 3,639 and 3,109 miles.  
In estimating records the points taken on either side are Sandy Hook and Daunt's rock, Queenstown harbor. The first light sighted on the British coast is the Bull, Cow and Calf, Ireland, and on the American coast either Nantucket or Fire Island.

**He Was Cautious.**  
Frederick the Great was always fond of disputations, but as he generally terminated the discussion by collaring his antagonist and kicking his shins few of his guests were disposed for an argument. He asked one of his suit why he did not venture to give his opinion on some particular question. "It is impossible, your majesty," was the reply, "to express an opinion before a sovereign who has such convictions and wears such very thick boots!"

**Live Table Talk.**  
"I hope you will be interested in yonder gentleman," said the hostess. "I have assigned him to take you out to dinner."  
"I shall be," responded the lady addressed. "That gentleman was formerly my husband, and he's behind with his alimony."—*Louisville Courier-Journal*.

**It Often Is.**  
"I was in hopes when I married that I could give my wife everything she wanted."  
"Well?"  
"I didn't think her yearning capacity would be so much greater than my earning capacity."—*Washington Herald*.

**Gives Him No Chance.**  
"Were you quarreling with your wife when I came in? I heard you talking loud."  
"No. When we're quarreling she's the one that talks."—*Cleveland Leader*.

Grief is crowned with consolation.—*Shakespeare*.

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**Notice.**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,—That within sixty days from the date of said notice it will be unlawful for stock to run at large, under penalty of Ten dollars for the first offence and Twenty dollars for each and every subsequent offence, in the Precinct of Carnahan for Tillamook County, State of Oregon, according to a vote taken at a General Election duly held on the 8th day of November, 1910.  
In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said county this 17th day of November, 1910.  
J. C. HOLDEN, County Clerk.

**Notice.**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,—That within sixty days from the date of said notice it will be unlawful for stock to run at large, under penalty of Ten dollars for the first offence and Twenty dollars for each and every subsequent offence, in the Precinct of Hebo for Tillamook County, State of Oregon, according to a vote taken at a General Election duly held on the 8th day of November, 1910.  
In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of said County this 17th day of November, 1910.  
J. C. HOLDEN, County Clerk.

**Wants To Help Some One.**  
For 30 years J. F. Boyer, of Fertile, Mo., needed help and couldn't find it. That's why he wants to help some one now. Suffering so long himself he feels for all distress from Backache, Nervousness, Loss of Appetite, Lassitude and Kidney disorders. He shows that Electric Bitters work wonders for such troubles. "Five bottles," he writes, "wholly cured me and now I am well and hearty." It's also positively guaranteed for Liver Trouble, Dyspepsia, Blood Disorders, Female Complaints and Malaria. Try them. 3c. at Chas. I. Clough's.

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