

Tsar and Czar.

Frequently the inquiry is made as to why the spelling tsar, to designate the emperor of all the Russias, should be preferred to czar. The most natural and obvious answer is that the spelling indicates the Russian pronunciation of the word, which czar does not. The title comes from an old Slavonic word, which some authorities are agreed is not derived from the Latin caesar, but there are authorities who hold that its ultimate derivation is from the Roman. The origin of the common spelling is supposed to be the writings of Herberstein, about 1550. The letter "c" in Roman Slavonic has the sound of "ts." The letter was copied, but the sound was not. The letter "z" never belonged in the word. The spelling czar is now regarded by many as old fashioned. With some Germans the spelling is zar, which is pronounced tsar. Many of the French have adopted tsar as the spelling, and that form is increasing in English. The London Times, a most careful authority, employs it, and so does the Encyclopedia Britannica in its supplementary volumes.—Chicago Recrd-Herald.

The Green Constable.

A new constable on duty in a provincial town handed to a sergeant a shilling which he said he had found. The man with the three stripes told him he was quite right in acting as he had done. Proceeding on his round, the sergeant met a brother sergeant and, with a grin, told him the tale of the shilling. They both agreed the new recruit was very green, and at the conclusion of their duties they went to the nearest inn, and the possessor of the coin called for two drinks. On receiving them he threw down the shilling to pay for them, but the landlord refused it, saying it was a bad one. The sergeant, notoriously mean, had to supply the requisite amount out of his own pocket and also to put up with the laugh against himself. On his telling the constable his find was a bad one the man answered: "Yes, of course it was. Do you think I would have been silly enough to give it to you if it hadn't been?"—Pearson's.

An Honor to Allison.

"Do you know," inquired Wilbur Reaser, the New York portrait painter, "that when my painting of Senator Allison was hung in the lobby of the senate the precedent of forty years was broken?" Surprise being expressed, Mr. Reaser explained: "It is a fact that since the beginning of constitutional government the senate had bought only nine portraits for the lobby. The first was Washington's and the eighth was Charles Sumner's. For almost forty years nobody was considered worthy to follow in the distinguished line. It was generally thought that no other portrait would ever be added to the group, but when Senator Allison died, after serving longer in the senate than any other man in the history of the government, the rule was broken, and his picture became the ninth."—Washington Times.

German Bureaucracy.

A good story is going the rounds of the French newspapers illustrating the beauties of bureaucratic government in Germany. We are told that in the postoffice department if a clerk wishes a new pencil he has to hand in the stump of the one that has become too short to work with. In the particular instance cited a clerk received his new pencil without returning the end. Before the omission was discovered the clerk was transferred to another office. Just after he had commenced his duties at his new post he received an official intimation that he had neglected to hand in his pencil end. By this time it had disappeared, but to prevent bother the clerk purchased a new pencil, cut off a piece about the length of the missing bit and dispatched it to the stationery department.

Criticizing Dad.

"An old man in Missouri tried to commit suicide by hanging himself with a blind bridle," said Champ Clark. "His son cut him down just in time."
"When the son cut him down and brought him to the old man complained feebly:
"It ain't right, Henry; you've kept your old father out of heaven."
"You'd cut a fine figure in heaven looking through a blind bridle, wouldn't you?" retorted the son.

Decentful Man.

"Didn't you think that was a beautiful girl with me today, Arthur?"
"What girl, my dearest?"
"Why, she was with me when you met us in front of the church."
"Was there a girl there, dear? I didn't notice. I was looking at you."
And then she loved him all the more.

She Agreed.

Spinks—What made him so mad?
Winks—He told his wife she had no judgment, and she just looked him over critically from head to foot and said she was beginning to realize it.

Knows Better Now.

Teacher—Tommy, you should have known better than to fight with that Williams boy. Tommy—I know, ma'am, but I thought I could lick him.—Hearth and Home.

Gave Her Proof.

"Do you believe, sir, that the dead ever walk after death?"
"No doubt of it, ma'am. I have heard the dead march."
It is a misfortune to have to maneuver one's heart as a general maneuvers his army.—Alexander Smith.

Masks of the Marquesans.

The Marquesans of a generation ago were the most completely and artistically tattooed people in the Pacific, and the practice of tattooing is carried on among them to a certain extent today. The really fine pieces of work, however, such as the famous right leg of the late Queen Vaekehu of Nukahiva, are confined entirely to the very old, and, what with wrinkles, deformities and the wear and tear of time, these have lost most of their original sharpness of color and outline. None of the new generation appears to have the fortitude to endure the exquisite pain incident to having a whole limb picked out in a lacework of geometric design or the face barred and circled like a coarse spider's web. Women are rarely tattooed at all now, and most of the young men are satisfied with a broad band of solid black, not unlike a highwayman's mask, which reaches across the face from ear to ear, giving to their never overmild looking countenances an expression of amazing ferocity.—Lewis R. Freeman in New York Tribune.

His Long Suit.

He had written essays critical and digests analytical. His articles political were very widely read. He'd produced some tales of mystery, of travel, love and history; his scientific treatises light o'er the land had shed. He wrote about photography, geography, stenography; he'd finished a biography of some distinguished man. His views upon geometry and mystic trigonometry were everywhere declared to be on the progressive plan. His tracts on modern sciences, mechanical appliances, hydraulics, steam and railroads were indulgently received. His writings on morality were of superior quality—were publicly commended. If they weren't quite believed, His verses so poetical, abstruse and theoretical, delighted those who patronize the poets as a fad, but the manuscript he thought the best, the one that money brought the best, was just a simple, wisely worded, big newspaper ad.—Newspaperdom.

Little Boy Grizzly.

Enos A. Mills, writing of his adventures with a pet bear known as Little Boy Grizzly, says: "He and I had a few foot races, and usually, in order to give me a better chance, we ran downhill. In a 200 yard dash he usually paused three or four times and waited for me to catch up, and I was not a slow biped either. The grizzly, though apparently awkward and lumbery, is one of the most agile of beasts. I constantly marveled at Grizzly's lightness of touch or the deftness of movement of his forepaws. With but one claw touching it he could slide a coin back and forth on the floor more rapidly and lightly than I could. He would slide an eggshell swiftly along without breaking it. Yet by using one paw he would without effort overturn rocks that were heavier than himself."—Suburban Life.

Postal Clerks' Pay in Russia.

The remuneration of postal clerks in Russia includes emoluments which do not appear in the form of money. They are furnished quarters, heat and light, and in addition allowances for uniforms as well as medical attendance and medicine for themselves and their families. In cities like Moscow a large hospital is maintained for the convenience of postal clerks and carriers. Their children are admitted to the schools free of charge, which in Russia is quite an item of expense, especially in preparatory schools for colleges, to which the children of the titled and the wealthy only are admitted. The pay of clerks and carriers ranges from \$12.50 to \$18 per month. They may, moreover, receive gratuities from those to whom they deliver mail.

Police Methods in Berlin.

Berlin is the most strictly governed city in the world, and a stranger will be continually violating the ordinances and regulations without being conscious of his offenses. But the penalties are not severe, and the policeman who arrests you is prepared to impose the fine on the spot instead of calling a patrol wagon and taking you to the police station. You pay him a few marks, for which he gives you a receipt, and within twenty-four hours you must appear before the captain in charge of that precinct and turn in the receipt as a check upon the policeman who has arrested you.

An Alternative.

"Now, then," said the professor of logic, "give us an idea of your knowledge of the question in plain words."
"Why—er—I'm afraid," stammered the student, "that I can't just exactly."
"Perhaps, then, you may give us an idea of your ignorance of it in any old words."—Philadelphia Press.

He Explains.

"Why do they call Washington the city of magnificent distances?"
"Because," answered the office seeker, "it is such a long way between what you go after and what you get."—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Sandy and the Glass.

Tourist referring to the barometer—
"I see the glass is going up again, Sandy."
Sandy—Dae ye tell me that? A body will soon no' be able to afford a dram at all!—Dundee Advertiser.

Nothing New.

Wife—Don't you like my new hat, dearest?
Husband—Yes, it's all right.
Wife—Well, I bought it on your account, dear.
Husband—Yes, you usually do!

One had example spots a good many excellent precepts.

An Early Airship.

We are told by Peter Farley, who wrote as an eyewitness, that in August, 1835, the airship Eagle was officially advertised to sail from London with government dispatches and passengers for Paris and to establish direct communication between the capitals of Europe. This early type of airship was 100 feet long, fifty feet high and forty feet wide, and she lay in the dockyard of the Aeronautical society in Victoria road, near Kensington gardens, then quite a rural spot. Built to hold an abundant supply of gas, she was covered with oiled lawn and carried a frame seventy-five feet long and seven feet high, with a cabin secured by ropes to the balloon. An immense rudder and wings or fins on each side for purposes of propulsion completed her fittings. The deck was guarded by netting. After all this preparation and advertisement the Eagle never got beyond Victoria road, for Count Lennox and his assistants failed to provide the necessary motive power.—London Standard.

Carrying a Stretcher.

The bearers of a stretcher should be as near the same height as possible. If there is any difference the taller and stronger man should be at the head. A stretcher should be carried by the hands or suspended by straps from the shoulders. Never carry a stretcher when loaded upon the shoulders. It frightens the patient, and he might fall off very easily, especially if one of the bearers should stumble. The bearers should not keep step, but break step, the one in front starting off with his right foot and the one behind with his left. The injured should be carried feet first. In going up a hill or upstairs the head should be in front and the reverse in descending, except in case of a broken thigh or leg, when the feet should be first in going up and last in coming down to keep the weight of the body off the injured limb.—"First Aid to the Injured." Dr. H. H. Hartung, in National Magazine.

Coming In Out of the Wet.

There is an amusing story by Athenaeus which suggests the possible origin of the phrase "He does not know enough to come in out of the wet." According to the entertaining grammarian referred to, a town in Greece under stress of evil circumstances borrowed money from a rich man, who took as security for the loan a mortgage on the handsome portico which surrounded the market place. He was not an ungenerous creditor, for when it rained he caused the town clerks to announce that the citizens had permission to take refuge under the colonnade. Strangers visiting the town who failed to have the matter properly explained to them were so impressed by the extraordinary circumstances that they spread abroad the report that the people were so stupid that they had to be told when to come in out of the wet.

When a Dog Chokes.

Dogs frequently choke. A bone, a nail or a piece of tin gets in the throat, and there is great danger of death before the arrival of the surgeon. Many of them do die, but there is no reason for this, for it is easy, without the slightest danger of getting bitten, to put the hand in the mouth of a dog and to draw out or push down the obstruction that is choking it. A handkerchief or towel will do—pass between the teeth and over the upper jaw, and in a similar way another handkerchief is passed between the teeth and over the under jaw. One person, holding the ends of these two handkerchiefs, keeps the dog's mouth wide open. A second person can then with perfect ease and safety put his fingers down the animal's throat and relieve it.

A Snake Story.

This story is told of the late Dr. Emil Reich. One day when traveling he lay down to rest in the shadow of a bush and fell asleep. He awoke with a start to find that night was coming on and that rain had begun to fall. Quickly snatching up his umbrella, he tried to open it and, finding it worked stiffly, he pressed the spring vigorously. Suddenly there was a sound of ripping and tearing and a snake fell to the ground split in two. The reptile had apparently swallowed the umbrella as far as it could!

Original Era of Good Feeling.

The phrase applied to the administration of James Monroe, "the era of good feeling," first appeared in a Boston newspaper, the Columbian Sentinel of July 10, 1817. From that time until the present hour the two administrations of Monroe—a period of eight years, 1717 to 1825—are referred to in the terms of the newspaper paragraph which so aptly expressed the public sentiment of the day.—Magazine of American History.

Equivoical.

Cholly Softboy—I suppose I looked veway angry at the zoo today when that nasty Dick Dandy said when I stood by the big monkey's cage how much I was like it. Candid Friend—You certainly looked beside yourself.—Exchange.

The Lesson.

He—Yes, it's very true, a man doesn't learn what happiness is until he's married.
She—I'm glad you've discovered that at last.
He—Yes, and when he's married it's too late.—Dorffbarber.

No Sympathy.

"Here, waiter, there's a fly in my soup."
"Serves the brute right. He's been buzzin' round here all the mornin'."—Life.

Life is no dream, but life is nothing without its great dreams.

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