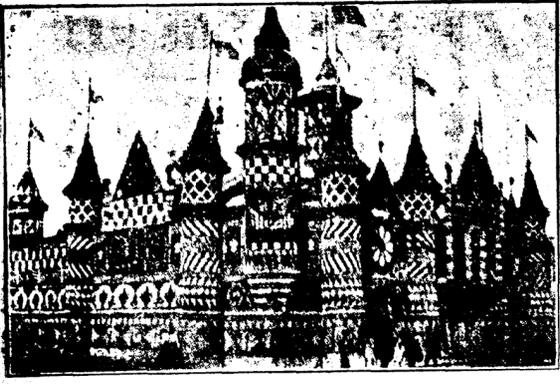


Palace of Corn and Grasses.



The palace, which is 100 feet by 140 feet, stands in the heart of Mitchell, South Dakota, and it is furnished entirely with articles made of corn. Seven hundred bushels of corn were used for the exterior decoration. The building is designed to illustrate the agricultural possibilities of South Dakota, and is permanent.

WIDOWS JOIN RICHES

CONTRACT OF IOWA WOMEN FORBIDS EITHER TO MARRY.

Two Wearers of Weeds Combine Their Fortunes in Unique Instrument Which is Put on the Official Records.

Des Moines, Ia.—Widow Elenora Johnson, who lives near Avon, Ia., and Widow Lenora Ellsworth, of Bemidji, Minn., who has been visiting her, have drawn up and placed in the office of the county recorder one of the most remarkable contracts in the county records.

Believing that they could attain a wealth of prosperity and pleasure if they were to link their fortunes together for the remainder of their lives that would be impossible if they should continue to go it alone, the two women have placed their estates into a common fund. This they are to use in common, each doing her share of the work and paying expenses out of the treasury.

A unique provision of the contract is that each agrees not to marry again as long as the other is alive.

Mrs. Ellsworth has been visiting near Avon for several weeks and it was at her suggestion, it is understood, that the "merger" was effected. The contract reads as follows:

"Know All Men by These Presents: That Elenora Johnson, of Avon, Ia., party of the first part, and Lenora Ellsworth, of Bemidji, Minn., party of the second part, both being widows of sound and disposing mind and competent to contract, and being possessed of the following property, to-wit: The said party of the first part owning and possessing 20 acres of land situated in Folk county, Iowa, one dwelling house, one horse and buggy, two cows and five hogs; the party of the second part being the owner of 60 acres of timber land situated two miles from the same Bemidji, Minn., and each of the parties hereto having \$200 in cash, and being desirous of forming a compact whereby each shall share in the profits arising out of the combined property of both, hereby enter into the following covenants and agreement, to-wit, witnesses:

"The parties hereto agree that neither shall marry during the life of the other; that they shall live together on the land owned by the party of the first part, each contributing equally toward the maintenance of both, and each performing an equal amount of the domestic labor requisite to the conduct of a neat, healthful and happy home; that if it be deemed expedient to dispose of any of the said described property the proceeds from the sale thereof shall be placed in a common fund which shall be the property of both, each having a one-half interest therein.

"It is further agreed by and between the parties hereto that each shall share in the expense of maintaining the said home and of all the disbursements.

"In witness whereof we have hereunto affixed our signatures this 28th day of March, A. D. 1907.

"Elenora Johnson," "Lenora Ellsworth."

The contract was drawn in the office of a local attorney and turned over to the recorder.

Men "Nurse Girls" Unionize.

Great Barrington, Mass.—The nurse girl problem which had apparently been happily solved by the matrons of this town when they hired old men to take charge of their children, took a new turn the other day, when the men "nurse girls" organized a union, elected Wells Weaver president and John K. Siggins secretary, and voted to demand an increase in wages from five to eight dollars a week. The nurses also demand Wednesday and Saturday afternoons off during the summer, as they wish to attend baseball games. Mr. Weaver and Mr. Siggins were both expert ball tossers in their day, and age has not diminished their love for the great American game.

Lodge Brothers Do Plowing.

Outhric, Okla.—White M. D. Phillips is seriously ill with typhoid fever at his home at Drake. 25 members of the three lodges to which he belongs have been looking after his work. One day last week they met at his home, cut the stakes and plowed 35 acres of ground.

CLOCK OF GREAT AGE.

Property of Sons of Family for Five Generations.

Franklin, Ind.—Prof. James V. Deer, of this city, has a hall clock now in the hands of the fifth generation, traceable by family history. The clock stands on a four-foot base, attaining a height of eight feet. It is known in family history as the "old Luyster clock," having been owned by Peter Luyster, who died in Kentucky in 1825. At that time it was an old relic, but the exact age was never known, as there is not a date nor a mark of any kind either on the casing nor on the works proper. After Peter's death his son, Cornelius Luyster, bought the clock, and in 1891 it was purchased by Samuel Harris, a grandson, for \$65, and by him sold to his nephew, Prof. James V. Deer.

Peter Luyster was Prof. Deer's great-great-grandfather. The clock has never been repaired, and it still keeps good time, losing only a minute every month. The same catgut strings still support two 15-pound weights. There is a second hand, and a record is also shown of the day of the month and of the stage of the moon. A peculiarity is that it is impossible to make the clock strike wrong, for whether the hands are moved forward or backward, the stroke will correspond with the station of the hour hand. The family relic is valued very highly.

LONG-LOST BROTHERS MEET.

Write Cousins' Names to Prove Identity After Thirty-Six Years.

Seattle, Wash.—After having been separated for 36 years two brothers were united in a novel and dramatic manner here the other day. One of the brothers, Johann Weber, a resident of Pennsylvania, after complying with requests made by his brother, Yost Weber, a longshoreman at Seattle, for money, came west to see if the Seattle man were really his kin. On arriving here the man who had asked for assistance was pointed out, but the Pennsylvania man declared that the longshoreman was not his brother, and immediately had him arrested as an impostor. Notwithstanding the denial of Johann that he was his brother, Yost maintained that he was a long-lost brother whom he had not seen since leaving Germany for a seafaring life 36 years ago.

United States Commissioner Kiefer, before whom the case was tried, hit upon a plan of having the brothers, separately, write their cousins' names. Both did this and they tallied. When it became plain to both that they were brothers an affecting scene followed, and the men left the court arm in arm after the judge had dismissed the case.

LICKS POISON FROM HIS EYES.

Heroic Mother Saves Sight of Her Eight-Year-Old Boy.

Philadelphia.—Prompt action on the part of a quick-witted mother, who with the tip of her tongue cleansed poisonous Easter egg dye from his eyes, saved the sight of eight-year-old Charlie Huxbaum. Charlie was playing in the street in front of his home when Ralph Schottlander threw some liquid egg dye into his eyes.

Charlie ran screaming into the house, crying, "Papa, I'm blind."

His mother grasped him and with her tongue cleansed the dye from her boy's eyes. Doctors say that her action undoubtedly saved his sight.

The father ran out to look for the dye thrower and happened upon Schottlander, with the bottle of dye in his hand. Huxbaum seized the boy, intending to take him to his parents, when the boy twisted loose and threw the remaining dye into his face.

Town Pleads to Stay on Map.

Washington.—To keep from being wiped off the map the town of Fanshawe, Ind. T., has made a novel appeal to the Interstate commerce commission. It asks that the Rock Island railroad be compelled to stop its trains there. Fanshawe has a population of 150 inhabitants, three general stores containing from \$1,500 to \$5,000 in value, a sawmill, a grist mill and a cotton-ginning plant, two blacksmith shops and a good school building. When the Rock Island completed its line it built a depot at the hamlet and put in a side-track, but now "its trains pass through the town of Fanshawe at full speed against the will of the citizens."

IS UNLUCKY PAPER MONEY.

Racing Men Clip Corners Off Two-Dollar Notes Before Betting.

Large numbers of clipped two-dollar bills have reached the treasury department at Washington for redemption in the last three years. These bills are all cornerless. That is, all four corners have either been torn off or neatly cut off with scissors or knife. The officials who interest themselves in tracing such things quickly ascertained that a superstition of racing people lay back of the cornerless two-dollar bills. It was found that some years ago the pickers in the racing game developed an antipathy to the two-dollar notes, considering them unlucky. Their method of exorcising the devil of ill-luck clinging to the two-dollar bill was to tear or cut off the corners before putting it into play. The idea spread, it infected the bookmakers and some bookmakers who received large numbers of two-dollar bills in the course of a day's operations fell into the habit of clipping with scissors the corners of such notes as they couldn't unload upon their associates. Now it is reported that distrust of the two-dollar note is becoming general and that the cornerless notes are appearing in many different places.

MADE SANE BY OPERATION.

Physician's Reason Lost in Accident Permanently Restored.

Dr. Bernard Hollander, a well-known London physician, describes a remarkable cure of insanity by operation. His patient, a doctor, received a kick from a horse on the right of the chin, followed a year later by a heavy fall from a bicycle on the right side of his head. Soon the doctor's character changed completely. He suffered severely from headache and neuralgic pains, which incapacitated him from work. He became emotional, irritable, very profane, and developed suicidal tendencies. His strange conduct frequently led him into difficulties. After suffering for seven years and trying all possible medical treatment, he consulted Dr. Hollander, who, believing the seat of the disease to be in a circumscribed part of the brain, advised operation. On trephining, a morbid condition of the skull in this region was discovered, and an excess of cerebrospinal fluid, which had prevented the brain from pulsating. Three weeks after the operation the patient was well, and has remained in perfect mental and physical health ever since.

Superstitious.

A well known New Yorker, while dining at his club one evening recently, observed that his order of oysters on the shell was not complete, there being only 11 bivalves, instead of the dozen it was his custom to order, says Harper's Weekly. On reflecting that his waiter, an Irishman, was a newcomer, he decided to let the matter pass; but when on the next evening the same thing occurred, he became a trifle impatient. "See here!" exclaimed he to the waiter, "what do you mean by bringing me 11 oysters when I order 12? This is the second time that this thing has happened!" "Sure, sir," quietly responded the Celt, "I didn't think you would want to risk being 13 at table, sir."

What Chance Had He?

A Buffalo physician tells of two young friends in that city who entered simultaneously upon their respective careers of physician and lawyer. Late one afternoon the newly made medico dashed into the room of his legal friend, exclaiming: "Great luck, old man! Congratulate me! Got a patient at last! On my way to see him now!" Whereup the legal light-to-be clapped his friend on the back, saying: "Delighted, old chap!" Then, after a slight pause, he added, with a sly grin: "Say, let me go with you! Perhaps he hasn't made his will!"—Harper's Weekly.

When Rubber Grows Hot.

When an automobile is running at high speed the rubber tires are rapidly warmed and the heat sometimes becomes very great, with resultant injury to the rubber. The cause of this accumulation of heat in the tire is ascribed to the kneading of the rubber, which generates heat faster than it can be radiated away. For this reason manufacturers have found it to be an advantage to have metal parts in the tread, such as the ends of rivets, in contact with the tire, because the metal, being a good radiator, helps to carry off the heat to the outer air.

Signifying Nothing.

An Englishman who had studied into American politics while traveling in this country, when asked to give his estimate of the leading political parties replied by telling this story: A young minister, who fancied his person but not his fame unknown, stopped to question a workman about the preachers he had heard. He put question after question, to which the man replied: "He's not sound." At last, he said: "But what can you say of Mr. Blank (himself)?" "He's all sound," was the answer.—Kansas City Times.

Bathers Grow More Wary.

"There is as much water in railway stocks as ever," remarked the financier. "Yes," answered Dustin Stacks, "but it's a little harder to convince the small investors that the water's fine and they ought to come in."

THE LIKENESS ON THE CENTS.

An Exception to the Rule Against Portraits on American Coins.

Coins of most of the nations bear upon them the faces of their rulers. In the United States each coin has an emblem of Liberty. The first coins struck after the formation of the federal union bore the face of George Washington. Gen. Washington disapproved of the custom and it was dropped. It has never been revived. Portraits of prominent Americans appear upon postage stamps, internal revenue stamps and paper money, but never on coins. And it has been the custom to use no portraits of living men even on the currency and the stamps. But there is an exception to the rule of no portraits on American coins. The emblem of Liberty on the one cent is the goddess in an American Indian headdress, but the face shows no characteristics of the North American aborigine. It is the face of a little girl, Sarah Longacre Keen, upon whose head was placed the feathered ornament of a Sioux Indian. Her father was an engraver and he placed his daughter's head on the coin. Sarah Longacre Keen died in Philadelphia not long ago, after having served 35 years as the secretary of her city's branch of the Methodist Women's Foreign Missionary society.

SHE NEEDED ANOTHER HAND.

They Enjoyed the Show Immensely, but Failed to Applaud.

In the parquet at the Orpheum last night sat a young man and his best girl. People behind them noticed that the young couple seemed to enjoy the show immensely, but neither would applaud, says the Denver Post. They would look at each other and smile and say "Fine!" "Isn't that great!" and other such things, but they would not applaud. Everybody else near by was applauding, and that started the people behind the young couple to wondering why they did not clap their hands and show their appreciation substantially. Finally James H. Cullen came on the stage and began his singing stunt. His first two songs made great hits, but still the young couple did not applaud. His third song was even better than the other two, and it was then that the mystery as to why the young people did not applaud was explained to those behind them. When Cullen finished the song the girl turned to her escort. "John," she said, loud enough for these behind to hear, "you'll have to let go my hand a minute, I've just got to applaud this man."

Heroism of a Nurse.

Of all the tests of heroism to which humanity is subjected none is perhaps more awful than an earthquake. It is from disasters such as the terrible earthquake in Jamaica that real courage emerges. One of the bravest workers during the time of the Kingston earthquake was Nurse Sarah Cross, who for nearly 40 hours consecutively gave surgical aid to the injured on board the R. M. S. Port Kingston, under the direction of Dr. Arthur J. Evans. Middlesex hospital, with which Nurse Cross has been connected for 15 years, was the scene the other day of a little ceremony in her honor, when the weekly board of governors presented her with an illuminated address setting forth the record of her services to 200 unfortunate sufferers in the West Indian catastrophe.

Play in the Dark.

Because they have no sight and must cultivate their sense of feeling, the blind are peculiarly sensitive of touch. The average piano student can profit by the knowledge and help himself more than he realizes by a few minutes of nightly practice without artificial light. Try going to the piano when the lights are low, or not burning at all. Run over the scales in consecutive order. Then play the arpeggios and running chords of the dominant seventh and diminished fifth. Then let yourself go on the pieces you have memorized. You will find yourself musically awakened, for you can hear better when you are not distracted by what you see, and your touch will become more firm and sure and your dependence on printed notes will gradually grow less.

Gentleness.

The power of gentleness is one of the unmeasured forces in human life. "A soft answer" will pierce deeper than a "two-edged sword." It is more natural under provocation to use the latter; but the use of the former is in imitation of Him who "when He was reviled, reviled not again." Gentleness gives a man power with his fellow-men. It increases the love of his friends, and disarms the anger of his enemies. He who would serve his generation well must possess it. It is to be learned in the school of Christ, who is our pattern in this as in every grace. "Thy gentleness hath made me great."—Rev. J. H. Miller.

A French Joke.

Here is a French joke that is rather English in character. The marquis de Favieres, notorious for his impetuosity, called on a man of means named Barnard and said: "Monsieur, I am going to astonish you, I am Marquis de Favieres. I do not know you, and I come to borrow 500 louis." "Monsieur," Barnard replied, "I am going to astonish you much more, I know you and I am going to lend them."

TRAPPING OF WILD ANIMALS.

Jungle Creatures Have No Chance Against Ingenuity of Man.

"Elephants is easy trapped," said a zoo keeper. "Very easy trapped, very easy tamed. The trapper chooses a spot what is a popular elephant haunt, and here he digs a hole five feet deep and 20 foot square. He surrounds this hole with a high board fence, except in one place, where he hangs a swing gate. So far so good. Next he finds a herd of elephants, chooses the animal he wants, maddens it, and makes it chase him. Lickety-split, lickety-split. The man tears along on his nag, the elephant thunders closely after, and just at the gateway the man swerves to the right, but the elephant, too heavy to swerve, bangs right on through, kerthump, into the hole. He's mad, at first, outrageous, terrible. But they give him no food nor drink, they build around the pit fires of damp wood that suffocate him nearly with the smoke, and they daze him with shouts and the bangin' of brass pans. That there wild elephant is completely broke and subdued in three or four days. He comes forth and follows the trapper humbly and timidly, with tears in his eyes. Monkeys is trapped—ain't it a shame?—with booze. You rush in among a flock of them, and they take to the trees, chatterin' and watchful. You pull out some bottles of strong, sweet booze, pretend to drink from them, then lay them down and go away. On your return an hour later the floor of the jungle is strewn with the limp, slim bodies of drunken monkeys. The only animal impossible to trap is the gorilla. Too strong and fierce."

MIGHTY CITY OF LONDON.

Its Million Houses and Hundreds of Millions of Income.

The 6,500,000 people in Greater London live in 928,008 houses. The population 100 years ago was just one-fifth what it is now. Though the number of births was nearly double the number of deaths in 1904, the birth rate is steadily declining. The postal figures show that in 1905 there were 1,023 post offices in London, and 2,435 public telephones working. The total imports at London in 1904 amounted to \$349,068,000, and the total exports \$462,299,000. Some idea of London's wealth is shown by the assessed income tax value in 1904 in the administrative county, houses representing \$219,264,000, trades and professions \$384,045,000 profits of companies and other interests \$698,511,000, salaries (corporate bodies) \$115,044,000, salaries (army and navy) \$103,874,000. In 1905 there were 2,993 motor cars and 1,852 motor cycles in London. Licenses to drive were granted to 8,079 people, the fees received amounting to \$36,800.—Statistical Abstract.

Two Men to Each Shovel.

There were two children to each pair of roller skates and very contentedly the urchins hopped and slid along. "Two kids to a pair of skates," remarked the sailor, "takes me back to India, where they run two men to a shovel. You see, the Indian native is a weaklin'—no wonder, considerin' the hot, damp climate—and one man to a shovel is too strenuous. So with a cord tied to the handle down near the blade the shovel does for two, the man at the cord helpin' to insert the shovel by pullin' toward himself and helpin' to lift and toss the dirt by swingin' away from himself. Two men to a shovel is a characteristic of India and of no other country what I have ever saw."

No Century Begins on Sunday.

There are some curious facts about our calendar. No century can begin on Wednesday, Friday or Sunday. The same calendars can be always used every 20 years. October always begins on the same day of the week as January, April as July, September as December, February, March and November also begin on the same days. May, June and August always begin on different days from each other and from every other month in the year. The first and last days of the year are always the same. These rules do not apply to leap year, when comparison is made between days before and after February 29.

The Accepted Time.

"De choir am now about to vociferate," said old Parson Bagster, during a recent Sabbath morning's service in Ebenezer chapel, "and uh-whilst dey am a-doin' of it, I solemnly suggests dat de mothers of dem sassy child'en dat has been uh-sturbin' de congregation on dis occasion to spank 'em. Dis special song will rise loud and high, muh sisters, and so uh-whilst yo' do yo' duty dess do it wid zeal and liberality. Spar' de spank and spile de child—give it de little varmint hot and heavy, and de Lawd will bless yo', and de rest of us will owe yo' a vote o' thanks. De choir will now po' fo' th deir hozanners."—Puck.

He Ate the Nail.

Two Marsaillesen, says Bon Vivant, were discussing the best method of eating game. "Well," said one, "if it is woodcock I hang it up on a nail by the beak, and fasten some larks to its claws. After a week I throw away the woodcock and eat the larks, which by that time have absorbed all the flavor of the woodcock." "I do the same," replied the other, "not to be outdone, except that I throw away the larks as well as the woodcock, and eat the nail."

STILL BELIEVE IN FAIRIES.

Irishmen Claim to Have Seen the "Little People."

Here is a modern fairy story from Ireland. "One day about 20 years ago," writes a correspondent, "I was fishing from a boat on Lough Derg. I inquired of my boatmen if they had ever seen fairies. At first, fearing to be laughed at, they scouted the idea, but one of them told the following: On a Sunday he was returning after mass, and stood with a friend, named Sullivan, on the bridge of Killaloe. Looking toward a potato field on the slope of the rising ground to the east of the town, a field which he was able to point out from the boat, he saw issuing from the flax a troop of 'little people,' one being distinctly taller than the rest. At first they seemed rather blurred, then took distinct shapes and began to play the national game of hurley among the bare potato rigs. He called Sullivan's attention to them, but for some time his friend could not see them, then said he could, and they watched the game together for a time. Then the sun went in, and the fairies, moving toward the liss, as if returning to it, vanished. Lisses are rough pieces, sometimes billocks, sometimes depressions, often bushy, but never cultivated. I have been told they are left as doorways for the fairies when visiting the earth's surface."

STONE WORTH MUCH MONEY.

Invaluable Treasure in Possession of the British Museum.

There is a slab of black stone in the British museum which, if you could walk away with it and establish your claim as the owner, you could sell any day for a quarter of a million, and find half a dozen money kings in England and America ready to buy it. There is nothing very striking about this stone; it might be a piece of black marble with some peculiar hieroglyphics upon it. But, it is just these hieroglyphics which make it so valuable, because they are the key to all the ancient writings of the Egyptians, and without this stone, called the Rosetta Stone, we should be unable to read the Egyptian writings which have been discovered from time to time. Some French tourists found the Rosetta Stone in Egypt, and transported it to Paris, where an Englishman took a fancy to it for a garden ornament. He paid \$25 for it—five sovereigns, and got a treasure which you could cover with gold, and yet not represent its value, but till the day of his death he did not know what that bit of stone was worth.

Emperor Solved Difficulty.

Frederic Villiers tells this story of the German emperor: The occasion was the marriage of the crown prince of Roumania to Princess Marie, the handsome eldest daughter of the late duke of Saxe-Coburg. After the function the German emperor was the first to give the bridal kiss. He was in full English naval uniform, smothered with decorations, and the bride was dressed in a costume which could not bear much crushing. The kaiser, one could see, was trying to avoid this trouble and the bride was afraid, in turn, to disarrange his mass of decorations. In a moment the emperor was seized with one of his brilliant ideas. He took the pretty blushing bride by the right elbow, tilted her a little toward him, launched himself forward and, bending over her, imprinted the kiss.

Circumstantial Evidence.

Chick Bruce was a famous Adirondack guide who accompanied former President Cleveland on one of two of his hunting trips in those mountains. Chick left Mr. Cleveland sitting on a log one morning while he went out to drive down a deer should he chance to find one. When he came back he saw his distinguished employer still sitting on the log, but with the muzzle of his gun pointing directly at the presidential chest. "Here!" shouted Chick, "quit that, dod gast ye! Supposin' that gun had gone off and had killed yourself, what would have happened to me? Dern yo', everybody knows I'm a Republican!"—Saturday Evening Post.

Traveler's Tree Myth.

Among the romantic stories of far off lands that have long maintained their circulation and commanded more or less belief, says the Youth's Companion, is that of the "traveler's tree," credited with possessing a reservoir of pure water fitted to save the lives of wanderers in the desert. G. F. Scott Elliott declares from his own experience that the tree grows only in the neighborhood of swamps, and that, although it has a considerable amount of water in a hollow at the base of its leaf, the water possesses a disagreeable vegetable taste, and, of course, is inferior to other water to be found in the vicinity.

What Makes the Sky Blue.

It is the atmosphere that makes the sky look blue and the moon yellow. If we could ascend to an elevation of 50 miles above the earth's surface we should see that the moon is a brilliant white, while the sky would be black, with the stars shining as brightly in the daytime as at night. Furthermore, as a most picturesque feature of the spectacle, we should take notice that some of the stars are red, others blue, yet others violet, and still others green in color. Of course, all of the stars (if we bar the planets of our own system) are burning suns and the hues they wear depend upon their