

CAN KNOW THINGS TOO WELL.

Sometimes Too Well Trained a Memory Plays Odd Tricks.

Very often folks get to know a thing so well that they don't have to think to remember it. Take for instance your home address. If you have been living in the same house in the same street for years your address gets easier and easier to recall. Except, sometimes, it doesn't take the influence of liquor to make you forget, either. It merely is that you know it too well.

There was a man who was in the habit of writing letters to a girl and after a year or so he got to know her address by heart. One day, long after he started writing to her, he was addressing an envelope to the young woman, when suddenly he became suspicious of the number he had written. He read it aloud and tried other schemes of convincing himself. He wrote the same numbers on other sheets of paper, but they did not seem entirely right.

CIGARETTE MONEY NOT ENOUGH.

D'Annunzio's Contemptuous Rejection of Manager's Offer.

Gabriele d'Annunzio, an Italian poet, maintains a princely villa, a stable of automobiles and disports himself otherwise as becomes a favorite of the masses. Italians rank him nearly among the saints, and the veneration in which he is held extends to the large Italian colony that planted the Argentine Republic and made Buenos Ayres the most progressive of South American cities.

An Italian show maestro who had been to Buenos Ayres and found there a lively demand for d'Annunzio proposed to take the poet there on tour to read in public his own poems. He approached d'Annunzio with an offer of \$1,000 a night for 20 appearances plus expenses to and from Argentina.

The Credit Mobilier.

In the campaign of 1872 it was charged that the vice-president, the vice-president-elect, the secretary of the treasury, several senators, the speaker of the house and a large number of representatives had been bribed during the years 1867 and 1868 by presents of stock in a corporation known as the Credit Mobilier organized to contract for building the Union Pacific railroad to vote and act for the benefit of the Union Pacific Railroad Company. An investigation committee appointed by congress reported February 18, 1873, recommending the expulsion of Oakes Ames of Massachusetts for "selling to members of congress shares of the stock of the Credit Mobilier below their real value, with intent thereby to influence the votes of such members," and of James Brooks of New York for receiving such stock. The house modified the proposed expulsion into an "absolute condemnation" of the conduct of both members.

Movements-Shaping Art.

There are at present two definite movements which are clearly shaping the course of American art. One is the movement of exaltation, which has fostered the creation of many different and widely distributed centers of interest; the other is the tendency to concentrate official activity in a single typical spot. Owing to the callousness of New York, the retrospective habits of Boston, the avowed internationalism of Pittsburgh and the fact that Philadelphia has always had a special mission to fulfill, these cities must in time give place to some more logical focal point, nor is it a very difficult matter to designate that particular locality—Century.

Bird of Great Burden.

It was Tommy's first visit to the zoo. "And what is that mamma?" he asked pointing to a queer looking animal on the edge of a big pond. "Why, my dear, that is the baby hippo," explained his mother. "The story brought it last week."

Now "Marianne Islands."

Heretofore the official address of the naval station has been Guam, La drone Islands. It is now by official order "Guam, Marianne Islands." Ladrones is Spanish for robber and the inhabitants felt that such a suggestive name did them an injustice.

HIS IMPRESSION ALL WRONG.

Gateman Had Woven Romance Where Romance Was Not.

A charming young girl in a delightful spring costume presented herself at the platform gate of a railway station and proceeded to plead with the man in charge. "Will you please let me through?" she said, appealingly. "Can't do it, miss; it's against the rules."

"But I want to meet him when he arrives. He will be so upset if I am not on the platform to meet him." The man hesitated. "Please," she insisted, gazing at him with tear-dimmed eyes. "I dare say she's only been married a little while, and her husband's coming back for the first time," he reflected. "Or, maybe, it's her lover she's expecting, for she looks too young and childlike to be married."

KEEPING TIME WITH HIS JAWS.

How Nick Altrock Developed Into Champion Gum Chewer.

When Nick Altrock, the White Sox pitcher, is on the ball field he always has a big wad of gum in his mouth. His jaws work so rapidly that one would think that they might become dislocated. This has been the cause of much comment among American league ball players, so when the St. Louis club went to Chicago, Emmet Heidrick, who had been out of the game for several years, and who did not know Altrock, stood regarding Nick with wonder as his jaws opened and closed in so rapid a manner. Finally Emmet turned to Harry White and said:

"Say, Doc, what makes that fellow go after that gum in that hurried fashion?" "Wait until I ask him," replied Harry; and then raising his voice the clever pitcher cried out: "Nick, how did you come to develop that swift jaw manipulation?"

"When I was in Toronto," merrily cried Nick, "I used to eat my meals at a joint where they had a bang-up orchestra that didn't play anything but quick two-step music, and the first thing I knew I was keeping time to it while I was eating, and I ain't been able to break myself of the habit yet."

Britons Read Solid Books.

The borrowing of novels is declining all over England, being not more than 15 per cent. of the work done by public libraries. In the public libraries of the United Kingdom there are 4,000,000 reference and 8,000,000 lending books; 11,000,000 reference books are consulted every year, according to the records, and at least an equal number are taken from the shelves and consulted without being recorded. Every year 60,000,000 books are lent for home reading. Giving further detail the investigator states that "the taste for history, biography and travel is on the wane; readers are all for science and sociology, and new books of so-called science are always in demand."

Memorial of Rembrandt.

A pleasant bit of news comes from Holland. According to the London Globe, through the liberality of a rich gentleman of Amsterdam, the house in which Rembrandt lived from 1639 to 1658 has been acquired by a commission, which proposes to restore the building and bring it to a condition more approaching the time when it was occupied by the painter. It is proposed to turn the house into a museum, in which will be shown sketches by Rembrandt, documents and autographs of the master. It will also contain a library pertaining to his life and work.

Country vs. City.

In 1800, one-twenty-fifth of the population of the country lived in six cities of 8,000 or over; in 1810 one-twentieth lived in 13 such cities; in 1830, one-sixteenth in 26 cities; in 1840, one-tenth in 44 cities; in 1859, one-eighth in 85 cities; in 1860, one-sixth in 141 cities; in 1870, one-fifth in 226 cities; in 1880, one-fourth in 288 cities. Since 1880 the tide has been steadily flowing cityward, and by this time the urban population is probably one-third of the total.

Marriageable Women Scarce.

The remarkable dearth of marriageable young women in some of the most populous industrial districts of Alsace-Lorraine is causing the authorities some anxiety. Throughout these provinces there are, on an average, three men to every woman, and in the small town of Kneuttingen 1,500 single women have 5,000 men from whom to choose their husbands.

Setting the Date.

"Have you any idea when the duke's marriage to Miss Richard will take place?" "Well, some time within the next three months. He has a big wife to pay, which falls due in 30 days."

REALLY IT WAS PRETTY TOUGH.

Most People Will Be Inclined to Agree with Apple Grower.

"Will somebody kindly step up and inform me if you can beat that," suggested Col. W. T. Seller. Col. Seller had been telling his experience with certain apple pilferers out near his place on Eddy road.

"Ever since apples got ripe this year on the colonel's place they have been carried away by watchful residents out that way. The colonel himself has been obliged to get along with the wormy apples that others left behind. A short time ago Seller decided to clear out a piece of land that included a number of apple trees. "People steal all the apples anyhow," he reflected. "I might as well remove the trees and the temptation along with them."

While he was out cutting down one of the trees, a woman hot footed across the lot with a basket on her arm. She evidently was coming to fill the basket, not knowing that anybody was around. When she saw that the tree was being removed she broke right forth and told the colonel a few things about vandalism that was, enough to set a man thinking. "Pretty tough," he says, "for a man to have his apples stolen all season, and then to incur the ill will of the thieves because he isn't going to maintain the trees for them any longer."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

SHALL IT BE "BUNK" OR "BUNCK"?

The Former the Northern, the Latter the Southern Spelling.

"It never occurred to me that there could be two ways of spelling the word 'bunk,'" said the scholarly appearing person who was studying the sporting section of the newspaper. "But I happened to pick up a Memphis newspaper the other day and as a head to a speech made by Commissioner Loomis in Tokyo recently I read: 'Loomis Hands Out the Bunc.'" "Now, without endeavoring to go into the merits of the case so put I want to say only that the headline meant that Mr. Loomis was accused of spoofing the Japanese he addressed. The only other authority for the spelling of the word comes from the sporting cartoonists, whose work I study carefully. They are unanimous in spelling it 'bunk'."

"It appears to me that the southern version is based on a belief that the word is a diminutive of 'buncombe.' The northern spelling may be due to the belief that a person who may be bunked is a person of sleepy or dopy nature, who might as well be lying in a bunk, wrapped in slumber. Therefore, when a person is bunked he is rendered sleepy. That is merely conjecture."

Tobacco-Chewing Horse.

He was a lovable-looking old beast, the kind of a horse that one instinctively would like to give a kindly pat on the back and say "Good old boy" to. When the driver was ready to start out again he pulled the blanket off the animal's back and the horse kicked up his hind legs in pure playfulness, apparently. Maybe it was something else that started the action, for the driver pulled a box of all-tobacco cigarettes out of his pocket, stuck one in his mouth and then gave one to the horse, who stopped kicking at once and began to chew the tobacco with every evidence of enjoyment. Then the driver lit his own cigarette, climbed up to his seat and drove off, the old white horse having never a kick in him left.

The Dancers of Java.

In the islands of Java and Bali, both Dutch possessions in the East Indies, no festival or merry-making would be considered complete unless a troupe of native actors and dancers were engaged to come and perform, says a writer in Black and White. If a wedding should take place without one such performance the guests would be greatly scandalized, and would look upon the parents as most inhuman, for to them it would seem like the sending of a deliberate invitation to the higher powers to shower ill-luck upon the newly married couple. But such a case of inhumanity on the part of relatives has hardly ever been known.

Blanketing the Auto.

"This is the season of the year when the automobiles that are standing any length of time in the open air have blankets put over the bonnets in order to keep the wind out. When it gets very cold it is hard to keep the water system in proper circulation if too much cold air is allowed to blow directly on the engine. Therefore the radiator and the bonnet are covered over and the machine is kept comfortable. It gives the cars a sort of homey look that is not at all natural."

Going the Limit.

"What would you consider a diplomat?" "A man who is courteous to his cook." "Even when she happens to be his wife?" "Even then."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

All Depends.

"What is the most aggravating thing in married life?" asked Dorothy. "Sometimes," said the bachelor friend, "it's the husband and sometimes it's the wife."—Detroit News Tribune.

SCORED ON IMPOLITE VISITOR.

Local Men Had Rather the Better of Exchange of Compliments.

"An English lawyer named Ratcliffe was famous in his circle for skepticism and his hatred of religious things. One time this Mr. Ratcliffe had occasion to go to St. Albans, to take testimony in a law case in which he was engaged. He amused himself during the proceedings by continually alluding to the town as "Albans," instead of "St. Albans."

Presently one of the lawyers present asked: "Why do you call this place 'Albans'?" "Because I don't like saints," said Mr. Ratcliffe. "Oh!" "Nothing more was said on the subject, but by and by, the work being completed, the lawyer rose to take his departure. "Good-by, gentlemen," he said to the three or four St. Albans men who were present. "Good-by," Mr. Cliffe," they all answered at once. "What do you mean by calling me Mr. Cliffe?" he exclaimed. "Why, we don't like rats," said one of the St. Albans men.

ARM IS LONGER THAN THE LEG.

Or It Should Be if the Person is Well Formed.

There are men whose arms when they walk are like a couple of excited pendulums, trying to emulate the stroke of the leg, the right arm swinging in unison with the movement of the left leg, and the left arm keeping time with the right leg. The military man is taught not to swing his arms; the civilian swings expansively, often covering a bigger radius than that covered by his legs. When a man swings his arms excessively he appears to be padding along. When a man doesn't swing his arms at all he seems to be advancing automatically. He is altogether uncanny.

The Gorilla de Luxe has arms seven inches longer than his legs. Can any reader tell instantly, without using a tape measure, which is the longer, his arm or his leg? Not one. The universal reply will be—the leg. All wrong. The arm of a well-formed person, man or woman, measured from the pit, should be three-quarters of an inch longer than the leg, measured from the crotch. The runner usually carries his arm bent at the elbow. Why? The best runners are pigeon-toed. Why? Most athletes turn in their toes. Why?

Diet in Illness.

In acute disease simplicity should be the rule. There can be no reasonable objection, so long as the patient is seriously ill, to a uniformity of diet of which a healthy person might complain. It is only when convalescence commences that the appetite of the patient may tempt him to run risks, though more often it is the unwise solicitude of his friends, who press upon him articles of food he is better without.

It should be remembered that acute illness abolishes, or at least diminishes, the activity of the glands which secrete the juices by which our food is digested, and that during convalescence these functions are only regained slowly, so that food should be given in a form that is easily assimilated, and the organs of digestion should not be taxed to the normal extent until some weeks have elapsed.

As one of the effects, unobviously promoted by cooking is to effect, at least partially, those changes by which the food is made assimilable, it is a good rule to give only cooked food, but to this rule there are some exceptions, of which milk is the most important. The juice of fresh fruit is another.

Mistrusted.

Mark Twain was talking about the famous robbery in his beautiful country house. "Had I still been living in Hartford," he said whimsically, "some of my Hartford friends would certainly have accused me of robbing myself. They had a poor opinion of me in that town." "Marshall Jewett, the ex-governor, used to take up the collection in our Hartford church. They never asked me to take it up. I fretted a good deal over this matter." "See here, Jewett, I said one day, 'they let you take up the collection every Sunday, but they would never let me do it.'" "Oh, yes, they would," said Jewett—that is, with a bell-punch, like the horse-car conductors use."

Hotels Keep Clean Money for Change.

Giving out fresh, clean currency in change is not a new custom in the hotels here, but it is a pleasing one to travelers from the west and the south, when a dollar bill is made to do long, hard service for its country," said Mr. Fred Sterry, managing director of the Plaza. "A well-bred woman never feels more hurt than when soiled bank notes are given to her in exchange for a draft. This is perhaps necessary in the stores, but every first-class hotel keeps new money on hand for its customers, and sends the old to the bank for deposit." New York Herald.

Above His Class.

"The Indians killed only enough game to supply them with food. Few modern sportsmen follow that rule." "No," replied the amateur hunter, "but a lot of us would like to if we only could."

WILD ANIMALS ALWAYS LEAN.

Surplus Fat Would Mean Destruction by Their Enemies.

Among wild animals, where the struggle for existence is most severe, surplus fat is very rarely found. The wild boar is lean, fleet of foot and powerful in strength. The razor-back hog of the southern states, lean and gaunt, is nothing more than the domesticated hog which has been permitted to run wild. The same hog when penned so as to restrict his exertions and fed on fattening foods, stores the unused energy in his body as fat, and becomes the almost legless ball of fat we see pictured in feed catalogues and live stock journals. Such a hog has no duties to perform in its struggle for existence, its food is furnished it without effort on its own part. It has no enemies to oppose and overcome. Such a hog would be impossible in a wild state, for as soon as the helplessness from fat began to manifest itself the animal would fall a victim to some of its enemies.

The flesh of a man is very similar to that of the hog, and this is why the eating of swine is prohibited by the ancients and is yet forbidden by the Jews.

Many people whose struggle for life is lessened by ease and plenty, whose food supply comes without effort, who have little work to perform, and who do not enter into the battle of life, attain a condition very similar to that of the fattened hog.

STRANGER HAD HEARD OF HIM.

But Not in the Way the Author Had Hoped For.

An American author of some note was passing a summer in New Hampshire. One day he received word that a distinguished Englishman was visiting in the country town and would like to call upon the author of whom, he added in his note requesting an audience, he had heard.

Somehow flattered, the author wondered to himself who had spoken to the distinguished Englishman about him.

"Some distant relative," he reflected pleasantly, or possibly some London publisher or critic, and he awaited the stranger's arrival with interest.

"So you had heard of me," he ventured after the usual greetings had been spoken. "Well, that is odd. Might I ask who?" but his visitor interrupted him.

"Oh, yes," he said. "I heard all about you before I got here. The porter on the train told me that you were the best man to come to ask about the best route to Niagara and what hotel I'd better stay at."—Youth's Companion.

His Strained Relations.

There is a young fellow in Trenton an enthusiastic devotee of amateur photography, who is always insisting upon "taking" his family and friends posed in more or less artistic attitudes.

Not long ago there was an exhibition of the work of a local photographic club to which the young fellow belonged, at which were displayed the results of certain of his efforts. To immortalize his family and friends in one corner bank a group of figures trailed into the most extraordinary position, the general effect being that of persons in various stages of paralysis.

"Who in the world are those queer-looking people?" asked someone. "Oh, these are some of Pa's Ward's strained relations," said a bystander.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Porto Rican English.

The English language may be said to be flourishing upon the Spanish in Porto Rico since our occupation of the island, but at least the Porto Ricans seem to be making some rearrangement of the new tongue so that it may conform somewhat to Spanish idiom.

For instance, in a recent issue of a San Juan paper there appears the announcement of a "mitin" to take place at such and such a time, and at such and such a place—a political "mitin," in fact.

Which, in case there are readers who are still mystified, is a good, rapid-transit version of our friend "meetings" arranged to suit Spanish eyes and throats.

American Women Adaptable.

It is said that an American woman hardly passes her first season in London until she can talk of the turf and politics, two subjects of which she is comparatively ignorant in the United States. This is due to her adaptability, for, finding herself with those to whom they are interesting subjects, she naturally seeks to become proficient in knowledge. That is one reason of her success with Englishmen, who realize that she is not so deeply convinced of her own opinion upon the ordinary subjects of life that she is not willing to accept his view.

The Government Offended Him.

"I didn't vote in the last election," said the George moonshiner. "Hout ten year ago the government mortally offended me, and I ain't took no interest in it from that day to this."

"But you should vote, you should stand up for your rights."

"That's jest it," said the moonshine man. "I've got to keep deixin' all the time. Ever time I stand up for my rights the revenoo folks draw a bead on me, an' the government sits me."

WEALTHY HAVE SHORT LIVES.

Bright's Disease and Heart Troubles Are Aristocratic Ailments.

Bright's disease and organic heart trouble in New York and other large cities of wealth have reached alarming proportions. These are aristocratic ailments coming from rich feeding, late hours and wines. In New York the deaths from these troubles were, in 1871, at the rate of 17.48 persons in every 1,000 of population; in 1882 the rate had increased to 21.91; in 1893 it was 27.30; in 1907 it was 30.14. Here, in cold figures of death and disease, is the lesson which tells us, who, though poor, love life and health, that riches are not an unmitigated blessing. Of course, we all think that if we were rich we would be more sensible than those who are now wealthy, but this cannot be proved, for prosperity is a much harder test of character than some aspect, and is likely to show up the dross in the saintliness. Better by far, for our health at least, is the stern master, necessity, which forces us to go steadily along the same workaday pathway, than the wild gay cronies, wealth, which would encourage us to run impetuously to a premature grave. The universal cry and desire and plaint of the age is for riches. If we stop for a minute we may realize that riches would mean but a slight variation from the program upon which our lives are already ordered. Food, clothes, home, occupation, recreation, friends—these we have. Wealth would merely put more style in your coat, more gimcracks in your house, more anxiety in your occupation, and more falsity in your friends.—Pittsburg Press.

PROVE ELECTRICITY THE BEST.

Superior to All Forms of Heat for Fireless Cooker.

The principle of the fireless cooker, in which the cooking having been once started over a flame is continued in an insulated cabinet or box, through the action of the heat already absorbed, is more or less familiar to all, but in the more improved forms cloth and felt insulation are displaced by varnished wood sections and other materials of a durable sanitary nature, and the utensil adapted to baking and broiling. In the latter case the heat is stored in stoneware radiators or slabs, which quickly absorb heat or by electricity. That it is possible to use electricity in connection with the fireless cooker with proportionately greater economy in the use of fuel than in the use of gas oil or coal, has it is stated, been practically demonstrated in the fireless cookers ready for the market. The reason why the economy is greater with electricity is that it is possible to utilize practically all the heat generated by the current. The coils are interposed in the radiators and while the temperature is being raised the oven is closed to prevent the loss of heat.

The Color of Eggs.

Mr. A. H. Horwood of the Legation (England) museum, remarks that the color of birds' eggs can in a large number of cases be traced to the presence of "protophyllin" in the yolk. White eggs are usually laid by birds nesting in holes in trees, or in dark situations, like owls, woodpeckers and snipe. Pigeons. Most birds nesting on or near the ground lay eggs of an olive-green or brown ground color. The eggs of grouse, ptarmigan and so forth resemble the heather among which they are laid. Those of the ringed parakeet, little tern, etc., are rather peculiarly the sand and shingle of the beach. The lapwing's eggs closely simulate bare soil or dried herbs. The young chicks show similar "protective" colors.—Youth's Companion.

The Price of Pearls.

Consul General William H. Michael of Calcutta reports that a scheme has been set on foot to regulate the Indian pearl market and to prevent a repetition of the disastrous experience of last year, on account of the money crisis in the United States. An agency is to be formed in India with several branches, and a head office at Bombay, to collect pearls and to dispatch them to the London market at a fixed price, but subject to offers. Against these parcels a small advance will be given in Bombay, while the price is being called for to London. The promoters of the scheme say that there is a great future in store for the Indian pearl industry if it can be properly handled. The syndicate intends to extend its operations to the Australian fisheries.

Why He Got His K. C. M. G.

The following story is told of the late Edward Fairfield, assistant under secretary at the colonial office. Asked one day by a friend by what means a certain individual had received a K. C. M. G., Mr. Fairfield bent over the desk at which he was sitting and, pointing to a hole in the carpet in front, said: "My friend, do you see that? X—wore that hole when representing to me his claims to be knighted."

Matters eventually reached such a pitch that we saw we must give him the K. C. M. G. or buy a new carpet. We gave him the K. C. M. G.—Reynolds' Newspaper.

Asking Too Much.

Knickers—They are experimenting with a new kind of prune for the navy. "Bucker—Heavens, isn't it enough to fight for your country without boarding for it?"