

Amusing Howlers By Schoolboys.

A most amusing collection of schoolboy "howlers" is published in the English "University Correspondent." Some of the best are the following:—

Switzerland is a very wonderful place; you can often see the mountains towering among the clouds.

Habeas Corpus is what the people used to say to the undertakers at the time of the Great Plague of London in 1666. It means "You may have the body."

Virgil was a man who used to clean up churches.

No one knows whether, where, how, when, or why Homer was born.

The chief clause in Magna Charta was that one which said that no one was to be punished without his own consent.

The Crusades were on account of the Turks. They had taken Constantinople and were so cruel they would not let traders use the Suez Canal.

Clive conducted the Indian mutiny and brought it to a successful conclusion.

Oliver Cromwell's home policy was that of being a good husband and a kind father; his foreign policy was to walk abroad in a big slouch hat and a very large red nose.

William the Conqueror was one of our best authors; he wrote the Doomsday Book.

John Bright was famous for an incurable disease.

A hexameter has six feet, a taximeter has five.

An Alexandrine is a form of verse so called because it was employed by Tennyson in his poem to Queen Alexandra.

Kingsley was a great agriculturist and wrote a book on yeast.

Oliver Cromwell was the captain of an ironclad.

Queen Elizabeth's face was thin and pale, but she was a stout Protestant.

Communism dolorem.—They share a dollar.

Things which are equal to other things are equal to one another.

Q. What do you know if three sides of a triangle are equal? A. The other side must be equal also.

A thermometer is a short glass tube that regulates the weather.

An axiom is a thing that is so visible that it is not necessary to see it.

The Gordian Knot was untied by Lord Kitchener when he took Khartoum and cleared up the tangle into which we had got over General Gordon.

The Zenith is a quadruped living in the interior of Africa.

Chivalry is when you feel cold.

Lumbago is a mineral for making lead pencils.

If care is not taken with dusty corners microscopes will breed there.

colloquial phrases; but very few indeed were able to arrange their thoughts in proper sequence or to rise above the obvious and the commonplace.

"The work in dictation was very uneven; some of the candidates made the most grotesque mistakes both in orthography and in punctuation; many others lost marks by pure carelessness and inattention. The precis writing was in most cases unequivocally bad. Its badness was not to be accounted for by the fact—which was generally apparent—that the writers had little idea of the purposes served by precis writing.

"Their work was often written in a slovenly manner defaced by interlineations and corrections, and by bad spelling, arrangement, and composition. But the vital defects were recklessness in misstatement and an apparent inability of the writers to read a simple narration with any degree of care and intelligence.

"There is still an unduly large proportion of candidates who know practically nothing of geography.

"On the whole the quality of the work in chemistry was distinctly poor."

Of the 328 candidates presenting themselves for the whole examination 112 passed.

Material for Officers.

The British Army Qualifying Board has a poor opinion of the quality of the candidates who presented themselves for examination for commissions at the last examination. It has just issued its report on the examination, and makes the following comments:—

"The English essays, as a whole, were mediocre; most of the candidates could express themselves with some facility, though many of them were too fond of

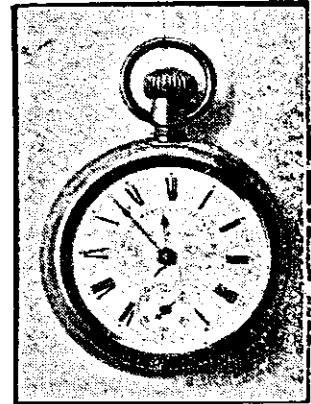
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