

All Sorts

There are four millionaires in England to every one in France.

Sixty thousand elephants are annually slaughtered in Africa for the sake of their ivory.

Golf can positively be traced in Scottish history back to 1457, and negatively to a remoter date.

When fully accoutred, a British foot-soldier carries in weight 62lb; a Russian, 68lb; a French, 62lb; a German, 61lb; a Swiss, 59lb; an Italian, 53lb; and an Austrian, 47lb.

For a short distance a lion or a tiger can outrun a man, and can equal the speed of a fast horse, but they lose their wind at the end of about half a mile. They have little endurance, and are remarkably weak in lung power.

They had just moved into a new house, and they stood surveying the situation.

'I wish,' she said, 'that this carpet was velvet.'
'I don't,' responded the husband unfeelingly. 'I wish it was down.'

A recruiting sergeant one day, seeing a fine-built young man selling milk, approached him and said:

'Would you like to serve the King?' (meaning to join the Army).

'Rather,' said the milkman. 'How much does he want? A pint or a quart?'

There are now over 250,000 words in the English language, acknowledged by the best authorities, or about 70,000 more than in the German, French, Spanish, and Italian languages combined. One can easily understand foreigners borrowing from English, but it seems inexcusable for English writers to burden their works with words taken from languages with a much smaller number of words than are to be found in our dictionaries.

A story of military red tape is being told at Dover. A requisition from Newhaven was received at the district headquarters at Dover for some safety matches. A letter went back inquiring whether they could not be obtained locally. The reply was received that they could not. This was an expenditure of 3d for stamps. A package of a dozen boxes of matches, value about 14d, was then sent by passenger train, marked 'Explosives,' for which 2s 6d carriage was paid.

Bakers in France are subjected to several unusual rules and regulations. In large fortified towns, for instance, they must always have a certain stock on hand in case of war. Not only this, but everywhere they have to deposit a sum of money in the hands of the municipal authorities as a surety of good conduct; and the law, not content with merely looking after their weights and measures, actually decides the price at which bread is sold.

The Glasgow Corporation tramways have made a net profit of no less than £56,000 on last year's working. The total income amounted to £820,938, and the working expenses to £456,268, leaving a gross balance of £364,670. The population served by the system is about 1,050,000, and this enormous community was carried no less than 208 times over by the tramways during the year. The Corporation has decided to apply £10,000 to meeting special depreciation of buildings, to put £10,000 to the common good, and to place the balance of £36,000 to the general reserve fund.

The New York doctors have been wondering at the youthful appearance of the body of Mrs. Mary Fay, a Tipperary woman, who has just died there at the age of 105. For forty years she lived on bread and milk, and the appearance of her body was that of a woman of 35. She never ate meat or vegetables, nor did she drink anything save milk and water. She never had an ache or pain. She went to America forty years ago. Some physicians believe that the case corroborates the theory of Professor Metchnikoff, of Paris, that a diet of sour or curdled milk will successfully combat old age.

The popular idea that the age of a horse can always be told by looking at his teeth, says a veterinary surgeon, is not entirely correct. After the eighth year the horse has no more new teeth, so that the tooth method is useless for telling the age of a horse which is more than eight years old. As soon as the set of teeth is complete, however, a wrinkle begins to appear on the upper edge of the lower eyelid, and a new wrinkle is added each year, so that to get at the age of a horse over eight years old you must figure the teeth plus the wrinkles.

For Colds in the Head and Influenza, WOODS' GREAT PEPPERMINT CURE, 1/6 and 2/6 per Bottle.

The concert was a success, and in due course 'Hail, smiling morn,' was called for. When the soloist came to the lines requiring an echo he delivered them in his best manner—; At whose bright presence darkness flies away.' Imagine his horror when the echo repeated his words in the broadest Scotch:

'Flees awa', flees awa'!

Yet Reeves averred that not a person in the audience smiled or appeared to see anything incongruous.

When he talked over the matter with a bailie after the concert, the good man assured him:

'That's just nothing at all. You were a little wrong in your pronunciation and the echo was correct. You see, it was a Scottish echo.'

ODDS AND ENDS

Don't make home irksome. If you would not have your children lost to you in after life make home happy to them when they are young. Don't force the children to look elsewhere than at home for pleasure.

The class was discussing animals; how they walk-ed, got up, etc. After she had explained the cow's method of rising to her feet, the teacher asked: 'Do you know any other animal that gets up like the cow?'

Silence reigned for a moment, then one little girl timidly raised her hand.

'What is it?' asked the teacher.

'A calf,' was the whispered reply.

FAMILY FUN

The entertainer known as Malini recently performed some of his card tricks before a gathering which included Queen Alexandra. At the close one of the visitors asked Malini to tell him how much money he had in his pockets.

'That is easily done,' replied the 'magician.' To allow of no deception, Malini was blindfolded, and at his request the visitor placed all the money on a table, in full view of the spectators. There was a dead silence for a few seconds. 'You are sure it is all on the table?'

Quite sure.'

'Then, sir, you have no money in your pockets.'

No one enjoyed this simple trick more than the Queen, who chaffed the 'victim' on his temporary poverty.

Place a clay pipe on the edge of a glass. The problem is to make the pipe fall without touching it, blowing upon it or agitating it, and without moving the table.

Take another glass and rub it rapidly on the sleeve of your coat. When you bring it close to the pipe you will see the pipe turn after the glass until it falls.

Place a coin and an inverted wine-glass on a shallow plate, and pour enough water into the plate to cover the coin. Now ask your friends if they can tell you how to lift the coin from the plate without wetting your fingers? They will launch forth all sorts of wild ideas, but will not think of the very simple answer. Cut a slice of cork, and place on top of it some matches and paper. Float the cork on the water, light the matches and paper and cover them carefully with the wineglass. Shortly after the matches and paper are burned out, it will be found that the water on the plate has been sucked up into the glass, and that the coin is left quite dry. This is due to the fact that the heat causes the air inside the glass to expand, and, in cooling, to contract, when the pressure of the external air forces the water up into the glass.

When is a person obliged to keep his word? When no one will take it.

Why is a candle-maker the most sinful and unfortunate of men? Because all of his works are wicked, and all his wicked works are brought to light.

Why is a seamstress always a deceptive woman? Because she is never what she seems.

Why are the houses of bald people the easiest to break into? Because their locks are few.

Why is an author more free than a monarch? Because he chooses his own subjects.

Where did Napoleon stand when he landed at St. Helena? On his feet.

What kind of a window resembles a star? A skylight.

If a man carrying two lamps drops one of them, what does he become? A lamp lighter.

What color does flogging make a boy? It makes him yell O.

By what process can you make a tea table into food? If you take away the T it will be eatable.