

has been trying to do for years, but the people were blind. Things got so hateful to heaven that God caused his spirit to come upon the good people of Philadelphia and drive out the corrupt political thieves that had control of our fair city and put in honest men, and it is spreading throughout the whole United States. For myself I believe no man ought to own what God has created. He can have the use of everything created for God created everything for man, and man for himself, but just think why we ever stood or allowed Mammon to rule our country so long.

Language in France

There are several districts in France where the very ancient tongues still survive. Basque is spoken by about 100,000 persons, who are naturally proud of a language that is their exclusive possession, for it is unlike every other spoken tongue, and the assertion is commonly made that to understand it one must have learned it in the cradle. This peculiar property gives in the mind of the Basque people support to their belief that it was the language of Adam and Eve. The same claim is advanced, though, for Breton. The Romans, when they conquered Gaul, compared Breton to croaking of ravens. About a million people speak Breton. Then there are Flemish, still spoken by a comparatively small number in northeastern France, Catalan in the Pyrennes-Orientales and Languedoc and Provençal, whose gradual extinction has been delayed mainly by the efforts of a few literary enthusiasts.

Willing to Compromise

The mother had been having a strenuous day with her offspring, as Mrs. Anna Garlin Spencer calls the story of a little cousin of hers. The small boy had even more than usually been a peripatetic interrogation point. There were few things concerning the construction of the world and all things in it, with asides upon various theological, philosophical and scientific questions, which the mother had not tried to answer. She was exhausted and welcomed the night as she undressed her little son and prepared him for bed. But he had not finished his questions.

"Mamma," he asked, "where is my soul?"

"Now, dear," replied the weary mamma, "I am very tired, and I can't answer another question tonight."

"Well, then you needn't answer it tonight," said the child, "but please put your finger on the very spot!"—New York Times.

The Diplomatic Tramp

"Please, mum," said a tramp, "would you be so kind as to let me have a needle and thread?"

"Well, y-e-s," said the housewife at the door, "I can let you have that."

"Thankee, mum. Now, you'd oblige me very much if you'd let me have a

bit of cloth for a patch."

"Yes, here is some."

"Thankee very much, mum. It's a little different color from my suit, I see. Perhaps, mum, you could spare me some of your husband's old clothes that this patch will match."

"Well, I declare! You're clever, my man, and I'll give you an old suit. Here is one."

"Thankee greatly, mum. I see it's a little large, mum, but if you'll kindly furnish me with a square meal, mebbly I can fill it out."—Human Life.

THE MISSING ACOUSTIC

Alfred Cellier, the clever composer of "Dorothy" and kindred plays, used to tell a story, says the writer of some "Stage Recollections," about a certain capitalist who, though he made money, was by no means a man of superior education. This gentleman financed a certain new theater, round which he one day showed Mr. Cellier.

"What do you think of it?" asked the capitalist, proudly.

"Oh, it's very nice," replied Cellier; "but it has no acoustic properties."

"Wha-a-a-at? What's that?" shouted the man of money. "I'll see about that!" and, putting his mouth to one of the speaking tubes, he cried up it: "Send down the property man we engaged."

Down came the man. "Now, look here, my man. Where are the ac—oh—the acoustic properties of this house?"

"I don't know, sir," replied the astonished man.

"Well, then, you ought to know; you are responsible for all properties. You can take a week's notice," and the financier walked away in high dudgeon.

Cellier said that it was rather a delicate thing explaining, but he managed it artfully, and the much aggrieved "property" man was reinstated.—Exchange.

Curiosities of the Cactus

Mexico has a cactus which grows toothpicks; another, ribbed and thickly set with teeth-like spines, which furnish the natives with combs; there is another cactus the long, curved spines of which resemble fish hooks; there is another which is an almost perfect imitation of the sea-urchin; still another resembles a porcupine; there is another covered with long red hair which is nicknamed the "red-headed cactus."

There are several varieties which serve as timepieces. One of these, the *Cereus nycticalus*, opens its blossoms at seven o'clock in the evening and closes them at seven o'clock in the morning; another opens at eight o'clock and closes at eight the next morning; another opens at nine o'clock in the morning and closes at noon.—American Magazine.

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