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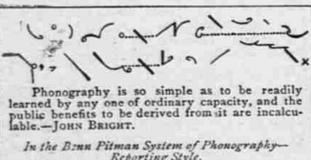
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DENTIST

EARLY CALIFORNIA SHIPS.

How Commerce Grew in Pioneer Days of the Golden State.

The first European vessel to enter the port of San Francisco of which there is any record was the Eagle, in 1810, commanded by Captain William J. Davis. She sailed from Boston via the Sandwich Islands and Alaska. She carried an assortment of goods which were a revelation to the natives, and their garments of skins and hides were substituted by the clothing of civilization. Payments were made in hides, tallow, soap and fish. The Eagle then became engaged in the sea otter trade and was very successful, as otters were plentiful in San Francisco bay and all along the coast. She made three trips, netting about \$25,000 on each trip. This stimulated others, and this discovery no doubt gave an impetus to commerce which made this port known to the world.

Commerce in those days of manna was carried on in what might be termed a "free and easy" manner. On many articles the duty was 100 per cent, which practically amounted to confiscation or made smuggling necessary in self defense. The Mexican officials generally opened the door. Frequently vessels were permitted to pass Monterey, the port of entry, going to Yerba Buena and, after selling as much of the cargo as possible, to return to Monterey for entry and disposal of the remainder.

The shippers were not sworn as to the value of the cargo. They gave fictitious invoices and by this means would get off on the payment of \$5,000 on a \$20,000 cargo.

It became so customary to swindle the government as scarcely to excite comment, except in cases where goods were concealed in false linings of the vessels and the government officials were outwitted.

URIC ACID IN THE SYSTEM.

A Medical Opinion on This Foe to Health and Life.

Haig holds that the man of average weight elaborates twelve grains of uric acid in twenty-four hours, and woe betide him if he does not excrete the full amount with due celerity. A little retained uric acid will give rise to headache, lethargy and mental depression. A greater retention will give rise to arthritis, lumbago and sciatica. The uric acid miser will end his days through bronchitis, Bright's disease, apoplexy, diabetes or cancer. Man cannot avoid his fate and cease being a uric acid producer. He can avoid, to some degree, swallowing the wretched stuff. What he cannot avoid swallowing he can, with care, excrete. If man had been wise and had continued to live where he belongs, near the equator, and had fed on fruit and nuts all might have been well. But, having wandered from the tropics, he must be wise or perish. Here are the rules that one must follow to be healthy and live long: First, swallow no uric acid and pass out each day regularly and punctually all that is formed in the body. Second, excretion of uric acid may be obtained by clothing warmly, by avoiding exposure to cold in every way (the morning cold tub is an especial abomination), by eating freely of potatoes (especially in cold weather) and by avoiding fruits. Bicarbonate of sodium, night and morning, for people who live in a climate similar to London's is a fine habit. In addition to all this, it is also advisable to secure the proper distribution of time between bodily and mental exertion and to dispense with dependence on tonics, stimulants and bracing climates."—New York Medical Journal.

Water Thieves.

Water thieves are not unique. Their prototypes existed at least as long ago as 1479. At that time a Londoner wrote: "This yere a wax chandler in Flete strete had bi craft perced a pipe of the conduit withine the grounde, and so conveyed the water into his selar; wherefor he was jugid to ride through the Clitee with a condit upon his hedde." There were other difficulties too. A century later (1574) it is recorded that owing to a sudden shower of rain the water in the Dowgate channel "had such a swift course that a lad, minding to have leapt over it, was taken by the feet and borne down with the violence of that narrow stream till he came against a cart wheel that stood in the water gate, before which time he was drowned and stark dead."

The Sun's Corona.

Thus far we know the corona of the sun to be a sort of outer envelope, so shielding us from the intense solar light and heat that it may be said without exaggerating that the sun has never really been studied comprehensively. Within the corona is an ocean of gas 5,000 miles deep, stained a ruby red by the crimson blaze of hydrogen. Flashes of flame leap from this ruddy mass often to a height of a hundred thousand miles and more.

In a Bad Way.

It was a New England parson who announced to his congregation one Sunday, "You'll be sorry to hear that the little church of Jonesville is once more tossed upon the waves, as sheep without a shepherd."—Boston Christian Register.

Done In Advance.

Artist—I sold a picture yesterday. Friend—Ah! What are you going to do with the money? Artist—It's already done with. My landlady bought it for half the board bill I owed her.

A long, slow friendship is the best; a long, slow enmity the deadliest.—Merriam.

Having been poor is no shame, but being ashamed of it is.—Franklin.

Thirty Dollars a Word.

A poet and literary man of some celebrity was visited in his study one morning by a manager of a lecture bureau, who said that he had called to ask the writer to take part in an entertainment.

"We want you to read selections from your own works, Mr. Gillespie, together with an original poem composed expressly for the occasion. Name your own price. We'll announce in the program."

"My price," interrupted Mr. Gillespie, "will be \$60."

"Isn't that a little steep?"

"Not at all, everything considered." The manager tried to beat him down to \$50, but he was immovable, and the bargain was finally closed at the first named figure.

"Alpheus," said Mrs. Gillespie after the caller had gone, "wasn't that more than you intended to charge him when he first spoke?"

"Yes," he said; "it's just twice as much. But he irritated me thirty dollars' worth by calling it 'program.'"

What Gave the Earth Its Motion?

You have often asked or had the question asked of you, "What gave the earth its daily motion, and how is the force of that motion kept up?" but have never been really satisfied with the answer given or the reasons therefor which you were able to advance in explanation. The astronomers are not even agreed upon this question. Some of them claim that the "original initial centrifugal force" was directed in a line slightly to one side of the center of the globe, which would, of course, cause the earth to rotate upon its axis, and by the law of inertia of matter must continue to revolve at a uniform rate of speed. This "law of the inertia of matter" is to the effect that matter once set in motion must continue to move until arrested by some outside force. Others claim that the motion is a "compound resultant of the motion of the earth in its orbit and the attraction of the sun."

How a Wound Heals.

If you have run a pin into your thumb or received a bayonet thrust precisely the same thing takes place. A myriad of white corpuscles, those tiny "first aid" cells (the phagocytes) from the surrounding blood vessels and lymphatic glands at once come hurrying to the rescue. They begin to clean up whatever wreck there has been made in the skin and muscular tissue. They eagerly absorb into themselves or cluster oppositely about all foreign matter that has been introduced into the wound. Then they proceed to pile themselves tier upon tier around it like so many little sandbags about a broken bastion. Later they gradually join together and solidify into the layer of new skin which appears beneath the sloughed off scab. They are at once workmen and repairing material.—A. E. MacFarlane in McClure's.

Why He Sees Double.

The reason that a man sees double who has gazed too long on the wine when it is red is that the nerve centers are changed by the action of the alcohol. There is a want of harmony in the action of the muscles which move the eyeballs. Consequently instead of both eyes being focused simultaneously on an object one eye receives an impression independently of the other. The two impressions are communicated to the brain, and the object is therefore seen twice. The inflamed condition and loss of energy in the brain centers from overdoses of alcohol also account for the staggering gait of an intoxicated man.

How Icelanders Tie Horses.

The Icelanders have a strange but effective plan for preventing horses straying away from any particular spot. If two gentlemen happen to be riding without attendants and wish to leave their horses for any reason they tie the head of one horse to the tail of the former. In this state it is utterly impossible for the horses to move on, either backward or forward. If disposed to move at all it will be only in a circle, and even then there must be mutual agreement to turn their heads the same way.

The Money Lenders.

There are many examples of Lord Palmerston's ready wit in Sir M. E. Grant Duff's book, "Notes From a Diary." In a debate about the Jews an orator rather bored the house by enumerating many of the things which the English owed to Hebrew initiative. Lord Palmerston in reply gave the discussion a sprightlier turn. "I quite agree with the honorable gentleman," he remarked. "Many of us owe a great deal to the Jews."

Priests and Beards.

The beardless priest is only a matter of custom, there being no edict upon the subject. All of the popes from Adrian VI. to Innocent XII. and all the cardinals and other church clerics during the same period were bearded dignitaries. Ignatius Loyola, St. Francis Xavier, Francis de Sales, Vincent de Paul and the Cardinals Bellarmine and Richelieu all wore full beards.

An Awful Finish.

Hen—What makes you look so glum? Rooster—I've just been chased out of the wood shed with a feather duster. It got so close to me that I recognized the tails of three of my family.—Detroit Free Press.

A Man of Ability.

Chollie—Can you recognize ability when you see it, Miss Ruth? Miss Ruth (looking around)—Certainly. Where is any?

It cannot be too often repeated that it is not helps, but obstacles; not facilities, but difficulties, that make men.—Matthews.

CARTS IN SCOTLAND.

They Were a Cause of Wonder in the Eighteenth Century.

In Scotland at the beginning of the eighteenth century produce was carried in sacks on horseback or on sledges, or—later in the century—on tumbrils, which were sledges on "tumbling" wheels of solid wood with wooden axletrees, all revolving together. These machines were often so small that in a narrow passage the carter could lift them bodily, for they held little more than a wheelbarrow. They had wheels a foot and a half in diameter, made of three pieces of wood pinned together like a butter flirin and which quickly wore out and became utterly shapeless, so that a load of 600 pounds was enormous for the dwarfish animals to drag. Yet even such vehicles were triumphs of civilization when they came into use when the century was young.

Carts are a later invention still, and when one, in 1723, first carried its tiny load of coals from East Kilbride to Cambuslang, "crowds of people," it is reported, "went to see the wonderful machine. They looked with surprise and returned with astonishment." In many parts of the lowlands they were not in ordinary use, even till 1760, while in the northern districts sledges or creels on the backs of women were chiefly employed to the end of the century. The wretched condition of the roads was the chief cause of the reluctant adoption of carts.

In the driest weather the roads were unfit for carriages and in wet weather almost impassable, even for horses—deep in ruts of mire, covered with stones, winding up heights and down hills to avoid swamps and bogs. It was this precarious state of the roads which obliged judges to ride on circuit, and a practice began as a physical necessity was retained as a dignified habit, so that in 1744 Lord Dun resigned his judgeship because he was no longer able to "ride on circuit."—Scottish Review.

LIFE IN ANCIENT GREECE.

No Remains Whatever of Grecian Domestic Architecture.

Of the domestic architecture of the Greeks nothing whatever remains, writes Jean Schoepfer in the Architectural Record Magazine. In ancient Greece private houses never had any architectural interest. A citizen of Athens or Sparta was too busy with state affairs to spend much time at home. He wanted to be in the public place where he could find his friends and fellow citizens. Moreover, the climate allowed him to live in the open air during the greater part of the year. It was on the agora that the citizens assembled in public meeting. It was there, from a rostrum, that the orators harangued the crowd; hence the need of a good voice and a clear enunciation; hence, too, the famous pebbles of Demosthenes. It was in the open air that Socrates and the sophists held their discussions alongside the Ilyssus, under the plane trees or on a public place. It was in the academy gardens that Plato patronized and in open air gymnasiums that the youths practiced their athletic games. There was no reason d'etre for a domestic architecture with such a people and in such a climate. It is not necessary to have palatial administrative buildings for governing a people that live in the public places. Besides, what significance would the term comfort, which is so full of meaning to us twentieth century westerners, living in cold, damp climates where fog, wind and rain prevail during half the year—what sense, we ask, would this word have for the robust Greeks of the fifth century B. C., whose children Aristophanes pictures to us on their way to school bareheaded, in spite of the falling snow, and singing as they go?

Took the Last Chance.

An old Scotch gravedigger was remonstrated with one day at a funeral for making a serious overcharge for digging a grave.

"Well, ye see, sir," said the old man, in explanation, making a motion with his thumb toward the grave, "him and me had a bit o' a tiff twa or three years syne ower a braw watch I set him, an' I've never been able to get the money out o' him yet. 'Now' says I to myself, 'this is my last chance, and I'd better tak' it.'"

Was It St. Mark or Lazarus?

As Jesus was being led captive from the garden back of Jerusalem one form followed the guard. It was white in the moonlight and looked like an apparition. When the guard noticed the figure they sought to lay hands upon it, when the figure cast off the cloth around its form and escaped. St. Mark is the only historian who mentions this, and some writers think St. Mark was the figure. Others think it was Lazarus.

Graphic.

The end of a novel, compressed by the editor owing to lack of space: "Ottokar took a small brandy, then his hat, his departure, besides no notice of his pursuers, meantime a revolver out of his pocket, and, lastly, his own life."—Deutsche Leschalle.

The Thrown.

"I'm taking my riding lessons in strict privacy."
"Why not in public?"
"So as to avoid the fierce white light that beats about the thrown."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Breaking Her Word.

She—Would you believe it? When the bride came to the word "obey" in the wedding service she stuttered terribly. He—Well, she might just as well break her word one time as another.—Yonkers Statesman.

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