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**THE CURIOSITY SHOP.**

**Rules for Action of Ships and Steamers Meeting at Sea.**

The "rule of the road" is somewhat intricate, especially for sailing ships. It may be summed up for them, however, by stating that the ship in the most favorable position, with regard to the wind, has to keep out of way of the other. If two steamships are meeting "end on," or nearly so, so as to involve risk of collision, each shall alter her course to starboard—that is, shall keep to the right. Steamships have always to keep out of the way of sailing ships. All vessels have to carry at night a green light on the starboard and a red light on the port side of the ship, steamers being distinguished by a white light hung about twenty feet high in front of the foremast. The following lines, which are committed to memory by many seamen, show clearly what steamers have to do under different circumstances:

**TWO STEAMSHIPS MEETING.**  
Meeting steamships do not dread,  
When you see three lights ahead,  
Port your helm and show your red.

**TWO STEAMSHIPS PASSING.**  
Green to green, or red to red,  
Perfect safety, go ahead.

**TWO STEAMSHIPS CROSSING.**  
If to starboard red appear,  
'Tis your duty to keep clear.  
To act as judge; says is proper,  
To port, or starboard, tack, or stop her;  
But when upon your port is seen  
A steamer's starboard light of green,  
There's not so much for you to do,  
For green to port keeps clear of you.

**GENERAL CAUTION.**  
Both in safety and in doubt,  
Always keep a good lookout;  
In danger, with no room to turn  
Ease her! Stop her! Go astern!

**Loss of a Steamer.**  
The steamer Central America sailed from Aspinwall for New York, Sept. 8, 1857, with 401 passengers and a crew of 101. The passengers were mostly miners returning from California with their fortunes in gold dust. Three days after leaving port she sprung a leak in a heavy gale. The vessel filled and careened over, and then there was a curious spectacle. The miners were collecting their gold dust and storing it in belts and handkerchiefs to bind around their bodies. Thousands of dollars were flung about the cabin, and life preservers were put on. The courage exhibited was marvelous; not even the women shed a tear or raised a cry of agony. The Boston brig, Marine, hove in sight, and bore down on the sinking steamer, when the women and children were rescued. Then efforts were made to rescue the crew and male passengers, and when forty had been taken off, the vessel went down. The scene which followed surpassed all the romance and horrors of shipwreck; the water was filled with floating human beings, among them being "Billy" Birch, the renowned minstrel. Five hundred and twenty-seven lives were lost.

**The Congo Free State.**  
Leopold II is sovereign of the Congo Free State; the State and its sovereign have been recognized by all the powers, and their existence is an established fact. The state has a central government in Brussels, composed, beside the sovereign, who is chairman of what might be called the board of directors, of the administrator general of foreign affairs, posts and justice, the administrator general of finance and public lands, and the administrator general of the interior, the army and the navy. The chief local officials are at Boma, on the Congo, and are the governor general, C. Janssen; the secretary general, F. J. H. Vandervelde; and the directors of finance, E. Destrain; of justice, Dr. O. Gustin; of marine, L. Valcke. The administrators general at Brussels, in the same order as we have named the offices, are E. Van Eetvelde, H. Van Nieuw and Gen. Strauch.

**Light and Color.**  
The color of an object depends upon the reflection of rays of light from that object, according to the peculiar character of the atomic constituents composing the object. Now, in a room that is dark, i. e., where there is an entire absence of light rays, there must of necessity be no light rays to be thrown back or reflected from the object; consequently, if you can possibly perceive the object at all (which is doubtful), you will perceive it black. The law of colors is a law of reflection of light rays. The solar spectrum, or, in other words, a ray of light, is composed of seven colors, viz: Violet, indigo, blue, green, yellow, orange and red. An object absorbing one ray, and throwing off all the others, is the color of the ray absorbed, the reflecting rays thrown together forming to the eye the color of the ray absorbed by the object, hence are complementary.

**Impeachment.**  
The Constitution of the United States provides that the president, vice president and all civil officers of the United States shall be removed from office for and on conviction of treason, bribery and other high crimes and misdemeanors. The house of representatives has the sole power of impeachment, but the senate tries the charges, and no conviction can take place without the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present. The chief justice must preside on the trial of the president. Judgment in case of conviction cannot extend further than to remove from office and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under the United States, but the party convicted is nevertheless liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment, according to law. Provisions similar to these are incorporated in the constitutions of the states.

**How to Become a Citizen.**  
The naturalization law reads that any alien under the age of 21 years, who has resided in the United States three years next preceding his arriving at that age, and who has continued to reside therein to the time he may make application to be admitted a citizen thereof, may, after he arrives at the age of 21 years, and after he has resided five years within the United States, including the three years of minority, be admitted a citizen; but he must make a declaration on oath and prove to the satisfaction of the court that for two years next preceding it has been his bona fide intention to become a citizen.

**The River Styx.**  
The river Styx is in mythology a river of Hades, round which it flows seven times, and over which Charon conveyed the shades of the departed. The Greeks regarded the Styx with superstitious awe, its water being believed poisonous and to break every vessel into which it was put, except one made with the hoof of a horse or an ass. Alexander the Great was supposed to have been poisoned in the Styx.

**A Quaint Conceit.**  
The following stanza is the quaint conceit of F. N. Scott, in his charming poem of "The Miller and the Maid." It is preserved in a volume entitled "The Humbler Poets":  
The mill stream shouted to the ass,  
"He kissed the farmer's daughter!"  
The grist old wheel stretched out its hands,  
And spanked the ass's waist.

**YOUNG FOLKS' COLUMN.**

**A MEDLEY OF INFORMATION, ENTERTAINMENT AND FUN.**

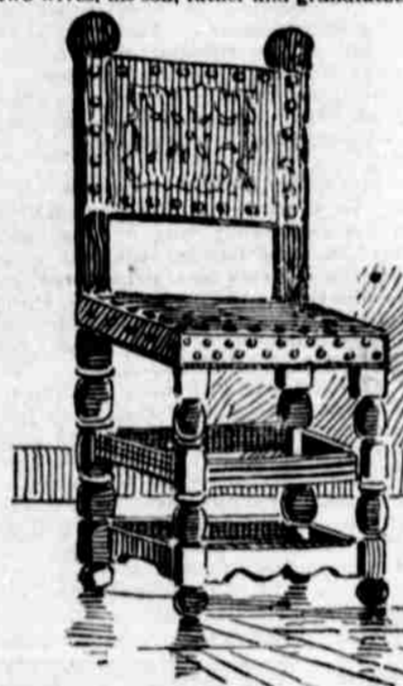
**A Ghost Story of Rubens, the Great Painter, Who Lived and Died at Antwerp More Than Two Centuries Ago. Dot's Doll House.**

In the cut here presented is given an excellent picture of Sir Peter Paul Rubens, the great painter, who lived, died and was buried at Antwerp. He was born in 1577 and died in 1640.



**THE GREAT PAINTER RUBENS.**

No place can boast of such magnificent specimens from the brush of the great Rubens as Antwerp, whether one goes to see them in the cathedral or at the museum. The museum contains, in addition to Rubens' pictures, a very fine collection of the old masters, Van Dyck being well represented, and the visitor rarely fails to look with reverence on the chair of Rubens, which is there preserved. Rubens is interred in the chapel of his family, situated immediately behind the high altar of the church of St. Jacques, an edifice which, as regards its marble decorations, painted glass, etc., exceeds in beauty even the Cathedral. His grave is covered by a slab of white marble, let into the pavement. In 1765, when all the tombs in the church were broken open and pillaged by the French, this alone was spared such desecration. It is worthy of note that the altar piece in this chapel was painted by Rubens himself—it is a "Holy Family," into which he has introduced his own portrait, as well as those of his two wives, his son, father and grandfather.



**RUBENS' CHAIR.**

Rubens was twice married, in 1609 to Isabella Brant, who died in 1633, and in 1633 to Helena Fourment, a beautiful girl of 16, whose portrait often occurs in his pictures. The works ascribed to Rubens are large in number, and embrace historical, scriptural and mythological subjects, portraits, animals, genre and landscapes.

**Dot and Her Doll House.**  
When Dot asked me to lend her a saw, hammer and nails from my tool chest, I did more—I gave her the key and leave to use all else in it she wanted. And I assisted her in dragging from the cellar to the tank room upstairs—which she selected for her work shop—"a shoe box," that is to say, a box in which shoes come from the manufacturers, about three and a half feet long, one and a half wide, and fourteen inches deep; all this without asking her what she intended to do. I also, at her request, found her some pieces of plained boards, and gave her permission to cut them as she liked.

Now this is what Dot did: she put two partitions crosswise in the box, which she then stood on end. The upper sides of these partitions she carpeted with pieces of old velvet and plush given by her mamma. The under sides and the sides and back of the box she papered with remnants of wall paper from the upholsterer's around the corner. With pieces of old tapestry she made some very lovely curtains and portieres. And then do you know what she had? Why, just one of the prettiest and most convenient doll houses you ever saw. And best of all, it was all her own, and made by herself.—Harper's Young People.

**An Attractive Basin of Water.**  
Little men as well as little maidens are very proud of looking glasses and rarely pass one without taking a peep at the reflection of their own bright faces to be seen there. In the old city of Rouen in France stands the church of St. Owen, and at the door of this church is a marble basin filled with water. Now, strangely enough, this basin is so placed that the water acts as a mirror, and in the face of it one sees all the inside of the church. Look down into the water, and you see pillars, and the ceiling, and pictures and statuary, and nearly all the interior ornamentation of the building. The stately basin seems to take pride in holding its beautiful picture of the church. It is hardly to be wondered at that old and young alike always pause to take a peep into this remarkable mirror.

**The Largest Umbrella in the World.**  
It has been recently told that the largest umbrella in the world has been made in Giaggor for a king of East Africa. It can be opened and shut in the usual way, and when open is twenty-one feet in diameter the staff is also twenty-one feet long. It is lined with carmine red and white, has a lot of straw tassels, and a border of ornamental satin. The canopy itself is made of Italian straw, and the top terminates in a globe.

**PHYSIOLOGY AND HYGIENE.**

**The Study of Mathematics an Apparent Preventive of Brain Disorders.**

As eminent authority as Dr. William A. Hammond is reported as affirming that anxiety causes more brain disorders than any other agency he knows of, unless it be love. Dr. Hammond says: It is well for us to know that the emotions cause more unhappiness and crime than any other function of the brain. Human beings are governed by their emotions, and it is well that they should be, though it is the emotions that wear away the brain, and not honest intellectual work. Very few people suffer from intellectual work, and if my memory serves me I do not recollect ever having a mathematician for a patient. It is not intellectual work that causes nervous dyspepsia, but the emotions, such as anxiety, fear, sorrow and love. I consider that eight hours are sufficient for a man to use his brain, because if he exceeds that time he becomes nervous and fretful, and an exhausted brain is an irritable brain. You may not feel the evil effects of the stress of brain work at the time, but you will sooner or later, when it is too late. The men that work at night with their brains are the ones that expose themselves to danger and death, which will surely come unless the strain on the mind is lightened.

**Buttermilk as a Medicine.**  
Many old and familiar domestic remedies are coming into repute and use again, and among those Dr. S. F. Landrey suggests in Science News that a respectable place should be given to buttermilk, supporting his opinion with one or two cases in point.

A young lady patient of Dr. Landrey was suffering from a severe consumptive cough. None of the usual antispasmodics, expectorants, etc., seemed to do any good, simply because her stomach was too weak to bear enough medicine to effect the purpose. Finally he suggested to her mother the use of hot buttermilk. It was adopted at once. Her first night's experience was one of comparative freedom from cough and pain, and a pleasant slumber for several hours. It was continued for a long time, with an unvarying relief of all her previous distressing symptoms, and an almost perfect freedom from cough for several hours after each draught of the hot buttermilk.

Languishing at one time for weeks from an attack of congestive fever, doped with calomel and quinine almost beyond endurance, Dr. Landrey began to desire buttermilk to drink. The physician "didn't believe in moping the whims of patients," as he expressed it, besides, he contended that a single drink of the obnoxious fluid might produce death, as acids and calomel were incompatible dwellers in the same stomach. But buttermilk fresh from the churn was procured and drunk. No evil resulted, instead came perspiration and speedy recovery. There are people, however, who cannot use buttermilk at all.

**Chloroform in Surgical Operations.**  
Sir Morell Mackenzie, the English specialist, who has gained a world wide reputation by his treatment of the German emperor, protests against the use of chloroform during the operation of opening the wind pipe. He says:

"I have performed the operation of tracheotomy between seventy and eighty times, and consider the use of a general anesthetic enormously increases the danger in opening the air passages. When bleeding takes place in the throat, and the patient is under the influence of chloroform, the reflex act of coughing does not take place, owing to the anesthetic state of the air passages, and the patient becomes suffocated because unable to cough out the blood. Many patients have died from this condition. Ether is even more objectionable than chloroform, being more irritating."

"I have always found simple freezing of the surface quite enough, but if more complete local anesthesia is desired, the subcutaneous injection of cocaine, after using the spray of ether, will produce absolute insensibility during the entire operation."

**Items of Interest.**  
A physician recommends colorless Canada pitch as wonderfully soothing in acute inflammation, and says that it acts like magic when painted on a severe burn with a camel's hair brush.  
In some forms of headache, a towel or a napkin, wrung out of hot water as hot as can be borne, and wound around the head, affords relief.  
Those who are troubled with sleeplessness, should, if strong enough to do so, take a long walk in the evening. Riding in the open air also promotes sleep.  
A medical journal states that in diseases of the hip joint the pain is usually at the knee, and patients are slow to believe that the trouble which gives rise to it is not at that point.

**SOCIAL ETIQUETTE.**

**Hints to the Receivers and Dispensers of Summer Hospitality.**

The season of country visiting having arrived, Good Housekeeping describes the parts which etiquette requires both guest and hostess to play. After breakfast the former is supposed to do as she pleases till dinner. The piano is at her service, so are the papers, books and magazines. The hostess has her own cares and duties, which are only kept from being too onerous by perfect system. She will generally find time to go out with the visitor, if the latter choose to go, for, without especial demonstration, a guest's will is law. The household machinery, oiled by the hostess' tact, is never heard to creak. Neither directions nor reproaches are given to a servant before a third person. If there are disappointments, griefs or surprises the visitor does not know it. Family affairs are kept strictly within the family.

Yet there is a constant strain on the nerves from a consciousness that there is somebody in the house who expects to be entertained. A tactful visitor will make this as light as possible. If the family breakfast by gaslight, she will be one of the first at the table; if they drink coffee, she will avoid no preference for tea. She is oblivious to family matters, and never notices any jars or twitches in temper or management. Nor should she allow confidences from the younger members, to say nothing of husband and wife. During her stay under another roof than her own, a wise woman will show an elastic or responsive disposition, and fit into any niche which seems to be vacant or holds promise of helpfulness.

**Wedding Notes.**  
A wedding present is generally packed where purchased and sent with the giver's card from the shop to the bride direct.  
Except in the case of a person of high rank—a prince or president, for instance—a young lady is never married from the house of her fiancé.

If you do not attend a wedding, send your visiting card in a card envelope addressed to the person from whom the invitation came on the wedding day.  
If a wedded pair commence life in a house of their own, it is customary to issue "at home" cards for a few mornings or evenings at no distant date, but when the marriage occurs in early summer these informal receptions are deferred until autumn.

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Drink **Jarvis' California Pear Cider**  
A NUTRITIOUS SUMMER BEVERAGE, AND  
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**Jarvis' California Pear Cider.**

This delicious summer beverage is made in California, from very ripe mellow Bartlett Pears. In the height of the ripening season many tons of pears become too ripe for shipping or canning purposes, they can then be utilized by pressing them into cider. The fresh juice is boiled down two gallons into one, and is then strained through pulverized char coal. This heating, condensing and straining completely destroys fermentation, and the cider ever afterwards remains sweet and good and is a most healthy and nutritious article for family use.

Knowing there are many spurious ciders sold in this market we offer the above explanation with the eminent testimonial of Prof. J. H. Long. Very Respectfully,  
**THE G. M. JARVIS CO., Sole Proprietors,**  
San Jose, California. 39 N. State Street Chicago.

Chicago, July 7th, 1887.

**THE G. M. JARVIS CO., Gentlemen:**  
I have made a chemical examination of the sample of Jarvis' Pear Cider submitted to me a few days ago, and would report these points among others noted.  
The liquid is non-alcoholic and has a specific gravity of 10.65. The total extractive matter amounts to 10.25 per cent., containing only .025 per cent of free acid. The tests show this acid to be malic acid as usually found in fruit juices. I find no other acid or foreign substance added for color or flavor.  
I believe it, therefore, to consist simply of the juice of the Pear as represented.

Yours truly,  
**J. H. LONG,** Analytical Chemist,  
Chicago Medical College.

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