

What is

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"Our physicians in the children's department have spoken highly of their experience in their outside practice with Castoria, and although we only have among our medical supplies what is known as regular products, yet we are free to confess that the merits of Castoria has won us to look with favor upon it."

UNITED HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY,  
Boston, Mass.

ALLEN C. SMITH, Pres.,

## SECRET OF THE ARK.

IT WAS REALLY CONSTRUCTED JUST LIKE A LEYDEN JAR.

The Fire That Came Out of It Was Electrical—Aaron's Sons Were Electrocutted. Edison and Tesla. Had They Lived at That Time, Could Not Have Surpassed Aaron.

There is nothing new on the face of the earth, and there is no doubt that electricity was well known to the Israelites and probably to the Phoenicians. The first record of electrical phenomena is as old as the Ten Commandments. Moses, when he received the stone tablets on which the Ten Commandments were written the second time, built a box out of fir—not the common cedar or any other native woods, but firwood, which had to be imported by Phoenician merchants from the southern part of Europe. Was this choice accidental on account of the great value of the resinous wood, or was it the choice of the best known nonconductor among the great number of various timbers?

Moses had the fir box lined inside and outside with beaten gold, which converted the ark of the covenant into a very expensive but very perfect leyden jar or storage battery for electricity. As gold is by 50 per cent a better conductor of electricity than copper, was the choice of gold again on account of its value, or was it an inspiration or revelation? So much is certain—that if Edison or Tesla had lived in those days they could not have improved on the choice of material, and the result was a powerful leyden jar.

How was this leyden jar charged, was the next problem. A fire of material rich in carbon was kept burning on top of the ark of the covenant, and during daytime a tall column of smoke guided the 12 tribes of Israel through their wanderings, and at night a tall flame was equally well seen by them. Now carbon is a good conductor of electricity, and the particles of carbon floating in the smoke would conduct sufficient electricity to highly charge the leyden jar. At least the current of electricity would be amply strong, so that if a hand were held toward the ark of the covenant sparks would result. That this was done by Moses at different times is a matter of record, and that he could always depend that his faithful Levites would obey his instructions to the letter and have the jar always charged.

After Moses' death his brother Aaron took the matter in hand and greatly improved the electrical power of the strange battery. He had the ark of the covenant placed in the temple and had it surrounded by poles 50 elts high, or 150 feet. These poles were covered with beaten gold, and gold chains were hung from poles to the ark of the covenant, which made a very expensive but very complete and powerful electrical connection. In a country where electrical storms are as frequent and as powerful as in Palestine at an elevation of 600 feet and a reach of 150 feet of the best conductor an abundant supply of Franklin's electricity would necessarily always be on hand.

It is very likely that Aaron knew nothing of amperes, ohms or volts; otherwise his two sons never would have monkeyed with this powerful apparatus, and they would not have been killed by fire breaking out of the ark of the covenant and killing them without any wounds or burns appearing on their bodies.

Any coroner's jury of today, if it were to sit on an inquest over the body of Aaron's sons, would at once bring a verdict of death by a discharge of electricity.

Aaron knew this power, and to make it effective all he had to do to deal death from his apparatus was to remove the costly camel's hair carpets, which are almost perfect nonconductors of electricity, and make the culprit stand on terra firma. Death would result instantly by fire breaking out and leave no wounds or burns to account for his death. That several members of revolting tribes of Israelites were thus electrocuted is also a matter of record in the Bible.

Solomon in building his temple advanced one step further. He found that copper would do as well as gold. He had the temple covered with copper, and copper water pipes led into the cisterns inside the temple.

On the temple, or rather on its roof, a number of gilt spears were placed in vertical positions, ostensibly to scare off the birds and to keep them from defiling the temple, but these spears were several cords high, or from 16 to 24 feet. Such a height would hardly be necessary for scarecrows, but it was ample to load the roof, water pipes, etc., with a powerful current of electricity.

Franklin, the electric chair in the state of New York and the discovery of the leyden jar itself in Leyden, Germany, are all back numbers. History only repeats itself, whether recorded or not.—C. B. Warrand in Savannah News.

Why the Dial Has Sixty Divisions. We have 60 divisions on the dials of our clocks and watches because Hipparchus, who lived in the second century before Christ, accepted the Babylonian system of reckoning time, that system being sexagesimal. The Babylonians were acquainted with the decimal, but for common purposes they counted by "sossi" and "sari," the "sosso" representing 60 and the "saros" 60 times 60—3,600. From Hipparchus that mode of reckoning found its way into the works of Ptolemy about the year 150 A. D., and on that authority it has been perpetuated to the present day.—St. Louis Republic.

The "Venus de Medici" was 5 feet 8 inches in height, and this is held by many artists and sculptors to be the most perfect stature for a woman.

Some evils admit of consolations, but there are no comforters for dyspepsia and the toothache.—Bulwer.

## THE LANGUAGE OF FINGERS.

Their Silent Talk Is Important in Board of Trade Transactions.

Thousands of visitors who yearly go to the board of trade and watch the traders on the exchange floor from the public gallery express surprise at the rapid manner in which business is transacted. As a rule, the wheat pit attracts them, and they do not understand how commodities change hands with such lightning rapidity, and how hundreds of thousands and millions of bushels are bought and sold in an incredibly short space of time is to the novice a profound mystery. They do not know that the brokers do a great deal of their work by finger signs, seldom understood by the outsider.

It requires only the fraction of a second to buy and sell 50,000 bushels of wheat.

"I'll sell 50 'Sep.' at an eighth," cries one of the brokers, and he has hardly finished speaking before another on the opposite side yells "Sold." The trade is put down on the trading card, and the transaction, which involves over \$30,000, has been completed.

The number of bushels offered for sale is indicated by holding up one finger for each 5,000 bushels. So in selling 50,000 bushels the broker simply holds up both hands and waves them from him, which explains itself as wanting to dispose of the lot. In addition to this, brokers have a complete finger code by which the condition of the market is communicated. The signs generally used are as follows:

The first finger held up stands for one-eighth of 1 cent, as the traders all know the main price. If, for instance, the first sale of wheat after the market opened was made at 60 cents and the next at 60½ cents, the trader simply holds up one finger for the advance of one-eighth of 1 cent. The upward position of the finger is to show the upward course of the market. Should the market be bearish and the price decline to 59½ cents, the signal for this would be a closed hand, with the thumb pointing downward. This shows the price seven-eighths of a cent and the status of the market downward.—Chicago Tribune.

### AN ABSENTMINDED MAN.

He Went Fishing and Forgot That It Was His Wedding Day.

The Rev. George Harv st, minister of Thames Ditton, a great scholar and skillful fisherman, was one of the most absentminded men of his time. He was engaged to a daughter of the bishop of London, but on the day of his wedding, being gudgeon fishing, he oversteered the appointed hour, and the lady, justly offended at his neglect, broke off the match. With Arthur Onslow, the speaker of the house of commons, Mr. Harv st was on terms of great intimacy. Being one day in a punt together on the Thames, he began to read a beautiful passage from some Greek author, and throwing himself backward in an ecstasy fell into the river, whence he was with difficulty fished out.

When Lord Sandwich was canvassing for the vice chancellorship of Cambridge, Harv st, who had been his schoolfellow at Eton, went down to give him his vote. In a large company the two were joking together on their schoolboy tricks. The parson suddenly exclaimed, "Whence do you derive your nickname of Jimmie Twitchee?" "Why," answered his lordship, "from some foolish fellow." "No, no," interrupted Harv st, "it isn't some but every body that calls you so."

When this gentleman's mind was not absent, it was, however, very useful to him. Having lost himself at Calais, and not being able to speak a word of French, he managed to convey to the inhabitants that he was staying at the Silver Lion by putting a shilling in his mouth and setting himself in the attitude of a lion rampant.—London Illustrated News.

### Indians Tracking.

It was a most strange and interesting experience to see the Indian read all the signs of the different animals in the grass or among the woods with the same ease as we read an open book. The least disarrangement in the grass or sticks, however small, was enough. Glancing casually at it in passing, he would say: "Bear—a week old." "Yesterday." "Deer—this morning." "Very old." "Caribou—last month," and so on. It was wonderful to behold this instinct in a man.

I had for a long time been following this trail of the moose, which I thought was a fresh trail, when I got sick of it and began to cross examine Mr. Big Partridge as to how far off our quarry was likely to be. Big Partridge then showed that he was sick of the imaginary moose hunt himself and owned up, "Old trail; all moose nipoh"—that is, dead. He had only been leading me about in this way to amuse me, knowing it useless the whole time. He exacted \$2.50 for that day's sport.—Blackwood's Magazine.

### Lovers' Ink.

There are various kinds of invisible inks, but here is a method of making ink which can be wiped off a sheet of paper with a pocket handkerchief without leaving a trace: Dissolve some starch in water until it is as thick as cream. Then add to it a few drops of tincture of iodine, which will turn the starch to a dark red color. Now take a pen and write with this prepared ink upon a sheet of note paper. The ink will dry right away, after which you may erase the whole of your letter by simply wiping the sheet with a pocket handkerchief. It will disappear as easily as chalk from an ordinary blackboard.—Boston Post.

### A Unique Will.

Widow—Well, Mr. Brief, have you read the will?

Brief—Yes, but I can't make anything out of it.

Heirs—Let us have it patented. A will that a lawyer can't make anything out of is a blessing.—London Tit-Bits.

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