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**To Save Drowning People.**  
 The drowning season has set in with unusual severity this summer. The necessity for every human creature to learn to swim has been emphasized till the world is weary of hearing it, yet almost every day there is news that hapless mortals have lost their lives through not knowing how to keep their heads above water. Next to being able to swim, the most important thing in connection with accidents on the water is to be able to rescue from drowning somebody who cannot swim. The following directions for this contain useful hints:

It is essential that the man in the water be reached as speedily as possible. Therefore a rapid plunge into the water nearest him would be the first thing to do. It is better to run along the shore of a river to a point above where the man is in order to have the assistance of the current in reaching him, thus saving your strength, which will be needed later. Be sure to approach him from behind, grabbing him in such a manner that your left hand, which passes under his left arm, may grasp his right wrist firmly and press him firmly toward you. Then swim toward the shore upon your back, being careful to make use of the current all you can. The right hand is kept entirely free and can be used in swimming. Only the faces of the two will be visible above the water, and both bodies will be carried more by the water (according to the specific weight), the rescuer having the task of moving forward.

The rescuer cannot be grasped by the one rescued, as the latter cannot turn to the right, because his wrist is firmly held, nor can he turn to the left, because then the rescuer would pull the left shoulder closer to his own. If the first attempt to grasp the drowning man be not successful, try the other. The objection that if a drowning man grasp you it is impossible to shake him off is groundless. The man drowning will always try to keep his head above water. Therefore all the rescuer has to do is to dive under the water, and the man will immediately let go. The method is advocated by the leading swimming societies everywhere, and it has been stated that, except in extraordinary circumstances, one cannot drown so long as he retains his presence of mind and is occupied with one person only. Let everybody remember that to save a fellow being from drowning depends in every case not so much on the rescuer's skill as a swimmer as on his cool headedness and quickness of action.

**Does It Pay?**  
 Dr. Cornelius Herz, the briber in the Panama blackness, sufficiently recovered at last to return to Paris. There is no reason to suppose he was shamming in the matter of the terrible illness which it was claimed overtook him immediately his nefarious manipulations of French senators and deputies were found out. The wonder is that he is alive after the abuse and hatred he brought upon himself.

Coming nearer home, it may be remarked that one of the gentlemen who was said, justly or unjustly, to have used his official knowledge of the sugar question in the upper house to benefit his own private pocket is greatly out of health and has been for several weeks. At the same time it is to be observed that one of the men of New York city who has been charged with wholesale acceptance of bribes in connection with the police department and with other wrongdoing to enrich himself is shattered in health, and his recovery is doubtful.

It is to be observed that when heavy charges of corruption or official misconduct are brought against a public man he falls ill. There is usually no pretense about it either. Often his health is irretrievably broken, and his death is only a question of time. His reputation is irretrievably gone, too, as a general thing. This has been true over and over again so often that it is the rule. On the whole, does getting rich in this manner pay?

When they saw they must come to time, the 110,000 Chinamen in the United States set an example of obeying the laws. All but 3,000 have registered. Those that did not wait to see what the government is going to do about it. The law says they must be sent out of the country, but there is no money to do this till congress appropriates some. Meantime, with Chinese laundries almost as plentiful as beer saloons, is it possible that there are only 110,000 Chinamen in the United States?

Probably the wheat exporting business in the United States has seen its flush days. Besides the immense quantities raised at home to bring down the price South America will hereafter be most likely even a stronger competitor for the European trade than either Russia or India. During the first quarter of this year over 1,000,000 bags of wheat were exported from the city of Buenos Ayres alone.

The aluminium watch, which is becoming such a favorite in Paris, will soon make its way in this country. It will be admirable for ordinary use in all ways. Its weight is scarcely more than that of its works. It will never tarnish and will not tempt thieves to steal it so often as the gold watch does.

Between manufacturers who will be damaged if raw materials are taxed by import duties and farmers who will be damaged if raw materials are not thus taxed it is hard for congress to make precisely satisfactory tariff laws.

It is to be read between the lines that the nations of Europe begin seriously to consider bimetalism, apparently knowing that they will be forced to it in future unless there are shortly some rich gold discoveries.

"As a substitute for the kitchen range, either the oil or gasoline stove is very dangerous when handled by idiots, inexperienced housekeepers, servants or children," observes the Philadelphia Times.

The boat races of the college girls at Wellesley, Vassar and elsewhere are beginning to excite as much interest as those of the Yale and Harvard boys.

**LUCK IN ODD NUMBERS.**  
**Superstitions of Modern Gamblers Which Are "as Old as the Hills."**  
 If there is one active principle that enters into gambling, it is superstition, and for almost every man that hunts the elusive dollar over the desolate waste of the green baize cloth, or on the race track, or in any of the other multitudinous ways or places that one may lay siege to alluring fortune there is a separate fancy.

Jack McDonald, one of the best known bookmakers of America, believes that he is most successful in those years which are indicated by odd numbers, and if you are doubtful of the truth of it he will offer you figures to prove it. "Carley B," as Bookmaker Woolf is best known, has a steadfast belief in "3," and after he has selected a horse to bet upon he will place an extra heavy wager on him if he discovers that he is numbered "3" on the programme. Several superstitions betting men at the Morris park races a few years ago noticed the coincidence that the thirteenth day of the meeting fell upon June 13, and they straightway sought out a horse numbered "13" on the card. They found one and bet upon him, and to make the coincidence most strange he won.

That this belief in luck as applied to certain numbers is as old as our philosophy is shown by the fact that centuries before the Christian era the Pythagoreans and Platonists, who represented all movements and phenomena of nature by numbers, invented the science of arithmancy, consisting of the use of magical squares and applying occult powers to numbers. On the combinations of certain numbers depended systems of divination, and particular virtues were ascribed to numbers accordingly as they were odd or even.

"There's luck in odd numbers" is a saying as old as the hills. As ancient a writer as Virgil says the gods themselves esteemed the numbers odd, for in the eighth eclogue he wrote:  
 Around his waxen image first I wind  
 Three wroten fillets of three colors joined;  
 Thrice round his thrice devoted head,  
 Which round the sacred altar thrice is led—  
 Unequal numbers please the gods.

The Chinese have similar ideas. With them heaven is odd and earth even, and the numbers 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 belong to heaven, while the even digits are of the earth earthy.

So it is little cause for wonder that our modern gamblers stick to their belief that fortune abounds in odd numbers only.—New York Herald.

**Reformed Geometry.**  
 Almost 100 years ago two men set out from Virginia to visit the Scioto valley, of the beauty and fertility of which they had heard alluring reports. On the third night they reached Clarksburg, where they put up with a man who appeared to be honest, but old-fashioned and illiterate.  
 "Can you tell us how far it is to Marietta and what sort of a road we shall find?" asked one of the travelers.  
 "Yes," answered the host; "that is exactly what I can do, for I was appointed one of the viewers to lay out the road and have just returned from the performance of that duty."  
 "That is fortunate. What do you call the distance?"  
 "Well, the distance on a straight line, which we first ran, was 75 miles, but on our way back we discovered and marked another line which was much nearer."

The two travelers had each spent some years in the study of surveying and were more or less amused at the idea of a line shorter than a straight line between two given points.

However, the next morning they took the route which their informant had pronounced the shorter, and true enough they found his statement correct, for the crooked road went round the hills, while the straight one went over them, and the distance round was less than the distance over.—Youth's Companion.

**Gifts at Baptism.**  
 Gifts to infants on their baptism are of ancient origin. Formerly the sponsors generally offered gilt spoons to the child. These spoons were called apostle spoons, because the figures of the 12 apostles were carved at the top of the handles. Rich sponsors gave the complete set of 12, while for those who were not so opulent four was considered the proper number, and poor sponsors would content themselves with offering one. In the latter case the handle of the spoon generally exhibited the figure of any saint in honor of whom the child received its name. It is in allusion to this custom that, when Cranmer professes himself to be unworthy of being sponsor to the young princess, Shakespeare makes the king reply:  
 "Come, come, my lord, you'd spare your spoons."  
 The mug or spoon and fork offering of the present day appears as a very debased survival of a really beautiful christening offering.—Westminster Review.

**Business.**  
 "Say, old man, I want to talk business to you a few minutes."  
 "Certainly; go ahead."  
 "Could you lend me \$25 without inconvenience?"  
 "Yes, I think I could."  
 "Thanks. I'll return it shortly."  
 "What security will you give?"  
 "Why—er—I—didn't think any necessary."  
 "Oh, probably I misunderstood you. I thought you said you wanted to talk business."  
 "—Indianapolis Sentinel.

**Japan and Foreigners.**  
 In the last century there was a Japanese law providing that no ship or native should leave Japan under pain of forfeiture or death; that any one returning from a foreign country should be killed; that no one should purchase anything from a foreigner, and that any person bringing a letter from abroad should die, together with all his family.—Chicago Tribune.

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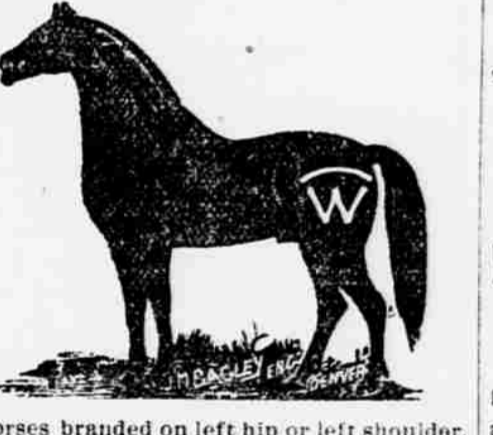
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