

**RECLAIMING OLD TOPERS.**

**Curing Drunkenness Without the Patient's Knowledge Has Been Proven a Success.**

Can inebriety be cured by suggestion? asks Public Opinion. This is a question which has been asked many times and satisfactorily answered in the affirmative. But the question of practicing suggestion while the patient sleeps is a different proposition, and, therefore, a recent article in the Journal des Debats of Paris is of interest. The experiments in question were conducted by the well-known psychologist, Dr. Paul Farez. "The man under observation refused all offers of treatment, but notwithstanding his refusal, against his will and unknown to him, the man was cured and has remained so for four years. The patient was 25 years of age, married, of sound constitution and average health. He commenced drinking when he was 17 years of age, and his wife had married him in order to reform him. After his marriage, however, he drank as before. His daily ration was two quarts of wine with his meals, and during the day several glasses of brandy, rum, vermouth, absinthe, etc. Ordinarily the man was quiet, but when he had taken more absinthe than usual he became violent, abused his wife, broke everything within reach, and surrendered completely to his frenzy. The day following this delirium the man remembered nothing, but when told of what he had done he wept, promised to become sober, etc. The scenes, however, were soon repeated.

"Dr. Farez decided to try, with the approval of the family of the patient, suggestion during natural sleep. The treatment took place four or five times per week, and, although the patient did not know what was going on, there was slow and steady improvement. The treatment commenced in January. Up to April the man had been intoxicated only three times. In April and May there were no acts of violence; in June and July slight intoxications on two occasions; in August and September a trip to the country, but no wine during this time, only beer. Returning to Paris, the man did not go to a cafe, but drank a little absinthe and less than a quart of absinthe for all of his meals. After a year the only thing taken was a little absinthe on Sunday and Saturday, and from this time the patient has not touched wine and has only taken a little absinthe once or twice a month and at home. He is no longer irritable, but happy and a regular worker. The treatment had to be continued for 18 months, but the result is complete and the patient entirely transformed. He has gained control of his will and is gentle and affectionate."

**ST. PETERSBURG IS GAY.**

**With or Without War Employment Goes on in the Russian Capital's Society.**

War or no war, the aristocratic Russian pursues his pleasures with an abandonment that speaks of unlimited resources or unlimited recklessness. The pleasures of the table are protracted to an inordinate degree. A lunch, in which the courses are plentifully watered with champagne, will spread itself through the afternoon. You may barely escape at five o'clock, though you began to eat at one. The host never sits down, plying his guest with a succession of good things, liquid and solid. Even the afternoon tea in middle-class circles is a very formidable undertaking. It includes dishes of various sorts, in which meat will certainly figure, and Russian tea, served in a glass with lemon, is but the pale comparison to sparkling champagne. The appearance of the streets tells of wealth, too. No finer equipages exist anywhere than those which, horsed with coal-black steeds, dash at full speed, in lofty disregard for the mere foot passenger, down the central strip of wood pavement in the principal "prospects," as the wider streets are denominated. Holding the reins in his two hands, with arms outstretched, the driver, medieval in dress, has the summary methods of a Roman charioteer. Indeed, there is something of imperial Rome in the second capital of the czar.

**ODD RECORDS TO THE FORE**

**When One Cannot Be Famous Through Natural Sources, There Are Many Other Channels.**

Those who fail to gain distinction through other means seem to seek oddity of performance, and every little while there appears a challenge from some "champion egg eater" or other freak.

The 40-quail-in-40-days performance has been outdone by a man who recently ate a whole goose each day for 30 days, the fowls weighing from six to eleven pounds. Other records in this line are 60 soft boiled eggs daily for six days, six quarts of beans in 40 minutes, smoking 50 cigars in 11 hours without once taking a drink.

A Paris couple recently waltzed without cessation for six and three-quarter hours, while an English actor danced all the way from London to Norwich.

The best club swinging record has been standing for 17 years, when 386 different combinations were shown in sixteen minutes and a quarter, 2,311 revolutions being required.

A score of 6,434 points was the result of a 24-hour endurance billiard match in Paris, the contestants covering 30 miles in walking around the table, and a violinist has played a combination of 4,800 notes in four and a quarter minutes, averaging 19 notes a second.

Reciting Dante's "Divine Comedy" from memory in 20 hours is another queer record, while others have gained fame through making 2,000 ham sandwiches in 19 hours and 40 minutes, dressing ten sheep in 33 minutes, 200 chickens in 44 minutes and killing and dry picking 103 geese in ten hours.

**DURING AN OCEAN CALM.**

**Ship Rolls and Tosses, But Sails Cannot Get Enough Wind to Carry the Vessel.**

All the afternoon the brig rolled on the long swells, which hourly grew heavier, says Century. They leaped against the horizon, swung onward beneath the keel, and swept past with the unrelenting persistency that seemed the embodiment of persistent hate. A gale can be combated, but, in the grasp of a calm, man is helpless. Every part of the vessel cried out in protest. The canvas slatted and flapped like the wings of a huge bird vainly trying to rise from the waves; every block rattled and croaked; the main boom, hauled chock aft, snatched at its sheets with a viciousness that threatened to part them at every roll and made their huge blocks crash; from the pantry below came the constant rattle of crockery; and the blue sea, dipped up through the scuppers, swashed back and forth against the main deck. By eight bells every stitch of canvas had been furled or clued up to save it, and the brig lay rolling in the dark hollows like a drunken sailor reeling home.

**SLAV'S RULER A BUSY MAN**

**Even in Time of Peace Czar Has More to Do Than Any Other Man in the World.**

There is nowadays not a great deal of gayety at the Russian court, says Century. The emperor is a very busy man; he probably has more to do, even in time of peace, than any other man in the world. Combine the responsibility of the president, the cabinet, congress, the governors of states, state legislatures, and mayors of the principal cities in this country, and you will begin to form an idea of the load on the shoulders of Nicholas II. There is no finality below him, except as he permits it; and the mass of details that actually reaches him is astonishing. If President Roosevelt had to grant permits to operate mills in Texas, erect buildings in New York, or form mining companies in California, before any such operations could be begun, even his giant energy would be taxed. Yet, incredible as it may seem, the emperor of Russia examines into myriads of similar minutiae, besides attending to the great affairs of state.

**Simply Crazy.**

"Happy, though married two days," was one of the many labels attached by practical jokers to the luggage of a newly married couple who left an English railway station the other day on their way to Canada.

**HE SOWED THE HOLY SEED**

**Bible Used as Wrapping Paper Proves Interesting and Many Calls Are Made for It.**

In Armenia the distribution of the Bible by missionaries is especially difficult. Yet the book is eagerly read by the natives when it falls into their hands, as may be gathered from this story, told by one of the Bible men, says Everybody's Magazine. A copy of the Bible was given to a patient in the American hospital, and by him carried to his home in a village. Here an Armenian priest took it from the man, and, having torn it to pieces, threw it into the street. A grocer picked it up and took it to his shop, where he began to use it as wrapping paper. So for a time olives, cheese, candles and other things sent forth from that store were wrapped in pages upon which were printed the "Words of Life."

In this way the Bible was scattered about through the village, and was read by many whose interest was so far aroused that they began asking for more of the same book. The result was that when the colporteur came round over 100 Bibles or portions of the Bible were sold in that village. North and south, east and west, the Bible society sows; and that no ground is too barren for its seed surely the following incident proves:

A Cree Indian and his son, fishing in the northwest some years ago during the winter season, traveled on snowshoes across the plains, thinking that they carried what they called the "Book of Heaven" in their pack. When they reached a hunting ground, 140 miles distant from the fishery, they found that the book had been left behind. One of them went back on his tracks and walked 280 miles through the wild country to regain the Bible.

**HELD TO CLASSICAL MUSIC**

**Thomas, Famous Leader, Began at the Top in His Education and Always Stayed There.**

The accepted way of teaching people to understand music is to begin at the bottom, says Charles E. Russell, in Reader Magazine. Play simple airs to-day, and perhaps to-morrow, or next year, or some other time, you can play something a little better. You must lead the people by slow degrees and as if by the hand from fathomless depths of ignorance. The first thing Mr. Thomas did was to trample upon this senile sophistication. He would have none of it. He was a musical democrat; I think he had a feeling that the theory of beginning at the bottom was the rotten fruit age of the idea that some men are specially gifted to feel and to understand, and the rest, poor things, are inferior, and the gifted truly must be very patient with them and show them the way to the simplest apprehension. Few men have had a better understanding of their fellows, and he probably knew well enough that the difference between mind and mind is usually infinitesimal. He tolerated none of this "beginning at the bottom." He began at the top. With the highest and most complicated forms of music he started upon his career, and through years on years of good and evil fortune, through trial and failure, boundless trouble and incessant toil, through intelligent praise and fierce storms of denunciation, he never for an instant lowered his standard nor abandoned his faith.

**Industrial Accidents in France.**

There were killed or injured in industrial accidents in France in the four and one-half years, from July 1, 1899, to December 31, 1903: Males under 16 years of age, 1,282; males under 16 years of age, 41,094; females under 16 years of age, 238; females under 16 years of age, 1,549; total, 44,163. The deaths included in the foregoing numbered 6,962.

**Colombian Gold.**

According to a Spanish exchange the republic of Colombia, in South America, since the times of the conquerors has produced \$130,000,000 worth of gold.

**Good Fellow, Poor Fellow.**

There is no way of estimating how much of life's trouble comes through the desire to be thought generous. — Philadelphia Bulletin.

**BLACK DEATH, RATS, FLEAS**

**It Is Believed That Germs on Rodents Are Accountable for Terrible Plague.**

The origin and nature of the black death, which devastated Europe during the middle ages, has never been clear, says Collier's. It seems certain that the infection was brought by the ships of certain traders escaping from the Crimea, where they had been attacked by the Tartars at a town on the River Don. During the attack the Tartars were stricken with violent plague, which caused great loss of life among them. In the hope of giving the curse to the people of the besieged town, they threw bodies of their dead into the town. Their hopes were fulfilled, and the defenders were also attacked by the plague. These traders took to their ships and sailed to various European ports, Constantinople, Venice and Genoa, leaving the black death everywhere behind them. This black death had certain striking features in common with the Bombay plague of India. A careful search of the records of Indian history has shown that there had been an outbreak of plague in India just previous to the time of the Tartar siege and the introduction of the black death into Europe. These Tartars might very easily have taken the disease from the people of India. If that is the true story of the train of events, then the black death of the middle ages was the modern plague, a disease which we know to be caused by a certain specific bacillus.

Efforts have been made to learn the means by which this disease is carried, and what causes lead to an outbreak. Certain facts bearing on these points have lately come to light and may lead to a correct knowledge of the means of plague transmission. Rats have the disease and rat fleas have been examined and found to contain quantities of the plague bacilli. Ordinarily the rat fleas are not found on man. During epidemics of plague, however, these rat fleas are found in notable quantities on human beings, and there is no evident reason why they may not inoculate man by their bites. Doubtless these things have something to do with the spread of the plague, although enough is not yet known to allow the whole chain of events to be made out.

**HISTORY IS A NEW STUDY.**

**Recognition by Universities of Importance of American's Story of Recent Date.**

It seems incredible to students of the present day that within the last three decades only has American history been considered of enough importance to be given a place in the study courses of our large universities. Henry Cabot Lodge, in the Reader Magazine, says: "A little more than 30 years ago a boy could enter Harvard college and after four years graduate with the highest honors without knowing of the existence of the Declaration of Independence or when the constitution of the United States was framed. What was true of Harvard was true of other universities and colleges. American history was not included in the scheme of the higher education. Boys entering college were required to know something of the history of Greece and Rome, but not of their own country. During the four years of the college course they had an opportunity to study the history of England and Europe, but never to learn aught of the United States. This condition of education was merely an indication of an attitude of mind then passing away, but which had once been predominant. The usual opinion seems to have been during the first half of the nineteenth century that there was no American history worth telling, apart from the adventures of the earliest settlements and the events of the revolution, which were both connected so closely with the history of Europe that they might be deemed of importance."

**The Bicycle in Germany.**

The bicycle still holds its own abroad, as is shown by the fact that the exports of bicycles and parts of bicycles from Germany during the years 1902, 1903 and 1904 were valued at \$3,427,200, \$4,416,600, and \$4,795,700 respectively.

**QUEER WAYS OF AN ESKIMO**

**Northerner Lacks Imagination, But His Powers of Observation Are Exceedingly Acute.**

Prof. Mylius Eriksen, writing of the heathen Eskimo in northern Greenland, says: "He lacks imagination, but his powers of observation are very acute. In spite of the fact that his life is an unintermitted struggle for existence, the Greenlander is always in a good humor, and his boisterous laugh can be heard sounding far over ice and snow fields. His way of telling stories is short and abrupt, but comical features are strongly emphasized. His stories consist generally of his own adventures, old legends about fights with neighbors and wild animals, about severe winters and great famines, about the creation of the world and about supernatural beings. It is considered highly creditable to be able to tell stories so long that the audience is lulled to sleep. An orator who achieves this feat is solemnly welcomed on the next morning, and every one thanks him profusely for the pleasure which he accorded the night before.

"Ideas of beauty are peculiarly developed in the heathen Eskimo. He regards beauty solely from the standpoint of utility. For instance, a rock projecting out of water only appears beautiful to him when it is visited in summer by water birds which breed there. A foaming torrent is only beautiful if it contains many salmon. Clothes are not put together with any idea of regularity of color, only their practical utility being considered. Huts are made of snow and stones, with domed tops, but without any architectural design.

"Only the spirit conjurers (an gakkos) occupy an exalted position, being regarded as priests and doctors. Their task is to establish a connection between the visible world and the hidden spirits, and in this way they obtain a certain influence over their neighbors. The angakok asks his spirit for advice, and then informs the invalid that his illness has been sent by the spirits as punishment for certain deeds."

**HUMAN POWER VITAL.**

**Physique Is a Matter of Great Importance in the Russo-Japanese Conflict.**

The physical endurance of the Japanese soldier in the present wonderful campaign in Manchuria impresses "American Medicine" as the one great revelation that has come out of the orient. There have been no authentic reports upon which we can base estimates as to his immunity from disease or the protection from infection, so that it is entirely too soon to form any opinion as to the organization and work of the medical department of the army. We do not know definitely, indeed whether it is true that the Japanese have escaped diseases in markedly greater proportion than the Russians or than other soldiers in similar campaigns and if they have so escaped whether it is due to racial immunity or watchful care of their officers. Of this much we are certain—the man carrying the gun on his shoulder has accomplished feats of physical endurance which were not thought possible by physiologists.

The Russians could not estimate where the Japanese would be, and were, therefore, constantly surprised by tremendous forces at places 20 to 50 miles beyond the point where good strategy should have placed them. When Napoleon began to defeat the well tried generals of Europe they complained that he was at ways far in advance of where he should have been by the rules, but it was all due to his better knowledge of how to get work from his soldiers. In the orient there is a new art of war depending upon a new style of physique of a race which has never before been put to this work. Repeatedly the Russians have reported the Japanese to be so exhausted that they could not pursue, yet the pursuit kept up with no change of vigor.

**Very Clever.**

O'Grady—Ye can't tell me the toime whin the O'Grady's was no gentlemen.

O'Flynn—Sure, me bhoy, Oi kin do that; some o' thim was ladies —Tit Bits.

**TIPS BEING RECOGNIZED.**

**The Government Allows Certain Amounts for the Purpose in Its Schedule.**

The government of the United States has just recognized officially the hopelessness of the struggle against the tip. The secretary of the navy has promulgated recently his order for regulating the expenses of naval officers, for the purpose of curbing extravagance. The order places certain limits on the cost of transportation, Pullman cars and the like, and continues:

"Hotel bills of commissioned officers not to exceed \$5 a day.

"Single meals, \$1 each; tip, 10 cents.

"Tips on train, 50 cents a day.

"Tips will not be allowed on parlor cars except on journey of five hours or longer.

"Tips at hotels 50 cents a day, but not to exceed \$2 a week at one hotel."

An elaborate and particularized scale of tips is framed for ocean travel and travel in foreign lands. Recognizing the greater rapacity of the foreign hotel parasite and the perfection to which the system has been reduced, the commissioned naval officer is permitted to expend \$3.50 a week on tips in foreign hotels, \$1.50 a day on an ocean steamer during six days or less, and \$1 a day for a 15-day trip or longer.

We fear that the tip has come to stay. In old and thickly settled countries the tip abounds if there are rich people in the land. Where chickens inhabit the open fields in numbers, look for the chicken hawk; where the deer abound, there do the wolves congregate; where the people have money to spend on luxuries and want to be waited on better than other people and to get better service, some money will stick to the waiter's palm.

**DECISIVE VICTORY FOR JAY**

**Farmer Beats Lord Who Considered Himself the Best Wrestler in the Community.**

There was a certain lord who considered himself the best wrestler in England. He wrestled everyone of any reputation, and in these bouts he always won, for he was, truly, an admirable wrestler.

Well, one day, after he had considered himself supreme for three years, he heard of a farmer at Hacklebrook who could beat him. Everyone said that this farmer could best him—that he would stand no chance at all with the huge muscular fellow—that it would be wise for him to leave the farmer alone.

But the young lord, jealous of his wrestling reputation, threw himself on his horse, and in an hour was knocking and hallooing at the farmer's gate.

The farmer was plowing in a field. The lord rode up to him, dismounted and seized him in a good grip.

"I'll show you how to wrestle," he said.

But the farmer, with the greatest ease, took the young man up in his arms and threw him over the high fence. Then this wonderful agriculturist resumed his work. After plowing in silence a little while, he called mildly to the young man, who sat, not yet quite himself, on the grass by the roadside.

"Well, sir, is there anything I can do for you?"

"Nothing," said the young man, "unless you'll be good enough to throw me my horse."

**Largest Newspaper Office.**

"Which is the largest newspaper office in the world?" asks the Printer's Engineer. America naturally claims that the New York Times building, with its 31 stories and an area of 116,349 square feet, holds the record. This, however, is no longer the case. The magnificent edifice recently built for the production of the Scotsman (Edinburgh) puts the former building completely in the shade, for although it can only boast 13 stories, yet it possesses an area of 261,787 square feet. This building is more than twice the size of that of the New York Times.

**Counterfeits of Truth.**

Truth is precious; too precious for rash distribution. There are a number of things that look just like it and are much less expensive. —N. Y. Times.