

is binding. In Malabar an old native custom seats both bride and bridegroom on a dais, and a relative washes the feet of the bridegroom with milk and puts a silver ring on the great toe of the right foot. He then hands a gold ring to his kinsman, and a necklace and chaplet of flowers are put on the bride's neck and head.—London Mail

Korea's Seven Wonders.

The seven wonders of Korea are: (1) The marvelous mineral spring of Kiushanto, one dip in which is a sovereign cure for all the ills that human flesh is heir to. (2) The double springs which, though far apart, have a strange, mysterious affinity. According to Korean belief, there is a connection underground, through which water ebbs and flows like the waters of the ocean, in such a way that only one spring is full at a time. The water possesses a wonderful sweetening power, so that whatever is cooked therein becomes good and palatable. (3) The cold wind cavern, whence comes a never ceasing wind so piercing that nothing can withstand it and so powerful that the strongest man cannot face it. (4) The indestructible pine forest, the trees of which grow up again as fast as they are cut down. (5) The floating stone, a massive block that has no visible support, but, like Mohammed's coffin, remains suspended. (6) The warm stone, situated on the top of a hill and said to have the peculiarity of spreading warmth and heat all round it. (7) A drop of the sweat of Buddha, for 30 paces round which no flower or vegetation will grow, nor will birds or other living things pass over it.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Dangerous Thief.

A French actress, traveling about the country, had for use in one of her plays a lay figure, skillfully put together and dressed in a traveling suit. So says the New York Herald, which proceeds to tell a comical story about it:

At Marseilles it was left in the luggage room with other things. The curiosity of two of the railway employees being aroused at the sight of it, they took off the coverings and resolved to play a joke on their comrades. They placed the figure in an armchair at the desk of the cashier and shut the door.

When the employees on night service came, they opened the door and were surprised to see a man sitting before the cash box. They immediately closed and locked the door and ran for assistance.

A policeman arrived, revolver in hand, believing, like the employees, that he had to deal with a dangerous thief. He called on the figure to surrender and follow him to the station. As it did not obey the summons, the policeman shut the door and went in search of re-enforcements to surround the place and thereby prevent the culprit from escaping.

The door was again opened, the armed force entered, and it was not till they had suddenly pounced on the poor lay robber that they discovered the joke.

Harcourt's Beaconsfield Anecdote.

Sir William Harcourt has one quite unique memory of the support he gave in old days to the public worship regu-

lation act. That was an invitation which he received to visit Lord Beaconsfield at Hughenden Manor.

Taking his guest—the member of a family representing the ownership of broad acres—round his minute demesne, Lord Beaconsfield said, "Excuse the vanity of a landed proprietor!" The young politician accompanied his host on Sunday to the village church, and on the way thither was warned that some hints of the high church movement had penetrated even that sylvan solitude. "My friend, the vicar," said the lord of the manor, "will take what I call a collection and he calls an offertory, and afterward what I call a plate and he calls an alms dish will be placed on what I call a table and he calls an altar."—London News.

Undismayed.

Counsel for the Defense—Gentlemen, I appeal to you to return this unfortunate to his little home, where a tender, loving wife awaits him, where his little children call him father—

Judge (interrupting)—I will call the learned counsel's attention to the fact that the accused is unmarried.

Counsel (undismayed, continuing)—So much the more unfortunate is this poor man, who has no little home, where no tender, loving wife awaits him, where no little children call him father!—Fliegende Blatter.

The Americans in Egypt.

Americans occupy an important position in extending the prosperity and civilization of modern Egypt.

Not only do they form at least one-third of the tourists visiting Egypt, and number some of the leading Egyptologists, but the beneficent effect of their missions and schools is everywhere apparent throughout Egypt. The magnitude of their Christian operations may be gathered from the fact that the Egyptian mission of the American Presbyterians has 100 stations, 20 churches and 97 schools. Ask a little Egyptian child where it has learned its English, and it will very probably answer, "At the American mission." The mission doctors, too, are of much service. An English lady might have died on board our mail steamer had a telegram not been sent to an American mission physician, who came on board, attended to her and removed her to the hospital at Assiut.—North American Review.

Mr. Boffin Snubbed by Dickens.

"Dodd the Dustman," who founded the barge race, meant to be the founder of the Royal Dramatic college. He offered the money to Benjamin Webster and Charles Dickens and was not altogether well treated in the matter. He was certainly not an aristocratic donor, and the source of the money might have been materials for ridicule, but he certainly merited more civility than he got. Webster shelved him rather shabbily, and Dickens caricatured him as "Boffin, the Golden Dustman."—London Mail.

Real Magic Number.

"I often hear of the magic number," said some one. "What number is it?" "Why, nine, of course," replied some one else. "There are nine muses,

you know, and you talk of a nine days' wonder. Then you bowl at nine pins and a cat has nine lives."

"Nonsense," broke in another. "Seven is the magic number; seventh heaven, don't you know, and all that; seven colors in the rainbow; seven days in the week; seventh son of a seventh son—great fellow, and"—

"Tush, tush," remarked a third. "Five's the number, you mean. A man has five fingers on his hand and five toes on his foot, and he has five senses, and"—

"Three is undoubtedly the magic number," interrupted another, "because people give three cheers and Jonah was inside a whale three days and three nights, and if at first you don't succeed, try, try again—three times, you see!"

This was received with some contempt by the company, and a soulful youth gushed out:

"Two, oh, two is the magic number. Oneself and one other—the adored one! Just us two!"

A hard featured individual, who had been listening to the conversation hitherto unmoved, here remarked in a harsh voice:

"The magic number is No. 1 in this world, and if you want to succeed never forget it."

An interval of deep thought on the part of all followed, after which they went in silently to supper.—Brooklyn Citizen.

Biting Finger Nails.

The chief finger nail chewers of the world are the French, and it was recently stated upon reliable authority that nearly two-thirds of French school children are addicted to the habit.

Even for grown people there is hardly any habit, aside from the confirmed abuse of narcotics, more difficult to overcome than the habit of biting the finger nails. It requires a strong mental effort and constant vigilance to do this, for once a person has become thoroughly addicted to the habit he does it unconsciously, and is only reminded that he is marring himself when he gets one of his nails gnawed down to the quick. All manner of remedies have been advanced for the cure of the finger nail biting habit, including the placing of injurious and bitter compositions on the ends of the fingers, but none of the remedies amounts to much.

The only way to stop biting the finger nails is to stop. The Americans are next to the French in the finger nail biting habit, probably because the Americans, as a whole, are an exceedingly nervous people. A man who accomplishes his determination to knock off biting his finger nails may, by incessant manicuring, get them to look fairly well within a year or so, but finger nail biting, if long persisted in, ruins the shape of the ends of the fingers, and the nails can never be brought to look as well as those of the persons who permit their nails to grow as they were intended to grow.—Washington Star.

The Sheffield club is the oldest football organization in the United Kingdom. It was started in 1855, and its minute book for 1857 is still in existence.