

FAULTS OF PRONUNCIATION.

The Misstatement of Various Words in the English Language is quite common.

A correspondent points out that our pronunciation (which is too often "pronunciation") has its faults. It is only one true, and "Gibberish" is a rock on which many slip.

Foreigners, however, may be excused, since their mistakes are usually due to a superiority of conscience. One may sympathize with a Frenchman who puts faith in any rule as to the pronunciation of "ough".

In regard to the popular pronunciation of "Berkshire," "Derby," and "Clark," a correspondent reminds us that the late Prof. Freeman discussed the question some 20 years ago in the nineteenth century.

THE VALUE OF SLEEP.

Ability to Rest Was a Source of Power in Both General Grant and Napoleon.

One great secret of Napoleon's power was his ability to sleep. If he had but an hour for sleep, he slept an hour, even though the fate of an army or of an empire hung in the balance while he slept.

Here is a sample of the other extreme. Said a Minneapolis lawyer to me the other day: "When I began the practice of law I always lost two nights before I had a case in court, tossing about and combating every thinkable standpoint of my opponent."

At a memorable gathering, attended by Henry VIII, the prelates and barons of England, each bearing a lighted taper, encircled the king while the course of Heaven was invoked by the archbishop of Canterbury on those who in future should in any respect violate the two charters (the Magna Charta and the Charta de Foresta).

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Not a Bad Idea. Mrs. Graball. Our cook is going to get married. What'll we give her for a wedding present?

Muster. What are you crying for? Office boy. My grandmother's dead, and she's going to be buried on a holiday. Judge.

SCENES IN JERUSALEM.

There are Many Modern Buildings in Palestine's Ancient City—Noticeable Features.

There is a handsome railway station in Jerusalem, built of a fine quality of pinkish stone, which is quarried in the vicinity and generally used for building purposes.

You know at once that either Europeans or Americans abide there, because no Turk, Arab or Jew, in this part of the country at least, ever kept such a neat place or thought of surrounding himself with such beautiful specimens of the vegetable kingdom.

The missionary question must be treated more delicately in Palestine than elsewhere, because converts are so few. Since I entered the country at Smyrna, more than a month ago, I have heard of not a single Moslem convert to Christianity, and of only two Jewish converts.

The Jewish quarter is almost impossible for persons with delicate stomachs, who are accustomed to pure air, to visit. It fairly reeks with stenches that are new and strange. The courts within the houses, the pavements of the streets and the living apartments as far as we have had the courage to see them, are unfit for human habitation.

The great desert in the forbidden hinterland of Tripoli, northern Africa, which has not been visited by Europeans for fifty years, has now been explored by Mr. Edward Dodson, a young Englishman, who went out last March.

One night they were surrounded by thunder storms. No less than five distinct storms were in progress all around, and the guns and spears of the party became surrounded with a halo of phosphorescent light, which greatly alarmed the superstitious attendants, who regarded this as a fourth judgement upon them for traveling with "unbelievers."—London Mail.

Vienna an Early Closing Town. In Vienna every man's home is his dungeon from 10 p. m. to 6 a. m. Vienna is a city of flats, and at 10 p. m. the common entrance door of each block is closed and bolted.

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RECLAIMING OUR DESERTS.

Barren and Desolate Spots in the Southwest Giving Indications of Life.

The desert still maintains its fastness in the west. There are some spots better entitled to the name than others, but each year these fastnesses are abating before the advance of human enterprise, as the water might rise over the land, leaving the high and difficult places to the last, say Century.

More painful still were the details connected with the case of a Parisian typewriter, who was driven mad by the cholera epidemic which prevailed in that city less than a score of years ago. This man attended various lectures delivered by physicians on the subject of the outbreak, and, moreover, perused with avidity every available scrap of literature concerning it.

COLLAR BONE TOO LONG.

That is the Reason Why Girls Can't Spin Tops as Well as Boys.

Did you ever see a girl spin a top? Did you ever see her carefully and closely wind a string around the cone, and then, with a quick throw and jerk, give it the necessary rotary motion to send it whirling right side up?

The simple fact is that a girl cannot throw, in the true sense of the term, because of the peculiar construction of her shoulder. When a boy throws a ball he bends his elbow, reaches back with his forearm and uses every joint from shoulder to wrist.

A Phenomenal Dive. Prof. Oscar Browning, of Cambridge, tells this anecdote of the prince consort at Eton school, in which he took great interest: "The prince used to bathe frequently at the masters' bathing-place, and he found there, on one occasion, two of the staff whom he knew to be accomplished divers.

The important thing. "He told me it would probably be a bitter fight," said the man who had just been to see a lawyer. "But he convinced himself of the justice of your cause," suggested his wife.

Like Heat Poles. Every husband in a sort of Mont Pelic, and though he shows symptoms of growing dangerous, his family refuses to take warning.—Atchison Globe.

EPIDEMICS OF INSANITY.

Madness Follows in the Wake of Scourges as a Result of Fear of Impressionable Persons.

Since the days of the great plague of London, when hundreds of men and women were driven insane by fear of the terrible visitation, there has rarely been, either in this or other countries, a widespread epidemic that has not been the means of developing madness in some impressionable persons.

During the typhoid epidemic in the town of Maidstone some three years since, a young mechanic, foolishly enough, became possessed by the notion that he was doomed to be stricken down. His wife, with much good sense, endeavored to wean him from his morbid fancy, but her efforts were doomed to failure.

Strangely enough, until the advent of the epidemic this unfortunate individual had been one of the sanest of men and had won the affection and respect of his fellow employes by his genial manner and pleasing conversation. Moreover, he was the most devoted of husbands and fathers, and but for the coming of the pestilence he would in all probability have retained complete possession of his senses until the end of his days.

Brain specialists are never weary of informing us that the fear of any specific danger or disease is far more likely to breed insanity than the actual presence of the same, and to this fact must be attributed the insanity which is the inevitable concomitant of all forms of epidemic. When Spain was ravaged early in the last century by a very virulent plague of smallpox the increase of lunacy in the infected towns was so marked as to be infinitely appalling, and so crowded were the asylums that various patients had to be refused admission.

One young woman residing in a suburb of London wandered through the streets with disordered garments, shouting wildly that she was suffering from the epidemic, though, as a matter of fact, she was in a perfect state of health.

The inevitable result. "John, you were at your club last night?" "Yes." "By the way, this Martinique eruption has been going on for a week or so, hasn't it?" "Certainly, my dear. What's the idea?"

Howery Amateurs. Jim (giving her a box of candy)—Sweets to de sweet. Kate—Thanks to de tank.—N. Y. Times.

HORSES KILL TIGER.

Ferocious Beast Is Worsted While Trying to Make Meal Of the Equines.

A two-year-old Indian tiger was killed in a fight with horses on a circus train while en route from Goshen to Poughkeepsie, N. Y., early the other day.

The tiger, which had been recently imported, escaped from its wagon den while the train was in motion. It crawled over the tops of four wagons and entered a car containing 30 draft horses. A fierce battle ensued, the panic-stricken horses plunging and kicking at the savage intruder.

When the train reached here the tiger was found dead and mangled under the hoofs of one of the horses. Most of the horses were badly scratched and bitten.

The animals were packed in, and from the deep gashes on their backs it would appear that the tiger climbed over them until he reached the middle of the car, when he attempted to make a meal of Toby.

The terrified horses, in their efforts to get away from the fierce beast that had attacked them in the darkness, crowded toward the end of the car, leaving a space through which the tiger dropped to the floor. Then it was that the intrepid Toby, by a well-directed kick, smashed in the skull of the tiger and jumped on him until his skin was rendered useless for decorative purposes.

Western Cattle Markets. Report of Internal Commerce Shows No Substantial Loss in Live Stock Receipts at Five Leading Points.

The latest report on internal commerce, from the treasury bureau of statistics, shows no substantial loss in receipts of live stock at five western markets for the first third of this year.

Whether California or Florida produced the first navel or seedless orange in the United States is a controversy which has long been a source of animated contradiction between the east and the west. The matter became of sufficient interest to attract the attention of the department of agriculture, and the government expert, W. A. Taylor, was assigned to make an investigation of the historical points involved.

WOULD WED ON THE "LOOP."

Indiana Swain Ready to Make the Perilous Trip Rather Than Fail to Get His Girl.

To be married while "looping the loop" at Chicago is the ambition of William Darrow, of Liberty, Ind. Mr. Darrow aspires to a loop wedding because he fears his intended will not consent to any other sort of nuptials.

The answer was a consent. If the couple wish to marry on the loop the management is willing to arrange for the ceremony to take place at the exact moment the car arrives upside down at the top of the loop. If necessary a special bridal train of two cars will be provided.

Something Unusual.

A little girl living in East Second street had her picture taken recently, and a friend of the family who was calling at the house asked her how it seemed to sit for the photograph.

"Oh, I didn't mind it," she said. "You know I had that thing on my face you always have when you get your picture taken."

Patrolmen in Public Schools. As long as the public school children are taught, as they are now, to remember Memorial day, says the Chicago Inter Ocean, there is little danger that the grown people of the country will forget it, or what it means.

VICTIMS OF VOLCANOES.

Various Theories as to the Direct Cause of Death in Volcanic Eruptions.

An interesting question that arises in the medical mind, on reading the stories of the St. Pierre disaster, is as to the exact cause of death. The newspaper accounts suggest direct burning or overwhelming with the volcanic dust. This material is commonly called ash, but it is not correctly described by that word; it is usually rocky matter finely divided by explosive action, says the Philadelphia Medical Journal.

A considerable proportion of the deaths might be due to suffocation by noxious gases. Among such would be carbon dioxide, commonly called carbonic acid, and sulphurous acid. The former is not actively poisonous, and would not be the cause of death unless present in considerable proportions, but the latter gas is highly irritable, and even a small proportion will render air so irritating that suffocation must ensue.

In some of the recent reports from Martinique specific mention is made of the same suffocating influence. The steamerhip Roddam escaped through a shower of hot fragments and lost some of her crew by the inhalation of sulphurous gases.

It may be well to note that when disasters by fire occur in closed spaces suffocation by carbon monoxide and smoke is likely to occur. In this way persons in the gallery of a theater may be killed without direct injury by fire or by falling timbers. It is probable that instances of this kind have given rise to the notion of death by "awallowing fire," a widespread popular belief.

FIRST SEEDLESS ORANGES.

Factors Concerning the Introduction of the Navel Variety to the United States.

Whether California or Florida produced the first navel or seedless orange in the United States is a controversy which has long been a source of animated contradiction between the east and the west. The matter became of sufficient interest to attract the attention of the department of agriculture, and the government expert, W. A. Taylor, was assigned to make an investigation of the historical points involved.

In a paper entitled "The Bahia or Washington Navel Orange in the United States," Mr. Taylor reaches the following conclusions: "The essential facts regarding the introduction of the navel orange to the United States from Brazil appear to be these:

According to the late James Hogg, of New York, a wealthy Brazilian planter, a Scotchman by birth, determined to manumit his slaves and remove with them to the United States. This he did about 1830, settling on an island in middle or southern Florida. He then returned to Brazil and secured a collection of Brazilian plants for introduction, which he consigned to the late Thomas Hogg, who then conducted a nursery on the corner of Broadway and Thirty-third street, New York city. Among these plants were several native orange trees. The collection was held in the greenhouse in New York for nearly a year, until the plants had recovered from the effects of the sea voyage, and was then forwarded to the owner in Florida. During the Seminole war the entire collection was destroyed by the United States troops, the owner being charged with giving aid and comfort to the enemy. The owner then removed to Haiti.

While it is not known positively that these trees were of the same variety as those subsequently introduced by the department, it seems probable that this was the case. None of the trees survived long enough to come into fruit, however, and no trace of them exists.

The department has a statement signed by one Thomas D. James, written at Nassau, N. Y., in which the writer says that in 1870 he planted an orange grove near Palatka, Fla., shortly after which he budded a number of trees with Bahia or navel oranges, and that the buds were taken from bearing trees in the vicinity.

"No, er—it's—I'll think in a minute—er—oh, yes! It was a smile."—Duluth News-Tribune.