

BLACK LETTERS AND WHITE

Farmer is Better Because It Can Be Read at a Greater Distance Than the Letter.

There is a tendency on the part of railroads to adopt signs with white letters on a black background, not realising that the black letter on a white background is easier to read and can be seen at a greater distance.

The impression of a letter at the limit of vision is received on the ends of a small bundle of nerves which convey to the brain a sort of mosaic impression.

Black letters grow thinner at the limit of vision and are still recognizable, while at the same distance white letters grow thicker and cannot be distinguished.

NOGI ORDERED TO MARRY

Japanese Hero Took Bride Practically at the Command of His Superior Officer.

The Countess Nogi was a woman no less remarkable in many ways than her famous husband.

She was the daughter of Sadayoki Yoji, and one day she was sitting in the window of her father's house in Tokyo watching the troops march past.

He would not hear of it, as he had dedicated his life to the nation and did not intend to marry.

With slight trouble and small expense an unused door may be most advantageously converted into a bookcase by having a carpenter set up a vertical board on each side of the door-jamb and upon these boards nail the cross-pieces upon which the book-shelves are to rest.

Cast-iron Magnets. The difficulty of making good cast-iron permanent magnets has been overcome by a very simple process.

It is then plunged in a chemical bath, which removes superfluous materials and leaves the iron clean. Finally, it is magnetized by means of electric coils.

Hairpin Box. One may obtain the most charming and at once the most useful hairpin box which has been shown for many a day.

SCHOOLS IN PHILIPPINES

Under the administration of President Taft, industrial education in the Philippines has made rapid progress.

The civil government finds its duties much less onerous now that the military invasion of the islands has been superseded by the educational.

The most important industry taught the boys is hat weaving. The schools do not attempt to replace hand machinery with modern apparatus.

The first thing the Filipino girl does in the sewing class in school is to make herself a complete outfit of clothing.

UNCLE SAM SHOWS WAY.

Great Britain has asked a leaf from the book of United States as the pioneer in systematically destroying derelicts or floating wrecks along the coast.

At numerous international maritime conferences the construction of derelict destroyers has been recommended.

ALL KINDS OF DOGS.

The following advertisement appeared in a local paper the other morning:

A stream of persons accompanied by dogs started toward the Russian Embassy, 191 K street, a 1912 Yorkshire terrier, 3 years old.

Removing Ink Stain From a Book. You can quite effectively remove the ink stain from an injured volume by applying a dilute solution of oxalic acid, tartaric acid, or citric acid.

Doctor Know. "Doctor, my husband is losing his mind, I fear. He continually mumbles and mutters to himself."

NOT A POETIC SOUL

Maiden Might Be Classed as of the Earth, Earthy.

Simple Narrative Which Further Proves That Love Must Endure Many Hardships in Its Search for a Kindred Feeling.

He was a very poetic and impressionable youth, and, though she was a very prosaic maid, there was something very attractive about her.

"How wonderful is Nature in all her aspects! How inspiring the lofty trees and the grassy levels!

"Yes," she chimed in, "dancing in the moonlight is so fine! I attend at the hope at the hotel, and there, on the broad, open platform—"

He betrayed no disappointment at her lack of interest in their surroundings as they stood by the edge of the stream, and he wandered on with her into the open country.

Thundering Legion.

The Thundering Legion was the twelfth legion of the Roman army under Marcus Aurelius, acting against the Quadi in the year A. D. 174.

"Cleanliness is Next to Godliness." The author of the phrase, "cleanliness is next to Godliness," quoted by John Wesley in his sermon on "Dress," and again in his journal (February 12, 1773), is not known.

Typical Cross-Examination. Counsel—Do you know Julius Caesar? Witness—No, sir.

Suppression of Oldest Newspaper. The president of the Chinese republic, Yuan Shai Kai, recently suppressed the newspaper King-Bao.

Where the Weight Fell. Among the ancestors of Wendell Phillips were several Puritan clergymen.

Proper Yellow Feeling. One of John Quincy Adams' clients, whose case was to be tried on a certain morning, found that he could not get his counsel to leave his fishing boat except long enough to write a note to the judge.

LITERATURE FOR ALL MOODS

That is What Librarians Are Expected to Select for Their Exacting Patrons.

Infinite are the requirements and profound the judgment of librarians. The other day a little girl who does the family marketing rushed into a branch library with the announcement that the sewing society was going to meet at her mother's house.

"Ma says this ain't the kind of a story they need today," she said. "They ain't workin' on baby clothes and shirtwaists today. They're darnin' men's socks and mendin' shirts, and they want something suitable."

TWENTY WORDS IN THE LEAD

Cleveland Lawyer's New Stenographer Kept Well Ahead of Him When He Dictated.

A Cleveland corporation lawyer has a new stenographer—the second new one in a week.

"Am I speaking too fast for you, Miss Jackson? Are you getting my words down correctly?"

Ivory Smuggling. Ivory smuggling is looked upon as a very serious crime in British East Africa, and this is only as it should be.

Charms of Walking. "In Europe whole families go off for tramps together; in England, every Saturday half-holiday sees loaded trains of walking parties starting out of London.

WHITE HOUSE SENSATION. The sensation of a recent White House garden party was the puffing of cigarettes by an Austrian woman.

LIKES UNCLE SAM'S LAUNDRY. Heinrich Wollheim, a representative of the Imperial Bank of Germany, who came to Washington to inspect the operations of the bill-washing machine in use at the bureau of engraving and printing.

Icelandic Ponies. Icelandic ponies, which are being impressed into the service of the Swiss army, aroused the admiration of the great traveler, Mme. Ida Pfeiffer.

Imagination. That imagination often lights the way to discovery that would never be made by matter-of-fact plodding has proved true over and over again.

Two old ladies who had been loving friends for many years had a violent quarrel, and it began to look as if the wound would never heal.

COAL EXPORTS BIG

Important Factor in Trade of the United States.

Product Has Taken Leading Place in Nation's Commercial Advancement Within Last Twenty Years—Canada Best Customer.

Washington.—Coal is rapidly becoming an important factor in the export trade of the United States.

Even these larger figures of more than \$50,000,000 worth of coal sent to foreign countries in the fiscal year 1912 do not include the value of that passing out of the country in the form of "bunker," or fuel coal, laden on vessels engaged in the foreign trade.

Coke exports also show a decided growth, the value in 1912 having been but \$112,000 and in 1912 practically \$3,000,000.

The fact that the coal sent to foreign countries has increased 150 per cent, both in quantity and value, during the last ten years, that the total value of exports to foreign countries plus the value of that leaving the country as bunker coal now aggregates more than \$75,000,000 suggests that the total value of the coal passing out of the United States in a single year will soon reach the hundred million dollar line.

While the total exports of coal to other parts of the world is at the present time small, the growth in the movements to certain European and South American countries has been rapid.

The movement of coal out of the United States is confined to comparatively few countries. Of the 2,979,102 tons of anthracite coal exported in the fiscal year 1912 all except 56,571 tons went to Canada.

France, from 4,037 tons in 1907 to 43,222 tons in 1912; to Argentina, from 9,827 tons in 1907 to 156,792 tons in 1912; to Brazil, from 1,610 tons in 1907 to 307,125 tons in 1912, and to French territory in Africa, from 500 tons in 1907 to 102,498 tons in 1912.

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MORE THAN SHE COULD BEAR

Heart of Gentle Old Maid Was Touched, and Silly Quarrel Immediately Came to an End.

Two old ladies who had been loving friends for many years had a violent quarrel, and it began to look as if the wound would never heal.

On a recent Sabbath morning, however, Miss Sarah glanced around involuntarily at sound of a sneeze beside her, and despite her will kept her gaze fixed on Miss Malinda.

She took out her own handkerchief surreptitiously, glad it was a big one.

The comforts are all those of a very modern hotel. The cabin is kept at an unvarying comfortable temperature by means of pipes that carry the exhaust heat from the engines.

One of the most important industries in the United States of which comparatively little is written is the production of sand and gravel.

The production of glass sand was valued at \$1,457,733, an increase over the figures of 1910; the sand used for building in 1911 was valued at \$7,719,256, a slight decrease as compared with 1910.

The production of all other sands in 1911, such as sand for grinding and polishing, fire sand, engine sand and filtration sand, was valued at \$2,043,013, an increase of over a million dollars in value as compared with 1910.

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