BLACK LETTERS AND WHITE

Former is Better Because it Can Be Read at a Greater Distance Than the Latter.

There is a tendency on the part of railroads to adopt signs with white letters on a black background, not realizing that the black letter on a white background is easier to read and can be seen at a greater distance. This follows in an interesting way from the structure of the retina of the eye.

The impression of a letter at the fimit of vision is received on the ends of a small bundle of nerves which convey to the brain a sort of mosaic impression. A nerve can only transmit to the brain information as to wether or not a ray of light is falling upon it, and when a nerve is partly in the light and partly in darkness the sensation is the same as though all of it was in the light.

It follows, therefore, according to the Scientific American, that all nerves on the dividing edge between any black and white area transmit the sensation of light so that all white lines and white areas appear wider and all black lines and black areas appear narrower than they really are.

Black letters grow thinner at the limit of vision and are still recognisable, while at the same distance white letters grow thicker and cannot be distinguished. There are circumstances when it is necessary to use white letters, but in such cases legibility will be improved if they are made with a thin stroke and strongly lighted. Black letters are more distinct if made with a heavy stroke.

NOGI ORDERED TO MARRY

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

The Countess Nogi was a woman no less remarkable in many ways than her famous husband. The circumstances of her marriage with Nogi, when he was a brilliant young officer, are unusual in the extreme, especially in Japan.

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, when she saw a gallant young officer in command and immediately fell in love with him. Her father found it out and found out who the officer was, and later Nogi was approached to bring about a match.

He would not hear of it, as he had dedicated his life to the nation and did not intend to marry. But the young lady would not endure this attitude. and her father approached one of the high officers, a superior of Nogi's, and this officer fell in with the idea at once saving the match would be most suitable and it was just what Nogi should do.

The word was given from above to the young officer, and Nogi practically married Miss Yoli at the command of his superior officer. The union turned out to be an ideal one, as the subsequent history of the pair and their two brave sons has proved. The Count and Countess Nogi are regarded by the nation as the most exemplary couple that could be found anywhere. She was every inch as much a Samurai as he was.-Tokyo correspondence of Lon don Standard.

Unused Doors. 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 to the saving of the door-frame itselfnail the cross-piece upon which the book-shelves are to rest. Then have your woodwork painted or stained to match the door behind it, and hang a curtain of canton flannel, denim, or a more ornamental and servicable masterial from a rod fastened just inside the door-jambs, if the recess be good and deep; if shallow, as the door-settings are apt to be in our newer houses, have the rod fastened across the outside of the door-recess. A door thus treated will accompdate s

Cast-Iron Magnets.

surprising number of books.

The difficulty of making good castiron permanent magnets has been overcome by a very simple process. The iron casting, after being machined to the required dimensions, is heated in a gas furnace until the iron can just he handled without distortion through softening.

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

In strength of field, cast-iron magnets are from ten to fifteen per cent. inferior to those of steel, but they are equal in magnetic permanence, and cost, for intricate patterns, only one half as much as steel magnets.

Hairpin Bex.

One may obtain the most charming and at once the most useful hairpin box which has been shown for many a day. It is made entirely of dark tortois shell and stands about three inches high and five inches long. The little top opens to hold one size hairpins, and, without closing this, there may be opened at the same time two lower trays, in the manner of bureau drawers. It will distinctly appeal to the woman who must dress in a hurry and for whom attractive toilet articles have a strong claim.

TEARS ALWAYS CLOSE

SEEMED STRANGE MINGLING OF HAPPINESS AND PAIN.

How the Tinlest Bridesmaid and the Athletic Usher Came to an Understanding in Just 2 Minutes 21 Seconds.

He was the very largest and most athletic of the ushers, and she was the tiniest and most feminine of the bridesmaids. He was very tall, very self-assured and very strong. She was very slight, very shy and full of trembles. She had trembled all through the wedding, from the time the pink chiffoned maid of honor took the first step, at the organ's signal, and now she was trying bravely to

keep back the tears. She was not sorry Adele was married-it seemed a good match; she was not sorry she was to walk with with the biggest usher, for she-well, she always thought him very grand, and now that he was out of college, and a real doctor-

And yet she wanted to cry! That is like a woman, especially the kind who are very slight, very shy, and full of trembles.

The biggest usher had not trembled during the ceremony. He had occupied himself chiefly in wondering why in thunder people have church weddings in July, and calculating as to whether or not his collar would last until he got back to his room.

But when the ceremony was over and all the other bridesmaids had paired off and began pacing down the aisle, the tables were suddenly turned. As his arm felt the touch of the smallest bridesmaid's hand he suddenly realized that he was trembling.

As soon as the smallest bridesmaid felt this trembling her own stopped and she no longer felt like crying. She realized this dimly and wondered if it were not on the principle of. homeopathy-"like cures like." But no-he was the other kind of a doctor. At least she had stopped trembling and she wondered vaguely and happily why it was.

It is so sometimes with women who are very slight, very shy and full

of trembles. The master of ceremonies, who had been timing everything with his watch in hand, afterward stated that the procession from altar to door took fust 2 minutes and 21 seconds. But the biggest usher and the smallest bridesmaid would have sworn it took an hour-so much happened during that period!

And yet, what took place during that 2 minutes and 21 seconds was so very insignificant when one tries to set it down. It consisted of a few breaths, some in the form of sighs and others subvocalised: a slight movement of a black coat sleeve against a sleeve of white mousseline de soie; an almost imperceptible movement of the muscles of two pairs of eyes; a few nerve quiverings-and.

that was all. At the close of the 2 minutes and 21 seconds of Mendelssohned marching. when the tallest usher was helping the smallest bridesmaid into the carriage, he whispered one word to herand then, strangely, she wanted to cry again. She wondered vaguely and happily why it was.

It is so, sometimes, with women who are very slight, very shy and full of trembles.—St. Paul Pioneer-Press.

Library of Artemus Ward. As we sat on the old-fashioned porch at Waterford, Me., and talked with "Uncle Daniel" Browne, a cousin of "Artemus Ward," he revealed many quaint glimpses of his own career as village justice of the peace. His daughter owns the library of "Arte mus Ward." In his will it was awarded to the brightest girl in the old Waterford schoolhouse, which he at tended, and the prize was won by an own cousin. Thereon hangs the love romance of his life. The blue-eyed girl died a few years after the remains of Charles F. Browne had been brought to the old Elm Vale cemetery in Waterford, and thus ended the earthly love of the cousins. Today in the quiet cemetery the gravestones stand in stern military array and carry dates reaching back for more than a century. Under the granite shaft, beside his brother and mother. sleeps "Artemus Ward" under a simple slab on which the inscription reads: "Charles F. Brown, known to the world as Artemus Ward."-"Along the Androscoggin," Maine Edi tion, National Magazine.

No Nose for News.

The new reporter turned in his story about the church basar, his first assignment. It was the usual story, with the usual names of committee

He lingered around the city editor's desk as the hour for the paper to go to press drew near.

women.

script.

"Funny thing happened at that bazar tonight," he said casually, as conversation lagged. "What was that?" asked the city

editor. "Oh, nothing much-one of the booths caught fire and they put it

out with lemonade."" He never knew why he was fired .--Judge.

Soaking Sapleigh Again,

Sapleigh-I shall never have the courage to propose to a girl, never. Miss Pert-Well, you will be saved one disappointment in life, anyway Mr. Sapleigh.--Boston Evening Tran-

KING HAS FIFTY YEARS' REIGN

George of Greece, Welcomed Half Century Ago to Throne, Has **Gulded Nation Well**

Athens.-King George of Greece, who again looms large in the public eye by reason of the flame of war which appears to be spreading rapidly over southeastern Europe, recently entered upon the fiftieth year of his reign. Next to the venerable emperor of Austria, he is the oldest of the sovereigns of Europe. Born a prince of Denmark, he was proclaimed king of the Hellenes by the national assembly of Greece on March 30, 1863. He was then seventeen years old. On October 30 of the same year he arrived in Athens, and on the following day he took the oath and mounted the throne.

When the future king arrived in Athens, forty-nine years ago, he was welcomed by a little nation of a million people. He has more than two million subjects now, and Greece has progressed very creditably under his rulership. Though Greece has been overtaken by severe political storms during the last half century, the throne of King George has never once

been seriously threatened. No one doubts that the king has a genuine love for his adopted country and, at the present moment, shares to the utmost degree the dream of every Greek of making Aegean sea a Grecian lake, as it was in the palmy days of ancient Athens, and of seeing her flag float from the minarets of Constantinople on that day, which may not be far distant, when the Ottoman shall be expelled from Europe.

WHAT RATS COST IN FRANCE

Statistics Show Damage to Crope From Rodents Reaches \$40,000,-000 Yearly.

Paris.—Forty million dollars yearly is the estimated figure of the damage done by rats to crops and property in France. The publication of these statstics by the Incorporated Society for the Destruction of Vermin has given an impetus to the campaign for the extermination of the rodent, which is also known to be a transmitter of disease.

The example set by several American cities has been followed with great interest in France and has led Doctor Fontenelle to make a special study of the subject. He finds that the role of the rat and the mouse has been very serious in connection with cases of pneumonia. For a long time it has been noticed that this disease was more deadly in hospitals than other places. The pneumonia microbe becomes extremely virulent in the blood of a mouse, and if a sick person comes in contact with a mouse microbe he will be gravely attacked by the disease.

SEVERE TESTS ARE REQUIRED

Seven Hundred Candidates for Aeronautic Corps Must Undergo Rigid Examinations in Paris,

Paris.—The 700 candidates for France's flying corps are to be subjected to very severe tests at the physical examination ordered by the ministry of war.

Among the requirements are perfect vision, normal color sense, sharp hearing and absolute soundness of the organs of respiration and circulation. It is specified particularly that no men who have to wear spectacles shall do any flying, a rule made the more interesting because some of the world's most notable airmen, past and

present, wore or now wear glasses. The candidates are now learning to fly at the government aerodromes, some of them as pilots of dirigible balloons, but the majority as individual aeroplane pilots. The test is to be more severe for operators of aeroplanes than for balloon aeronauts.

GIRL COEDS DIG POTATOES Why Wisconsin Normal Students At tended Football Game at

Superior.

River Falls. Wis.-Digging potatoes, washing windows, splitting wood and doing family washing are some of the modes of occupation employed by thirty girl students of the River Falls Normal school. They clubbed together and voted to accept any kind of work so their earnings might be pooled and the lump sum used to defray their expenses to attend the football game between the local Normal and the Superior Normal schools, that was held recently.

The girls earned money enough to charter a special car, in which they made the trip. Some of the girls washed dishes in restaurants. and during the period of "manual labor" the yards of several prominent homes were put in order.

MAD DOG SPREADS RABIES

Horses, Cattle and Hogs Are Bitten by Rabid Animal Near Hol-≏den, Mo.

Warrensburg, Mo.-A mad dog in the farming community south of Holden bit hogs, cattle, horses and mules and infected them with rables. Six head of cattle belonging to one farmer have since died of hydrophobia and another reports the loss of ten hogs. A score of other farmers report the loss of horses, hogs cattle and mules. The animals show unmistakable signs of hydrophobia and have to be shot in order to protect other animals from infection. The farmers are also exterminating all the

SCHOOLS IN PHILIPPINES

The state of the s

Under the administration of President Taft, industrial education in the Philippines has made rapid progress. For the last four years industrial instruction has been prescribed in the primary course for both boys and girls and the work is systematically carried on in an advanced stage in the intermediate schools. Twentysix well-equipped trade schools have been established in Manila and the provinces: there is a college of agriculture at Los Banos, and a college of engineering has been added to the University of the Philippines.

The civil government finds its duties much less onerous now that the military invasion of the islands has been superseded by the educational. in certain lines, particularly lacemaking and embroidery, the products of the Philippine schools not only compare favorably with the work of the famous French and Swiss experts, but promise to compete with them successfully in the world's markets.

The whole system of education in the islands is based on the principle that the children should receive training that will prepare them directly for the life they are to live. In the lowest grades they make articles that they can use and sell, both in their own localities and elsewhere.

The most important industry taught the boys is hat weaving. The schools do not attempt to replace hand machinery with modern apparatus, for it is recognized that there is a real demand for the products of careful handworkmanship. A set of dining room furniture in red narre, made at the Philippine School of Arts and Trades in Manila, recently sold for \$200 at a carnival.

The first thing the Filipino girl does in the sewing class in school is to make herself a complete outfit of clothing. This work she usually begins in the second grade, but sometimes in the first. Armed with an embroidery frame, in most cases made by the boys in the same school, she advances in proficiency through the various grades; hemming and embroidering cotton squares, fine linen. handkerchiefs, waists and so on. The more expert girls turn out masterpieces in French net and embroidery. In lace they make all varieties of "Pillow lace," including "torchon" (Spanish lace), maltese, Ceylon, Irish crochet, and so forth. Battenberg is also made for local use.

Nearly 400,000 pupils are engaged in some kind of industrial work in the

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, which are a menace to navigation and a peril to lives at sea. The information sought for the benefit of the London board of trade, which conrols Great Britain's maritime regula tions, has just been furnished to the British embassy by the state department. The British government was informed that the revenue cutter service performed this important task for the United States. One revenue cutter the Seneca, was especially built as a derelict destrayer.

At numerous international maritime conferences the construction of derelict destroyers has been recommended, but the United States is the only country which has adopted the suggestion. During the fiscal year 1912 the revenue cutter service destroyed or removed 45 derelicts. Of wrecked vessels towed to port there was saved an aggregate money valuation of \$166,175, including ships and cargoes. The state department estimate that the revenue cutter service located 75 per cent, of the derelicts reported by the United States hydrographic office. maritime exchanges and ships at sea, all working in co-operation to clear the paths of transportation.

ALL KINDS OF DOGS.

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

Lost or strayed, from the Russian Embassy, 1701 K street, a gray Yorkshire terrier, 8 years old, answering to the name of Bobby. If found and returned, no questions will be asked, and a handsome re-ward paid. The dog was lost about

A stream of persons accompanied by dogs started toward the Russian embassy. Every sort of dog, from a ten-ounce spit., to a two hundred pound mastiff, was presented for inspection. Long before Ambassador Bahmeteff and Mme. Bahmeteff were up, dogs galore had been passed upon by attaches. Yet at sundown, Bobby had not been found.

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 acid4 Any of these acids take out ordinary writing ink, but do not interfere with the print. You would achieve result slowly by just moistening the spot with a sponge and sprinkling over it a coating of damp cream of tartar, let dry and repeat. If acid solution is used it should be quite dilute and applied with a damp sponge.

Doctor Knew. "Doctor, my husband is losing his

mind, I fear. He continually mumbles and mutters to himself." "Is it possible?"

"Yes; he mutters to himself, and when you speak to him he stares at you blankly." "I know what the trouble is," said

the doctor, smiling. "He's memorizing some lodge work. I belong to the same lodge."

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 Searchfor a Kindred Feeling.

He was a very poetle and impressionable youth, and, though she was a very prosaic maid, there was something very attractive about her and he often asked her to accompany him on moonlight walks along the country lanes. He was sometimes nettled at her interruptions, but, lost in reverie as he often was, he allowed her to prattle on until he recovered the thread of his discourse.

They were crossing a small bridge over a creek, when he said:

"Don't you admire a little bridge--" "Yes," she interrupted; "bridge is a great game. I often play with Mrs. Van Duser as my partner-"

As she gossiped on he became lost in meditation. Coming to a broad river they paused at the margin and he exclaimed:

"How wonderfully entrancing this is! Just to see the gleam on the waters! Don't you like the moonlight dancing—"

"Yes." she chimed in, "dancing in the moonlight is so fine! I attend all the hops 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. They lingered by a low stone wall as he said, impressed by the scene:

"How wonderful is Nature in all her aspects! How inspiring the lofty trees and the grassy levels! Is it not a boon to get away from the city's heat? I pine so for the country zephyrs! Do you not feel a yearning in you for a cool—"

"Yes." she said, "I'd ever so much like to have an ice-

And sadly he took his way back with her to the hotel, and ere long he disappeared into the narrow confines of his room, to get what comfort he could from his poetic musings.-Nathan M. Levy in Judge.

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. The legion was shut up in a deflie and reduced to great straits for want of water, when a body of Christians, enrolled in the legion, prayed for relief. Not only was rain sent, but the thurder and lightning so terrified the enemy that a complete victory was obtained, and the legion was ever after called "The Thundering Legion." According to Brewer, the Theban Legion, i. e., the legion raised in the Thebais of Egypt, and composed of Christian soldiers led by St. Maurice, was likewise called "The Thundering Legion." Brewer, however, states that the term existed before either of these two were so called, but he gives no further explanation of the origin of the name.

"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, 1772), is not known. Long before Wesley, Bacon had put the same idea into the words, "Cleanliness of body was ever deemed to proceed from a due reverence to God:" and Aristotle, still further back, into "Cleanliness is half a virtue." But even long before Aristotle this well-known English phrase had been taught by the Rabbins of the Talmud. both as a religious principle and a sanitary law in the form: "The doctrines of religion are resolved into carefulness; carefulness into vigorousness; vigorousness into guiltlessness; guiltlessness into cleanliness; cleanliness into godliness."

Typical Cross-Examination. Counsel-Do you know Julius Cae-

gar? Witness-No. sir. Counsel-Have you ever met him?

Witness-No, sir. Counsel-You remember that you are under oath? Witness-Yes, sir.

Counsel-Then, if you have never met Julius Ceasar, how can you say on your oath that you do not know Justice-I think we have had enough

of this style of examination. Counsel-Your honor will please note my exception to your coming to the assistance of the witness.

Justice—If you say that again I shall have you expelled from the courtroom.-Town Topics.

Suppression of Oldest Newspaper.

The president of the Chinese republic, Yuan Shai Kai, recently suppressed the newspaper King-Bao, which undoubtedly was the oldest paper in the world. For 1,500 years it has reported the more important news not only of China, but also of foreign countries. At the time when the art of printing and journalism was as yet unknown in Europe, the Chinese Gong-Chung invented a means for making types from lead and silver, and in the year 400 A. D. the paper King-Bao was printed, and has since been issued regularly until recently.

The first edition was printed on ten

sheets of yellow silk, neatly tied to-

gether, and was thus sent to all the

high officials of the Chinese empire.

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 that afternoon and wouldn't the librarian please send around a book suitable for the elocutionists of the circle to read aloud while the others worked. The young woman appealed to sent the sequel to a particularly charming story that had beguiled the tedium of that same circle on a previous afternoon. In a short while the little girl returned the book.

"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." There was a consultation of librarians. Just what kind of literature would fit the mental attitude of women. engaged in darning socks and mending shirts was a question hitherto unconsidered. They decided on a woman's rights pamphlet called "The-Eternal Warfare." Apparently it. suited, for the child did not bring it

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. Strange to say, he didn't discharge the first one because she was incompetent, but because she was too good. Let him tell it.

"This girl came to me well recommended, and when I dictated a test letter, I found her extremely rapid and accurate. So I employed her on the spot. She fell right in with the work, and I decided that I had found a treasure. But on the third day she gave me a shock.

"I was dictating an opinion in a complicated infringement suit, and it was very important that it should be accurate in every word and phrase. This was the third draft I had written, in fact. At one place I interrupted myself and said to the steno-

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

"'Oh, I'm getting them all right," she answered, smiling. 'And you don't speak nearly as fast as I can take. I'm about twenty words ahead of you now!""

good."-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Ivory Smuggling.

Ivory smuggling is looked upon as a very serious crime in British East Africa, and this is only as it should be, for, in order to secure the ivory. the traders have to kill great numbers of elephants. The game preservation laws, particularly as regards elephants, are most severe, and woe betide the man who is caught breaking the game regulations or in possession of illicit spoils of the chase.

The smuggling of ivory, therefore, says the World Wide Magazine, is treated in the same manner as smuzgling gems and clothing into the United States, illicit diamend buying in South Africa, or other forms of smuggling in England. The rigid laws. however, do not prevent the Arabs and Indians from indulging in an illegal trade in ivory on a large scale.

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, making for Epping Forest, or Burnham beeches, for the hills of Surrey or the river banks. Not to walk on a holiday is the exceptional thing. A club of people meeting for regular walks finds it possible to have a delightful interchange of conversation amid the pure joyousness of the open air and beautiful woodlands. This community of thought and interest is, after all, the finest thing society has to give us."-Suburban Life

Where the Weight Fell.

Magazine.

Among the ancestors of Wendell Phillips were several Puritan clergymen. Perhaps it was a push of heredity which made him, at five years of age, a preacher. His congregation was composed of circles of chairs, arranged in his father's parior, while a taller chair, with a bible on it, served him for a pulpit. He would harangue these wooden auditors by the hour. "Wendell," said his father to him one day, "don't you get tired of this?" "No, papa," wittily replied the boy-preacher; "I don't get tired, but it is rather hard on the chairs."

Proper Yellow Feeling.

One of John Quincy Adam's 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, which read: "Dear Judge: For the sake of old Izaak Walton, please continue my case until Friday. The smelt are biting, and I can't leave," And the judge, having read the note, announced to the court: "Mr. Adams is detained on important business."

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