ODDS AND ENDS.

Lucian was a sculptor's son.

Lampblack was invented by Mini in 1844.

Fishbein, the great historical painter, was the son of a baker.

Washboards were invented by an American named Rice in 1849.

A thirteen-year-old girl living near Darlington, Ind., weighs 217 pounds.

The cocoon of a healthy silkworm will often yield a thread 1,000 yards in length.

Life is shorter in the valleys and lowlands than among the hills and mountains.

You now and then meet folks who have all kinds of sense except common sense.

For small belts violin strings are said to be superior to any other material for lacing.

A Spanish proverb says, "Give your wife the short knife; keep the long one yourself."

A man living in New England, who is 5 feet 7 inches high, has a beard 6 feet 8 inches long.

To clean papier mache articles, wash first in warm water and soap, and polish with sweet oil.

If sheep, rams and goats spring around in the meadows and fight more than usual, expect rain.

The real ice palace is the mansion the iceman builds for himself after being in business a few years.

A man in love can do more thinking without thinking of anything at all than any one else on earth.

It is estimated that since the beginning of time the world has had sixty-six quadrillions of inhabitants.

St. Louis is organizing what is claimed to be the first Italian regiment ever formed in this country.

The Chinese, Japanese, Malays, Siamese, New Zealanders and North American Indians are all beardless.

Duty and Pleasure.

As I sit in front of my fire, in the red flames numberless pictures appear and disappear. Now I see a wide plain, green as the heart of an emerald. The sky in the west is aflame with golds and reds of the setting sun, fading and deepening like living things. Beyond the plain in a forest two figures stand apart. One is clothed in a garment black as the impenetrable night, and from the dark veil which covers her head looks a face beautiful as a marble image. The large, soft eyes are heavy with sorrow, but the beautiful mouth is set in an expression of firm and cruel command. One white hand holds back the veil, and the lines of that hand against the somber background bespeak a strength that makes one tremble. A diadem of jewels rests on her broad brow and gleams and sparkles with the colors of the sky. Her eyes search the forest unceasingly.

Poised on one foot the other figure, smaller and delicate as a rose leaf, seems about to float in the air. A white veil, which glows and burns like an opal, is thrown around her. Roses are in her hair and drop their fragrant petals at her feet. Her shining eyes are as cold and as blue as a northern sky, and her hair is like strands of twisted gold. Her full red lips curve in an alluring smile, and her small hands and delicately rounded arms, rosy in the sun rays, move in graceful rhythm, which is music unheard. She, too, looks toward the forest.

At last a maiden creeps trembling from the shadow of the trees; she turns her head from side to side like a hunted hare. Both figures advance to meet her. She gazes timidly from one to the other—a dull blot as she stands between them. One whispers duty and the other pleasure. The fire is burning low; the picture is fading.—Frances Chapman in Short Stories.

Walking a Lost Art.

The present style of street dress is responsible for a whole lot of awkwardness. A woman can't be a model of grace when she is frantically groping for the tail of her gown. And then when the refractory thing is well in hand, the horrifying thought strikes her that the "sham" is revealing its wearer's poverty. A few more epileptic struggles and hoists, and the silk underskirt goes swish, swash, swash through the rivulets of window cleaning suds, tobacco chewing offal and over crossings where the street sprinkler does his whole duty.

With a wild desire to save the silk skirt—to rescue which means to relinquish the conquered territory in the upper region of dry goods and begin the battle over again—she goes on her tiptoes over the suds and saliva, and tired with that effort takes to her heels on the muddy crossings to save the toes of her shoes from soil and bends forward like one with curvature of the spine. Now it stands to reason that a woman performing such gymnastics on the street can't do her whole duty as a daughter of the gods. In fact I think Hebe herself would succumb if she had to envelop her shapely form in modern draperies.—Washington Star.

It Will Be There, Though.

In 1888 the Democratic lead in West Virginia was only 500, and yet the Republicans, who are claiming nothing only what they are certain to get, are not putting that state in their column in their estimates for this year.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

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