Resonance and Echo in Large Halls.

Architects should keep in mind the golden rule, that resonance, such as is to be obtained by thin elastic linings, or even by masses of air judiciously distributed, is a thing to be sought in designing rooms for hearing music, or for public speaking, while echo, such as is produced by hard unyielding surfaces, is to be avoided as much as possible. Every architect who has ever designed a music room for a private house knows how greatly the effect of music is improved by lining the walls of the room, and if possible the ceiling, with thin wooden paneling; and every layman who has ever bought a piano mnst have noticed what depth and richness is given to the tones of one played in the dealer's wareroom by the sympathetic vibrations with which the strings of the surrounding instruments respond to the playing.

For twenty centuries, at least, architects have sought in various ways to secure similar resonance in large rooms understanding thoroughly the advantages to be derived from it. The Gewandhaus, at Leipsic, reputed to be acoustically the most perfect music hall in the world, owed its quality to the fact that it was surrounded by thin partitions set at a little distance from the main walls of the building, which by their own elasticity, joined to that of the mass of air between them and the walls outside, provided the resonance which experience has shown to be indispensable. In the same way, La Scala Theatre, at Milan, one of the largest and acoustically the most perfect of all European theaters, was lined throughout with thin woodwork.

The ancient Greeks to secure resonance without the use of woodwork, placed under the seats of their theatres earth pots, with the mouth turned toward the stage, the vibrating mass of air in these serving to reinforce the sound. On the other hand, rooms in fire-proof buildings, surrounded on all sides by hard, rigid masses of masonry, are very apt to be acoustically bad. Even where the large rooms, by careful study of their proportions, are successful, the smaller rooms, which cannot be so proportioned, are in such buildings almost intolerably noisy.

HOW OFTEN DOES HE COME.

Two girls were walking along Woodward avenue talking about their best young men, of course. At least one of them was.

"Chaaley was up to se me last night," she said, with a twitter.

"That's twice in a week, isn't it?" inquired the other.

"Yes;" and she blushed and gigled.

"I suppose he'll come three times in the next week."

"I suppose so."

"And fonr times the next?"

"That's what brother says."

"And five times the next?"

"That's what sister says."

"And six times the next?"

"That's what Aunty says."

"And seven times the next?"

"That's what papa says."

"And then what?"

"Then we'll get married; that's what everybody says."

"And then what?"

"Then I won't see him anymore of an evening; that's what mamma says."

Why He Was Soured.

"Who is that sour-looking man who is always sitting on that store box doing nothing?" asked the drummer.

"He's the man that knows all about how ter settle every trouble that the country gits inter," replied the native with an admiring glance.

"But why doesn't he get up and hustle then?"

"He's mad," was the awe-stricken whisper. "He's told Congress and the President and everybody how to do things and they didn't pay no 'tention to 'im, an' now he's jes' sittin' in silence an' lettin' the country go to pot."

Good Advice to Young Women.

In a recent sermon to young women, the Rev. Dr. Talmage made the following sensible remarks:

"Make it a matter of religion to take care of your physical health. I do not wonder that the Greeks defied health and hailed Hygeia as a goddess. I rejoice that there have been so many modes of maintaining and restoring young womanly health invented in our time. They may have been known a long time back, but they have been popularized in our day."

150 Miles an Hour.

The latest thing in the way of electric railroads is the proposed consolidation of the Westinghouse electric plant at Pittsburg and the Baldwin locomotive works at Philadelphia, which is said to have been virtually consummated. They propose to perfect electric motors until a spaed of 150 miles an hour is attained. The trip from New York to Pittsburg is to be made without stopping and in three hours.

LETTERS received from whailing ships in the Pacific Artic say that the ice has formed earlier and heavier this year than ever known before.

Things That I have Seen.

A well-known writer in the American Agriculturist says:

I have seen a farmer build a house so large the sheriff turned him out of doors.

I have seen a young man sell a good farm, turn merchant, and die in an insane hospital.

I have seen a farmer travel about so much that there was nothing at home worth looking after.

I have seen a rich man's son begin where his father left off, and end where his father began—penniless.

I have seen a young girl marry a young man of dissolute habits, and repent it as long as she lived.

I have seen the extravagance and folly of children bring their parents to poverty and want, and themselves into disgrace.

I have seen a prudent, industrious wife retreive the fortunes of a family, when her husband pulled at the other end of the rope.

I have seen a young man who despised the counsel of the wise and advice of the good end his career in poverty and wretchedness.

I have seen a man spend more in folly than would keep his family in comfort and independence.

I have seen a man depart from the truth, when candor and veracity would have served him a much better purpose.

I have seen a man engaged in a lawsuit about a very trifling affair that cost him more in the end than would have roofed all the buildings on his farm.

How to Walk Upstairs.

"There are but few persons who know how to walk upstairs properly," says a well-known physician. "Usually a person will tread on the ball of his foot in taking each step, springing himself up to the next step. This is very tiresome and wearing on the muscles, as it throws the entire suspended weight of the body on the muscles of the legs and feet. You should, in walking or climbing stairs, seek for the most equal distribution of the body's weight possible. In walking upstairs your feet should be placed squarely down on the step, heel and all, and then the work should be performed slowly and deliberately. In this way there is no strain upon any particular muscle, but each one is doing its duty in a natural manner. The man who goes upstairs with a springing step you may be sure is no philosopher, or, at least, his reasoning has not been directed to that subject."

Depth of the Sea.

Small boys often ask their parents, "How deep is the sea?" The answer depends largely upon the sea. The following table compiled by one who has investigated, may help one to the solution of the small boy's problems. Average depth in yards: Pacific, 4252; Atlantic, 4026; Indian, 3658; Antartic, 3000; Artic, 1690; Mediterranean, 1476; Irish, 240; English Channel, 110; Adriatic, 45; Baltic, 43.

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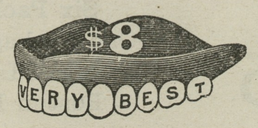

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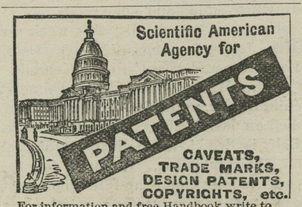

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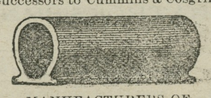

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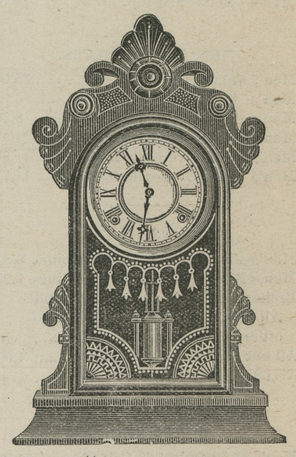

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