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Respectfully,

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Swallowed Table Knives For Fun.

The glass eaters, iron chewers and all other classes of "human ostriches" are well known to the frequenters of dime museums and side shows, but it is seldom that we see, read or hear of a man who swallows indigestibles of extraordinary size just for the novelty of the thing. Such a man, however, was John Cummings, whose history is given in extended notices in the medical and surgical annals of Boston. He watched a French sword swallower one day and, immediately after attempted a similar feat with a common table knife. The knife accidentally slipped down his throat, and a few days later, it having given him no inconvenience, he repeated the experiment. Both of these exploits took place at Havre de Grace, France. On his return to Boston he boasted of the feat and upon being bantered repeated the dose again and again. During the following ten years he swallowed in all thirty-five knives and forks, finally dying in terrible agony. He died in 1809.

Grim Story of Napoleon.

A grim story of Napoleon is told by Christian Waas in a Frankfort review under the title of "Napoleon at Yafa." A great number of the soldiers were down with the plague, and one day Bonaparte sent for his chief surgeon, Larrey. "If I were you," he said to him, "I should put our plague patients out of their misery. It would save them from having recourse to opium to soothe them." "But my duty is to make them live," replied Larrey. Bonaparte then revealed the grim truth. He and his staff were reduced to traveling on foot because the horses were all being used for the transportation of the sick. He must therefore either abandon the plague stricken to the cruelty of the enemy or get rid of them. Mr. Waas maintains that the order was carried out accordingly. There is an end, observes the Journal des Debats, to the illusion of the famous picture in the Louvre of "Bonaparte Visiting the Plague Stricken Soldiers at Yafa."

A Dramatic Scene.

The most dramatic scene ever witnessed in Westminster hall was that trial in Henry VIII.'s reign when 480 men and 11 women appeared before the king and some of his great nobles with ropes around their necks on a charge of being concerned in the rising of the prentices on the previous May day. Fortunately they had good friends in three queens—Katherine, Mary of France and Margaret of Scotland—who begged for their pardon on their knees, and when Henry at last yielded to such supplications the prisoners, it is said, "gave a mighty shout for joy, throwing their halters toward the top of the hall." The stage has never produced anything to rival that dramatic moment.—London Graphic.

Two Stories.

Several years ago, soon after "Treasure Island" had appeared and attracted public attention to Mr. Stevenson, two gentlemen were traveling up to London from Norfolk. One of them was reading "Treasure Island." Presently, having finished the book, he dropped it into his traveling bag, remarking, "Well, I think I could myself write a better child's story than that." The other, who, by the way, was his brother, urged him to try. Six weeks afterward the former handed to the latter a complete tale in manuscript. It was "King Solomon's Mines," the first novel that made a reputation for Rider Haggard.—London Queen.

We Usually Find Our Level.

Do not hypnotize yourself with the idea that you are being kept down. Do not talk such nonsense. Nobody of any sense would believe it. People will only laugh at you. Only one thing is keeping you down, and that is yourself. There is probably some trouble somewhere with you. Of course there are employers who are unjust to their help, there are instances in which employees are kept back when they should be advanced; but, as a rule, this is only temporary, and they usually find their level somewhere.—Success Magazine.

Flattery Wins.

Woman of the House (scrutinizing him sharply)—I believe you are the same worthless vagabond that was here last week begging for something to eat. Saymold Storey—Yes'm, I'm the feller. The cold b'iled ham I got here wuz the best I ever ett, an' I couldn't resist the temptation to come ag'in. That's why. Thanky, ma'am.—Chicago Tribune.

Her Dear Friend.

"What nonsense all this is about men getting on their knees when they propose," said Mrs. Parslow to her dear friend. "My husband didn't do any such absurd thing when he asked me to marry him."

"He did when he proposed to me," said the dear friend without thinking.

Too Costly.

"According to this paper," said Mrs. Naggs, "widows make the best wives."

"I don't doubt it, my dear," replied Naggs, "but nevertheless I don't feel justified in shuffling off at the present moment merely for the sake of making a good wife of you."

Cheering Suggestion.

Cobbs—To tell you the truth, I don't think my wife cares very much for me. Dobbs—Well, cheer up, old man. You can at least be proud of her good sense.—Detroit Tribune.

Not Complaining.

Belle—I think he has lost his heart. May—Well, he is an extremely cheerful loser.

Hatred is like fire—it makes even light rubbish deadly.—George Eliot.

Cross Eyed Angels.

Near the village of Monterey, Mass., in the heart of the Berkshires, on a knoll peculiarly well fashioned by nature for its uses, is a burying ground of the Revolutionary period which possesses more than ordinary interest by reason of its well preserved headstones. These headstones were cut from a native stone which has endured the elements so well for more than a hundred years that the inscriptions are now almost as easily read as they were when the stones were set in position. A striking peculiarity is found in the carvings on the headstones, apparently all the work of one sculptor, who had a specialty in the creation of cross eyed angels. Almost every one of the old headstones is ornamented at the top with the head of an angel, and each angel face is unmistakably and painfully cross eyed. This characteristic has led some guests near the burying ground to call it the "cemetery of cross eyed angels."—New York Tribune.

Cooking Fish In Clay.

"The natives of the north woods have more appetizing ways to cook fish than any other class of cooks in the world, I believe," said a Tomah man.

"The universal favorite, however, seems to be the clay method. The fish is wrapped in the clay without having so much as a scale ruffled by the cleaning knife. He is not dressed, and the only seasoning is a pinch of salt placed in the mouth. When the fish is done up in the clay the package is placed in the embers of the campfire to bake. When it is done the clay is cracked open, and the scales of the fish are found to be sticking in the clay, and the head is then broken off. The delicate flavor of a fish cooked in this way cannot be described. Some of the cooks have a habit of cutting a long gash along each side of the dorsal fin and inserting a slice of fat bacon. This adds greatly to the flavor of the fish."—Milwaukee Sentinel.

A Strange Thunderstorm.

It was a strange thunderstorm that struck Suffolk, England, Aug. 4, 1577. According to Holinshed, the tempest of lightning came through the wall of Bliborough church and went a yard into the ground, knocking over twenty people and killing two. Then it came up again, mounted the steeple by way of the vestry door, broke the bells and darted off to Bungay, six miles distant. There, according to another chronicler, it became a fiery black dog, which dashed between two people kneeling in church and broke their necks and clawed another man on the back so that he was "presently drawn together and shrunk up, as it were, a piece of leather scorched in a hot fire." Claw marks remained on the door to prove the reality of the black dog.

Old Time Advice to Travelers.

Edward Leigh's "Hints For Travelers" was published at the end of the sixteenth century. Only those who speak Latin should travel, he says, and every one should be well grounded "in the true religion" lest he be perverted abroad. Travelers should know their own country before being allowed to leave it. Before his voyage the traveler "should make his peace with God, receive the Lord's supper, satisfy his creditors if he be in debt, pray earnestly to God to prosper him on his voyage and to keep him from danger, and he should make his last will and wisely order all his affairs, since many that go abroad return not home."

The Word "London."

What is the derivation of the word "London?" The usually accepted one is the Celtic "Llyn-Din," or lake city, referring to the historical fact that the city was built on a river that overflowed at full tide and half surrounded it. Other philologists have derived it from "llawn" (full) and "dyn" (man), others again from "lon" (a plain) and "dun" (a hill). But the derivation Lun-Den, or "grove city," seems more probable than most of these. The name occurs in wooded parts of Scandinavia to this day.

The Reigning Princess.

Every girl who has married and moved to another town learns in course of time how it feels to be a monarch who is deprived of his kingdom. She is a princess before marriage and has the front room upstairs. She marries, moves away, her sister next in years becomes the reigning monarch, and when the married woman returns home on a visit some years later she finds herself relegated to a back bedroom, with her sister, the princess, on a throne in the front room.—Atchison Globe.

The Queer Part.

"Mary," said a Kansas City (Kan.) man to his wife recently, "I had a queer dream last night. I dreamed you had a pair of wings St. Peter had just given you and I was trying to fit them on you. Wasn't it queer that your wings didn't fit you?" "Yes," she replied, "but that wasn't the queerest part of it." "What was?" "The fact that you were there," she replied.—Kansas City Times.

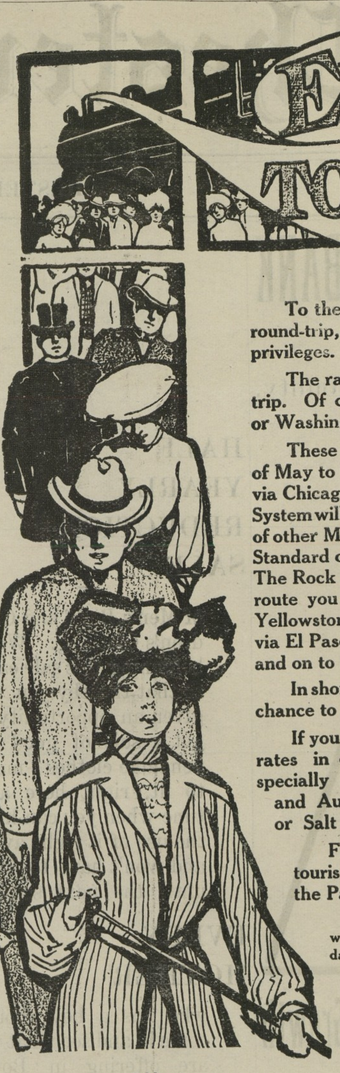
Eminently Satisfactory.

Medical Examiner—Suppose you should have a patient with some disease which you knew nothing about. What would you do? Student—Charge him $5 for the examination and then send him to you.

Effect of a Full Stomach.

Give a man all he wants to eat and drink and he will find it easy enough to preach to others upon the duty of abstinence.—Boston Transcript.

He who first praises a book becomingly is next in merit to the author.—Landor.



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To the Pacific Coast—to California, Oregon, Washington—round-trip, long transit and return limits, liberal stop-over privileges.

The rate is practically on the basis of one fare for the round trip. Of course, if you wish to visit *both* California and Oregon or Washington, the cost is slightly more.

These reduced rates are in effect on certain dates in months of May to October, inclusive. They apply from all Eastern points via Chicago, St. Louis or Memphis gateways. The Rock Island System will take you up in either Chicago or St. Louis, or at hundreds of other Middle West points and carry you to the Coast in through Standard or Tourist Sleepers with unexcelled Dining Car service. The Rock Island also affords a choice of routes: on the "Scenic" route you can stop off in Colorado—see Salt Lake City—visit Yellowstone National Park; on the "Southern" route you can go via El Paso, thru New Mexico, then "up coast" to San Francisco and on to Portland or Seattle if desired.

In short, these Pacific Coast excursions offer an unusually good chance to see our western country in a comprehensive manner.

If you desire to go only as far as Colorado, there are excursion rates in effect to that section and return, all summer long, specially reduced June 30 to July 4, August 12 and 13, and August 30 to September 4. Extension trips to Ogden or Salt Lake and return at low cost also.

From September 15 to October 31, 1905, one-way tourist or "colonist" tickets will be on sale to California and the Pacific Northwest—about half regular fare.

If interested, send name and address on this coupon, designating which booklet wanted and to what point you plan to go. Name probable date of start also, so we can advise definitely with respect to rates, etc.

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