

OF SUCH ARE PROOFREADERS

Little Miss Has Painful Struggle During Spelling Lesson Conducted by Her Father.

Ralph Royston, who is a salesman for one of the big printing machines...

The other evening Mr. Royston was endeavoring to help the child with her studies.

"Well, go on," said the father, as he pronounced "evenly" slowly and carefully...

The little girl thought and thought and then suddenly saw light.

Her father, who couldn't understand why she could not get the word right...

"Oh, yes," exclaimed the little one with a glad cry of triumph...

Mr. Royston laughed and the sisters and brother of the struggling speller laughed...

ASIATICS ON BRITISH SHIPS

Growing Preference for Chinese Seamen Over Britons for Service Under Red Ensign.

One of the principal grievances complained of by the union, we believe, is the alleged growing preference of ship owners for Asiatic seamen...

The Astronomer's Cat.

The Rev. T. E. Esplin, who recently achieved considerable fame by discovering a new star...

The story of Mr. Esplin's cat in his own words is this: "Last February, returning from church on a cold night...

Damning Evidence.

"Madam," says the agent of the black hand, "we have a photograph of you and Count de Gaylegh riding in an automobile."

"What care I?" haughtily says the lady. "The Count is a gentleman in every way and, besides, he is going to marry my daughter."

"That's not the point. It was an 1906 model car."

With a low moan the unfortunate woman sank to the floor, after giving a feeble indication that on reviving from her faint she would write a check for the hush money.—Life.

Opium in Barrel Staves.

Through some clever work on the part of the customs secret service, men 199 cans of opium hidden in the staves of barrels containing lamp blacking were seized recently...

As the staves of the barrels were rather thick just in the center instead of being hollowed out, the smugglers had carved out a small oval of pocket large enough to contain a narrow can of opium in each stave.

Then He Struck.

A few days ago a second-class stoker was paraded before the commanding officer of the Devonport naval barracks on a charge of insubordination.

BLACK CATS IN BIG DEMAND

Fur Is Used in Making Ladies' Cloaks, Hats, Muffs, Capes and Other Articles.

The market value of black cats is rising rapidly, owing to the fact that their fur is greatly in demand for the making of ladies' cloaks, hats, muffs, capes and other articles of dress.

Within the past week or two the "Lost" columns of newspapers in New York and elsewhere have recorded the disappearance of some fine black cats, family pets, for the return of which large rewards and "no questions asked" were offered.

LATEST MODEL WORKABOUT

Farmer Creates Some Excitement by Appearing on Streets With Rig of Own Invention.

Walter Lanfair, a farmer living on Dewey street, Tatham, created some excitement by riding through the town in a "workabout" of his own invention.

A Dignified Function.

George Ade was out walking with a guide in Kioto, Japan, when he observed a great procession approaching, and he paused while it passed.

Bitterly Disappointed.

Here's a story in the week's chronicle of Maine merchants, this time from Portland. A Portland tradesman was visited by a friend from the country and among attempts to entertain took the visitor to the theater.

Vacations for Cattle.

In western Australia one farmer may be heard to inquire of another whether he has as yet sent his cattle on their vacation, and what is meant is just what is asked.

Father of His Country Had the Grip.

As the Father of His Country had the grip it is not surprising that it should run through all the family.

Lace From St. Helena.

It is pleasant to read that the work of the St. Helena government lace school has met with the approval of her majesty the queen.

ALEXANDRA DEFIES OLD AGE

Secret of Dowager Queen's Youthful Appearance Lies Mostly in Her Diet.

The secret of Queen Alexandra's wonderful youthful appearance never ceases to interest feminine England and some details of her diet have been imparted to the curious.

Queen Alexandra never touches red meat. She eats only chicken, turkey, duck and game. The vegetables she has served to her are cabbage, spinach, peas and beans.

She is particularly fond of nuts and has been known to make an entire luncheon of almonds and walnuts dipped in salt.

She drinks nothing but hot milk, having given up tea, coffee, cocoa and wines years ago. On this diet with a moderate amount of exercise Queen Alexandra keeps wonderfully well and preserves a girlish symmetry of figure and softness of skin which makes it difficult to realize that she is well past 60.

LEARNING AMONG THE SCOTS

Many a Man Who Never Had Any "Schooling" Gets Surprisingly Good Education.

Many a man who never had any "schooling" gets an education, and often a surprisingly good one.

A traveler in Scotland once met a farmer whose ground rent was about \$20 a year and who wrote poetry in Gaelic that was of high order.

This same traveler met a youth in Scotland who rode from home on horseback to the seaport and then across Scotland to Aberdeen, where he sold his horse to enter the university.

It is related of another Scotchman that he was overheard repeating a line of Tennyson, whereupon some one asked him what poet he liked best.

"Homer," he replied. "Whose translation do you read?" "I rarely read a translation," he said, wiping the fish scales from his apron. "I like best to read Homer in the original Greek."

The Bending of Big Guns.

Among the problems with which army and navy engineers have to deal nowadays is that of the drooping of the muzzles of excessively long guns under the stress of their own weight.

Injury in Innovation.

Humanity, in ages of experience, has learned that any radical change or decided innovation may mean some great injury to the whole tribe or race.

When Codfish Use Ballast.

A Gloucester fisherman one of the protestants against the fish clause in the Canadian Reciprocity bill, was talking about fish in Washington.

Dick in a Crowd.

When a certain mild-mannered representative from a middle western state went to congress he left behind a body of constituents who fancied that great personal benefits would come to them through their powerful statesman.

"Well, Tom," a friend asked him on his return, "did you see Washington and Dick Blank, and did you get what you went after?"

"Yes, I seen Washington, and I seen Dick Blank," he replied, "but Dick couldn't do nuttin' for me. He was havin' a hard time to keep from gettin' tromped on himself."—Success.

SHIRT-BUTTONS FOR TEETH

Ingenious Old Woman Tries Her Hand at a Little Home Dentistry.

Shoe-button eyes are frequently seen on the woolly dogs, cats and other animals sold for toys, penwipers and pin cushions, but shirt button teeth worn by a human being are a decided novelty.

The only set ever made is worn by an old woman living in Pittsfield, Mass. Finding herself unable to buy a new set of false teeth she was driven by necessity to make them.

STYLE IN ENGLISH NECKWEAR

Broad-Ended Tie Has Been Rage for Half Decade and is Likely to Continue.

For the last half decade the broad-ended tie made from the piece has been the rage in England, and haberdashers will not look at anything else.

A good grade of Irish poplin tubular tie retails at about 50 cents, the highest quality Irish poplin, however, which comes in the piece, when made up, retails at about 75 cents.

Solons on Strike.

Legislation in the Isle of Man, off the shore of England, is at a standstill because the house of keys has gone on strike.

Leprosy Colony of Molokai.

"The leprosy colony in Hawaii has not grown any the last several years," said O. B. Thomas of Honolulu.

"The district in which the lepers live is a high range of mountains and the lepers have a regular municipal government of their own.

Dosed by Doser by Arithmetic.

Before wireless telegraphy was thought of, and the patient could communicate with the shore doctor, the captain was the ship's doctor.

The Galaxy of Double Stars.

Coburg, Lane county, a village of 800 people, boasts two pairs of twins born within the last six weeks, and six pairs of various ages in attendance upon its public schools.

IN FEAR OF HONORARY TITLE

Baron Steuben Alarmed Lest He Should Meet Mishap That Befel Lafayette.

Some men have shunned honorary titles almost as earnestly as others have coveted them.

After Lafayette had been made a doctor of laws by a New Jersey college shortly before the close of the Revolutionary war, Baron Steuben was in great fear lest he should meet with a similar mishap.

"You shall have to spur the horses well and ride through this place like the devil, for, if they catch you, they will make doctors of you."

There is another story that only a few years ago, when college degrees were scattered somewhat lavishly, an illiterate old man of great wealth, having been honored with a degree by a college which he had laid under obligation, made a wager that he could obtain a similar honor for his servant.

MYRIAD FOES OF THE OAK

Most Afflicted of Trees is the Prey of Over Fifteen Hundred Kinds of Insects.

Along the Hudson river, from Spuyten Duyvil to Ossining, according to reports of foresters, thousands of elm trees have been saved from destruction since last fall, the spraying process, more freely employed than ever before, having killed the eggs of devastating beetles by the million.

"Strange," said a workman in charge of a spraying apparatus, "but the beetles never attack a maple or a horse chestnut or any other kind of tree. These pests always go for the elm, but the oak has troubles of its own that are entirely different from those of other trees."

Complex American Legal Problems.

No country has such complex and varied problems to cope with as the United States. Conditions arising by reason of the heavy tide of immigration from all countries, including gentiles, Jews, Greeks, Turks, Mohammedans, those of all religions and those with none; those coming to promulgate socialistic doctrines, the perplexing Chinese and Japanese questions in the west, the abolition of slavery, the rights of trusts, the organization and rise of federations of labor, have raised perplexing questions which have demanded the attention more or less of the criminal arm of the law.

A War on Wild Pigeons.

A great slaughter of wild pigeons took place all over the Isle of Wight this week and it is estimated that quite a thousand guns were enrolled for the campaign, among them being landowners, occupiers and shooting tenants who were publicly invited to take part.

The guns were stationed in woods and coppices over a wide area. Some big bags were obtained. The farmers have suffered terribly owing to the depredations caused by the wild pigeons.—London Evening Standard.

Origin of Dollar Sign.

"Pieces of eight" mean the Spanish peso duro, or hard dollar, bearing the numerical eight and being the value of eight reals.

Our commercial sign for the dollar is supposed by some authorities to have reference to this eight, the vertical strokes representing the Pillars of Hercules, which in the beginning were stamped on some of the Spanish dollars. According to another account the dollar sign is derived from the stamp "SR," accompanied by two vertical strokes.

What She Forgot.

A lady who had given a workman engaged on some work at her house a glass of beer, afterwards asked him if he liked it.

"It is pure beer. I brew it myself, and it is composed of nothing but malt and hops."

"And water," joined in the man. "Ah, yes, certainly, and the water. I had forgotten that."

"No, you didn't forget the water, ma'am; maybe it were the malt and hops you forgot."

NAVY BUILDING IN EUROPE

Austro-Hungary and France Plan Extensive Operations for the Shipbuilders.

The Hungarian delegations have approved the Austro-Hungarian naval program, which calls for an expenditure of \$65,000,000 in building four Dreadnoughts, three fast cruisers and a number of torpedo boats in the next six years.

France's naval program, so far as fixed, provides for laying down this year two 23,500 ton battleships. Turkey has definitely arranged with the Armstrongs for the construction of two first-class battleships at once.

PASSING OF TUATARA LIZARD

Is One of Most Ancient Forms of Animal Life Now Found on Earth.

The tuatara lizard, found in New Zealand, is one of the most ancient forms of animal life now found on earth. Originally this lizard possessed four eyes, but in the course of the ages it has lost one pair and must now get along with two.

These small survivors of past ages are found only in a few localities and are becoming very scarce, collectors from every part of the world being continually on their trail. They are about two feet in length, and in common with other lizards, have the fortunate characteristic of being able to replace portions of their limbs or tails which have been destroyed.

An Officer's Ready Wit.

An ancestor of Tolstoy's, an army officer, was an excellent mimic. One day he was mimicking the Emperor Paul to a group of his friends when Paul himself entered and for some moments looked on unperceived at the antics of the young man.

"The young man hesitated a moment and then folding his arms and reproducing every gesture and intonation of his sovereign he said: 'Tolstoy, you deserve to be degraded, but I remember the thoughtfulness of youth, and you are pardoned.' The czar smiled slightly at this speech. 'Well, be it so,' he said.

Tell It to Rostand.

"Did you ever notice," inquired the woman who has just moved to the country, "that when you hear a rooster crow early in the morning it always sounds a long way off? I used to observe that when I took my vacations in the country. Even when staying at a place that had a barnyard full of chickens, I never heard a rooster crow close by. It always had a distant sound, sort of mystic and almost poetic in the early dawn. Now I am living in the country I notice the same shrill, small note, far away—always far away—although there are lots of chickens in the yard next door and across the street, too. I'm sure there's some arrangement between the chattering about this, only we are not clever enough to understand it."

The Crying Need.

An irate old lady, the wife of a prosperous farmer on the outskirts of Philadelphia, stepped off a train in Broad street station the other day with a face like a thunder cloud. Any one could see in that scowling countenance the smoldering fire that might break forth at any minute. Stamping excitedly on the platform, she gnashed her teeth in a struggle to keep back the tears. Finally she buttoned the first person who would listen to her tale of woe.

A Trunk-Packing Hint.

One girl who is something of a traveler has for her trunk a large sheet of blue muslin. This is put in the bottom of the trunk before the packing is started. When everything is in it is folded over the top of the clothes and firmly pinned with safety pins.

With this precaution the girl is sure to find her garments as smooth at the end of a trip as at the start. Another of her packing methods is to stow in the hatbox of the trunk all the loose tissue paper that comes to the house. This does away with a mad search for tissue paper when packing is to be done.