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PERSONAL AND IMPERSONAL

The French sculptor Rodin has just finished the model of a statue of Victor Hugo...

It is reported that the empress of Russia will arrive in England on a private visit to the queen in the spring of next year...

Dr. Marcellero, an eminent Italian scientist, has for a number of years been making experiments and observations relating to children's ideas of life and death...

The queen of Spain is said to be the most simple and domestic in her tastes. She and her daughters are admirable needlewomen and embroiderers...

A tablet was unveiled in Kellogg church, Durham, England, on September 7, inscribed: 'To commemorate Browning, who was born in Coxhoe hall March 6, 1806, and died at Florence July 29, 1861...'...

Fourteen different models were used by August Linström, the New York sculptor, for his figure 'Light', which will be shortly exhibited at the annual exhibition of the American Sculptors' society...

The prince of Monaco, on his steam yacht, the Princess Alice, is in the Azores pursuing his hydrographic researches...

Mea of Old Buried Ornaments That Have Ever Kept Their Beauty. Prehistoric France and Italy had gold ornaments...

Similar rich finds have been made in Greece by the explorers of tombs, dating back to a time before the dawn of history...

It seems to have been the custom in those days to bury rich treasures with great warriors, as a token of the respect of the living...

Another curious ancient Greek practice was that of making statues out of gold and ivory combined...

Egypt, in the rude earlier days before the climate had destroyed the energies of the people, made great use of gold from South Africa...

The making of watch springs deserves mention in this connection. It is now generally recognized that no more forcible example of the value of labor as against the raw material can be cited than that demonstrated by the manufacture of watch springs...

He Forgot the Instructions. A Georgia man who had made a flying machine offered a negro ten dollars to make a trial trip in it...

It is rumored that before long glass umbrellas will be in general use—that is, umbrellas covered with the new spung glass cloth...

His Loss. Employer Patrick I am sorry to learn that you were arrested the other day. What was the charge against you? Patrick—Poive dollars or tin days, sor...

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A LITTLE NONSENSE

A Conventional Idiot. 'Ah! I see you're back from abroad.' 'Well, you could see me if I wasn't, could you?' Philadelphia North American.

'Dah is some friends,' said Uncle Eben, 'dat is like the rainbow. Deey looks fine an' binds polite, but dey's gone when de sun ain't shinin'.' Washington Star.

'Henry, do you believe in the universal brotherhood of man?' 'Believe in it? I should say so; down at de seashore this summer I had 34 sisters.' Detroit Free Press.

'Don't you think,' the mother said, proudly, 'that her playing shows a remarkable finish?' 'Yes,' replied the young man, absently, 'but she was a long time getting it.' Harlem Life.

'Hello, Brown. How did you get your face scarred so?' 'Got run over by a truck.' 'Didn't you see it coming?' 'No; I was looking over my shoulder at the new moon for luck.' Indianapolis Journal.

'In Great Luck.' 'Say, Jakey, gimme a bite o' your peach.' 'Naw, I won't.' 'Well, gimme de stone.' 'Well, I'll give you de stone. But it's mighty lucky for you dat peach ain't a pear.' Cleveland Plain Dealer.

'Mother—' 'What did your father say when he saw his broken pipe?' 'Innocent—' 'Shall I leave out the swear words, mother?' 'Mother—' 'Certainly, my dear.' 'Innocent—' 'Then I don't think he said anything.' Household Words.

'Bridget, how did it happen that when we came in last night after the theater there was a policeman in the kitchen?' 'Sure, mum, O don't know; but OI think the theater didn't last as long as usual.' Chicago Times-Herald.

MAKING OF DELICATE WIRES

Some Are So Small That No Gauge Can Measure Them. Gold wire is mentioned in connection with the decorations of the sacerdotal robes of Aaron, it is true, yet the oldest piece of wire of which the world has any knowledge is a specimen made by the Ninevites about 800 years B. C.

Solid gold drawn wire is now practically unknown in the trade. However, gold wire is made in the following manner: Silver rods are coated with gold in proportion to two per cent. of gold to the weight of silver to be manipulated.

When the gilding is performed, the rods are about 1/4 inches in diameter and two feet six inches long, and weigh about 400 ounces each. The two metals are then drawn down together through drilled rubies or diamonds. The process of drilling the gems is kept a secret.

A better idea of the minuteness of some of these borings may, however, be learned from the fact that the holes cannot be discerned by the naked eye, and only by the aid of a magnifying glass can one be convinced that they really exist.

For the manufacture of silver and silver gilt wires, the silver is sometimes bored out and internal rubber rods inserted, and they are then drawn together. Wires as fine as a human hair, for example, .003 inch in diameter, and even finer, can be gauged by instruments termed 'micrometers.'

The scales for weighing the gold coin at the mint are so exquisitely fine they can detect the most minute particle added to either side of the balance. There are fine woven wire gauzes with cloth, some of which are made with as many as 40,000 meshes to the square inch.

The most delicate classes of wires find application in scientific instruments. So fine are these that it is difficult to get them measured; but the task has been accomplished, and platinum wire has been drawn to 1-7,000 of an inch, and to even greater fineness. Aluminum wire has been drawn as fine as 10,500 yards to the ounce, a size too fine to be practically measured by any gauge or instrument.

While mentioning practical examples of fine drawn wires, it may be stated that iron has been attenuated so that over 2 1/2 miles in length only weighed one ounce. Again, 24 grains of gold have been drawn on a silver wire to a length of 120 miles.

SPANISH PEASANTS

A Favorite Vehicle for Extortion.—Peasants, ignorant and patient. In the Spanish lower classes you will find poverty and appalling ignorance...

There is one special word particularly applicable to this gente baja. It is the Spanish word sufrida, which we must render in a single English word by patient; but it means more than patient, it means patient and unvindictive under grievous injury and wrong.

Such are the Spanish peasantry—the cream of the Spanish people. Their only province in relation to their government is to pay. They are a passive vehicle for ministerial extortion.

The last Spanish census shows that of a total population of 18,000,000, over 6,000,000 can neither read nor write, while over one-half have no determined occupation.

This statement is, in itself, so damning that it appears hardly necessary to inquire further. It simply serves to show that for the present Spain is a country of Europe, but not of Europeans; that the Moor, and the very worst and most savage part of him, is still predominant in the despots who, by the sheer exercise of terror, aided by a complaisant and feeble monarchy, an army, an armed police, a suborned clergy and a suborned press, abuse the holiest attributes of 'Trust and government and power.'

ABOUT MEN'S TRUNKS

Including Some That Are Pat to Interesting Special Uses. The American still prefers decidedly to get his baggage into as compact form as possible.

There are made, however, nowadays men's trunks that are models of convenience. They have places for everything, a place for a dress suit and compartments for other suits, a compartment for hats and another for shoes, a place for shirts and a place for neckties, a division for a dressing case, and so on.

In such a trunk a man could carry everything he might require for wear on either business or social occasions, and in supply sufficient for a trip of some duration.

He would have also a number of traveling bags of different sizes, a dress suit case, and other trunks, all these for use as they might be needed. If he went in for hunting, for instance, he would have a trunk to carry his guns and his hunting outfit, but the general fact remains that the average American likes to get his baggage into the most compact form possible and the smallest number of pieces.

There are, however, men who do not thus limit themselves, who, for example, carry their shirts in a case especially made for the purpose. Shirt cases are made of sole leather, and to carry one dozen or two dozen shirts each. Shirt cases are still a decidedly exceptional article of baggage, but a manufacturer of fine trunks and traveling equipments said that he had made more shirt cases this year than ever before.

Some men also carry their boots and shoes for riding and walking in trunks made especially for that purpose, with separate compartments for each pair. There are men living in various cities and towns outside of New York, some of them hundreds of miles away, who not only buy their shirts here, but who send them back here regularly to be laundered.

This is done here better than anywhere else in the country, for the simple reason that the best laundry workers are found here. Some men who send their shirts to New York to be laundered by here trunks made especially for the purpose, and holding five or six dozen shirts each.—N. Y. Sun.

Origin of Colors. It is interesting to know the real meaning of the various color tints with which we are familiar to-day. The majority think the titles are bestowed haphazard, but it is not so. Each one is traceable to a well-defined origin.

For instance, mastic, the fashionable gray-tan shade, is named after the mastic tree, which grows in Greece, the gum of which it resembles in color. Blue-black is in honor of the charcoal that comes from the vine stock. India ink is made from burned camphor. Scarlet is iodide of mercury. Chinese white is zinc.

Turkey red is made from the madder plant, that thrives in Hindostan. For Indian yellow we are indebted to the camel, and for sepia to the cuttlefish. The latter is an inkly fluid the fish discharges when attacked in order to make the water opaque. The vivid crimsons, carmines and reddish purples are all furnished by the cochineal insects. The beautiful Prussian blue is achieved by fusing horses' hoofs and other refuse animal matter in a strong solution of potassium carbonate.

Vermilion is from the ore cinnabar. Gamboge from the yellow sap of a tree in Siam. Bistre is the soot of wood ashes, and raw sienna is the natural earth from the vicinity of Siena, Italy. Umber is also the earth found close by.—Table Talk.

The pension bureau has received a conscience contribution of \$850 from a pensioner in Pennsylvania, who states that he obtained the money fraudulently.

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