

BLACK LETTERS AND WHITE

Former is Better Because It Can Be Read at a Greater Distance Than the Letter.

There is a tendency on the part of tailors to adopt signs with white letters on a black background...

The impression of a letter at the limit of vision is received on the ends of a small bundle of nerves...

It follows, therefore, according to the Scientific American, that all nerves on the dividing edge between any black and white area...

Black letters grow thinner at the limit of vision and are still recognizable, while at the same distance white letters grow thicker...

NOGI ORDERED TO MARRY

Japanese Hero Took Bride Practically at the Command of His Superior Officer.

The Countess Nogi was a woman no less remarkable in many ways than her famous husband...

She was the daughter of Sadayoki Yoji, and one day she was sitting in the window of her father's house...

He would not hear of it, as he had dedicated his life to the nation and did not intend to marry...

The word was given from above to the young officer, and Nogi practically married Miss Yoji...

Unused Doors. With slight trouble and small expense an unused door may be most advantageously converted into a bookcase...

Cast-Iron Magnets. The difficulty of making good cast-iron permanent magnets has been overcome by a very simple process...

It is then plunged in a chemical bath, which removes superfluous materials and leaves the iron clean...

Merlin's Box. One may obtain the most charming and at once the most useful hairpin box which has been shown for many a day...

Fielding. "What do you think of Fielding?" she asked young Mr. Ashby.

"Oh, it's important, of course, but it won't avail anything without good batting."

EVIDENTLY HIS FIRST CASE

Young Attorney Considerably "Rattled," and the Court Indulged in a Little Laughter.

Several prominent attorneys were discussing the peculiar and rather humorous questions put to witnesses by young attorneys entering upon their legal work...

"I went up to the superior civil court one day to hear a young friend of mine try his first case...

"Yes," replied witness. "What kind of a contract was it?"

"The witness stood staid still staring at the attorney and then looked at the judge, inquiringly...

INDIAN NAME FOR WHISKY

Called "Fire Water" Because of Their Method of Discovering If It Was Diluted.

When the Hudson's Bay Trading Company began its trading among the Indians it was found that by selling the Indians liquor they could more easily be induced to trade their peltries...

The first whisky or intoxicant of inferior quality was distilled in England and brought to America in large barrels, but in transporting it overland it was found more convenient to divide it into small kegs...

A chief who had experienced the bad effects of whisky among his people said it was most certainly distilled from the hearts of wildcats and the tongues of women from the effects it produced...

The Human Woman. We have thought of life as a building of many rooms containing war, commerce, industry, art and science...

Falls-Climbing Eels. Do fish possess the imitative faculty? That has been the subject of much discussion...

Distinction Without Difference. Mayor Gaynor of New York said recently that, as long as rich men were permitted to drink in their clubs on Sunday, it was hard to stop the poor from drinking in saloons...

Who's that? One passerby asked another.

"That's Gobsa Golde and his chauffeur," the other answered.

"What's the matter with them?"

"No effort! Well I want to tell you that in my case it's a superhuman undertaking...

"Oh, it's important, of course, but it won't avail anything without good batting."

NOT QUITE THE SAME

WANDERER FOUND THAT GIRLS DIDN'T STAY GIRLS.

Lamentable Fact That Time Does Unkind Things to the Sweet High School Graduate Had to Be Admitted.

"I got an invitation the other day," said Abe Peters, "to attend the commencement exercises of the high school in the little old town where I used to live..."

"She read an essay on the subject, 'Beyond are Alps Lies Italy.' She was really in dead earnest about it, too, having practiced on that essay for three weeks before the commencement night...

"I wandered off west and she married a country doctor. I didn't see her for more than twenty years. Then I happened to be back at the old town and concluded I would look up the girl who climbed the Alps that night in the long ago...

"I met another of the girls who sat on the stage that night and read an essay on some subject or other. I don't remember just what it was...

"The latest invention is a violin that plays itself. People who have heard it say that it possesses the delicacy of touch and sweetness of tone of a finished player...

Really the mechanical violin consists of three instruments. The bow is a circular hoop of horseshoe which travels around continually...

Along the neck of the instruments stretch a row of twenty fingers that run up and down the strings just like real fingers...

Like most machines, however, it lacks one thing; it cannot tune itself. When any of the notes get flat the strings have to be tightened by mere man in almost the same way as an ordinary violin...

Her husband looked sadly and responded: "No, my dear; you certainly haven't lost any of yours."

Too Swift. Billy—if you have me I'd marry you in a minute.

Milly—in a minute? Why, the very idea! It takes at least three months to get a trousseau ready.

NIAGARA'S MIGHTY STRENGTH

Hard to Estimate Power That Has Been Wasted Since Hennepin First Described the Falls.

In the autumn of 1678 a Franciscan friar, Hennepin, set out alone—the first solitary figure of the expedition, a gray priest—from the gray rock of Quebec, in a birch canoe...

He has some what magnified the height of these falls, but they are impressive enough to acquit him of falsification and powerful enough to run virtually all the manufacturing plants in the United States...

Uses of Uranium. There is considerable popular interest in uranium in the United States on account of its connection with radium...

Fiddle With a Brain. The latest invention is a violin that plays itself. People who have heard it say that it possesses the delicacy of touch and sweetness of tone of a finished player...

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THEN HE UNDERSTOOD

REVELATION CAME SUDDENLY TO MAN OF WEALTH.

Plain Old Countrywoman Had Possessed Something Greater Than the Riches He Had Spent His Life in Gathering.

John Hull found the telegram at his office. As he read the words, the busy scene about him faded away, and he saw himself once more a little, ragged, frightened boy...

It was an odd "caretaking" in some ways. Aunt Rachel was an old maid, and knew nothing of a boy's heart...

Nine hours later he was alone with Aunt Rachel. As he looked at the great peace of the small, worn face, a strange feeling swept across him...

Later, they brought him her papers and letters. They were very few, but among them were her account books, and John Hull realized that in those careful figures he was reading the story of her life...

And he had thought her life pitifully poor and narrow! Now in his hour of vision he saw that his was the poor and barren life—with its careless and spasmodic giving, its absorption in "the game"...

Along in the April night John Hull faced himself.—Youth's Companion.

The Roosters Stood Treat. All the stories now arriving from Cambo, where the family of Edmond Rostrand is sojourning, have the character of the heroic legend...

The audience was of a quite different mind. It took the announcement in bad temper, and some moments later when the illustrious tardy ones came in, making a sensational entry, they were received with murmurs and with exclamations far from complimentary...

Children's Deafness. Dr. Helen Macmurray of Toronto says that deafness is more frequent among school children than is usually supposed...

Imagination. That imagination often lights the way to discoveries that would never be made by matter-of-fact plodding has proved true over and over again...

Her Version. "I was talking with Harold last night and he says he has completely reformed since he has become engaged to you," said the elder lady as she reclined in a luxurious armchair...

"Yes," replied the young debutante, "he says I snatched him out of the jaws of death, out of the mouth of hell, back to the 400."

John Hull realized that in those careful figures he was reading the story of her life. He was amazed to know how tiny her income had been. And of what she had had, a tenth had gone to her church, a fifth to her missionary society, and nearly all the rest for a boy who was not even related to her.

MORE THAN SHE COULD BEAR

Heart of Gentle Old Maid Was Touched, and Billy Quarrel Immediately Came to an End.

Two old ladies who had been loving friends for many years had a violent quarrel, and it began to look as if the wound would never heal...

Notice that the other was there. On a recent Sabbath morning, however, Miss Sarah glanced around involuntarily at sound of a sneeze beside her, and despite her will kept her gaze fixed on Miss Malinda...

There was a smothered sound of tearing cloth and Malinda felt something pressed into her rigid hand. It was a half of the handkerchief, and it went to Malinda's eyes before it touched her needy nose...

Luxury of Balloon Travel. A Zeppelin airship leaves the earth with none of the balloon's soaring motion. It is just like a Pullman train, started without perceptible jar and kept in motion upon a perfect road bed, perfect track and perfect wheels...

The comforts are all those of a very modern hotel. The cabin is kept at an unvarying comfortable temperature by means of pipes that carry the exhaust heat from the engines...

One of the most important industries in the United States of which comparatively little is written is the production of sand and gravel...

The production of sand and gravel amounted to \$6,846,959 short tons, valued at \$21,155,582. The production of sand of all kinds was 40,253,277 tons, valued at \$14,438,500...

The production of glass sand was valued at \$1,457,733, an increase over the figures of 1910; the sand used for building in 1911 was valued at \$7,718,396, a slight decrease as compared with 1910...

The production of molding sand in 1911 was valued at \$2,135,469, a marked decrease as compared with 1910. The production of all other sands in 1911, such as sand for grinding and polishing, fire sand, engine sand and filtration sand, was valued at \$1,043,813...

That imagination often lights the way to discoveries that would never be made by matter-of-fact plodding has proved true over and over again. Illustrations of this in the history of chemical science are as numerous as in other fields of discovery...

When Harvey was writing of the blood he wondered whether there might not be motion, as it were, in a circle, the Journal says "he expressed in metaphoric language what only later became the fact of the circulation which was given visible demonstration by Malpighi, and adds, 'the fabric of progress is woven from ultimate dreams to a greater extent than the practical man is wont to realize or is willing to admit'..."