

the satisfaction of meeting him in the pine walk in good spirits, and already so far recovered as to be able to balance himself with the lame foot.

AN ANONYMOUS LETTER

A newspaper editor recently engaged a new office boy, whose intellect was not of the brightest. One evening the editor left the office, omitting to post a rather important letter.

Next morning he remembered the letter, but on arriving at his office it was nowhere to be seen. He had a distinct recollection of laying the letter on his desk. He summoned the boy and asked him if he had seen the letter.

'Yessir, you left it on your desk.'

'Then where is it now?'

'I posted it, sir.'

'You posted it! Why, I had not put the name and address on the envelope.'

'Just so, sir. I thought it was one of those anonymous letters.'

ODDS AND ENDS

She was a good pianist, according to the back-block standard, and when she left the township the editor of the local paper saw his opportunity, and this is what came of it:— 'At the feet of Beethoven she sat in spirit, and interpreted those subtle emotions known only to those whose strength of wing is strong enough to drink in harmonies that pierce the shell of the universe and lose themselves in the boundlessness of infinity.'

According to an English authority, the earliest life assurance policy of which particulars have been preserved was made on June 15, 1583, at the 'office of insurance within the Royal Exchange' in London. The policy was for £383 6s 8d, to be paid to Richard Martin in the event of William Gybbons dying within 12 months.

An absolutely new dog story has been found. Here it is (salt to taste). A gentleman was out shooting the other day, when he had the misfortune to shoot the dog. For a moment he was too much overcome to see what damage he had done, and before he had recovered himself the animal, a black retriever, had come up to him, bringing in its mouth its own tail, which had been shot clean off.

FAMILY FUN

Why is a beehive like a spectator?—Because it is a bee-holder (beholder).

Why are blind persons compassionate?—Because they feel for other people.

Why are young ladies bad grammarians?—Because so few can decline matrimony.

Why is Sunday the strongest day in the week?—Because the rest are week days.

Why is love like a potato?—Because it shoots from the eyes and gets less by paring.

Which are the two most disagreeable letters if you get too much of them?—K.N. (Cayenne).

Why is Asia like a market in Christmas week?—There is always a Turkey in it.

Which of the Presidents of the United States must have done the slating on the roofs of the houses in Washington?—Tyler (tiler).

Which of the Presidents of the United States amounted to more than the first man?—Adams.

Which of the Presidents of the United States was called upon to clothe the members of his Cabinet?—Taylor (tailor).

Which of the Presidents of the United States was called a boon?—Grant.

Which of the Presidents might be expected to divide the country?—Cleveland (cleave land).

What acid should one never use to clean a clock?—Lactic (lack tic) acid.

What ship will accommodate only two passengers?—Courtship.

What bird is either a root or an animal?—The cormorant (corm or ant).

How does the square of twelve compare with a dealer in rice and sugar and spice?—One is gross, the other a grocer.

All Sorts

In China a mile is anything from a quarter of a mile to a mile and three-quarters, according to the province in which it may happen to be.

The highest active volcano is Popocatepetl, near Pueblo, Mexico. It is 17,550ft above sea level, and has a crater 2000ft wide.

The largest theatre in the world is the Opera House in Paris. It covers three acres of ground, and it cost nearly five millions sterling.

Teacher: 'What are the three personal pronouns?' Pupil: 'He, she, and it.' Teacher: 'Give an example of their use.' Pupil: 'Husband, wife, and baby.'

Teacher: 'Can you tell me the difference between caution and cowardice?' Bright Boy: 'Yes, ma'am. When you are afraid yourself, that's caution; when the other fellow's afraid, that's cowardice.'

'At last,' said the ambitious young novelist, 'I have written something that I think will be accepted by the first magazine it is sent to.' 'What is it?' his friend asked. 'A cheque for a year's subscription.'

Bobby: 'Mamma, am I a lad?'

Mamma: 'Yes, Bobby.'

Bobby: 'And is my new papa my step-father?'

Mamma: 'Yes.'

Bobby: 'Then I am his step-ladder.'

Gibraltar, from a strategical point of view, is the greatest fortress in the world. It occupies a rock peninsula three miles long and three-quarters of a mile wide, which juts abruptly into the sea. Its highest point is 1439ft above sea level, and its northern face is almost perpendicular, while its east side is full of steep, impassable precipices. It is considered impregnable.

A noted physician called on an exceedingly cranky patient, and was surprised to find hardly any improvement from the previous day. 'Why,' said he, 'what's the matter? Did you follow my prescription?' 'Not I,' replied the man. 'If I had I would have probably broken my neck, for I threw your old prescription out of the window.'

Kind Lady: 'How many are there in the family besides yourself?' Little Amy: 'Four—mamma, papa, sister, and a distant relative.' Kind Lady: 'That is only three. The distant relative is not a relative of the family.' Little Amy: 'Oh, yes, he is. He is my brother.' Kind Lady: 'Your brother? Then he isn't a distant relative.' Little Amy: 'Yes, ma'am; he's in South Africa.'

Recent statistics show that the number of horses in the Argentine is greater than in any other country. It is estimated that there are 4,762,340 horses, or about 112 for every 1000 persons. Siberia follows with 85 per 1000 persons. Next comes the United States, with the proportion of 62. In England it is 13, in France 7, and in Germany 5. For some time it has been a matter of concern for France that the best races of horses are deteriorating through the purchases by foreign countries.

The Chinese school children have instilled into them at an early age habits of hard, steady study. At the age of five the boy begins his schooling. At daylight he arises, and, after dressing as quickly as possible, he starts breakfastless to school. He is given a task, and after it is completed he is allowed an hour for luncheon, but he is at his study nearly twelve hours a day, seven days a week. All his time, when he is not reciting his lessons, he is studying aloud at the top of his voice. He is under the eyes of his master both in school and on his way to and from school. The lad is taught rudimentary physics and natural history, but greater stress is put upon writing and his literary subjects. 'A Thousand Letters,' a poem, is the study that forms the backbone of his literary education. In it are taught the duties of children to parents and all such matters. Whatever the study may be, history, classics, or science, every lesson is learnt and repeated word for word.

'Tis the ploughman who follows the plough,
While the dairymaid is milking the cough!

And the dear little lambs,

Who ran after their dams,

While the little pigs follow the sough!

And the farmers all follow each other, I'm sure,
In getting for winter Woods' Great Peppermint Cure.