

A POISON PANIC.

World Wave of Fear Passes Over the City of Manchester. An extraordinary panic wave has passed over Manchester. It began in a simple gift of sweets by an unknown man to some school-children. Something in the taste of the sweets was unpalatable and a rumor quickly spread that a stranger was going about giving children poisoned sweets. The police sampled some of the sweets, and found them quite harmless; but they thought it advisable to warn the schoolmasters and mistresses to warn the children against accepting any such gifts in future. The warning, if anything, only increased the agitation of the mothers and children. An Ardwick schoolboy on Friday went to school, leaving behind him a supply of milk and tea, which he was accustomed to take. A lodger at his mother's house volunteered to carry it to the school. He did so, putting the mixture, accidentally in a bottle which had contained furniture polish. When he arrived, he handed the bottle through the school railings to a lad, who smelt the turpentine, and immediately announced that a man was giving poisoned tea to the children. The lodger explained, but a crowd of indignant mothers assembled and mobbed the unfortunate man, who had to be taken to the police station to answer for his conduct. Eventually the misunderstanding was cleared up, and the chapter of accidents ended.

GALLANTRY AT SEA.

His Majesty Awards Medals to Some Brave Sailors. The King has been pleased to award a silver medal for gallantry in saving life at sea to John Robert Denison, of Leeds, England, in recognition of his services in endeavoring to rescue a steward of the British steamship Arzila, of Liverpool, who jumped overboard when that vessel was anchored a mile from the shore off Mogador, Morocco, on Feb. 24 last. His Majesty has also been pleased to award similar medals to Lieut. John Stacey, R.N.R. (chief officer), Robert J. Jones (boatswain), Robt. Matthews and James Redmond (quartermasters), and Henry Wilson, Walter Harper, Matthew Blake, and John Russell (seaman), of the British steamship Cymric, of Liverpool, in recognition of their services in rescuing the survivors of the crew of the British steamship St. Catharine, of Liverpool, which was abandoned first in the North Atlantic Ocean on Feb. 3 last. The Board of Trade have awarded a piece of plate to Lieut. William Finch, R.N.R., master of the Cymric, a binocular glass to Lieut. John Stacey, and the sum of £3 each to the men named above, in recognition of their services.

Ten Stick Island.

In Southwest Bay, in the New Hebrides group, there is a small wooded island of considerable height, above the sea, although only a few hundred yards in circumference. The story of its acquisition is a curious one. Southwest Bay used to be considered a good place for target practice by the British men-of-war on patrol duty there, and this small islet was used as a target so frequently, that it seemed in danger of being gradually shot away. The chief who owned it protested and wanted compensation. The captain of a man-of-war, who understood the natives, knew that these claims would be a ceaseless source of blackmail unless they were settled once for all; so he bought the islet for the British Crown, paying ten sticks of tobacco for it, and everyone was satisfied. The place, since then, has been known as "Ten Stick Island."

Sugar Cane Dances.

A very curious and exceedingly clever dance may be witnessed in Fiji, called by the natives "the sugar cane dance," or "sugar-cane dances." It represents the growth of the sugarcane. In the first figure, the dancers squat low on the ground, shake their heads, shut their eyes, and murmur slowly and softly an unintelligible sentence. Gradually they all stand up together, growing taller and taller, and as they rise they wave their arms and tremble all over from head to head, like the tall, tasselled cane waving in the wind, and still they keep on chanting louder and louder. The last figure presents a series of combats meant to symbolize the exertions of the chiefs, who compel the "kasis," willing or unwilling, to come and cut their crops.

Hieroglyphics in Africa.

Trial and Rhodesia papers to hand, current mail give interesting accounts of recent antiquarian discoveries of great value in the Tete district of East Africa. One "find" is a rock-face, 35 feet long by 20 feet in height, closely covered with hieroglyphs of Phœnician origin. The inscription appears to relate to sun-worship. There are signs distinctly resembling stars, there are sets of clearly defined hands with outstretched fingers, raised as if in supplication, there are signs in close juxtaposition conceivably representing the sun and moon, and there is a symbol carrying what may very well be intended to be the sign of a pair of horns.

Premature Burial.

The Association for the Prevention of Premature Burial held its annual meeting recently in London, England. A number of startling statements were made as to the occurrence of premature burials, and Dr. W. R. Haselden said: "I have verified 100 cases in which persons have been buried alive, and 200 cases in which they have only been saved from that fate by chance."

Music beckons the human race on and is followed by the two great companions, the joyous, light-hearted and happy and the sorrowful, wretched and despairing.

OLD PARIS STREETS.

Odors and Filth of the Thoroughfares of Long Ago.

The automobile which glides noiselessly and smoothly along the well paved streets of Paris would not have had so easy a time some centuries ago. Nowadays one of the first demands civilization makes upon a community is that the paving and the sewerage shall be good. It is hardly possible for the twentieth century mind to conceive the conditions of old time streets and of the inconveniences and dangers the public endured. Some idea of ancient Parisian thoroughfares is given in Tighe Hopkins' "An Idler in Old France."

Letutis, the name by which Paris was first known, is said to have come from a word meaning "mud." This derivation is inexact, but its appropriateness was practically borne out in the condition of the streets. Unpaved, rough as woodland tracks, flooded with waste waters from the houses, the roadways were populated by pigs, dogs, geese, ducks and rabbits. In 1311 Philippe, son of Louis le Gros and heir to the throne, was killed while riding in the city streets by being thrown from his horse by an abbot's pig.

Snows and rains made the roads almost impassable, and the odor from them rose far above the houses. It was said that on the darkest night a traveler, out of his course, might know by the stench how near he was to Paris. The mud of the streets gained an early celebrity. "It sticks like Paris mud," was a proverb of antiquity. If clothes were stained with it one was advised to "cut the piece out, for it burns whatever it touches."

In 1185 the king, standing by an open window of the palace, viewing a cart which had stuck in the mud, was so sickened by the stench that he gave orders to have the streets paved. This movement inaugurated the street department of Paris, but the effort was a feeble one. The work was begun, but at the people's expense. The king offered only a slender contribution. Taxes were levied on duelists, on candles, boots, cake and other things. But the enterprise was soon abandoned.

It was not until 1348 that any systematic care was taken of the streets and pigs denied the highways. Even then the cleaning was confined to the highways. The smaller streets were still filled with heaps and hills of rotting refuse. The germ wise minds of to-day may well wonder that any good or any continuance of life came out of such conditions.

Nearly Seized Fleet.

The whole French navy has escaped seizure by a Cherbourg lawyer for a debt of \$25.

The whole French navy has escaped seizure by a Cherbourg lawyer for a debt of \$25. The main tells the amusing story. Letellier, a dockyard workman, lost a hand during his employment in November, 1906, and in an arbitration was awarded a pension of \$100. But the ministry caviled at the decision, and in March, 1907, Letellier, through his lawyer, M. Lebourcier, sued the Admiralty and won his case. Still, he did not get the money. M. Thomson, Minister of Marine, or his subordinates made protests, and delays till \$25 of the pension was in arrears. Then the advocate marched into the Admiralty office at Cherbourg and announced that, in default of payment, he would be compelled to seize the furniture of the building as well as the warships, torpedo boats, and vessels of smaller importance in the docks at the moment. A frantic telegram was despatched to M. Thomson, who forthwith capitulated, and sent \$2,000, the capital necessary to supply the workman's pension.

Wife as a Friend.

The wife who is her husband's comrade has little to fear. It is one of the greatest factors in keeping him always hers that of being "friends" with him, in being truly interested in all he does and plans and wishes for, and having the comrade sense of humor that can always laugh at "his" jokes and make merry by the way, instead of taking account of everything with a terrible seriousness. If you can smile openly with him at his fancy for another, and give him a little about it, the fancy isn't likely to ever amount to very much. What is forbidden is, we know, always more tempting. Many and many a situation has been saved because a wife was so true a friend to her husband that she persistently refused to regard it seriously.

Riddles.

If a man bumped his head on the ceiling, what article of stationary would he be supplied with? Ceiling whacks (sealing wax). What is the difference between a silly woman and a mirror? One speaks without reflection; the other reflects without speaking. What is the difference between a lady and a postage stamp? One is a lady, the other is a mail fee. Why are two "4's" like hops? Because they make beer better. If a bear went into a linen shop, what would he want? He would want muzzlin'.

Rat Crusade Is On.

The new Society for the Destruction of Vermin has started a series of competitions among rat and sparrow clubs. Prizes are offered to the clubs and individuals who destroy the greatest number of rats in a year. Every competitor must kill 300 rats to qualify for an award. It is estimated that there are from 40,000,000 to 50,000,000 rats in England, and that the damage to property amounts to several millions.

Chinese Monasteries.

Many Chinese monasteries are endowed with land or a tribute of rice, but seldom so as to be self-supporting, and the monks, armed with gongs, go down into the cities to beg for sustenance.

Steel Pens.

Something like 1,500,000 steel pens can be made from one ton of steel.

GUINEA NOW HISTORY

PROVERBIAL BRITISH COIN WAS LAST MINTED IN 1813.

Poets Who Bravely Talk of the Coin Never Saw One—So Called Because of the Place Whence the Gold Came Was Subject to Violent Fluctuations in Value—First Coined in 1663.

With poet's license Tennyson tells us how "the jingle of the guinea helps the hurt that honor feels." It is doubtful if the poet ever heard a guinea jingle, and certainly few of the readers of "Locksley Hall" have ever set eyes on that coin.

And yet—such is the force of habit—we talk about guineas and reckon in guineas, and read about the jingling of guineas without ever asking ourselves why a coin which is no longer in use has become a literary currency, not only poetic but popular. The last guinea issued from the mint bears date 1813, groats and maundies were coined in the era of Victoria; why, then, has mankind, including the poets, forgotten all about the latter and clung to the former? There seems no obvious reason.

It may be because the guinea had so long a reign, or because the word itself is "catchy" or because sellers have found "radier customers" for goods at "one guinea" than for goods at "one-pound one." It was in the reign of Charles II., to be exact, in the year 1663, that the first golden guinea was brought into the world. It was part of a new coinage made in a new way, for it was milled, a device to prevent clipping, which, indeed, had been introduced in Elizabeth's time, but soon abandoned.

There were five-guinea, two-guinea, guinea and half-guinea pieces, and they were so named because many of them were made from gold brought from Guinea by the "Company of Royal Adventurers of England Trading into Africa." In allusion, probably, to this company's name, the King ordered that the pieces should bear the image of "a little white elephant which we intend as a mark of distinction from the rest of our gold and silver monies, and an encouragement unto the said Company in the importing of gold and silver to be coined."

On some of the coins, too, there is a seal, and it is said that this may be that in 1668 Sir Robert Holmes captured in Schelling Bay 160 Dutch sail containing bullion and gold dust from Cape Coast Castle, in Guinea, and that this booty found its way into the mint. The exploit is celebrated in Dryden's "Annus Mirabilis."

It is curious in the light of this incident, that the guineas were cut by a Dutchman, Jan Rietveld, who competed for the work with an Englishman, Thomas Simon, and beat him; while a foreigner again, the Frenchman Blondeau, had charge of the milling apparatus. Simon was disgusted at his defeat, and to show that he was really the better man made and presented to the King what came to be known as the "Petition Crown." The King, however, ignored this appeal.

The new coinage, apparently, caused no little stir, for the two immortal diarists of that day both mention it. "Now it was," wrote Evelyn on March 9, 1664, "that the fine new milled coin, both of white money and guineas, was established; and Pepps tells us how "There dined with us to-day (March 9, 1668) Mr. Slingsby, of the Mint, who showed us all the new pieces, both of gold and silver, that were made for the King by Blondeau's way; and compared them with those made for Oliver. The pictures of the latter made by Symons (Simon), and of the King by one Roty (Roettier), a German, I think, that dined with us also."

The guinea, moreover, or rather the elephant upon the reverse side of it, has been the hero of a bust of Charles II., receives notice in Marvell's prose, where he speaks of a "great little animal," which "was on a sudden turned so yellow and grown withal so unwieldy, that he might have passed current for the elephant upon a guinea"; and popular combinations of the word quickly arose, such as "guinea-dropper," a cheat who practiced the trick of dropping counterfeit coins, and "guinea-hen," a courtesan.

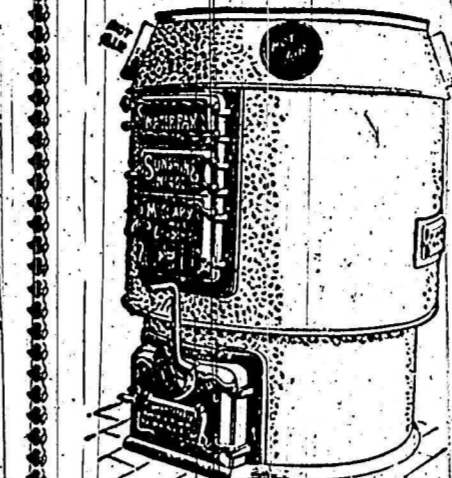
Our forefathers had much trouble with the coinage. Sometimes they could not get metal enough to coin; sometimes the market value of the metal used for coining was such that men found it profitable to melt down their money, and sell it in bulk; sometimes kings, notably Henry VIII., debased the coinage, and, until milling became the rule, clipping was of constant practice.

Silver was the sole standard until 1816, and consequently the golden guinea was subject to market fluctuations, according to the condition of the silver coin. It started its history at the value of 20 shillings, then rose as high as 30, and at other times was equal to 25, 22 and 20 shillings and sixpence.

Pepps, in 1666, quotes his goldsmith to the effect "that guineys which I bought 2,000 of not long ago that cost me but 181-2d change will now cost me 22d; and but very few to be had at any price." Parliament finally took the matter up, and by John Locke's advice the guinea was fixed, in 1717, at 21 shillings, at which it remained until 1813, when it ceased to be issued, and yielded its place to the sovereign, which, by the way, it had originally displaced.

Steel Pens. Something like 1,500,000 steel pens can be made from one ton of steel.

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MOST WOMEN WORRY. BUSINESS DIRECTORY

A Sign of Failing Health.

Worry is a disease—and it's more than produces other diseases, because it breaks down the nerves and saps the vitality of the body. What a pity women don't realize that if they were well—if the blood was nutritious—if the nerves were strong—if the organs were active—if the little things that irritate and prey on the mind wouldn't receive a woman's thought. The woman who worries has a poor appetite—she sleeps poorly—it only lasts for a day or two—she might be of small consequence—she grows limp, miserable, unhappy—worse day by day. She needs Ferrerozine, which cures worry by curing the conditions that render worry possible. For nervous, weak women, no tonic is so good; thousands it has cured. Like Mrs. M. T. B. Therington, Prov. who writes: "I am quite willing to give a public testimonial of Ferrerozine, believing it to be a tonic of superior excellence and one that will rapidly build up strength and supply new energy to anyone of feeble mind. Last spring I was in a very poor condition of health; was nervous, felt tired and completely worn out. No doubt it's quite a common complaint with ladies of my age, but I placed great reliance in Ferrerozine, and took it for several weeks. It made me quite strong, and in fact I have been in better health ever since. I can heartily recommend Ferrerozine." Ferrerozine cures by making good blood, strong nerves and a healthy body.

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Business Directory listing various professionals and services in Markdale, including auctioneers, lawyers, dentists, and other local businesses.

Large advertisement for Dr. Shoemaker's Restorative, featuring text about kidney health and a list of testimonials.