

Stopping the Mouth of Gossip.

The new boarder had just been introduced to a group of boarders on the front porch after dinner and immediately began to chat. "I am a widow," she divulged in the course of the conversation, "my husband has been dead two years and I do not intend to marry again. I have two children. The girl is with me and the boy is staying with his grandmother this summer because his lungs are weak and the doctor said he ought to live on a farm all summer."

"I broke up housekeeping last year and I am going to board for a year or two. I make all my own clothes and trim my own hats. My husband left me independent; but with two children I have to be careful of expenses. The reason I came here was because a friend who lived here last summer recommended the place to me. We have two rooms and I'd like to get hold of a good washwoman who will do your waists recently and not hold you up for it."

"What on earth did that woman tell us her family affairs for like that?" said one of the boarders, when the newcomer had left the group.

"Because she's wise," said her husband. "She has evidently boarded before and she knows that her best plan is to explain herself to everybody the first day. Any woman who comes into a boarding house and doesn't seem to be willing to talk about her affairs immediately becomes an object of mystery and of gossip. You women who don't have anything to do but to sit around the house all day and comment on the newcomers wonder who she is and how much money she has and if she has no husband you wonder what she does for a living. Now you know all about that woman. She's given it to you straight."

"I wish she hadn't," sighed his wife. "Now we haven't got a thing to talk about until the next new boarder comes."

The Wisdom of the Elephant.

The real test of animal intelligence, according to Mr. Samuel Deterux, is the ability to meet an unforeseen difficulty, to grapple with a situation for which neither training nor instinct has prepared. Here is a good example:

A traveler by the name of Tenant was once riding horseback along a road in India, on both sides of which grew a dense jungle. Suddenly his horse shied violently, and Mr. Tenant saw coming toward him a huge elephant unattended and balancing on its tusks a heavy timber that he was evidently carrying from a sawmill to the shipyard. The timber filled the road from side to side, and Mr. Tenant could not possibly pass.

Suddenly the elephant, seeing horse and rider, stopped and turned aside. Then he backed a short distance into the jungle and, leaving room for horse and rider to pass, snorted out his directions that they should go on. But a horse is terribly afraid of an elephant, and Mr. Tenant's horse continued to rear and plunge; the man himself, interested to see what would happen next, did not force him to pass.

Deeper and deeper into the jungle the elephant backed; still the horse reared and plunged. At last the elephant laid the piece of timber down, pushing hard against the undergrowth, disappeared. Then Mr. Tenant rode past.

A short distance down the road he reined in and looked back. The elephant came out of the jungle, picked up the timber with his tusks, balanced it with his trunk and, turning it round in the road, went on his way with loud snorts of indignation and disgust.

Generations.
The warrior died that war might pass; His child—in the unthinking mass; That cheers the haggard troops' returning.

Reading within the bayonet's dance; The world-old falsehood of romance; Thus war perpetuates its power And drops quick seed from its spent flower.

Playing Safe.
The stock salesman, after painting a beautiful word picture, said: "Now, Mr. Jones, you know this company hasn't got a dollar's worth of watered stock in it. How much are you going to buy?"

"Young man," he said, "the next stock I buy is going to have four legs, and I will water it myself."

The Magic Touch.
"In the old days whatever King Midas touched turned into gold."
"Yes; but in these days whatever King Midas touches turns into anything you want."

I would rather sit on a pumpkin and have it all to myself than be crowded on a velvet cushion.—Thoreau.

Success doesn't "happen." It is organized, pre-empted, captured by common sense.—Frances E. Willard.

Surnames and Their Origin

HACKETT
Variation—Acker.
Racial Origin—Anglo-Saxon.
Source—A given name.

Hackett is one of those ancient Anglo-Saxon names which is far from being what it seems, having gone through a tremendous degree of change since the early days of the Christian era.

From the very close connection which exists between so many names and the words from which they took their origin you would feel justified in assuming that the original Hackett was one who hacked something for some purpose or other, that possibly he was a great warrior, with a reputation for dispensing rough treatment to his enemies. But nothing could be further from the truth.

The source of the name, on the contrary, appears to have been a very peaceful one, though just which of two possibilities it is, likely to remain for all time a question of conjecture. It came originally either from the Anglo-Saxon word for temple, or that for fairy. The more probable explanation is that it came from one in one case and from the other in another. In any event the name was Ealthere. The two possible sources are "ealth," a temple, and "aelf," a fairy.

When the Normans came to England their Latinized tongues were unable to twist around the pronunciation of Ealthere or Ealther, and they corrupted it to Ancher, from which it finally developed into Acker and Ackett and Hackett.

SIR HENRY THORNTON'S MESSAGE TO EMPLOYEES

Appreciative of Year's Work and Has Confidence in Future.

The following signed message from Sir Henry W. Thornton, K.B.E., President and Chairman of the Boards of Directors of the Canadian National Railways, to officers and employees of the System, is published in the December issue of the Canadian National Railway's Magazine.

To Officers and Employees:
I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. For twelve months we have been engaged in a joint enterprise and any success we have met with has been largely due to the fine spirit and efficient service rendered by officers and employees.

I thank you one and all for the way you have responded to the demands upon you and for the excellent service you have given the Company. Especially, I wish to thank those employees who come in contact with the travelling public for the courtesy they have displayed. They have, indeed, treated every passenger on our railway as a guest of the Company, with the result that not only have our men found satisfaction in their work but they have materially added to the good opinion of our undertaking existing in the minds of the public.

We will face the oncoming year with enthusiasm, courage, and a determination to establish still higher our standard of service.

With your continued co-operation and support, I am confident the day is not far distant when we shall justify the freedom of those who were responsible for our National Railway System and make that System a source of profit and pride to the people of our Dominion.

(Signed) H. W. THORNTON, President.

While jam is an excellent breakfast dish, marmalade is much better because of its laxative properties. Spanish bull fights last year were responsible for injuries to 22,000 horses.

ASPIRIN

Say "Bayer" and Insist!



Unless you see the name "Bayer" on package or on tablets you are not getting the genuine Bayer product proved safe by millions and prescribed by physicians over twenty-three years for

- Colds
- Toothache
- Earache
- Neuralgia
- Headache
- Lumbago
- Rheumatism
- Pain, Pain

Accept "Bayer Tablets of Aspirin" only. Each unbroken package contains proper directions. Handy boxes of twelve tablets cost few cents. Drug-gists also sell bottles of 24 and 100. Aspirin is the trade mark (registered in Canada) of Bayer Manufacture of Monocetacidester of Salicylicacid.

While it is well known that Aspirin means Bayer Manufacture, to assist the public against imitations, the Tablets of Bayer Company will be stamped with their general trade mark, the "Bayer Cross."

BERG
Variations—BERG, Bergman, Bergmann.
Racial Origin—German.
Source—Geographically descriptive.

Probably a greater number of family names originated geographically in Germany than in any other country. Berger and its variations fall within this classification.

Students of the histories of surnames have ascribed many reasons to this peculiarity in Germany's nomenclature, but the most logical explanation of it appears to be in the fact that throughout the most of that land, with the exception of those sections of the north where the Scandinavian influence predominated, there existed nothing in medieval and ancient times in the way of tribal nomenclature or organization. There is no doubt that tribal organization and the custom of tribe members bearing the tribe name in some forms as a distinguishing mark gave rise directly to the more modern system of surnames.

Surnames did not become common in Germany until several centuries after they were established in the northern and western sections of Europe, and when the actual necessity for surnames did make itself felt there was no prior system of tribal surnames, and very little in the way of unbroken inheritance of estates among the nobility on which to base them. Hence men turned naturally to the names of the places in which they lived, and to geographical features of those places.

Berger simply means a mountaineer, or more literally "berg werr," mountain man, as does Bergmann.

"A Man's a Man, For a That."

Lord Kitchener, who was essentially a military man, was not readily impressed with the importance of any civilian. He had become rather forcible of names; and it has recently been told of him that during the Great War the accounts he would give of momentous conferences with cabinet officers, parliamentary leaders and other great folk often filled his hearers with mingled horror and amusement. They were likely to contain such casual phrases as: "There was a chap who said—I don't remember his name, but he had curly hair."

A corresponding forgetfulness of a name famous in an alien line of achievement was once shown by a rising county politician, still a little new at the game, who accompanied an older hand to Amesbury, Massachusetts, a good many years ago for a quiet session with the local leaders. As they left the hall together after the meeting he observed complacently to his companion, "Well, we've started the ball all right, and I guess we can trust 'em to keep it going. They don't seem much of a crowd, but there's one fellow among 'em—I don't recall his name, but he had a long face and eyes like the late lamented D. Webster—he's got good, practical ideas; he knows what's what and what'll get us where!"

The "practical" person whose name the politician had forgotten was the poet John Greenleaf Whittier, who was indeed as practical as he was idealistic when it came to politics. Of the identity of the person the forgetful politician was promptly informed, to his vast astonishment.

"Him a poet?" he ejaculated. "A poet that writes poetry? I'd as soon have expected you to tell me he was an artist that does hand-painted flowers! That man's a man!"

Diseases Registered by Your Finger Nails.

All serious diseases and accidents are recorded on your finger-tips. If you have a dangerous illness a plain straight ridge will show itself across all your nails. Some weeks elapse before it is visible, because the growth of the nail is affected at the root, which is invisible. But when it does show it takes many months before it grows to the top. These marks may remain for years, and the more acute the illness the more prominent are the ridges.

Break your wrist to-day and it will probably be 1925 before the resultant ridges have vanished from your nails. In this case, however, only the nails of the broken arm are affected. The other hand remains normal.

Sudden diseases stop all nail growth in the same way as they often affect the hair, and the fingers then look as if the nails had been cut straight across with scissors.

Nervous afflictions cause deep grooves across the nails. They also assume a patchy appearance and will be very brittle for some time.

After the attack the new growth will be very thin and finger-tips will be exceedingly painful. The thin new growth gives the impression of a deep dent over the "moon" of the nail.

Setting Her Right.
Mother—"Come in this minute, Archie! How often have I told you not to play with those tough little boys?"

Archie—"I wasn't playing with them. I was getting ready to show 'em they aren't half as tough as you think they are."

The world's record for a grain train is held by the Canadian Pacific Railway, on which a train a mile long, comprising 125 cars, with a total weight of 7,946 tons, was hauled by a single engine.

Satisfaction—or Money Refunded.

James Whitcomb Riley always enjoyed a joke even if it were on himself. An amusing anecdote of the poet which Mr. Marcus Dickey tells in the "Maturity of James Whitcomb Riley, occurred when Riley once lectured in the town of Delphi, Indiana.

The night of his appearance, we read, Riley slept at the office of his friend, Dr. Smith, in a little room separated from the main office by a thin partition that ran halfway to the ceiling. The next morning a woman called at the office while Riley was still sleeping. She had a biting tongue and was prejudiced against all forms of entertainment, and the doctor knew it. Here was his chance to get even with the poet for some joke that Riley had played on him!

After prescribing for his patient he said as she rose to go: "By the way, did you hear Riley last night?"

"Yes," she replied.

"Did you ever waste money so recklessly before?" asked the doctor.

"I never did!" was the reply. "The Hoosier poet comes up here to our town, sponsored by Billings, Mark Twain and Longfellow. Burdette says he is pure gold; I say he is pure gable! If I had my money back—"

Scarcely had she uttered the words when flip! over the partition came a silver half dollar and landed on the floor at her feet. In their joint astonishment the doctor picked it up and sauntered to her; she left the office, wondering where it had come from.

In a few moments Riley appeared. "Well, well," said the doctor smiling, "I did not know you were awake."

"I was not awake," drawled Riley wearily, "but there are times—there are times—when suffering from nightmare—that I—that I reach my trousers—and my pocketbook—in my sleep."

CHILDHOOD CONSTIPATION

Constipated children can find prompt relief through the use of Baby's Own Tablets. The Tablets are mild but thorough laxative which never fail to regulate the bowels and stomach, thus driving out constipation and indigestion; colds and simple fevers. Concerning them Mrs. Gaspard Dalgé, DeMain, Que., writes: "Baby's Own Tablets have been of great benefit to my little boy, who was suffering from constipation and indigestion. They quickly relieved him and now he is in the best of health." The Tablets are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Gray Roofs of Gloucester.

There may be lanes in Devon half hid among the downs And hedges rank with roses in little Breton towns. But never was so brave a sight since all the world began As the gray roofs of Gloucester a-glimmer in the sun!

The gray roofs of Gloucester and all the world a-dream, And every sail a glint of gold upon a scarlet stream, And wharves and streets a glory as the crimson sun went down To make a magic city of a little seaport town.

And still will I remember when all the springs are old And all the sails are tattered and all the winds are cold, When all the tales are ended and all the yarn is spun, The gray roofs of Gloucester a-glimmer in the sun!

—Gordon Malherbe Hillman.

MONEY ORDERS.

It is always safe to send a Dominion Express Money Order. Five Dollars costs three cents.

Eggs of the dinosaur, laid 100,000,000 years ago, were found in Mongolia by an American scientific party, who are taking them to Peking.

The Home and the School

Earnest parents, who would appreciate the problems of the school department, and who really want to assist the work of education, may find some of the following suggestions helpful:

Don't expect the teacher to control the child if you have failed at home. Habits of obedience and respect for authority must be learned first at home.

Fathers, know your sons. Mothers, know your daughters. Children who have been taught always to confide in their parents can be trusted anywhere.

Find some daily home duties or chores for your boy and girl to do, and they will come to appreciate in some degree the sacrifices you are making for them.

Don't give children much spending money. Let them earn it; otherwise an excellent opportunity to acquire the habit of thrift is lost.

Where children are far enough advanced to have home study, be sure that they regularly set aside the same time for it every day. Regularity is a good habit to acquire.

Don't believe every report your child brings home. Children do not all lie, but most children have a strong imagination which tends to operate in their own favor when they are guilty.

Don't take the part of your child against the teacher before hearing

PAIN IN THE JOINTS

Is An Indication That the Blood is Thin and Watery.

The first sign of rheumatism is frequently a pain and swelling of one of the joints. If this is not treated through the blood, which is the seat of the disease, the poison spreads—affecting other joints and tissues—sometimes rheumatism attacks the heart and is fatal.

A remedy that has corrected many cases of rheumatism is Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. These pills enrich and purify the blood so that the poisonous rheumatic matter is driven out of the system as nature intended. Miss Gertrude Denne, Washago, Ont., was attacked with rheumatism and found relief through Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. She says: "About a year ago I was attacked by rheumatism and for two weeks was confined to my bed. The trouble was so painful, affecting the joints of my limbs so that I could not stand alone. Mother had a box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills in the house and thought they might help me. I began taking them, and when I had taken these pills got a further supply, with the result that the rheumatism vanished and I was a well girl. I may add that my mother and two of my sisters have also used the pills for various ailments with equal success, and now we are never without them in the house."

If you are suffering from any condition due to poor, watery blood, or weak nerves, begin taking Dr. Williams' Pink Pills now, and note how your strength and health will improve. You can get these pills through any dealer in medicine, or by mail, at 50 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Sunset and Wild Turkeys.

Unlike the sportsman with a gun, the man who "hunts" with his eyes alone is never disappointed. Mr. Archibald Rutledge, writing in Field and Stream, gives this pleasing description of a pretty and unusual sight that he once saw:

I was walking down a trout stream one October afternoon when the sun was low. On either side the laurel and rhododendron bushes so overhanging the water that further progress was difficult, and I had almost given up trying and was stepping from a stone to the coming form some object thirty yards downstream. Crouching on the rocks, I peered through the laurels. There, lining either side of the stream and taking their sundown drink, were thirty-two wild turkeys! I could count them readily. They drank in peace and departed in peace, for I never showed myself.

One such glimpse of wild life as that is worth many a day of effort. You can remember such a picture with pleasure long after you have forgotten things that are far more "important."



Only Fit for a Pig.
Tramp—"Hey, mister, kin I have some o' them permissons on that there tree? Guess they're only fit to feed a pig with, anyhow."

Farmer—"That's all—help yourself!"

London's largest pumping station is to be erected at the Metropolitan Water Board's huge reservoir at Littleton. The building will cover an area of over 20,000 square feet, and 120 tons of coal will be consumed every day.

Ask for Minard's and take no other.



GETTING A TRIFLE STALE
—From the New York World.

Possession.

I say I own a mountain, Having bought it fair and square, Oh I own its cool green waters Tumbling down through maiden hair And its secret, perilous pathways strewn with leaves

That autumn and sunlight pattern there And its soft winds that whisper by When shadows purple my hill at night. These and their brother things, the stars, God owns, not I.

My Love I own in his white, white youth, For he gave unto me his heart of fire And fiercely my two frail hands shall keep His suddenest desire. The swift, unsmiled lips he bends to me are mine, And mine the hands that never tire. But oh, his singing self goes free! I do not own my lover's soul, And all his tintured dreams I can but dimly see

Inviolate within a crystal bowl.

The beauty I am unhungered to possess Though empty hands slip lightly by, All hidden and intangible earth loveliness, My wind, my stars, my Love's young soul, God owns, not I.

—Kathryn Worth.

Mixed Conclusions.
It was Robert's first visit to the Zoo. "What do you think of the animals?" inquired Uncle Ben.

After a critical inspection of the exhibit the boy replied, "I think the kangaroo and the elephant should change tails."

Mother! Give Sick Child "California Fig Syrup"

Harmless Laxative for a Bilious, Constipated Baby or Child.

Constipated, bilious, feverish, or sick, colic Babies and Children love to take genuine "California Fig Syrup." No other laxative regulates the tender little bowels so nicely. It sweetens the stomach and starts the liver and bowels acting without griping. Contains no narcotics or soothing drugs. Say "California" to your druggist and avoid counterfeits! Insist upon genuine "California Fig Syrup" which contains directions.

Improve Your Appearance

More Phosphate if you want your complexion to clear, eyes to brighten, and skin to become soft and smooth. Thin, nerve-exhausted people grow strong on Bitro-Phosphate and druggists guarantee it. Price \$1 per pkge. Arrow Chemical Co., 25 Front St. East, Toronto, Ont.

HOARSE

Gargle several times a day with Minard's in water. It cuts the fungus and gives relief.



The Dignity of the Beadle.

All the old-fashioned beadies in churches have not been merged into the modern "church officer." It was only some two years ago, writes Mr. David Cuthbertson in Revelations of a Library Life, that I visited one of the city churches in Scotland, and when I asked the beadie at the entrance whether I could be shown to a seat he replied: "Just gang your way inside, sir, an' tak a look round," an' when you see a seat whaur you think you would be comfortable just step inside!"

We have another view of the beadie in the case of a minister who, wishing to show his approbation, told that official that his office had a dignity of its own, as well as that of the elders.

"That's what I aye think o'," the beadie replied, "when I see the elders on the Sabbath mornin', forby there's several o' them, but wha ever heard tell o' mair than an beadie? And what's mair, I had rather be a door-keeper in the Lord's house than dwell in tents o' sin. Them's Davu's words and they aye come back to me when I compare myself w' the elders!"

Keep Minard's Liniment in the house.

Cutting it Short.

A butler always annoyed his mistress by announcing her visitors separately. For instance, instead of saying, "Mr. and Mrs. Kilkelly and the Misses Kilkelly," he would call out, "Mr. Kilkelly, Mrs. Kilkelly, Miss Nora Kilkelly, and Miss Kate Kilkelly," mentioning each member of the family by name.

His mistress told him on her next "At Home" day to make the announcement shorter.

As it happened, a Mr. and Mrs. Penny, with their grown-up son and a little daughter, were the first to arrive, whereupon the butler electrified his mistress by throwing open the door and shouting, "Threepence-halfpenny."

Many races of mankind are exceedingly susceptible to intoxicants, among them being Red Indians.

MURINE FOR EYES

IRRITATED BY SUN, WIND, DUST & CINDERS

INDIGESTION, GAS, STOMACH TROUBLE

"Pape's Diapepsin" is the quickest, surest relief for indigestion, gases, flatulence, heartburn, sourness, or stomach distress caused by acidity. A few tablets give almost immediate stomach relief. Correct your stomach and digestion now for a few cents. Druggists sell millions of packages of Pape's Diapepsin.

SUFFERED FROM SEVERE PIMPLES

On Face. Caused Intense Itching. Cuticura Heals.

"I suffered great annoyance from severe pimples on my face, which I attributed to the use of poor soap. The pimples were hard, red and rather large, and itched. They were scattered all over my face and caused intense itching and burning. My face looked un-sightly. This condition lasted about two months.

"I read an advertisement for Cuticura Soap and Ointment and purchased some. I could see an improvement, and in two months I was healed." (Signed) Miss H. P. McArthur, Missoula, Prince Edward Island.

Refresh your skin by daily use of Cuticura Soap, Ointment, and Talcum. Sample Each Free by Mail. Address: CUTICURA, Dept. 544, P.O. Box 103, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Where Soap, etc., Sold: Montreal, Quebec, Toronto, Ottawa, Kingston, etc.

Cuticura Soap always without mess.