

**Deaf Persons Don't Get Seasick.**  
 "Strange thing, but do you know that deaf persons never get seasick?" said an old surgeon in the employ of one of the transatlantic lines recently. "This was found out," he said, "when a whole class of deaf mutes went aboard some years ago, and, despite a particularly rough passage, none of them wanted to lie on the deck and beg somebody to leave them overboard."  
 "That's the seasick feeling, you know. A little investigation proved that the stomach nerves are mostly controlled by those of the ear, and that deaf persons are not nearly so liable to the nausea that comes from the rolling motion of a ship as are others."  
 "The experiment of saturating a ball of cotton with cocaine and thus dulling the hearing has been tried by ship surgeons since. It gives relief to those who dread any sort of a sea voyage; but, after all, the best way to do is to 'feed the fishes' and get over it."—Philadelphia Press.

**Bizet's Red Ribbon.**  
 Bizet, the author of the popular opera "Carmen," who died a month after its first production, was not at any time a lucky man. He was even decorated through a mistake, says a writer, "for his friends, presaging the failure of 'Carmen,' bombarded the minister before the production and begged a decoration for M. George Bizet. 'Bizet?' asked the minister. 'Who is Bizet?' 'A remarkable genius,' was the reply, 'who has already produced several extraordinarily fine works. Among them the most popular is perhaps 'L'Arlesienne.'" "L'Arlesienne?" interrupted the minister. "Why, it is a perfectly fascinating book. I read it with extreme pleasure. Tell your friends that the thing is done." The minister was not musical, but he had read a novel by Alphonse Daudet, and Bizet won his red ribbon."

**The First Siege Gun.**  
 It has been stated that it was in 1007, at the siege of Candia, in Crete, that siege guns were first used. This statement is contradicted, however, by a writer, who says that just before the siege of Constantinople a Hungarian or Wallachian cannon founder named Urban cast in 1452 at Adrianople a cannon "which remained for many years the wonder of Europe and marks an epoch in the continually increasing power of guns." Urban's cannon was dragged by sixty oxen to Constantinople in 1453 and threw a stone ball of 1,200 pounds weight. It was fired seven times a day and once each night. The Turks used at the siege two other cannon nearly as large and altogether had fourteen batteries, each containing four guns, along the length of the wall.

**It Pleas'd the Composer.**  
 A curious story is told as to how the Rothschilds supported Carafa, the composer. The latter was far from rich. His principal income was derived from a snuffbox. And this was the way of it: The snuffbox was given to the author of "La Prison d'Edinburgh" by Baron James de Rothschild as a token of esteem. Carafa sold it twenty-four hours later for 75 napoleons to the same jeweler from whom it had been bought. This became known to Rothschild, who gave it again to the musician on the following year. The next day it returned to the jeweler's. This traffic continued till the death of the banker and longer still, for his sons kept up the tradition, to the great satisfaction of Carafa.

**Marking the Boots.**  
 A great many people on staying at an English hotel for the first time wonder how it is that "boots" can return to the different rooms the footgear placed outside the bedroom doors to be cleaned. This is quite a simple matter. All he does is to take a piece of chalk, mark upon the sole of the boot the number of the room from which he takes them and then sends them downstairs all together to be cleaned. When this has been done they are sorted, taken upstairs again and deposited outside their respective doors without the occupants of the different rooms knowing that they have been removed.

**The Best Tonic.**  
 Ordinary sour buttermilk is a better tonic, is a better food, than was ever bottled or boxed up by the chemist or doctor. Many a farmer drives miles away to see a doctor, to get a bottle of pepsin or cod liver oil or beef extract when at the same time he is feeding to his calves good, rich, nutritious buttermilk, a thousand times better for him than the stuff the doctor will give him.—Medical Talk.

**Even Mice Were Scarce.**  
 Brother Bill came home late and went down to the kitchen to look for a bite. He found the larder empty and started back to his room, when the front door opened to admit his brother Jim.  
 "Anything good downstairs?" inquired Jim.  
 "Lucky if you find a mouse," said Bill.

**To Live In Fact.**  
 Life is what we are alive to. It is not a length, but breadth. To be alive only to appetite, pleasure, pride, money making, and not to goodness and kindness, purity and love, history, poetry and music, flowers, stars, God and eternal hopes, is to be all but dead.—Malthe D. Babcock.

**Both of High and Mighty Ways.**  
 Miss Woody—My great-grandmother on my mother's side was noted for her proud and imperious bearing. Miss Newitt—Indeed? Our servant girl's the same way.—Catholic Standard and Times.

There are men who finally consent to go to work when they can't make a living in any other way.—Philadelphia Record.

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**Watch a Vehicle's Front Wheel.**  
 "Watch the front wheel," said a venerable citizen the other day just after he had witnessed a serious accident on Pennsylvania avenue, in which a man had been knocked down and run over by a wagon.

Those four words constitute a whole warning chapter, and if people in their hurry and scurry would only heed them there would be fewer broken bones, cripples and fatalities.

"Do not," he cautions, "look at the horses or the driver. The animals may be turned suddenly in your direction by a quick jerk of the reins or some other cause, and the driver's gaze rarely indicates the direction his team is going to move in. The attention of the average driver is usually attracted by matters that are happening about him—passing teams, pretty girls and the like. But watch the near front wheel and you will find it an easy matter to avoid an approaching team, even though it be a runaway. The next time you go across the avenue try the experiment of watching the front wheel and you will agree with me that it is 'a saving clause,' as they say in congress."—Washington Star.

**The Odious Boot.**  
 If there is one thing in our civilization more odious than butchery it is our footwear. It is an additional crime of flesh eating that it condemns us to the use of its byproducts to cripple, deform, befoul and enfeeble our feet. What would our hands be like if we carried them about in leather boxes? The foot should be as presentable as the hand, as healthy, sun burned and almost as pliable. It needs the purifying access of the air and the stimulating effects of the outdoor cold and heat. Instead of allowing it this freedom we shut it up in a stiff, foul, unventilated prison, where its clammy pallor suggests vegetables that sprout in a dark cellar. We bind the toes together and doom them to atrophy until a foot is a thing to weep over. Happy the day when there will be no more leather for boots!—Humane Review.



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