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Sit Your Burden Down.

Following is an extract from a popular article in *Page and Press*: "An aged, weary-looking woman, with a heavy basket upon her arm, entered the train at one of the way stations. Carrying her burden with some difficulty down the aisle, she found an empty seat of which she took possession. Instead of placing her burden upon the floor or upon the seat beside her, she continued to hold it, shifting its weight now and then from one hand to the other. A young man across the aisle watched her for some time in silence, but at last when he could stand no longer he reached over and touched the woman upon the arm. 'Madam,' he said, 'if you will set your basket down the train will carry both it and you.' How much of human nature there is in this little incident! Some people never try to 'ease the burden' which circumstance has decreed shall be theirs. They insist on carrying it even when they might temporarily lay it down and ease their backs."

Worth of Clothes.

The influence of clothes must continue to be, as it has been from the beginning of history, either "sacrosanct or profane," a foremost factor in those fortunes by which man's destiny is guided. His wealth and comfort, aims and purposes, social standing and business prosperity; everything indeed that makes his life worth living may be affected by it in directions never dreamed of by the tailor who, if he does not actually make the man, is largely instrumental in making him what he is.—*Sartorial Art Journal.*

Word "Chore" Not Slang.

The word "chore," generally used in the plural, is not slang, but an English word of highly respectable lineage. In this form it is found only in America, in England the spelling and pronunciation being "char," though this is rarely used except in combination with "woman"—"char-woman." But in some of the provincial dialects, that of Cornwall, for example, the word "chore" is used precisely as we use "chore." All these forms come down to us from the Anglo-Saxon word "ceor," or "cecran," to turn over.

Picked Up in Colorado.

Some years ago in a western mining town a man was found dead in his hotel room, hanged to a bedpost by his suspenders. The jury of miners brought in the following verdict at the coroner's inquest: "Deceased came to his death by coming home full and mistaking himself for his pants."

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Fingers and the Calendar.

No doubt most people remember the number of days in particular months by recalling the rhymes they learned at school. Another method is to use the knuckles of the hand. It is so simple and ingenious as to be worth knowing. Shut the fist and let the knuckle of the forefinger represent January with its thirty-one days, and the depression between that and the next knuckle will represent February with its lesser number of days. And thus every month that corresponds to a knuckle will be found to contain thirty-one days; and every month that corresponds to a depression a less number of days. The little finger will represent July, and beginning again with the forefinger knuckle it stands for August, and from this one continues to count through the months of the year.—*Harper's Weekly.*

Purely Mental.

Mrs. Holden had been blessed with remarkable eyesight all her life. It was a great trial to her when, at the age of seventy-two, she was obliged to put on "reading glasses." "But they are really becoming to you, Aunt Hetty," said a gentle niece by way of consolation. "No, they aren't," said Mrs. Holden, with her usual scorn for compliment. "Anybody's eyes look better without a glass in front of 'em, and you know it." "But you couldn't read without them," ventured the niece. "And you love—" "I could, too, read without 'em," said the old lady, refusing to be soothed. "I could read most as well as ever, but I couldn't sense it all—that's the only trouble."—*Youth's Companion.*

Man's Power in Nature.

"Victory over things is the office of man. Each man is a new power in nature. He holds the key of the world in his hands—no truck which he cannot see."

Flames From the Sea.

Strollers along the Esplanade at Olan, Argylshire, Scotland, the other night were met by an unwanted spectacle. Opposite the Alexandra Hotel, great tongues of white flames were seen leaping straight out of the sea not far from the beach. The phenomenon continued for about an hour, and drew a large crowd of onlookers, who speculated freely as to the cause. Stones were thrown in upon the waves, but had no effect. No conclusive solution of the mystery could be offered, but it is explained that the apparently strange occurrence was due to a quantity of hydro-carbon, which had been thrown into the sea.

Last Witch Burning.

There are countries in which the execution of women as witches is only a thing of yesterday. The last instance of witch burning occurred as recently as 1818 in Peru, and in other parts of South America cases continued to occur until well into the second half of the nineteenth century. England's own last conviction for witchcraft took place at Hertford in 1712, and Scotland condemned a witch ten years later, while Spain and Germany retained a judicial belief in witches and the justice of killing them until 1782 and 1796.

How Men Judge Dress.

In discussing the problem of what a woman should wear, if she desires to please a man, Emily Post says, in the current number of *Dress* that outline and color, most especially outline, are to be considered first. But whether the lace is real and the embroidery by hand he has no idea, she declares. If women dressed for men, they would spend about a tenth of what they now do. Certain things men appreciate, softness of textiles and beauty of cut—a man is very appreciative of cut—especially of nice finish, good lines, good colors, but when it comes to this year's fashion or the fashion of before the flood—he does not know a thing.

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