

**THE BIZARRE. MISCELLANEOUS. NOTES
QUERIES. A MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF
HISTORY, FOLK-LORE,
MATHEMATICS MYSTICISM, ART,
SCIENCE, ETC. VOL. VI. JANUARY -
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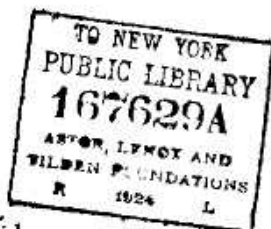
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VARIOUS

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Historic Magazine

MISCELLANEOUS

NOTES AND QUERIES,

WITH ANSWERS.

VOL. VI.

JANUARY, 1889.

No. 1.

"Yew, those who know virtue are few."—CONFUCIUS.

Remarks.

Only a few words are necessary at the beginning of this volume. It is sometimes a hard task to steer between Scylla and Charybdis. One desires more articles on folk-lore and less on science, while another says those on science in general are too abstruse; several more announce that they are studying the ancient religions, having been drawn to them by the many references to, and quotations from, them in these pages.

A more than ordinary interest has been awakened in arcane subjects, remarkable phenomena, fantastical literature, bibliography, and so forth; and many questions have been received on these singular matters, which will appear in the current volume.

As fantastic as many of these subjects seem to be, they lie at the foundation of nearly all secret societies and religious systems; and the literature of this age is bringing to light much that has been hidden for ages. "Let there be light." Go on and light will come you.

A very copious index to these entire volumes has been prepared by Albert R. Frey, New York, an experienced indexer, which we design to publish the present year in pamphlet form, in uniform size with NOTES AND QUERIES, thus giving to all those who possess the full set a quick reference to all matters therein.

TOUR OF THE CHESS KNIGHT. (Vol. V, p. 212.) This subject has been discussed in these pages (Vol. II, pp. 397, 473). According to the *Pródromus* in the bibliography appended to S. S. Haldeman's "Tours of a Chess Knight," the earliest attempt to form a knight's tour, accompanied by a definite date, seems to be that of a manuscript by Paulus Guerinus in 1512, and fills only half the board. Gianutio in 1597 also performed the tour on half the board, but as his can be inverted on the other half of the board and properly connected, he essentially solved the problem. Since 1597 many others have performed the tour in different ways, among them several of the noted mathematicians of Europe. When the tours are lined they form very elegant designs, and are easily distinguished from each other.

The following is a six-line quotation from Shakespeare. Each syllable occupies a square, and follows in succession according to the knight's move on the chess board. What is the quotation, and where is it found in Shakespeare's works?

on	heav	per	o	seek	te	is	to
a	ex	the	ous	nish	let	to	beau
en	fume	of	cess	vi	the	smooth	waste
lous	throw	the	gar	eye	light	gild	ice
rain	to	cu	gold	to	the	ful	per
to	to	li	o	with	ed	or	re
the	bow	hue	di	to	an	ta	and
un	ly	paint	or	ther	ri	fin	add



S. S. Halderman's "Tours of the Chess Knight" contains 114 diagrams; and his bibliography on the subject names 64 authors and articles (1500-1864), with 34 diagrams. Total pages 132. "Dedicate to GEORGE ALLEN author of a life of Philidor."

George Walker's bibliography, appended to *The Philidorian*, a magazine of chess and other scientific games, contains 40 octavo pages, including 420 authors and articles, down to 1838.

M. J. Hazeltine, a chess editor of New Hampshire, has a fine library on chess, containing 340 volumes, 200 pictures, prints, and photographs; 7,705 problems, 4,004 enigmas, 9,295 games; the three latter items displayed on 10,276 pages.

Dr. A. Vander Linde's bibliography, recently published at Utrecht, contains 2,209 titles, besides 113 titles on checkers.

YEAR OF CONFUSION. (Vol. II, p. 527.) This phrase was applied to the reformation of the calendar undertaken by Julius Cæsar, which reform was a great improvement on the previous calendar. Cæsar called on Sosigenes, an astronomer, to rectify the discrepancy, that is, adjust the difference between the the civil and solar year, to prevent future errors. It was determined to make January 1 of the Roman year A. U. C. (*Anno Urbis Condita*) 709, which was B. C. 45, coincide with January 1 of the solar year. Two intercalary months of 67 days were inserted between the last day of November and the first day of December of the year A. U. C. 708. An intercalary month of 23 days had already been added to February of that year. Hence, the Roman year A. U. C. 709 was made to consist of 445 days (i. e. $355 + 23 + 67 = 445$). That year was scoffingly called "the year of confusion," or more justly it should be named, as Microbius observes, "the last year of confusion." To prevent future errors the year was lengthened from 355 to 365 days, each month except February being lengthened by one or two days, nearly alternately, according to the rule we now observe. The Gregorian calendar obviated an error in the Julian calendar by not making every fourth century a leap year. Gregory XIII ordered that every fourth century beginning with 2000 should not be a leap year, which obviates all errors for many centuries to come.

The Greatest Magic Square Extant.

BY WILLIAM BEVERLY.

In view of the great interest that is manifested in that mysterious subject, the magic square, we present what is probably the finest and the most perfect example extant. It was made by the most distinguished chess-player of England.

260	260	260	260	260	260	260	260	260	260	= 2080
1	30	47	52	5	28	43	54	= 260		
48	51	2	29	44	53	6	27	= 260		
31	46	49	4	25	8	56	42	= 260		
50	3	32	45	56	41	36	7	= 260		
33	62	15	20	9	24	39	58	= 260		
16	19	34	61	40	57	10	23	= 260		
65	14	17	36	21	12	59	38	= 260		
18	35	64	13	60	37	22	11	= 260		

This square illustrates the Knight's Tour over the chess-board, in the game of chess, in which the knight plays to every square on the board, and touches it but once.

Every line of figures running up and down sums up 260.

Every line of figures running right and left sums up 260.

Divide the board into four quarters; then the rows and files of each quarter will sum up 130.

Divide the board into sixteen equal parts; the numbers that compose each sixteenth part will sum up 130.

It also follows that any sixteenth portion of the board, added to any other sixteenth portion, will sum up 260.

It also follows that any half row or file, added to any other half row or file, in the entire square, will sum up 260.

Take the files of numbers running up and down ; the four central numbers of the file will sum up 130 ; and so of course the four remaining or outer numbers will sum up 130.

These are only some of the wonderful properties of this mysterious square. This is really a *magic square* ; and in comparison, the ordinary square by this name sinks into insignificance.

MULTIPLICATION OF ROMAN NUMERALS. How did the ancients perform multiplication before the invention of the Arabic figures ?

EGBERT LORD.

This question has waited a year for a reply. We will give an example, that of multiplying 1791 by 53, taken from an unpublished letter of Baron Maseres to the Rev. William Birche, in the possession of J. O. Hallowell, Esq., Jesus College, Cambridge, England. See Thomas S. Davies' " Solutions to Charles Hutton's Course of Mathematics," 1840, p. 5. It is as follows :

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 1791 \text{ is MDCCXCI, and } 53 \text{ is LIII. Therefore, } 1791 \times 53 \text{ is} \\
 & = \text{MDCCXCI} \times \text{LIII} \\
 & = \text{LIII} \times \text{M} + \text{LIII} \times \text{D} + \text{LIII} \times \text{CC} + \text{LIII} \times \text{XC} + \text{LIII} \times \text{I} \\
 & = \text{LIII} \times \text{M} + \text{XXXVI} \times \text{M} + \text{I} \times \text{D} + \text{L} \times \text{CC} + \text{III} \times \text{CC} + \text{LIII} \times \text{L} \\
 & \quad + \text{LIII} \times \text{XL} + \text{LIII} \\
 & = \text{LXXVIII} \times \text{M} + \text{D} + (\text{L} + \text{D}) \times \text{X} \times \text{CC} + \text{DC} + \text{XXVI} \times \text{C} + \text{I} \\
 & \quad \times \text{L} + \text{LII} \times \text{XL} + \text{I} \times \text{XL} + \text{LIII} \\
 & = \text{LXXVIII} \times \text{M} + \text{D} + \text{V} \times \text{II} \times \text{M} + \text{DC} + \text{XXVI} \times \text{C} + \text{L} + \text{CIV} \\
 & \quad \times \text{XX} + \text{XL} + \text{LIII} \\
 & = \text{LXXVIII} \times \text{M} + \text{D} + \text{X} \times \text{M} + \text{DC} + \text{XX} \times \text{C} + \text{VI} \times \text{C} + \text{L} + \text{C} \\
 & \quad \times \text{XX} + \text{IV} \times \text{XX} + \text{XL} + \text{LIII} \\
 & = \text{LXXXVIII} \times \text{M} + \text{MC} + \text{II} \times \text{M} + \text{VI} \times \text{C} + \text{L} + \text{II} \times \text{M} \\
 & \quad + \text{LXXX} + \text{XL} + \text{LIII} \\
 & = \text{LXXXXIV} \times \text{M} + \text{VII} \times \text{C} + \text{L} + \text{CXX} + \text{LIII} \\
 & = \text{LXXXXIV} \times \text{M} + \text{VIII} \times \text{C} + \text{L} + \text{XX} + \text{LIII} \\
 & = \text{LXXXXIV} \times \text{M} + \text{IX} \times \text{C} + \text{XXIII} \\
 & = \text{LXXXXIV} \times \text{M} + \text{DCCCC} + \text{XXIII} \\
 & = \text{XCIV} \times \text{M} + \text{DCCCC} + \text{XXIII} \\
 & = 94923
 \end{aligned}$$

Query : Whether this is the way in which Cicero or Varro would have multiplied 1791 by 53.

THE FIRST BAND OF MINSTRELS ever formed consisted of four persons : Dan. Emmett, Wm. Pell, Frank Brower, and Wm. Whitlock. They performed in New York in 1842.

The Sentence of Jesus.

A COPY OF THE ORIGINAL DECREE AS ISSUED BY PONTIUS PILATE.

A correspondent of *Notes and Queries*, London, extracts from the *Kölnische Zeitung* what is called "correct transcript of the sentence of death pronounced against Jesus Christ." The following is a copy of the most remarkable judicial sentence which has ever been pronounced in the annals of the world; namely, that of death against the Saviour, with the remarks that the journal *Le Droit* has collected, the knowledge of which must be interesting in the highest degree to every Christian. Until now we are not aware that it has ever been made public in the German papers. The sentence is word for word as follows :

SENTENCE PRONOUNCED BY PONTIUS PILATE, INTENDANT OF THE PROVINCE OF LOWER GALILEE, THAT JESUS OF NAZARETH SHALL SUFFER DEATH BY THE CROSS. IN THE SEVENTEENTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF THE EMPEROR TIBERIUS AND ON THE 25TH OF THE MONTH OF MARCH, IN THE MOST HOLY CITY OF JERUSALEM, DURING THE PONTIFICATE OF ANNAS AND CAIAPHAS, PONTIUS PILATE, INTENDANT OF THE PROVINCE OF LOWER GALILEE, SITTING IN JUDGMENT IN THE PRESIDENTIAL SEAT OF THE PRÆTORS, SENTENCES JESUS CHRIST OF NAZARETH TO DEATH ON A CROSS BETWEEN TWO ROBBERS, AS THE NUMEROUS AND NOTORIOUS TESTIMONIALS OF THE PEOPLE PROVE :

1. JESUS IS A MISLEADER.
2. HE HAS EXCITED THE PEOPLE TO SEDITION.
3. HE IS AN ENEMY TO THE LAWS.
4. HE CALLS HIMSELF THE SON OF GOD.
5. HE CALLS HIMSELF FALSELY THE KING OF ISRAEL.
6. HE WENT INTO THE TEMPLE FOLLOWED BY A MULTITUDE CARRYING PALMS IN THEIR HANDS.

ORDERS : THE FIRST CENTURION, QUINTUS CORNELIUS, TO BRING HIM TO THE PLACE OF EXECUTION, FORBIDS ALL PERSONS, RICH OR POOR, TO PREVENT THE EXECUTION OF JESUS. THE WITNESSES WHO SIGNED THE EXECUTION AGAINST JESUS ARE :

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. DANIEL ROBANI, PHARISÆE, | 3. RAPHAEL ROBANI, |
| 2. JOHN ZOROBABEL, | 4. CAPET. |

JESUS TO BE TAKEN OUT OF JERUSALEM THROUGH THE GATE TOURNEA.

The sentence is engraved on a plate of brass in the Hebrew language, and on its sides are the following words :

"A SIMILAR PLATE HAS BEEN SENT TO EACH TRIBE."

It was discovered in the year 1630 in the city of Aquil (Aquila)?

in the kingdom of Naples, by a search made for the discovery of Roman antiquities, and remained there until it was found by the Commissaries of Art in the French Army of Italy. Up to the time of the campaign in southern Italy, it was preserved in the sacristy of the Carthusians, near Naples, where it was kept in a box of ebony. Since then the relic has been kept in the chapel of Caserta. The Carthusians obtained it by their petitions that the plate might be kept by them, which was an acknowledgment of the sacrifices which they make for the French Army. The French translation was made literally by members of the Commission of Arts. Denon had a fac-simile of the plate engraved, which was bought by Lord Howard on the sale of his cabinet for 2000 francs. There seems to be no historical doubt as to the authenticity of this. The reasons of the sentence correspond exactly with those of the Gospels.

WERE THERE TWO CHRISTMASSES OR ONE IN 1753? Nathaniel Ames's *Astronomical Diary or Almanac for 1752* gives that year 366 days, while the English almanacs give that year 355 days. New Englanders did not seem to obey the Act of Parliament, changing from old style to new style, throwing out 11 days from the year 1752, in this manner: the 3d of September was called the 14th, thus reducing that month to 19 days. Ames makes no such change, but gives each month its usual quota of days. But in his almanac for 1753, he says the year begins on Monday, which answers to the 21st of December, 1752, thus knocking out the 11 last days of December. It would be interesting to me to know whether in reality the New Englanders had any Christmas in 1752. According to their own almanacs their Christmas for 1752 came on the 5th of January, 1753. This would give them two Christmas festivals in the year 1753—January 5th and December 25th.

T. P. S.

SOLOMON'S TEMPLE. When Reginald Heber read his prose poem of *Palestine* to Sir Walter Scott, the latter observed that, in the verses on Solomon's Temple, one striking circumstance had escaped him; namely, no tool of iron was used in its erection. Heber retired for a few minutes to the corner of the room, and returned with these beautiful lines:

"No hammer fell, no ponderous axes rung;
Like some tall palm, the mystic fabric sprung.
Majestic silence!"