

# USE YOUR THINK TANK! USE IT QUICK.

We believe

WE KNOW

We can

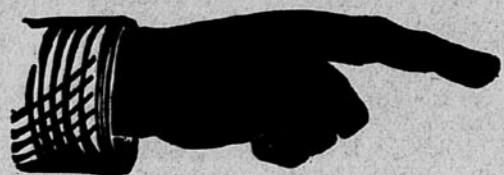
That North Dakota people will see no more hard coal this year.

That soft coal, lignite and wood will advance in price almost weekly.

That Pocahontas soft coal is already out of the western market.

That lignite cannot be mined fast enough to supply the demand if you wait and order as needed, and that wholesalers are already fearful that ordinary soft coal will not come forward on the lakes in time to supply the northwest at reasonable prices.

Supply you now! With all kinds of wood, with lignite and two kinds of soft coal.



## Crane & Johnson.

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Can fill your prescriptions or furnish you anything in the line of

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References: Security Bank of Minneapolis, Liberal Advances on Bills of Lading. Prompt Returns. and Commercial Agencies.

**Useful Purposes of Rosin.**  
There are many useful purposes to which rosin can be applied outside of those of general practice. As a non-conductor of heat it is used in the protection of water pipes, particularly in crossing bridges, where the pipe is laid in the middle of a long box and the whole filled with melted rosin. Rosin is also used in supporting basement floors in machine shops, which may be laid over some dry material, as spent molding sand, which is carefully leveled off, and the planking laid upon temporary supports separating it about two inches above the sand.

Numerous holes about two inches in diameter being bored through these planks, melted rosin is forced through them by means of funnels until the whole space is solidly filled, and then the upper flooring is laid upon these planks. In case the floor is subjected to shocks sufficient to break the rosin it rapidly joins together again in much the same manner as the regelation of ice.

**The Dragon Slayer.**

At an English school a pompous youngster whose father, it was well known, had been a successful omnibus driver was one day fingering ostentatiously a large seal which he is in the habit of wearing, representing St. George and the dragon, and, having drawn the attention of a school companion to it, remarked carelessly:

"Ah, one of my ancestors is supposed to have killed the dragon, don't you know?"

"Good gracious!" inquired the other, somewhat anxiously, "Did he run over it?"—London Answers.

**Went Back on the Bisc.**

Gerald—My brother turned crimson the other day.

Geraldine—I never knew him to blush.

Gerald—I didn't say that he blushed.

Geraldine—What did he do?

Gerald—Left Yale and entered Harvard.—New York Press.

**Ignorant Precedent.**

Edmonia—Mrs. Topnotch is what I call impertinent.

Eudocia—In what way?

Edmonia—Why, she is not a Colonial Dame, but when she came to the colonial reception she had on a more elegant frock than any one of the Dames.—Detroit Free Press.

**Frivolous.**

Little Willie—Pa, what does this paper mean by saying it was a fruitless search?

Father—It probably applies, my son, to the quest of some man who was looking for pineapples on a pine tree.—Chicago News.

**YOUNG RAVENS.**

**Queer Story of the Changing Color of the Newborn Birds.**

I have not learning enough to know whether in the earliest times ravens were accounted "unlucky." If so, why were they chosen from among all the birds of the air for the merciful errand of carrying bread to Elijah in the wilderness? Did they steal it? They are given to theft! Also in the written word we are assured that "God heareth the young ravens when they cry out unto him." And nothing of this is said of doves or of any other white or heavenly kind of bird. An explanation is given in the Egyptian commentary on St. Luke in the Coptic script by Epiphanius, A. D. 368-401. The passage is certainly very curious, and I am permitted to transcribe it here: "Why, then, did the evangelist mention no name among the birds except ravens only? Because the hen raven, having laid her eggs and hatched her young, is wont to fly away and leave them on account of the hue of their color, for when hatched they are red in appearance. Then the Nourisher of all creation sends to them a little swarm of insects, putting it by their nest, and thus the little ravens are fed until the color of their body is, as it were, dyed and becomes black. But after seven days the old ravens return, and, seeing that the bodies of their young have become perfectly like their own, henceforward they take to them and bring them food of their own accord."

It is for naturalists to ascertain whether or no this strange account of the young ravens holds good in our day.—Cornhill Magazine.

**Get a Bargain.**

Years ago, before the corrupt practices act, when a Scottish parliamentary candidate was canvassing his constituency he called at the house of an aged couple. Finding the old woman alone, he entered into conversation and asked her to use her influence in getting her husband to vote for him. While they were conversing the would-be M. P. noticed a kitten playing about on the floor and offered 5s for it. The bargain was struck, and on leaving he again expressed the hope that she would secure her husband's vote for him.

"Well, sir," answered the woman, "as I said afore, John's a man o' his ain mind and just does what strikes his ain noodle. But at our sets, sir, you've gotten a real cheap kitten, for yer opponent was in see farer gae than yesterday, an he paid me £10 for his bither."—London Answers.

**The Coroner and the Bottle.**

The following little scene at an inquest upon the body of a murdered man is reported by a correspondent of the Anglo-Russian from Astrakhan: The coroner dictating to his clerk: "On the table was found a bottle—No; stop for a moment. We must ascertain its contents." The coroner, tasting the liquid, dictates: "The bottle contained English gin. Perhaps not; I am not sure; taste it yourself." The clerk, having done so, replies, "I think it is simply strong vodka." The coroner, tossing off another glass: "No, really. It tastes like gin." The clerk, tasting the liquor again, "I still think it is only vodka."

The bottle having gradually become empty, the coroner proceeded to dictate in a decisive tone: "Write: An empty bottle was found on the table, and all measures taken to ascertain what it contained were of no use."

**A Ruskin Thought.**

To be content in utter darkness and ignorance is indeed unmanly, and therefore we think that to love and find knowledge must be always right. Yet wherever pride has any share in the work even knowledge and light may be ill pursued. Knowledge is good, and light is good, yet man perished in seeking knowledge, and the meins perish in seeking light, and if we who are crushed before the moth will not accept such mystery as is needful to us we shall perish in like manner. None but the proud will mourn over this, for we may always know more if we choose by working on, but the pleasure is, I think, to humble people, in knowing that the journey is endless, the treasure inexhaustible.—Ruskin.

**Lambert's Oaks.**

From Lambert's Oaks, formerly an inn, in the parish of Woodmansterne, England, the famous Oaks stakes acquire its name. The house was built by a society called the "Hunter's club," under a lease from the Lambert family. It afterward became the residence of the unfortunate General Burgoyne, from whom it passed to the eleventh Earl of Derby, whose grandson, the twelfth earl, greatly improved it.

**Elbows and Knees.**

If the elbows of men's coats and the knees of trousers are out of shape, lay a damp cloth on them and fold up for a couple of hours. Lay on the ironing board, smooth and pull gently until they lie flat and take their original lines, then press, under cloth, with a hot iron. Dry thoroughly with the iron. Sponging with borax water will remove the shiny appearance of much worn coats and dress shirts.

**The German Soldier's Wage.**

One of the peculiarities about the military service in Germany is the paternal interest that the officers are required to take in the frugality of the men. The pay of the soldier is only 6 cents a day, but the army regulations guard it jealously. Each man is expected to keep his money in a little bag suspended from a string around his neck, and any officer during inspection may demand to have the bag opened and their contents shown. If it be found that a soldier is spending his pay too freely—think of that, with the pay at so low a mark—he is reprimanded and punished. He is compelled to make his pay cover his expenses.

**Golf is Old Dutch Picture.**

By the seventeenth century golf in Holland had become almost entirely a winter game. The Dutch painters of the period seem to have found a peculiar fascination in winter scenes, with their clear, bright atmosphere and the moving clouds of figures in the various occupations of sledging, skating or golf. As might be expected, many a golfing scene is to be found in pictures by Van de Velde, Van der Neer, Avercamp, Van Goyen, and others of their school. Several drawings of this period showing single figures or small groups give perhaps a better idea of the golf of the time.—Connors.

**Asking Too Much.**

"Some people," remarked the druggist to his clerk, "are frightfully unreasonable."

"Is the man who just left an example?"

"Yes. He wanted me to give him something to cure a cold."

"That's very simple."

"Yes, but he wanted me to give him a guarantee that the medicine would make him feel worse than the cold did."—Washington Star.

**As He Called It.**

"But why," asked the man who always wants to know "why do you call that little jump you make from above into the water 'a leap for life?' They call me it is not at all dangerous."

"Well," replied the "artist," "don't I make me livin' by it?"—Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

**Counting on It.**

"Why of eminent philanthropist—My dear, what were you thinking of? You gave that poor man only 10 cents."

"Eminent philanthropist—I know it, Amanda. It will be \$10 when it gets into the bank."—Chicago Tribune.