

SLEPT TILL TURKEYS CAME

Hunter Who Knew Their Habits Took It Easy While Waiting for the Birds.

"Some years ago I was the guest of a friend who owned a ranch away down on the Nueces river, in the south, west of San Antonio," said Mr. H. J. Rice, of New Orleans, according to a local exchange. "The region abounded in game, and wild turkeys were especially numerous. Never having bagged one of these birds, I was keen to go after them, and my host promised to take me. We started out on the hunt, and I could already see a magnificent gobbler falling to my fire. After waiting several miles my friend remarked that it was as well to rest awhile, and threw himself down under the shade of a mesquite bush. This did not suit me at all, for I was eager to go on, and I remonstrated with him about losing valuable time. For answer he rolled over on the grass and went to sleep, at which I was fired with anger and half a notion to go back to the house. It was well along in the afternoon before he aroused from his nap, and then, with an apologetic smile, he said: 'We won't have to wait long now for this is the place the turkeys come to roost, and all we will have to do is to hide and shoot them down.' It was just as he said, and about sundown there came a superb drove of wild turkeys. Unconscious of danger, they came almost upon us before we let drive at them, with the result that four of the largest were stretched upon the ground. After that I never criticized the methods of a Texas hunter."

ATMOSPHERE INTOXICATED.

Alcoholic Fumes from Brewing Vats Exhilarate Visitors to English Town.

Burton-on-Trent, the center of the English brewing industries, has the peculiar faculty of mildly intoxicating the stranger within its gates, states the New York Herald. The resident has become accustomed to the mildly alcoholic fumes which arise from the innumerable brewing vats, but the susceptible stranger finds exhilaration and finally a mild form of intoxication in the atmosphere—an effect which does not wear off for several hours after his arrival. On every hand the big brewing houses are throwing off fumes from the vats of malted sugars, and while these are imperceptible to the resident more than a thousand authentic instances are said to have been recorded of persons to whom the air has proven to possess properties that both cheer and inebriate.

Just as in certain parts of the west the arsenious fumes from the smelters destroy vegetation and imperil health, the vapors of the English brewing capital destroy the sobriety of the abstainer and fill his head with rampant fancies. As many visitors to the place are actuated by a desire to see for themselves the great industry which they are doing their utmost to suppress, and as they are the most sensitive to the atmosphere of the town, those who gain their living from the brew houses take great delight in observing these involuntary lapses from principles.

BEAR RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS.

Peasants of Part of Italy Tattoo Themselves with Various Christian Signs.

In the "vanity" section of a museum at Florence, relates the London Telegraph, there is an interesting collection of blocks used for what is called "religious tattooing," among Italian peasants of the district enclosed between the Abruzzi, Umbria and the Adriatic.

Peasants in these parts at work with shirt sleeves rolled up display a Christian symbol of some sort or a text tattooed in blue ink on their brown skin. This has been imprinted on the occasion of some special festival.

A wooden block is pressed upon the tightly drawn skin to mark the outlines of the design. This is then punctured, and a blue ink is rubbed into the wounds, which usually heal in about 24 hours. The custom, which is essentially Christian, is in commemoration of the branding of St. Francis, who founded a monastery close to Loreto.

Peasants in California. A year ago Dr. T. C. Sullivan of Corning, after a great deal of trouble, succeeded in getting a few pheasants shipped from Pennsylvania for breeding purposes. Being an enthusiastic fancier, the doctor took great delight in the birds, and by careful breeding has increased his flock to about 100 very choice specimens. The doctor, who is a member of the game protective association, has liberated a number of the pheasants along the river, believing that they will soon multiply and afford excellent sport for the gunner.—Sacramento Bee.

Saw Stone with Wire. In some French quarries stone is sawed by means of steel wire cables moistened with wet sand and passing in an endless rope over a series of pulleys. The wire, which runs from 1,800 feet to 2,000 feet per minute, is charged as it enters the cut with a jet of water and sand, which forms the cutting material. A running cable of 500 feet can make a cut 100 feet long.

Hunchbacks in Spain. Spain has more hunchbacks than any other country. In some of the villages of the Sierra Modena 7 per cent. of the people are deformed in this way.

WOMAN CHOOSING FOOD.

Appears to Order Meal in Restaurant Merely by Force of Suggestion.

Lots of women order their lunches merely by force of suggestion. If you don't think so, says the Philadelphia Bulletin, watch the wavering ones sit down, look on the card, glance at their nearest neighbor's plate and then order whatever the latter happens to be eating. In a crowded luncheon room on matinee day one little round table seating four women bore out this statement. Two of the women refreshed themselves on cake and coffee. The third was putting away a savory clam chowder. A fourth came in, gazed appreciatively on the cakes, gazed appreciatively on the chowder and requested the latter. The first chowder finished and departed and the woman who immediately took her place looked around the table and ordered cakes and coffee.

By this time the first two cake and coffeees had finished and an uncertain-looking woman sat down on that side of the table. She looked at the two opposite, glanced at the card and said: "Bring me a clam chowder." This is a fact, and there is every reason to suppose that nothing but coffee and cakes and chowder were served at that table all the afternoon, or at least as long as wavering ladies sat down at it.

COLLECTION-BOX CURIOS.

Theater Seat-Checks, Tobacco Tags and Divers Other Queer Things Contributed.

The recent discussion of ballot-box stuffing has not altogether diverted the attention of churchmen from the question of collection-box stuffing, says the Philadelphia Record. In one of the prominent churches of Philadelphia, where the weekly offerings of the congregation are inclosed in small envelopes before being dropped into the boxes, a collection is being made of the articles contributed by the ungodly, and it is already large enough to form the nucleus of a small museum. Among the things thus far found in the envelopes are smooth, mutilated and foreign coins, postage stamps, exchange tickets, theater seat checks, assorted buttons, campaign and other medals, tin tobacco tags, a cigarette, a Washington (D. C.) street car ticket, an iron ring, lozenges, chocolates, chewing gum, an umbrella tag, pieces of iron, lead and glass; candy, a belt fastener, a milk ticket, an aluminum check "good for one shave," rubber bands, matches and blank paper. Altogether there are over 300 of these "offerings," which are ultimately to be mounted and framed as a curiosity.

WEAR MINIATURE "ZOO'S."

Tiny Animals of Metal Swing from Chains Worn by Society "Buds."

As the fresh and pretty "buds" they wouldn't deserve that title, of course, if they were not in the stage of youthful prettiness—have no need of the contents of a "vanity box," not many of them are following the new fad of their elders in carrying such an article, says the New York Press. But there's an oddity about the adornment that has made the girls eager to find something similarly eye-catching. They have found it and it is far more bizarre than the "vanity box." In the avenue the other day three blooming maidens, not together, wore gold chains dangling from wrists and depending from every chain were a dozen or so tiny animals in metal. There were miniature dogs, cats, deer, lions and tigers; barnyard fowl, too. But some of the silver or gun metal creatures were such as never existed in the waters or on the earth or in the air. Appropriately, one golden calf was seen. Another girl said beamingly that the silver dog at the end of her chain had been modeled after her pet French bulldog.

Forgery No Crime in Indiana.

The discovery has been made in Indianapolis that forgery has ceased to be a crime in Indiana, owing to the omission of its definition in the new criminal code, which was adopted by the recent legislature and went into effect a few days ago. The most careful searching of the printed act fails to disclose any definition of the crime of forgery or any penalties fixed for its commission, and it is the opinion of many lawyers that, inasmuch as the criminal code act contains a section declaring that "all laws within the purview of this act are hereby repealed," there is no law in force by which such a crime can be punished. The omission was discovered by the class in the law college. The omission will affect persons now under indictment for the crime, as there is no law under which they can be tried, the old law having been repealed.—Washington Star.

'Tis Often Thus.

"Disappointed in her husband?" exclaimed Mrs. De Style in surprise. "Why, before they were married she used to tell me that he was a Greek god."

Traveling Too Fast.

Church—A man over in Brooklyn was arrested for falling off a ten-story building. Gotham—Was he attempting suicide? "No, he was exceeding the speed limit!"—Yonkers Statesman.

WHY AFRICANS ARE BLACK.

Hue Attributed by Scientific Authorities to Gelatinous Substance Under Skin.

All the inhabitants of the west part of Africa are black. This complexion is owing to a gelatinous substance lodged between the cuticle and the skin. This substance, states the Political Magazine, 1731, is blackish in negroes, brown in olive-colored or swarthy people, white in Europeans and diversified with reddish spots in people who have extremely light or red hair.

Anatomy has discovered that in the negroes the substance of the brain is blackish, that the pineal gland is entirely black, and their blood is of a much deeper red than that of white people. Their blood is always hotter, and their pulse quicker.

Their hair, it is said, is curled because having to penetrate through a network of a more dense and tenacious substance it becomes twisted and cannot be lengthened out.

The perspiration of a negro when it is copious tinges the linen which wipes it off. It is a mistaken notion that the color of the negroes is owing to the climate: since in Africa, under the same parallels, the eastern coast has no negroes, and even produces white people, and in America the heat of the sun and nature of the soil have never produced any negroes. White people never become black in Africa, nor negroes white in America.

TEMPER OF JAP SOLDIERS.

It Is Like That of Their Swords, Always Keen and Highly Sensitive.

There is something that marks the Nippon soldier from the rest of the fighting men of the world of to-day, writes Adachi Kinoshuke, in Leslie's Monthly. Better trained in the handling of modern arms, larger in stature, and certainly better fed and equally well drilled, there are a number of western soldiers who still can hardly cope with the Nippon soldier. The reason of it is simple. In Nippon, among our fighting men as well as in a number of other things we believe in quality and in temper; we do not believe in quantity, either of muscle or of stature. With the Nippon, the ideal-spirit, if you prefer to call it—is more than meat or raiment. The samurai of the elder days believed in keeping his blade at such a high point of sensitiveness and keenness that it would cut in twain a piece of wet paper floating down a stream. The masters of sword and the masters of the jiu jitsu, and the masters of all other military arts in our land, believe in keeping their muscles tempered as keenly and in such a high condition of training as the edge of a samurai blade. It is the ideal of the old samurai—the historic yamato daimashi of a thousand tales and traditions of countless years—that is working miracles in Manchuria to-day.

TARS SHIPSHAPE ON LAND.

Quaint Home for Aged Seamen Situated in the Outskirts of London.

One of the quaintest charitable institutions in the world, says the New York Herald, is the Royal Alfred Home for Aged Seamen, which houses 100 English mariners in the outskirts of London. It is supported entirely by voluntary contribution, and King Edward is one of the most regular subscribers to the fund. The main idea has been to make the place as homelike as possible, and to this end an effort has been made to preserve in large measure the environment to which the inmates are accustomed.

The dormitories are cut up into tiny cabins, as on a shipboard, and in place of the familiar iron cots these veterans of the sea turn in at night in bunks and stow their clothes and other belongings precisely as they would on board ship. Day and night the hours and a half hours are struck on a ship's bell in the main hall, and even in the mess rooms the atmosphere of the sea is retained as an aid to appetite. The house governor is himself an old sea captain of 40 years' experience in commanding men, and his rule is entirely along nautical lines.

MAINE MAN'S PET CROW.

Tame Bird Displays Remarkable Intelligence and Domesticity.

It is surprising to see the amount of intelligence that can be shown by a crow, but a tame bird owned by Sherbrook Howard, of this town, exhibits it to a large degree, says the Bath (Me.) Independent. Each morning the bird flies to his master's bedroom window and utters shrill cries to awaken him, but will never go toward the window again during the day. Whenever hungry he flies to the kitchen and keeps up a continual squawking until fed. He refuses to run away, and so far as known has never been more than a quarter of a mile from his adopted home.

A few nights ago several other crows from neighboring fields did their utmost to get him to fly away with them, but, preferring the home of his young master, Mr. Crow refused to stir.

The Charge.

"What do you think that man who is now under investigation for graft ought to be charged with?" "It seems to me," answered Senator Borghum, "that he ought to be charged with criminal carelessness."—Washington Star.

MINDING HIS OWN BUSINESS

Inquisitive Traveler Evened Up Scores with Stage Driver Who Was Crusty.

Wallace Cummings used to drive the old stage which ran between Bridgton and Portland, relates the Boston Herald. One day Wallace had as a passenger out of Portland a young city chap or dude, as Wallace called him. The scenery along the stage route was both beautiful and diversified; the young man was much interested, and as he sat on the box, or post of honor, beside Wallace, literally piled him with questions as to what mountain that was and what river this was, etc.

The old driver, who detested this sort of interrogation, stood it as long as he could. Finally he blurted out: "Say, stranger, if you'll mind your business I'll mind mine."

Thus rebuffed, the young man relapsed into silence. They had driven about ten miles farther when they came to a long hill, where the driver was obliged to apply the brake. As he shoved his foot toward it he immediately noticed that the mail bag, which always lay there, was gone. Evidently it had dropped off along the road.

Wallace stopped his horses; then, breaking the long silence, he said: "Say, stranger, did you see that mail bag slide off?"

"Yes, I did; some ten miles back," calmly remarked the young man. "Well, why in thunder didn't you tell me?" gaped the astonished driver. The "dude" looked him squarely in the eye for a moment, and then he drew, imitating Wallace's tone: "Say, driver, you mind your business and I'll mind mine." The rest of the journey was driven in cold silence.

STRANGE ACTION OF LAKE.

Body of Water in Patagonia Rises and Falls in Most Singular Manner.

Capt. H. C. Crosthwait directs attention in an English science journal to the magnetic and meteorological observatory established by the Argentine government on New Year island, a small island about five miles off the coast of Staten Island, Patagonia, says the Baltimore American. The observatory, which is complete in every respect, is superintended by four Argentine naval officers. It was opened in February, 1902. The magnetic observatory is kept at an almost constant temperature of 64 degrees F. Many interesting facts about Tierra del Fuego are given by Capt. Crosthwait in his paper. He directs attention to the astonishing number and variety of the glaciers, and to the fact that most of the larger ones show signs of shrinkage. He says that San Martha lake undoubtedly occupies what was once a strait joining the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. The level of the water of the lake rises and falls in a peculiar manner. Exact measurements of these "seiches" show that the movements are irregular, but on an average they amount to about five inches, having a period of about four minutes between two successive high waters. The surface of the water to the eye is perfectly smooth.

WEBSTER'S OLD CARRIAGE.

One-Horse Shay Used by the Famous Statesman Still in Use in Missouri Town.

Denizens of Jefferson City, Mo., little knew that a historic old carriage, once the property of Daniel Webster, orator and United States senator from Massachusetts, is now in use in that town. But such is the case, reports the Brooklyn Eagle, and the carriage in question is that owned by William Holt, says the Republican. It is drawn by one horse and presents an appearance far from prepossessing, but it can be readily seen that the '60's it was a carriage such as even a senator might be glad to ride in.

Mr. Holt purchased the carriage at an auction sale in St. Louis, after the world's fair, where the carriage was on exhibition. Attorney General Crow, of St. Louis, recognizing the historic value of a ride in this carriage, was among Mr. Holt's first passengers.

It is not unlikely that Webster rode in this venerable carriage while going from his rooms to the senate chamber upon the day when he made his memorable reply to Senator Haynes, of South Carolina, in which he gave voice to the expression: "Union and liberty, now and forever, one and inseparable."

Child's Head on Banknote.

The accepted design for the new Austrian five kronen banknotes is remarkable for the picture of an unusually beautiful child's head which forms its chief ornament. The model for this head was the son of Prince Franz Josef Rohan, whom the artist saw one day in the street, and with whose beauty he was so much struck that he asked the child's name, and obtained the parents' permission to make a drawing of him for this purpose.

Favorite of Fortune.

Joseph Chamberlain, the celebrated Englishman, is not a graduate of any university or of any of the large public schools. He was a full-fledged business man at the age of 16 years and his fortune grew so rapidly that at the age of 28 he was able to retire from commercial life and devote himself to the study and practice of politics.

Cheering Her Up.

Patience—O, doctor, I'm dreadfully afraid of it! Dentist—Madam, you shouldn't take laughing gas as seriously as that.—Chicago Tribune.

DAYS OF THE GIANTS GONE

Skeletons of Ancient Times Which Showed Men Were of Enormous Stature.

The past was more prolific in the production of giants than the present. In 1830 one of these giants, who was exhibited at Rouen, was ten feet high and the giant Galabra, brought from Arabia to Rome in the time of Claudius Caesar, was of the same height. Fannum, who lived in the time of Eugene II., was 11 1/2 feet in height.

The Chevalier Scrog in his journey to the Peak Teneriffe found in one of the caverns of that mountain the head of a giant who had 60 teeth and who was not less than 15 feet high. The giant Faragus, slain by Orlando, the nephew of Charlemagne, according to reports, was 28 feet high. In 1814 near St. Gerad was found the tomb of the giant Isolat, who was not less than 30 feet high. In 1590 near Rouen was found a skeleton whose head held a bushel of corn and which was 19 feet in height. The giant Barct was 22 feet high.

In 1623 near the castle in Dauphine a tomb was found 30 feet long, 15 feet wide and eight feet high, on which were cut in gray stone the words "Kentiolethus Rex." The skeleton was found entire and measured 25 1/2 feet high, ten feet across the shoulders and five feet from breastbone to the back.

But France is not the only country where giant skeletons have been unearthed. Near Palermo, Sicily, in 1676, was found the skeleton of a giant 39 feet high, and in 1559 another 44 feet high. Near Magrino, on the same island, in 1816, was found the skeleton of a giant of 39 feet, whose head was the size of a hoghead and each tooth weighed five ounces.

MOST FAMOUS FROG DIES.

Batrachian That Had Lived for Fifteen Years with Both Hemispheres of Brain Gone.

The most famous frog in the world has just died, says a recent report. It was the victim of a professor in a university, who in 1899 cut out both hemispheres of its brain. In spite of the operation the frog was in perfect health, and for five years served to demonstrate to the professor's pupils the results of the removal of the brain.

Knowledge and will were abolished and the frog never showed the slightest sign of initiative, his only movements being attributed to muscular fatigue. The eyes were quite unimpaired, and the frog could evidently see, but without understanding. Even his favorite food failed to attract him, and every day an assistant had to cram his food down his throat until the reflex action of swallowing took place. When he was touched he moved, and when he was put in water he swam, and if he was placed on his back he rolled over again, but on his own initiative he never stirred.

The poor thing was well known to all scientific men and it seems probable that he died simply of old age, and that his life was in no degree shortened by the operation.

ROBBING TRUNKS IN ITALY

No Other Civilized Country Where the Luggage of Travelers Is So Unsafe.

A traveler just returned from Italy reports that a trunk belonging to one of his party was cut open on the railway between Rome and Genoa, and clothes abstracted to the value of \$20. When he consulted the British consul on the subject, states London Truth, he heard that a lady had been at the consulate a few minutes before who had lost the whole of her valuable jewelry in the same way. It is really astonishing that the Italian police and the railway companies between them do not take effectual steps to stop this scandal. There is no other civilized country where travelers' luggage is habitually rifled while in charge of the railway companies as it is in Italy, and the knowledge that this is so must keep many people out of the country, especially wealthy travelers, whom it is the interest of the authorities to encourage. In the meantime I would point out to travelers in Italy that the insurance of luggage against theft is a precaution that should always be taken.

Cyclones in Jamaica.

Terribly destructive though cyclones are there are occasions when they have a beneficial effect. Some little time ago Jamaica was swept by a cyclone from end to end, and the destruction wrought was estimated at nearly three millions. The community bravely faced the situation, and now recognizes that even a hurricane is not without its blessings. The fruit seasons have been more favorable since the cyclone than experienced for many years past. "A hurricane," says the acting governor of Jamaica, "appears to assist in promoting fertility of the soil. The total destruction of the banana crop and the attention compulsorily given to clearing cultivations have resulted in a yield in the last few months of a much finer grade of fruit than had been exported on so large a scale previously."—N. Y. Herald.

Circuses in Winter Quarters.

A dramatic paper gives the names and addresses of 118 circuses and other road shows which go into winter quarters. Of these, 18 make their homes in Pennsylvania, 14 in Maryland, 11 in Missouri and ten in Indiana, these being the most popular states as winter quarters.—Chicago Tribune.

Horses in Russia.

There are nearly 22,000,000 horses in European Russia. No other country in the world has so many horses as Russia.

STORK SWIFTEST OF BIRDS

Makes a Journey of 2,400 Miles at the Rate of 100 Miles an Hour.

There are certain species of ducks that are given the credit by naturalists of being the fleetest of winged creatures. Recently, however, it has been ascertained that the leasned men were in error, and the stork is found to outstrip by far all denizens of the air in speed. After an exhaustive survey of the field it is now declared that no living thing, not even a scaped jack rabbit, can travel with the speed displayed by such birds as the stork and the northern bluetroat. Not only do these birds fly with a speed that can hardly be conceived, but they keep up their rapid flight for 1,000 or 2,000 miles as a stretch without apparently tiring.

Evidence has been collected recently which shows that the bluetroat flies from central Africa to the shores of the North sea, a distance of 1,600 miles, in less than a day and a night, and making it, moreover, in one uninterrupted flight.

The storks which spend their summers in Austria-Hungary and their winters in India and Central Africa are also marvelous travelers and make their journeys twice a year in unbroken flight each time. From Buda-Pesth in Hungary, to Lahore, in India, is 2,400 miles in an air line, and the storks make the journey in 24 hours, thus traveling at the rate of 100 miles an hour for the whole distance. The storks which spend the summer in central Europe and winter in central Africa travel with the same rapidity.

EFFICIENCY IN THE NAVY.

Every Other Consideration Set Aside on England's Warships for Perfection of Personnel.

Vigorous minds are essential in any navy, but in the British navy the matter is vital, as the prosperity of millions of people and the existence of the nation itself depend upon naval power. Hence, says American Medicine, every other consideration must give way to naval efficiency, and the personnel receives the major share of attention to eliminate the unfit. The alcoholics are invariably thrust to one side without pity, for they are really a menace to the nation's welfare. The government has gone to the extreme of elaborating a system whereby an officer is retired even if he does not attain promotion before a certain age, whose maximum is fixed for each grade. The results are most excellent, for it secures a wonderfully vigorous body of men, fully accounting for the proverbial efficiency of the British navy. In every grade, from the boyish midshipmen to the experienced admiral, there are no men too old to do the duties, and none whose mental powers are not healthy and vigorous. It is expensive, of course, to secure this survival of the fittest, as the eliminated ones must be cared for, and there is a tremendous list of healthy retired officers, but it is necessary.

BUFFALOES OF PABLO HERD

Largest Band of the Animals in the United States Soon to Be Scattered.

"With the opening of the Flathead Indian reservation in Montana to settlement the coming summer the last large band of buffaloes in the United States will be scattered to the four winds or else removed to the Blackfoot reservation, further north, or into the Milk river country of the Canadian provinces."

This is the statement made by Howard Easton, of Wyoming, who is interested in the largest herd of buffaloes in the world, mostly belonging to Michael Pablo, who has a herd of about 350 on the Flathead reservation, according to the Helena Independent. "The Pablo herd is the largest in existence," said Mr. Easton, "and comprises one-third of all the buffaloes in the world. A few years ago, when 'Buffalo' Jones went broke on a big irrigating scheme, he sold his herd, which was then in Kansas, to Pablo and Allard, making the largest herd of pure bloods now in the world, and carrying the strains of the old herds of Texas, Indian Territory, western and northern Montana, North Dakota and Manitoba."

FRANCE'S ART TREASURES.

What Number, Estimated at \$1,200,000,000 in Value, Are Being Inventoried.

The French prefects have received instructions to make inventories of the art treasures of all the prefectures. The exact value of these is unknown, but it is immense, and has been computed at \$400,000,000, reckoning only the reliquaries, pictures, tapestries and things of like kind, says a London report to the New York Sun.

If the statues, altars, stained glass windows, etc., are included, it is estimated that the figure will reach \$1,200,000,000. The treasures in one small church in the department of Aveyron, which were on view at the exposition of 1900, drew an offer of \$2,300,000 from a syndicate.

Sure Winner.

Gyer—There goes a man who has made a fortune out of the racing game. Myer—Knows how to pick winners, eh? "Oh, no; he's a pawnbroker."—Chicago Journal.