

MONSTER SEA ELEPHANT.

Specimen Ever Killed Captured Off the Coast of Falkland Islands.

A new and interesting attraction at the Berlin zoological garden is a mounted specimen of a monster sea elephant. It can claim the distinction of being the largest sea elephant that has ever been killed, says the Scientific American.

It was found some 18 months ago by whalers off the coast of the Falkland Islands. They promptly surrounded the monster, and subsequently slaughtered it—no easy task—and the whale with the raw skeleton was purchased at a high price by Mr. J. F. G. Smit.

Some idea of the size of the monster may be gained from the fact that from the tip of its tail to the tip of its tusk it has a total measurement of nearly 21 feet. Such an animal, when alive, would weigh 10,000 pounds, or nearly four and a half tons. The circumference of the body at its widest part is some 18 feet. The skull alone measures two feet three inches long and one foot three inches high.

The sea elephant, or seal elephant, is in many ways an interesting creature. As far as size goes, he can give points to the walrus, but he is certainly not as ferocious looking. Except for the curious nose (whence his Greek name), he is just a big black seal, fairly agile in the sea and clumsy ashore, like all his kind. He is about the bulk of a hippopotamus, although more hirsute and with a less extensive opening of the jaws. He holds among seals the unique position of being common to both hemispheres, although from the Arctic with which he has been hunted very few specimens now exist north of the equator.

Just now, however, the sea elephant is enjoying a respite, and is consequently increasing in numbers rapidly, particularly in the southern seas. He forms practically the only population of many an otherwise lonely series of barren rocks in the Antarctic ocean. His food consists chiefly, if not entirely, of cuttlefish. Formerly the animal was hunted by whalers upon all the islands of the Antarctic ocean, notably Kerguelen's Land and the South Shetland, where they abounded in immense herds. The creatures were slaughtered for their hides and blubber.

The tusks of the male reach a length of four or five inches, their external part being smooth and conical, while the part embedded in the flesh is furrowed and slightly curved. The tusks of the males are solid—at the lower end only a slight cavity appears—while in the female they are shorter, and, moreover, almost hollow up to the point. Sailors and seal hunters are fond of using these hollow teeth of the tusks for pipe bowls, quills from the wings of pelicans supplying suitable stems for the pipes.

STORY WAS NEVER TOLD.

Champion Teller of Fishing Tales Was Cut Off in a Cruel Manner.

Young Dock Blower got back from the lakes one day lately in his white duck suit, Panama hat and canvas shoes, looking as brown as a berry and carrying a stock of stories of big catches, any one of which would make the Walton's celebrated strings look like bunches of shiners caught with pin hooks, relates the Kansas City Star.

"Glad to see you, boys," Dock said, as he entered the club room with a light springing step and extended both hands to the fellows who crowded around him. "Greatest time of my life—made the biggest catch I ever—"

"We believe it, we believe it," they all said in chorus.

Dock grinned and then said something about being glad to get back to the old crowd. But a moment later he broke out again:

"Say, boys, but it is the only place the best fishing you ever saw—"

"We believe it, we believe it," they all said, in a reassuring tone.

Dock called for lemonade. The waiters took what they pleased. Then he went into the reading room and began to look through the current numbers of the magazine. Every now and then a member would greet him and Dock would return the greeting with a nod. The judge came in and sat down at the table.

"What kind of time did you have?" he asked.

"Very pleasant, very pleasant," Dock replied.

The champion teller of fish stories had caught on.

Geographical Names. Siberia signifies "thirsty." Sicily is "the country of grapes." Caledonia means a high hill. Asia signifies "in the middle," because ancient geographers thought it lay between Europe and Africa. Italy signifies "a country of pluck," from its yielding great quantities of black pitch. Hibernia is "utmost," or "last habitation," for beyond this the Phenicians never extended their voyages to the westward Britain is "the country of tin," great quantities being found in it.

Far-Sighted Japanese. So thoroughly have the Japanese infiltrated themselves with the teachings of naval strategists that nothing will induce them to forego the maritime ascendancy which Admiral Togo established in one ventureous battle.

They mean to render it impossible for Russia to attack them at sea except from so distant a base that the assailants will be half beaten before they have fired a shot.—Guardian.

REAL THING IN AIRSHIPS.

Greek Invents One Which Can Run Against Wind—New Vessel to Oppose Contrary Currents.

London.—A new airship, the invention of a Greek named Maranikas, which has been patented in the United Kingdom and the British colonies, and which has obtained the favorable opinion of several British experts, is to be tried soon before representatives of the war office.

One of the many difficulties connected with navigation of the air has been the inability of airships to oppose contrary currents. Maranikas considers that he has surmounted this difficulty. His vessel is so constructed that a current of air which otherwise would interfere with the desired course of the ship is broken up, deflected and caused to pass alongside thereby more or less nullifying the pressure of side currents.

The salient point of the invention is the tractor, which is placed in the front part of the airship, where it is the double duty of propulsion and steering. It can be driven by any motive power, being composed of four or more arms equal to or longer than half the diameter of the airship.

The object of this arrangement is to protect the front part of the ship from the influence of wind. Blades of proportionate size are placed so as to move the airship forward whilst protecting its side from the wind.

Attached to the tractor is a wind guard of ingenious character. The airship is steered by the varying direction of the vertical axis on which the tractor is curved. The motor is placed at the rear. The airship has a long, cylindrical body.

FIND GHOST IS A BIG OWL

Posse Lays in Wait for Supposed Apparition—Writing Spook's Neck.

Pelham, N. Y.—Reports have been circulating for weeks that there are ghosts in the neighborhood of the New York and Westchester Water company's pumping station in Pelham, and women and children have been afraid to venture out after dark in Wolf's lane. In days gone by several persons took their lives in this vicinity, and this added much strength to the ghost story.

Finally a posse was organized to run down the ghost. For hours the party scouted themselves on the property of James D. Connor, secretary of the Martinez Cigar company, and waited for the apparition. It was two o'clock in the morning when the ghost finally made its first "chirrup." It was a weird noise and sounded like the groans of a dying person. At first several members of the posse were frightened, but, regaining their nerve, decided to run down the ghost.

It was then discovered that a screech owl with a cracked voice was the ghost. The bird was in a tree directly over the pumping station, and when the engineer let the exhaust steam escape it frightened the bird, which emitted unearthly howls. The posse caught the bird and wrung its neck.

HOT CHASE FOR WILD HOG

Fox-Hunting Grounds Are Scene of a Novel Pursuit for Vicious Porker.

Media, Pa.—Upper Providence township, in the vicinity of the Rose Tree inn, the scene of many an exciting fox hunt, had a diversion in the shape of a chase after a hog, which, escaping several months ago, had become almost as wild as its South American cousins.

The animal has been creating depredations in the valley between Crum and Holey creeks for several weeks, destroying gardens and young trees, sleeping in the woods in the daytime, where it has several times pursued children who happened to disturb it.

During the past few days it has been feasting on corn from the farm of L. Z. Jenkins. The latter determined to capture the hog, and with Frank Malsed and several other neighbors and a score of dogs drove the wild porker from the woods. It showed fight, charging at the dogs until they surrounded it, and then ran for nearly a mile, turning at bay several times.

It was corralled finally in a fence corner and lassoed, fighting all the time with open mouth and gleaming tusks, which have grown unusually long. After much difficulty it was hauled to the pen of Mr. Jenkins, where it is awaiting an owner.

"Only the Rich Have Brains." Charles Armstrong, of Osceola, Ia., who fasted until almost dead and who had announced that he would die recently, is still alive. The threats of removal to an asylum for the insane had the desired effect. When the illness which set in was checked the patient succeeded in retaining some food.

There is now hope of recovery. Armstrong indignantly resents the story that he is mentally unbalanced. "Only the rich have brains," declared the old man, "and the fortune I have built up proves that my mind is sound. I could start again to-morrow and accumulate wealth, but I don't want it. I have lived long enough and don't want to be in anybody's way."

American Woman a Pilot. The first American woman to obtain a diploma of master pilot in France is Miss Jane Maughan, who is now calling a boat to Norway. She expects to be back in France in a few weeks and will then navigate the Seine as far as Paris.

A Tough Undertaking. Chicago hotel and restaurant proprietors have formed an organization to fight the beef trust. They have much at stake.

QUEER DEATH RITES.

REMARKABLE BURIAL OF AN ECCENTRIC ILLINOISAN.

Peoria County Man Stipulated That No Undertaker, No Minister, No Hearse or Mourners Should Surround His Bier.

Bloomington, Ill.—Perhaps the most remarkable burial on record in Illinois was that of W. B. McClelland, of Peoria county, which occurred in a cemetery near Elwood. No hearse conveyed the remains to the last resting place; no minister of the gospel stood over the bier; no relatives were present, and no mourners assisted in the final rites. The interment, however, was exactly in conformity with the dying request of the decedent and of the wishes frequently expressed by him during the remaining years of his life.

For 15 years McClelland was engaged in business at Nokomis, Ill. Recently he became ill and was informed that his last days were numbered. He betrayed no emotion over the information, but sent for two residents of Nokomis, John Thorp and R. C. Hanlon, to whom he imparted his last wishes. He swore them to compliance by a solemn oath and they regarded his last requests, strange and unaccountable as they appeared, as sacred. The instructions were as follows:

First—That no undertaker should embalm his body or have anything to do with it.

Second—That no car wheels should turn under his coffin.

Third—That he should have a metallic casket, which should be placed in a specially constructed vault.

Fourth—That his remains should be interred in the cemetery at Elwood, Peoria county.

Fifth—That no preacher should be around when he was laid to rest.

Sixth—That no hearse should be used.

Seventh—That none of his relatives should be notified of his death until one day after his burial.

Hanlon and Thorp carried out these instructions to the letter. They experienced considerable trouble in doing so, however. They procured a light wagon and the body was conveyed from Nokomis overland to the cemetery. There, in a shallow grave, unattended by clergy, relatives or mourners, the body of the eccentric man was laid to eternal rest. The remarkable burial was kept a complete secret until all the details had been carried out, as the dead man had wished. He left considerable property, and there will be considerable interest in the wording of his will, providing he left such a document. He may have provided for the distribution of his property with the same eccentricity as characterized his burial.

COSTLY CUP OF COFFEE.

On Complaint of Woman Awaiting a Letter Postman Is Suspended for Twenty Days for Stopping It.

Elizabeth, N. J.—For stopping at a house a few minutes to drink a cup of coffee while on duty, Nicholas Flynn, a well-known Elizabeth letter carrier, who for the last three years has been president of the State Letter Carriers' association of New Jersey, has been suspended 20 days by Postmaster Palmer Howe Chaddock. This entails on the postman a loss of \$50, the highest price, it is believed, ever paid for a cup of the refreshing beverage in the United States.

Flynn has been in the service of Uncle Sam 16 years, and this is the first complaint, it is alleged, ever made against him. A woman living near the place where he drank the coffee, who was impatiently awaiting his arrival with her mail, wrote a letter of complaint to the postmaster, which brought about the suspension.

Flynn is a total abstainer, and for four years was president of the Elizabeth Branch No. 67, National Letter Carriers' association. He is treasurer of St. Paul's Episcopal chapel and warden of St. Paul's guild. He is also past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, past chief ranger of the Foresters, a past sachem of the Red Men and a past councillor of the Order of American Mechanics.

DRIVEN AWAY BY PROPHECY

Families Leave Marion, Ind., Because Woman Predicted Disaster for the Near Future.

St. Louis.—Hundreds of families are leaving Marion, Ind., on account of a prediction by Mrs. Viola Pownell that the city is soon to be visited by a disaster, the full extent of which she does not know or exactly in what form it is to come. Some time ago, however, she prophesied that all evil places would be uprooted and that much of the worst element of the city would be scattered. Since that time 40 of the 105 saloons and all the poolrooms have been closed, and all gamblers have been run out of the place. The fulfillment of this prediction has been so remarkable that there is implicit reliance in what she says, and many are fleeing from the wrath to come.

"I do not know in what form this judgment will come, nor at exactly what time," she said recently, "but I have seen the signs in the heavens in the form of stars that shine like electric lights, and the day of the visitation is not far off. People should prepare themselves now."

Two Rulers Chummy. The shah of Persia has been visiting the czar at Peterhof, probably for the purpose of personally inspecting the Russian ruler's bombproof.

WHERE THE BRITISH MET.

Spot in the New Hampshire Hills Which Quartered Defeated English Troops.

There is probably not to be found in all New England a more unique monument than this which occupies a commanding position on the main highway between Durham and Hollis, N. H. It is unique, not only in that it stands in a lonely position at some distance from human habitation, but also in what it commemorates, says the Boston Herald.

The attention of the tourist is attracted first at the sight of a monument in so singular a position. He instinctively pauses to learn what great event or victory it celebrates and is amazed to read the following inscription:

"After the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga, in 1777, certain British officers, prisoners of war quartered in this vicinity, but released upon parole, were permitted to enjoy, in all their military finery, a trysting place at this spot."

It has long been the custom to commemorate great events and victories by monuments, but seldom indeed has such a circumstance as this been so commemorated.

Those were strenuous days in which Burgoyne met Gates and defeat as any descendant of the sturdy "Boys of '76" will tell you, and only events of more than ordinary interest and excitement were noticed.

Just who these officers were who were quartered here, or what occurrences warranted the erection of this monument, is not known. The region is replete with interesting traditions of those exciting days, that have come down through generations of story tellers. Whether these traditions be founded on fact or not, one thing is certain, those in whose charge these prisoners of war were placed were true Americans, honoring the foe even in his defeat.

Every kindness seems to have been shown them, every possible courtesy granted them. Notwithstanding the repugnance with which the New Englander looked upon the red coat of the British officer, they were permitted to wear it and to enjoy a trysting place under the branches of this old tree, whose branches have sheltered generations of sturdy sons and daughters of this land of freedom.

The monument is a plain, well-polished granite slab, and stands on a little eminence commanding a view of the main highway. It occupies such a position that the passerby cannot fail to get a full view of this interesting and historical spot.

BOOKMAKERS' BIG PROFIT.

It Is Said Not Five Men in Fifty Who Bet on Horse Races Are Winners.

Not five men in fifty who bet on a horse race win. If this were not so, the bookmakers could not live, for their expenses are heavy, writes Elsiea Kelly, in Public Opinion. Until near the end of May it cost a member of the Metropolitan Turf association about \$100 a day to make book. It was necessary, therefore, for the 80 members of this body who booked regularly to take out of the pockets of the public \$8,000 each day, in order to quit even. The 100 outside layers, with their daily expenses of \$55 each, had to win another \$5,500, while the 30 hacklayers, whose expenses were \$30, were forced to mulct the followers of the turf to the extent of \$900 more; and the 40 field layers, with their \$40 outlay, had to collect from their golden geese \$1,600. Thus the 250 gamblers who habitually do business at the tracks had to win \$16,000 daily in order not to lose money, and it was rarely that they failed to do so.

The meaning of these figures is that the 10,000 persons who on an average attended the race track, were forced to lose \$1.60 each, in addition to the payment of a two dollar admission fee, car fare, programme, etc.

It is impossible to obtain exact figures as to the daily losses on the New York race courses, but that they are large can be readily understood from the foregoing. An ex-bookmaker tried to make an estimate for the writer, but to make a guess in despair, saying: "All that is positive is this, that a layer, a member of the Metropolitan Turf association, who has not a net profit at the end of the season of \$20,000 considers the season to have been a bad one." This means a loss by the public to the Metropolitan Turf association alone of \$1,520,000 of net profit and \$3,120,000 of expenses, based upon the old order of doing business. This is a daily winning of \$205 a man, which is undoubtedly low. The ex-bookmaker admitted this, and said that during his career as a layer he had cleared as high as \$200,000 in a season. The bookmakers that lose, he said, are those who, not satisfied with making a winning book, try to increase their "rolls" by betting on their judgment in other books.

When rich men lose from \$10,000 to \$20,000 on a race, as certain Wall street plungers have been known to do, it is easy to realize that the estimated winnings of the members of the Metropolitan Turf association are placed, if anything, below the real mark.

Cause of the Change. "The water was cold when I came in," said the thin bather, "but it feels warm now. I suppose it's because I've got used to it."

"Huh uh," responded the fat bather. "A Boston girl just went out and a New Orleans girl came in."—Detroit Tribune.

Secret of His Success. Mr. Snooks—To what, sir, do you attribute your success as a salesman? Mr. Sellem—If a customer doesn't see what he wants I make him want what he sees.—Cleveland Leader.

ENGLISH USING ICE.

PREJUDICE AGAINST FROZEN DELICACIES SMATTERED.

Tourists from American Side of Atlantic Break Down Objection—Chocolate Soda and Mutton Chop Go Well Together.

London.—To the steadily increasing influence of American visitors and residents in London is attributed the great increase in the consumption of ice, which has been noted this season. During the recent hot spell it amounted to more than 1,000 tons a day—a mere fraction of what New York, with a much smaller population, demands in warm weather, but it is considered an enormous quantity here.

In the past Englishmen have been accustomed to regard ice water and iced drinks of all kinds as a pernicious luxury. Doctors have told them that they are responsible for much of the indigestion, dyspepsia and other ailments with which Americans are popularly supposed to be afflicted beyond the rest of mankind. But Americans journeying in London have insisted on being served with them when the temperature is oppressive. And notes and restaurants that cater to their custom have found that it pays to give them what they want.

In fear and trembling some of the most venturesome English folk followed their example and finding that they immediately felt on better terms with themselves and the weather, and that no dire result ensued, they capitulated. Then they told their friends that they had discovered something which increased the joys of existence.

Of course, London is never subjected to such sweltering heat as makes existence in many of the big American cities a grievous burden and begets at ardent yearning to spend the rest of one's days on the shady side of an iceberg. But this summer there have been several days here when the mercury has soared above 80 in the shade and with humidity high the combination has sufficed to produce that thirst which iced beverages alone will satisfy.

One of the largest medium priced restaurants in London, which was opened this year, has made a specialty of American iced drinks of the temperate variety, with the addition of a few that are mildly alcoholic. With an American who understands the art of preparing them properly and artistically in charge of the department, it has proved the most popular feature of the establishment.

The number of American soda water fountains in the metropolis is rapidly increasing. One of them has been recently added to the American restaurant in the Strand. I saw an Englishman there the other day washing down a mutton chop and fried potatoes with a chocolate ice cream soda. He survived it. The American in charge of the fountain told me that was nothing. He had seen an Englishman take a strawberry ice cream soda with a Welsh rarebit, and then call for another glass of it.

"I guess," he added, "Rockefeller would give half his millions to sway stomachs with that man."

Many of the cheaper restaurants dispense what they call "American iced long drinks." There is not much that is suggestive of an American origin about them except the ice and the straws, but they serve to increase the demand for ice. Ice itself is no longer regarded as a pernicious luxury. It is the price of it here that people kick about. To keep a small family refrigerator going for a week—such as in the American cities would cost from \$5 to 75 cents—here necessitates an expenditure of between three and four dollars.

MAN MOURNED AS HANGED

Singular Coincidence in Names Leads Woman to Believe Husband Was Convicted of Murder.

London.—Thomas Daley has just returned to Watton, Norfolk, after an absence of 18 years, to find that his wife and old associates believed he had been hanged for murder in 1893.

The mistake arose from a singular coincidence. Ten years after he had left Watton a man of the same name, who was also a bricklayer, murdered a woman named Penfold at Maldstone, and suffered the extreme penalty of the law. The local papers reported the murder as having been committed by a local man, and Mrs. Daley regarded herself as the widow of a murderer.

When Daley heard of the crime he was working near London, and laughingly remarked to a fellow workman that his brother was being hanged. He first heard of his association with the murder two years ago, but took no steps to clear up the mistake. His return to Watton after an absence of 18 years has created quite a sensation, and dozens of his old friends have called to identify him and talk with him.

First Fruits. Some one suggests that the manufacture of pistols in the United States be prohibited and that a prohibitive duty be levied on pistols made in other countries. A prohibitive duty on pistols and the proposed tax on coffee would probably constitute what they call the dual tariff.

Saves Pet; Made a Cripple. Trying to prevent her pet bulldog from leaping out of a second-story window in Portland, Ore., to answer a challenge from a dog in the street, Miss Ella Wilson, a young actress fell to her knees on the floor of her room, broke both knees and may be a cripple for life.

Secret of His Success. Mr. Snooks—To what, sir, do you attribute your success as a salesman? Mr. Sellem—If a customer doesn't see what he wants I make him want what he sees.—Cleveland Leader.

DEATH RATE AT PANAMA.

Betterment of Conditions Reduces Number of Fatalities and Sick Cases.

Washington.—While typhoid fever is raging in Washington and fastening itself upon a dozen or more persons every day, reports from the isthmus of Panama indicate that Chief Engineer Stevens' prediction that the canal zone will become a health resort bids fair to be fulfilled at no very distant date.

The death rate among 10,000 employes of the canal commission and many thousands of non-employe residents of the canal zone has been but 2.6 per 1,000 during the last three months. In 1881, the first year of canal work under the French administration, the death rate was 66.8 per 1,000. The number of fever cases decreased from 72 in June to 23 in July, and is still decreasing despite the fact that August is the worst month for fever.

The intentions of Chairman Shonts and Chief Engineer Stevens of the commission, are being carried out. These contemplate making dirt-digging a matter of secondary consideration and the devotion of every energy to improvement of the employes' condition. The new water supply has been turned on in Panama City and is being extended as rapidly as possible.

The establishment of comfortable quarters along the line of the canal is nearly completed and by the end of this month, it is stated, every nonimmune employe can obtain quarters outside Panama and Colon, which appear to be the centers of disease.

Plans are now under way for the establishment of a line of refrigerator ships and cars that will carry fresh eggs, poultry, butter, vegetables and other foodstuffs from American ports to Colon and Panama and thence by rail to stations along the canal route, where the supplies can be transferred to the ice boxes of hotels and boarding houses for the benefit of American employes. This will solve the problem of furnishing proper food to its employes.

DAUGHTER GETS PARDON.

Father Released from Prison by Efforts of Child He Had Never Seen.

New York.—James F. Clagton, of Cooperstown, N. Y., whose pardon from prison was procured by his daughter, has just seen her for the first time. The young woman was born 20 years ago and after he had been convicted for the murder of his three-year-old child.

The meeting was most pathetic. Both were overjoyed at the reunion, and as they embraced they wept in silence.

Clagton was pardoned by Gov. Higgins at the earnest solicitation of his daughter, who is now known as Miss Dorothy A. Boden. Miss Boden was adopted by a wealthy couple soon after her father's conviction, and as soon as she learned that her father was in prison she commenced her efforts to procure his freedom. Her foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. William D. Boden, of this village, encouraged her efforts, although they loved her as their own child and had spared no expense in providing for her an excellent education.

As a village schoolgirl Miss Boden held high rank and was graduated in 1902 from the Cooperstown high school at the head of her class. Her excellent scholarship won for her the Averell gold medal and several other prizes.

Mr. and Mrs. Boden died several years ago, leaving their foster daughter several thousand dollars. She continued her studies, and for the last two years has been a student at Cornell university.

Miss Boden's devotion for her father won her much sympathy and many friends joined her in her work to obtain her parent's pardon from state prison. Her efforts were finally rewarded, and the governor, reaching the conclusion that Clagton had suffered sufficient punishment for his crime, issued the papers that made him a free man.

SHIPMASTER A STOWAWAY.

After 26 Years' Service, Is Stranded Himself on Foreign Shores and Resorts to Expedient.

Philadelphia.—Having followed the sea as a shipmaster for 26 years, Capt. Herman White reached this port as a stowaway on the American line steamship Merion, from Liverpool.

It is the first time in the history of the immigrant commissioner that a full-fledged shipmaster ever came here in such a capacity. Being an American citizen, Capt. White was allowed to leave for his home.

When one day out from Queenstown the officers of the Merion found Capt. White hidden away among the 320 steerage passengers. To Capt. Hill, the skipper related his sad plight and for the rest of the voyage was given the freedom of the ship.

Capt. White is 42 years old and belongs to New York. He left New York last January as navigating officer of the steamship Lovinia, and was paid off upon the arrival of that vessel at Marselles.

He had a ticket for Liverpool, but could not get a ship there. In wandering about the docks he was robbed of his money. Penniless, he existed for several days, and was then driven to desperation and stowed away on board the Merion, which was to sail the following day for this port.

Buzzard Killed by Lightning. While people at the Somerset, O., home of S. Holcomb were watching an approaching thunderstorm, a turkey buzzard was seen flying at a considerable height ahead of the cloud, when a flash of lightning struck the bird, it fell as if shot. The bird was dead when picked up, but the body was only slightly marked.