Collecting Old China. Old china ornaments, such as are often to be purchased from country people, are very salable. Particularly those funny old jugs known to collectors as "Toby jugs" are in demand. The buyer should make sure that he is purchasing the genuine old articles, as there are many forgeries about. The old jugs have been copied so exactly in design and markings that it is extremely difficult even for experts to tell the real thing. If the jug looks very old and the owner can give it a history extending some time back, the purchaser will be fairly safe in laying out anything under \$3. In out of the way places jugs and plates are still to be found made in one time fashionable 'luster" ware. Of late years these have been in demand among collectors, and the amateur will easily recognize them from the metallic appearance of the surface. In conclusion, it may be said that the general rule of the treasure hunter must be not to pay any big mountains, carrying their tents, canoes prices at all. At the best the buying of and supplies on their backs, but their such articles as mentioned above is very speculative in that the purchaser may be able to realize a good price, or, on the other hand, he may not do more than cover his expenses, so that the conscience of the amateur purchaser may be quite easy in buying at a low price, and if he can sell at a large profit he deserves all he gets for the risk he is willing to run.-New York

Brown Leather Bags. The salesman brought out a superb kit bag of cowhide, a rich brown bag, hand sewed, as big as a trunk.

"This," he said, "is \$40." "I'd take it," said the patron, "only brown leather luggage gets so dirty and shabby after a few months' use. I have a leather steamer trunk I paid \$75 for, and it is scratched and stained and discolored so I am ashamed of it." The salesman frowned.

"Haven't you sense enough," he said, "to clean your brown leather luggage with a tan dressing, the same as you clean your brown leather shoes? As brown shoes, uncleaned, become unsightly, so brown luggage does, but this luggage, cleaned whenever it is used, is the most imposing and the most beautiful you can have.

"Get a bottle of brown leather dressing, apply it to your brown trunk and rub with a woolen cloth for five minutes. I'll guarantee that the trunk will then look better than new. It will

have a richer, deeper color. "Suit cases, valises and all sorts of brown leather things should be rubbed up each time they are used. Then, instead of shabby luggage, we would see everywhere spick and span luggage of the richest brown."-St. Louis Globe-

Swiss Enterprise.

There is a weekly journal published at Zurich, Switzerland, called the Engaged Couples' Advertiser, which ha agents at work all over Switzerland ascertaining the name of every girl who is engaged to be married and that of her prospective husband. These names are printed in the paper, with the addresses of the sweethearts and a description of their social position. Soon after the announcement of her engagement a girl finds herself almost in a position to start a shop, so numerous are the samples she receives from firms anxious to sell their goods to her.

Gun Barrels.

To brown gun barrels wet a piece of rag with chloride of antimony, dip it into olive oil and rub the barrel over. In forty-eight hours it will be covered with a fine coat of rust. Then rub the barrel with a fine steel scratch brush and wipe with a rag dipped in boiled linseed oil. To rebrown remove the old coating with oil and emery paper, then remove the grease with caustic potash.

Sitting on Chairs.

Does sitting on chairs tend to make people stiff and awkward? Orientals can sit on their heels however fat and elderly they may be, while many English people after middle age can rarely rise from their chairs without assistance.-London Graphic.

Nose For News.

"That man is an inveterate gossin and he has a perfect genius for smelling out squally times in families." "Then his is something of a storm scenter."-Baltimore American.

It is easy to be brave when you know the enemy has only blank cartridges.

JOY OF HOUSE BOATING.

Complete Freedom In Nature's Ro-

He who would live the simple nomadic life in complete freedom and independence in the very heart of nature's most romantic retreats must live in a house boat. I mean, of course, a roomy craft that possesses its own motive power, that will go wherever the will of its owner directs, that will be small enough and sufficiently light of draft to explore the secret passages, the inmost agoons of the watery wilderness where nature most royally entertains

What an idle, lazy, luxurious, romantic life this is, to be sure! It is impossible to enthuse too strongly on the merits of such an unfettered existence. A camping launch big enough to accommodate one's family and a man of all work, a combination of guide, cook and pilot, is the ideal craft and crew for the majority. It provides a comfortable habitation, a tight roof and a dry bed in all weathers and carries all the supplies needed for an extended journey in the wilds.

There are those who prefer the joys of tramping through woods and over labors are very much greater than those who are luxuriously carried about in their floating camp. Its very restfulness is the sedative required by the man of strenuous life. Reclining in deck chair or hammock, he sails among the most beautiful vistas of shimmering water and woodland scenery, changing his surroundings every hour if need be.-Outdoors.

THE CAMEL.

He Has a Dangerous Temper, and His Bite Is Vicious.

The camel is a dangerous unimal to ride-a much more dangerous animal than the horse-for the reason that, with his serpentine neck, he can reach round when annoyed and bite his rider. Camels are not at all the patient, quiet, kindly creatures they are painted. They have nasty tempers. A caravan crossing the desert is always noisy.

The loud and angry snarls of the camels make the waste places resound. A camel's bite is a serious matter. The strong teeth lock in the wound and a circular motion is given to the jaw. around and then back, before the teeth are withdrawn again. The wound is a horrible one. There are few camel

drivers without camel scars. Dr. Nachtigal, the celebrated African explorer, once said to a youth who expressed a sentimental desire to cross the Sahara on camel back:

"Young man, I'll tell you how you can get a partial idea of what riding a camel in an African desert is like. Take an office stool, screw it up as high as possible and put it along with a savage dog into a wagon without any springs. Then seat yourself on the stool and have it driven over uneven and rocky ground during the hottest parts of July and August, being careful not to eat or drink more than once every two days and letting the dog bite you every four hours. This will give you a faint idea of the exquisite poetry of camel riding in the Sahara."-St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The King's Page of Honor. The post of page of honor to the sovereign does not carry with it, as it used to do, the right to a commission in the guards without examination of any kind, but it is still a coveted office, with privileges attached to it which are much appreciated by the sprigs of noble houses who are lucky enough to receive the appointment. It is not, for example, an unpleasant experience for a fourth form boy at Eton or Harrow to be summoned up to London on a "whole school day" for a court at Buckingham palace or other state pageant while his schoolfellows are toiling at their books. Such summonses are, of course, of the nature of royal commands, which must be obeyed .-London Modern Society.

Persian Tears.

The Persians still believe that human tears are a remedy for certain chronic diseases. At every funeral the bottling of mourners' tears is one of the chief features of the ceremonies. Each of the mourners is presented with a sponge with which to mop off his face and eyes, and after the burial they are presented to the priest, who ezes the tears into bottles, which he keeps. This custom is one of the oldest known in the east and has probably been practiced by the Persians for thousands of years. Mention is made of it in the Old Testament.

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GUIMARD, THE SPIDER.

The Great Dancer of the Great Days of the Ballet. The elder Vestris, who flourished in the middle of the eighteenth century, called himself the "god of dancing

and declared in all sincerity and without rebuke that his century had produced but three supreme men-himself, Frederick the Great and Voltaire, On one occasion when reproving his son Augustus for refusing to dance before the king of Sweden at the request of the king of France he said that he would not tolerate any misunderstanding between the houses of Vestris and Bourbon, which had lived hitherto upon the most friendly terms.

Madeleine Guimard made her debut when she was thirteen years of age and for nearly thirty years kept all Paris worshiping at her feet. This was a success of art and not of beauty, for Guimard was so aggressively thin that she was known as "the spider." She discovered the great painter David, who helped Fragonard to adorn her house with frescoes. Indeed, Frago-nard, for whose paintings today fabulous sums have been paid, lost his commission because he dared to fall in love with his patron. Guimard had a theater in her own house, and her entertainments there were deemed extravagant in an age of luxury. Paris could not spare her to London until she was past her fortieth year. She was a sort of boudoir adviser to Marie Antoinette, and so great was the esteem in which she was held that one of the most distinguished sculptors of the day molded her foot, and when her arm was broken in a stage accident a mass for her speedy recovery was cele-brated at Notre Dame. — Macmillan's Magazine.

THE BLACK BASS.

A Marine Butcher That Kills For the

Pleasure of Slaughter. The bass is like a roaring lion going about seeking whom he may devour. I have seen a good sized specimen get into a school of minnows and eat and stuff until he could not get any more into his capacious insides, then go off by himself, throw up what he had eaten and begin over again, after which he would keep on killing the poor innocent minnows, apparently for the mere pleasure of killing. Very young bass will attack minute water life which flourishes on water plants and get away with every one in sight, adopting the same method as their elders. To illustrate the extent of the cannibalism of the black bass here is the experience of a superintendent of one of the fish hatcheries in Pennsylvania:

"The superintendent made an actual count of 20,000 young bass about an inch long and placed them in a fry pond by themselves. He gave them food six times a day, and, according to his statement, each fish ate on an average three times its own weight of the prepared food every twenty-four hours. They were placed in a pond on the 1st of July, and on Oct. 1, when they were taken out, there were only 11,000, and the record showed that less than 200 died from sickness. It is reasonable to suppose, therefore, that in addition to the food given them by the superintendent there were about 9,000 bass devoured by their stronger and more fortunate companions."-W. E. Meehan in Field and Stream.

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