

THE TRADE RAT.

Odd Ways of This Peculiar Little California Rodent.

One of the oddest little animals in existence is the California wood rat, better known as the "trade rat." It owes the latter name to the fact that, though it is a great thief, it never steals anything without putting something else in its place.

In Lindsay's "Mind in Lower Animals" a description is given of a trade rat's nest found in an unoccupied house. The outside was composed entirely of iron spikes laid in perfect symmetry, with the points outward.

The trade rat has its South American counterpart in the viscacha, a pretty little relative of the chinchilla, which lives in families of twenty or thirty on the pampas.

ABORIGINES OF AFRICA.

Vaalpens Seem to Be the Lowest Order of Cannibals.

An obscure race may possibly be the true aborigines of Africa south of the Zambezi.

These are the Kattea, or Vaalpens, as they are nicknamed by the Boers on account of the dusty color their abdomens acquire from the habit of creeping into holes in the ground, who live in the steppes region of the north Transvaal as far as the Limpopo.

As their complexion is almost a pitch black and their stature only about four feet, they are quite distinct from their tall Bantu neighbors and from the yellowish Bushmen.

The "dogs" or "vultures," as the Zulus call them, are the "lowest of the low," being undoubtedly cannibals and often making a meal of their own aged and infirm, which the Bushmen never do.

Their habitations are holes in the ground, rock shelters and lately a few hovels. They have no arts or industries or even any weapons except those obtained in exchange for ostrich feathers, skins or ivory.

Whether they have any religious ideas it is impossible to say, all intercourse being restricted to barter carried on in a gesture language, for nobody has ever yet mastered their tongue, all that is known of their language being that it is absolutely distinct from that of both the Bushman and the Bantu.

There are no tribes, merely little family groups of from thirty to fifty individuals, each of which is presided over by a headman, whose functions are acquired not by heredity, but by personal qualities.

So little information is available concerning the Kattea that it is impossible to say anything about their racial affinities.—Scientific American.

A Queer Marriage Custom. Members of the M'Jiji tribe, who live on the Limpopo river, wear an extraordinary "marriage dress."

This weird and uncomfortable looking costume is made entirely of split reeds, fastened together with grass, and the unhappy bachelor who contemplates matrimony is compelled to wear it for three solid months before the happy event comes off, meanwhile leading a life of strict seclusion.

Not an Irishman.

There is a bust of Hugh O'Brien, a former mayor of Boston, in the corridor of the Boston Public Library and one of John Boyle O'Reilly in the newspaper room. The other day a man approached one of the clerks in the newspaper room, saying, "Isn't there a bust of anybody except Irishmen in the building?" "Certainly," replied the clerk. "There is a bust of Lucifer in the periodical room, and he wasn't an Irishman."

A Delicate Hint.

"They say Miss Sharpe can convey a hint with such tact that it is impossible to take offense."

"Yes, she has quite a gift that way. The last time Mr. Staylate called there she asked him to have some slight refreshment and then brought in a plate of breakfast food."—Baltimore American.

2 BRICK COURT.

Temple Chambers in Which Oliver Goldsmith Amused Himself.

Few buildings link the London of the present day with so many of the literary characters of the London of the past as does the house at 2 Brick court, Middle Temple. The dominant memory which clings around it is that perpetuated by a handsome tablet on its front elevation bearing the words:

In these chambers died Oliver Goldsmith On the 4th of April, 1774.

and a medallion of the poet.

Goldsmith's, however, was seldom a lonely figure, and he gathered around him at Brick court all the wit of the metropolis of his day. In 1765, on the strength of the success of "The Good Natured Man" and the fact that he was making some £500 a year, "Goldie" expended £400 on chambers "up two pair right" and fitted them with showy carpets, gilt mirrors and furniture extravagantly upholstered in blue velvet.

Thus equipped, he embarked on a course of expenditure in which fine clothes for himself, grand dinners to a literary coterie and pretty trifles for vernal beauties all bore costly parts.

Johnson, Dr. Arne, Percy Reynolds, Francis and Bickerstaff were among the frequent visitors at 2 Brick court, but their arrival was not the cause of so much concern to Goldsmith's cotenants as that of some other of the poet's guests. It was the little supper parties to Goldsmith's young friends of both sexes that drew from the studious Blackstone, hard at work on his famous "Commentaries" in the rooms below "Goldie's," bitter protests against the racket of his "revelling neighbor."

Both "The Traveler" and "The Vicar of Wakefield" were published soon after Goldsmith moved into Brick court, but the income they brought him was insufficient to withstand the drain made on his resources by his extravagance, his generosity and his taste for gambling. Owing £2,000, unable to obtain further advances from his booksellers and seeing no way out of his embarrassments, Goldsmith broke down in spirits and health. He had to leave those windows from which he used to watch the rooks in the grove, which once stood where now is Elm court, and, as he wrote, "often amused myself with observing their plan of policy." Goldsmith returned thither, nevertheless, to die, and though he was carried to his last resting place through rows of weeping women the benches of the Temple appear to have valued him so little that the very place of his burial became forgotten. For that neglect the tablet came as tardy but welcome reparation.—London Tribune.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

An ounce of assistance is worth a pound of advice.

Count your joys and you will discount your sorrows.

Hard labor is a plaster that alleviates the pains of the mind.

Part of the art of doing things is to attempt but little at a time.

Some people seem to think that loud talk makes a sound argument.

If you have a cross to bear, bear it like a man and don't place it on exhibition.

When the opposing attorney offers to compromise it means that you have a good case.

Many a man is credited with being patient when in reality he is too lazy to register a kick.

Many a fool has acquired a reputation for wisdom by accidentally doing the right thing at the right time.—Exchange.

Amy Robsart.

On a Sunday in September, 1560, Lady Robert Dudley, better known under her maiden name of Amy Robsart, being in good health, sent to a fair all the people of Connor Hall, near Oxford, where she was residing, except one friend. On their return she was lying dead at the foot of the stairs. Dudley courted inquiry. The inquest found that she died by accident, and she was splendidly buried in St. Mary's, Oxford. The Spanish ambassador wrote that Elizabeth had told him a few days before that Amy was likely to die soon, but he may well have had a motive for a false statement. It is Sir Walter Scott's greatest crime that he misdates Amy Robsart's death by some fifteen years.—Full Mail Gazette.

The Regular Custom.

In a London street a girl of twelve and a boy of ten were playing a family drama of "mother and father," and Bobby was being instructed in his role. "Now, Bob," said the girl, "you just walk up yer ter corner an' wait there till we tell yer ter come. We're a-goin' ter git dinner ready, an' when we call yer, yer ter come 'ome and chuck the flings about." "Ho?" said Bobby. "Come 'ome drunk, do I? And why?" "Why for, stupid?" retorted the girl, with a glance of mingled scorn and pity. "Ain't it Saturday?"

Generosity.

Never be sorry for any generous thing that you ever did, even if it was betrayed. Never be sorry that you were magnanimous if the man was mean afterward. Never be sorry that you gave. It was right for you to give even if you were imposed upon. You cannot afford to keep on the safe side by being mean.

The Plural.

In a Chicago school a class was studying irregular plurals of nouns when it was asked by the teacher to give the plural of "child." Then it was that little Edgar, who knew how it was at home, promptly answered, "Twins."

A WEEK'S NEWS CONDENSED

Wednesday, November 14.

The Erie Railroad company has placed orders for 55,550 tons of steel rails for delivery during 1907.

Vincent Moore and his 11-year-old son were burned to death in a fire which destroyed their home at Paoli, Ind.

Two lives were lost and the village of Richland, O., practically wiped out by a fire which was caused by an explosion of gas.

Armed bandits held up a Southern Pacific express at Carlin, Nev., and escaped with over \$1000 and the suit cases of the passengers.

President Roosevelt will be asked to deliver the address at the unveiling of the monument to General Lawton at Indianapolis, Ind., on next Memorial Day.

Thursday, November 15.

One man was killed and another fatally injured in a fire in a tenement house in Brooklyn.

Dan McPeeters, proprietor of a hotel at Chester, Pa., was committed to jail on the charge of murdering his bartender.

The comptroller of currency has called for a statement of the condition of national banks at the close of business on Monday, November 12.

Justin McGlynn, 11 months old, pulled a basin of boiling lard from the stove in his home at Philadelphia and was so badly burned that he died.

The safe in the jewelry store of Roy L. Leonard, at Endicott, near Binghamton, N. Y., was blown open by burglars, who escaped with \$3000 worth of goods.

Friday, November 16.

The Standard Oil company of New Jersey declared a quarterly dividend of \$1 a share.

Lieutenant Samuel N. Kane, U. S. N., retired, of New York, died suddenly in a train at Manassas, Va.

Rev. Dr. James M. Hoppin, 86 years old, professor emeritus of art at Yale University, died at New Haven, Conn., of old age.

It was announced in New York that the wages of the employes of the American Express company have been increased 10 per cent.

The home of William Whiteley, near Goodland, Ind., was destroyed by fire and two small children and a farm laborer were burned to death.

Saturday, November 17.

The Bank of Henderson, Ia., was dynamited by robbers, who escaped with \$3000.

Charles E. Grant, a negro, was hanged at Washington, D. C., for killing Sva Barnes, also colored.

Luxuries were purchased by the United States from abroad to the extent of \$100,000 during the fiscal year 1906.

Mike Ward, the pugilist, died at Grand Rapids, Mich., as the result of a knock-out in a fight with Harry Lewis, of Philadelphia.

While suffering from rheumatism, George Seafie shot and killed himself in the presence of his 86-year-old mother in his home in Philadelphia.

Monday, November 19.

George Keller, an aged ore miner, was found dead in an ore pit on the road leading from Allentown to Minersville, Pa.

The Mine Owners' Association at Leadville, Colo., will do away with the card system and run its mines on an open shop basis.

The Chicago committee on secondary schools has condemned school secret societies as fetid, comical, un-social and of a degenerate influence.

Miss May Rickert was shot and killed in her home at Paterson, N. J., and the police are looking for Harry Leddy, who was calling on her at the time.

Tuesday, November 20.

Mrs. Frank R. Stockton, widow of the novelist, died at her home in Washington.

General C. C. Van Worst, a veteran of the Civil War, died at Milford, Del., aged 84 years.

The Alabama state agricultural school at Athens was wrecked by a storm, but no lives were lost.

Jacob Schulz, former supervisor of South Milwaukee, Wis., pleaded guilty to bribery and was fined \$200.

The employes of the Norfolk & Western railroad were granted an increase of 10 per cent in wages.

The American Federation of Labor at the convention in Minneapolis declared in favor of women's suffrage.

PRODUCE QUOTATIONS

The Latest Closing Prices in the Principal Markets.

PHILADELPHIA — FLOUR firm; winter extras, \$2.80@3; Penna. roller, clear, \$3.05@3.20; city mills, fancy, \$4.40@4.65. RYE FLOUR firm; per bu, \$3.60. WHEAT firm; No. 2 Penna. red, 74 1/2@75c. CORN firm; No. 2 yellow, local, 55 1/2c. OATS steady; No. 2 white, clipped, 39 1/2c.; lower grades, 38c. HAY firm; No. 1 timothy, \$17@17.50. PORK steady; family, \$19.50. BEEF steady; beef hams, \$19. POULTRY: Live firm; hens, 14@14 1/2c.; old roosters, 10c. Dressed steady; choice fowls, 15c.; old roosters, 10c. BUTTER firm; creamery extra, 30c. EGGS steady; selected, 33@35c.; nearby, 31c.; western, 31c.; southern, 28@30c. POTATOES steady; 70@75c. per bush.

BALTIMORE — WHEAT steady; No. 2 spot, 77 1/2c.; steamer No. 2 spot, 63 1/2c.; southern, 63 1/2c. CORN steady; mixed spot, 49 1/2c.; steamer mixed, 47 1/2c.; southern, 48c. OATS firm; white, No. 2, 39 1/2@40c.; No. 3, 38@39c.; No. 4, 35@35 1/2c. SHEEP steady; prime wethers, \$5.60@5.75; culls and common, \$2.50@3.50; lambs, \$5@7.25; veal calves, \$3@3.25. HOGS fair; prime heavies, \$4.55; mediums, yorkers and pigs, \$6.45@6.80; roughs, \$5@5.55.

Live Stock Markets.

PITTSBURGH (Union Stock Yards) — CATTLE fair; choice, \$5.75@6; prime, \$5.40@5.75. SHEEP steady; prime wethers, \$5.60@5.75; culls and common, \$2.50@3.50; lambs, \$5@7.25; veal calves, \$3@3.25. HOGS fair; prime heavies, \$4.55; mediums, yorkers and pigs, \$6.45@6.80; roughs, \$5@5.55.

FREE! FREE! FREE! An Elegant 42-Piece Hand Decorated, CHINA DINNER SET. We are going to give away one of these beautiful Dinner Sets every Saturday Night until January 1st, 1907. YEAGER & DAVIS OPEN EVENINGS. HIGH STREET, BELLEFONTE.

Heiress to \$500,000 Died in Poverty.

Atlantic City, N. J., Nov. 17.—A search in this city by agents of the Italian government for Constanta Majestri Benedette, who was left a fortune of \$500,000 by a wealthy uncle in Italy, ended with the discovery that the young woman died in poverty here three years ago. Miss Benedette and her uncle had a misunderstanding and she came to America. There was no correspondence between them. She was a favorite of her uncle, however, and when he died he left her his fortune. The body will be shipped to Italy.

Middies to Get Dewey's Flagship.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 19. — The protected cruiser Olympia, which was Admiral Dewey's flagship during the Spanish-American war, is to be fitted up as a training ship for midshipmen during the summer months and will in future be stationed at Annapolis. Work on the Olympia will be begun at once at the Norfolk navy yard, and it is planned to have the cruiser ready for its new duty by April.

Medical.

EDWARD K. RHOADS Shipping and Commission Merchant, DEALER IN ANTHRACITE AND BITUMINOUS COALS. CORN EARS, SHELLED CORN, OATS and other grains. BALED HAY and STRAW BUILDERS and PLASTERERS SAND KINDLING WOOD. Respectfully solicits the patronage of his friends and the public, at HIS COAL YARD. Telephone Calls Central 1212, Commercial 652 near the Passenger Station. Money to Loan. MONEY TO LOAN on good security and houses for rent. J. M. KEICHLIN, Att'y at Law.

ERUPTIONS.

Dry, moist, scaly tetter, all forms of eczema or salt rheum, pimples and other eruptions proceed from humors, either inherited, or acquired through defective digestion and assimilation. To treat these eruptions with drying medicines is dangerous. The thing to do is to take HOOD'S SARSAPARILLA AND PILLS Which thoroughly cleanse the blood, expelling all humors and building up the system. They cure. Hood's Sarsaparilla permanently cured J. G. Haines, Franks, Ill., of eczema, from which he had suffered for some time; and Miss Alvina Wolter, Box 212, Algona, Wis., of pimples on her face and back and chafed skin on her body, by which she had been greatly troubled. There are more testimonials in favor of Hood's than can be published. Hood's Sarsaparilla promises to cure and keeps the promise.

Evolution.

Summer resorts go through three stages. First.—People go there to enjoy themselves. Second.—People go there to divert themselves. Third.—People go there to flaunt themselves. Then the place is fashionable.—Life. If William Came to the Play. "Most actors admire Shakespeare." "Some do," answered Mr. Stormington Barnes. "Others are too busy thinking of how Shakespeare would admire them if he could only see them do his plays."—Washington Star. The second most deadly instrument of destruction is the dynamite gun; the first is the human tongue.—Jordon.

Coal and Wood.

EDWARD K. RHOADS Shipping and Commission Merchant, DEALER IN ANTHRACITE AND BITUMINOUS COALS. CORN EARS, SHELLED CORN, OATS and other grains. BALED HAY and STRAW BUILDERS and PLASTERERS SAND KINDLING WOOD. Respectfully solicits the patronage of his friends and the public, at HIS COAL YARD. Telephone Calls Central 1212, Commercial 652 near the Passenger Station. Money to Loan. MONEY TO LOAN on good security and houses for rent. J. M. KEICHLIN, Att'y at Law.

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