

THE MONKFISH.

This Glutton Has Many Names and an Appalling Appetite. Among the most curious of fishes is one known on the coast of Maine as monkfish...

The fish is a glutton, with no finely discriminating palate. It is said to bolt the wooden buoy of a lobster pot with an apparent satisfaction equal to that with which it swallows a mackerel.

Dogfish, sculpens, squids, crabs and lobsters are items in its ordinary diet. Its Massachusetts name is said to have been given it because of its practice of swallowing geese.

The fish habitually lurks upon the bottom, though it is occasionally seen near the surface. It is sluggish in its ordinary movements, but very quick and ready with its powerful jaws and well fitted by nature for its mode of life.

Sandy's Narrow Escape.

"An hood's the guid wife, Sandy?" said one farmer to another as they met in the market place and exchanged snuffboxes.

"Did ye no near that she's dead an' buried?" said Sandy solemnly.

"Dear me!" exclaimed his friend sympathetically. "Surely it must have been very sudden?"

"Aye, it was sudden," returned Sandy. "Ye see, when she turned ill we had na time to send for the doctor, sae I gied her a bit pouther I had lying in my drawer for a year or twa an that I had got frae the doctor myself, but hadna ta'en. What the pouther was I dinna verra veel ken, but she died soon after. It's a sair loss to me, I can assure ye, but it's something to be thankful for I didna tak' the pouther myself!"—Dundee Advertiser.

The Chairman's Break.

Senator Moses E. Clapp of Minnesota made a speech at Erin Corners, in his state, says the Saturday Evening Post.

His audience was very unfriendly. They howled at the gigantic Clapp, laughed at him, threw things at him and made it most uncomfortable.

Finally Clapp stopped and looked at the chairman.

"Don't mind them, Mose," said the chairman. "Go right ahead. They're nothing but loafers and rowdies. None of the decent people would come."

Igneous Rocks.

Igneous is derived from the Latin word ignis, meaning fire, and igneous rocks are those which geologists say were produced through the action of heat. Igneous rocks are divided into two great groups, volcanic and plutonic.

An Explanation.

"Effie," said Margie, who was laboriously spelling words from a first reader, "how can I tell which is a 'd' and which is a 'b'?"

"Why," replied Effie wisely, "the 'd' has its tummy on its back."—Harper's Weekly.

Late and Early Easters.

The earliest date on which Easter can fall is March 22. The moon must then be full on March 21, and that date must be Saturday. Such a combination of circumstances is extremely rare.

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SHORTHAND.

The Quality That Appears to Be Lacking in All Systems.

The fatality of all systems of shorthand is that what seems easy to the eye of the illiterate may be terribly difficult to the cold gaze of a stranger.

For the Romans were on affectionate terms with shorthand. Did not Suetonius, speaking of Caligula, express surprise that an emperor of so many promising parts should nevertheless be an ignoramus in shorthand, and did not Titus Vespasianus pride himself on his facility in the use of stenography both for business and amusement?

VENEZUELA.

Beauty of the Country and the Impression It Leaves.

The beauty of the country is the first and the most lasting impression. To catch glimpses at every turn in the valleys of cloudy peaks, or when on the mountain side to see through the limpid air valley after valley between the protecting hills, to breathe this pure air, to know that summer is almost perpetual—he is only half a man who does not for a moment forget the needs of civilization in the intoxication of primitive nature.

MARVELS OF WORKMANSHIP.

The Violins That Were Made by the Famous Old Masters.

The old masters used such care in the selection of the woods for their instruments that, having found a piece of wood of proper fiber and vibrational powers, they treasured every fragment, no matter how small, and rather than waste even a particle of such a strip they frequently constructed the backs and bellies of patches so delicately put together that "the seams are only discoverable by microscope, so perfect is the cabinetwork."

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To Be Exact.

"Jane," asked Mrs. Hiram Olfen, "are the eggs boiling?" "Most assuredly not, madam," replied the new servant, lately from Boston, "but I may safely say the water in which the eggs are immersed is."

The Change.

"You certainly look better. You must have followed my advice and had a change."

"Yes, doctor, so I have."

"Where did you go?" "I went to another physician."

Wouldn't Waste Time.

An assumed critic on etiquette says an invitation to dine should be accepted the same day. Any chump knows that much. We'd have an answer in the postoffice within ten minutes.

Every one is bound to bear patiently the results of his own example.—Phaedrus.

Difficulty is a severe instruction set over us by the supreme ordinance of a paternal guardian and legislator who knows us better than we know ourselves.—Burke.

A Wedding Gift.

If you pay ten dollars for a wedding gift you cannot get anything so valuable or useful as the gift you may obtain free.—Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser. It is a chart which marks for th, newly married all the rocks and shoals where so many a matrimonial bark has found shipwreck.

—Mrs. Smith—So that impudent girl called you a cat, did she? —Miss Brown—Yes, but that wasn't the worst of it; she called me an 'old cat'!

—"Is he out of danger?" "No. The doctor still attends him."

Travelers Guide.

CENTRAL RAILROAD OF PENNA.

Condensed Time Table effective Dec. 3, 1906

Table with columns: READ DOWN, Stations, READ UP. Includes routes like Castoria, Jersey Shore, etc.

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