

The Tale of a Fox From the West Coast of Ireland.

It has often been said that the fox is the most cunning of all animals, but the following story of vulpine sagacity seems to require some credence. Some fishermen on the west coast of Ireland were in the habit of going to a small island a few hundred yards from the mainland in quest of bait. The island was inhabited by large numbers of rabbits and could be reached at low tide by wading. The water then being only a few inches deep. One morning they went in their boat quite early. It being high tide, and on landing saw what seemed to be a dead fox lying on the beach. The fur of the animal was all bedraggled, and he seemed to have been drowned. One of the men, remarking that his skin was worth something, pitched him into the boat. Procuring their bait, they returned to the mainland, and then the man who had possessed himself of the fox seized him by the tail and flung him on shore. As soon as the animal struck the beach he picked himself up with considerable agility for a dead fox and shot off like a flash along the cliffs, while the men stood staring at one another in mute astonishment. The men concluded that he had crossed over to the island during the night when the tide was low in search of rabbits and, finding in the morning that he was cut off from the mainland, counterfeited death, with the expectation of thereby procuring a passage to the shore in the boat, an expectation which was fully realized.—London Globe.

Richard Strauss Composed Dance Music at the Age of Six.

Richard Strauss was a musical prodigy. His first effort at writing music was made at a Christmas celebration, says the Designer. Some children were dancing around the tree and singing a three part song. "I can compose music like that," said the six-year-old Richard to his mother. Thereupon he sat down and did so. But his mother was obliged to write in the words, because, although he could write music legibly, his pot books were too large. Strauss himself not only vouched for the truth of this story, but said that while he was still six years old he composed a polka and a schottische.

Richard was only fifteen when a symphony composed by him was brought out by Herman Levi, court conductor at Munich and conductor of the first performance of "Parsifal" at Bayreuth. When Richard came out to bow his acknowledgment of the applause which followed the symphony a man in the audience turned to his neighbors and asked, "What has that boy got to do with it?" "Nothing," was the reply, "except that he's the composer."

Ancient Ideas of Africa.

In mediaeval times Africa was an unknown continent as well as Asia. Until a few years after the discovery of Columbus no one had sailed around it, and it was quite generally thought, as it had previously been thought in regard to Asia, that the African continent extended on and on indefinitely. It was supposed that far to the south was the zone of heat, in which no human being could live. This was by no means an unreasonable inference to the ancients. They knew that the farther they sailed to the north the colder it grew and that in the extreme north was a region of perpetual snow. They also knew that the farther they sailed to the south the warmer it grew, and what was more natural for them to suppose that if they went far enough in that direction they would come upon lands that were parched and baked and upon seas that boiled, where nothing could live but salamanders?

The Smile.

We talk of a smile of defiance. There is really no such thing. Such a so called smile is nothing more or less than a snarl, a survival of the way our savage ancestors had of showing their teeth in order to strike fear into the hearts of their enemies. The real smile of pleasure begins with slightly opening the mouth, and is, of course, traceable to the joy of those same savage forefathers of ours at the prospect of food.

A Mean Comparison.

"Confound these railway time tables!" snapped Mr. Stubb as the long folder refused to remain closed long enough for him to place it in his pocket. "They remind me of a woman." "The idea!" replied his wife in surprise. "What is the comparison?" "Why, they are hard to understand, and you can't get them to shut up."

An Old Story.

Doctor—I shall have to forbid you smoking, drinking and staying out late nights. Patient—Oh, doctor, be original! My wife's done that already.—Boston Transcript.

A Proud Prerogative.

"When can a boy be said to have arrived at man's estate?" "When he begins giving his old clothes to his father."—St. Louis Republic.

A Change Impending.

He—if you accept me it will make another man of me, but if you refuse me I shall never be the same man again.—London Punch.

It is as easy to deceive oneself as it is difficult to deceive others.—Boche-foucauld.

Hit Him Coming and Going.

An attorney went to a livery stable and hired a team for two or three hours and at the end of that time, in a state of absentmindedness, left the team at another livery stable, where it remained eight days. At stable No. 1 there was no worry about the team. They knew the attorney was perfectly good for the pay. They knew that if he kept the team a month the bill would be paid promptly on presentation. They presumed that he knew what he was about and concluded it was his business and not theirs. At stable No. 2 there was equal freedom from anxiety. The attorney came there, left the team and went away, saying nothing. They put the horse into a stall and "chalked it down" on the office slate, knowing him to be a business man who paid cash. Discovery came at last, and the lawyer was presented with two bills, one for eight days' hire and the other for eight days' keep. He paid both bills promptly, but it cured him of being absentminded for nearly a whole month.

The Coffee Cup in Persia.

The expression "to give a cup of coffee" has in Persia a somewhat ominous significance. This is due to the fact that the coffee cup is one recognized medium for conveying poison. Some years ago the governor of Aspadana, having long been at daggers drawn with the chief of a powerful mountain tribe, determined in this way to put an end to all trouble. He professed to entertain a great desire of friendship and esteem for the chieftain and invited him to visit him at his palace. The chief unsuspectingly came, accompanied by his two young sons. For a week they were royally entertained. But at last one morning when the chief came into his host's presence he was coldly received, and an attendant soon stepped forward with a single cup of coffee in his hand, which he offered to the guest. The latter could not fall to understand that he was doomed. Preferring, however, steel to poison, he declined the cup and was thereupon, at a signal from his host, stabbed to death.

Salad of the Shoes.

Freshmen have troubles the world over. The "concerts," as they are called at the famous Ecole Polytechnique in Paris, are subjected to an amusing initiation called the salad of shoes. The freshmen report some days before the upper class men so that they can receive their uniforms and become familiar with the routine of the school. The first morning after their tormentors return the freshmen are aroused by a demand that they throw their shoes out of the windows into the courtyard. The shoes are gathered into a heap, and kneeling in a big circle around this, the freshmen are obliged to go through some ridiculous gymnastic movements at the command of their superiors. When the study bell rings they have but a minute to appear in the class rooms, and it is a strenuous minute around that pile of shoes.

Tennyson Disturbed.

This story is told in Robert B. Sherard's book "My Friends the French." "A granddaughter of Wordsworth, being full of admiration for the young poet who was to succeed her grandfather in laureate honors, was once taken to see Mr. Tennyson by Mrs. Taylor, the wife of another poet of some distinction. Tennyson received them very badly, showing great irritation at being disturbed, and when Mrs. Taylor rallied him on his manner he said: 'Madam, I am a poor man, and as I can't afford to buy the Times I hire it from the stationer's. He charges me a penny for it, which entitles me to keep it for an hour. Why will people always select just that hour to come and call upon me? After which he flung out of the room, leaving Mrs. Tennyson to apologize for his brusquerie.'

Currency in China.

Writing from the interior of China, a traveler says: "Currency is primitive to a degree. Lump silver only is used and copper 'cash.' Coined money is not current. Even in Honan city, which is distant only two days by rail from Peking, lump silver, the same cumbersome currency that has been used for centuries, is still employed. It is cut into small pieces by hammer and chisel. Every town and village has its own weights and scales, and there is no pretense at uniformity."

The Man and the Parrot.

Exasperated Purchaser—Didn't you guarantee that this parrot would repeat every word he heard? Bird Dealer—Certainly I did. "But he doesn't repeat a single word." "He repeats every word he hears, but he never hears any. He is as deaf as a post."

Life's Percentages.

It sometimes happens that a man plays an errorless game because he accepts mighty few chances. The man in the right garden is pretty sure to have a better fielding record than the shortstop.—Aitchison Globe.

Outdone.

"He doted on Alice and would have married her but for her mother." "Ah! Her mother?" "Yes; her mother was still more attractive."

Missed Fire.

Putton-Ayes—I am a caviare to the general, you know, Miss Innocent. "Oh, are you really? My brother is in the military too.—Boston Transcript.

Grief is crowned with consolation.—Shakespeare.

Boxing the Compass.

Boys who live in seaport towns are sometimes asked to "box the compass." If they can do it quickly and accurately they are the sailors and may grow up to be the captain of a four-master. If they miss a point or can only do it slowly they are landlubbers and will never see blue water. To box the compass means to name all the points in order just as fast as you can speak. This is the way an old down east skipper will rattle it off: North, nor' by east, nor-nor-east, nor-east by north, northeast, nor-east by east, east-nor-east, east by north, east, east by south, east-southeast, southeast by east, southeast, southeast by south, sou'-southeast, sou' by east, south, sou' by west, sou'-southwest, southwest by south, southwest, southwest by west, west-southwest, west by south, west, west by north, west-northwest, northwest by west, north-west, north-west by north, nor'-northwest, nor' by west, north.

Gunpowder and Artillery.

There is abundant evidence that the origin of gunpowder and artillery goes far back in the dim ages of the past. The Hindoo code, compiled long before the Christian era, prohibited the making of war with cannon and guns or any kind of firearms. Quintus Curtius informs us that Alexander the Great met with his weapons in Asia, and Philostratus says that Alexander's conquerors were arrested by the use of gunpowder. It is also written that those wise men who lived in the cities of the Ganges overthrew their enemies with tempests and thunderbolts shot from the walls.

An Odd Turkish Superstition.

An odd Turkish superstition is as follows: If one finds a piece of bread lying upon the ground he must pick it up, kiss it and carry it until he finds a hole into which the bread can be inserted. To step upon a piece of bread or to leave it lying upon the ground is one of the unpardonable sins and dooms the offender to the third hell, where he is perpetually gored by an ox that has but a single horn that is in the center of his forehead.

Advanced Ancestral Pride.

"So Woolly is very rich now. When I knew him he was poor. His only treasure in those days was the musket his great-grandfather carried in the Revolution." "Oh, his great-grandfather has been promoted since, Woolly exhibits his sword now."—Philadelphia Press.

The Lighthouse.

"Pa, what is meant by the lighthouse?" "The lighthouse, my boy, is something that everybody wants to be in without paying advertising rates for the privilege."—Detroit Free Press.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN

The Firstborn.

Victor—My! What a fine baby! How much does he weigh? Fond Mother—1 really don't know. He hasn't been weighed since noon.—Life.

Happiness is an equivalent for all troublesome things.—Epicurus.

Hood's Sarsaparilla.

ROOTS BARKS HERBS That have great medicinal power, are raised to their highest efficiency, for purifying and enriching the blood, as they are combined in Hood's Sarsaparilla. My two boys were broken out with running sores. I began giving them Hood's Sarsaparilla and it cured them in less than a month.—Mrs. IRE BIRD, Fort Morris, N. J. 40,366 testimonials received by actual count in two years. Be sure to take HOOD'S SARSAPARILLA Get it today in usual liquid form or chocolate tablets called Sarasatabs. 55-28

Travelers Guide.

CENTRAL RAILROAD OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Condensed Time Table effective June 17, 1909.

Table with columns: READ DOWN, STATIONS, READ UP. Rows include BELLEFONTE, NITANY, HUBBERSBURG, SNYDERTOWN, LAMAR, CINTONDALE, KRIDER'S SIDING, MACKEYVILLE, CEDAR SPRING, SALONA, MILL HALL.

(N. Y. Central & Hudson River R. R.)

Table with columns: WESTWARD, STATIONS, EASTWARD. Rows include JERSEY SHORES, WM. PORT, PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK.

BELLEFONTE CENTRAL RAILROAD.

Schedule to take effect Monday, Jan. 6, 1910

Table with columns: WESTWARD, STATIONS, EASTWARD. Rows include BELLEFONTE, COLEVILLE, MORRIS, STEVENS, LIME CENTRE, HUNTER'S PARK, BIRIARY, WADDLES, KRUMHOLTZ, STATE COLLEGE, STRUBLES, BLOOMSDORF, PINE GROVE M.

Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria.

Groceries.

Sechler & Company COFFEE. When goods advance on the market the retail price usually follows. But in regard to the recent advance in Coffee we have not followed the ordinary course, either by marking up the price or reducing the quality. We have found a new and more favorable market in which to buy the goods and maintain the high standard of our leaders at 18c, 20c and 25 cents per pound.

The Pennsylvania State College.

The Pennsylvania State College Offers Exceptional Advantages. IF YOU WISH TO BECOME A Chemist, An Engineer, An Electrician, A Scientific Farmer, A Teacher, A Lawyer, A Physician, A Journalist. Tuition is free in all courses.

Shoes.

Yeagers Shoe Store BARE FOOT SANDALS. Are just the thing this hot weather for children and they don't cost much. We have the largest and most complete line of Bare Foot Sandals in Centre County. SOLD ONLY AT Yeager's Shoe Store, Bush Arcade Building, BELLEFONTE, PA.

Dry Goods.

LYON & CO. Summer Clearance Sale. Our Summer Clearance Sale is now at its best. Everything in Summer goods must be sold, as we never carry summer stuffs the next season. We want every economical buyer to come in and see our bargains. Nothing reserved and all Summer merchandise in all departments must be sold now.