

THE WILD DUCK'S FLIGHT.

Hampered as it is by the Bird's Speed is Wonderful. With all his undoubtedly wonderful advances in the science of engineering, man has not outwitted nature even yet.

Writes Letters in Her Sleep.

The medical profession is greatly interested in the singular case of Mrs. Edith Morford of Kansas City, who recently passed several days in a trance.

Remedy for Wrinkles Suggested.

When a lady finds on consulting a mirror that she is worn, wrinkled and haggard looking, let her first take hot water and pure soap and thoroughly wash her face and neck, then rub the skin hard with a Turkish towel until it is all aglow.

Value of Food.

One of the biggest mistakes about food which people make is to forget that the true value of food to anybody is the measure of its digestibility.

John's Guess.

Johnny had been studying his spelling lesson and learning definitions, particularly of words with prefixes from the Greek.

Fruitarians.

"Fruitarians" are the latest novelty in the world of crazes. They are ascetic beings who consider modern civilization far too luxurious, and, therefore, agree to live upon nothing but fruit and water.

Frozen Air.

Air can be frozen at a temperature of 293 degrees below zero, and the product, which can be handled and felt, burns, so to speak, with its excessive cold.

She-You have met the beautiful Miss X, have you not?

She-You have met the beautiful Miss X, have you not? What do you think of her?

The Summer Vacation.

"Hello, Bobbie, are you're going off for your summer vacation. What are you going to do there—that come back to your business to work?"

AN OLD-TIME HANGING.

Half a Century Ago an Execution Was a Public Picnic.

Executions in the United States half a century ago were not restricted, as they are now, to the prison yard, in the presence of a limited number of witnesses, but were celebrated conspicuously on an open field, before a large and often rollicking and tumultuous crowd of spectators.

Such a body I remember to have seen gathered on such an amphitheatre more than sixty years ago to witness the hanging of a murderer. The man was a farm hand, and well known. When under the influence of strong drink he was sullen, truculent and dangerous; but when sober, he was so proverbially quiet and inoffensive that he was the easy-going butt of his associates.

Of course he was immediately arrested, and never shall I forget the wave of horror that swept over the little town when the news of the murder was bruited and the victim was carried to the home of his parents on a barn door.

For several days immediately preceding the hanging (that was before the day of railroads, it should be recalled) multitudes from the country for twenty and more miles flocked into town to see the execution, and some of them "to turn an honest penny."

On the fatal Friday the "Big Field" surrounding the gallows was fringed with booths and tents for the sale of cakes, pies, small beer and other refreshments, interspersed at frequent intervals with farmers' wagons laden with watermelons, muskmelons, apples, peaches and other fruit, the enterprising vendors of which drove a brisk trade under the very shadow of the fatal tree.

Almost Swallowed by a Snake.

"I am a sworn enemy to everything of a snakey nature, whether I find it in human beings or reptiles," said Col. E. C. Shaw, of London, an ex-officer in the British army.

"I used to amuse myself a good deal by fishing in a neighboring river. One sultry afternoon, tired out with unceasing sport, I drew my canoe to a shady spot on the river bank, and stretching myself in the bottom, with my gun at my side, soon fell asleep. I was soon roused from my slumber by a curious sensation, as though some animal was licking my foot. I glanced down, and, to my horror, saw the head and neck of a huge serpent, which was covering my feet with saliva, preparing, I suppose, to swallow me whole.

The Inventor of Soda Water.

"The good, old-fashioned drink, soda water, is said to have first been made by a man named Austin Thwaites, of Dublin, in 1800," said Dr. L. E. Ventre, of Philadelphia, to a St. Louis reporter.

A Frivolous Interruption.

"They were discussing the merits of a recent popular novel when somebody proposed the following: 'Popular with the members of the poker club—Clips that pass in the night.'"

A New Brand of Animal.

"The doctor says I must get sterilized milk for the baby." "I didn't have sterilized milk when I was young." "I know, John; but probably they didn't have sterilized cows then."

WIRING CENTRAL ASIA.

A Three Thousand Mile String Across Chinese Turkestan.

A private letter received from Kashgar, Chinese Turkestan, says that the telegraph is expected to reach that place shortly. The line has been nearly three years under construction from Tientsin, near Peking, and traverses about 3,000 miles of Central Asia.

The line presented unusual difficulties, crossing vast waterless tracts in the Desert of Gobi. In places the poles had to be hauled a distance of 500 to 600 miles from the forests in the Thian Shan Mountains.

Branch lines are building to Kliahtka, Ili (Kulja), Ourga and other points uniting with the Russian system. The rates will be exceptionally low, considering the distance, being six cents for a Chinese word from Kashgar to Peking, and double rates for foreign languages.

Try, Try Again.

Grating raw potatoes into which delicately colored goods are to be soiled, and washing without soap.

A pinch of gum tragacum in stove blacking.

Scouring blackened tins with sand and fine sand.

Removing acid stains from scarlet wooden goods with weak pearlash water.

To remove ink stains from silver, by using a paste of chloride of lime and water.

Naphtha for varnish.

Rubbing stoves and pipe, to be set away for the summer, with kerosene.

Removing rust from iron sinks with kerosene.

Washing zinc in hot sods, drying and then rubbing with kerosene.

Rubbing nickle plate with kerosene.

To kill croton bugs by fumigating with sulphur.

Cucumber peels to kill cockroaches.

Frying potatoes with one teaspoonful of flour sprinkled over them.

Putting vegetables in fast boiling water.

Adding a little cream, with butter and seasoning, to new potatoes and letting it boil up.

Drinking tea with the juice of half a lemon and three lumps of sugar.

Try again next month.—Good House-keeping.

There is a Distinction.

"Look here, Simpkins," said the city editor sternly, as the new reporter stood quaking at his desk, "what kind of a break is this, anyway? In writing up this story about the fellow that cut his throat with the bottom of a broken bottle you say: 'The man was found lying on the sidewalk writhing in agony.'"

"Yes, sir; he was."

"Now, that's just like a fresh reporter. You haven't been in the business but a week and you want to destroy all the traditions of the profession. I want you to understand that you can't kick over the old landmarks in this office."

"Why, I'm sure, sir," stammered the amazed reporter, "I didn't intend to do anything of that kind. That would be very presumptuous."

"Is it possible that you don't know any better. Then let me give you a pointer or two. When a person takes 'Rough on Rats,' carbolic acid or arsenic, or if this man had pounded up the glass and swallowed it—in such cases (and I want you to remember it) the person always writes 'in agony.' But if a person shoots himself or cuts his throat he invariably 'welters in his blood.' Now, don't you forget that."—San Francisco Post.

A Power in Spelling.

Thomas and John were two brothers in the same class, and they were not the brightest boys in the school, although they were not as dull as some.

"How do you spell your name, John?" asked the teacher as a feeder on the first day.

"T-o-b-n-a-s," responded John with pride.

"Right; and now, Thomas, spell yours."

"T-o-b-n-a-s," responded Thomas with as much pride as John had shown.

"Oh, no, that isn't right," corrected the teacher. "Try again."

Thomas made several tries, and always the same. Then the teacher scolded him a little.

"Well," he said at last, "if T-o-b-n-a-s spells John, why don't T-o-b-n-a-s spell Thomas?"

And the teacher hasn't been able yet to explain clearly why it doesn't.—Detroit Free Press.

For Revenue.

The tramp struck the reputable citizen for a dime.

"I will give you a meal ticket," parleyed the citizen.

"But I don't want that," objected the applicant; "I'd rather have the money."

"What money?"

"I'm hard up, boss."

"What are you hard up for?"

The tramp grinned.

"For revenue only, I guess, boss, he responded, and the dime was secured."—Detroit Free Press.

Just Before the Fourth.

Books—I have taken a little more than was good for me at times, but I never was quite as far gone as Rounder was when he came home last night.

Booze—Why, what did he do?

"Lit a Roman candle to go to bed by."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

A Bride's Ingenuity.

A recent bride hit upon a happy manner of defying that fashion that so quickly renders a wedding gown ridiculous by reason of its style change. She copied a Venetian robe in an old book of prints, and thus obtained something not only unique and beautiful for the present, but also something that will never be an absurdity, no matter what vogue is reigning.

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Where they may be consulted. The Doctor is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, formerly demonstrator of physiology and surgery at the Medico-Chirurgical College, of Philadelphia. He is also an honorary member of the Medico-Chirurgical Association, and was physician and surgeon-in-chief of the most noted American and German hospitals, comes highly indorsed by the leading professors of Philadelphia and New York.

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