

FORTUNES IN ANIMALS

TREMENDOUS PRICES PAID FOR WILD BEASTS.

A Rare American Goat—A Gorilla is Worth Millions—Birds that Bring Fabulous Sums.

Donald Burns has had an adventurous life. He was not always the contented animal dealer, in his little red shop in Roosevelt street where he sits to-day, surrounded by his snakes and leopards.

"Yes," said Mr. Burns, "there are styles in animals the same as in anything else. This is the season for the purchase of foreign animals. It begins in the spring and runs on till fall."

"The demand has just opened for deer. A good specimen is worth, say \$40. All zoological gardens and other corporations wanting deer supply themselves at this time of year.

"The very rarest animal in the American trade is the Rocky Mountain goat. If you have a pair of these splendid animals, by all means take advantage of the present rising market."

"The wolverine is quoted at \$400 a pair, and is scarce at that. It is a cruel, bloodthirsty animal, smaller than a wolf, with a great long body covered with shaggy hair."

"Bears are quoted very low this spring. A black specimen is worth from \$15 to \$25, and glad to get rid of him at that."

"Other cheaper animals are the wolf and the raccoon. The land is filled with these pests. I will not touch them at any price, unless for some special customer."

"A good owl is worth, say, \$1,000 or \$1,200. An elephant is quoted at \$3,500. A tapir comes at \$300. And, by the way, I have now what is beyond question the largest tapir in the world."

"Among snakes, the anaconda, the boa constrictor and the python are quoted at substantially the same figures, depending on length. A fair average price is from \$25 to \$100."

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"A zebra is worth about \$1,000. This animal is even scarcer than the elephant. I have seen zebras sold as high as \$2,500 each. At that rate a herd would be worth a small fortune."

"One of the rarest and best selling animals on the globe to-day is the giraffe. Put up at auction this prize-winner never should be started at less than \$2,500, and ought finally to be knocked down at something along about \$5,000 or \$6,000."

"Among birds, the very rarest I know of is the South American horn screamer. It is so rare that no price has ever been quoted."

"The golden turkey of Guatemala is another rich prize. It is quoted in the thousands. I do not think there is a single specimen in this country to-day. The peculiarity about the horn screamer is the three horns on its body, one on each wing and one on its head. The horns grow out like spikes."

"But by far the most expensive and rarest animal in the world is the great African gorilla. As the Rocky Mountain goat is the rarest in the American trade, so, too, the gorilla is the costliest and rarest in the trade of the globe."

"The sugar-apple is a tender native of the West Indies, and the fruits taste something like the date, and they are relished by nearly all visitors to Florida. The fruit is a rich, yellowish green, with a rough outside skin, but sweet within."

bullet or a snare? The animal will twist a gun barrel like so much straw. A man has no more chance before one of these beasts than a mouse has before a bulldog."

"The rich variety in the land of Florida flowers and Kumquats. Florida is notably the land of flowers, but it is quite as truly a land of fruits, and Northern visitors are always greatly surprised at the number and great variety of tropical products which can be grown upon the warm southern peninsula of this State."

FLORIDA FRUITS.

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ts flavor is much improved when pepper and vinegar are eaten with it. For salads the fruits make a fine novelty, which would be greatly appreciated at the Northern hotels."

Wild Dogs in the North.

In the Lake of the Woods country, which may be described as a wilderness of forest, rock, and brushwood, a race of wild dogs have established themselves and are increasing in number so rapidly that fears are entertained that the animals will yet become troublesome."

"The animals are large, lean, short-haired, and generally red, or red and white in color. They are exceedingly wild and fly on the first approach of man."

"In fact, nearly all of the flesh-eating creatures that dwell in the ocean feed largely upon these small squid. Even the whales consume them by myriads."

"Their value as bait has caused them to be used to a great extent for that purpose by fishermen, who often gather them in enormous quantities on the beaches, when big storms have heaped them along the shore in windrows."

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THE VALUE OF SQUIDS.

Uses to Which Cattle Fish and Octopods are Put.

The little cuttle fish, which swarm in such vast numbers along the North Atlantic coast, are near cousins to the giant squid, which grow to sixty feet in length, and have afforded material for so many astonishing sea yarns."

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"The Chinese minister's ball was a sensation from the moment his cards appeared. As he had declared against the social policy of his predecessors, and shown himself averse to the Occidental ways, not half the world had troubled to leave cards upon him."

"The Chinese minister and Madame Tsui at Home" graven at the top, the neglectful half of the world rushed to call and to manœuvre for invitations."

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PENNSYLVANIA ITEMS.

EDITION OF NEWS GLEANED FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF THE STATE.

GOVERNOR PATTON will deliver the oration on Memorial Day, May 30th, at Millersville.

The will of the late Rev. Dr. Chas. Elliott, professor of Hebrew at Lafayette College, left \$5,000 and the testator's valuable library to the college."

The Soldier's Monument Association has asked for the balance of \$600 which was included in the amount raised in Allentown for the Johnston flood sufferers, and which is in bank in Allentown unclaimed."

Colonel W. Hayes Greer, of Columbus, was appointed Superintendent of Public Printing in place of Major Barton D. Evans, of West Chester."

At Hazleton, Rev. Rosano Nassico, the Italian priest, has been threatened with assassination by some of his parishioners who are ex-bandits, and he goes armed night and day."

The pupils in the public and private schools of Bethlehem united in celebrating the tri-centennial anniversary of John Amos Comenius, the educator and father of the public schools."

William Henry Fisher, of Huntingdon, said he is an heir of Baron Fisher, the millionaire who recently died in Germany. He will claim a portion of his estate."

At Pittsburgh, the hearing in the case of John R. McKirby, auditor of Allegheny Councils, for misbehavior, came off before Alderman Braun, and McKirby was held for court."

The coroner's jury, inquiring into the sudden death of Frank and Lewis Moore, the two boys who died at Chester under peculiar circumstances, brought in a verdict of death from poisoning."

At Washington, Pa., Mrs. Monday horse-whipped James Greener, a colored barber, who had been paying her attentions, but who jilted her for a younger colored belle."

The story published in a New York paper that Attorney General Hensel would withdraw the suit of the Commonwealth against the Reading combine was denied by Mr. Hensel and the officials at Harrisburg."

Washington County Democrats instructed their delegates to the State Convention for Cleveland, and a motion favoring Governor Patton as second choice was voted down."

GOVERNOR PATTON issued his proclamation fixing Thursday, the 14th of April, and Friday, the 6th day of May, to be observed as Arbor Days in Pennsylvania."

While testing a fire-escape at a hotel in Williamsport, the rope broke and John Ward fell three stories, receiving serious injuries."

At the Union County Republican primaries B. K. Focht was nominated for Assembly. In Armstrong County S. H. Cochran and Frank Mast were nominated."

The women and girls at Ashley near Wilkes-Barre, have been annoyed by a Jack the Hutter. He was caught, severely beaten and warned to leave the place."

Michael Griffin died at Ashland from the effects of a pistol shot accidentally fired by Anthony Gerlak."

The Treaty Ratified. Trouble over Bering Sea Ended by a Unanimous Vote in the Senate.

Two hours spent in executive session by the Senate sufficed to complete the consideration of the Bering Sea arbitration treaty, and it was ratified by a unanimous vote at the conclusion of the discussion."

Mr. Sherman who had the treaty in charge, presented two amendments which it was believed to be desirable to incorporate in the document, and they were agreed to."

One of them provides that the arguments and proceedings before the arbitrators shall be in the English language. This amendment was suggested to Sir Julian Pauncefote a day or two ago. He said that it appeared to be proper, but that he should like to secure the formal assent of Lord Salisbury to it."

This assent came in the form of a cable-gram, which was shown to the President by the British Minister, and was at once sent to Senator Sherman, who caused the necessary amendments to be incorporated in the treaty. Exactly the same procedure was followed in the case of the second amendment, which changes Article 11 of the treaty so as to require the arbitrators to make their decision, if possible, within four months instead of three from the close of the arguments of counsel."

This change was believed to be desirable in view of the magnitude of the subject and the enormous volume of testimony to be considered by the arbitrators. The opposition to ratification, which had been very much weakened, completely disappeared as the result of Mr. Sherman's explanation, and when the question was taken directly on the resolution of ratification there were no nays, while the yeas numbered 72—an unusually large vote in the Senate."

After the result had been announced the usual resolution notifying the President of the action of the Senate was passed and the consideration of the treaty was complete.

A Tornado's Work. Buildings Levelled and Houses Carried in the Air in an Illinois County.

A tornado swept over Platt County, Ills., leveling buildings and destroying many thousands of dollars worth of property. It came from the South, and was accompanied by a severe hail storm."

Houses and barns were carried from their foundations and demolished. Buildings were seen high in the air, being carried along by the cyclone, which was 2.50 feet wide. No loss of life has yet been reported."

The tornos also skirted Bloomington, McLean County, unroofing a number of houses and a chair factory. An old lady named Metz was badly hurt and her house was blown down."

A man wants but little here below, and as a general thing he's getting it.—Binghamton Leader.