

**The First Fork and Spoon.**  
It is about 900 years since forks were invented. A princess was married to a prince of Venice; for the wedding breakfast she provided herself with a silver fork and a gold spoon. This set the fashion, and wealthy families soon provided themselves with like table furniture. The greatest excitement followed their introduction, and the church condemned the use of these articles, without which you would not be able to eat with comfort. It is said that it was 613 years later that the fork and spoon entered England.

**Nelson's Old Trainers.**  
Miss Jane Douglas Roley recently died at Swansea, Wales, at the age of 96. Her father served with Lord Nelson on board the Victory, and among the deceased lady's possessions were the trousers worn by Nelson at the battle of Trafalgar.

That there is music to Americans in the screams of the eagle is shown by the action of the Ohio Legislature, which included the national bird in the bill to prevent the killing of the feathered songsters.

**How to Keep House.**  
With all the luxuries and pleasures of this life, its big enjoyments and its smaller comforts, there is an effort or antithesis which we have to contend with in the form of a headache. In some way and by some means every one has a touch of them in some form at some time. Trifling as some of them may be, the risk is that they will grow to something greater and rack the system with constant tortures. There is nothing, therefore, of this kind that we have a right to trifle with. Taken in time, the worst forms of aches and pains are easily subdued and permanently cured by the free use of St. Jacobs Oil. No well regulated household ought to be without a bottle of this great remedy for pain. One good reason for this is that some kinds of sudden pain are acute enough to be fatal, where the application of the great cure might save life. You want it also in the house at all times for cuts, bruises and wounds, and the horse that always has it keeps up a sort of insurance against pain.

A close second to the Golden Rule is this: "Mind your own business."

**When Nature**  
Needs assistance it may be best to render it promptly, but one should remember to use even the most perfect remedies only when needed. The best and most simple and gentle remedy is the Syrup of Figs, manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Company.

Sympathy and severity seldom go hand in hand.

**Catarh and Colds Relieved in 10 to 60 Minutes.**

One short puff of the breath through the Blower, supplied with each bottle of Dr. Agnew's Catarh Powder, diffuses this Powder over the surface of the nasal passages. Painless and delightful to use. It relieves instantly and permanently cures Catarh, Hay Fever, Colds, Headache, Sore Throat, Tonsillitis and Deafness. If your druggist hasn't it in stock, ask him to procure it for you.

Good actions ennobles us, and we are the sum of our own deeds.

**Menelek's Fierce Warriors.**  
The followers of Menelek, King of Shon, while not so large as the fierce Zulius of the south, are about the toughest warriors in the world. They do not know physical fear. I have seen a man jab a burnt stick several times into his flesh without wincing, declares a writer in the New York Press. This apparent insensibility to pain is accompanied with a religious frenzy in battle that renders the soldiers unconscious of bodily harm. They have no fear of death, and their happiness is to kill.

**A Maine "Leather Stocking."**  
On the level lowlands of the Molunkus, a short distance below Sherman Mills, Aroostook County, on a farm as level and as smooth as any Western prairie, resides Mr. Joseph T. Leavitt, a gentleman upward of 60 years of age, well and favorably known in that section and also in Western Penobscot and East Somerset, where he formerly resided. He is not a hunter by trade or profession, his two principal occupations through life having been farming and blacksmithing; still he has a skill at hunting, trapping and fishing that few can equal.

Several years ago Mr. Leavitt left his home with his repeating rifle in pursuit of deer. A light snow had recently fallen, and he soon struck the fresh trail of deer that he knew must be near him. Being on the windward side of the deer, and fearing that they would scent him and flee, he made a wide circuit around the place where he judged them to be, moving with all the stealth, deliberation and caution that was in olden times said to characterize the movements of an expert scout trailing an Indian warrior or vice versa.

On reaching the leeward side he moved forward a few paces as noiselessly as Cooper's Indian Chingachgook and caught sight of a deer just as the animal was lying down. In lying down the deer became hidden from view by an intervening log. The hunter's resolution was immediately taken. He cocked the rifle and threw it forward for instant use; then he calmly reached out his hand and snapped a little twig. The noise was slight, but sufficient. The deer sprang to its feet and was shot on the instant.

The report of the rifle brought another deer to its feet, and the second deer was as promptly dispatched. Near the second deer a third deer was now seen running, but was speedily overtaken by the third bullet from Mr. Leavitt's repeater. Looking about to see if there were any more worlds to conquer and finding none at hand, and then suddenly remembering that the law as it then was only authorized him to kill three deer, Mr. Leavitt, like a law-abiding citizen as he is, promptly ceased hunting and set about dressing the three deer, shot single-handed and alone, in what was probably the quickest time on record in this country.—Lewiston (Maine) Journal.

**Sumatra Jungles.**  
Sumatra is a veritable dime museum of nature. In no other place is there such a collection of odd animals, birds and trees.

The sunbear is one of the queer animals. He is about three feet high, and wholly untaught can perform astonishing tricks.

The kukang is a curious animal the size of a cat. It is brown, with a fox-like head and paws which it uses as if it were a monkey. Its eyes are remarkably large, round and yellow.

The rhinoceros bird is the size of a small turkey, but has a beak a foot long, which joins the skull two and one-half inches deep. Over this is another beak reversed, forming a cap or helmet.

Snakes of all sizes abound in the Sumatra jungles. Monster lizards are there measuring six and seven feet. The house lizard is about twelve inches long and makes a noise which sounds like the bark of a toy terrier.

There is an enormous black spider three inches long as to body and with a stride of legs that would almost cover a dinner plate. Its web sometimes extends between trees eighteen yards apart.

The "deadly" upas tree is fairly large, with a thick, dark bark, which when cut gives forth an oozy, milky fluid. This liquid is used for arrow poison by the natives. The terror of the jungle is the ringneck tree. When cut with an ax a shower of milky fluid comes forth and wherever it touches the skin it is agonizing in effect.

Some people are not known as fools because their particular kind has never been classified.

**NOTES AND COMMENTS.**  
A homicide occurs every two hours in Italy. This was one of the many startling statements made by Baron Garofalo, a distinguished Italian criminologist, in a lecture delivered on "Criminality in Relation to the Education of the People" in the Roman College. His audience included Queen Margherita.

Next to Monaco, the smallest country in Europe, is Liechtenstein, in Germany, the ruler of which is Prince Liechtenstein. For some time he has been living in Vienna, leaving a manager to rule in his place. This manager has become unpopular, and the people are so dissatisfied that there is some talk of mobilizing the standing army of seven and a half men.

According to Mr. Peterson, an expert dog-trainer in London, the life of a performing dog extends to about eight or ten years. The education of a dog for the stage, according to Mr. Peterson's ideas, should not commence before the animal is a year old, and generally lasts for a year. Some animals, however, are quicker than others, and a dog found in the streets repaid his rescuers from the lethal chamber by picking up all that was taught him and going on the stage in three months.

According to a recent bulletin of the Bureau of Labor the gross average product of every employee engaged in manufacturing or mechanical industries is \$2294 a year. Of this, the employee gets \$444.83 as wages; \$1213 goes for raw material, and \$547 for salaries, rent, etc., and profits. The average annual wages are increasing with every census, having been \$247 in 1850, \$289 in 1860, \$302 in 1870, \$346 in 1880, and \$444.83 in 1890.

According to consular reports published by the State Department the total cast-iron output of Russia in 1894 was 130,808 tons, an amount totally inadequate to the demand. It is the same with assorted iron and bar iron, and still the demand is growing constantly. In view of such a state of things it is pointed out that there is a very favorable opportunity for American iron foundries to extend their sales in Russia, and to supply at least a part of the demand of that country.

Japan's hope of becoming a great iron and steel manufacturing country has been clinched by the discovery of iron deposits of vast extent and high grade. At Iwate mines have been opened which will produce 30,000,000 tons. Mr. Wada, ex-chief of the Mining Bureau of Japan, is authority for the statement that the product is equal in quality to that imported and makes as good steel. As coal retails at \$2 gold per ton in Japan, the prospect that the country will soon cease to import manufactured iron and steel goods is practically assured.

Accidents will happen, says the proverb. According to a table published in the Pittsburgh Chronicle-Dispatch from an analysis of 2000 accident cases, there were 531 persons injured by falls, or missteps on pavements, 243 by carriages or wagons, 75 by horse kicks or bites, and 47 by horseback riding. 117 were cut by edge tools or glass, 96 were hurt by having weights fall on them, and 66 were hurt by bicycle accidents, while 73 were hurt by falling down stairs. Yes, accidents will happen, and here's a little study of chances. But what a lot of trouble a little caution will sometimes avert.

Biblical scholars throughout the world will await with intense interest further particulars concerning the manuscript Gospel which was recently discovered in a village church near Caesarea, in Asia Minor, and which the Czar of Russia is said to have purchased. All that is known of it now is that it is very old and beautiful being written upon the finest and thinnest vellum, which has been dyed a deep red purple. The letters are in silver, and are square, upright uncials; the abbreviations of the sacred names are in gold. The pages are 32 centimetres by 26, and the writing on each page is in two columns.

Boston has at last acknowledged the unwisdom of having a cow for city surveyor, if one may so express the fact that some of the streets there are laid out so as to follow the cow-paths of the original hamlet. The inconvenience of the streets and their narrowness have led to a most expensive congestion of traffic. The daily amount of freight carried through the city is estimated at 100,000 tons. The unreasonable delay for each team under present circumstances is one hour out of the ten, which constitutes a working day, or a loss of 10,000 tons daily. At a cost of sixty cents a ton, there is a loss of \$6000 a day, or \$1,800,000 per annum.

The World's Proctor Memorial Association has announced that it will erect the largest observatory in the world on the summit of Mount San Miguel, near San Diego, Cal., as a memorial to the celebrated astronomer and author, Richard A. Proctor. The association was organized some years ago in California, but it is proposed to make the observatory of an international character, and secure, if possible, the co-operation of the leading Governments of the world. The intention is to equip the institution with the largest telescopes ever constructed, the first one to have lenses five times the size of the Lick and four times that of the Yerkes telescope; if it proves a success, still more powerful instruments will be constructed on the sectional-lens principle invented by Astronomer Gathman of Chicago. Mount San Miguel comprises about 12,000 acres and has an elevation of 3000 feet.

An American engineer named Hobson has contributed to the Revue Bleue an article on the Eastern situation, in which he plainly expresses his doubts

of Lord Salisbury's belief that the concert of the powers may eventually lead to a cessation of the present armed peace. He would have Britain go to war at once, since he believes that by next year, or the year after, France and Russia together will have a far stronger navy than Britain will then possess. Mr. Hobson declares that the dual alliance of France and Russia will easily dispose of the triple alliance. "France for money, Russia for men," he says, "are almost inexhaustible, but the triple alliance cannot stand the strain of keeping up its armaments much longer, and England will have to make very heavy sacrifices to regain a little of the superiority which she will have lost in warships of the first-class." Russia and France will, therefore, wait till the rest of Europe is bankrupt, and then, perhaps, arrange a new alliance. In this way, Mr. Hobson arrives at the conclusion that England ought to go to war immediately, "since every day that passes puts her in a state of increasing inferiority at sea as compared with her adversaries." It is clear that Mr. Hobson's article was written for a French and Russian alliance.

**Ten Acres of Ducks.**  
If any of the Times readers have a desire to enjoy duck and brant shooting such as was had in the '60's, they can be suited at this time along the "Eastern Shore," anywhere between Hog Island and Cape Charles.

It is not often in these times that one can see ten acres of ducks as close as the hairs on a brush, but this was really seen on Wednesday last from a blind on the east end of Hog Island, while further out were thousands of brant, and one could hear the hoarse "honk" of the Canada goose. So far all the ducks are butter-balls, hen bill divers, broad bills and sheldrake. Very few mallard or redheads.

Every man along the shore has forty reasons for this sudden invasion of the birds, each one more absurd than the other, and naturalists are just as much astray; in fact, no one knows why, with the same conditions prevailing, ducks will be plenty one season and scarce another.

It is a big thing to get sixty brace of ducks in a day in these times, yet on this very ground Tom Bayard, of Delaware, and Harry Pintard, of Baltimore, got 106 on one tide with breech-loaders in 1893. On the Jersey coast Mr. Belcher, of Philadelphia, killed 200 brant off Brigantine in the same year. On Tuesday last two Philadelphians got eighty ducks and brant in five hours and lost at least a third more. In old times the loading of the guns would have consumed nearly three hours, but conditions are easier, now that one has a gun that he can charge lying on his back.

**Electric Sucker.**  
Dr. Frolich tells about a sucker first found in the Nile and its tributaries by modern scientific men in 1881, but well known to the Egyptians as the sucker thunderer god, being worshipped as such in a sucker-god temple in the city of the thunder-sucker, or Orythynchos. The reason they called it the thunder-sucker, instead of the thunder-fish, was because they knew of another fish, known to the English-speaking people as the electric cat (fish), and to the Germans as the Zitterwels. It grows to a length of about a foot, of which the head and nose take up a quarter, and at the deepest part measures more than a quarter of its length. A peculiar thing about the various electrical fish is that should one swim, even at a considerable distance from a human bather, the bather would know of its proximity by an electrical sensation, while many of them have batteries actually fit to kill a horse on contact.

**The Place of Amethysts Among Gems.**  
Amethyst is a transparent purple variety of quartz, owing its color to oxide of manganese. It is a very beautiful stone, much used by the ancients to engrave on, as well as in jewelry; but certain varieties are now but little valued, because not rare enough to be costly. It is found in Brazil, Ceylon, India, the Ural mountains, etc. In the latter region near Mursinka, are found superb deep purple gems, changing to red by artificial light, some of which have sold for \$500 each. For intensity and perfection of color, and one might say majestic beauty, these rival almost any other gem. Smaller but equally fine amethysts occur in Delaware county, Pennsylvania, Maine and North Carolina. Oriental amethyst is a purple variety of sapphire far more rare and valuable than the ordinary amethyst.

**A Fad of American Poets.**  
A society of American poets has been organized for the one and distinct purpose of encouraging the wearing of cloaks by professional verse-makers, says the Illustrated American. It was found that a number of the men who have entered the organization had a genuine passion for cloaks, but that they were lacking in the courage to indulge their fancy. It is thought their association in a regularly incorporated society will give them the requisite nerve.

**An Artist Without Arms.**  
The comrade without arms was the most assiduous worker. It was amusing to watch his mitted feet step out of their shoes and at the shortest notice proceed to do duty as hands. His nimble toes would screw and unscrew the tops of the color-tubes, or handle the brush, as steadily as the best and dexterest of fingers could handle it. Very much unlike any of us, he was most punctilious in the care he bestowed on his paint-box, as also on his personal appearance.

## CROWNING A CZAR

### IMPRESSIVE CEREMONIES IN THE CATHEDRAL AT MOSCOW

**A Journal by the Daughter of the British Ambassador Describing the Coronation of the Late Czar of Russia.**

Miss Mary Grace Thornton, daughter of Sir Edward Thornton, describes "The Crowning of a Czar" in the Century. Miss Thornton writes as follows: "The service began with the Emperor's own confession of faith, which was so like our own that I could follow it easily. The metropolitan came forward to hear him make it, and responded at the end. 'May the grace of the Holy Ghost abide with thee.' I understood comparatively little of the rest; but they say that the prayers are wonderfully beautiful. From the first moment to the last the Emperor was the central figure. If one looked away, it was only to see how every one was watching him. His voice certainly trembled when he began to read, but it gained confidence as he went on, and he looked (as he always does, to my mind, with or without a crown) every inch an emperor. Throughout the whole service he bore himself with great dignity, and in a manner worthy of such an occasion.

After the creed and the reading of the epistle and the gospel, he ordered the imperial mantle to be brought, which was clasped round his neck with the collar of St. Andrew. Lifted the magnificent crown from the cushion on which it was presented, and receiving the benediction from the metropolitan, "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost," placed it on his head, and holding the sceptre in his right hand and the globe in his left, seated himself upon his throne, looking a very noble presentment of a czar of all the Russias. The empress seemed to have caught something of his air, for that day a certain statelyness was added to all her charm. She was very pale, but I thought that I had never seen her look more sympathetic. She now left her place, and went to kneel before her husband on a cushion which had been placed for her at his feet by Prince Waldemar.

The czar lifted his own crown from his head, and placed it an instant on hers before replacing it. Then, taking her crown from its bearer, he held it in place while the four dames d'honneur fastened it securely to her head. These were Countess Adlerberg, Princess Viasemski, Princess Kotchoubey, and one I did not know—the oldest in rank in Russia, I believe; and they also helped to fasten the imperial mantle of cloth-of-gold and ermine, of great weight. As the czarina returned to her place, she turned a face full of emotion to her husband, and held out her hand, and he taking it and stooping down, they kissed each other. His majesty now received the scepter and globe again, and emperor and empress stood crowned before their thrones and wearing the imperial mantles, while the priests proclaimed the titles of the autocrat of all the Russias at full length; and the beautiful chants that followed were drowned in a clanging of bells and a noise that seemed loud enough to announce the coronation to the whole of Russia. During the singing the imperial family left their places to come and congratulate the emperor and empress, the little czarevitch first. There was much embracing and plenty of tears.

It was after this that, as the noise of the bells and cannon died away, the emperor took the book from the metropolitan and knelt to pray, reading the prescribed words, he alone kneeling, while priests and congregation stood.

As the emperor rose from his knees we all knelt down, and then followed the prayer of priests and congregation for him, led by the metropolitan. The emperor alone standing in the crowded church. As I have said before, this was the most impressive moment of all.

The choir now sang again—that beautiful, unaccompanied singing of the Greek Church, though here it had an accompaniment of all the Kremlin bells. After a magnificent Te Deum the mass began, in which, before communicating, the czar was to be anointed with the holy oil (the "oil of the Holy Ghost") on forehead, eyelids, nostrils, lips, ears, breast, and hands. The oil for this anointing is prepared by the priests with the greatest care, in vessels of silver; and they themselves fast absolutely for sixteen hours before a coronation, spending the time in prayer. After the emperor, the empress is anointed at the holy doors, but only on the forehead. Also in the holy communion she receives as an ordinary member of the Greek Church; but the emperor, on the day of his coronation, "in view of the sovereignty that resides in her person," receives as the priests receive, in both kinds separately.

Of all this I saw nothing because of the intervening pillar. But I did see their majesties leave their thrones, and go down the steps of the platform to the holy doors of the screen, closely attended by the colonel of the Chevaliers Gardes with his drawn sword, and preceded and followed by endless high dignitaries, returning in the same order after the anointing and the holy communion. After this there was little more of the ceremonial in the cathedral. At the end of the usual service there were some special prayers and chants for the newly crowned pair—"Long life to the crowned of God!"—and in the silence that followed the priests held up the cross for their majesties to kiss, the emperor replaced the crown, which he had laid aside at the beginning of the mass, and, carrying the globe and scepter, moved with the empress toward the cathedral doors.

## FOOD THAT WAS DEADLY.

### Fate of Some Animals That Bit Off More than They Could Chew.

A curious tragedy in nature's life was told about in the Deutsche Fischerei-Zeitung recently. A twenty-five-pound pike was found dead near the VIII. Scholz, at Horn. On examination, a trout, weighing four and a half pounds was found stuck in the pike's mouth in such a way as to choke it to death.

Various animals have died of suffocation in this manner. Especially is this true of herons, grebes, bitterns and other fish-eaters, which have been found dead with fish in their throats.

A gull, up in Massachusetts Bay, was seen acting in a way that caused two boys to take a rowboat and go out and see what the matter was. The gull would fly away, then tumble into the water, struggle awhile, then fly again, each flight being shorter than the one before, and at last the bird merely skimmed the surface heavily. When the boys got to it the bird's head was under water and the wings were flapping slightly. They pulled the bird into the boat and it was seen that on the end of the bill was a clam shell. The gull had tried to get the clam; the clam had closed his shell upon the bill, and the scared bird had tried to fly off over the water, but, breathing being hard, it was soon exhausted.

A wild turkey was found one time in the Tennessee bottom lands. The turkey, in jumping up to get some berries, came down with its neck through a fork of the bush. The bird, being unable to pull his head through the fork, was choked to death, but not until it had covered the ground with feathers for ten feet on all sides.

Some of the birds that use strings or hairs in the construction of their nests—swallows, sparrows, etc.—become entangled in the material every spring and are choked to death.

A man named Allard was coming down the Columbia River from Astoria, Ore., to another Hudson Bay Fur Company post at Van couver. He had a crew of Indians for his canoe, and all were pretty hungry, having been living on dried salmon and hard bread. As they rounded a point one day they put up a flock of swans, which flew past them. The Indians had never seen a man shoot a bird flying, and the trader and had no ammunition to spare, although they offered a splendid shot, especially the leader, which was a bird of unusual size. It was so fine a mark that the trader lifted up his paddle, and, taking imaginative aim, said "Bang" in a loud voice. What followed made the Indians gasp. The big swan at the word went tumbling head over heels to the water, struck with a loud splash, and by the time the canoe was alongside had ceased its struggles and was dead. There was not a mark on the bird, and as the Indians looked over it they nodded toward the trader, with looks of amazement and fear on their faces. The trader calmly loaded his pipe and puffed away as unconcerned as if he was not wondering how it had happened.

That night, while the Indians were pulling out the canoes, the trader had a private autopsy of the swan, and found a large bulb of the swan's favorite food, the "wappato," or Sagittaria variabilis, as it is known to botanists, stuck in the swan's throat in such a way that the bird had choked to death. The man removed the bulb, and on the return of the Indians said nothing of it. That night the party feasted on the swan, but not until the trader had made weird sounds over the carcass and had impressed the Indians wonderfully.

Thereafter that trader was the most respected, almost-worshipped man, among the Indians, who ever after called him, "The-man-who-shoots-flying-swans-with-a-paddle."

**Artificial Production of Crystals.**  
At Hot Springs, Ark., clear rolled pebbles found on the banks of the Ouachita are often sold. These are more highly prized than the quartz crystals, as the fancy prevails that they cut clearer gems. The scarcity of these and the demand for them has led to their artificial production, by putting the crystal into a box which is kept revolving a few days by water power. Any expert, however, can discern the difference, since the artificial ones have a little whiter surface.

Many localities in Colorado furnish fine specimens; and along the New Jersey coast and Long Branch, Atlantic City, Cape May and other places transparent pebbles are found in the sand, and are sought after by the visitors, who often have them cut as souvenirs. At such places the local lapidaries have been known to substitute for pebbles from the beach foreign cut quartz, cat's-paw, topaz, crocidolite, Ceylon moonstone and even glass, obtaining twice the value of the foreign gem for the supposed cutting. Sometimes even the stones found by the visitors are exchanged for cut ones from Bohemia, Oldenburg and the Jura. Cutting is done abroad on so large a scale and by labor so poorly paid that the cut stones can be delivered in this country at one-tenth of the price of cutting here, as the rock-crystal itself has but little value.

**The Mud Wasp.**  
For centuries the mud wasp has built its cells of soft mud. In the bottom of these cells the female lays its minute egg, building its mud home just the size that the young will be when grown. Before closing its mud-walled cell the wasp catches a suitable sized spider, injects into its body a fluid that causes it to remain torpid through the winter, until with the warmth of returning spring the young wasp grows and consumes the spider for food, thus gaining strength to break the mud walls and emerge into the outer world a full-winged insect. Yet no mud wasp from the beginning has ever seen its young.

Princeton University is to have a new library building to cost \$500,000.

# Cripple

The iron grasp of scrofula has no mercy upon its victims. This demon of the blood is often not satisfied with causing dreadful sores, but racks the body with the pains of rheumatism until Hood's Sarsaparilla cures.

"Nearly four years ago I became afflicted with scrofula and rheumatism.

# Made

Burning sores broke out on my thighs. Pieces of bone came out and an operation was contemplated. I had rheumatism in my legs, drawn up out of shape. I lost appetite, could not sleep. I was a perfect wreck. I continued to grow worse and finally gave up the doctor's treatment to

# Well

take Hood's Sarsaparilla. Soon appetite came back, the sores commenced to heal. My limbs straightened out and I threw away my crutches. I am now stout and hearty and am a farmer, whereas four years ago I was a cripple. I shall recommend Hood's Sarsaparilla." URBAN HAMMOND, Table Grove, Illinois.

# Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Hood's Pills cure Liver Ills; easy to take, easy to operate. 3c.

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The remedy with a record: ....50 years of cures.