

QUEER CREATURES FOR FOOD

DAINTIES WHICH PREJUDICE D- NIES TO THE MANY.

Strange That One Should Favor Oy- sters and Dielike Snails—In Ger- many Bear's Flesh is Very Popular —Goats and Horses Eaten in Paris.

The popular prejudice against snails is incomprehensible when the favor of oysters, periwinkles, mus- sels and cockles is considered. In many London restaurants, particular- ly in Soho, snails now figure on the daily menu. This is an imported taste from France, but in the West- Country snails are highly esteemed by the lower classes.

A year or two ago a clergyman cit- ed as an illustration of poverty in Bristol that he had seen working girls pick snails off a wall and eat them. As a matter of fact, the snail is ex- tensively eaten in Somerset and Glou- cestershire, both as a dainty and a medicine. There are men who make a living by collecting snails and sell- ing them under the name of "wau- fish." Boiled in their shells they are picked out and eaten with bread and butter, being accounted a great luxury and very nourishing. In pulmonary diseases they popularly rank as a spe- cific.

Frogs are another dainty which prejudice denies to the Englishmen, though in the United States and Can- ada they are esteemed as highly as in France. Spasmodically, a sturgeon is offered for sale in London, and the accident of its capture affords a novel dish which should not be passed by, for it is generally sold at sixteen cents a pound. Cut and cooked as a cutlet it tastes rather like veal, with- out a suspicion of fish about it.

In Germany bear's flesh is greatly favored, and smoked bear tongues, hams and sausages are both appetiz- ing and expensive. Ever since Paris, in the siege of 1870-71, was driven to eating up the animals at the Zoo, camel's flesh has been demanded by French gourmets. Remarkably like beef in appearance, it is as tender as veal, and there are Parisians who im- port it regularly from Algeria. On the same testimony lion steaks are re- ported to be only moderate eating, while tiger is both tough and sinewy. Jaguar flesh, however, is delightfully white and toothsome, and alligators and crocodiles provide a meal of the most delicate flavor midway between that of veal and pork.

Beef and mutton, with pork, so en- tirely make up the menu that we ac- tually regard lamb and veal as dis- tinct dishes. Why should not goat flesh be introduced into the bill of fare? It is good eating, as Robinson Crusoe and Don Juan testify. In France it is largely eaten, Paris alone requiring 100,000 goats annually for the table. Our neighbors also en- joy the donkey, whose flesh, when killed young, resembles that of the turkey, although of much finer flavor.

Though a hippopotamus banquet ar- ranged by the late Sir Henry Thomp- son was held in London some years ago, it is still almost dangerous to suggest horse flesh to an Englishman as food. In reality it is very excel- lent eating, and only prejudice can gainsay the fact. Old and worn-out horses cannot afford either nourishing or palatable meat, but that of a horse reared like an ox, for the table, has a finer fibre and flavor than beef, though darker in color. It is served in the best French restaurants, as well as being largely eaten by the people.

"It was in Paris," wrote Mr. Van- dam, the author of "An Englishman in Paris," "that I learned how the cat had been misjudged. Call the dog the friend of man if you like, but don't eat him. Fry him, stew, boil or bake him, do what you will, his flesh is and remains oily and flabby, with a strong flavor of castor oil. But I declare that stewed puss is far finer than stewed rabbit."

Another neglected article of food is the guinea pig. Were the edible vir- tues of the hedgehog known it would rival oysters in epicurean flavor. As cooked in rural England, it is deli- cious. The correct way is to encase the hedgehog, bristles and all, with a thick coat of soft clay, and place it in the glowing embers of a fire to bake. The bristles and skin come off with the hardened clay, leaving the tenderest and most delicate meat im- aginable.—London Globe.

An Ancient Egg.
The University of California has in its possession temporarily, a speci- men which is said to be an egg with a pedigree 2,700,000 years long. The department of geology of the univer- sity has just issued a lengthy pam- phlet concerning this egg, its history, construction, contents, measurements and age, and announces that instead of being a mere relic of prehistoric days, the egg has already enabled sci- ence to determine the origin of bitu- men, a thing that has puzzled more investigators and aroused more an- tagonisms than almost any other problem of interest in the world of science.

The aged egg, now carefully guard- ed and treasured at the University of California, was recently shown to Professor John C. Merriam by the owner, Mr. G. A. Hellmuth, of San Francisco. It has been in Mr. Hel- muth's possession for over two years, and was obtained by him from a pros- pector, who had found it in a large pebble imbedded in placer gravel on the Gila River, in Arizona. On behalf of the university, many tempting of- fers have been made already for the egg, each one considerably higher

than all the previous offers added to- gether, but he has refused them all thus far.

SORA SHOOTING.

A Sport Which the Beginners Will Find Easy.

The season is at hand for the open- ing or the sora shooting—the first shooting of the fall. This little bird known also as Carolina rail, ortolan, rice bird and sora in various locali- ties, is now about to begin its migra- tory flight all over the country. It is one of the earliest birds to move, and a slight frost seems to start it on its journeyings. In every freshwater marsh along the coast and inland, from Virginia north almost to Hud- son Bay the sora breeds in some num- ber, and when the autumnal flights begin, the birds stop at different points where grow the wild rice or other plants whose seeds they like and rest and feed.

The sora is not a large bird, measur- ing only about nine inches in length. Above he is olive brown, var- ied with black and gray, and the under parts are lighter, the breast and flanks being sometimes marked with white. Except during the migratory flight, the sora takes to wing unwill- ingly, and spends most of its time on the ground, running here and there through the close set stems of the grass or weeds in its marshy home, and feeding on the seeds which fall from above. If the water rises, they still run about on the floating vegeta- tion or climb up the stems of the weeds, seldom flying unless forced to do so.

The sora's migrations take place at night, and a marsh which one after- noon had no birds in it may be full of them the next morning. In the same way they may all vanish in a night. These sudden and mysterious disappearances have given rise to many superstitions about the rail. People have declared that, with their short wings, it was impossible for them to fly great distances, and have thought that they have descended to the bottom of the streams at the ap- proach of winter and remained there in the mud until spring. Other peo- ple have believed that they change to frogs when the cold weather comes, and some of the Western Indians think that they perform their migra- tions on the backs of wild geese or cranes, which carry the little birds from South to North and back again.

From New England to Virginia sora shooting is a favorite sport. It does not last long—only two or three hours a day for four or five weeks in each year. But it comes at a deli- cious season, is very easy shooting and entails little or no exertion. It is one of the best and most encouraging forms of shooting for the beginner.

Each boat is propelled by a "shov- er," who, standing in the stern, by means of a long pole shores the boat through the high grass or reeds where the rails have their home. The shoot- er stands in the bow of the boat and the rails rise singly in front of the bow. They usually take wing quite close to the boat and fly slowly and straight and should be easily killed. It is the business of the shover to watch the bird as it falls and mark the spot, and to pick it up as the boat goes by.

In old times, when rails were more plentiful than they are now, bags of 100 or 200 were sometimes made in New England, and it is said that on certain marshes in Virginia, which are favorite resting places for the birds during migrations, such bags are still made.

The sora is recognized as one of the most toothsome of game birds, and in the estimation of many ranks with the woodcock and the English snipe. During the early autumn, when they are feeding on the wild rice, they be- come very fat and are most delicious eating.—Forest and Stream.

Telephone Girls Abroad.
A London correspondent, who has a London-Paris-Milan wire in his room, writes to The Secolo, Rome, that in his opinion the telephone girl is not quite an angel. He finds the London telephone girls slow and in- different, the French intractable and impertinent. When the Whitaker Wright trial was proceeding he found himself late with some news and rushed to the telephone. Absolute silence followed his frantic ringing, until he almost pulled the telephone from the wall. After twenty minutes or so a sweet voice said: "Number, please?"

"But," he protested, "I have been ringing for half an hour!" "Oh, really! I am sorry, I was drinking my tea!"

In Paris the girls are absent-mind- ed and usually make the connections badly, but have invariably an excuse and will not hear remonstrances.

The Italian telephone girl by the side of her London and Paris sisters shines indeed. She is obliged to re- peat the number wanted and so sel- dom makes a wrong connection; she is prompt and not exceptionally pert, but she is lazy and will often tell you that the person you want does not reply when she has made no effort to ring him up.

The question is, Would men do any better?

A Critic's Anniversary.
A civic celebration for a literary critic's anniversary will be a novelty even in France. Boulogne sur Mer is to hold one in memory of Sainte Beuve, who was born there a hund- red years ago.

The learning and playing of foot- ball are compulsory in the Argentine army.

A Night Attack on A Ship at Anchor

By W. J. Henderson.

IMAGINE a hostile ship lying at anchor in an apparently secure position on a dark and cloudy night. There is just enough breeze and sea to make sounds on the water indistinct. Around a low headland half a mile away from the anchored vessel steal four or five boats pulled with muffled oars and filled with armed men. They approach noiselessly. Perhaps they are not discov- ered and thus reach the sides of the ship. The next instant the armed men are pouring over her bulwarks and a desperate fight takes place on her decks. Perhaps they are discovered before they reach the vessel's side. The alarm is given. The men in the boats hear it, and lash their oars through the water in a determined effort to reach the ship before the rapid fire guns can open upon them. Flashes of fire illumine the night. The searchlights send out shafts of blinding white. The sharp peals of the six and three pounders, the rapid hoarse barking of Hotchkiss revolving cannon, the vicious spatter of Gatlings, break upon the frightened air. "Give way with a will!" shouts the officers of the boats, as the men bend to the oars and the light guns in the bows hurl their defiant answers back at the wall-sided ship. As the boats sweep up to the vessel's side guns clang and rattles sound, call- ing away the riflemen to repel boarders from the boats. If the boats' crews can board the ship and clap down her hatches before the crew gets on deck, theirs is the victory; but if her secondary battery is manned and her rifle- men stationed before the boats are alongside, then goodbye to the boat ex- pedition, for there is nothing more pitiless than Gatlings and revolving canon.—Scribner.

Russia at Close Range.

Function of Canonization of Saint Seraphim Called Together Over One Hundred Thousand.

By David Bell MacGowan.

THE act of canonization of St. Seraphim on August 1, 1903, was treated by the Russian authorities as a purely domestic concern. Diplomatic representatives were not invited. Few for- eigners knew of the matter beforehand, and those who asked for permission to attend were informed that all the accommo- dations of the monastery had been assigned. Even the lead- ing British advocates of union between the Anglican and Orthodox churches fared no better. An Englishman and myself were, as far as I know, the only foreigners that went, and so we were made to feel that our presence was undesired. Notwithstanding this, and the discomforts we shared with the peasants wearing sheepskin coats and birch bark foot- gear, we were richly repaid by the opportunity to study Russia at close range, and to witness a marvelous manifestation of its faith that expects and creates miracles.

The function of canonization called together a camp meeting of more than one hundred thousand people, a veritable nation assembled in faith, a theo- cratic witenagemot. Besides at least ten myriads of peasants, artisans and small tradesmen—Russian accounts say 350,000—the ceremonies demanded the presence of the Imperial family, mobilized an army corps and no inconsider- able number of police, and attracted a host of civil and military dignitaries and clergymen of all grades. The complicated action and interaction of the auto- cratic, bureaucratic and hierarchic machinery of church and state were laid bare to an unusual extent. The Emperor and the court visited the haunts of the hermit, and drank and laved themselves with water from the miraculous spring beside which his hut was built. His uncorrupted remains were placed in a costly casket beneath a massive silver canopy of monumental proportions, both the gifts of his Majesty, and the monastery was proclaimed a seat of miracles, a Russian Lourdes.—The Century.

"Why They Are Poor."

By Orison Sweet Marden.

THEIR ideas are larger than their purses. They think the world owes them a living. They do not keep account of their expenditures. They are easy dupes of schemers and promoters. They reverse the maxim—"Duty before pleasure." They have too many and too expensive amusements. They do not think it worth while to save nickels and dimes. They have risked a competence in trying to get rich quickly. They allow friends to impose upon their good nature and generosity. They try to do what others expect of them, not what they can afford. The parents are economical, but the children have extravagant ideas. They do not do today what they can possibly put off until tomorrow. They do not think it worth while to put contracts or agreements in writing. They prefer to incur debt rather than to work, which they consider be- neath them.

They do not dream that little mortgages on their homes can ever turn them out of doors. They have indorsed their friends' notes or guaranteed payment just for accommodation. They risk all their eggs in one basket when they are not in a position to watch or control it. They think it will be time enough to begin to save for a rainy day when the rainy day comes.

The head of the house is a good man, but he has not learned to do busi- ness in a businesslike way.

The only thing the daughters accomplish is to develop fondness for smart clothes and expensive jewelry.

They do not realize that one expensive habit may introduce them to a whole family of extravagant habits.

They do not know that giving a full power of attorney to an agent or lawyer puts their property at his mercy.

On a six-hundred-dollar income, they try to compete in appearance with a two-thousand-dollar-a-year neighbor.

They subscribe for everything that comes along—organs, lightning rods, subscription books, pictures, bric-a-brac—anything they can pay for on the installment plan.

They have not been able to make much in the business they understand best, but have thought that they could make a fortune by investing in some- thing they know nothing about.—Success.

The Reign of the Dinosaur.

Cutting Off of These Giant Reptiles Was Almost Simultaneous the World Over.

By Henry Fairfield Osborn.

NEVER in the whole history of the world as we now know it, have there been such remarkable land scenes as were presented when the reign of these titanic reptiles was at its climax. It was also the prevailing life picture of England; Germany, South America and India. We can imagine herds of these creatures from fifty to eighty feet in length, with limbs and gait analogous to those of gigantic elephants, but with bodies extending through the long, flexible and tapering necks into the diminutive heads, and reaching back into the equally long and still more tapering tails. The four or five varieties which existed together were each fitted to some special mode of life; some living more exclusively on land, others with the great carnivorous dinosaurs, but with other kinds of herbivorous dinosaurs (the iguanodonts), which had much smaller bodies to sustain and a much superior tooth mechanism for the taking of food.

The cutting off of this giant dinosaur dynasty was nearly, if not quite simultaneous the world over. The explanation which is deducible from similar catastrophes to other large types of animals is that a very large frame, with a limited and specialized set of teeth fitted only to certain special food, is a dangerous combination of characters. Such a monster organism is no longer adaptable; any serious change of conditions which would tend to eliminate the special food would also eliminate these great animals as a necessary consequence.

There is an entirely different class of explanations, however, to be con- sidered, which are consistent both with the continued fitness of structure of the giant dinosaurs themselves and with the survival of their special food; such, for example, as the introduction of a new enemy more deadly even than the great carnivorous dinosaurs. Among such theories the most in- genious is that of the late Prof. Cope, who suggested that some of the small, inconspicuous and inconspicuous forms of Jurassic mammals, of the size of the shrew and the hedgehog, contracted the habit of seeking out the nests of these dinosaurs, gnawing through the shells of their eggs and thus destroying the young. The appearance, or evolution, of any egg-destroying animals, whether reptiles or mammals, which could attack this great race at such a de- fenseless point would be rapidly followed by its extinction.—The Century.

PENNSYLVANIA R. R.

Philad. & Erie R. R. Division and Northern Central Ry.

Time Table in Effect May 29, 1904.

TRAINS LEAVE MONTANDON, EASTWARD

7:38 A. M.—Train 64. Week days for Sunbury, Harrisburg, arriving at Philadelphia, 11:45 a. m., New York 2:05 p. m., Baltimore 12:15 p. m., Wash- ington 1:20 p. m. Parlor car and passenger coach to Philadelphia.

9:22 A. M.—Train 30. Daily for Sunbury, Wilkesbarre, Scranton, Harrisburg and inter- mediate stations. Week days for Scranton, Haz- elton, and Pottsville. Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Washington. Through passenger coaches to Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington.

1:25 P. M.—Train 12. Week days for Sunbury, Wilkesbarre, Scranton, Hazleton, Pottsville, Har- risburg and intermediate stations, arriving at Philadelphia 4:25 p. m., New York 5:30 p. m., Baltimore 2:30 p. m., Washington 3:30 p. m. Parlor car through to Philadelphia, and pas- senger coaches to Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington.

4:45 P. M.—Train 52. Week days for Wilkes- barre, Scranton, Hazleton, Pottsville, and daily for Harrisburg and intermediate points, arriving at Philadelphia 10:47 p. m., New York 3:03 a. m., Baltimore 5:45 p. m. Passenger coaches to Phila- delphia and Baltimore.

8:10 P. M.—Train 6. Daily for Sunbury, Har- risburg, and all intermediate stations, arriving at Philadelphia 4:25 p. m., New York 5:30 p. m., Baltimore 2:30 p. m., Washington 3:30 p. m. Parlor car through to Philadelphia, and pas- senger coaches to Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington.

10:50 A. M.—Train 31. (Daily) For Lock Haven and intermediate stations, and week days for Tyrone, Clearfield, Philipsburg, Pottsville and the West, with through cars to Tyrone.

1:31 P. M.—Train 61. Week days for Kane, Ty- rone, Clearfield, Philipsburg, Pottsville, Canan- ota, Harrisburg and intermediate stations, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo and Niagara Falls, with through passenger coaches to Kane and Roch- ester, and Parlor car to Philadelphia.

5:36 P. M.—Train 1. Week days for Renovo, Elmira and intermediate stations.

10:07 P. M.—Train 67. Week days for Williams- port and intermediate stations. Through Parlor Car and Passenger Coach for Philadelphia.

9:10 P. M.—Train 921. Sunday only, for Will- iamport and intermediate stations.

BELLEFONTE CENTRAL RAILROAD.

Condensed Time Table. Week Days.

EASTWARD.		WESTWARD.	
PM.	AM.	AM.	PM.
6:39	1:10	8:45	4:35
6:59	1:02	8:40	4:30
7:12	12:57	8:37	4:27
7:23	12:54	8:35	4:25
7:35	12:49	8:31	4:21
7:46	12:46	8:28	4:18
7:57	12:41	8:24	4:14
8:08	12:37	8:20	4:10
8:19	12:34	8:17	4:07
8:30	12:30	8:13	4:03
8:41	12:27	8:10	4:00
8:52	12:24	8:07	3:57
9:03	12:20	8:03	3:53
9:14	12:17	8:00	3:50
9:25	12:14	7:57	3:47
9:36	12:10	7:53	3:43
9:47	12:07	7:50	3:40
9:58	12:04	7:47	3:37
10:09	12:01	7:44	3:34
10:20	11:58	7:41	3:31
10:31	11:55	7:38	3:28
10:42	11:52	7:35	3:25
10:53	11:49	7:32	3:22
11:04	11:46	7:29	3:19
11:15	11:43	7:26	3:16
11:26	11:40	7:23	3:13
11:37	11:37	7:20	3:10
11:48	11:34	7:17	3:07
11:59	11:31	7:14	3:04
12:10	11:28	7:11	3:01
12:21	11:25	7:08	2:58
12:32	11:22	7:05	2:55
12:43	11:19	7:02	2:52
12:54	11:16	6:59	2:49
1:05	11:13	6:56	2:46
1:16	11:10	6:53	2:43
1:27	11:07	6:50	2:40
1:38	11:04	6:47	2:37
1:49	11:01	6:44	2:34
2:00	10:58	6:41	2:31
2:11	10:55	6:38	2:28
2:22	10:52	6:35	2:25
2:33	10:49	6:32	2:22
2:44	10:46	6:29	2:19
2:55	10:43	6:26	2:16
3:06	10:40	6:23	2:13
3:17	10:37	6:20	2:10
3:28	10:34	6:17	2:07
3:39	10:31	6:14	2:04
3:50	10:28	6:11	2:01
4:01	10:25	6:08	1:58
4:12	10:22	6:05	1:55
4:23	10:19	6:02	1:52
4:34	10:16	5:59	1:49
4:45	10:13	5:56	1:46
4:56	10:10	5:53	1:43
5:07	10:07	5:50	1:40
5:18	10:04	5:47	1:37
5:29	10:01	5:44	1:34
5:40	9:58	5:41	1:31
5:51	9:55	5:38	1:28
6:02	9:52	5:35	1:25
6:13	9:49	5:32	1:22
6:24	9:46	5:29	1:19
6:35	9:43	5:26	1:16
6:46	9:40	5:23	1:13
6:57	9:37	5:20	1:10
7:08	9:34	5:17	1:07
7:19	9:31	5:14	1:04
7:30	9:28	5:11	1:01
7:41	9:25	5:08	1:00
7:52	9:22	5:05	1:00
8:03	9:19	5:02	1:00
8:14	9:16	4:59	1:00
8:25	9:13	4:56	1:00
8:36	9:10	4:53	1:00
8:47	9:07	4:50	1:00
8:58	9:04	4:47	1:00
9:09	9:01	4:44	1:00
9:20	8:58	4:41	1:00
9:31	8:55	4:38	1:00
9:42	8:52	4:35	1:00
9:53	8:49	4:32	1:00
10:04	8:46	4:29	1:00
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12:05	8:13	3:56	1:00
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