"A child? every one asked. "Yes, a little toy. A few years ago I got a chance to buy a piece of land over on the west side at reasonable figures, and did so. I noticed that there was an old coop of a house on it, but I paid no attention to it. After while a manufacture of the second wasted awhile a man came to me and wanted to know if I would rent it to him.

'What do you want it for?' says I. "'To live in,' he replied,

I told him it was not fit to live in, but he said he was handy with tools and that he would fix it up some if I would let him have it cheap. 'Well,' I said, You can have it. Pay me what you think it is worth to you.

"The first month he brought \$2, and the second month a little boy, who said he was this man's son, came with \$3. After that I saw the man once in awhile, but in the course of time the boy paid the rent regularly, sometimes \$2 and sometimes \$3. One day I asked the boy what had become of his father.

"'He's dead, sir,' was the reply.
"'Is that so?' said I. 'How long

'More'n a year,' he answered. "I took his money, but I made up my mind that I would go over and investigate; but one thing and another prevented until finally he came around again. Then I determined to go anyway, and the next day I drove over there. The old shed looked quite de-cent. I knocked at the door and a little

She said she didn't have any. "'Where is she?' said I. "'We don't know, sir. She went away after my father died and we've

girl let me in. I asked for her mother.

never seen her since.' "Just then a little girl about 3 years old came in, and I learned that these three children had been keeping house together for a year and a half, the by supporting his two little sisters by blacking boots and selling newspapers and the elder girl managing the house and taking care of the baby. Well, I just had my daughter call on them, and we keep an eye on them now. I thought I wouldn't disturb them while they are getting along. The next time the boy came with the rent I talked with

him a little and then I said: 'My boy, you're a brick. You keep right on as you have begun and you will never be sorry. Keep your little sisters together and never leave them. Now

look at this. "I showed him a ledger on which I had entered up all the money that he had paid me for rent and I told him that it was all his with interest. 'You keep right on,' says I, 'and I'll be your banker, and when this amounts to a little more I'll see that you get a house somewhere of your own.' That's the kind of a tenant to have.'

#### Ancestors of the American Indians.

The fact is we do not know who the Indians are, or who were the old builders of Palenque, of Uxmal, of Tiahuanuco, and numerous other old cities from Mexico to the eastern side of the Andes in South America. Until we awake to the fact that America has an interesting past, and can arouse ourselves to effort of making out the ancestors and descendants of all these peoples who have left us such marked differences in their architecture, their works of art, their customs and their languages, we act the part of amateurs, when from a little knowledge of a few of these different conditions, and from superficial or very general resemblances, we draw

hasty conclusions. Only the most thorough explorations, conducted by men who have broad views and careful methods of work,—men who are above being led by theories to be maintained; who will look at facts in the same manner as a geologist or a bi-ologist looks at his facts, letting them lead him where they will-will solve for us the great problems of American Archgology. The days of collectors of curiosities and hasty writers are over. Archæology is a science, and no longer in the hands of the mercenary dealer and the equally avaricious collector of curiosities. Give the proper institutions the support they ask for, and the near future will bring valuable results.

#### Benton's Favorite Dish.

"Senator Benton, of Missouri, was a mighty funny man about his eating," continued Uncle Steve. "I was at the National hotel for a long time while he boarded there, and I can say that he was about as fussy a man as you ever saw. He could talk more and pay his waiters less than any congressman I ever waited on. In the morning ne would say to 'Steve, you black rascal, bring me a Missouri cocktail.' That would mean whisky straight, two drinks in one. He would call for pretty much everything on the bill of fare, but he didn't touch much of it. What do you suppose was his favorite dish? Bacon and molasses, as sure as you are born! He would have a big dish of bacon fried crisp, with the gravy at the bottom. Then he would pour a pint of molasses over it, and I tell you, when he got through there wasn't anything left but the dish. That's the reason Mr. Benton had his meals mostly in his room. He did not want people to know that he was so fond of bacon and molasses."

#### Cure for Rheumatism.

[Phrenological Journal.] Dr. Hall advises as "the easiest, most certain, and least hurtful way of curing this troublesome affection is, first, to keep the joint affected wound round with several folds of woolen flannel; second live entirely on the lightest kind of food, such as coarse breads, ripe fruit, berries, boiled turnips, stewed apples, and the like."

#### Sea-Sickness.

A Massachusetts man has discovered a sure cure for sea sickness. It is a counter-irritant in the shape of a mild blister application behind be car.

THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT.

The Ruse by Which a Hunter Secured His Game.

[William A. Baillie-Grohman in The Century.] The antelope-goat is a singularly fear-less animal, while its innate curiosity will lead it to brave dangers from which most other wild animals will flee. Let me relate one incident that will prove this. I had sighted a solitary ram grazing on one of the frequent amphitheatreshaped steep slopes, but well down about the middle of the declivity, while I was on the top of the knife-backed ridge. Unfortunately the goat had seen me, and had taken to his hoofs, but in a very leisurely manner, keeping in his flight a course parallel to mine, i. e., approaching neither the top nor the bottom of the slope." I judged it to be some 550 yards down to him, and my trial shot, taken very steadily while he was making one of his frequent stands, and which missed him a little to the left, proved my estimation to be fairly correct.

I hoped to get nearer, so I reserved my fire, and for the next three-quarters of an hour a most exciting steeple-chase took place, I following the ridge, which was of the usual impossible character, while the ram pursued, as I have said, a parallel course, keeping half-way up the slope. The chamois would have put himself beyond distance in a few minutes. True, the path was not a smooth one; indeed, it was as rough as it well could be, huge bowlders, piled over each other or separated by dark yawning chasms, generally broad even for a goat's muscles, making progress very slow. But no doubt there was a good deal of fooling about the old ram's proceedings; for from time to time he would squat down and take a rest much amused, no doubt by the frantic scrambles of his breathless pursuer above him, clearly outlined against the horizon, and feeling very sure that the shaking aim would be anything but dangerous to him. In this he was right; for eleven times in the course of that singular race did I throw myself flat on some handy rock, and take as deliberate aim as my shaking hands, trembling from the exertion in the trying atmosphere of these high altitudes, would allow. Eleven times the bullet whizzed past him, once detaching a fragment of rock, which must have hit him, for I could distinctly perceive him make a side jump.

I was very nearly at "my wind's end," letely fagged out by my which, as I looked back, completely run, I saw covered very nearly the whole vast semicircle of the ridge, and which, as I afterward found, was keenly watched with glasses by my friend and some of the men from their camp, far down the mountain-side. By this time I had one cartridge left. Hunter and hunted were approaching the end of the semicircle ridge, where it fell off in one enormous precipice, a configuration of the ground that, of course, would shortly terminate the chase, a continuation being only feasible to winged creatures. The ram, still about 400 yards off, was steering for a toothlike crag, separated from the main ridge by a profound abyss. Here evidently he felt himself secure, and as I watched him sit down very leisurely to take in all the fun of my defeat, I felt very uncharitable sentiments escaping my parched and breathless lips. A quarter of an hour's much-needed breathing spell allowed me at this juneture to survey the ground. The distance separating us was about 400 yards. It would have been folly to risk my last cartridge at this long range. The ram was evidently feeling very much at home, and (as I could easily see with my glasses) kept his gaze steadfastly fixed upon me.

The formation of the ground, as I presently discovered, favored the employment of the following ruse-which, as the sequel will show, proved successful. Retiring behind the top of the ridge. I took off my canvas jumper and hat, dressed up a handy stone with these garments, and, slowly lifting it on the top of the ridge, deposited it there, in plain sight of the watchful ram. Then I disappeared, and made a long detour, including a disagreeable creep along a ledge, where my progress was tantalizingly slow—for the precarious nature of the shelving rock, in places only a foot or two in width, with a deep precipice at my side, obliged me to take off my boots and stockings so as to gain a surer footing, while the wind, unpleasantly cold, pierced my single upper garment (a flannel shirt), saturated with perspiration, making me shiver and shake. I finally managed to weather the great buttress of rock at a considerably lower level, and to approach the ram from a direction be little expected, to within 150 yards or so. It was an anxious minute as I lifted my head inch by inch over a projecting ledge, and there, in plain view, saw my his gazed still fixed upward at my dummy. For full five minutes I lay there; what with the excitement my breathlessness, I instinctively felt that every minute thus gained would bring my bullet an inch nearer to my quarry. When finally my Express pealed forth its sharp crack, the ram was my

A most singular, not to say fantastic, habit of the antelope-goat is worthy of special notice. It is the practice of sitting up on his haunches like a dog, and when anything startles him to squat back and raise his front legs from the ground, much in the position of a "beg-ging" poodle. The hide and hair on the rump of the old animals are quite worn and much thicker than elsewhere. On one occasion I approached such squatting goats to within sixty yards.

#### Why Negroes Are Black.

[Indianapolis Sentinel.]
Surgeon Maj. N. Alcock has contributed to Nature an interesting communication as to why the tropical man is black, in which he suggests that as in the lowest animals pigment-cells placed behind a transparent nerve termination exalt its vibration to the highest pitch, the reverse takes places when, as in the negro, the pigment-cells are placed in front of the nerve terminations, and that the black pigment in the skin serves to lessen the intensity of the nerve vibrations that would be caused in a naked human body by exposure to a tropical sun; that, in fact, the pigment plays the same part as a piece of smoked glass held between the sun and the eye. A Contest of Acuteness ["S. R." in Brooklyn Eagle.]

Then there are many reporters whose stock in trade is adaptability to circumstances. Each person they are sent to interview needs different treatment on account of disposition or indisposition, or the circumstances surrounding the These adaptative reporters are naturally quiet, suave men, with keen eyes and tenacious memories. They will stand anything or go any place, as long as they get the interviews they are seeking. They go at candidates frankly, telling just what they want to know, because they are aware that the candidate will be willing to talk; but when interviewing the president of a bank or company, the matter is different. If anything crooked has been done at all the officials bend every effort to conceal the facts. They don't want to talk, and will

deceive to as great an extent as possible. The interviewer therefore will have to arm himself with a lot of information from official statistics and also from those who are familiar with the way in which the corporation in question did business and in what transactions it has been most largely involved. Putting this and that together the interviewer approaches the gentleman to be interviewed with a tolerably thorough knowledge of just how the company or corporation stands. When they sit down and talk it is like a game of chess. Each question is a move to be met by an answer which will be a reply and yet not give any information. This is very enjoyable, because it is exciting and stimulating: It is a contest of acuteness, The interviewed must answer the questions. If he refuses to do this he knows his rafusal will be printed and the public will weigh it against him, while if he

lies he will be found out. Some men if placed in this position throw themselves on the mercy of the reporter and tell him all they know, ejaculating every few minutes the statement that all is said in confidence. This is an injustice to the reporter, whose information is being gathered, not for his own edification, but for the instruction of the readers of his papers and, of course, the adjuration to secrecy is disregarded. Another kind of men will utterly refuse to be interviewed at all, and still another will sit down and begin the diamond-cut-diamond fight, which comprises the interview with a sharp business man who is talking against his will.

#### California Gulf Pearls.

[Chicago Times.] Nearly a century ago Juan Oxio first called attention to the wealth hidden in the mud in the California gulf. Great beds of pearl oysters lay among their loathsome surroundings. In 1875 two schooners, each of about 200 tons, one from Australia, the other from England, went to those waters, librally supplied with diving apparatus, helmets, rubber suits, hose, and life-lines, and thirteen boats and boats' crews to operate them. With the aid of these appliances they netted in six months \$125,000. This woke up La Paz people, and they bought up the diving apparatus from the schooners. The yield of the fisheries during the past two years, with the imperfect service offered by four schooners and twenty boats, has been from \$200,-000 to \$250,000 in pearls, and about 900 tons of shell, worth from 60 pounds sterling - say pounds sterling-a ton, or about \$292. 500, making a gross yield of \$542,000 per annum more than the entire capital.

#### Romance of an Ear of Corn. [Peoria Journal.]

It has always been thought that ears 1 of corn have an even number of rows, and that one with an odd number of rows would be an impossibility. In slavery times this question was discussed, and a negro in Kentucky claimed that he had seen ears of that kind. His master told him he would give him his -the negro's-freedom for an ear with an odd number of rows. This was in the early spring, but in the fall, during corn gathering time, the negro came with a sound ear of corn with thirteen rows. He got his free papers. A long time afterward the old negro said that in roasting-ear time he took a sharp knife, cut out the one row of grains, bound the ear together, and knew just where to find it when gathering time

#### Crippled His Resources. [Texas Siftings.]

A New York reporter accepted a position on the staff of a large and flourishing daily paper in Houston. After he had been at work for a short time, some body asked him how he liked Texas. "I am very much pleased with everything but the climate.

"What's the matter with the climate?" "It is too changeable. One day it is cold, and I need my ulster. Next day it is hot, and I have to wear my duster. That sort of thing sets me back in my finances. It cripples my resources." "How so?"

"I can't make up my mind which of them coats to take to the pawnbroker."

#### A Bird in the Hand.

"Well," he said to the minister at the conclusion of the ceremony, "how much

do I owe you?"
"Oh! I'll leave that to you," was the reply, "you can better estimate the value of the services rendered."

"Suppose we postpone settlement, then, say for one year. By that time I know whether I ought to give you \$100 or nothing.

"No-no," said the clergyman, who is a married man himself, "make it \$3

#### Had Simply Been Waiting. [New York Star.]

A young lady up-town was recently missing from home for several days. Her distracted parents sent detectives forth in search of her, and after they forth in search of her, and after they had searched the country in vain she was given up. The grief of her parents knew no bounds, and when they were just resigning themselves to the awful calamity the young lady walked in and stated that she had simply been waiting for her change in a Sixth avenue drygoods store.

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