

The Leaves and the Wind.

A little leaf was once heard to sigh and cry, as leaves often do when a gentle wind is about them. And the twice said:

"What is the matter, little leaf?"

"The wind," said the leaf, "just told me that one day it would pull me off and throw me to the ground to die."

The twig told it to the branch, and the branch told it to the tree. And when the tree heard it, it rustled all over and sent word back to the leaf:

"Do not be afraid, hold on tightly, and you shall not go till you want to."

And so the leaf stopped sighing, and went on singing and rustling. And so it grew all summer long till October. And when the bright days of autumn came, the leaf's color began to change. Some were yellow and some were scarlet, and some were striped with colors. Then it asked the tree what it meant. And the tree said:

"All these leaves are getting ready to fly away, and they are put on these colors because of their joy."

Then the little leaf began to want to go, and grew very beautiful in thinking of it. And when it was very gay in colors, it was taken by branches of the tree which color it in them, and so the leaf said:

"Oh branch, why are you lead-colored and you golden?"

"We must keep on our work-clothes," said the tree, "for our task is not yet done, but your clothes are for a holiday, because your task is over."

Just then a little puff of wind came, and the leaf let go without thinking of it, and the wind took it up and turned it over, and then it fell gently down under the edge of a fence, among hundreds of leaves, and it never waked up to tell what it dreamed about.—The Christian at Work.

Household Hints

A correspondent of the Scientific American recommends turpentine as a cure for lockjaw. He says "I have known one who has an attack of lockjaw take a small quantity of turpentine, warm it and pour it on the wound, no matter where the wound is, and relief will follow in less than one minute. Nothing better can be applied to a severe cut or laceration than turpentine; it will give certain relief almost instantly. Turpentine is also a sovereign remedy for cramps; saturate a piece of flannel with it and place it on the throat and chest, and in severe cases three to five drops on a lump of sugar may be taken sparingly. Every family should have a bottle on hand." The remedy is simple and easily tested. In all serious cases an application should be made under careful advice.

The following lotion is superior for a shampooing liquid for itching dandruff and as a useful and pleasant application for baldness. It is, of course, moderately stimulating, and in those cases in which the hair follicles are not destroyed, but have become merely inactive, it is likely to prove efficacious. Acetic acid, one ounce; trichin; cologne water, one ounce; water; to make in all six ounces.

To wash calicoes, put wheat bran in a bag, boil, and take half the water to wash it, and the other to rinse it; use soap. This will cleanse without fading and softens them without starch. Iron on the wrong side, and they will look as if just out of the store.

How to Keep Your Winter Apples.

The following excellent suggestions are offered by the Vermont Farmer: The way most farmers save their winter apples is to hold them up, like potatoes, or pile them up in a cave or cellar. By this method you not only lose time, but lose many apples; and what you do keep over winter are in bad condition. Apples may be kept in barrels that are quite open; but the best and cheapest way to keep them is in crates or boxes made in the following manner: The ends or headpieces should be ten or twelve inches by fifteen to eighteen long. They can be sawed or split. Nail your boards on the boxes through life, leaving places for ventilation. Have your boards all the same length—about three feet.

The Man With the Paper Cap.

Donn Platt says in the Capital: "Parents may as well learn, especially American parents, anxious for the welfare of their sons through life, that the man in the paper cap is coming to the front. The mechanic bids fair to be master of his situation—the governing element socially and politically hereafter. While, as a body, mechanics grow more powerful and influential, every day from the midst come not only the master minds that lead and control civilized humanity, but the learned men in the professions, whose names add science and art. On the other hand, the universities and colleges, the bar, the bachelors, billiard markers and a hundred and one other places of refuge for the sons of wealthy families fallen into decay."

Two Gals and a Mare.

Two of Illinois beautiful daughters, driving out on the plank-road near Chicago, were stopped at the toll-gate and asked for toll.

"How much is it?"

"For a man and horse," replied the gate-keeper, "the charge is fifteen cents."

"Well, then, get out of the road, for we are two gals and a mare. Git up, Jenny!"

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Grand Square Piano.

A Florida correspondent not long since writes very enthusiastically of his experience with the "game fish in the State," as he called the channel bass. We extract the following:

I caught my first channel bass at Turtle Mound, on a Caddyshank hook, which was much too small. Standing upon the point of a spit of sand, I cast the mullet baited hook fifty feet into the water. Five minutes passed before a bite. The fish was fastened and reeled in. It was a two-pound cat-fish of a delicate color. In the sun it had the luster of a green silk dress.

A second time I drew in a green cat-fish. Then half an hour elapsed without a bite. I grew discouraged, and running up the line from the reel, I landed a large channel bass. I had made a second—taking two hundred feet of line. I could feel him shake his head, and try to get the bait out of his mouth as he sped away. Then he ran in on me like a race horse, faster than I could take in the slack.

Dashing into the shallow water he took a look at his tormentor. It was not satisfactory. Making a wide sweep he flung the foam into my face with his tail, and again sailed off into the river, raising a swell upon the surface of the water. For an instant he was quiet, and then there was a circus performance which lasted over five minutes.

Finally the fish became quiet and was reeled in. I had no gaff hook, and was about to stick my fingers into his gills, and draw him upon the sand, when Dr. Fox, my guide, said, "Get your gun, and get your fish; he's got teeth in his gills." I found two pockets or armpits under his fins, and pulled him ashore. He was a channel bass weighing twenty-two pounds. Within twenty minutes I took a second one, weighing a little over fourteen pounds. At Seventy-two, near Pepper Hammock, I caught a twenty-five pound fellow.

I camped six days on the shore of Bannan river, in a wild orange and lemon grove. Before leaving Snyder, Mr. Lawrence of New York, gave me a small clothes line, over 300 feet long, with a heavy sinker and a hook nearly five inches long, backed up by an enormous shank. Every night at dark I was in the habit of tying the line to the limb of a cabbage tree overlooking the camp fire. Afterward I would bait the hook with half a mullet, take the sinker out the full length of the line, and drop it overboard.

One night after I had gone to bed there was trouble in the old cabbage tree. The limbs were cracking and dancing over the embers of the camp fire as though the spirits of the air were at work. Buster, our dog, was barking like all possessed. Roused from my sound sleep, it was some moments before I could realize what was the matter. It struck me like a flash. I dashed out of the tent in my bare feet, stood upon the beach in the soft light of the moon, and spent fifty minutes in getting to the shore a bass that weighed fifty-three pounds.

Keeping Bells on Sheep.

Dogs that are disposed to kill sheep, know better. Hence any sheep, no matter how small, should have a bell on its neck. The bell should be of iron, and the ring of a bell, whenever they are about to attack the sheep, frightens them so that they abandon their blood thirsty project. R. W. Mathewson, of Connecticut, writes to the Country Gentleman as follows:

The effect of the bell in preventing damage to sheep by dogs has been well proved in this vicinity the past season. Of fourteen flocks without bells but one escaped; in five flocks, with bells on each sheep, no damage was done. In the flock of Middlefield, a flock partially belled, and lost but one sheep, which strayed into another lot, was without a bell, and was killed. Mr. A. B. Coe bought a flock and put it in a lot adjoining the former, and soon found two dogs were about the fourth sheep. The dogs belonged within a quarter of a mile, and passed Mr. Coe's flock. Dogs, after getting the taste of blood of unbelled sheep, may attack sheep with bells as yet I believe if all the sheep were belled, trouble from dogs would be very rare. The great difficulty has been to get bells which did not wear the strap off. Bells with shanks to penetrate the strap will wear off in a few weeks. I have found bells of all sizes made by Bevin's Crothers, of East Hampton, Ct., cast with staples for the strap to pass through, which move on the strap, and all the wear does not come in one place; the strap can be drawn out to fit. To be safe, every sheep and lamb should wear a bell.

Liquid Consolation.

A very amusing application for the privilege of opening a saloon, or public house as it is called in England, was made in the ancient city of York recently. A publican, presumably a sinner, applied to the authorities for license to open such a place near the cemetery. There was, he explained, at present no place for persons to go for a stimulant when depressed by a bereavement. He had several persons come to my lodge, and I have to give them my own brandy, for I should be fined if I sold it to them." The logic of this is unanswerable. If brandy is a necessity at a funeral, there ought to be some means of supplying it without loss to a poor lodge-keeper. But the theory of substitutes, argued for departed spirits as a means of consolation always to be applied, did not seem properly applicable to the case. The license was refused.

Had Been to the Races.

At dark a respectable dressed man applied at the station for lodgings, saying that he had lost \$320 during the day. "Robbed?" queried the sergeant. "No; not exactly." "On the street?" "No; not exactly." "Been gambling?" "No; not exactly." "Been caught pumping him," and the man finally said, "I tell you—I was over at the races. You see I was just found to have lost it. I knew all along that I was a race horse, when the truth established, and the license was refused. I don't know a word of racing, but a lame turkey buzzard, hang me!"

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