

TALK ABOUT GOLDFISH.

Brilliant Color Obtained Altogether by Artists.

The Chinese Invented the Bright Picturesque Fish—How They Raised in China's Secret Apartments—First Discovery of Their Secret.

(Special Correspondence Letter.)

It is not likely that you have been made aware of the fact that millions of goldfish are about to go forth from coast to almost every country in each state. The annual crop raised by the fish commission is about ripe and ready for distribution.

Would you like to have some of goldfish? You can have them with or without paying for them. Your wife, daughter, sweetheart would undoubtedly be pleased to have and keep them in a little aquarium which you can purchase for a very few pence of silver. All you will have to do is to send a postcard to Mrs. Marshall McDonald, Fish Commission, and you will be supplied. About the last of December special cars will be dispatched north and west with supplies in cans, to railway centers all over the United States, whence the fish are scattered by express agents the power of which we are already well in small lots. In this way the ponds and aquaria in all parts of the



A REMARKABLE SPECIMEN.

specimens are being rapidly stocked in aquariums throughout America. Lots of persons interested largely in the stocking of waters are often given commands at a time. But requests for such great numbers must have the endorsement of a spectator or representative in Congress, because the fish commissioners have reliable assurance that the amount of money given is equivalent to the expenses of the government. The written endorsement of a representative is required as satisfactory in all cases. But if you only want a couple of these little beauties you can have them over your own roof.

The young goldfish hatched last spring are now about a finger length, and therefore just about the right size for aquaria. For that reason this season of the year is chosen for their distribution. In the early ponds near the Washington monument, where the goldfish are propagated, it is no uncommon sight to see a school of all sizes swimming about like tiny tadpoles; some of them weighing half a pound a foot or more in length and weighing several pounds. The stock is drawn upon by regulation whenever the commission wants any of the species in greater numbers, and may be kept in temporary ponds and enclosures, partly because they are always well fed. The little ones are safe where the big follow; and they constitute the biggest happy family on earth. In the fountains which are to be seen in many parks there are thousands of these little goldfish swimming about to be admired and coveted by the children. But only in the carp ponds can we see the big fish. As they dart themselves in the sunlight they look like animated pieces of gold or silver.

SIR H. FER.

COULDN'T TALK ENGLISH.

But the Little Egyptian Maiden Could Make English Gestures.

The Egyptian girls on the world's fair grounds can't speak a word of English, but that does not prevent them from making themselves understood with the well-dressed stranger who halts at their quaint bazaars.

One little girl of fourteen, who has round, fat face, and black eyes, creates quite a stir and causes quite a stir with her gestures and funny ways.

The girls have some fun with her.

Young man with cheeks on his clothes as large as a Columbian half dollar tickled her under the chin the other day. A moment later he greeted the girl for the dark skinned girl from Labrador suddenly sprang up and ran away, pursued by the well-dressed stranger who halts at their quaint bazaars.

The girls have some fun with her.

Two of Columbus' Cannons.

Two of the cannon which is to be fired, were at one time mounted on board Christopher Columbus' flagship on exhibition. The cannons are of the ancient and clumsy pattern of such guns as were used in the days of yore. Nothing but the body of the gun remains, the woodwork of course having rotted away centuries ago. The guns themselves are almost worn to pieces and are not much more than huge chunks of rust. Indeed, the guns are put on the "scraps iron" list in the custom house papers.

The last gun will be exhibited for exhibition at the world's fair.

One of the naval officers who was detailed for work in connection with the Columbian expedition found the relic at one of the West Indian Islands.

Tradition and substantial proof shows that the gun was brought from Spain with Columbus' fleet.

The gun is to be exhibited for some time after the arrival of the Ark.

In order to enter the convent of Mar Saba from the Greek patriarch at Jerusalem to the superior at the convent must be secured. This we also obtained. We filed out the Jaffa gate into the valley of Hinnom, thence up the hill of the Kedron, and over the brow of a mountain, the Mount of Olives, to the convent of the Virgin Mary. The church is built on a rocky crag, and the entire building is surrounded by a wall of rough stones.

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