THE FISHING CORMORANT.

HOW THE CHINESE ANGLER SE-

Intelligent Birds Which do the Work of Hook and Line While Their Master Placidly Smokes.

A traveled New Yorker said to a Times representative: "It is one of the most interesting and amusing sights imaginable to see the fishing cormorants at work. I spent over a year in China, and the first time I ever saw a Chinese fishery at work was on the Min River. This was one day soon after my arrival in that country. I was strolling along the banks of the river and came to a bamboo raft or float moored to the pier of a bridge. I noticed a notive squatting on the raft, and saw what at first sight I thought was a number of ducks grouped at one end of it. They were all inced toward the Chinaman, and he was gazing steadily at them, bending over with his hands resting on his knees. The sight was a curious one to me, and I stopped to see what was going on. The man was an old fellow with a hooked nose, long, crooked fingers, and thin, sun-burned shanks, and he looked not a little like the birds he was gazing at. Presently he held out his right hand, palm upward, toward one of the birds. It waddled briskly up to the Chinaman and hopped in his open palm. I then saw that the birds were not ducks, and it came to me that they were fishing cormorants, and that the Chinaman was about to set the birds to their tasks. The old native fondly stroked the feathers of the bird on his hand, rubbed his wrinkled cheek along its which he kissed now and then, and talked to it Chinese, evidently in endearing terms. The bird showed much delight at the attentions of its master. It laid its head on the Chinaman's arm, and rubbed its bill against his face.
"These mutual caressings lasted

minute or more, and then the master of the bird stepped to the side of the float and placed the cormorant on the edge of The native then sat down in an easy bamboo chair in the shade of the bridge pier and lazily lighted his pipe. The bird on the edge of the raft dipped its bill in the water, snapped its jaws together, looked in a scrutinizing manner up and down the side of the float, and then turned its head and fixed its glistening black eyes on its master. At a sign from him-a slight wave of his handthe bird quickly slid from the raft into the water and disappeared beneath the surface without a sound, and scarcely left a ripple to mark where it had gone The other birds remained motionless at the end of the float, with their eyes fixed on their master in his chair. He puffed away at his pipe, and took no apparent further interest in the proceedngs. The cormorant that had made the dive remained under the water for at least a quarter of a minute; then it reappeared, popping almost clear of the water as it came up. It held a good-sized fish in its bill, a fish brilliantly marked with red and black stripes. The bird swam straight to the raft, climbed upon it, and waddling to where its master sat, laid the fish in his outstretched He dropped it into a covered basket which was fastened to the raft, and floated in the water. The Chinaman stroked the neck and plumage of the or so the Chinaman again waved his hand and the cormorant plunged once more into the water as noiselessly as bestolidity, apparently unmindful of what master's hand as before. It was caressed again, and a third time sent into the

"The bird now seemed to be thoroughly warmed up to its work, and went at it with an avidity that showed plainly the pleasure it took in it. The third time it was under water longer than usual, and when it finally came up it had no fish. The change in its action was striking. It swam frantically about in sharp eyes fixed intently on its master, with an expression in them, that was a mute appeal. The distressed cormorant made no move to approach the float. The Chinaman raised his forelinger, and then turned it downward with a jerk. The bird dived again, and so quickly that it was gone like a flash. In a few seconds it came up, bearing in its mouth a large fish. It swam boldly for the raft, deposited its prey in its master's hand, and showed by the joyfulness of its ac-tion as he stroked its necked that it understood that it had redeemed itself.

"When the Chinaman had placed the

third fish in his basket he made a sign with his hand and the cormorant strode proudly to the end of the raft opposite the group of birds, where it took an easy position. It seemed to understand that it had done its work satisfactorily and was entitled to rest. As soon as this signal was given to the cormoraut a visible change came over the other birds. Each one straightened itself up to its is told that she refused to marry a most full height, arched its neck, shook out devoted lover until he should have its feathers, and seemed trembling with expectancy. The Chinaman held out his some expostulation he accepted the de-hand as he had done before, and the cree and went to work. About three largest bird in the group stepped out and waddled up to the chair. Its master lady, meeting her lover, asked: "Well, caressed it as he had done the Charlie, how are you getting along?" first one. With the selection of the "Oh, very well indeed," Charlie resecond bird by the master the others at turned, cheerfully; "Tve got \$18 saved." once resumed their attitude of listless- The young lady blushed and looked ness and indifference. The second bird seemed sullen, and did not respond to the inoffensive earth with the point of the caresses of the Chinamen as the first her parasol. "I guess," said she faintly one had. It evidently had no heart for ..."I guess, Charlie, that's about near the work expected of it. At the signal from its ma ter it plunged in the water with a noisy splash. It disappeared, but was down not more than five seconds When it came up it had no fish, It showed no disappointment or distress over its failure, and swam indifferently about. When its master gave an angry signal for it to dive again it went down with a great flutter and splattering of water, and soon reappeared without any Do you believe in that?" fish. It deported itself with the same impudence. The Chinaman now arose to his feet. He shouted at the bird and made an emphatic signal. The anger of its master did not disturb the cormorant till nine. in the least. It was apparently incor-rigible. At the angry signal it dived phia Call.

with aggravating deliberation, and almost immediately reappeared without adding anything to its master's catch. Then the Chinaman uttered several guttural exclamations, and signaled the bird to come in by jerking his thumb back over his shoulder. The cormorant swam tantalizingly slow to the raft. The Chinaman caught it by the neck and dragged it out of the water. He cuffed it soundly on the head and threw it violently on the bamboo. I thought the poor bird must certainly be killed, but it arose coolly to its feet, and at the signal limped sullenly off to the end of the raft where the first cormorant was resting strong in its master's affection and approval. This bird manifested unmistakable delight at the discomfiture of its companion, but the others seemed to notice nothing but the movements of their master. "The Chinaman next held out both

hands and took two of the remaining birds at once. These seemed to appreciate his carcases, and as they were to be worked together, to feel that the competition would result in greater or less reward. As they waited for the signal they eyed each other jealously. When cut the water at once and disappeared together. In ten seconds one of them came up. It had a fish. It looked eagerly around on all sides. Its rival had not yet appeared. The cormorant hastened toward the raft. It was within two feet of it before the other bird had come to the surface, and then the second one appeared immediately in front of the first one, and with a large fish in its bill. Both birds mounted the raft together, and neither had any advantage of the other in delivering their catches to the uninterested Chinaman. The two cormorants were caressed and sent back into the water. The second time both birds came to the surface close together. One had a fish and the other had failed to catch one. When this one saw its successful rival it became wild. It thrashed about in the water, seized the other bird's fish, and endeavored to take it away. A shout and signal from the Chinaman caused the unsuccessful fisher to release its hold on the rightful owner's fish. The successful bird swam to the raft with its catch and proudly placed it in its master's hands. While it was being caressed the other cormarant swam fran tically about, waiting for the signal from the Chinaman that would give it another trial. This was not given until the successful bird was also ready for another dive, and both birds went down together. This time the one that failed before was the successful bird, and the other one passed in under the ban.

"In this way the old Chinaman continued fishing with his birds for hours. Sometimes a cormorant would bring to the surface a fish too large for it to successfully handle, and then another bird would be sent to its aid. When the Chinaman ceased fishing he had nearly a bushel of fish, all alive in his baskets. They were a species of carp, beautifully marked in many colored stripes. Once in a while I noticed that the bird brought in a fish that aroused the ire of the old Chinaman. These he battered against the raft, and then chopped them in pieces and threw them into the water. These fish, I afterward learned, were a worthless kind of pike. "The best and most intelligent fishing

cormorants come from the Province of streked the neck and plumage of the bird as he took the fish from it, and muttered words of approval. The cormorant shook out its feathers and manifested its shook out its feathers and manifested its delight in various ways. After a minute shook out its feathers and manifested its delight in various ways. After a minute the maternal iove and care of the cormo- often said that he was under the special rant is so feebly developed that their protection of God. He was fearless, and young find no protection from them. constantly exposed to danger, but his The other birds maintained their tremely week and delicate, and very possessed and the admiration of his men. prone to succumb to the slightest chill, was going on around them. The cormorant that was fishing again made a boo baskets, where they can be kept at a successful dive and placed the fish in its uniform temperature. They are fed with eral assaults which were made on the pellets of ground beans and finely chopped eels until they are a month old. Then was standing by Generals Knox and they are covered with feathers and Lincoln at the grand battery. It was they are covered with feathers and are fed on the eels alone. " When the young cormorauts are two months old they are worth from \$5 to \$7 a pair and live on young live fish. No effort is made to train them until they are five months old, by which time they have their growth. They are first tethered by a string around one foot on the bank of "If you think so," said Washington, the water, twisting and turning, and evincing the greatest distress, but no matter which way it turned it kept its birds learn from words and motions of water with a pole, and after a time the ently a ball did strike the cannon, and, his, after throwing some small fish in the water, that such is the signal for them to take to the water.

"The cormorants are kept scantily fed while being trained, and they attack the fish with avidity. They are taught by other words and signs the signal for leaving the water, pulling of the string on their foot emphasizing the signal. These lessons are given for three months, and then the practice is given the birds from boats and rafts. A month of this and the cords are removed. The birds that have been too stupid to learn their lessons are killed. The male birds are the most intelligent, and, after being trained, command \$25 a pair. A cormorant only lasts four years at the sutside, passing then into helpless decrepitude.

Near Enough.

It was a Maine girl of whom the story amassed a fortune of \$10,000. down at the toes of her boots, and stabbed enough."--- Harper's Bezar.

Eight-Hour Farm Laws.

Young man in search of a place- "Do you need any hands, Mr. Hayseed?" Farmer Hayseed-"Need 'em? Certainly I do. Pull of your coat and pitch right in."

"How about the-er-eight-hour rule? "That's the rule on this farm, young man. You go to work at four in the morning and knock off at noon. Then you go on again at one o'clock and work till nine. Eight hours at a time is

SELECT SUFTINGS.

The highest monument in the world to-day is the Washington monument. It has been observed that on a rocky

road the tires of wheels wear rounding, on a clay road flat, while in sand they cut out in the centre. A Swiss scientist estimates that in 1970

there will be 8,600,000,000 people in the world speaking English, 124,000,000 German and 69,500,000 French.

King Ludwig's heart has been enclosed in a silver urn and turned over to the monks of Altotting in Bavaria. These monks are taking care of the hearts of a long line of kings.

There is, of course, no disputing the truth of a thing that can be proved by mathematical demonstration. For instance, this proposition advanced by a professor of mathematics to his pupils; It is evident that if it takes one bricklayer twelve days to erect a wall of given dimentions, twelve bricklayers ought to do the work in one day, 288 in an hour, 17,280 in a mintue, and 1,036,800 bricklayers in a single second.

The United States has been the richest gold and silver producing country in the world, though but very little of the precious metals were found here before the discovery of gold in California in 1848. The chief product was in the Southern States. The total amount of gold mined in these States from the discovery of the metal until 1878 was \$20,000,000. From 1848 until 1873 the total value of the gold product of the United States was \$1,241,000,000,

Before the introduction of stamped money in Rome, all sums were reckoned by the pound weight, and not by the number of pieces, whence the person who weighed out the amount for any purchase was termed libripen, the weighman. But the name was retained in after times, although the custom from which it arose had long fallen into disuse, to designate the person who reckoned up and distributed their pay to the soldiers, whom we might term the quartermaster of a regi-

The great plague broke out in London during the reign of Charles II., and the physicians did not know how to treat it. When the plague came into a house the people used to mark a red cross upon the door, and write: "Lord have mercy upon 119. The shops were shut up and the whole city desolate. The following year, 1666, the great fire broke out. The whole city from the Tower to the Temple was destroyed, and St. Paul's Cathedral and innumerable churches were reduced to ashes. It burnt out the plague, however, by destroying many old, dirty and disease-breeding buildings.

Washington at Yorktown.

One who was in the army at the time relates an incident that came under his notice:

"A considerable cannonading from the enemy; one shot killed three men, and mortally wounded another. While the Rev. Mr. Evans, our chaplain, was standing near the commander-in-chief, a shot struck the ground so near as to cover his hat with sand. Being much agitated, he took off his hat, and said: 'See here, General!' 'Mr. Evans,' replied his excellency, with his usual composure, 'you'd better carry that home

and show it to your wife and children,' " Indeed it seemed to many that Wash-He was excited by the events which were hurrying the war to the close, and he watched with intent carnestness the sevworks. Once he had dismounted and not a safe place, for, though they were behind a fortification, it was quite possible for shot to enter the opening through which they were looking. One of his aids, growing nervous, begged him to

"If you think so," said Washington, "you are at liberty to step back." Presrolling off, fell at Washington's feet. General Knox seized him by the arm. "My dear General," said he, "we can't

spare you yet." "It's a spent ball," replied Washington, coolly. "No harm is done." He watched the action until the redoubts which his men had been assaulting were taken; then he drew a long breath of relief and turacd to Knox.

"The work is done," he said emphatic-ally; "and well done."—St. Nicholas.

A School of Fish.

James Smith, of Clark's Harbor, N. S. caught a fish and found in its stomach a mouse, recently swallowed.

Dick Holman and Alexander James caught a forty-pound catfish in a submerged hollow log in a stream near New London, Mo. More than 1,000 pounds of fish have been caught in this hollow log during the last three years.

A Milwaukee man caught a black bass weighing three pounds in Okauchee lake, Wisconsin. He cut open the bass from the gills downward and then held it in the water a moment. The "split" fish sprang away from its captor and swam off, disappearing beneath the surface of the water.

Captain Levi Shields, of Corydon, Ind., has a carp pond near his house. When he wants to feed the fish he goes to the pand and rings a small bell. stantly the fish from all parts of the pond start for the feeding place and gather in great numbers near the shore, where they fight for food as it is thrown to them.

Eckstrom, the Rev. M. Moller, and other writers assert that the flesh of a pike which has been struck by a bird will heal with the talons of the bird in its back, while the bird becomes converted into a skeleton which is carried about by the pike. One skeleton which had long been exhibited by a pike in Lake Wetter had acquired a greenish tinge and was regarded by the fishermen as a harbinger of misfortune. Another skeleton carried by a pike in Lake Frysdale was known to the fishermen as a watersprite and they fled from it in fear. The pike was finally killed and the watersprite proved to be the skeleton of a sea eagle.

Interesting Signboards.

I found the signs an interesting feature on Dutch streets, says a letter from Holland. It was some time before l understood what it meant when I read: "Fire and water for sale." It seems the poorer people make no fires, but buy boiling water and redhot turf with which to prepare their tea and coffee. It a baty is born, a small placard of red satin and white lace is hung upon the door; if some one is sick, his symptoms are daily recorded on a little bulletin board affixed to the house, thus saving these interested the trouble of making and replying to inquiries.

A shop is known by a big painted Moor's head, and the arrival of fresh herrings is announced by the hanging out of a large gilded crown decorated The country houses, with box leaves. too, are decorated with legends. The retired gentleman seems anxious that all the world should know of his content. So he paints in huge letters on the front of his house such sentiments as these:
"With Care," "Big Enough," "Sociability Within," etc. Every possible occasion for eating and drinking is em-braced, such as the celebration of betrothals, births, and the many national feasts. Just why I don't know, but the drink with which the lower classes celebrate an engagement is known as "bridal tears.

A Mermaid.

The fishermen of Gabarus, says the North Sydney (Nova Scotia) Herald, have been excited over the appearance of a mermaid seen in the waters by some fishermen a few days ago. While Mr. Bagnell, accompanied by several fishermen, was out in a boat they observed, floating on the surface of the water s few yards from the boat, what they supposed to be a corpse. Approaching it for the purpose of taking it ashore for burial, they observed it to move, when, to their great surprise, it turned around in a sitting position and looked at them and disappeared. A few moments after it appeared at the surface and again looked toward them, after which it disappeared altogether. The face, head, shoulders and arms resembled those of a human being, but the lower extremities had the appearance of a fish. The back of its head was covered with long dark hair resembling a horse's mane. The arms were shaped exactly like a human being's, except that the fingers on the hands were very long. The color of the skin was not unlike that of a human being. There is no doubt that the mysterious stranger is what is known as a mermaid, and the first seen in Cape Breton waters.

After the most exhaustive practical tests in hospitals and elsewhere, the gold medal and certificate of highest merit were awarded to St. Jacobs Oil, as the best pain-curing remedy, at the Calcutta International Exhibition.

STEAMERS from some of the Southern ports bring \$0,000 to 70,000 big watermelons per trip. The freightage to New York is five cents a melon. Last season one company received \$23,000 for watermelon freight, and carried nearly \$00,000 melons.

Prof. Grothe, Brooklyn Board of Health, says Red Star Cough Cure is free from opiates, and highly efficacious. Twenty-five cents.

Of the thousand or more prisoners dis-charged from Sing Sing prison during the last year and a half there was not one who was not able to sign his name. Many had learned this while at penal service.

The Benuty of Woman The Benuty of Wemnn is her crown of glory. But alas! how quickly does the nervous debility and chronic weakness of the sex cause the bloom of youth to pass away, sharpen the lovely features, and emaciate the rounded form! There is but one remedy which will restore the faded roses and bring back the grace of youth. "It is Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription," a sovereign remedy for the diseases peculiar to females, it is one of the greatest boons ever conferred upon the human race, for it preserves that which is fairest and dearest to all mankind—the beauty and the health of woman. which is fairest and dearest to all mankind-the beauty and the health of woman.

HALF a million wild ducks are annually killed in Southern Louisiana and sent to the New Orleans market.

To Consumptives.

Reader, can you believe that the Creator afflicts one-third of mankind with a disease for which there is no remedy? Dr. R. V. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" has cured hundreds of cases of consumption, and men are living to-day—healthy, robust men—whom physicians pronounced incurable, because one lung was almost gone. Send 10 cents in stamps for Dr. Pierce's book on consumption and kindred affections. Address, World's Dispensary Medical Association, 663 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

An innovation in minstrelsy has taken place in Montana, where a negro is playing an en-gagement in which he "whitens up."

Stricture of the urethra, however inveterate or complicated from previous bad treatment, speedily and permanently cured by our new and improved methods. Book, references and terms sent for tea cents in stamps, World's Dispensary Medical Association, 663 Main street, Buffalo, N. Y.

A NEGRO in Columbia county, Arkansas, claims to be 126 years old.

Consumptives should use food as nourishing as can be had, and in a shape that will best agree with the stomach and taste of the patient.

O ut-door exercise is earnestly recommended If you are unable to take such exercise on horseback or on foot, that should furnish no excuse for shutting yourself in-doors, but you should take exercise in a carriage, or in some other way bring yourself in contact with the

Medicines which cause expectoration must be avoided. For five hundred years physicians have tried to cure Consumption by using them, and have failed. Where there is great derangement of the secretions, with engorgement of air-cells, there is always profuse expectoration. Now Piso's Cure removes the engorgement and the derangement of the secretions, and consequently (and in this way only) diminishes the amount of mat ter expectorated. This medicine does not dry up a cough, but removes the cause of it.

When it is impossible from debility or other causes to exercise freely in the open air, apartmenta occupied by the patient should be so ventilated as to ensure the constant accession

ments occupied by the patient should be so ventilated as to ensure the constant accession of fresh air in abundance.

The surface of the body should be sponged as often as every third day with tepid water and a little soft-soap. (This is preferable to any other.) After thoroughly drying, use friction with the hand moistened with oil. Cod-Liver or Olive is the best. This keeps the pores of the skin in a soft, pliable condition, which contributes materially to the unloading of waste matter from the system through this organ. You will please recollect we cure this disease by enabling the organs of the system to perform their functions in a normal way, or, in other words, we remove obstructions, while the recuperative powers of the system cure the disease.

We will here say a word in regard to a cough in the forming stage, where there is no constitutional or noticeable disease. A cough may or may not foreshadow serious evil; take it in its midest form, to say the least, it is a nuisance, and should be abated.

A cough is unlike any other symptom of disease. It stands a conspirator, with threatening voice, menacing the health and existence of a vital organ. Its first approach is in whispers unintelligible, and at first too often unneeded, but in time it never falls to make itself understood—never falls to claim the attention of those on whom it calls.

If you have a cough without disease of the lungs or serious constitutional disturbance, so much the better, as a few do-es of Piso's Cure will be all you may need, while if you re far advanced in Consumption, several bottles may be required to effect a permanent cure.

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Every description of milarial disorder yields to the curative power of Ayer's Ague Cure. FOR DYSPETSIA, INDIGESTION, depression of spirits, general debility, in their various forms, also as a preventive against fever and ague and other intermittent fevers, the "Ferro-Phosphorated Ellxir of Calisaya," made by Caswell, Hasard & Co., New York, and sold by all Druggists, is the best tonic; and for patients recovering from fever or other sickness it has no equal.

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From John Kuhn, Lafayette, Ind., who announces that he is now in "perfect health."
we have the following: "One year ago I was, to all appearance, in the last stages of consumption. Our best physicians gave my case up. I finally got so low that our doctors said. up. I finally got so low that our doctors said. I could not live twenty-four hours. My friends then purchased a bottle of Dr. William Hall's Balsam fon the Lungs, which benefited me. I continued until I took nine bottles. I am now in perfect health, having used no other medicine,

If you are suffering from Chronic Cough, Bronchitis, Asthma, or Loss of Voice, Dr. Klimer's Indian Cough Cure (Consumption Oil) will relieve quickly—remove the cause and cure. Price 25c., 50. and 1.00.

ONE pair of boots can be saved yearly by using Lyon's Patent Metallic Heel Stiffeners Relief is immediate, and a cure sure. Piso's Remedy for Catarrh. 50c.

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The sultry or "muggy" weather is very depactative making it almost impossible to resist that insidiou feeling of lassitude and languor. But with the aid of Hood's Sarsaparilla the extreme tired feeling will be overcome, you may have a good appetite, and humors will be expelled from the blood. It also aids digestion and tones and regulates the stomach and other organs, thus preventing summer com plaints. Give it a trial.

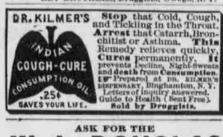
"I was generally run down, had no appetite, and needed a good tonic. I never used anything that did me so much good as Hood's Sarsaparilla. I nowhave a good appetite and feel renewed all over; am bet tor than I have been for years."-E. H. RAND, 41 W. 9th Street, Oswego, N. Y.
"I have seen the value of Hood's Sarsaparilla in

use in the Massachusetts State Prison, and have also used it in my family with perfect satisfaction. We believe it to be everything that is claimed for it."-A. W. KEENE, deputy warden, State Prison, Charles

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After a few days' use of the Sarsapurillian, becomes clear and beautiful. Pimples, Blotches, Black Spots and Skin Eruptions are removed; Sores and Users soon cured. Persons suffering from Scrofuls, Eruptive Diseases of the eyes, mouth, ears, legs, throat and giands, that have accumulated and spread, either from uncured diseases or moreury, may rely upon a cure if the Sarsaparillian is continue; a sufficient time to make its impression on the system. Sold by Druggists. S1 per Bottle.

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