

# THE SHAH'S TOUR.

## Persia's Potentate Will Visit Europe This Summer.

### Good Results From Previous Trips to the Continent.

The Shah of Persia will visit Europe for the fourth time this summer. In some respects his last visit was not wholly gratifying to the Shah, though its effects are said to have been salutary. Just before he left Teheran a number of soldiers, whose pay was long in arrears, crowded around his majesty's carriage to present a petition. The police undertook to disperse the crowd, there was a slight scuffle and two or three stones hit the royal carriage. The police arrested a dozen soldiers, and at the Shah's command they were brought before him. He was terribly incensed at the indignity his throne had suffered, and although it was not shown that the soldiers had thrown the stones or were guilty of intentional disrespect, their sovereign, without hearing a word from them, sentenced the poor fellows to immediate death, and they were thereupon strangled in his presence.

The shocking story reached Europe in advance of the Shah, and every Court he visited made it very plain to his Oriental majesty that the western world was not pleased with such displays of despotic power. Mr. Benjamin, then American minister at Teheran, says that the indignation so generally expressed in Europe had an excellent and abiding effect upon the Shah's character. After his return home his subjects were not afflicted by the Shah with similar displays of barbarism.

Persia and her sovereign have been, without doubt, considerably influenced by constantly increased contact with western civilization.

The Shah is said to be far more humane than any of his predecessors. The keepers of the royal stables no longer lose their heads if the Shah's horses fail to win in the races.

The Shah has the reputation, on the whole, of ruling his people mercifully, and, though they suffer many wrongs at the hands of greedy and corrupt agents of his power, there is no doubt that the Shah personally has the affection and the respect of his subjects.

The purpose of his coming journey is said to be to visit the chief industrial centers of Europe. It is known that the Shah favors the introduction into Persia of railroads and other fruits of western civilization. The homes of the wealthy throughout Persia already abound with rich furnishings, transported at a great cost from Europe. When a powerful and intelligent ruler like the Shah of Persia, who is furthermore very desirous to promote the material advancement of his country, visits Europe to study its industrial systems and enterprises, the fact is significant and gratifying. It is not unlikely to have a far greater result in promoting civilization and trade than the prolonged efforts of many missionaries and commercial agents.

### The Fans of Japan.

The Japanese uchiwa, or flat fan, at home and in history is a very much more interesting object than the modern specimen of its kind in an English room. One of its most curious varieties is the iron war fan, invented in the eleventh century for the use of military commanders, either for direction and signalling, or as a shield for defense. These war fans were made of leather and iron, one side being varnished with red lacquer, with the emblem of Buddha and some other native device.

The water fans are made of bamboo and thinly lacquered, so that they may be dipped in water to secure extra coolness while fanning. To harden these fans they are dipped in shibu juice, which also acts as a dye, turning red when exposed to the air. Another kind of uchiwa is the revolving flat fan, which whirls round its stick and can be rolled up. Another strong flat paper fan is used as bellows to blow the charcoal fire in the kitchen.

Among the folding fans, or ogi, the hi wood fans are the most beautiful; they are painted with flowers and tied with white silk. Anciently they were hung with artificial flowers made of silk. These were the court fans, and different flowers were appropriated by different great families, so that a fan answered the purpose of armorial bearings. Sometimes these beautiful court fans were made of ivory and partly lacquered, thus becoming great works of art. Folding fans also served the purpose of ensigns in war, and an enormous fan, mits ogi, giant fan, was

carried in processions in honor of the sun goddess.

Children and dolls have fans of their own, as exquisite as they are tiny. Dancers and jugglers carry peculiar fans; there is a tea fan, rikin, used at the ancient tea ceremony, a solemn feast among the Japanese. This is not for the undignified purpose of fanning, but for handing little cakes. The ogi fan is vulgarized nowadays by being covered with European advertisements, and till newspapers found their way into Japan it was the only gazette. It was also used as a medium for caricatures, chiefly of Western manners.—[The Spectator.]

### Odd Eyes of Deep Sea Fish.

The eyes of deep sea fish are very varied. Some have neither eyes nor sight. Others have greatly enlarged eyeballs, so as to catch the least glimpse of light. Their eyes tend either to disappear or to be unusually efficient, but since no ray of sunlight can penetrate to any great depth, and as it is probably quite dark beyond a depth of some 200 fathoms, of what use can eyes be?

Chamber's Journal says that fish have been captured at a depth of nearly 3000 fathoms, where there must be not only absolute stillness but also total darkness, except for the fact that some of these deep sea creatures are phosphorescent, and therefore luminous. This fact was ascertained in the Challenger expedition. Since then Mr. Alcock, of the Indian marine survey, has found that some deep sea crustaceans have a similar power, one large prawn quite lighting up a bucketful of water in which it was placed. Fish with large eyes have, therefore, a better chance of finding food and mates, but they cannot wholly depend upon sight, since some have quite abandoned all attempts to see.

Some, again, have luminous organs on their head or body or tail, which are under their control, so that they can actually throw light at pleasure on their prey or extinguish it at times of danger. Thus the angler, among others, attracts its prey by means of these colored lures or phosphorescent lights. It has been well said that these "vast profundities of the deep have become a sort of almshouse or asylum, whereto antiquated forms have retired, and amid the changeless environment have dwelt for ages unaltered."

### Open Air Ethics.

"Keep in the open air as much as possible," is the first and great commandment that should be urged in the spring.

During the winter we necessarily live a more or less unnatural life. We breathe the air vitiated by furnace heat, with all the vital qualities baked out of it, and hence during the winter we subject ourselves to a gradual process of slow poisoning.

The antidote for this poisoning is fresh air. So this universal instinct to get out of doors during the spring of the year is a natural instinct which, like all natural instincts, has a cause based on the eternal condition of things. It is nature's effort to expel the stored-up poison accumulated during the winter.

Man is naturally an open air animal. But climatic conditions render open-air life sometimes impossible. As soon, however, as these conditions are removed the old primal instinct to get out beneath the sky asserts itself, and this instinct cannot be disregarded except at the peril of health.

Get out in the open air every day and stay there as long as possible. It will make you better physically, mentally and morally.—[Boston Globe.]

### His Name on a Turtle.

John Neubert of the Teton, while chopping ice near the shore for a watering place for the cattle, struck through the ice and the bit of the axe was embedded in the mud at the bottom of the stream, which was very shallow at that point. Mr. Neubert thought he felt something moving when the axe struck in the mud, and, pursuing his investigations further, he pulled out a good-sized mud turtle bearing on its shell, "J. N., 1857," and "J. N., 1871."

Mr. Neubert remembers having put the first initials on a turtle at the mouth of Milk river in 1857, and the latter initials in 1871 upon the turtle when he found it twenty-three years ago on a sand bar in the Missouri at Devereaux bottom, just above Fort Benton. The turtle decauded up and down through two decades until it finally brought up at the ranch of its old acquaintance.

Mr. Neubert again put an inscription on its shell, which read: "Hon. J. N., pub. adm'r, 1894," and returned it to the river. Where he finds it again only time can tell.—[Montana River Press.]

# FOR FARM AND GARDEN.

## TO MAKE FENCE POSTS DURABLE.

Fence posts are made very durable if the part to go in the ground is steeped in lime water. This is most easily done by putting the posts, butts down, in a pit two feet deep, with fresh lime mixed in among them and some under them. Water is then poured on the lime and this is slacked. The heat of the slacking drives the air out of the wood, and more water being thrown on the lime, this is absorbed as the wood cools; thus the pores are filled with lime, by which the albumen of the wood is destroyed, and this being the principal agent of decay in timber, the posts are greatly increased in durability. They have been known to keep sound for over forty years after this treatment.—New York Times.

## AVOIDABLE EXPENSES.

It costs money to neglect repairing the fences while the ground is soft.

It costs money to have a poor fence around pastures, for the cattle to break through.

It costs money to allow the manure to lie under the eaves, and fertilize the roadside or nearest stream.

It costs money, in the extra feed required, to keep cattle and horses together loose in the same yard.

It costs money to let the cows become poor during the winter, and take all winter to recover condition.

It costs money to let the manure lay in piles all winter, when labor is cheap and work scarce, and draw it out in spring, when labor is high and work abundant.—American Agriculturist.

## ONIONS IN SUCCESSION.

The onion crop is the one that always used to be the best grown on the same land year after year. But since the coming of the old onion maggot this plan is not so safe as it used to be. The advantages of growing on the same land were that in this way when once cleaned of weeds it could be kept clean, and much of the fertility of one year remained for the next season. It is best to use considerable mineral fertilizer in growing clover, and nitrate of soda is preferable to stable manure for furnishing nitrogen.

No coarse manure should be used in any event, and by the time stable manure is reduced in bulk by composting it costs more to manure an onion crop in that way than with the commercial fertilizers. Onion ground should be fall plowed, or else follow a crop of potatoes. Then it will not need to be plowed, as the cultivator will make on the frost-pulverized surface a better seed bed than can be made after the plow.—Boston Cultivator.

## THE PROFITABLE DAIRY COW.

One very common mistake with dairymen, writes H. Hamilton in the American Agriculturist, is to reckon the value of a cow by her yearly yield of milk or butter. Perhaps, as a general rule, such a standard would more often be right than wrong, but at the same time it very often proves a false standard. At the Pennsylvania experiment station some very elaborate experiments were carried out, testing the profit of cows in milk and butter making. All the food was carefully weighed and charged. Margerite produced 6,512 pounds of milk and 296 pounds of butter, while Ramona produced 5,459 pounds of milk and 279 pounds of butter. Ordinarily the dairymen would pronounce Margerite the better cow of the two, but accounts had been kept with them, and it was found, at the end of the year, that Margerite had made a profit of only \$31.50, while Ramona returned a clear profit of \$61.50.

All cows have what is called a normal appetite; that is, they will consume food up to a certain point, with a return in the pail of profit, but all fed beyond that amount is not only lost, but actually injures the cow.

Every man who handles cows should test each one for at least a week during the fourth month from calving, and by using scales on the feed and a Babcock test on the milk, find out where the normal limit of each cow stands. One testing will probably last the cow's lifetime. This individual testing is particularly valuable, owing to the remarkable variation in the appetites and assimilating powers of different cows.

The writer once owned two Jerseys. One was the largest cow, the largest eater and the smallest milker; while the other was the smallest cow, the smallest eater and the largest milker in the herd. Another cow was the fattest and among the smallest milkers, but so steady was her flow from end to end of the season that she averaged large when the year's figures were

summed up. One of the interesting features of dairying is finding out these queer creatures, to say nothing of the black sheep you find in the herd, and that are profitably parted with to the first butcher who fancies them.

## AVOID INBREEDING IN POULTRY.

Improve your stock at every convenient opportunity, by a change of blood whenever this is needed. Introduce among your hens fresh sires, at the very least. This change will always prove beneficial, more or less, if care be taken in selecting the new male birds you bring into your yards. The efficacy of this system has been proved time and time again by old cockers, who rarely or never breed a game cock two years in succession to their game hens.

The pernicious effects of in-and-in breeding is seen all over the country at the present time. It is almost impossible to find a strain of any kind of domestic improved poultry stock, in the hands of our breeders, that has not among its numbers on the place, or near by, "its sisters, its cousins and its aunts," as well as its brothers or sons, "too numerous to mention." This is inbreeding. And it is a style of breeding that constantly has a deteriorating effect, although this fact is in the main realized by our poultry fanciers but in few instances.

It is, nevertheless, true that the chief difficulty experienced among us in reproducing the best birds in succession lies in our neglect to make frequent and judicious changes in the males we breed our hens to. And now that so many fine birds are raised every year in locations separated by long distances from each other, why will it not be found of mutual advantage to leading breeders of the principal varieties of fowls to exchange male birds annually, where the stock is known to have come from distinctly different families, and the representatives of each of which are similarly of prime quality?

This plan we have no doubt would prove a clear improvement for both parties, whenever such exchange is made; and we suggest this idea to all who have for years past been breeding only from a single known line.

"But 'take heed lest ye fall' into the error of introducing fresh blood that is discordant, and will not 'tackle kindly' and confirm the points you have already accumulated. Many a breeder has ruined his strain by buying breeding stock and not knowing what he was getting.—American Poultry Yard.

## FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Cut clover hay is of little value for fowls—not worth the cutting.

Plenty of milk put before the poultry makes very little meat necessary.

Keep chickens away from low, damp places, if you would avoid the gaps.

Nearly all kinds of garden peas will yield better if planted reasonably deep.

If you have good cows, feed them all they will assimilate. If they then produce fat instead of milk, they are more fit for beef than butter.

Give the horses an airing whenever the weather will permit. This and a change of diet will do much towards keeping them in good health and spirits.

There is nothing that affects the yield per acre of potatoes so much as the seed. More depends on the selection of seed in potatoes than in any other crop.

Professor Henry shows by experiment that it costs \$2.91 to produce 100 pounds of gain with lambs, and \$3.02 to produce the same gain with pigs of about the same age.

Hens need lime for the formation of egg shells. Old plaster, broken limestone, and crushed oyster shells are about equally good for this purpose. They get most of the lime used for shells out of their food and water.

Clover is by far the best hay for a cow. Timothy is a quite inferior hay for making milk. Corn meal is the best single grain for a cow. It will be cheaper to buy a hay cutter, which may cost only \$5 for a small one, than try to make one.

No stock are more seriously affected by storms than sheep. This has been shown plainly and repeatedly. If shelter is easily accessible sheep will seek it during storms and wind. Their instinct will often bring them to the barn before their owner is aware of approaching rain.

Burnt corn is reported to be a sure cure for hog cholera. It is said to have been discovered by burning a pile of corn in Peoria, Ill. It was thrown to the hogs and eaten by them since which time the cholera which had been raging among them has entirely disappeared.

# SCIENTIFIC SCAEPS.

Tame turkeys can be trained to hunt wild ones.

In Germany they are said to weave by electricity.

Fishes can be frozen hard without losing their vitality.

The medicine known as metallic gallium is worth \$100,000 a pound.

Eclipses of the moon were seen by daylight in 1866, 1863 and 1880.

The latest flying machine is being tested by the Austrian government.

The cat, of all domesticated animals, retains most of its wild characteristics.

If one could sell the sea at one cent per 10,000 gallons it would bring \$25,000,000,000.

In the days of Columbus only seven metals were known to exist. Now there are fifty-one.

The jungle fowl of Australia builds a nest that is about twenty feet in diameter and fifteen feet high.

If Jupiter is inhabited the people there must be of an average height of sixty feet, according to the scientists.

A Frenchman has invented an electric mosquito bar, which electrocutes insect pests which come in contact with it.

An alloy that adheres so firmly to glass that it may be used to solder pieces together is made by a French chemist.

The seeds of the grape furnish a very good illuminating oil. It is clear, colorless and odorless, and burns without smoke. The proportion which can be extracted is said to be from ten to fifteen per cent.

By the device of an Italian seismologist, an earthquake shock is made to light an electric lamp for a quarter of a second, causing the face of a chronometer to be photographed, and so registering the time of the shock.

A number of samples of barks have of late been subjected to various experiments to test their value for textiles. It is claimed that there are several ordinary weeds that have great value in this line, and these are also to be put to tests. By new processes even very delicate fibers can be made available, and new fields of industry will thus be opened for industrious students of the possibilities of the products of nature.

## A Dog That Likes Flowers.

Mrs. Sain, living near Lake Union has a little yellow dog with a strange passion for flowers and this passion has caused him to come to grief nearly every day of his life. The dog, after making sure that the coast is clear, will go into the garden and pluck a number of flowers and after bunching them will lie down and go to sleep with his nose in them. His favorite flower is the rose and he will invariably bite the stem in two four or five inches below the blossom and will be careful not to injure the flower itself.

If he sees a flower beyond his reach he will jump against the bush until he has borne the stalk down so that he can reach it with his mouth and has done this so often that he is becoming quite an expert. He is often seen wandering around the garden with some choice flower in his mouth, but never manifests any desire to destroy the flower. All his actions indicate that he enjoys the perfume of the flowers, and his esthetic taste is not satisfied unless he can rub his nose in a bunch of roses.—Seattle (Wash.) Press-Times.

## On a Rocky Mountain Railroad.

"The experience of crossing a high mountain range is a peculiar thing," said a traveler. "I went over the divide near Trinidad, N. M., last week on the Santa Fe route, and it was novel. The change in temperature was the peculiar feature to me. It had been hot and dusty all morning. It was just about noon when we began the climb, and about two o'clock when we reached the other side. I was sitting in my shirt-sleeves in the smoker trying to keep cool as we began to ascend. In about twenty minutes I had to put on my coat, as I felt a chill, and in twenty minutes more I slipped on my overcoat to be comfortable. Descending it was the reverse. The overcoat became a trifle uncomfortable, then I took it off. Next I divested myself of my coat, and as we got near the bottom I was again fanning myself and cursing the weather of New Mexico."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

## Some Go to Him.

"Has that young man who comes to see you any go to him?" asked the father, addressing the daughter. "Oh, yes, papa," she replied; "he goes at half past ten every night."—[New York Press.]

# KEYSTONE STATE CULLINGS

## TORTURED AN OLD WOMAN.

THREE MEN BEAT 80-YEAR-OLD ELIZABETH WILLIAMS AND BOB HER OF \$1,100.

GREENVILLE, Pa.—Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, 80 years old, who lives in a cottage along the Erie and Pittsburgh railroad, was robbed of \$1,100 and beaten by three ruffians, who escaped. Her home was entered at 2 o'clock in the morning by the men, one of whom choked her, a second flourishing a knife and the third bearing a light. They threw her on the floor, chloroformed her, and piling bedding upon her, jumped on her body. The money was taken from her trunk. Part of it had been sent her from Cardiff, Wales, by relatives. She has lived in New York, Trenton and Philadelphia, and came here 12 years ago. She is left without a penny or any means of support.

## JACKSON'S FIRST REPORT.

CONDITION OF THE STATE TREASURY FOR THE MONTH OF MAY.

HARRISBURG.—The report of State Treasurer Jackson for the month of May shows that the total amount in the general fund is \$5,973,175 76. With the exception of \$275 advanced to employees and officers of the state government the entire amount is deposited among forty-nine banks. There is on deposit \$769,412 in the Allegheny National bank, \$137,000 in the Enterprise National bank, Allegheny; \$100,000 in the Second National bank, Allegheny; \$20,000 in the Beaver Deposit bank, Beaver; \$325,000 in the Second National bank, Pittsburgh; \$185,000 in the Freshhold bank, Pittsburgh.

## TWO CHILDREN CREMATED.

THEY WERE BURNED TO DEATH BY FIRE THAT DESTROYED THEIR HOME.

BRADFORD.—Fire destroyed the residence of John Long at Duke Center. The Long family consisted of the father and mother and six children. They were all asleep when the fire was discovered, and an alarm given by outsiders. All escaped except a daughter 12 years old and a son aged 7. These two were caught by the fire. Long was terribly injured in a desperate effort to save his children, but they were cremated in the burning homestead.

## STATE PROHIBITION TICKET.

THE CONVENTION AT WILLIAMSPORT WAS LARGELY ATTENDED.

WILLIAMSPORT.—The Prohibition State Convention here Thursday was the largest ever held in the State. The ticket nominated is as follows: Governor, Charles L. Hawley, of Scranton; Lieutenant Governor, Homer L. Castles, of Pittsburgh; Auditor General, Charles Palmer, of Delaware; Secretary of Internal Affairs, L. R. Glendon, of Delaware; Congressmen-at-Large, E. K. Kane, of Kane, and Rev. L. G. Jordan, of Philadelphia.

## NEW CHARTERS ISSUED.

CHARTERS were issued at Harrisburg to the following corporations: The Pittsburgh automatic lighting company, Pittsburgh; capital \$10,000; directors C. H. Covell, H. W. McIntosh, Wilkinsburg; S. L. Kaufman, William Kaufman, Allegheny; Lawrence Wolfert, Bellevue; Canonsburg; land and improvement company, Canonsburg; capital \$24,000; directors, Samuel Minsell, John C. Morgan, John L. Cocks, J. Riddle Weaver, Matthew L. Taylor, Canonsburg.

## THE BROTHER SHARED HIS FATE.

LANCASTER.—In the Conestoga creek, when James and William Cook, aged 8 and 9 years respectively, were bathing James got beyond his depth, and being unable to swim, was carried away by the current. His brother attempted his rescue, but was unsuccessful, and he was drowned within a few feet of where James went down. Both bodies were recovered soon afterward.

## SAWED OFF A COW'S HEAD.

PENNSYLVANIA.—At Adrian mines Slava decided to kill a cow which one of them owned, but had no money to pay a butcher. They tied the animal between two trees, so it could not move and sawed off the head at the shoulders. The cow's bellowing was heard for miles.

## BED ROSES FAY THE REAT.

LEBANON.—When the Salem Lutheran church was built 96 years ago and dedicated in the deed for the ground upon which it stands that one red rose every June shall constitute the rental. Sunday 96 red roses were laid upon the altar by ex-Senator R. C. Lantz.

## PENETRATED HIS BRAIN.

OIL CITY.—When engineer James J. O'Connor, with an oil can in one hand, stepped upon his engine on the Western New York and Pennsylvania railroad, he felt the spout of the can going through his right eye and penetrating his brain. He died in the afternoon.

## VERDICT AGAINST ALTOONA.

HOLIDAYSBRO.—A verdict for \$32,809.84 was awarded against the city of Altoona in the Blair county courts to Bowman Bros., contractors for building a sewer and street paving.

An explosion of powder at the Glenwood mine of the Erie company, near Jermyn, caused the severe burning of seven men, some of them fatally. They are James Compton, William Jones, Edward Williams, Anthony Lyons, John Taffy, Thomas Carey and Michael Roberts.

Mrs. JOHN HENDERSON, Mrs. James Henderson and Louis Hartman, of Maytown; Ames Mayford, of Lancaster, and Lieut. Edward C. Shannon, of Columbia, were seriously injured by a runaway trolley car at Columbia. Conductor Young was hurt.

HORSE THIEVES took from John Sarvor, near Freeport, two large black horses, one buggy, one double and one single set of harness, one saddle and all his robes, valued at \$600.

BURGOLARS blew open the safe in Kemerer, Moore & Co's store at Manor, Westmoreland county and robbed it of money and valuables.

By an explosion of natural gas at New Castle, William Sober and William Brocton, aged 11 years, were badly burned.

THERE was a general resumption of work at the plant of the Pennsylvania Steel Company at Steelton with encouraging prospects.

THE Ellwood enameling works are to be started again by eastern capital under the management of Capt. Ball, of England.

FRANK PRAELO, an Italian laborer, was fatally injured by a premature blast at Freeport. He was working on a pipe line.

THE Pittsburgh, Chartiers & Youghiogheny railroad station at Federal was robbed. The ticket case and money were secured.

A MAN about 45 years of age, heavy set, dark beard, dressed in working clothes, was found in the river at Shippingport.

THE Pittsburgh & Western railroad station at Chicora, Butler county, was destroyed by fire. Loss, \$2,500.

JAMES H. DAUGHTERT, a wholesale tobacco dealer at Altoona, assigned. His liabilities and assets are not known.

THE dry goods house of Copeland & Morrow, in Scottsdale, was closed by the sheriff.

English Capital After Our Watches. The local stockholders of the Elgin (Ill.) National Watch Company were notified by President Avery that an English syndicate had made an offer of \$7,000,000 for the plant, and that three-fourths of the owners of stock had agreed to sell.