

NEW YORK'S ZOO.

EARLY MORN AT THE CENTRAL PARK MENAGERIE.

Hilarious Capers of the Elephant in a Bath—The Jealous Rhinoceros—Troubles of the Hippopotamus—Artful Monkeys.

THE stranger who makes an occasional visit to the Metropolitan probably knows more about the Zoo in Central Park than do many of the residents of New York. This is the season of the year when the city is filled with visitors from the South, West and New England, and one of the first places they go to is that particular section of the park given up to the animals.

But most of them go at the hour when the park is filled with people, and that is not the time to see the collection in its most interesting phase. Early in the morning, before half the town is awake, is the hour to see the show. Then is the time when something can be learned about the extreme care taken of the great beasts which seem to need it so little. Yet the most ferocious and terrible of them receive the tender attention that is lavished by a mother upon a child.

If the man, or woman, or better yet, the child, will get up in time to be at the Zoo about 6 o'clock in the morning some odd sights can be seen. The big houses on the other side of Fifth avenue, the great palaces of the Gould, Astor, Mills, Inman, Gerry families, and further away the vast pile of masonry in which Cornelius Vanderbilt lives, will all be shut tight as a drum, and everything about them as quiet as the country churchyard.

But this stillness only accentuates the activity and the bustle about the animals. These hot days they are in their summer quarters, where they can get the benefit of the breezes blowing through the park, and where those from the equatorial regions are prob-

ably reminded of the balmy air of early morning in the tropics.

It is worth the trip alone to watch the hilarious capers of the elephants, who, in their large way, enjoy the morning immensely. They summer out in the large green just back of the winter homes, and about the first thing their keepers do is to turn a hose on them. One elephant is drenched at a time, while the other looks on with impatient envy. The look of stolid satisfaction and keen enjoyment which permeates the countenance of the elephant being sprinkled would make a fortune for some painter if he could successfully transfer it to canvas.



A GRACIOUS BEND.

done, particularly as Mrs. Murphy always sided with the baby against the paternal authority. Every morning the great tank is filled with fresh water, and then Caliph's gate is thrown open, and he loses no time in getting beneath the surface. The mother and daughter have never taken kindly to this arrangement. After Caliph has soaked himself for an hour he is driven back and the other two go into the water. Later in the day, when they have quieted down, all three are allowed in the tank together, but at the first signs of disagreement the keepers separate them by prodding them with iron-pointed hooks.

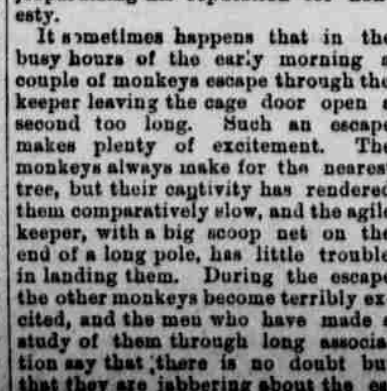
All the large animals, like the lions, tigers, bears, leopards, hyenas, have the hose turned on them every morning, and although the keepers say they like the bath, few of them looked it, with the exception of the bears. It was the greatest kind of sport for the polar bears in particular, as the hot weather is not to their liking at all. Great care is taken with the animals from the tropical regions to prevent their catching cold, and for this reason those which come under this class are given only a sprinkling.

The monkey-house is a lively place in the morning. The dozens of monkeys there are all very hungry, and when the keeper begins to make the rounds with the breakfast there are twenty fights in as many seconds. One of the monkeys there caught cold about six months ago, and whisky was given him in frequent doses. This monkey, the keepers aver, tries to impose upon them by coughing. On two occasions, they say, he succeeded in his purpose of making them believe he had a cold, and consequently was in need of whisky. This shows that the monkey is something of a logician. He knew the whisky was given him for a certain cause, and his mental powers were quick to settle upon the reason of it. The keepers say that it will go hard with this monkey if he should contract a genuine cold. Perhaps, if the monkey had been a trifle cleverer, and had thought to expose himself in some way, so that he would catch cold, he might have had the whisky without jeopardizing his reputation for honesty.

It sometimes happens that in the busy hours of the early morning a couple of monkeys escape through the keeper leaving the cage door open a second too long. Such an escape makes plenty of excitement. The monkeys always make for the nearest tree, but their captivity has rendered them comparatively slow, and the agile keeper, with a big scoop net on the end of a long pole, has little trouble in landing them. During the escape the other monkeys become terribly excited, and the men who have made a study of them through long association say that there is no doubt but that they are jabbering about the escape to one another.

Before long New York will have a zoo which will more than equal that of any of the great cities of the world, particularly those of Berlin and London. The collection of animals and birds now compares favorably with that of any city, but the buildings are the same as twenty years ago. It is the intention to select another site in the park and erect a new set of buildings, in which every modern convenience for the care of all kinds of animals will be introduced. As they have become better understood in late years, animals which have heretofore died in captivity now thrive under the changed conditions for their welfare, and with proper facilities it is believed that many which have never survived the climatic changes here can be made to prosper in health.

A Queer Freak. You might not care to own the curious little creature described by the Cincinnati Enquirer, but you certainly will be interested to hear all about the most remarkable animal in



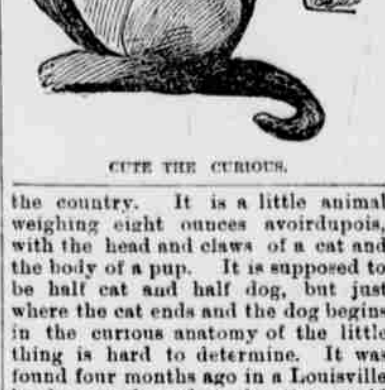
CUTE THE CURIOUS.

the country. It is a little animal weighing eight ounces avoirdupois, with the head and claws of a cat and the body of a pup. It is supposed to be half cat and half dog, but just where the cat ends and the dog begins in the curious anatomy of the little thing is hard to determine. It was found four months ago in a Louisville lumber yard, and at the time could not have been over four hours old. William Wormald adopted it, and took it to his boarding house, where it was put in with a litter of kittens and raised by the mother of the little family without any objections. After a time it became robust for a thing of its size, and demanded more than a quart of milk. This annoyed the litter of kittens somewhat, and after three months' nursing, in which the queer freak got a trifle the best of the sucklings, Mr. Wormald put it into his coat pocket and brought it to his father's house, in Dayton, Ky. Here it was christened "Cute," and a neighboring motherly cat, bereft of her kittens, adopted it, and is still nursing it.

Bicycles Hurting the Watch Trade. According to an Eighth street jeweler, the craze for bicycle riding has greatly impaired the watch business. His theory seems plausible enough. "The decrease in the sale of watches has been very noticeable," he remarked the other day, "and I trace it to the bicycle. For instance, when a boy became fifteen or sixteen years old in former years it was the custom for his parents to present him with a watch—often a costly affair—which usually lasted him the better part of his life. But it is different now. The boy clamors for a bicycle, and he generally gets it, although it does not last as long, and usually costs more than a watch. The same trait I have noticed in people of older years. When they get enough money on hand to buy a watch, the bicycle fever strikes them, and then they go out and invest in a wheel."—Philadelphia Record.

A Charmed Life. The three-year-old son of Prince Alexander, of Solms, appears to bear a charmed life. While a train was going at full speed near Mollersdorf, in Austria, a gust of wind blew open a carriage door and the royal youngster fell out. When the train was stopped the sturdy little fellow was seen calmly toddling after it, unharmed, save for a few slight bruises and scratches.

The Baffled Bicycle Fiend. A bicyclist—"Watch me frighten that dog."



Bicyclist—"Watch me frighten that dog."

SOMETHING NEW IN NECKWEAR. Some ingenious dressmaker has de-

signed a sort of necklaces collar that is a boon to scrawny women. It sets low on the neck, exactly over the collar bone, and is a circle of velvet

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FALL FABRICS.

CREPONS ARE STILL THE THING FOR AUTUMN WEAR.

Other Stylish Gown Materials—Most Dress Goods Present a Rough Appearance—Hats for Little Folks.

WHAT a cranky old dame Fashion is! Three months ago she said that not an inch of crepon would be worn by the smart set this winter and that a crepon gown would mark its possessor as being hopelessly behind the style, and here comes Fashion's outrider with the information that crepon will be "quite the thing" for autumn gowns! The fact of the matter is, crepon is a pretty fabric, even if it is unserviceable. It catches and holds the dust in a most lamentable manner, and it pulls so that it has to be "sheared" at every wearing, but if you are careful to keep it clipped closely the pulled threads don't hurt, they simply add another crinkle. Black goat's hair crepon is one of the very newest designs and the crinkle is deeper than ever. Crepon with Dresden stripes in color is one of the new fancies, and another has a shadowy device of figures over it. Alternate stripes of crepon and velvet is another odd fancy, and it is right smart looking.

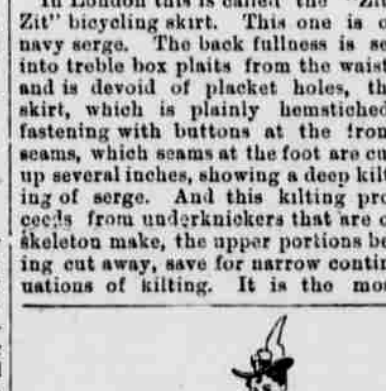
The bouretted goods will be here in full force for autumn and early winter wear. The favored fashion is a bright ground of smooth surface with the tiny curled knots of darker color thrown up on the right side. In these there seems to be a return to "pat-



PRETTY HATS FOR GIRLS.

terns" also. Indeed, it looks as though we were to have a revival of the Watteau figures, for everything seems to have a touch of "design" in it. You can't go astray if you have a gown with these boucle effects. Nearly all fabrics for gowns present a rough appearance. Heavily corded materials will be quite the go again this winter. One of the newest designs shows the cords separated by a silk thread. The effect is very elegant. Matelasse effects are in vogue again, the design being wrought in colors, but always contrasting with the ground. The illuminated diagonals will be as much in favor as ever this winter. Mohairs promise to hold their sway well into the winter also. Plaid in the clan colors are going to be very popular. If you've got any Scotch in you and want to brunt that fact abroad, have a plaid waist or a plaid down and then tell everybody you meet that you are wearing your National tartan. It helps to distinguish you. But, unfortunately, some of the plaids are simply hideous.

A NEW CYCLING COSTUME. In London this is called the "Zit-Zit" bicycling skirt. This one is of navy serge. The back fullness is set into treble box plaits from the waist, and is devoid of placket holes, the skirt, which is plainly hemstitched, fastening with buttons at the front seams, which seams at the foot are cut up several inches, showing a deep killing of serge. And this killing proceeds from underknickers that are of skeleton make, the upper portions being cut away, save for narrow continuations of killing. It is the most



NEW CYCLING COSTUME.

clever and ingenious plan imaginable. The front of the skirt is silk lined, but to prevent it from blowing about the corners are sewn lightly to the killing beneath, and all is neat and orderly. Ingenuity has also been busy with regard to the box plaits at the back. By means of a string run through rings on the inside of the skirt the plaits are kept flat to the dress for bicycling purposes, but may be loosened and extended when one is walking.

Maryland has an assessed valuation of \$497,307,675.

A Beautiful American Who is a Princess

The Princess de Chimay, formerly Miss Ward, of Detroit, is pronounced one of the most striking women in Europe. She is still in her twenties,



PRINCESS DE CHIMAY.

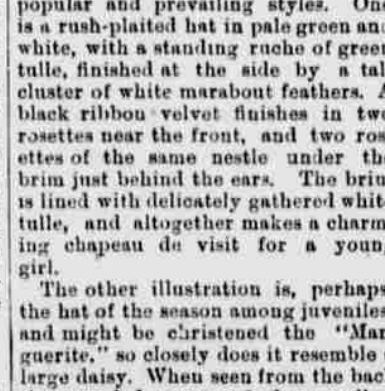
beautiful in feature, superb in coloring, of queenly inches, of dashing manners and daring esprit. An eyewitness of her triumph at the court of Brussels said a few days ago when a picture of the Princess in court dress appeared in a French magazine: "It couldn't do her justice. She is the most superb woman on earth. Imagine a creature perfect enough to wear a blue velvet gown and feathers a foot high in her hair and be absolutely dazzling!"

The Princess was educated in Europe, and there learned five languages and how to spend money royally. It is no unusual sight to see her at court and other high social functions surrounded by a mob of diplomats and princelings of different Nationalities addressing each in his mother tongue and flinging off witticisms in French, German, Spanish or Italian, as the occasion demands.

Since the union of this distinguished Belgian family with the Ward family the old Prince de Chimay, who was Minister of Foreign Affairs at the Belgian Court, has died, and his estates have become the inheritance of the husband of the Princess. There has never been any money in the family, and their chateau in the province of Hainaut, near Mons, has been restored by the American money to the extent of \$300,000. Prince de Chimay is a good looking typical Belgian, devoted to the life of a country gentleman. He is said to have no ambitions beyond a good day's sport and a good dinner. The pair have two children, a little girl and an heir a year and a half old.

The Island of Trinidad.

The little island of Trinidad, concerning the ownership of which Brazil and England show an inclination to quarrel, does not, judged from its picture, seem worth the fuss. It is small, isolated, unproductive and does not



CLAIMED BY GREAT BRITAIN AND BRAZIL.

even attract the eye, being aggressively rocky and barren. It has long been claimed by Brazil, the claim of England being recent and unexpected by the Brazilians, who never supposed their possessory right would be questioned.

A Noteworthy Incident.

According to advices received by the steamship Warrimoo, the first reception of the new Japanese envoy at the Chinese court was distinguished by a departure from conventional precedent which excites much comment. The Emperor holds audiences on a platform, to which he ascends by a flight of steps intended for his exclusive use. When credentials have hitherto been presented, they have been taken to him by side staircases. Minister Hayashi, however, had been admonished by his Government to insist upon every mark of respect. He therefore, expressed a desire that his credentials should be conveyed to the Emperor by the steps reserved for the latter, and after some hesitation his request was granted, to the surprise of his European and American colleagues. The audience took place on July 7, and after appropriate addresses were delivered the envoy's documents were received by Prince Kung, President of the Tsung Li Yamen, and carried up the central steps to the throne. The Japanese envoy made a speech, in which he expressed the hope that hereafter the amicable intercourse of the two empires might become more and more intimate.

The reply was brief and to the effect: "The war is ended and peace re-established, I am happy to receive you. Two countries separated only by a narrow strip of water should always maintain terms of friendship."—New York Post.

Gladstone's Marvelous Vitality.

An American who recently chatted with Mr. Gladstone at Hawarden says the Grand Old Man's voice and hearing show no signs of age. His face is that of an old man, but if a listener shuts his eyes he would feel as if he were being addressed by a man in the prime of life. Gladstone's marvelous vitality finds its most effective expression in his voice.—New York Tribune.