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One hundred and fifty members of the British House of Commons have sent out a petition to the editors of the leading daily papers of that country asking them to refrain from reporting sensational cases of immorality and brutality.

The descendants of Queen Victoria are either now in possession of, or will in the natural course of events come, to occupy seven thrones—those of the British Empire, the German Empire, the Russian Empire, the Kingdom of Greece, the Grand Duchy of Hesse, the Duchy of Saxe-Coburg and the Duchy of Saxe-Meiningen.

The Presbyterians carry great responsibility in Australasia, remarks the Missionary Review, for their numbers are large, being almost 500,000 in 1891. Of these 166,911 are in Victoria, 141,477 in New Zealand, 109,383 in New South Wales, 45,439 in Queensland, 18,206 in South Australia, 9,756 in Tasmania, etc.

The De Lesseps family appear, to the Chicago Herald, to be coming out of their sea of troubles in fairly good shape after all, thanks to the bounty of the Suez Canal Company, which has not only re-elected Charles de Lesseps a director, but voted madame a pension of \$12,000 a year and a handsome sum to each of the thirteen children, enough at least to keep the Panama and other wolves away from the door.

A resolution was recently introduced in the House of Commons of the British Parliament by Mr. Hanbury to provide each private soldier with a pair of clean sheets fortnightly instead of monthly. To this Mr. Campbell-Bannerman seriously protested, upon the ground that it would involve an increased expenditure of \$50,000 a year. He thought that the money might be spent to the greater advantage and comfort of the soldier in other ways.

It looks to the New Orleans Picayune as though the next war of general interest were likely to take place in China. Indeed, it appears to be already begun, according to the late dispatches to the London Times from Tientsin. The provinces of Kirin and Manchouria are in a state of rebellion, and the insurrection is daily growing in strength. Mounted rebels armed with repeating rifles, have defeated the imperial troops in a number of battles, and have captured many important places, among others the Sursing arsenal, where are stored 900,000 rifles. This will provide the rebels with a good store of arms and ammunition. It is said that the situation is so serious that the viceroy, Li Hung Chang, is waiting to gather a large army before attempting to suppress the rebellion.

The English locomotive manufacturers are not going to have things all their own way in Japan any longer. Recent tests of hauling power in the Mikado's country resulted in favor of the American engine. A section of track sixteen miles long on the Takaido road was used for the trial. The English competitor managed, after several starts, to haul twenty-one loaded cars half the distance, while America's representative took the same train with an extra car added, and made good time all the way. Government officials were well pleased with this performance, and according to the Railway Review, "preference will hereafter be given to the American locomotive." Until a few years ago nearly all the railroad engines in South America were of English make, but of late years both Argentine and Chile have been patronizing the locomotive works of this country extensively. Little railroad building is being done in other Spanish-American Republics except Mexico, and Mexico's railroads are nearly all equipped with rolling stock from the United States. The only exception is the old Vera Cruz road, which was built and is still owned by an English company.

OLD-TIME ANIMALS.

REPTILES THAT FLEW AND BIRDS WITH TEETH.

The Many Strange and Weird Animals of Other Days as Described in Naturalist Hutchinson's New Book—"The Terrible Saber-Toothed Tiger."

There was a time when reptiles roamed this earth that could have eaten a dozen ordinary human beings for a meal. Fortunately there were no human beings about, and the descendants of most of these reptiles have become so small that they can be crushed by the human foot. In those days reptiles flew, and birds, that were uncommon, had teeth more terrible than buzzsaws, and four legs.

The Rev. H. N. Hutchinson, an Englishman, has just published his second work on extinct animals. The new book is called "Creatures of Other Days." It is published by D. Appleton & Co., and is of absorbing interest. Mr. Hutchinson tells the dimensions, family and habits of these strange animals. With his assistance artists have provided very striking pictures of them to go with his descriptions. His earlier work dealt only with monsters of geologi-



THE DODO, EXTINCT SINCE THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

cal epoch. Some of those described in this work were not monsters, and some have existed during the time of man's stay on the earth. Labyrinthodonts were amphibians found usually in coal formations, and had teeth of a remarkably complicated construction. The lowest, but perhaps the most interesting, of all the labyrinthodonts is the archegosaurus. A learned man who came upon an archegosaurus said: "Its head might be that of a fish as well as that of a lizard or a batrachian frog." It was finally decided to be a missing link between the fish-like batrachia and the lizards and crocodiles.

The archegosaurus resembles more nearly the salamander than any other living animal. It had permanent gills and lungs, and stunted limbs adapted for swimming. It was of great size. The anomodonts were animals of uncertain family, many of which had teeth like the modern carnivora. The body of an anomodont was lizard-like and the limbs adapted for walking. The teeth were placed in distinct sockets. The structure of the foot was distinctly mammalian. The anomodonts had other mammalian characteristics. They are apparently allies to the spiny ant-eater of Australia and the duck mole, which lays eggs like a reptile.

The plesiosaurs was a remarkable animal of the anomodont order. It must have been fully nine feet long when alive. It was very wide and square. The skull looks like that of a labyrinthodont and has a frog-like look. Internally it resembles the present tuatara of New Zealand, which appears to be a survival from the triassic period. In the pelvis and region of the thighs the plesiosaurs had mammalian characteristics. It was intermediate between the tailed amphibians and the mammals.

When the fossil remains of anomodonts were first discovered, many men of science maintained that they were stones which had assumed animal shapes, so difficult was it to believe that such creatures had ever lived. At some remote age it is believed that the bird was evolved from the flying reptile. The oldest known bird, according to Mr. Hutchinson, is the archeopteryx, which lived in the secondary or Mesozoic era. It had feathers and claws, as modern birds have, but also teeth and a tail. It is a bird, but has some reptilian features still clinging to it. Its vertebrae were biconcave, like those of fishes and some extinct saurians. Another reptilian feature is the presence of scelerotic plates in the eye. The wings had three free digits or fingers, and a finger of greater length to support the primary feathers. In size it was as large as a rook.

The hesperornis, found in the cretaceous strata in North America,



MACHAUCHENIA AND THE SABER-TOOTHED TIGER.

was a diving bird six feet long. It was carnivorous, and had powerful teeth set in a groove. It had elastic jaws, like a boa constrictor. The dodo is a very strange bird, which differs from the other animals previously mentioned here because it has only been extinct about two hundred years, since 1681. Its scientific name is Didus ineptus, suggesting the bird's foolish character. It was a very unyielding creature with a huge beak. It was larger than a swan and a great deal heavier. The legs were short and stout, having four toes on each foot, and the tail was extremely short, carrying a tuft of soft plumes. The beak

GREAT NEW FLASH LIGHTS.

ILLUMINATING THE NEW YORK HARBOR APPROACHES.

Two Rays With an Aggregate Intensity of 450,000,000 Candles—The Fire Island Light.

IT may not be generally known that the application of electricity to lighthouse purposes is soon to receive its greatest illustration at the entrance to New York harbor and that before the summer is over there will be in operation there the two most powerful electric lights in the world. Both of these, however, will not be for distinctively lighthouse purposes, as the one at Sandy Hook is merely a search light, belonging altogether to the army and established for use as a feature of coast defence. This search light, which has been tried recently with fair results in transmitting flash light messages to the city, is the one which was originally used at the Chicago Fair, throwing its rays as far as Milwaukee, a distance of ninety-two miles. Its power is nearly as great as that of the other light being prepared for Fire Island.

The Sandy Hook search light has no place in the system of lights of the lighthouse establishment and is not intended as an aid to navigation. It is merely a large projector, intended in war to examine at night all approaches to New York harbor, to discover the movements of enemies who may seek to enter such approaches, etc. Its power is estimated to be that of 200,000,000 candles, but it is found that after the power of a few thousand candles is reached, it is difficult to note the full effect from the addition of a few thousand more, so that although the power of production may be accurately calculated and stated, the human eye is hardly capable of distinguishing as to the excess in brilliance of one very powerful light over another.

The lightning flash light to be erected at Fire Island consists of a bi-valve lens about eight feet in diameter, to be illuminated by two arc burners of several thousand candle power each, magnified by the lens so as to give a flash of 220,000,000 candles, estimated. This light will have the most powerful lens ever constructed, and in favorable weather its rays, projected against the sky, ought to be seen at a distance of at least 100 miles, while the light itself will be visible twenty-four miles. It will flash every five seconds. The light at present at Fire Island will be transferred to Hog Island, Va., where it is much needed. Some idea of the intensity of the new light may be gained by a comparison with the illumination of the Statue of Liberty, the torch of which, familiar to all New Yorkers, is of only 5000 candle power. The new Fire Island light will be 20,000 times as brilliant.

While the new lights, one at Sandy Hook and the other at Fire Island, are thus distinct in purpose, different in construction, and of unequal brilliancy—if the estimated candle power can be absolutely depended upon—the aims of both may, it is said, be frustrated by one common enemy, and that is fog. It is not positively known that such very powerful electric lights will not penetrate fog to a great distance, but it is asserted on the other side of the Atlantic that the electric light is not as valuable for the penetration of fog or haze as the ordinary gas or oil lights. In clear weather almost any light can be seen far enough for practical purposes, but thick weather is the test for lights as well as fog signals.



A HUGE ANOMODONT REPTILE (PARIASIAURUS) PECULIAR TO SOUTH AMERICA.

The most powerful light on the English coast is that at the Isle of May, for which an illuminating power of 38,000,000 candles is claimed, but mariners assert that it is as invisible in foggy weather as if it were only 3800 candles. The records which have been printed in English newspapers show conclusively that in foggy weather the 38,000,000 candles of the Isle of May are invisible at a short distance, while that of the 7,000,000 candle-power light at St. Catherine's Point, is equally invisible in such weather as proved by the loss last fall of the North German Lloyd steamship Elder near that lighthouse.

Possibly these assertions may be what has deterred European nations from erecting any more brilliant lights along their coasts, for they certainly have nothing to compare with the illuminations that will guard the entrance to New York. The most powerful at present on the French coast is that at Cape LeHeve, three miles from Havre, which is of only 23,000,000 candle power, but this will soon be exceeded by one designed by the engineer-in-chief of the French lighthouse service, to be located at Penmarck, Finisterre, and to be of 46,000,000 candle power. It is estimated that this latter light will be visible sixty miles in average weather, twenty-five miles in foggy weather, and 160 miles on a clear night when projected against the sky, but this remains to be demonstrated.—New York Post.

Oddest of All Birds' Nests.

The oddest of all birds' nests is the one built by the tantobane, a South African songster. It is built of cotton, and always upon the tree producing the material. In constructing the domicile the female works inside and the male outside, where he builds a sentinel box for his own special use. He sits in the box and keeps watch or sings nearly all the time, and when danger comes in the form of a hawk or a snake he warns the family, but never enters the main nest.—Chicago Herald.

A Michigan man put a notice over one of his fields: "All parties are warned and are forbidden not to play ball on this land."

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

WASHING AND CLEANING GLOVES.

The so-called washing gloves are an excellent choice for utility purposes all summer, as they can be cleaned once and again by washing them in water that is more than warm, but not scalding hot, using a bit of pure white soap in the process. It is best to wash them upon the hands, as the chamois is less likely to shrink in drying. Wash and then rinse in clear water, and dry by rubbing with a Turkish or other soft, rough towel. For kid gloves of light color, that are but slightly soiled, but not stained, there is no better mode of freshening than to wind a bit of oiled silk around the finger, rubbing vigorously to remove all traces of the mar. Any woman who tests this easy way of cleaning kid gloves will be sure to keep thereafter a strip of silk in her possession. A quarter or even an eighth of a yard is enough to purchase at once, as in fancy dry goods houses, where it is sold, it is kept moist in a large roll and is thus very pliable. Moisten the silk, however, when using.—New York Evening Post.

APRONS.

Much may be said of the indispensable article known as apron, viewing it from the ornamental as well as useful point. The scope of the latter is great, including the housekeeper, nurse, waitress, dressmaker and the clerk, the various styles of each being unique and pretty.

The housekeeper's apron is generally of lawn, nansook or dimity, of two-thirds length and trimmed with a hem four inches deep, surmounted by tucks. Feather stitching may be added either in flax or cotton, or the ready-made may be bought by the piece of two yards. The belt may be feather stitched. A square pocket laid in a double bow, placed on the right side is indispensable, and may be finished by a dainty little bow of the same material.

For the nurse and waitress, the aprons are usually of lawn or cambric, and the plainer the better. Both are sufficiently full to almost meet at the back, and in length reach nearly to the bottom of the skirt. Sometimes embroidery is put between the tucks that surmount the hem.

Striped and checked ginghams are relegated to the kitchen. These are made up in two breadths, simply hemmed and with a belt and string of the goods. Those trimmed with a bias band of the goods are a little more ornamental. Aprons of this sort are excellent for wear when sewing. The sewing apron proper has a gored front and side pieces in one piece style, the latter meeting at the back after forming a curve below the waist line, and fastening with one button. The waist or bib is fitted with two darts and the gored side seam, with two long tabs passing to the back of the neck, where they button. The large pocket is placed at a convenient distance for the hands in the outer front, and stitched down the middle to form two divisions.—Home and Farm.

RECIPES.

Lobster Cutlets—Mince a pound of lobster small (the canned may be used), season with salt, white pepper, two ounces of melted butter, two beaten eggs and enough fine, sifted breadcrumbs to make it cling together. Shape in the form of cutlets; dip in crumbs, then in egg and again in crumbs, and fry in hot drippings. These are very palatable with green peas or tomato sauce.

Chopped Omelet and Egg—Have your round steak chopped very fine and freed from skin and sinews; season with salt, cayenne and minced parsley and onion (a teaspoonful of each of the two latter to a pound of steak), add the beaten yolk of an egg, and make into small flat cakes. Fry in drippings until cooked through and browned on both sides; pour over the gravy, and crown each with a poached egg.

Potato Omelet—Take a pint of cold mashed potatoes and heat over the fire with two tablespoonfuls of sweet cream, beating with a fork until smooth and light. Add four beaten eggs, pepper, salt and a little nutmeg, and press through a sieve; beat one tablespoonful of butter in a saucpan and cook half of this mixture like an omelet. It is delightful with bacon or ham cut in thin rashers and fried crisp.

Spanish Ragout—Fry in butter a minced Spanish onion or an equal amount of white onions; add a green pepper minced fine without the seeds, and sprinkle these over six large tomatoes that have been sliced and fried. Put a poached egg for each person on top and pour around a cream sauce, made by adding cream or milk thickened with flour to the butter, in the pan in which the tomatoes were fried. There is no more delightful hot-weather appetizer than this.

Shrimp Salad—Shrimp salad is a useful and pretty dish. Shell a sufficient quantity of freshly broiled prawns, taking care to preserve the coral, which put aside for garnishing presently. Pile up the prawns in the centre of a dish, pour over them a thick mayonnaise sauce in which a sheet of gelatine has been dissolved. This causes it to adhere better. Round the base of the pyramid, arrange a ring of capers, next these a ring of yolk of egg which has been rubbed through a sieve, then a ring of chopped white of egg. Garnish with sprays of chervil and sprinkle the top of the pyramid with the coral. Shrimp, lobster or remains of cold salmon can be utilized in this way.

The Princess of Wales has started again the sensible fashion of wearing the two-button glove for summer.

NEWS & NOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dresses are sold by weight in Japan.

Belva Lockwood is sixty-three years old.

Tiny pocketbooks are now the proper caper.

Girton (England) College girls have a bicycle club.

Mrs. Kate Myrick has been appointed river observer at Girard, La.

There are 10,000 more women than men in the District of Columbia.

Miss Laura Creighton has been re-appointed State Librarian in Iowa.

The plain swivel silks in light tints are used for lining diaphanous toilets.

Snowflake crepon has a very attractive sound for a midsummer fabric, as it is.

Miss Balfour, sister of the English Conservative leader, is now traveling in Africa.

In Victoria, women have been substituted for men at no fewer than 200 railway stations.

The Chicago Woman's Club has added a woman suffrage section to its other departments.

There are now 797 prisoners in the Kansas State Prison, and of that number fourteen are women.

Miss Willard and Lady Henry Somerset are two celebrities in the Catskills, of New York, this season.

Many ladies find the ready-made ruffles quite too expensive, and therefore buy taffeta silk and make their own.

A young lady named Johnson is sixth wrangler in the senior mathematical class at Cambridge University, England.

Of the 1100 persons who patronized a fortune-teller in Chicago during the progress of the World's Fair 920 were women.

In England and Ireland women writers number 690, while the number of men engaged in this kind of work is 5111.

Royalties have, as a body, defective eyesight. Princess Maud, of Wales, is the only royal lady who wears a single eyeglass.

Husband and wife as law partners is something unknown in Great Britain. There are no less than twenty-one such firms in the United States.

The grandmother of the German Kaiser was, in early life, a musician of marked ability, and composed many marches for the Prussian army.

The Association for the Advancement of Women will hold its next annual meeting in Atlanta, Ga., with the supplementary congress at Tuskegee.

There is a demand for the old fashioned taffeta ribbon of our foremothers. It is made in three or four-inch widths, and is used for skirt ruchings.

English papers say that Mrs. Humphrey Ward has made \$80,000 from "David Grieve," \$80,000 from "Marcella," and \$40,000 from "Robert Elsmere."

One of the ways of telling whether the temperature is rising it to watch a girl's front hair. When it begins to lose its curl and grow straight it is a sure sign of a change of temperature.

Very lovely are the open fronted Parisian tea gowns in Directoire style, made of flowered taffeta or China silk, and worn over petticoats and blouse vests of white or yellow guipure lace.

Miss Mary Garrett of Baltimore, Md., has founded a European fellowship scholarship, of a value of \$500 a year, and five graduate scholarships, worth \$200 a year, at Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

There are 4500 species of bees. A locomotive lasts fifteen years and earns about \$300,000.

The Earl of Dunmore proposes to cross Bering Strait on the ice next winter.

Steel barrels, made from sheets ranging in thickness from one-sixteenth to a quarter of an inch, are coming into use.

Leuvenhoek says that 4,000,000 webs spun by young spiders when they first begin to use the spinneret are not, if twisted together, as great in diameter as a hair from a human head.

The fibre of the nettle hemp is claimed to be four or five times as strong as silk and not inferior in lustre. The production of a nettle hemp thread as fine as No. 100 is now reported.

No science, unless it be that of the electrician, can boast such a wonderful growth in the past quarter century as that of bacteriology, which has developed with remarkable rapidity since Pasteur made his initial investigation.

A company formed some time ago for the purpose of constructing an electric railway on the Jungfrau, Switzerland, now propose to establish a scientific observatory at the upper end of the line, at a height of about 13,000 feet.

The latest theory concerning the cause of the aurora borealis has been deduced from a careful analysis of that light through a spectroscopic. This unique experiment clearly establishes the fact that it is caused by an electrical discharge among the particles of meteoric iron dust contained in the atmosphere.

Harvey Beijin, a medical student in Ann Arbor, Mich., has succeeded in joining two living dogs together, like Siamese twins. It was done by grafting strips of flesh from one body to the other and retaining them in position for forty days. When one dog barks it appears to give his companion intense pain, and vice versa.

An English company is introducing a new method of horticulture. Glass houses are mounted on wheels running on rails in such a way that the houses —with or without heating apparatus—may be moved in succession over crops to be forced, protected or ripened. It is claimed that the work of the hothouses can be greatly increased by this plan.

For the lighting of Antwerp the novel plan is proposed of distributing water from steam pumping stations at a pressure of 775 pounds per square inch, and using it at small district stations for driving dynamos by means of turbines. These stations would supply local consumers through a low pressure, two-wire circuit system. The cost of coal per sixteen candle power per hour is placed at only 2 1/2 cents.

George Jimson, of Jimson's Grove, Wis., astonished his father, mother and seven guests by eating and swallowing in rapid succession thirty-one spheres of what appeared to be thin glass. Old Mr. Jimson was about to send for a physician, when his son showed that the spheres were merely frozen bubbles of water, made after Professor Dewar's method. The elder Jimson was greatly relieved by the discovery.

To Get Rid of Flies.

Flies are the pest and worry of all tidy housekeepers, and how to rid a room of them is an unsolved problem to many. This is quite easily accomplished by taking advantage of the flies' habit of flying to the window or place from which light is admitted, and to accomplish this, darken all the windows with a heavy shade, or any material, cutting a hole in one of the shades, over which is firmly pinned a sheet of the common transparent fly paper, and, if possible, have this located at one of the east, south or west windows, from which the most light may be obtained. It will be but a short time ere the flies in the room will be sticking to this paper in their effort to be near the light. This is far easier and more cleanly than placing paper about the room for them to accidentally light upon, or killing them with poisoned liquid or pyrethrum powder.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Engineers Fight.

A remarkable case is soon to be heard at Longtown. George Glendenning, a stoker on the North British Railway, has summoned John Blythe, an engine driver, for assault, and Blythe has taken out a cross summons for Glendenning for a similar offense. The two men were in charge of a passenger train to Carlisle. They quarreled, and while the engine was running at the rate of fifty miles an hour they fought on the coal plate. Glendenning asserts that Blythe knocked him to the engine floor and battered his head against the lever. On the other hand, Blythe maintains that Glendenning was the aggressor. This new peril to the safety of passenger traffic is attracting much attention, and people who write to the newspapers are suggesting various means for the prevention of quarrels between engine drivers and the stokers.—New York Advertiser.

The Bacillus of the Influenza.

The microbe of the "grip," otherwise the "influenza bacillus," was discovered by Dr. Canon, of Vienna, who first detected it in the blood of one of his patients. It is a curiously shaped organism, many times smaller than the microbe of any other known germ disease, and was only revealed to the human eye by using a microscope with a magnifying power of 1000 diameters.—St. Louis Republic.