

FREELAND TRIBUNE.

PUBLISHED EVERY
MONDAY AND THURSDAY.
THOS. A. BUCKLEY,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
OFFICE: MAIN STREET ABOVE CENTER.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
One Year.....\$1 50
Six Months..... 75
Four Months..... 50
Two Months..... 25

Subscribers are requested to observe the date following the name on the labels of their papers. By referring to this they can tell at a glance how they stand on the books in this office. For instance:
Grover Cleveland 23 June 05
means that Grover is paid up to June 23, 1885. Keep the figures in advance of the present date. Report promptly to this office when your paper is not received. All arrears must be paid when paper is discontinued, or collection will be made in the manner provided by law.

Who makes money out of the drama of to-day?—Pittsburg Press. Read your answer in the "stars."

Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt did not ask that her maiden name be restored to her. She was a Smith.

Again the Pennsylvania miners are dissatisfied with their vocation, though they have a chance to take their pick.

"They say 'seeing is believing,'" says the Manayunk Philosopher, "but there are some men whom I see every day, but I don't believe them once a year."—Philadelphia Record.

According to the Journal Official the population of France, which in the preceding three years had decreased by 70,000, was increased in 1893 by 7,146 souls.

The Turks massacred 50,000 Greeks in Scio in 1822; 10,000 Armenians at Mosul in 1850; 11,000 Syrian Christians on Lebanon in 1860; 10,000 Bulgarians in 1876; and 12,000 since.

Professor Atwater of Wesleyan has said: "I believe that it is one of the most Christian movements of the age that is beginning to make cooking a part of the education of our girls."

The city of Glasgow, Scotland, manages its own gas, water and markets, and makes an annual profit out of them of about \$350,000. It owes no debt, and has a surplus of over \$12,000,000.

A syndicate has been formed in England to build a battle ship of at least 8,000 tons, and to cost more than \$2,000,000, according to the plans of Sir Edward Reed, who has been criticised in the Admiralty ships.

The Chicago Herald relates that one of the spic incidents of the recent election in Philadelphia was the challenging of the vote of John Wanamaker. The ex-postmaster general was highly amused, particularly when he learned that his challenger had been in this country but four months.

The telephone may work some unexpected changes in court procedure. A witness has been permitted to testify by telephone in a Michigan court. If evidence may be taken in this manner, why should not jury services be performed by telephone, asks the Chicago Herald. There would be a great advantage in it, since juries would be enabled thus to escape listening to speeches, and could reach determination of a cause on the evidence alone.

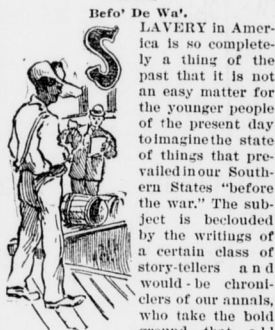
The St. Louis Star-Sayings maintains that business in New England this year has really been more promising than anywhere else in the United States. There are thirty per cent of the workmen of the country out of employment today, but only twenty-five per cent are out in New England. Wages in general have fallen off forty-four per cent, but in the happy district the per cent is only thirty, and the wage-rate has fallen off only ten dollars in two years.

Steam and bad men are likely to develop into deadly enemies in the future, predicts the New York Dispatch. Concerning the application of steam to the defense of robber-attacking trains, it is a wonder that the utilization of so much energy such as has been bottled up in the boiler of the locomotive has not been thought of before. Under the new defense scheme, steam pipes are run along the locomotive, one on either side, from the cabin forward. The ends of the pipes are provided with small nozzles, and the steam will put a man in a perspiration at a distance of a hundred feet or more, and knock him over at sixty feet. Similar pipes run down each side of the train, and at intervals nozzles are placed, so that in the case of emergency the whole train could be enveloped in a mass of hissing vapor. This scheme will probably be extended to the protection of bank vaults against thieves.

BEFORE THE WAR.

WHERE THE COTTON AND THE SWEET POTATOES GROW.

Scenes Among the Slaves of the Southern Plantations—Life Had Its Bright Side for the Care-Free Negro—Odd Characters Developed.



Before De Wa'.
LIVERY in America is so completely a thing of the past that it is not an easy matter for the younger people of the present day to imagine the state of things that prevailed in our Southern States "before the war." The subject is beclouded by the writings of a certain class of story-tellers, and would be chrouclers of our annals, who take the bold ground that all masters were heartless; that the slaves on a plantation wore chains; and that the whipping post and branding irons were to be found in every neighborhood. There were, no doubt, heartless masters and cruel overseers; there were, no doubt, chains and whipping posts; but it is probably not true that these were so common as many persons suppose, for as a general thing the slaves were treated with some degree of consideration, and in not a few cases the kindest possible relations existed between them and their owners. On the large planta-



tions, particularly in the cotton and rice districts, where hundreds, and, in some cases, thousands of slaves were owned by the same man, much less regard was had for them than when they were employed as house servants. In the former case, the slaves saw little of their master or the members of his family; the overseer represented the master's authority, and often abused the master's power; and, deprived of all intercourse with their superiors, these classes of plantation slaves by no means equaled in intelligence those who served in the households.

Comrades in Boyhood Days.
Few persons have any idea of the pleasantness of the relations existing in many households in the South at that period. For boys, both white and black, there was almost equality. Childhood is democratic, and so far as the sports of the country were concerned they were followed alike by the young slaves and the sons of the master. To each of the latter a negro boy was generally assigned, who was understood to be his, and between the two there was commonly an ardent friendship, with on one side a conceded superiority, and on the other a gracious condescension. The little whites and the little darkeys played together, hunted together, together went in swimming and took fever and ague, and together received their thrashings for robbing orchards and melon patches. There are many known instances of friendship thus contracted in boyhood which lasted during life, and not a few cases are recorded of singular fidelity and devotion on the part of the slaves toward their masters when the war cloud darkened their land. Among the girls it was different, for they were not permitted to share to the same extent in the amusements of the slave children, but even the daughters of the planters generally entertained a warm affection for the old black "mammy" who cared for them during infancy and early childhood, and who commonly felt for them as much affection as she entertained for her own offspring.

Good Old "Mammy."
The "mammy" was a peculiar character, who was as much trusted as a nurse possibly could be. She was always a house servant, and in her girlhood had been given to her young mistress, of about the same age, as a maid. When the mistress married and left the old home she took her servant with her, and when her children were born the greater part of their care and attention was turned over to the maid. The two grew old together, and when grandchildren came the old mammy took care of them, too, as she had done of the children, and when she herself was too old to work she was cared for

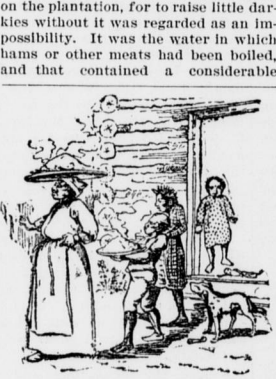


New Way to Fell Trees.
Trees are now felled by electricity in the great forests of Galicia. For cutting comparatively soft woods, the tool is in the form of an augur, which is mounted on a carriage, and is moved to and fro and revolved at the same time by a small electric motor. As the cut deepens, wedges are inserted to prevent the rift from closing, and when the tree is nearly cut through an ax or hand-saw is used to finish the work. In this way trees are felled very rapidly, and with very little labor.

and looked forward to the time when the old man should give up the post of honor and resign the reins into his willing hands. In his province he was absolute. He drove as he pleased, and no word of remonstrance could make him hasten the pace of his horses unless he saw fit to do so. Furthermore, at the foot of every hill every body had to get out and walk up in order to spare the horses, and many a long, tiresome walk was taken at his command by the members of the family, for the old driver, very often known as "Daddy," but more frequently as "Uncle," was admitted to know what was best in the matter of driving, and his authority was, half laughingly, half respectfully, acknowledged. On the large plantations the word "driver" had a different significance, for there the name was applied to a colored functionary of no little importance who was next in authority to the overseer.

Serving Dinner.
The numerousness of the small colored fry about the home of a wealthy planter gave rise to many scenes that to the eyes of one not accustomed to witness them were extremely curious. The little darkeys were early trained to make themselves useful by waiting on the table, and at a dining every guest had one, arrayed in a white apron that reached to his heels, stationed before the chair, to attend to every want. Bringing in the dinner on such occasions was a sight never to be forgotten. The cooking was done, as it is even to this day in the South, in a small house some distance from the mansion, and when the repast was prepared and dished up the leading part was taken by the cook, who raised to her head the huge dish containing the turkey and bore it aloft, while behind her came a procession of small boys, each carrying in his hands a dish which he had been cautioned to treat with especial care under penalty of having every bone in his "wuthless karkidge" broken on the spot as a penalty for negligence.

A Wedding in the "Quarters."
The monopoly of life on the large plantations was broken when there was a wedding among the slaves. This frequently happened, as marriage was encouraged by the masters, and in some cases, where the servants were highly esteemed, the ceremony took place in the parlor, with the family and a few neighbors as witnesses. A party dress, low-necked and short-skirted, was presented to the bride by one of the ladies, the groom being arrayed with equal gorgeousness in the cast-off sporting clothes of his master. A bridal procession from the "quarters" to the house was a solemn affair, and both bride and groom enjoyed the momentary prominence given them by the occasion. In families where the slaves were well treated, a wedding feast was provided, abundant though homely, and the assembled guests of color revelled in as much bacon and greens, "possum and sweet potatoes, hominy, corn-pone and pumpkin pie as they could stow away, while the pickaninies had corn meal and pot liquor, with an occasional spoonful of molasses. The pot liquor was an indispensable article on the plantation, for to raise little darkeys without it was regarded as an impossibility. It was the water in which hams or other meats had been boiled, and that contained a considerable



quantity of nourishment. Thickened with corn meal and thoroughly reboiled, it was served out to the youngsters by the mammy who had charge of them, with the result that their little ribs were always well covered with fat.

Followed the Officer's Advice.
A newly appointed special policeman walked up to a crowd of young hoodlums who were lounging about the doorway of a San Francisco saloon one night last week. He sized the situation up as a good opportunity to display his authority and let the toughs on the beat know that he was not a man who could be trifled with.
"What you hangin' around here for?" he demanded.
"Lookin' for work," responded one of the gang. "All we want is a chance to make an honest dollar."
"Move on, you bums. Get out o' here," ordered the officer. "Go make some of these," and he shook a handful of \$20 pieces at the retreating crowd.
The special was walking down the dark side of the street a few moments later when something landed on the back of his head. When he recovered consciousness half an hour later he found his pockets turned wrong side out. The gang had acted on his suggestion.

How to Keep Pigeons.
HINTS ABOUT THE MANAGEMENT OF FAST-FLYING BIRDS.
Antwerp Carriers, Fantails, Pouters and Other Varieties—Suggestions as to a Pigeon Loft.
BOYS are famous lovers of out door pets. Among these pigeons have not usually been counted until recently, owing to their cost. Now, however, a boy can buy a good pair of homing pigeons for sixty cents, nail a soap box upon a shed in the yard in the rear of his house and consider himself a pigeon fancier. There are many kinds of pigeons, among the best known being Antwerp carriers, fan tails, jacobins and pigmy pouters. Those who spend their entire time in flying pigeons and have extensive lofts in Belgium, in England and in America, have a list of varieties nearly a yard long, but those named above are all that a beginner would care to start with in a modest way. Undoubtedly the pigeon that would be of greatest use to a beginner is the Antwerp. The English homing pigeon was formerly popular, and it was considered wonderful in England not many years ago when birds that were taken fifty or sixty miles away from their lofts returned at the rate of a mile a minute. This is indeed a speed that has not been surpassed, but it has been found that Antwerp carriers can be taken 500, 600 and even 700 miles from their lofts and still be certain when released of taking a straight course toward home. Among the first performances of homing pigeons was a race that was flown in 1886 in England, the distance being 444 miles and the speed 3036 feet a minute. The pigeon that performed the feat was known as "Old 86," and it lived to be fourteen years old.

HOW TO KEEP PIGEONS.

HINTS ABOUT THE MANAGEMENT OF FAST-FLYING BIRDS.

Antwerp Carriers, Fantails, Pouters and Other Varieties—Suggestions as to a Pigeon Loft.

BOYS are famous lovers of out door pets. Among these pigeons have not usually been counted until recently, owing to their cost. Now, however, a boy can buy a good pair of homing pigeons for sixty cents, nail a soap box upon a shed in the yard in the rear of his house and consider himself a pigeon fancier. There are many kinds of pigeons, among the best known being Antwerp carriers, fan tails, jacobins and pigmy pouters. Those who spend their entire time in flying pigeons and have extensive lofts in Belgium, in England and in America, have a list of varieties nearly a yard long, but those named above are all that a beginner would care to start with in a modest way. Undoubtedly the pigeon that would be of greatest use to a beginner is the Antwerp. The English homing pigeon was formerly popular, and it was considered wonderful in England not many years ago when birds that were taken fifty or sixty miles away from their lofts returned at the rate of a mile a minute. This is indeed a speed that has not been surpassed, but it has been found that Antwerp carriers can be taken 500, 600 and even 700 miles from their lofts and still be certain when released of taking a straight course toward home. Among the first performances of homing pigeons was a race that was flown in 1886 in England, the distance being 444 miles and the speed 3036 feet a minute. The pigeon that performed the feat was known as "Old 86," and it lived to be fourteen years old.

Pigeons are taken from their lofts in wicker baskets, with one compartment for each pigeon, closed by a separate cover. When the pigeon is to be tossed into the air to make its homeward journey, the message is fastened either to one or two of the under tail feathers or to one of its legs. The message is written on a piece of very light tissue paper, folded into a very small space and then fastened to the feathers or the leg with a small elastic band. Just why the birds are able to fly such extreme distances those who have most to do with pigeons are not able to decide. Some declare that the birds find their way home by instinct, as a collie dog does when his master tries to lose him. Others say that the pigeon has eyes like a microscope, as their power of vision is remarkably keen. It is a custom of pigeon keepers to take their birds first a short distance from home on releasing them, and at every following trial to increase the distance. The pigeon, it is supposed, learns in this way the landmarks of the country, and recognizes them when it mounts high in the air, as it always does when it is released for a homeward journey.

Antwerp pigeons are a very good kind to buy, because there is no danger that they will be trapped or that they will wander away and not return home. They are used in military service in Germany to carry dispatches, and also of late years by newspapers in carrying news. In the last yacht races for the America's cup the news of the various aspects of the race was taken to New York newspapers every fifteen minutes by homing pigeons. The news was received in this way even before it could be put upon the telegraph wire. A small loft of about twenty birds is usually erected on the roof of a newspaper office, and when required the pigeons are placed in a basket carried by a boy. Some novel uses are made of homing pigeons. A certain physician, with a large practice, is accustomed to put into his carriage a basket of pigeons and, as he makes a considerable round of visits each day he finds several patients who need urgent assistance. The doctor writes his prescription, fastens it to one of the bird's legs and on the bird's arrival home the doctor's assistant at once dispenses the medicine called for and sends it by a messenger to the patient's house, thus saving delay. The Antwerps cost formerly \$3 to \$5 a pair, but as they breed rapidly they can now be purchased for sixty cents a pair from fanciers. A pair will bring forth in one season from ten to twelve young. The pigeon feed their young, and of all the varieties the Antwerp can best be depended upon to do this. Other kinds are apt to neglect their young. Care should be taken in selecting homing pigeons to get those with broad shoulders, deep chests and tapering tails. To identify the young pigeons before they are flown a metal band which can be had at bird stores is placed about one of the legs, the owner's private mark, or initials, or figures indicating the number of the bird in the loft, having been stamped with a die. Beans, corn and peas are usually the food for pigeons, but the kernels should be small. Little or no green food should be fed to the birds. There should always be plenty of clean water in the loft, pigeons needing more water even than chickens. Fantail pigeons are very popular, and they are not costly. They are kept for beauty, not for use, and they are indeed beautiful in every movement. Jacobins are pretty pigeons, with a collar or ruff that gives them an appearance of dignity. Pigmy pouters make great pets. They are tiny creatures and bear the same relation to ordinary pigeons, as regards size, that bantams bear to barnyard chickens. Like most of toy pigeons they are rather high in price, and difficult to rear.

A suggestion as to the place for a pigeon loft. As was said at the outset, a boy can start with a soap box for a pair. It should be divided by a partition and a hole made in each side where the pigeons may creep into the box. Outside of the holes a little wooden ledge should be nailed for the pigeons to alight on. The loft should be nailed six or seven feet from the ground so as to be out of the way of cats. A more extensive loft can be made for from \$3 to \$10 on the roof of a house. This loft can be six or seven feet high, eight feet long and five feet wide. By building the frame of wall strips and getting boards called seconds, from a lumber dealer, a boy can put up a loft himself with the aid of a saw, a hammer and some nails. Boxes should be put up for the birds, and it would be well to have swinging doors to the openings of the boxes, so arranged that, if the owner pleases, the bird can enter but cannot go out. For information about pigeons a boy can learn all he wants to know in two books, one by Tegetmaier, the other by Fulton.

A Muskrat Farm.
On Otsego Lake, New York, says a writer in the Buffalo Times, is perhaps the only muskrat farm in the United States, owned by Zekiel Van Etten. It has much low swamp land intersected by running brooks, and was long a favorite haunt of muskrats before Van Etten thought of "raising" them. He was both a farmer and a trapper, like his father before him, but had allowed anyone to trap the muskrats until he accidentally found out that from this swamp a neighbor was sending \$200 worth of skins to New York. Then he fenced it in, put barbed wire along the brook, put up trespass signs, and the next fall, with a trap that would hold and not hurt, obtained over two hundred choice skins (the females and little ones being released) which brought in New York eighty cents apiece, being used for mink, which were very scarce. The next season he trapped six hundred rats which netted over \$300. This was about fifteen years ago, and Mr. Van Etten now looks on his swamp as a bank that never fails. Prices go up and down, but he has never sold a skin for less than thirty-five cents. Sometimes the price drops to fifteen cents. Then he doesn't trap, but waits till the next year, when the price is apt to go up and return him one hundred per cent on the pelts net in the cheap year. The past season the pelts netted him \$400. Mr. Van Etten is a great-grandson of Uriah Van Etten, said to have been the original of Cooper's "Deerslayer." The father knew Cooper very well and was so told by him. All four generations have been farmers by occupation, and hunters and trappers by choice.

What is a Domestic Animal?
The more the question about what is or what is not a domestic animal gets decided, the more complicated it seems to become. No sooner has a French tribunal decided that a wild bull is a domestic animal, than an American tribunal decides that a domestic cat is a wild one. The alleged domesticity of the cat was in Maryland. There it lived with the man who believed he owned it. It wore a blue ribbon round its neck, and answered to its name when he called it. Besides, he had bought it. But it was hard to see; a neighbor cast envious eyes upon that cat, and, in the result, an annexing hand. The consequence was open, palpable. There was a summons, and the summons was dismissed at once. The magistrate said that a cat, though it might wear a neck ribbon, and even answer to a name, and, therefore, not entitled to be considered a domestic animal at all. It was, therefore, this utilitarian Daniel concluded, a wild animal, within the meaning of the act, and no one could legally claim exclusive proprietary rights over it. The highest authority in the State is said to have confirmed this disturbing view.—Pall Mall Gazette.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

SELECT SIFTINGS.

An instrument has been invented to measure thought.

In all tropical countries the vulture is the natural scavenger. Red phosphorus combines with chlorate of potash to make an explosive of great violence.

Thomas A. Edison intends to investigate the properties of argon, the element recently discovered in their. A ton of cottonseed meal, when fed to cattle, just about replaces the fertility which is sold in 5000 quarts of milk.

Work has been commenced by the Pennsylvania Railroad on a new type of eight-wheel, compound, consolidated passenger engine, which, it is thought, will be faster and of greater traction than any engine yet built.

Owing to its unfavorable situation for observations, the Carlruhe Observatory is to be transferred to the summit of the Geisberg, half an hour's distance from Heidelberg, and will thereafter be known as the Heidelberg Observatory.

M. Fremont has proved by experiment that water kept for twenty minutes at 176 degrees Fahrenheit loses all the deleterious germs it may have contained without being deprived of its gases or precipitating the salts contained in it, and that the flavor is not modified by the process.

Professor John Michels writes in the Scientific American of a parasite called "tarsosperidium," the eggs or germs of which often exist by millions in the flesh of hogs. It is supposed to be harmless, but it is never safe to eat pork or any other meat until it has been thoroughly cooked.

The bacillus of diphtheria is one-twenty-five-thousandth of an inch long, and when fixed in the human throat it grows into a network with other bacilli produced from it, all operating together to produce a virulent poison which when taken into the blood causes the fatal consequences so apt to follow from the disease.

Professor Gore believes that the sun of our solar system is a member of a group of stars "possibly distributed in the form of a ring," and that at a much greater distance from us than the stars of this ring is another cluster of stars at such an immense distance that their light is visible only in the Milky Way gleam of our midnight skies.

The higher up the animal scale we travel the larger amount of nitrogen that enters into the structure of the organism in proportion to weight or volume. In any given animal, the higher the function of any tissue that enters into its structure, the larger the amount of nitrogen. The bones have the least, and the nerve structure the most, while the brain has far more than any other part.

A House of Tube.
A German inventor has built a house of hollow tubes, whose advantages are, he says, a constant temperature and incidentally strength, durability, comfort and beauty. He first put up a frame of water tubing, allowing continuous circulation to a stream of water. Around this frame he put up his house in the ordinary way. The peculiarity is that all floors and ceilings are crossed and recrossed by the water pipes. The water, after passing through horizontal tubes under the floors and ceilings passes through the vertical tubes until all have been gone through. In summer fresh, cool water circulates under pressure through the network of tubes, cools off the walls, and, after having run its course, flows off considerably warmer than when it entered. In its course it has absorbed much heat, which it carries away. During the long and severe winter the water entering through the basement is first heated to nearly 100 degrees and then forced through the tubing. Of course, much of the heat is left all over the house, and at the outlet the temperature of the water is about forty degrees. The speed of the circulation of water can be regulated so as to allow the fixing of a certain temperature which is equal throughout the building.—New York Sun.

Washington Sees a Sundog.
Washington saw a parhelion at 8 o'clock the other day. This phenomenon in usual parlance is called a sundog, and is peculiar to more northerly latitudes than that of Washington. The parhelion in question was exceedingly brilliant and was observed by thousands of people. The sky was hazy and presented a dull, milky appearance. The outer circles had a radius of about thirty degrees, the sun occupying the center of the circle. The inner edge of the circle was red and well defined, but the outer edge was not so well defined. The sky within the halo was much darker than it was for a distance of several degrees without the halo. The light, as is always the case in parhelion, was polarized in the direction of a tangent to the circumference, proving that the light had suffered refraction. This halo was formed by the refraction of the light of the sun through the crystals of ice floating in the atmosphere.—Chicago Times-Herald.

Blondin's Greatest Feat.
Blondin, the tight-rope walker, now over seventy years of age, when he is interrogated as to the most difficult feat he has ever performed, always refers to his walking on a rope from the mainmast to the mizen on board the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer Poonah on his way out to Australia, there being such a heavy sea on at the time that he was forced to sit down on the rope five times as the largest waves approached the vessel.—New York Dispatch.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

SELECT SIFTINGS.

There is silk enough in a single cocoon to extend a distance of 535 miles.

The coins of Siam are made of porcelain. Those of Japan are made principally of iron.

Although Alsace was under French control for nearly two centuries, the people continue to speak German.

A couple at Providence, R. I., met for the first time, fell in love, became betrothed and were married inside of an hour.

The practice of inoculation as a means of preventing disease was described by a modern Greek writer, Timone, in 1713.

"The Sword of Banker Hill" came from the pen of William Ross Wallace, a Kentuckian. The music was the work of Bernard Covert.

A California farmer trapped an eagle that had been carrying off his lamb. It weighed twenty pounds and measured seven feet from tip to tip.

Workmen found after a landslide near Fort Washington, New York City, the other day, a thirty-two-foot cannon ball imbedded several feet in the ground.

Emperor William has forbidden the officers and men in the Berlin garrison to smoke on the principal streets of the city because of irregularities in the salute offered royal personages.

Cayayo, a West Indian Island, is inhabited exclusively by turtles, some of which grow to an enormous size. Attempts to establish human habitations on the island have always failed.

The Arctic fox shows the greatest change in the color of its coat throughout the year. It summer its coat is dark blue, and gradually lightens until snow begins to fall, when it is pure white.

George W. Hall, of Marion County, Kentucky, is seventy-eight years old and the father of twelve children, ten of whom are living. He has ninety-one grandchildren and fifty great grandchildren.

"Hail to the Chief" is a song in the second canto of Scott's "Lady of the Lake." It is a boat song, designed to imitate those of the Scottish boatmen. The melody was written by Sir Henry Rowley Bishop.

There is good reason to believe that the kychonophane, for such is the nearest approximate to the Japanese name of the chrysanthemum obtainable in our spelling, has been cultivated in Japan for centuries, and its use as a decoration for services rendered to the State is, in Japan at least, venerable in its antiquity.

Ostrich Farms.
Ostrich farmers who rushed into the business a few years ago when it was first boomed have found that it is not all their fancy painted. Instead of becoming multi-millionaires in a few years, many of them have not paid expenses; others have made a little money, but less than the same amount of capital and labor would have brought them in almost any other business.

The great mistake was the failure to realize that the ostrich, being still wild, could not successfully be subjected to the same treatment and conditions under which domesticated animals and birds will thrive. In confinement they multiply but slowly and produce feathers of an inferior grade, while their vicious instincts are still so strong that it is often impossible to remove the feathers without killing the bird. To make the business the success expected it is necessary to gain more experience in the proper management of the ostriches, and by a careful course of breeding to eradicate or tame down the wild nature so that they may be approached and handled in comparative safety. Ostrich farms will doubtless eventually prove a success, not only in California, but in Florida and Texas, but they cannot be made so in a year or two. Time, patience and skill are even more requisite in this than in other branches of farming.—New York World.

How a Fish Comes to the Surface.
A curious physiological discovery has been made in the past year by Professor Bohr, of Copenhagen, in regard to the mode of storage by which a fish accumulates so much oxygen in the air that distends the swimming or air bladder.

The air contained therein has a percentage of oxygen that may rise to as much as eighty-five, an amount much in excess of the percentage in atmospheric air. Professor Bohr tapped the air bladders of codfish and drew off the gas by means of a trocar and air tight syringe. The gas had fifty-two per cent of oxygen. In a few hours the air bladder was refilled, apparently by a process of secretion of gas from the blood in capillaries on the wall of the bladder. In one experiment the gas thus secreted had eighty per cent of oxygen. When the nerves connected with the organ were severed, the secretion ceased and the organ was not refilled.

It thus appears that when a fish descends to a great depth, and his body is reduced in size by increased pressure of the water about him, he is able to attain his former size by secreting the gas he needs, and not by absorbing it from the water. Support is thus given to the theory that the gaseous exchanges that occur in the lungs of animals are not purely physical.—Baltimore Sun.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

SELECT SIFTINGS.

There is silk enough in a single cocoon to extend a distance of 535 miles.

The coins of Siam are made of porcelain. Those of Japan are made principally of iron.

Although Alsace was under French control for nearly two centuries, the people continue to speak German.

A couple at Providence, R. I., met for the first time, fell in love, became betrothed and were married inside of an hour.

The practice of inoculation as a means of preventing disease was described by a modern Greek writer, Timone, in 1713.

"The Sword of Banker Hill" came from the pen of William Ross Wallace, a Kentuckian. The music was the work of Bernard Covert.

A California farmer trapped an eagle that had been carrying off his lamb. It weighed twenty pounds and measured seven feet from tip to tip.

Workmen found after a landslide near Fort Washington, New York City, the other day, a thirty-two-foot cannon ball imbedded several feet in the ground.

Emperor William has forbidden the officers and men in the Berlin garrison to smoke on the principal streets of the city because of irregularities in the salute offered royal personages.

Cayayo, a West Indian Island, is inhabited exclusively by turtles, some of which grow to an enormous size. Attempts to establish human habitations on the island have always failed.

The Arctic fox shows the greatest change in the color of its coat throughout the year. It summer its coat is dark blue, and gradually lightens until snow begins to fall, when it is pure white.

George W. Hall, of Marion County, Kentucky, is seventy-eight years old and the father of twelve children, ten of whom are living. He has ninety-one grandchildren and fifty great grandchildren.

"Hail to the Chief" is a song in the second canto of Scott's "Lady of the Lake." It is a boat song, designed to imitate those of the Scottish boatmen. The melody was written by Sir Henry Rowley Bishop.

There is good reason to believe that the kychonophane, for such is the nearest approximate to the Japanese name of the chrysanthemum obtainable in our spelling, has been cultivated in Japan for centuries, and its use as a decoration for services rendered to the State is, in Japan at least, venerable in its antiquity.

Ostrich Farms.
Ostrich farmers who rushed into the business a few years ago when it was first boomed have found that it is not all their fancy painted. Instead of becoming multi-millionaires in a few years, many of them have not paid expenses; others have made a little money, but less than the same amount of capital and labor would have brought them in almost any other business.

The great mistake was the failure to realize that the ostrich, being still wild, could not successfully be subjected to the same treatment and conditions under which domesticated animals and birds will thrive. In confinement they multiply but slowly and produce feathers of an inferior grade, while their vicious instincts are still so strong that it is often impossible to remove the feathers without killing the bird. To make the business the success expected it is necessary to gain more experience in the proper management of the ostriches, and by a careful course of breeding to eradicate or tame down the wild nature so that they may be approached and handled in comparative safety. Ostrich farms will doubtless eventually prove a success, not only in California, but in Florida and Texas, but they cannot be made so in a year or two. Time, patience and skill are even more requisite in this than in other branches of farming.—New York World.

How a Fish Comes to the Surface.
A curious physiological discovery has been made in the past year by Professor Bohr, of Copenhagen, in regard to the mode of storage by which a fish accumulates so much oxygen in the air that distends the swimming or air bladder.

The air contained therein has a percentage of oxygen that may rise to as much as eighty-five, an amount much in excess of the percentage in atmospheric air. Professor Bohr tapped the air bladders of codfish and drew off the gas by means of a trocar and air tight syringe. The gas had fifty-two per cent of oxygen. In a few hours the air bladder was refilled, apparently by a process of secretion of gas from the blood in capillaries on the wall of the bladder. In one experiment the gas thus secreted had eighty per cent of oxygen. When the nerves connected with the organ were severed, the secretion ceased and the organ was not refilled.

It thus appears that when a fish descends to a great depth, and his body is reduced in size by increased pressure of the water about him, he is able to attain his former size by secreting the gas he needs, and not by absorbing it from the water. Support is thus given to the theory that the gaseous exchanges that occur in the lungs of animals are not purely physical.—Baltimore Sun.