

A DIVIDED EYE.

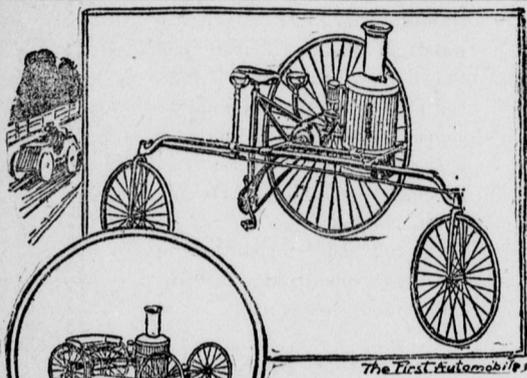
A Fish Which Sees Above and Below the Surface.

IN the shore waters and rivers of Central America there are thousands of little fish with very curious eyes. They are called four-eyed fish, and the eye is very much like a double eye; and then, too, it



Young Four-Eyed Fish With Large Food-Sac. No Band On Eye.

apparently has to do the work of two eyes. It has a broad, dark, horizontal band, nearly as wide as the pupil, right across its centre. This band enables the fish when feeding and swimming at the surface, on the lookout



The First Automobile

ous to run faster than six or eight miles an hour unless he was certain the road was clear.

The idea of placing the boiler at the rear of the vehicle did not occur to Mr. Brown until 1889, when he made a radical change in the body of the carriage, mounted it on pneumatic-tired wheels, and for short distances operated it at a speed of twenty miles an hour. All these machines were constructed entirely of bicycle parts.

Arkansas Cordiality.

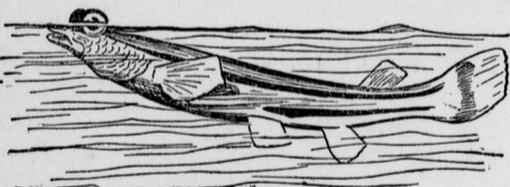
J. B. Rutherford returned from Little Rock and says that Jeff Davis is the biggest man in the State.

"The State House," said Mr. Rutherford, "was just crowded with people congratulating the Governor on his nomination. I sent in my card and the first thing I knew Davis came out in his shirt-sleeves and said:

"Say, Jim, you don't need any card when you come to see me. If the other fellow had been elected you might have needed a card, but when you come to see me, just walk right in, and hang your hat on a peg, and unpack your trunk."—Arkansas Gazette.

Don't burn your bridges behind you, under the impression that you are setting the world on fire.

Most women seem to think there are no secrets worth keeping.



Four-Eyed Fish Swimming At The Surface.

since that part of the eye which struck the edge of the water was not used, and could not be used while the fish was swimming thus. This band has, therefore, by slow degrees, become more and more permanent, until now it is firmly fixed, and destroys the sight of that portion of the eye over which it extends. While very young the band is not on the fish's eye. This fact helps to prove that the band was not always on the eye of these fish, but it has been formed by their habit of swimming at the surface.

Some scientists do not call this fish four-eyed, for they say there are no four-eyed fish. They say this eye is exactly like any other eye, except for the band across it, and that the human eye would represent a like condition were one to fasten a narrow band across it. Other scientists claim that each of these two parts of the eye can be contracted or expanded independently of the other.

The Pear.

The pear is undeniably the favorite fruit of modern times, indeed, we believe the pear of modern times, thanks to the science and skill of horticulturists, is quite a different morsel for the palate from the pear of two or three centuries ago.

So long ago as the earliest time of the Romans the pear was considerably cultivated. It was common in Syria, Egypt and Greece, and from the latter countries was transplanted into Italy, and from there into Germany and Holland and eventually into the United States.—New York News.

The First Auto in America

It was Constructed in 1884 by a Chicago Man.

The first automobile used in America was constructed by a Chicago man. In 1884 Edwin F. Brown, then a well-known bicycle rider, evolved the idea of a steam-propelled vehicle for use on ordinary roads. His first machine was built on the running gear of an old-style tandem tricycle, with a boiler in front. He managed to operate it with some success and was encouraged to undertake an improvement.

After a season of experiment he produced a second vehicle on totally different lines, it having four wheels instead of three, and with the weight hung below the wheel shafts. This was operated successfully, but no great speed could be attained, as the boiler was still mounted in front and the escaping smoke and steam blew directly into the face of the driver, blinding his range of vision and making it danger-

ON SPARING THE ROD.

Public Education Association Discusses the Whipping of Children.

"Is it worse to spank another woman's child than your own?" asked the President of the Public Education Association, apropos of a member's assertion that "No person has a right to whip another woman's child." A discussion on corporal punishment had been brought about by an incident related by the speaker of the day, Mrs. A. J. George, of Brookline, Mass.

Mrs. George was asked if corporal punishment is permitted in Massachusetts schools, and replied that State laws do not refer to it, every city and town making its own regulations. "In Brookline the practice was discontinued some years ago," she said, "but it has been found necessary to resume it in a slight degree." The admission created a stir, as the President, Mrs. Schuyler Van Rensselaer, had just stated that Frederick Olmsted, the landscape architect, told her that he had selected Brookline for his home, because it is "the most civilized place in America." A member was heard to remark, sotto voce: "If the cream of American civilization can't get along without whipping boys, how can New York, which is the mud, expect to do it?"

Animated arguments followed, some advocating the moderate use of the rod, and others denouncing it in any and every degree. One quoted a teacher as having told her that he had whipped a certain boy every day for six months, and the boy lived to thank him for it. Somebody asked what became of the boy, and the answer was, "He went on the police force." The President told the advocates of whipping that this horrible example should be a warning.

Mrs. George's subject was, "The Home and the School." She said that in Brookline the conditions are wholly different from those in New York, as there the best home life is represented in the schools. In all places, however, the home must seek to work with the school and to strengthen the influence of the teachers.

"No school can be higher than the average of the homes represented in it," she said. "One of the difficulties experienced by teachers is the lack of home co-operation. Sometimes this takes the form of allowing children to pursue social pleasures for which they are not old enough. The girl or boy sits up late at theatre or party, and has to work harder to keep the pace in the school, and when he or she breaks down under the strain it is called 'the result of modern education'."

Mrs. George asserted that high salaries should be paid in order to secure teachers of high culture for every grade, as the best is needed nowhere more than at the beginning of school life. She urged that no social attention should be paid to teachers by the families of pupils, as many of them come from a distance to the city and have no social ties, thus narrowing their outlook upon life.

Where the Gluepot Came In.

There was the usual collection of commercial travelers in the hotel, and the inevitable quiet man was one of them. They had been asking conundrums, many of which had been received with roars of laughter, as being particularly clever. Then the quiet man spoke:

"It is easy," he said, "to think of such riddles as, 'Why is your hat like a baby?' which contain one simile, but those with two are far more difficult. For instance:

"What are the differences between the son of a millionaire, an organ and a gluepot?"

"I give it up," said the mustard traveler presently.

"The son of a millionaire is an heir to millions, while an organ has a million airs! D'ye see?"

"But what about the gluepot?" inquired the hosiery representative.

"Oh, that's where you stick!" returned the quiet man. And the waiter smothered a guffaw behind a tray he was dusting, while the hosiery representative howled for soda water.—London answers.

Art of Blacking Shoes.

"The art of blacking a shoe is more complicated than it used to be, and the trade is not learned in a day," said the proprietor of a oobblack stand. "Anyone can black shoes, but it takes an artist to give the polish that is essential now. No less than three and frequently four or five ingredients are used on each pair of shoes. First there is the blacking, which is applied liberally. Then follows a clear colored oil, which is sprinkled from a bottle and then well rubbed in by hand.

"After this the first polishing takes place with big brushes. Next a polishing paste is smeared on with the fingers, and then the shoe is polished with bands of cotton flannel rubbed briskly over the surface. This is for calf-skin shoes.

"For enameled or patent leather shoes and for the russet or tan shoes a different preparation is used, and the skillful bootblack knows at a glance just what is most needed to give the highest lustre."—Philadelphia Record.

A Soldier's Reply.

A soldier of Marshal Saxe's army, being discovered in a theft, was condemned to be hanged. What he had stolen might be worth five shillings. The marshal, meeting them as he was being led to execution, said to him, "What a miserable fool you are, to risk your life for five shillings!" "General," replied the soldier, "I have risked it every day for my pay, five pence." This repartee saved his life.—Boys of the Empire.



CURIOUS FACTS

This notice is affixed to the church gate in a German village: "Cyclists and hens are forbidden to wander round the churchyard."

Government engineers have found that the amount of solid matter carried in suspension by the Mississippi River past Vicksburg is sufficient to make a square mile block house of earth 300 feet high. This would make a solid river of earth five feet deep and nine feet wide flowing as fast as a man can walk. It would make 25,000,000 wagon loads every year.

The following advertisement recently appeared in a London paper: "Wanted—Loan of fifty pounds for a few years by man of integrity and ability. Idle inquirers and weak-minded Christians need not apply, but persons of a philanthropic turn of mind and willing to act the part of a good Samaritan may find this a profitable investment. Apply by letter only to Aristides."

A remarkable case of a man, still living, with a bullet in his heart, was brought out in the thirty-first congress of the German Chirurgical Association, which convened last week at Berlin. After the bullet penetrated his body the wound healed quickly. Subsequently X-rays revealed the bullet lying in the left ventricle, bounding with each beat. It now causes no inconvenience.

A unique method has been adopted by the Council of Miamisburg, Ohio, to determine the speed of electric cars on its streets. The city ordinance places the maximum rate of speed at six miles per hour, and it is stated that a man who can walk at that rate has been engaged to keep watch on the cars. He walks along the track, and, if he cannot keep up with any car he reports the fact to the Council, which takes up the matter with the railway company.

There is a tree that grows in Mexico called the "chijol," or stone tree. It is of enormous proportions, both in circumference and height. It has a number of branches spreading out widely and carrying leaves of a yellowish-green color. The wood is extremely fine and easily worked in a green state. It is not given to either warping or splitting. The most remarkable thing about it is that after being cut the wood gets gradually harder, and in the course of a few years it is absolutely petrified, whether left in the open air or buried in the ground. From this timber houses can be built that would in a few years become completely fireproof, and would last as though built of stone.

Royal Confessions.

The most fascinating confession album is that possessed by the Queen of Greece. To this book nearly every crowned head in the world has contributed something, and vastly entertaining is it to read the various answers given by these august personages to the questions asked. In answer to the question, "What is your idea of happiness?" the King of Greece has wittily written, "To always have a sovereign without a crown." The question, "What is your idea of unhappiness?" has been answered by the King of Sweden as follows: "Tight boots, a corn and a heavy foot on top of it." Opposite the question, "What kind of personage do you consider the most objectionable?" his majesty King Edward VII. has written: "The most objectionable being in the world, in my opinion, is the man who will insist on pointing at you with his umbrella and shouting, 'There he is!'"

Athenian Society.

Athenian society is divided into sets, as it is everywhere; first the court set, made up of the higher officials, the members of the diplomatic corps, officers of the army and navy, rich residents, both foreign and native, who entertain extensively, and others who are honored with a personal acquaintance with the royal family. This set is more or less exclusive, and includes only a small fraction of those who are entitled to invitations to court functions. The king's balls and receptions are very much like these at the White House in Washington, and people with shabby clothes and muddy boots are often present, because their political influence if not their social position entitles them to invitations.—Chicago Record-Herald.

First Justice to Wear Gown.

"Few people, I venture to say, even in high official positions, know what justice first wore the gown in the Supreme Court of the United States," said Hannis Taylor, former Minister to Spain, who is a recognized authority among the writers of law books. "When Justice John Jay took the office he thought the members of the Supreme bench should wear a gown of some sort. Accordingly he appeared in his own academic gown, which he wore by virtue of having received a degree from the University of Dublin, or, as it was then known, 'Trinity College.' It was a tricolored gown, too. Such a garment would look peculiar now, since the black gown has been adopted."—Washington Post.

Meaning of "Infantry."

The term "infantry" was first used by the Spaniards in the wars with the Moors to designate the bodyguard of a royal prince or infant. It was extended to the entire body of foot soldiers and finally adopted throughout Europe.—Boston Globe.

CAPTURING A PYTHON.

Traveler's Tale of Methods Adopted by Moros of Mindanao.

A man who had been in the Far East tells this story of catching snakes. Says he: "The natives of one of our new colonies, the Moros of Mindanao, have a curious but effective way of capturing the huge pythons that infest the jungles and morasses of their country. Almost all the larger houses there have stone walls built about them to prevent wild animals from entering the yards to prey on the fowls or live stock belonging to the family. These same walls are also made to serve the purpose of serpent traps. A hole about fifteen inches in diameter is cut through the rough masonry near the ground. Shortly after dark the natives the sucking pigs to stakes on each side of the wall, not far from the hole. Then they go inside the house, smoke their pipes and patiently wait for something to turn up. Nor are they often disappointed. The occasional cries, and more especially the odor of the pigs attract a python from the nearby swamps. Cautiously he crawls up to the wall until he reaches the first pig outside the hole. In a twinkling he has thrown his jaws about the pig, and, struggling, the poor animal glides down the snake's body alive and whole. The serpent feels good, although the pig was not a large meal for him. So when he hears and smells another such meal on the other side of the fence, he naturally shoves his head through the hole to investigate. There is another scream and the second little pig is on its way down the snake's throat.

"Now comes the critical moment. The natives inside the house rush out, and, flashing a torch in the python's eyes, blind him long enough to slip a small leather strap over his head. The python struggles hopelessly, for each pig he has swallowed is like a knot in his body that prevents him from slipping through the hole either way. The natives soon have him securely bound by stout ropes to stakes in the ground. Then they remove his leather collar and force him to disgorge the last pig he has swallowed. The other is cut out, still alive, and neither of the pigs is much the worse for their experience. Thus the python is not only captured, but also cheated out of the meal which led him to his misfortunes."

Desirable Royal Jobs.

"One of the most desirable posts at Windsor Castle," says a correspondent of the Chicago Record-Herald, "is that of the 'king's limner,' who in ancient times decorated books and manuscripts with initial letters, and who now prepares the parchment commissions when his majesty is pleased to confer knighthood or some other honor upon one of his subjects. The man who now fills the post has extraordinary skill with the pen and the brush, and his diplomas and certificates were greatly admired for their exquisite taste and skillful execution. He receives a salary of \$2500 a year. The clockmaker at Windsor Castle receives the same compensation, and it is his business to keep all the timepieces in repair. The historiographer, who is supposed to keep a record of events, holds a hereditary office, with a salary of \$2500 a year. The master of music received \$1500 and arranges concerts for his majesty's diversion. The surveyor of pictures is paid \$1500, the librarian receives \$2500, the examiner of plays \$1000, the keeper of the swans is paid \$300, and the bargemaster, who looks after the boats used by the royal family, has a similar compensation."

A Mixed Recipe.

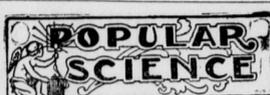
A fashionable young lady visited a cooking school the other afternoon, where her attention was equally divided between a new dress worn by an acquaintance and the directions for making a cake. Upon returning home she undertook to write down the recipe for making the cake for her mother, and the old lady was paralyzed when she read the following:

"Take two pounds of flour, three rows of plaiting down the front, the whites of two eggs cut bias, a pint of milk ruffled round the neck, half pound currants, with seven yards of head trimming, grated lemon peel with Spanish lace fichu; stir well, and add a semi-fitting paletot with visite sleeves; butter the pan with Brazilian topaz necklace, and garnish with icing and poussementarie. Bake in a moderately hot oven until the skirt is tucked from the waist down on either side, and finish with large satin rosettes."

Her mother said she wouldn't eat such a cake, and she thought these new-fangled ideas in cooking ought to be frowned down.—Michigan Badger.

Bring the Ends Together.

A certain colonel somewhere in the South (no matter where) was in the habit of telling yarns and greatly exaggerating. He had a negro servant who corroborated everything his master told. One day the Colonel had some gentlemen to dinner, and they were enjoying some fine venison very much. The Colonel said: "Yes, I went hunting the other day and saw a fine buck. I took a good sight at him and shot him through the head, and the bullet went through his hind leg." The gentlemen looked at each other a little mystified. The negro scratched his head and at last said: "Yes, indeed, gemmen, just as massa raised the gun to shoot de buck he raised his hind leg and scratch his ear, and the bullet went through the head and right through de hind leg." The gentlemen looked more satisfied. After the guests had left the negro said to his master: "Gorry mighty, massa, next time you tell one of dem yarns do get the ends closter together. I had hard work to make both ends meet."—New Orleans Times-Democrat.



The smallest known bacillus has been discovered at Buenos Ayres. It is only just discernible when magnified 1500 times. It causes a cattle disease known as manqua.

The common superstition that there is little or no twilight in the tropics has been disproved by S. I. Bailey, after carefully verified observation and experiment. He reports a twilight at Vinocoya to be an hour and twelve minutes long.

A comparison has recently been made of the power of the lights in French lighthouses at various periods in the last thirty years. In 1873, when only oil lights were used, the highest power was equal to 54,000 candles. In 1883, when the electric light was introduced, the power rose to a maximum of 820,000 candles. Since then frequent improvements have been made in the electric light until, at present, the most powerful lighthouses project an illumination nearly equal to 3,000,000 candles.

Anthropologists have remarked that taking aim is a human characteristic which even the anthropoid apes cannot be said to share. Apes and monkeys frequently throw nuts and sticks, sometimes with unpleasant consequences to others, but they show little or no ability to take accurate aim. The baboon is said to excel somewhat in this regard, but still he would never pass for a marksman. The accuracy of eye and judgment of direction and distance which are involved in real aiming have only been developed by man, and are among the tokens of his intellectual superiority.

Dr. F. H. Knowlton, of the United States National Museum, says that perhaps the longest straightaway flight made by birds in their migrations is accomplished by some of the shore and water birds that nest in the islands of Bering Sea and spend the winter at Hawaii and Fanning Island, 2200 miles away. As some of these birds live entirely on the shore, and are probably unable to rest on the surface of water, they must, says Dr. Knowlton, accomplish the whole distance in a single flight. Yet, although there are no landmarks for them upon their long journey over a waste of waters, they make their way to their destination "with the precision of a rifle shot."

It has been the custom lately to fasten wire ropes and chains at perilous places on the Alps to assist climbers. Some of these are to be seen on the upper tower of the Matterhorn, where the climbing is most dangerous. But last summer's experiences have indicated an unforeseen peril arising in unsettled weather from the wires and chains themselves. A number of tourists were severely shocked and stunned by charges of electricity passing through the safety guards, which act as lightning conductors. Any one who has been on the Matterhorn can easily understand how a shock of that kind, without being severe enough in itself to produce fatal results, cause a terrible disaster.

Labial Movement in Reading.

"Either I am becoming more observing as I grow older or else there are many more things to observe," said the man with the red moustache. "At any rate, I see a good deal more nowadays than I used to. For instance, it was only recently that I noticed how very many people move their lips reading to themselves. When I was a youngster I was taught that the labial movement was peculiar to the poorly educated, who could make no sense out of what they were reading unless they pronounced each word. But the appearance of many of the people whose lips are constantly on the go while reading tends to refute that theory. Certainly not half the street car passengers whom I see poring over their newspapers night and morning are in any wise illiterate, yet fully that proportion move their lips in silent pronunciation.

"Several suggestions have been offered in explanation of that fact. One is that the manifold noises of the street so confuse the mind that in order to concentrate his thoughts upon the printed page it becomes necessary for the reader to give form to the words. Another person advances the opinion that as a large percentage of our population is foreign born they are not sufficiently familiar with the English language to read it without a tussle, hence the visible if not audible expression of their thoughts. I doubt if either of these guesses hits the mark. If it does not, and anybody else has a more plausible theory on tap, I wish he would stand up and make it known."—New York Times.

Stamps Sent From All Lands.

In the Postoffice Department there is a book that is always kept under lock and key. It is one of the most treasured articles in the department. The book contains a set of postage stamps of every country in the world. These stamps come from Berne, Switzerland. Seven hundred and fifty sets of each United States postage issue are also distributed from that point. Each country comprising the International Postal Union when a new issue of stamps is out sends a certain number of sets to Berne. The officials at that point then distribute the stamps to the different postoffice departments throughout the world.—Washington Star.