

STAR-EYED EGYPTIANS.

Their Social Condition Is Far from Envyable in These Decadent Days.

The condition of the women in Egypt has greatly changed since the old days when Cleopatra reigned supreme upon the Nile and had the whole world at her feet.

"Most of the people in Egypt," says Mrs. Buchanan, "are of the Mohammedan faith, and are yet controlled in a large measure by the ruling hand of the Turkish empire."

OILS FROM THE WHALE.

Excellent Qualities Which Still Make a Demand for Them for Certain Purposes.

"Whale oil," said a dealer in oils to a New York Sun man lately, "is to some extent used as a lubricating oil, but not to a very large extent; when used for lubricating purposes it is more often compounded with mineral oils which are cheaper."

"There is an oil produced from some part of the head of the whale that is much more costly than either whale or sperm oil. It sells, in fact, for as much as ten dollars a gallon."

"I should think your mother would punish you for that," said the neighbor's little girl to the one who had disobeyed.

"All of us fellows in the graduating class," said the new-fledged medico, "have decided to grow a beard."

A SUBJECT OF RIDICULE.

Van Silkerson Burned His Mustache and Was Made the Mark of Jokers.

In relighting the ash of a cigar the other evening Van Silkerson burnt one side of his flowing mustache so seriously that he was compelled to stop on his way to the office on the following morning and have the hirsute ornament shaved off.

"Hey, Van, when's the fight coming off, anyhow?" "What you trying to do, Silky, look like a Gibson man?"

"Don't you let these people bother you, Van, they're jealous because they haven't got regular features!"

"Hey, Van, why didn't you get your hair clipped, too? What's the use of piling it?"

"How Van Silkerson ever contrived to get through the day without carnage is still a mystery to him. He closed up his desk with a sigh of relief, and thought of his home yearningly."

GOOD USES FOR DEAD MEN.

Apt Replies of Soldiers to the Questions of Their Commanding Officers.

"The good old sappers of the British army were admirable fellows, as brave as lions, though sometimes rather stupid. It was told how a certain peninsula general rode down to some sappers who were digging trenches, and, fixing upon one of them, commenced to question him on his duties."

"I don't see what criticism he could well have made to such eminently practical suggestions," I said, laughing.

An Ideal Husband. An ideal husband may not always be in position to afford porterhouse steak, but he never lets his wife put on her rubbers in public without assistance.

MAINE'S SPECTER MOOSE.

An Unmatched Giant of the Woods That Makes Its Appearance at Rare Intervals.

The enormous moose that has been the wonder of the sportsmen in northern Maine since 1891 has again been seen, and this time under rather different circumstances from ever before.

It was in 1891 that this moose was first seen in Maine, by Clarence Duffy, of Oldtown, a guide who was cruising around Lobster lake.

Words, like men, have histories, while others embody history. To the latter class belongs the word "rhapsody."

Most of us are fond of venison—that is to say, deer's flesh. Formerly, however, being used for any fresh hunted—that is, meat of venery.

The average weight of moose shot in Maine is from 800 to 900 pounds, with antlers spreading from 4 to 4 1/2 feet, and rarely having more than 8 to 12 points on a side.

Made Desolate by Winds. Between Formosa and the coast of China is a group of 21 islands, interspersed with innumerable reefs and ledges, which are called the Pescadore islands.

He Had It. "The fact is," said the fat man, "I married because I was lonely as much as for any other reason."

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

"Why do you name your paper China Egg?" "It can't be beaten."

"Faw, what is stage fright?" asked the boy, opening his bag of popcorn.

Gray—"They are beginning to have typewriters on the stage. Black—I know, but it's a piece of affection. No typewriter that ever was invented can begin to write as rapidly as the average actor with the common everyday pen."

WORDS HAVE A BEGINNING.

How Some Commonly Used Phrases Came into the English Language.

Words, like men, have histories, while others embody history. To the latter class belongs the word "rhapsody."

It must have been upsetting in those days to discover that the lords and gentlemen thought to be stanchest for the old order had gone over to the invading king.

Another wonderfully expressive phrase—"to run riot"—also comes from the hunting field.

The familiar phrase "on the pad," as signifying going hither and yon, also throws back to Reynard, the fox.

Though the bankrupt is so common among us nowadays, few know whence he derived his unenviable cognomen. It is among the most interesting of words with histories.

When it comes to wrestling with his first mustache, the youth is apt to get it down.—Chicago Daily News.

SLUMP IN BRITISH BUTTONS.

London Toy Merchants Complain of Too Much War for Their Business.

In anticipation of the demand which will set in with the coming of Santa Claus, manufacturers of toys in Germany and France are engaged in turning out novelties for the Christmas season.

"In spite of these evidences of waning popularity, however, I still think that the war toy will figure largely this Christmas, and I know that awards, guns, helmets and soldiers are asked for in such quantities that manufacturers are having to refuse further orders."

The ingenious mechanical toy will, I think, fall off in the market for the coming season, but dolls, especially the 'coon' ones, will be unprecedently brisk.

"Among the novelties will be found the 'choral top,' which on being set going plays a variety of melodies. Magic lanterns, with war slides, will be in great favor, and for those who can afford a high-class toy here is the smoking 'coon' gentleman who puffs most naturally at his cigarette."

NOT FOOLED BY SALTING.

The Old-Fashioned Method of Swindling in Mine Sales Is Now of No Avail.

The scientific prospector of to-day goes armed with accurate knowledge which enables him to ascertain the relative value of mines. To him the old-fashioned deception of "salting mines" has no terrors.

The modern mining expert would smile at such a simple salting method today and the fraud would be detected in a short time.

A few swindling cases like this served to put the prospectors on their guard and they demanded to see and test more of the dirt than that found on the surface.

Sheep-Guarding Birds. The yakamik, a species of crane, is said to be one of the most intelligent birds known.

His First Mustache. When it comes to wrestling with his first mustache, the youth is apt to get it down.—Chicago Daily News.

ADMISSION TO WEST POINT.

Superintendent Recommends That Standard of Educational Requirements Be Raised.

Col. A. L. Mills, superintendent of the military academy at West Point, has made his annual report to the adjutant general.

He devotes the greater part of his report to an earnest plea for the elevation of the standard of admission to West Point, to which end he suggests that the secretary of war be empowered to prescribe these requirements.

AMERICAN COAL IN LEAD.

Col. W. P. Reed Says Countries of Europe Must Look to This Country for Future Supplies.

Col. W. P. Reed has returned to Chicago from a two month's visit to Europe, confident that the nations of the old world will have to look to this country more and more for their coal supplies.

"There is no doubt that American coal is to be in demand increasing demand in Europe," he said.

WEDDED A SECOND TIME.

Aged Couple Separated for Thirty Years Reunited—A Romantic Affair.

A Kansas City special to a Toledo (O.) paper says: "Matthias Stephan, aged 55 years, of Toledo, and Mary Stephan, aged 55 years, of this city, were married the other day by Probate Judge Snyder, of Kansas City, Kan., in his office in the courthouse."

There is an interesting bit of romance connected with the marriage of this aged couple. The union makes the second time that their lives have been linked together as man and wife, their first wedding taking place in Ohio 33 years ago.

NEW SEA SERPENT IN JAPAN.

One Twenty-Three Feet Long Caught at a Depth of 250 Fathoms.

A new sea serpent has been discovered on the coast of Japan, 100 miles from Tokyo. It is classed by scientists as a coelenterate and one of the most gigantic ever seen.

Emperor William has discharged his chancellor, saying the latter is too old for the job. On the other hand, says the Chicago Times-Herald, there are those who think Germany would make a hit by letting William go on account of his perennial youth.