

FISH IN THE SNOWBANKS.

Most Unique But Welcome Sort of a Snowfall Among Norwegian Mountaineers.

A snow avalanche with very unusual results is reported from Norway. It gave the people of Christiania something to talk about for a week. The unique phenomenon occurred among the low mountains back of the capital on March 13. There had been an extraordinary fall of snow, and then came a big thaw, which melted a great deal of the ice in the little Littlefald river.

In the night a large mass of snow on the hills on one side of the stream slipped from the slopes and glided with great velocity down into the river. The face of the avalanche was about a mile in length, and for that distance it slid into the river, not sharing the river bed with the water, but violently ejecting the stream and the fish living in it.

NOT A FAIR TEST.

For the Victim of Rabies Died from the Treatment on the Fifth Day.

They were talking about hydrophobia and rabies. One of the party was a well-known Philadelphia physician, says the Chicago Evening News. He listened quietly to the quasi-scientific theories of the others, and when they had quite finished, one of them said:

"What have you got to say about it, doctor?"

"Well," he said, thoughtfully, "I would not exactly like to say what my opinion is. I might be misreported; but I will tell you, if you like, how the disease was treated 100 or 200 years ago. At that time hydrophobia, in common with every other obscure disease, was thought to be the work of a devil, and all sorts of queer tricks were resorted to to drive him out. There is on record a case which occurred at Colchester, in England. It was a woman who had been bitten by a rabid dog. The cure was killed, of course, and the treatment of the woman was in keeping with the period. She was placed in a bath of tepid water up to her neck and ducked seven times, each time being kept under so long as she could hold her breath. This was to be repeated every seven hours for seven days, she being fed on milk only during the treatment. Unfortunately, she died on the fifth day, but the doctor gravely remarked that it was a pity, for if she had held out two days longer she would have been cured. And that is probably true."

AN IVORY WAREHOUSE.

It is One of the Most Interesting Buildings on the Great London Docks.

One of the most interesting warehouses at the London docks is that which contains ivory. Here the ivory is collected for the great sales by auction which take place quarterly, says the Golden Penny. These constitute the largest ivory sales in the world, some 90 tons being sold at each sale, at a rough aggregate of \$500,000. The world's annual consumption of ivory is estimated at something like 2,500,000 pounds, valued at \$4,500,000, and to supply this amount 70,000 elephants must be killed. The consumption in Sheffield alone requires the annual slaughter of 12,000 animals. Africa supplies the greatest bulk of ivory, and it forms one of the principal exports of the Zanzibar merchants. One firm some years ago sent away in one year as many as 6,000 tons. The supply of ivory is not what it once was, and it seems as if the wild elephants, like the American bison, must eventually be exterminated. The Indian wild elephant has become so scarce of late that India is now obliged to import a considerable quantity of ivory, indeed, the demand for ivory is constantly increasing, and as the supply becomes less and less the price of ivory rises proportionately. A vast amount of fossil ivory is exported from eastern Siberia to various countries, chiefly to the continent, where it is more highly esteemed than in England.

No Cure for Seasickness.

Notice should be taken of the efforts which have from time to time been made by the marine architect to mitigate the miseries of seasickness, writes Clark Russell, in the Pall Mall Gazette. He has doubled his ship, he has slung his ship as in a cradle. To no purpose. The life of the channel steward remains an arduous one. Seasickness is not to be considered by the shipwright. If it was merely the rolling motion that creates nausea, then a hammock or a cot would be as sure a relief as a twin ship or a cradle-hung saloon. Seasickness is caused by the several motions of the sea combined, and the worst of these movements the builder cannot possibly deal with—I mean the trough into which the ship falls, and the liquid acclivity to whose frothing head she leaps.

Queer Flag of Truce.

A Kansas soldier who was present at the capture of Matlow says that the flag of truce displayed by the natives who remained in the town when the American troops advanced was a pair of white trousers.

WHAT HE WAS THINKING.

When the Dull Witness Made Up His Mind to Speak the Lawyer Suffered.

A member of the Louisville bar named Simmondson, who was in the habit of intimidating the opposing witnesses, was once engaged in the trial of a case involving the title to some farm lands, and a number of countrymen were called to testify on the other side. When Simmondson came to cross-examine, says the Denver Post, he harassed them in every imaginable manner, and whenever they would show signs of confusion would roar out: "What are you hesitating for? Are you afraid you may tell a lie?" If the victim replied "No," Simmondson would retort: "I was sure you didn't mind a little thing like that; and if the answer was 'Yes,' he would say, with a sneer: "Aha, I thought so."

The last witness he took in hand was a tall, lank farmer, with a thoughtful eye. He had watched the baiting of his neighbors in dead silence, and took the stand with perfect composure. Simmondson evidently set him down as a lout, and when the witness hesitated over some question a moment later, he fired his favorite shot: "What are you studying about?" he bellowed, "fraid of telling a lie, too, I suppose?" Without any apparent haste the countryman picked up a massive inkstand and hurled it straight at Simmondson's head, catching him on the bridge of the nose and knocking him senseless. "That's what I was studyin' about," he drawled, in the moment of dead silence that followed the act. Needless to say, a tremendous hubbub ensued, but everybody was secretly pleased, and while the judge fined the farmer heavily for contempt, he subsequently remitted the sentence.

ANTISEPTIC BARBERY.

Fornate Aldehyde Employed as a Disinfectant with Complete Success by a French Savant.

To render inoffensive the instruments used by hairdressers is an aim most desirable to be attained in order to prevent the spread of certain complaints. But although washing the hands before and after each operation is easy and should be insisted on, and the fumigation of the linen used is comparatively easy, it is another question when it comes to disinfecting scissors, clippers, razors, combs or brushes, says the Chicago Times-Herald.

The various methods in use in surgical practices for sterilization cannot generally be employed by hairdressers, dry heat, the autoclave and antiseptics deteriorating their instruments. Petroleum, which is commonly used, does not destroy germs or parasites except when crude, and the commercial oil is refined and deodorized.

M. Sabrazes, of Bordeaux, having devoted his attention to the disinfection of barbers' implements, tried vapor of formic aldehyde as obtained from the paraformic pastilles of commerce when heated over a spirit lamp. Success was complete, whether in regard to brushes or other implements taken from a barber's shop without preliminary cleansing. In other words, every instrument proved thoroughly sterile, whereas otherwise they always yield abundant cultures when a few fragments of desquamation or hairs are taken from the soiled instrument and cultivated.

TEN ORANGES FOR A CENT.

That is the Price at Which They Can Be Bought in Porto Rico.

The man who had recently returned from Porto Rico was walking through a down-town street with a friend, when the latter stopped at an Italian's fruit stand and inquired the price of oranges. The veteran from the tropics sniffed disdainfully at the rather unattractive-looking fruit, and whistled in amazement when the dealer named a pretty high price, says the New York Tribune.

THE DOSSY AND THE MONGOOSE ARE FOES OF PLAYING JOKES ON THEIR OWNERS.

The dossy, or "rock rabbit," is a new pet which has been brought from South Africa, and he is a very nice little fellow, but he has one little trick that nervous old ladies do not like. He waits till he finds his master or a friendly visitor asleep or reading or writing, and then he creeps as quietly as he can jump, or when the busy person is not looking for anything of the kind he springs square on that person's lap or knee, or on the table beside him, flying off again, light as a bird, and is out of the room while the astonished person is having four kinds of fits.

FEMININE PIONEERS OF LONG AGO.

A copy of a curious newspaper has been found in the French national archives, says Literature. It is dated January 4, 1808, and is called 'l'Attheene des Dames. The articles are evidently written by women and the object of the paper seems to have been an attempt to place women on an equal footing with men. The feminine pioneers of 1808 were evidently nearly 100 years ahead of their times. La Fronde, the Parisian newspaper written, printed and published by women, is now in its third year and appears to be successful, while only one copy of l'Attheene des Dames is to be found.

PEOPLE WHO SAY "SMART."

The French are very proud of having discovered the word "smart," which they apply in every sort of incongruous way, using it 20 times per day. The word "smart" has even crossed the Pyrenees, only altering its complexion in transit. A tourist the other day saw a gaudy parasol in a shop window of the Rambla at Barcelona, and on it was a huge ticket inscribed in glaring capitals: "Smart!!!!" This was a canine variation.

ANIMAL HEAD FORMS.

They Are Made in Great Variety and Sold in Large Numbers in This Country.

There are made for furriers and for other uses great numbers of animal head forms, these being reproductions, in a composition used for the purpose or in papier-mache, of the heads of various animals, including squirrels, foxes, wolves, bears, tigers and almost, if not indeed, every known kind of animal, large and small, says the New York Sun.

Animal head forms are commonly made with the mouth open, showing the inside of the jaws and the tongue and the teeth. These parts, in heads of all sizes and whatever the animals may be, are finished and colored by the head-form manufacturer. The eyes are commonly put in by the furriers and others using the head forms when the forms are covered, though they are sometimes put in by the head-form manufacturer. There are made in artificial eyes reproductions from nature of the eyes of practically all known animals and birds. Such eyes are sold and used in the aggregate in enormous numbers.

The smaller animal head forms are sold by the gross; big ones, like bears and tigers, by the dozen. Taking them all together, large and small, the number of animal head forms used is very large, amounting in this country to millions annually. The smaller heads are produced at very small cost. Formerly the animal head forms used in this country were imported from Germany and England. Now they are made here, and some American head forms are exported.

WHERE ICE IS WELCOME.

Gen. Funston Longed to Cut the Ice of Success and Has at Last Found It.

In connection with the possibility of Gen. Funston having a political ambition, J. W. Glead tells a story which gives much insight into the character of the man, says the Kansas City Journal.

Glead was in New York on the day Funston sailed away to join the insurgent forces in Cuba, and accompanied him to the steamer to say good-by. While the pair were talking at the steamer landing, Funston spoke of his probable future, and said:

"Willis, I have no ambition to get rich. I wouldn't get into politics for anything. I am afraid I have no settled aim or clearly seen ambition. But, nevertheless, I want to keep some ice in the world, and I intend to keep hustling until my time comes."

This yearning to cut ice has been manifest in all the movements of the restless, tireless, always moving young Kansas soldier. He has searched for his opportunity from the Arctic to the equator. Never staying anywhere long, he has dropped one thing after another in a fashion that made his friends fear he was a changeling and unstable.

TRICKY PETS.

The Dossy and the Mongoose Are Foes of Playing Jokes on Their Owners.

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IT SURPRISED HIM.

The Professor Expected Death. But Heard Smooth Language from the Indian.

The late Prof. Marsh loved to tell of an adventure which once befell him while a member of a party of fossil hunters in the Indian country, says Forest and Stream.

The whole party realized that they were in a dangerous country, and all hands were constantly on the watch for enemies, and were careful not to wander far from the command; or if two or three fossil gatherers did go off from the main body they took with them a number of soldiers to stand guard while they worked.

One day Prof. Marsh was hard at work on his knees in the bottom of the narrow ravine digging away the soil from a bone which stuck out of the bank. He was entirely absorbed in his task and noticed nothing of what was going on about him until the brilliant sunlight was cut off by a dark shadow, and he looked up to see standing above him a grim Indian warrior holding his rifle ready.

The professor's heart leaped into his throat. He forgot where he was. He strove to utter a propitiatory "How," but his dry lips refused to form the word, and he could only swallow, trying to get rid of the lump in his throat. Suddenly the savage bent toward him and spoke:

"Have I the honor of addressing Prof. Othuel Charles Marsh, the eminent paleontologist of Yale college?" he inquired.

The revulsion of feeling was almost too much for the professor, who was now even less able to speak than he had been before.

It developed that the Indian as a small boy had been sent east, Christianized, educated, taught the element of theology and sent back to the west to civilize his tribe.

SUCCESS IN LIFE.

It Is Not the Job, But the Man—There Are Some Possibilities in Everything.

"We are forever going to begin work in earnest to-morrow," said Mr. Staybolt, "and we are never satisfied with the job we've got, and we perform the labor involved in it in only a half-hearted manner, but we are going to work in dead earnest when we get a job to suit us, says the Chicago Tribune.

"The fact is that to-morrow, when we get to it, will be to us as to-day is to us now. We shan't for any more like work; and that other job, when we come in actual contact with it and see it close at hand, won't suit us any better than the one we've got now does."

"The truth is that we are dawdlers and shy of work and trying to get along just as easy as we can. We hate to pitch in and go at things."

"The time for us to work is now, not to-morrow, and the job for us to collar is the one we've got. Round that up in style, do the work completely and thoroughly, and you'll be astonished to find how you'll bring it out and what chances there are in it; and everybody that knows about your work, or is in any way concerned or affected by it, as it is done well or ill, will be delighted to see it well done—everybody likes to see a job, whatever it is, well done—and pleased with the doer; and there's the money in it every time."

GENERALLY SUPERIOR.

That is What is Said of the Women Who Really Refuse to Marry.

Generally speaking women who belong to this class are the best of their sex. Some people think they prefer single blessedness because they have a "mission" which calls them to some useful work or other. No doubt many of them employ their time with great benefit to their fellow-creatures; still, we think they would have been willing to marry had they met one whom they could love. Either they are faithful to the memory of the past of the man whom they could never marry, and being women of the utmost honor and rectitude, they prefer "old maidism" to marry for the sake of marrying. Says a dear old lady of this type: "No! I never had a love story," she said to us. "One or two men have asked me, but I never yet saw 'him' whom I could have loved." Dr. Talmage says: "Two cradles, each with its tiny occupant, commence rocking; one may be thousands of miles from the other. Through the long years those cradles are rocking toward each other; when they meet there is a marriage made in Heaven. But maybe one occupant dies, and then? Well! We have the woman who refuses to marry."

PLAGIARIST AND SOLDIER.

Toulouse has been startled by an army officer committing suicide on account of plagiarism. Capt. Cassagnade sent in a poem to the Floral Games, which received a minor prize and was printed with the other prize pieces. A lyes professor accidentally opened the book and recognized the poem as an already published production of his own, with the exception of a dozen lines. He informed the prize committee of the plagiarism and the captain was asked for an explanation, whereupon he shot himself. The committee went so far as to state that if it had not been for the captain's own admission the poem would have received the first prize.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S EYES.

Queen Victoria's first trouble with her eyes came on long before she ascended the throne. As a girl she was quite nearsighted, and it was at one time feared she would have to wear glasses all her life.

ROMANCE OF A COIN.

Chicago Man's Souvenir, Given to His Sweetheart in '62, Comes Back.

Thirty-seven years ago Maj. S. Richardson, of Rosalia, in Woodlawn, enlisted in the confederate army. One day lately came a strange sequel to the romance of his enlistment. Maj. Richardson is a southerner, and when he donned the gray uniform he parted from a southern girl who was his sweetheart, says the Chicago Inter Ocean.

"Give me some trinket for a keepsake," he asked her. She agreed to give him a keepsake if he would give one to her. Womanlike, she asked for a gilt insignia in his coat collar, which designated the young soldier's rank.

"No, I can't give you that," he replied, "but I'll make you a present of a 25-cent piece with my name stamped upon it."

The coin he gave her was dated 1844, and across one side was engraved "S. Richardson." From that day to this the major has never heard from his southern sweetheart. He came north after the war, and is now living in Rosalia court. A few days ago Maj. Richardson had a note from a bank in the city saying that there was a coin there with his name on it. Maj. Richardson came downtown post haste. The coin was dated 1844. It was the keepsake he gave his sweetheart 37 years ago. Maj. Richardson is married, and has several grandchildren.

SOAP SPOILS BEER.

Two Ounces of It Will Spoilly Ruin a Million Dollars' Worth of Lager.

"Do you know that \$1,000,000 worth of beer could be utterly spoiled by two ounces of soap?" said a Madison avenue saloonist to a Cincinnati Enquirer man. "Well, it's a fact. A little pellet of soap—any kind of soap—dropped into a cask containing hundreds of gallons would knock the life out of it quicker than you could say Jack Robinson. The lye and the grease in the soap simply stops the fermentation of the beer, and it loses its effervescence at once. Some years ago a prominent brewing company of this town had 10,000 gallons of a particularly fine brew stored in its cellars. One day a member of the firm tapped one of the casks, and subsequently discovered that they had 10,000 gallons of fluid that wasn't worth as much as so much water. Every gallon of it was as lifeless as canal aqua pura. A brewmaster who had a short time previous lost his position with the firm was suspected of the job, in revenge for his dismissal, but the brewing company had no proof, and besides, the man might have been innocent. But there was every evidence that soap had been used."

HER HAND IS REBELLIOUS.

It Writes for Its Owner, But Not Exactly What She Means to Express.

"I would like to speak to your consulting librarian," said an anxious-looking woman to an attendant at the public library one day lately, says the Chicago Inter Ocean.

She was informed that all of the employees are "consulting librarians," and she explained her troubles.

BLEACHING A NEGRO.

Strange Story from Vienna of the Effect of Electricity Upon a Black Skin.

Two years ago, according to the Vienna Fremdenblatt, a Viennese merchant brought back from a business trip in Africa a Soudanese negro 19 years old, named Ibaul Lacho. Ibaul soon learned the ways of Vienna, beginning with the German language, astonishing the boulevardiers with elegant costumes and finally acquiring certain fashionable nervous disorders. These a famous neuropathic specialist subjected to electrical treatment.

Strange to say, Ibaul began to grow white, gradually passing through the coffee-and-milk stages, until he became in complexion Caucasian, though the shape of his face remained unchanged. Ibaul's doctor thinks that the black pigment in the boy's skin was gradually disintegrated and washed out, as it were, by the electrical current. The chief coloring matter, melanin, or pigmentum nigrum, found in the eye, hair, and skin of the negro, contains iron and strongly reacts upon electrical application.

AMERICAN PHYSICIANS WILL HARDLY KNOW HOW SERIOUSLY TO TAKE THIS REPORT.

It is well known, however, that negroes are much more susceptible to the action of electricity than white men. There have been several cases of the severe burning of negroes by the application of the X-ray, usually harmless to white skins. It is now generally considered dangerous to X-ray a black man.

GERMAN SOLDIERS' TOOTHBRUSH DRILL.

The German military Medical Magazine pleads in the interests of the community for a more careful supervision of the teeth of soldiers. A military doctor has collected material from his own regiment, and finds that 1,000 men have among them 4,650 decayed teeth. Only 264 men were found with all their teeth intact. The use of the toothbrush is one of the duties of every soldier, but, as this officer maintains, the toothbrush is employed for any purpose except to keep the teeth clean. He therefore suggests that superior officers should pay more attention to this point, and insist on the non-coma, seeing that the toothbrushes are used for their destined purpose. He further proposes that a certain number of young dentists who are serving their year should be supplied with instruments and look after their comrades' teeth.

LEOPARDS.

Though the leopard will sometimes, as all readers of Mr. Selous' books know, break into a hut and kill a man at night, it is usually very much afraid of him by day. A noted hunter has himself more than once beaten a leopard to death with his stirrup when he had no other weapon handy.

VALUABLE CARGO OF RUBBER.

Recently a ship of only 2,500 tons carried from Para, Brazil, to New York, a cargo of rubber which was insured for \$3,000,000.

FIJIS ALL CHRISTIANIZED NOW.

Fifty years ago there was not a Christian on the Fiji islands; now there is not a heathen.

CRUSHED A DIVING BELL.

The Tremendous Water Pressure at Great Depths Shown by an Odd Accident.

A crushed mass of iron in a Pittsburgh scrapyard demonstrates the tremendous pressure of water at a great depth, says the New York World.

It was constructed for a diving bell for use in Lake Michigan. As originally constructed it was about six feet square and tapered slightly at both ends. The material was phosphor bronze, more than half an inch thick. Each plate was cast with a flange, and they were bolted together, the bolts being placed as closely as was consistent with strength. The side plates were further strengthened by iron ribs an inch thick and two inches wide.

In fact, the entire structure was strongly braced. The windows to be used as outlooks by the divers were three inches square, fortified with iron bars and set with glass plates an inch thick. The weight of the bell was 23,000 pounds.

When completed it was sent to Milwaukee and towed out into the lake about 12 miles, where there was over 200 feet of water, and was sent down for a test. The manufacturer was so confident of the strength of the bell that he wanted to go down in it.

A CRAB FAMINE.

An Unexpected Scarcity Causes a Rise of Three Hundred Per Cent. in Price.

The prices of crabs have risen 300 per cent. in the east. During an ordinary season the price per dozen is in the neighborhood of 25 cents. This year crabs bring from 60 to 75 cents per dozen. From one dollar a barrel the price has soared to three dollars, four dollars, and even five dollars. As a usual thing New Yorkers consume about 25 barrels of crabs each day. For the past few months, since the severe cold weather of the winter, the leaders have been compelled to be contented with whatever they could get. Some days not more than four barrels would be received. The supply has varied from that amount to 15 barrels. The famine is due to the severe cold weather of last winter. It usually occurs that after exceeding cold weather the supply of shell fish becomes scant. Five or six months' time is required to get the sources of supply back to their normal producing condition. The very cold weather of last winter had the effect of driving the crabs to hibernate in the mud and to seek deeper and warmer water. The hibernating crabs have not yet made their way out of the mud, and it will remain for the next change of tide to uncover them. During the winter months the crab supply is received from Norfolk, a few from Annapolis and from the lower points on the Chesapeake bay. In summer the Potomac river supplies the crabs used in the city.