

CONQUERING A LANGUAGE

Louis Agassiz Learned Enough English to Lecture While Crossing the Atlantic Ocean.

The death of Prof. Alexander Agassiz last spring called to mind many of the incidents connected with the life of the great naturalist.

The first thing necessary in coming to the United States was to master English sufficiently to speak in public.

During the long journey across the Atlantic in 1846 Agassiz went to work in earnest to master the new language.

His great memory helped him. Soon he had a sufficient number of words and sentences to allow him to speak in public.

BUCKED INTO POPULARITY

Story of the First Appearance of Harry Lauder Before a London Audience.

When Harry Lauder sailed some time ago on the Manhattan after a long stage run in the states, an English officer told this story of him—a story Lauder does not particularly like to have repeated.

The secret lies in forcing enough oxygen into the jars to keep the fish alive. The jars placed on the Kaiser will each be half full of water.

Honor Your Business. It is surprising how many men there are who do not desire their sons or anyone else to adopt their calling.

The Mandy Woman. Given a water color box and an outfit of stencil dyes and the faded colors of the wardrobe and household generally may be restored by an amateur.

For Easy Pronunciation. A correspondent of the London Times, convinced that we cannot go on indefinitely talking about "aviators" or "aeronautes," suggests "airmen," on the analogy of "seamen."

The Fear. "I'm a little bit worried about the way my husband spends his evenings," said the lady from Illinois.

Commercial Mausoleum. A company has been formed in Cincinnati to erect and rent a mausoleum. This is to be a large building where bodies may be taken by survivors who own no burial plot and who have no desire to buy one.

The Difference. "A woman likes to describe to her husband the pretty things she sees in the street."

Safe. "The examiner for life insurance asked me what I considered a funny question. He asked me how long I had been married, and when I told him three months he asked whether I kept a cook or a maid."

IGNORANCE OF OUR BANKERS

It Has Resulted in the Embezzlement of \$28,000,000 in the Last Five Years.

"In the last five years \$28,000,000 have been embezzled from the banks and trust companies of the United States."

The speaker was H. C. Dalton, a capitalist of San Francisco. He resumed:

"The loss of this vast sum is due to the ignorance of our bankers. They don't employ the checks and safeguards in use in Europe. They seem, in fact, as ignorant of the value of these checks and safeguards as Bill Smith was ignorant of medicine."

"Bill Smith met a friend in a saloon.

"Hello, Joe!" he said. "Got the trouble? You're lookin' down in the mouth."

"Trouble? Gee, I'm up to me chin in trouble," Joe answered.

"How so, old man. How so?" said Bill.

"Oh, everything's goin' wrong," was the reply. "The first thing was me dog—run over by a taxicab last Monday week. Arter buryin' the dog I took 30 or 40 beers to cheer me up a bit, and the upshot was that a cop run me in. Of course, I didn't have no money to pay the fine, so I got ten days. Well, I only got out this mornin', and when I got home I found that my wife had gone off to her mother's with pertontitis."

"Got?" said Bill, in a tone of horror. "Got! That Dago fruitstand man up Snag Alley? Oh, poor old Joe! Poor feller."

OXYGEN TO KEEP FISH ALIVE

Method Adopted to Send Specimens From New York to Wealthy German Collector.

When the North German-Lloyd steamer Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse leaves port for Bremen, sixteen hermetically sealed jars, each containing live fish intended for the private aquarium of Emil Gundlacher, a wealthy resident of Gohlberg, Germany, will repose on the shelves in the purser's room.

The secret lies in forcing enough oxygen into the jars to keep the fish alive. The jars placed on the Kaiser will each be half full of water.

As the journey from this port to Bremen and then to Gohlberg is not expected to take more than eight days all told, the fish are expected to be in a lively condition when received by Herr Gundlacher.

Nowadays we use penknives principally for sharpening pencils. There was a time, however, when they were used, primarily, for doing something else.

It is a good sign when a man is proud of his work or calling. Men are frequently heard finding fault with their particular business, deeming themselves unfortunate because fastened to it by the necessity of gaining a livelihood.

Schoolgirls as Mountain Guides. One of the novel occupations that the summer tourist business has developed is that of a guide to the high points of the continental divide on the Moffat road, and this unusual avocation has been selected by Miss Grace Nelson, a Denver high school girl, who is spending the summer at Corona, at the crest of the continental divide.

Miss Nelson has explored the region around the station on the top of the divide and is daily engaged in taking parties of tourists to see the emerald lakes that lie hidden among the shadows of the giant crags and across the white fields of snow which lie unmelting beneath the glare of the July sun.

She has been able to add to her bank account during her vacation, besides paying all her expenses at the crest of the divide by this novel means of money-getting.

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EAGLE AND DOG IN BATTLE

Scotch Game Keeper Had Exciting Experience With Great Bird Before It Was Vanquished.

It is usually difficult to get into close contact with an eagle, but an incident reported by the Westminster Gazette is to a different effect. Not long ago, it seems, when a keeper was proceeding through Glen Laran, near Inverurie, to inspect the moor, his attention was attracted by the peculiar movements of a grouse.

Passing him in close proximity and flying low, the bird dropped between him and his dog, and the keeper rightly judged that it had been pursued. Glancing behind, he saw a fine specimen of the golden eagle, which, however, on being observed, swept away through the air across the Sheangan valley.

After marking the spot where the grouse had fallen, Fraser proceeded on his journey, returning through the same pass in about two hours' time. As he neared the place where he had seen the eagle, rain commenced to fall, and whistling to his dog, Fraser took shelter. He had not been sitting long before he was considerably startled by the swish of pinions coupled with an almost simultaneous sharp pain in his ankle.

A glance round showed that the eagle and his dog were in combat, and in swooping, the eagle had seized upon Fraser's leg just as the dog and bird got to close quarters. The fight was a fierce one, but ultimately victory lay with the dog. So firmly had the eagle fixed his talons into the keeper's ankle that the bird's leg had to be severed. The claws are being retained as a memento of the incident.

DID NOT KNOW "O'HOUZHAN"

Good Story About the Publisher of the New York Sun and a Distinguished Guest.

Richard V. Oulahan, publisher of the New York Sun, was a distinguished guest recently to meet a distinguished guest. Several literary men were at the dinner. The distinguished guest was late. Finally he arrived, much exhilarated, and explained volubly that he had been to a fashionable wedding where there was much punch and had lingered too long.

"There was So-and-So," began Oulahan. "Yes," said the guest, "I remember him." "And this-and-that," "I remember him perfectly," Oulahan finished the list, modestly refraining from mentioning himself. Then the distinguished guest stopped and took Oulahan by the coat lapel. "Thanks very much," he said, "but tell me, pray, where the dickens was this man O'Houzhian?"—Saturday Evening Post.

USE CAMELS IN AUSTRALIA

Adelaide Man Says They Will Solve the Transportation Problem in Some Districts.

"The camel is going to solve a very vexatious problem in some parts of Australia," said R. McK. Dougherty of Adelaide, South Australia, at the Arlington. "Much of the country is as yet undeveloped, and the means of transportation are few. Railroads eventually will traverse the entire continent, but at present there are many sections which are too sparsely settled to warrant the investment of such large sums as would be required for the construction of new lines."

"In South Australia, as well as in western Australia, there are big tracts of sandy desert, much of the same character as the African deserts. Watering places are few and far between, and horses are practically useless on these arid stretches. For some years, now, camels have been imported for use on the deserts. They are employed in the north in conveying supplies to the mines from the coast, quite as much as in our part of the country. They seem to thrive well, and they give excellent service. Several landowners have begun the business of breeding them for the market."

"Camels are employed to carry the mail from Port Augusta, a town at the end of Spencer gulf, in South Australia, back into the interior, to the Tarcoola gold fields. Eight camels are hitched to the big mail wagon by means of harness especially devised for the purpose. It took only about six months to train the animals to pull the wagon in harness. Sometimes the mail wagon carries a load of nearly two tons, but the camels have no difficulty in drawing this over the sandy tract for the 300 miles between Port Augusta and the mines."—Washington Post.

BOYS SCHOOL LIFE

That in Boarding Institution Not Natural, Says Bishop.

Not Only Do Children Suffer, but Parents Also, Who Lose Most Sacred of Parental Duties—One Who Disagrees.

London.—A striking appeal to the upper and middle classes not to send their boys to the "barrack life" of the boarding school, and so remove them from the home influence, is made by the bishop of Hereford.

The bishop was a speaker at the public morals conference, which was held at the Caxton hall, Westminster. The object of the conference has been described as "a very earnest attempt to convert Mrs. Grundy" to effect reforms in the moral education of boys and girls.

Speaking on "Education for Parenthood," the bishop said the English people of the upper and middle classes had drifted far too much into an almost exclusive preference for boarding school education.

"Boarding-school life is not a natural life for the young," he declared. "It is not only the children who suffer from being sent into barrack life, but the parents also suffer because they lose the most sacred responsibilities of parental duties."

STRAY CATS FOR COLLECTOR

Railroad Men From All Along Line Drop Deceitful Tribbles of All Kinds and Sizes.

New York.—As some men collect coins, Corsets or coupons, Benjamin Baker, assistant yard master of the Pennsylvania railroad at West Morrisville, N. J., collects cats. Announcement was made that through the unselfish devotion of countless trainmen on the line Mr. Baker is now in possession of one of the largest collections of cats extant.

Mr. Baker likes cats, but he likes them within reason. He has no use for all the cats that have been thrust upon him, and he has no place to keep them. The reason that the supply of cats in Mr. Baker's back yard is so much in excess of the demand is that almost everybody along the right of way who has a cat for which he has no further use gives the animal to a trainman with instructions to drop it gently off a train miles away and lose it. Instead of obeying these instructions the trainmen have hurried to Mr. Baker with the cats. He is now trying to find homes for his charges, but has discovered that many of the persons to whom he has applied for permission to leave a cat on trial would be as willing to have scarlet fever in the house as such a pet.

The management of a cat circus wrote to Mr. Baker not long ago expressing a willingness to take off his hands a couple of the cats that had been wished on him. Mr. Baker packed two cats out of the multitude in the back yard and sent them to the circus man. The latter either never got them or did not think much of them after he did get them, for he has never written a line in acknowledgment of Mr. Baker's kindness.

If the assistant yard master could only get a day off, if the railroad company would only lend him a couple of freight cars he could bring some of the excess to the Hida-Wing home in New York. But he cannot get the day off, say nothing of the rolling stock, and it begins to look as if he will be an island in a sea of cats for a long time.

He would not mind it so much, he thinks, if all his cats were in a good state of preservation, but many of them, either because of their own mistakes or the misbehavior of others, have lost paws, ears and tails. A grand review of the tribbles would disclose a regiment of badly damaged fellows, few of which are complete. Almost every train that rolls into West Morrisville brings additions to the home for the friendless, and unless something is done about this high cost of living thing very soon Mr. Baker will not be able to buy enough milk and catnip to go around.

Speaking at the conference on the merits of the elementary school, Dr. Macnamara said he could confidently say that it had worked nothing short of a social revolution.

It was not only in the improvement of the children themselves but he was not sure that the school had not reached even more upon the parents than upon the children.

Even the poorest and most hard-worked woman in the back street had made a struggle day in, day out to see that her Elias should have as clean a pinafore as the rest of them.

Amid laughter, Dr. Macnamara added that he could guarantee to say that many a man had held on to a staidly course because of Tommy's little framed certificate upon the mantelpiece.

Dr. James Cantle, honorable secretary of the Royal Institute of Public Health, gave some useful hints on children's clothing.

He deprecated the use of babies' "comforters" and unsuitable clothing for children, especially "Eton jackets" for growing boys.

On her way home in a Madison avenue car the slipper slipped off Miss Mildred's foot. She didn't miss it until she put her silk-stockinged toes to the cold, hard pavement. Mr. Newman saw the slipper on the car and hastened back, hoping to return it to its owner, but Miss Mildred had limped away. Next day the "Prince" advertised for the maiden whom the slipper would fit. Miss Mildred answered. And, just as in the story, too, the Prince found that the owner of the slipper was fair to gaze upon and charming in her ways. That was two months ago. The announcement of their engagement was made the other day. The slipper was a No. 2.

Six Feet of Bronchitis. New York.—The Bronx sto pythons has the bronchitis, six feet of it, and from his actions he indicated that he regarded himself as the hardest luck animal in the outfit. The soo physicians are having difficulty in treating the pythons, not knowing just how far down the reptile's throat his bronchitis tubes extend. Six feet of pythons have been wrapped in possum plaster.

BOY PUTS ATHLETICS FIRST

Youth Who Inherits Millions of St. Louis Tobaccoist Not Moved to Enthusiasm.

New York.—An heir to a \$5,000,000 fortune, George Myers Church, an eighteen-year-old schoolboy, refuses to wax enthusiastic over his great legacy, but thinks only of tennis and athletic sports.

"Toof!" replied young Church when asked what he was going to do with the \$5,000,000 left him by his grandfather, George S. Myers of St. Louis, who made a fortune in tobacco. "Ray, you should see the way I finished that game of tennis. I am not interested in the money, but I'm ready to talk about tennis, football and hockey."

Church told of his tennis game with Beals Wright at Newport, when that expert defeated him in the national singles. He spoke also of how he came out victorious in the Princeton intercollegiate singles and later in the Bronxville tournament; but to question him on monetary matters bored him dreadfully.

Church's grandfather died in Redlands, Cal., recently.

WHALES ESCORT A STEAMER

Big Catcaans Accompany Vessel for Four Hours and Give Exhibition of Spouting.

Seattle, Wash.—On her way here from San Francisco, the steamer President was escorted for four hours by a school of whales, some of which swam alongside the vessel. The President's passengers declared that the sight of the whales was well worth the entire trip.

The monsters were first sighted several miles off the port bow as the vessel steamed northward. From the promenade decks the school resembled a cluster of geysers.

For some time the whales followed the steamer at a distance, but later, attracted seemingly by the levithans that belched smoke where other monsters spout water, they drew close, and two of them swam alongside for more than an hour.

Veering suddenly, the school dropped astern and disappeared from view.

Produces Light Blue Rose. London.—The green carnation has now been rivaled by the blue rose. After years of crossing, Alfred Smith, of Downley, High Wycombe, has produced a distinct blue rose, which is exciting keen interest among the low horticulturalists. The rose is light blue, shading to a deeper blue toward the base of the petals. Mr. Smith says it is so fresh, but can be reproduced indefinitely, and the color intensified. It is not pretty, and is a poor specimen of a rose.

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