

CHAMPION SNEEZER.

A Small Sliced Kentucky Man Could Break Up a Camp Meeting with Ease.

"Did you ever know a man who could sneeze loud enough to break up a camp meeting, to stop the taking of testimony in court and cause a belching cow to stop in disgust and wonder what the noise was that was drowning its thunderous voice?" said an old fisherman one night recently.

On being informed that his sneezer was entitled to cake and all the accessories necessary to conduct an up-to-date bakery the gentleman consented to tell more of his sneezing friend, says the Louisville Post. He said: "While fishing in a mountain town in eastern Kentucky last fall I went to the village near by one rainy morning to attend circuit court. The judge was delivering an impressive charge to the grand jury, and every ear was listening to catch each word, when the stillness of the court was broken by an unearthly ker-chew, ker-chew, ker-chew, etc., etc. The judge was thunder-struck, and instantly every eye was turned toward the rear of the room, where a little unobtrusive-looking old farmer sat sneezing as if his head were coming off. The judge ordered the sheriff to bring the intruder before the bench. The offender came forward and the judge had a fine entered against the innocent cause of the disturbance.

"Two of the sneezer's friends were called, who testified to the man's good character and high standing, but said they could hear him sneeze three miles any day in the year. One said that the sneezer once broke up a camp meeting with a sneezing spell, and that he saw an enraged bovine stop a thunderous belching fit to look in wonder at the human who could make more noise than a mad bull. But the old fellow couldn't help it, and the fine was remitted."

GREAT NEWSPAPER FEAT.

Here is an Instance Proving That a Large Number of Them Can Be Believed.

"Nobody believes a word that he reads in the newspapers." This is the remark which was made by a prominent Bostonian at a public dinner a few weeks ago, says the Boston Journal. It is hardly worth noting, it so utterly lacks sense and discrimination, but a striking event has happened since it was spoken which should check similar foolish remarks from leaving the lips of those who attribute dishonest journalism to honest papers.

Commodore Dewey won a brilliant victory on the other side of the world one Sunday morning, and on Monday morning every home in America was told about it. His name was upon everybody's lips, his picture before all eyes, praises for his men in every conversation. It was all the work of "the newspapers." The president, the navy department and the board of naval strategy had not a word about the battle except what "the newspapers" told them. Monday went by, and Tuesday and Wednesday and Thursday, and at the close of the working week there was still no information except what "the newspapers" gave. Congress was delighted and the plans of the war were advanced, as the victory warranted. Yet the United States government would not have known there had been a battle but for "the newspapers." Who is it, pray, that does not believe a word he reads in the newspapers?

LENGTH OF MEXICAN WAR.

Hostilities Were Waged for Two Years Before Peace Was Declared.

The Mexican war is the best example and instruction in the time it takes to fight small wars. That took two years and the present war is moving at express speed by its side, as might be expected after 52 years, says the Philadelphia Press. Hostilities began March 18, 1846. Gen. Mejia, at Matamoras, called out the Mexican troops. A month later, April 26, 1846, Gen. Taylor called for 5,000 militia. A fortnight later, May 13, congress officially recognized the war and called for volunteers. Mexico declared war May 23, 1846. Mexico had no fleet and no army on the frontier except some desultory battalions. Monterey was not taken until four months later, September 28, and Buena Vista was not fought until eight months after the war began, February 22, 1847. After nearly one year of hostilities, in which our forces had been drilled and disciplined in camp and by months of campaigning, Gen. Scott sailed for Mexico and captured Vera Cruz, three months after hostilities began, March 29, 1847. It took 4 1/2 months, to September 14, 1847, before the City of Mexico was taken, 16 months after hostilities opened. Peace only came in two years, in June, 1848. Yet the Mexican was quoted as a great cause of quick work in fighting.

Where Does Papa Come In?

The Leipzig Tagblatt devotes a column to the marriage market. An advertisement published lately was as follows: "A son, elderly, solid and serious, is seeking for his father (a strict and solid man in a quiet business) an alone-standing widow and maiden with some ready money. Offers, with full statement of particulars, to be addressed to the son can be interviewed by appointment between the hours of nine and eleven."

Income Tax in India.

The income tax in India is levied on all incomes of £33 and upward, and there only one man in 700 comes within its scope.

IS SERVING HERSELF

England's Friendship for America Not Wholly Unselfish.

At Every Turn of Affairs It Has Been Shown That Close Association Was Mutually Advantageous.

The London correspondent of the New York Tribune says: There is a solid basis of self-interest underneath the good feeling existing between England and America. Each country, while indirectly helping the other, promotes directly its own interests and policies. This is the elementary fact which explains the rapid development of friendly relations between the two countries since the settling of the war cloud over Cuba. They have been acting together in an amiable spirit, and at every turn of affairs experience has proved that close association was mutually advantageous. Good feeling steadily increases when on each side the practical benefits of mutual good will are perceived.

The first good service which England rendered to America was that of thwarting a European combination for friendly mediation between Spain and the United States. The real object of the continental powers was to establish a European concert respecting Cuba, by which the Monroe doctrine would have been upset. Austria-Hungary initiated the intrigue; France supported it, carrying Russia; indirectly she assented to it, with the proviso that the cooperation of England should be secured, and Italy would not have remained outside the concert if it had been formed. The plot failed because Great Britain, owing largely to the good judgment of Mr. Arthur Balfour and Sir Julian Pauncefote, declined to take part in a coalition which might be embarrassing to the Washington government.

The second service which England was enabled to perform for America was that of ordering Admiral Dewey's fleet out of Hong-Kong under a strict construction of neutrality obligations. The fleet being without a naval base or coaling station made a descent upon Manila, destroyed the Spanish squadron and held the Philippines as a security for the payment of a war indemnity after the close of hostilities. Whenever England is drawn into a naval war the precedent will be of great utility to her government, and it will be a source of embarrassment to any power whom she may be fighting on the high seas.

The appearance of Admiral Camara's squadron at Port Said offered a fresh illustration of the fact that England is indirectly aiding the United States in working out her own policies with signal success. Lord Cromer is the master of Egypt, and the Suez canal is the highway to India. British interests require, first, that the canal shall remain open in peace and war to the fleets of all nations; and, second, that there shall be no coaling facilities at either end for belligerent ships.

CATTLE DYING IN AUSTRALIA.

Have of Tick Plague Has Become Ruthless to Ranchers in the Island Continent.

Advice from Australia state that the tick plague is playing terrible havoc with cattle. More widespread and ruinous is the result than will ever be told to the outside world. Like the drought last summer, which killed countless thousands of sheep by starvation, the tick plague is spreading alarmingly. Scores of inspectors have been appointed by every colony to keep traveling through wide districts, guaranteeing all affected territory, and kill diseased cattle. These inspectors are flooding the government with reports of "ticked up" districts, and the press of the country has become much alarmed and is calling for still more vigorous efforts to stamp it out. Official reports state that the tick fever is becoming more virulent and that all cattle attacked die. A large number of districts are now "ticked up," which means that no meat can be sold from them. It is a great hardship to ranchers, causing much suffering in many communities.

PATRIOTIC ENTHUSIASM.

Senator Cannon Visits Wounded Soldiers at Fort McPherson and is Surprised at Their Bravery.

Senator Cannon, of Utah, has just returned from a visit of inspection at Fort McPherson, Ga., and to Gen. Lee's army corps at Jacksonville, where he has a brother, Lieut. Col. Cannon, of Torrey's riders. Senator Cannon says: "I have never seen anything like the patriotic enthusiasm of the wounded soldiers at Fort McPherson. The wounded of the Twenty-fourth infantry, which came from Fort Douglas, Utah, and who participated in the battle of San Juan, are there, and the officers and men almost to a man are anxious and eager to get back in the fray. While there I saw the effects of the Mauser bullets. In one wound inflicted in the foot the orifice of emergence was eight times as large as the orifice of entrance, and it was, moreover, rough and jagged."

Protection for Carrier Pigeons.

Carrier pigeons in China are protected from birds of prey by a little apparatus consisting of thin bamboo tubes fastened to the birds' bodies with thread passed beneath the wings. As the pigeon flies along the action of the air through the tubes produces a shrill whistling sound which keeps birds of prey at a respectful distance.

People in Honduras.

Honduras has about 400,000 inhabitants.

EFFECT OF WEATHER ON FISH.

Why Trout Rise Merrily in the Midst of a Storm and Sulk When the Water is Quiet.

If trout rise merrily in the very midst of a storm, why do they invariably sulk when the thunder is only "in the air"? The explanation is simple, but it occurred to me only the other day, says the London Review. Trout sulk when the storm is gathering from the cause which makes men at the club decline to look at the billiard cues during the same weather. The atmosphere lacks oxygen, and therefore all sentient life is languid. When the lightning has come the sulkiness is dispelled; fish and men have something more cheering than carbonic acid gas to breathe; both are in a humor for food or play.

The same reasoning, I think, explains why, as a rule, it is necessary to have a ripple if you are to catch trout. The accepted explanation is that the ripple conceals the casting line, leaving visible to the fish the fly alone, but one has only to use one's eyes to discover that that is no explanation at all. Even in a gale, if there is no sunshine, the gut is as easily visible to the human eye as it would be in a dead calm, and to what the human eye can see in the water the trout is surely not quite blind. No trout rise in a ripple more rapidly than in a calm simply because the wind is oxygenating the water. Whoso doubts this is invited to make an experiment. Let him put half a dozen live trout into a pail of water. Within an hour they will be sickening; some of them will be near death and turning on their backs. A few quarts of water plunged a yard or two through the air into the pail will make all the trout revive as if by magic. The fish want oxygen just as the fellows at the club on a sultry afternoon want a thunderstorm or other stimulant.

SHE WANTED FLOWERS.

But the Congressman Had to Draw the Line Somewhere and She Didn't Get Them.

A certain southern congressman was heard entertaining a company of his colleagues lately in the democratic cloakroom of the house with an account of an unusual experience, says the Washington Post. "During the woman suffrage convention," he said, "several ladies from my district were present. Early in the convention one of them came to the capital, called at my committee-room and requested an interview, which was readily granted. She stated that the woman suffrage delegates were to have some sort of public meeting, in which she was to participate, and requested that I should provide a floral tribute to be presented to her on that occasion.

"I was naturally somewhat taken aback at the suggestion. I supposed in the course of my 12 years in congress that I had exhausted about every variety of duties that a member of the house is called upon to perform. I have always been ready and willing to run errands for my constituents, for which at home my office boy would have sufficed. I have catered to the whims of office seekers. When my constituents have come to me hungry, I have fed them, and when they have come shelterless I have given them lodging. I have taken my political supporters to the theaters by hundreds, but I was forced to inform my lady visitor that I must draw the line at bouquets."

THE GREAT INLAND SEA.

How Marine Animals Were Corralled After the Water Dried Up Ages Ago.

In the latter part of the Mesozoic age there was a great inland ocean, spreading over a large part of the present continent. The lands then above water were covered with a flora peculiar to the times, and were inhabited by some of the animals which later distinguished the Cenozoic age, says the Popular Science Monthly. In the seas were reptiles, fishes and turtles of gigantic proportions, armed for offense or defense. There were also oysterlike bivalves, with enormous shells, three or four feet in diameter, the meat of which would have fed many people. In time this great ocean, swarming with vigorous life, disappeared.

Mountain ranges and plains gradually arose, casting forth the waters and leaving the monsters to die and bleach in tertiary seas. As the waters remaining divided into smaller tracts they gradually lost their saline stability. The stronger monsters gorged on the weaker tribes, until they, too, stranded on rising sandbars or lost vitality; and perished as the waters freshened. In imagination we can picture the strongest, benefactor of their food supply at last and foundering in shallow pools until all remained mired or starved. It would be interesting to know how much of the great cretaceous ocean forms a part, if any, of the vast oceans of today.

A Dewey Story.

Admiral Dewey was always a strict disciplinarian, and occasionally inflicts punishment in curious ways. Once while in a foreign port he suddenly ordered the heaviest tackle to be gotten out of the hold without delay. After two hours' work his order was carried out, and he then directed that a large chew of tobacco which had been thrown under one of the guns be hoisted overboard. Never again on that cruise was such an unparadonable offense committed.

Secret Orders.

It is stated that there are in the United States over 50 distinct secret orders, with over 70,000 lodges, and 5,500,000 members.

Bulletin Financier.

Vendredi, 5 août 1898.

COMPTOIR D'ÉCHANGES (CLEARING HOUSE) DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS.

Reçu de la semaine dernière: \$6,442,430 00

Montant des chèques de la semaine dernière: \$5,551,560 00

ÉTAT RÉPUBLICAINE DE LA LOUISIANE.

Compté par Thos C. Herndon, Directeur.

Billets de la Banque Nationale: \$3,897,000 00

Change sur New York: 4,087,300 00

Change sur Europe: 97,300 00

Change sur Cuba: 448,400 00

Change sur Porto Rico: 15,522,000 00

Change sur autres pays: 4,383,900 00

Total: \$29,927,300 00

Compté par la semaine dernière: Diminution 129,200

Prêts: 129,600

Dépôts: 133,400

Change sur Cuba: 41,800

Change sur autres pays: 84,900

Change sur Europe: 84,900

Change sur New York: 84,900

Change sur Porto Rico: 84,900

Change sur autres pays: 84,900

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Bulletin Commercial.

Vendredi, 5 août 1898.

LA BOURSE.

Les petites leçons vendent aux prix suivants: 100 livres, et le fret \$2 50 de plus par tonne.

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Le Board of Trade donne les notes suivantes: Le fret de charbon de café, \$10 00 le plus élevé.

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