

ANNOYING FRUITS OF FAME

Bachelor Maid Who Wrote Successful Novel Is Bombedard With Advancements of Cigars and Liquors.

The bachelor maid whose first novel had made something of a hit held up a handful of cigars.

SAUSAGE MAKING IS ANCIENT

Industry Dates Back to the Tenth Century and Was Formerly Considered a Queen's Recreation.

Hail to the sausage! exclaims the Mobile Register. The luscious fruit of a combination of pork, spices and meat chopper is now celebrating its one thousandth birthday.

HANDED DOWN FROM EVE

Dread of Snakes is Almost Universal and Must Date Back to the Cradle of the Race.

Not for five and probably not for 10,000 years has any ancestor of ours lived in a country or zone which was inhabited by a single dangerous, venomous serpent or a snake of any kind big enough to kill a jack-rabbit, yet the dread of serpents is as vivid as it was in the days of the Garden of Eden.

The aversion to snakes has no appreciable present utility, for the risk of any modern American or European being killed by snake-bites, even in the most rattlesnake-infested and pre-hibition-ridden community, is about one-thirty-fifth that of death by lightning stroke.

PRIDE OF THE CAVALRY BANDS

Horse That Bears the Kettle Drums Must Be Handsome, Dignified and Especially Well Trained.

In certain armies of the world there are grades of honor among the horses, as well as among the men. The proudest and most dignified of all the horses of the army is the animal that fills the position of drum horse in the regimental band.

Something more than mere beauty of form is required of the drum horse. He must be trained until he becomes a dignified and graceful bearer of the trappings that pertain to his high calling.

His nerves are severely tried by the booming of the large drums he carries, but in time he becomes as indifferent to their noise as war horses do to the stinging bullets.

THE PITY OF UNDERSTANDING

Ragged Tramp Was the Only One who Truly Sympathized With His Fellow of the Idle Class.

In the park a man was asleep on one of the settees. His face, which he had evidently placed over his eyes to protect them from the glare, had fallen off and rolled away in the dust.

Some seats distant sat another man of the same stamp. His own ragged feet were stuck out in front of him, and he contemplated them steadily, as if he wondered a little at the wreck of his own life to which they had conducted him.

He seemed neither amused, nor scornful, nor curious. He picked up the battered hat carefully and dusted it with the sleeve of his coat.

ELECTRICITY AS ILLUMINANT

Commercial Value Was Not Developed in This Country Until After the Centennial Exhibition of 1876.

The first experimental philosopher to discover that electric light could be produced by a dry battery was Sir Humphry Davy, who in 1810 exhibited a light three inches long, between carbon points, before the Royal Society of London.

Since 1878, both the Brush arc system and the Edison incandescent system have developed.—Morley's Magazine.

IN THE HOME OF PELICANS

Studying the Hugs, Ungainly Birds at Close Range and Observing Their Method of Feeding Their Young.

The first time I ever saw a motley crowd of half-grown pelicans I thought nature had surely done her best to make something ugly and ridiculous.

In this wide area of low islands and water it was necessary, since we wanted to study the pelicans at close range, to adopt some method of hiding.

One might wonder how such a huge billed bird as a pelican could feed a helpless chick just out of the egg. It was done with apparent ease. The old bird regurgitated a fishy soup into the front end of the pouch, and the baby pelican pitched right in and helped himself out of this family dish.

ECONOMY IN HIGH PRICES

Well Dressed Man Explains How He Buys Expensive Clothes and Wears Them Many Years.

Two well dressed men, at least they were so far as one not thoroughly expert in what good clothes are could judge, were talking about the cost of them.

"I paid \$80 for this suit," said the elder man, "and—"

"It was marked down from \$200," the younger confessed, as though desirous of apologizing for wearing a \$15 hand-me-down.

"How long have you worn yours?" inquired the older.

Such Is FAME!

Aldermen Gress and Coleman, Socialists, tell a good one on themselves and their party.

They were out one day posting bills on barns and fences in the district south of the city. Their work attracted comment from all who happened to pass.

"Hey, Bill, look here," shouted one to the other. "Hanged if they haven't started another political party."

"The story reminds me of a friend of mine who was traveling through the mountains of Tennessee," said Alderman Welley, when the story was told.

"How to String Beads." In stringing any precious beads, and pearls especially, never use a needle. Simply wax the end of the silk and pass it through the hole.

The knotting is also an important point. It must be large enough to hold the bead, but not large enough to show. Pearl stringers use an intricate knot of their own, and that is why it is, on the whole, better to have very expensive jewels strung by a professional.

Varied Interests. "What we want," said the citizen, "is an era of economy."

"Yes," replied Senator Sorghum; "but there is always bound to be more or less altercation about who shall do the economizing."

DESCRIBES THE ANIMAL MIND

Magazine Writer Says Animals and Birds Do Not Have Powers of Thought.

When an animal acts in obedience to its purely physical needs and according to its anatomical structure, as when ducks take to the water, or hens scratch, or hogs root, or woodpeckers drill, etc., we do not credit it with powers of thought.

But the monkey they told me about at the zoological park in Washington that has been seen to select a stiff straw from the bottom of its cage, and use it to dislodge an insect from a crack, showed a gleam of free intelligence. It was an act of judgment on the part of the monkey, akin to human judgment.

TRICK BIRDS OF HONG KONG

Java Sparrows Taught to Perform Clever "Stunts" for the Benefit of Travelers.

The famous Chinese conjuring birds are Java sparrows. At street corners in Hong Kong sedate old Chinese may be seen putting the birds through their tricks for the benefit of strangers.

Each bird cage has a sliding door, and just outside this is a pack of little card cases, each containing a picture, and a small pot holding half a dozen grains of rice.

When the stranger, pursuant to the suggestion of the owner hands over the necessary coin, this is placed with the pack of cards at the cage door. Then the owner will undo the fastening of the door. The bird, eyeing the coin, then the cards, then the coin again, as if he thought its performance so cheaply valued, descends from his perch, opens the door with his beak, hops out, draws a card from the pack and passes it to his master.

How can this be accounted for? The only possible way of explaining is that the bamboo slip is slightly scented.

Whale as Escort. The story of the porpoise or whale—for opinions differ as to the exact species—which is in the habit of regularly meeting vessels in Cook's Strait (between the north and south islands of New Zealand) off Pelorus Sound and escorting the vessel on her way, is sometimes regarded by the skeptical armchair traveler as a fable of the De Ruyter type.

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THREE MARK TWAIN ITEMS

One is a Characteristic Letter From the Well-Known Humorist to a Friend.

Three interesting Mark Twain items are in the George Benthams Library, which will be sold at Anderson's on November 28. One is a two-page letter, Elmira, July 12 (no year, but presumed to be about 1884), to a friend named Conway, and refers to the publishing house of Webster & Co., which Mark Twain founded in 1884.

"We are full, clear up to the chin—we can handle only two books a year and are now under contract for six. We have already declined a book of my own—no room for it, and we could do better, anyway. My book was ready nearly a year ago and is likely to remain ready a long time before I get it into print by our concern."

The failure of Webster & Co. will be recalled, involved Mark Twain in heavy losses, which he made up later by the success of his own books and lectures. It is thought that perhaps the unpublished book he refers to in his letter was "Huckleberry Finn," which was issued in 1884.

Another Mark Twain lot consists of five characteristic telegrams from him to James Redpath, 1869-74. In one of them he says: "Notify all hands that from this date I shall talk nothing but selections from my forthcoming book, 'Roughing It.' Tried it last night. Suits me tip top." In another telegram he says about going to Amherst to lecture: "If I had another engagement I would rob before I would fill it."

There is also an amusing three-page letter, in pencil, signed "Mark," and written in 1869 to James Redpath. In it he says:

"I don't want to lecture in Brooklyn any more. This is the very society I thought that infernal woman was representing. But I've got enough. I never will lecture outside of New England again, and I never will lecture in Brooklyn at all. Suspend judgment till you are me. She made that ad read as if I was talking on my own hook, and for no society."

SAW THE FUTURE CLEARLY

Husband of Nagging Wife Knew Exactly Just What Prospects Life Had for Him.

Mrs. Locke was one of those amiable women who, although she loved her family dearly, had developed the habit of nagging her husband and children. Mr. Locke once had occasion to cross the Atlantic, and on his return booked his passage in a steamer that met with an accident and was very much delayed.

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