

TOUCANS.

There are nearly forty known kinds of Toucans, most of which live in the depths of South American forests, in small flocks. They are remarkable for the immense size of the bill, and the strong contrast in which the different colors of the plumage, red, black, white and yellow, appear. The tongue of the Toucan is very long, narrow, and singularly feathered on each side.

When one of the birds takes food between the points of the bill, the tongue is immediately applied to it, as if to test and enjoy it, and afterwards it is tossed into the throat by a sudden throwing back of the head.

They are fond of making a curious clattering noise with their great bills.

The colors of the bill, in most of the kinds, are very brilliant during life, but they disappear from stuffed specimens in museums.

ADVANTAGES
of this country
over the Eastern
States.

To illustrate the advantages of this country over that of the Eastern States, we copy the following from a report made by the Agricultural Department:

The facilities which exist in Oregon for raising stock have been mentioned heretofore in connection with the soil and climate. But in order to illustrate these facilities more clearly, references had to the statistics of the Government contained in the census reports, and a comparison drawn between the cost of raising stock in Oregon, on the

north-west coast, and in Maine, on the north-east coast of the United States, both States being about in the same latitude. Maine, a few years ago, produced 975,716 tons of hay, feeding 890,148 head of stock, embracing horses, cattle and sheep. Oregon, the same year, produced 26,441 tons of

The animals in Maine were worth \$15,437,533, or \$17.34 each. The stock in Oregon was worth \$6,272,892, or \$23.49 each, a difference of \$6.16 per head; to which add the difference of \$6 for feed, and the result is \$12.15 net value in favor of each head of stock owned in Oregon that year, over and above the net value of each head owned in Maine.

A gill of raw (unboiled) linseed oil given to a sow just before and after farrowing, will prevent the disposition to eat her offspring. This habit is an acquired one, and is caused by keeping the sow with others of her own specie, who worry and annoy her. Perfect quiet and isolation are considerations which should not be neglected.

Many people who boast of being very "plain" and "blunt" are merely coarse and boorish. Such persons are constantly inflicting wounds which neither time nor medicine can ever heal.

Which is oddest, the one who asks an odd question or the one who answers it? The one who asks it, because he is the querist.

The cost of the army in British India even in time of peace,

is \$85,000,000 a year, or 45 per cent. of the entire revenue. The building and furnishing of a country house for the government of Bombay cost \$875,000. No wonder there's a deficit in revenue.

Faith, gravel trains and hard work will remove mountains.



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hay, feeding 267,025 head of stock. The average consumption of hay for each animal in Maine was 2,197 pounds, against 197 pounds consumed in Oregon. Estimating the hay to be worth \$6 per ton, the cost of wintering an animal in Maine was \$5.59; in Oregon 59 cents, a difference of \$6 per head.