

BOYHOOD TRADITIONS

HOW SCIENCE HAS RUTHLESSLY PLAYED HOB WITH THEM.

Even the Horseshoe Snake is Declared by the Naturalist to Be a Hunchbug—Still Clinging to That Belief and Presenting Pretty Good Argument.

Science plays hob with the fond traditions of rural schoolboy days. How many ugly but useful toads have been left in undisturbed possession of a garden bed because to handle them was but to cover your hands with warts and to kill them would force your cows to let down bloody milk? What boy would have crushed a cricket, assured as he was that its mate would come at night and avenge its death by eating up that rash boy's clothes? What man lives to-day who, as a rustic lad, has not held the stilted dandy-long-legs prisoner by one hairlike shank and informed the globular insect that unless it forthwith pointed out the way in which the lost cows had gone instant death awaited it, and when did daddy-long-legs fail to raise one slender leg and indicate, according to boyish belief, the direction the straying kine had gone? And the devil's darning needle, that big eyed thing that lived and prowled for nothing else than to sew your ears up, and the magic eel skin tied round your leg, or neck, or arm, to keep the cramps away when you went in swimming, and the snake that swallowed its young, and greatest of all, that vivified hair from a horse's tail, wriggling and gyrating in the roadside mud puddle, the horseshair snake.

But science has stepped in and solemnly and seriously said that these are all myths. It is a shattering of idols, but I fear that to science must be granted all it denies about them, except as to snakes swallowing their young. I have been an open mouthed and wide eyed witness of that interesting trick too often to let even profound scientists stand up and declare that it isn't so.

I hold out a little, too, for the horseshair snake, for I have in my mind a certain vagrant horseshair that I once put in an oyster log filled with rainwater, and either that horseshair in the course of a few weeks took on the semblance of life and form of a horseshair snake and kept it up all season in a bottle to which I transferred it, or else it disappeared, and the germ of what we supposed was a horseshair snake happened to be in the water and developed there. I have always insisted that I made a horseshair snake. I have heard many veracious persons declare that they have done the same thing.

"But you are all wrong," says Nicholas Pike, the naturalist. "The horseshair snake, or hairworm, is the Gordius aquaticus, and it is common in most fresh water ponds and rivulets. Though no larger around than a coarse cotton thread, they have two mouths, one on each side of the head. They lay eggs and sometimes thousands of eggs. The eggs are deposited in strings, like a chain, on the sides of shallow ponds or creeks, and they are greedily swallowed by various aquatic insects. Then from the time the egg is hatched the first part of the worm's nutriment is spent as a parasite, absorbing nutriment from the body of its unlucky host. The large water beetles are subject to these parasites. They have been found in a cricket. They are graceful swimmers, but when taken from the water they twist themselves into such an intricate knot that it is almost impossible to unloose it. They are called Gordius from this, the Gordian knot.

"I have no doubt that one reason why the idea of the horseshair snake has been propagated is from ignorant persons who have had various insects in clear water watching them for study or curiosity. Knowing that they put in only certain live creatures, and some day finding these live worms, they were astonished. The chances are that the worms were developed from a pet beetle that in its native pond made a feast on some ova of the Gordius, to be paid dearly for later when these hatched."

But there was no pet beetle or any other insect in my keg of rainwater. The horseshair went away, and the snake or worm appeared. I don't believe the horseshair ever swallowed any Gordius ova. I can't imagine any reason why a horseshair should turn into a snake or worm when kept in the water, but why not a horse's hair as well as a cow's hair or a deer's hair? Science had better not tell any of the few old settlers of northern Pennsylvania or any other locality where the pioneers were frequent, their own tanners that cow's hair and deer's hair will not turn into worms under certain conditions or science will get a black eye. In the pioneer days, when a settler wanted leather for boots or shoes, it was not an uncommon thing for him to make a vat by following out a pine log, and using wood ashes instead of lime in removing the hair. When the hide was taken out of the vat it would be placed in a creek to soak out the alkali.

I have more than once heard the sons of such pioneers tell of finding curious worms swimming about these hides where they were lying in quiet pools. These worms were about two inches long, somewhat thicker than a cow's hair, and always in various stages of development from the hair as it came off the hide, some being for a part of their length simply hair, while the rest was the living worm, white and semitransparent. Some would be still fast to the hide, but wriggling to get loose, when they would swim about with a hair for a tail. These worms were never seen except in the pools with the hides, either cow or deer. The more I think of these well authenticated cow hair worms the more I am inclined to defy science and hold out for the horseshair worm.—New York Sun.

A Theory as to Swiggins.
"What makes Swiggins such an unconscionable liar?"
"Stinginess. He has as many facts as anybody, but he hates to give them out."—Exchange.

Anecdotes of Lord Lytton.

Many years ago when the elder Bulwer was in his prime a laborer on the estate was engaged to do a certain job of hard work. At the end of a week he carried his account to the bailiff, who said a week's work was worth 3 shillings and 6 pence. The man insisted that this was not enough and refused to settle, and every time he met the bailiff he would stop him and ask him for his money. Finally the bailiff became angry, discharged the man and refused to allow any farmer on the estate to hire him.

The man was forced to leave the neighborhood, but he was too poor to move any great distance, so that he was still within the circuit of the bailiff's ill will. Wherever he went this pursued him, and his life in consequence was a hard one. But all the time he kept telling his family and his friends that some day he would get the money which the Bulwer Lytton estate owed him.

He was well on in years, when one day he met a man in the road. It was the same time poet Owen Meredith, now come to France, and English ambassador to the States, at home on a visit.

"You say Lord Lytton, I believe," he said respectfully.

"Then, if you please, I should like you to pay an account which has been due me for a long time."

Lord Lytton looked at the account, and at his request the man told the whole story. The poet was very much affected and disturbed. Then he said: "Well, I will do what I can to make it up to you."

He was as good as his word. He built a house at the gates of the park, put the man and his family into it, and gave it to them rentfree, with other perquisites, so that he was entirely comfortable for the remainder of his days.—Hartford Courant.

The Wily Chinese.
A German Jew who keeps a pawnbroker's shop in Sydney is blessed with one daughter, who now and then keeps shop while her father attends sales on the lookout for bargains. During the temporary absence of old Moses recently a meek looking Chinaman walked into the shop and asked Rachel to show him some "welly good watchek."

Rachel handed down four from the shelf at the end of the counter marked respectively, "\$30 watch," "\$40 watch," "\$50 watch" and "\$10 watch," and arranged them in a line on the counter in the order of their value.

John inspected them, and taking advantage of Rachel's momentary inattention slipped the \$10 watch into the place occupied by the \$50 watch and handed over a \$10 note saying:

"I take cheap watchek."

Shortly afterward Rachel detected the swindle and sought refuge in tears. On the return of old Moses she related the misadventure with many protestations of concern.

"Never mind, mine tear," said the father, with a dry chuckle, "dove watchek were all de same brice—\$6—but vat a scoundrel dot Shimanan must pe, don't he?"—London Tit-Bits.

The Case of Geysers.
Bunsen has explained the periodical eruption of geysers in such a satisfactory manner that doubt is no longer possible. A cavern filled with water lies deep in the earth under the geyser, and the water in this cavern is heated by the earth's internal heat far above 312 degrees, since there is a heavy hydrostatic pressure upon it arising from the weight of water in the passage or natural stand-pipe that leads from the subterranean chamber of the surface of the earth.

After a time the temperature of the water below rises, so that steam is given off in spite of the pressure, and the column in the exit tube is gradually forced upward. The release of pressure and the disturbance of the water then cause the contents of the subterranean chamber to flash into steam and expel the contents of the exit pipe violently. These eruptions may also be provoked by throwing stones or clods of turf into the basin of the geyser. The water in the cavern below is disturbed by this means.—Great Divide.

Newspapers and the Love of Books.

It is not any more true in England than it is in this country that the reading of newspapers is spoiling the taste for books. Never in any other generation were there as large editions of books of knowledge and thought printed and sold as there are in this one. The figures given in the reports of the British and American book trade are amazing, especially as regards books of the highest erudition, the deepest cogitation and the wisest counsel. As many as 50,000 copies of Mr. Bryce's "American Commonwealth" have already been sold in this country and England. The works of the great authors of the past, too, are more in demand than they ever were before. It is ignorance to say that good newspapers spoil the taste for books. They promote the love of the best books.—New York Sun.

Showing That Plants Can See.

Can plants see? Darwin gave it as his opinion that some of them can, and an Indian botanist relates some curious incidents which tend to verify the belief. Observing one morning that the tendrils of a convolvulus on his veranda had decidedly leaned toward his legs as he lay in an attitude of repose, he tried a series of experiments with a long pole, placing it in such a position that the leaves would have to turn away from the light in order to reach it. In every case he found that the tendrils set themselves visibly toward the pole and in a very few hours had twined themselves closely around it.—London Public Opinion.

A Scientific Fact.

A lady asked an astronomer if the moon was inhabited.
"Madam," he replied, "I know of no moon in which there is always a man and a woman."
"Which is that?"
"The honeymoon."—Journal Amusements.

New Use For Spring Chickens.

Should the little daughter of Mr. Calise ever recover she owes her life to an Italian violinist in the city. Suffering as she is with brain fever and the doctors giving up all hope of her recovery, this morning she spoke the first word and ate the first morsel she has for several days. A friend of Mr. Calise, an Italian, visited the sick child and remarked had he known her condition a day or two ago he could certainly have saved her. However, he was willing to try it, and going out he brought in a number of spring chickens. Taking a live chicken he split open its back with a knife, opened it wide and placed the inside of the chicken, entrails, blood and all, over the child's head. As soon as the chicken began to get cold he would open another and place it on in the same manner.

About the time the second chicken began to cool the child spoke, and afterward asked for something to eat. So far 22 chickens have been used, and the child is doing splendidly. What effect the warmth of the chicken and vitals had upon the child's head the writer cannot tell, but should the child fully recover the Italian professor wants the credit. He says he saved his son's life in the same manner when it was necessary to use 48 spring chickens. He prefers rabbits when he can get them in his treatment.—Paducah News.

The First Steam Cruiser.

It is generally known that the first steam driven vessel to cross the Atlantic was built in Canada. The information is not so general, however, that this same craft was subsequently converted into a cruiser and was the first steamship engaged in actual war.

The facts in the case are stated in "Johnson's Alphabet of First Things in Canada." The ship was the Royal William. She was built at the Cove, Quebec, in the winter of 1830-1, and during the season of 1832-3 plied between Quebec and Halifax. In the latter season she was sent to London and there chartered by the Portuguese government to transport troops intended for the service of the late Dom Pedro to Brazil. Returning to London, she was sold to the Spanish government, by the latter converted into a cruiser and employed against Don Carlos in the civil war of 1836, thus being the first steamer to fire a hostile shot.—Toronto News.

PSYCHE.

Golden pinnas, purple eyed,
Floating down the airy tide
Whence there breathes a faint perfume
Hinting of the clover's bloom—
Hither, thither, fluttering
Up and down on tireless wing—
What the spell and whose the power
Thus to lure her, hour by hour.

Does her lover captive dwell
In some clover honey cell,
Whither after weary flights
She with folded wings alights
By what mystery of speech
Does his voice her hearing reach?
By what angry or sign
Hung upon the grass or vine?

Who the lonely prisoner
In the clover calling her,
Bidding her to set him free—
Ending his captivity?
"The young Cupid, stricken blind,
Shalt a clover leaf behind,
Calling to the butterfly—
"Psyche, Psyche, here am I!"
—Frank D. Sherman in Youth's Companion.

GOOD ADVICE.

Every patriotic citizen should give his personal effort and influence to increase the circulation of his home paper which teaches the American policy of Protection. It is his duty to aid in this respect in every way possible. After the home paper is taken care of, why not subscribe for the AMERICAN ECONOMIST, published by the American Protective Tariff League? One of its correspondents says: "No true American can get along without it. I consider it the greatest and truest political teacher in the United States."

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Meets every Friday night at the K. of P. hall Visiting Knights invited.
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J. E. RHODES, K. of R. and S.

COLUMBIA HOOK AND LADDER CO.
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CATARACT HOSE CO. No. 2.
Meets second Tuesday of each month at Cataract Engine house. W. H. HOWELL, Pres. G. H. BASTOW, Sec'y. J. W. O'CONNELL, F'r'm

BUTTE CREEK GRANGE, No. 82, P. of H.
Meets at their hall in Marquam, second Saturday in each month at 10 a. m. Visiting members always welcome.
J. E. JACK, Secretary. J. R. WHITE, Master.

CLACKAMAS LODGE, No. 57, A. C. U. W.
Meets first and third Monday in each month, at Straight's Hall. Visiting brethren welcome.
C. E. FRANK, Rec. S. HOLCOMB, M. W.

MEADE POST, No. 2, G. A. R. DEPARTMENT OF OREGON.
Meets first Monday of each month, at K. of P. Hall, Oregon City. Visiting comrades made welcome.
DAVID MCARTHUR, Commander. J. P. SHAW, Adj.

GEN. CROOK POST, No. 22, G. A. R., Department of Oregon.
Meets in school house at Needy on first Saturday in each month at 2 o'clock p. m. All comrades made welcome. I. P. BILLINGS, H. THOMPSON, Adj. Commander.

MEADE RELIEF CORPS, No. 15, DEPARTMENT OF OREGON.
Mrs. M. M. Charman, President
Mrs. F. L. Cochran, Treasurer
Mrs. J. B. Harding, Secretary
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Ferry's Seed Annual for 1894 contains the sum and substance of the latest farming knowledge. Every planter should have it. Sent free.
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CITATION TO HEIRS.
To Bellah Sargent, W. H. Edmunds, Cornelius Edmunds, Albert Eugene Sargent, Edward Henry Sargent, Katie Sargent and Mrs. Marietta Pratt, heirs at law of Jacob P. Miller, deceased, and to all others unknown.
In the name of the State of Oregon, You are each of you are commanded and cited to appear before the Honorable County Judge of Clackamas county, state of Oregon, at his office in the court house in Oregon City, on Tuesday, December 19th 1893, at 10 o'clock a. m., then and there to show cause if any exists, why an order and license may not be granted the administrator to sell lots 3 and 4 block 2 in Mt. Tabor, Clackamas county, Oregon, as prayed for in her petition now on file in said county court.
Witness the Hon. J. W. Meldrum, Judge of said court, and my official seal this 14th day of November, 1893.
GEO. F. HORTON, 11-17-12-15) Co. Clerk and Clerk of Co. Court.

SUMMONS.
JUSTICE'S COURT FOR JUSTICE DIST. NO. 3, State of Oregon, County of Clackamas, ss. John Boylen, plaintiff, vs. James Orrent; def't. Civil action for the recovery of money.
To James Orrent, the above named defendant: In the name of the State of Oregon, You are hereby required to appear before the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace, for the Precinct aforesaid, on the 27th day of January, 1894, at 2 o'clock, in the forenoon of said day, at the office of said Justice, in such precinct, to answer the above named plaintiff in civil action. The defendant will take notice, that if he fail to answer the complaint herein, the plaintiff will take judgment against him for the sum of \$4.50, together with the costs and disbursements to be taxed herein.
Given under my hand this 27th day of December, 1893.
T. W. FOUTS, Justice of the Peace.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT.
In the County Court of the county of Clackamas, State of Oregon,
Is the matter of the estate of Olive W. Marquam, deceased.
Notice is hereby given that the final account of the administrator of the estate of Olive W. Marquam, deceased, has been rendered to said Court for settlement, and that Tuesday, the 23 day of January, 1894, at 10 o'clock A. M., has been duly appointed by said Court for the settlement thereof, at which time any person interested in said estate may appear and file his exceptions in writing to said account and contest the same.
A. R. MARQUAM, Administrator of the estate of Olive W. Marquam, deceased.
Dated this 23rd day of November 1893.
12-12-29 BROSNELL & DRESSER, Att'ys for Administrator.

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Cures Constipation
Indigestion, Dizziness, Eruptions on the Skin, Beautifies Complexion.
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Suppressed Menstruation
PAINFUL Menstruation
And a PREVENTIVE for FEMALE IRREGULARITIES.
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Apple and Pear Trees,
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\$1 BUYS either 10 lbs. dry granulated sugar, 18 lbs. rice, 28 lbs. small white beans, 26 lbs. rolled oats, 4 lbs. good roasted coffee, 4 lbs. good green tea, 11 cans tomatoes, 6 cans of oysters, 2's, 15 yards cabot W., 21 yards comfort prints, 1 pair men's pants; 1 Misses cloak.

25c. BUYS 1 Tam O'Shanter cap, 1 lb best ground pepper, ginger, allspice or mustard, 1 pair ladies' rubbers, 1 lb. cocoanut, 1 pair infant's shoes; 7 spoons best thread, 1 misses knit skirt; 1 child's jacket; 1 boys shirt or pair of drawers; 12 bunches matches.

Run of Kiln pottery 2 gal. jar and cover 25c; 1 gal. jug 10c; 1 gal. milk pans 10c.

A 25c broom for 17c; a better one for 20; tubs 40c. and 50c; Lanterns 45c; mixed candy 1 lb-10c; our 12c wall paper 9c per double roll; our 20c grade now 14c; boys' axes 35c; shoes reduced, clothing reduced; underwear, overshirts marked down; good cotton socks 5c a pair; child's mittens 10c; dress goods at first cost or less; ladies' mittens 10c.

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