

Honey bees are winged merchants. They call their honey. When you have reached your bottom dollar, let it alone.

At what season did Eve eat the apple? Early in the fall. To help a man who won't help himself is to help his ruin.

A companion game to parlor croquet—Cricket on the hearth. Custom may lead a man into many errors; but it justifies none.

Why is a sword like beer? Because it is of no use till drawn. To-morrow is the day on which idle men work and fools reform.

The clothes-pin factory at Kalamazoo, Michigan, employs forty hands. A female minister out West kisses the bridegroom when she marries a couple.

Dixon, Ill., is to have a truss bridge, in place of the ruptured structure. Negligence is the parent of disorder and the offspring of habits of intemperance.

What does a grocer do with all his things before he sells them? Gives them a weigh. By trying to kill calumny it is kept alive; leave it to itself and it will die a natural death.

What did a blind wood Sawyer take to restore his sight? He took his horse and saw. To milk a kicking cow—Stand off about eighteen feet and yell, "So, you darned old skindiv!"

Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us, or we find it not. An indirect spirit is like an unsealed letter, which every one may read, but which is seldom worth reading.

The father who gives his children habits of industry, provides for them better, than giving them a fortune. In Ireland, with less than 5,400,000 inhabitants, the two shillings license duty was paid on 290,793 dogs.

A BATTLE IN THE AIR.

"A most terrible battle between two birds," says the Virginia (Navada) Monitor, of the 14th, "occurred between two large brown eagles in the vicinity of the lakes above Virginia on last Wednesday evening. When first noticed the birds were soaring one above another, at an altitude of perhaps three-fourths of a mile, and seemed on a sail for pleasure. Presently the uppermost bird closing his wings shot down like a meteor for two or three hundred feet, and with a wild piercing scream, lit fairly upon the back of the other bird. Turning with the rapidity of lightning, the victim clutched its adversary with talons and beak, and a fierce struggle ensued. The savage yells, the striking of the huge wings, the showers of falling feathers, gave unmistakable evidence of the ferocity with which the contest was waged.

As they fought they fell earthwards, and when 500 feet from the ground they became disentangled and each swooped upwards again. Now followed an interesting trial as to which should first gain sufficient altitude to make another plunge. The circling of the smaller was rapid and close, while that of its antagonist was made with greater limits, and his ascension was quickest accomplished. The largest eagle was soon fully one half mile high, and some hundreds of feet above his victim. Hovering in mid-air for a moment, as if making sure of his aim he again darted down upon his enemy as before, with a force that seemed sufficient to kill of itself. Again they grappled and fought, like winged demons whirling, falling and striking furiously for the space of two or three minutes. They were now near the largest of the lakes and gradually descended to the water. The struggle of the smaller became less and less fierce; he was getting weak, and was nearly vanquished, while his more powerful aggressor seemed to wage the battle with increased vigor.

"Another moment and the conquering monarch loosed his hold, and with an exultant shout of victory, soared upward. The battle was ended—his prisoner, limp and lifeless, floated on the surface without a struggle. We, with our companions, tried to get the dead eagle, but were unable to do so without swimming for it. Both birds were of very large size, the largest, measuring, we think, fully twelve feet from tip to tip. The spectacle was exciting in the extreme and the victory tragically complete. The battle had likely commenced before we discovered them, as it does not seem possible for one to kill the other in so short a time although the fighting was terrific."

A WONDERFUL STORY. The Omb (India) Excelsior prints the following story: "Very recently a native having ornaments on her person worth about 400 or 500 rupees, accompanied by her daughter, who also wore ornaments worth about 200 rupees, alighted from the train at Haridui, and hired an ekka to convey them to their village. On arriving at a lonely spot about six miles from Haridui, there being no village within miles, the ekka drew up at the side of the road, and the driver suddenly demanded the whole of the jewelry to be given up to him. On being refused, he tied the woman and the girl up to the ekka and coolly divested them of every article. He then drew a knife, with the intention of murdering them, but in the excitement of the moment he threw the knife into a ditch about three feet deep. He jumped down, and was just in the act of clutching at the knife when a black snake darted from a hole and fixed its fangs in his hand, knowing the snake to be an extremely venomous one, he fell down almost senseless with terror, and died in a few minutes. The woman and girl remained there about two hours, when seeing some villages at a distance, they screamed for assistance, and, on being released, gave information at the nearest bannah. The corpse of the ekka-driver, and snake still there. The corpse was taken to the nearest station for an inquest to be held; the snake was blocked in its hole with a large stone as the police had not the courage to kill it. The ornaments were found tied up in the kumbarbund of the corpse, and were restored to their owners. The foregoing facts were related to us by one whose veracity we have no reason to doubt."

THE SMALL BOY OF THE PERIOD. Where the road between Merced and Suelling crosses the Merced River that stream is about two hundred yards in width, and even at this season of the year, when the water is quite low, it looks like a dangerous and deep stream to cross. Last Tuesday, a patient medicine agent, traveling no horseback through that section, came to the river and hesitated in attempting to ford it as he saw the wide expanse of rushing waters. There is on a bridge any where along there, so after some indecision he concluded to swim his horse across. Spying a boy, fishing, in a small punt tied to the bank, he said: "Hello, boy!" "Hello, yes!" "Can I get you to take my clothes across the river in your boat?" "I reckon you kin, if you've got any soap."

"All right, I'll give you a quarter to take over my clothes and this carpet sack to the opposite shore." To this he nodded assent, the stranger dismounted, turned over the carpet sack and habiliments to the juvenile, who paddled out into the stream, and mounted his horse, prepared to splash the luxury of a bath. With a splash at every movement, the horse stepped into the stream, and walked across—the water was nowhere more than eighteen inches deep. To say that the medicine man, perched on the back of the speck of half an hour would hardly do justice to the occasion. There were enough "dams" along the Merced that afternoon to supply a hundred mill-sites.—Stockton (Cal.) Gazette.

Our sorrows are like thunder clouds, which seem black in the distance, but grow lighter as they approach. Marshal O'Donnell, when on his dying bed, being asked by the priest if he forgave his enemies, faintly replied: "I haven't any; shot them all."

A Tennessee lady is getting discouraged. She does not mention how old she now is, but when she first "came out" in society she made up her mind that she could only marry an Episcopalian; being herself of that denomination. Finding not the man she modified her views, and concluded to marry no one who was not a Christian. All she is looking for now is a man who does not drink whisky.

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