

TWO FEET OF TROUT.

The Remarkable Narrative of a Truthful Man Who Went Fishing. School Director James A. Blanchard, of Williamsport, has been up here gathering in trout. The other day he came in with a peculiar, far-away look in his eyes. He sat down without removing his basket from his shoulder or taking off his gum boots. He didn't say a word to anybody, but seemed to be trying to solve some point that puzzled him by gazing into vacancy.

BIRTHDAY OBSERVANCE.

A Pleasant Way of Making Family Life More Attractive. We are convinced that the average American household should make far more of the birthdays of its members than it does, and that if this were done, the result would be a large increase in the attractiveness of our family life. In the large majority of households these occasions pass by unnoticed, and a rare opportunity of relief from the monotonous routine of daily existence, of increasing our love for each other, and for the practice of those gentle courtesies upon which the joy of living so much depends, is thoughtlessly sacrificed.

ABOUT THE SCREW.

The Origin and True Discovery of the Use of the Inclined Plane. It is not clearly known how far the mechanical powers were known to the ancients. There is no doubt that they comprehended the lever, the wheel and axle, and the pulley, and an acquaintance with the principle of the inclined plane seems to have been necessary to the Egyptians in moving the huge blocks of stone of which the pyramids are built. Archimedes, about 236 B. C., invented a pumping-screw, or spiral-shaped cylinder, for raising water.

A RARE SIGHT.

The Church of the Capuchins at Rome and Its Strange Cemetery. Some things are done in Rome in a way that would seem strange enough to the good people of other countries. Let me give you an instance. At the end of the Via Capucina stands the little old church of the Capuchin monks, a church of plain exterior, but rich within with marbles and paintings.

AT HYDERABAD.

A Peculiar Indian City Whose Population Goes Armed to the Teeth. Hyderabad is unquestionably one of the most peculiar and interesting cities of India, although of no ancient foundation and possessing no very remarkable buildings. Koolub Shah, who created this capital, having migrated from Golecondah for want of good water, called it after his favorite Bhagnmati, and beautified the place with a stately mosque and the picturesque edifice called Chahar Minar, or the "four Minarets," through the archways of which the main traffic of the bazaars still passes.

RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL.

The Harvard Daily Critic printed in its own office, and two editors are employed by the paper throughout the college year. The Baptist churches in Stockbridge are fast multiplying. There are now five or six, and still the first one numbers two thousand members. A student of the Ohio State University, the victor in the oratorical preliminary to the interstate college contest, was convicted of plagiarism and suspended for one year.

TERRIBLE WORK.

Some of the Devices Employed in England to Keep Convicts Busy. The convicts were marched into a large yard and formed three sides of a square, standing about five feet apart, facing inward. Near one end of the line was a pyramid of twenty-four pound cannon balls. In the center of the square stood the officer or guard. When all was ready he gave the order, "One," when every man moved sideways five feet to the right, which brought the man at the head of the line opposite the pyramid of balls. "Two." Every man stooped down without bending the knees, the first man taking a ball from the pile, the others going through the motion till a ball reached them. "Three." The men moved back to their original places. "Four." They stooped and placed the ball upon the ground, not being allowed to drop it. And so on the movements continued, the orders quickened at the will of the guard till the balls were all conveyed through the line and piled up at the other end. It required but a few minutes of these rapid movements to bring every man into a state of profuse perspiration, showing that the labor was of the severest kind.

ENTIRELY TOO LATE.

A Detroit Mechanic Who Waited Too Long Before Turning Up Something. There was an exultant smile on his face as he walked into the office of a well-known capitalist, and there was a proud ring in his voice as he said: "For twenty years I have lived from hand to mouth, waiting for something to turn up. It has finally come. I have made a discovery which, if you will back it with a few hundred dollars, will give us both fortunes." "State your case."

A Remarkable Bird.

A well-known centenarian has just died in Paris. His name was Lenoir, and he was one hundred and three years old. Lenoir was a parrot. He was born in the reign of Louis Seize, and never quitted the house where he first saw the light, having been handed down by will to the different owners of the house. Lenoir was a capital talker, and knew a number of phrases, which he often brought out *ad propos*. Since the reign of Charles X. there was a good deal of difficulty in getting the bird to learn any thing new. However, a servant with Radical sympathies taught him in a few weeks to say: "Vive Gambetta!" This he occasionally varied with "A bas Robespierre!" which he had been accustomed to say during the Reign of Terror. The last words of this remarkable bird were, it appears, "Grace pour Marie Antoinette."

Changing the Human Voice.

As the result of an experimental inquiry, Dr. Sandras, a physician of Paris, claims to be able to change the nature, intensity, pitch and extent of the voice in a surprising degree by the use of different inhalations. A few inspirations of alcoholic vapor impart a decided hoarseness, some vapors weaken the voice, while others strengthen it to such an extent that it acquires new notes, high and low. If the same effects are produced upon people generally, this curious discovery must prove of great practical value to public speakers, singers, and all who use the voice considerably. —Arkansas Traveler.

Two Jefferson County (Ala.) men were recently elected to the Legislature, who before the election declined their nominations, and now refuse to serve their terms.

Bridal parties in New York observe the fashion of being at least an hour late. At one fashionable wedding the bride and groom arrived nearly two hours behind time and the wedding was considered the most successful of the season. —N. Y. Sun.

High winds are sometimes a source of surprise to birds as well as to mankind. Recently a sand-hill crane was taking a nap by the side of a pond in the Zoological Garden in Philadelphia, when a mighty gust of wind from the west struck him squarely and knocked him into the water. He came up dripping, and when the crowd laughed he sneaked away to a lonely corner. —Philadelphia Press.

"I've never gwinter go nading any moan," said Sam sang. "What's de matter?" twanged de guitar for two moans under de windy od Miss Mattie's ball, den de windy opened valler moke Jim Webster's head out and said: "Much but yer can go home now." "Dat I's beginnin' ter get disconcerted." —Texas Siftings.