

THE CURIOUS TADPOLE.

Maybe He Turns Into a Frog and Then Maybe He Doesn't. If a tadpole cannot get to the top of the water when it is at the time of life when it is breathing by means of its gills...

A Sixth Sense.

An interesting discussion arose at a recent college lecture concerning the "instinct of direction" possessed so marvelously by savage races and by animals.

Fiction or History.

After all, fiction is not always the worst place in which to look for history. There is a story of Mr. Dismal at the time of his extremely bumptious youth when he had just returned from his travels in the east.

Warming the Eggs.

There was once an old lady in Scotland who kept a few hens. As she lived close to the house in which a church minister lived he asked her to send him two new laid eggs every morning and he would pay her for them.

Locating Icebergs.

The captain of an ocean steamer in most cases finds out when his vessel is approaching an iceberg from the men down in the engine room. That sounds queer, but it is a fact nevertheless.

A Remarkable Shawl.

The empress of Russia was once presented with a shawl of a remarkable kind. It is contained in a box only a few inches square, in which it fits easily, yet when it is shaken out it is ten yards square.

Trapped.

"I saw the cutest thing today," began Miss Passy coyly. "It was a painting of the—er—what is the name of that little god that represents matrimony?"

Force of Habit.

A burglar went home one night, fumbled noiselessly at the keyhole and let himself in without making a sound. He was about to creep softly upstairs when his wife appeared on the upper landing.

The Puzzling Point.

Teacher—And did you make out a list of the nine greatest men in the history of the world, as I told you? Willie—Almost. I can't pick out the best catcher, though, to save my neck.

A Taste of It.

Missionary—And do you know nothing whatever of religion? Cannibal—Well, we got a taste of it when the last missionary was here.—Toledo Blade.

Just a Precaution.

"So you are attending cooking school?" says the friend. "Are you going to do your own work?"

Mental Arithmetic.

"Is your young man gittin' a sal'ry, Melia?" "Sure he is. An' what's mo', de boss to' William he's gwine to double it."

THE UPWARD WAY.

The road to success is not to be run upon by seven leagued boots. Step by step, little by little, but by bit—that is the way to wealth, that is the way to wisdom, that is the way to glory.

His Promotion.

"Pa," said little Johnnie, "teacher is thinking about promoting me." "How do you know?" "From what she said today."

A Failure.

"Yes, I consider my life a failure." "Oh, Henry, bow said! Why should you say that?" "I spend all my time making money enough to buy food and clothes, but the food disagrees with me, and my clothes don't fit."

A Costly Lie.

"My wife found a poker chip in my pocket, and I told her it was a dyspepsia tablet." "That was clever." "Far from it! She swallowed the chip, and the doctor's bills cost me more than the jack pot."

A Double Barreled Joke.

The facetious bonder had the plot laid for a killing joke. "It's a wonder," he said, "that you didn't serve up this hen, feathers and all."

Rubbing It In.

He was mumbling about tough steak and cold coffee and making himself generally disagreeable. "Don't growl so over your breakfast, John," said his generally meek wife.

A Narrow Margin.

John Stuart Mill was once dining with two brilliant French talkers who were given to monologue. One had possession of the field, and the other was watching him so intently to strike in that Mill exclaimed aloud, "If he stops to breathe he's gone."

Witty Advice.

A witty Dublin barrister was consulted by a physician as to calling out a man who had insulted him. "Take my advice," said the lawyer, "and instead of calling him out get him to call you in and get your revenge that way. It will be more secure and certain."

Generally Breaks Him.

"I see by this fashion journal that the marriage should follow the engagement almost immediately." "That may be all right for the rich, but a poor young man needs a chance to recuperate after buying the ring."

Looking Backward.

"Were you nervous when you proposed to your wife?" asked the sentimental person. "No," replied Mr. Meekton, "but if I could have foreseen the next ten years I would have been."—Washington Star.

Her Fruit.

"I wish I was a fish," sighed Susie. "Why?" "Cause papa said the ocean was full of currents, and I like currants better than any kind of fruit 'cept bananas, apples, oranges and sweet potatoes!"—Pittsburg Press.

He Paid It.

Everbroke—I want to pay you something on account. Tailor (rubbing his hands)—Ah, I'm glad to see you. Everbroke—Yes; I want to pay you a compliment on your artistic way of dunning. Sh—not a word! You deserve it. Good morning.

Cured.

Doctor (to wife of patient)—And—er—I hope you took his temperature this morning. Wife—Well, it were like this, sir. I put the barometer on 'is chest, and it went round to very dry, sir, so I gave 'im a pint of beer and 'e went to work this morning.—London Mail.

His Idea.

"What is your idea of a really perfectly good time, Bjlinks?" asked Bjjonson, meeting the little chap at the club. "Seeing my mother-in-law off to Europe for six months," said Bjlinks without any hesitation.—Judge.

So Settled.

"Yes, I am opposed to American girls marryin' furriners," said old Mrs. Sipes. "I'm 'jist that opposed to it that if my girls can't marry people of their own sex they needn't marry at all, and that's all there is about it!"—Lippincott's.

An Odd Blunder.

When the British admiralty built the splendid naval barracks at Chatham it fitted up one of the largest rooms in fine style for court martials and had "Court Martial" inscribed on a big brass plate on the door. When it was about to be used for the first time the discovery was made that the regulations require all naval court martials to be held on the water.

The Feast of Nature.

The Feast of Nature was a grand French revolutionary holiday, held Aug. 10, 1793. A plaster image of Nature was erected in the Place de la Bastille, and the chief members of the convention, public committees and other functionaries knelt in adoration, after which came firing of salutes, dancing and general rejoicings. The holiday celebrated the finished construction of the republic.

A Joke on the Artists.

Some years ago there was a colony of artists painting in a Maine village some twenty miles from Prout's Neck. All were enthusiastic admirers of Winslow Homer, and all, having had a go at the painting of rocks and sea and realizing how difficult was the task, betwought them of Homer, only twenty miles away.

Mock Suns.

Mock suns are similar in point of origin to the mirages of the desert, only they occur in the arctic circle. As the long winter night of the polar region wanes once every twenty-four hours a slight glow is seen at some point on the horizon. Often accompanying this glow is seen the phenomenon of the mock suns. Several degrees up in the heavens as many as five of these spectral orbs have been seen at one time.

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