

ODD ANIMAL FAMILIES

SOME STRANGE ADAPTATIONS HAVE BEEN NOTED.

Friendly Relations Often Formed Between Cats and Dogs—Story of French Chicks That Had a Feline Foster Mother.

The cases in which cats and dogs have formed close relations are, of course, too numerous to mention. It really seems as if there were no animal friendship so strong and lasting as that between cats and dogs when once it is formed. It is well known that mother cats when deprived of their new-born progeny will adopt puppies, rabbits, monkeys or almost any other tender young creatures that may be handy. But there recently came to light a case for which there is no such apparent explanation.

A cat and a female fox terrier, which had brought into the world their progeny at about the same time, deliberately swapped their young, the cat taking the puppies to bring up and the dog the kittens. The exchange was satisfactory, and both litters were brought in good health to the weanable stage. Nobody knows what led to such abnormal conduct.

A somewhat similar case is reported from Halle, Germany. A householder there having a female cat and a female dog with families of young, felt that his house was in danger of becoming a sort of Noah's ark, and took away and drowned all the kittens. The puppies found favor in his eyes.

Deprived of her little ones, the cat began to "spell" the female dog in taking care of the puppies. As soon as the mother dog left her nest the bereaved mother cat crawled into it and nursed the puppies. Nothing loath, the puppies took all that came to them, and thrived prodigiously. The cat licked them and took care of them as she would have taken care of her own.

A certain cat, the story of whose career is vouched for by a cat club, adopted a litter of young rabbits and nourished them well. This cat was, for that matter, very sociable and inclusive in her likings. One year her constant companion was a chicken. The two ate habitually out of the same dish and slept every night in the same inclosure.

There is an authentic story of a male and a female cat in France that lived on terms of perfect amity with all the animals on the place—dogs, chickens and what not. It so happened that a hen which had a brood of seven chickens was killed accidentally. The cat, which some two weeks before had been deprived of her kittens, appeared to observe the predicament of the seven little chickens. She crawled into their nest and the chickens, looking for warmth, nestled into her warm fur, peeping gratefully. The chickens, fed by their owner, thrived perfectly, and every day the strange sight was presented of their following the mother-cat about the premises, as if expecting her to find them food after the manner of a hen.—New York Press.

What Should Be Done With Parents. It seems remarkable that with about sixteen thousand new criminal statutes recorded each year nothing has yet been done for the regulation of parents.

Children are, daily, nay, hourly, subjected to mortification because their parents commit some breach of modern etiquette or betray hopeless ignorance on some vital point, and this goes on day after day and year after year and nothing is done about it.

Too much, of course, should not be expected of our modern parents; that they know nothing of geography is, for example, not necessarily to be laid to their discredit. But that they are hopelessly ignorant of slang, that they sniff at cigarettes and rouge and that they like to see plays where the villain meets his just due and virtue its reward, and that they wear shockingly old-fashioned clothes, are all matters for public as well as private concern.

What are we to do with parents who never drink anything stronger than lemonade, leave their spoons in their coffee cups, refuse to sit in roof gardens until midnight and dislike to ride in a motor going more than thirty miles an hour?—Life.

Mating. "This is the mating season," said a clergyman. "I shall add appreciably to my income by mating youths and maidens in this soft, brilliant weather." He smiled.

"I mated a girl yesterday," he said, "to a youth with a rather thick head. At the beginning of the ceremony I said to him:

"You are to repeat this after me." "And then, prior to beginning the declaration, I whispered: "Take her right hand." "Take her right hand," the stupid fellow bellowed, and everybody in the church laughed.

"Afterward he couldn't get the ring on the bride's finger.

"Wet it," I whispered.

"And acting on my advice, he put her little white finger in his mouth, and, after lubricating it thoroughly, succeeded in making the ring slip on."

Its Style. "Do you know her cool impudence is like a condiment to the others' conversation."

"Yes; something of what you might call Chili sauce."

HIS CREDENTIALS STRONG

Reformed Burglar Secured Job Selling Safes, Although Business Was Rather Dull.

"We are not taking on any new traveling men just now," the safe manufacturer said. "Business is rather dull in our line."

"Well, if you need one, let me know," said the applicant for a job. "I'd rather sell your safe than any there is in the market. It's the best."

"Are you an expert?"

"Yes, sir, I know all there is to be known about safes."

"Ever deal in them?"

"No, sir."

"Ever work in a factory?"

"No, sir."

"How do you know ours is the best?"

"Because it takes longest to break into it."

"How do you know that?"

"I'm a reformed burglar."

He got the job.

An Aid to Elegance.

"What book helped you most, Mr. Greatwad, during your younger days?"

"A copy of an ancient atlas which, strangely enough, somebody had left in the hall bedroom I occupied."

"Ah! You studied it during your leisure moments, I presume?"

"Oh, not at all, but I found the book of great assistance in keeping my trousers pressed while I was courting my employer's daughter."

Her Dearest Pets.

"I have a heart rending scene in my new drama."

"How now?"

"The heroine is in such reduced circumstances that she has to cook the canary."

"Sad, sad."

"But the worst is yet to come. She has to build the fire with the rubber plant."

One Way.

"Your cook told me she was going to leave you."

"I know, but I fixed her so she will stay on indefinitely."

"Raise her wages?"

"No, I sent my husband to the kitchen to discharge her. That made her so mad that she is determined to stay just to show him who is boss."

Glad Relief.

"Thank heaven those bills are got rid of," said Bilkins, fervently, as he tore up a bundle of statements of accounts dated October 1.

"All paid, eh?" said Mrs. Bilkins.

"O, no," said Bilkins. "The duplicates dated November 1 have come in and I don't have to keep these any longer."—Harper's Weekly.

In the "One Gallus" Country.

A northerner asked a cracker if he thought he could get a new pair of suspenders at the ferry store. After he had ridden on, the half grown son of the cracker asked, "Pap, what's them?"

"I reckon they be galluses," was the reply.

"But, pap, what's he a-goin' for to get a par fur? D'y reckon he's got two par o' briches?"—Lippincott's.

Almost a Case of Contempt.

The attorney for the prosecution mopped his perspiring brow.

"Your honor," he said, "in view of the stifling heat I suggest that we suspend proceedings in this trial for a day or two and give the weather a chance to moderate."

This brought the attorney for the defense to his feet.

"But the jury—"

"O, let the jury go hang!"

LUCKY.

First Farmer—Hayrick put four mortgages on his cow.

Second Farmer—Yes, and yesterday his cow was killed on the railroad, and he'll get damages.

A Slight Mistake.

"Poor old Bill has just found out why the police have been shadowing him."

"Why have they?"

"Because the people who live under him on the ground floor told the police that he was a second-story man."

Don't Mind High Prices.

"You don't mind high prices?"

"No," replied the resolute philosopher. "When prices are high, think how much more you save every time you decide to get along without something."

Forced to It.

Dr. Piller—You must diet yourself and eat plain food, and not stay out late at night.

Patient—That is what I have been thinking ever since you sent in your last bill.

Consolation.

Mrs. Newgold (in the picture gallery)—This, Aunt Eunice, is a real old master.

Aunt Eunice—Well, I shouldn't care if it was; it's just as good as some of the new ones.—Life.

Emancipated Woman Coins This New Word for Spouse Who Hampers His Wife's Progress.

We are indebted to the undaunted sisterhood marching on toward emancipation, and whose success we can now scarcely doubt, for the new word "husbandette." Compacted into that rather imposing-looking word, we may imagine some of the asperity expressed in the caustic oratory that marks the meetings of the more advanced battalions for the right as against masculine oppression.

We are told that a husbandette is a married man who will neither follow nor accompany his wife in her political flights, nor is he willing to permit her to broaden mentally and politically. He prefers her to keep her ideas of freedom shut up in a tiny space. Also, "continues this enlightener," "the husbandette is to the modern woman what the kitchenette is to the modern apartment."

With this further explanation, we are rather more confused than if the architecturally domestic simile had not been subjoined to the description that preceded it.

To the grave and for the most part unimaginative male mind, "husbandette," from its very orthography, would more readily suggest the deferential person united by the law and by annexation and subjugation to the superior being who says: "I and Mr. Smith think thus and so."

The suffix "ette" in its English usage indicates something inchoate, not fully in possession of its powers and faculties, still nebular, perhaps, with potentialities that may or may not find development according to the removal or nonremoval of hindrances natural or artificial.

In this inanimate world its meaning is clear enough. A wagonette is a little wagon, or a lighter one than the standard; a serviette a small napkin, pantalette an abbreviated trouser. It is for this reason of its implication of diminution that "kitchenette" means an abridged kitchen. Husbandette would thus by extension, as the lexicographers say, be an abridged husband, which is as near as we can come to what we are driving at.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Tact That Made Friends.

There is on record a tale of a pinch of snuff that turned enemies into friends. A well-known tobacco and snuff manufacturer's son entered one of the crack English cavalry regiments, to the great disgust of the aristocratic "gentlemen and officers" thereof. It was privately decided to make the intruder feel that he was not wanted in that exclusive unit of the service, and a neat plan was formed with that object. As soon as the desert was over and the wine was on the rounds, on the first night he appeared at mess his brother officers simultaneously took out their pocket handkerchiefs, and then ensued what was more like a sneezing competition than anything else. The one for whose benefit this little hint was intended looked around a moment in mild astonishment before taking in the import of the display. Then he rose, dignified and calm, and with the politest air in the world, "Gentlemen," he said, taking out a silver-mounted snuff box, "allow me to offer you a pinch of my father's very best snuff." From that moment all antagonism was at an end.

Photographing the Sea Bottom.

In France experiments have been made that promise considerable success in submarine photography. A specially constructed camera was carried down by a diver to a depth of twenty-two or twenty-three feet, and with an exposure of half an hour, negatives were obtained which were fairly satisfactory.

It was found that the best results were obtained by placing a blue glass in front of the lens. It is intended to have improved lenses specially constructed for underwater work in France.

Flashlight photographs of the sea bottom during a storm have been obtained. This light was furnished by an alcohol lamp fed by a reservoir of oxygen. Magnesium powder was projected into the flame through a tube from the shore. It is thought that such flashlight photographs may be made at any depth to which a diver may descend.—Harper's Weekly.

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A Vain Precaution.

Lord Talbot De Malahide was talking in New York about the thoroughness of the customs investigations.

"The smuggler," he said, "is bound to be detected if he tries his little game in your metropolis. The smuggler's precautions against detection at this admirably-managed port are as vain and ludicrous as the precautions of the dreaming Irishman."

"An Irishman, you know, once dreamed that he was visiting the late Queen Victoria."

"Will you have a drink?" the queen said to him.

"I will," said the Irishman. "A drop of Irish, av course, hot by preference, your majesty."

"So the queen put on the kettle, but when the water boiled, the noise awoke the dreamer."

"Holy St. Patrick!" said he, "I'll take it cold next time!"

Consolation.

Mrs. Newgold (in the picture gallery)—This, Aunt Eunice, is a real old master.

Aunt Eunice—Well, I shouldn't care if it was; it's just as good as some of the new ones.—Life.

VIRGINIA HAS MOST FISH

Maryland Claims Largest Number of Professional Fishermen—Alaska's Catch Most Valuable.

One out of every 400 persons in the United States is engaged in the task of catching enough fish to satisfy the appetite of the remaining 399. In other words, there are nearly a quarter of a million men who catch fish not because they like the fun of it but because they are paid for it. They catch approximately 1,000,000,000 pounds of fish a year, and this is worth, all told, upward of \$50,000,000, or say, two-thirds of the total capital invested in the industry. A considerable part of the capital, over \$20,000,000, is tied up in vessels, of which a recent enumeration showed 85,115.

Maryland has by far the largest number of professional fishermen. Its figures are 42,812, as against the 29,379 of Virginia. Maine, with 16,945, and Massachusetts, with 14,363, follow, and then comes Alaska, with 13,106. Other states with more than 10,000 are North Carolina, 12,045; New Jersey, 12,030, and New York, 11,560.

It is Virginia, however, that catches the most fish. Its showing is 378,183,358 pounds, as against New York's 228,092,285 and Alaska's 165,326,990. But Alaska's catch is worth the most in the market—\$10,000,000, or more than twice as much as the next two, New Jersey and Virginia. Alaska also has the most money invested in fishing boats, something above \$3,000,000. Massachusetts is a trifle under the same figure. New York and Maryland have invested about \$2,000,000, and Virginia, California and Maine all more than \$1,000,000. Virginia has the most fishing vessels, 13,260 in number. Maryland's number 11,496, New Jersey's 7,084, Maine's 6,238 and New York's 5,289.

Qualit Conditions of Tenure.

When the Earls of Derby were lords of the Isle of Man they held their lands on condition of giving two falcons to the kings of England on their coronation. The lord of the manor of Nether Blesington, in Kent, had to provide three maple cups. Bearing a towel for the king when washing before the banquet was the service which entitled the owner of the manor of Heydon, in Essex, to one-half of his lands, while to retain possession of the other half he had to provide the basin and ewer. The manor of Liston, in the same county, was held on the easy terms of making wafers for the king and queen to eat at the banquet. Not the least curious rented was that for the manor of Addington, in Surrey, the owner of which had to present a basin of krut to the king. This service was imposed in the reign of the Conqueror, when the manor was held by the king's cook.

Exception to the Rule.

The teacher was giving the school a little lecture on good conduct and how to get on. "Let me caution you on another point, children," she said. "Avoid criticising. Don't make a practice of finding fault with other people or picking flaws in what they say or do. It is a very bad habit to form and will make your own life unhappy."

"Why, teacher," spoke up a little boy, "that's the way my father makes his livin'!"

"You surprise me, Georgy. What is your father's occupation?"

"He's a proofreader, ma'am."

The teacher coughed.

"Well, Georgy," she said, "I will make an exception in the case of your father."—Rehoboth Sunday Herald.

Distant Relative.

Johnny's mother bought him a fire engine. He wanted to see how it worked, and of course in a very short time the wheels were off. She was naturally very angry with him and punished him severely. When daddy came home he found his small son sitting in the nursery with very red eyes.

"Why, my poor old man," he inquired, "what is the matter?"

"Nuffin," sniffed the small boy.

"But something must be wrong," persisted daddy. "Do tell me."

"Oh, well, if you want to know," said the little boy, "I have just been having an awful row with your wife."

—Tit-Bits.

Cocoa and Chocolate.

Chocolate and cocoa are both prepared from the cocoa bean (Theobroma Cacao) and by a similar process, viz., the grinding of the seeds in a very fine paste. Chocolate and cocoa are not the same thing, however, though they are quite commonly confounded commercially. The paste when unmixed, or mixed with flour of other farinaceous material, is usually called cocoa; but when much sugar or spices such as vanilla, cinnamon, etc., are added, it bears the name of chocolate.

Larger Field.

"Father, I am not sure whether I shall be a specialist for the ears or the teeth."

"Choose the teeth, my boy; every one has 12 of them, but only two ears."

—Sacred Heart Review.

The Shocking Part.

"This book is rather racy. Wasn't your husband shocked?"

"He was when he learned I had bought it instead of getting it from the public library."

Degrees.

Photographer—It's rather too late to photograph your little boy this evening, madam.

Mamma—Surely there's enough light for a child like him.

THE MOTOR CAR OF THE RAIL

Vehicles for Railroad Officials That Now Take the Place of Special Trains.

El Dorado, Okla.—As the motor car is becoming the chief vehicle of travel, pleasure and business, so the motor car is becoming one of the most useful articles on the railroad lines. Thirty years ago no one knew of the possibilities of gasoline as a power producer.

It is only recently that the gasoline motor car has come into use on the railroads. The engineers and operating officials often are required to make trips over the line on inspection. Sometimes they can have a private car attached to a regular train, but this sort of inspection is often unsatisfactory on account of the speed of the

train. A special inspection train is costly.

The inspection cars have long been in use, but the steam cars are giving place to the gasoline car. The accompanying picture shows the steam inspection car used by Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe officials for many years. The car was built in Chicago and was often operated over the main line and later taken to the New Mexico division and used there four years in inspection trips. It was operated by a steam engine of its own. J. N. Steen was the engineer, fireman, conductor and brakeman of this train, for it was always operated under special train orders. Steen is now in charge of the Santa Fe pumping plant at this place. He operated the car for three years. Some years ago the car met a work train between La Joya and Alamillo, N. M., and that was the end of it. No one was injured in the wreck. The Santa Fe had several cars like the car.

The other picture shows the new style of inspection car used by Santa Fe officials. It is a gasoline driven 4-cylinder engine that will drive the car twenty miles an hour.

DESTRUCTIVE PEST IN BRAZIL

Ant Found in Large Numbers Which Attacks and Destroys the Native Woods.

Rio Janeiro, Brazil.—The "cupim" is a Brazilian ant that is particularly destructive of lumber. They are found in the forests of Brazil in great numbers. They attack the native woods, hard and soft, as soon as it has been felled, working from the outside directly toward the heart, and burrowing longitudinally, they honey-comb and destroy in a manner similar to the teredo.

Pine lumber was imported from the United States for railway construction and until nearly two years after

its use their attacks on it were not noticed; after about that period of time, however, a section cut from a floor joist disclosed the heart practically destroyed.

They work in the dark, building tunnels of mud on the outside of the bark, and vertical shafts of mud from the ground to the under side of timber stored in piles. They will destroy almost anything but steel and concrete. The ridgepoles, three or four inches in diameter, in palm sheds have been destroyed in two months.

The illustration from the Bulletin of the Pan-American Union shows the nest of the "cupim" on a growing tree.

Nest of the Cupim.

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