

BANDON RECORDER.

The Song of the Grouse. Certain birds when the period of courtship comes round repair to particular trysting places and announce their presence there by well known calls or signals.

The ruffed grouse, as every one knows, seeks an old log or other convenient perch and drums with his wings, a hint to any lady grouse within hearing that "Barkis is willin'." The performance of the grouse is one frequently heard, but comparatively seldom seen, and for many years there were numerous conflicting theories concerning the means by which the drumming was produced. Some said that the sound was vocal, and others declared that the grouse struck the log with its wings. Even today the precise cause of the sound is not known.

Why Dinah Wept.

Not long ago a lieutenant in the navy was ordered away on a three years' cruise. The order had been dreaded for weeks, and when it came the young wife, who was to be left in a Brooklyn flat with a baby and a colored servant, was in despair.

She controlled her sorrow very well, however, until the actual moment of parting came, and then she wept as though her heart would break. The cruiser was to leave the navy yard early next morning, and the lieutenant had gone to report for duty.

In the midst of her lamentations the young wife heard a sniffling and sobbing in the dining room, and upon glancing through the door she saw Dinah, the colored maid, rocking her body to and fro in a chair and weeping violently.

"Why, D-D-Dinah, what's the matter?" cried the mistress. "You seem to be heart-broken. What's the matter with you?"

"Deed I doent, Ma'am! Deed I doent!" sobbed Dinah. "What an boderin dis chile am de fact dat a culud genman friend of mine am gwine sail hisse'f on dat same ole cruizah!"

The White Shark.

The shark of sharks, the real "man eater" and the one most dreaded, is the white shark. This variety reaches a length of 35 feet and a weight of 2,000 pounds. Its head is long and flat, and the snout far overhangs the mouth. Its six rows of teeth are sharp as lancets and notched like saws.

Laughter. Laughter is a positive sweetness of life; but, like good coffee, it should be well cleared of deleterious substance before use.

An Aldermanic Bill. Some time ago a follower of one of the city aldermen cast covetous glances upon a desirable newsstand under the elevated railroad stairs.

India and Ceylon have competed so successfully with China in the production of tea that whereas in 1880 2,100,000 hundredweight of the leaf were exported from China only 1,631,000 hundredweight left the country in 1890.

At the Paris exposition the United States weather bureau was awarded a grand prize. Gold medals were also awarded to Professor C. F. Marvin for instruments, apparatus and appliances and to Professor A. J. Henry for cloud photographs.

Not For His Health. Inhabits—Why are you moving from four suburban homes? Subbits—I am all run down. Inhabits—Malaria? Subbits—No; gossipy neighbors.

POLLY LARKIN

Better than costly monuments of marble or granite to commemorate the date of his birth and death and keep his name in evidence before the people after he is dead and gone, is the legacy George Lyndon has left to keep his name ever green among the young of Boulder Creek.

George Lyndon, who has now reached the ripe old age of 70 years, was many years ago a policeman in San Francisco with a Kearny street beat. He had been twice to Europe and half a dozen times across the continent. Then he found himself at the age of three-score and ten at Boulder Creek, Santa Cruz county, penniless and hungry.

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The lease was for four acres of an almost precipitous hill, stretching from the railroad yard to the river below. It was overgrown with brush so thick that a bird could not fly through it.

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A TEST OF COURAGE.

The Exciting Race Between Kean and the Stage Hand. Some strange tales have been told by old timers in the stage business about the Kean, both the elder and the last to be seen on the American stage.

It was up to Lieutenant Farrow once to emulate their example, but the West Pointer used his wits and escaped the ordeal. The Indian scouts that joined forces with the United States army in 1878 to make prisoners of the Sheep Eaters in western Idaho were skeptical at first of Lieutenant Farrow's abilities to lead them into battle.

First they gave themselves up to all kinds of physical torture as a lesson to him. They slashed their bodies with knives without showing pain. They slit the skin on their chests, ran skewers therunder and jerked off cutaneous and fleshy strips while smiling happily in his face.

The necessary pin was in the lapel of his fatigue jacket. Ruthlessly he slit the front of his breeches leg from pocket to knee, then his drawers till the front of the thigh was exposed to the wondering gaze of the Indians.

And this is no "fairy tale," this little story of George Lyndon's patient handiwork, but is all gospel truth, and if every visitor from home and abroad does not drop a liberal contribution into that small box when they visit Lyndon Park, then Polly will believe that gratitude, admiration and appreciation have gone out of the hearts of mankind and that we are an ungrateful people.

BRIEF REVIEW.

What We Spend for Drinks. According to the American Grocer, we, the people of the United States (including Kansas and Maine), spent one thousand and sixty million dollars last year for alcoholic drinks.

In the course of a few hours all were united again, but the courage test was not renewed. Twenty-two years after this exciting incident, on a certain evening in 1900, Farrow guarded a box in the Madison Square Garden when Buffalo Bill's Wild West was in full blast.

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CHOICE MISCELLANY

Queer News and Figures. While the emigration from Ireland increases from year to year a curious phenomenon is observed in the United Kingdom. The number of marriages is increasing, and the number of births is decreasing.

It is told by an old New Orleans horseman, who is here from the Crescent City, that when Kean the younger was playing there he nearly scared a super to death and came near "pinning" him.

It was in "Richard III." in the scene where he sees the ghosts. The stage manager was a bit the worse for drink and determined to have some fun. He did not like Kean, as he was a hard man behind the scenes.

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USING AN AESTHETIC.

The Facts About the Effects of Chloroform and Ether. A curious case of robbery under chloroform which was decided in London not long ago was followed with great interest by writers on medical jurisprudence.

Very extravagant ideas prevail among the public as to the power of anaesthetics, owing perhaps to the license employed by novelists when they describe "fancy" cases in their books. One reads, for instance, of a man in a railway carriage waving a handkerchief before the face of a fellow traveler and producing instantaneous unconsciousness.

The intellectual training entailed by such a course of instruction would in itself be most valuable and the results peculiarly interesting. It would teach pupils to "think" and induce a habit of mind in the examination and criticism of mechanisms that should prove of the greatest use to them in their subsequent careers.

Uncle Sam's Freak Batteries. Only a few years ago a battery of pneumatic dynamite guns was erected at Sandy Hook at the expense of the United States government and a similar battery at San Francisco. Some of them are of 15 inch caliber, throwing a shell carrying a maximum charge of nitrocellulose of 500 pounds a mile and a half.

Little Known About Morocco. Nobody knows what the population of Morocco is. Estimates place it all the way from 2,500,000 to 9,400,000, says a correspondent of the New York Press. A large part of the country is totally unexplored.

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