

## ROYAL ECONOMY.

### All Game Killed at Shooting Parties Sold at the Highest Market Rates.

Emperor William has, much to the disgust of a considerable portion of his subjects, inaugurated the practice of having all the game killed at the Imperial shooting parties sold for the highest possible price to the game dealers of the Prussian capital. Hitherto it has always been customary that such of the game as was not required for the royal household or for presentation to the participants in the hunt should be given to the hospitals and charitable institutions of Berlin.

The same thing is done by the royal family in England, according to the New York Recorder, and immense hampers of game shot at Windsor, Osborne, Sandringham and Balmoral are received by the various London hospitals during the autumn and early winter months.

In France, however, at the presidential battues in the state forests of Rambouillet all the game shot is sold to the Paris game dealers, this method of disposal having been inaugurated under the economical, and in every way mean, regime of President Grevy.

The idea of selling game shot on the estate to game dealers would have been regarded as the height of bad form and vulgarity thirty or forty years ago in England, and the adoption of the practice is altogether attributable to the indiscriminate and wholesale slaughter of birds and ground game, most of the former artificially bred.

Where formerly hundreds of heads of game were shot to-day they are numbered by thousands, the majority of the birds having in most cases been purchased and imported into the preserves but a few days previous to the shoot. The selling of the game is, I suppose, destined in a measure to reduce the expense involved by the purchase of the birds.

At one of the great country houses not a hundred miles distant from Paris, the preserves of which are famous throughout Europe for the abundance of the game, every piece is sent to Paris for sale and the strictest rule prevails against any of the guests who have taken part in the battue from appropriating any bird that they may have shot. No one is permitted to retain his day's bag.

Some of them used to endeavor to avoid this regulation, whereupon the noble proprietor made a point of going round the various bed and sitting rooms while his guests were at their post-prandial coffee for the purpose of hunting up any game that they might have hidden away. On such occasions as these he was accompanied by a dog specially trained for that purpose, who would at once commence to point on entering any room where there were hares or birds concealed.

## ONE BIG DIAMOND.

### A Man in Brazil Is Made Rich by Finding It.

"Diamonds, are rather plentiful, nowadays," said a jeweler to a representative of the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, "but like many great men, there are very few large ones. We all know of the Kohinoor, the whilom treasure of the kahn of Persia, and again the great orange diamond, now in possession of the German emperor; but the largest diamonds are not always finest.

"Sometimes a large diamond fails to sparkle properly, lacks radiance and color. Such a stone upon being divided will often make several very brilliant and valuable small diamonds, whose aggregate value would be more than the great colorless original. In the early dawn of civilization diamonds were the cause of more crime than even gold or silver. They have been swallowed for safe-keeping, frequently causing death.

"Murder after murder can be traced to one or the other of these great diamonds as the principal cause. Some dire state intrigues and plots have had a diamond for the center or nucleus. One of the finest diamonds in the world was found not long since in the Brazilian sands. It came in a novel form. A small quartz rock was found, about the size and shape of an egg, lying in the sands along the bank of the Amazon, in Brazil. This was carried home by a Brazilian peasant, who was attracted

by its good shape and light weight.

"For some time it lay in his home, with a number of other geological specimens, a mere curiosity. Happening one day in handling it to drop it on a stone block, it burst open and lay in halves on the block. The hollow interior that gave the light weight to the stone was filled with blood red sand. In this sand lay the diamond, a sparkling gem of the rarest quality. The stone was later sold to a diamond merchant, and left the finder exceedingly wealthy.

"It is safe to say that the next egg-shaped stone found in that section will not long remain unbroken, and now that the quality and value of a diamond so formed is well known the next finder will realize a fortune out of it most certainly."

### Beggars in St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg is troubled with large numbers of mendicants who grow bolder every day. Every person of respectable standing is importuned by begging letters and oftentimes by the personal intrusion of beggars, who impudently insist upon compliance with their demands. Even soldiers are approached with the demand that they share their rations with the poor. The chief of the St. Petersburg police has therefore issued an order that house janitors and policemen on duty shall arrest every beggar pointed out to them by private citizens. In order to prevent the crowding of mendicants at the entrances of theaters and other places of amusement, lines are drawn at a distance of two blocks around them, within which no crowding of people and no loungers are allowed to remain. Vehicles bringing passengers to such public resorts must withdraw beyond the line and not approach the gateway until they are called. The police force was considerably increased to give effect to these new regulations.

### LIFT YOUR HATS.

#### Neglect to Do So on Meeting a Lady Is a Breach of Good Manners.

"There are two occasions upon which I never will recognize a gentleman, not even my own husband," said a well-known society woman the other day to a New Orleans Picayune man. "If he is sitting on a street corner to have his shoes blacked he might bow at me and the crack of doom, but I would not recognize him. Or if he was coming out of a saloon."

"Did you ever have a man greet you in the street without lifting his hat?" asked a friend.

"Once or twice, but I never recognized that individual again. One of the best known clergymen in New Orleans makes a habit of not raising his hat to some ladies he knows. He would not feel flattered if he could hear the comments that are made on his boorish manners."

"Perhaps he forgets," said a man who was ready to defend his sex.

"That is no excuse. I would not expect an armless man to lift his hat to me on the street, but nothing less could excuse him. A gentleman has no business to forget at least the appearance of good breeding. A woman feels a man has treated her with almost familiar contempt who does not lift his hat when speaking to her, and if she has any spunk at all she will never bow to him again."

### A Decidedly Lucky Accident.

It was a fortunate accident that led to the discovery of the method of transferring handwriting to iron. A Pittsburgh iron founder, while experimenting with molten iron in different conditions, accidentally dropped a ticket into a mold. He presently found that the type of the ticket was transferred to the iron in distinct characters. Following up the idea which this fact suggested, he procured a heat-proof ink, with which he wrote invertedly on ordinary white paper. This paper was introduced into the mold before the molten iron was poured in. When the mold cooled the paper had been consumed by the heat, but the ink, which remained intact, had left a clear impression on the iron.

A LONDON confectioner says that he is sometimes called on to furnish wedding cakes weighing 1,000 pounds each, and puddings of a size sufficient for 500 hearty appetites.

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