



LOAFING ON A SUMMER DAY.

The lazy boy sprawled on his back and squinted at the sky. Wishing he were the long-winged bird that slantwise sailed on high; For day was lapsing swiftly, half way from dawn to noon.

Cupid with a Jimmy

WHEN John Trumbull fell in love with vivacious and sprightly Gertrude Moore no one would ever have suspected that he was a scholar, a thinker and a settled man of 40.

"All right dear," said John, and home he went, not stopping long enough to finish up the recollections of the college fight.

At home he found his wife sitting curled up on a little settee looking very much as she had looked when five years before he had begged and entreated and kissed her into saying "Yes."

The year's great treadmill round was done, its drudgery ended well. And now the sunny holiday had caught him in its spell.

It's good to work and good to win the wages of the strong; Sweet is the one of laborer's hire, and sweet the workman's song;

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THREE BIG CANALS.

PROJECTED AND ENGINEERED BY AMERICANS.

Vast Sums Expended and Enormous Expenditures Contemplated—Greatest Artificial Waterway in a Sanitary Canal—Plans for Erie Enlargement.

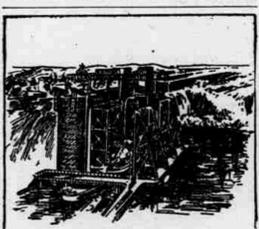
The past hundred years have often been denominated as comprising "the railway age"; quite as importantly is it the great canal era.

With the foremost of the list—the Chicago drainage canal—the public is entirely familiar. Facts and figures Hudson River, above Albany. Its length is 363 miles. It was finished in 1825, and enlarged thirty-five years later, the total cost being \$50,000,000.



PROPOSED FORTIFICATIONS AT GREYTOWN HARBOR.

are clear and fresh in mind, and there are few who do not comprehend and appreciate the great work accomplished. It is bewildering, however, to realize what has been wrought through engineering science from a stream of wide fluctuations, with no constant and reliable fountain supply, now pouring over an artificial spillway 300,000 cubic feet of water a minute.



PNEUMATIC LOCK, ERIE CANAL.

monuments to human ingenuity and patience as lasting, as marvelous as the pyramids of Egypt. With the scheme for the enlargement of the Erie canal the public is less familiar. This is the second of the great waterway triumphs of the age.



THE BEAR TRAP DAM, DRAINAGE CANAL.

plung port of the nation. Until the railroads entered into competition for the carrying trade, all the vast products of the West found their way to market through this commercial artery, and a considerable portion of it still reaches the seaboard through that channel, while the construction of the Welland ship canal from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario, through Canadian territory, is diverting enormous quantities of grain in that direction.

The man who is as honest as the day is long never gets up at 4 o'clock in the morning to be led into temptation. Some women are near-sighted, but they manage to hear all that's going on.

With the completion of these three projects, the Chicago drainage canal, the Erie and the Nicaragua, the United States would score up some \$350,000,000 against a trio of waterways not possessed by any other nation on the earth.

COSTLIEST RABBITS ON EARTH.

Each One Caught on a Plantation Was Worth Twelve Hundred Dollars. "The most expensive rabbit on record," said a well-known river man, "lived and is probably still living on a big sugar plantation in Jefferson parish. No, I am not joking; I am in dead earnest. The place I refer to is owned by an old friend of mine and is one of the finest on the whole river. It has been worked of late years almost entirely by Italian labor and the foreman here had a good deal of trouble in coping with some of the peculiarities of the hands. Among other things they were exceedingly fond of wild game of all kinds, and had an especial and particular liking for rabbits.

There were a great many rabbits on the plantation, and these impromptu chases were so frequent that the foreman finally realized he would have to take drastic measures to stop them. Accordingly, he put all hands on notice one morning that the next man who stopped work to run after a rabbit would be docked \$5 pay. About an hour afterward a fine, fat bunnie leaped suddenly out of a furrow and started across the field. Instantly the cry went up and 250 Italians went galloping across the field.

Russian Sact that Honors Judas. In his last report to the czar, the Procurator of the Holy Synod tells of a new sect discovered in the government of Yakutsk, Eastern Siberia, and originated by a peasant, Filip Likhacheff, who was exiled to that remote region from the Ufimskaya government for belonging to the sect of the "skoptzi."

Mean Man's Mean Trick. It was a mean trick, of course, and some day she will doubtless get even with him. She saw him take a piece of paper from his pocket, carefully fold it up, put it in an envelope and then place the envelope in one of the far corners of the drawer of the library table.

Costume of Japanese. The hard-working laborers and coolies seen everywhere in Japan wear only a narrow loincloth and straw sandals. In cold and rainy weather they wear a mackintosh of loose straw over their shoulders and a mammoth rude hat.

The Flague in Canton. In 1894 the plague destroyed 80,000 of the 1,000,000 inhabitants of Canton. A dollar will buy a lot of necessities, but few pleasures.

Instructions in Bread-Making. Secretary Wilson has undertaken to teach the women of this country how to make good bread. He has prepared and published a bulletin which will be sent to all who apply to the Agricultural Department for copies. It begins with the kernel of wheat and gives both a scientific and a popular description of its properties and the way to use it to the best advantage.

Diamond Cutters in Amsterdam. There are ninety-two firms in Amsterdam registered as diamond cutters. In one 350 to 400 workmen are constantly employed.

English Sales of Vessels. England sold to foreign countries 388 steamers and 266 sailing vessels in 1899. Procrastination is the thief of time because it takes one so long to say it.

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Georgie's Gab

Pa and His Neighbor's Chickens. Paw's got a Garden slits we mooved Out here, but maw Says the only thing he raised so Fur is trouble. The man that Lives the other side of us Yoost to be a sea captun on the lakes, and if we had a Farrut they wouldn't be hardly enny use trying to make it a morrel Burd becoz when the captun talks you can hear him nearly all Around the maber Hood.

When paw came Home he sent me and Little albert to the store for Ten sents worth of Fishen hooks and Lines, and When we Got back he says: "I don't never want to Take a mean advantage of a Dum Creecher, but something hast to be done to Sho the captun it ain't always the man who Swails the loudest That gets the biggest Lump of shugger in his coffey."

So he cut the Fishen lines into about twenty peaces and Put a Hook on Each end of Every pece. Then He baited the Hooks with Worms and chunks of Bred and other Things chickens like pritty well and went out to do some more platen in the Garden. Every time he platen a seed He would put a Baited fishen Hook in with it.

Then he went and Told the captun he better keep his chickens at Home, and the Captun sed: "This is the Last time I want you to Come Insultin me about My chickens. Abnuddy would think this wasn't a Freee country whare people Could raise chickens if They wanted to, the Way some people talk. Now sho yourself out of here."

About a nour after that we herd a good deal of squawken in the Garden, and when we peeked Out we seen The captun's chickens There blyz scratchen up Baited hooks and swallowing them Like a boarder eats when He goes home for the Hollow days. Every little while, when one chicken had swallowed the Hook on one end of a String and some other Chicken had the hook on the other end of its Sistrum They would start away kind of pulling apart and Looking suspishus at Each other, and pritty soon all but two or Three got Hitched together.

Then trouble commenct. When one chicken tried to fly over the fents it would get jerked back by its partner at the Other end of the Line, or else if it Got over they would kind of Hang there. One on each side, and pull and scold about it, and brace their feet against the boards And try to Back up. Maw sed it made Her hart bleed for the poor things, and Paw told Her that was Becoz she was chicken harted, only it was prubbly the Chickens' gizzards that was Bleeding.

"Did you ever netus How burds and chickens and such Things go round in pairs?" paw ast. "No," says the captun. "I've herd some Birds take Their mates for Life, but I never paid much a Tenashun to it."

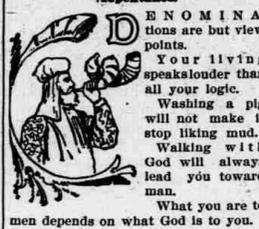
"Well," paw says, "I don't no as Chickens always mate For life, but I guess most of yours Have got into that Habbut lallyly."

"Say," the captun says, swairing a Lot more, "it's strange you can't quit harpen on my Chickens. Some people when they Get started on a Subject always run it in the Ground."

About that time the Captun's wife came around from the Back of the House and told him sumthing Seemed to be the matter with the Chickens. "Chickens!" yelled the captun. "Is everybuddy crazy on the Chicken subject? Can't I hear about anything But Chickens enny more? The next purson says chickens to me I'm agoin' to—to—"

RAM'S HORN BLASTS.

Warning Notes Calling the Wicked to Repentance.



Your living speake louder than all your logie. Washing a pig will not make it stop liking mud. Walking with God will always lead you toward man.

When the devil is sure of you he will let you alone. The stilt of pride do not help in the walk with God. A creed may be either a compass or a strait-jacket.

The harm of a creed is in converting it from a staff into a club. The perfect man in Christ was before the imperfect one in Adam. No parent weeps over the fact that the boy outgrows his clothes.

Every time you turn your eyes on evil its shadow falls on your heart. The way to flee from the justice of God is to flee to the justice of God. It will hurt you more to live a day without prayer than to live it without bread.

One reason why Job did not get entirely in the dark was because he kept looking up. It is better even to stumble along in the right road than to step firm in the wrong one.

Many a man fights for his creed who never thinks of carrying an umbrella for his wife. Better the pessimism that persists against odds than the optimism that makes no effort at all.

It is the privilege of every Christian to have a mountain-moving faith, and yet how many grow faint at the sight of a mole hill? The nation holds open the front door of the saloon while the devil tents the back door, that leads to the gutter, the brothel and hell.

What's Ran Across the Floor? A Late View fathered his little son with the value of observing things and reporting anything that seemed strange and interesting. Though not more than 5 years old, he had already taken his father's advice, although his reported discoveries of a halo around the moon and the manner in which the hens scratched up the early vegetables were more enthusiastic than valuable.

By this time the boy had excited his father's curiosity, but exhausted his knowledge. So he had to say: "What was it? I can't guess." "Why, papa, it was just some water."