

THE OREGON SCOUT.

JONES & CHANCEY, - Publishers
UNION, OREGON.

FLYING WITHOUT WINGS.

The Soaring Powers of a Peculiarly-Built Antipodean Lizard.

"Just keep your eye on that fellow." The speaker had just returned from a trip across the Pacific, and his room was filled with curiosities from every part of Southern Asia and India. From a small cage he had taken a brilliant-hued lizard. He balanced it upon his hand and with a quick motion tossed it into the air. Now a horned toad or one of the common lizards of our western slope would have gone up like a rocket and come down like a rock, but the lizard was not of this kind. It rose, then it seemed to grow larger, to swell out like a balloon, and instead of dropping it sailed away at an angle and deftly alighted on the top of a plush-covered chair, where it clung, looking about in amazement.

"Yes," continued the owner, taking the pet again, "it is a flying lizard—a wingless flyer at that, one of the most remarkable of the lizard tribe."

Tossing the little creature up again, it seemed to spread, and again flew away, buoyed by some mysterious power.

"I got my pet in the island of Borneo," said the naturalist. "It was my intention merely to collect skins, but one day I was walking along through the forest, when I saw what I took for a brilliantly colored butterfly coming along. As I drew nearer I saw that it was a lizard, and, standing perfectly still, it shot by me. Having a switch in my hand I struck it down, and so secured it, and carried it to camp in my pocket. Finding that it would live I kept it, and soon saw that it was quite a pet, and if I can get it to England, shall deposit it in the London Zoological Gardens."

On the wing the brachyolans, as this little creature is called, resembles a richly tinted insect, but when at rest it can be compared to a lizard, with extraordinary protuberances on either side. These are the so-called wings, which are formed of a cutaneous growth upon either side, wing-like in shape and supported by a series of false ribs. In color the lizard is blue and gray, with tints of various kinds and shades. The tail is long, slender, and beneath the head depends a double pouch, giving the animal a rather a ferocious appearance.

The wing-like organs are used merely as parachutes. When the lizard leaps into the air the upward current brings them out and enables the possessor to soar away at an angle to a greater or less distance, according to the height from which the leap was made.

The lizard can change its direction while in the air to either side; hence a casual observer might readily believe them to move the so-called wings and actually fly; but soaring is the limit of their powers, and in this way they travel long distances—several hundred yards from tree to tree.—San Francisco Chronicle.

A RARE CURIOSITY.

Remarkable Specimen of Coral From the Philippine Islands.

Judge E. W. Knott, deputy superintendent of the State Insurance Department, received recently from Alexander R. Webb, United States Consul at Manila, Philippine Islands, a curiosity that is exceedingly rare; a coral formation found only in the Philippine Archipelago, and is known to the natives as "flower baskets," though why such an appellation should be conferred on it is not quite clear. It is quite different from any coral that has ever been seen by those who have been fortunate enough to view the specimen which the Judge values so highly. The specimen is conical in shape, having a base of nearly two inches in diameter and rises to a height of about eight inches, growing smaller towards its top, where it ends in a tolerably sharp point. The base was formed on a smooth ledge of rock, and the architects of its construction had begun by laying cross sections of a formation resembling finest spun glass. These are laid very carefully and evenly across both ways, and are seemingly interlaced and plaited with similar formations—they could hardly be called fibers, running from top to bottom of this novel hilliputian castle. The work rises in most beautiful shape, growing gradually smaller, until within about three inches of the apex, when evidently the builders found on their hands more of the longitudinal lines than were needed in their work, and they were dropped out as the work progressed, and stand about the toy, forming a sort of tuft around the whole.

These lacings extend about one inch above the top, and contrary to usual formation of coral, they are pliable and when bent assume an upright position on being released.

It would be impossible for machine work or the work of human hands to keep up the symmetry better than these minute animalcules have done. The work resembles the finest lace, the cross bars fashioned as beautifully as possible. In looking through the cross bars one can see the remains of some small marine animal, probably a crawfish, as a tiny claw or feeler, similar to the ones such animals are adorned with, is plainly discernible. The coral is a pure white and forms a most beautiful ornament, not a spot or blemish on any portion of it.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS

An Interesting Resume of the Week's Happenings in Both Branches of the Nation's Legislature.

Samuel N. Bixley has been appointed postmaster at Kelso, Cowlitz county.

James P. Starr has been appointed postmaster at Syracuse, Polk county, in place of Frank R. Hubbard, resigned.

A railway mail service has been established on the route from Woodville to Snohomish, six times a week to take effect from the 28th.

Governor-elect Hovey has left Washington for his home in Indiana. He will resign his seat in the House, which will be filled by a special election next month.

Senator Cullom has reported favorably a bill from the commerce committee to increase the salary of the surgeon general of the marine hospital service to \$6000 per annum.

The total coinage of the United States mints for the twelve months ending the calendar year of 1888 was \$65,318,614, divided as follows: Gold, \$31,380,080; silver, \$33,925,606; minor, \$912,200.

The Secretary of the Navy has issued peremptory orders to hasten the work of preparing the United States ships Atlanta, Vandalia and Mohican for sea. It is reported that the last two named will be sent to Samoa to reinforce the Nipec.

A party of Dakota Democrats, recently elected delegates by the Mitchell convention, are now in Washington, their object being to secure necessary legislation to carry into effect the desires of the convention, and they express the intention of remaining there until that is accomplished.

The President gave a state dinner of forty-eight covers to members of the cabinet Friday night, the second of the winter's series of official entertainments. The White House was handsomely decorated for the occasion. A miniature lake, with banks lined with evergreens and red and white roses, was the principal floral decoration.

Claus Spreckels has made a statement before the Senate committee of finance, concerning his experiments in the manufacture of beet sugar in California, intended as an argument against the proposed reduction of duty on sugar and the substitution thereof of a bounty of 1 cent a pound. During the hearing it was intimated that the committee would insert in the bill a provision, making the bounty of one cent a pound operative until the year 1890.

A letter was laid before the Senate Friday from the Secretary of the Treasury in reply to a resolution of the Senate asking for copies of the ruling made by the department as to the classification of gill-nets made in Scotland, and imported for salmon fisheries on the Pacific Coast. The Secretary says no decision has been made during the past year on gill-nets ready and fit for use by salmon fishermen.

The members of the Senate committee having charge of the tariff bill have decided to offer an amendment making the duty on lumber \$1.50 per 1000 feet, a reduction of 25 per cent in the bill as reported from the committee. It was first proposed to make the duty \$1.25, but a compromise on a \$1.50 rate was secured by the senators from the Northwest. A proviso will be inserted that this rate shall be conditional on Canada removing her export duty on lumber.

C. C. W. West, Governor of Utah, is now in Washington. He intends to appear before the House committee on territories to oppose the admission of Utah as a state. This sentiment, he says, is shared by nearly every Gentleman in the territory. West places his objection on the broad ground that Mormons are unfitted to exercise the rights of citizenship. He says: "To give these people sovereign rights, as proposed, would be to place every non-Mormon in Utah completely at their mercy. Under the territorial form of government we are protected by Congress and the Executive. Confer the right of Statehood upon Utah and the Mormons would frame a constitution and laws so unjust and arbitrary in their character that an outsider could not live among them. I favor leaving it a territory, but so amending the law as to abridge the power of the church."

The National Woolgrowers' Association met in convention at Washington last week. Resolutions were adopted declaring that while Congress maintained a general policy of protection, the wool growers and wool manufacturers in the United States have a right to demand that the duties on wool and on woolen and worsted goods shall be adjusted and maintained so as to secure to them the American market. The resolutions protest against the Senate tariff bill so far as it affects wool, and providing for a committee of seven to formulate such schedule of tariff duties for wool as may be deemed just and necessary, and to present the same to the finance committee of the Senate and urge its adoption. They further declare that the determination of the economic and financial policy of this government is so important to wool-growing and all other industries and business of the nation as to require immediate and definite legislation, and if this shall not be accomplished during the present Congress an early extra session of the 51st Congress is recommended.

PACIFIC COAST NOTES.

Matters of Local and General Import Gathered from All Sources for the Benefit of Our Readers.

Fresno tailors are striking for better wages.

Albuquerque, N. M., built 300 houses last year.

Wallula and Walla Walla are now connected by rail.

John P. St. John will make his residence in California.

Traver, Tulare county, Cal., now boasts a cheese factory.

The penitentiary of Washington Territory is now heated by steam.

A gang of hoodlums at Victoria attacked the salvation army recently.

North Yakima is soon to have a system of waterworks to cost \$100,000.

Attempts have been made to rob people while getting on trains at Colton.

J. C. Leisure, of Pendleton, has resigned the position of deputy district attorney.

An effort is to be made in the Nevada legislature to obtain a charter for a lottery.

Many arrests have been made on account of the recent riot at the Newcastle mines.

The sealing schooners are all preparing to leave British Columbia ports for the north.

The repairing shops of the Oregon and Washington Territory road are to be located at Walla Walla.

The lone highwayman appears to be busily engaged in holding up stage coaches in northern California.

The wind from eastern Oregon blows alkali dust which settles on the glass of the Fort Canby lighthouse.

A colored man assaulted a pretty Pasadena girl last week, and if he had been caught the mob would have lynched him.

Large numbers of miners are flocking to the gold mines in the Harqua-Hala mountains in Yuma and Maricopa counties, A. T.

John and Fred Mize, who attempted to murder their father-in-law, Henry Caffery, at Santa Rosa, will have to serve one year in San Quentin.

A Chinaman at Sacramento attempted to take a stone from a railroad track, to prevent what he thought would be an accident, and was killed by a passing train.

The wife of Charles Allen, of Grass Valley, has been sent to the insane asylum. She fancies she is a bird, tries to imitate its twitterings and attempts to climb trees.

John Barry, a drunken scoundrel at Portland, was arrested recently for whipping his wife's dead body and dragging it from the bed to the floor, because it would not rise at his bidding.

At a recent meeting of the Columbia River Fishermen's Protective Union at Astoria, the price of salmon for the next canning season was set at \$1 per fish if caught in canneries and \$1.25 if caught in private nets.

The colored church in Sacramento had a sensation last week, when the janitor found a number of loud cigarette pictures in the seat which has been occupied the previous evening by a party of young female members.

John Foster, who stole a horse from the neighborhood of Elk Grove, Sacramento county, Cal., last month, and who left a piece of doggerel after him to induce a believe in the proximity of Black Bart, has been sentenced to ten years at San Quentin.

While passengers were being landed from the steamer Point Arena at Little River, Mendocino county, last week in a boat, the latter was capsized and Mrs. Kilday and the daughter of an assistant keeper at the light-house at Point Arena were drowned.

Last week, at Bonita, Graham county, A. T., several sheepmen were grazing their flocks near the range of some Chiricahua cattlemen, who wanted the sheepmen to go elsewhere. A battle ensued and five sheep-herders were killed and one cattleman wounded.

There is trouble over land claims at Los Olivos. Squatters are flocking in from all quarters and taking possession of land on the Brinkerhoff and Laguna extension, near the town. The land in dispute is claimed to be part of the Bell ranch, between Los Olivos and Lompoc, Santa Barbara county.

The little daughter of L. S. Kennedy, living at Pilot Rock, had a narrow escape from death last week. Two school-boys were shooting at a mark, and while crossing a field on her way to school the child was struck by a passing bullet, inflicting a painful though not serious wound above the right temple.

Charles Johnson, recently an inmate of the British Columbia penitentiary, and now a resident of Portland, was engaged last week in circulating a paper in Victoria headed, "Prison reform and hidden secrets," a brief account of the tyranny, injustice and oppression practiced in the British Columbia penitentiary." The charges made against the officials are very serious.

An increase of pension has been granted to Roswell D. Carter, of Fort Gamble, W. T.; also to W. S. Carpenter, Roxbury, I. T.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

A Brief Mention of Matters of General Interest.—Notes Gathered from Home and Abroad.

Race troubles are feared at Arcola, Miss.

Bernhardt gave ten performances at Cairo, Egypt, recently.

Last year 1356 people died of delirium tremens in England.

The Paris police will search the houses of all known anarchists.

The Sultan is one of the most enthusiastic chess players in Europe.

In Russia last year 80,000 drams were done away with by law.

Lord Coleridge has collected \$35,000 for the widow and daughters of Matthew Arnold.

The British government states that a successor to Sackville West will shortly be appointed.

Final preparations have been made for the official trial of the 15-inch pneumatic dynamite gun.

Another valuable coal deposit has just been discovered in Dakota, three miles north of Centerville.

The Italian railway system is undergoing a radical reform to facilitate the mobilization of troops.

The largest organ in the world is now being built in London for Sydney. It will cost about \$75,000.

France appears to be somewhat displeased over the debate in the U. S. Senate on the Panama canal project.

Eugene Wetherill, husband of Emma Abbott, the noted prima donna, died suddenly at Denver last week.

Mrs. Sheridan has accepted the design of Samuel H. Kittson, of New York, for the monument to General Sheridan.

President Carnot of France received nearly a thousand Christmas presents from his admiring fellow-citizens of the Republic.

Mrs. Parnell has deeded to her son, Charles Stewart Parnell, the Ironsides homestead and other property at Bordentown, N. J.

Though nearly a million Lebel rifles have been turned out in France, the government workshops are still turning out 3000 a day more.

King Leopold, of Belgium, has instructed the bishops of his little realm to have prayers offered constantly for the safety of Stanley and Emin Pasha.

A celebrated team of bull-fighters from Seville, Spain, performed before 30,000 excited people at the City of Mexico recently. Four bulls were killed.

Articles have been signed by Sullivan and Kilrain for a fight near New Orleans for a purse of \$10,000 and the diamond championship belt now held by the latter.

The most prominent brigand in China, Ho Ta Loo-hu, has been captured and killed. He was a giant, being 7 feet 2 inches in height and broad in proportion.

Five negro murderers were drowned in Broad river, S. C., a few days ago, while struggling for the possession of money they had just taken from the body of one whom they had murdered.

Empress Frederick is understood to have made friends with her eldest son, the Emperor, but she failed to receive the customary Christmas present from him. It is given out that she requested him not to send it.

James L. Wright, R. N. Keen, R. C. McAuley and Joseph S. Kennedy, the four original members of the Knights of Labor, have issued circulars to the knights which are expected to overthrow the Powderly administration in the order.

The Czar is said to have become reconciled to Prince Alexander of Battemberg, owing to the kindly efforts of a mo herly Grand Duchess who takes interest in the Princess Victoria of Prussia, and wants to see the young couple happy and married.

Deputy Sheriff Moore, of Dallas, Texas, twice rescued a burglar from the hands of a mob last week, and each time the culprit was hanging from a tree. The second time the rescue was made the deputy fired upon the lynchers and injured several.

The city council of Cheyenne, Wyo., has closed the deal with the Union Pacific and workshops will be immediately established. The citizens of Cheyenne are overjoyed, a boom has set in, and land in the neighborhood has increased in value wonderfully within the last few weeks.

M. Lucien Gaulard, who had so large a share in the introduction of the transformer system of electric lighting, died recently in a lunatic asylum in France. His friends attribute his mental failure to the legal troubles he had experienced in connection with his various patents.

When Will Bright, son of John Bright, wanted to improve his father for the latter's severity for commenting on his son's adherence to home rule principles, the young man wrote: "My dear father, these are not the kind of letters that should be addressed by one statesman to another."

It is expected that not more than one million pounds of tobacco will be raised in Egypt this year, although three million pounds have been produced in former seasons. The decrease is owing to the recent action of the Khedive in putting a tax of \$157.50 on each acre of ground devoted to this crop.

THE AGRICULTURALIST

News Notes Concerning the Farm and of Especial Interest to the Pacific Coast Husbandman.

Georgia is to have an immigration bureau to encourage immigration to the State of industrious and intelligent farmers and mechanics.

Do not be afraid to open the doors and windows of the cellar on clear days. It is much better to have pure air in the cellar than to keep it close and damp. When the cellar is musty and a disagreeable odor noticed the entire house is likewise affected.

A farm must not only be self-supporting but should pay a profit. When the farmer reaches that stage when he is compelled to borrow, or depend on some income from another source, his farm is unprofitable, and he should then endeavor not only to discover the cause of his loss but also aim to improve in some manner, in order that the farm may be self-supporting.

The most disagreeable thing on the farm in winter is mud, and, although it can not be entirely avoided, yet some of its disadvantages may be overcome by carefully draining every location that allows an excess of water to accumulate. When the cattle are compelled to stand knee deep in mud there is a loss of animal heat, and a greater proportion of food will be required to keep them in condition.

Churning cream when slightly sour, as is the custom in the Holstein dairies, yields butter of a peculiar and fine aroma. Butter made from very sour cream is destitute of this aroma, and has the taste which the Holstein butter acquires after keeping some time. Stirring of cream does not promote souring, but rather hinders it by increasing access of air; it may be advantageous in making the souring uniform.

For very early eggs warm, comfortable houses, proper feed, and good care are necessary. If the hens have to use all the feed they get to keep themselves warm, if they are not supplied with food containing egg-forming material, and if the houses are not kept clean and well ventilated, the egg basket need not be a large one. The roof of the poultry house should be tight, the sides well battened and the knot-holes covered, or the entire sides covered with tarred paper to prevent draughts, and the floor made in a way to take no drainage from the outside and be perfectly dry. For ventilation, any plan whereby the fowls can be supplied with pure fresh air without being subjected to draughts will answer.

On how many places is it a pleasure to visit the hen house? Although there has been a great change for the better during the last few years, the average hen house is still shunned by all who are not obliged to visit it. This is not surprising, as it is full of lice in summer, and in winter is foul with the stench from a year's accumulation of filth. This need not and ought not to be. The poultry on a place, especially if a pure breed is kept, should be a "joy forever." They never lose their interest. Each has its individuality, its likes and dislikes, like all other stock, and a half hour spent in watching them is always full of pleasure, and seldom without profit. Something new can be learned at every visit.

Wood ashes have too great a value to be wasted. Every farmer's family should make its own soap supply. It is cheaper for the farmer to make soap than to buy it. When not utilized on the farm, "soap grease" is either wasted or sold for a pittance. After the ashes are leached they are as good as before for manure, where the soil does not lack potash. If a teaspoonful of clean wood ashes is given every third day to horses in their feed they will very rarely need condition powders. The same amount given to cattle will have good results. Cattle, also swine, are frequently seen licking ashes where rubbish has been burned. The ashes given to hogs may be mixed with their salt. Ashes correct acidity of the stomach and destroys some intestinal worms. Wood ashes are a valuable fertilizer for all crops, but especially for orchard crops. They contain all the mineral elements required by plants. The fine condition and peculiar proportion of their ingredients make their real agricultural value greater than the value computed from chemical analysis. Coal ashes are comparatively worthless, but wood ashes should never be thrown away.

Allowing each tree thirty feet of room (that is planting the trees thirty feet apart in checked rows), an acre will permit of about fifty trees. They will not be ready for market, or to be sawed up as lumber, until they are about twenty years of age. Their value will then depend on the kind of trees and the number of feet of lumber that can be sawed from each tree. If the trees are twenty-five feet apart about sixty-five trees can be grown on an acre, but the closer the trees the slower the growth and the sooner they must be cut down. Each acre of land can be made to produce \$1000 in choice trees in twenty years, or at the rate of \$25 per acre annually, while the yield of nuts will more than pay the interest on capital. No correct estimate can be made on the value of an acre of walnut. In Indiana recently trees sold at the rate of \$3000 per acre, but they were very large. If an application of ashes be given the trees every year the growth will be increased. The profit arises from the utilization of land that would remain idle if not occupied by trees.

PORTLAND MARKET REPORT

GROCERIES—Sugars have fallen since our last report. We quote C 5½c, extra C 5½c, dry granulated 6½c, cube, crushed and powdered 7½c. Coffee firm, Guatemala 18½c, Costa Rica 18½c, Rio 20½c, Salvador 19½c, Arbuckle's roasted 23½c.

PROVISIONS—Oregon hams are quoted at 13½c, breakfast bacon 13½c, Eastern meat is quoted as follows: Hams 13½c, Sinciers 14½c, Oregon breakfast bacon 13½c, Eastern 13½c.

FRUITS—Green fruit receipts 1289 bxs. Hard fruit is scarce, and the supply of apples not equal to the demand. Apples 65¢, 85¢ per bx, Mexican oranges \$1.50, lemons \$2.50 per bx, bananas \$3.50, \$4.50, quinces 40¢ per bx.

VEGETABLES—Market well supplied. Cabbage 1½c per lb, carrots and turnips 75¢ per sack, red pepper 3¢ per lb, potatoes 35¢-40¢ per sack, sweet 14¢-20¢ per lb.

DRIED FRUITS—Receipts 91 pkgs. Sun-dried apples 4½c per lb, factory slice 4½c, factory plums 7½c, Oregon prunes 7½c, pears 9½c, peaches 8½c, raisins 24¢-25¢ per box, California figs 8c, Smyrna 18¢ per lb.

DAIRY PRODUCE—Oregon creamery and choice dairy 35c, medium 70¢, California fancy 30c, choice dairy 27½c, eastern 25¢-30c.

EGGS—Receipts 203 cases, Oregon 25c. POULTRY—Chickens 55¢-5.25, for large young and \$4-4.75 for old, turkeys 14¢-15c per lb, ducks 85¢ per dozen.

WOOL—Valley 18@20c Eastern Oregon 10@15c. HOOPS—Choice 8@14c.

GRAIN—Valley \$1.35, Eastern Oregon \$1.30 Oats 33¢-35c. FLOUR—Standard \$4.50, other brands \$4.25, Dayton and Cascade \$4.10, Graham \$3.25, rye flour \$6, do Graham \$5.50.

FRESH MEATS—Beef, live, 31¢@34c, dressed 7c, mutton, live, 31¢@33c, dressed 7c, lambs \$2.50 each, hogs, live, 5½¢@6c, dressed 7¢@7½c, veal 6½c.

The unseemly discussion which a certain class of newspapers have been making a conspicuous feature in their columns of late of the question, "Is marriage a failure?" is simply a fresh breaking out of the old and nauseous social malady of "free love." It is amazing that any editor who has either any regard for the reputation of his journal or any respect for the welfare of society should countenance the discussion of so grave a theme in the reckless and flippant style and manner in which it is treated by the class of shallow and inconoclastic writers who, in their anxiety to air their immoral sophistications, delight to exhibit their contempt for those things and institutions which reasonable and good men deem too sacred to be assailable.

The man or woman who seriously asks the question "Is marriage a failure?" is obviously disqualified, by a lack of either virtuous or proper experience, or of intelligent or thoughtful conviction, from answering or even discussing the question at all, the very asking of it being almost proof positive that the one asking it is of the affirmative way of thinking, and that he or she is of that way of thinking because of experiences, observations or theories that are at least superficial, but more probably the resultants of the individual folly or viciousness of a depraved nature. A married life that has proved a failure because the parties to the contract have had neither sense enough, mutual forbearance enough nor morality enough to be faithful to its obligations is not a just sample of the marital institution, is not a fair illustration of modern domesticity, is not an exponent of the average family condition of civilized society. It is exceptional and abnormal. A true man and a true woman, entering into the relations of man and wife with rational deliberation, with genuine affection, and with high and pure motives, do not find marriage a failure. They know what they are about before they enter into the intimate and sacred partnership. It is on their part not a matter of impulse, of emotion, of money, nor of passion, but of mutual and reciprocal affection, guided and consummated by the dictates of reason and of a thoughtful anticipation of all the possibilities and all the contingencies that are involved in the solemn compact. Such matches are made in heaven, are heavenly in their lifelong continuance, and extend beyond this life into heaven itself.

Marriage is a failure only when the man or the woman is a failure in his manhood or in her womanhood. It is never a failure when the man and the woman are true to themselves and to each other. It is never a failure where the feeling and the motive and the purpose are right. It is never a failure where good sense and good principle lead to and control the relationship. It is very rarely a failure, in any event, where children are its fruitage and the family altar is the center of its daily sanctification.

Those who sneer and mock at marriage are not God's people; they are not of those who are the best development of modern civilization; they are not illustrations either of social morality or of sound sense. They are the froth and scum that float and bubble upon the surface of social life. They are people of unbridled passions, sensual and selfish instincts or shallow minds. They are not the many, but the wild and reckless few. As a rule, marriage is not a failure, but quite the reverse. When it proves a failure, it is an exception to the rule, just as idiots, cranks, lunatics and moral lepers are exceptional developments of human evolution.—Chicago Journal.

—Miles W. Stanish, of Waldoboro, Me., is a direct descendant of Captain Miles Stanish, who came over in the Mayflower in 1620, and he has a son named Miles.