Sometimes Reticent.

Money talks cheerfully enough, as a rule, but it is a glum spectacle on the witness stand.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

POINTS IN PIGEON RAISING

Young Bird, Unlike a Chick, Cannot Feed Itself, but Must Be Fed by One of Parents.

A young pigeon, unlike a young chicken, cannot feed itself, but must be fed by the old bird.

Very often squabs do not leave the nest until they are a month old and ready for the market.

Sometimes the old bird will favor one of their offspring and feed it continually, allowing the others to go hungry much of the time. It is not unusual to see one large, plump bird and a half-starved, puny one in the same nest, both having been hatched at the same time.

The male bird sits on the nest at night and the female in the daytime. Some dealers say that this is the only true test of mating.

An old Pennsylvania breeder says that a sure test of sex is to take the bird by the bill and draw it down to the ground. If the bird's tail flits upward it is a male; if downward it is a female.

Vermin is a constant menace to pigeons and must be always fought. Frequent white-washing, absolute cleanliness and tobacco stems placed in the nests will generally keep the birds reasonably clean.

Making All Happy.

"What I deem an appropriate present is a book, and that I must choose for myself," writes a correspondent of the London Chronicle. "To leave the selection to friends would be a catastrophe. Every year, therefore, on behalf of those generously minded individuals who have kindly thoughts toward me, I buy books for myself, tell them, and get the money refunded. And in the measure of monetary value they remember me, I likewise remember them—in any article of their own choosing. And we are all happy."

Changing Nature Indirectly.

You are constantly assured that you cannot change human nature; that you cannot make people over by process of law. But if you cannot reform men by reforming the conditions that make men what they are, how is it that you can so easily debauch and degrade them by reversing the process?—Collier's Weekly.

Dickens' New Year's Wish.

So may the New Year be a happy one for you, happy to many more whose happiness depends on you; so may each year be happier than the last.—Charles Dickens.

True to Nature.

The tots in a primary class in sense-training were imitating anything they choose. When it was Hazel's turn, she stepped into the center of the room and wriggled her body from side to side. No one could guess what she was impersonating, so she was asked to explain. "Why," she said, "I was a little dog wagging its tail."

Why Snow Is Warm.

Snow is warm by virtue of its light and woolly texture. But it is also warm on account of its whiteness. Had snow been black it would have absorbed the heat of the sun and melted quickly. Instead, it reflects heat, and the reflected heat falls upon bodies above the snow, while the warmth of the earth is preserved beneath it.

Guides to Success.

Buy your overcoats in summer and your linen dusters in winter, that is seize opportunity when it comes, don't wait until it must be sought. The foundation of success is mental discipline.—A. C. Bartlett.

Bracelets Worn by the Insane.

Bracelets have been worn from time immemorial, but few wearers of the golden bands of the present day know that they were once used to distinguish the insane. Before lunatics were confined to asylums they wore an armlet for distinction.

WIT and HUMOR

QUICK RETURN OF PRODIGAL

Father and Brother of Cash Martin Extremely Agitated by Sudden Reappearance of Latter.

Cash Martin was the most brilliant boy in his community. Whenever the neighbors got tired of discussing the weather or wondering why the hens had stopped laying, they turned themselves into a prophesying circle for the benefit of Cash. The future of Cash unrolled itself before their admiring gaze in limitless splendor and led to a towering pinnacle of greatness.

One day excitement in the village became intense. Cash had decided to leave home and wrest from the cold and cruel world that fame and fortune which must surely be his. One old man opined that Cash would be gone 20 years and return with his pockets bulging with the wealth of J. P. Morgan. Another declared that at the end of 17 years he would come whirling through his native town on the rear platform of a special car in his campaign for the presidency of the United States. Cash listened to all these predictions with a smiling ease that indicated his belief in everything his admirers said. Then he went away.

One week later Cash returned, and, worn out by excessive walking and terrific underfeeding, strolled into his home and asked his mother for a piece of bread. Cash's younger brother went to break the news to Cash's father, who ran a sawmill. There ensued this dialogue:

"Pop. Cash is come back, by George!"

"Has he, by George."

"Yes, by George!"

"By George!"—Popular Magazine.

The Kind Lawyer.

"Now," said the fatherly old lawyer, "what's the trouble?"

"I want a divorce. My husband has no regular employment, and besides he is cruel. He throws knives at me."

"Throws knives at you, eh? That's a queer fad. How long has this been going on?"

"Several years."

"Then you must have become fairly expert at dodging knives."

"Oh, yes; I can dodge them all right."

"Now, my girl, look here. You don't want a divorce. Make up with your husband and take your knife throwing specialty into vaudeville. There you are; all your troubles settled at one crack."

Only One Jolt Left.

A Chicago man who has a son at Cornell took occasion while on the way home from New York recently to stop off for the purpose of seeing how the boy was getting along. It happened to be just after the Cornell football team, which has undergone many humiliating experiences this season, had been beaten by Colgate.

"How are things going with the Cornell football team?" the father asked, pretending to be seeking information.

"The Cornell footbal team!" the young man exclaimed with all the disgust that he could put into his tones; "It has been beaten by everything except the Colonial Dames!"

POOR.

Hoax—How does Kutem rank as a sculptor?

Joax—He doesn't cut much of a figure.

A Specimen.

"Our doctor says nothing pleases him so much as the appropriate in all things."

"Then I suppose he is charmed to attend a grass widow with the hay fever."

Appropriate Color.

"Jaggs came home last night much the worse for wear and insisted he had seen a lot of black snakes."

"Well you know Jaggs' family is in mourning."

Forest Fires.

One point must be observed: Stop every fire! Unless this is done forest management is useless, forest planting a foolish waste and forest conservation impossible. The surface fire that is so often run through a woodlot to burn the leaves, to kill the undergrowth, to prevent more serious fires, or for any reason imaginable, must not be tolerated. Such fires rob the growing trees of their natural fertilizer, the falling leaves and decaying vegetation, they injure the roots and the bases of the trees, they kill the seedlings and the sprouts from which the succeeding forest must come. Even a camp fire is bad unless it be built in an open place, not against the base of a tree, carefully guarded and completely extinguished before it is left. Forest fires are fatal to every principle in

Worth Knowing.

Never throw away pieces of lemon after they have been squeezed with the lemon squeezer, for they come in handy for removing stains from the hands and elsewhere. Dipped into salt they will scour copper kettles nicely and remove stains from brasswork. Lemon like this will take stains, dirt and odor from pans and kettles as nothing else will. The odors of fish and onions can thus be easily removed.

Natural Question.

"I am so very fond of music," said Miss Kittish, as she swung herself round on the piano stool and faced Mr. Harkins, after thrumming away for half an hour for his entertainment. "Ah!" replied the young gentleman thoughtlessly. "Why don't you take lessons?"—Stray Stories.

Benefit of Incubator.

While it must be admitted that no incubator is able to do as good work as a hen, yet in hatching large quantities of eggs it would be too expensive solely to rely on hens.