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THE FECUNDITY OF FISH—THEIR AGE.

The average herring contains about 20,000 ova, so that 1,000 females of that fish would yield, if all the eggs were to come to life, 25,000,000; but hundreds of thousands of the eggs altogether escape the fertilizing mill of the male fish, and hundreds of thousands are devoured by enemies that seem to think the ova of the herring has been created solely to serve as food to them. All our sea fishes are endowed with enormous powers of reproduction. A female codfish has been known to contain 2,000,000 or 3,000,000 ova, but, as has been stated of herring, the waste of eggs from the want of being fructified, and from other causes, is really enormous. The flat fishes are also all of them very productive; but in the case of all sea fishes the waste of life is really and truly incalculable, otherwise man would be incapable of dealing with these minor monsters of the great deep. As has been shown in the case of herring, there are animals preying on the shoals the demands of which are far more deadly than those of mankind; the same may doubtless be said of most of our other sea fishes. But the total stock of fish of all ages must indeed be prodigious. There are, however, many difficulties in the way of fixing upon a figure. It is not yet known, for instance, with anything like certainty, at what age herring or codfish arrive at the maturity of their lives; but it may be hazarded as a conclusion, which has not been arrived at without the most careful considerations, that the sea in all probability contains a supply of fish which, in the event of production ceasing, would last the community for a period of five or six years. The fish, of course, must be of all ages; but no man can tell the exact age of any of the fish which he may from day to day find on his table. Nor can we tell the average age which any of our fish attain. Many of the codfish we capture "look" to have been very old denizens of the deep—ten years old at least. And as some of the fish which are captured are occasionally of an enormous size, that fact seems to indicate a long period of life. We think, however, taking the majority of our fishes into account, that if creation were at once to stop, and the fish of the sea were suddenly to cease to multiply and replenish, the present stock, at the rate of capture now going on, might last us for a period of four or five years.—*Bertram, in the British Quarterly Review.*

The Washington Monument.

Some 40 years ago, when the people of the United States had raised a considerable sum for the purpose, this monument was begun. When the monument had been built to 156 ft. in height the funds were exhausted. Finally the government took hold and made appropriations to finish the work. But when the labor on it was renewed, examination showed that the foundation was not strong enough for the intended superstructure; but how to insert additional strength under a column weighing 32,000 tons without disturbing its equilibrium or making a crack in its walls, how to remove the dirt below this tremendous weight and insert concrete masonry therein, was a question that required inventive genius and delicate engineering. The difficult work was most boldly and successfully done. A solid body of masonry, about 126 ft. square, and more than 13 ft. in depth, now underlies this tall struc-

ture. It ought to have a solid base, for the monument, when finished, will have a total weight of over 80,000 tons. This pillar is now about 350 ft. high, and is rising in mid-air at the rate of nearly 100 ft. a year. From two to three more working seasons will be required to complete it. When completed it will be 555 feet high.

Nuts to Crack.

What is the length of the side of a cubic bin that will hold 100 bushels?

What quantity of lining $\frac{1}{2}$ of a yard wide will it require to line $9\frac{1}{2}$ yards of cloth $1\frac{1}{4}$ yards wide?

How far from the end of a stick of timber 50 feet long, of uniform size from end to end, must a handspike be placed so that three men, two at the handspike and one at the end of the stick, may carry each one-third of its weight.

If a tower 200 feet high casts a shadow 150 feet, what is the height of a pole which, at the same time of day, casts a shadow 80 feet?

If stock bought at 5 per cent premium will pay 6 per cent on the investment, what per cent will it pay if bought at 15 per cent discount?

How many rods of fence will enclose 10 acres in the form of a square?

A man traveled 13 days. His last day's journey was 80 miles and each day he traveled 5 miles more than on the preceding day. How far did he travel.

How many 1000 shingles will be required to cover both sides of a roof 36 feet long and whose rafters are 18 feet in length?

The eaves of a house are 40 feet from the ground. Required, the length of a ladder, the foot of which is to be placed 20 feet from the house, that will reach the eaves?

A horse tied to a stake by a rope can graze to the distance of 40 feet from the stake. On how much surface can it graze?

What is the length of the side of a cubical vessel which shall contain three times as much as one whose side is two feet.

What part of a cord of wood is a pile $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, 2 feet high and $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide.

An army which has been twice decimated in battle, now contains only 6,480 men. What was the original number in the army?

How many iron balls 4 inches in diameter will weigh as much as one iron ball 8 inches in diameter?

The oldest tree in the world, so far as anyone knows, is the Bo tree of the sacred city of Amara-
pooora, in Burmah. It was planted 288 B. C. and is, therefore, 2,170 years old. Sir James Emerson Tennet gives reasons for believing that the tree is really of this wonderful age, and refers to historic documents in which it is mentioned at different dates, as 182 A. D., 223 A. D., and so on to the present day. "To it," says Sir James, "kings have even dedicated their dominions, in testimony of belief that it is a branch of the identical fig tree under which Buddha reclined at Urume-
lya, when he underwent hypoco-
sis." Its leaves are carried away as streamers by pilgrims, but is too sacred to touch with a knife, and therefore, they are only gathered when they fall. The king oak in Windsor Forest, England, is 1,000 years old.

In countries where malaria is prevalent, or where the climate is subject to sudden changes—should be found in every house Brown's Iron Bitters.

—For lame Back, Side or Chest use Shiloh's Porous Plaster. Price 25 cents. For sale by W. E. Deament.

The following are items of local interest in the sundry civil appropriation bill just reported: Salaries of the superintendents of life-saving stations on the coast of Washington Territory, Oregon and California, \$1,850 each; for continuing the construction of a light house on Northwest Seal Rock, off Point George, Cal., \$50,000; for continuing the survey of the coast of California from San Diego toward San Luis Rey, from Morro Rock to San Simeon, from Point Pedray Blanco to Cape San Martin, \$9,000; from Point Sal northward, from Table Mountain southward and from Trinidad Head to the Oregon line, \$18,000; for hydrography of the same coast \$2,000; for continuing the survey of the coast of Oregon and the completion of the Columbia river and Willamette river improvements to head of ship navigation, \$9,000; for continuing the survey of the coast of Washington Territory, \$5,300; for completing the survey of Puget Sound, \$5,400; for examination and surveys of harbors on the coast of Alaska, \$7,200; for tide observations on the Pacific Coast, \$2,000; for magnetic observations and other objects, \$11,000; for construction of a steamship for surveying the Pacific Coast and Sounds, \$100,000.

A keen student of human nature must have written the following: "When you see a young man sailing down street shortly after midnight with collar mashed down his neck, you can make up your mind there's a young girl crawling up stairs not far distant, with her shoes under her arm and an extinguished lamp in her hands!"

Mr. Burton, of Ridway & Burton, stove dealers, Cincinnati, Ohio, says: Two bottles of St. Jacobs Oil cured my boy of rheumatism when everything else failed.



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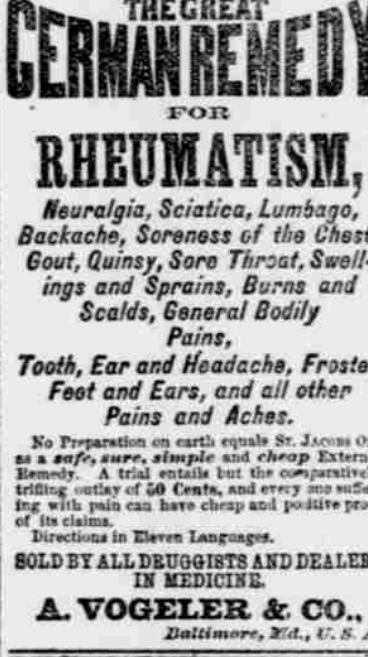


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Probably the only man in the United States who has used greenbacks for gun-wadding is L. Shirley, of Dallas county, Texas. He went hunting with \$300 in currency in his pocket, and used paper for wadding. He was loading from the wrong pocket, however, and had shot away over \$60 of his money before he discovered his mistake.

A LETTER FROM GERMANY.
Very esteemed sirs:
The praise your Liver Pills have elicited forth here is wonderful. After taking one and a half boxes of your genuine DR. C. McLANE'S LIVER PILLS, I have entirely recovered from my four years' suffering. All who know me wonder how I, who for so many years, had no appetite, and could not sleep for lachrym, dizziness in my side, and general stomach complaints, could have recovered.
An old lady in our city, who has suffered for many years from kidney disease, and the doctors had given her up, took two of your Pills, and got more relief than she has from all the doctors.
Yours truly,
J. VON DER BERG.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.
The genuine are never sugar-coated. Every box has a red wax seal on the lid, with the impression: McLANE'S Liver Pills.
The genuine McLANE'S LIVER PILLS, bear the signature of C. McLANE and Fleming Bros. on the wrapper.
Insist upon having the genuine DR. C. McLANE'S LIVER PILLS, prepared by Fleming Bros., of Pittsburgh, Pa., the name McLANE spelled differently, but of same pronunciation.
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