

Nature's Impostors

Following is a synopsis of a sermon delivered on "Nature's Impostors" by the Rev. George H. Bennett of the Methodist church last Sunday morning.

Some of the most interesting studies in which we may engage during our vacation wanderings will be a thoughtful scrutiny of some of Mother Nature's mimics and impostors. Mother Nature has been very kind to all her children. Many of them have been armed with formidable weapons. Others have been given fleetness of foot and keenness of sense, and some possess that bold aggressiveness born of the power of venom. But Mother Nature has some weak and defenceless children, and to these she has given the power and the protection of mimicry, that they may escape their enemies. Wander away for an hour or two through the green fields and into the woods, but keep your eyes and ears open, and you may be able to discover some interesting illustrations of Nature's cunning. Follow the cow-path along the shady lane. The golden sunlight floods the fields with a mellow radiance and brightens all the tree-tops. The leaves are bespangled with jewels and the grasses bend like necklaces of gleaming gems. The air is cool and delicious with the rich fragrance of spice bushes and sweet-briar which fill the fence corners, and dewy honeysuckles and smiling morning glories trail over the old rail fence. How exhilarating is a morning in the shady lane!

But you are attracted by a tuft of aromatic purple-blossomed bergamot that grows beside a vine-covered stump. You stop and bend over it, and are startled by the noisy buzzing of several large hornets which arise suddenly in your face and whirl rapidly around you. They were resting on the green leaves and deep dyed flowers, sipping nectar. If you stand still a moment they will alight again on the fragrant plant. The big black fellows with yellow stripes will not harm you; they are not true wasps or hornets; they are only harmless flies—the syrphus fly. They have been adorned with the raiment of their more dangerous cousins, the hornets, and have some of their aggressive ways; but it is all for their protection against their enemies. They are only mimic stingers, but they are great bluffers. So all are not bees that buzz. There are mimic bees and there are also mimic Christians. It suggests to us the words of Jesus: "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord! Lord! shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my father which is in heaven."

A wild plum tree marks a restful spot in the shady lane. Who would not linger a moment in search of the luscious yellow fruit? And, as you look among the leaves, you observe a long brown and reddish caterpillar of the geometer moth measuring its length along a branch. It is alarmed by your movements and is instantly lost to sight. Sharp eyes alone may locate it; and when at last it meets your eye, how it has changed! If you find it at all, it will be standing out obliquely from the branch like a small, living twig which will one day bear leaves and fruit. So there are mimic twigs on the vine of the Kingdom, which promise fruit but are only parasites and impostors. Jesus said: "Every branch in me that beareth not fruit, he taketh it away." zling, sunlit spot. As you step a little rivulet which winds across the shady lane call you onward, and as you step across, up and around you darts a butterfly in zigzag flight. It arose from a muddy spot near the water's edge. It alights on the grey bark of a fern-draped log, where it opens and shuts its brown and purple wings in a dazzling, sunlit spot. As you step a little nearer, it flits away and rests with closed wings among the brown and withered leaves. It is the skipper butterfly. But it is utterly invisible to you recall the words of the Psalmist: "In the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; in the secret of His tabernacle shall He hide me." Look as closely as you will at the place where it vanished, you do not see it again until one of the dry leaves suddenly rises on gorgeous wings and flies away.

Gauzy-winged dragon flies, some with blue bodies and borne along on black and white barred wings, wheel around the little brook, and heavy laden bees soar away from the muddy pool on their homeward flight. Then you wander on and part the leafy branches that overhang your path, when away leaps a little green tree frog, frightened from its quiet resting place on a broad green leaf. If your fingers are nimble, you may be able to pick up the little fellow, as he hops into the tangled grass, but you must be quick about it. Now place the green coated little brother—and is he not a brother?—on the grey tree trunk. In a little while his garments of green have turned to grey. Well, after all, some people seem to wear the mimic colors of the butterfly, and the changeable coat of the tree frog. They are on no two days alike, but are the "good Lord and good Devil" kind who change their principles and their conduct on short notice to suit their good or their evil associations.

A summer morning walk down a shady lane affords a fine opportunity for meditation upon the follies and

foibles of humanity. No wonder Mother nature has employed cunning and guile for the protection of her innocent and beautiful and defenceless children against aggressive foes, when Man, the noblest of her children, so often is selfish and cruel. While looking in wonder at the marvelous silken web, strung with distilled sunbeams, which some skillful spider stretched across the path while you slept, the dead branch of a shrub brushes your cheek. Pushing it aside, some of the brittle twigs snap off and you hold them in your hand. But, as you glance at them, you see they are not all dead twigs; some of them are moving. In your fingers you hold a slender dry, dead twig, long as a lead pencil, with bent and crooked branches and rough and knotty bark; but it lives and moves. It is the twig insect or walking stick. It hung among the withered branches and looked just like them. Thus it is overlooked by its enemies. So you will often find a kindly nature and sensitive heart under a rough and forbidding exterior. You will often find living piety in unexpected places. It is well to remember, "Man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh upon the heart." And it is the heart that counts in that day when the Lord makes up his jewels.

How luscious and grateful are the wild blackberries that ripen in the dense shade of a clump of briars; in the corner of an old rail fence! When you find such a place you feel it is good to be alive. But while you revel in this luxury at Mother Nature's table, your eye catches a little leaping spider, stalking its prey on a grey, splintery rail. This spider does not build a web but prowls about, darting in all directions; and when it is ready to pounce upon the unsuspecting fly, it first fastens its silken thread to save itself from falling and springs upon its victim. A noticeable fact about this ferocious little hunter is its power to change its color. Its hunting jacket quickly changes color to suit its hunting ground. It is then not easily detected by its prey. So the world certainly has its danger and fear, its pain and death, together with its safeguards and protection against these things in the humbler kingdom of Nature. The wily leaping spider reminds us of the enemies of truth and virtue, which lie concealed around us under the guise of earnest friends, who seem anxious to do us only good, but at heart are ready to prey upon our weakness or misfortune. The business world, the social world, the political world, and even the Church, all have their mimics and impostors. Keep your eyes and ears open, keep your consciences tender and your heart pure and you will not easily be misled by the Devil's mimicry.

But you have reached the end of the shady lane and now sit down to rest upon a mossy stone. Meadow larks are singing a joyous melody in the stubble, as you turn an admiring eye toward the shocks of golden grain. Bound up with the bundles of wheat is some of the sprawling oval-leaved vetch or wild pea vine. The wild pea is a great nuisance in the wheat field and is hard to get rid of. It goes with the wheat to the thrasher and follows it to the granary. It keeps the wheat merry company in the fanning mill and goes with it to the roller mill. Then it follows the wheat through the air blast and over the sieves and through the wire brushes. And at last the wheat and the wild pea are ready to be ground into flour, to take an exalted place in the civilized world and grace your table with snowy bread. But no! Here comes a final test of character. As the wheat reaches the rollers, it passes through, but the persistent wild pea cannot pass the rollers—but pops out and goes the way of all such impostors. Likewise, in the final testing of human character, the false, though long persistent in mimicking the true, will be detected and discarded at last. Then we remember it is said, "The hypocrite's hope shall perish."

Two Contracts for the Hauling of Gravel for Guthrie Lane Road to be let July 1, 1914, at County Court House.

(1) Sealed bids will be received and opened by the County Court in session at 10 o'clock Wednesday morning July 1, 1914, for the delivering on the road of 800 yards of gravel more or less furnished by the County at Fern's, Gilliam's or Teats siding as desired, gravel in this contract to go on Guthrie's Lane North of the Guthrie school house. Contract let to the lowest bidder with right reserved to reject any and all bids.

(2) Sealed bids will be received and opened by the County Court in session at 10:30 o'clock Wednesday morning, July 1, 1914 for the delivering on the road south of Guthrie school house of 800 yards gravel, more or less, gravel to be furnished on board the cars at Fern's, Gilliam's or Teats siding, as desired.

Contract to be let to lowest bidder with right reserved to reject any and all bids.

A. B. ROBINSON, JR.,
County Clerk.

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Why dine at home Sunday, when a special treat awaits you noon and evening at the Gail. 10-1f.

MONEY ORDER RULE ISSUED.

Dallas Postoffice After July 1 Will Cash Postal Checks.

Instructions regarding the operations of the new postal money order system, which goes into effect July 1, have been received by Postmaster Fiske. Under the new plan a money order, although drawn on a specified office, may be cashed at any money order postoffice within thirty days of its issue, after which it may be paid only at the office on which it was drawn or repaid at the office of issue.

Prospects Are Bright.

Mr. Hampton, chairman of the Republican County Central committee, was in Dallas on Wednesday. He expresses the opinion that the outlook for success in the election next November is constantly growing brighter, and that there will be a clean sweep all down the line. And the chairman is not alone in this opinion. From every section of Polk county come equally encouraging reports. This is conceded to be a republican year in Oregon.

Cheaper Water Rates.

Those Polk county gentlemen attending the gathering of Willamette Valley fruit growers in Portland last week were particularly impressed with the statement made by the Distributors' association that when the Panama canal is completed apples could be laid down in Liverpool for 50 cents per box, whereas it now costs \$1.10. This will prove a wonderful saving to the Pacific coast fruit growers.

Believes Not in Immersion.

Alderman Hayter has less faith in immersion than ever, since his thorough drenching on Tuesday night. While enroute home from Salem in an open automobile he was caught in the heavy downpour which occurred about 9 o'clock, and he will make affidavit that two feet of water fell in the same number of minutes. It was a veritable cloudburst.

Notice to Contractors.

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received for the construction of an addition to the schoolhouse in District No. 3, up to Friday, July 10, at 2 o'clock p. m. Plans and specifications may be seen at the office of the county superintendent in Dallas, or at the residence of Frank Friesen, Sr., in said district. A bond will be required from the successful bidder.

The school board reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Bids must be addressed to Jacob H. Rempel, clerk, Dallas, R. F. D. No. 1, box 62. JACOB H. REMPEL, Clerk.

FRANK FRIESEN, SR., Chairman. 32-31.

Sunday Dinner. Try one at the New Scott. 32-21.

Women work as stevedores in Japan.

Marble Pudding

Steamed puddings will not be heavy if made with K C Baking Powder and cooked slowly to give the pudding time to rise before the dough is cooked through. Have a low blaze under the water for at least the first fifteen minutes.

K C Marble Pudding

By Mrs. Janet McKenzie Hill, Editor of the Boston Cooking School Magazine. 2 cups sifted pastry flour; 2 level teaspoonfuls K C Baking Powder; 1/4 teaspoonful cinnamon; 1/2 teaspoonful salt; yolks of 2 eggs, beaten light; 1/2 cup sugar; 1/4 tablespoonful melted butter; 1/2 cup cold water; whites of 2 eggs, beaten dry; 1/4 ounces melted chocolate.

Sift together, three times, the flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon. To the yolks add the sugar, butter and water, and stir into the dry ingredients. Add the whites of the eggs. Divide the mixture into two parts and add the chocolate to one part. Dispose the two parts in a buttered mold to give a marbled appearance. Steam forty-five minutes.



Vanilla Sauce
Boil 2 cups of sugar and a cup of water six minutes; add 2 tablespoonfuls of butter and a teaspoonful of vanilla extract.

The K C Cook's Book containing this and 90 other delicious, successful, recipes sent free upon receipt of the colored certificate packed in 25-cent cans of K C Baking Powder. Write your name and address plainly. Jaques Mfg. Co., Chicago. 41

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