

ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS.

It is hard to distinguish them from the natural.

"What an ideal! Bless you, florists are not enough, but they have not yet stepped as low as to hire out flowers for funerals." Thus spoke a dealer in fancy goods the other day.

"But you mean doves to undertakers' funerals?"

"Yes, and to the churches on special occasions but lending flowers for a funeral, why, it is simply preposterous!"

"It is said to be done every day in this city."

"Yes, there are dealers in artificial flowers who do that business, but not florists."

I visited a large artificial flower and foliage concern.

"A great many poor people," said a member of the firm, "order potted flowers and tropical plants of us for funerals. We charge ten per cent for their use, and in many instances the flowers might better have been purchased out and out. Take our foliage bouquets, composed of begonias, coleus, geraniums and ivy—they come cheap, and it is poor economy to hire them. But people of small means like the immediate saving, and the long run is not taken into account. For church funerals we sell large quantities of chrysanthemums, roses, tiger and calla lilies, hydrangeas, etc. Natural flowers are sometimes represented on the same altar, and it is impossible to tell which is which. The imitation of common flowers has been reduced to a fine art. One can hardly believe how rapidly artificial plants have sprung into favor, even among the rich. They are used in ball rooms, theaters, restaurant windows, stores and almost everywhere. We have some well-known varieties so skillfully made that they would deceive the most learned botanist at a little distance.—N. Y. Herald.

BIRDS AS SURGEONS.

The Intelligent Manner in Which Snipe Treat Their Wounds.

Some interesting observations relating to the surgical treatment of wounds by birds were recently brought by M. Patis before the Physical Society of Geneva. He quotes the case of the snipe, which he has often observed engaged in repairing damages. With its beak and feathers it makes a very creditable dressing, applying plaster to bleeding wounds, and even securing a broken limb by means of a stout ligature. On one occasion he killed a snipe which had on the breast a large dressing composed of down taken from other parts of the body and securely fitted to the wound by the coagulated blood.

Twice he had brought home snipe with interwoven feathers strapped on to the site of the fracture of one or other limb. The most interesting example was that of a snipe both of whose legs he had unfortunately broken by a misdirected shot. He recovered the animal only on the day following, and he found that the poor bird had contrived to apply dressing and a sort of splint to both limbs. In carrying out this operation some feathers had become entangled around the beak, and not being able to use its claws to get rid of them it was almost dead from hunger when discovered. In a case recorded by M. Magnin, a snipe which was observed to fly away with a broken leg was subsequently found to have forced the fragments into a parallel position, the upper fragment reaching to the knee, and secured them by means of a strong band of feathers and moss intermingled. The observers were particularly struck by the application of a ligature of a kind of flat leafed grass wound round the limb, of a spiral form and fixed by means of a sort of glue.—Medical Record.

A Valuable Voice.

There are heights to be reached in every profession, and it is not to be wondered at if those of his own profession are considered superior to those of any other by the enthusiastic artist. Martin, the popular French singer, found food for reflection in an experience which he had with a cab driver. The incident is related by the author of "Souvenirs d'un Chantouin." Martin had a voice of great compass and most agreeable sound, of which he was decidedly proud. He had a weakness for drawing out compliments upon it. One day as he was being driven through the streets of Paris in a cab he saw some one passing carelessly in front of the cab and in danger of being run over. "Whoa!" he cried, in his most sonorous tones. The coachman turned around excitedly. "O! monsieur!" he cried, "what a beautiful 'whoa'! Ah! if I only had a voice like that!" "Well, what would you do if you had?" asked Martin, with a smile, believing that he had been recognized, and pleased at the idea that his reputation extended even to the drivers in the streets. "What would I do, monsieur? Faith, I should become the first coachman in Paris!"—Youth's Companion.

Dipping Up Blue Birds.

The Charleston News tells some marvelous stories about the abundance of blue birds in the dikes and marshes back of that city. There are always plenty of them for the sportsmen and enterer at this season of the year, but never before have they been seen in such swarms, darkening the air as they flit from place to place. They have almost ceased to be a target for shotguns, and are so thick and close together that they are caught with a dip net like so many fish. One amateur sportsman reports that with two discharges of his shotgun he brought down one hundred and eighty of the birds. The News says: "The regular way now, however, is to get a boat and a dip net and go among the ditches in the old rice fields and dip up the birds. A gentleman went out a few nights ago and returned with one thousand, two hundred and thirty-six birds. It required a wagon and two hucksters to carry them all home. Quite a considerable sum has been realized by several parties who embarked in the rice-bird business. They can be bought on the plantations for a mere song, and when taken to the town are sold for at least twenty-five cents a dozen."

WILD HORSES.

Noble Animals Left to Themselves Will Degenerate into Ponies.

Many, many years ago a ship laden with Spanish horses went ashore on the island of Chincoteague, on the eastern shore of Virginia, says the Rider and Driver. No man knows when the ship went ashore or what port it sailed from or how many horses were saved. It is known, however, that on the extreme edge of Chincoteague island a ship bearing a cargo of horses to the new world from some port in Spain ended its voyage in a terrific storm, and that some of the horses found their way through the breakers to the barren waste of sand. These horses must have been of a high order of breed, for, though scores of years of privation and exposure have passed over his head, the wild horse of this inhospitable and barren region is a most remarkable animal. He is smaller today than his Spanish prototype, and lack of care and exposure to the storms of this tempest-swept island has reduced the original horse to a rough, shaggy pony, yet all the years of degeneracy and vicissitude have not shorn him of his evidences of blood—his beauty, his intelligence and his fleetness. The severity of the climate, the want of strengthening, nutritious food, have made their influence felt, not upon the spirit, but upon the body, of the castaway horse. Many of these ponies have been captured by the inhabitants of the region adjacent to the mainland and put to use, although the breaking and training of them is in some instances a very serious job. The effect of years of unrestrained freedom upon his high-mettled blood has made this island horse wayward and jealous of his liberty. It usually requires the united strength of four men to subdue one young horse. Notwithstanding, they are frequently conquered and tied down to the drudgery of farm work or may be seen pulling the clam carts of Chincoteague fishermen along the shell roads of the Virginia or Maryland coast. It is certain that inbreeding and privation, together with the rigors of a changeable climate, have had their effects in deteriorating this race of horses.

With the first settlement of Australia by Europeans horses were introduced. Some of these escaped from control and soon reverted to the wild state. They have multiplied and deteriorated in that sparsely peopled continent until they are as numerous as jack rabbits and as useless. They became such a nuisance that seven thousand of them were shot at one station in New South Wales. In nearly every country where the once domesticated horse has run wild he has deteriorated. He has dwindled into a pony in Iceland and Shetland, Corsica and Sardinia, the mountainous regions of northern Europe, and the Cordilleras of America. There has a miniature horse originated during and since the war in the prairies along the gulf coast from Mobile to the western limit of Louisiana. Many planters during the war allowed their thoroughbred mares to escape, and breeding in the wild state with the natives the size has gradually diminished until many of them do not reach thirteen hands, and few of them go over that.

SOCIAL SUCCESS.

A Woman Who Wishes to Be Agreeable Must Listen, Not Talk.

A woman to be most agreeable must listen, says Kate Field. Keep a man wound up. Look as though you were hanging on his lips and he'll think you charming. For my part I like to listen. It's a great deal, better fun to make others talk than to talk one's self. The listener never makes a fool of herself, because she says nothing. She cannot make enemies by the expression of opinion, for she expresses none. She learns a deal about other people, and nobody learns anything about her. She gives no offense by egotistic assertions. The talkers call her sympathetic because she has allowed all to have their own way. I don't say that a woman should everlastingly hold her tongue—there are men who insist upon an interchange of ideas; but it is always safe to start a man upon the subject of himself. Nine times out of ten you will touch the responsive chord and be entertained, as everybody can talk well on what is nearest the heart.

"You've made an impression on Mr. Randall," said Bob, this morning. "He thinks you remarkably intelligent. What did you say to him?"

"Nothing," I replied. "I asked an occasional question and listened. He talked about himself."

A woman may serve up wit or epigram as an entremets, and be liked; but I'm convinced that a woman who monopolizes conversation is doomed to be hated. Woman in society is to be, man is to do. Beyond all other horrors are the shop-talking horrors. A woman may translate Homer, write Romola, edit a newspaper, conduct important business, or act Lady Macbeth, but she must forget herself if she wants to be welcome in society. In fact, if a woman is not born unselfish let her assume the noblest of all virtues, and, provided she dresses well, she will be admired.

Salaries of Boy Singers.

The salary of a boy singer begins at forty dollars and is gradually raised from year to year according as he displays ability until he receives as much as three or four hundred dollars a year. The salaries of men singers vary greatly, because some churches are very poor and cannot afford to pay so much; they range all the way from one hundred dollars a year to one thousand dollars. Once in awhile a very superior solo singer will receive twelve hundred dollars a year. Rehearsals are held three or four times a week in the morning. I have kept a record, says a writer in the New York Epoch, of all the choristers who have ever been connected with Trinity church for the past twenty-one years. We have employed one hundred and seventy-two boys in that time and their average stay has been about five years. The love of the choral service seems to grow upon those who take part in it, not only in boys but in men.



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THE LEBANON EXPRESS.

Notice of Administration.

Notice is hereby given, that, by order of the county court of Linn county, Oregon, the undersigned has been duly appointed and now is the duly qualified and acting administrator of the estate of Nancy Marks, deceased. All parties having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same, properly verified, within six months from the 12th day of July 1895, the date of the first publication hereof, to the undersigned at the office of Sam'l M. Garland, Lebanon, Oregon.

JOHN H. MARKS,
Administrator.
Atty. for Adm'r. Estate of Nancy Marks, deceased.

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