

HOW TO TAKE FOOD.

The Various Ways in Which Living Creatures Eat.

That peculiar reptile, the sea-slug, has five teeth in five jaws—one in each jaw—all the five immediately surrounding the stomach.

Snails have teeth on their tongues, hundreds of them, says the San Francisco Chronicle, but, as if these were not enough, some have them also in their stomach.

The cuttlefish, which, among other strange things, always walks with its head downward, does not chew its food at all, but masticates with its gizzard. So do geese, fowls, ducks, and indeed all modern birds. Seizing their food in their beaks they swallow it whole, if grain or seed, and in large pieces if it be fruit or bread.

Even when they had teeth birds only used them to take their food, depending upon the gizzard for mastication then as now.

Fishes and reptiles use their teeth for the same purpose, that of taking their food, but, like the birds, they gulp down their food unchewed, and unbroken if possible.

There are, however, exceptions. The ray, or skate, for instance, has a mouth set transversely across its head, the jaws working with a rolling motion like two hands set back to back. In the jaws are three rows of flat teeth, set like a mosaic pavement, and between these rolling jaws the fish crushes oysters and other mollusks like so many nuts.

The carp's teeth are set back on the pharynx, so that it may be literally said to masticate its food in its throat. The carp, too, is about the only end-chewing fish, the coarsely swallowed food being forced up to these throat teeth for complete mastication.

Some fishes are absolutely toothless, like the sucker and lamprey; others again have hundreds and hundreds of teeth, sometimes so many that they cover all parts of the mouth.

The great Greenland whale has no teeth, its baleen plates, or whalebone, taking their place. Along the center of the palate runs a strong ridge, and on each side of this there is a wide depression, along which the plates are inserted.

While the Greenland whale has no teeth, the sperm whale has them in great quantities on the lower jaw, and uses them, too, when occasion requires. On the other hand, the narwhal very seldom develops more than one, the left upper canine. It makes up for the lack of number by the extraordinary growth attained by this one tooth. It grows their food, using their jaws only up and down, the molars acting like chopping knives, or rather, scissors. Their mouths, in fact, are a veritable hash mill.

Strange and curious as some of these modes of feeding are, however, they none of them compare in simplicity and effectiveness with that practiced by the tapeworm. This creature has neither mouth nor stomach, but just lays along and absorbs the already digested food through its skin.

THE SPREAD OF ELECTRICITY.

Almost 2,000 Central Station Plants in America.

A very interesting publication has just been put forth by one of the leading electrical companies of this country. It is a large atlas, showing state by state the distribution of electric-lighting central stations and of electric railways, various plants being marked at each of the towns and cities in which they are installed. The grand totals shown are one thousand nine hundred and eighty-five central station plants and two hundred and forty electric railways, figures which, of course, would be much larger if brought down to later date. A vivid idea is given of the great variety still existing in electrical apparatus by the fact that in such states as New York and Pennsylvania no fewer than sixteen different kinds are running in the stations to produce light and five different kinds for electric railway work.

The tendency during the last five years, says the Pittsburgh Dispatch, has been toward a reduction in the number of "systems," but as fundamental patents expire and the industry is more generally thrown open it is not unlikely there will be as great a variety of dynamos and lamps as there now is of steam engines or of locomotives. These new systems, however, will be sold on a basis of ordinary manufacturing profit, unless radical departures are made, for the time when either a charlatan or a genius could put a "system" together and get nine million dollars for it off-hand has gone by. Up to the present period much of the apparatus has had somewhere in its selling price the item cash or stock given out to the inventor and of costly experiments that probably led nowhere. In the older branches of electrical industry much of that experimental work has been done forever, and the knowledge of the things that need not be attempted has become common property.

Mr. Edison himself has said that he had three thousand theories about his incandescent lamp, and it is safe to bet that he tried them all. It is said that when the first big electric railway was tried at Richmond, at least one hundred "under-running" trolleys were put to rest in a few brief weeks, to say nothing of the new styles of street-cars, new lighting apparatus, new switches and other details. In work of that nature money goes like water, but there is no help for it; and in due time there is the reward, for had there been no Richmond in 1888 there would certainly have been no atlas in 1890 with five hundred and forty electric roads, the hundred of which, with nearly an equal number now building, date from the invention of the trolley in 1880.

LOSING A VACUUM.

How Mike's Kindness Was Rewarded by an Ungrateful Creature.

The teacher of the Roseville High School was a young man with an ardent love of science, and the boys and girls had all caught something of his spirit. Twenty homes in Roseville gave evidence of the experimental work which was being carried on by the young people, and mothers and aunts held indignation meetings over the bugs and toads and snakes and birds, alive and dead, that appeared in unexpected places. One day Frank Newman found an unusually handsome mud-turtle, nearly as large as his hat, in which he carried it home.

That evening after tea there was an excited meeting of young people on the lawn. Tennis was forgotten as the boys discussed ways and means of preserving this turtle's fine shell. Finally they decided to send their teacher's advice. Mr. Dean was full of interest. He told them that he had once cleaned a shell of this sort very easily, after he had killed the turtle by putting him under a glass receiver and pumping out the air with an air-pump.

Next day, therefore, the zoology class assembled after school in Mr. Dean's class-room to witness the experiment. Frank Newman put the big tortoise under the receiver, and Mr. Dean pumped out the air until the creature lay limp and lifeless, sprawling out of its shell.

"It is a painless death," said the professor. "We will leave him here until morning, to be sure that life is extinct, before we remove the body from the plastron and carapace."

On his way to the class-room, early the next morning, Frank Newman met the janitor, with his dust-pan full of fragments of glass. "Sure, Mather Newman, it's throuble you're makin' with yer animals and the glass bells," said he. "That big, explosive one in Mather Dean's room is smashed in silver-reens by that shelled beast you left shut up—and here they are!"

"But he was dead!" cried Frank. "How could he break the receiver?" "Faith, I fetched him to life, the poor craythur! I found him there a-gaspin' when I went to sweep out the room yesther evening, just after yer's gone, and I thought you'd been forgettin' him, so I saved his life fur him and then look how he broke the glass bell!"

"You saved his life for him! How?" "Sure and I just slipped a thin board under one side of the glass, to give him a bit of fresh air. And to pay m he had to go and hump himself u and kick over the bell and smash it bad luck to him!"

"Where is he now?" "He's found the bad luck," said Mike, with a slow smile. "I was some mad, to spake the thrush, when I saw what he'd done, and before I stopped to think I'd picked him up from the floor where he was prancing about and give him a fling out of the window. And there I see one of them little rascals from the patch a-licking off down the road wid him."

"Well, Mike, I hope that in the future you'll not meddle with our experiments," said Frank, with some irritation. "We left the turtle overnight in the receiver because we wished it to be there. If you hadn't let in the air the accident would not have happened. You see we had a vacuum," he concluded, condescendingly.

"Sure, was the craythur a vacuum?" said Mike, with great respect. "I thought 'twas just a common mud turtle!"—YOUTH'S COMPANION.

MAMMA'S BABY BOY.

How He Entertained the Passengers on a Railway Train.

She was one of the most aggressive women these broad United States ever produced, says the New York Tribune. She bounced on board a Pennsylvania railroad south-bound train at Newark, and took the car by storm. When she had planted an unpromising infant in a vacant seat, and arranged a wilderness of bundles with appropriate remarks, which might have been heard by the engineer across the tender and four coaches, she seated herself by the child and began a continuous and distracting comment about papa and grandma and auntie, which made all the passengers shiver and crane their necks to see where the conversational blizzard came from.

"Think you'll know grandma, Charlie?" she vivaciously inquired.

"Yes."

"And dear Aunt Fanny?"

"Guess so, Ma, will Aunt Fanny need shavin' as much as she did last summer?"

"You mustn't say that, Charlie. Won't you have a nice time playing with little Willie Corrigan, next door?"

"You bet I will! Ma, has Willie got that dog we used to fool with?"

"I expect he has, dear; and Willie is such a manly little fellow I like to have mamma's good little boy with him."

"Ma."

"Yes, darling."

"Gimme a cake—one of them big fly-cakes, ma."

And when that car reached the Broad Street station there wasn't a man among its cargo of frantic humanity whose fingers had not twitched from Newark to Philadelphia with the longing to hurl ma and Charlie through the nearest window, bag, bundles, fly-cakes and all.

Try an extra pair of stockings outside of your shoes when traveling in cold weather.

Try a saturated solution of bicarbonate of soda (baking soda) in diarrhoeal troubles; give freely.

Try a newspaper over your chest, beneath your coat, as a chest protector in extremely cold weather.—Health

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Notice is hereby given, that, by order of the county court of Lane 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, to the date of the first publication hereof, to the undersigned at the office of Sam'l M. Garland, Lebanon, Oregon.

J. H. MEXS, Administrator. SAM'L M. GARLAND, Atty. for Admr. Estate of Nancy Marks, deceased.

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