

PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

MARVELS OF ANIMAL INTELLIGENCE.

The sensation of London about the year 1790 was a "cats' opera," conducted by a Scotch shoemaker named Bisset, who had taught these creatures to play tunes on the dulcimer as an accompaniment to their own squalling. His greatest success, however, was with a pig which was seen for two or three days by many persons of respectability to spell without any apparent direction the names of those in the company; to read accounts; to point out words thought of by persons present; to tell exactly the hours, minutes, seconds; to distinguish the married from the single, etc. While this learned pig was performing in Dublin an armed ruffian broke into the room, slew the animal with his sword, assaulted Bisset himself, and so unerved the unfortunate animal trainer that he took to his bed and died within a few days.

A naturalist, who is in charge of a fine museum assured me that he had once seen a horse in a field seize and work with his teeth the handle of a pump in order to water some thirsty cows which were lowing lamentably over the waterless trough! This naturalist had also seen a young half fledge sparrow which had fallen out of the nest helped back by its parents thus: They thrust a straw into the little derelict's beak and, seizing themselves each end of it, they flew up with the nestling above the nest, and then dropped him gently into it!

In a Fifeshire village a sparrow had laid her eggs and half reared her brood in a last year's swallow nest. On the return of the swallows the original owner and builder tried to take possession of the nest with the help not of its mate only but of a number of other swallows. Their combined efforts to dislodge the sparrow being vain, they held a council of war, which sentenced the usurper to death. Not only the little band which had tried to storm the nest but the whole flock of swallows fetched building material and in a short time walled up the criminal and her brood to perish miserably.

In a nest in the corner of one of the windows of a house at Strathendry a brood of swallows was half reared when a young sportsman, disappointed in duck shooting, fired at a flock of these birds and shot both the parents of the nestlings. Fearing that the brood would perish of starvation he was about to remove them from the nest and try to rear them in the house, when he was amazed to find the work of mercy taken out of his hands by the rest of the flock of swallows! They took it in turn to feed the orphans till they were fully fledged and able to provide for themselves!

COLLECTING FAD THE HEIGHT OF FOLLY.

It seems quite practicable to start a collection in anything under the sun. The fancier has nothing better to do than to take up the newest idea. I have known people to collect pipes, walking sticks, hairpins, cats and matchboxes. The art of collecting stamps not being found difficult enough in its original form, the fancy set to work to make it more so. Some ingenious person discovered that stamps had different numbers of perforations and were characterized by different letters, and finally that even whole blocks of them had varying water marks. Conceivably the delight of the brotherhood! It was now possible to enlarge the art. Stamp collectors could surmount hill after hill in their ascent towards the ideal and still find their goal remote and inaccessible.

Once developed to this point there was no holding philately back. Emporiums arose on all hands and hundreds of thousands of dollars were spent annually in the cult.

Coin collectors have in some way a sort of excuse in themselves. And collections of pictures also might be tolerated if collectors hung them on their walls and admired them. But the man who buys the pictures to stack them in his cellars has passed from the dignity of the connoisseur. It

is the same with prints and jewels. These things are valuable; but they must needs be rendered infinitely costly and deadly uninteresting by the collector. The cult of first editions is a commercial matter in which the credulity and folly of the collector make the market price. It is not sentiment that moves the collector of these things, for he will exchange or sell his boasted Dickens or Scotts for other volumes by other authors which he considers more precious. He is actuated wholly by this abominable mania. Dealers know it and grin in their sleeves, so to speak, and batten on him until they, too, become infected by the disease, and so the madness goes round.

The science of collecting is a colossal monument to the folly of human nature. It is a well known fact that collecting dulls the moral faculties. I have known philatelists play the most abominable tricks in what is known as "swaps;" and it is notorious that you cannot trust a china ornament to a china maniac. But the craze for china is more or less decent in comparison with more unworthy manias, such as that developed by tobacco manufacturers in stimulating the collection of gaudy cigarette pictures and demoralizing the youth of the land. It is a pity some one will not collect collectors—and dispose of them.

UNCONSCIOUS ASSIMILATION AND PLAGIARISM.

When two decades and more ago a Chicago clergyman pleaded unconscious assimilation as an answer to an allegation of plagiarism the plea was sneered at as involving an impossibility. Unconscious assimilation, however, is an ordinary mental process. Culture makes ordinary mental processes automatic in like manner as training does walking. For this reason in ordinary life, as well as to a less extent in idiosyncrasy and insanity, much is unconsciously assimilated by the mind that remains without direct association with the daily life of the assimilator.

Conan Doyle has been charged by a St. Louis newspaper correspondent with plagiarism from Poe's "Gold Bug." The allegation is not supported by the citations, which simply show a similarity in thought and expression likely to occur to cryptographers. Similarities, however, exist between Conan Doyle and Walter Scott and between Conan Doyle and Poe which do not admit of this explanation. The smuggler scenes in "Mehah Clark" and "Guy Mannering" are so nearly alike as to suggest the influence of Scott on Doyle. The mercenary warrior Saxon of "Mehah Clark," moreover, is an undeniable replica of Dugald Dalgetty of "A Legend of Montrose." In his case, and particularly in the case of the smugglers, unconscious assimilation is out of the question, since the surroundings of Saxon and the smugglers are altered and the phraseology is likewise. This shows deliberation inconsistent with unconscious assimilation, more especially as Doyle has repudiated Scott's influence upon him. Such deliberation is still more evident in the instance of Poe's "Purloined Letter" and Doyle's "Scandal in Bohemia." These tales, identical in plot and incident, vary only in the fact that Poe's woman, attacked by a diplomat with a compromising letter, becomes Doyle's king attacked by an actress with a compromising photograph. The methods of Poe's Dupin and Doyle's Sherlock Holmes are identical. The memory of Wycherley, the dramatist, in his later years, was so enfeebled by illness as to play him strange tricks. He would read himself to sleep with Montaigne, Rochefoucauld, and Racine. Next morning the thoughts of these authors would be written down with entire unconsciousness as original. At other times Wycherley would repeat word for word as new his previous compositions. Since Doyle has repudiated the influence of Scott and Poe they cannot be employed to explain his similarities to these authors, which are much greater than those that Master in Chancery Sherman detected between "Cyrano de Bergerac" and the "Merchant Prince of Cornville." Both Rostand's production and the Merchant Prince, however, are based on the career of the historic Cyrano de Bergerac, from whose "Voyage to the Moon" Swift drew much of the satire of "Gulliver's Travels."

LANDLUBBERS ON SHIPBOARD.

When the United States monitor Arkansas anchored off Memphis on its trip up the Mississippi River a year ago, a family—father, mother and seven children—went on board the queer steel vessel. The father, the New York Sun says, held two of his boys by the hands, and as they were shown about by one of the apprentice seamen he pointed out objects of interest.

"That thar is the turtle, Johnny," he said, pointing to the big turret with the twelve-inch guns sticking out.

"Goodness, paw!" said Johnny. "Jes' look what long front legs it's got!"

"They call hit a turtle, Jimmy," "paw" explained, "because it can turn clean over on its back an' go after the enemy all spraddled out, I reckon."

At Paducah, Kentucky, a countryman boarded the Arkansas with a knowing air. He walked round for some time, going over the ship three or four times, but looking mostly at the fighting top. His eyes seemed fascinated by that part of the vessel, and the seamen noticed that he looked expectant, as if he thought something was going to happen there. Finally he turned to one of them.

"Pardner," said he, "when do they call time nex'?"

The sailor did not understand him, and said so.

"Hain't that the fightin' top?" he inquired.

"Yes," replied the sailor.

"Wall," said the Kentuckian, "then hain't you-all goin' to give us a few rounds?"

"What do you mean?" the sailor asked, supposing the visitor wanted them to fire the big guns for him.

"My stars!" he exclaimed. "Do you lift the enemy's boats clean outen the water so's to get a good aim at 'em?"

"Don't you have any ramrods to them gun-barrels?" was the question of another Kentuckian, as he inspected the big twelve-inch guns.

One of the ship's jokers gravely told him that they pulled out the mainmast when they needed a ramrod, and that the last time they used it the gun went off accidentally and blew the mainmast into Posey County, Indiana, which explained why the ship had no mainmast then.

KEEP IN CONDITION.

Your Physical and Mental Equipment Determine Your Success.

The real material with which you build your career is in you. Your own self is your greatest capital. The secret of your future achievement is locked up in your brain, in your nerves, in your muscles, in your ambition, in your determination, and in your ideal. Everything depends upon your physical and mental condition, for that governs your vitality, your vigor, and your ability to do things. The amount of physical and mental force you are able to use in your vocation will measure your ultimate success, and whatever lessens this force, or the effectiveness of your achievement capital, will cut down your usefulness in life and your chances of success. Achievement does not depend so much upon the size of the deposits you have in the bank as upon the amount of capital you have in yourself, the effectiveness with which you can use it, and the power you can bring to your vocation. A man who is weakened by ill health, or who has sapped his energy by excessive use of tobacco or alcohol, or in any other way, has small chance for success when pitted against one who is sound and vigorous in every organ and faculty.

Nature is not sentimental or merciful. If you violate her law, you must pay the penalty, though you sit on a throne; king or beggar is all the same with her. You cannot plead weakness or handicap as an excuse for failure. She demands that you be ever at the top of your condition, that you always do your best, and will accept no excuse or apology.

A weakness anywhere mars one's whole career. It will rise up as a ghost all through one's life-work, mor-

tifying, condemning and convicting one of past error. Every indiscretion or vicious indulgence simply opens a leak which drains off success capital.

Of what use is great success capital, of mental and physical equipment, if you are not wise enough to manage it to the best advantage, and to make it last until your success is assured?

It is sad to see a young man try to win high place with a broken-down constitution, or with his faculties half trained, and his success army completely demoralized, his prospects ruined by a shattered physique. The saddest thing of all is that wise living might have made fulfillment of ambition possible, and enriched the world with a noble, well-rounded life.

The great problem, then, which every one has to face, is how to generate energy, how to conserve it, and how to keep oneself always at the top of his condition.—Success.

Philadelphia's Potato Patch.

An adaptation of the Pingree potato patch idea is said to have met with success in Philadelphia. It is in charge of the "superintendent of vacant lot farming." His annual report shows that the utilization of vacant lots by partly disabled and decrepit or by otherwise idle people has brought good returns. Over 3,600 people, including 140 orphan children, were given employment on these vacant lots last year and brought a return of \$200 on each quarter-acre garden at a nominal expense of \$5,000, each dollar invested in instruction, tools and seeds yielding a return of from \$5 to \$7. The usual obstacle in the way of success of this scheme has been to find people who were willing to make use of the opportunities offered.

Pledge Might Have Saved Him. Socrates had just drained the hemlock.

"How foolish I was," he exclaimed. "I should have told them I swore off at New Year's."

Bewailing his thoughtlessness, there was nothing left but to await the result.—New York Tribune.

Dense Population.

Asia contains more than half of the people of the world.

George Washington's reputation for truthfulness may have been due to the fact that he never traded horses.

VICE PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE BECOME PRESIDENTS



JOHN TYLER. MILLARD FILLMORE. ANDREW JOHNSON. CHESTER A. ARTHUR.

Inasmuch as the presidential campaign of 1904 is drawing near, with President Roosevelt mentioned as the probable candidate of the Republican party, it is of interest to note that his nomination would mark the exercising of the seeming "hoo-doo" that has in the past militated against those of our chief executives who became President by the death of the elected head of the nation. Prior to President Roosevelt there have been four Vice Presidents elevated to the presidential chair by the demise of its incumbents, the four being John Tyler, Millard Fillmore, Andrew Johnson and Chester A. Arthur.

Mr. Tyler was elected Vice President in 1840 on the celebrated "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" ticket and became President within little more than a month after the inauguration of General William Henry Harrison, who died in April, 1841.

The Whigs again came into power with the elections of 1848. General Zachary Taylor, of Indian and Mexican war fame, being elected Vice President. In July, 1850, President Taylor died, and Vice President Fillmore was at once sworn into office, forming a new cabinet, with Daniel Webster as Secretary of State.

The third accidental President was Andrew Johnson, who attained the presidency in 1865 when the assassin's bullet killed Abraham Lincoln. President Johnson's tenure of office was marked by a succession of disputes between the Chief Executive and Congress, the apex of dissension being reached when he was impeached for the removal from office of Secretary of War Stanton, etc. The break between the President and Congress hinged on the method to be followed in reconstructing the American Union.

Chester A. Arthur, who in 1880 was elected Vice President on the Republican ticket headed by James A. Garfield, took the oath of office as President of the United States Sept. 20, 1881, the day after Mr. Garfield died at Elberon, N. J., victim of Guitteau's pistol. Mr. Arthur's administration was not marked by any event of momentous importance, but was characterized by his opposition to extravagance in appropriations, his views on this matter leading him to veto the river and harbor bills of 1882.

RUSSIAN TROOPS AT MUKDEN.



One of the chief causes of the Russo-Japanese war was the refusal of the Czar's Government to withdraw the Muscovite soldiery from Manchuria and especially from Mukden, the capital of that province. Instead of taking these troops away, however, more have been constantly shipped in and added to the forces already present. At one time Russia did make a bluff at withdrawal, it is true, but eyewitnesses reported that the armies which marched out a day or two later marched in at another gate. At frequent intervals a few Slav regiments sally forth from their quarters in Mukden and parade through the streets to overawe the natives. Our illustration shows one of these processions and also gives a graphic idea of the appearance of Ivan in uniform.

A TRANSPORTATION EXPERT.

William Barclay Parsons, of the Panama Commission.

The most distinguished engineer on the Panama Commission is William Barclay Parsons. He won his spurs in railroad work in China for a syndicate of which the late Senator Calvin S. Brice was the head, but is best known as the designer of the subway in New York city for the Rapid Transit Commission, of which he has for several years been the chief engineer. His work in connection with the transportation problem in New York—to-day the most difficult and complicated transportation problem in the world—has been marked by a high order of ability and zeal. He may not have shown much originality, but it was not a field in which pioneering was desired. He is now recognized as one of the foremost transportation experts in the world, as is witnessed by the fact that he has been chosen an advisory member of the royal (English) commission which is to investigate and report upon the passenger traffic problem of London. Mr. Parsons is young and energetic, and on the Isthmus will find a field for original and constructive work of a higher and more interesting type than he has as yet had to deal with.

"Your wife," began the reporter, "and the man with whom she eloped have just been caught in New York, where they lost their money and were stranded just as they were starting for Europe. We thought you'd want to hear the news, and—"

"That isn't the news," replied the man. "The news is that I've sent them enough money to see them through."—Philadelphia Press.

Then He Shows Himself. Kwotter—You can never judge a man by his clothes.

Newitt—Unless he's clothed in a little brief authority. It's easy to size him up then.—Philadelphia Press.

Big Tunnel Progressing. Nearly two-thirds of the twelve miles of the Simpson tunnel are now completed.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

Your doctor will tell you that thin, pale, weak, nervous children become strong and well by taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla. Small doses, for a few days.

The change is very prompt and very marked. Ask your doctor why it is. He has our formula and will explain.

"When 15 years old, for many months I was thought I could live because of thin blood. But, in a few weeks, Ayer's Sarsaparilla completely restored me to health."
—Miss M. BUCKMINSTER, Vineland, N. J.

25 CENTS a bottle. All druggists. J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass.

for The Children

Biliousness, constipation prevent recovery. Cure these with Ayer's Pills.

Her Big Feet. A respectable old gentleman, somewhat tight on entering an omnibus, got his feet entangled in a lady's dress and fell headlong. He staggered to his feet, and looking round, indignantly demanded who struck him. A gentleman present remarked sotto voce: "You fell over that lady's feet; nobody struck you."

The indignant citizen turned round and surveyed the cause of the accident a moment, and then, as if by no means satisfied with the cause of his mishap, said: "Madame, you have got the biggest feet I ever saw!"

"Sir!" responded the lady, flushing with anger.

"Pray, don't apologise; it ain't your fault, but take my advice, sit sideways in the future, and give them the full range of the bus."

Rheumatism in Utah. Frisco, Utah, May 2nd.—There is a great deal of rheumatism in this and neighboring states and this painful disease has crippled many a strong man and woman among an otherwise healthy people.

Recently, however, there has been introduced into Utah a remedy for Rheumatism which bids fair to stamp out this awfully painful complaint. The name of this new remedy is Dodd's Kidney Pills, and it has already wrought some wonderful cures. Right here in Frisco there is a case of a Mr. Grace who had Rheumatism so bad in his feet that he could hardly walk. He tried many remedies in vain but Dodd's Kidney Pills cured him.

His wife says:—"We both had Kidney Trouble and my husband had the Rheumatism so bad that he could hardly walk. We used Dodd's Kidney Pills with much benefit. We have tried many remedies, but none have done us so much good as Dodd's Kidney Pills." Similar reports come from all over the state and it would seem as if Rheumatism had at last been conquered.

Uncle Sam's Coffee Bill. It is estimated that the people of the United States drink 1,500,000,000 gallons of coffee in the course of a year, at a cost of about 10 cents per gallon. The importing cost of the requisite quantity of coffee berries for this supply at 7 cents a pound, is about \$75,000,000. From this it appears that preparation, package, distribution and dealers' profits make the prices to the consumer about double the importing cost.

Their Very Best. Real Estate Agent—You really ought to buy the house. Now, if you and your wife will only discuss the matter thoroughly—

Peckham—Oh, that's out of the question. We never discuss things. The most we can ever do is dispute about them.—Philadelphia Press.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

Genuine Carter's Little Liver Pills.

Must Bear Signature of *Wm. Wood*

See Fac-Simile Wrapper Below.

Very small and as easy to take as sugar.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. FOR HEADACHE. FOR DIZZINESS. FOR BILIOUSNESS. FOR TORPID LIVER. FOR CONSTIPATION. FOR SALLOW SKIN. FOR THE COMPLEXION.

Price 25 Cents. Purely Vegetable. *Wm. Wood*

CURE SICK HEADACHE.

PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.