

The Daily Reporter.

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Weasel vs. Rat.

The little weasel at Campbell & Jones' warehouse is attracting much attention says the Macon, Ga., *Telegraph*. A dozen traps are set in various portions of the city to supply it with rats, and every now and then it is treated to an English sparrow or a pigeon, all of which it makes short work of.

A large crowd witnessed its fight with its thirty-seventh rat yesterday. The rat was caught at the city hall by Punch Blue, and weighed a trifle over fifteen ounces. He was fat and ugly, and the chances were that he would eat up the weasel, which did not weigh much more than half as much.

The weasel had eaten its breakfast of a pigeon and a half-grown rat, and could not have been very hungry when the old rat was pitted against him, but he did not like the idea of sharing quarters with any other animal.

The fight took place in the large cage, which measures four by five feet and is two feet high. It is made of wire, and thus afforded a full view. At 9 o'clock the door of the cage was opened and the rat turned in. The weasel always fights on the defensive, and never attacks. The rat was somewhat cowardly and did not seem to want to tackle its diminutive adversary. After some maneuvering the rat approached the weasel, when the latter sprang upon him and succeeded in getting his needle-like teeth in the rat's nose, cutting out a big chunk of that member. The rat acted then more cowardly than ever, cringing away into a corner. The weasel, with movements quick as lightning, ran up and down the cage as if trying to get out, but now and then nearing the panting rat, rearing its head to strike him on the back of the neck. The rat, however, seemed to know what the weasel was after, and kept aloof. This was kept up for an hour, the purpose of the weasel being perhaps to tire the rat. Finally the crowd grew impatient, and by poking the rat with pieces of wire caused him to get near the weasel, which would strike at him with lightning-like rapidity, each time causing him to squeal.

By this time the spectators were wrought up to a high pitch of excitement, and the rat aroused much sympathy, although his superiority in size and strength was fully admitted. The rat finally became desperate and made an attack. This was exactly what the weasel wanted, and when the opportunity came, made a spring and fastened his teeth in the back of his neck, placing his fore legs just back of its shoulders. And thus, while sucking the rat's blood, he crushed his bones, and the rat dropped over limp and dead.

Later in the day three more rats were placed in the cage, but as they were half grown only, they lasted but a minute or so. Each time the weasel's method of killing was the same.

The Age of Decoration.

A young man called at the box office of the Baldwin Theater the other day and handed the treasurer a suspicious-looking roll of paper.

"Please hand that to the manager," said he.

The treasurer looked at it dubiously.

"I'll give it to him, if you like," he remarked; "but I might as well tell you that he's got more manuscripts now than he can shake a stick at, and he swore the other day that if I took in any more plays he'd"—

"Play!" said the young man, with a snort; "play!—why, what do you take me for, young feller? Do you think I'm a play-writer? No, sir! I'm salesman in a paper-hanging house, I am, and them is samples of our new lines of papers. Play! Well, that is gall!"

The treasurer apologized. — *San Francisco Argonaut.*

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