

JUMPING THE DEER.

One of the Most Thrilling Experiences Which Befall the Hunter of Big Game.

"Jumping a deer" is a highly-attraction phrase, quite apt to make a tingling in the back hair of the tenderfoot who hears it for the first time. It is also intensely satisfactory to the chap who always has to shave before wooing nature, says Outing. You may, indeed, get a good shot in this way, and it is generally the only way to see the grandest of all the sights of the woods—deer running through a windfall. To see the glossy curves of fur curl over the lofty logs that lie piled on each other in boundless confusion is well worth a trip to the woods, while for him who loves the rifle as I do, more for what cannot be done with it than for what can, there is no such target elsewhere. But for the tyro who is dying to get that first deer "jumping a deer" generally means out of sight and out of hearing both. For the deer that goes off to lie down after feeding does not go to sleep, but to ruminate and take life easy.

Once in a great while one falls into a doze, but almost always the head is well erect and all senses keen for danger. And even if one is in a doze it may slip away without your suspecting its existence, for sleep deadens little of the senses of this wary animal. The man who "wouldn't shoot such an innocent creature as a deer" should by all means see one getting out of a heavy windfall, while the man who loves game that can get away can here find the attraction of the woods at its climax.

WOODEN INDIANS MUST GO.

Tobacco Store Signs That Are Condemned to Retirement in New York City.

One of New York's busy municipal commissioners says the wooden Indian must get off the walk. If the cigar dealer needs him in his business he will be obliged to take him inside and give him house room. Anyway, he cannot be allowed to encumber the sidewalk, says the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Of course it may be possible that the commissioner is moved by an honest desire to keep the walks clear, and then again he may be under the influence of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Aged Wooden Indians. And, really, it must be admitted that there are cases where interference would seem to be justified. There are wooden Indians of extreme age who are still forced to do their servile duty at all seasons of the year, and in the most inclement weather. With cramped muscles and ossified limbs they have stood out guard for many decades.

Many of them are gray and dingy and weather beaten, but they never complain. Some of them have cracked open and lost their feathers, and warped their fingers, and dropped their wampum. Why, there are cigar dealers so unfeeling as to refuse them even a coat of paint when the mercury drops to zero.

PLAY BILLIARDS.

French Physicians Are Sorry That the Game Is Declining in the French Halls.

Somebody has discovered that people in France are not playing billiards so much as they did formerly. Over this announcement has arisen a lamentation.

Physicians have joined in it as well as lay admirers of the game. They declare that its disappearance would be a misfortune from a sanitary point of view.

The game, they say, gives just the exercise they need to a great number of people who without it would take no exercise at all. While involving no severe physical exertion, it keeps the muscles in shape, stimulates the circulation, helps the digestion and requires just enough mental effort to give the nervous system a rest from the ordinary worries of life. In proof of all of which they cite the good spirits usually exhibited about a billiard table.

For elderly people, for the stout who cannot take much exercise, billiards is pronounced an excellent tonic. So the friends of the game are preaching a revival of its popularity.

Unconscious Humor.

Certificates of death are not documents where one usually seeks for humor, but there is frequently to be found in them much of the unconscious variety, says Pearson's Weekly. Here, for instance, is how the cause of death is stated in the case of a laborer: "Died from injuries received through a bull accidentally kneeling on his chest." The consideration shown for the feelings of the bull is a fine touch, and suggests grave questions on the moral responsibility of the lower animals. Again, a man is stated to have died "from the effects of injuries received after being run over by a railroad train in motion, owing to a misunderstanding between deceased and an engine driver." This description of a rather ordinary railway casualty is excellent; it, too, is so tender toward the feelings of the living.

Lost Jewelry in Laundry.

Before sending linen to the laundry look every piece over for forgotten collar buttons and stick pins. The laundries are repositories of more lost articles of this description than is dreamed of by the public. Every day quantities of gold and jeweled articles are picked up. Some of them are identified and restored, but more are simply pocketed by the finders. Money was frequently found in the pockets of washable waists worn last summer.

MONEY GREW ON BUSHES.

Railway Section Gang in Nebraska Comes Upon a Singular Find by the Roadside.

The fairy tale of money growing on bushes was lately realized along the right of way of the Burlington railroad between Hyannis and Alliance, says a Lincoln (Neb.) report.

A gang of section men were at work, when one of them noticed something that looked like a bill waving from the tangled top of a sunflower growing by the roadside. He investigated. It was a treasury note for \$10.

He walked a few steps farther and there, nodding from a branch of a bit of dog fennel, was another bill of similar denomination.

He called to his companions, and the entire gang threw down their tools and started on a money hunt. For three hours they searched up and down the right of way and far afield.

At almost every yard their trouble was rewarded by finding either a five or a ten-dollar bill. Some bills were tangled in the tops of weeds, others half hidden in bushes along the fence, and still others in the stubble of the field.

The entire day's clean-up of the eight was \$2,135. When the find was reported, word came from headquarters that a money pouch containing \$3,500 had been lost from an express shipment the day before.

The supposition is that the bag fell out of the open car door and was ground to pieces under the wheels, and the contents were scattered to the winds. This hypothesis is supported by the later discovery of portions of the damaged pouch.

RELIGION OF THE BLANKET.

The Navajo Squaw Prays as She Weaves the Threads of Her Beautiful Production.

It is a religion to make a Navajo blanket. Through the kinky, bristling twine of the warp are woven the hopes and aspirations of an immortal soul. In the warm colors are expressed the ardors of passionate hearts, the sandstorms they have faced, the cloud-bursts under which their backs have bent, the smiling sunshine that has dried their wool, all the adverse and good fortunes that have befallen are wrought into the intricate designs. The squaw prays as she pushes the wool cart, and she prays as she twirls the distaff in her hands or rolls it on her thigh; she prays as she arranges the beads; she prays as she lustily pounds down the woolstrands with her scrub oak batten, says the Southern Workman.

A blanket is all a prayer, a human document, a biography bright with the joy tints of canary yellow, dark with the olive green of pain. One is drawn to it because one's heart is moved by its ineffable, intangible, humanness. One is strangely moved to both laughter and tears by its exquisitely variant colors, each expressing an emotion by its warmth of blended fibers, each throbbing to a note of triumph or of woe.

THE FRUIT PLETHORA.

Fine Apples Fed to the Pigs Because of the Superabundant Product of the Orchards.

Rarely, if ever, has there been such a superabundance of fruit as now abounds in the New England orchards. The limbs of the apple and pear trees hang heavy under the weight of their enormous yield, and the ground beneath the trees is covered with the decaying droppings. In some localities fine apples may be had for the picking, and an offer of half a dollar a barrel for the fruit on the tree is eagerly accepted in the rural districts. Thousands of bushels are being fed to the cattle and pigs and the cider mills are glutted with raw material for the presses. It seems a pity to see such a large quantity of fine fruit going to waste. It is almost superfluous to offer suggestion in the line of thoughtful philanthropy to Dr. Hale, but the glutted condition of the orchards suggests that it might be a good idea to renew his farmers' fruit offering scheme, which furnished such a liberal supply of free fruit to the poor people of Boston when it was originally undertaken. Undoubtedly a great many bushels of apples can now be had for the asking.

Offical Cravat Adjusters.

The leading haberdashery shops employ only clerks who are expert in arranging cravat shapes. Make-up neckwear is adopted for provincial trade, as a rule. Among the duties of such assistants is to attend weddings and other house functions. The bridegroom nowadays presents his "best man" and ushers with cravats and gloves for the ceremony. The haberdasher's clerk reports at the proper place in due time and adjusts these cravats uniformly, placing the scarves in correct position, etc. He also fits the gloves in each case. His employer collects a handsome fee for this professional service.

Buddhists in America.

It is stated that San Diego, in Southern California, is fast becoming the Buddhist center of America. In one house there has been erected a shrine to Buddha, and the owner, a woman of means, has brought a Buddha priest from India, who gathers a large congregation together every week.

Increased Receipts Explained. The largest increase in postal receipts in the history of the service was shown in the reports of 50 leading post offices for September. That was the month, says the Chicago Record-Herald, in which the people who were away on vacations wrote home for money to get back with.

A COMEDY JAIL.

Town Guardhouse in Pennsylvania That Is Merely a Convenience for Prisoners.

Elizabethtown, the county seat of Essex, in the Adirondacks, possesses a comedy jail, according to the Philadelphia Ledger. It is small, having windows secured by wooden bars and a jailyard inclosed by a solid fence of three-quarter-inch boards, which a healthy male could push over with his shoulder. But the prisoners rarely, if ever, attempt to escape. Some good stories are told by Judge Kellogg, Judge Hand and other residents. It is a custom to allow the prisoners out on parole, so that they may cut the grass on neighboring lawns, do garden work, or repair roads for the village or county. Recently one prisoner, who should have returned at eight o'clock, did not apply for admission until nearly an hour later. The warden angrily demanded to know the reason, and added: "Don't let this occur again, or I will not allow you to come in. I lock the door at eight o'clock, and won't open it in the future for you." Another accused of and awaiting trial for manslaughter, over-stayed his parole and pleaded as an excuse that as it was Saturday he thought he would go and spend Sunday with his wife, returning to the jail on Monday morning.

MIGRATION OF THE SNIPES.

Tons of Lead Ore Fired at the Artful Dodger as He Wings His Way Southward.

The snipe, properly Wilson's snipe, Gallinago Delicata, but commonly known as English snipe and wrongfully called half a dozen other names, is a widely distributed species. It visits every state at some season; its northward migration extends within the arctic circle, while it is known to go southward to northern South America and the West Indies. Comparatively few of the birds which move northward from February until May breed south of the international line. It is quite true there are breeding grounds at various points of the northern states, but the great breeding range extends from latitude 42 degrees north to some undetermined point much nearer the pole than most sportsmen will venture.

Some time in September the first south-bound birds pass below the Canadian grounds, and soon most of the suitable marshy bits of east and west have their share of long-billed prizes. Then begins an astonishing attack which extends from ocean to ocean and generally sweeps southward from Canada to California. Probably tons of lead, half of which is wasted, are fired at the artful dodger.

CARIBOU MURDER.

Large Companies That Slaughter Hundreds of the Animals in Newfoundland.

Newfoundland is probably the only country in the world where venison, salted or fresh, is a staple article of diet for the masses. The coast folk make their plans with method and deliberation, says Outing. From the harbors where they reside they go in their boats to the rivers and fords which strike into the interior. When navigation is no longer possible they debark and continue on foot to the deer country. They carry barrels filled with salt and sometimes go in large companies. When the rendezvous is reached they camp. Then they ambush themselves along a promising "lead" or deer track, armed with long six-foot muzzle-loading sealing guns, which they charge with about "eight fingers" of coarse gunpowder and "slugs" of lead, fragments of iron or bits of rusty nails, whichever they may have. They fire point blank into a herd of caribou, as it passes, and being usually good shots, contrive to kill almost anything they aim at, or to wound it so badly with these dreadful missiles that it soon collapses. Then they skin and cut up the meat, for these men know a little of every trade, and pack it in the barrels with the salt as a preservative.

NOVEL PRISON REFORM.

Italy Proposes Compensation for Men Who Have Been Unjustly Condemned.

A new criminal bill is about to be discussed in Italy, and it is thought in Rome that it will be passed. It proposes to concede to those found to have been unjustly condemned to prison an indemnity, to be decided upon by the courts, says a report to the Chicago Tribune.

If the person has been in prison through a real judicial error the indemnity will in some way correspond to the financial loss which he and his family have sustained, while if he has been condemned through the bad faith of a third person, through false testimony (for which, of course, the court which condemned him is not responsible), the indemnity will be less, but at least he will have the wherewithal to begin life anew.

It has been proposed to indemnify those living when the law passes who have already been released from unmerited condemnations, or the families of those who have died while undergoing unjust sentence.

Indian Sailors.

Thomas France and John Johns, sailors in the United States navy, are full-blooded Inuit Indians, who grew up together on an Indian reservation. They left home about ten years ago and never met until a week or so ago, both having sailed all over the world meantime. To their tribe they are known respectively as Leaping Deer and White Feather.

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