

GRIPPED BY A LION

Livingstone's Fearful Ordeal and His Narrow Escape.

A BATTLE WITH A MANEATER.

The Wounded and Maddened Monster, In a Paroxysm of Dying Rage, Caught the Explorer in His Jaws and Shook Him as a Terrier Would a Rat.

David Livingstone, the famous African explorer and missionary, once had a singular encounter with a wounded lion that almost put an end to the explorer's remarkable career before it had fairly begun.

The people of Mabotsa were troubled by lions, which leaped into the cattle pens by night and destroyed their milk and draft animals.

It is well known that if one in a troop of lions is killed the others leave that part of the country. I therefore went out with the people to help them destroy one of the marauders.

When the circle was reformed we saw two other lions in it, but dared not fire lest we should shoot some of the people. The beasts burst through the line, and as it was evident the men could not face their foes we turned back toward the village.

I saw a lion sitting on a piece of rock, about thirty yards off, with a little bush in front of him. I took good aim at him through the bush and fired both barrels.

The men called out, "He is shot, he is shot!" Others cried, "Let us go to him!" I saw the lion's tail erect in anger and said, "Stop a little till I load again!"

He caught me by the shoulder, and we both came to the ground together. Growing horribly, he shook me as a terrier dog does a rat. The shock produced a stupor like that felt by a mouse in the grip of the cat.

The artfulness of this crab, too, is strikingly illustrated by the ingenious manner in which he protects himself against the large fish which look upon him as an excellent article of food.

As he had one paw on the back of my head, I turned round to relieve myself of the weight and saw his eyes directed to Mabaiwe, who was aiming at him from a distance of ten or fifteen yards.

The beauty of old china is often destroyed by brown spots which appear on the surface. An effective way to remove these is to bury the dish in the earth, covering it completely.

Universal. "There is one thought which comes daily to every man." "What's that?" "That nothing is too good for him."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Either I will find a way or I will make one.—Sir Philip Sidney.

AN OLD INDIAN LEGEND.

The Incidents That Led Up to the Naming of Poughkeepsie.

During the days when the Indians still held sway on the banks of the Hudson there was a fierce battle between the Delaware and the Pequot tribes. The former won, and among their captives was a handsome young Pequot brave.

Determined to rescue her at any cost, the Pequot brave disguised himself as a medicine man and entered the camp of the Hurons. By some pretext he gained admission to the tent where the girl was kept prisoner.

Rejoicing that the place had been a "safe harbor" for the girl and her lover in time of peril, it was so designated in the Pequot tongue.

CURIOUS HERMIT CRABS.

They Keep Housemaids, and Also Use Sponges For Protection.

It has been said that crabs are as artful as "a barrow load of monkeys," and no one who has read Professor Edward Step's "Mosses: A Book of Strange Companionships in Nature," will deny that there is considerable truth in the remark.

He relates, for instance, how the common hermit crab actually keeps a housemaid to clean out his house. When he first starts life this particular species of crab hunts for some large shellfish's shell in which he can live at ease, rent free.

Two Kinds of Snobs. An interesting sense history is that of the word snob, a term of obscure origin, in its earliest use, in 1871, meaning a shoemaker or cobbler.

Canalboat Travel Before Railroads. So prodigiously good was the eating and drinking on board these sluggish but most comfortable canalboats that there are legends extant of an English traveler who, coming to Belgium for a week and traveling in one of these vessels, was so delighted with the fare there that he went backward and forward from Ghent to Bruges all the rest of his life.—From Timbs' "English Eccentricities."

Setting Him Right. "I suppose the titled personage you say you are going to marry is mentioned in the Almanach de Gotha?" said the inquisitive newspaper man.

Her Verdict. Husband—You can put this down as settled—if I ever get out of it you will never catch me in matrimony again.

Well Trained. Hunston—I'd like to go shooting to-morrow if I could only get a dog that was well trained. Ethel—Oh, I'll let you take Dottie, then. She can stand on her head, and shake hands, and play dead, and say prayers, and do lots of things.—Puck.

Poor Sowing. "There's a fellow who is hoping for a crop failure." "That seems unusual. What has he sown?" "Wild oats."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The man of grit carries in his very prescience a power which controls and commands.—Old Saying.

THEY PUZZLE GREAT MINDS.

Simple Words Too Profound For Human Understanding.

Q.—Can there be two kinds of infinities or two infinite spaces? A.—The writer of this question must decide. The nearest star is distant twenty-five trillion miles.

But no human can think of the distance expressed by the 1's. Let the first row of figures extend twenty-five trillion or fifty or a thousand trillion miles to the east; then a row could be extended toward the west.

There are possibly fifty persons now living able to think one new thought. They are the mighty of the earth, and are all transcendental mathematicians. Not one of these even tries to begin to think of infinity or eternity.

FOUR SOULS EACH.

Curious Beliefs of the Savages of West Africa.

West African religion is particularly generous to the human beings, to each of whom it allots several souls, four being the usual number. Only one is immortal, however.

Most of the tribes have the idea of an underworld after death, neither heaven nor hell, but much like the existing world, only dimmer. Among the Tschwi tribes this idea is well defined. Their shadow world has a name—strahmanday—and they even know the way to the entrance, which is across the Volta river.

Meat For Jurymen. At one time it was the common duty of both the plaintiff and defendant in an action to provide refreshments for the jury empaneled to try it, and from this arose the practice (which survived until 1870) of denying them "meat, drink or fire" while deliberating upon their verdict.

Garrick's Wit. David Garrick on one occasion passed Tyburn as a huge crowd was assembling to witness the execution of a criminal.

Scientific Problems. "Much energy is not utilized. There ought to be some way of conserving the rays of the sun." "Yes, and look at all the energy that goes to waste in chewing gum. If we could only harness the gum chewers, eh?"—Pittsburgh Post.

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There is always hope in a man that actually and earnestly works. In idleness alone is there perpetual despair.—Caryle.

TREASURY RELICS

Historical Treasures on File in the Auditor's Office.

ACCOUNTS OF G. WASHINGTON.

These Cover a Period of Eight Years and Are in the Handwriting of the Great Patriot—Receipts Signed by Daniel Webster and Henry Clay.

The archives of the United States treasury are rich with relics. In the files of the office of the auditor of the treasury department may be seen the canceled check showing the payment to Lafayette in 1824 of \$200,000 by the United States.

The purchase under the treaty, characterized at the time as "Seward's folly," of Alaska is evidenced by a warrant for \$7,290,000, signed by F. E. Spinner, who at the time was secretary of the treasury.

CHOATE AND DEPEW.

At an annual dinner of the St. Nicholas society Ambassador Joseph H. Choate was down for the toast "The Navy," while Senator Depew was to respond to "The Army."

Depew began by saying: "It's well to have a specialist. That's why Choate is here to speak about the navy. We met at the wharf once, and I never saw him again till we reached Liverpool. When I asked how he felt he said he thought he would have enjoyed the trip over if he had had any ocean air. Yes, you want to hear Choate on the navy."

Choate responded: "I've heard Depew hailed as the greatest after dinner speaker. If after dinner speaking, as I have heard it described and as I believe it to be, is the art of saying nothing at all then Dr. Depew is the most marvelous speaker in the universe."

Returned the Compliment. Shortly after the workmen had finished the landlord took especial pains to show to each tenant the bill for doing over his flat. The householders regarded that attention in different lights, according to the improvements they had fought for and got.

Few Russians Wear Hats. The male population of Russia wearing hats is in the vast minority as compared with the vast number who purchase the Russian cap. The seasons are practically winter and summer, so that the transition from the cloth cap is to one of fur, the straw hat coming in for slight attention during a brief period in midsummer.

Bowling. Bowls, or bowling, is one of the most popular and ancient of English pastimes, its origin being traceable to the twelfth century. It was held in such disfavor for years that laws were enacted against it, and it was an illegal pursuit.

Measuring Him. Wife—James, do you know that you are a very small man? Husband—How ridiculous! I am nearly six feet in height. Wife—That makes no difference. Whenever I ask you for money to go shopping you are always short.—London Tit-Bits.

Going Too Far. Reader—He tore his hair and rent the air. Hearer—There you are! We even have to rent the air now. It's time we had a change of government.—Pithfinder.

Do not flatter yourself that friendship authorizes you to say disagreeable things to your intimates.

THINGS HE DIDN'T KNOW.

They Were Many, but That Didn't Keep Him From Giving an Opinion.

A well known architect was summoned as a witness in a Long Island court in a suit over the cost of a building. The lawyer whose duty it was to cross examine started in to attack the credibility of the witness.

CROOKED BILLET INN.

London's Oldest Public House and Its Romantic Interior.

The Crooked Billet, an inn which stands upon Tower hill, boasts itself, says the London Graphic, as the oldest public house in London. How far back its history goes it would be impossible to say. The records are wanting, but there is every reason to believe that the inn dates from the time of Henry VIII.

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OLD ENGLISH JURIES.

They Were Fined or Beaten For Not Reaching a Verdict.

Not always enviable was the lot of the old time jurymen, for there was always the prospect of trouble if the verdict did not gratify the higher powers. Thus the failure of a jury to convict Sir Nicholas Throckmorton made Queen Mary "ill for three days," and she came out of her sick chamber to fine the disobedient jury (meanwhile confined in prison) the sum of \$10,000 a head.

Elizabeth followed the same plan, and the practice of fining English juries did not cease until 1670, when a fine inflicted by the notorious Jeffreys was rescinded on appeal.

Motions of Plants. Some Forms of Vegetable Life Have the Power of Choice. One of the chief distinctions between vegetable and animal life is that animals have power of choice and of voluntary motion, while vegetables and plants grow only mechanically by natural law.

Misuse of the Dictionary. Since the time of Johnson the dictionaries have attempted to record the pronunciations prevalent among the best speakers of English in their generation. That they should dictate pronunciation was, of course, as ridiculous as it would have been futile.

The Deaf and Dumb. In early times it was an opinion, maintained even by philosophers, that the education of the deaf and dumb was impossible. It was then believed that language could be acquired only through the medium of the ear, as shown by the couplet of Lucretius: To instruct the deaf no art could ever reach. No care improve them and no wisdom teach.

A Pond on the Farm. Why not build a good pond on the farm? The government will stock it with fish; it will furnish water for your stock the year round by installing pipes and hydrants to keep the water cool and sanitary, and when winter comes it will furnish a fine place for the amusement of the young folks. Then it will supply the material for the ice crop to store away for summer use.—Successful Farming.

Giving Her a Job. Mrs. Strongmind—Our society has appointed me chairman of a committee whose object is to try to bring about a reduction in rents. Strongmind—I'm glad to hear it, my dear. You can begin at once on my trousers.—London Tit-Bits.

How Did She Know? Aunt—I don't like to see you dandling about with mere boys all the time. What do you find so entertaining in that smooth faced young Thorpe? Niece—Why, aunt, his face isn't so smooth as it looks!—Boston Transcript.

There is great force hidden in a sweet command.