

# Emmitsburg Chronicle.

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### SOME FANTASTIC ANIMALS.

Snakes That Walk and Animals That Commit Suicide.

Horses, giraffes and ostriches have the largest eyes of all terrestrial animals, but among marine animals there are cephalopods or ink fists, which have eyes as large as a plate, says the *Cleveland Leader*. A tiger with a glass eye is something of a curiosity; there is one at the Stuttgart menagerie, and its glass eye looks as fierce as the real one.

A perfect cyano among beasts is the coati, which is found on Devil's Island; for its size—about that of a cat—it has the largest nose of any known animal. Its head is pyramid shaped, with jaws like an alligator's. It uses its forepaws to carry its food to its mouth like a squirrel does. This animal is found on the island Dreyfus made famous and nowhere else on earth. At the Museum of Natural History, Paris, there is a single specimen, which is attracting much attention.

A snake which uses its backbone for a walking stick, is the puff-adder of South Africa, the most deadly serpent in the world. It can climb, swim, and more wonderfully still, actually walk. It moves forward without any deviation or wriggling. Wave-like motions pass along his sides, or his ribs move backward and forward like legs beneath the skin. These motions are similar to the undulatory motion of the legs of a millipede. The snake does not bend his spine while walking, nor deviate one jot from a straight swimmer.

Giraffes can perform as many gymnastic feats as a circus contortionist—that is, with their necks, which are so easily broken that when the animal wishes to commit suicide it twists its neck about until it snaps, and when defense is no longer possible the animal destroys itself. A full-grown giraffe is never captured; the animal preferring death. There are but few specimens in captivity. At one time there was only one in England, but few in this continent and only two in this country. There is no animal in the menagerie which gives its keeper more trouble. The freight bill for one giraffe from the wilds of South Africa to the Arsenal, Central Park, would be about \$7,500—a stiff price for one curiousity.

Quite as rare as a giraffe is a black lioness. There is only one in captivity; this is in the Jardin des Plantes, Paris. Lions of this color are found only in the interior of the Sahara, and are scarce even there.

The industry shown by ants is appalling. In South America they have been known to construct a tunnel three miles in length. The small red ant of India is so small that it takes twelve of them to carry off a tiny grain of wheat, yet they will carry one of these grains 1,000 yards to their nest. One ant, which was placed in a saucer with some larvae, worked from 6 in the morning until 10 at night, and carried 187 of the larvae to her nest.

The largest known insect is the elephant beetle of Venezuela, which sometimes weighs half a pound. The Ceylon yellow spider weighs nearly half a pound. Now and then one has been found to weigh nine ounces.

The insect with the shortest life is the ephemere of Germany—five hours is the limit of life, and it takes no nourishment during this time. It is true, however, that before taking the form of a butterfly it has lived three years as a worm. During this time it lives in or near the water; the change to an ephemere is so sudden that one has not the time to see it.

Best for the Bowels. No matter what ails you, headache to a cancer, you will never get well until your bowels are put right. CASCARETS help nature, cure you without a gripe or pain, produce easy natural movements, costs you just 10 cents to start getting your health back. CASCARETS Candy Cathartic, the genuine, put up in metal boxes, every tablet has C. C. stamped on it. Beware of imitations. 428.

SOLID SILVER American Lever Watches, WARRANTED TWO YEARS, ONLY \$6. G. T. EYSTER.

### BOTTLE MESSAGES.

Uncle Sam Uses That Method in the Study of Ocean Currents.

The German government intends to institute a special department for "Bottle Messages," after the example of the United States. They are to be used for scientific purposes, as they have proved of the greatest service for navigation. They were first employed for this object in 1802 for the investigation of the great currents of the ocean, particularly the Gulf Stream. Berghaus compiled a chart of 16 bottles found on the North Atlantic Coast. In 1843 Belcher published the first chart constructed on 119 finds. Such bottles are now protected by international law. A systematic study was first begun by the United States. Since 1895 bottles have been thrown out by special government officials under the supervision of the Naval Office. Sea captains are given forms containing the following items in seven languages: "Currents, name of ship, name of captain, day of dispatch, name of finder, day and place of the find." The captain fills up the first part of the form, and throws it overboard in a carefully sealed bottle. Having filled up the second part of the form, he sends it to the Naval office in Washington, or the nearest American consulate.

Last year 103 bottles were picked up in the Atlantic, 16 in the Pacific and two in the Indian Ocean. The length of the bottle's voyage varies. One was thrown out on September 13, 1895, between New Foundland and Iceland, and first recovered on a sand bank of the Bahama Islands on May 22, 1898. It had made 4,500 kilometers at the small velocity of eight kilometers a day. The quickest voyage that has yet been observed was made by a bottle thrown out on May 7, 1890 near the mouth of the Orinoco, and found on the 13th of the same month 190 sea miles to the northwest, having been driven at a speed of 56 kilometers a day.

No one can reasonably hope for good health unless his bowels move once each day. When this is not attended to disorders of the stomach arise, biliousness, headache, dyspepsia and piles soon follow. If you wish to avoid these ailments keep your bowels regular by taking Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets when required. They are so easy to take and mild and gentle in effect. For sale by T. E. Zimmerman & Co., druggists.

CRUSHED. They were engaged. But they quarreled and were too proud to make it up. Both were anxious to make people believe they had entirely forgotten each other.

He called a few days ago at her father's house to see the old gentleman—on business, of course. She answered the front door bell. Said he: "Ah, Miss Jepkin, I believe. Is your father in?" "No, sir," she replied; "pa is not in at present. Do you wish to see him personally?" "I do," was his response, feeling that she was yielding; "on very particular personal business," and he turned proudly to go away. "I beg your pardon," she called after him, as he reached the lowest step, "but who shall I say called?" —Answers.

Now is the time when croup and lung troubles prove rapidly fatal. The only harmless remedy that produces immediate results is One Minute Cough Cure. It is very pleasant to take and can be relied upon to quickly cure coughs, colds and all lung diseases. It will prevent consumption. T. E. Zimmerman & Co.

A Missouri horse dealer displays this ambiguous sign in front of his office: "When Looking for Mules Don't Forget Us."

HOAX—"Why did you pawn your watch?" Joak—"Oh, just to have a good time."

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co.*

### CULTIVATED CHESTNUTS.

A Crop Which Pays for the Efforts Spent on it.

Cultivated chestnuts bid fair to drive from the markets in a few years the ordinary nuts that grow wild upon the mountains. They also promise to yield a good profit to wideawake farmers from land not fit for any other agricultural purpose.

Along the sides of the mountain in the southern counties of Pennsylvania, and in Maryland, and to some extent also in certain sections of Delaware and New Jersey, may already be found groves of grafted chestnut trees, some of which yielded good crops this fall. Many of those in Pennsylvania and Maryland are in the famous South Mountain peach belt. It is rough mountain land, roughly cleared. Many of the trees which formerly stood upon it were chestnuts, and wherever possible the shoots from the trunks of these trees have been used, being properly grafted for the production of the cultivated variety of nuts. Grafting is the process commonly adopted for these trees. Budding, wherever tried, proved not to be suitable.

There are some groves of thousands of grafted chestnut trees, planted in regular rows, just like orchards of fruit trees. In other cases, where there are no regular groves, sprouts from trunks in ground that cannot be used for any agricultural purposes have been grafted, without the owners going to the further trouble of clearing the ground for the planting of young trees.

Thirty Nuts in Five Burrs. Crops from the grafted trees are quick and reasonably sure. In two years a grafted sprout will begin bearing, and a tree will live and bear longer than the average life of a man. The nuts are several times the size of the ordinary chestnut, resembling in that respect large horse-chestnuts. There are also more in a burr. Five burrs picked from a Maryland grove recently were found to contain thirty-three large nuts.

The cultivated nuts also mature earlier than the wild ones, and thus gain an additional advantage in the market. They may be gathered during the first half of September, while the wild nuts do not ripen until a month later.

No Battle With the Worm. Cultivators have to battle with the worm, or circulo, which everybody has met with in the wild nut. The only method of dealing with this pest that yields good results is based upon the habits of the worm. It has been found that soon after a nut containing a worm has dropped to the ground the circulo will leave it and seek refuge for the winter in the ground, beneath the frost line. Cultivators, therefore, go among the trees with two baskets. Sound chestnuts are placed in one basket and wormy ones in the other, and the latter are then burned. The picking has to be done twice a day or most of the worms will escape. This treatment, of course, is for the benefit of next year's crop, and by following it carefully the ravages of the circulo may be minimized. If neglected the worms will in a few years so infest the grove as to make it worthless.

Profitable Crop. The cultivated chestnuts sell from \$10 to \$15 per bushel. The cultivators have not yet succeeded in producing a nut that will excel, or even equal, the wild nut in flavor in its raw state. Boiled or roasted the cultivated chestnut is excellent, but uncooked it lacks many of the toothsome qualities which make the wild nut popular. By scientific development and blending of different varieties, however, it is hoped to remedy this defect and the price of cultivated nuts will probably then be even higher than it is. Even at present market prices, many cultivators find chestnuts more profitable than fruit, taking into consideration the uncertainty of the crops of the latter, and the short life of the trees. Intelligent horticulturists, however, are of the opinion that it would not pay to devote to the cultivation of

### FIGURES AND EYES.

An Indication of Advancing Age That Admits of No Compromise.

"As we grow older," remarked the man who was doing that at the rate of a week every seven days, "we begin to observe that we seem to need more light when we read or that the print of the newspaper that we have been reading with ease for ever so many years is not quite as good as it used to be, or that we can distinguish the letters a little better if we hold them farther away than usual, but we are very slow indeed to observe that the real cause of it is that we are growing old, and we rather resent the suggestion of some kindly friend that we need glasses."

"We resent glasses especially because they are the visible sign of our weakness, and all the world may know by them what we fondly think they have not yet discovered—to wit, that our eyesight is falling. I am that way myself, or was, and I stood the glasses off as long as I could, and really I could get along very well reading almost any type. Of course, I could not make out every letter, but I could get enough to complete the word, and oftentimes I could supply whole words that were indistinct by the sense of what I was reading.

"But it was the figures that got me down at last. Ah, those figures! There is no context there, and when I saw dates or numerals of any kind the blur of the years shut out all their outlines, and to save me I could not tell what was before me. I made mistakes so often in reading aloud to my wife that she would laugh at me, though she never caught me on the letters, notwithstanding many was the time I guessed at about half I was reading. But figures would not stand any fooling like that, and at last I acknowledged that it wasn't the type or the paper or the light or anything of that sort and got myself a pair of glasses. Now I can tell a figure as well as a letter, and I discover they are printed quite as plainly as ever, though I was sure they were blurred before."—New York Sun.

### ROSE TO THE OCCASION.

The American Girl, as Usual, Managed to Win the Trick.

A man who is back from a visit to Paris and Germany is telling a story which ought to make the great American eagle flap his wings with pride. It happened at a little railway station in Germany, Gruenwald by name, while the man who tells about it was waiting for a train on a branch line which connects with the main line at that place. Besides himself there were at the station a party of American tourists of the kind you read about in English books and an English family of the kind you read about in American books. The Americans were loud voiced and ungrammatical. They laughed a great deal and they ate peaches, the stones of which they threw at a post to test their marksmanship. They were persons for whom Uncle Sam himself would have felt apologetic, and they displeased the haughty British matrifamilias greatly. "Pa the younger members of her family, a gawky boy and a lanky and 'leggy' girl of the typical elongated English variety—they were objects of great interest, however, and the girl in particular edged nearer and nearer, to her mother's great disgust. At last she was so near that mamma could endure it no longer.

"Clara" she called in her loudest voice, "come away at once. You might be mistaken for one of those disgusting Americans!"

A pretty young American looked up and sweet Clara from head to foot with a calm glance. Then she went on eating peaches.

"Don't worry, madam," she called out cheerily. "There's no danger of that—with them feet!"—Washington Post.

### He Despised Tobacco.

The healthful or reverse action of tobacco has been an absorbing question for decades and one hard to settle. Emerson, cautious as he was, was once drawn into a discussion on the subject and, being a nonuser of the weed, was an ardent advocate of its abolition as a marketable commodity.

"Did you ever think about the logic of stimulants?" he asked. "Nature supplies her own. It is astonishing what she will do if you give her a chance. In how short a time the gentle excitation of a cup of tea is needed! Conversation is an excitant, and the series of intoxications it creates is healthful. But tobacco, tobacco—what rude crowbar is that with which to pry into the delicate tissues of the brain."

### A Bold Defense.

"An enlisted man once put the president of a court martial in a difficult position," says a writer in Cassell's Magazine. "The court martial was trying the soldier for some fault or other. When the evidence—and it took an unusually long time—had been given, the president asked the prisoner if he had anything to say in his defense.

### Powers of Endurance.

"When my grandfather was a young man," said the boy with a snub nose, "he could run ten miles without stopping."

"I heard my grandfather make a prayer 25 minutes long once at a prayer meeting," responded the boy with the dirty face, "and it didn't faze him."—Chicago Tribune.





