

NOVEL EXPERIENCES

WITH WINTER BIRDS. Taming Chickadees—Supplying Cotton for Their Nests—The Nest in the Woodpecker's Hole—The Wreck of the Apple Tree Limb and a Lost Opportunity.

Commencing with the chickadees, a few words may be necessary to bridge the time between the March report and the nesting season. Of the five which would readily light on head or hand for food, only a pair remained at the middle of April. All had been unusually fearless during the first part of the month. Frequently one would alight on my cap when there was one on each hand. Twice four came to me at once. The first time two on my head and one on each hand. Another day two on one hand, one on the other and one on my head.

On the 29th of April one of the pair spent a full hour in the cotton which I had fastened on the window sill, where they came for food. It began at once and continued to carry away until the supply was exhausted. A second and then a third bunch was at the window, but the next day they did not seem to notice it, so I suppose the nest was completed. The little bird picked the cotton into the fluffiest pieces imaginable and took so much in its bill that I could see the cotton glisten in the sun as far as I could see the bird. From watching its comings and goings the length of time for a trip, I formed some idea of where the nest might be located.

During the nest building and for a week or two afterward they did not seem as tame as usual, but by the middle of May they again began to eat readily from my hand at the window. The female would flutter her wings and beg for food of her mate as young birds do. On June 1st they began to carry away soft food suitable for nestlings. The next morning one was so eager for food that when I raised the window on a spool and was about to hold out my hand it could not wait as usual, but reached under, seized a piece of the yolk of a hard boiled egg and flew away.

Two days later I started out to locate the nest. The first suitable tree in the line of flight was an old apple tree near the edge of the woods. A dozen or more feet from the ground, in a dead limb, were a number of holes made by woodpeckers, but no chickadees were to be seen. Finally one a little farther on in the woods answered my call of "Dee-dee." So climbing a tottering ladder, pushing through bushes, I reached the place and held out food. It took a bit and went far back in the woods. The second and third time it went out of the woods toward the apple tree. I followed and stood beside a bush not far from the tree. Then for two or three times, not being quite willing to entrust its secret to me, it flew back of the bush and then to the tree, instead of taking a direct course as it did later. I soon moved under the tree, where I could see that it disappeared on the opposite side of a dead limb. The bird now showed no fear, and crossing to the other side of the tree, I saw that the nest was in one of the woodpecker's holes that I first noticed. The bird came to me 24 times and carried away all the food I had. It would take all it could hold in its bill and fly to the hole, where it would cling to the edge and reach in.

I saw but one bird, and its feathers were so ruffled that I was not sure whether it was the male or female, but thought it was the former. Evidently something had befallen its mate and this one was having a hard time to feed the nestlings. It followed me across the lot and would have come to me if there had been anything to offer it. Of course, there was always a supply at the window, but it evidently appreciated having it near by. After three days the chickadee stopped coming to the window and when I went to see the nest, just one week from my first trip, I was very sorry to find that the limb where the nest was had broken off about three inches below the doorway and was lying on the ground. The door measured one and one-quarter inches wide by one and one-half long. The limb was nine inches in circumference at the break. Just a shell of decayed bark through which one could easily thrust a common pin. Too frail a home to withstand a strong wind. The nest, which was on the ground near by, was of felted cow's hair, moss, cotton and the woolly material which covers the stems of coarse ferns. It was much soiled and contained one egg.

This tragedy ended the hope I had of trying some new experiments in the line of taming young birds, and obtaining photographs, also of having a large flock for dinner. One may often say with Burns:

"The best laid schemes of mice an' men Gang aft a-gley, An' leave us naught but grief an' pain, For promis'd joy."

The next day after I discovered the accident to the nest the little bird came to the window for food. It continued to come occasionally until the first part of September and ate from my hands a few times, both at the window and in the yard.

I think I joined the company of two others which appeared in the latter part of August and spent the autumn traveling, for none came to the window until the first of November. By the end of the month one was again quite tame and the other two would come for food at the window. The flock had increased to six by the end of the first week in January, and of these has since disappeared. By Jan. 11th all had learned to come to a second story window and at least four had cut from their legs and were in the yard. Sometimes one will eat 50 bites without leaving my hand. Occasionally there will be one on each hand at the same time.

For the benefit of anyone not familiar with the chickadee, I will say that it is a tiny, active bird who identifies himself by clearly and cheerfully calling his own name. The crown, nape and throat are black; back, wings and tail slate color; sides of head white; breast ashy. The feathers are so soft and tiny that they are like down. This brings to my mind the answer of the little pupil who being asked the meaning of "down," replied "baby feathers."

Ernest C. Fay, Feb. 1, 1912.

The state directors of the Connecticut Total Abstinence Union held their quarterly meeting Thursday afternoon at the rooms of the Y. M. T. A. B. society, at Bristol. President Rev. J. J. Fitzgerald of Poquonoc presided.



ITEMS OF INTEREST FOR SATURDAY

All of our departments have reported much of interest from all around the store for Saturday. In our Men's Furnishings Department there is a Special Sale of Shirts; in the busy Garment Section you will find seasonable garments at greatly reduced prices; each department has its offerings, which will make this Saturday a bargain day. The new Spring goods are beginning to make their appearance also and many beautiful new fabrics are now to be seen.

Wash Goods Department

JUST RECEIVED FOR SATURDAY'S SELLING

1,200 yards of High-grade Woven Madras in splendid patterns and colorings. These are new. Excellent for men's shirts and for women's and children's wear. A large variety of light, medium and dark patterns. The regular 35c quality; 28c light wide.

SATURDAY—Special 17c

Rug and Drapery Department

WOOL INGRAIN RUGS—A few of the best quality All-wool Ingrain Rugs, slightly damaged which we price to close out quickly.

9' by 12', regular price \$13.25 SATURDAY \$6.50
9' by 9', regular price \$11.50 SATURDAY \$5.50
7 1/2' by 9', regular price \$ 7.75 SATURDAY \$4.50
6' by 9', regular price \$ 7.75 SATURDAY \$3.50

SATURDAY—Special 39c

SHORT LENGTHS OF PRINTED LINOLEUMS—Values up to 69c a square yard.

SATURDAY—Special 39c

24-INCH SUIT CASES—Covered with heavy canvas on 1 1/2-inch steel frame and lined with linen. Guaranteed water-proof. Regular price \$2.85.

SATURDAY—Special \$2.25

Handkerchief and Neckwear Department

LINEN COLLARS—Embroidered in a variety of choice designs. Sizes 12 to 14 inches.

SATURDAY—Special two for 25c

Art Goods Department

STAMPED MARQUISSETTE APRONS—Stamped for French knot embroidery and edged with lace. All ready to embroider. Value 25c.

SATURDAY—Special 19c

Glove Department

A BOSTON STORE SPECIAL—the best glove for the price on the market. Two-clasp in tan and white.

Special 69c

Men's Furnishings Dep't.

NEGLIGEE SHIRTS—\$1.50 Shirts in coat style with attached cuffs, made of woven madras with either plain or plaid fronts.

SATURDAY—Special \$1.19

WINTER WEIGHT UNION SUITS—Heavy Ribbed Cotton Union Suits in ar. ecru shade. Regular price \$1.25.

SATURDAY—Special 85c

SILK AND WOOL POPLIN FOUR-IN-HANDS—Slip easy four-in-hands for close fitting collars. A good 50c value.

SATURDAY—Special 25c

Cloak and Suit Department

WOMEN'S, MISSES' AND CHILDREN'S COATS—Mixed lot of coats of all kinds which sold formerly at prices ranging up to \$12.95. All serviceable materials in medium and heavy weights. We have grouped all of these coats and will sell them at one price.

Your choice Saturday \$5.00

CHILDREN'S COATS—Cloth, Plush and Caracul Coats in natty styles and good colors. For children from 2 to 5 years old. Formerly sold for \$5.00.

SATURDAY—Special \$3.00

WOMEN'S, MISSES' AND JUNIORS' SUITS—There are a number of different styles in this lot in mixtures and plain colors. Regular values up to \$17.50.

SATURDAY—Special \$10.00

WOMEN'S BLACK COTTON UNDERSKIRTS—Several styles in good strong materials. Some shirred with deep flounce and others finished with tucks. Regular \$1.00 quality.

SATURDAY—Special 69c

Stationery Department

ANOTHER OF OUR FAMOUS PAPER SPECIALS—Writing paper of excellent quality—50 sheets and 50 envelopes in neat box.

SATURDAY—Special 19c

Hosiery and Underwear Department

WOMEN'S BLACK HOSE—Full-fashioned Hosiery with spliced sole, heel and toe. Wear resisting. We have these in both common and extra sizes. 35c quality.

SATURDAY—Special 29c

CHILDREN'S STRAIGHT RIBBED COTTON UNDERWEAR, sizes 20 to 28 for children from 2 to 9 years. Regular 25c value.

SATURDAY—Special 19c

WOMEN'S VESTS AND PANTS, made of full bleach ribbed cotton, in winter weight. Size 35 only. Regular 50c value.

SATURDAY—Special 36c

Notion Department

WOMEN'S COAT AND SKIRT HANGERS—Handy, simple in adjustment—save time and money. A new arrival.

SATURDAY—Special 10c

BASTING THREAD—500 yard spools white thread, sizes 40-50 and 60, regular 50c value.

SATURDAY—Special three for 10c

A VARIED ASSORTMENT OF JEWEL CASES, CANDLE STICKS AND PICTURE FRAMES SUITABLE FOR PRIZES, WORTH 50c.

SATURDAY—Special 39c

Leather Goods Department

LEATHER AND VELVET BAGS—A good assortment of this season's bags that were formerly sold from \$1.95 to \$5.95. Not over two dozen in the lot.

SATURDAY—Special ONE-HALF PRICE

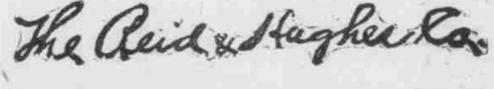
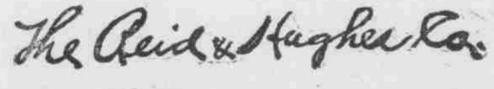
Toilet Goods Department

PALMOLIVE COLD CREAM—This excellent toilet preparation made by the manufacturers of Palmolive Soap, is put up in porcelain jars. We are selling the 50c size.

SATURDAY—Special 38c

TOILET PAPER—Large roll, regularly sold for 5c.

SATURDAY—Special seven for 25c



LEDYARD PRIZE WINNERS

Honors For Pupils at Meeting Held Thursday—Practical Addresses by Prominent Speakers.

The Bulletin's Ledyard correspondent writes: About 200 of the townspeople gathered at the Congregational church upon the invitation of the town school committee in co-operation with the state board of education. The exercises commenced at 11 a. m. with Charles D. Geer as master of ceremonies. Mr. Geer told of the object of the meeting, the subject being Agriculture in the Schools. He advocated the beginning of an agricultural education early in life the same as a person inclined to study music would have a better advantage if they commenced before they were 18 years of age.

He introduced Rev. W. F. White, pastor of the Congregational church, as the first speaker. Rev. Mr. White spoke of the importance of keeping the boy on the farm and that there should be some method used in the school to interest them. He named a number of Ledyard boys and girls who are attending colleges and high schools. He also urged co-operation in the church and school.

Rev. C. Wilson Harrison of Gales Ferry was the next speaker. His remarks were closely listened to and were very interesting and he was appreciated at the close.

Country vs. City Schools. Supervisor Evans of the Ledyard schools compared the country schools with the city schools. His duty as supervisor was not to criticize, but to be helpful to the teacher. He told of schools in a large city in the state putting their houses in order, that they did not have the method, their schools did not equal some country schools. He thanked the teachers and the people of Ledyard for their civility to him.

Charles D. Geer sang a solo with Mrs. Geer, as accompanist, which pleased the audience. He was called back for an encore.

Fine Luncheon Served. This completed the exercises of the morning and all retired to the vestry where an appetizing dinner of cold meats, beans, rolls, cake and coffee were served by the ladies of the society of which Mrs. Isaac C. Geer was chairman. All seemed to have a healthy appetite, but there was plenty to eat and to spare, for which the Ledyard ladies are famous.

Children's Work. After dinner all went across the street to the Bill Library to inspect the exhibits produced by the children in the various schools. Much praise was given the teachers and the pupils for their work.

Following are the prize winners in the contest: Penmanship—Norman Chapman, grade 8, district 11; honorable mention, Margaret Ailyn, grade 8, district 5. Arithmetic—Florence Brown, grade 4, district 2; honorable mention, Carrie Main, grade 1, district 4. Geography—William Burton, grade 1, district 8; honorable mention, Evelyn Whipple, Harold McGuire, grade 8, district 10. History—Louisa DeRose, grade 7, district 13; honorable mention, Carrie Finnegan, grade 7, district 12. English—Edna Haskell, grade 7, district 7.

The exhibits from the thirteen schools in town were excellent and received hearty praise. They were displayed in the library and many compliments were paid the teachers and the committee for the way in which they were arranged.

The Judges. The judges were Mr. Wheeler, supervisor of schools of Waterford; Miss Nellie Geer, and Mrs. Harlan Newbury.

Afternoon Exercises. The afternoon exercises opened with selections on the piano by Mrs. Chas. D. Geer, after which Mr. Geer sang a solo and was encored. The principal speaker of the afternoon was Prof. Clinton of Storrs agricultural college. Professor Clinton is a fluent speaker and was frequently applauded. He related many anecdotes which were pleasing and was loudly applauded at the close.

Other speakers of the afternoon were Rev. J. F. Danforth of New London, Prof. Charles E. Kendall of the Wheelock high school, North Stonington, and Supervisor Wheeler of the towns of Waterford and Montville. It was a profitable meeting and members of the town school committee think of holding another meeting during June.

the intermission William Kellas spoke on the strike in Lawrence and of the relation and obligations of the socialist party towards the strikers. With subscriptions and the proceeds of the dance the local party has raised \$50 which will be sent today to the Lawrence strikers.

"ME AN' OTIS." Enthusiastic Audience Sees Comedy Finely Given by Universalist Young People.

A delightfully entertaining play, Me an' Otis, was presented by the Young People's Christian Union at the Church of the Good Shepherd (Universalist) Friday evening before an enthusiastic audience which packed the hall to the doors. The play was in four acts. The cast of characters follows: Dick Davis, a student at Hale College; J. Oliver Armstrong, Otis Tewsbury of Perkinsville, Betty's father; Sumner W. Armstrong, Sam Scullion, Tewsbury's hired man; Charles W. Parsons, Sopronia Ruggles, Florence's maid; an aunt; Ellen V. Marvin, Reginald Thomas, a young man of fashion; Richard Young, Miss Cooper; Mary E. Rogers. Each character was finely portrayed and the production was carried out with a smoothness and finish seldom seen in amateur theatricals.

During the intermission delightful selections were rendered by an orchestra composed of Fred C. Geer, pianist; Raymond B. Eldred, violin; Frank King, cornet. Two solos were well rendered by Miss Mary E. Rogers. Messrs. Lawrence and Armstrong as students depicted college life in most realistic style while Misses Eleanor Gebrath and Florence Washburn, playing opposite, proved excellent rolls for the work. As comery characters, splendid work was done by Edith Washburn and Florence Washburn.

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The play was produced under the supervision of George A. Keppeler, and certainly upheld the reputation of the society for good entertainments.

River Frozen to Bottom. Pittsburg, Feb. 9.—So severe has been the winter that the Allegheny river is frozen over in many places and in some spots it is frozen solid to the bottom. According to the local weather bureau the ice will hold until spring. Much damage is feared when the ice begins to go out.

SHOTR CALENDAR

Cases in Superior Court at New London Assigned on Friday.

Again on Friday argument of the demurrer in the condemnation suit of the Connecticut College for Women vs. Jeremiah C. Calvert was postponed in the superior court at New London. It was scheduled for argument at the short calendar session of the superior court, but the attorneys were not ready. The motion to erase in Moses H. Robinson and others vs. Franklin G. Keeney, executor, appeal from probate, was argued and Judge Shumway to the papers.

The motion to make John Oetzel, administrator of Danbury, a part defendant; the motion for leave to amend writ and complaint and the motion for additional order of notice were granted in supreme lodge, New England Order of Protection vs. Louise J. Joyce and others. This is a suit involving a death claim against the New England Order of Protection. There are two claimants. Attorney Chapin was in court representing the supreme lodge.

A bond of \$75 for prosecution in three weeks was ordered in Herman Bergham vs. Mathias Steeger. The following cases were assigned by Judge Shumway: Tuesday—Frank A. Case vs. Connecticut Co., now on trial; Charles W. Comstock vs. city of Norwich; Lois E. Noyes and others vs. Lyman H. Ross, executor, appeal from probate, two cases.

Wednesday—John G. Gift vs. Groton and Stonington Street Railway Co.; Joseph Musial and wife vs. Daniel Kudell; Henry A. Rogers vs. The Solts Co. Thursday—Jennie L. Moran vs. Groton and Stonington Street Railway Co.; New England Hebrew Farmers' society vs. Louis Schwartz; Emma J. Raughtigan vs. Norwich Nickel and Brass Co. Tuesday, March 5 (special)—Angelico Covello, administrator, vs. Connecticut Co.

OBITUARY. Rev. Andrew Martin Fairbairn, D.D. London, Feb. 9.—Rev. Dr. Andrew Martin Fairbairn, principal emeritus of Mansfield college, Oxford, died today. He was born in 1828. Besides being one of the best known educators in England, Dr. Fairbairn was the author of numerous works on religious subjects. Yale university conferred upon him the degree of doctor of divinity in 1889 and in 1891-92 he was Lyman Beecher lecturer at that university.

DIED. KELLY.—In Norwich, Feb. 10, Timothy, son of Bridget and the late John Kelly.

Senator Reed of Missouri will introduce a resolution next Monday providing for a constitutional amendment to bar any man from holding the office of president of the United States for more than two terms of four years each, the filling of unexpired terms to be regarded as a full term.

At the Annual Meeting of the District Nurses' association at Derby yesterday, the manufacturers of that city, Ansonia and Shelton presented the association with \$1,850, to be used in purchasing an automobile for the use of the visiting nurses in their trips about the three places.

The Ladies' Specialty Co.

Another Big Markdown

We have been distributing very big bargains all this week, and we will close the week on Saturday with a \$5.00 sale of Women's Winter Coats. These garments are big values at \$5.00.

We invite an inspection in this last opportunity of our great money-saving offering.

The Ladies' Specialty Co.

248 Main Street Franklin Square, Norwich, Conn.

Coat Sweaters

To close out my stock of Sweaters I offer all grades at cost. \$1.50 to \$7.50 values will sell from 75c to \$5.25. Automobile and Driving Gloves at same low prices. Winslow Skates at greatly reduced price.

C. V. PENDLETON, JR., 10 Broadway