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Published every day except Sunday at 4 p. m. Friday morning, in advance, $10 per year, $5.00 per month, or cents per week, prepaid or delivered by carrier.

DESERET SEMI-WEEKLY NEWS

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HOW FOINHOORS ARE MADE.

Points of Interest to Anglers on the Manufacture of Their Weapons.

The making of fishhooks is not merely a trade in itself, anglers consider that it is properly speaking an art. In England the best ones are made. Hooks of the first quality are made from the very best cast steel wire, which is turned out in coils at Sheffield and Birmingham.

The first process is to cut the wire into lengths suitable for the hooks to be made. Ordinary sizes are chopped off by the quantity with a machine, but the big ones for use in whaling sharks and other big sea fishes are cut singly with a hammer and chisel. After the lengths of wire have been cut off another operator takes them and turns up the barbs by cutting into the yet soft metal with a knife upon an anvil.

Next the straight pieces are taken in hand by a workman who files the points to keenness. Where the best hooks are concerned each one is manipulated separately, being held in pincheers while the necessary sharpness is given by a few determine strokes. Common hooks are pointed with one file, but the finer sorts require the application of two or three of different degrees of coarseness.

The points once made, another workman takes the bits of wire in hand, bending them round in a curved piece of steel, so that each one shall have the characteristic feature which makes the type of hook desired. The process of forming the instrument is now completed, save for the eleuk, which may either be a loop at the end of the wire or a fattening at the extremity. The fattening is done by one sharp blow with a hammer upon an anvil.

The final process is the tempering of fishhooks to harden them, and when all these operations have been completed they are scoured in revolving barrels driven by steam power and filled with water and soft soap. When the friction has worn them bright they are dried in another revolving barrel containing sawdust.

In old times fishermen made their own hooks, using very much the same methods as are now practiced on a large scale in the factories. It is a very curious fact that during the bronze age, when metals had first come into use, fish hooks had the same form as now, even to the shanks and curves. The famous "Limerick" and "Sheughnacy" bends are absolute reproductions of those preferred in that early epoch.—Washington Star.

Horse Power of Whales.

Sir William Turner, the present eminent professor of anatomy in the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, has given much attention to the study of whales, their structure, habits, etc. He estimates that the great Greenland whale (average length fifty feet) attains a maximum speed while extending of ten miles per hour; the "Finner" whale (maximum length eighty-five feet) cities making twelve to fourteen miles an hour. Mr. Turner, in one of his lectures, said that he and John Henderson, of Glasgow, the well known builder of steamships, had spent much time in trying to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion as to the horse power exerted by large species of the whale in making a speed of twelve miles per hour.

As a base for their conclusions they took the size and dimensions of the great "Finner," which was stranded on the shore at Longnidby some years ago. It was 89 feet long, weighed 74 tons, and had a tail which was 20 feet across at the extreme end of its flukes. With these data Messrs. Turner and Henderson calculated that a whale of the dimensions mentioned in order to attain a speed of twelve miles an hour must exercise a propelling force of 145 horse power.—St. Louis Republic.

Cost of Fun in Japan.

The fan is an inseparable part of the Japanese dress. A visitor is rarely without a fan. It is his shelter from the sun, his sunbrock and his plaything. The varieties of these paper fans would form a curious collection in respect to form as well as quality. The highest priced fan that was used in the days of seclusion from the outer world was not more than five yen, or five dollars; but now they have been made to order for foreigners as dear as two to three pounds. The general prices of ordinary fans range from two shillings to two guineas per 100.—Paper Mill.

He Protect Was Reasonable.

"Do not put down my name," was the command of a drummer to a reporter who was looking over the names on a hotel register. "Why not?" asked the reporter. "Are you ashamed of it?" "No; it's not that, but I will tell you. I travel for a diamond house and carry on my person from $10,000 to $20,000 worth of diamonds. Now, the crooks do not know me, but have heard of me, and if it were mentioned that I was in the city and stopping at a certain hotel it would be no trick to find out out. That's the reason I ship post."—Jewelers' Review.

A Unique Bargain.

The champion horse trader of the vicinity took place recently. A well known Lee jockey secured a showy colt, and tied himself to the Dale to see the boys. When he came back he was driving a fine black horse, leading a good boy, while trailing followed behind a pair of sheep, a cow, an old sow and eight pigs.—Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

DYING GUANACOS.

Instinct Makes Them Seek a Common Resting Place for Their Bones.

It is well known that at the southern extremity of Patagonia the guanacos have a dying place—a spot to which all the individuals inhabiting the surrounding plains repair at the approach of death to deposit their bones.

Darwin and Fitzroy first recorded this strange instinct in their personal narratives, and their observations have since been fully confirmed by others.

The best known of the dying or burial places is on the banks of the Santa Cruz and Gallegos rivers, where the river valleys are covered with dense primeval thickets of bushes and trees of stunted growth. These the ground is covered with bones of countless dead generations.

"The animals," says Darwin, "in most cases must have crawled before dying, beneath and among the bushes."

A strange instinct in a creature so pre-eminently social in its habits, a dweller all his life long on the open, barren plateaus and mountain sides.

What a subject for a painter! The gray wilderness of dwarf thorn trees, sand and gravelly and sandy knoll, scattered for a thousand years on the bones that whiten the stony ground at their roots, the interior lit faintly with the rays of the departing sun, cold and gray and silent and motionless—the monsoon Golgotha.

In the long centuries stretching back into the dim immemorable past, so many of this race have journeyed hither from the mountains and the plain to suffer the sleep pang of death, that, to the imagination, something of it all seems to have passed into that hushed and mournful nature. And now, once more, the latest pilgrim has come, all his little strength spent in his struggles to penetrate the close thicket, trickling old and weary and ghastly in the twilight, with long, rugged hair, staring into the gloom out of death dimmed sunken eyes.

To his account of the animal's dying place and instinct Darwin adds:

"I do not at all understand the reason of this, but I may observe that the wounded guanacos at the Santa Cruz invariably walked toward the river."—Longman's Magazine.

The Boy Was Scared.

"The worst frightened man I ever saw," said Judge Fitzgerald, was at Pea Ridge, when we were attacked by the Federal troops. I had a body servant I had a strapping big negro boy, whose duty it was to look after my blankets and rations, and negro like he was forever crawling away into some out of the way place to sleep. Just as we were forming to advance the Federals opened fire on us at rather close range. We were on the skirmish line, and in a moment our men were deployed in battle array. Just as the fire began to grow heavy I heard a piercing yell and saw my negro boy flying along between the lines.

"Every step would have measured fifteen feet, and every time his foot struck the ground he would yell 'O Lord!' loud enough to be heard in both camps. With him he had my blankets and rations, and at every jump he would leave a portion of one or the other in his wake. As far as I could see him he was going like a frightened deer, and long after he was out of sight I could hear him yell. He had been sleeping exactly midway between the lines when the battle opened, and it is not surprising that he was scared. Two weeks elapsed before he returned to camp, but he never could be induced to talk of his Pea Ridge experience."—San Francisco Call.

Two Remarkable Sentences.

The people who sell us peerless and Excelsior cutlery have to use those words to describe their goods. Some people have bothered their brains to create practice sentences which will contain all the letters in the alphabet. Here are a couple of ingenious sentences: "Pack my box with five dozen liquor jugs." "Jack quickly attempted the five tow bags." The first of these sentences is remarkable as containing every letter in the alphabet and only five unnecessary characters. It is curious that not a single consonant is repeated in the sentence. The five unnecessary characters are o, i, e, o, a, all vowels, and all the vowels in the alphabet except u. O is the only letter repeated twice. The second sentence contains twelve unnecessary characters, four vowels and eight consonants.—New York Sun.

The Horse During the Middle Ages.

The importance of the horse during the Middle Ages, especially on the crusades and in the tournaments which followed in the wake of the crusades, is significant. Fully half the glamor and romance that surrounded the knight belonged to the horse, for with out the horse those daring deeds in the heat of the weak and suffering had never been done. The horse, however, has had his reward. For the best feature of the Middle Ages, outside the church, is closely identified with his name, body and soul. Of those who are seen in the cobble and chivalry.—Caroline K. Sherman in Chicago Herald.

Women and Their Pockets.

There must be some reason why women have so few pockets, and will persist in carrying their money in a dainty little hand pocket, so tempting to weak thieves. I suppose it is like the wearing of earrings, some relic of our primitive ancestors, when our forefathers bore the burden of the household effects in ears and money, while her lord fell the fighting.—Philadelphia Press.

The Growth of the Nails.

The growth of nails on the left hand requires eight to ten days more than those on the right; the growth is more rapid in children than in adults, and goes on faster in summer than in winter. It requires an average of 132 days for the renewal of the nails in winter and but 119 during the summer months.—St. Louis Republic.

The Good Class of Sixty Years Ago.

"Sixty years ago I taught the good class in the schools of this city in the grand jury room of the old court house," said a gentleman to a reporter. "The good class! What is the name of Socrates is a good class?" And then the ancient pedagogue proceeded to say: "Sixty years ago the schools of the town occupied the old court house, and I was one of the scholars. In the grand jury room there was a long table about eighteen inches high with a strip of board fastened on top all around the sides, thus making the center lower than the sides. This center was filled with fine sand an inch deep.

"At the end of the table was a board on which the letters of the alphabet were printed so that but one letter would appear at a time; around the table the smallest children of the school were gathered and each furnished with a stick. I, as the pedagogue appointed by the board teacher, would take my seat at the end of the table and stand side of the school, and as I moved it would announce the letter that was brought to view, which the children would proceed to make in the sand with their sticks.

"When all had made that letter, I would level the sand with a scale, and the school would be moved on to the other letter. And those little ones were called the 'good class.' It was an interesting sight. The system was somewhat like the kindergarten of the present day, and it was certainly an excellent mode of supplying writing material." This was the best class of sixty years ago.—Harrisburg (Pa.) Telegram.

Had His Own Wife Ejected.

"One of the Henry Jonesses of Chicago, is a leading light in an Ashland avenue church," said a gentleman at the Palmer House. "Last Sunday he acted as usher in place of the regular incumbent, who was away. It is therefore not surprising that shortly after the beginning of service he ushered two ladies to a vacant but unoccupied pew. For when the pews came half an hour later and applying his pew occupied, was my surprise encountered among those in the rear of the church to hear him indorsed the young usher to seat the intruders. The house had frequently done seen those members, despite his eloquent sermons. There being nothing to do but obey, the acting usher walked down the aisle and in his politest manner find the two ladies. Very much bewildered, they followed him to the vestibule, whither he bowed them goes.

"'What do you mean, sir, by calling us out here during the service?' the younger of the two ladies demanded.

"'That gentleman, the house, told me to do so,' Mr. Jones meekly replied.

"'What?' exclaimed the elderly lady, pointing to the house, who was resting a pew and pending the ejection of the supposed intruders. 'He told you to put us out? Why, sir, that man is my husband.'

"The husband, who is a bit near-sighted, hastened to explain and so did Mr. Jones. The ladies consented to accept the explanation, but just the same Mr. Jones traveled in the adjoining aisle the next Sunday.—Chicago Post.

And Mike Ran On.

In Park row, Mike the newsboy, running at full speed, with a big bundle of papers under his arm, stopped short to pick up an umbrella that he had seen drop on the sidewalk. "Thank you, sonny," said, in a big bass voice, a man behind him. "Hello!" said Mike, with evident surprise. "I thought it was a baby's." And do thoroughly, as if it was a matter of course, Mike replaced the umbrella on the sidewalk.—New York Times.

"German Syrup"

A Farmer at Edom, Texas, Says: "We are six in family. We live in a place where we are subject to violent Colds and Lung Troubles. I have used German Syrup for six years successfully for Sore Throat, Cough, Cold, Hoarseness, Pains in the Chest and Lungs, and spitting up of Blood. I have tried many different kinds of cough Syrups in my time, but let me say to anyone wanting such a medicine—German Syrup is the best. That has been my experience. If you use it once, you will go back to it whenever you need it. It gives total relief and is a quick cure. My advice to everyone suffering with Lung Troubles—Try it. You will soon be convinced. In all the families where your German Syrup is used we have no trouble with the Lungs at all. It is the medicine for this country."

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