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Wiggles and the Thief.

Last summer with three friends I spent some months among the Adirondacks camping in a cabin which had been built near Black Pond on the head waters of the west branch of the St. Regis.

It was our custom to decide each evening upon the spot of the day following, lock up the cabin after breakfast, if no one was to remain at home, take a lunch and depart on our various rambles.

One of the things we were away from the cabin all day, and at first we felt no fear of marauders, but during the second month our suspicions were aroused.

One day we were away from the cabin for several days, and when we returned we found the cabin in a state of confusion.

Among other accumulations which we had made while in the forest was a large black snake which Dan Lyman had caught in the Madawaska swamp and brought home alive, and we had fed him at the cabin and sought to induce him to make it his home so that he might be our house cat.

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Surprised and yet dazed from my slumber

I awoke to find myself in a state of confusion, and I was unable to recall the events of the previous night.

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Hindoo Sullivan and Kilrains.

Colonel L. T. Peart of the Sixty-eighth Light Infantry, who has been stationed at Mysore, British India, for the last five years, gives the following interesting account of how a boxing tournament is carried on in India.

It is almost needless to state that our life at Mysore proved very dull. I and my fellow officers were casting about for some relief from this interminable monotony, having tired of football, cricket and other old country sports, when we were agreeably surprised one morning by receiving a polite invitation from the Rajah of the district to attend an athletic exhibition he proposed giving the next day.

At his Highness' palace we were received in a liberal manner. After partaking of a royal repast we were conducted by him to a large gallery overlooking the arena set apart for the exhibition. After seating ourselves carefully bestowed, he ordered the games to commence.

The professional Indian boxers are known as jetties, a name derived from the peculiar contrivances worn by them upon the hands, wrists and arms, which consist of a mass of buffalo horn with four sharp knuckles upon it, resembling exaggerated projections. Near the little finger is a fifth projection of greater prominence and known as the 'tiger's paw.'

It was in the center of the arena that the two contestants met, and they were soon engaged in a struggle of great interest. The victor received the usual nod of approbation from the Rajah, and smilingly retired with those whom he had vanquished.

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The Greatest Man Ever Born.

A man riding along a road came upon an old fellow who, loud in voice and violent in action, was endeavoring to start a balky team. The horseback traveler, annoyed at the old fellow's prodigious resource of strong adjectives, stopped, threw one leg over the horn of his saddle, and without saying anything at all watching the performance.

The covered wagon to which the team was attached was the "ancestral" type, with two chairs tied behind it. A woman, three children, a mule and a dog belonged to the outfit.

"If I had enough money to take my money I'd cut your infernal throat!" the old fellow shouted, as he leaned forward to a moment's rest on a piece of rail with which he had been belaboring the horses.

"You can pull out of here easy enough, you infernal scoundrel. Why, a jack rabbit and a sick cat hatched together could pull out of here."

"Anderson," said the woman, "you don't you hold some fodder out before them?"

"Confound it, didn't you see me do that just while ago?"

"Well, why don't you stick a pin in their flanks?"

"Haven't you got any sense at all? Didn't you see me stick 'em with a darned needle just while ago?"

"What's that?"

"Twisting their under jaws."

"I'll twist your under jaw if you don't hush."

The old fellow, turning about, addressed the man on horseback: "How long have you been here watching me?" asked the man.

The Recent Disaster at Quebec.

Shortly after seven o'clock on Thursday evening the 19th inst., while the laboring force of the Cape Diamond, Quebec, were in their homes after their day's work, a mass of rock thousands of tons in weight fell from near the top of the cliff, crashing in some thirty houses, and killing and injuring nearly one hundred persons.

The rock, estimated to be nearly 200 feet in length, 50 feet in width, and 100 feet in depth, and its course of nearly 200 feet down the precipitous side of Cape Diamond made it utterly incredible by any building in its way.

Little Champlain Street, with its high buildings and its famous flight of steps in its steepest part, is easily recalled by all visitors to Quebec. Champlain Street is less known, though it is through Champlain Street that tourists go to see the place where General Montgomery fell.

The street lies immediately at the foot of Cape Diamond, and is inhabited chiefly by the wharf laborers, whose places of work are on the east side of the river, and their families live. In 1841 a landslide occurred, less fatal than that of Thursday last, and to prevent the recurrence of such a disaster a heavy retaining wall was built, so that the houses occupy one side of the street.

"The Mountain" at Quebec, crowded by the Citadel, whose walls are apparently continued beyond their real limits by the Dufferin and the Durham terraces, gives the appearance of a city of America. Three hundred feet above Champlain Street tower the rocks, whose sides are so precipitous that only traditions remain of their ever having been sealed. A month of dry, hot weather from Thursday, 19th to September 1st, had caused cracks to appear along the crest of the Cape. On Tuesday and Wednesday rain fell heavily, and the crevices were filled with water. Pieces of rock fell at intervals during Thursday, but with the usual comfortable belief that what has not happened will not happen, none of the dwellers in Champlain Street paid any attention to the outspoken warnings until just before the landslide occurred. Then a few persons appreciated their danger, and a still smaller number betook themselves to safer places, but it was too late, and the rock fell.

Thousands of persons gathered about the place at once, so that the work of rescue was almost impossible. The battery of Royal Canadian Artillery was called from the Citadel, and the Cavalry School Corps from Levis, across the river, and the two commands, which have lost more men in dangerous work at fires and in half-rimed hedges than in an war, turned to, and shined the dark rainy night, with lesser landing, occurring continually, by the light of lanterns and flickering torches, extricated the bodies of the dead and two-score of the living.

The morning of Friday showed the extent of the disaster, and there were found unsuspected crevices back of the terraces, and under the famous King's Bastion in the Citadel. The crowds of spectators were driven back from the front of the terraces, and access to those terraces was forbidden; the King's Bastion was closed, and the night gave time to Quebec was stricken.

Friday's work brought to light nearly a score more bodies, while many persons, some injured, some miraculously preserved unharmed, were rescued and removed to places of safety. How many bodies yet remain in the debris can only be told when the thousands of tons of rock are removed. To remove them will take, the engineers estimate, at least two months.

The landslide has entirely cut off the western part of the city, as Champlain Street was the only thoroughfare by which communication could be maintained with the lumber coves and houses along the river front to the west of the city.

George Was Bashful. George was a bashful lover. He scarcely dared to touch his lady's hand. He loved her well and she was worthy of his affection, for she was modest, intelligent, sweet and lovable; but, like all good women, she yearned for the respectful addresses that are the evidences of pure affection. She, however, yearned in vain. George worshipped her. He might kiss the hem of her garment, but to kiss her lips or cheek, the very anxiety of the thought made him tremble.

One day he was just going to put your arm around my waist, and were going to try to kiss me.

"Dear Anabella!" "Oh! you needn't tell me, you were going to do it. Well, after all, I suppose you are not to blame. It is just what a lover would do to his sweetheart, and I suppose I must not be offended if you do it."

Agricultural.

A good pip should average about eight or ten pounds gain daily from birth to slaughter until 12 months old.

Radishes for winter use may be sown in August or September. The variety known as the Spanish seems to be the hardiest for winter.

The favorite winter crop in spinach. Sow the seed now, and it will be up in time to remain in the ground for an early spring supply.

If you plant the pits of peaches with the view of growing trees you may fail to secure peaches worth growing, but a chance tree from the number may be superior to any now known.

It is claimed that board fences should not be used in stalls for cows, as they are too hard and cause injury to the feet. Nothing is as good as an earth floor for all animals that have tender feet.

Cooked potatoes make excellent food for stock. The small potatoes, which cannot be sold to advantage, may be used for hogs and poultry. As an agreeable change for the raw, cooked potatoes are superior to turnips or beets.

If manure is to be applied around young trees it is best to do so in the fall, or when winter is well in. A disadvantage of covering the ground around trees with manure, however, is that it harbors insects, affording them shelter.

Ground bone is a fertilizer that benefits nearly all crops, can be applied at all seasons of the year, will not injure any tree or plant, is permanent and lasting in its effects and is the cheapest form of fertilizer in proportion to the benefit it imparts that can be used.

As the grass decreases give hay to the cows, thus gradually making the change from green food to dry food. If the change is made suddenly the cows will fall off in milk. As an assistance to the green food which has not been used, give a few shovels of turnips, beets or carrots.

When the branches of the tomato vines look as if the leaves had been stripped of a close check across the green worm, which is about two inches long and half an inch in diameter. Unless the worm is caught it will eat up all the foliage, and as it is nearly colorless the color of the vine is not easily detected.

If barbed wire is used to confine hogs it need not be very high. The bottom wire should be about four inches from the ground and the next wire ten inches above it. If sheep are inclosed the strands should be six inches apart for three feet from the common stock, and the value is also greatly increased at but small expense of time and labor.

About one and a half pounds of corn will suffice as a grain ration for one sheep if the animal is given all the hay or grass it desires. The breeding ewes, however, should be allowed extra in preference to corn. To fatten a wether gives a mass of cooked turnips and corn meal, with the food well mixed, and it will gain rapidly.

Improvement of Seeds by Selection.

The many truly distinct types or varieties of vegetables, fruits and flowers have resulted from causes but little understood or appreciated by those who are, or shall be, the most directly concerned. Much credit is given the hybridist for his efforts to procure new forms, rare combinations of colors, delicious properties in vegetables and fruits. Much is due him, not because he has effected some desirable new hybrid, but because he has commenced an important work. When the hybridist has effected a cross, his work has but just commenced, and must be followed by constant systematic selection to make it valuable.

When a cross has been secured the future progeny will be less striking. A mass of color that can result from a mixture of the original colors. Some will be very nearly like the one, some quite as closely resemble the other parent; and the difference in form will be less striking. A lot of seedlings from any systematic cross will show as many varieties as there are plants, no two will be exactly alike in color and form. Should one or more of the forms be considered worthy of being perpetuated, the seeds must be selected with care from their offspring a selection of the desired type must annually be made until it has assumed a distinct character. This character will not remain constant if the care in selection necessary to produce it is not kept up. "Extraordinary" is the price that must be paid to retain a prize after having secured it; one year's neglect will vitiate the well directed labors of a decade. This field of labor is a wide one, and if properly worked will be a source of pleasure and a satisfactory profit.

There is scarcely a variety of flower or vegetable which cannot be further developed and improved by special effort in cultivation and selection. And there is not a seedling more than remunerative price for any well defined type of vegetables or flowers that show merit not already possessed by others. These can readily be obtained to an almost unlimited extent by making of them specialties. General work will not accomplish the purpose, it must be systematic and persistent. Almost everyone has a favorite flower, fruit or vegetable—some hobby in the vegetable kingdom. Let him ride it well and he will win the goal. Let him develop his specialty to the highest degree of excellence, and he will not only receive suitable financial remuneration, but he will have the satisfaction of knowing that he is a public benefactor.—American Agriculturist.

Not the Reply Expected. A teacher was giving a natural history lesson on the habits of the cat. "Children," she said, "you all have seen the paw of a cat. It is as soft as velvet, isn't it?" "Yes, mamma."

"And you have also seen the paw of a dog?" "Yes, mamma."

"Well, although the cat's paw seems like velvet, there is, nevertheless, concealed in it something that hurts. What is it?" "The dog bites," said the teacher. "When he is angry, but what does the cat do?"

"Scratches," said the teacher, nodding her head approvingly; "now what has the cat got that the dog has not?" "Kittens!" exclaimed the boy in the back row.

"Scandal flatters about as fast as beer when exposed to the air."

"A lie, says Jack Billings, is like a cat; it never comes toward you in a straight line."

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