

HOW I WON HER.

When first the maid I love, I wooed, I gave the rein to head and passion;

In dainty verses next I tried To move her by my pretty wit;

I took her to my father's bank, And showed her vaults of smiling gold;

The dawn of love was in her eyes— Her answer was not hard to guess;

OLD FIELD SPORTS.

"Hawking," as Used in the Chase for Centuries.

English Dogs That Have Followed the Chase Since the Middle Ages—The Hawk After Its Game, the Wary Heron.

The English and Americans agree with the ancients in according high rank to field sports. The hunting of savage animals was the highest branch, for not only skill and courage were necessary, but great presence of mind as well.

Homer gives a most graphic description of an archery match, a sort of "Old Hats" pigeon-match, between two crack shots, "experienced Merion and skilful Tencer," the Obardistone and Horace Ross, the Dr. Carver and "Buffalo Bill" of this day.

In ancient times the bow, of course, was the chief implement of war and the chase, and by the expertness of the bold archer has often decided the fate of battles and of empires. To an improvement of the weapon termed the cross-bow our hardy forefathers were principally indebted for their famous victories at Agincourt, Cressy and Poitiers.

Several other statutes were made in succeeding reigns for the promotion of archery; and in the eighth year of Charles I. a commission was issued by the King to the Chancellor, Lord Mayor and several of the Privy Council, to prevent the fields near London being inclosed, "so as to interrupt the necessary and profitable exercise of shooting," and also to lower the mounds where they prevented the view from one to another.

Dogs were used in the chase as far back as we have any records of field sports. In a quaint volume printed in 1560 is found a curious account of the varieties of British dogs that are to be met with in England. They are enumerated as follows: The "terriere, harrier, bludhunde, gasehunde, grehunde, loire or lyemmer, tumbler, spaniel, setter, water spaniel or tynder, shepherd's dog, mastive or band dog, turne spit, dunce."

The gashound was very quick and intelligent. It was able to select from the herd the fattest and finest deer, pursue it closely, and if lost for a time recover it and again pick it out from the herd which it had rejoined. This species is now unknown. The grehound was the first in rank among dogs,

as appears by the forest laws of Canute, who enacted that "no person, except he be of the degree of a gentleman, shall presume to keep one," which is consistent with the old Welsh saying which signifies that you may know a gentleman by his horse, his hawk and his greyhound. Notwithstanding its high rank, Froissart makes mention of this fact, not much to the credit of the fidelity of the species: "When that unhappy prince, Richard the Second, was taken to Flint castle, his favorite greyhound immediately deserted him, and fawned upon his rival Bolingbroke as if he understood and foreknew the misfortunes of his former master. This act of ingratitude was noted by the unfortunate monarch, who declared it to be the precursor of his death."

Hawking was one of the favorite of the ancient royal diversions, and admitted of participation by the fair sex, by whom it was greatly enjoyed. It displayed their skill and gracefulness in the saddle to the greatest advantage, although a serious drawback was the risk incurred, in following the hounds, of broken limbs, and "a multitude of bruises and disastars." It has at various times at later periods been attempted to revive this sport, but its dangers have probably interfered with its permanency as a pastime for ladies. The Duke and Duchess of St. Albans introduced falconry at the fetes at Holly lodge, Highgate, some fifty years ago, with great eclat, but it was ultimately a failure.

Falconry in England can not be traced with certainty until the reign of King Ethelbert, the Saxon monarch, in 850. The Grand Seigneur at one time kept six thousand falconers in his service. Britain and Thraoe are the only countries in which we have any evidence that this diversion was anciently carried on, and of the latter Pliny obscurely alludes to it as being confined to one particular district. Gibbon observes that hawking was scarcely known to the Romans in the days of Vesparian. From curious but well authenticated passages of history it appears that the invasion of England by the Danes was caused by the assassination of Lodbrog, the father of Hinguar and Hubba, who embarked with his hawks and hounds, and being driven on the coast of Norfolk, grew so much in favor with the King of the East Angles for his skill in hawking that Benre, the King's falconer, murdered him through jealousy, and to avenge his death was the first motive of the landing of the Danes in hostile array.

That ladies were enamored of the sport may be gathered from an ancient sculpture in the church of Milton Abbas in Dorsetshire, where the consort of King Athelstan appears with a falcon in her hand, tearing a bird. Harold, afterward King of England, is represented in a portrait going on an important embassy with a hawk on his hand and a dog under his arm.

According to Froissart, King Edward III. had with him in his army "thirty mounted followers carrying birds, besides sixty couples of strong dogs and as many greyhounds, with which he hunted every day while on the march or in camp." During his reign it was made a felony to steal a hawk, and to take its egg by a person even in his own grounds was punishable by imprisonment for a year and a day, or a fine, at the King's pleasure. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth the imprisonment was reduced to three months, but the offender was obliged to find security for good behavior for seven years or lie in prison until he did.

Such was the enviable state of the loudly-extolled, far-famed "good old times" of England, when people by the most unjust and arbitrary laws were subject to capital punishment, fines, and incarcerations for destroying the most noxious of the feathered tribe.

Henry IV. granted to Sir John Stanley the Isle of Man, to be held by homage and service of two falcons, payable on each coronation day, and Philip de Hastang held the manor of Camberton, in Cambridgeshire, by the service of keeping the King's falcons.

The species known as the Peregrine falcon, an inhabitant of most parts of Europe, Asia, and South America, was, in the palmy days of hawking, one of the favorite falcons chosen for the sport. Its strength and swiftness are very great, enabling it to strike down its prey with great ease. Indeed, it has been known to disable five partridges in succession.

In some parts of the United States a similar species of hawk, called the duck hawk, is found, deriving its appellation from its successful pursuit of ducks. There is a peculiarity in the method of attack which this bird employs when pursuing small game. Instead of merely dashing at its prey and grasping it with its claws, the Peregrine falcon strikes its victim with its breast, and actually stuns it with the violence of the blow before seizing it with its claws. The boldness and ferocity of this bird are so great that it was generally employed to take the formidable heron. After the heron had been roused from its meditations near some marsh or river, the falcon, which had previously been held hooded on its master's hand, was loosed from its bonds and cast off. A contest then generally took place between the two, each trying to ascend above the other for a more advantageous attack. In this contest the falcon was always victorious, and when it had attained a sufficient height it swooped down upon the luckless prey. When the falcon had closed with its adversary they both came to the ground together, and the sportsman's business was to reach the place of conflict as soon as possible and assist the falcon to vanquish its prey. Sometimes, however, the wary heron contrived to receive the

descending enemy upon the point of its sharp, bayonet-like beak and transfixed it by its own impetus. The bird changes the color of its plumage several times before it arrives at full maturity, and in the days of falconry was known by different names, such as "haggard" when wild, "eyass," "red falcon" when young, "tiercel," or "tassel-gentle" when a full-grown male, a term forcibly recalling the words of Juliet: "O, for a falconer's voice to lure this tassel-gentle back again!"

The hobby was another variety, and trained to fly at larks. When wild it seems to feed principally on small birds and beetles, the common dor beetle being a favorite article of food. The merlin, the smallest of the species, was considered in ancient times as the lady's bird, every rank being obliged to content itself with the bird allotted to its peculiar station, royalty alone having the privilege of bearing an eagle into the field.

Falconry was doubtless a most fascinating and exciting sport, but there are apparently insurmountable obstacles to its ever being successfully attempted in this country, the great expense, labor, and perseverance of training the birds being among the first, and the comparative disuse into which the custom of horseback riding has fallen.

Before the Franco-Prussian war it was becoming quite popular on the continent, but has not been revived to any considerable extent since the return of peace. Probably sober judgment decided that, after all there was no great fun in

Constantly hazarding of neck or spine, Which rural gentlemen call sport divine. It is fair to say that the modern lovers of field sports have as great and intelligent a love for them as their brethren of the olden time, and have improved upon them vastly in every way.

True disciples of field sports are humane, and in nearly if not quite all the States genuine sportsmen have united in securing the enactment of laws for protecting game—both fish, flesh and fowl, fur, fin and feather—and have created a proper public sentiment in aid of enforcing these statutes.—Frank Heywood, in Chicago Times.

DAMON AND PYTHIAS.

A Sordid Detroit Grocer Who Takes No Stock in Romantic Tales.

A very hard-up looking man entered a grocery on Fort street west the other day and said to the proprietor:

"I have come to give myself up. My name's Damon."

"No one wants you that I'm aware of," replied the grocer.

"But my partner, Pythias, stole a cake of maple sugar here the other day, and I've come as a hostage until you can catch him. Excuse me if I slice off a bit of this cheese and take a few crackers."

"But I haven't missed any sugar."

"Perhaps not, but Pythias took it all the same. I saw him an hour ago, and I told him I should wait here until he surrendered himself. Beg pardon, but I'll take a herring to go with my crackers and cheese."

"What did you say your name was?"

"Damon, sir, and there's nothing mean about me! When I pass my word nothing on earth will make me break it. Is this sweet milk in this jar? Ah! there; but you'll excuse me if I take a glass."

"Look here, you old beat, I want you to get out of this!" exclaimed the grocer, who began to see a colored man in the fence corner.

"But I agreed to wait for Pythias."

"I don't care a copper for Pythias or you, either! There's the door."

"I promised Pyth. I'd wait here. What will he say when he finds that Damon has lied to him?"

"So you won't go? Well, you will! Now, you come along, and take that—and that—and that!"

The grocer pulled him to the door and bestowed three hearty kicks on his coat-tails. The man received them meekly and kindly, and when the performance was over he walked across the road and turned and said:

"All right. If Pyth. comes along just explain how it was. Tell him old Damon is waiting for him down in the saloon at the corner."—Detroit Free Press.

Borneo's Flying Tree-Frog.

One of the most curious and interesting reptiles which I met with in Borneo was a large tree-frog, which was brought me by one of the Chinese workmen. He assured me that he had seen it come down, in a slanting direction, from a high tree, as if it flew. On examining it, I found the toes very long and fully webbed to their very extremity, so that when expanded they offered a surface much larger than the body. The fore legs were also bordered by a membrane, and the body was capable of considerable inflation. The back and limbs were of a very deep shining green color, the under surface and the inner toes yellow, while the webs were black, rayed with yellow. The body was about four inches in length, while the webs of each hind foot, when fully expanded, covered a surface of four square inches, and the webs of all the feet together about twelve square inches. As the extremities of the toes have dilated disks for adhesion, showing the creature to be a true tree-frog, it is difficult to imagine that this immense membrane of the toes can be for the purpose of swimming only, and the account of the Chinaman that it flew down from the tree becomes more credible.—La Nature.

—If it takes a boy twenty-five minutes to cut three sticks of wood to get supper by, how long will it take him next morning to walk three miles in the country to meet a circus coming to town?—Western Rural.

STANLEY AS A REPORTER.

An Old Newspaper Man Gives Some Reminiscences of the Great Explorer.

A gentleman who served on the local staff of a Western paper with Henry M. Stanley, before the now celebrated explorer had started on his search for Livingston, tells some very interesting stories of the friend of the King of the Belgians. "I met Stanley the last time he was in New York," said this gentleman, "and was greatly surprised to see that he still retains the appearance of a young man. In fact, he did not appear a day older than he was when he left Omaha nearly twenty years ago. When I made a close examination, however, this phenomenon was accounted for. He is, I found, a liberal patron of hair dyes, and he is 'made up' as much as any actor on the stage. Henry was always great on 'make-up.' It was his great ability in making something out of nothing that brought him into discredit in Omaha when the first report of his successful search for Livingstone was sent across the water."

"To what do you refer?"

"Stanley and I were local reporters together in one of the frontier towns when the Pike's Peak excitement was at its height. Stanley was also the correspondent of several Eastern papers. It was supposed that we, on the extreme edge of civilization, had extensive facilities for collecting advance news from the seat of the excitement, and Stanley was not the boy to let the chance to make a dollar slip, because real news was scarce. His correspondence to his Eastern connections was filled with the most glowing and blood-curdling accounts of the trials and tribulations of the men whose shibboleth was 'Pike's Peak or Bust.' Not a day passed that he did not grind out a column of horrors. One day a thrilling account of an Indian massacre would startle the good people of Boston, New York or Philadelphia. The next morning he would tell of an outbreak of the lawless element in which there would be fifteen or twenty killed. Then would follow a story of the wonderful discovery of a fabulous sum of gold by a party of prospectors. All these stories would be made more realistic by the names of the killed and wounded and the exact hour in the day when each event occurred. In fact, they bore every indication of profound truth, and they were doubtless believed by those who read them. Each story ostensibly came from the mouth of some disgruntled miner who had started on his return to his home in the East. They were in fact perfect works of fiction and did great credit to Stanley's imagination."

"Then the people of Omaha do not take much stock in the reports of his successful trip into the interior of Africa this time?"

"O, I don't know much about the feeling towards Stanley there now. A new population has grown up in the West since he resided among us, and those who live in Omaha now are not acquainted with him."

"Has he ever been to visit the scenes of his early triumphs since the discovery of Livingstone?"

"Yes, he was there soon after his first return to America. About the first thing he said was in the nature of abuse for the incredulity with which the people of Omaha had received the reports of his trip to Ujiji. I reminded him of the Pike's Peak stories, and he seemed to be satisfied."—Washington Cor. Boston Post.

Siberia Convicts.

In a report prepared for the ministerial commission which is now considering the project of gradually diverting the transportation of Russian convicts from Siberia to the island of Saghalien and certain districts in the trans-Caucasian and central Asian frontier provinces, the inspector of the Tumen-Atchinsk route to Siberia states that during the decade 1876-86 218,578 prisoners passed along that highway. Of this number no less than 2,867 died on the way, and 101,266 were sent from Atchinsk to the most remote eastern settlements. The report furnishes no record of the probably large number who perished on the latter part of the journey. It is also silent as to the causes of the 2,867 deaths between Tumen and Atchinsk. The fact can not, however, be disguised that the horrible hardships and sufferings under which so large a number of these unfortunate exiles sink on the way are a standing blot on the penal legislation of Russia.—Odessa Cor. London News.

Parasitic Plant Diseases.

The prevalence of smut in corn we believe to be owing to the want of care in disinfecting the seed. The process of preparing wheat for seed, by steeping it in a solution of four ounces of sulphate of copper in a gallon of water for each five bushels of seed, has been found so effective that it should be applied to oats and corn, which are much affected by this parasitic disease. It is a disease caused by the infection of a parasitic germ quite as much as similar diseases of animals, to which the terms contagious and infectious have been applied; and, as the germ adhering to the seed is destroyed by the corrosive solution used just as the germs of animal diseases are destroyed by disinfecting treatment, the result is equally the same, and the crops are preserved from injury. This precaution should be used with seed, oats and corn, and, we believe, would be equally effective with the "seed" or sets or cuttings of potatoes. In regard to the last potato growers may very well try the experiment.—N. Y. Times.

—Among the wonderful results from the use of natural gas at Pittsburgh are exquisitely beautiful objects of glass-ware, which have found a market in Europe.—Boston Budget.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

—Mrs. Livermore shows that there are now 237 occupations open to women as against seven at the beginning of the century.—St. Louis Republican.

—Preliminary tests have shown that iron cooled while a strong current of electricity was passing through it was increased fully one-half in tensile strength and ductility.

—During 1886 eleven new asteroids were detected, increasing the number known to 264. Of this total, fifty-seven have been discovered by Dr. J. Palisa, of Vienna, and forty-six by Dr. Peters, of Clinton, N. Y.

—Professor Bonamico, of the Royal Naval School of Leghorn, has invented an important instrument for showing not only the speed, but also indicating the relative position of one ship to another, and so preventing collisions.

—A manufacturer of Roubaix has invented a very curious application of electricity to looms. He adopts an indicator which strikes when a thread breaks, and thus saves the weaver from the close attention to the quickly moving threads which is so injurious to the sight.—Popular Science News.

—An apparatus of iron and glass, in which a pressure of one thousand atmospheres can be developed for the purpose of studying the influence of great pressure on animal life, has been exhibited to biologists in France. With it deep sea animals can be observed under their natural compression.—Springfield Times.

—The census of 1880 reported the capital invested in agriculture in Massachusetts was \$164,000,000, against \$22,000,000 in the manufacture of boots and shoes, \$26,000,000 in the manufacture of woolen goods, and \$73,000,000 in the manufacture of cotton goods.—Yankee Blade.

—The cut nail industry kept full pace with other branches of the iron and steel business during 1886. The total production reached 3,160,973 kegs of 100 pounds each against 5,696,815 kegs in 1885, 7,581,379 kegs in 1884, and 7,762,737 in 1883. The cut nail product, like that of pig iron and steel, was the largest the country ever saw.—Brooklyn Eagle.

—The very rapid progress which has been made within recent years in the manufacture and treatment of steel, and in the investigation of the properties of other alloys of iron than those with carbon, and the influence of impurities on the properties of steel, have left all our text-books so far behind that a work intelligently recording our present practice, and collecting and analyzing the scattered information existing in public and private records, has been greatly needed.—Boston Budget.

—Professor Milne, of Japan, who is an excellent authority on earthquakes, thinks that the electric disturbances which so often accompany the shocks are the consequences rather than the causes of the latter. It is really the earthquake which produces the electrical phenomena. In Japan earthquakes are attributed by the ignorant either to the action of an eight-legged earthquake insect living under ground, or to the movements of a great fish, which ordinarily has a rock on his head to keep him quiet.—N. Y. Ledger.

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

—Wealth may bring luxuries, but luxuries do not always bring happiness.

—It is more from carelessness about truth than from intentional lying that there is so much falsehood in the world.—Johnson.

—There are people who think so much of themselves that others are shut out and think nothing of them.—N. O. Picayune.

—Nothing goes so fast as time, so they say; and yet there are plenty of men who find no trouble in passing it.—Charleston Enterprise.

—Hyperbole—"What an outrage to cram so many into this railway coupe."

"I should say so! Why, a sardine is a hermit in comparison."—Fliegende Blätter.

—Lady (in St. Louis bookstore)—"I will look at some books, please." Proprietor—"Yes, ma'am. What color and size?" Lady—"Blue and gold, I think, and something about nine inches long and five inches wide."—N. Y. Sun.

—"I never complained of my condition but once," said an old man, "when my feet were bare, and I had no money to buy shoes; but I met a man without feet, and I became content."—Western Ploughman.

—A cynical old bachelor said: "Ideas are like beads; nobody ever has any till he's grown up." And how is it with women?" asked a lady; "they never have any beads at all." "Nor ideas either," answered the ruffianly old bachelor.—N. Y. Ledger.

—According to the Globe, "Short men prefer tall wives, because they desire to rise in the world by proxy." Rather say they desire to rise in the morning by proxy, neighbor; the real reason for short men preferring tall wives is that they want women they can respect—look up to, as it were.—Boston Transcript.

—When a popular young woman quit Worcester the other day she was accompanied to the railway station by twenty other young women and one young man; and after the train arrived, and while the conductor waited for her, she calmly kissed every one of the twenty-one friends and then quietly got aboard.

—"Did you see my picture in the paper to-day, dear?" inquired a young traveler who had taken quite an interest in politics, as he came into the house the other evening. "Yes, I did—and—and—" Here she burst into tears.

"Why, what's the matter? Why does it make you cry?" "Why, Jack, I'm so disappointed. If I had known you looked like that I'd never have married you."—Merchant Traveler.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—A pleasant English custom is the opening of horticultural shows in public gardens. While visitors gaze at the flowers a band entertains sightseers with sweet sounds.—Chicago Tribune.

—The London Daily News has informed its readers that "Buffalo Bill" is not a wild Indian, as many of them have supposed, but the "Hon. W. F. Cody" in private life, and a "member of the United States Parliament."

—One Way of Looking at It—"I don't see how the Briggses ever got along so well as they have. They are not at all suited to one another." "H'm; perhaps if they had been, they wouldn't have got along so well."

—Fear and imagination produce hydrophobia, according to a London physician. If that is the case it would be well to assure your dog that all he has to do after being bitten is to keep a stiff upper lip and put the curb on his imagination.

—"No, sir," exclaimed Lawler, as he closed a big book he had been studying for half an hour, "it's just as I said. The word 'pneumonia' is an imported word. It isn't in the dictionary. I've looked all through the N's."—N. Y. Herald.

—A Boston eight-year-old was drawing pictures at school the other day, and drew a pig. After the work of art was completed to his satisfaction the youngster wrote beneath it: "This is a domestic animal; he is called a pig because he is so selfish."

—One of the hardest sort of people was asked to subscribe to some worthy object. "I can't," he replied; "I must be just before I am generous." "Well," said the one who made the request, "let me know just before you are generous, and I'll try you."—Texas Siftings.

—Deadwood claims to be the greatest Chinese town in the country. The Mongols have drowned out opposition in the washes business; they compete successfully in the silk, tea and other lines, run restaurants, raise pigs and chickens and patronize opium dives and joss houses.—Chicago Herald.

—An average of 60,000 yards of hotel carpets is sold in New York at auction every season. Some hotels make a carpet last three years, and others purchase new carpets every year. From these partly-worn carpets second-class hotels and boarding-houses make a choice.

—Though much less than in the ocean, the tides in the Mediterranean are quite noticeable. Along the coast near the Maritime Alps they range from four to ten inches. At Gibraltar, however, and in the Gulf of Gabes they rise to from sixty to eighty inches; at Trieste to nearly thirty inches; and at Venice to about twenty inches.

—Dr. Livingstone's faithful servant, Susi, who, with Chuma, brought the body of their trusted leader half way across Africa, that it might rest in his native land, has recently been baptized by a member of the Universities mission. Susi received the name of David in baptism, in memory of the noble man who first taught him what it was to be a Christian.

—The extensive sandy desert known as the Registan, in the central part of Afghanistan, is moving steadily year by year in a northeasterly direction, and calculations have been made which indicate that at its present rate of progress it will overwhelm some of the most fertile and prosperous portions of the country in the course of a few thousand years. The movement of the sand is supposed to be caused wholly by the action of the wind.—N. Y. Ledger.

—Fifty years ago, when James and Israel Adams were eight and thirteen years old, their parents, who lived in Shawan, Md., died, and the boys were separated to live with relatives. The other day James, who is now a business man in Philadelphia, learned that Israel was in Pikesville, Md., and he went there and saw him. The meeting of the long-separated brothers is said to have been affecting.—N. Y. Sun.

HE TOOK THE BALLS.

Chat Between an Accommodating Landlord and His Guest.

Guest (to landlord)—"What can you get me up for dinner, landlord?"

Landlord—"Any thing you want. How about some nice fish-balls?"

Guest—"Don't care for fish-balls. I'll take a couple of chops, not too well done."

Landlord—"Well, it's a little late for chops; but I can give you any thing else. Them fish-balls is nice."

Guest—"A small porter-house, with mushrooms."

Landlord—"A bridal couple ate the last mushrooms I had in the house not ten minutes ago. I've got some Al Chicago dressed beefsteak, but, unfortunately, it's only on the way. Them fish-balls are brown on top!"

Guest—"Veal cutlets!"

Landlord—"The last bit of veal went to make chicken sal—oh! veal! No, no veal; but I can give you any thing else. My wife picked that codfish herself, and them balls are as boneless as tapoca pudding. A judge of the Supreme Court asked for the recipe only this evening."

Guest—"Got any spring chicken?"

Landlord—"I'll have some nice ones for breakfast. But if there's any thing else you want—nice hot fish-balls, or—"

Guest—"Oh! let me have some liver and bacon, then!"

Landlord—"We don't have liver and bacon after two o'clock, sir. It's just luck that we've got them fish-balls—"

Guest—"Bring me some fish-balls!"

Landlord—"Yes, sir! Tea or coffee?"

Guest—"Coffee!"

Landlord—"Well, the coffee is all out! I guess you'll have to take tea.—Push.