

THE WOODCOCK.

Where Does It Hide During the Mating Season?

It is during the month of August and September that the mystery of the woodcock's life begins. This is the mating season, when the bird changes its plumage before beginning its journey southward.

Probably the truth lies in a mean of all these statements. I think it probable that the birds know the loss of their feathers renders them to a certain extent helpless against the attacks of the more open swamps and hide in the densest and most tangled thickets.

Years ago when shooting in Dutchess county, N. Y., I knew one or two swamps, which we called "mating swamps," where in August and September there were a limited number of birds.

MILITARY DISPLAY.

An Amusing Bit of Routine in a New York Hotel.

There is no better place to mark the increasing love of military display and maneuvers than the lobby of a large hotel. The colored help in particular are great soldiers.

The regiment consisted of six colored hallmen in blue and brass, with an especially resplendent mulatto in a more gorgeous uniform walking at the head of the procession.

Richard M. Hunt, the architect, used to relate that in his younger days, while supervising the erection of a brick building, a recent arrival from Cook applied for a job and was employed as a hodcarrier after being instructed that he must always carry up fourteen bricks in his hand.

ONE BRICK SHORT.

"I have the greatest confidence in Dr. Slocum as a physician," said one of the doctor's patients. "He never gives an opinion till he has waited and weighed a case and looked at it from every side."

TOO CAUTIOUS.

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THE WAS INSECT.

Trees afford the birthplace and cradle of the wasp, a scientifically called (Cossus) in the early spring the bark of the loughs and twigs become covered with brown pap shaped scales, which can be easily detached and which, when opened, reveal the flowery looking mass of minute animals, whose movements can just be detected by the naked eye.

A PUNCTUAL BIRD.

What tempts the little humming bird that we see in our gardens to travel every spring from near the equator to as far north as the arctic circle, leaving behind him, as he does, for a season, many tropical delights? He is the only one of many humming birds that pluckily leaves the land of sunny clime to go into the wintry Mississippi. How it struts the imagination to picture the solitary, tiny migrant, a mere atom of bird life, moving above the vast dome of the sky! Borne swiftly onward by rapidly vibrating little wings, he covers the thousands of miles between his winter home and his summer one by easy stages and arrives at his chosen destination, without showing her face how wrong it was and succeeded.

THE WOMAN AND HER FACE.

Once upon a time a woman had a quarrel with her features because they made ugly faces at her when she looked in the glass. She scolded and scolded, but it all did no good.

LEGAL POINTS.

"So he got out an injunction against your company," we say plyingly. "Why didn't you forestall him by getting an injunction to prevent the issuance of his injunction?"

SMALL IN A DOUBLE SENSE.

"After all," remarked Smithers, yawning, "it is a small world."

THE LIVING SKELETON.

The rubber skin burned his finger lighting a cigarette.—Judge.

DOWN IN A SALT MINE.

An Occasion When One's Dignity Must Be Set Aside.

It is only the elect among travelers who find their way to Berchtesgaden, in Bavaria, not very far from Salzburg, writes a correspondent of the London Tatler. If you drive in a car from thence by road, you are stopped midway at a customs house and find yourself leaving Austrian territory for Bavarian. Berchtesgaden is beautifully situated, and it has two noteworthy attractions, one of them the Konigssee, thought by many to be the most beautiful lake in the world, and the other the salt mines. A visit to the salt mines gives one an exciting hour.

Many tourists take tickets at the top, but many of the fair sex are deterred from using them when they see the costume that is rendered essential to the visit. In other words, they have to abandon their skirts and adopt a special "rig out."

The necessity for women to abandon the usual garments arises from the fact that a portion of the mine can only be visited through the medium of a kind of slide. This slide is, however, the best thing in the whole visit. It is a great deal better than tobogganing, and, as one is in the dark and with only a candle fastened to one's dress, it is not a little exciting.

The strangest incident in the trip is that of the illumination of what is called "the salt lake." You are now across this lake in almost absolute darkness, the illumination being provided by a number of miners' lamps round the lake, and the journey has a very considerable weirdness. The next best experience in the trip is the final ride into daylight on the trucks. This is a journey through absolute darkness for a very considerable way until finally one sees a little gleam of light in the distance.

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SOME WRITERS.

Bret Harte was a good deal of a recluse, in that respect resembling Hawthorne more than any other man of letters.

Baxter, it is said, kept the manuscript of the "Saint's Everlasting Rest" in his hands for thirteen years, revising and condensing.

Cooper is said to have written "The Spy" in less than six months. Most of his stories were founded on legends well known in his neighborhood.

Longfellow turned out about one volume of poems a year for many years. Nearly four years were required for his translation of "Dante."

The first volume of poems by Alfred Tennyson came out when he was twenty-four. He was forty-one when "In Memoriam" came to the press.

Thomas Moore often wrote a short poem almost impromptu. He consumed over two years in reading and preparing material for "Lalla Rookh" and two years more in writing that imimitable poem.

DON'T GET TOO FULL.

A Lesson That May Be Learned From the Habits of the Bees.

"Don't stir up a beehive unless you know it is a rich one," said an apiculturist to a visitor at his bee farm.

"I think that I would leave them alone altogether," was the reply. "They have too angry a buzz about them to win my confidence."

GOOD POINTS OF A MULE.

Rightly used, kindly treated, given the same good care as a horse, the mule has always shown himself kind, good tempered, willing, docile and intelligent.

A MAN OF MANY TITLES.

Of all the ruling sovereigns of Europe, the Austrian emperor can boast the largest number of titles of nobility and territorial rank.

A WARNING FROM THE CHILD.

A three-year-old little girl was taught to close her evening prayer during the temporary absence of her father with "and please watch over my papa."

AN INDICATION.

Bertha—I guess it's going to be a match between Maude and Charley, Constance—So?

THE MANTLE OF CHARITY.

"Did he marry her for her money?" asked the girl in white.

QUICK WORK WITH A SHARK.

Three Kanakas Went Down and Got Him While He Was Sleeping.

"The Kanakas of the Hawaiian Islands have about as much fear of the huge sharks that infest the Hawaiian waters as we have of one-mouthed fox terrier pups," said a naval officer who recently returned from the Asiatic station by way of the Islands.

Even as she spoke a strong limbed youth threw off his coat and tore away the fastenings at his shoes. One more glance to assure him that none of the men in bathing suits was going to the rescue, and he plunged into the water.

The rescuer was swimming out and the drowning man still splashed. The crowd cheered and cheered again. It was plain that he would arrive in time.

"Where is he?" demanded a girl who just worshipped heroes on or off the stage.

Then a change came over the crowd. The rescuer was losing. With another stroke he could have grasped the drowning man, but he had lost him.

"That about settles one Kanaka, if not the whole three of them," said we on the gangway. The next thing we saw was a gigantic shark thrashing about in the water.

The privilege of having some one with whom we may exchange a few rational words every day, an Emersonian phrase it is the choicest gift in life.

Who is the most versatile of living Englishmen? Many holiday makers on Dartmoor must have noticed a sign-board over the door of a thatched cottage in the village of Belstone, near Okehampton, which announces that the occupier, William Ellis, is a "photographer," sells "views of the neighborhood," is a "Dartmoor guide," "repairs watches and clocks," is a "chemical manure and fertilizer merchant," "port restorer," is a "very zealous churchman" and is a "very zealous churchman."

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A MODEL FIREMAN.

Mike O'Hagan had never been a success. He had been discharging the duties of a bus company for allowing his bus to be smashed by a tramcar and from the service of a tram company for bumping into a carriage.

"O'Hell tell me, boy," replied the latter. "Shure, there came a foire, an' Moike he went. An' when he got there was a man on the top of a blazin' bulidin' 'eramin' for help. 'What's the matter?' says he. 'Hould on, Mike, an' he'll show you the ropes. 'Ye it round yer neck,' says he. 'And what did Mike do then?' 'He pulled him down!'—London Answers.

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RIGHT WAY TO RESCUE.

How to Prevent Drowning Persons From Taking Swimmer Down.

It happened at one of the Long Island sound resorts one afternoon a week or so ago. The day was hot, and scores of bathers were enjoying the still, cool water.

"Help! Help!" he cried in a frightened shriek when he came to the surface after striking one.

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Tax Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the State Tax and County Levy for the year 1902 are now due, and that in pursuance of law, the treasurer or his deputy will be at the following named places in said districts at the time herein specified, for the purpose of collecting said taxes and levies, viz:

Appointments of John H. Hopkins: Parkley, October 2d, 3d and 4th, November 22d and 29th. Bloxom, October 9, 10 and 11. Mappsville, October 16, 17 and 18. Temperanceville, October 23, 24 and 25. New Church, October 30 and 31, November 1.

Appointments of Edwin T. Powell: Mappsville or Painter, October 6, 7 and 8. Onley, October 14, morning. Loonstville, October 14, afternoon. Cashville, October 16, morning. Finneys, October 16, afternoon. Pangloss, October 4, 18, Nov. 1, 13, 14 and 15. Savageville, October 20, morning. Meifa, October 20, afternoon. Belle Haven, October 24, afternoon. Keller, November 3, 4 and 5. Levin R. Lewis Store, November 7, morning. Marshes Store, Nov. 7, afternoon. Wachapreague, Nov. 10, 11 and 12. Harborton, Nov. 14, at night. Accomac, C. H., October 27, 28 and 29. November 26 and 30. Onancock, October 11, 25, November 8, 20, 21 and 22. At home at night when not otherwise posted.

Those failing to pay their TAXES before the 1st day of December, 1902, will have 5 per cent added to their bills as the law directs.

Your humble servant, John H. Hopkins, Treasurer, Edwin T. Powell, Dy. Treas., of Accomac County, Va.

W. N. Conant & Son,

Chincoteague, Va.

Sash, Doors, Blinds, Mouldings, Brackets, Stairwork, Paints, Oils, Glass, Builders' Hardware, &c.

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Estimates cheerfully given. Write or Phone us for Prices.

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Leave.....A.M. P.M. A.M. P.M. Exp. Exp.

Portsmouth..... 5:30 7:20

Norfolk..... 6:20 7:45

Old Point Comfort..... 7:20 8:45

Cape Charles..... 9:25 10:55

Cheriton..... 9:35 11:05

Cobb's..... 9:35 11:05

Keller..... 9:45 11:15

Machipongo..... 9:52 11:19

Bird's Nest..... 9:59 11:24

Nassawadox..... 10:05 11:30

Exmore..... 10:15 11:38

Mappsville..... 10:22 11:45

Meifa..... 10:35 11:55

Only..... 10:42 12:03

Parkley..... 10:48 12:09

Bloxom..... 11:07 12:27

Bloomtown..... 11:15 12:35

Oak Hall..... 11:24 12:42

New Church..... 11:31 12:51

Pocomoke..... 6:27 11:45

Fruitland..... 7:15 12:00

Salisbury..... 7:35 12:40

New York..... 7:53 1:00

Delmar..... 7:53 1:00

Arrive.....A.M. A.M. P.M. P.M.

Baltimore (Union Station)..... 12:30 6:22 6:48

Winnington.....