

**A LIVING NET.**

**Peculiar Method of Fishing Used by Natives of Oceania.**

A peculiar method of fishing is indulged in by the natives of Tetulia, one of the islands of Oceania. At a given signal the inhabitants of the village assemble on the seashore to the number of about 200 persons, each of whom carries a branch of cocoa palm. With these in their hands they plunge into the water, and at a certain distance from the shore turn toward it, forming a compact half circle, each one holding his palm branch perpendicularly in the water, and thus forming a sieve.

The leader of the party then gives a signal, and this living net approaches the shore gradually in perfect order, driving before it a multitude of fishes. Surrounded by this living wall and entangled in the cocoa palm branches many of the fishes are cast on the sand by the waves, while others are killed with sticks. After being cooked over hot coals the fish are served with bananas and coconut milk.

The scene as described by a Frenchman who visited the island was interesting and picturesque in the extreme, the effect being immensely heightened by the appearance of the natives, whose costume consists of a short tunic of seaweed or leaves. Their hair is powdered with chalk, while the warriors are distinguished by the hair being powdered red. Wreaths of gardenias or red hibiscus are worn on their heads, also round their necks.

**AN EXPERT ON LYING.**

**He Was Allowed to Testify in Court and Won the Case.**

A Kansas City lawyer tells of the use of expert testimony on lying. He says:

"I was prosecuting attorney for Finney county in 1881, and had a fellow up before Squire N. C. Jones on the charge of horse stealing. He hired Mike Sutton to defend him, and when the case was called I proved beyond question by a witness who witnessed the theft that we had the right man. After the prosecution had rested Sutton introduced 'Buffalo' Jones as a witness and gravely informed the court that he intended to prove by him that my witness had lied. 'Buffalo' took the stand and swore that, while he had never seen or heard of the witness before and knew nothing at all about the crime committed, he had had a great deal of experience with men and could tell pretty certain when they were lying. Then he proceeded to tell how men acted when they were lying, and gave the expert opinion that my witness had sworn to lies from the word go. I protested against such performances, but Sutton made the judge believe he had as much right to introduce an expert on liars as he would have to introduce an expert on medicine or any other science, and the result was the thief was dismissed from custody."

**Not Mere Curiosity.**

The world has a store of pleasures in waiting for the unaccustomed traveler. Sometimes, indeed, they may be mostly in anticipation, as was the case with Amos Riggs of Plumtown.

"How d'ye do?" said Mr. Riggs cordially to the stern visaged man who was his seat mate in the car on the occasion of Mr. Riggs' first trip to Boston. "Now what might your name be? Do you live in Nashuy or beyond?"

"I should like to know what business it is of yours where I live or who I am?" said his companion crossly.

"Well, now, it ain't any particular business o' mine, strictly speaking," said Mr. Riggs mildly, "but it's jest like this: I've got a cousin up in Canada that I've never seen, and I've always thought I might come upon him some time jest by asking folks their name and so on."

**Tides and Storms.**

When a tempest is approaching or passing out on the ocean, the tides are noticeably higher than usual, as if the water had been driven in a vast wave before the storm. The influence extends to a great distance from the cyclonic storm center, so that the possibility exists of forestalling the approach of a dangerous hurricane by means of indications furnished by tide gauges situated far away from the place then occupied by the whirling winds. The fact that the tidal wave outstrips the advancing storm shows how extremely sensitive the surface of the sea is to the changes of pressure brought to bear upon it by the never resting atmosphere.

**Green.**

Going to its derivation the word "green" was originally applied to the color of vegetation, but not to the color of the sea. No application of "green" to the color of the sea is quoted before Chaucer, but as early as the year 700 it was used for vegetation. The word is in skin to "grass" and "grow," which were originally belonged to the vegetable world alone. Vegetables "grow," but animals "wax." "Green" comes from an Aryan root, "ghra," meaning to be green as yellow and "yellow."

**THE PEPPERS.**

**An Opinion on the White, the Black and the Snappy Cayenne.**

The so called white pepper is an abomination. Give me the old fashioned black pepper of our daddies. It has both flavor and odor and is most appetizing, while the white is nauseating. For real snap and go give me cayenne. None of your paprika! Did you ever sift pepper in your soup and notice its peculiar behavior? The black kind concentrates, all the particles rushing to a common center. The red scatters, as if each grain were at enmity with every other. Try the experiment. It means probably that black pepper is astringent, while red is laxative. The people of the tropics consume large quantities of cayenne and are not accustomed to dyspepsia. I never heard of one suffering from impaired or imperfect digestion.

Let us approach these things understandingly. The medical term for black pepper is "piper," and this same piper is regarded as a stomachic. A stomachic is a stimulant for the stomach. Red, or cayenne, pepper is "capsicum" and is an irritant as well as a stomachic. If a person afflicted with cholera morbus takes thirty drops of the tincture of capsicum in water the entire alimentary tract will immediately be congested, which should prove that red pepper is not a laxative. And this looks like a contradiction.—New York Press.

**THE SMOKER'S PARADISE.**

**A Continual Use of Tobacco Is the Rule in Holland.**

Holland is the smoker's paradise. Not only is the climate one which almost compels indulgence in tobacco, but the fragrant leaf may be had in abundance and at small cost.

The humidity of the climate leads naturally to continual smoking, and so common is the habit that instead of measuring distances by miles it is customary for the boatmen to declare a place to be so many pipes distant.

On entering the house of a friend a cigar is offered you, the host sees that you are kept well supplied during your visit, and a fresh cigar upon leaving is as necessary as a hat. Old friends are not permitted to depart until their cases have been refilled, and the necessity for this becomes apparent when it is known that a smoker usually lights his fresh cigar from the stump of the previous one, keeping one in his mouth continually.

Pipe smokers are equally devoted to their habit, taking their pipe to bed with them and only laying it down when they become sleepy. Should they awake during the night they indulge in a short smoke before going to sleep again, and they always light their pipes before getting out of bed in the morning.—New York Herald.

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**Peculiar Disappearance.**

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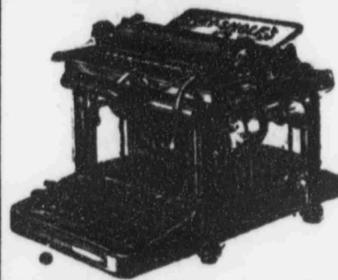
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