

INSTINCT AND REASON.

An interesting illustration of the Two Traits of Monkeys.

An illustration showing the difference between instinct and reason in monkeys came under the observation of David Starr Jordan, the famous naturalist. At one time he had two lively Macacus monkeys called Bob and Jocko. These were put on fruit eating monkeys and instinctively knew just how to crack nuts and peel fruits. At the same time he had a baby monkey, Mono, of a kind that had the egg eating instinct. But Mono had never yet seen an egg.

To each of the three monkeys Dr. Jordan gave an egg, the first that any of them had ever seen. Baby Mono, descended from egg eating ancestors, handled his egg with all the inherited expertness of a long developed instinct. He cracked it with his upper teeth, making a hole in it, and sucked out all its substance. Then, holding the eggshell up to the light and seeing there was no longer anything in it, he threw it away. All this he did mechanically, automatically and just as well with the first egg as with any other he afterward had. And all eggs since given him he has treated in the same way.

The monkey Bob took his egg for some kind of nut. He broke it with his teeth and tried to pull on the shell. When the inside ran out and fell on the ground he looked at it for a moment in bewilderment, then with both hands scooped up the yolk and the sand mixed with it and swallowed it. Then he stuffed the shell into his mouth. This act was not instinct; it was reason. He was not familiar with inherited instinct with eggs. He would handle one better next time, however. Reason very often makes mistakes at first, but when it is trained it becomes a means far more valuable and powerful than instinct.

The third monkey, Jocko, tried to eat his egg in much the same way that Bob did; but, not liking the taste, he threw it away.—St. Nicholas.

EASY MONEY.

Picked Up by the Sharp Chap Who Bet on a Word.

Just by way of showing how easy it is for some men to pick up a few dollars by their wits a young fellow strolled into a cafe the other afternoon and, joining in conversation that was being carried on by convivial spirits, declared he was the most "unfortunate" individual on earth. He immediately began telling a story of his personal troubles, but before he had got the narrative well under way there was a chorus of interruptions, and the talkative young man was politely informed that his English needed revising, since he should have used the word "fortunate" instead of "unfortunate."

The newcomer insisted that unfortunate was the correct word to use, and the argument waxed warm. Finally, with a show of heat, the young man who started the trouble declared that while he had only a few dollars he would wager them that he was correct.

So anxious were his friends to lay wagers with him that he did not have money enough to meet all the demands, but he succeeded in putting up \$15 in separate small bets. The men who were certain that the parsimonious young man was wrong in the use of the word unfortunate sent out for a dictionary only to find that they had been "wrong" on a "sure thing," for the big book on spelling showed that unfortunate is perfectly proper and means unfortunate.

"Yes," said the winner of the bets as he pocketed his new portion of wealth, "I have won money on that before. I collected \$10 this afternoon on a similar wager."—Philadelphia Record.

Flying Fishes.

A dazzling silvery splendor pervades the surface of the body of the best known species of the flying fish. The summit of its head, its back and its sides are of azure blue. This blue becomes spotted upon the dorsal fin, the pectoral fin and the tail. This fish is the common prey of the sea birds and the more voracious fishes, such as the shark. Its enemies abound in air and water. If it succeeds in escaping the Charybdis of the water the chances are in favor of its meeting its fate in the Scylla of the atmosphere. If it escapes the jaws of the shark it will probably fall to the share of the seagull.

Too Honest.

Wogges—Young Smith has failed in business again. I'm sorry for the boy, but too close adherence to high principles ruined him. Wogges—How so? Wogges—He advertised, "Our product is thoroughly tested before it leaves the factory," which is a very hard thing to live up to when you are manufacturing dynamite.—Puck.

Poor Living.

Madder Brown—There goes old Dumber. He's living on his reputation. Maulstick—No wonder he looks so thin.—Illustrated Bits.

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