

The Goldsboro Sta

"Hear Instruction and be Wise, and Refuse it Not."

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The Blacksmith's Song
roughly the casement rose to dawn
steals the cheering ray;
urge, and wake the moru
rous voice and jocund lay!
low; and furnace, smoke;
the glowing met soon!
er, fall with telling stroke!
to the anvil's merry tune,
Pong, pong—
rike while the iron's hot."
y stroke my hammer rings;
ard! 'tis for your chubby boy
his mother fondly clings,
his his cooing note of joy.
the sweat that bathes my face,
as of learning he shall tread,
dge make her dwelling place
herling's fair young head?
ives case.

nected with a large pool, having equally
high and muddy banks. To the left
was a labyrinth of similar ditches. Some
distance in front, a broader and
straighter crack in the flat expanse
showed where the river lay. The bank
on which I stood was a foot or two
higher than the opposite bank. I de-
scribe the situation thus minutely in
order to make the reader understand
what afterwards happened.

Not liking to lose the prize so nearly
in my grasp, I resolved to risk the
jump. Laying down the gun, and tak-
ing my coat off, I made the effort, and
cleared the ditch, only, however, by a
few inches. I secured the heron, and
smoothing its beautiful plumage, but
little injured by the shot, threw it back
to the bank from which I had just come.
Then, on looking around, I found my-
self in a sort of *cul de sac*. The bit of
firm ground on which I stood was an
island, and the only way of escape was
the one by which I had arrived. Hav-
ing "to take off" from a lower level, it
was much harder to get back than it
was to come; but as there was no alter-
native, it had to be tried. I did not
leap quite far enough, and pitched
with hands and knees together against
the edge. There was no vegetation to
hold of, and after hanging on the
edge for a few moments, vainly
struggling at the mud, I fell backwards,
with a heavy splash into the water.
Fortunately, I am a good swimmer,
and at first, while treading water, the
seriousness of the affair alone struck
me; but when I began to see that it
would be difficult to get up those slimy,
hanging banks, I must confess I
felt rather frightened. It was impossi-

had cleared away, and the moon, near
the full, shone brightly. Had it been
dark, my courage must have given way,
and I should most probably have sunk.
As it was, I cannot say that I quite de-
spaired of a rescue in some way or other.
If I could only hold out till morning,
some one might, I conjectured, come for
the purpose of carrying away the turf
sods, and might see my coat and gun,
which would lead to a search. I had
not much hope in any search from the
village; I had started in the direction
of the cliffs, my favorite evening haunt,
and I fancied that would be the direc-
tion the searchers would take. As the
night wore on—oh! so slowly—with the
moon so calmly gliding through the
stars above me, I fell into a kind of
stupor, and I can distinctly remember
repeating scraps of verses totally un-
connected with each other. From this
state, I was aroused by the loud note of
some night-bird, probably an owl, and
found my arms were stiff from holding
on to the root; while my legs felt like
weights of lead suspended beneath me.
While trying to change my position I
fancied I heard the gurgling sound of
running water, and that not far off. I
listened intently, and found it was no
fancy. Water was evidently running
into the pool, and I saw by the root
that I was clinging to that the water had
risen some inches.

A cheering hope sprang up within me,
as it flashed across my mind that the
tide must be rising, and that the pool
must have an outlet into the river.
The thought infused new life into me,
and I struck out in the direction of the
sound. Then, to my intense joy, I saw
distinctly in the clear moonlight, the

... through
... pouring in
... aily, through one of the
... reviously swam up. I
... tide rose another foot
... es, I could by treading
... g up so high as to be
... old of the top of the
... I knew
... sibly
... til it
... and a lon

FACTS FOR THE CURIOUS.

Ex-Congressman Reeves, of Green-
point, L. I., is a collector of very large
and very small hen's eggs. The largest
he has was laid by a cross-breed Brahma
and is 8 5-8 by 7 1-2 inches around,
weighing six ounces. W. H. Southard,
living in Rockville Center, exhibits a
hen's egg measuring five by 12 1-2
inches. Mr. Reeves has one only 2 1-2
by 2 1-4 inches. Mrs. L. W. Hudson,
of Mattituek has a dozen, eggs laid by
one hen in as many days, which weigh
together only one ounce.

The tree which bears the Brazil nut
is one of the finest in the South Ameri-
can forests. It often rises fifty feet or
more above the tops of the tree around.
Gathering the yearly crop is an import-
ant business to the natives, and occu-
pies several weeks. The reason of this
is, that the nuts cannot be picked, or
at least if they are they will not keep,
so the gatherers must wait till they are
ripe, when they fall to the ground.
They grow sixteen or eighteen in a sort
of box, which is round and hard, and
as large as a cocoonut. When these great
objects fall, they come with great
force, and often bury themselves six
inches deep in the ground. Of course
there is great danger of being hurt by
them, for the ones that fall must be
picked up at once. When the wind
blows and many nut cases are falling,
the people stay in the huts they have
built there, which have very sloping
roofs so that the nuts will glance off.
They spend this time in breaking the
cases and spreading the nuts to dry in
the sun. The fresh nuts are said to be
very nice to eat, much nicer than the
dry ones that we get in this country.

Odontorhynchus or toothed birds is the
name which Professor Marsh has given
to a most remarkable class of extinct
animals, of which he has discovered
numerous remains in the cretaceous
rocks of Kansas and Colorado. The
specimens so far discovered have been
grouped into three orders, of which two
are represented on our plains. Of one
of these orders the Hesperornis, an
aquatic bird, by its developed

Official Oaths.

A comparison of the official oaths of
several countries, apropos of the Brad-
laugh affair, says a New York paper, is
not uninteresting. France demands no
oath, nor even any equivalent formality,
before her legislators enter upon their
duties. Even under the empire the
deity was not called upon, the simple
formula being, "I swear fidelity to the
emperor and the constitution."

In Austria, also, there is no oath, but,
in reply to a question from the presi-
dent of the reichsrath, whether the new
member "promises loyalty and obedi-
ence to the emperor, inviolable obser-
vance of the constitution, as well as of
all other laws, and conscientious fulfill-
ment of his duty," the new member sim-
ply replies, "I promise."

The reason that members of the Ger-
man parliament take no oath is that
many of them are under an oath of alle-
giance to their respective states in the
German federation, and so a conflict of
duty might arise if two oaths were in-
sisted upon. The Prussian member of
parliament takes an oath beginning, "I
swear by God, the omnipotent and om-
niscient," and ending "so may God help
me." As if this were not enough, those
who choose, it is provided, may add
"through Jesus Christ to eternal bliss,
amen."

The Spanish deputies are put through
something of a catechism. The secre-
tary asks them: "Do you swear to ob-
serve, and make others observe, the
constitution of the Spanish monarchy?
Do you swear fidelity to the
legitimate king of
Spain? Do you swear to
behave in the mission
by the nation, always
thing seeking the
nation?" The answer
"Yes, I do swear,"
tion is, "If you do so
you, and if you do not
to account." In 1879
Señor Castelar and
the Bradlaugh of Sp
jections were not based
irreligious grounds.

In Italy the president
of deputies says with