

PIOCHE WEEKLY RECORD,

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AT SECOND HAND.

A Man's Passion for Books and a Boy's Passion of Barter.

"There used to be one man," said the second-hand man to a Lewiston (Me.) Journal reporter "who came down to see me very often. He hasn't been around for a month, and I think must have moved away. He was a queer chap, and no mistake about it. He worked in the Auburn shoe factories, and, I've heard said, made good wages. But he had a liking for old books, and about every week he visited my library out there in the corner in search of something new that was old. His great hobby was books pertaining to agriculture. If he could get hold of any of those Board of Agriculture reports he was just happy. To me they are dry reading, but with him they were food of keen relish. I guess he's moved off now, but he must have a mighty collection of old books with him. He has bought enough in my store to supply all the farmers in the State with agricultural statistics."

At this point in the conversation a small boy came in. He had in his hand a pair of skates. He wanted to trade them for a sled. "Do you know that every boy is a born trader?" asked the man of stories, after the boy had gone out. "Yes, sir, by the time a boy is five years old he begins to trade and dicker and swap. It's general, and I never saw a boy who wasn't so inclined. They'll dicker anything. I have a chance to see something of it. Before ice and snow came they were all crazy for marbles, and they'd swap any thing for them. Later it was skates they wanted, and now the skating has gone they're trying to swap their skates for sleds. So it goes. Every thing in its season. It's fun to watch them maneuver. Some of them are pretty bright fellows and make some sharp trades."

TALES OF ANIMALS.

An Intellectual Yankee Cat and an Astute Old Crow.

Several years ago, writes a correspondent of the Lewiston (Me.) Journal, we had a cat we all thought a great deal of, but she was a little more reserved in the bestowal of her affections. She seemed to care for no one very much, except for my eldest daughter and myself, and if a man or boy came into the house she would leave immediately. The summer that I speak of she had three young kittens. When they were about two weeks old I was sitting in the cook-room one day, when I noticed the cat coming in, and thought something was the matter with her, but did not get up to see. She went and laid down under the stove, but was uneasy, and kept moving and looking out toward us. I forgot to mention that one or two men were also in the house, but pretty soon they went out, when she went directly to her kittens, took one and carried it to my daughter, who exclaimed: "What is the matter with pussy?"

Before I had time to look she had brought another to me, and as she laid it down she looked at me and, making a most pitiful noise, stretched out and died, and we found upon looking that she had been cut nearly in two. She had waited until the men left the room, as if she was afraid of them, and then had looked out for the welfare of her offspring the best she knew how, by bringing them to the safe she loved, and the look on her face was as earnest an appeal as a human countenance could have expressed.

One of the children had, a year ago this summer, a tame crow which showed a great deal of shrewdness, or sense, or reason, whichever you choose to call it. They kept him out in the orchard near an old lounge that was placed under the trees, and there was just room enough for his little body to get under it. When they first had him out there the hens would get nearly all the food, and he, being afraid of them, would hop off under the lounge and scold away at them; but after a day or two he would begin just as soon as his food was brought to him to carry it down under the lounge.

He would not stop to eat a mouthful until he had got it all well out of reach, and then when the hens came around he would sit there and take a mouthful and then chuckle and chatter and seem to enjoy his meals all the better because the hens had to stand round and look at him, but couldn't get any of it.

Olds on Matrimony.

If ever one is to pray, if ever one is to feel grave and anxious, if ever one is to shrink from vain show and vain babble, surely it is just on the occasion of two human beings binding themselves to one another, for better and for worse, till death part them. The two people most concerned, especially the bridegroom, are on such a day willing enough to shrink from vain show and vain babble, but their friends and relatives insist on trotting them out and making them show their peaces. Indeed, for a man of shy or nervous temperament to be married without choriform is a painful operation. He may be a strong man, but he feels like Samson when, for the sake of a woman whom he loved, he allowed his eyes to be put out, and heard the Philistines calling upon him to make sport for them.

THE PIOCHE WEEKLY RECORD.

VOL. XXXVIII PIOCHE, NEV., SATURDAY OCTOBER 26 1889 NO 6

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Proposals for Work. OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE BOARD of County Commissioners, Lincoln County, Nevada.

In accordance with an order of the Board of County Commissioners of Lincoln County, Nevada, SEALED PROPOSALS will be received in the office of the Clerk of said Board until 10 o'clock A. M., Aug 5, 1889, for the following work to be done on the Court House building, under the supervision of said Board to-wit: Take down the upper story of the jail building to the floor on the south side, and to within 12 inches of the floor on the north side; roof plates to be then replaced, and a roof of iron put on with a pitch of 12 inches, water to shed at the south-east corner fully connected with the waste pipe there. Coping to be six inches above the roof, covered also with same quality iron as the roof and to be fastened to 2-inch plates on top of the wall, which shall be bolted to the joist or wall plates immediately below.

To build three (3) stone abutments with good foundations between Court House and Jail, to support the front wall of the Jail, at places to be designated. Abutments to be three (3) feet square at the bottom and taper to one (1) foot thick at the top, same to be partly built into the wall. To cover securely the top of the fire walls of the Court House building and down to the tin roofing on the inside, with the same quality of iron wire for the Jail roof. To point the outer walls of the Court House and Jail buildings, and to repair with brick the different window sills of the same. All mortar used throughout to be good lime mortar and the whole work to be done in a workmanlike manner acceptably to said Board, and the premises cleaned of debris. The whole of said work to be completed within sixty days from the date of acceptance of bid, and payment therefor to be made on or before the first Monday in December, 1889. Contractor to furnish all material necessary, so pains such as is on the ground and can be worked in. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted. J. C. KELLY, Clerk.

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