

HOW HE CAME THERE.

The defendant knew what he was talking about. The defendant, who was as black as the...

A FAIR WARNING.

The driver admitted a Remonstrance that was headed. In the Kennebec valley, or toward that way, there lives a gentleman of...

A TERRIBLE JOURNEY.

Blondin's fearful struggle with a line on a high rope. Blondin, the renowned rope walker, usually carried a man upon his back...

STYLES IN ALASKA.

They May Not Be graceful in Their Beauty but They Are Comfortable. It is strange how soon one becomes accustomed to and adopts the customs...

A BARBER ON BEARDS.

NATURE A GOOD ARTIST, and It Is Best to Let Them Grow Naturally. "Most men," said the learned French barber, "imagine that they can control...

SPRINGING A TRAP.

He Touched Her at Last on a Tender Spot. "Fiddler, opening his pack—I have here, madam, an improved rat-trap, which—"

THE CHATHAM LIAR.

A Wonderful Man, But He Had to Prove His Power. "Dear! dear!" exclaimed George H. Pogram to a conveyer of railroad bonds...

A FEW WORDS ON ETIQUETTE.

The Liberty of a Hostess and the Manners of Her Guests. A hostess need not hold herself responsible for the likings or dislikings of her guests.

AGE OF ORANGE TREES.

Groves of the Delicious Fruit Trees Can Be Found in Italy. An exchange remarks that there has been much discussion among American horticulturists...

SPOUTING LIKE A WHALE.

A Big Cunarder Damaged in a Collision Has a Spouter Built. The two new Cunard Atlantic liners will be nearly as long as the Great Eastern.

LEADS TO DIVORCE.

Nasal Noises End Thirty-Four Years of Wedded Bliss. Snoring is a habit that is prolific of possibilities. It is the cause for a divorce suit now pending...

HE GOT OUT.

How a Massachusetts Judge Unwittingly Released a Prisoner. A Judge of a Massachusetts superior court has a habit when making a charge to the jury of allowing his voice to drop so that his words can with difficulty be caught.

THE WIND DIGS POTATOES.

A Thirty-Acre Patch of Murphies Ripped Up at One Fell Swoop. Charles H. Ruddock of Chicago, New Orleans, Memphis and Carina, Cal., came in to chat the other day, and told one story that will bear printing.

LIFE OF AN EDITOR.

An Oriental Boy's Idea of an Earthly Paradise. A recent issue of an East Indian paper contained the following note: "A schoolboy in Loerabaya was asked to describe an editor of a paper."

Absent-Minded.

A man in South Hiram, Me., sat before the open fire the other day twirling a hundred dollar bill in his hands. The queer part of this story is, by the way, that a neighbor, afraid to trust himself, had handed over the \$100 to the twirler for safekeeping.

Queer Crows in New Zealand.

Sir John Lubbock tells of a particular crow in New Zealand where the male and female differ widely as to the structure of their bills. The male bird has a bill, stout and strong, adapted to cutting and digging into the tree, but he is deficient in that horny-pointed tongue which would permit him to pierce the grub and draw it out.

Rather too Previous.

A party of young ladies visit the observatory to have a peep through the monster telescope at the new comet. The astronomer conducts them to the instrument, and the ladies look through in turns.

A Master of Execution.

When Turgot was minister, some one enthusiastically advocated a certain method of raising money for the government. Turgot disposed of the subject shortly and vigorously. His judgment was known to be good, and little more was heard of the tax in question after he wrote on the memorial: "It would be safer to execute the author than the project."

Oriental Rugs.

It has always been a popular belief that the manufacture of rugs in the Orient was carried on by men almost exclusively, but it is said that women do most of the work. In Adelaide another occupation is pursued by the whole province is a tirely supported by the ladies.

Traits of the Newspaper Boy.

The newspaper boy is fond of work—that is to say, he loves to sit and see it accumulate. He loves to contemplate work in the abstract. Its details are less interesting to him. The sound of the call bell is music to his ears. It never annoys him in the least.

The Smallest Yet.

Quality rather than quantity was the principle upon which a Washington bride planned her trousseau. The marriage—which could only be classed under the head of runaways—was undoubtedly the subject of much deep thought beforehand, inasmuch as the accessories of toilet to be carried upon the eventual trip were reduced to the minimum.

Limited Knowledge.

A woman in the Western part of New York state wants to have her pastor dismissed on the ground that he rides a bicycle and studied medicine in his earlier years, which suggests the story of the woman who wrote the following note to the teacher: "Please don't teach my Mary Jane any physiology. I don't want her to know about her innards."

He Denied the Charge.

The attorney had a very ignorant witness on the stand, and as is usual with that class, he insisted on telling his story over and over again. At last the attorney grew tired.

Sailors Fear Bridal Couples.

A gentleman who has recently returned from Europe tells of an old superstition in vogue among the more ignorant classes of seamen. They are of the opinion that the presence of a young couple on their bridal tour aboard ship portends a violent storm.

Artificial Stone Filters.

One of the most interesting points in connection with the new water works of Worms, Germany, is the fact that artificial porous stones are used for filtering the water. Tests showed that the number of bacteria in the water after filtration is about one twentieth of that before filtration.

Indications of Short Life.

The loss of the masticating teeth before the thirtieth year means a shortening of the life of the individual of from two to five years. To know the extent to which many of these teeth are lost, even before the fifteenth year, one has only to turn to the recently published reports of the examination of the teeth of children in the schools and orphan homes of London and elsewhere.

Waiting for the Dead.

The coronach, or mourning for the dead, is still heard in some parts of Scotland as well as of Ireland. It is a weird chant, cries of lamentation being mingled with remonstrances addressed to the departed for leaving his friends and relatives. In some remote country districts of both Scotland and Ireland professional "keeners"—that is, old women employed to sing praises of the dead—are still to be found, though their services are by no means so often called into requisition as they were half a century ago.

There Was a Sound of Beauty.

To justly describe the most brilliant of all brilliant events, the Columbian ball in Vicksburg, one's pen should be dipped in liquid gold and rainbow tints. The gayly decked ballroom, the soft strains of music, the kaleidoscopic blending of color in velvet, silk, satin and gauze, the gleam of jewels, the fairy fitting forms, the courtly cavaliers, all combined to make a scene like unto the night when "Belgium's capital had gathered then her beauty and her chivalry."

Of All Sorts and Conditions.

English papers report a phenomenal marriage which took place at South Shields. The bridegroom was six feet two inches tall; the bride three feet two and one-half inches. The three witnesses were a man without arms who signed the marriage contract with a pen the stock of which he held between his teeth, a woman who weighed 350 pounds and a man seven feet six inches tall.

Field-Crickets.

In Lisbon male field-crickets are sold in miniature cages by bird fanciers at the rate of a penny apiece. They are kept in stock by hundreds together in open tin chests, lined for the first three or four inches from the top with slips of tin, and are fed upon lettuce. The natives like to have a "grillo" chirping in the room, and make it a pet.