



PLUCKY LITTLE BIRD.

Golden-Crown Kinglet Makes a Fierce Attack on an Inoffensive Acadian Owl.

Bravery and bigness do not always go together, says Dr. Charles C. Abbott, in St. Nicholas. Those who are familiar with our doorway birds know how effectually the house-wren persecutes the prowling cat, and drives it away from the neighborhood of the bird's nest. Kingbirds drive off the crow, and even greatly annoy the fishhawk, and the hummingbirds are absolutely fearless at times, and successfully defend their nests if their antagonist is but a single bird of another species.

These instances refer to birds in spring and summer, when the nest



GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET.

and eggs or the young are the immediate object of a bird's solicitude. In winter we do not expect to witness such instances of courage on the part of the smaller of our birds. In fact, sparrows flee when a sparrow-hawk appears. But recently I saw a golden-crown kinglet question the right of an Acadian owl to take his ease in an evergreen. Never was there a more inoffensive bird than this little owl at the time. It was cuddled up in a heap and half asleep. But the kinglet found the bird, and immediately set up a shout, and darted into the tree, snapping its beak, and, I think, twitched the owl's feathers. At any rate there was no more sleep for the bird in the tree. But it was not moved to vacate at the mere bluster of a little kinglet. It sat still, slowly opening its beak now and then, and moved its head to and fro. This was kept up until the sharp chirping of the kinglet attracted other birds, and a more serious attack was made. The owl then took flight, and while the rejoicing was general, not one of the sparrows, nuthatches and chickadees made more clatter, for a brief moment, than the kinglet. There was a sequel to the incident. The little bird that started the affair did too much. It was overcome by excess of exertion, and was so limp and listless when I saw it last it seemed to me it was thinking whether it had not made a goose of itself.

A Terrible Threat.

Hired Girl—Now, you go away right this minute.

Tramp—Please mum—

Hired Girl—Go away, I tell you. Clear out, now, or I'll—I'll give you a piece of mince pie that the young missus made herself.—N. Y. Weekly.

COON OF HIGH DEGREE.

His Taste for Art Has Gone So Far as to Result in His Devouring Pictures.

His name is Rastus—which does not suggest aristocratic associations, artistic surroundings, and the hobnobbing with celebrities, by any means.

But this particular Rastus has all of these. He is a big, fat, sleek coon, the pet of Frederick Keppel, the print seller in Sixteenth street, New York, and his home is in a little court adjoining the shop, while the domain of his wanderings covers the entire space occupied by the stock of old engravings, etchings and prints in the several floors of the building.

Rastus disdains ordinary associations. His best friends, outside of Mr. Keppel, are Ernest Thompson Seton and Oliver Herford. Both these lovers of the four-footed tribe frequently visit Rastus and hold long and intimate conversations with his coonship. A habit that some of Rastus' friends have of carrying dainties for him in their pockets has induced in him certain pickpocket proclivities that astonish casual visitors to the establishment.

A few days ago one of these stooped to examine a print that was tacked on the wall in a position near the floor. In an instant Rastus slyly took a position behind the visitor, and his "hands" rapidly "went through" the latter's pockets with the skill of a professional follower of Fagin. But he soon discovered that the visitor's pockets contained only such articles as knife, coins and bills—absolutely useless and without value to a hungry coon.

Rastus has a fine "taste" for art. Indeed, it has gone so far at times as to result in his "devouring" prints left about in positions of insecurity.

Probably there never was a coon of more fastidious habits. In the little court where Rastus suns himself when the print shop is not inviting he has a large tub of water. When a visitor gives him a biscuit, Rastus invariably goes to the tub and carefully douses the food before eating it. His chief delight after that is to run quickly and wipe his paws on the unsuspecting one's cuffs.—N. Y. Times.

A MEXICAN SQUIRREL.

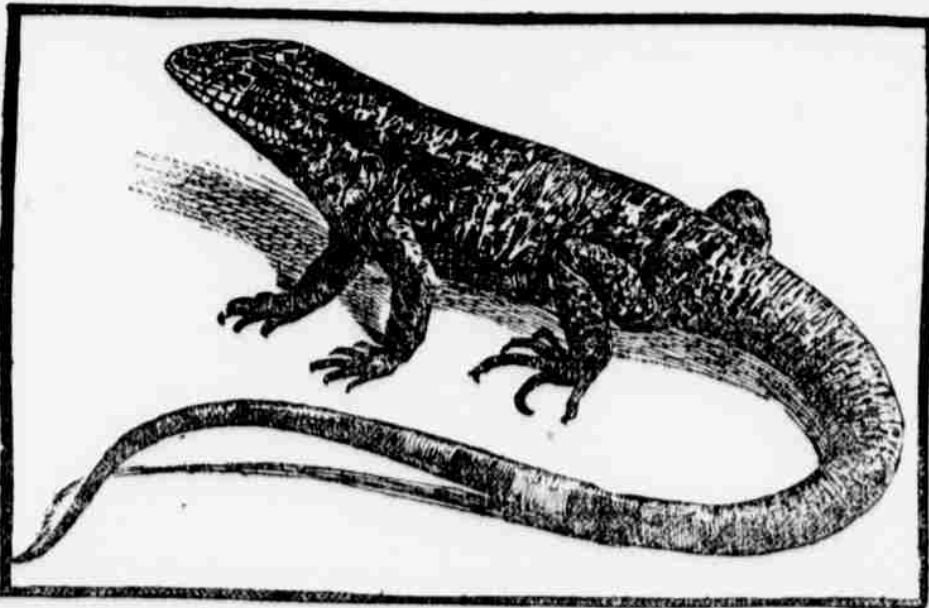
One of the Most Delightful Specimens of an Interesting Family of Bushy-Tail Animals.

Many people look on squirrels as eminently northern creatures, only native to the temperate forests, and bound to hoard up nuts for the snowy winter. But the fact is that squirrels are far more numerous and that there are a great many more species in the hot forests of the world than in the cold ones. The Indian jungles swarm with them, and so do those of the far east. On the fringe of the great forests of Central America there are many beautiful squirrels, but that shown is perhaps the prettiest of all, according to Country Life. The fur is a carnelian red on the head and end of the back, while the body and legs are a beautiful cool pearly gray. The ears are not so large as in our red squirrel, but the tail is quite as splendidly bushy. On the tail the two colors, pearly gray and carnelian red, are blended, making it most ornamental. It is very tame naturally, and grows quite domesticated, but is not quite so volatile as our red squirrel, which the Norsemen always regarded as the messenger and Mercury among the animals.

Two Views.

"She is what I call a breezy girl."
"Yes, I notice she has a good many airs."—Tammany Times.

GUIANA'S QUEER SENTINEL LIZARD.



ONE of the most curious reptiles in the world is the so-called sentinel lizard of Guiana, this name being given to it because it hisses loudly whenever it discovers a rattlesnake or a crocodile. The authorities of the Museum of Natural History in Paris were extremely delighted when they received word some time ago that M. Merwaert, a leading official in French Guiana, was sending them a fine specimen, and were correspondingly disappointed on opening the box to find the lizard dead.

This lizard was more than four feet in length. If it had reached the museum alive

it is thought likely that it would have survived for several years, as it could easily have been supplied with appropriate food, such as eggs, chopped meat and young birds.

The natives of Guiana say that the flesh of the sentinel lizard is very savory, and the few Europeans who have tasted it agree with them. Their eggs, which are oval in shape and quite large, are also regarded as a great delicacy.

The scientific name of this lizard is "Tupinambis nigropunctatus," and "Tejuga" or simply "Teju" is the native name for it.

Art in Domestic Architecture

In the elder days of Art, Builders wrought with greatest care Each minute and unseen part, For the Gods see everywhere.

Longfellow.

PLANS AND DESCRIPTION PREPARED ESPECIALLY FOR THIS PAPER

THIS building is planned to cost \$3,000. The plan has many excellent features. The foundation is built of rubble stone. The superstructure is sheathed on the exterior, and then covered with clap-

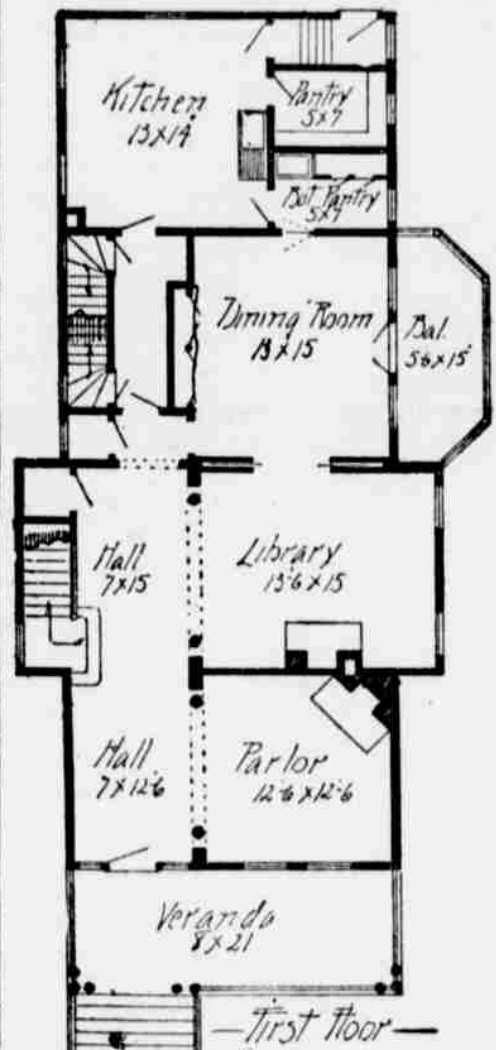


WELL-ARRANGED HOME.

boards and painted a rich red color, brilliant in tone, with ivory white trimmings.

The roof is covered with shingles and stained a moss green in harmony with the remainder of the color scheme.

Dimensions: Front, 28 feet; side, 57 feet, not including the veranda. Height of ceilings: Basement, 7 feet; first



PLAN OF FIRST FLOOR.

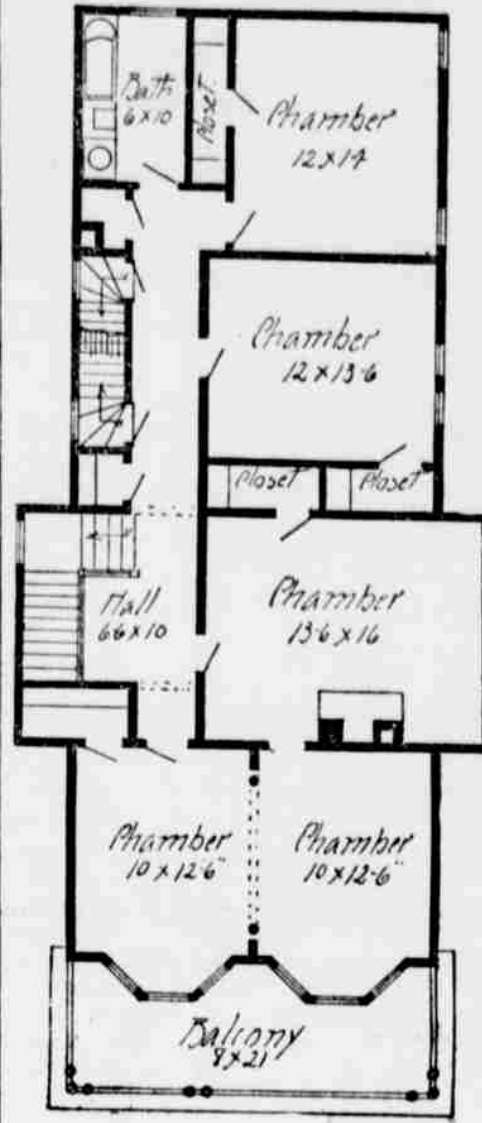
story 10 feet; second story, 9 feet; attic, 8 feet.

The interior arrangement is excellent and convenient, and is finished off in a handsome manner. The hall is

trimmed with cherry, and it contains an ornamental staircase turned out of cherry, with handsome newel posts, balusters and rails, and it is lighted effectively by delicate-tinted glass. The parlor is treated in ivory white and has an open fireplace, trimmed with tile-facings and hearth, and mantel treated in ivory white same as the trim.

The library is trimmed with cherry, and this room and parlor are separated from the halls by archways supported upon columns rising up and finishing in Ionic capitals at archways.

The fireplace in the library is trimmed with tiles and finished with a carved mantel. The dining-room is trimmed with oak. It is furnished with a paneled wainscoting, ceiling beams and buffet of handsome design built in the nook shown on plan. The center window is a French window and runs



PLAN OF SECOND FLOOR.

down to the floor opening onto the balcony at side.

The kitchen and pantries are trimmed and wainscoted with yellow pine are fitted up in the best possible manner with all the modern and necessary fixtures. The rear hall and toilet are conveniently arranged and fitted up.

The second floor contains five chambers, some of which are treated in cherry, while the remainder are treated in white. The bathroom is wainscoted and furnished with porcelain fixtures and exposed nickel-plated plumbing. The attic floor can be fitted up with chambers, storeroom, etc.

The basement floor is cemented and fitted up with furnace-room, coal rooms, laundry, fruit room and other necessary rooms.

GEO. A. W. KINTZ.

MUSIC AND ANIMALS.

Many Wild Beasts Are Susceptible to the Influence of Soft and Low Compositions.

The pleasing legend of Orpheus and the wild beasts has lately been put to the proof in Europe in a series of tests to determine whether music hath charms to soothe the savage breast. Not long since a concert was given at the poultry show at Posen. The fowls listened intently, and the only one which did not seem pleased was an old turkey cock, which gave every evidence of noisy disapproval, reminding the observers of certain musical critics. Herr Baler, the violinist, then made a series of experiments in the German zoological gardens with interesting results.

A puma was found to be peculiarly susceptible. As soon as the playing began he stretched himself and listened intently, giving every evidence of sensuous pleasure. This continued as long as the music was soft and low, but when the movement and tempo changed and the playing became loud and rapid he sprang to his feet, lashed his tail, and gave every evidence of high nervous excitement, as if he were a Frenchman listening to the "Marseillaise." Leopards showed complete indifference—as much so as fashionable people at the opera. The lions were nervous and apprehensive, but when the player

passed on they lay down and went to sleep. The lion cubs seemed to show a disposition to dance when the music was animated, but the older members of the family were evidently better pleased with allegro measures. Hyenas were badly frightened. This is not surprising, as the hyena is not aesthetic. The monkeys showed much curiosity, but only one of them displayed evidence of great pleasure. If opportunity had been offered he would have given up other business to attend the concert regularly, and, perhaps, would have been glad to try his own hand at the bow. Prairie wolves at first manifested great curiosity, but, having satisfied themselves as to where the sounds came from, they arranged themselves in a semicircle and listened attentively. When the music stopped they pawed the player and seemed to solicit the favor of an encore.

The tests are to be continued, with a view to determining if musical perception is a trait in all animals if they get the kind of music which suits them, or only a nervous manifestation in recognition of the unusual and incomprehensible.—N. Y. Times.

Hot Time All Around.

She—After you fired her heart, what then?

He—Her father came and fired me.—Yonkers Statesman.

SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

Lord Kinnaird, the English nobleman, is not only an acknowledged authority on football, but is an ordained minister of the established church.

The first step in the union of Methodists, north and south, has been taken in the building of a Methodist college in Oklahoma, in which both of these bodies unite.

State School Superintendent Nelson says there are 120,000 children out of the schools of Kansas, in spite of the fact that the state has a compulsory attendance school law.

Prof. William E. D. Scott, curator of ornithology at Princeton university, has been devoting considerable time of late to find out how various kinds of birds have acquired distinctive songs that characterize different species.

In a recent address Rev. Dr. Parkhurst, of New York, said: "One reason why the better element do not often win in city elections is that good people get tired of being good so much sooner than bad men tire of their iniquity."

Gardiner M. Lane, class of '81, has made a gift to the Harvard corporation that will enable the classical department to invite eminent European scholars to lecture at the university on subjects connected with Greek and Latin literature.

Rev. Edward Everett Hale, of Boston, was asked by a newspaper to write an article on how he keeps at work despite his age. He wrote the article and said it was because he had religious faith, and the article was rejected.

Cornell students themselves now seem to be determined to root out the evil of "cribbing," which has grown up at Cornell university. Three weeks ago President Schurman in his annual report called attention to this evil and much discussion has followed. As a result of this the students met to the number of 1,500 and formally announced their determination to reestablish on a firm base the honor system.

CANCELED HIS VOW.

How the "Yaller" Whiskered Man Was Induced to Take a Hand at Poker.

"No, gentlemen," replied the man with the "yaller" whiskers, as he was asked to take a hand in a game of poker, "I beg you to excuse me. I'm not against card-playing on principle, but five years ago I made a vow never to play again."

"For your mother's sake?" queried the glue factory traveler, relates the Denver News.

"Oh, no. My mother died many years ago. I was on a train one day, and we made up a game of poker. There were five of us, and I had never had such luck in my life. One of the players was from Montana, and he finally put up 200 acres of land against \$200 in cash."

"And you won?"

"He had a full house, and yet I blunted him on a pair of tens. It turned out that the land was a narrow strip of high mountain, and not worth a cent. It was an old mining claim, I believe."

"But where does the vow come in?"

"I will tell you. After holding that land for three years I sold it to a Chicago stone syndicate, and men were put to work quarrying stone. A blast started an avalanche, and not only ten workmen lost their lives, but a party of 25 emigrants were overwhelmed in the valley below. I was thus indirectly responsible for the death of 35 of my fellow creatures. Had I not won that land it would not have been sold for a quarry."

"Yes, we see," said the glue man. "The other fellow would probably have used it for a toboggan slide?"

"I believe that was his plan, sir."

"And if he had, the slide might have busted some day and 50 people been hurled into eternity."

"Do you think it possible?"

"Not only possible, but extremely probable. Yes, a hundred people might have been involved in the awful disaster. I figure it that you have saved the lives of about 50 people, and are entitled to great credit."

"Do you really assure me?"

"We all do."

"Then, gentlemen, I will cancel my vow and take a hand in."

At the end of an hour every man in the game against him was dead broke and cursing the winner's luck.

World's Tobacco Users.

According to recent statistics the average consumption of tobacco by each person in the various countries is as follows: Netherlands, 3,400 grams; United States, 2,110; Belgium, 1,552; Germany, 1,485; Australia, 1,400; Austria and Hungary, 1,350; Norway, 1,335; Denmark, 1,125; Canada, 1,050; Sweden, 940; France, 933; Russia, 916; Portugal, 850; England, 680; Italy, 635; Switzerland, 610, and Spain, 550. Since nearly everyone in Spain smokes, it may seem surprising that the consumption of tobacco in that country should be so much less than in the Netherlands, but the reason is said to be because Spaniards almost invariably smoke cigarettes, whereas the Dutch almost invariably smoke pipes.—N. Y. Herald.