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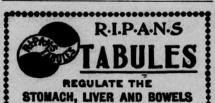
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FISHING FOR STURGEON. It Is Good, Hard Work to Pull One of

Them In. The fishermen along the river at Essex and Saybrook are now engaged in sturgeon fishing. Few are aware of the methods used to catch this monster of the waters, for a monster it surely is, often weighing 600 pounds or more. The sturgeon fisherman is compelled to use good judgment and master his prey when caught, for the fish are desperate as well as powerful. The net is of the same style as an ordinary fishing seine, the meshes being fourteen inches square of twenty-seven thread twine. This thread would not be sufficient to hold the fish when caught because of its great strength and shape, but no sooner is it caught in the seine than it becomes entangled in the loose twine and the work of landing him in \$4 FOR A YEAR, \$2 FOR SIX MONTHS the fishing boat begins. The fishermen know when the fish is in the net, for the seine corks begin to sink and dance on the water, as though electrified. Two fishermen in the boat approach this troubled spot, gradually haul in what is known as the cork line and the monster is raised till the lantern reveals its position. Then the hatchet is used on its head with repeated blows, after which the fish is allowed to remain submerged for a time until life is thought to be extinct. But the fishermen are often deceived, for the sturgeon may have been playing possum, as Mr. Daniels and Mate Brockway, of Hamburg, will testify. They recently had a midnight encounter with a 450-pound sturgeon, which, after being safely landed in the boat, came to life in good shape and proceeded to take charge not only of the boat, but of the crew in such a manner that the frightened fishermen started their boat for shore and final-

ly reached it, but neither was able to tell how, so excited were they. The fish lived two hours and wasted no time; it succeeded in breaking two of the boards and one oar, as well as tearing the sail which was stowed in the forward part of the boat. This fish was considered one of the most desperate kind of the sturgeon species, being known as the "bull nose," which does not often leave salt for fresh water. In gone-by shad fishing days when a sturgeon got in a seine with a shad it was always sure

to liberate the whole catch by tearing a large hole in what is called the "bust." These fish are always dreaded by the shad fishermen. Their time ier visiting these waters is from the middle of June to the first of September, sure it isn't a burglar.' 'Of course,' said

The True Story of an Affectionate and Faithful Dog. I wish to add to the many stories of the fidelity of dogs, an instance that oc-

HIS BROKEN HEART.

curred within my own knowledge and under my own eyes. In my childhood a young man visited my father with a very fine dog, one so highly trained as to seem possessed of

almost human intelligence. A friend, going on a hunting excursion, borrowed this dog for a few days, and during this time its master was seized with a sudden and violent illness, which ended his life in twenty-four hours. When the dog returned, therefore, its

owner was not only dead, but buried, The poor creature sniffed at its master's clothes and looked all over the house and the premises for him in the most THE CORN BELT OF AMERICA wistful and pathetic manner.

At last, by some instinct, or by the exquisite keenness of his scent, he next morning he took the coon dog and found out his master's grave and stretched himself upon it. There he stayed day and night, rarely quitting going all stages of jags. The scene was the spot except for an hour or so, when as would wander about restlessly and wistfully and then return to his station.

Finding that he would not stay anywhere else, we carried him food and a pan of water two or three times a day, a few weeks he died of a broken heart. We buried him at the foot of his master's grave, as was suitable in view of such tender and faithful affection.

If any dumb animal deserve immortality or be capable of enjoying it, surely that animal is the dog. M. W. E.

A Matter of Equity. She—I think it's absurd for a man to expect his wife to share his troubles. He-I don't know. He wouldn't have many if it wasn't for her.

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SHE MISUNDERSTOOD.

Miss Laborre Naturally Thought She Was Meant Herself.

"Miss Laborre," said Mr. Askam, after they had confidentially discussed a number of topics, "my object in calling upon you this evening is to consult "ou about a step I hope soon to take in my life. It is a step upward, and I regard it as the most momentous one I ever contemplated. In short, my dear Miss Laborre, I trust soon to be-to be married," says the Kansas City

"Indeed, Mr. Askam!" Miss Laborre aid, assuming an indifferent air, but blushing slightly, "and upon what do you wish to consult me?"

"Upon several subjects, my dear Miss Laborre," answered Mr. Askam, rising from his chair and seating himself beside her on the sofa. "First, I should like to know whether you consider it is possible for two people to live com-fortably on \$3,500 a year."

"Oh, yes, indeed, Mr. Askam," Miss Laborre replied, quickly. "If two people love each other that is more than enough.

"I am indeed delighted to hear you say so," said Mr. Askam fervently. Secondly, do you think that you—that your mother and you, after living here together so long, could bear to be separated?"

"It wouldn't be as though we really were separated, living in the same city, you know, Mr. Askam," returned Miss Laborre, thoughtfully. "Yes, I am sure neither of us would mind it so very much.

"That's a brave young lady," cordially responded Mr. Askam, patting the back of her hand affectionately, as it lay in her lap, "that's a brave girl. And, thirdly, do you think a man of 47. my age, Miss Laborre, too old to get married—especially if there is little, if any, discrepancy in the ages?"

"Oh, oh, you insulting thing!" ecreamed Miss Laborre, springing to her feet. "You know I am not 23."

"Certainly, my dear," responded the estonished Mr. Askam, mildly, "certainly, but your mother must be nearly as old as I am."

"You have been speaking of my mother?" demanded Miss Laborre, tragically.

"Of course," said Mr. Askam, looking bewildered, "I thought it only fair, as you are the bread winner, to consult you first. Why, who do you think I meant?'

HE HAD TO BE CAREFUL.

Or He Would Be Left Out in the Cold If He Forgot That Password. From the Washington Star: "What s the matter?" asked one of Mr. Vivvies' boon companions; "you haven't

taken the pledge, have you?" "No. But I'm not looking on the wine when it's red in the cup, just the same.

"Reformed, have you?"

"Yep. You've heard of a woman's marrying a man with the idea of getting him to stop drinking. It doesn't always work; but it did in my case. My wife is a stupendously clever woman." "Made you promise, did she?"

"She didn't have to. When I started

down town to-night she said: 'I've lost the latch-key, dear, but it won't make any difference. You ring the bell and I'll let you in.' I said, 'All right.' 'Only,' she said, 'we'd better agree on some password, so that when you ring I can look out of the window and make I; 'what'll the password be?' 'I have it,' she answered; 'it mustn't be too simple. You just say "irrepressible reprehensibility" and then I'll come down and let you in.' Gentlemen, if I can't say irrepressible reprehensibility when I get home I don't get in, and, moreover. I assume the chances of being taken for a housebreaker. I've simply got to be careful." And he went over and resolutely seated himself next to the ice water tank.

Their Last Drunk.

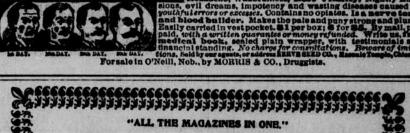
John Davis, one of the largest ciden makers in Indiana, recently killed thirteen coons under very peculiar circumstances. Mr. Davis' cider mill is built of wood and stands away from his house. He was awakened during the night by a noise in the mill and upon investigation found that thirteen coons were on the inside, drinking cider. He fastened the door and locked them in and went to bed. When he got up the several hands and began the killing. He found the coons drunk and undera most peculiar one. They had rolled the barrels over, which had been left open to allow the cider to work. They had then drank themselves full of hard cider.

Opinions on Trust.
"It is much harder to examine and judge than to take up opinions on trust; and therefore the far greatest part of the world borrow from others those which they entertain concerning all the affairs of life and death. Hence it proceeds that men are so unanimously eager in the pursuit of things, which far from having any inherent real good, are varnished o'er with a specious and deceitful gloss, and contain nothing answerable to their appearance. Hence it proceeds on the other hand, that, in those things which are called evils, there is nothing so hard and terrible as the general cry of the world threatens. Thus the multitude has ordained. But the greatest part of their ordinances are abrogated by the wise."-Bolingbroke,

Old Story with Variations. A silver watch which was dropped in a well in Belfast, Maine, twenty-five years ago, was recovered a day or two ago. Unlike most watches recovered under such circumstances, this one wasn't running just as if nothing had











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