

THANKSGIVING DAY



Hunting the Wild Turkey.

Scenes In The Virgin Forests of Arkansas.

TURKEYS ARE PLENTIFUL

The Story of the Turkey, and How the American Bird Became Famous.

It is an easy matter to go to market for your Thanksgiving turkey, but out West they do it differently. Down in the deep bottom land forests of Arkansas is the home of the wild turkey, and this fall the game has been so plentiful and so easy to get at that hardly a home in the States of Arkansas and Kansas will be without its turkey dinner on Thanksgiving Day. There was a time when the wild turkey made his home east of the Alleghanies, but the memory of living man runneth not to the time when they were plentiful there, for this shyest of all birds is absolutely incompatible with civilization, and he has retired year by year until now only the most secret places in the Alleghanies and the vast swamps of the Southern States give any hope for the persevering turkey hunter. The wonder is that the bird still exists at all. For ever since the white man came all manner of nefarious schemes have been concocted for his destruction.

Out in the wilds of Arkansas, where the railroads have just begun to penetrate, the wild turkeys have not yet learned that civilization has laid claim to this land, and this fall they often perch calmly on the branches of trees along the railway track. The train crews noticed this and engineer and firemen have a daily hunt for the game. They sit on their engine boxes with their shotguns in their hand while the train ambles along at the easy rate of twelve miles an hour. When they run into the turkey regions they fire at them, and if they kill any they stop the train, back up to the spot, and retrieve the game. The passengers enjoy the sport, and occasionally some who are going to or from a hunt join in it.

Some of the older sports men who were in this country when the Kansas Pacific Railway was built remember when passengers and train crews shot

game from the car windows on the Kansas plains, and this Arkansas diversion recalls it to their mind. The sport will not last long, however, as there is no wild game more wary than the wild turkeys. They will soon become acquainted with the dangers along the railroad, and then railroad-back to the steady pace it holds elsewhere.

Taking him by and large, an old turkey gobbler is the quickest, swiftest, shyest and most knowing animal with wings or without. He can run like a greyhound, smell like a deer, see like an eagle, and fly like a wild turkey. You may have spent two hours in crawling on your hands and knees over a mountain open or in moving with noiseless footsteps, each one of which is considered with careful deliberation, and a single, sudden turn of your head, snap of a twig, or gleam of sunshine on your gun will send a whole gang a mile away and up the mountain. Upward it always is. When a wild turkey does not like the looks of things he wants the rockiest and roughest summit of the highest headland of the topmost ridge of a whole range, and he generally gets it. If it is steep, he runs, and he can run up faster than you can fall down. If it is a gentle rise he thrashes the air with his mighty wings clear up obstructing tree tops, and then away he sails with the velocity that belongs to a twenty-pound feathered cannon ball.

Never for a moment are all of their guard. One, two or three of their tall necks are always stretched aloft, full of eyes and ears, in statuesque suspension. Now the old gobbler straightens up his head, poised four feet from the ground, trim, graceful, powerful, the sun glinting on the dark, iridescent feathers of his back and lower neck. Now you decide he is in range. Your 38-calibre bullet strikes his noble breast with a muffled thump, and the giant wings wildly beat down the dry grass while your magazine is emptied vainly at the dark forms shooting off toward the wooded mountain side.

He is a royal creature this wild turkey, and you may hope to see an old gobbler tip the scales at twenty or twenty-five pounds. Slung over your shoulder by the foot, his head dangles against your heels. He is a wild monarch, eloquent of the woods and mountains and their innermost secrets, fed only by the most delicate wild fruits and crystal spring water, formed for the highest beauty and strength known to American bird kind, and with a flesh more delicious than his stall-fed cousin, because of the gamy flavor imparted by the wild food. To a man who has killed and eaten a November wild gobbler, Thanksgiving Day has a meaning blank to other mortals.

An English writer has delved into the history of the turkey and this is the interesting story he tells: The time of the first appearance of the turkey in the eastern hemisphere

is doubtful. M. Brillat Savarin and other French writers attribute its introduction to the Jesuits of Paraguay, and the above-named learned gastronomer adduces in proof of the debt we owe the followers of Loyola, the fact that in many parts of France turkeys are called "Jesuits," by reason of the first brood having been reared at a large farm belonging to the brotherhood named Bourges. This statement is, however, decidedly at variance with another authenticated by Montcuq, who says that the first turkey ever served at table in France appeared at the nuptials of Charles IX. (A. D. 1570), who ate a wing of the fowl for his supper. But the probability is that the Spaniards introduced the turkey among us at a much earlier period, mention being made of it in Europe in the year 1524. The first turkeys came to Germany in 1534. Let the date, however, be what it might—whether the turkey followed in the train of Cortez or of Pizarro—to America we are indebted for it; and there, in its wild state, in some parts, it still ranges, its plumage, as in the case of the Honduras turkey (meleager oculata), growing more lustrous and magnificent as the family extends southward.

The males, usually termed "gobblers" and no doubt meriting the name, associate in parties of from ten to 100 to feed their food apart from the females, which either go about singly with their young or form troops with other hens and their families, sometimes to the number of seventy or eighty. These all avoid the old males, who attack and destroy the younger whenever they can by reiterated blows on the skull. But all parties travel in the same direction and on foot, unless the dog of a hunter or a river on their line of march compels them to take wing. When about to cross a river they select the highest eminence, that their flight may be more sure, and in such position they sometimes stay for a day or more, as if in consultation. The males on such occasions gobble obstreperously, strutting about with extraordinary importance, as if to animate their companions, and the females and young assume much of the pompous air of the males and spread their tails as they move silently around. Having mounted at length to the tops of the highest trees, the assembled multitude, at the signal note of their leader, wing their way to the opposite shore.

The old and fat birds, contrary to what might be expected, cross without difficulty, even when the river is a mile in width; but the wings of the young and meager, and, of course, those of the weak, frequently fall them before they have completed their passage, when in their drop and are forced to swim for their lives, which they do cleverly enough, spreading their tails for a support, closing their wings, stretching out their feet. All do not succeed in such attempts, and the weaker often perish. The wild turkeys feed on all sorts of berries, fruits and grasses; also beetles, tadpoles, young frogs and lizards

are occasionally found in their crops. When the turkeys have arrived at the land of abundance they disperse in flocks, devouring all the mast as they advance.

The beginning of March is the pairing time, for a short time previous to which the females separate from their mates and shun them, though the latter pertinaciously follow, gobbling loudly. The sexes roost apart, but at no great distances, so that when the female utters a call every male within hearing responds, rolling note after note in the rapid succession; not as when spreading the tail and strutting near the hen, but in a voice resembling that of the tame turkey when he hears any unusual or frequently repeated noise. Where the turkeys are numerous, the woods, from one to the other, sometimes for scores of miles, resound with this voice of their wooing, uttered respectively from their roosting places. This is continued for about an hour, and, on the rising of the sun, they silently descend from their perches, and the males begin to strut for the purpose of winning the admiration of their mates.

If the call be given from the ground the males in the vicinity fly toward the individual, and, whether they perceive her or not, erect and spread their tails, throw the head backward, distend the comb and wattle, strut pompously and rustle their wings and body feathers, at the same time ejecting a puff of air from the lungs. While thus occupied they occasionally halt to look out for the female and then resume their strutting and puffing, moving with as much rapidity as the nature of their gait will admit. During this performance the males often encounter each other and desperate battles ensue, when the conflict is only terminated by the flight or death of the vanquished. The usual fruits of such victories are reaped by the conqueror, who is followed by one or more females, which roost near him, if not upon the same tree, until they begin to lay, when their habits are altered with a view of saving their eggs, which the males will break, if he can get at them.

The New Flexible Jewelry. Fall Mall Gazette: Flexibility is the leading characteristic of all the newest jewelry, many of the diamond necklets being decorated with flexible ends, in the form of loops and tassels, carried out entirely in the same precious stones. A diamond corsage ornament has two flexible ends, each being a mass of tiny stones, a sort of diamond rain, drooping downwards from a scroll shaped top, and finished with two large pearl drops. Many large pearls appear, too, in a beautiful diamond necklace which is so contrived that it can be used when required in the form of a tiara, or even as an ornament for the bodice.

A Kentucky man has married the granddaughter of the girl who refused him.

The Origin of Thanksgiving.
The first recorded instance of anything in the nature of Thanksgiving in the history of our country is the following entry in an old bible belonging to one of the first pilgrims: "Sonne born to Susanna White, November 10th, 1620, at six o'clock morning. Next day we meet for prayer and thanksgiving." This, however, is not generally accepted as the first observance of that nature, since it hardly partook of the character of a general thanksgiving. But fifteen months after the pilgrims sailed from Holland they held a harvest festival which lasted a week. This is generally appointed as a day of Thanksgiving in New England, but it was not a day set

apart by the governor, nor was it attended by any religious observance. A few years later precisely the same thing occurred. Thereupon July 30, 1623, was appointed as a day of Thanksgiving, and before the second sunset a relief ship arrived. Fast days and Thanksgiving days came at irregular intervals for a number of years, the latter following some marked event of a beneficent nature, such as getting rid of Anne Hutchinson, whose preaching caused such a turmoil in New England, for the termination of King Philip's war and the close of the revolution and the triumph of independence in America. Then came the practice of the governor of each state naming a day for general thanksgiving. These at first were not

coincident, but the beautiful custom has prevailed for considerable time, and doubtless will prevail for ages to come, of the president appointing such a day, generally the last Thursday in November, to which the governor of each state assents by naming the same day. Thus there is one day each year when the forty-five states and the territories from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from British America to the Gulf return thanks to God for his manifold blessings and mercies.

Thanksgiving.
A king rode forth one summer's day
And all the peasants by the way
Said to themselves:

How great are we—
The king rides out that we may see.
A housewife with her busy broom
Brushed dust and crumbs from out her room:
A sparrow puffed himself arid said:
This dame was made to make me bread.
—Marco Morrow, in Woman's Land.

John Breidenthal declined with regret an invitation to join other bankers at a banquet in Wichita, Kan., and closed his telegram with the injunction: "I caution you not to permit overdrafts."

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When your appetite is fitful, your food does not taste good, Perina Tablets will invigorate you and regulate. When you are weak after illness, Perina Tablets are noted for their healthful Tonic Effect. When catarrh distresses you, Perina Tablets will help your system to rid itself of this disease.

Manlin Tablets are a delightful laxative. Strong cathartics weaken, and are followed by reaction. Manlin is mild, gently urging the liver to action, and will be found as safe as they are pleasant. By their use as directed, the habit of constipation is usually overcome. For children and invalids the treatment is safe and satisfactory. Any drug store can supply you. Get a box today.

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DO IT NOW, GOOD WATCHWORD

Habit of Procrastination Has Never Yet Failed to Bring Train of Evils in Its Wake.

"Sometime" is a useful word that is often overworked, remarks the Milwaukee Journal. One says, "Sometime" will do it, but the time never comes. Sometime is no time when a kind deed is to be done. Sometime is no time when a definite task is to be done. A thing put off beyond its rightful time encroaches on time allotted by right to other duties. One may think he is gaining time by postponing the duty of the hour. In fact, he is wasting time. "Tomorrow" and ever "tomorrow" has been the ruin of many. Do now the thing that should be done now. Have you had a quarrel, and are you ready for reconciliation? Do not postpone it. The other person may get hardened in his views and become unwilling to be reconciled. He may die and leave you to a lasting regret that you had not made friends. Would you help someone? Do not wait till help is past being help. Put off till "tomorrow" mending the fence, and your neighbor's cattle will have found the weak place and made havoc with your grain. Put off paying your insurance, and perhaps a fire will destroy all you have. Debts do not grow less by postponing payment. "Do it now" is a good watchword. Say the kind word, do the kind deed, perform the duty of the hour.

Tough Luck.
"Van Cush is an extremely unlucky chap."
"He isn't exactly considered so."
"I know, but you ought to hear him talk about his misfortunes. Six months ago he decided that he had made all the money he could possibly use, so he bought a farm, and retired. He started to sink an artesian well in order to insure a supply of pure water. And what did he do but strike oil? Now he's got to get back in harness again and make a whole lot of money that he doesn't need at all out of that oil well. Don't you pity him from the bottom of your heart?"

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If your scalp is irritated, itching and burning and your hair dry and falling out in handfuls try the following treatment: touch spots of dandruff and itching with Cuticura Ointment and follow with hot shampoo of Cuticura Soap. Absolutely nothing better. Free sample each by mail with Book. Address postcard, Cuticura, Dept. L, Boston. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

The steel mast of an Atlantic coast oil barge is used as a smokestack from the galley.

A full-grown elephant yields 120 pounds of ivory.

Kidney Disorder

(By DR. V. M. PIERCE.)

The most simple methods are usually the most effective ones when treating any disorder of the human system. The mere drinking a cup of hot water each morning, plenty of pure water all day, and a little Anurie before every meal has been found the most effective means of overcoming kidney trouble. Death would occur if the kidneys did not work day and night in separating poisons and uric acid from the blood. The danger signals are backache, depression, pains, heaviness, drowsiness, irritability, headaches, chilliness, rheumatic twinges, swollen joints or gout.

Since it is such a simple matter to stop into your favorite drug store and obtain Anurie, anyone who earnestly desires to regain health and new life will waste no time in beginning this treatment.

No Bungalow for Him. Retiring from active business, after years of shoving schooners over the bar, the wealthy Mr. Biers considered house plans.

"Here," said the architect, "is a handsome bungalow that would be just the thing for you."
"Bungalow?"
"Yes."
"Nothing by that name, if you please," said Mr. Biers.—Newark News.

OF INTEREST TO MOTHERS

The cost of food today is a serious matter to all of you. To cut down your food bills and at the same time improve the health of your family, serve them Skinner's Macaroni and Spaghetti two or three times per week. Children love it and thrive on it. It is the best possible food for adults. Write the Skinner Mfg. Co., Omaha, Neb., for beautiful cook book telling how to serve it in a hundred ways. It's free to every mother.—Adv.

Youth the Loser.

J. P. Morgan, the famous financier, was talking at a dinner in New York about a young banker who had failed. "It was his youth that made him fail," he said. "Youth is always failing—falling in business, falling in love. Remy de Gourmont tells us truly that in the game of life youth has all the trumps—all of them—but plays recklessly, and invariably loses."

The Result.

"The tall, handsome policeman yonder does not seem to be doing much."
"Indeed, he is. He is arresting attention."

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