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A FEW WORDS ABOUT FISH

THE UNITED STATES AHEAD AS TO ARTIFICIAL PRODUCTION.

An Expert Writes of the Finny Beauties. Pictures of the Walking Fish, the Climbing Fish and the Swallower—Fish Habits Described.

[Copyright by American Press Association.] The United States leads all other nations of the world in the art of the artificial propagation of fish.

In the great International Fishery exhibition, held at Berlin and London, the highest awards were bestowed upon America.



THE WALKING FISH. cases and upon the United States Fish commission for the valuable discoveries and progress they had made in this one of our most important economic industries.

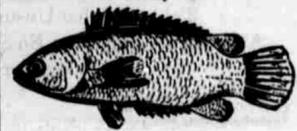
To fish culture both the national and state governments have given every encouragement by liberal appropriations for the establishment of hatcheries and investigation of the life and habits of fish. Private citizens have accepted the responsible positions of commissioners of fisheries without salary or any pecuniary reward for their services because of their great interest in the work.

At no time has there been greater interest manifested in this science than at present. As an example I will state that in three of our most important educational institutions there are at the present time hatching troughs in which the eggs of salmon and of trout are being hatched, and the development of the fish embryos is being observed by the students.

Fish have been known to live a considerable time out of water. They are not absolutely comfortable out of their own element, but they sometimes take it into their heads to live on the land for a short time.

The most famous land frequenting fish is the climbing perch of India, which not only walks out of the water, but climbs trees by means of its sharp spines. It has a peculiar breathing apparatus which enables it to extract oxygen from the water and store it up for use while on land.

A singular walking fish is the Periophthalmus of the tropical Pacific shores. At ebb tide he literally walks out of the water, and, erect on two legs, promenade the beach in search of stray crabs.



THE CLIMBING FISH. One of the greatest achievements of the United States Fish commission has been the stocking of the rivers of California with shad. Before this was done they were unknown on the Pacific coast, but are now cheap in the markets of San Francisco.

The striped bass has been successfully planted in the waters of the Pacific ocean, and last year fish were taken weighing from three to five pounds, the undoubted progeny of the young fish that were sent there by the fish commission.

American white fish eggs have been successfully hatched and distributed in the waters of Australia and New Zealand.

One of the most interesting experiments now being tried is the effort to stock American waters with English turbot and sole. I have received through the courtesy of Mr. T. J. Moore, of the Derby museum, Liverpool, during the past five years, some fifteen shipments of live soles and turbot. The first four shipments were distributed by me in the vicinity of Sandy Hook.

The others were taken to the Wood's Holl hatching station of the United States Fish commission. These fish are growing nicely.

Most fish are not particular as to what they eat when hungry. I have seen a half pound trout swallow one weighing a quarter of a pound, and I have found in the



THE SWALLOWER. stomach of a codfish weighing eight pounds a block of wood as large as my hand. There was once found in the stomach of a codfish taken at Gloucester a pack of cards. I found one day in the stomach of a striped bass weighing twelve pounds another bass of four pounds weight, and in the same fish, nine menhaden and a few other small fish.

While on the subject of the feeding habits of fish I would mention a fish known as the black swallower, scientifically called Chiasmodon Niger, a fish that can perform the seemingly impossible feat of swallowing another fish from eight to twelve times larger than itself. I quote the following description of this greatest of all swallowers: "It has an elongated body of nearly uniform thickness, but slightly tapering to the tail. The skin is naked or destitute of scales, the head sub-conic and narrowed forward. The mouth is deeply cleft, extending behind the eyes, and armed with long, pointed, and in part movable teeth. There are two dorsal fins, the first having eleven slender spines. Such is its appearance with an empty stomach. It seizes a fish many times its own size by the tail, and gradually climbs over it with its jaws, first using one and then the other. As the fish is taken into the stomach its integuments stretch out, and at last the entire fish is passed through the mouth and into the stomach, and the distended stomach appears as a great bag stretching out far backward and forward, over which is the swallower, with the ventricles dislocated and far away from their normal place. But such rapacity is some time more than the captor itself can stand. At length decomposition sets in, the swallowed is forced belly upward and the imprisoned gas, as in a balloon, takes it upward from the depth to the surface of the ocean." EUGENE J. BLACKFORD.

MORMONS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

They Have a Regularly Constituted Missionary Band in That State.

That those people who imagine that adverse legislation has discouraged the Mormons are mistaken is shown by the investigations of a reporter in Pennsylvania.

It was in December of last winter that he started out to run down a rumor that missionaries of the "Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints" were proselyting in some of the back counties of the state. After laboriously tracing them in the mountain districts and around about for more than a hundred miles he found two of them in Buck valley, Fulton county, Pa. He had great difficulty in gaining their confidence, but they made last some strange statements to him. He asked them if they preached polygamy.

"No," one of them answered. "Not now; we can't do so because of the law that is crushing us."

"But can't you preach?" was asked.

"Oh, no; we dare not."

In a nearby community they had declared that they had abandoned polygamy because they had decided that it was wrong.

A pamphlet which they gave him was entitled "True Versus False Religion," and purported to be a dialogue between a "Mormon elder, a parson and a traveler." It was made up of twenty-seven pages, and among other things contained this conversation:

Chorus—How many wives had he? [Brighton Young.]

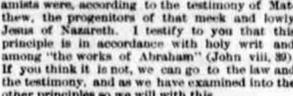
M.—Enough to keep him from other men's wives, and I would to God that the same might be said of all those who raise such a cry against the Latter Day Saints.

T.—But you do not believe in polygamy? M.—We believe in the twelve apostles of the New Testament, where nothing that works an abomination shall enter (Rev. xx); also by David, a man after God's own heart, who received many wives from him (II Sam. xii, 7, 8); and also of Solomon, whom God blessed with more wisdom than any other man; and by the way, I may as well remind you of the fact that all of these polygamists were, according to the testimony of Matthew, the progenitors of that meek and lowly Jesus of Nazareth. I testify to you that this principle is in accordance with holy writ and among "the works of Abraham" (John viii, 39). If you think it is not, we can go to the law and the testimony, and as we have examined into the other principles so we will with this.

The names of the missionaries were Hyram Brown and John A. West, and they told the reporter that there were 500 of them at work all over the world just as they were. They go by twos, wear rough clothing and live very frugally, traveling "as nearly as the apostles did as possible."

There are eight of these missionaries at work in the Pennsylvania conference, and they have found many followers. Among these latter were Stephen McFarren and Samuel Misner, of Quincy, Franklin county, McFarren and Misner, after being converted to Mormonism, were persuaded to move with their families to Utah by the missionaries, who held out alluring promises of the fine country and certain fortunes awaiting them in the west.

Finally they sold their farms, and with the money thus obtained they went to Utah. They have since written to their townspeople that they are penniless and in extreme want. They are even in danger of



MAP OF MORMON OPERATIONS IN PENNSYLVANIA. twelve polygamist children whose names are to be found over the twelve yearly gates of the New Jerusalem, where nothing that works an abomination shall enter (Rev. xx); also by David, a man after God's own heart, who received many wives from him (II Sam. xii, 7, 8); and also of Solomon, whom God blessed with more wisdom than any other man; and by the way, I may as well remind you of the fact that all of these polygamists were, according to the testimony of Matthew, the progenitors of that meek and lowly Jesus of Nazareth. I testify to you that this principle is in accordance with holy writ and among "the works of Abraham" (John viii, 39). If you think it is not, we can go to the law and the testimony, and as we have examined into the other principles so we will with this.

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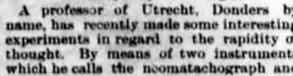


HYRAM BROWN AND JOHN A. WEST. starvation, and their friends in the east are talking of making up a purse to bring them back. It is probable that should a Mormon missionary visit Quincy now he would be hand painted with tar and feathers and run out of town.

The cuts accompanying this article are reproduced from The Philadelphia Press.

The Rapidity of Thought. A professor of Utrecht, Donders by name, has recently made some interesting experiments in regard to the rapidity of thought. By means of two instruments which he calls the neomachograph and the neornachometer he promises some important and interesting results. His experiments up to date show that it takes the brain .007 of a second to elaborate a single idea. Writing in regard to this Donders says: "Doubtless the time required for the brain to act is not the same in all individuals. I believe, however, that these instruments may be perfected until we will be able to determine the mental caliber of our friends without our friends' knowing that we are testing their aptness." The professor further says: "For an eye to receive an impression requires .077 of a second, and for the ear to appreciate a sound .149 of a second is all that is necessary; which, however, shows that the eye acts with nearly double the rapidity of the ear."

Father Ignatius. There has appeared in America a man dressed in the costume of a monk, with shaven head, sandaled feet and long dark robe and cowl. He is Father Ignatius, an English missionary, who has revived in the Church of England the order of St. Benedict. With two companions he is visiting America, preaching the gospel and collecting money for the abbey at Llanthony, Wales. He is an eloquent speaker, with a wonderful magnetic control over his audiences. He recently preached in New York at a public hall, the seats being sold as they would be for a theatrical performance. He announced that he hoped to start a mission in New York next fall. He brought with him no credentials to Bishop Potter, and absolutely refused to give the details of his plans.



FATHER IGNATIUS. There has appeared in America a man dressed in the costume of a monk, with shaven head, sandaled feet and long dark robe and cowl. He is Father Ignatius, an English missionary, who has revived in the Church of England the order of St. Benedict. With two companions he is visiting America, preaching the gospel and collecting money for the abbey at Llanthony, Wales. He is an eloquent speaker, with a wonderful magnetic control over his audiences. He recently preached in New York at a public hall, the seats being sold as they would be for a theatrical performance. He announced that he hoped to start a mission in New York next fall. He brought with him no credentials to Bishop Potter, and absolutely refused to give the details of his plans.

THE GENTLER SEX.

Christine Nilsson recently attended a soiree in Paris attired in a dress of moire antique of the new tomato red, relieved with sashes in very pale blue and yellow.

Miss Blanche Willis Howard, author of "Guena" and "One Summer," lives in Stuttgart, and receives and chaperones young ladies studying music, languages and the like.

Miss Juliet Corson is now the professor of cooking and household economy in Rutgers female college and her lectures are said to be very popular among the students.

Mrs. Martha Lumpkin, of Upson county, Ga., is in her ninety-eighth year and enjoys good health. When ninety-five years of age she knit sixty-five pairs of socks during the year.

Annie Louise Cary-Raymond spends her leisure time during summer vacation at the seashore in knitting warm shawls for the poor old women who are on her charity visiting list.

Mrs. George Armour, one of the pretty women of Chicago, is a brunette of less than medium height, with soft, curling dark hair and dark eyes. Her manner is simple and unassuming and her disposition is retiring.

Miss M. A. Booth, of Longmeadow, Mass., is a fellow of the Royal Microscopical Society of England, and is to edit the department of microscopy in a new monthly journal, called The Observer, devoted to natural history and science.

Miss Brackett, the writer and teacher, has had a right hand side saddle made and rides on either side of her horse indifferently. She was moved to this by the conviction that constant riding on the left side was injurious to both rider and horse.

Sarah Bernhardt says that all her illnesses come from getting angry. Some injustice, some stupidity or ingratitude on the part of those by whom she is surrounded throws her into a violent fit of anger, for which she has to pay by a sickness of a few days.

SOME THINGS WORTH KNOWING. Soak machine oil stains in cold water before washing.

Glass fruit jars may well be utilized as tea and coffee receptacles.

Leather chair seats may be revived by rubbing with egg white, well beaten.

Wash white paint with whiting and water, which is not so trying to the hands as ammonia.

No matter how sharp a knife may be, cutting bread with it or dipping it in hot fat will dull the edge.

A saturated solution made by dissolving alum in boiling water will keep ants out of closets if used frequently.

After taking cake from the oven let it remain in the pan about five minutes; it will then come out easily without breaking.

Discolored rattan chairs are made pretty by a coating of black or golden brown paint and finished with a handsome cushion.

Ready made clothing, whether outer or inner garments, should have all the buttons sewed on more securely before they are worn.

If one wishes to cool a hot dish in a hurry it will be found that if the dish be placed in a vessel full of cold, salty water it will cool far more rapidly than if it stood in water free from salt.—New York Telegram.

IDEAS FOR DRESS. Black silks are preferred in subdued luster.

Round waists are still in favor, with ribbon belts fastened with a large rosette.

Basques are made longer than before, and the double breasted style is almost universal.

Sleeves may be covered with passementerie, showing that they are different from the bodice.

All the new colors are in the range of violet or purple, a color that is constantly growing in favor.

Printed flannel, mousseline de laine and stamped crepon are new materials for negliges and tea gowns.

Perhaps the most novel of all trimmings are the wide insertions without points laid across the front of skirts.

A surprise blouse with wide sleeves, a Chinese petticoat and Turkish slippers is one modiste's idea of a novel tea toilet.

Black brocades in small, set patterns are always in demand for entire dresses which are made up plainly for house wear.

Poult de soie, the new high luster gros grain, is shown in plain goods and in brocades for combination with wool or silk.—Somerville Journal.

CRISP CONDENSATIONS. The average height of the clouds from the earth is about one mile.

A Milan newspaper is publishing the Bible in 210 half penny parts of eight pages each.

In the library at the British museum are over thirty-two miles of shelves filled with books.

There are now on the rolls the names of 10,567 pensioners on account of the war of 1812, which ended seventy-five years ago.

It is said that 80,000 strangers remain over in New York every night, furnishing plenty of business for the 125 hotels in the city.

The dolphin and bonito are thought to be the fastest fishes, and although their speed is not known they are fully capable of twenty miles an hour.

The normal velocity of the carrier pigeon in calm weather is about 1,210 yards a minute. With a strong wind in the direction of flight they have reached 1,980 yards a minute.

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