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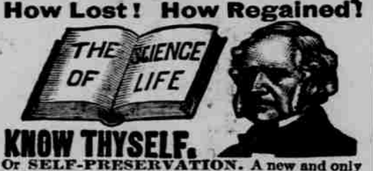

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GIRAFFES IN EUROPE.

THE DIFFICULTY OF OBTAINING THEM FOR EXHIBITION.

Julius Cæsar Was the First to Import Them for the Amusement and Entertainment of the Roman Populace. England Saw Several in 1836.

The first giraffe seen in Europe since the tertiary epoch was obtained from Alexandria by Julius Cæsar and exhibited at the Circensiangames to crowds who expected from its name, "camelopard," to find in it a combination the size of a camel and the ferocity of a panther. Pliny, who described it, echoed the public disappointment. "It was as quiet," he wrote, "as a sheep."

The trade probably reached its maximum after it became the fashion to exhibit combats of wild beasts at Rome, yet even then giraffes seem to have been scarce in the popular shows, though Pompey could exhibit 500 lions at a time, and the Emperor Titus, at the dedication of his new theater, caused the slaughter of 5,000 wild beasts. Either the number of wild animals in the provinces must have been beyond anything since known, or the Roman governors must have used their despotic powers freely to oblige their friends.

Despots are the best collectors, and from the fall of the Roman empire till the arrival of those placed in the zoological gardens in 1836 the rare appearances of the giraffe in Europe were in each case due to the munificence of eastern sultans and pashas. The prince of Damascus gave one to the Emperor Frederick II in 1215, and the soldan of Egypt presented another to Lorenzo the Magnificent, which became the pet of Florence, and used to be allowed to walk in the streets and take the presents of fruit and cakes extended to it from the balconies. From this time the giraffe was not seen in Europe until in 1827 the pasha of Egypt sent four to Constantinople, Venice, England and France respectively.

The giraffe sent to England was in bad health and soon died; but the Parisians went wild over the pasha's present. It had spent the winter at Marseilles, and throve there on the milk of the cows which the pasha had sent over for its use from Egypt. The prefect of Marseilles had the arms of France embroidered on its body cloth, and it entered Paris escorted by a Darfour negro, Hassan, an Arab; a Marseilles groom, a mulatto interpreter, the prefect of Marseilles himself and a professor from the "Jardin des Plantes," while troops kept back the crowd. Thousands came every day to see it, and men and women wore gloves, gowns and waistcoats of the color of its spots.

But the successful expenditure by which, in 1836, M. Thibaut procured a stock of giraffes for the Zoological society owed nothing to the patronage of the pasha of Egypt beyond permission to enter the Soudan. The caravan left the Nile near Dongola, and thence passed on to the desert of Kordofan. There M. Thibaut engaged the services of the Arab sword hunters, whose skill and courage were of such service to Sir Samuel Baker in his expedition thirty years later to the sources of the Nile tributaries, and in two days they sighted the giraffes.

A female with a fawn was first pursued by the Arabs, who killed the animal with their swords, and next day tracked and caught the fawn in the thorny mimosa scrub. For four days the young giraffe was secured by a cord, the end of which was held by one of the Arabs; at the end of that time it was perfectly tame, and trotted after the caravan with the female camels which had been brought to supply it with milk. The Arabs were excellent nurses, and taught the young creature to drink milk by putting their fingers into its mouth and so inducing it to suck.

Four others which M. Thibant caught died in the cold weather in the desert. But he replaced three of these and brought four, including the first taken, down the Nile to Alexandria, and then by ship to Malta. "Providence alone," he wrote, "enabled me to surmount these difficulties." From Malta they were brought to London and safely lodged in the Zoological gardens in the summer of 1836. The largest was then about eleven feet high, the height of an adult male being twelve feet at the shoulders and eighteen feet at the head. For many years, as we have said, the giraffes throve and multiplied. They readily took to European food, and ate hay and fresh grass from the tall racks with which their stables were fitted.

Onions and sugar were their favorite delicacies, and in search of sugar they would follow their keepers and slip their long prehensile tongues into his hands or pockets. But they always retained a liking for eating flowers, a reminiscence perhaps of the days when their parents feasted on mimosa blossoms in the desert; some time ago one was seen to stretch its neck over the railings and to delicately nip off an artificial rose in a young lady's hat. They were most affectionate creatures, and, as M. Thibaut noticed when in charge of them in upper Egypt, would shed tears if they missed their companions or their usual attendants.

But the development of the lachrymal ducts, which enable the giraffe to express its emotions in this very human fashion, is less obvious than the wonderful size and beauty of the eyes themselves, which are far larger than those of any other quadruped. While the mahdi's power remains unbroken at Khartoum, there is little probability that the Soudan traders will be able to supply any giraffes to occupy the empty house in Regent's park.—London Spectator.

Streets for the Florist.

In Hartford there is a succession of streets named as follows: Edward, Smith, Grand, Flower, Garden. Edward Smith ought certainly to have a grand flower garden to occupy so many streets. —Meehan's Monthly.

A Congressman's Great Speech.

The other day I was listening to a congressman relating to a small circle his experience at a recent convention. I will make a secret of his name, as I propose to live long and uninterruptedly in the land which the Lord elected, and in no wise crave to be cut off in the blushing morning of my days. The fact is, this statesman is a very broad, athletic one, of a shifty and uncertain temper.

"Yez should have heard me speech," he said. "It was a lulu. And I paid me respects to Congresh, too, me boy. I toold 'em the way matters had been mishmanaged we wouldn't have the money to meet the expinses of the prisint physical year. Thin I bore down on the hypnotizin prachticed in this house."

"The hypnotism?" queried a listener.

"Yis, the hypnotizin. The appintmint of all thim sons and ree-latives of congreshmin to loocrative stipinds. Here's the b'ys of three congreshmin on the page's roll naw, be hivins, earnin their seventy-five dollars a month the year 'round and them b'ys, mind yez, only nine and tin years old, and the legs of thim no bigger than sphindles. I should say it was hypnotizm.

"And thin," continued the congressman, "whin our man wint through all right I jumped up and moved to make his nomenation ceremonious, and thin the foon began."

"Unanimous, you mean," corrected an auditor.

"Well, phwativer it is, I done it, but they voted it down. All the same he's nomenated, which is what we were after."—Washington Cor. Kansas City Times.

Rainmaking Bombs.

A company engaged in the manufacture of explosives in this city has for sale now small bombs about the size of frankfurter sausages, with which it is said the farmer can bring down small showers of rain whenever he sees clouds over his land.

The constituents of one bomb are divided into two parts, liquid and solid, which are both separately nonexplosive. These can be kept separate until the time comes to use them, when they are mixed.

The solid part is about an inch in diameter and eight inches in length, and is wrapped in cotton. These bombs are placed in grooved tin boxes, each holding ten. A small tin measure, containing the liquid part, accompanies each box. It is graduated to show the quantity needed to saturate the bomb to the exploding point.

Five or fifty bombs may be used, according to the amount of rain needed or the detonation required. How the farmer is to know how much detonation is needed is a dubious matter. The bombs are tied in a bundle, a time fuse is attached and the whole lot discharged from a mortar and at the passing cloud.

In hilly countries clouds often pass over the valleys and discharge their contents on the barren mountain sides. In such regions, it is said, the bombs will be particularly useful.—New York World.

A City Marshal Abroad.

One of the city marshals who took a vacation recently and went to France found what a big man a marshal over there is and how much a marshal's badge amounts to. He started to go to several places of public interest in Paris at an hour when they were not open to the public. At the entrance he was stopped and told that the places were closed. He said that he was an American and had only a short time to stay in Paris, and that if he could not get in then it would be too late. That made no difference until he happened to put his hand in his trousers pocket for some change with which to try to bribe the attendant. His coat was unbuttoned, and his arm pulling back the lapel showed his big city marshal's badge in blue, gold and gilt, with the word "Marshal" on it big enough to be read ten feet away. As soon as the Frenchman saw the word marshal he became obsequious. The American marshal, as the city marshal became known, was shown around with a great deal of consideration, and the Frenchman declined to accept a fee.—New York Sun.

She Appealed to His Patriotism.

A friend of mine has a "polly" that is very talkative. Sunday he put the bird on the parlor window sill. Polly pretty soon caught sight of a policeman who was just passing by, who was also a member of the A. O. H., and shouted at him, "What a hat!" The policeman turned around, and seeing no one near, turned to go away. No sooner had he turned his back than Polly again shouted at him. This time Polly was caught. The policeman drew his club, and shaking it at Polly, said: "It's you is it? It's a good thing you're a polly, for if it wasn't for your color I'd shoot ye."—New York Recorder.

A Long Span of Wire.

It is claimed that the longest span of telephone wire is across the Ohio river, between Portsmouth, O., and South Portsmouth, Ky. The wires at this point span the river from a pole on the Ohio side, measuring 102 feet above ground, to the Kentucky hills on the opposite side, the distance being 3,773 feet between poles. The wire is made of steel, and its size is No. 12 gauge.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Carlyle Would Talk.

Professor Blackie has said of Carlyle: "I admired his genius. But how he would talk—talk—talk, and give nobody a chance to put in a word! One night I actually shook him. His wife had been trying all the evening to say something. But there was not the smallest chance. I took hold of him, and shook him, saying, 'Let your wife speak, you monster!' But it was of no use."

The All-important Organ.

A man feels pretty badly scared when his heart is in his throat, but he feels a great deal more scared when his stomach is there. That is one of the signs of dyspepsia.—Atchison Globe.

Digging Greens.

It is time to pick greens, or, rather, dig greens. Traveling the rural roads in Connecticut just now, especially in the neigborhood of cities, one sees children and women on the green lots by the roadside digging in the ground just as fast as they can. Each one carries a willow arm basket or tin pail, and a short bladed case knife. The little squads chatter and laugh and talk gossip, and now and then one trills the refrain of a popular song. They are not skylarking or merrymaking; they are digging greens—red and yellow dock, dandelions, burdock and plantain—for home consumption.

Everybody wants greens now, and trade in them is very lively. In a few weeks the garden greens—cultivated dandelions or spinach—will be ready to market, and then the popular demand for wild greens will cease. Most of the will greens gathered by Connecticut women and children are dandelions and dock, but some of the bolder ones, nimble footed maidens, put on rubber boots and slouch hats, penetrate into the tangled swamps, leaping from one quaking tussock to another, and harvest a bushel of wet and shining cowslips a day. About decayed old stumps in forest dales skoke thrives, and they pluck it in handfuls.

At the beginning of the season dandelion greens are worth forty or fifty cents a peck in the market, and the retail dealers sell them for fifty or sixty cents; later the price runs down to twenty-five cents a peck.—Cor. New York Sun.

Halibut in Plenty.

The fishing schooner Surprise, Captain James Bell commanding, which sailed from Astoria in November for the purpose of prospecting the coast of Alaska and the Alexander archipelago in hopes of finding banks where halibut could be taken during the winter, returned to Astoria Saturday. She cruised around till April, visiting every point where there was a prospect of finding halibut and setting trawls in many places without success until on the 8th of April, after rounding Cape Chacon, on Prince Edward island, the most southwesterly point of Alaska, the first run of halibut was encountered.

The fish were so plentiful and easily caught that Captain Bell, foreseeing his supply of ice was to run short, hove away to the northeast and headed up Frederick's sound for the Lacont glacier, which was reached after a two days' run, and on the 12th, with the hold full of ice, sail was made, and the 14th found the Surprise again off Cape Chacon, standing off and on, with set lines and trawls out, and the sea fairly alive with halibut. Some idea can be formed as to how plentiful the fish were from the fact that in two days Captain Bell, his two sons and an Indian caught, cleaned and packed in the ice ten and a half tons of halibut.—Portland Oregonian.

Statue of Columbus for Santo Domingo.

The Ames Manufacturing company has received the contract for a large bronze statue of Christopher Columbus to be erected at ancient Isabella, on the island of Santo Domingo, where Columbus made his first settlement. The idea was conceived by Thomas H. Cummins, of Boston, and has been carried through a Catholic newspaper in that city. The statue was made from designs of R. Andrew of the State Normal Art school, and the model was prepared by Alois Buyens, of Ghent. The statue represents Columbus standing with the left hand extended upward in thanksgiving while the right points to the first settlement in the New World on a sphere below.

The figure is 8 feet and 2 inches high and will be mounted on a pyramid of coral and limestone 12 feet high, which will be crowned with a capstone of dressed granite. The people in charge of the monument have been given the land necessary for the foundation of the monument, and the republic of Santo Domingo has agreed fo allow the importation of the statue and the foundation free of duty and to care for the memorial as public property.—Cor. Springfield Republican.

A Relic Found in a River.

While Edgar Bates, a geologist, of Angola, was prospecting in Jackson county, Mich., he discovered in a stream a peculiarly marked stone, rudely cut by a blunt instrument. With the aid of a microscope he was able to decipher an inscription running to this effect: "Samuel Bernet: I was taken by the Indians near Sandusky, and I expect never to reach that place. If my friends— I am to be burned. April 16, 1809." The stone on which this was engraved was a peculiar kind of slate, of which none exists in Michigan, and Mr. Bates is confident that the relic is genuine and of high value.—Philadelphia Ledger.

A Reform in Words.

An important reform movement is begun by the Rochester (N. Y.) Post-Express. In the matter of the typewriter, so inconveniently double in its meaning, our contemporary suggests remedies for both doubt and inconvenience:

For "typewriting" say "typing."
For "typewriter" (the machine) say "typer."
For "typewriter" (the operator) say "typist."
For "typewritten" say "typed."
For "to typewrite" say "to type."

The United States senate has requested the secretary of agriculture to obtain information concerning the use of electricity as a motive power to drive farm machinery and implements, and also on the propagation and growth of plants in foreign countries.

No wonder the young man's fancy now lightly turns to thoughts of love. The girl who a month ago could eat half a dollar's worth of oysters, is now satisfied with a ten cent plate of ice cream

Cattle in Scotland are to be killed by electricity, if it can be determined that their meat will suffer no taint therefrom.

Every Month
many women suffer from Excessive or Scant Menstruation; they don't know who to confide in to get proper advice. Don't confide in anybody but try
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Female Regulator
a Specific for PAINFUL, PROFUSE, SCANTY, SUPPRESSED and IRREGULAR MENSTRUATION.
Book to "WOMAN" mailed free.
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CATHOLIC.—St. Paul's Church, ak. between Fifth and Sixth. Father Carney, Pastor Services: Mass at 8 and 10:30 A. M. Sunday School at 2:30, with benediction.

CHRISTIAN.—Corner Locust and Eighth Sts. Services morning and evening. Elder A. Galloway pastor. Sunday School 10 A. M.

EPISCOPAL.—St. Luke's Church, corner Third and Vine. Rev. H B. Burgess, pastor. Services: 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday School at 2:30 P. M.

GERMAN METHODIST.—Corner Sixth St. and Granite. Rev. Hirt. Pastor. Services: 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Sunday School 10:30 A. M.

PRESBYTERIAN.—Services in new church, corner Sixth and Granite sts. Rev. J. T. Baird pastor. Sunday-school at 9:30; Preaching at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.
The Y. P. S. C. E of this church meets every Sabbath evening at 7:15 in the basement of the church. All are invited to attend these meetings.

FIRST METHODIST.—Sixth St., betwen Main and Pearl, Rev. L. F. Britt, D. D. pastor Services: 11 A. M., 8:00 P. M. Sunday School 9:30 A. M. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening.

GERMAN PRESBYTERIAN.—Corner Main and Ninth. Rev. Witte, pastor. Services usual hours. Sunday School 9:30 A. M.

SWEEDISH CONGREGATIONAL.—Granite, between Fifth and Sixth.

COLORED BAPTIST.—Mt. Olive, Oak, between Tenth and Eleventh, Rev. A. Boswell, pastor. Services 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION—Rooms in Waterman block, Main street. Gospel meeting, for men only, every Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Rooms open week days from 8:30 a. m., to 9:30 p. m.

SOUTH PARK TABERNACLE.—Rev. J. M. Wood, Pastor. Services: Sunday School 10 a. m.; Preaching, 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Prayer meeting Tuesday night; choir practice Friday night. All are welcome.