

THE SOUTHERN CROSS.

A Wonderful Constellation of Stars Visible Only South of the Line of the Equator.

A halo of romance, says Miss Mary Proctor, in St. Nicholas, has woven itself about the stars of the southern cross...

The longer bar of the cross points nearly to the southern pole, the situation of which in the heavens is not marked by any brilliant star...

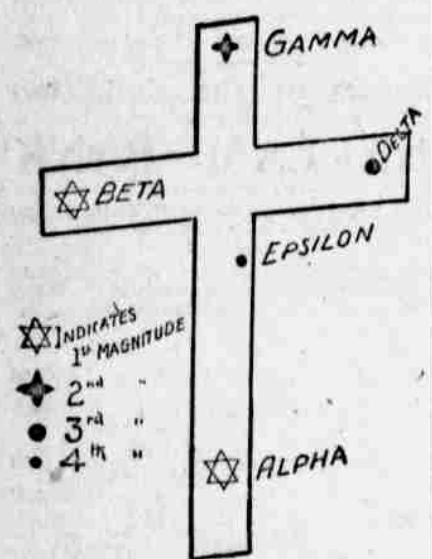


DIAGRAM OF SOUTHERN CROSS.

trary to the face of an observer in the southern hemisphere toward the southern pole.

Near the southern cross is an almost vacant patch of sky, which is named the "coal-sack" by early navigators.

He compared it to a superb piece of fancy jewelry, while Flammarion describes it as "a casket of glittering gems."

WISDOM OF ANIMALS.

Insects as well as Mammals seem to Do Some Quick Thinking When in Trouble.

A naturalist found black ants were devouring the skins of some bird specimens on a table, so he made tar circles on four pieces of paper and put one under each leg of the table.

On one occasion, owing to excessive heat, one of the combs of a bee hive became detached, and was in great danger of falling.

A Capuchin monkey was given some walnuts, which he tried to crack with his teeth, but found he was not strong enough.

The Chinese are not addicted to the use of machinery, but they know something about labor-saving devices.

How a Chinaman Prays. The Chinese are not addicted to the use of machinery, but they know something about labor-saving devices.

They Gild Their Lips. Fashionable Japanese young ladies, when they desire to look attractive, gild their lips.

FRIENDLY SQUIRRELS.

Enter a House, Play Around and Answer to Their Respective Names When Called.

What can be done in the way of taming squirrels has been well illustrated a good many times in this city and nowhere better than at the house and grounds of the Misses Clary.

The family began to feed and pet the squirrels about four years ago and have got them so that they are very tame. They feed them every day, and the squirrels appear as regularly as boarders.

To drive them away when bent on mischief once some one threw a bowlful of water on one of them, and the little thing darted off with a reproachful look on his face to haunt one for days.

The family have been wondering why these squirrels have diminished in size since they began to feed them. The old ones seem to be driven away by the young ones, so that there is a constant succession of different squirrels.

DIVIDED HIS DINNER.

Cat Shares His Dainties with the Master, Who Had Often Done the Same for Him.

An English magazine tells this story, which may be familiar to some of our readers: A gentleman says: "I once had a cat who always sat up to the dinner table with me and had a plate in front of him on which I placed the cat's dinner."



DIVIDING HIS DINNER.

When he had finished what was at first put before him, I sometimes gave him part of mine.

"One day he was not to be found anywhere when the dinner bell rang, and we began without him.

"Just as the plates were put around for the pudding puss came running upstairs and sprang into his chair with two mice in his mouth.

What a Bee Will Carry. A small boy is doing very well indeed if he can lift and carry 100 pounds or a little less than his weight.

Sharks' Eggs Are Black. A shark's egg is one of the oddest-looking things imaginable. It is unprovided with a shell, but the contents are protected by a thick, leathery covering.

As a Day of Rest. Each day of the week has served as a day of rest somewhere—Sunday among Christians, Monday with the Greeks, Tuesday with the Persians, Wednesday with the Assyrians, Thursday with the Egyptians, Friday with the Turks, and Saturday with the Hebrews.

GIANTS AT CAMBRIA.

Survival of a Peculiar Custom Which Has Obtained in Flanders for Hundreds of Years.

Each year in the middle of August the parish feasts at Cambria, in France, are concluded with the march of the giants.

The various programmes published at Cambria have taken care to recall to mind the origin of the institution of the popular giants of Flanders.



PROCESSION OF THE GIANTS.

this divertimento, to the end that he might engage and amuse these people of restless spirit. Others affirm that the giants arose spontaneously out of the soul of the people.

However that may be, for the most part the towns of Flanders, Belgium, have their giant. For instance, there is Grandfather Giant at Malines.

The willow mannikin, which represents Gayant of Douai, was constructed in the year 1530, to figure in a religious procession.

Below is an itemized list of lumber and other supplies: Two hundred and sixty feet of ten-foot inch boards for siding (must not be cut to waste); 231 feet of 14-foot inch boards for roof and nests; 100 feet battens 3 inches by 10 feet; two pieces 2 inches by 6 inches by 14 feet.

14 feet, and two pieces 2 inches by 6 inches by 12 feet for sills; eight pieces 2 inches by four inches by 14 feet for plates and cross beams; four pieces 1 inch by 6 inches by 12 feet for window casing; two squares of felt roofing at \$1.50 per square, including nails for same; one roof building paper 300 square feet, 60 cents; netting 6x16 feet, 70 cents; 10 pounds nails, 30 cents; two pairs strap hinges, 30 cents; four half sash, \$2.50.

A WEATHER PROPHET. The Tortoise Knows When It is Going to Rain and Always Makes for Shelter.

The tortoise is not an animal one would naturally fix upon as likely to be afraid of rain, but it is singularly so. Twenty-four hours or more before rain falls the Gallapagos tortoise makes for some convenient shelter.

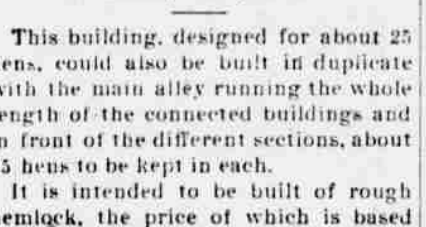
If we want to find a country where nature has turned things topsy-turvy—that is, according to our notion—we must go to Australia. Many things are reversed in that country.

Pretty Battle for Dolly. Crack an English walnut in halves, and having first taken out the kernel and put in either a bell or one or two small pebbles, paste the two shells together again.

Paris' Ten Thousand Beggars. Paris contains 10,000 individuals who live by begging.

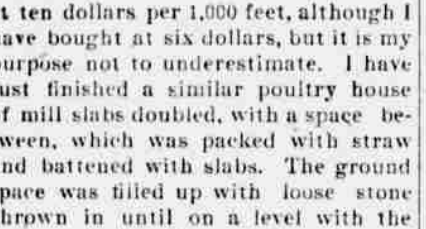
DOULTRY & BEES. CHEAP POULTRY HOUSE. It is Not Painful by Any Means, But Plenty Good Enough for Ordinary Purposes.

This building, designed for about 25 hens, could also be built in duplicate with the main alley running the whole length of the connected buildings and in front of the different sections, about 25 hens to be kept in each.



INSIDE VIEW.

at ten dollars per 1,000 feet, although I have bought at six dollars, but it is my purpose not to underestimate. I have just finished a similar poultry house of mill slabs doubled, with a space between, which was packed with straw and battened with slabs.



GENERAL VIEW.

feet of matched hemlock flooring at \$13 per 1,000 feet. For a partition, in place of netting I used straight poles from the forest, for cheapness. I had the sash, and battened my roof with slabs, but still was very careful to make it warm, and it cost me only about four dollars.

MILK FOR POULTRY. At One Cent a Gallon It is the Cheapest Food That the Farmer Can Secure.

Milk is an excellent poultry food, fed in any way. It is the cheapest animal food that you can buy if you can get it for one cent a gallon, says Farm Poultry.

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What Did He Mean. Editor Independent: One day while going north on the Missouri Pacific some traveling men were talking about the financial bill that the republicans were going to bring before this congress and try to get through.

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