

As the World Revolves

Plant That Devours Meat and Digests It.

We all know that certain plants absorb and live on insects, but it has only recently been discovered that there are some curious species of plants that actually devour animal food when given them in small morsels.



The leaves of these queer plants appear in doublets, like oyster valves. This double leaf is closed up from its base to within about three-quarters of its entire length. In the front part it is detached, the two pointed tips forming, as it were, a pair of lips, or a mouth, which the plant can open at will. Inside this mouth is a kind of passage or throat which extends toward the body of the plant. The passage has a number of hairy bits about it, which are very sticky, and at the end of each bit there is a sticky substance. When the plant opens its mouth, it is evident that the trap is then set, for upon any insect entering it the lips close upon it at once, forcing it to the gummy substance of the throat. This substance has properties similar to those contained in the gastric juices of the human stomach, which help to decompose and digest the food. When so digested the food resolves itself into a liquid which is carried all over the plant to nourish and revive it. The most marvelous thing about this newly discovered species is that it can digest such food as small morsels of meat, fish and egg gelatin, some of which, dropped into the open leaf, were retained and apparently digested. At the same time anything of a starchy or fatty substance the leaf of plant is not able to retain. It does not, therefore, close its lips upon it, and if allowed to remain in the mouth the plant will decay.

Isthmus of Tehuantepec Railway.

How many of our readers have ever heard of the railway across the isthmus of Tehuantepec? And yet here is a railway across the narrowest part of Mexico which is preparing to enter the competition for the great east and west trade of the world.

The road traverses what was one of the original caravan routes across the continent. The far-seeing Cortes may be said to have been its original projector, though he lived long before the day of locomotives, which are now drawing a daily passenger train across the isthmus. Petroleum has been discovered on the route, which is to replace coal for fuel in the engine.

The Tehuantepec Railway is only 130 miles long, from Coahuacalco on the Gulf of Mexico to Salina Cruz on the Pacific. Its highest point is only 750 feet above the sea level. The climate is tropical but healthy. It was originally proposed to construct a ship railway across the continent at this place, but the plan was abandoned in favor of the ordinary railway.

An Ancient Canoe Dug Up.

This prehistoric canoe was dug up in a bog about five miles from Dungannon, County Tyrone. It is scooped out of an oak trunk, is six feet long, three feet wide and eighteen inches deep. It has a ring shape at the bow, evidently for mooring and halage, and also two lugs at the stern. The



DUG UP IN IRELAND BOG.

old man on the right is the man who discovered the canoe. In the same bog a woman's body was discovered in a remarkable state of preservation. According to medical opinion it has lain there for 300 years, but the body still had preserved it.

The Myth of Appomattox.

Among all the historical misstatements of events in the civil war few have obtained more general credence, such as well as truth, than the theatrical story of General Lee's proffer of his sword to General Grant after the surrender at Appomattox and the latter's chivalrous declination of it. Recently Mrs. Jefferson Davis started the story afresh and gave it a new lease of life in a printed sketch in which she says General Lee offered his sword to General Grant when he surrendered and the latter "did not keep it as a trophy but respectfully returned it to the hand which had made his fame as deathless as that of Esculapian."

But General Grant himself settled this matter beyond all disputes. In his memoirs he says: "No conversation—not a word—passed between General Lee and myself, either about private property, side arms, or kindred subjects. The much-talked-of surrendering of Lee's sword and my handling it back—this and much more that has been said about it—is the purest romance."

The Weekly Panorama.

Woman and the Kitchen.

Mrs. M. Schmah, editor of the AVANT-COURIER, goes even further than Mrs. Sarah Grand in her advocacy of woman's enfranchisement. Mrs. Schmah would apply the ax to the underpinnings of our domestic institutions. "The kitchen must go," says she, "before women meet the responsibilities of the twentieth century and specialize their work according to their tastes." That is, if women are to have free scope for their intellectual development during the present century, they must abandon the cooking stove and the pantry, the refrigerator and the china closet, the kneading board, the rolling-pin and the broom, and devote themselves exclusively to what Mrs. Schmah regards as the higher pursuits.

How are they to do this if they expect to have husbands, children and the happiness for which the soul of every good woman yearns in these days? Can they abandon the kitchen and still preserve domestic peace? Or, to put it in a broader way, will it be possible for the woman of the twentieth century to eliminate the kitchen from her home life?

The Chinese Bride Carrier.

Perhaps the queerest trade among the Chinese of San Francisco is that of bride carrier. There are three women following this occupation in Chinatown and making a comfortable, if spasmodic, income.

The excuse for this trade is the



CARRYING A BRIDE.

Chinese custom of making the bride an idler on her wedding day, forbidding her either to walk or stand, and requiring her to be carried by her husband to that of her husband by some one of her own sex. It would perhaps be permitted that the bride's mother or some of her female relations should perform this delicate attention, but of late this is considered not at all "swell" among upper-class Chinese and their imitators. The real, fashionable thing to do and the lucky one as well is to have a regular professional with a reputation for luck and a correct and inside knowledge of the ceremonies to be observed. And when a Chinese family wishes to put on a little extra "dog" over the marriage of a daughter, all three of Chinatown's professionals are hired.

Cotton in Central Asia.

The ambition of Russia to raise all the cotton it needs seems to be on the way toward fulfillment. Thomas Smith, United States consul at Moscow, reports that 233,000,000 pounds of cotton were shipped into European Russia from central Asia last year by way of the Caspian Sea. The total production of central Asia is now 500,000,000 pounds. This is not a large quantity of cotton when compared with the nearly 1,000,000,000 pounds which has been raised in one year in the United States, or 650,000,000 pounds exported by this country last year. But the size of the Russian crop is significant because of the rapid increase it shows. The Russian crop is being raised at least ten times as much, so it did a decade ago.

A Youthful President.

Francisco L. Alcantara, a graduate of the United States Military Academy, has been elected president of the state of Aragua, Venezuela. Young Alcantara's father was president of Aragua some years ago, and later was president of the republic. Francisco was graduated from West Point four years ago. He was a special cadet, admitted by President Cleveland on request of President Andrus Palcio.

The young man's political advancement has been rapid and well, and although he is only 27 years old he has been elected to the presidency of one of the most important states of Venezuela. He is the youngest man occupying so high an office.

People and Events

Blackburn's Bride to Be.

The positive announcement of Senator Joseph C. S. Blackburn's impending marriage to Mrs. Mary E. Blackburn, widow of his kinsman, Judge H. H. Blackburn of West Virginia, has aroused Washington society from its summer slumber. This engagement was announced January 8 and publication met with vigorous protest from the prospective bride and groom. The wedding was originally set for an early date in March and was to have been



MRS. BLACKBURN.

a sequence to the return of the redoubtable Kentuckian to the senate. For some private reasons the nuptials were postponed.

Mrs. Mary E. Blackburn is a member of one of the prominent families of Washington. Mrs. Blackburn's friends believe that her nuptials will be strictly private after the order of the famous Dewey-Hazen alliance, with no previous announcement or invitations to friends. Mrs. Blackburn will be the latest addition to the senatorial brides. Mrs. Hansbrough held this distinction for three seasons until last winter, when Mrs. Sullivan, wife of the senator from Mississippi, usurped her place of honor. Mrs. Blackburn has been a widow for more than three years. Shortly after her husband's death she was appointed to a clerkship in the quartermaster general's office of the war department, which she held until last week. Although she has never been prominently identified with society she is a woman of fine presence and gracious manners and will undoubtedly add lustre to the history of the Blackburn family in Washington. The late Mrs. J. C. S. Blackburn for many years shared with Mrs. Carlisle the distinction of being the most successful hostess of the blue grass state in official life. Her three beautiful daughters made their debut here and were stars in the social firmament.

Senator Deboe's Victory.

After a long and stubborn fight Senator Deboe of Kentucky has succeeded in ousting Mrs. Gertrude Saunders from the postmastership of Newcastle, Ky., and the \$50 a month benefactor will go to an incumbent who can vote and work for the party. Mrs. Saunders is a widow with ten children dependent upon her for support. She was plucky and fought hard for the sake of her little ones, but Senator Deboe, with the help of the organization of Kentucky, has triumphed at last.

To Meet Sloman.

Louis Barutel, the French billiard expert, who came to America three months ago with Jacob Schaefer on his return from Europe, has been matched to play George F. Sloman in New York at a date yet to be agreed upon. A deposit of \$500 has been made with a billiard firm to bind the match, which will be for \$1,000 a side, at eight-ten-inch billiard table. Mr. Barutel is a native of Toulouse, France, and has been playing billiards professionally for fifteen years. He has met all the well known experts except Sloman. He



LOUIS BARUTEL.

has traveled extensively, giving exhibitions and playing matches in Vienna, Berlin, Buda-Pesth, Rome, Carlsbad, St. Petersburg, Brazil, Portugal, Chile, and Mexico, as well as in the leading academies of France and America.

Baptists of Malden, Mass., are interested in a suit for back salary which has been filed in the courts of Middlesex county by the Rev. James R. Randolph against the trustees of St. Luke's Baptist church. Mr. Randolph claims that he entered into a contract with the defendant trustees of the church on May 10, 1896, agreeing to serve as pastor of the church at a salary of \$50 a month. He claims there is now due him the sum of \$1,051.44, back salary, and he sues the trustees to recover it.

CARRY THE STOCK OVER

Growers Generally Do Not Consider the Times Favorable for Marketing.

CATTLE LOANS BEING EXTENDED

Nebraska Fruit an Important Feature at the Buffalo Exposition—The Case of T. F. Kennard Against the State—Miscellaneous Nebraska Matters.

OMAHA, Neb., Aug. 14.—From reports received by Omaha bankers, stock growers throughout the state who are operating with Omaha money have decided generally to carry their stock over for another year and many of the loans now held by the banks in this city will be extended for twelve months.

The bankers do not look on this action of their clients as any evidence of inability to pay and in some cases have recommended the extension of the loans. There are a number of people in the state who make a business of preparing stock for the packer and butcher. They buy steers in the fall as 2-year-olds, buy the corn to feed them, and in the spring turn them as fat stock into the markets. This season the scarcity of corn has driven many of these feeders out of business and many farmers who have fed their own cattle find that they will have to sell, as they cannot raise grain sufficient to fatten the stock this winter.

These causes have combined to make the price of feeding stock lower than the men who are in the business of raising cattle feel will repay them for their work, so they have decided to carry the steers through the winter on hay and fodder and place them on the market as grass-fed steers next fall.

Reports received by bankers from their Nebraska correspondents on the condition of the corn crop are beginning to come in, and while they do not confirm the fears of the most pessimistic, they are far from so good as the optimistic hoped for. One banker is not satisfied with one report he received for the reason that it is too bright, but an investigation by others shows that it is not incorrect. This report shows that Boyd county, in the northwestern part of the state, has probably passed through the drouth better than any other part of the country and that it will produce more corn this year than it did in 1906. There are two causes which unite to produce this result. The first is that while other portions of the state were forgetting what a thunder storm looked like, Boyd county was visited by local showers at the most opportune time. The other cause was the increased acreage of corn.

Nebraska Fruit at Buffalo.

LINCOLN, Neb., Aug. 14.—Nebraska home-grown fruit now constitutes an important feature of the state's exhibit at the Buffalo exposition. The products displayed are collected from various farms in eastern Nebraska under the direction of the officers of the State Horticultural society and fresh shipments are sent daily to Buffalo.

"We got the best specimens from Douglas, Nemaha, Dodge and Pawnee counties," said Secretary C. H. Barnard. "There are over 220 places in our exhibit and it is no small task to keep these constantly full of fresh, ripe fruit. We have no difficulty, however, in finding first class apples, plums and peaches that would surprise most of the people who live here in Nebraska. Most of the plums come from Douglas county, but we get good apples from all of the counties I have ment. The guards are delighted with the new armament."

Evidence in the Kennard Case.

LINCOLN, Neb., Aug. 14.—Attorney General Prout has received a transcript of evidence in the case of T. F. Kennard against the state, which will soon come up for consideration in the United States supreme court. Mr. Kennard was appointed special agent to dispose of the lands belonging to the Pawnee and afterward used the state for \$13,000 in commissions. He was appointed by the legislature and received authority to sue the state from the same body.

To Illustrate Nebraska's Resources.

LINCOLN, Neb., Aug. 14.—The State Printing board has contracted with the Fremont Tribune Printing company for the printing of 15,000 copies of the map now being prepared by the State Bureau of Labor and Industrial Statistics. The cost is fixed at \$420.

For Running Away With Team.

FULLERTON, Neb., Aug. 14.—Clarence Durrell of this place and Tom Vizard of St. Edward hired a livery team from Snyder's livery barn to take Ollie Christanson and Carrie Anderson, two girls of 15 and 14 years of age, for a ride. As the team was not returned Snyder started in pursuit and overtook them at Columbus, where he got possession of his team, arrested Vizard and sent the girls home.

THE STATE FAIR IN SEPTEMBER

Good Crops or Poor Crops, It is Going to Be a Nummer.

LINCOLN, Aug. 19.—For thirty-two years past, good crops or poor crops, the Nebraska state board of agriculture has annually presented to the public at its fairs the products, resources and possibilities of this wonderful young state, the flower of the "new west," a region of country known until a few years ago comparatively as a barren waste. These products have been found, on actual examination, without superiors anywhere, both as to quality and yield. This year corn and vegetables have been badly scorched in some parts of the state, it is true, and yet in many other parts they are good. Small grain was never better.

The fair management is going right along with the fair as usual. September 2 to 6 is the date of the fair and on that occasion one of the largest crowds ever on the grounds is confidently expected. The management has improved the grounds lately purchased by the state by the expenditure of \$18,000 for permanent improvements. The wing of Horticultural hall, destroyed by a wind storm, will be rebuilt. A new woven wire fence has been placed around the whole grounds, all the old buildings have been repaired, painted and put in the best condition.

September 5 is Woodmen day and on that occasion the handsomely uniformed drill teams will contest for prizes ranging from \$25 to \$75. Three prizes will be given for the best drilled teams. There are 40,000 Woodmen in Nebraska and a host is expected on that day.

Secretary Furnas announces that the outlook for exhibits was never better. Let the people all attend this great fair and with their families spend a few days' recreation profitably and pleasantly.

CATTLE DIE FROM ANTHRAX.

State Veterinarian Called But Could Do Nothing for Them.

PENDER, Neb., Aug. 19.—Fred Smith, a farmer one mile from Fred Gilder's, lost four head of cattle from anthrax. Mr. Smith did not realize the fearfulness of the disease and skinned one of the cows. He let his hogs have the carcass and inside of two hours forty-five hogs were dead. His big dog ate a portion of the carcass and died in a few minutes. Mr. Smith cut his finger while skinning the creature and when he reached town his hand was swollen stiff. He was persuaded to go to a physician for treatment. The doctor is unable to say whether he can save him, but the swelling seemed to be checked somewhat before he left town for home.

Christian Endeavor Convention.

The sixteenth annual convention of Christian Endeavor for the state of Nebraska will be held in Omaha October 25-27. A large gathering is anticipated by the 1901 committee. Prof. Exceff of Chicago is engaged as musical director. Father Endeavor Clark will be at the opening meeting. Other speakers of note will be present. Endeavorers throughout the state should plan to be in attendance, as they cannot afford to miss the great treat in store for them.

MISS JOY REED.

1901 Press Com.

Cattle Poisoned by Cane.

HASTINGS, Neb., Aug. 19.—There was a wholesale poisoning of cattle at the asylum for chronic insane. A herd of thirty-five cows belonging to the institution had been feeding in a field of corn planted for fodder and as there was a slight sprinkling of cane amongst it the cattle ate it with the corn. Nine cows died.

Sept With Gas Turned On.

OMAHA, Aug. 19.—John W. McBridge registered at the Midland hotel and in the morning was found in his room dead, with the gas jet turned on full, the door locked and the window and transom tightly closed. The man was a stranger in the city.

Pawnee County Fair Cancelled.

BEAVER CITY, Neb., Aug. 19.—The officers of the Pawnee County Agricultural society have canceled the date for the annual fair on account of short crops and hard times.

The postoffice at Michigan City, Ind., was entered by burglars, who forced open the steel vault and steel safe, securing \$50 in stamps and \$100 in cash.

Will Build New Court House.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., Aug. 19.—The county board has declared the court house bonds carried, selected the new site upon the condition that the offer of a strip of adjoining real estate be made good by the donors within twenty days and have let the contract for the lithographing of the bonds. Architects' plans will be invited at once and the work of construction begun as soon as they are finished.

TWO CHARTERS TAKEN

Western Amalgamated Lodge Refusing to Quit Work Are Disciplined.

SHAFFER HAS NO HOPE OF THEM

Says Since They Disobey Him Expectation Most Follow — They Won't Agree, Though Their Aid Was Expected in Crippling Mills.

CHICAGO, Aug. 15.—There will be no strike of the employes of the steel mills in South Chicago. This point was settled last night when the men refused to reconsider the action taken Saturday night, at which time they decided to stand by their contracts with the mills and refused to join the strikers. After they had declined to reconsider, Assistant Secretary M. F. Tighe, of the Amalgamated association, who came to Chicago with the intention of securing a revocation of the action of Saturday night, if possible, declared that he revoked the charters of both lodges of the Amalgamated association in the South Chicago mills and declared the men outside the organization. The men greeted his announcement with laughter and cheers. Mr. Tighe arrived in the city Wednesday and spent the day arranging for a secret meeting of the two lodges of the Amalgamated association to be held last night. The men gathered at the appointed time, but there were so few of them in the hall that the end of the matter was a foregone conclusion. By far the greater number of the members of the two lodges had gone to work instead of coming to the meeting and only a handful was present. Mr. Tighe made a long address to the men, giving them the story of the strike from the standpoint of the Amalgamated association and asking them to help the men in the east by quitting the mills in South Chicago. Several speeches were made by the local members of the association in reply to Mr. Tighe, the general trend being that the men considered themselves bound by contracts with their employers and that they did not think that it was their duty to turn their backs on these contracts at the bidding of the association. At 11 o'clock a vote was taken on the question of reconsidering and by an overwhelming majority the men refused to reopen the question. Mr. Tighe then announced that the charters of both lodges were revoked and the meeting dissolved. After leaving the meeting Mr. Tighe expressed himself as greatly disappointed at the action taken this evening and said that he will go to the Bayview mills at Milwaukee and also to those at Joliet. He will repeat the program at these places, explain to the men the causes of the strike and if they then decline to reconsider their action in refusing to join the ranks of the strikers he will declare the charters of all their lodges forfeited and rule the men out of the association.

HAWAII'S MAIL BAGS BULGE.

Carr Says Volume Handled Has Increased a Hundred Per Cent.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—G. W. Carr, assistant superintendent in charge of the railway mail service in Hawaii, was in conference with acting Postmaster General Shellenbarger today. He says the volume of mails for Hawaii has increased fully 100 per cent since the American regime began. Save for himself, two inspectors and three clerks from San Francisco, the entire Hawaiian postal system is administered by resident officials and employes. The postmasters through the islands, besides the native Hawaiians and the Americans who were there before the American regime was installed, include English, German, Portuguese and other nationalities.

Member of Bad Money Caught.

TOPEKA, Kan., Aug. 15.—Herman Johnson, an employe of a local printing firm, was arrested yesterday, charged with making small coins of less than \$1 denomination. The prisoner, captured and informed the officers where the moulds and die could be found on East Twelfth street.

Lyttleton Succeeds Kitchener.

LONDON, Aug. 15.—The Daily Mail reviving speculation as to the date of Lord Kitchener's return from South Africa and as to his successor, says it understands that he will return to England about the middle of next month. Lieutenant General Lyttleton assuming the chief command.

Arizona Gets Well Sealed.

EL PASO, ex., Aug. 15.—All the southern portion of Arizona has suffered from high water for weeks and the destruction of property, especially of railroads, has been enormous. The Southern Pacific and the smaller minor roads have suffered many wash-outs. The "Burro" road, running from Benson to Nogales, has been unfit for use for several weeks and nearly every day fresh floods destroy parts of the tracks. Repairs are being made.