

Hunting Big Game On the Ocean

The swordfish is lord and master of every creature that lives in the sea. He is an absolute ruler, and holds the power of life and death over all the inhabitants of the mighty deep. "What about sharks?" I hear some reader say. The shark is a fraud, a fakir, a sneak and a coward. He eats carrion and attacks only cripples and weaklings; he is disgusting to look at. Every deep-sea fisherman holds the shark in utter contempt, not fear. He is the most despised inhabitant of the ocean. The only man a shark ever attacks is a dead man or a man the shark thinks is dead. Get the shark once for all in your mind as the hyena of the sea.

The swordfish is a "ruler by divine right" if there ever was one. He looks every inch a king. He is the incarnation of independence, courage, strength and speed. He eats nothing he has not killed with his own sword in open battle, and when angered or wounded he will attack anything afloat. The killing of the swordfish is more suggestive of hunting big game than of catching any kind of fish. Indeed the sport may be justly compared to hunting lions or grizzly bears. The element of danger is, I believe, even greater, for these animals are not more ferocious when wounded than is the swordfish, and you have the added danger of being drowned if upset by one of their charges.

It was 4 o'clock one July morning. The sun made the eastern sky look like a fire in the oil tanks at Greenpoint. The Earl and Nettie, a two-master, sailed out of Block Island harbor "under power," with Capt. Tal at the wheel, bound for the swordfishing grounds, thirty miles to sea off Montauk Point.

The proper equipment for hunting swordfish is a two-masted schooner, having a twenty-five horse power gasoline engine to furnish "power" for rapid maneuvering, and a crew of six men, who are not only expert sailors, but are also expert swordfish hunters, as this is a very special and dangerous kind of sport, and one which novices had better let alone. A heavy bar of iron is firmly bolted to the free end of the schooner's bowsprit; it is long enough to reach to the waistband of an average man, and stand perpendicular and almost at a right angle to the bowsprit. A strong iron band bent into a half circle is welded at its middle to the free end of the upright bar, the half circle being large enough to admit a man's body. The free ends of this semi-circular band are braced by iron bars, which slant backward and are bolted to the sides of the bowsprit—some distance from its end. This structure is called the "pulpit." And it makes it possible for a man to stand safely on the very end of the bowsprit with both hands free while he leans against the semi-circular bars, which catches him around the middle. The man in the "pulpit" is called the "striker," and it is his business to drive the dart into the swordfish. He has a wooden pole some fifteen feet long, in one end of which an iron rod two feet long is firmly set. A barbed dart, made of brass or bronze, four inches long, is loosely fitted on the end of this rod. In the middle of the dart there is a hole, in which a thin, strong rope is fastened. This rope passes taut along the pole and is grasped by the striker's hand along with the pole, and thus the dart is kept in position on the end of the iron rod until it is driven through the swordfish, when the striker lets go the rope and draws back the rod and pole, leaving the dart buried in the fish's body or hanging below its belly and at right angles to it, thus rendering it impossible to pull out the dart when the fish rushes through the water or when it is being hauled aboard. The rope, the end of which is attached to the dart as described above, is three hundred feet long and is coiled up in a tub on deck. To the other end of this rope a keg is attached by a bridle fastened round each end of it. This keg is about the size of an ordinary beer keg, but lighter, and is painted black so it can be readily seen at a distance.

Three stanch rowboats in tow complete the "rig" necessary for swordfish hunting. On July 4, 1904, at 4 a. m., the Earl and Nettie lifted her anchor, put up her sails and, with her gasoline engine giving an imitation of a Gatling or Nordenfelt rapid-fire gun in action, passed out of the harbor at Block Island.

After a time the keg became more quiet and the Earl and Nettie, which had been circling in the neighborhood, sailed near to the keg, and Tony went out to it in a rowboat to "tend the fish." He put the keg in the boat, and

ment has taken over \$5,000,000 of this fund for current expenses. Similar appropriations of these unclaimed funds were made by the government in 1791 and 1808, and in 1863 Gladstone canceled not less than \$15,000,000 of the unclaimed stock. A large estate, \$720,000, that of Mrs. Helen Blake, reverted to the crown in 1883 in default of claimants who were able to prove their right to the estate.

British Colonial Agents. At present the offices of fourteen agents-general of British colonies are scattered all over London. A proposal to have them all in one great colonial building has been favorably received in colonial circles. Such a building would be less expensive for the colonies than the present offices, the total rent of which is in excess of \$50,000 a year.

Big Supply of Baggage. When the Baltic sailed from Liverpool on Aug. 24 it took forty porters two hours to carry the cabin passengers' baggage aboard.

Troops Pillage Chinese Town. When a brigade of mutinous troops took the city of Liuchufu, south China, they pillaged and slew for forty-eight hours. So great was their booty that they compelled 4,500 of the inhabitants to help them carry it to the hills, where they joined the rebels.



FLINGING THE HARPOON

Tony was putting things to rights in the fo'castle, while Frank, the rale student, and myself were on deck, alert, he scanning the port and I the starboard for any game which might escape the eagle eye of the "gannet." "Steady!" shouts Arnie from aloft. "Steady!" repeats Capt. Tal, at the wheel, and there a hundred yards directly in front of us were two black triangular fins, five feet apart, showing six inches above the water and slowly moving in a direction at right angles to our course. For the next two minutes, "Starboard!" "Port!" "Steady!" "Keep off!" etc., came in rapid succession from aloft, as Arnie gave Capt. Tal the necessary steering instructions to follow the zig-zag course of the swordfish and bring the "pulpit" right over his back.

Will Hooper steadied himself, leaned forward over the pulpit, gripped the pole with his brawny hands, poised the harpoon two feet from the water for an instant and then "chug!" he heard, and the bronze dart had gone clear through the swordfish, carrying the rope with it and hung at right angles six inches below its belly. The fish darted toward the ocean depths like a flash of light. "Overboard with the keg!" shouts Capt. Tal, and overboard we threw it, together with 300 feet of coiled rope, and the Earl and Nettie sailed on. The fish straightened out the coiled rope in a few seconds and began towing the keg.

Successful experiments have been made with a motor lifeboat at Folkestone, England. A two-cylinder motor of ten horse-power was fitted to an old lifeboat.

Saves the Waste. The Tacoma smelter, controlled by D. O. Mills and associates, is making \$24,000 a month by saving precious metals that have heretofore been carried away in smoke from its furnaces. The smoke is passed through a cooler and then strained through light canvas. The result is a harvest of gold, silver, copper, etc.

Deported Anarchist. An Italian recently from Europe arrived in Jackson, a mining town of Amador county, California. He proceeded to try to make anarchists of some of the miners. A quiet meeting was held and a committee of citizens waited upon the newcomer and invited him to take a trip to San Francisco. He concluded to do so.

To Prosecute Press Schools. At the recent meeting in Glasgow of the Institute of Journalists, the opinion was expressed that part of the institute's "defense fund" should be used in prosecuting people who professed to teach journalism and "held out illusory hope to unwary aspirants for a position on the press."

THIRTY-TWO YEARS SINCE THE FIRST CASE OF INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

Act of March 3, 1863

It is hereby certified that

Fifteen million five hundred thousand dollars

Have been deposited with the Treasurer of the United States

Payable in **GOLD** At his Office

To DREXEL, MORGAN & Co. MORTON, BLISS & Co. JAY, FROST & Co. or their order

Washington, September, 9th 1873

John Allison
Treasurer of the Treasury

William A. Richardson
Secretary of the Treasury

THE GOLD CERTIFICATE FOR \$15,500,000 WITH WHICH THE ALABAMA AWARD WAS PAID.

Thirty-two years ago the world saw the first fruits of international arbitration, in the award of the high commission which settled the so-called Alabama claims of the United States against England.

The world has made a strong advance toward the settlement of international disputes by the judicial methods of arbitration since the days of the Alabama award.

Differences that before then plunged nations into war are now considered, as a matter of course, fit subjects for the deliberative methods of settlement embraced by arbitration.

The high court which settled the Alabama claims was the first of its kind. The parties to the disputed claims had long been subject to intensely bitter feelings of resentment against each other. The United States charged to England practically all the damage done her shipping by confederate ships in the civil war, while England refused, until this commission sat, to recognize the right of any nation to question her methods of maintaining her proclaimed neutrality.

Long and delicate diplomatic negotiations were necessary to pave the way, step by step, for the formation of the court which was to settle these claims.

Even after the sessions began it appeared for a time as if they would come to an abrupt and fruitless ending.

After months of deliberation on the part of the arbitrators a settlement was reached, however, in which the principal of international arbitration was imperishably perpetuated, while the United States government received in settlement of its claims the substantial sum of \$15,500,000.

Russians Drop Alexander. It has been a tradition since the time of Nicholas I. to name the czareviches alternately Alexander and Nicholas. But the murder of Alexander II. caused his name to be considered unlucky, so there will be no more Alexanders on the Russian throne, as there will be no more Pauls or Peters. The czarevitch was therefore named Alexis, after the father of Peter the Great. He was a powerful and successful ruler.

Columbus Brought Watermelon. It is customary to praise Christopher Columbus for many noble characteristics, to say nothing of his far-seeing intelligence, but the south owes him a special debt of gratitude for the presence that led him to bring the watermelon to America when he first came, says the Richmond Times-Dispatch. The first watermelon seeds were turned loose to the Spaniards in the Florida territory. Spanish sailors took them to Florida. When once the succulent melon was started in America it took care of itself in the struggle for existence. It was certainly doing a big business in Georgia before a certain Oglethorpe put in his appearance.

Abyssinian Intoxicant. Honey is used for the manufacture of alcohol and hydromel in Abyssinia. The beverage last named is very intoxicating and has an agreeable flavor not unlike that of cider. Enormous quantities of honey are used in the production of hydromel, which is consumed in the same way and as generally as red wine in France. Price of honey, thirty-four cents per 2.2 pounds.

Maxim's Aeroplanes. At the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, experiments showed that the lifting power of Sir Hiram Maxim's aeroplane, placed at a slightly horizontal angle, and traveling at a high velocity, was much greater than had been supposed. Metcalf Wood made an ascent and attained a speed of from eighty to 100 miles an hour.

Fine Present from Czar. A boy of eleven, who lives at Hamilton, Ont., wrote to the czar, asking for some Russian postage stamps. Recently he received from the czar a complete collection of Russian postal, departmental and local stamps in a magnificently bound album. The collection is said to be worth several thousand dollars.

Ready for Revolt in Spain. On the farm of a well-known republican in Catalonia, Spain, the police recently discovered 5,700 Mauser rifles, 5,200 bayonets, 700 sabers and 150,000 cartridges. The weapons and ammunition, which were hidden in the orchard, had been made in Germany and were intended to be used in an approaching rising.

Censor's Love Message. A Russian news correspondent in Manchuria telegraphed to his wife on the anniversary of the wedding day: "Dearest Maria, I kiss you devotedly." It was duly delivered after the censor had marked it: "Allowed. Senior Lieutenant B."

Study American Railway Methods. The Northeastern Railway company, England, has arranged for a number of its leading officials to visit the United States to report on the newest methods for dealing with passenger and freight traffic.

Pay to the joint order of
H. B. M. Minister or
Charge d' Affaires at Washington
and Acting Consul General at
New York

Drexel Morgan & Co.
Morton Bliss & Co.
Jay Frost & Co.

Pay to the order of *Hamilton Fish*
Secretary of State
John Thorston
U. S. Minister
Ellis Archibald
U. S. Consul General
New York

Pay to the order of *Wm. A. Richardson*
Secretary of the Treasury

ENDORSEMENTS ON THE ALABAMA AWARD CERTIFICATE.

Helps Distinguished Husband. The wife of Camille Flammarion, the astronomer, never allows anyone to cut her husband's hair but herself, and she uses the shorn locks for pillows stuffed with such clippings. Telescopes, heliometers, sextants, astrolabes and other astronomical instruments are scattered all about among them. The Flammarions were married thirty years ago, taking their bridal tour in a balloon. In all the time since then the wife has been a veritable helpmeet to her husband. She not only makes observations and calculations, but measures the distances of stars for him. At the observatory of Juvisy, which she helped him establish, she made studies of the planet Mars.

New Coal Field in Mexico. A company composed principally of British and German capitalists has been formed for the purpose of working a recently discovered coal field near Sabinas, in the state of Coahuila, Mexico. The principal vein is from seven to eight feet wide, and underlies an area of 15,000 acres. The new coal field is about 7 1/2 miles from the Mexican international railway.

Timber for Panama Canal. It is thought the Panama canal commission will procure from the Columbia river the 40,000 piles that will be needed in the construction of the canal. That will be equivalent to 32,000,000 feet of timber, or equal all told to four of the huge rafts that are built on the Columbia river and towed to San Francisco at the rate of three each summer.

Made Suit for Irish Patriot. A tailor named Guilding died in Dublin. It was he who made the suit of clothes for William O'Brien when O'Brien was in Eullamore Jail. O'Brien refused to wear a prison suit and remained unclothed in his cell for several days. One morning his keepers were surprised to find him wearing a suit of tweed. It had cost \$750 to get the suit to him, however.

Oklahoma is Growing. In 1900 Oklahoma contained only two towns having more than 3,500 inhabitants, and these contained from 10,000 up to 25,000. At least 75,000 have been added to her population since June, 1900. Since that time five counties have been organized, with a total population of 130,000. These estimates make the present population more than 600,000.

Pigeon Hatched Out Men's Egg. William H. Cassidy of Webster is the owner of a pigeon which found a hen's egg in a nest in the barn and sat upon it industriously, with the result that there is a new chicken in the collection of Mr. Cassidy.

THE ODD CORNER

Her Father's Daughter.
I'm the "daughter of my father,"
And he's a millionaire.
And so his only child they try
To kill me with a glance.
That men should deem me fair;
At least, that they should tell me so
And ask me for my eyes—
But oh, I wish that I could tell
The false and true apart!
They flock around me at a ball
And beg me for a dance.
The sentimental kind they try
To kill me with a glance.
And some of them write verses,
And they rave about my eyes—
Oh, isn't there a touchstone
That to lovers' words applies?
There's one of them who tears his hair
And threatens suicide,
And then another one who swears
He'll make me be his bride.
He'll come some night when I'm asleep
And bear me far away—
How I wish that you would tell me
What a maiden ought to say!
And then there's one who never comes;
He leaves me quite alone,
Though oftentimes I meet his eyes
When I quickly raise my own;
Perhaps, perhaps, were he to come
With tender words to woo—
Oh, won't you please tell me
What a maiden ought to do?
—William Wallace Whitlock in New York Times

The Antiquity of Chairs. Chairs were in use in Egypt so long ago as 3359 B. C. The Chinese employed them from about 1300 B. C. In India they were used, and are mentioned as dating from 1100 B. C. House chairs, with backs, were in use in India A. D. 300. They are known to have been employed in Rome so early as A. D. 70, being mentioned by Pliny at that date. Chairs with foot rests were used in Rome A. D. 150.

Fine View From High Peak. From Mt. Genevieve, a peak in Gilpin County, Colorado, a person can see into four states and one territory. On a clear day the observer can discern the Uintah Mountains of eastern Utah, the Medicine Bow range of Wyoming, the tips of the Rockies in New Mexico and the principal peaks of Colorado. The plains, stretching to the east, are plainly visible clear into Nebraska.

Dogs Became Intoxicated. A beer wagon collided with an ice cream stand at Providence, R. I. and the stock of cream was precipitated into the street. A leaky beer barrel turned the mass into a sort of frozen pudding, which was partaken of by several dogs. Two of the more voracious of the animals became badly intoxicated and wandered aimlessly about in a most amusing manner for a long time.

New England Industry. An interesting instance of persistent industry is offered by the case of J. P. Keyes of Poland, Mass., who two weeks ago missed his Saturday trip with butter to Conway village for the first time in twenty-six years. Mr. Keyes is about 70 years old, and although his home is reached by hilly roads that are badly drifted in winter, he has always managed to get through.

New Use for Automobiles. The Ceylon government is seriously considering the proposition of substituting on all fit roads light automobiles for the old stage coaches which still exist on important routes for mail and passenger traffic. The required speed is thirty miles an hour, and each vehicle must carry six passengers, 300 pounds of letters and 25 pounds of baggage.

Deer Just Looked Around. A deer entered the garden of Chas. Mergage of Goffstown, N. H., and wandered around quite a while, not offering to eat anything. At last it squeezed out between the barbed wires of the fence on one side of the railroad, passed across and through the other barbed wire fence without injuring itself in the least.

Coin of George III. A. O. Peabody of Williston, N. H., picked up a coin a few days since. On one side are the letters "Georgius III Dei Gratia." In the center was a cut of a king. On the other side were the letters MBFT H-REX FDBETLDSRIATE, coat of arms with crown upon name. The date on the piece was 1797.

Broke Into Swarm of Bees. Bees swarmed through a hole which Ernest Mills made in the wall of the town lockup at Martinsburg, Va., and stung him until he shouted for help. The bees have a nest between the plaster and clapboarding. Mills admits he was trying to escape, but he says he will sue the town for damages.

Colt Has Woolly Coat. Marshall Phillips of Williston, Vt., has a curiosity in the shape of a colt six months old, which in every way resembles the mother, except that instead of being covered with hair it is covered with wool. With the long legs of a colt and the wool of a sheep it presents a novel appearance.

Peculiar Traits of Family. In Brooklyn a father and mother raised up a family consisting of nine daughters and one son. All the children are married and have offspring. All the children of all the daughters are boys, and all the children of the son are girls.

High Corn in Connecticut. Farmington, Conn., people are boasting about the high corn they raised this year. Miss Charlotte Scott has some fifteen feet high and A. R. Wadsworth's measures 14 feet 6 inches.

Many Strawberries from an Acre. H. P. Woodworth of Westfield, Vt., has picked this year from a bed of less than an acre, 4,000 quarts of strawberries. The picking season lasted from June 20 until Aug. 1.