

HONOR FRENCH LIFE SAVERS.

Statue Erected by Government of France at Calais.

The French seafaring folk are a hardy lot, as are all men who go down to the sea in ships, and the sturdy courage of those who live by the great waters has not only been chanted in song and woven in story, but the government, which is deeply appreciative of all efforts of human benefit or safeguard, has given these brave men a lasting token of honor that those at home and from afar may see, and, seeing, appreciate the quality of the heroes. This picture shows the statue of the life savers at Calais, and the sculptor who shaped it



brought to his work an effective sympathy and admiration.—New York Herald.

Blind Angler and Organist.

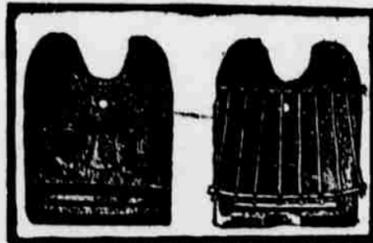
A resident of the Potteries, who has been spending his holidays in East Anglia, has been fishing in the company of an expert angler who is absolutely blind.

"It is," says this Staffordshire angler, "simply marvelous how this blind man can find his way along the waterside, select his swims, adjust his tackle, put a bait on the hook, cast out, and tell when he has the slightest nibble."

The blind angler is also an accomplished musician, and has charge of the organ at the parish church.—London Chronicle.

Eskimo Masks.

Thibetans have the most pretentious and grotesque masks, which are



used in their religious ceremonies, and the custom even extends to the far islands of the South seas. From these tropical waters to the white wastes of the frozen north is a far cry, yet there is a similarity between the masks of the Malay tribes and those of the Eskimos which seems to link these faraway peoples. Herewith is given the picture of an Eskimo mask, front and rear. It is fairly indicative of the artistic feeling in these odd people, and, while primitive, has in it something of a higher promise.

Pebble Bears Likeness of Savior.

A limestone pebble, bearing a striking image of the face of Christ, which was picked up at Oberammergau in September, 1880, the day after the decennial performance of the "Passion Play", is the remarkable possession of Mrs. Eugenia Jones Bacon of Atlanta, Georgia.

The likeness can only be seen when the light falls upon the stone from a certain direction. The countenance is perfect in every detail as portrayed by the great masters, and the closed eyes with the pallid color of the stone give the face a sad expression. The nostrils are thin and across the brow are the deep furrows of worry and anguish.

Puzzled by Freight Charges.

A New Hampshire man is trying to solve a problem which he says is the least promising proposition that he has ever undertaken. He sent a large sugar barrel full of apples to his son in Florida, paying ninety-eight cents, the full freight charge. A few days later he received a box of oranges from his son, on which he desired to pay the freight, and was obliged to pay \$1.80, the freight charges.

Marriage Arch.



The marriage arch is an important and conspicuous feature of a Negrito wedding. At one stage of the elaborate ceremony the bridegroom is expected to seize his dusky bride and carry her in his arms up a difficult bamboo ladder to a high platform surmounted by wickets of bamboo.

Killed Fox With Ax.

Edward O. Frink killed a fine fox with an ax one day recently at Hinsdale, N. H. Mr. Frink was passing through some woods carrying his ax in his hand. Suddenly he saw something move in the brush, and thinking it was probably a rabbit, he hurled his ax at it. To his surprise out jumped two large foxes, one of which was so crippled as to be easily captured.

The Man in the Sun.

This remarkable object is a photograph of a group of sun spots taken Nov. 13 by a French astronomer. Of course, the photograph is not of the entire sun, but of a very limited part of its surface, just enough to include the group.

Some idea of the size of the sun spots is given by the astronomer. The



darker of the spots that forms the mouth could take in two bodies the size of the earth, as it was 16,250 miles across.

Here's a Real Funny Bear.

An oddity in bears was killed in Mifflin township, Pa., where William Sellinger and Charles Babcock shot one that had red hair and small pink eyes.

Hunters declare it is not a cinnamon bear, and that nothing like it ever has been seen in that part of the state.

AT A TURCOMAN WEDDING.

Peculiar Ceremonies Used to Unite Two Loving Hearts.

Contrary to the practice of many other Moslem countries, the people of Turkestan are ardent lovers before marriage; and the young people themselves inform their parents when they have formed an attachment. Female go-betweens are then employed to arrange the affair and discuss the marriage portion. The question always is, how many times nine sheep, cows, camels, horses or ducats the father of the bride is to receive for her. The price ranges from once to nine times nine. The future bridegroom also has to present a complete set of ornaments to the bride, including eight



rings, a tiara, bracelet, earrings, nose-rings and neck ornaments. At the ceremony neither party appears in person, but both are represented by witnesses. After it is over, the bridegroom appears, but only approaches a few steps from the bride's door. After much feasting, which is provided by the groom, the bride leaves her father's home for that of the bridegroom, in a procession protracted by a circuitous route.—People's Home Journal.

Hen Cares for Young Kittens.

Citizens of McKenzie, Tenn., are amused at a strange display of affection displayed by an ordinary barnyard hen for a litter of newborn kittens. At the home of Squire N. W. Perkins the hen left her nest and on return found four kittens. She took charge of the nest, as though the kittens were not there, evidently imagining the kittens were eggs. Later on Mr. Perkins was attracted to the scene by a terrific fight being waged by the hen and the mother of the kittens. The hen was holding possession of the nest when Perkins interfered and restored the kittens to their mother.

Napoleon's Handwriting.

Napoleon was one of the world's greatest conquerors—every school child knows that—but as he never conquered the English so he never quite mastered the language of Wellington. It is easy to conceive why he did not take to the study with that order and energy which caused thrones to topple. He spent part of his time while at St. Helena trying to master the tongue, and these notes, written on



playing cards during the time of the studies, are now an interesting exhibit. They were indeed his losing cards, whose hand had held for years



only those that won—the kings, queens, not forgetting the knaves!—New York Herald.

Four Grandchildren in a Day.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Williamson of Federal street, Allegheny, were informed on Jan. 1 that they were grandparents, their daughter, Mrs. J. M. Palmer, having given birth to a boy.

Soon they learned that another daughter, Mrs. Thomas Hicks of Tioga street, Pittsburg, who had been married the same night as her sister, had given birth to twin girls.

Later in the day another daughter, Mrs. Ellsworth Strothers of Webster avenue, sent a messenger to tell her parents that she was the mother of a boy.

The Lamb.



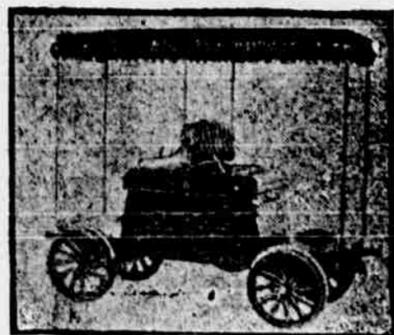
Fast Work With Shotgun.

John Backman, a farmer living at Thornhurst, on the Pocono mountains, in Pennsylvania, killed four bears in five minutes with five shots from his repeating shotgun and holds the record of the season.

He was taking a party of hunters through the woods when they came upon bear tracks, those of a mother and cub. Backman followed them alone and went so quietly that upon going round a large rock he came upon them. They had been joined by two half-grown bears.

The animals saw Backman as soon as he saw them. He knocked over the mother bear with a load of buckshot in the body and then killed one of the half-grown ones which was running away. Then the second half-grown one was slain and finally the cub. The mother bear was disabled, but not dead, and he killed her with the fifth shot.

Auto Handcar.



Railroad tracks inspectors are beginning to use this type of automobile in looking over the roadbed.

Has Potato Vine in Cellar.

When Charles H. Ballard of Oxford put his potatoes in the cellar last fall some of them got buried in the dirt. Mr. Ballard recently went into the cellar to sort over the potatoes and found some flourishing vines. He pulled up some of them and found potatoes as large as a hen's egg. He says the Ballard family are now eating new potatoes and they say they are as good as potatoes dug in the field in August.