

Miscellaneous.

An aim in life will make a name in life.

"This is the 'old' year for bets," says the truthful Chicago Journal.

A number of English sparrows were seen in Chatham the other day.

A man in Ashfield, Ont., chopped 8 cords of hardwood, maple and beech, in 7 hours.

Ten then and buffalo were killed in the Bow River (Montana) country this year.

Sarna has taken a new curling rink 75 x 150 feet, of which 10 x 150 feet is under cover.

In June, 1876, Great Britain contained 1,374,576 horses, against 1,340,129 in 1875.

The dog-star is so designated from its being a sky-terrier.

A deer, nearly all white, was lately chased by boys into the barn of Mr. D. Buch, of Minden, Ont., and captured alive by that gentleman.

Mr. P. Buckley has imported a span of young iron grey horses from below Montreal, for which, we are told, he paid \$1,000. They are a very handsome span of horses.

A friend of Troy, N. Y., nineteen years of age, dreamed that he was to become a gambler. This so affected his mind that he blew his brains out.

The Picton Gazette. "Some gentlemen of this country last week procured some white fish spawn at Salmon Point, which they intend depositing in East Lake as an experiment.

Nearly twenty albatrosses are said to have followed the British war ship "Challenger" from the coast of Japan to within two days sail of Honolulu, a distance of about 4,000 miles.

Mr. Tom King, once well-known in the prize ring, showed some chrysanthemums for competition at the Brixton show the other day, and they were among the best exhibited, his gardener, Mr. Lee, obtaining two of the most important prizes for out blooms.

"Talk of fiddling," said Ephraim, "Why, the dog-gonest base-viol you ever saw, was two turkey buzzards a-sawing of a yard of gut across the paunch of a dead deer. Ef it didn't make the music come you kin shout no."

A singing quail is the latest novelty in natural history. One was caught in Riverhead, England, nine years ago, and it has been so successfully tamed that it will sing for any visitor, its notes being distinctly audible all over the house where it is kept.

Quite an extensive business is done by Belgians smuggling tobacco across the border into France by means of trained dogs, who are intelligent and swift-footed, and know precisely the use, routes and where to take the tobacco that is tied about them.

Canadian cattle exported to England are selling well. Some taken over a month or so ago by Mr. Gilman, of Beleville, realized \$160 a head. Canadian oxen were sold at six shillings per stone of eight pounds (and sink the offal) in the London market, being the same price as the best Scotch beef made.

The Archbishop of Canterbury recently presented himself at the entrance of the reading room in the British Museum, but he had forgotten his ticket, and, though several directors offered to vouch for him, the Superintendent refused to ignore his instructions and let him pass.

Mr. John Morrissey has been polite to the special correspondent of the London Times, who says concerning him: "I had the honor of being presented to him, and found him, like most really great men, very affable and unaffected. 'I say 'honor' advisedly, for I look upon him as one of the most stupendous products of New World civilization, much in ethical or politics what Niagara is in physics."

Some few years ago our fishermen throw away some of the fish sounds taken out of cod, haddock and hake; but recently there has been quite a demand for this part of the fish, especially those from hake, which are valuable for the manufacture of isinglass. It is said that some \$80,000 or \$40,000 per year is paid Nova Scotia fishermen by exporters of those sounds.

Mr. August Stewart of the 8th concession.

The Messrs. Switzer, of Orangeville (formerly of Markville), passed through Little Toronto the other day with eleven deer—ten bucks and one doe. One of the men had been out eight and the other sixteen days, in north-east Luther, during which time they killed twenty-three deer altogether twelve of which they sent home previous to going themselves. Deer are unusually numerous in that region this year, as many as a dozen having been seen together in a drove at one time.

Ostrich farming is carried on with the best success at the Cape of Good Hope. Choice birds are worth \$350 each. They feed on grass like cattle, and require very little care. Usually they are tolerably docile, but at the breeding season they become irritable, and will often attack a person who ventures too near them. Each bird yields from \$150 to \$200 worth of feathers per year. Those from the female are gray, and those from the male black, except a single white plume which grows under each wing, and which is the most valuable of all.

Descriptions of a wonderful automaton, called Psycho, have come to this country from London, where it is exhibited by a conjuror. It represents a squatted Turk, who plays a game of cards and does many things seemingly requiring intelligence. It is placed on top of a glass cylinder, so that a clear view between it and the table is given. Thus it seems to have no connection with any exterior power. So ingenious is Psycho that articles discussing it have been published in the English magazines. Now it is said that the figure is worked by varying the pressure of air inside the cylinder, the compression of air acting like a push and the partial exhaustion like a pull. The air enters and leaves through the baize covering of the table, and acts on delicate clockwork.

COOKING FISH IN CLAY.

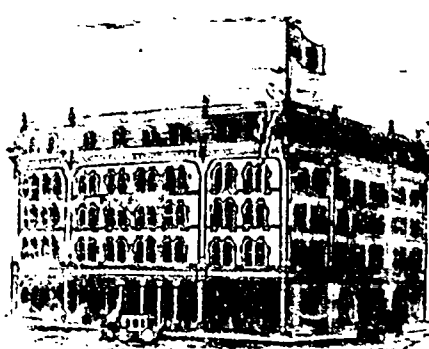
After preparing, cover the fish with clay two inches thick, and throw it into a hot fire. The clay hardens almost instantly, and the fish in its tough oven bakes through and through, retaining all its juices. The clay is then poked out of the fire, cooled with a dash of water, and a sharp stroke with a stick separates it from the fish. The fish's skin peels off with the clay, and the dish is ready. Brown bread and potatoes constitute the rest of the meal. A little experience will enable one to cook a fish perfectly in this way. The clay is a good absorbent of the strong odors of the fish, and takes away all but the sweetest and best flavors. Game is also delicious cooked in clay.

A LONG FAST.

In December, 1871, I had a number of turkeys put in a barn to kill for Leadenhall Market, which were, as we thought, duly killed; when packing them we were one hen short. Every search was made, but it could not be found, and we consequently credited some one with a dinner at my expense. In this barn a quantity of sainfoin seed was standing in sacks, and when having this removed in February, 1872, the long-lost turkey was found among it. Strange to say, it had crept so far that it could not turn to come out, and was closely fixed in between three sacks, so it could not advance, and there it had existed fifty-two days. When lost it was fat, and weighed about eleven pounds, and when found it weighed four pounds. It was impossible for it to get any food or drink during this time. It could just stand, and was able to feed as soon as brought to the light and offered food. I nursed it carefully, and it regained its previous weight, lived about six months, laid a few eggs, and then wasted away.

A LONG SWIM.

After a week of duck hunting on the St. Clair Flats, Goff Stenton, Capt. Mott and J. E. Barber, with a spaniel dog owned by the last named, started in a sail boat on Friday afternoon to come to Detroit. When about three miles from the light house at the head of Detroit River, with the darkness of night shrouding the water, the men in the boat were startled by sudden and loud barking from the spaniel, and upon attempting to stop him were more surprised to see the dog with a long leap dash into the lake. Before the sail boat could be brought around to fol-



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A MAGNIFICENT PRESENT!

The proprietors of the SPORTING TIMES have much pleasure in announcing to their patrons that they have made arrangements to present a magnificent horse picture to their advance paying subscribers for the year 1876-7. Realizing the importance of this undertaking, and being determined to offer our subscribers a picture that should in itself be worthy of the paper it represents, and which should be treasured as a work of art; after culling over the finest productions of the American press, we selected the beautiful chromo of GOLDSMITH MARE, printed in nine colors and innumerable shades, size 18 1/2 by 24 inches, believing, as our friends will when they see it, that it is the finest horse picture ever published in America. It is not to be confounded with the miserable pictures hawked around the country by some journals, but is really a work of high art and intrinsically of more value than we receive for our yearly subscription. She is represented standing in a box stall stripped, and in this position the picture, from which the chromo is reproduced, was painted by one of the first artists in the profession in America. When varnished and mounted it is impossible to distinguish between the chromo and a very fine oil-painting. It is a work of art worthy of a place in the finest collections in the country, and what adds to its value it is the only correct likeness of GOLDSMITH MARE ever published. As a memento of the most remarkable trotting equine in the world, shortly to be relegated from the turf, it will be treasured by every horseman in the country, more especially by those who have seen the little mare in any of her races. This picture was sold by subscription only a few months ago for \$5 a piece, and copies of it were in great demand. We expect in this liberal gift to more than double our subscription list in the next three months, and if you