

swayed to and fro, was bumped up and down, until I was almost shaken to pieces. It would have been a positive relief could I have found myself at rest on the ground, but the motion was so incessant I had not time to make up my mind what course to adopt. It ended as even experiences of the worst kind must do, and I found myself still on the camel's back. Not so my humorous friend, who to my great comfort performed a double summersault and did not succeed in landing quite on his feet. I was told I should become accustomed to camel-riding, and might even get to like it. But my faith is not great enough for that."

BEES AND COLD WEATHER.

Bees are tiny creatures, and are not provided with blankets and overcoats; therefore their owners should look after their comfort. There has been much said about the cruelty of destroying bees with sulphur fumes, and little about those who let them shiver for months, and finally yield to the inevitable. Which is the more humane?

Good, strong colonies of bees with plenty of well ripened stores can come through the zero weather with colors flying, provided they are kept dry. This may appear at first glance to be an easy matter with a tight roof over their heads, but the danger is not from outside, but moisture from within. During very cold weather bees consume large quantities of honey in order to generate heat, and the moisture passes off in vapour through breathing holes in their bodies. If the air surrounding the cluster is very cold, this vapour congeals above and around them, and will do no harm as long as the cold continues, but let a thaw come on and the bees will be in a sad plight; should the weather turn suddenly cold the cluster will be frozen solid. Beekeepers have been experimenting along this line, how to prevent dampness during cold weather, for many years.

There is no time now to be lost in looking after bees that are expected to survive the winter. Where a colony is known to have a young, vigorous queen and plenty of bees, they need no attention at present unless they have but little honey, and even then I would not feed until the frost had killed the flowers, for I have known large colonies to fill their hives during the last ten days of grace preceding frost. But all small colonies should be doubled up, as I have stated in previous articles.

I laid down my pen just now and went out into the apiary and opened a hive. O, dear me! I had forgotten that it hurt so bad to be stung. As long as I do not disturb a hive, no one is even stung, although there are more than one hundred colonies in close proximity to the house. There has been so little honey all summer that when a hive is disturbed the bees seem to think that they must defend their all at the risk of their lives and care naught for smoke.

This morning I was requested to stand in the shade and look up at the sky. I soon saw the reason why. The bees were darting in the direction of the river bottom; it almost seemed as though there would not be a bee left in the apiary. If this rush for the river bottom continues

many days, we feel assured that we shall have to feed but little for winter stores.—Mrs. Harrison.

ECONOMICAL PAINT.

A paint for floors, which economizes the use of oil colors and varnish, is described at much length in the *Builder*, as a recent German invention. For flooring, two and one-eighth ounces of good, clear joiner's glue is soaked over night in cold water, and, when dissolved, is added, while being stirred, to thickish milk of lime, heated to the boiling point, and prepared from one pound of quick lime. Into boiling lime is poured—the stirring being continued—as much linseed oil as becomes united, by means of saponification, with the lime, and when the oil no longer mixes there is no more poured in. If there happens to be too much oil added, it must be combined by the addition of some fresh lime paste—about half a pound of oil for the quantity of lime just named. After this white, thickish foundation paint has cooled, a color is added which is not affected by lime, and, in case of need, the paint is diluted with water, or by the addition of a mixture of lime water with some linseed oil. The substance penetrates into the wood and renders it water-resisting.

HE WANTED TO KNOW.

Dumley was making an evening call, and the nice little boy of the family had been allowed to remain a little later than usual.

"Ma," he said, during a lull in the conversation, "can whisky talk?"

"Certainly not," said ma. "What put that absurd notion in your head?"

"Well, he replied, "I heard you say to pa that whisky was telling on Mr. Dumley, and I wanted to know what it said."—*Philadelphia Call*.

THAT FOOL OF A WOMAN.

A street car, so loaded down that passengers were hanging to the platforms by their toes, was going up Michigan Avenue the other day, when one of the "hangers" remarked to the other: "Bet you a cigar we won't go another block before some fool of a woman will stop the car and crowd in." "I'll take that bet." "All right." The car had gone half a block before the driver put on the brake and the conductor asked the men to make way for a lady. "Didn't I tell you!" exclaimed the first man in a triumphant voice, "the fool is at hand." "Well, I'll pay," replied the other, "but do you know who it is?" "Great jims! but it's my own wife!" growled the better as he dropped off the step in disgust and took to the sidewalk.—*Detroit Free Press*.

Young man, don't brag too much of your ancestry. You must remember that your first parents couldn't show a marriage certificate to save em.

Infant Mistress (to children): "You must not play tramways to-day; it is Sunday."

Little one (simply): "Please, miss, we ain't; we's playin' foonerals."

WITTICISMS, OR FUNNY STORIES.

Nowadays a washerwoman will spend hours over a single line—and she earns quite as much money as many poets, too.

Black were the eyes—as black as jet—
Of the country maid I knew;
I kissed her, and her lover came,
And mine are jet black too.

She.—"I shall always be happy while this ring is on my finger."

He (dubiously).—"I hope so; but you are the thirteenth girl who has worn it."

Young man—"I have fifteen clocks I'd like to sell you."

Jeweller—"I don't buy stolen goods, sir."

"But they weren't stolen, my dear sir. I was married yesterday."

Elderly maiden (out rowing with a possible suitor and her little sister, who is frightened by the waves)—"Theodora! If you are so nervous now, what will you be at my age?"

Little Sister (meekly)—"Thirty-seven, I suppose."

Father—"Now, listen to me, children: I want you from now to be as bad as you know how."

Tommy—"Won't you whip us, pa?"

Father—"Not if you are very bad, but I'll whip you if you behave yourselves. Your aunt is coming to visit us, and I don't want her to stay long."

Singleton—"I asked Miss Passe, point-blank, her age last night. She said she wouldn't tell me, but she would write it on a sheet of paper if I'd sign my name to it."

Benedict—"What is her age?"

"I didn't find out. The paper she produced was a marriage license."

Mrs. De Fine: "Here's my new bonnet. Isn't it a darling? Only thirty shillings."

Mr. De Fine: "You said bonnets could be bought at from five shillings up."

Mrs. De Fine: "Yes dear. This is one of the ups."

Pipkin (addressing Captain of Ocean Liner): "How long will it take to reach the other side?"

Captain: "Six days, if we don't have any trouble with the boilers."

Pipkin: "But if we do have trouble?"

Captain: "We may get there a good deal sooner."

Georgie is five years old. His mother had undressed him for a bath before putting him to bed. As he stood before her he said:

"Now, mamma, I'm a kid."

"Yes, my dear," said she.

"Do you know what kind of a kid I am, mamma?"

"No, darling."

"Well, nakid."

A widow called at the sculptor's studio to see the clay model of the bust of her late husband.

"I can change it in any particular that you may desire, madam," said the artist.

The woman regarded it with tearful eyes. "The nose is large."

"A large nose is an indication of goodness," responded the attentive and versatile artist.

The widow wiped away her tears and sobbed, "Well, then, make the nose larger."