

... Were I to lead an army against the greater infidel of Constantinople. I would have none but cockers for my commanders, and the butchers of the sport for my soldiers." Henry VIII built a stately pit in Whitehall, where he often disposed himself among his most trusted and loving subjects. The dying speech of T. Urquhart, who was wounded at the battle of Culloden, was: "My king and a good cock I have ever loved and like a good cock in my foreign service I gladly now expire." A Mr. ... in the last century, advised all men who delight in this pleasant and delicious pastime to forsake or alienate themselves from as long as it shall please the Almighty to prosper them; and he adds that we should endeavor to encourage cock-fighting among our nobles and discourage it among all foreign nations. If cocking, which formerly was a great amusement to the great nobles of this kingdom, be now a sin, I am an old and hardened sinner. In 1827, in command of the Rainbow, I brought home Englishbred cocks from Sydney to Malacca, and fought ten battles with a Chinese merchant who had defeated all the Malays. We won every battle and I would go two hundred miles to see a cock between the Cheshire Piles and the Lancashire blackbreasted Reds, if there was no legal prohibition. Any amusement which creates peace and augments friendly acquaintance is to the strength of the empire, for united we stand; and the monotony of human life is relieved by every salutary diversion.

CASTRATING FOWLS.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PERFORMING THE OPERATION.

The object of castrating is to improve the quality and increase the quantity of the flesh of a cock. A capon will outgrow a cock of the same age, but as an ox will exceed a bull in weight, so the same reasons, which are, that castration makes an animal less restless and quarrelsome, and less of the nutriment it digests is used for flesh-forming. The operation is very difficult, and is quickly performed after the practice.

The instruments consist of a pair of crooked bone forceps, pointed hook, a pair of tweezers, and a steel splint with a broad flat hook at the end. Remove the feathers upon a spot a little larger than a watch, at a point upon the skin between the thigh and the shoulder. Next, turn the skin backward, so that it may slip forward again after the operation is completed, and with a keen knife make an incision an inch and a half long parallel with the two last ribs, and then turn them, until the intestines are visible, taking care not to injure the latter. Now separate the ribs by attaching one of the hooks to the skin and allowing the ends of the splint to rest, as they will do when let go. The intestines may be pushed away with a tea-spoon handle, or other flat, smooth instrument, and when the testicles are found (attached to the body, the tissue which covers them must be cut with tweezers, and torn open with the pointed knife. Next grasp one of the testicles with the crooked concave forceps, and with the tweezers pull off the spermatic cord, to which the testicle is attached. Now twist the testicle off with the crooked concave forceps, after which the operation is repeated on the other testicle, the skin is closed (no sewing being necessary), and allowed to resume its place, and then the feathers which were removed are stuck on outside, and left to adhere by means of the splint, forming the only bandage necessary. It is pains not to disturb the parts to which the testicles are attached. The pressure of the feathers tends to prevent pain and loss of blood, and the method of cutting them with a horse-knife is more expeditious, and less tedious than cutting does.

There need be no more than six or eight per cent of the birds killed, even by an indifferent operator; and as those die by bleeding to death, they may be eaten as if they had been butchered in the regular way. To avoid bleeding, take care to capture the large blood vessels attached to the organs removed. The best age for castration is to be operated upon is three to four months. After that the intestines may not be displaced, prepare the bird by shutting it up without food or drink for thirty-six hours previous to the operation. Capons continue to grow fat for some time, and they should be kept until twelve months old in order to gain the full advantage of the operation.

The feathers on each side of the incision can be fastened together with the bloody fingers to hold the wound together. After the opera-

tion, a good deal, with an intention to close and then that the bank would have to close pretty soon, when Wescott lounged up to the table, and tossing his Louisiana dollar across the table, asked for a 'short stack of white chips.' Penobscot in his surliest tones, said, 'Well, we won't trouble with you,' and threw him two white checks worth fifty cents each. They were playing whittles at ten dollars a stack then. The two checks happened to fall on the four spot. Al. let them remain where they fell. The four of spades won. Al. let the bet stand and it won again. He now seemed to have a presentiment about the card, and determined to let it win through if it would. I did win through, and at the end of the deal Al. had sixteen good dollars stacked up on the four. Al. never touched his bet, but let it stand on the four. The first turn of the box was nine, four, and Penobscot, with an ugly grunt, sized up to the stack, which made the pile \$32. Wescott made no movement to reduce the bet, and the irritated dealer said: 'Here, Mr. Wescott, we can only give you a limit of twenty-five, you must take down.'

"All right," replied Wescott; if that's the kind of gamblers you've got to be I'll take down, but I was going to see if, with all your shuffling, you could prevent that four from winning through again."

"Just then Tom Karran, one of the proprietors, happened to drop in and overhear the last remark. He prided himself on being a terribly 'game' man, ready to gamble against anybody and for any amount of money. Said he:

"Oh, he wants the four to win through, does he? Well, let him go what he wants, you bet I'll not ask him to take down."

"With these orders the dealer turned on, and the result was that the four won through, again, and at the end of the deal Wescott, who had stolidly looking at his rapidly increasing pile of chips, had \$256 stacked up on the four."

"Now," said Wescott to Karran, 'you have made your brag about being a game man, I'll just out the cards with you for the card nearest the four for double that bet or quits.'

"Done!" excitedly exclaimed Karran, and reaching for a fresh pack of cards cut the six of diamonds. Wescott cut, and you'd hardly believe it, showed up the four of clubs."

"For that \$512," calmly remarked Wescott to Karran. 'You may give me some blue checks, I'm tired of playing these cotton things.'

Penobscot was wide awake by this time and looked as if he would never want to go to sleep again. Wescott started in to play with his blue checks—ten dollars apiece—and in less than two hours had won out forty-six hundred dollars. Karran and his dealer got reckless and let him go as much as he wanted to bet. In nine deals he beat the four-spot thirty-two times for \$75 a crack and never lost to it once. He drew out three or four hundred dollars every deal, which you may be sure made the house pretty hot, but he capped the climax along about four o'clock in the morning by getting very sleepy himself, and handing over five or six hundred dollars' worth of checks for redemption, saying with a yawn, that the game was altogether too one-sided and he thought he would go to bed. The money drawer was ransacked and the bank-roll reduced to its last wrapper, but the money to redeem the last bundle of checks was not forthcoming. The bank was broke for the night, and Wescott had to call for the money the bank was short the next day."—Cincinnati Commercial.

AN EXTRAORDINARY FISH.

A most interesting discovery has been made in the sea of Thiberias of a fish which incubates its young in the cavities of its mouth; and, which is the more remarkable, it is the male which performs this part of the family function. As soon as the female has deposited its eggs in the hollow of the sand, the male approaches and draws them into the cavities of the mouth by a process of aspiration. Here they are distributed between the leaves of the gills; and in the midst of the respiratory organs the eggs rapidly develop, distending the mouth of the male fish in the most extraordinary manner. Finally the young fish made their appearance, packed in the gills like so many herring, all with their heads directed towards the opening. From this place of retreat and safety they run in and out until they are large enough to take care of themselves. It is said that as many as two hundred individuals are crowded into the mouth and gills of the male fish.

Ryerson's Island, near Long Point, is being stocked with foxes for sporting purposes.

med and painted and gilded into the ... and it is this part of the proceedings that would make one who has seen the process unwilling to eat the salmon when it is ready for sale. Next the covers are placed on and soldered. They are then perfectly air tight and are forwarded to the boilers. These consist of vats some five feet in height and about four feet in length and breadth. Into these, which contain boiling water, the cans are plunged and allowed to remain two hours or so. At the end of that time they are taken out and allowed to cool. A hole in the centre of the cover that had been soldered up at first is now opened by placing a hot iron over the solder. The melted metal drops into the can and this accounts for the several shot like bodies found in each tin. This vent being opened, all the gases generated in the boiling are allowed to escape. Afterwards the cans are passed on to the next department, when they are rendered perfectly air tight once more, and further on to workmen who dip them in a varnish-like composition. Later they come to the labelling department, after which they are ready to be packed in ten-dozen cases and shipped. This is the whole process of canning. Thus a salmon enjoying life and liberty and in the full pursuit of happiness at 9 o'clock may find himself snugly packed away in a can at 12 and ready for the American markets, labelled as the finest Frazer River Salmon. In less than fifteen days after the same fish may be sold in New York and a few days later in London, not, however until the Frazer River label has been torn off and an English one substituted, when the new importation then appears under the name of fine Scotch Salmon.

In the tin-making and other mechanical departments, without which no cannery is complete, every labor-saving contrivance possible is used. Two new canneries have been erected this season, and the salmon fishery has thus become one of the principal industries of this section of the country.

THE HORSE-SHOEING CONTRIVERSY.

Summing up the horse-shoeing question the Glasgow Herald observes:—'It will probably be difficult to convince those most interested that shoes may, in numerous instances may be dispensed with. Indeed, it is pretty obvious from the tone of some of some of the agricultural papers that the proposal of Mr. Ransom has not as yet found much favor, but we hope that discussion at any rate will not be stifled, and without being dogmatic, it may be said that shoes of the kind now worn are undoubtedly hurtful to the horse, and ought to be superseded. An unprotected foot becomes stronger and more callous the more it is exposed, and as nature is always 'fashion' in her expedients, there is no doubt that she would adopt the hoop which ignorant farmers 'whittle' away with such despatch, to any kind of going which these animals might be required to endure. All that need be asked in the meantime is a fair trial in the way of training a few horses to work without shoes, first of all on the farm, then on the roads of country and town. If it is found that shoes can be entirely dispensed with, the saving to owners will be enormous.'

\$777 is not easily earned in these times, but it can be made in three months by any one of either sex, in any part of the country who is willing to work steadily at the employment that we furnish. \$66 per week in your own town. You need not be away from home over night. You can give your whole time to the work, or only your spare moments. We have agents who are making \$20 per day. All who engage at once can make money fast. At the present time money cannot be made so easily and rapidly at any other business. It costs nothing to try the business. Terms and \$5 outfit free. Address at once, H. HALLITT & Co., Portland and Maine 318-ty.

... and Woolly ch. Captain Webb, who was ... and by two ... end boatmen, named H. Davis and ... Henderson, divided in off Gravesend at ... minutes before seven, a.m., and reached Woolwich at 12.10 o'clock noon, when turning with the tide he swam back to Gravesend, reaching Rosherville at eight minutes before nine in the afternoon, after remaining in the water ten hours all but three minutes. Captain Webb's trial in fresh water being considered satisfactory, he will probably attempt his projected thirty six hours swim in the river Thames. The distance swam was about forty miles, probably the longest swim ever accomplished in fresh water. Captain Webb took no sustenance whatever during his swim, his only refreshment being a little beef and some coffee.

GAMBLING AND FIGHTING.

Virginia City is a terrible place for gambling. Faro is the favorite game, but for those who like it there is also poker (unlimited), keno, sixty-six, and euchre. One man had a marvellous slice of luck. He started in to play faro, he played thirty two hours without stopping or sleeping, and eating a hasty bite as he played. Lost \$11.00 in that time, and was nearly broke—being left with \$20 or so, which he staked—he was so exhausted that he fell asleep—and yet so excited was his brain that he continued automatically playing, knowing nothing. By this time there was a crowd around. Well, he actually won back all he had lost, and about \$17,000 besides. He would probably have continued on playing, but he burst the bank. It was only then that the spectators discovered that he had been sleeping. Eye witnesses state when he was awakened he was the most astonished man they ever saw, though he managed to walk off quite comfortably with \$28,000.

As I walked along the streets I noticed large numbers of men with wounded ears, some in one stage, others healing, some carefully plastered, others again with only a little bit of ear, some with actually a vestige left. It appears what is called ear chipping is a common occurrence. One man gets to playing cards with another, as the gambling goes on the excitement increases, a little dispute arises, and presto! before any one can interfere one springs on another, and goes for his ear. If he be a powerful man, with good teeth and strong muscles, he sometimes bites the ear right off and unconcernedly spits it on the floor. More frequently, though, he contents himself with chewing it at until the ear is pulpy, or until some bystanders just pull him off. In more serious rows the Bowie knife and revolver still reign supreme. The Bowie knife is carried in the boot leg, and the revolver slung aside, in full view, around the waist. With all this, I must say I like the people. They are rough, but thoroughly good-tempered.

ENGLISH RACES.

THE ENTRIES FOR 1880.

The entries for the Derby, Oaks and St. Leger of 1880 are published in Bell's Life of the 20th ult. The first and last named show a falling off as compared with the entries of 1879, when the Derby has 285 subs, against exactly a score fewer in 1880; whilst the Leger of the latter year has a list of 266 against 287 in 1879. The Oaks has an entry of 201 against 188 in 1879 and 216 this year. The Derby and Leger entries for next year and the Oaks for this year are the largest on record. Mr. Crawford and Lord Roseberry head the list in point of numbers in both the Derby and Leger, each having ten representatives in the Epsom race and the other twelve in the Doncaster event. For a wonder Count de Lagrange, instead of being the largest subscriber in both races, has only six entries in each, and his confrere Mr. Lefevre, in place of the large numbers which used to figure opposite his name in days gone by, has only two in each. The Americans are represented in all three events, Mr.

... You have ... good friends, the ... on your side. ... scarcely content against thirty thousand ... heathen, this is the first time I have seen ... chess played with muskets. But wait, ... tained he, 'I think I can spare this unlucky ... pawn also, and informed Grothman that ... there was a mate in five moves.

A PANTHER FIGHT.

Major Sandwith, Major Barras and Lieutenant Francis, three British officers, recently went out to hunt panthers near Atmug Nuggar. They were sitting under the shade of an enormous sugar bush when a panther came out to hunt for British officers. A native went round behind the bush and the panther bit his arm. The officers having the news, ran round the bush one way to help their servant, but the panther ran round the bush the other way, and grabbed Major Barras by the arm. It got a sharp thrust through its ribs, and straightway bounded back into the bush as rapidly as it had issued thence. Stones were thrown into the bush to bring it out, but it sneaked out at the other side and was a hundred yards away ere its retreat was observed. It was fired upon and knocked down with a bullet through the leg, but got up and reached another bush. Major Sandwith threw in a stone to make it break cover, and was successful, for though at ten yards range he and Lieutenant Francis hit it in the chest with two shells, it knocked him down and began worrying him. Finally, by pinning it to the ground with a spear and firing three bullets into it at so close a range as to burn its skin, the panther was induced to die, with its teeth fast fixed in Major Sandwith's thigh, so that its mouth had to be forced open with a knife. Major Sandwith was bitten in three places, leg and thigh.

JIM ANDERSON'S TRUTHFUL CHARACTER.

Some one was reading the Bible to Jim Anderson the other day and came to the passage about the plague of darkness in Egypt. "That must have been terrible," said the reader, pausing, "awful! I don't think of it darkness so intense that it could be actually felt." "Hob," said Anderson, "that was nothing. I remember one night in East Feliciana when it was so dark—in 'Talk about darkness. I had to wade through it just like mad to get home. Lots of people got tired out and scared, and stayed right where they happened to be all night. Why, when we went to bed that night we never hung up our clothes, just pushed them kind of into the darkness like, as we took 'em off, and there they stuck. It was funny in the morning, when it began to grow light, to hear the things dropping out as the darkness lost its grip, and falling on the floor. I remember that I put an old pair of boots up in the—' But here a messenger announced that the committee was waiting for Mr. Anderson, and without completing his interesting narrative of facts he withdrew.

Indians are in the habit of driving buffalo into the Rollingtons River, where they are drowned and then fished out for food. The Rollingtons gathers no mouse, however.

A small flat bug has appeared in Massachusetts, which is armed with a sword, or point about a quarter of an inch in length, with which it stabs the potato bug, killing him in a short time, and so proving a valuable combatant in the Murphy movement.

A CARD.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c., I will send a receipt that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to Rev. J. C. T. INMAN, Station D, Bible House, New York City. 372-mu