

SKILFUL SPIDERS.

At the Spring Garden Institute recently the Rev. Henry C. McCook succeeded in convincing an audience of five hundred people, mostly young boys and girls, that the spider, so far from being a detestable, is one of the most beautiful creatures and the truest philanthropist of the animal world.

To illustrate the beauties of the spiders and the wonderful skill of their work Dr. McCook made use of a series of colored drawings, made by himself from nature. In many of these the habitations of the little animals were seen in the midst of roses and other flowers.

Most of the spider-webs are spun in circles upon threads radiating from a small central opening, but there are square, triangular and many other forms. The webs are usually spun vertically, but some are horizontal and some at various angles.

The ground spiders are called wolves and roam about for their prey. Some of them build a nest of grass lined with silk, that does not look unlike a very small bird's nest.

A part of the lecture was devoted to the cocoons, or egg nests, that nearly all spiders make. Some of these are exceedingly ingenious and pretty, and the devices for suspending them are as varied as are the designs of the spider-web.

At the close of the lecture Dr. McCook was much applauded, and a number of children crowded about him to ask further particulars about some of the spiders most commonly seen here—Philadelphia Times.

In answer to a correspondent who asks the difference between the sugar which is sold in apparently smooth-cut lumps and other white sugar, the lumps of which are somewhat rough on their surface, the New York Star says: "The difference is considerable, and the latter, which is pure loaf sugar cut into lumps, always commands a higher price than the wholesale and cannot be adulterated. It is called in the market 'cut-loaf.' The former quality of sugar is what is known as cubed."

"Yes," responded the proprietor, with considerable feeling. "Brown was a good printer; I fear it will be hard to fill his place."

A lawyer pleading before Sir J. Byles recently deceased, said: "I would refer your lordship to a work in my hands—Byles on Bills." "Is the learned author given any authority for his dictum? If not, I would not heed him. I know him well," interrupted the Judge.

The History of Hundreds.—Mr. John Morrison of St. Ann's, N. S., was so seriously afflicted with a disease of the kidneys that dropsy was developing and his life despaired of. Two bottles of Burdock Blood Bitters cured him after physicians had failed.

Over-Zealous Reformers.

A Food Reform Society in London has lately undertaken to demonstrate the superiority of a purely vegetable diet over one in which fish, flesh and fowl hold important positions. A supper was given to 150 persons, most of whom belonged to the working classes, and the bill of fare consisted of Scotch broth with slices of whole meal, or Graham bread, green-pea pie with potatoes, the pie-crust being made with cottonseed oil, and a dessert of sweetened semolina or farina pudding with stewed prunes.

There is no doubt that the reform in eating which Graham started some twenty years ago, and which has since been developed with more or less success at diverse times and in sundry places, is necessary, and that, owing to the persistent efforts of the "reformers," many palatable as well as wholesome additions have been made to the forms of our daily bread.

A larger use of farinaceous food is, however, possible in the United States than in any other country, the varied natural conditions of climate and soil permitting the cultivation of more varieties of fruit and vegetables than are known elsewhere. But note that it is to cultivation that we are indebted for the unlimited assortment of products of field and orchard which is offered here.

Now systematic cultivation is an outgrowth of civilization, and is, therefore, artificial. So, too, is the actual cooking of the viands which the vegetarians would limit mankind. Consequently, the eating of a Johnny cake is as much to be deplored on natural principles, as is the consumption of a boiled lobster, since man is made of earth and flesh, and not of cotton and wool.

At a certain hotel in Peoria, where the meals are not always what they should be, a merchant traveler, one day set out to the table. He put a dollar under a tumbler, and calling a waiter, said, "Do you see that dollar, Jim?" "Yes, sah," replied Jim, with a grin. "Well now, Jim, I want you to get me a real good, first-class dinner. You understand?" "Yes, sah," and Jim set about furnishing a feast fit for a king. He had no time to see anything else. He hunted up new dishes, put extra touches on everything, and kept his eye on the dollar. Finally the M. T. finished, and wiping his mouth, he winked at Jim. "Yes, sah," grinned the darky in anticipation. "Jim, do you see that dollar?" putting his hand out in a generous way. "Yes, sah," "Well you will never see it again, and it went into his pocket and out of the dining-room, while Jim indignantly remarked, "Fol de lawd, who turns his hog loose in heah?"—Merchant Traveler.

The Diner Thief.—The capture of a thief under very exceptional circumstances is reported from Paris. He contrived to gain admission into a set of chambers during the absence of the lawful occupant, and proceeded to lay hands on everything of value he could find. In the midst of his operations it occurred to him that his wardrobe was in urgent need of renewal, and he therefore took off his clothes with a view of replacing them with others he found in the room. Scarcely, however, had he reduced himself to the garb of primitive man when he heard a step outside, and promptly hid himself under the bed. Some one entered the room, and the thief lay noiseless for several minutes. At length the newcomer departed, and he ventured to leave his hiding-place. But, much to his disgust, he discovered that the visitor was a gentleman in his own way of business, for not only was everything in the chambers carried off, but even his own suit of clothes had disappeared. He was, therefore, compelled to await the return of the owner of the property, who handed him over to the police.

Grains of Gold.—No one can lay himself under obligation to do a wrong thing. Pericles, when one of his friends asked his services in an unjust cause, excused himself saying, "I am a friend only as far as the altar."—Fowler.

Every child should be taught to pay all his debts, fulfil all his contracts, exactly in manner, completely in value, punctually at the time. Everything he has borrowed he should be obliged to return uninjured at the time specified, and everything belonging to others which he has lost he should be required to replace.—Dwight.

A Plant of Rare Virtues.—In the common well-known Burdock, there is one of the best blood purifiers and kidney regulators in the vegetable world, and the compound known as Burdock Blood Bitters possesses wonderful powers in diseases of the blood, liver, kidneys and stomach.

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TORONTO RAILWAY TIME TABLE

Departure and Arrival of Trains from and at Union Station. GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY. Departures, Main Line East. 7:15 a.m.—Local for Belleville. 8:30 a.m.—Fast express for Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, Portland, Boston, etc. 11 p.m.—Mixed for Kingston and intermediate stations.

Arrivals, Main Line West. 1:15 p.m.—Local from Belleville. 2:30 p.m.—Fast express from Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, Portland, Boston, etc. 5:30 p.m.—Mixed from Kingston and intermediate stations.

Arrivals, Great Western Division. 8:35 a.m.—Express from Chicago, Detroit, Hamilton, etc. 11:15 a.m.—Express from London, St. Catharines, Hamilton, etc. 2:30 p.m.—Express from New York, Boston, Buffalo and all points east.

Arrivals, Midland Division. 7:35 a.m.—Mixed—Blackwater and intermediate stations. 1:30 p.m.—Sutton, Midland, Orillia, Cobourg, Haliburton, Lindsay, Port Perry, Whitby, Peterborough, Kettleford, Port Hope, St. Catharines, Hamilton, Campbellville and intermediate stations.

Arrivals, Ontario and Quebec Section. 7:10 a.m.—St. Louis express, for all stations on main line, Orangeville and Elora branches. 1:30 p.m.—Express from all points on main line and branches.

Arrivals, Ontario and Quebec Section. 7:10 a.m.—Express from Orangeville, Owen Sound, Teeswater and all intermediate stations. 8:30 a.m.—S. S. express for Orangeville and Owen Sound direct to West Toronto. 8:40 p.m.—Mixed from Orangeville, Owen Sound and Teeswater.

Arrivals, Toronto, Grey and Bruce Section. 7:30 a.m.—Mail for Orangeville, Owen Sound, Teeswater and all intermediate stations. 10:45 a.m.—Express from Owen Sound and intermediate stations. 8:30 p.m.—Mail from Owen Sound and intermediate stations. 8:35 p.m.—Mixed, arrives at West Toronto.

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