

Reindeer in Alaska.

In the year 1901 Dr. Jackson, of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C., brought over from Siberia sixteen reindeer and started a little colony of them in Unalaska, an island lying off the bleak coast of Alaska. The Scientific American says that at first the experiment was looked on as rather a waste of time and money, but time came to the rescue, and it was clearly proved that these animals could be successfully imported and taken care of, so that now \$25,000 is appropriated annually by the United States for increasing the supply. The reindeer have taken kindly to the native moss, which forms their principle article of food and of course needs no outlay for cultivation. There is said to be enough of this moss in Alaska to furnish plenty of food for 10,000,000 reindeer.

The first lot of reindeer imported were selected from the Chukches, a tough and hardy breed. Next, some of the Tunguse stock, larger and stronger than the others, were brought over. The price of the former in Siberia is about \$4 for a full-grown animal, and of the latter about \$7.50 apiece.

At the present rate of increase, even if no more are imported, there will be at least 1,000,000 reindeer in Alaska in less than twenty-five years. To go a step further, it will not be at all surprising, in the opinion of some, if this industry should grow to be one of considerable commercial importance to the United States, and it has been estimated that in some thirty-five years Alaska may be in a position to sell annually half a million to a million reindeer carcasses, besides furnishing several thousand tons of hams and tongues.

The profits that can be realized from reindeer are, if correctly quoted, very large. For instance, a fawn during the first four years of its life costs the owner less than a dollar a year, while at the end of that period it is worth \$50 to \$100 for its meat, and nearly double that amount if trained for the sled or as a pack animal.

The does are very prolific, and after the year may be counted on to add to the herd a fawn a year for some ten years. They also furnish very rich milk, which is said to make excellent cheese, the quantity of milk averaging about a teacupful at a milking.

The reliability and endurance of these animals is remarkable, making them invaluable for transportation service. This is proved by the fact that they have now for several years been used to carry the United States mails on regular routes with the greatest success and in about half the time required for dog teams. They can also be ridden with a saddle, and travel along contentedly with a pack-load of 150 pounds.

The Swiss government has passed a law prohibiting parents afflicting their children with fantastic and absurd Christian names.



Reindeer Riding.

The Boy and the Bear.

About two hundred years ago a rich and powerful nobleman named Leopold was duke of the Province of Lorraine. The duke was very fond of animals.

Among his savage pets was a great bear, whose name was Marco.

Marco was housed in a rough hut in the corner of his royal master's park. He was supplied with the best of food by the keeper of the animals; and on state occasions he was led out by a big iron chain, and made to dance for the amusement of Leopold's friends.

Marco was fierce; and, when he swung his shaggy head out of the door of his hut and showed his white teeth in an ugly snarl, no one dared to go

the other, and shivering with the cold! The boy was a homeless child, who had lost his way in the duke's forest, and had run into the bear's hut for shelter.

Marco did not know who this newcomer might be, but he was so surprised that he quite forgot to growl. Then a strange thing happened—so strange that, if this were not a true story, I should not ask you to believe it. The boy ran over to Marco, and, peering into the shaggy face, cried joyfully: "Why, you are the duke's funny bear that I saw dancing the other day! Won't you be my friend? I need one so much!"

The bear did not understand what the boy said, but he understood the kind hand that stroked his head. That had meant, "I love you." Marco had never been loved in all of his rough, bearish life—at least, not since the days before he had been caught in the deep forest, a frightened baby, screaming for his mother.

Now a great answering love filled his wild heart. He allowed the little lad to lie down beside him, warmed by his furry coat; and together they slept through the night.

In the morning the boy went away, but came back to his friend in the evening. This happened for several days. Marco shared his food with his visitor, and they became fast cronies.

One day the keeper was surprised to see that Marco left his supper untouched; and instead of hurrying away



A Herd of Reindeer in Alaska.

near him. One blow from his paw would have knocked a man senseless, and those white teeth of his were very sharp.

One cold winter night Marco, having swallowed his supper at a few grips, shambled back into the farthest corner of his hut and curled himself up to sleep. He was just at the "falling-off" point, when he heard a sound at the house door. He started up; and what should he see but a small boy, hopping first on one foot, and then on

to feed the other animals, he stayed to watch the bear.

Marco sat in the door of his hut, patiently waiting for his boy. The keeper offered to take away the food; but he received such a fierce look that he set it down again, and hid behind a tree, to see what would happen next. In a moment, to his amazement, a child ran up to the bear. The keeper sprang forward to snatch him out of harm's way; but the boy had already thrown his arms about his faithful

Ladies!

Here is a snap if you order now.

A Handsome "Needle Book"

full of needles, only 15 cents. Good value.

Manitoba Novelty Co.

Box 1, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

friend, and in a twinkling they finished the waiting supper together.

Duke Leopold was brought to the hut to see this wonderful pair, and soon the story of the boy and the bear had spread throughout the land.

Duke Leopold gave orders that the poor child should be brought to his palace, to be educated and cared for. The little lad made many friends in his beautiful new home, but I think that he never found a dearer one than the bear Marco.—Cora H. Carver.

Honesty the Best Policy.

A young man in a large dry goods store was asked by a customer for some goods which the firm had had on hand for a long time. The customer was pleased with the articles, but before he purchased them he asked the question: "Are the goods of the latest commercial value and style?" The young man at once knew that they were not, but he hesitated a moment, thinking that if he would tell him

that they were not the latest style he would certainly not buy them; and, if he told them they were, he would be telling a lie. But conscience conquered, and he said: "They are not of the latest style, but are of the very best quality." The man purchased more than he intended, and said to a friend afterward that the firm had gained him as a customer through the honesty of that clerk.

CARRIES TROUBLE RIGHT WITH HIM

Fate of the Dyspeptic Who Has Not Learned the Relief that is Found in Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets.

The dyspeptic is the man who carries the troubles of the world on his shoulders. He is racked with pain and filled with despondency. Life's not worth living to him.

It's his own fault. Relief, complete and permanent, is within the reach of all. It is contained in Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets. They digest the food themselves, so there can be no indigestion where they are used. Listen to what Mr. R. A. Barton, 23 Tyndall Avenue, Toronto, says:

"I had Indigestion in its worst form. The doctors could not do me any good and I began to think my case was hopeless. As a last resort, I tried Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets. I am thankful to say they had the desired effect. "I was afraid to eat many things that would have suited my taste. Now I can eat anything that is set before me, asking no questions."



Hobbled Reindeer Ready for Shipment from Siberia.