

All the kinds of deer are shy and timid, but that fine species the moose of North America is peculiarly jealous and suspicious. The Indians declare that he is more shy and difficult to take than any other animal; more vigilant, more acute of sense, than the reindeer or bison; fleetest than the wapiti, more sagacious and more cautious than the deer. In the most furious tempest, when the wind, and the thunder, and the groaning of the trees, and the crash of falling timber, are combining to fill the ear with an incessant roar, if a man, either with foot or hand, break the smallest dry twig in the forest, the Indians aver that the moose will take notice of it; he may not instantly take to flight, but he ceases to eat, and concentrates his attention. If, in the course of an hour or so, the man neither moves nor makes the slightest noise, the animal may begin to feed again; but he does not forget what attracted his notice, and for many hours manifests an increased watchfulness. Hence, it requires the utmost patience of an Indian hunter to stalk moose successfully.

The Indians believe that this animal, when other resources fail, has the power of remaining under water for a long time. It may be an exaggeration growing out of their experience of the many marvellous devices which he occasionally practises for self-preservation, and in which they believe he is more accomplished than the fox, or any other animal. A curious story is told, which may serve to illustrate the reputation of the beast in the eyes of those children of the forest, if it be worth no more. If there is any truth in it, we must assume that the animal managed to bring his nostrils to the surface at intervals; but how he could do this so as to elude the observation of his hunters is the marvel. For it must be borne in mind that they were Red Indians, not white men.

Two credible Indians, after a long day's absence on a hunt, came in and stated that they had chased a moose into a small pond; that they had seen him go to the middle of it and disappear, and then, choosing positions from which they could see every part of the circumference of the pond, smoked and waited until evening; during all which time they could see no motion of the water, or other indication of the position of the moose.

At length, being discouraged, they had abandoned all hope of taking him, and returned home. Not long afterwards came a solitary hunter, loaded with meat, who related, that having followed the track of a moose for some distance, he had traced it to the pond before mentioned; but having also discovered the tracks of two men, made at the same time as those of the moose, he concluded they must have killed it. Nevertheless, approaching cautiously to the margin of the pond, he sat down to rest. Presently, he saw the moose rise slowly in the centre of the pond, which was not very deep, and wade towards the shore where he was sitting. When he came sufficiently near, he shot him in the water.

The manner of hunting moose in winter is also illustrative of his reclusive disposition. Deer are taken extensively by a process called "crusting;" that is, pursuing them, after a night's rain followed by frost has formed a crust of ice upon the surface of the deep snow. This will easily bear the weight of a man furnished with rackets, or snowshoes, but gives way at once under the hoof of a moose or deer; and the animal thus embarrassed is readily overtaken and killed.

The moose, though occasionally taken by "crusting," seems to understand his danger, and to take precautions against it.

The sagacious animal, so soon as a heavy storm sets in, begins to form what is called a "moose-yard," which is a large area, wherein he industriously tramples down the snow while it is falling, so as to have room to move about in and browse upon the branches of trees, without the necessity of wandering from place to place, struggling through the deep drifts, exposed to the wolves, who, being of lighter make, hold a carnival upon the deer in crusting time. No wolf, however, dares enter a moose-yard. He will troop round and round upon the snow bank which walls it, and his howling will, perhaps, bring two or three of his brethren to the spot, who will try to terrify the moose from his vantage ground, but dare not descend into it.

The Indians occasionally find a moose-yard, and take an easy advantage of the discovery, as he can no more defend himself or escape than a cow in a village pond. But, when at liberty, and under no special disadvantage, the moose is one of the noblest objects of a sportsman's ambition, at least among the herbivorous races. His habits are essentially solitary. He moves about not like the elk, in roving gangs, but stalks in lonely majesty through his leafy domains; and, when disturbed by the hunter, instead of bounding away like his congeners, he trots off at a gait which, though faster than that of the fleetest horse, is so easy and careless in its motion that it seems to cost him no exertion. But, though retreating thus when pursued, he is one of the most terrible beasts of the forest when wounded and at bay; and the Indians of the north-west, among some tribes, celebrate the death of a bull-moose, when they are so fortunate as to kill

one, with all the songs of triumph that they would raise over a conquered warrior.

Who has not read of the chamois of the Alps and the Tyrol? and who does not know with what an unrelaxing vigilance it maintains its inaccessible strongholds? As long as summer warms the mountain air, it seeks the loftiest ridges, ever mounting higher and higher, treading with sure-footed fearlessness the narrow shelves, with precipices above and below, leaping lightly across yawning chasms a thousand yards in depth, and climbing up the slippery and perilous peaks, to stand as sentry in the glittering sky. Excessively wary and suspicious, all its senses seem endowed with a wonderful acuteness, so that it becomes aware of the approach of the daring hunter, when half-a-league distant. When alarmed, it bounds from ledge to ledge, seeking to gain a sight of every quarter, uttering all the while its peculiar hiss of impatience. At length it catches a glimpse, far below, of the enemy whose scent had come up upon the breeze. Away now it bounds, scaling the most terrible precipices, jumping across the fissures, and leaping from crag to crag with amazing energy. Even a perpendicular wall of rock thirty feet in depth does not balk its progress: with astonishing boldness it takes the leap, striking the face of the rock repeatedly with its feet as it descends, both to break the violence of the shock, and to direct its course more accurately. Every danger is subordinate to that of the proximity of man, and every faculty is in requisition to the indomitable love of liberty. Hence the chamois is dear to the Swiss: he is the very type of their nation; and his unconquerable freedom is the reflection of their own.

(To be continued.)

EDUCATION.

ARITHMETIC.

(Concluded.)

Form of Questioning.—Troy Weight.

Repeat the Table, and tell how many of one denomination equals another. How many pennyweights in 72 grains? How many in 288, in 480? Explain how you know. In 60 pennyweights, how many ounces? In 135, how many? Explain. Any remaining? Count up 20 to 400, repeat it downward and tell the number. In 144 ounces, how many pounds? Repeat the number of lbs. up and down. How would you reduce lbs. to pennyweights, and the pennyweights to ounces? How would you arrange the different denominations of this Table conveniently for adding? Could you add denominations from left to right, as well as from right to left? Continue such questioning till their understandings are well enlightened on the subject of questioning; and follow up the interrogatory drill by simple, easily-comprehended examples to be worked on slates. Be sure to graduate your questions suitably. Increase processes, and graduate their complexity, so as to suit the pupil's advancement, and the growth of his intellectual capacity. A knowledge of calculating principles in their varied applications, requires at first to be brought before the pupil's mind in their greatest simplicity, and with a suitable extent; but in proportion as his knowledge grows and his faculties develop, instruction must go deeper. It must plough its way deeper and deeper into the intellect,—carrying with it more vigour and life, and more extended knowledge and higher applications.

Again: instruction to do its work efficiently must become with the scholar *himself an instrument of power*. But the mind must receive not only *impulse and field*; it has to give it *working skill*, by which it will become its own educative instrument. A potent educative life within will soon manifest itself without,—in its progress. What an advantage it is to a pupil to have his mind so trained as to have within itself a guiding intellectualizing power!