

HABITS OF THE MOLE.

Famous Tunnel Borer and Destroyer of Worms and Slugs.

One morning I found a miniature mountain range crossing the lawn. It was about six inches wide, three inches high, and ran clear across one end of the yard. "It's a mole," explained Ben, the dark, garden, "but I reckon you'd better catch him 'bout noon, when he sticks his head out to sun himself." So Ben, who gets a quarter for every mole he catches, laid plans for the noon campaign. He got the hose ready for service and carried the business end of it to the hole. As noon approached Ben moved around like a cat after a bird and whispered: "You all want to keep powdering quiet or that mole done run to his nest? It's the end of the year. I watched the end of the burrow and waited in silence. Suddenly the ridge of soil began to heave and some brown earth showed through the grass. Quick as a flash Ben turned on the water, and the mole, startled by the noise, came out of the hole. Ben caught him by the back of the neck and held him up to the light. The mole was about six inches long, including its stubby and hairless tail. The two little diggers in front looked wonderfully like hands, but the hind legs and feet resembled those of a rat, and the creature moved about in the box in spite of the fact that it apparently had no eyes. I fed the captive some strips of cooked meat, resembling in shape the angle or earthworms, of which the mole is so fond, and it ate them ravenously. The creature was killed and its skin tanned to make a purse. The common mole burrows that we see in the yards are only temporary runways made by the creature while hunting earthworms. Mole goes in pairs and excavate long tunnels several inches under the soil. From these branches are made in the constant search for food. Where the main tunnels cross the nest is prepared. This is a very skillfully constructed home. It is a good-sized apartment, the roof of which is supported by earth pillars. The walls, ceiling and floor of the nest are beaten till the earth is very firm. The floor is then covered with dried leaves. Radiating from this nest are as many as five tunnels that extend a distance of 15 feet or more in their different directions. The nest is higher than the tunnels, and a portion of it is above ground. Consequently there is always a little muck above a mole's nest. Mole have very small and keen eyes, which can only be discovered by putting the finger that serves to completely obscure them. The forelegs are so short and close to the head that the ears appear to be back of them. If you examine the mole's chest you will see why it is able to dig so rapidly. It is almost impossible to head it off. The chest is covered with muscles that are as hard as wood and operate the diggers, which he palm out and close to the shoulders. The end of the nose of the common mole is supplied with a number of little protuberances radiating from a centre like the rays of a star. This has given it the name of the star-nosed mole. It feeds on worms and beetles, but has been known to attack small birds. Seeing a bird near it quits its hole, watches its opportunity, darts upon the bird, rips open its breast and plunges its nose into the wound and proceeds to devour the bird. Mole are good swimmers and have often been known to cross rivers that way. At noon of bright days the mole loves to stick its head out of a burrow and bask in the sun, but at the first sight or sound of danger, for its hearing is very acute, the creature disappears in the earth. It never forages for food close to the nest, and it goes food hunting two hours in the morning and as many in the evening. At other times it remains in the nest.



FIGURE OF A MOLE.

Quantities of Butter-milk. Butter-milk possesses many valuable qualities not generally recognized by farmers and dairymen. Some recent medical tests have proven that as an agent of digestion butter-milk has no superior on the farm. It is of great value in typhoid fever, and being a laxative, is excellent for habitual constipation. As a remedial agent in kidney troubles it possesses good features, and in cases of gastric ulcer and cancer of the stomach it can be retained when no other food will remain. These facts ought to be kept in mind and the medicinal virtues of butter-milk utilized in regaining health and keeping the body impervious to disease.

Keep The House Dry.

Build the poultry house so it will be dry at all times. It is easy enough to have a poultry house that is dry in the middle of summer, but that is just the time when the fowls are in it least and are least affected by its condition. But in the winter, when they must remain indoors for days at a time, it is when the fowls need a place that is not favorable to the increase of disease germs. Wet and dirty houses are often the beginning of epidemics of roup and other equally fatal diseases.

A Tight Cough

Is not an easy thing to lose. It grasps the bronchial tubes and reaches for the lungs. There is a way to

Shake it out

of the system. It's an easy way. Take

Gunn's Cura Cough

The remedy will cure every time. It's curative properties go direct to the spot, where the mean little tickling annoys you and drives it out quickly—

25c a Bottle at

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HE SHOWED GREASES

The Advantages of Plowing on the American System.

They Used to Make the Oxen Pull with Their Horns Instead of With Their Shoulders.

An American farmer near Guadalajara convinced his Mexican neighbors that oxen can do more work under American yokes, so generally used in the republic. The American brought several modern yokes from the United States and used them with success. The curiosity of his Mexican friends was aroused, and they proceeded to ask questions.

"Well," said the American, "when you lasso a steer and the lasso gets around his neck what do you do?" "Turn him loose," was the reply. "Why?" "Because he's too strong for us that way."

"That's it," answered the American. "His strength is in his neck, not in his horns." The Mexicans saw the point, and now yokes of United States manufacture are generally used in that neighborhood.

Man and His Tailor.

A man can be measured to the best advantage, tailors say, away from a glass. Standing before a mirror he is almost certain to throw out his chest, if he does not habitually carry it so, and take an attitude that he would like to have rather than the one he commonly holds, whereas the tailor wants him, as the portrait painter wants his subject, in his natural pose and manner. With the man in that attitude the tailor can bring his art to bear if that is required, in the overcoming of any physical defect and produce clothes that will give the best attainable effect upon the figure as they will be actually worn.

His Remedy.

The other day a little stenographer in a downtown office begged some workmen who were putting up a new telephone not to place it so high on the wall as they were doing.

"You see," she said, "I have to use it as much as any one, and I am so short that I can hardly reach it."

"Oh, well, miss," said the humorist in charge of the work, "you can raise your voice, can't you?"—Boston Transcript.

Knew What He Wanted.

The Amiable Plutocrat—But riches do not bring happiness. The Unamiable Pauper—But I ain't lookin' for happiness. All I want is comfort.

The Excellence

Of a candy depends on the quality of the material used and the skill of the maker. We use only the purest materials and have an expert in the art of making fine confections. All kinds of Taffies, Creams, Chocolates, and Fancy Bon-Bons at lowest prices.

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Just open—next R. C. Burd's Drug Store.

Choice Cut Flowers And Designs

I am now prepared to supply my numerous customers with the finest and choicest Cut Flowers that can be had in Western Ontario. Funeral designs are a specialty that for artisticness cannot be surpassed in the city.

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MURDEROUS MUTINEERS.

Demoniac Plot of the Crew of the Hesper—Rebellion in the Hold of a Swedish Brig—Strange Stories of Crime and Courage at Sea.

The story of the recent wreck of the steamer Scotsman, in which a vicious crew looted the cabins and maltreated the passengers, recalls a long list of mutinies at sea. There is on file in the department of justice at Washington the record of the plot to murder the captain and first and second mates of the bark Hesper. The plot was based on the idea of an ignorant sailor that the bark carried a large amount of specie. He proposed that after the officers were put out of the way the crew should steer the bark for the coast of Chile, burn her when within easy distance of the shore and then take to the longboat after dividing the "swag." The conspirators butchered the second mate in the most shocking manner, but grew faint hearted at the sight of his blood, and the remainder of their murderous plan was not carried out. Two of them were hanged for their crime, and the third, who richly deserved death, escaped the gallows by a technicality.

The Hesper, commanded by Captain F. Sodergren, was making a voyage from Australia to Honolulu. She left Newcastle with a crew consisting of 14 persons. Henry Lucas was the first mate and Morris Fitzgerald second mate. The latter had charge of the starboard watch. One night the starboard watch was on duty from 8 until 12 o'clock. It consisted of Mate Fitzgerald and Seamen Thomas St. Clair, Herman Sparr, Hans Hansen and Edwin Larsen. The port watch was made up of Mate Lucas and Seamen Thomas Green, Jans Olsen, Henry Westerlund and Pandy Secaria. Lucas was routed out of his bunk about 12 minutes to midnight by Herman Sparr. He dressed leisurely, and as he was going on deck eight bells struck for 12 o'clock. Lucas went to the wheel and asked for the second mate. The man at the wheel said he did not know where Fitzgerald was. Lucas called the mate's name, but received no answer. He asked several members of the watch if they had seen the second mate. They gave evasive answers. Lucas took a light and went forward, but without discovering any trace of the second mate. Then he became suspicious of foul play and called the captain.

Captain Sodergren appears to have had both courage and presence of mind. He called the starboard watch on deck again and asked each member if he had seen the second mate. The replies were conflicting.

Although the captain learned nothing bearing more directly on the disappearance of the second mate, he decided to place St. Clair, Sparr and Larsen under a precautionary measure. The men did not resist. Soon after daybreak the captain, pursuing the investigation, found a piece of human hair with blood adhering to it. The hair was black, tinged with gray, and was recognized as that of the missing mate. Close to this greasy object were a broom covered with blood and a heavy wooden bludgeon. Going into the fore-castle, the captain found a bloody hatchet under the bunk of Thomas St. Clair.

In spite of the accumulated evidence that Fitzgerald had been butchered and thrown overboard, the members of the starboard watch remained silent. The bark was kept on her course, the captain and first mate standing watch and watch. Each carried a revolver and kept constantly on the alert. In the time the bark dropped anchor at Tahiti, and then



FITZGERALD DIED HARD.

the captain rowed ashore and acquiesced the United States coast with the facts in his possession relating to the crime. The three prisoners were taken ashore and subsequently sent to San Francisco for trial. The other member of the starboard watch and the captain and mate also were obliged to go to the American port.

Before the arraignment of the prisoners the facts connected with the disappearance of Fitzgerald came to the surface. The desire to escape punishment led Sparr and Hansen to reveal the nature of the plot to secure possession of the bark and incriminate each other and St. Clair. Thomas Green also forged links in the chain of evidence incriminating Sparr, St. Clair and Hansen. The chief criminal was St. Clair. He told Sparr, Hansen

and Green that it was the custom for ships returning to California from Australia to carry a portion of their freight in money and that there undoubtedly was \$12,000 or \$15,000 in the Hesper's hold which might be divided among the crew if the captain and his officers could be put out of the way. Gradually he worked upon the cupidity of Sparr and Hansen until they were ripe for murdering the officers and taking possession of the ship. The evidence does not allude to the



MUTINEERS SUMMONED ON DECK.

captain's wife, but there is no doubt, in view of the bloodthirsty prospect of St. Clair, that he would have been murdered or subjected to a worse fate if the plot had succeeded. St. Clair it was who suggested that the ship be carried to the Chilean coast and abandoned. The testimony showed that it had been intended to throw the captain overboard. St. Clair, who had murdered the mate, desired to carry out the original plan and exterminate all on board having authority, but Sparr and Hansen had lost their nerve. Although St. Clair asked several times to help him kill the captain and mate, he did not offer to do the deed alone. It looks as if he, too, had sickened of the bloody work. Hansen in San Francisco told how Fitzgerald was butchered. Sparr let go the peak halyards, and then St. Clair told the mate that something was wrong forward. The mate went into the bow. St. Clair was close at his heels with an ax. He struck the mate at least a dozen times with the sharp weapon. A dozen times with the sharp weapon. The murderer rained blow after blow upon him. Hansen said he struck him at least 12 times. With each blow he started to examine the body after Fitzgerald had ceased to struggle, St. Clair said: "Oh, let him alone. Let us go aft and murder the old man." Thoroughly scared, Hansen begged the now blood mad St. Clair to desist. "We have had enough of murder for one night," he said. "Let us wait to finish the job."

"You have got me started," and now you won't help me," replied St. Clair. Later St. Clair asked Sparr to go down and cut the first mate's throat, but he did not say much when Sparr declined. As Hansen expressed the feelings of the murderers, their "stomachs turned sick," and they were no longer fit to carry out the details of the demoniac plan.

Another story of mutiny and murder is told of the Swedish brig Natal in the passage from Boston to Brisbane. Captain Estrom, early one morning was aroused from sleep by an ax cut on the right jaw. He turned round and saw the carpenter aiming another blow at him, which he partially stopped with his hand, so that the cut did not go so deep. The weapon used by the carpenter was a long handled carpenter's ax. The captain warded off this stroke, too, and wrenched the ax from him. The carpenter then drew a knife and drove the blade into the captain's neck. The captain clutched the blade with his right hand and succeeded in wrenching the knife from the man. The first mate, attracted by the captain's screaming, rushed into the cabin, and the carpenter and steward ran off. The captain and the mate followed them, but were met outside the door by two sailors, Burton and Rafense, the former of whom struck the captain several blows on the head and body with a handspike. The captain, who had lost the knife he had taken from the carpenter, re-entered the cabin and took down a gun from the wall, and the first mate, who was also severely wounded, went with him into the cabin.

All this time the blood had been streaming from the captain's wounds, but he partially stanching them with wadding. Seeing that the situation was desperate, the captain and mate provided themselves with ammunition and loaded the guns and revolvers. The mutineers, seeing that the officers were armed, rushed down into the hold through the hatches. Johnson, a sailor, who was the last, hesitated a little, and the captain called out, "Go aft, or I'll shoot you," and in this way he was forced to go aft, where he was promptly secured and tied. The fore scuttle and forepeak hatches were fast-

ened down, and when this was done Johnson was untied and told to assist in working the vessel, which he was willing to do. At this time the second mate was missed. He had been sitting on the port side of the deck, washing his clothes in the moonlight. His cap was found lying on a covering board, and on the top of it a broad cut was visible. It was then apparent that he had been murdered and thrown overboard.

The mutineers having been fastened in, much noise was heard in the hold during the night. Next day more noise was heard from the fore-castle, as though the men were cutting their way through with knives. The captain began to fear the worst, especially as there was a petroleum cask accessible. As far as he knew they had no other tools than their knives, a revolver and a few bolts lying in the hold. As they had a revolver in their possession, the captain and mate dared not go too near the fore-castle, but once as they went forward they were asked by the carpenter through a crack in the fore-castle, on behalf of the mutineers, "if they could come up and work." The captain told them first to deliver up their arms. To this no answer was made. Captain Estrom, on the third day, in fear of his own safety, resolved to shoot the ringleaders on the first opportunity. Accordingly in the afternoon the captain and mate went forward, armed each with a gun and a revolver. The hatches were raised, and the mutineers were summoned to come on deck and give up their arms. The carpenter said "Yes," and came up with the knives. When all had come up, the hatches were fastened down, and the captain ordered them to stand separately, two on one side of the vessel and two on the other. He then leveled his gun at Burton, shot him in the side and threw him overboard. The carpenter, fearing a similar fate, tried to run aft, but was prevented by the mate. He then got behind the others, so that the captain could not get a fair shot at him. The other men, however, stooped down, and the captain shot him in the shoulder. The carpenter did not drop immediately, but ran about the deck. The captain followed and shot him in the back, when he immediately fell, and the others, by the captain's orders, threw the body overboard. The decks were then washed down to remove the blood. The other two men, on being asked if they were willing to work and behave well, replied in the affirmative and were given food and went to work willingly enough.

FLORENCE.

Rev. J. E. and Mrs. Holmes visited in town a few days this week. Misses Ferguson and Bentley, and Messrs. Keazie and Welks, of Ridgeway, visited in town last Sunday. Leslie Fleming was the guest of Miss Fannie Coates, of Chatham, last Sunday.

Rev. Jno. Russell, of London, visiting in town on Monday. Mrs. Sherman McRoberts, of Chatham, is visiting her mother in town. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sweet spent Sunday and Monday in Bothwell.

D. Nairn spent Sunday and Monday in Sarnia. Anniversary services of the Epworth League was held last Sunday in the Methodist church. The Rev. J. E. Holmes, of Mt. Brydges, officiating both morning and evening. The following evening, the Dresden Epworth League took entire charge of the program of the usual anniversary services, entertainment, which consisted of vocal and instrumental, and violin solos, readings, recitations, quartettes and choruses, which were ably rendered, and much appreciated by all present.

The man who tells you a secret and asks you not to tell doesn't treat you right. He enjoys telling it, and forbids you having just as good a time.

Libraries are the shrines where all the relics of the ancient sages, full of true virtue, and that without delusion or imposture, are preserved and repose.

No villainy or flagitious action was ever yet committed but, upon due inquiry into the causes of it, it will be found that a weak first or last, the principal engine to effect it.

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We have this season made a special effort in selecting a special range of the best Imported Worsteds, Scotch, English and Irish Tweeds and Overcoats with a vast range of our own make. We guarantee to save you money and to make your clothes up-to-date and to give you the very best trimmings. OUR CLOTHING IS CASH.

A special reduction in Yarns and Blankets. We have the BEST Underwear for the money in the world. See US for Mitts, Socks, Ready-made Pants \$1.50 per pair. Special line of Ready-made Suits, Ulsters, Horse Blankets, Rugs, etc.

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