

COLORS IN BIRDS' EGGS.

A Secret of Nature Which is a Power to Men of Science.

"If you are interested in natural problems," said a man who has done some work over the cases on the Museum of Natural History, "there is a very simple one, but you can find it all the food for speculation and theory you want, as scores of very eminent thinkers have done already."

"What is nature's reason for the color and marking of birds' eggs, and in the process of evolution how has it worked out? There must be a reason for their infinite diversity and it can hardly be an aesthetic one."

"That looks simple enough, yet the most advanced naturalists haven't been able to puzzle it out. As they can say with a confidence that is the all-pervading instinct of distrust and need for protection is exhibited in eggshells as in more important things, and the main idea in their color is to make them safe and secure against the attacks of their surroundings. But even that has exceptions."

"Take the doves. Their eggs are white as a plain white, but they are not, though the nest is built in a tree, and the eggs should be of a darker tint to follow the general rule."

"Now, that, I believe, has been reasoned out in this way: The original doves were rock doves and they laid white eggs in conformity with the natural law which ordains that color for most species of birds nesting in the dark, so that the female might readily see them when she comes late to the gloom."

"You will find traces of this early instinct in the fact that, wherever there is a deserted rabbit warren you will find doves taking advantage of it to build their nests in the abandoned burrows. But whether in holes or trees, the eggs are still white, and the birds are still contented for their rock dwelling ancestors."

"Owls lay pale eggs for the same reason. They breed in the dark. On the other hand the ducks, which so far as anybody knows, have always frequented the most open places also lay pale eggs without markings. But with them you will find a great tendency to olive, brown or sandy tints, the very color of the sand and shingles on which the eggs are found."

"The egg shells of the plovers and similar beach birds are exactly ground color, just as the partridge and pheasant eggs are the color of fallen leaves. And grouse, quail and moor fowl have eggs matching exactly in color with the brown stems of heather and the pine tree scales among which they lie."

"But there are blue and white spotted eggs you can't explain. At least I can't satisfactorily. Anybody may start his own theories on the subject and find the problem endless. Solve it correctly and I think you will solve at the same time how a dozen other mysteries which have puzzled great scientists on this queer problem filled planet."

NEW WAYS IN CHINA. Even Dowager Empress Rides About in an Automobile nowadays.

The Boxers did the metropolis of Chi-li a good turn in 1900, when they besieged the foreign settlement, declared war on all the world, and brought down upon it the armies of eight great powers.

The presence of 100,000 foreign troops, with all their surprising activities and methods, waked up Tientsin and sent it spinning in the path of progress. Local government by foreigners had free sweep in any municipal reforms or public works, and with the old native city laid flat and its walls destroyed, there was every chance to cut wide and lay out roads as they were needed, to enlarge the French concession, make a Japanese, a German, and Russian settlement, and extend the model British settlement in the heart of the foreign city. Business houses, dwelling, banks and barracks have been built in every quarter, good roads lead in every direction over the mud plain, and Tientsin as it was before the war bears no resemblance to this busy, hustling, modern city.

The fever of progress and prosperity is as great within the Chinese city also, and the viceroy, Yuan Shih Kai, has kept the pace set him by the international government, ruled Tientsin in modern western fashion during the foreign occupation. The object lesson was not lost, and the foreign impetus has not yet subsided. The viceroys had, however, made a boulevard from the native to a railway station of its own that twinkles with electric lights at night; there are iron bridges across the river in places where there were once wooden bridges, and the whole place hums with such progress as was never dreamed of in China.

The city gates of Peking swing open day and night, and the branches in the walls have been made to permit the railroad tracks to parallel the Tartar city wall, and the station is beside the water gate through which General Cassal and the British troops passed that August day to relieve the besieged legations. Jirlikishas meet the arriving trains and whirl one past the walled and battlemented canal to Legation street, a hard, macadamized highway closed with gates at either end.

The way is lined with tall foreign buildings and brick walls, over which show the gabled roofs of other two-story foreign constructions. As well might be anywhere else but Peking. Only a few gateways on this street remain as they were before the siege, and a stretch of the French compound wall bears the marks where bullets and shell peppered it through the mid-summer months of 1900. The old tower, the coffin shop, the Chinese shops with its gilded roof, the old Chinese landmarks are gone from Legation street in place are the London bank, the left English bank with its clock tower, and the by-riddle old bars and foundations of the large hotel of the Compagnie Wapens. One rubs his eyes in amazement that three short years could do so much. In the old days at each day, a coachman here and there themselves have changed with the much as the small quarter of the Tartar city. But an immense wall, entering there has come, too, a complete change in the face and heart of

typical and most popular officials no longer spit at the sight of a foreigner, his cart or his dwelling, as if ejecting poisonous bacilli, nor do they openly loathe the skin of a foreigner. In fact for the cover of a cart, six princely drive foreign built broughams, and more than sixty foreign carriages will be in use by official personages this winter.

The Empress Dowager enjoys her automobile in the summer palace grounds, and Prince Su, who has charge of municipal affairs, promises that the main streets of the city shall be fit for automobile travel in one year.—Chicago Tribune.

Boiled Tomatoes. Boiled tomatoes have a much better flavor than the same vegetable fruit stewed. Smooth tomatoes nearly of a size should be chosen. There are a few boiling in water and boiled until they can be easily pierced with a fork. Lift them out, then, place on squares of buttered paper, score each on top crosswise, season with a lump of butter, some salt, pepper and a very little sugar, and serve as hot as possible.

Valentine. Ellie Parker Butler in Leslie's. In hand I take this pen of mine To write you, sweet, a valentine; I'd take your dainty hand instead, But you're a drawing—I am wed. And that is why, you understand, I only take my pen in hand.

The Parson's Wife. Bishop Huntington, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, diocese of Central New York, is an old man and a wise one; but even from his lips these words may seem a little strange to many of us: "More than one pastor has been displaced, more than one ministry sacrificed by the 'drossy,' pleasure-seeking, or silly partner of a diligent pastor."

More than one? Very like. Not all the ministers' wives can be perfect, but it is hardly fair to dwell on the imperfections of a few. There comes to the mind's eye so many pictures and memories of parsons' wives who raised large families, who patched, washed, darned, scrubbed, mended, cooked, kept the brood in order, educated it; sent boys and girls to college and stented themselves to do it; kept their husbands well as they could; took an active part in all sorts of church, Sunday-school, charitable, educational, social work and play; snatched time to read, too; submitted meekly to be "bossed" by their "influential" made and matrons, and miscellaneous bores; and kept sweet, helpful, patient, sunny through life. Their works do follow them! The ministers' wives were, are, and ever shall be all right.

"With the Procession" in Everybody's Magazine for February.

Every house needs a New Century Washer. It is the best; you cannot afford to deprive your wife of so valuable an aid. It has ball bearings and strong spiral springs. Thoroughly cleans a tub-full of clothes in five minutes. Have your dealer show it to you or write us for booklet.

THE DOWSWELL MFG. CO., LTD. HAMILTON, ONT.

READY TO GO. Kindly Office Joe Blackburn's Perfumed for Negro About to Hang.

When Senator Joe Blackburn was a struggling young lawyer, as all really great statesmen must have been at some stage of their career, he was called upon to defend a negro charged with murder. Mr. Blackburn did the best he could—made an impassioned address to the jury and all that sort of thing—but the defendant was sentenced to pay the extreme penalty.

Mr. Blackburn was then taking his first dip in politics, running for some small local office. He had a hard time getting people to attend the meetings at which he was advertised to speak, and luck generally appeared to be against him. Well, hanging day came and the doomed man was told that he would have fifteen minutes in which to say his last words.

Mr. Blackburn accompanied the man to the scaffold, and as his eyes wandered over the several hundred of his fellow citizens who had come to witness the spectacle—more than he could ever hope to attract by his own eloquence—his brain was lit up by a flash of genius. He had a few hurried words with his client in which he related the waste of words it would be for the unfortunate man to talk at such a time and impressed upon him what a godsend the opportunity to make a speech would be to him, Blackburn. "The negro somewhat reluctantly agreed to let him go ahead."

Thereupon, much to the surprise of the auditors, Mr. Blackburn launched into an effort on the issues of the hour. He was proceeding in his own entire satisfaction when he felt a tugging at his coat tails, glancing around he encountered the pained expression of the negro.

"Say, Massa, Joe," he whispered, "dat speech wot yuh make tuh de jury was bad nuff to hang me, but dis yuh one"—shaking his head sadly—"Mistuh Sheff, please pull dat rope."—Washington Star.

A Hint to the Powers. In this weather somebody will get a severe cold if the open door is left open in the house.

One of the happiest moments of a man's life is when he is able to say, "I told you so."

One of the saddest moments of a man's life is when he is able to say, "I told you so."

Foul Breath, Catarrh, Headache

Pre-Banished by Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder. It Relieves in 10 Minutes.

F. J. Boscum, druggist, Cookshire, Que., says: "For 20 years I suffered from catarrh. My breath was very offensive even to myself. I tried everything which promised a cure. In almost all instances I had to proclaim them no good at all. I was induced to try Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder. I got relief instantly after first application. It cured me and I am free from all the effects of it."

Dr. Agnew's Ointment relieves eczema in one day. 35c.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury, as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surface. Such articles should never be used except on prescription from reliable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good they can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure manufactures by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is sold in bottles of 50 cents. It cures all catarrhs of the head and throat, and is sold in bottles of 50 cents. Sold by Druggists. Price, 75c per bottle. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

No Dancing for Them. The Chicago Business Woman's Club has decided against dances in which it is necessary for the gentleman to put his arm around the lady. If that kind of dancing is to be barred the dancing teachers may as well look around for new jobs.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Little Braves.—Old time a quarter-a-whole "Purgers" are quitting the field in whole battalions. Dr. Agnew's Little Pills at 10 cents a vial are driving them out at all points. Because they act gently, more effectively, never pain, and are easy to take. Sick headache succumbs to one dose.—6c.

The Judge Wilted. A certain judge, living in the upper part of New York, while trying a case, listened with pain and displeasure to the testimony of a colored woman who was describing how she had whipped one of her offspring. She enlarged on the harrowing details until the judge stopped her.

"Do your men to tell me that you were cruel enough to punish your son like that?" he demanded.

"Om co'ee I did, yuh honob," she replied.

"How dare you be so brutal?" The colored woman looked at him in fine contempt for a moment, then asked slowly: "Look a-beeh, judge, was yuh eber do father ob a wuthless mulatter boy?"

The judge almost fell from the bench. "Ef yuh ain't," continued the negress, "then yoh don't know nuffin' 'bout de case!"—Harper's Weekly.

Inconsistent. Buffalo News. She would not, though I coaxed and teased, And begged of her my bride to be, She said she'd marry whom she pleased. Yet—Goodness knows!—she pleases me.

A Cry for Help.—A pain in the back is a cry of the kidneys for help. South American Kidney Cure is the only cure that hasn't a failure written against it in cases of Bright's disease, diabetes, inflammation of the bladder, gravel and other kidney ailments. Don't neglect the apparently insignificant "signs." This powerful liquid specific prevents and cures.—7c.

He Had a Good Time. Chicago Chronicle. The late Admiral Sir Harry Koppel said a short time before his death: "I am well over 90 years of age and I have enjoyed every hour of my life. I am well content to go."

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria. For the Children. The Earl of Meath, a somewhat enthusiastic British humanitarian, has suggested to the London school authorities that children of the elementary grades be taken from the villages, and returned to pay only the bare cost of food, the county council footing other expenses. He urges that in this way children of the very poor shall have an opportunity to grow up healthy and good citizens. In addition, many of them would probably stay in the country, thereby helping to repopulate the rural districts.

Minard's Liniment Cures Colds, etc. Brilliant Little Nelly. Philadelphia Record. The Squire's Pretty Daughter (examining the village school)—"Now, children, can you tell me what a miracle is?"

"Can no one answer th's question?" the new curate asked, who was standing behind the squire's daughter.

A little girl was suddenly struck with a brilliant idea. She held up her hand excitedly, "the squire's daughter, smiling approval. "Please miss" the small child replied breathlessly, "mother says 'tw'll be a miracle if yuh don't marry the new curate."

A JAPANESE WAR SONG.

It Describes the Frenzies of Japanese During the War With China.

When Japan sent a party of naval officers and sailors to the States to take charge of the cruiser Kasagi, built by the Cramps, they taught one of the Japanese war songs to their American acquaintances. Here is how the Japanese version ran in part:

Tenshin joyaku bakai habi Toyo heiva no givo shiranu, Momai ganko no chan-chan ga. Burei kiwamaru furumaiwa, Setahi yakuwaku kogal hitun, Nippon dainihon udemaidai, Yaban no guse o yaburanto.

Translated, the song is as follows: "The plain treaty has been broken. The extremely discourteous conduct of the barbarous and stubborn Chinese, failing to recognize the value of peace in the east, causes teeth to be set and arms folded, while public sentiment is sorrowful and angry."

"To break this dream of barbarism by the power of the Japanese soldier, our reinforcements are continually advancing, with flags floating bravely."

"Both in the desperate battle of the Gulf of Pechili and in an attack on the Province of Segio, we displayed the national flag, and planting the flag of the Rising Sun, we are fighting against our country."

"We are marching through a country in which the scorching heat blisters the flesh. We are passing through fire and water, but we do not care. The enemy's projectiles come like hail. The corpses are piled mountain high at Heijo. Blood discolors the waters of Wei Hai Wei, but our soldiers, never retreating an inch, easily captured the Chinese fort."

"Strapping 400 provinces with one hand and planting the flag of the Rising Sun on the Castle of Peking, let us return in triumph. For you are to be an example of the military clan, increasing the fame of the nation."

"Human life is only fifty years. If we are reluctant to lose it, we become disposed to surrender to generations. Two ways lie open before us: the loyal way is to die. Let our motto be to continue fighting until we fall exhausted. This is the most satisfactory solution. How desirous. How joyful!"

Minard's Liniment Cures Garget in Cows. Destructive Bugs. A Boston entomologist makes the extraordinary statement that bugs, under which generic name he includes the little creatures from the grasshopper to the ladybug, are destroying property in this country to the amount of \$250,000,000 a year. The grasshopper eats up \$90,000,000 worth of vegetation, the fleas \$10,000,000, the ladybug the chinchee, \$10,000,000, and the potato bug \$8,000,000. Moths, ladybugs, tobacco worms, squashbugs, beetles and numerous other entomological entities consume the remainder.—Oswego Times.

When you think you have cured a cough or cold, but find a dry hacking cough remains, there is danger. Take

Shiloh's Consumption Cure. The Lung Tonic. At once. It will strengthen the lungs and stop the cough. Price: 50c. S. C. Wells & Co., 325 2d St. N. Y., Toronto, Can.

They Bound the Wrong Leg. A man in North Waldoboro, while cutting wood last week, had the misfortune to cut a deep gash in his leg, which, owing to a very peculiar mistake, came near being much more serious than the circumstances would warrant. His leg was corded and he was taken to Waldoboro village, a distance of six to seven miles, for surgical treatment. Upon the arrival there the injured man was found to be at death's door from the loss of blood, and it was then discovered that the cord was tied around the wrong leg. He is now recovering.

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Shirt waists and dainty linen are made delightfully clean and fresh with Sun-light Soap.

The Eusive Hair. To my notion, there is a peculiar charm about trailing a hare. In the first place, there is a superb uncertainty about where you will locate the beast, if it knows where it is itself. You find a fresh track, and if wise, you will follow it in what apparently is the wrong direction, and there—well, you just keep on following. Somewhere, perhaps only a few yards to one side of where you struck the track, is the other end, and, of course, a hare. You acquire wisdom concerning this small technicality later—possibly hours later—but that does not of necessity spoil the sport. It may be the track is first found in a briery thicket, which hampers all rising ground, marking the edge of a great swampy woodland. It is easy—in fact, almost too easy. The hare loves swampy woodland, so, of course, he merely has skipped for a trifling distance along the rim, as it were, of the depression, then gone down and squatted under some handy log, from which shelter you will bounce him within five minutes. Theoretically this is sound; practically, it is a hundred to one shot on an utterly unreliable tip. Impulse prompts you to slant down toward the swamp at once, to jump him from some perch, promptly knock him over and be done with. This will save useless pottering over foetid tracks and also save valuable time.—Edwyn Sandys, in February Outing.

Intelligent Treatment with Allen's Lung Balm brings you relief. It is a natural, safe, and effective remedy for coughs, colds, and asthma. It is a natural, safe, and effective remedy for coughs, colds, and asthma.

Easy to Escape Recognition. Modern Society. Young Arthur (who thinks himself famous)—I believe I should enjoy my holiday better if I could go incognito.

Friend—Good idea. Travel under your nom de plume.

Are You Going to New York? Then use the New York Central, the only trunk line whose trains enter New York City, corner 4th avenue and 42nd street.

The Horse Holds its Place. The automobile, rapid, shifty, and a bit dangerous withal, came to contend with the horse for mastery in the matter of outdoor exercise and transportation. The motor car has made a sure place for itself, but neither it nor the chest-thumping bicyclist can claim equality with the horse as a braver of nerves and preserver of health.

Sleighting Good. The winter of 1903-4 will live in the memories of Sir Thomas Shaughnessy and Mr. C. M. Hays as a season when the sleighing was much better than the railroad.

Why They Parted. He—Their engagement is broken off. She—For what reason? He—Why, he told her one night that when he was at his work her face was ever before him.

Why he's a cartoonist.—Yonkers Statesman.

Use FIBRE WARE. Can be had in TUBS, PAILS, WASH BASINS, MILK PANS, STABLE PAILS, ETC. From any first-class dealer.

Age of Mother Earth. Lord Kelvin's estimate of the age of the world is: "Not so great as 40,000,000 years; possibly as little as 20,000,000 years; probably 30,000,000 years." As not even the greatest scientists have been able to find out within 10,000,000 or 15,000,000 years how old Mother Earth is, it must be confessed that she keeps the secret of her age quite as well as do her charming daughters. The scientists may at last come to the conclusion that, like the others, she is "only as old as she looks."

Even More Appropos. A good story is going the rounds in the Oranges of a prominent Presbyterian clergyman who was presented with a twin the day before Christmas, says the New York World. He had prepared a sermon for Christmas morning upon the subject, "Unto Us a Child is Born." When the twins arrived he thought the text might prove too appropos. He thereupon ex-cavated another sermon from the barrel, and preached upon "Art Thou He Who Should Come, or Look We for Another?" Even with this thoughtfully substituted text, the congregation had to smile just a little.

ISSUE NO. 8 1904.

Mr. Winslow's Seething Syrup should always be used for Children's Coughing. It soothes the child, softens the rattle, soothes the colic and is the best remedy for Diarrhoea.

A Money-Maker. A good general servant. Good wages. Apply to MRS. W. A. HOLTON, Hamilton, Ont.

WANTED FARM HAND. Single man. Must be qualified with general farm work and the care of stock and be well recommended. Apply to P. O. Drawer 27, Hamilton, Ont.

B & C LONG HIP A POPULAR CORSET FOR 1904 STYLE 253 NO BRASS EYELETS

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY BRUSH & Co., TORONTO - ONT.

A Tame Answer. I found the motorman an intelligent and courteous fellow. "Would you like to drive a car at the rate of 100 miles an hour?" I asked.

Wash greasy dishes, pots or pans with Lever's Dry Soap a powder. It will remove the grease with the greatest ease. 3c.

Afraid of Morgan. Toronto Star. J. Pierpont Morgan has gone to Montreal for a rest. His action seems natural enough here, but Montreal, which isn't really aware of its resplendent reputation abroad, is nervously nailing down the mountain.

In Going to New York. Be sure that your tickets read via Grand Trunk and Lehigh Valley route of the Black Diamond Express. This is the direct and best route from all Canadian ports by sea route baggage is now checked in bond and from Canadian points. The Lehigh Valley has three stations in New York, up town near all first-class hotels, and down town near all European steamship docks, saving passengers for Europe a long and expensive transfer. Secure your tickets of Grand Trunk agents, Robert S. Lewis, Canadian Passenger Agent, Yonge street, Toronto, Ont.

"This is a dition and a snare," remarked the man with the impressionistic nose as he realized that his whiskey had been watered.

The Canadian Order of Chosen Friends Still Forging Ahead. The Order has just closed another prosperous year, in fact the best in its history.

Total increase approved applications.....3,368 Total increase in surplus funds.....\$100,000.00 Total membership.....26,000 Total surplus funds.....\$2,000,000.00 PURELY CANADIAN. REGULARLY INCORPORATED. HEALTHY and RELIABLE

Organizers wanted. Write W. F. MONTAGUE, Grand Recorder, Hamilton, Ontario. W. F. CAMPBELL, Grand Organizer, Hamilton, Ontario.

Her Conclusion. "Do you think your father has any idea of his serious intentions concerning you?" "I heard him telling mother the other day that he didn't think it would cost any more to have you at the table regularly than it does for me to feed you from the pantry shelves every night."—Chicago Record-Herald.

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T H I S O R I G I N A L D O C U M E N T I S P O O R C O N D I T I O N

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It is the fence that has stood the test of time—stands the heaviest strain—never sags—the standard the world over. Order through our local agent or direct from us.

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