

## REMARKABLE CANINE INTELLIGENCE.

Among the passengers lost on the steamer *Clair*, on Lake Superior, was a man named Stewart, of Duluth. He had a small English spaniel, which swam ashore. The dog was well known at Duluth and along the Northern Pacific railroad, and was remarkable for his intelligence and sagacity. His owner was employed by the Northern Pacific road to measure timber delivered by contractors. The dog would take the end of the tape line and go to the end of a log, sixty or seventy feet long, and held it at the end while his master would hold it at the other, and do this all day or until all the timber was measured. His master would send to the post-office, simply saying to him, "go up—get letters;" the dog would go to the post-office and go around to one of the clerks, look at him, wag his tail, and was so well-known the clerk would give him the letters, which he would carry back to his master, and in the same way would carry letters which his master had written to the post-office to be mailed. His scent was very acute.

Coming home from the woods one day, Stewart was met on the way by a company of young people, who had been at a picnic, about half a mile away. One of the young ladies had left her parasol on the ground. Stewart called his dog, and pointing to the well, said, "so find and bring here." The dog was gone about fifteen or twenty minutes, and returned with the parasol. A pile of lumber, put in Stewart's charge, was being stolen. Stewart called his dog, took him to the pile, and said, "watch it and see who takes it." Two or three days afterward the dog came to him in the morning, and by signs familiar to his master, told him to follow him. Stewart took a policeman with him, and told the dog to go on, and he led them about a quarter of a mile to a shanty, occupied by a Swede, on the bank of a lake. They looked under the shanty and saw a large pile of boards. The Swede was arrested, taken before the justice, and Stewart told the justice what the dog had done. The justice at once convicted the Swede of the larceny.

A great many other doings of the dog are known to the people of Duluth, and it is to be hoped that he will fall into good hands.

## FAST TYPE SETTING.

The Montreal printers' picnic came off last week on St. Helen's Island. The most important feature of the day's exercises was the type-setting match at noon. The competition was between W. S. Humphreys and D. F. Patton, of the Star; W. C. Barnes, J. Wardley, Alphonse Barrette, and Isaac Glennan of the Witness. The copy used was the printed leader in the Herald of Saturday last, the same copy being given to all. All being ready, time was called at 12.01 p.m., and the types began to ply their favorite occupation. After exactly one hour's work time was called, nearly three stickfuls of nonpareil type having been set. Proofs were taken and errors marked, it being found that Mr. Barnes had the least number of mistakes, only three; Mr. Wardley had only four mistakes. Time was again called, and the compositors set about correcting their proofs, each one renewing his work of setting as soon as his proof was corrected until the last proof was finished, which was nine minutes. The whole set by each competitor was then proved, and corrections being made the final result was declared as follows: 1st prize, silver medal and \$5, Mr. Barnes, who set 2,018½ ems; 2nd prize, inkstand, Mr. Wardley, 1,951½ ems; 3rd prize, composing stick, Mr. Grennan, 1,820½ ems; Mr. Barrette, 1,749 ems; Mr. Humphreys, 1,614½ ems; and Mr. Patton, 1,502½ ems.

and trainer to give him a final finishing touch with a two-mile trial. After running a little over a mile he came to a standstill. Upon examination it was found that he had broken completely down, not in the weak, but the sound front leg. This is not an uncommon occurrence. In moving, the weak leg pains the horse, and he undertakes to favor it by throwing the whole of his weight upon the well limb, and, it being too severely taxed, gives way. Vigil was a magnificent racehorse. Very few horses possessed his real merit and quality. Game to a fault, of a high rate of speed and the most extraordinary endurance, he killed his rivals by the fierceness and steadiness which so highly distinguished him. He was the largest winner of 1876, but he was called upon too often, and, as a consequence, retired prematurely from a brilliant and successful career upon the turf. His fine size, high form, great quality, excellent breeding, and brilliant record will make him one of the most valuable stallions in the country.

Belle of the Meade, the best two-year-old of 1876, is also broken down. This event has been anticipated for several months. She was a very extraordinary race horse and at one time was able to cut down at ease the best two-year-olds in Kentucky and Tennessee, such as Baden Baden, King Faro, Mo-Whirter, King William, Lisbon and Glentona. Short but dazzlingly brilliant has been her history. Sue will be bred to Harry Hill next spring.

## LION TRAINERS.

Van Amburgh was one of the most remarkable of lion kings. Perfectly fearless, he was constantly in danger; yet notwithstanding the fact that the newspapers reported him killed over and over again, he died quietly in his bed at last. During his career, menagerie keepers and circus proprietors sought about for lion kings wherever they could find them; and as a demand usually creates a supply, so was it in this instance. Heroes sprang up in various obscure corners, each tempted by the high salary offered. A solatium of ten or fifteen pounds a week is no trifle to a man in a humble station. Crockett, who attained considerable celebrity in this branch of business, won fame not only by his performance before the public, but by an exercise of great courage at a perilous moment. One night the lions got loose. Crockett, to whose lodgings a messenger was quickly dispatched, came and hastened into the arena. The lions were roaming about the auditorium, and had just killed one of the grooms. Crockett went among them, and with only a switch in his hand drove or enticed them into their cage without receiving a scratch. The rumor of this bold and successful achievement brought him offers of an augmentation of salary. A negro sailor, who called himself Macomo, the Africa lion king, also gained a reputation for bravery. He appears to have been a daring fellow, well adapted for the work he undertook. On one occasion an unusually savage tiger, newly purchased, was put into a cage already tenanted by another tiger. The animals began to fight furiously. Macomo, armed only with a small riding whip, entered the cage; both tigers turned fiercely upon him and lacerated him severely; but, covered with blood as he was, he continued to whip them into submission. Not for one instant did he keep his eyes off them, and they knew it. Macomo had other narrow escapes, but like most of lion kings he died quietly in his bed at last.—*Rx.*

At a banquet given in Ishpeming, Michigan, recently, there was a huge punch-bowl on one of the tables, four feet in diameter and three feet high, carved out of ice. Although the weather was very warm, it lasted the evening through.

that are now so essential to the complete and perfect working of a stage. During the exhibition yesterday afternoon sets of scenes were shifted in an incredibly short time by the inventor's assistant, who controlled the crank that had been temporarily placed at the right of the room. At the same moment one set of scenery was taken off another was being brought on. The machinery controlling all the scenery is very simple.

There was no wood or canvas used in the structure of the scenery, which was made of iron gallez set in iron frames. In addition to safety from fire the inventor claimed further advantages. He said:—Reduction in scene shifts and stage laborers, fifty to seventy-five per cent., and a like reduction in the insurance rates, increased storage room, placing the working and management of the stage in the hands of one man, who could also act as prompter; great increase in the adaptability of the scenery, and an increased effect over artist work upon canvas. These statements were all borne out by the insurance and theatrical men present. A prominent member of a leading fire insurance company said that the rates of premiums upon a theatre supplied with scenery of this description would be less than half what they were under existing circumstances.

## CARRIER PIGEONS.

A German paper gives some details of the extraordinary development of the breeding and training of carrier pigeons in Germany since the late war. During the siege of Paris, pigeons afforded the only means of communication between the outside world and the inhabitants of the beleaguered city. In order that similar messengers might be available in the hour of need, pigeon houses were established after the conclusion of the war in most of the larger garrison towns of North and South Germany, and now pigeon flying is rapidly becoming a favorite pastime and sport throughout the country. The increased attention thus given to the subject has resulted in the observation of many peculiarities in the birds. Carrier pigeons of good breed, although they may be started in company and bound for the same place, fly quite independently of one another. Each one selects its own course, some taking a higher, others a lower flight, and speeds on its way without taking any heed of its neighbors. The bird seems to know that they are racing, and each one exerts itself the utmost to arrive first at the goal. In the neighborhood of every pigeon house there are always certain places, trees, &c., which are usually favorite resorts of the birds, but when coming in in a race the well-bred pigeon never stops for a moment at any of these haunts, but flies straight to his own particular house, frequently arriving there in so exhausted a state to be unable even to eat the food it is most fond of. Birds which are sitting, or which have lately hatched young, are generally taken in preference to others for racing; but instances have been known in which carrier pigeons of good breed, which have been taken to a fresh home, and which have hatched young there, have deserted their brood and flown away to their original home at the first opportunity they had of escaping.

## FATE OF A CONFIDENTIAL CLERK.

I stood on the stoop of some offices on a public thoroughfare, talking to some gentlemen. A young man passed who recognized my friend. The passer was small and slim, had a foreign look, and his age could not have been thirty. "You see that young man," said the gentleman. "He was one of the smartest young men in New York. He had a fine position in one of our heaviest importing houses. He was the confidential clerk of the house; he would have been trusted with uncounted gold. The house was underselling the market, and dealers wanted to know how it was done. They approached this young clerk, and he gave his employers away. He gave the private papers to the rival houses, and at night opened the counting houses to inspection. It cost the firm \$250,000 to settle up matters, and somebody paid the clerk \$50,000 on condition that he left the city. The money burnt in his pocket. He went into speculation. From speculation to gambling. He is now poor as a church mouse, with no business and nobody to trust him."

few miles is most admirable for the human health and beauty. The cheeks, the eyes, lips, and every feature of the fair equestrian, when she dismounts, possesses the fresh, and sparkling grace, which is one of the most important requisites in feminine loveliness, and which can be imparted only by purity of the blood and its brisk and equal circulation, which are produced by temperature and exercise. The pale, sickly and languid countenance of that lady whose hours of leisure have been passed without occupation within her chamber, or in listlessly lounging upon a sofa or couch, may present attractions to such as have selected as their standard of beauty from among the victims of a round of fashionable dissipation, but every man of sense and genuine taste will prefer the ruddy glow of health, the active, agile step, and exuberant beauty of her who is accustomed to spend some time of every day in active exercise, on foot or on horseback, in the open air.

## POOL SELLING ON TRACKS.

(Turf, Field and Farm)

The question of pool-selling naturally receives much attention here. The extremists would have the pool-seller a privileged person everywhere—would have him cry the odds on the sidewalks of the city, forgetting that it was this license which stirred up the opposition of the moral mass and forced to its final passage an arbitrary bill, but the thinking, moderate men prefer the course which I took occasion to outline last Winter. Incorporated tracks should be allowed to take charge of the betting on their own grounds. As the interest which the managers of these tracks have at stake is a large one, it is not likely that they will abuse their privilege, since to do so would be to inflict damage upon themselves. It was the promiscuous selling of pools in towns and cities on elections, boat-races, base-ball matches and horse-races which I in connection with all far-thinking men condemned. Having got rid of it by a measure which may be properly classed as heroic, it would not be out of place to modify the existing stringent law; and the way to modify it so as to give the widest satisfaction, is to except from its penalties the regularly incorporated tracks of the State. In writing this, I am simply repeating myself, but it sometimes seems to be necessary to repeat one's self in order not to be misunderstood.

## QUAILS BREEDING IN CAPTIVITY.

Mr. William Werner, of 255 Hurlburt street, Chicago, on us a few days ago, and related a remarkable instance of quails breeding in captivity. It appears he, last Fall, procured some live quails with which to break his dogs during the winter. The quails are kept in an enclosed lot adjoining his house, and consist of a cock and five hens. A short time since one of the hens commenced to lay, and a few days after another hen began to lay and in the same nest. When the number of eggs reached sixteen, Mr. Werner concluding there would be too many in the nest, made another nest near by and by aid of a silk handkerchief removed three of the eggs to it, hoping thereby to induce one of the hens to adopt it. Watching them he saw the cock bird go on the new nest, and to his surprise secret an egg under his wing and return it to the nest from which it had been originally taken; he then returned and took the second in the same way, and then the third egg.

In the Township of Hay, Ont., live two brothers of the name of Geiger, who, with two sisters living in Berlin, weigh 1,850 pounds, or an average of 387½ pounds.

## WILD TURKEYS.

In the expressive language of the Indians the month of September is known as the month of turkeys. Early in September the males collect together by themselves, and the hens and young ones in another flock, and continue so for some time, all the while, however, moving about in search of food. In their travels they often reach the banks of considerable rivers, where they all join in company. Crossing a river is to them an undertaking of serious magnitude. They first make themselves to the nearest eminence, and there often remain a whole day, or sometimes two, as if for consultation. During this time the males are heard "gobbling," calling, and making much ado, and are seen strutting about as if to raise their courage to a pitch befitting the emergency. A line of conduct is stated by the females and young. At length when the weather appears to be settled, and all around is quiet, the whole party mounts to the tops of the highest trees, whence, at a signal, consisting of a single click, given by a leader, the flock takes flight for the opposite shore. The old and fat birds get over, even should the river be a mile in breadth, but the younger and less robust frequently fall into the water, not to be drowned, however, as might be imagined. They bring their wings close to their body, spread out their tail as a support, stretch forward their neck, and, striking out their legs with great vigor, proceed rapidly toward the shore, on approaching which, should they find it too steep for landing, they cease their exertions for a few moments, float down the stream until they come to an accessible part, and by a violent effort generally extricate themselves from the water. The tame turkey is a direct descendant from the wild, and there is little difference in the quality of the flesh.

## THE LAST SNAKE STORY.

The Grand Rapids, Mich., Eagle tells this snake story.—A man was walking home from his work in the township of Cannon. He saw the grass wave a few rods from him, when lo! a gigantic "blue racer," twenty-eight and three fourths feet in length and ten inches in circumference, came toward him with lightning velocity. Its head was uplifted from the ground. Ten feet from its victim it halted and surveyed him. Then it drew nearer and attacked him. It twined itself about his legs and pulled him to the ground, and he only saved himself from being strangled to death by cutting off his head by a few desperate strokes with his pocket knife. His hair has turned gray.

## PEDIGREES.

Permit me to say through your columns to all persons sending pedigrees for insertion in the N. A. K. C. Register, it is necessary that the full address of owners be given. The address of breeders should also be given whenever practicable. I will furnish proper blanks on application.—ARNOLD BUNOZZ, Compiler of Kennel Register.