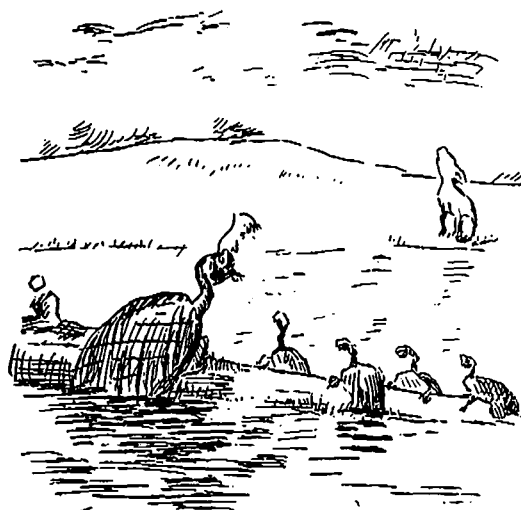
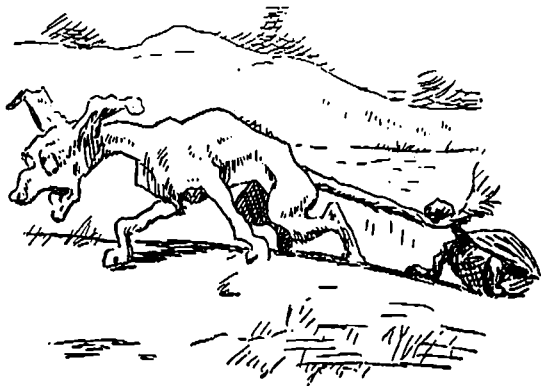
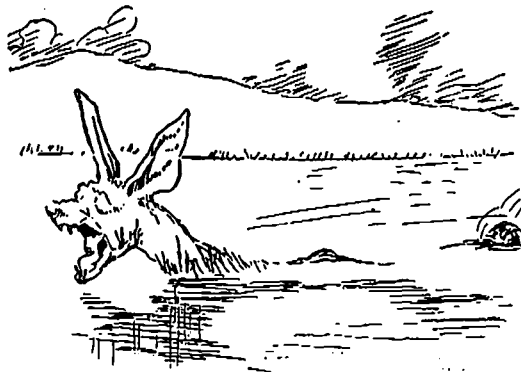




### Æsop Improved ; or, Vanity Rewarded.

(Concluded from last month.)



Appearances are sometimes deceiving. Eggs are not strong, yet they do well in a scramble.

As life's made up, until wisdom comes,  
It takes much glitter for gold;  
As many don't know the sardines they eat  
Are herring, until they are told.

A good deacon of Perry tells a startling story regarding his curious experience while killing fowls last Wednesday morning. He was preparing for an extensive New Year's dinner and killed three fowl. The last one, instead of flopping around like an ordinary hen and dying when its head was cut off, got up and walked about ten feet, laid an egg and gave up the ghost.

### Discouraging a Savant.

WHEN a woman has been out in the rain, and a cold rain at that, until she has gotten "bedraggled," a man of practical sense will let her alone. One old gentleman learned this fact yesterday.

"Did you ever reflect, madam," said he to a woman who was standing under an awning alongside of him, waiting for the next car—"did you ever reflect on the fact that the atmosphere exerts a pressure of fifteen pounds to the square inch? And yet how often do we hear the expression, 'light as air'—"

"I don't believe a word of it!" she snapped in a tone that would have warned any married man to drop the subject at once.

"But, madam—"

"I don't believe a word of it, I tell you. If there was any truth in it, that old empty skull of yours would have been caved in long ago."

And a few minutes later an old gentleman might have been seen wandering down street in the pouring rain, automatically holding in a perpendicular position an umbrella he had forgotten to open.—*Terre Haute Express.*

A MOTHER'S love, in a degree, sanctifies the most worthless offspring.

"Is it a sign that a hen meditates harm to her owner because she lays for him?"

How to raise your bread: With your fingers, of course; you should not take a fork.

A woman never sees a baby without wanting to run to it; a man never sees a baby without wanting to run from it.

A newly started paper delicately announces that its charge for marriage notices is "just what the ecstasy of the bridegroom may prompt."

Said a very old man, "Some folks are always complaining about the weather, but I am thankful when I wake up in the morning and find any weather at all."

A colored parson once prayed for those "who are smitten with illness, and also those who are gone a-fishing, and also those too lazy to dress for church."

A boy in a Braintree Sunday-school, when asked from the catechism, "What is the chief end of man?" said: "The chief end is the end with the head on."

Wonder why at the eating-house they do not differentiate the fat from the lean ham sandwiches! What a saving of time it would be could one take a fat or a lean sandwich as he elected, from its especial plate, instead of having to peep into a dozen or more before securing what he wants. And then think how much would be gained on the score of cleanliness! for certainly a sandwich cannot be spotless after being manipulated by a score or two of individuals, many of them with hands not over clean.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

"LEX" Sherbooke, Que.—There are as many remedies for chilblains as there are for colds. Painting the affected parts with tincture of iodine is as good a specific as any.

JOHN BROWN, Coldwater, Ont.—Two years ago my garden drain became stopped, and on making an examination, I found that the roots of an elm tree which it passed had entered the tile and completely choked it. As the tree was valued for shade, I took up the tile and substituted glazed sewer pipe and cemented the joints, and hope this will enable me to save the tree and keep the drain clear. Do not, therefore, leave trees growing along the line of a drain if you can possibly avoid it.

L. N., Portage la Prairie, Man.—I have had considerable experience in reclaiming sloughs and have tried various ways. I have found that the best way is to break with a regular breaking plough, as shallow as it can be done, and sow red-top on the sod at once, the quicker the better. Harrow lengthwise of the furrows with a light slanting-tooth harrow, just to give it a good scratching. Of course the slough must be well-drained first, and I prefer to break in the spring, because that seems to be a better time to sow the seed, but if more convenient break early in the fall. Red-top is undoubtedly the best seed to sow; it seems to take wildness out of land quickly, and is a persistent grower. I have no rule to give as to quantity of seed to sow, but would say the more the better; sow all you can afford to.

## SCHOOL TEACHERS

We offer \$15.00, \$10.00, and \$5.00 respectively to the three teachers who send in the best stories before March 1st next. Story to occupy not less than six columns of MASSEY'S ILLUSTRATED, and should be in two parts.

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