

settled by naturalists whether a giraffe, getting out of his depth, would swim with his neck as an eel, or with his legs like another quadruped. No giraffe has been seen out of his depth since the flood.

'It is not expensive to keep a tame camelopard. If you fence in a narrow walk for him around the boundaries of your property, he will graze upon the neighbour's trees and flowers. On a nutting expedition a well-trained giraffe is more useful than a crook. They have not yet been utilized as fire escapes in this country.

'A camelopard never bows to acquaintances. He thinks it would be lowering himself too much. A reader of character, judging from the expression of his neck, would say that he was also of a far-reaching disposition.

'But he is really an amiable beast, and lets infants call him "Neck-neck" without resenting the familiarity. It is well this is so, for a stiff-necked and unbending giraffe would be a sad infliction to any menagerie. He would necessitate new doors in every building and tent where he was exhibited. The innocent character of this animal has needlessly puzzled zoologists. His good morals are plainly owing to the fact that the rest of his body is more under control of the head than is the case with any other quadruped. Indeed, he is the only four-footed beast whose head has proper facilities for biting every rebellious member, and whose legislative department is backed by suitable executive power.'

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This essay the school examiners thought too fanciful, and so, on moral grounds, they gave the prize to another boy who had 'cribbed' his truthful composition from Buffon.

F. BLAKE CROFTON.

When the Queen paid her first visit to Scotland, many years ago, the following conversation took place between two countrymen. Sandy: 'Well Jock, hae ye seen the Queen?' Jock: 'Ou, ay, I hae seen the Queen! But I wadna gang the length o' the street to see her again. She's just made like ony ither woman, an' they tellt me her arms were a lion an' a unicorn.'

Mr. Elliot Stock, the London publisher, announces that he has sold 400,000 of his 'Penny Testament,' which is a marvel of cheapness. The sale is expected to reach a million before the close of the year.

A Scotch firm have in press what is said to be the fullest Biography of the poet Tennyson, with a commentary on his works, a history of their reception, and a complete Tennysonian Bibliography, by a Mr. N. C. Wace.

TROUBLESOME CLIENTS.—A celebrated lawyer once said that the three most troublesome clients he ever had were a young lady who wanted to be married, a married woman who wanted a divorce, and an old maid who didn't know what she wanted.

FAST TIME.—Several men lately swam the Mississippi river above New Orleans on a wager. A reporter of the race says, 'None of them seemed to be putting forth much effort till it was discovered that an alligator had struck out from shore as a competitor; and then—well, every man did his best to keep the alligator from carrying off the stakes.'

A BACHELOR'S EXCUSE.—A clergyman past middle age, after having united a loving couple in the holy bond of matrimony, was asked by a person present at the marriage feast how he a bachelor, could consistently engage in such ceremonies. The good man's answer was significant—In a man's life there are but two periods when he is likely to marry—one when he is young and has no sense, the other when he is old and lost his sense. He was glad to inform them that he was past the one, and had not yet reached the other.

WHERE IGNORANCE IS BLISS.

Is love contagious?—I don't know,
But this I am prepared to say,
That I have felt, for many a day,
A great desire to make it so.

Does she vouchsafe a thought to me?
Sometimes I think she does; and then
I'm forced to grope in doubt again,
Which seems my normal state to be.

Why don't I ask, and asking, know?—
I grant perhaps it might be wise;
But then I look into her eyes,
And hear her voice which thrills me so,

I think that on the whole I won't:
I'd rather doubt than know she don't.

—Scribner.