## Animal Curiosities.

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**STORIES ABOUT** 

Wasps That Get "Tight." A Long Tailed Japan Rooster. A Horse That Can Count.

A Serpent Which Devours Serpents.

#### Intoxicated Wasps.

Concerning his observations of relates the following:

"I have been watching the wasps with great interest and have noticed the avidity with which they attack certain fruit when fully ripe, rotting, In fact, and I have also noticed some of the peculiar results of their doing so. The sugar in some fruits which are most attacked by wasps has a tendency to pass into a kind or kinds of alcohol in the ordinary process of rotting, a fact which is easily ascer-tained by the use of a still not large enough to attract the attention of the excise authorities. On such fruits, particularly grapes and certain plums, you will see wasps pushing and fighting in numbers much larger than can be accommodated, and you will see them get very drunk, crawl away in a semi-somnolent condition, and repose in the grass for some time, till they get over the 'bout,' and then they will go at it again. It is while they are thus affected that they do their worst stinging, both in the virulent nature of the stroke and the utterly unprovoked assaults of which they are guilty. I was stung last year by a drunken wasp, and suffered severely from symptoms of nerve poison for several days. In such drunken peculiarities they resemble their human contemporaries." - Registered

#### Long-Tailed Japan Rooster.

To see a rooster that resembles a bird of paradise is a rare sight, but such a one has recently been a common spectacle in Japan. . This particular fowl was, apart

from his gorgeous appendage, of the ordinary type found in Japan, except that he was a little more proud in his bearing than his fellows. It may have been his manner that first led to his selection as the bearer of a most magnificent tail. The brief history that can be obtained of this freak rooster is silent on that point. At probably was selected because only an arrogant, lordly manner could support such a wonderful and varigated

appendage. Be that as it may, the rooster did certainly have a tail sixteen feet long. In it were all the bright colors imag inable. The tail was far more brilliant in its colorings than the shining feather-fan of a peacock.

The neighbors of the Jap displayed no interest in the freak were amused by those who expressed admiration and wonder, who were in-Variably foreign travelers.

Then it was discovered that the

beautiful long tail was not a freak of of study, was soon obliged to withdraw mature, but the clever work of the ingenious Jap, who had fashioned and fastened the tail in such a way as to defy detection, except after the

The ophiophagus, or serpentivore, of India and adjacent countries-a reptile that is especially interesting to zoo- bottom along the Williamette slough, logists by reason of its great size, below Holbrook station, was in the powerful venom, ferocity, and habit city yesterday to find out whether of feeding on its own kind, is thus de- he had any recourse against the scribed in an illustrated article in La United States Fish Commission for Nature by M. P. E. Juillerat:

"The wisdom of nations, whose observation nothing escapes, has formulated this famous adage: 'Wolves do intention of demonstrating that, among animals man is the only one who lives et the expense of his kind. But the observation of nature has played havoc with this adage, as with others, and the creature that we are about to describe is one of those that give the rudest check to the old sentimental formula. The savants call it ophiohagrus; other people, the serpentivore: the marnes are synonymous and both mean \*serpent-eater.'

"The ophiophagus claps or serpenti-

Nenomous serpent-that feeds on serments. More than this, its huge length, which is extremely powerful, yields in mothing to that of the most famous

"It may be understood that the com bination of such remarkable qualities has struck with admiration the men that have had opportunity of observ ing them. So it is not surprising that Hindus gave it the title of 'King of Serpents.' When the serpentivore, say they, needs food, he betakes himself to a clearing, raises himself up with inflated neck, and whistles in a peculiar fashion. Soon, from all points forest, sempents, who understand this summons, come gliding up and range themselves before their monarch, who chooses the most toothsome, falls upon it, and devours it. The survivors, having done their duty, then retire with all humility, as befits submissive subjects.

"Be this as it may, the ophiophagus elaps is one of the most splendid and

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At a

Glance

is of an olive-green hue, with white and black markings of remarkable wasps which are addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors, Lawson Tait body, inflates its neck, and hisses powerfully. Its huge length, its sparkling eyes, its brilliant colors, make it a creature of truly formidable appearance. Add to this an extremely active venom, whose quantity corresponds to the great length of the creature, and the terror that it inspires may be imagined. "Finally, and this is the most seri-

most perfect of venomous serpents. It

ous fact of all, the ophiophagus is not only the most powerful of venomous serpents—it is without doubt one of the most warlike. Far from fleeing man like most reptiles, it attacks him, pursues him untiringly, and is undeterred by any obstacle, since this redoubtable of agility the faculty of swimming the snake fell with fury on this inof-fensive prey, he was enabled to gain a safe retreat. Nicholson relates that he saw an elephant, bitten by an ophiophagus, die in three hours.

"The area of dispersion of this serpent is very extended. It is found in all countries bordering on the Indian Ocean-India, Indo-China, Sumatra, Java, the Isles of Sunda, the Philippines, and perhaps also in the north

"Happily, it is nowhere abundant, or the places where it is found would be uninhabitable. Though it prefers serpents to all other prey, it gets along yery well with small mammals and for it never harms the duped ones.

attitude and character resemble those of the najas. Like them, at the sight of an animal, they rear the head, swell the neck, hiss loudly, and precipitate themselves on their prey, bite it, and then, when it has become motionless, swallow it. The two specimens that have lived simultaneously at the Museum of Natural History and the Jardin d'Acclimatation have very different qualities. The pensioner of the museum, who is six feet long and remarkably beautiful, shows excessive ferocity and irritability. When a visitor approaches, he rears his head. swells his neck, and throwing himself violently against the grating, cruelly wounds his own head. Prof. Leon Vaillant, fearing to lose prematurely a rare specimen and interesting object him from public exhibition

"The specimen in the Jardin d'Acclimatation is, on the contrary, goodnatured, and looks with indifference was a fair called Aunt Tabitha's Knit-

#### Fishes Eating Grass.

A rancher, whose place is on the the introduction of carp into the rivers of this section.

He says these fish are destroying his meadows by eating his grass and not eat each other,' in the laudable grubbing up the roots. As the water overflows his meadow the carp follow it up in thousands, the small ones, weighing about three pounds, pushing their way up where the water is only three inches or so in depth and clearing off all vegetation, so that when the water recedes he will have mud flats in the place of meadows.

He says that while looking at fish eating his grass on Sunday he got so mad that he took off his shoes and stockings and went out into the shallow water and attacked them with More is, then, a serpent-and a very a hoe. He slashed a lot of them in two, but when the drove became alarmed and made for deep water they reaching four yards, makes it the giant bumped their noses against his shins, of venomous serpents, and its venom, and came near knocking him off his feet, and his ankles are all black and blue from the thumping he got. As fordriving the carp away, he says he might as well have tried to sweep back the rise of the Columbia with a broom.

#### -Portland Oregonian. A Land Without Animals.

Japan is a land without the domestic animals. It is this lack which strikes the stranger so forcibly in looking upon Japanese landscapes. There are no cows-the Japanese neither drinks milk no eats meats. There are but few horses, and these are imported mainly for the use of the foreigners. The freight cars in the city streets are pulled and pushed by coolies, and the pleasure carriages are drawn by men. There are but few dogs, and these are neither used as watch dogs, beasts of burden, nor in hunting, except by foreigners.

There are no sheep in Japan, and wool is not used in clothing, silk and cotton being the staples. There are no pigs-pork is an unknown article of diet, and lard is not used in cooking. Wild animals there are, however, and in particular bears of enormous size. One of these Mr. Finch saw stuffed in a museum he describes as "big as an ox." War, of course, is acquainting the Japanese with the use of animals. The cavalry has cavalry horses, and others to drag the field The Empress, also, in obvious imitation of European royalties, is an expert horsewoman, and saddle horses

This Horse Can Count. There is a grocer doing business not far from the south end of Virginia avenue, who has a horse that is very regular in its habits. He has learned that the bell in engine house No. 3 strikes twelve time every day at noon, and when the hour comes and the horse hears the bell he turns his ears forward and waits for the boy who always feeds him at that time. The his plan to speak from experience, horse will look anxiously toward the he is able to tell of the good effect store and wait a few moments. If of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder in the boy does not soon make his appearance the horse gets tired of waiting and slowly walks to the stable. found that it accomplished all that Every day as soon as the bell rings was claimed for it. Some of the cures the first time at noon, people near by notice that the horse becomes rest-less, and, while a few moments before his head was drooping, at the first stroke of the bell his eyes open wide and he takes on an air of close

how much he really did know about the number of times the bell rang. They pulled the rope that rings the bell eleven times and then stopped. Immediately the horse's eyes closed and his head dropped into the same listless position it had maintained for some time. The boy soon came out and got into the wagon. He drove home and ate his own dinner, but did not take the horse to the stable. On his return he stopped and stable. On his return he stopped and put the horse in the stable and fed him. The whole matter seemed to be a surprise to the horse, and now the people in the neighborhood firmly be-lieve the horse can count.—Indiana-

#### Lured by Artificial Calls.

The "Advertiser" told the other day about a man who went hunting turkeys with a call and a panther came in answer. As regards panthers, that is a pretty rare occurrence, but lions, tigers and jaguars have all been known to come at the artificial call

of hunters. It is related by an old woodsman, who was calling young crows for the fun of shooting them, that once a fox came sneaking along, looking for a chance at the supposed birds. As it was late in the spring the fox hides were of no value, the woodsman monsters adds to an uncommon degree | thought he would have some fun with the beast, which was coming down with great speed and of climbing in the wind and couldn't scent him. the twinkling of an eye up the highest When the animal was about twenty the twinkling of an eye up the highest trees. Cantor tells the story of an English officer who was chased by an ophiophagus, and, on the point of being overtaken, owed his safety only to the fox sat back on its haunches, like a doc, with mouth wide open and a dog, with mouth wide open and tongue hanging out. The next instant it was running like greased lightning, with its tail dragging instead of wav ing, as foxes usually carry their tails when not tired.

"He looked durned sheepish like," the woodsman said. Moose hunters call their game by imitating the cries of the females. There are several varieties of birds that imitate the calls of other birds, and so attract them to within reach. The shrikes do this because they are hungry or bloodthirsty, but the bluejay calls small birds purely as a joke. The blue-jay jumps out of its conceal-"In the Jardin d'Acclimatation and ment with every feather on end and at the menagerie of the Museum of screaming in a most rasping manner.

Natural History, where serpent-eaters The scared bird flies away shricking have lived for some time in captivity, with alarm, whereupon the blue-jay they are fed generally on rats. Their laughs. The shrike kills the bird that comes to its call.

#### MARY'S LITTLE LAMB.

Its Wool Made Into Yarn That 75 Years Later Sold for \$300 an Ounce.

"I have got some yarn that was made from the fleece of the original Mary's little lamb,'" said the wife of a well-known Grange county lawyer There are only four strands of it, and each one is only a few inches in length and it cost me 50 cents a strand. There is no doubt about its being the genuine wool of that immortal creature. I was in Boston a few years ago at the time the ladies of that city were raising funds to purchase the Old South Church, which was threatened with destruction by the march of modern improvement. Among other devices most minute scrutiny.

A Serpent That Devours Serpents."

A serpent That Devours Serpents." Some Boston lady heard that Mary, the of octogenarian Mrs. Tyler, a widow. only found that Mrs. Tyler was really her to come to Boston and spend a day only legitimate successor. at the knitting bee. She was a de-

> the lambs born on her father's farm less lambkin that she begged her father to let her take it and try to nurse into strength. He told her to take it She carried it to the house, and all the rest of the day and all the following night treated it with such gentle care that next morning it was much improved, and Farmer Sawver rejoiced Mary by telling her that it would live and grow strong. Such proved to be the case, and as it grew the lamb's affection for Mary was so great that it was miserable when separated from

'It followed her to school one day, Which was against the rule. It made the children laugh and play To see a lamb at school.

Records a fact, Mrs. Tyler said. The occurrence led a youth who attended the school to put the story of Mary and her lamb into verse. The poet' name is lost. The lamb grew up and had lambs of its own, but the fondness of the lamb for Mary and of Mary for the lamb never grew less. One day as it was following Mary, who had gone to the pasture after the cows, the lamb was attacked by a vicious cow which gored it with her horns and threw it into the air. It fell at Mary's feet and died. Mary's grief was dee and long-lasting. The fleece was removed from her ill-fated pet's body, and she spun it with her own hands into yarn, a quantity of which she kept ever after among her treasures. She was willing to part with some of it to aid in raising the fund for preserving the Old South Church, and brought with her to Boston perhaps a quarter of an ounce. After she told the story of Mary and her little lamb, her yarn was in such demand that it was cut up into lengths sufficient to net pieces of it at 50 cents a piece, and that is how I happen to have some of the wool of Mary's little lamb."-New York Sun.

### OUR GREAT WEST.

The Position of Donald W. Davis, the

Man from Alberta. Manitoba and that whole Western country is cutting a large figure in Canadian affairs at the present time. Prominent among the citizens of this new country is Donald W. Davis, who has represented Alberta in the House of Commons. He may be trusted to be heard from on the questions that are vital to the great Northwest, and with equal intelligence, because it is If of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder in who have used this medicine and effected by this remedy are astonishing, as instance the case of Capt. Ben Connor, 189 Berkeley street, Toronto, who was deaf for twelve years \$3.50 PER CORD. from catarrh, and was cured by medicine. Sample bottle and blower sent by S. G. Detchon, 44 Church One day the fireman concluded to street, Toronto, on receipt of 10 cents try a mean trick on the horse to see in silver or stamps.

## in Passing.

Judge Byles was one day trying a man for stealing, when a medical wit-ness was called, who stated that in his opinion the prisoner was suffering from kleptomania. "And your lordship, of course, knows what that is." "Yes," said Byles quietly, "it is a disease which I am sent here to cure.'

One of our orators was eloquent in Parliament one evening last week, says an English paper, and speaking of the imperial exchequer grandly uttered "our experial inchequer." one near tried to correct him by crying out "our excherial impequer," when the orator thundered "our imcherial expequer." and went on

It is said that President Kruger of the Transvaal Republic had confined his reading to the Bible and "Pilgrim's Progress" until recently, when somebody gave him one of Mark Twain's books. The humor of the American joker happened to hit the slow-going Boer in the right place, and he has purchased a full set of Mr. Clemens' books.

Princess Beatrice, Queen Victoria's youngest daughter, has been appointed Governor of the Isle of Wight, the office previously held by her husband, Prince Henry of Battenberg. Not a word of protest has been heard from the op-ponents of woman suffrage. But whenever a woman is elected mayor of a Kansas city, these estimable persons are filled with acute anxiety to know who will darn her husband's stockings. Moreover, their solicitude about the husband's stockings is not allayed even if the Kansas mayor, like Princess

Beatrice, happens to be a widow. Commenting on the report that Coleridge's house, at the foot of the Downs at Nether Stowey, in Somersetshire, is to be turned into an ale-house, the Churchman says: "This is prefanation, and the literary world should rise up to prevent it. Fancy converting Addison's walk at Oxford into a bowlingalley, or desecrating the spot at Stoke Pogis where Gray meditated in a villiage churchyard! It was at Nether Stowey, in the house we speak of, that Coleridge wrote the 'Ancient Mariner' and 'Christabel.' These are two of the choicest poems in English literature. If Shakespeare's house at Stratford is a sacred spot, so is the cottage of Coleridge. Burns' house is still preserved and visited as a shrine of genius, a place of sweet and thrilling memories. It is sad to think of the great and glowing associations which rise on crossing the threshold of one who, like Samuel Taylor Coleridge, was a philosopher, a poet, and a supreme critic, dissipated by the fumes and din of a village pot-house.

### MOHAMMEDANISM'S TWO SECTS.

Different Branches of Religion That Be-

lieve Nothing in Common. Blackwood's Magazine.

Monammedans divide themselves into two principal sects-Shiah and Sunni-the Persians representing the bulk of the former, the Turks of the latter. The chief points on which they differ are the condition of the soul after death and the succession of caliphs. The Sunni belief is that there is one immortal God, whose works are withspun it from the wool in the early days. | forever contend for the mastery. With regard to the prophet's successors, heroine of the little lamb rhyme, was the Sunnis claim that the lawful suc living at Sterling, Mass., in the person cessor of Mohammed was Abu Bekr. and after him Omar, Osman and Ali This lady went to Sterling and not (nephew and son-in-law of Moham med); the Shiahs, however, reject the the original of the poem, but induced first three and hold that Ali was the

Shiahs pray but three times a day, lightful old lady, and told the story of her little lamb. "When she was but a few years old. mara and Kum, as well as to Mecca her name being Mary Sawyer, among and Medina. Sunnis make pilgrimages only to the two latter cities, and pray one night was one which was such a five times a day. From this it can be weakling that Farmer Sawyer said readily understood that the circumthat it could not possibly live. The stances of the Turks being in posses-child Mary felt such pity for the help-sion of the shrines of Nejef (Meshed stances of the Turks being in posses Ali), Kazimain and Kerbela is most displeasing to devout Shiahs.

### Letters Come.



Letters come day by day telling us that this person has CURES pepsia, that person been cured of dysanother of Headache, still another

of Biliousness, and yet others of various complaints of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels or Blood, all through the intelligent use of Burdock Blood

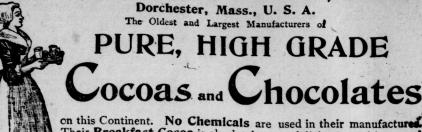
It is the voice of the people recognizing the fact that Burdock Blood Bitters cures all diseases of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels and Blood. Mr. T. G. Ludlow, 334 Colborne Street, Brantford, Ont., says: During seven years prior to 1886, my wife was sick all the time with violent headaches. Her head was so hot that it felt like burning up. She was weak, run down, and so feeble that she could hardly do anything, and so nervous that the least noise startled her. Night or day she could not rest and life was a misery to her. I tried all kinds of medicines and treatment for her but she steadily grew worse until I bought six bottles of Burdock Blood Bitters from C. Stork & Son, of Brampton, Ont., for which I paid \$5.00, and it was the best investment I ever made in my life. Mrs. Ludlow took four out of the six bottlesthere was no need of the other two, for those four bottles made her a strong, healthy woman, and removed every ailment from which she had suffered; and she enjoyed the most vigorous health. That five dollars saved me lots of money in medicine and attendance thereafter, and better than that it made home a comfort to me.

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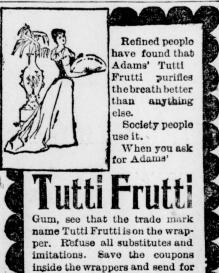
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