

CRIMINAL ANIMALS.

A Naturalist's Study of Thoroughly Wicked Wild Animals.

E. Seton Thompson, naturalist to the government of Manitoba, gives in his book, "Wild Animals I Have Known," some curious examples of depravity among wild beasts. The best story is that of the New Mexican wolf who led a band that killed a cow a day for five years. Finally the ranchers offered \$1,000 for this wolf's pelt. He was easily distinguished. His track was an inch wider than that of other wolves. A professional wolf-hunter tried to earn the bounty, but the wolves killed his dogs and he gave it up. Then Mr. Thompson took the case. He melted cheese in the fat of a heifer in a china dish, cut it into lumps with a bone knife to avoid the taint of metal and put in strychnine and cyanide inodor-proof capsules. He wore gloves steeped in cow's blood, and avoided breathing on the baits. The baits were picked up. He followed the track and found that the wolf had lain all four together and scattered dirt over them.

The wolves then took to killing sheep. Traps were set to the number of 50 in different parts of the ranch. The trails of the big wolf and of the pack were traced up to one set of traps, and the doings of the leader were marked in the dust. He had stopped the rest, warned by scent, and scratched around the trap till he found the buried chain and picket. On another part of the ranch he entered an H-shaped series of traps, and detected the danger. The trail showed that he had slowly backed out on his own track, putting each paw down backward until out of the dangerous ground. He had then sprung some of the traps by scratching clods and stones, backward at them with his hind feet. He was at last caught by dragging over the traps the body of a female wolf, the scent of which he followed.

No more skillful criminal than this wolf was ever known. Old Eph, a lame grizzly, which in two years ruined half the hog-raisers in the Sacramento valley by his wasteful love of pork was a close second. A bob-tailed wolf kept the whole city of Paris in terror for ten years at the beginning of the fourteenth century, and the Lochne panther, in India, killed 300 human beings in less than two years. A famous rogue dog of Derbyshire was conspicuous by its faithful care, of sheep in the daytime, but was savage and ugly towards men strangers. It slept in the house, and was never suspected, though sheep-worrying took place on the farms near. At last it was tracked in the snow from a fold where twenty sheep had been killed to the farm where it lived, the dog having forgotten that the track would show, though it took partial means to conceal it by running along the top of a stone wall.

RULE OF SECRECY.

One of the many rules hedging those who cater to the wants and pleasures of royalty is that a strict secrecy shall be maintained as to the sayings and doings of their royal masters and mistresses. Many a secret has gone to the grave untold, owing to the conscientiousness of the hearer or seer, who, bound by the oath of office, would rather die than divulge what the world is ever on the qui vive to learn. It is said that when Miss Adeane, who is now Mrs. Mallet, was appointed maid of honor in the Queen's household, she was visiting in a household where was a well known man of letters and wit.

"What a fine opportunity you will now have to keep an interesting diary," he said to her.

Miss Adeane responded that, according to the Queen's conditions, no one was allowed to keep a diary when at Court. But disbelieving, the man laughingly responded, "I think I should keep a very secret one, all the same," to which the future maid of honor courteously replied:—

"Then I am afraid you would not be a maid of honor."

The term, "maid of honor," seems to have a wider significance than is usually applied to it. It is to be not only a maid who is honored by her elevation to the membership in the royal household, but it is to be a maid whose honor is used in defence of her mistress by speech or silence, as may be required.

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

There is no such thing as a heroic falsehood. Shame can know love, but love knows no shame.

The dead are the only friends we have always with us.

Before he moves every man ought to make up his mind to fall from grace.

It takes a woman to be unhappy thinking how unhappy she would be if she were not as happy as she is.

It isn't true that one woman can't love another; she can like her until she finds out that a man she likes also likes her.

The more a man loves a woman the less he likes her faults. The more a woman loves a man the more like virtues seem his faults.

The belief in God is probably almost as instinctive to a woman as the idea that she can't clean house properly unless she has a sunbonnet on.

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AN AFRICAN LOVE CHARM.

A new peril seems to threaten white men in South Africa. They are in danger of being cut into love charms and used to increase the marriage rate among the natives. The flesh of a European is considered by the black inhabitants of Natal as a charm powerful enough to compel the love of any unwilling maiden. When a young black man loves a maiden and his love is not reciprocated, he goes to a witch doctor and asks for a love philter. Other philters of a milder potency having been tried and the maiden still remaining obdurate and refusing to love her black suitor, the witch doctor, as a last resort, prescribes the flesh of a white man.

Murders committed for the possession of the coveted white flesh, while not common, occur from time to time. News has been received from Natal of the hanging at Harding of a witch doctor and his pupil for the murder of a farmer named Kay. The farmer was dragged from his bed at night, and after being stabbed several times with an assegai, his throat was cut and his body left on the veldt. Part of the dead man's neck was cut away, and subsequently found in the witch doctor's bag, with other "medicines."

The "head devil" in the murder was a witch doctor named Umanti. With him was associated his pupil, Sibalweni. Sibalweni had taken his degree as a witch doctor, but was studying under Umanti, who considered him a promising pupil. The two were helped in the murder by two men, who seem to have been simply employes of Umanti's college of medicine. These two men received life sentences. When Umanti and his pupil were hanged eighty native chiefs and headmen were assembled in order that they might see the execution and spread the news of it abroad among the natives. The natives had had an idea that when one of them has been arrested for a similar crime he has not been killed, but simply sent to some far-off place, where he eventually died. The recent execution was intended as an object lesson. Recently a little child, which was stolen from its parents in the Barberton district of Natal, is supposed to have been taken by the natives for the same purpose as that for which they murdered Kay. Umanti, the doctor, who was something of a South African Charles Peace, confessed to other murders which had not been brought to light, including the Chief Umshweshwe's sister. His face is in keeping with his character—crafty and cruel to a degree. His pupil, Sibalweni, also had a repulsive face, while the other two men, Gomi and Umbonwa, who received life sentences, have a pleasanter appearance.

A police trooper, who discovered Kay's body lying in the moonlight, was so unnerved by the ghastly sight it presented, with gaping wounds and clad only in a shirt, that he was unable to sleep or eat for some time after, and at night awakened his comrades with screams.

Summer Comes

With the flowers and sunshine. Birds pour out their melody and the chirp of the grasshopper will soon tempt the fisherman to stretch forth his hands and grasp the shadow of his flight. The plump mosquito will do her nicest to soothe weary pleasure seekers into the realms of slumber, and the stinging, aching corns will remove every semblance of comfort, make sad the songs of the birds, and evoke cloudiness in the soul that even the brightest sunshine can not dispel. Corns are thorns in the flesh, but Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor removes them in twenty-four hours. Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor is the best.

BLESSED IF THEY DON'T.

She—I don't see why they call it single blessedness?

He—Because, when a man's married his wife gives him more than one blessing, you can bet.

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Some people keep the Sabbath so holy that they don't work any for three days before or three days after.

"Pharaoh 10c." Payon, of Granby, Que. Cigar Manufacturer.

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THE ALTERNATIVE.

An Incident of the Terrible Armenian Massacres.

The responsibility of taking human life under any circumstances is tremendous. Justifiable as it may be to kill in self defence, we cannot but admire the wonderful self-control of an Armenian who preferred to die rather than live with blood upon his hands. It was during the horrible massacres in Armenia. A native, says the Rev. George H. Hepworth, was employed in one of the railroad stations. He was standing on the platform, when the mob approached. A Turk, who knew the man to be a faithful servant, handed him a pistol, saying: "It is an outrage. Take this and defend yourself. It is good for six of the rascals."

The Armenian took the weapon, hesitated for a moment, then handed it back with a groan. "I can't do it," he said. "I'd rather die than commit murder." In less than ten minutes he was a bruised and bleeding corpse, and the fiends had started on the track of another victim.

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WOMAN'S EXPEDITION.

An expedition consisting entirely of women has been formed in Australia to explore the Solomon Islands, the home of the fiercest cannibals known. Hitherto white men have been able to penetrate only a few miles inland.

LUBY'S

Gives new life to the hair. It makes it grow and restores the color. Sold by all druggists. 50c. a bottle.

CRIME IN PARIS.

It is stated that about one in eighteen of the population of Paris live on charity, with a tendency toward crime.

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ST. JAMES' HOTEL—Opposite G.T.R. Depot. First-class Continental. Rooms—Modern improvements—Rates moderate.

CONSUMPTION IN GERMANY.

Germany, with an approximate population of 52,279,901, has at present over 1,900,000 sufferers from consumption, and, according to Prof. Leyden's estimates, 170,000 die annually from the disease.

O'KEEFE'S LIQUID MALT

Invigorates and Strengthens. LLOYD WOOD, Toronto, GENERAL AGENT.

JAPAN'S SPIDER PLAGUE.

Spiders are a serious plague in Japan. They spin their webs on the telegraph wires, and are so numerous as to cause a serious loss of insulation. Sweeping the wires does little good, as the spiders begin all over again.

Deafness Cannot be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian tube. When this tube gets inflamed, it has a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

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The atmospheric ocean surrounding the earth is frequently disturbed by gigantic waves, which are invisible except when they carry parts of the air, charged with moisture, up into a colder atmosphere stratum where sudden condensation occurs. In this manner long, parallel lines of clouds, sometimes make their appearance at a great height, marking the crests of a ripple of air waves, running miles above our heads.

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