

FLAVOR OF WHITEFISH.

Declared to Be Deteriorating—Fish Commission Declares It Due to Cold Storage.

Considerable complaint has been made recently of the impaired flavor of the whitefish furnished Chicago and other western markets...

In speaking of the whitefish supplied the Chicago market, Mr. Hugh M. Smith, of the fish commission, said: "The common whitefish appears to be rapidly decreasing in Lake Michigan..."

It is said at the commission that the work done by their department in propagating and distributing the whitefish of the great lakes in the last year was the most satisfactory ever accomplished...

The outlook for the present year is flattering, and if furnished fresh to the consumers there is no reason why the famous whitefish should not still retain its old place among the food fishes of the great lakes.

RICH IN BRICK SIDEWALKS.

One of the Unique Features of Shumway, a Little Town of Illinois.

The little town of Shumway, in Shelby county, Ill., just southeast of Pana, is one of the most unique in the state of Illinois.

Nearly all this money is spent in brick sidewalks, and although there are only about 150 residents in the town, it has over two miles of brick sidewalks.

The city clerk receives \$18 a year, and he is the only officer who draws a salary. When there is any disturbance the whole town turns out and arrests the guilty parties.

PHONOGRAPH VS. TONGUE.

Lecturer About to Lose the Latter Resorts to Former to Preserve His Lectures.

For the last week or more William H. Crampton, of 426 Thirteenth street, Brooklyn, has been talking into a phonograph at his home for 12 hours a day.

He was a member of the police force until he resigned in 1895 to go on the lecture platform. This calling he has followed with marked success and engagements have been secured covering more than a year from now.

MAY BE ABANDONED.

Navy Department Considers Doing Away with Broadside Torpedoes on Warships.

The navy department is considering the desirability of abandoning the broadside torpedoes now generally in use on war vessels. These torpedoes are fired from submerged tubes, ranged on the ship, and in case they are given up by the American navy it will be a marked departure from the existing standard of naval construction.

Since Walter Damaroch has stopped the encore nuisance, his audiences have increased a half. The encore band, remarks the Minneapolis Journal, is the amusement boxer.

PITH AND POINT.

If you bestow a favor, forget it; if you receive one, remember it.—Chicago Daily News.

Every owner of a dog says it won't bite, except at night, when it is very fierce.—Atchison Globe.

"Prof. Thompson says that electric cars will travel at the rate of 100 miles an hour." "By gum, it's hard enough to get 'em to stop for a fellow now."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"That friend of yours must spend his whole salary for the clothes on his back." "Oh, I don't know! I have heard that he gets most of his clothes on his face."—Indianapolis News.

The Absent Friend.—"How well Mrs. Gillwaffle holds her age!" "Isn't it wonderful? You would not think that she was a day over 30, if she didn't try to act as if she were 20!"—Indianapolis Press.

"No, I won't give you a piece of my apple," snapped his sister. "And who was it," the boy inquired, reproachfully, "that spoiled the piano so you didn't have to practice for a week?"—Philadelphia Times.

"Your town," said the Chicagoan, "is called the 'City of the Straits,' I believe?" "Yes," replied the Detroit; "and yours, I suppose, might be known as the 'City of the Crooks.'"—Philadelphia Record.

A Methodist critic, wishing to put his bishop "in a hole," or, as Dr. William Everett would say, "to deposit him in a cavity," asked in open meeting whether or not the bishop came to the conference in a Pullman car. "Yes," the bishop cheerfully replied; "do you know any easier way?"—Boston Christian Register.

Johnny (to the minister on a visit):—"My father says he never heard such a stupid sermon as you delivered last Sunday. He told mother so." The Minister—"Did he? And what did mother say?" Johnny—"She said it didn't begin to be as stupid as your talk when you came here on a visit."—Boston Transcript.

THE GALLIERA FORTUNE.

Romantic History of Inherited Riches Now Possessed by the Empress Frederick.

German papers state that one of the chief motives of the king's recent visit to Empress Frederick is connected with some alteration she is making in her will, especially with regard to the disposal of the handsome fortune she inherited from Duchess de Galliera, an eccentric but colossal rich Genoese lady.

In those days South Africa and Mexico were the "Africa" of the financial world, and the Gallieras speculated largely and soon amassed an incredibly large fortune, which they spent royally and with a benevolence only too rarely found in millionaires. In 1880 £1,000,000 was presented by them to the city of Genoa for the enlargement of the port; every relation and old friend was handsomely pensioned, and later another £1,000,000 was spent in the erection of a magnificent hospital, a monastery for the benevolent Capuchin monks, an orphanage and a retreat for old priests.

Equally fortunate was the city of Paris, where the name of Galliera is still synonymous with magnificence. Empress Frederick was one of the duchess' most intimate friends, and when her death occurred she left her majesty nearly a quarter of a million of money. The only son of this benevolent couple refused to assume his title, and became a Christian socialist and known as plain Sig. Ferrari; a granddaughter, however, is the present Princess Borghese. The munificence of the Gallieras was not confined to public charities, but their private benevolence exceeded that which has made their name justly famous and revered.

A musician and his wife were on their way home from a concert, and were overheard discussing the merits of the entertainment. "It set my teeth on edge," the husband said, "to hear the orchestra playing 'Yankee Doodle' and 'Dixie' at the same time. The idea is all right, of course, and even commendable from a sentimental point of view, but the two pieces, when played together, are full of discords."

"But didn't you notice," said his wife, who is something of a musician herself, "that where certain notes or passages would have been discordant they were omitted from one air or the other, and left to the drums?" "Of course I noticed it," he testily rejoined, "but I could hear the discords in my mind just the same! Ach!"—Youth's Companion.

Bobbs—Good joke on Nobbs. Nobbs—What? He went to look on at a masked ball. Committee saw him and gave him prize for wearing the funniest mask.—Baltimore American.

ANATOMY OF PEA PODS.

Described with Botanical Accuracy by the United States Circuit Court in a Patent Suit.

That lawyers and judges find it necessary to know something of everything as well as everything about some things is illustrated in a decision which was handed down a few days ago by Justice Bradford, sitting in the United States circuit court in the Delaware circuit, says the New York Tribune.

The case involved the validity and priority of a number of patents claimed by various persons for machines for shelling green peas. Incidentally it appeared in the testimony that practically all the green peas that are canned in this country every year are now shelled by machinery, and that the device which successfully performs this work has only recently been perfected. To illustrate the different methods by which the machines performed the work the court found it necessary to describe the anatomy of the pea pods, and did so in the following language:

"The hulling of dried peas, rice, wheat and other grains by machinery was old in the art. They were subjected to a process of thrashing or abrasion by which the pods, hulls or husks were disintegrated or torn apart; but the dried peas, rice, wheat or other grains, being harder and tougher than the pods, hulls or husks containing or surrounding them, escaped uninjured by the severity of the treatment."

"The hulling of green peas by machinery presented a wholly different problem by reason of their nature and the construction of the pods containing them. The pod consists of two trough-shaped half shells. The juncture of these shells along their edges or their suture is of a leguminous growth. Each pod contains a number of green peas connected therewith along the meeting edges of the half shells by a tender and fragile filament. The peas do not fill the pod, the remaining space within the pod being filled with air. The pod is practically hermetically sealed or airtight. The green peas are soft and tender, but the pod is tough. But, though tough, it is not brittle. It is not capable of being disintegrated by a shattering process without destroying or bruising the enclosed peas. The weakest part of the pod is along the line of its suture."

The court then recounts the efforts of inventors to discover some method whereby the peas could be shelled without crushing them, and then shows that the desired result is produced by a machine which hits the pod a sharp blow while it is suspended in the air, thus releasing the peas, which fall into a receptacle prepared for them, while the pods and vines are carried away.

BOOK DEVOURERS.

Strange Habits of Insects That Eat Their Way Through Rows of Large Volumes.

The death watch (Anobium domesticum) sometimes plays havoc among the books, especially where they are little used and comprise some of the good old sort, leather-bound, with thick, heavy boards. But not only may the bindings be attacked; the more important reading may suffer also, says Good Words. Kirby and Spence quote from Horne's "Bibliography" a remarkable case in which 27 folio volumes that had long reposed side by side had been bored clean through in a straight line, so that the set could be threaded on a piece of string passed through the sharp, round holes. Occasional reading of the books instead of merely gazing at their labels is the remedy for—or rather preventive of—damage of this wholesale character.

The caterpillar of the tabby moth (Aglossa pinguinalis) has been charged with destroying bindings, and the late Prof. Westwood reported upon a colony of exotic wood-boring beetles (Hypothenemus eruditus) discovered tunneling into the bindings. The name eruditus, or learned, which Westwood gave to this alien criminal, is an instance of that humor which scientific men are commonly supposed to lack, but many a Latin name of bird or beast, of fish or insect, the naturalist knows bears witness to the waggingness of the savant. Another of these insects of literary tastes is the book louse (Atropos), a minute wingless creature that reminds one, when viewed through a powerful lens, of its big relation, the white ant. This pest, whose very smallness causes it to be treated ordinarily with contempt, can yet do a great deal of damage. It will eat the surface of enameled paper or card, make the bindings of books shabby by the same process, gnaw at the edges of the leaves, and even carry on its nefarious operations between the pages, and destroy the glue and paste that have been used in binding the sheets together. Crickets and cockroaches will also destroy leather bindings if they can get access to them.

Under Difficulties. Warwick—I just read about an aeronaut that tried to make a balloon ascension in London. Wickwire—Quite an exciting feat, I fancy.

Warwick—Oh, I don't know. He says that after he got up five or six rods he couldn't tell which way was up on account of the fog, got turned around, and first thing he knew was back where he started from.—Judge.

Mull—Why did you remain in Paris so long? Milo—My friends kept me there. "I didn't know you had friends in the city." "I didn't; but I had friends in New York, and they refused to send me any passage money."—Judge.

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

An English farmer reckons to get a ton of wheat straw to 50 bushels of grain.

In 1870 the Dutch possessed 50 tons out of every 100 afloat. Now they own 1 1/2 tons out of each 100.

The oldest large bridge in Europe is that at Ratisbon, over the Danube. It was built in 1135, and is 994 feet in length.

Greater Berlin, including all suburbs the inhabitants of which do business in the city, now has a population of nearly 2,800,000.

The Mexican army of more than 25,000 men is supported upon a trifle more than 1,000,000 Mexican dollars a month. The Mexican congress does not cost \$1,000,000 a year.

The British tea consumption in 1795 was 14,000,000 pounds a year, more than one-half of which total was smuggled by foreign ships from Canton operating in the English channel.

Snow sells in the north of Sicily for about one cent a pound. It is a government monopoly, and the prince of Palermo derives the greater part of his income from it. The snow is gathered on the mountains in felt-covered baskets and is sold in the cities for refrigerating purposes.

Before the French Academy of Sciences recently was discussed the question of the germinating power of grains of wheat taken from the old Egyptian tombs. It has been said that wheat thus found has been made to grow, but the truth is that the albumen of wheat 6,000 years old has been found unchanged, but not so the embryo; the latter had lost its vitality and would not germinate.

REPAID HIS BENEFACITOR.

A Naval Officer Who Denied Himself Luxuries That He Might Testify His Gratitude.

Faithful to the friend of his youth, for whom he lived a life of self-denial, Lieutenant Commander Cheney died the other day. Some of his fellow officers, members of the Naval Alumni association, met at the University club and placed on the minutes of their society a tribute to the memory of one whose nobility of character they knew so well, says the New York Herald.

As a boy Leonard Cheney, then struggling for recognition, was befriended by a man who did much to aid him. The kindness of the benefactor was never forgotten by the naval officer, and years afterward, when his friend was incapacitated for work and was reduced to poverty, the lieutenant commander, then retired, learned of his predicament. The pay of a lieutenant commander on the retired list is not large. The naval officer was himself not in good health, yet he shared what he had with the friend of his early days, supported his declining years and helped his family.

It was a story which he never told. Only a few of his intimate friends knew it, yet year after year he cheerfully bore his double burden. The name of the man whom the lieutenant commander repaid is withheld, for friends of the naval officer wish that it be not made public.

This is the eulogy adopted by the naval alumni: "We have heard with profound sorrow of the death of Lieutenant Commander Leonard Cheney and, in seeking expression for our sense of loss, feel that no formal statement, collectively made, can fitly set down the personal grief this engenders. Many of us knew him as a boy at the naval school and saw him with high honors in his class; others were his shipmates and messmates on various stations, and all have witnessed in late years his patience under grievous physical sufferings caused by exposure and hardships in the line of duty. All of us can bear affectionate testimony to the brave and kindly spirit that became even braver and nobler as the end drew near. We recall with honest pride the stern sense of duty that during the Spanish war kept him at his post, despite physical ailments which made every day end in all but helpless exhaustion. Since his death we have learned a story of tender charity and of ennobling self-sacrifice that he hid from the world, but for which the world is better. To all his friends—and these were all who knew him—he leaves the example of a hero and the loving memory of a true sailor."

Lieutenant Commander Cheney was admitted to the naval academy in 1861. He was graduated in 1865, and subsequently served on the Swatara and on the Pensacola. He was once commandant of the Mare island navy yard and was for a year connected with the United States hydrographic office. He was retired in 1881. In the war with Spain he was a recruiting officer.

Electrical Treatment.

Even the birds are coming in for a share of the benefits of modern science. An ostrich in the Cincinnati zoological gardens was last summer a victim of paralysis. The bird, which is a remarkably fine one, had both legs affected. It occurred to the superintendent to try the effect of electricity. A special tackle was arranged, the ostrich was placed in it, and the application began. At first the bird showed no sign of feeling the current, but after a time the good effects became apparent. The ostrich was able to swing first one leg and then another, and in less than two weeks was on the road to complete recovery.—Youth's Companion.

Jealousy.

Jealousy always has a target to shoot at.—Chicago Daily News.

FIELD OF HONOR.

The Old and Now Somewhat Dilapidated City Park in New Orleans Where Creoles Fought.

One of the most celebrated spots in all Louisiana is the old city park, where, "under the oaks," have been fought some of the most famous duels in the history of the state. The place is known as the Lower City park, is situated far out on Esplanade avenue and beyond the historic Hayou St. John. It comprises many acres of ground and is one of the most picturesque spots in Louisiana. Running through the park and beneath the shadow of numbers of immense live oaks is a little stream, the banks of which are carpeted with level greensward. It was to this place that the hot-blooded Creoles of the old days used to repair, says a New Orleans letter in the Cincinnati Commercial-Tribune.

The most favored spot of all is just beneath three of the largest oaks, which stand in line, some 20 feet or more back from the bayou's edge. These oaks are known as "Les Trois Sœurs," or Three Sisters, and their immense gnarled arms, spread out in all directions, are hung with heavy festoons of gray Spanish moss, an all too funeral emblem for the hundreds of sanguinary encounters with the rapier, of Creole colchémard, or with broadsword or sabre. The dueling pistol was frequently used, but did not come into general use until the Americans obtained a firm foothold in the state. Then the dueling became more fatal, but all the efforts of the religious portion of the community to stop dueling proved a failure and aroused the most bitter prejudice. An article was inserted in the constitution of the state in 1848 disfranchising duelists. The Creoles complained bitterly of this, which, they claimed, was an attempt to drive men of courage from the state, and so vigorous was the opposition raised—for nearly all the leading men found themselves disfranchised by this provision—that the antidualing article was repealed and duelists were restored to favor again.

The code duello was universally recognized in New Orleans before the war, and even to this day duels occur, although they are growing rarer every year. The man who would not fight was regarded as not entitled to the treatment due a gentleman and was socially tabooed and liable to the grossest insults. There was no excuse for refusing to fight. No matter how high the position, it was incumbent upon one gentleman to accept any challenge sent by another.

Thus, the first American governor—W. C. Claiborne—who held sway in the old Calibou, left the gubernatorial mansion to fight Daniel Clarke, the state representative in congress, an encounter which resulted in the severe wounding of Clarke. This duel took place at the mouth of the Bayou Marchal. Later, under the oaks, the courageous young brother-in-law of and secretary to Gov. Claiborne—Major Lewis—fell in mortal combat, January 14, 1804, a short time after Louisiana had become a territory of the United States.

It is a strange commentary, but a fact, that among the members of the bar of Louisiana duels occur most frequently, even to this day. A punctilious, high-minded set of men, each year sees its quota of encounters with swords or pistols, and were duels fought for all the challenges sent, almost each month would find members of the best families of Louisiana facing one another upon the greensward of the old city park, under the dueling oaks, or out in some remote spot upon the banks of Lake Pontchartrain, where interference from spectators is usually an unknown contingency. However, sensible arbitration has come more in vogue, and the hot blood is kept within bounds by the careful, though honorable, mediation of seconds. There is at present a law against dueling, but never once has it been invoked. It is practically a dead letter upon the statute books of Louisiana.

Teaching the Indians Politeness.

A teacher in an Indian school in Michigan writes as follows: "It is especially interesting to study these children, especially as we have them from four different tribes, and I should very much like to write up my impressions, only that I can scarcely keep up with my work as it is. These boys have a sense of humor. In my flag drill last Friday the partners were a boy and girl, and where the lines intersect to form the cross I taught the boys to let their partners go first, and hard trouble I had to do it, too. After the exercises Isaac Crane came up to me, and in his solemn way, said: 'Miss B., in letting the girls pass in front of the boys, you have struck at the root of an Indian national custom.' I said: 'How so, Isaac?' and he answered: 'It is the custom for the man to go first, carrying his dignity, and for the woman to follow, carrying everything else.'"—Washington Star.

Regard of Chinese for the Lion.

Among the various superstitions of the Chinese, and there are many, is that which regards the lion as an emblem of good fortune. Any hill of prominence or rock that can in its structure be thought to bear the resemblance to the king of beasts, has always been attractive to the Chinese.—Chicago Chronicle.

A Wonderful Voice.

At the peace jubilee, in Boston, 1869, Mme. Parepa Rossa's voice was distinguished above 12,000 singers, an orchestra of over 1,000 instruments and in a hall where the audience consisted of 40,000 people.—Indianapolis News.

EATING OF EGGS.

Bulletin Issued by Government Deceases the Health Properties of Hen Fruit.

"Occasionally a person is found who habitually is made ill by eating eggs," says a bulletin issued by the agricultural department, "just as there are those who cannot eat strawberries without distress. Such cases are due to some personal idiosyncrasy, showing in reality that 'one man's meat is another man's poison.' A satisfactory explanation of such idiosyncrasy seems to be lacking."

"Overindulgence in eggs, as in the case with other foods, may induce indigestion or other bad effects. Furthermore, under certain conditions, eggs may be the cause of illness by communicating some bacterial disease or some parasite. It is possible for an egg to become infected with micro-organisms, either before it is laid or after. The shell is porous and offers no greater resistance to micro-organisms which cause disease than it does to those which cause the egg to spoil."

"When the infected egg is eaten raw, the micro-organisms, if present, are communicated to the man and may cause disease. If an egg remains in the nest in which are found the micro-organisms which cause typhoid fever, it is not strange if some of these bacteria occasionally penetrate the shell and the egg thus becomes a source of infection."

"Perhaps one of the most common troubles, due to the bacterial infection of eggs, is the illness caused by eating those which are not fresh. This often resembles ptomaine poisoning, which is caused, not by the micro-organisms themselves, but by the poisonous products which they elaborate from materials on which they grow. Judged by the comparatively small number of cases of infection, or poisoning, due to eggs, reported in medical literature, the danger of disease from this source is not great."

AN ALUMINUM TONGUE.

May Enable Crampton, the Brooklyn Preaching Policeman, to Continue Lecturing.

William H. Crampton, the "preaching policeman," may still live to address his audience directly by the help of an aluminum tongue instead of by means of phonographic records of his lectures, which he made in anticipation of a life without speech.

Science has done its best for the man who expected to lose his tongue by an operation, and physicians who cut out part of that member in the Seney hospital, Brooklyn, hold out hopes that the patient will live to talk and to relinquish his claim to be known as "the silent lecturer."

Lectures traced on the waxen rolls of the phonograph must for some months tell his story from the platform while he stands beside the machine unable to make other than guttural and husky sounds, but in time it is believed that the nerves will gain control of the muscles in the stump just as they formerly controlled the tip of the tongue, which is now gone, and that the lecturer will again be able to articulate clearly. There will be a slight oddity about his speech, the surgeons say, but it will be clear and intelligible.

A well-known surgeon said the other evening that a French savant had perfected an artificial tongue of aluminum which was almost as useful as the original member, and Crampton may make use of this device.

THE VIRCHOW FUND.

Physicians of This Country to Be Invited to Contribute—Famous Pathologist to Be Honored.

A committee of prominent physicians in this country has been organized for the purpose of collecting money to add to the Virchow fund. This fund was established in honor of Dr. Rudolph Virchow, the famous pathologist, who since 1856 has been the director of the pathological institute of Berlin. The fund was founded in 1891, when he completed his seventieth year, to enable him to facilitate scientific research by establishing special medical and biological investigations. Contributions to the fund have been received from all parts of the world.

On October 13 Dr. Virchow will be 80 years old. Steps have already been taken in nearly every part of the world to honor him on that occasion by swelling the fund which bears his name. The principal committee of the fund is in Berlin. The one recently formed in this country has been designated a subcommittee. One of the members of the committee at New York is Dr. Robert F. Weis, president of the New York Academy of Medicine. This committee has issued an open letter to the physicians of this country asking for contributions to the fund.

Bacterial Illumination.

A French scientist, M. H. Dubois, has carried on for some time experiments with a view to using photo-bacteria as sources of illumination. By cultures on a large scale with liquid nutrient media, M. Dubois shows that it has been possible to illuminate a room with the brilliancy of moonlight.

A Smooth Individual.

Comment upon the action of Dr. Patton, of Princeton, in shaving off his side whiskers is generally unfavorable. It was a cheeky thing for him to do, declares the Chicago Tribune.

Boston's Vacant Land.

Boston has much vacant land, the assessed value of which is \$62,000,000.