

WHY PROPOSAL WAS SUDDEN.

One Thing That Ford Youth Had Taken No Thought For.

"This is so sudden!" As he heard the girl speak these words the astonished young man rose to his feet in a moment.

HOW THE EXPERT KNEW.

Something Even Ordinary Man Might Have Discovered.

"Mr. William Kopter is a well-known resident of Denver, Col., and an artist upon the violin. He is a connoisseur in instruments. A friend of his told him that he possessed a good imitation Stradivarius and Mr. Kopter requested that the violin be brought him for inspection.

The Worth of Nurses.

Contrasting his Indian experiences with those in South Africa, Field Marshal Lord Roberts said that for the first two or three months of the siege of Delhi not a single case of amputation survived, and at Lucknow the death statistics were very similar.

Scared from School.

The small girl in the night school was answering the questions put to her by her teacher, says the Baltimore News.

As Far as He Could Go.

In his infant breast, possibly, he is cherishing the hope that he will ultimately reach the age when "the fellows" will call him Bill, but at the present time he has "just turned two," and Willie is a conventionalist of no mean attainments for his years.

Government Trains Housekeepers.

Household economy has been given official recognition by the Belgian government in the establishment of domestic training schools. The curriculum includes the maintenance and cleanliness of dwellings, furnishings, banding work, cutting, fitting, making and repairing of ordinary garments; cooking, and in the rural districts, gardening, dairy work and the care of poultry.

His Excuse.

"Yeah," m' dear," began Luschman, "I'm rather late tonight, but you—er—see—"

BEAUTY AND ITS AGE.

The Only Way to Keep Young Is to Keep One's Heart Young.

"No woman is worth looking at after 40, or worth talking to before," is a cynical saying which has not much of the proverbial grain of truth in it, for it certainly is a fact that in society today the women who have the greatest success are the more or less matured ones who have realized that, since grow old we must, the least we can all do is to grow old intelligently.

MUST HAVE BEEN A WONDER.

Chinaman's Glowing Advertisement of His India Ink.

The late Ambrose L. Thomas used to collect curious advertisements and one that he valued highly was a Chinese advertisement of India ink.

Largest Building Stone.

The walls of the Acropolis at Baalbek are truly called Cyclopean, says Sunday at Home. The famous Trilithon, the largest stones ever used in building, measure respectively 65, 64 and 63 feet in length, each block weighing about 750 tons.

Our English.

Sidney Lee, the London Shakespearean scholar, thinks well of English as spoken by Americans. His views were expressed in addressing a new British association, instituted to help to maintain the correct use of English, and to promote the due recognition of English as an essential element in national education.

Perfect Double of Senator.

Fred Ireland of Detroit, an official stenographer of the house of representatives in Washington, is almost the exact double of Senator William Alden Smith of the same state.

'Twas a Draw.

Squigg—That French duel was easily settled.

A Mind's-Eye View.

"And is your castle in Spain a sky scaper?"

THE THOUGHTS OF YOUTH.

Boy's Ambition Probably Shared by Many of His Age.

Mrs. M. G. Black, of Gardiner, Ore., who has received one of the last awards of the Carnegie hero fund for saving the young girls from drowning, was talking about bravery the other day.

UP THROUGH THE AIRSHAFT.

Quite Easy to Learn Family Secrets in New York.

"It beats all," said a westerner as he sat in the smoker, "how many family secrets you can learn in New York without knowing any of the families, or even their names."

Many Royalties in Germany.

Germany is ruled by one emperor, four kings, six grand dukes, seven princes and one simple count. These sovereigns occupy very different degrees of importance, even in the eyes of their own immediate subjects, but in one degree or another they all enjoy the dignities and privileges of kingship and all have to face some of the responsibilities of state.

Life of Our Coal Fields.

If the rate of consumption of 1905 were maintained indefinitely, without change, our coal would last approximately 4,000 years, but if the constantly increasing rate which has marked the consumption during the past 30 years be maintained, our coal will practically be exhausted within 100 years.

Mauled by Lions and Leopards.

Now and then a man is brought into camp having been mauled by a savage lion or leopard, which cases never fail to excite interest.

Such Is Fame.

A policeman who witnessed a motor accident in Paris, in which Mme Rejane's chauffeur was implicated, had gravely noted down the following:

A Lesser Evil.

Messenger—Your wife has eloped with your chauffeur.

The Commonest of All.

"Every man hugs some delusion."

QUEER WAYS OF FISHING.

Trout Killed with a Hammer—Masked Lake Fishermen.

"I wore a woaden mask when I caught that fish," said the angler, pointing to a mounted specimen above the sideboard, and the thermometer registered 12 degrees below zero at the time. It was on Lake Michigan. On the lakes the summer fishing will aggregate 130,000,000 pounds a season.

VIRTUE IN THE EELSKIN.

Worth Trying by Those Who Suffer from Rheumatism.

"Why don't you get an eel-skin?" said the old "vegetable lady," as the master at one of our largest markets paused in front of her stand and rubbed his knee, giving utterance to a half-smothered exclamation that rhymed with clam, ham and words like those.

Japanese Life Undergoing Change.

America and Europe can see that Japan is being caught in the strong current of modern industrial and commercial organization and is being swept far away from the old moorings. A Japan of factories and mills, machinery and big corporations, wealth such as the country never before knew and a grim industrial grind strange to the Japanese is coming into existence.

World's Largest Diamond.

The American Magazine reports graphically the recent discovery of the largest diamond in the world—a diamond which weighs in the rough 3,024 karats. Translated into understandable terms, it is a stone weighing a pound and a third.

Precious Heritage.

Sweetness of temper is a precious heritage. It gives beauty to everything it keeps its windows open to the world with perpetual delight. The fortunate possessor of a sunny soul is God's evangel in a dark world. He is a living gospel which no will ever repudiate, and the blessedness of which all men will appreciate.

The Days of Youth.

Mrs. Housekeep—"Go away. You're nothing but a lazy old tramp and you were never anything else. Don't tell me—"

SADDLE OF HUMAN SKIN.

Remarkable Object in Possession of Philadelphia Man.

Human skin can be prepared, tanned and made into durable articles as successfully as can the skin of horses and other animals. The resulting leather is very much like domestic pigskin.

DAMAGE DONE BY WOLVES.

Ranchmen Suffer Heavily From Depredations of Animals.

Vernon Bailey, of the forest reserve bureau at Washington, who has been making an investigation of the ravages of wolves on the ranches of the southwest, reports that in a certain part of New Mexico he learned that a moderate estimate of the stock killed by four wolves of which he got trace was a yearling cow or a calf every three days, or approximately 100 head of cattle to each wolf.

Not Looking for Millions.

The head of a large concern engaged in the manufacture of various kinds of machinery, and especially that which is used in equipping plants, has a letter from a business correspondent which he prizes very highly. It came in response to an estimate submitted as to the cost of an equipment for a saw mill.

The Boy Who Fell Down.

At Ansburg, in Bavaria, they have some curious laws and ordinances. An American family from Wisconsin were stopping there last December, and one of the sons, a boy 13 years old, slipped on the icy sidewalk one day. He was at once arrested and taken into court on the charge that he had fallen down to make trouble for other folks. It was held that when the boy fell down a number of people stopped to see if he had been hurt. Also, that the shopkeeper before whose door he had fallen felt humiliated over the circumstance. Also, that when a policeman came up he could not talk German to him. The case was tried in court, and the boy who fell down instead of standing up was fined three dollars.

High Nest for Men's Brood.

"Two or three days ago," said a farmer near Lamar, "my wife began to tell me that she heard little chickens, and that it sounded as if they were on top of the house. I laughed at her and told her that I guessed she was going crazy. But this morning she insisted that I get up on top of the house and look. I climbed up on the roof of the porch and sure enough there were an old hen and five or six fine chicks as you ever saw. She had built her nest in some dry leaves under a projection of the roof. The old hen's plans had been all right, but she had failed to figure on getting her brood to earth."—Kansas City Times.

A Business Girl.

In Naples there is a girl 11 years old in the fruit business, and she is doing so well that she employs 12 men and boys. She began in her father's fruit stand at six years old. She is now accounted one of the sharpest buyers in the trade, and it is predicted that by the time she is 15 she will be one of the richest. She cannot read or write, but has a sign her name by making an X. Several fruit dealers have been fined in court for trying to injure her business.

The Brute.

"What am I going to do, Harold?" called out a woman from the window of an apartment house to her husband who stood on the stoop lighting his cigarette. "What shall I say to the landlady? He's coming around this afternoon for the last time and you know it." "I will leave it to you, my dear," Harold replied blandly. "If you can bluff him as well as you do me you're all right."—New York Press.

ABOUT OLD AGE PENSIONS.

There Are 3,623 Persons in This Country Over 100 Years Old.

Germany has expended \$13,000,000 for age pensions, to say nothing of \$55,700,000 for sickness and \$21,750,000 for accidents. It is strange that this matter has not attracted more attention in an advanced country like the United States, which pays out more than \$142,000,000 a year to army and navy pensioners and has spent \$4,254,130,257 in that way since 1861.

EAGLE WHIPS A MAN.

Then Resumes His Flight With a Stolen Lamb.

Frederick Hollenbach, a farmer living on the Schoharie Ridge, near Saegertsville, was feeding the gray eagle in his woodland when an eagle flew past that had in its talons one of his lambs. The big bird had been annoying the community for a month. Many farmers wanted to shoot it, but the game warden threatened to invoke the law providing for a \$50 fine and imprisonment for killing a bald eagle. The eagle was flying low, and thinking he could save the lamb, Mr. Hollenbach struck the bird sharply with a stick. The eagle dropped the lamb all right, but instead of flying off made for the man, ripping open his face, his hands and chest with its talons and practically tearing off his clothes. After it had Hollenbach lying prostrate in the woods the eagle picked up the lamb and flew off. Hollenbach is in bed, with a doctor attending him.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Sharp Myster Fox.

About a dozen farmers' boys in New Hampshire turned out one Saturday last winter to hunt down a fox that was known to have his lair in a bill. Reynard was finally routed out, and after leading the crowd a chase of ten miles he doubled back and his trail was lost near a certain farmhouse. Hunters and dogs beat around for two hours and then gave up. When they had departed the fox left the house by a broken window. He had entered the same way and concealed himself in a chimney. There was a fireplace but no fire, and no one would have thought of looking for him up there. He was so covered with soot when he got out that he was taken for a black fox.

Foibles of Letter Writers.

The London Chronicle wants to know how you date your letters. If they are dated at all or which of the nine ways appeals to an individual's taste or laziness. There are some persons who do not take the trouble to date their letters at all, and the Chronicle is brutal enough to add "they are mostly women." Who does not receive letters with signatures that beat the Dutch for legibility? Or, perhaps with no address, no date, and the signature "that would puzzle an archangel and split a linotype machine." But the worst of it is so many people rejoice in their illegible signature! It lends an air of distinction to the blindest mislaid.

A One-Armed Life Saver.

One of the life savers along the Delaware river front is Paul Greenwood, now a resident of Chester. Greenwood lost an arm and a leg several years ago, but despite this misfortune he continues at his work of saving lives of people who fall overboard. Not long ago he saw five Philadelphia boys struggling in the water off Marcus Hook, their yacht having capsized. He jumped into a boat and hurried to the scene of the upset yacht and saved all of the members of the party, most of whom were women.

Dice Throwing for a Bequest.

The singular sight of two servant girls throwing dice for charity money was recently witnessed at Guildford. The charity is known as "Misses' money." This was left by John How in 1874, and each year there is a competition for a check for £11 9s. The dice throwers must have been employed for two years in one service in Guildford, but not at an inn. Laura Cadman secured the check with a double six, Emma Trimmer throwing six and three.

Troubles of the Ancients.

Persius had cut off the head of Medusa. "Speaking of snake stories," he said, "throwing the head, with its writhing serpents into a bag, 'I guess that will hold you for a while.' But the appalling realization of what he had done did not burst upon him until he discovered that his basty deed had turned Pegasus loose upon the world.

Dead Heads.

"Conductor," said the gasping passenger, vainly trying to raise a window. There are at least a billion microbes in this car. "You ought to be able to stand that if the company can," growled the street car conductor. "We don't get a blamed cent for carrying 'em."