

OF THE BOWTHERN
A BIRD'S EYE INTERVIEW.
 Bird Hunter Starts the Ball to Roll by Telling of the Mule That Set Birds For Him When He Was a Boy—Eagle McCall's Uncle Tom Hunt a Boss That Treated Possums Down in Goose Creek—John Asbury Changes the Subject and Takes Up Fish in Order to Get to Tell of Snider's Cat—Mack Earnhardt Knows a Thing or Two About a Rowan Cat Fish—The Newspaper Man and the Whale—Some Interesting Yarns for a Dull Day.

"Did you see what the papers said about Mack Earnhardt's squirrel roasting rooster this morning?" asked Matthew Yandle, when the Annapolis Club met at the police station, yesterday.

"Yes," said some, "No," said others.

"Well, Mack claims to have a wyaudotte rooster that roasts squirrels. That is a strange story to me."

"Strange?" said Mode Hunter, with a question mark on his face.

"Yes, who ever heard of a chicken that would trap anything?"

"Well, I'm not surprised at it," said Mode, with something on his mind. "No, after old Beck, our mule, did what she did I am not surprised at anything."

"What did old Beck do?" asked Baptist John Asbury.

"Why, she set a covey of birds—that's what," said Mode, "and I can prove it."

"Go and tell the newspaper boys," said John, "they will believe anything."

"It was this way: We had been netting birds for several years on Beck and she was the best thing you ever saw. I would ride along the hedgerows, hunting for the birds and when I found them, touch the reins and Beck would wheel around and go away until I could get the net. Well, one morning I was riding along and old Beck threw her ears forward, squatted and stopped stock still. For some time I had no idea what she was about, but soon I saw a covey of birds huddled together in a briar patch. After a moment Beck found more birds than I did. She could smell them like a setter."

As Mr. Hunter closed his tale every man in the circle, except Elgie McCall, looked paler than usual. Elgie's face beamed with enthusiasm.

EAGLE McCALL'S POSSUM MULE.

"That's nothing to what I see, one of my Uncle Tom's mules did," said Elgie.

"She tread a possum."

Col. Tom Black groaned a groan that could have been heard to the square. He is a friend of Elgie.

"You may not believe what I tell you, but it's true, Uncle Tom had a small mule, about the size of a donkey, and they were the best of friends. Whenever you saw the one you were more than apt to see the other. Like was her name."

"This was in the fall—sometime in October, I think, and Uncle Tom was on his way home from town when Lize threw her nose down and dropped on her knees. Uncle Elgie, who was riding along with her, knew she had sense enough to take care of herself. Well, sir, just as sure as I am living that mule went into the woods and tread the biggest grey possum ever caught in that part of Goose Creek. She trailed like a dog until she got to the tree and then looked up, and there sat the possum on the first limb."

Colonel Tom fell over in a swoon, and Matthew Yandle, near following his mad of tobacco.

John Asbury came to the rescue by asking:

"Where is Mr. J. P. C. Morris?"

"Talking about strange things," said John, "after everybody has recovered, I think the fish is a most peculiar animal."

THE PET CAT FISH.

"Up in Lincoln county, where I was born, an interesting thing occurred. Jim Snider, a Dutchman, who was brought up in that section, left early in life and went West, but after spending many years in Tennessee he came back to his old home and settled down for the remainder of his life. Snider was a good fellow in many ways. He loved all sorts of pets and we boys used to go to his home to see queer things. Well, when he came back to his old home he brought with him a pet cat fish."

"A pet cat fish?" asked Matthew Yandle, who was born in Union county, North Carolina, but is by rights from Missouri, when it comes to fish stories.

"Yes, a pet cat fish."

"Why, where did he keep him?" asked Will Irvine.

"In a large tub of water back of the house. Yes, he kept him there part of the time."

"Part of the time—where did he keep him the other part of the time?" asked Matthew, becoming more interested.

"Why, that's the strange part about it—that fish, got so he could jump out of the tub and walk about."

"And walk about?" asked a dozen voices.

"Yes, the fish walked about so much that he got a cat of feet. I never saw such a fish. He grew until he looked like a small-size hog and was just as fat as he could be. He got so that he would follow Snider about the field, like a dog, and finally quit the water altogether."

"The devil you say?" exclaimed Jim Johnston who had just begun to be interested.

HE FELL IN A CREEK AND WAS DROWNED.

"Yes, sir, I have seen that fish following Snider about the field."

"What became of him—did Snider sell him to the Catawba House, who looks after the delis?"

"No, he died from an accident. It was the most peculiar thing that ever happened in my county."

"You know, Snider lived on a creek that empties into the Catawba river. He and the fish were crossing the creek on a log one day and the fish fell off and was drowned before Snider could rescue him."

Several of the officers grabbed their bills but John dodged into the chief's room.

Mack Earnhardt listened to this story without a change in his countenance, and it was told he said: "Up in Rowan the people will tell you of a case where a cat fish did worse than that. The Yankin river got up once and stayed up for a week or longer and the water was all over an old man's oats. When the river went down it was found that the cat fish had eaten the heads off of the oats."

"That must have been a water hog," said Matthew.

"Well, boys, these stories are right," said a newspaper man, who happened to be present, "but they tell a better one than that at Wilmington."

"What is that?" asked Reynolds.

"You know that the largest fish is called a whale?"

"Yes," agreed all.

THE MAN AND THE WHALE.

"One day a Wilmington man was thrown overboard from a ship, far away, and left to his own resources to save himself."

"What did they treat him—that was for?" asked Matthew.

"I have no idea, but I heard that

...heaved that he gave the ship the side.

"They ought to have been pinched," said two or three.

"Well, anyhow, he went into the beam head foremost, and was told to swim or sink."

"But a fortunate thing happened for him. A whale came along and swallowed him."

"Fortunate, the dickens, do you call that fortunate?" said Johnston a little excited.

"Yes, and if you will listen you will learn—the fellow would not have been living to-day had it not been for that whale."

"Is he alive now?"

"Certainly, and is a member of the Wilmington police force."

"By gracious I may know him," said Elgie McCall, "what is his name?"

"Go on and tell us how it happened," said Matthew, interested.

"It was like this: when the whale found that he had swallowed a policeman he became ill, swam ashore and threw him up."

"Who ever heard of such a thing?" asked Henderson, the parrot chaser.

"What was the fellow's name?" asked Elgie.

"Jonah."

"Get off, with your hot air—you know no whale ever swallowed a man and then threw him up," said Johnston.

"It is hard to believe," said Matthew, "but if you know the fellow it must be so."

A call for help to protect somebody way out on Seventh street extension from a blind tiger broke up the party.

A WAY TO GET IMMIGRANTS.

Mr. T. V. Powderly, of the Department of Commerce and Labor, writes an interesting letter to Col. A. L. Smith, Secretary of the Southern Manufacturers' Club.

Mr. T. V. Powderly, chief of division, bureau of immigration and naturalization, in the Department of Commerce and Labor, Washington, D. C., has written to the Manufacturers' Club in this city a letter which is intended to lead to a better distribution of immigrants to the United States. Mr. Powderly's letter follows:

Mr. A. L. Smith, Secretary, Southern Manufacturers' Club, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Sir:—In conformity with the intent of Congress in establishing the division of information, the duty of which is to promote a beneficial distribution of admitted aliens, we are opening communication with business and industrial associations throughout the United States for the purpose of securing lists of the members thereof who may be in need of labor, whether skilled or unskilled, farm laborers, domestics, or settlers on land. Hence this letter, which is written at the suggestion of Mr. M. V. Richards, land and industrial agent, Southern Railway Company.

Among the thousands of aliens who migrate to our shores every year are not only large numbers of hard-working common laborers and farmers, but also hundreds of men and women skilled in the various trades. Through a lack of knowledge of existing conditions in this country, many of these people settle in localities where their economic worth is not appreciated or rated at its full value, whereas in many parts of the country there is a crying need for their services.

In dealing with the alien we must include the unemployed citizen as well for in the over-populated districts many who have become citizens are the ignorant of the opportunities for bettering their condition elsewhere as are the newly admitted aliens themselves.

Therefore, in accordance with the above, we will upon receipt of a list of names of your members as may be in need of labor of one kind or another, correspond with such employers individually in order to ascertain just what their needs are. We will send to each the proper application blank, samples of which are enclosed. It would be well to state opposite the name and address of each member the business in which he is engaged, in order that the division may determine which blank to send. Each of your members as may be desired requires no postage, should be used in sending your reply hereto and the list above called for.

Trusting to receive your support and hearty co-operation in this work, I beg to remain,

Respectfully,
 T. V. POWDERLY,
 Chief of Division.

It will be seen that those members of the Manufacturers' Club who desire to get additional labor may fill out a blank which Mr. Powderly has furnished to the club and he will make the fact known amongst those who are looking for places to locate.

CO-OPERATIVE FARMING.

Special Agent Hudson, of the Government Agricultural Department, in County to Explain Co-Operative and Demonstrative Movement on Behalf of the Farmers—Meeting Saturday.

In the interest of a co-operative and demonstrative plan instituted by the government Department of Agriculture, Mr. C. T. Hudson, special agent, spending a few days in the county, has called a meeting of the county farmers for next Saturday when he will outline the scheme and seek to establish experiment stations throughout Mecklenburg. The plan is just being introduced in North Carolina and this is one of the first counties visited in other States. It is now being carried out successfully. The government has undertaken this work for the purpose of benefiting the producer of cotton and corn, the experiments being confined to these staple crops.

Speaking of the plan yesterday, Mr. Hudson said to an Observer reporter: "We aim to show that by a better preparation of the soil, better cultivation, a more judicious use of home-made and commercial fertilizers and better seed to plant, the average farmer can make a great deal more per acre and consequently at a less cost than prevails at present. He also reads kept for several years by the government officials prove conclusively that the farmers who have taken advantage of this demonstrative work are making from 10 to 50 per cent more, and in exceptional cases 100 per cent, more than they have been making."

"This work costs the farmer nothing either directly or indirectly, all the expense being borne by the General Educational Board of New York, working through the government. The department wants more than 100 average farmers in this county to join in this movement, so that the entire county can see how to make 50 bushels of corn to the acre and 3,000 pounds of seed cotton."

All the farmers of the county who can be interested in this movement are asked to attend the meeting Saturday when the plan will be fully explained by Mr. Hudson.

I asked her hand, she said to me, "Think you that I your wife would be. Your health is gone, your system wrecked. Go home some Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea. B. H. Jordan & Co.

COUNTY SCHOOL NOTES.

Special Meeting of the Board of Education Saturday—Why All Schools Are Not Yet Running.

A not meeting of the county board of education will be held in the office of the county superintendent Saturday to pass upon the agreement recently entered into between State Superintendent of Education J. Y. Joyner, of Raleigh, and County Superintendent Cochran relative to the establishment of the two high schools in the county, one at Matthews and the other at Huntersville. If this agreement is ratified, the county will receive \$1,000 annually from the State for the support of these two institutions, \$500 going to each. The purpose of these high schools is to fit students for college, for teaching and for business. Only the very highest grade of teachers will be employed and the standard will be such that a certificate from either of them will admit any graduate to any of the first-class colleges of the State or University. It will be so arranged that any graduate who so desires will be given a first grade teachers' certificate without examination. Matthews and Huntersville have been chosen for the location of these schools on account of their advantageous situation relative to the rest of the county. A fine school building is already in use at Huntersville and another is in course of erection at Matthews. It is very likely that the county board of education will approve of Superintendent Cochran's agreement with State Superintendent Joyner and that the county will soon have two of the best high schools in the State.

County Superintendent Cochran states that there are a dozen schools in the county which have not yet started owing to the inability of the parents to permit their children to attend while the cotton picking is in progress. The scarcity of labor is such that many parents, who heretofore, never kept their children away from school a day, have been forced to send them to the fields to help gather the crop. The picking season will be over by next month and then all the schools will be in operation.

"The Beginnings of English America" is the title of a bulletin which the North Carolina Historical Commission has just gotten out. It is a little 40-page booklet and deals with Sir Walter Raleigh's settlements on Roanoke Island, 1584-87. The author is Prof. B. D. W. Connor, secretary of the commission. A hundred copies have been received in the city for distribution among the county schools. Superintendent Cochran will mail them out in a few days.

MR. MOORE WRITES.

Declares That He is a Farmers' Union Man, if That Organization Will Maintain a Stable Price For Cotton.

"The Cotton Growers' Association is not on its last legs," writes Mr. C. C. Moore, who is at Newbern in the interest of the work, in a letter taking the Observer to task for its story a few days ago. "It is bravely holding the price of cotton above the 10-cent mark, and but for the desperate and persistent fight being put up by the association the price would be by this time not above eight cents," continues he. "It is true, and a pity, too, that the Mecklenburg farmers have not been loyal supporters of the association but that does not mean that the farmers of other counties are not loyal supporters. One year ago there were no warehouse facilities in North Carolina, to-day there are 22 warehouse organizations doing business and 25 local committees taking subscriptions for 25 other warehouses."

"It is true that a few local banks have found it inconvenient to advance money to farmers on warehouse certificates but a majority of the banks are financing the local cotton and the bank officials of all the small towns I have visited tell me that they will furnish money on bonded warehouse certificates. If the Farmers' Union present a plan that will insure a stable price for cotton, a price that will mean a profit to the producer, then I am a Farmers' Union man."

"One thing I do not understand—that is this: the Farmers' Union at Hot Springs, or Little Rock, declared for 15 cents. Now if that organization is 'it' how is it that cotton is now about 16 cents per pound?"

Mr. Moore is now in the eastern section of the State working manfully for the interests of the association and has secured subscriptions in a number of places for bonded warehouses. He is out on his own expense. He sends a copy of the Cotton Journal, of Atlanta, which contains printed statements from 75 bankers, stating that they will finance the movement, the crop-

Body of Mr. Tredeick Arrives.

The body of Mr. Richard Tredeick, who was killed in Kansas City last Friday by falling from a steel building, which he was helping to construct, arrived in the city last night and will be taken to Sardis church this morning where the funeral services and burial will take place. Rev. Willis M. Duncan, of the First A. R. P. church, of this city, will officiate at the funeral. Mr. Tredeick had been in the West a number of years. He was a son of the late Nicholas P. Tredeick, a somewhat historic figure in the county at one time.

Church Reception To-Night.

Between 400 and 500 guests are expected at the reception which the ladies of the First Baptist church will give to-night in the Sunday school room in honor of the 300 new members which have been added during Rev. E. H. H. Eulter's pastorate. An attractive programme has been arranged for the occasion. Delightful refreshments will be served, and talks will be made by Dr. Hulien and several of the members of the church.

Rev. C. L. Hoffman Moves.

The many Charlotte friends of Rev. C. L. Hoffman, former rector of St. Peter's Episcopal church, will be interested to learn of his removal from Boulder, Col., to Carlsbad, New Mexico. Rev. Mr. Hoffman's health is as good as might be expected.

Early Morning Fire.

A pile of kindling wood which had been left too close the furnace in the basement of Mr. J. A. Jones' residence on South Tryon street caught fire yesterday morning at 2:20 o'clock and the department was called out to attend to it. The alarm was turned in from Box 31. There was no damage done, the fire being put out without any difficulty whatever.

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 Eat for good nature.
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AN ELOQUENT TESTIMONIAL

The following letter is more eloquent in praise of the Artistic Stieff Pianos than any testimonial Mr. Clewell or ourselves could write.

Rev. Mr. Clewell is the head of Salem Academy and College, Winston-Salem, N. C., and shows the high esteem and confidence in which the firm of Chas. M. Stieff is held by one of the best known educators in the South.

Winston-Salem, N. C., Sept. 20, 1906.

My Dear Mr. Wilmoth:

Regarding the letter for the Stieff Pianos, please write such a letter as will suit your purpose and sign my name to the letter. Or, if you prefer to do so, write the letter and send to me and I will sign it and return to you. I know that I can endorse anything you claim for your pianos. We have always been well pleased with them.

Very truly yours,
 J. H. CLEWELL,
 Principal.

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CUTS, SORES, BURNS & RHEUMATISM 25¢

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