

NATURAL HISTORY--THE BABY

(Detroit Free Press.)

What animal is this? That is a baby. He is now about three years old, and at the wickedest point of his early career.

What country does the baby mostly inhabit? He can be found in every inhabited country on the globe, the same as mosquitos and boils.

Can they be tamed? Yes, quite easy. After a little judicious discipline they cease to struggle and become subservient to the will of man.

Does a baby eat grass? Yes, or anything else. They swallow pocket knives, thimbles, buttons, spoons, or any other object a little smaller than a tea-cup. If offered milk they seldom refuse it.

Do they graze during the day, or only at night? They are always grazing, paying not the least heed to the hour. When not actually eating they generally give utterance to a peculiar cry. Strong men often jump out of bed at midnight in the coldest weather when hearing that cry.

What meaning is attached to the cry? Men of deepest thought have agreed that it signifies to wake up the neighborhood and have some fun.

Of what benefit to mankind is a domesticated baby? They are of no earthly account for the first few years, but by and by they can slide down hill on a cellar door and carry articles out of the house and trade for a wooden sword, or lose them in the grass.

Do you know of any instance where the baby has attacked the household and killed or injured any one? Such instances have been related by such eminent naturalists as George Esanols Train and Texas Jack, but we don't put much faith in them. However, if the baby was maliciously provoked, there's no knowing what it might do.

Are they a healthy animal? No; on the contrary, no druggist could make enough profit in a year to buy him a pair of Artie overalls but for the presence of a baby in every household. There is hardly an hour in the day that the baby does not demand pepper-mint, paregoric, ipecac, or something else costing money.

What machinery is made use of to compel the baby to take a dose of castor oil? There are several patent machines for the purpose, but most people follow the rule of knocking him senseless, and getting the dose into his mouth before he recovers.

In the bald-headed baby more domestic than others? Not a bit. He kicks around after the same fashion, and has even a worse time fighting flies and mosquitos.

What music do they seem to prefer? A base-grass is their first choice, but they have a heavy leaning toward the sound of the stove-handle knocking the nose of the pitcher with the emptying in it.

This is all about the baby. Take another look at him, for next week we shall write about some other reptile.

A Single Letter Involving Millions. (Cleveland Ohio) Herald March, 15th.] A single letter is at the bottom of the litigation in the Case estate. The late Leonard Case dying without a will, and leaving no wife or children, brothers or sisters, nephews, or nieces, to inherit the bulk of his property. Here arose the question. The statutes say in one place "ancestors" when defining the line of inheritance in such cases. If the singular form expresses the meaning of the framers of the statute, the property is to be divided among the brothers and sisters of Leonard Case's father and their heirs. If the plural form, the relatives of the mother are included in the distribution. The suit was brought by one of the questioner's relatives in order to have the question settled definitely and amicably settled. Judge Jones held on Tuesday that in accordance with old custom and equitable principles, the singular was in the father's side only and the doubtful shall word be construed in the singular. The point is an important one, as establishing a precedent in the settlement of estates, and it is understood that the decision of Judge Jones was not meant to be final, but merely as the first step toward bringing the matter before the Supreme Court as the earliest practicable day. Thus a bit of careless penmanship, or bad proof reading, in inserting an unnecessary "s," or omitting that little letter which should be used, is the cause of all this litigation, delay, and expense.

There is a lively war going on at the North between the dairy men and the manufacturers of butterine, and as the latter are getting the best of it, the dairy men are warning up. Apropos of this new contest over trade, the New York Times says: "An old farmer told his son that during a quarrel, no matter about what, he could always easily tell who was in the wrong; it was the one who got mad and called the other bad names. If we apply this sensible rule to the attack made by the dealers in dairy butter upon the so-called butterine, or oleomargarine butter, it is evident that they must be in the wrong, as they not only are mad and apply all kinds of vile epithets to the great competitor of dairy butter, and to its manufacturers and dealers." Indeed, butterine is said to have the appearance, flavor and taste to such a degree that even its enemies confess that it cannot be distinguished from it, and in several law suits consequent to the attempted en-

forcement of the laws enacted against it, have even mistaken the one for the other. Judges have not been able to tell what was the butter, and which the butterine. For our part, we look askance at all butter coming from the North, and do not doubt that much which is consumed in our cities as first-rate butter is only the imitation. We prefer North Carolina, pure and simple.—Raleigh Observer.

LOST HUSBAND.

(From The Detroit Free Press.)

One of the officials of Justice alley was lately waited on by a man who said his name was Smith and who had volunteered the further information that he was about to get married. The only stumbling block was the fact that he would not agree to leave off drinking. He had come to consult His Honor on that point and see what was advisable.

"Well, I'd promise, I guess," replied the Justice. "It's a bad habit anyhow, and the sooner the better."

"Well, I guess I will," answered the man and he went out. In an hour he returned and said: "What do you think? After I promised that she wanted me to promise to leave off chawin' tobacco!"

"Well, I'd do that too," said His Honor, "It is another bad habit, and you'll feel all the better for breaking it."

Smith went away again, and when he returned he looked twice as clean as a frozen white fish.

"And now she wants me to promise to stop swearing!" he gasped as he fell into a chair.

"Is she a nice woman?" asked His Honor.

"She is."

"And you truly love her?"

"I do."

"Well, then I'd quit swearing. It is a senseless habit anyhow, and you lose nothing by promising."

"The man concluded to promise and departed quite happy, but when he once more returned after an interview with the bride-elect he was mad.

"There won't be no marriage," he announced, as he sat down and pounded the table.

"Why? What now?"

"What now? Why, when I promised to stop drinking, quit chawin' and leave off swearing she said I must promise to clean up, shave up and go to church with her!"

"And you won't do it?"

"Judge," replied Smith, after a struggle with his mental agitation, "do you suppose I'm going at it and change myself over to a gentleman just for the sake of marrying a forty year old widow with a mole on her chin? Never! You can go home! There won't be any splicing to do, and from this time out I'll drink and chaw and swear around four times worse than ever! It's too much--It's the last straw on the camels back!"

A new paper called WOMAN, has been started in Paris. Of course it will require a new dress every two months.

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Cutting and making done in the latest fashions and most desirable manner. He keeps constantly on hand samples of latest styles goods for gentlemen wear; and will order according to selection of customers.

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REDD & JORDAN.

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STOCK OF GOODS

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and old man, and young lady and old lady and those of uncertain age and children all

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506-79. 1y.

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McCAULEY & SMITH.
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