

leal-digest what he reads, and intelligently apply it. In no science is there more progress to-day than in agriculture. The farmer who makes money is the one who keeps up with the times.

There lately came to the London postoffice from Egypt four baby crecodiles. The Boston Transcript suspects that they had probably been sent by some one who had heard that a medical periodical had recommended the importation of a shoal of thereptiles, which have a special liking for impurities, as means where with to cleanse the Thmes and the severa. At latest advices the creatures were waiting orders for their disposition. The Thames, it was thought, was too cold for experiments with the Saurian scavengers.

The eyeglasses which pinch the nose are certainly daugerous, maintains the Atlanta Constitution. A case recently occurred in St. Louis of a man who diel of cancer of the nose by the pressure of his eyeglasses. He noticed that on each side of his nose, where the spring of the glasses brought the clamps against the flesh, a persistent red spot appeared, but thought nothing of it. A year or so ago the right side of his nose became sore, a small spot turned brown, and in three months he had a well-developed cancer, which in course of time ate away his nose, the whole of one eye, and finally penetrated the brain and caused death. Spectacles, says an expert, are not so bandsome, nor stylish, but are far safer to persons compelled to the habitual use of artificial aid to the sight.

There is not much toleration for the anti-vaccination craze in France, where medical science has reached a very high point of development. The recent outbreak of smallpox at Rheims has called out a proclamation from the Comite Consultatif d'Hygiene Publique de France declaring that "revaccination is a duty imposed upon every good citizen." It scouts the idea that any danger can arise from the operation when properly performed, and concludes by saying: "Vaccination is the most salutary of practices. It is also most harmless when surrounded by the precautions which, in the present day, have been clearly defined. It is, in realty, the only efficacious means for stamping out the smallpox epidemic. We are unable to understand why people hesitate to submit to it, in order to avoid a disease which is often fatal, which destroys eyesight, which deforms the leatures, and may result in active complications which are often incurable."

Eighty years ago boys in the United States under eight years of age worked factories, in some Instances fourteen lours a day; fifty cents a week was a not incommon rate of wages for women; i very capable woman could earn fifty cents a day at a trade which she must give six months of unpaid service to learn; with calico at fitty cents a yard, a woman's carnings for ten weeks would only suffice to buy the material for a dress which she can now purchase with a half day's wages. "If we go back still another generation," muses the New York Sun, "we find that a little more than 100 years ago the work of a man st common or unskilled labor was worth but half a dollar a day; and on this he supported his family in what was no doubt regarded as entire respectability. But assuredly it was not, if tried by any standard new or old, a condition ot luxury. Small as were his earnings, he paid two dollars a bushel for wheat, eventy-five cents for corn and twenty ceuts a pound for salt pork. He paid a high price for indulgence in fresh meat; he had no carpet or stove, and ate his Cross, who was spending the winter at meat from pewter dishes."

had spent several weeks in the mountains one summer five years ago. But he had you afraid to try him !"

Then there was that dear little Miss Dixon, whom he had met at the seaside. It had been a glorious evening-that

last. They were sitting on the veranda. where they might see and yet be unseen. to-morrow night." The soft, dreamy strains of a Strauss waltz floated out from the ball-room. There was the pale, silver light of the moon, the murmuring ripple of the waves on the beach-and all that sort of thing, which you have read about so many times that you have learned to skip it in the novels.

Well! Elsie was going away-too, too soon. They had talked in sighs and murmurs for half an hour; Arthur's left hand clasped Elsie's dimpled right one, his right arm was about her waist; both hearts beat vigorously, as hearts will on pow-wow with Cross.

such occasions, and Arthur had just opened his mouth to tell Elsie what she had been waiting for for two weeks, when there was a step close at hand, a rustle of skirts, and the cooing voice of the maternal Ferris said: "I beg your pardon, but will you

please excuse Arthur a few moments? There are those miserable business affairs make himself comfortable. that must be attended to in time for the late mail."

And thus was he saved a second time, for Elsie had not a cent, and neither had he-at least, not many of them. There were several other occasions when his own long head, or his mamma's, had helped him out-for Arthur was somewhat susceptible. But it is not of these I have to tell.

His time had come. The in-everyway-desirable young person had presented herself. True, she was not so young as she had been; but, then, that Ferris went forward to meet her, his was a mere trifle. She was just his cwn age, of as good a family as his own, and

an heiress of considerable degree. She was not-well not exactly handsome, and was rather inclined to what is politely called plumpness; but Arthur's mamma and Arthur's lorg head gave their approval-and Arthur did not care who she might be, so long as the possessed the Papa-" above qualifications, particularly the one involving a very neat fortune in her own

Besides. Arthur was getting a bit desperate. In fact, he had so far exceeded his own salary and the maternal allowance (which, by the way, was as large as Mrs. Ferris could afford), that nothing short of a miracle, or a matrimonial alliance such as he had been so long seeking, could save him from getting into very deep water.

And thus it came to pass that this winter found him engaged to Miss Bernice Field, much to the satisfaction of his mother, who was visiting in New York, and to whom he had, like the dutiful son he was, sent the gratifying news at once. He was disappointed, however, on one

point. He had pleaded artfully for an early wedding, but Miss Field had set her foot down with much firmness and said he must go through a long proba-

tionary period-all of which Arthur been noted for his persuasive powers, instance, that he had expected to instance the monkey, outswim the fish, his wife's money? No! A thousand climb the monkey, outswim the fish, times, no! with her gentle, clinging, bud-like ways, would succumb at once. Now, be it known that Miss Bernice Field had not arrived at years of discretion for nothing. Neither had she, a not unprepossessing young person, with nearly a half-million in her own right, passed through the experiences of ten seasons without gathering unto herself much knowledge of the ways and wiles was laughing heartily. "Why, you foolish boy, I was only of wicked man. She had had, as might have been expected, cffers to a high number; but, thus far, the gentlemen make a good actress? Papa and I haven't concerned had failed—by reason of their unanimous desire to touch her purse—to ost a-Here was Mr. Ferris's opportunity. touch, in the first place, the all-import-Ste had doubted him; oh, cruel blow. ant key to it, which was hidden away in If she could not trust him now, how her bosom. And Miss Bernice Field could she have any faith in him when was worldly-wise in her day and generathey were married? Perhaps, after all, tion. it were best-She was certainly in love with Ferris And he strode haughtily to the door. But this was not part of Miss Field's -there could be no doubt of that. It is quite as certain that she was very seriprogramme, and she did what any veryously in love with him; but with the wisdom born of experience, she did not let him know one-half of what she felt few seconds, two people were sitting on for him. divan in a very lover like attitude, in-

should tell him that I had lost all your | nails broken by cutting wood, and harmoney and mine in unfortunate specula- nessing horses, and plowing in the given himself time to think, and had fied between two days, much to his later a dollar we could call our own? Are her eyes, and then touched her son's arm tion-that we were beggars, and had not fields, brushed her hair back from before wistfully, as a dog tries to draw his mas-There was a brief silence. Then: ter's eyes, and as though he were some-"I don't like to tell a falsehood, papa; thing fragile and fine. But he paid no but it would be only a 'white lie,' and attention to her whatsoever; he was very perhaps for the best. Yes, I'll try him much interested in the lesson. She was the only thing I saw in the school-room. "That's my dutiful girl. Now run I wondered if she was thinking of the long and let me work." days when she carried his weight on her There was the sound of a kiss, and the back as she went about her cooking or perspiring young man in the hall foraging for wood, or swung him from a

"Had I better go back now?" he

of an actor himself, and he knew it.

"What! Has your father been-

Then it was that Ferris, like the young

Arthur, we are-beggars !"

hind her lace handkerchief.

glossy shirt frent.

him. No, never!

expected him.

called "little.")

nastened to get out of the house. He limb of a tree, and of the first leather wanted time to think, but the first thing leggings she made for him when he was that entered his head, as he reached the able to walk, and of the necklace of elk sidewalk, was a fanciful picture of the teeth, and the arrows which he used to petite Miss Field, with her one hundred fire bravely at the prairie-dogs. He was and sixty pounds of avoirdupois "running a very different child now, and so very along," and he smiled broadly. Then he far away from the doglike figure crouchwalked rapidly over to the next street to ing by his side and gazing up patiently catch a cab to his club, there to hold a into his face, as if looking for something she had lost .- Harper's Weekly. On the steps he hesitated a moment.

Why It is Called "Key West."

thought. "No; she won't have her lit-Unlike too many of our American tle tale of woe ready, and might be put cities, Key West has a history and its out if I call to-night. I might give myname a meaning. The first I will not reself away too. Better have time to get hearse, for some version of it, false or my speech prepared." And this astute true, may be found in any encyclopedia, young man went in and proceeded to but the latter I will give in order to correct a common error. Many people im-The next evening, with his usual light agine that the name has something to do heart and good spirits, he rang the door with the geographical position of the isbell of the Field mansion. Yes, Miss land. On the contrary it is a corruption Field was in, Peter said. Ferris went of the words Cayo Hueso (Bone Islands) into the drawing-room and sat down. and was so called because the Indians of running rapidly over in his mind the the coast islands and those of the mainvarious tender speeches he had prepared land were of different tribes and confor the emergency. Bernice was a long stantly fighting, and the Island men havtime coming, he thought, for one who ing been driven from one Key to another, finally made a desperate stand Presently she entered-slowly-heavihere, but it was of no avail, and their Her head bent low over her bosom, bones were left to whiten on the sands and her breath came short and fast. and give a name to the Key.

Ever since Florida came into the posarms outstretched. He was something session of the United States Key West has been looked upon as a point of some "Bernice! Darling! What is the strategic importance, and there have trouble with my little girl?" (Another been desultory attempts to fortify and good stroke. Miss Field liked to be occupy it as a military post. Froops were first stationed here in 1824, and in "Oh, Arthur, Arthur! I don't know 1845 work on Fort Taylor was begun, how to tell you. It is too dreadful! but never completed. The fort, how ever, was occupied, in its incomplete condition, from 1861 to 1865. At pres-"Oh, no, not that; but-but worse! ent the lonely echoes of the immense structure respond only to the footsteps of And Miss Field, delivering these last its solitary keeper, or to the inquiring words with wonderful impressiveness, voice of some wandering tourist -St. Louis Star-Sayings. hung her head and sobbed bitterly be-

The Snake an All-round Athlete.

man of action that he was, put his arm as far round his tearful fiancee as possi-It has been suggested that man's inble, and, with some difficulty led her to stinctive dread of the snake is a remina seat and pulled her head down on his iscence of his original tropical residence. where he no doubt had good cause to He was very, very sorry, as she must fear them. This feeling of aversion is know. But it was nothing. Her father would recoup himself-he had many ingeneral, but is by no means universal. Shelley, for instance, regarded the snake fluential friends. As for her, had she as the emblem of innocence, as will be not him-her Arthur? He would not. seen in the "Bevolt of Islam." The orihe once interrupted her to say, permit gin of this feeling was probably his acher, through a sense of false pride, to quaintance with the little snake which cast him off now, when she most needed lived in the tall grass of the Sussex house in which Shelley passed his child-He had three thousand a year. It was hood. There is an impression on the

not much, he knew, but they could live part of many that the snake has a defectionary period—all of which Arthur failed to understond. He had always heen noted for his persuasive powers instance, that he had expected to live on true. As Owen said, the snake can out-

matches of three or four days have never modern champions could have hoped to carry off a third-class prize at Olympia | tried to "spring a cinch," as turfmen A "running jump" of thirty feet woul, call it by importing a trotting peon from present. The nostrils are pervious. The



A SPANISH POSTBOY.

break the record of our athletic clubs, | Southern Mexico. Near Puebla, Oaxaca East and West, while the very circum- and Acapulco gangs of hucksters can be stantial accounts of the Isthmian games seen coming along the sand roads at a leave no doubt that a leap of forty feet steady trot, carrying bushel bags of vege- uniform dark, smoky was once considered a very ordinary per- tables, often grown at a distance of ten formance, since a Spartan youth once or twelve miles from market. Minus cleared fifty-two feet, and a native of that handicap of farm produce those Crotona (a Grecian colony in Southern hardy half-breeds could easily keep up Italy) even fifty-five. Teutolot, the their trot all day and under the inspiraleader of a predatory horde from North- tion of big gate money probably for a lector's label, "the legs and feet are ern Germany, is said to have leaped in succession of days.

Strange to say the two-legged pack full armor over ten horses standing side mules are generally strict vegetarians, by side, though a private soldier of Vandamme's cuirassiers once jumped over like the longshoremen of Constantinaple, who shoulder boxes which a New York the tutelar deity of a brass fountain on the Frankfurt Market square. Leonardo drayman would decline to unload withda Vinci occasionally astonished his visitout assistance.

Archery has experienced a tad revival, but God has failed to save the mark of what the British longbowmen of the fourteenth century would have called good marksmanship. In quick shooting improved firearms would, of course, carry all prizes, but it might be questioned it at a distance of two hundred yards. At the author of "Ancient Sports and Pastimes" informs us a good bowman deemed it a shame to miss a willow wand as thick as a man's finger.

Swordsmanship has less rapidly declined, and only fifty years ago Japan could boast of gladiators that could have held their own in the Roman arena. The Emperor Commodus is said to have forced a swordsman to use a foll of lead against his own broadsword, but the ance of fish which the fisherman makes astonishment of the audience at that in- | a practice of giving it at every haul. It

boxing gloves. So far from dreaming of

ing, presents a truncate characteristic notch behind the tip is through my left arm, heart, and spine color of the bill is a horny browish gray, This was the physical sensation, but, of more dusky towards the tip; corner of mouth in the fresh bird probably my brain there flitted quickly a vision whitish. The color of the downy plumage

above is of a dark smoky gray; darker, nearly blackish on the head and sides of neck; chin, throat and foreneck of the same general color, scarcely paler; rest of the under surface light ashy gray, with very slight if any fuliginous tinge, in strong contrast to the dark line of the upper parts and the neck, the darker line

being very sharply defined. The collector's label indicates the color of the feet as "bluish, very light between the toes, under side black." The iris is "dark gray."

Two other specimens agree very closely with the one described, except that in one the sides of the neck are considerably darker in the middle. The bills are scarcely shorter, but the tip even more abruptly truncate.

The bill of the crested auk agrees in general shape with that of the adults in winter before the curious nuptial outgrowths have changed it so radically and is scarcely distin-

guishable from that of Simorhynchus pygmæus of the corresponding age. Color, dark horny brown, lighter on terminal half of lower mandible. The color of the downy plumage is a and somewhat brownish grey,

the under parts. According to the col-CRESTED AUK. slate color in front, black underneath." Iris, according to the same authority, "gray."

under parts are slightly lighter and grayer .- St. Louis Republic.

A Strange Pet.

It may be safely stated that Astoria is the only city in the world that can boast of a tame sea lion. During the fishing season of last year a fisherman name our best sharpshooters could have broken Peter Andrews, employed by Devlin's the record of a first-class mediæval archer cannery, in making his haul brought to the surface a baby sea lion in the net. that range and up to three hundred yards | The little creature was so helpless and bleated so plaintively that the fisherman taking pity brought it ashore with him. During the winter it was fed and became greatly attached to its master. This season the young sea lion is allowed to accompany the boat and follows, swimming along astern, even as a dog will follow his master. When the net is hauled in the animal will come alongside and bark until it receives the allow-

Jumping Eggs.

Place two V-shaped wineglasses of the

Fastest Railroad Time on Record. The Empire State express on the New

with a rod, and pinned to the earth.

course, was not the fact. Then through

such as the thought of a battle most

commonly brings to mind-masses of

warring men struggling individually for

the mastery. I seemed to be in the midst

of the melee, and with all the indigna-

tion I could express was shouting to the

men in gray. "There, you have hit me!" Next I was being lifted and supported

by some one, and a voice said, "He isn't

hit, but something is the matter." "Yes,"

said another voice sternly, "he is hit,

and as good as dead. Take him to the

rear." I had so far recovered as to com-

prehend these remarks, and instantly con-

cluded that I was the subject of a prac-

tical joke. In a another moment I was

seized with the keenest pain I have ever

experienced in my life, in the region

where it had seemed in my swoon that I

was run through with a rod. Now,

what had happened was this; I had been

in a sitting posture, resting partly on the

ground, partly upon my legs doubled

beneath me, the left hand holding my

weapon, the ar.n well braced across my

chest so that the middle of the upper

bone pressed against the heart. On my

arm were two shirt sleeves, a jacket

sleeve, and overcoat sleeve, and the over-

coat cape; and a musket-ball moving in

the direction of my heart and spine-

that is, obliquely to the front of my per-son-had ticked the limb of a bush a

few feet away, keeled over and struck

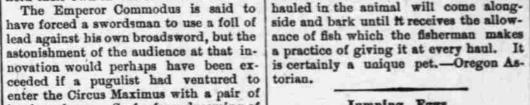
flatwise on the arm, imbedding itself in

the flannel and the flesh .- Popular

Science Monthly.

York Central recently made the fastest time ever recorded by an engine pulling a train. The speed was measured by Angus Sinclair, editor of Locomotive Engineering, who rode in a metallic box bolted to the engine with guages and testing appliances attached. The train, leaving New York, ran a little slower than its schedule time until Staatsburg was reached. Then it put on a tremendous burst of speed. As the trees and fences rushed by in a continuous blur the passengers who knew about the man in the little iron box wondered how he was standing it. When Albany was reached the passengers and the peo-ple in the station crowded around the locomotive and asked Mr. Sinclair how he felt. He said he telt as if he nad been flying.

For four consecutive miles the speed was at the rate of seventy-eight miles an hour, the fastert recorded time ever made by a locomotive drawing a train on a level track. The diagrams made from the gauge showed the locomotive to be almost perfect as regards distribution of power. It developed 1600-horse power and consumed two and one-eight pounds of coal per horse power per hour. Mr. Sinclair is confident that with one car it could run one hundred miles an hour. The locomotive, No. 870, is the recordbreaker which, on the famous run to Buffalo on September 14, 4891, made the 143 miles to Albany in 140 minutes. With its tender it weighs 100 tons. Its



such modifications of the manly art the ancient thought a bare knuckle fight

scarcely lighter on

Two other specimens are on the whole similar to that just described, but the

If any one had told Ferris that he was deed. just now in a very shaky position, he would have scoffed. His chum, Ed

the house during Mrs. Ferris's absence,

.

outwrestle the athlete, can crush the

"We will have a real quiet, little wed. tiger, and, jumping into the air, can ding, dearest, and, after it is over, we seize the bird on the wing. Snakes will go quietly to our own little cottage really walk with their ribs, which are in the suburbs, which you and I will get attached to platelike scales, a very good ready in the meantime, and there we method of progression. They are often represented in pictures as advancing by will be the happiest couple in the world. What! Bernice, am I to understand that vertical bendings of the body, which you laugh at my cherished plans?" they never do. The mistake is probably due to the fact that the scake is a rather For Bernice had leaped to her feet and unfamiliar object and that artists have

attempted to represent its motion withteasing you a bit. Don't you think I'd out having seen it .- New York Times

Water Cure for Rats.

A Country Gentleman correspondent has had great success with the following plan: Fill a barrel one-third full of bran and water, mixed stiff enough to hold a rat on it; let them feed a couple of nights, then make them another mess in the same barrel of nearly all water. When one goes in down goes Mr. Rat,

much-in-love female would do under and the next, not knowing his brother's like circumstances, so that, in a very bad luck, follows suit. In the morning the barrel will be full if the rat supply holds out.

> A set of false teeth made of ivory by a New York dentist for George Washing-

walking briskly down the street, was the Patent Office in Washington,

A MALAY'S AGILITT.

rather too tame for the purpose of a public spectacle, and made the disciples of Pollux use the cestus, a heavy half-

ors by jumping to the ceiling and ring of iron fastened to the fist by means knocking his feet against the bells of a of a leather strap. The result of a tenglass chandelier, but the best modern round encounter with such implements can be only partly inferred from the dejumpers are the ape-like natives of Northern Hindostan, who have the further ad- scription of a Grecian satirist who records the woes of a young man trying to share vantage of being barefoot and unincumbered with anything heavier than a short the heritance of his brother, but ba filed by being unable to find anybody to identify his person. "I had teeth once tunic and a pair of linen trousers. North America can claim the chamand could speak, but can only mumble plonship of the wrestling ring, with now; my ears hang in shreds, my eyes Yorkshire and Switzerland second, but are swollen out of sight; there was a our most tolerant American cities would time when I had a nose, but that time is be apt to enforce the brutal sport limits

against such wrestlers as the Athlete past." Milo, who had a trick of dislocating the Pitching weights is a favorite pastime of the Albanian highlanders, and there spine of stubborn antagonists, in which way he killed so many of his rivals that are villages, which pride themselves so much on the possession of a champion at last nobody ventured to accept his challenges. That formidable bruiser of that sort that they combine (another citizen of sport-loving Crotona) to purchase his dispensation from is said to have played at tug-of-war with the service of the Turkish Army. The hammer thrower of the Scottish Highable-bodied horses and to have crushed pebbles in his clinched fists, but his lands once were almost equally popular, steer-carrying exploit is rendered less in- and there is no saying if the mere stimulant credible by the feats of Dr. Winship, a of prize competitions could not be made

Boston physician of slender physique, to revive all the fun of the Olympic feswho by dint of constant practice at least tivals. The yearly meetings (say in the the provinces are threatened with political An hour or so later, a young man, ton and used by him is on exhibition at | managed to lift 2900 pounds. Professor form of a May Festival) of our National extinction as well as with financial ruin.

the right-hand one put an egg, just fit-ting the rim of the glass. Holding the bases of the glasses firmly down, the top rims touching each other.

Now, with a quick sharp breath, blow upon the line where the egg and the glass meet. The egg will jump to the other glass. With a little practice this can be done every time. Be care ful to blow in a line with the left-hand glass, or the egg will jump in the wrong direction, and land on the table with disastrous results .- Youth's Companion.

The cities of Italy, the communes and Magazine.

drivers are six and a ter .- Chicago Herald.

Lexington, Ky., and Lexington, Mass.

It is curious that "Lexington," the title of a British Lord, should have become the alogan of the American Revolution, but not more curious than the fact that the first spot of ground on this continent named to commemorate the opening battle of that struggle should have been located beyond the confines of civilization, and in the heart of the far distant wilderness of Kentucky. Lexington, the metropolis of the blue-grass region, is to-day the oldest public monument in existence to the first dead of the war of independence, and she was toasted as the first namesake of Lexington, Massachusetts, at the centennial celebration of that battle. The beautiful incident of the naming of Lexington, Kentucky, which occurred early in June, 1775, was witnessed by Simon Kenton and other noted pioneers. Longfellow was urged to make it the subject of a poem, and corresponded with the writer in regard to it, but he died, unfortunately. too soon for the story to be embalm by him in immortal verse .-- Harper's