

The Tribe of Insect Fiddlers.

The fiddling insect tribe comprises, besides the cicadas, the katydids, crickets, locusts and grasshoppers, all of those creatures that make sounds with their wings and legs instead of with their mouths. Next time you hear a merry cricket chirp just think that it produces this pleasant, honey sound by rubbing its fore wings together. Insects of the cicada tribe have two pairs of veined, the front pair close to their heads, the back pair behind the others. The fore wing of the cicada tribe is called the elytron (plural, elytra). Crickets and the kind of grasshopper called long horned make musical instruments of their wings in this way.



THE GRASSHOPPER.

Locusts and short horned grasshoppers produce their sounds in another way, by rubbing their long, strong,

smooth hind legs against the edges of their fore wings. The process is much like that of a violin bow scraping across the stiff fiddle strings, though the sound made is not much like violin music.

Another queer thing about the cicada family is that they seem to have their ears stuck around almost any old place about their bodies. Crickets, katydids and the long horned grasshoppers have their organs of hearing in their fore legs. Locusts and short horned grasshoppers have theirs in their sides.

There is one species of locust that has been dreaded by man from Bible times down to our day. It is called



THE MIGRATORY LOCUST.

the migratory locust because it flew through the air from place to place in numbers that cannot be counted, devouring everything except earth, rocks, solid wood and iron as it goes. This locust is not green, like the smart, spick and span grasshopper, but is of a dull, dirty color, its fore wings brown, its hind wings of a lighter shade. It is about an inch and a half in length.

How an Ostrich Eats Oranges.
At the Cawston ostrich farm in South Pasadena, Cal., there is a veteran bird called Emperor William. The Emperor makes a daily practice of catching in midair oranges which are thrown to him and gulping them down whole. He has been known to have as many as a dozen of the big round fruit going down his slim neck at once, making the latter look not unlike a string of immense beads. Although he has on several occasions eaten as many as thirty-five or forty oranges in succession, he is in good health at the ripe ostrich age of twenty-three years. The food seems to agree with him.

Nonsense Rhyme.



There was an old person of Bree,
Who frequented the depths of the sea.
She nursed the small fishes
And washed all the dishes
And swam back again into Bree.

A Bottle Trick.

Remark to the assembled company that you can get vinegar out of a bottle if you have no corkscrew and if you do not break the bottle or put a hole in the cork.
Solution: Push the cork into the bot-

The Wars of Our Country

V.—French and Indian War—Part I.

By Albert Payson Terhune



WASHINGTON AS A SENECA.

TAKE a map of North America. Trace along it a narrow thousand mile strip along the Atlantic coast southward from Maine. Compare this in size with the rest of the continent. That "strip" was held in 1740 by the English settlers perhaps a million in number, and divided into thirteen colonies. All the rest of North America was claimed by France.

In 1740 the English king granted 600,000 acres of land on the south side of the Ohio river to an association of English and Virginia speculators known as the "Ohio company." This grant was in the heart of the section claimed by France.

To strengthen their hold and to prevent the English from moving westward the French built a chain of forts and trading posts from the St. Lawrence to the mouth of the Mississippi, completely hemming in the thirteen colonies on the west. Governor Dinwiddie of Virginia resolved to send a message of protest to the French commander, St. Pierre, who was stationed at Erie, Pa. The choice of a man to bear this message was one requiring great care, for the trip involved the traversing of several hundred miles of trackless wilderness, full of hostile savages. In dead of winter and called for endurance and diplomacy as well as courage, Dinwiddie selected a big, rawboned Virginia lad, barely twenty-one, by trade a surveyor. The boy was George Washington. It was his first appearance in history. He made the perilous journey and brought back St. Pierre's insolent refusal to cease fortifying the disputed land.

A party of Virginians started to erect an English fort at the junction of the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers, on the present site of Pittsburgh. While they were at work on it a body of French attacked and defeated them, took the place and proceeded to complete the fort on their own account, to garrison it with Frenchmen and to name it Duquesne in honor of their commander in chief. Smarting at this humiliation, Virginia raised about 150 men and appointed Colonel Joshua Fry their leader, with Washington second in command. This little force marched forth to recapture Fort Duquesne. A detachment of French opposed their progress at Great Meadows May 28, 1754, but were beaten and their leader, Jumonville, killed. This was the first blow of the war. The Virginians were continuing their march when Colonel Fry died.

The British government now took an active hand in the war. General Edward Braddock, with several regiments of "regulars," was sent across to America to take supreme command.

Braddock could scarcely be made to take a serious view of the situation. What could a few bands of savages and a few hundred French scouts do, he asked scornfully, to check the triumphant march of his British majesty's regular troops? Washington and others tried to point out to him the dangers that lurked in the forests of Pennsylvania and the difficulty of besieging the French and Indians from their chain of forts. But he snubbed the "provincials," scorned their advice and in 1755 set out with a body of 1,000 men to capture Fort Duquesne from the red faces.

Though the forest swarmed with Indians, Braddock used no caution and would not even send out scouts. With trumpets blaring and with no attempt at secrecy, he marched on toward Duquesne and—death. Early in July he had arrived in the near vicinity of the fort. Washington begged him to make great precautions in his advance, but Braddock refused to listen. Suddenly on the morning of July 9, as they were but ten miles from their goal, the roads and trees on either side of the hill the little army was climbing burst into a copse of oak shot and whistling arrows. Braddock had blundered straight into a closely arranged French and Indian ambush.

Braddock saw one of his grenadiers, named Paquet, skulking behind a rock. In fury at such cowardice, Braddock drove his sword into the scutcher's back. Paquet's brother, who stood near, snatched up a musket and mortally wounded the foolish general. Shot by one of his own soldiers, Braddock fell. Washington took command and by consummate skill averted a bloody massacre.

The Land of Puzzledom.

No. 481.—Word Building.
Find one word that contains all the following words without transposing any letters: Act, actor, fact, factor, factory, or, 'tis, to, Tory, sat, is.

No. 482.—Charades of Countries.
I.
My first is the name of the lion so strong,
My second's not hit when the arrow flies wrong.
My whole is a country that is down on the map.
If you just turn to Europe you'll find it, mayhap.

II.
My first is where children from ages un-
laid
Have struggled and nestled when hungry or cold.
My second is far o'er the sea and right here.
We live on it, thrive in it, year after year.
My whole is a country where rookdeer may dwell.
But cold, so cold you'd not like it well.

III.
My first no fish could swim without.
To find it's as just look about.
My second's where you'd wish to be
If you were ailing on the sea.
My whole a country is found to be
That is north of Russia, close by the sea.
—TOUTA'S COMPANION.

No. 483.—Talking Baby Puzzle.



This couple have a baby which of late has been trying to talk. What progress it has made may be determined when it is known that three straight marks added to the ciphers in the picture will change them into what baby is saying—remember, just three straight marks added to it.
What is the baby saying?—Washington Star.

No. 484.—Sure Thing Fill In.
Mother was annoyed. Bob had contracted the habit of saying "Sure!" or "Sure, Mike!" to every question or remark, and it hurt her literary feelings. So to reform him and make him sick of being "sure" she made him fill in the following blanks and learn the thing by heart:
One thing you must do
If you'd "sure" "sure" "sure"
Or amass much "sure"
Your words you must "sure."
I "sure" you "tis true.

No. 485.—Numerical Enigma.
My 4 2 1 is an endearing term.
My 5 6 7 is a slender band or one quite firm.
My 2 3 4 5 a sly suggestion see:
My 12 13 14 15 is weighs down so heavily!
My whole long years ago was found
The greatest need in the world around.
Without its help I'd not be here
Nor would you seek me far, I fear.

No. 486.—Behadings.
Behad an English river and leave part of the harness of a horse.
Behad closely and leave in good time.
Behad by word of mouth and leave to pluck up courage.
Behad an actor and leave one of several thicknesses of material.
Behad to subdue and leave to bring forth.
Behad to fall back and leave to pass away.

No. 487.—Pictured Word.



What parts of a vise are represented?

No. 488.—Pyramid Puzzle.
Rearrange the letters of this pyramid so as to spell a familiar phrase of two words:
E
M M
M M M
E E E E

Riddle and Answer.
I have but one eye, and that without sight.
Yet it helps me, whatever I do:
I am sharp without wit, without sense I am bright.
The fortune of zero and of some a delight.
And I doubt not I'm useful to you.
(A needle.)

Key to Puzzledom.

No. 474.—Charade: Saw-hace—saw-horse.
No. 475.—President Puzzle: Grapes, Apple, Racket, Fan, Iron, Ear, Ladder, Dock. Initials spell Garfield.
No. 476.—Slog: Joseph Haydn. Cross words: 1. Jovial. 2. Robust. 3. Master. 4. Street. 5. Scraph. 6. West. 7. Right. 8. Banana. 9. Try. 10. Adagio. 11. Number.
No. 477.—Hidden General: Win, field, foot, than, cock—Winfield Scott Hancock.
No. 478.—Homonym: 1. Dandy lions. 2. Daughters.
No. 479.—Pictured Birds: Thrush, robin, bobolink, lark.
No. 480.—Anagram: Resolution.

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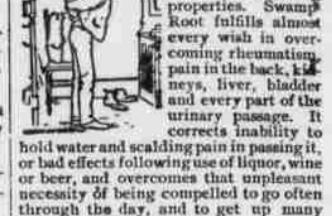
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