

**THE ELECTRIC SUCKER.**

A German's Account of a Wonderful Fish Found in the Nile.

In an article in Ueber Land und Meer on "Electrical Phenomena in the Animal World," Dr. Frolich tells about a sucker first found in the Nile and its tributaries by modern scientific men in 1881, but well known to the ancient Egyptians as the "sucker thunder god," being worshipped as such in a sucker god temple in the city of the Thunder-sucker, or Oxyrhynchus. The reason they called it the "thunder sucker," instead of the "thunder fish," was because they knew of another fish, known to the English speaking people as the electric cat (fish), to the Germans as the stetterwels, or the shad that makes one tremble. It grows to a length of about a foot, of which the head and nose take up a quarter, and at the dorsal part measures more than a quarter of its length.

Just why the modern scientific men did not know of this fish before is a question a layman finds it hard to answer except that the sucker is a bottom fish. The old Egyptians probably learned of the animal after a Nile flood, when some philosopher was meditating over a mud puddle left by the receding water. He saw a funny fish struggling in the water, and out of a desire for knowledge, reached for the fish and touched it. If there were any disciples of the philosopher here by, they probably saw the philosopher wet surprisingly as the stone Indian did when he got hold of a galvanic battery. Thereafter the fish was worshipped, having a name which associated it with the "thunder god of the shores," although the ancients knew nothing of electricity according to the learned of today.

A peculiar thing about the various electrical fish is that should one swim even at a considerable distance from a human bath, the latter would know of its proximity by an "electrical sensation," while many of them have barbed spines actually fit to kill a horse or a man. These fish are far ahead of the human being in the matter of "suckers," for they suck their prey at a great distance in the water.

**THE RETIRED BURGLAR.**

Not Often Really Frightened, but Now and Then Perhaps a Little Startled.

"I don't suppose a man in my business is apt to get frightened very much," said the retired burglar. "But all the time expecting things to happen, and he's always on the lookout for them. Still, I suppose that any man, unless he has an absolutely cast-iron nerve, and such men are very few, is likely to times to be startled. I know that I am, for instance—"

"I went into a house one night, and after groping around down stairs for a while in the blackest kind of darkness I went up stairs. Then I found an open door I had looted from the outside. At the house the windows of the room that this door opened into, and when I strove the door I knew where the bed ought to be. It was there, and I went along the side of it until I came to the head. I found a chair there with a man's clothes piled up on it. I picked up the trousers, and as I began to feel in the pockets—be-voise-er-er-er!—went at a sharp crouch on the bars, not a foot from my head, and out of bed jumped a man, bumping square against me, of course not knowing I was there but knocking me sideways and tumbling over on the floor himself."

"I certainly was startled by that alarm clock, make no mistake about that, and I have no doubt in my own mind that the man that jumped out of bed was startled when he fell over me, but I didn't stay to ask him about that."—New York Sun.

**Billet-Foreigners.**

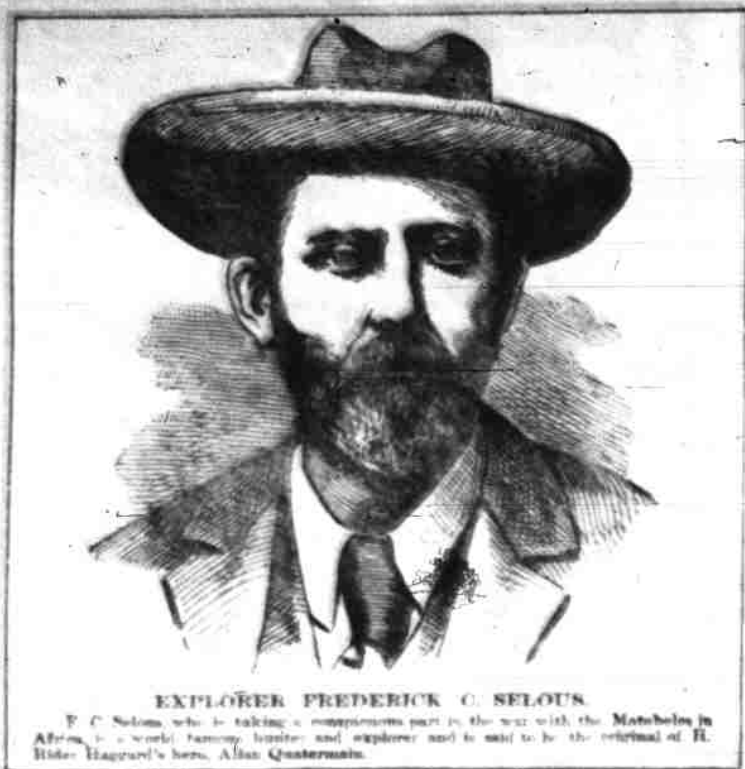
It would be an advantage to have all over the world the same word for ticket, or railway, for postoffice, and so forth. And something of this sort, however rudimentary, did actually exist on the continent before the German empire arose and, in its newly awakened self consciousness, did its best to blot it out. In those days, for example, the word always used in Germany for ticket was "billet," and every educated man in Europe understood it. Now the word is "Fahrkarte," a word understood only by Germans and German scholars. It is a sorry perversion of patriotism thus to complicate the intercourse between nations. Nor has the effort even in the merit of success. "Billet" is rejected as being French, but what of the second syllable of the word that has been substituted for it? No doubt "karte" is Latin, but it is equally certain that it has reached Germany through the French "carte." This is but one instance out of many. Germany, however anxious to be free from obligations to other countries, must still borrow many words from her beneficiary foe.—Contemporary Review.

**THEY FOUND A SAFE.**

And Think It Over Held the Famous Marston Bible.

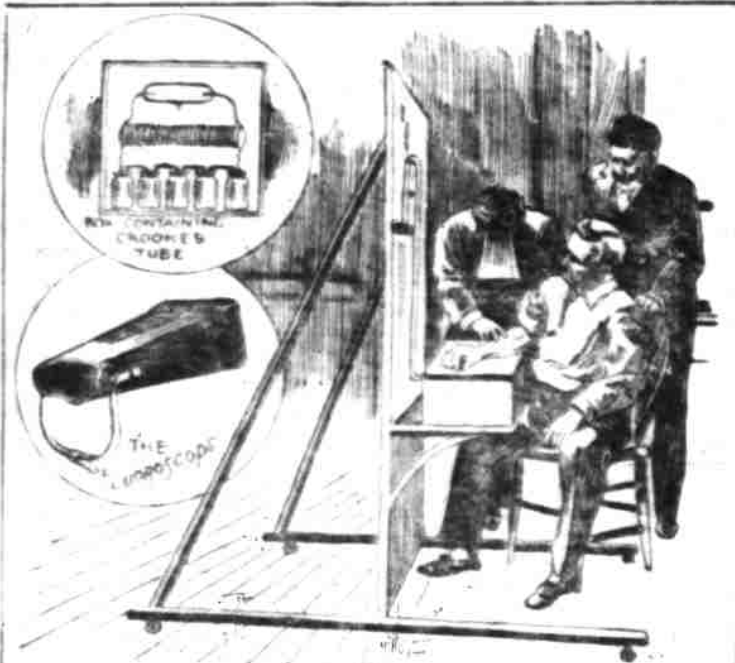
In the front window of the Pickwick hotel at Geneva Falls, N. Y., is a small iron safe of ancient pattern, which, a card on the top says, was found in the ground and contained some ancient documents consisting of maps and charts dated 1020. How it came where it was found is a mystery that no one seems able to explain.

Can it be that this safe contained the alleged Marston Bible that was found in Wayne county and not more than three miles from where the safe was found? If so, perhaps the story that the famous Bible was made in England and brought here and placed where it was found is true, and that the safe was used in transporting it from the old country and abandoned after it had served its purpose. It was found a mile and a half north of the village of Palmyra, and in proximity to it was a lot of Indian relics, as though it had been buried in an Indian burial mound, or being the safest place to hide it.—Rochester Post-Express.



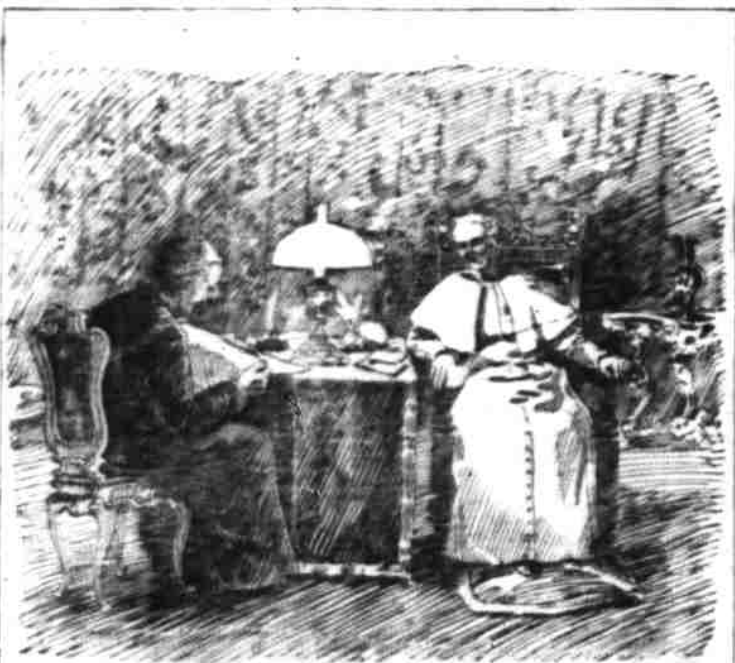
**EXPLORER FREDERICK C. SELOUS.**

F. C. Selous, who is taking a conspicuous part in the war with the Matchless in Africa, is a world famous hunter and explorer and is said to be the original of R. Bide Haggard's hero, Allan Quartermain.



**EDISON AND HIS FLUOROSCOPE.**

One result of Edison's experiments with the Roentgen rays is the invention of the fluoroscope with the aid of which surgeons may examine the broken bones of patients and see them properly. Edison has not patented the fluoroscope and he says surgeons are welcome to the use of it.



**POPE LEO XIII IN HIS STUDY.**

If Pope Leo XIII lives until March 2, 1900, he will be 86 years of age. He was born Gioacchino Pecci and was chosen pope February 21, 1878. The accompanying picture shows the pope in his study—(it is his secretary).



**MINISTER THOMAS AND MINISTER ANDRADE.**

Jose Andrade, Venezuela's Minister to the United States, and Allen Thomas, United States Minister to Venezuela, are prominently before the public at this time. Thomas is a Maryland man, 55 years of age. He became a brigadier general in the Confederate service and has been consul at La Guayra, Venezuela, for several years. Jose Andrade has been consul at the state of Zulia and has served in the Venezuelan senate and house. He is an accomplished diplomat.



**SOUTHERN RAILWAY**

PIEDMONT AIR LINE  
In effect April 19, 1900.

Central time

Lv Chattanooga	4:30pm
" Knoxville	5:00pm
" Morristown	5:55pm
" Point Rock	10:30am
At Hot Springs	11:00pm
Lv Asheville	1:00pm
" Round Knob	1:50pm
" Marion	2:37pm
" Morgantown	4:17pm
At Hickory	4:50pm
" Newton	5:14pm
" Statesville	5:54pm
At Salisbury	6:45pm

Eastern time

Lv Salisbury	6:58am
" Greensboro	10:52pm
At Danville	12:00pm
" Lynchburg	1:58am
" Charlottesville	3:35am
" Washington	4:42am
" Philadelphia	8:08am
" New York	12:55pm
" Richmond	4:00am
" Durham	5:25am
" Raleigh	7:00am
" Goldsboro	1:00pm

WESTBOUND DAILY No. 11 and 12

Lv Goldsboro	5:00pm
" Raleigh	6:00pm
" Durham	1:35pm
" Richmond	1:00am
Lv New York	4:30pm
" Philadelphia	6:55pm
" Baltimore	9:20pm
" Washington	10:45pm
" Charlottesville	1:55am
" Lynchburg	3:45am
" Danville	5:40am
" Greensboro	8:25am
At Salisbury	10:10am

Central time

Lv Salisbury	6:58am
At Statesville	10:10am
" Newton	10:40am
Lv Hickory	1:12pm
At Morgantown	1:55am
" Marion	2:25am
" Round Knob	3:05am
" Asheville	3:45am
" Hot Springs	4:15pm
At Point Rock	4:20pm
" Morristown	5:00pm
" Knoxville	5:25pm
" Chattanooga	11:55pm

At Asheville  
Eastern time

Lv Asheville	8:50am
" Raleigh	9:25am
" Hendersonville	9:25am
" Tryon	10:15am
" Spartanburg	11:25am
At Union	12:50pm
" Asheville	2:35pm
At Columbia	3:40pm

DAILY No. 13

Lv Jacksonville	6:00pm
" Savannah	11:25pm

Eastern time

Lv Columbia	11:25am
" Alton	12:05pm
" Union	1:15pm
" Spartanburg	2:10pm
" Tryon	4:17pm
" Hendersonville	6:30pm
" Biltmore	6:37pm
At Asheville	6:45pm

At Asheville  
Central time

MURPHY BRANCH No. 17	
Lv Asheville	7:00am
At Waynesville	8:25am
" Bryson City	10:50am
Lv Bryson City	11:10am
At Andrews	2:25pm
" Tomota	3:02pm
" Murphy	3:25pm

No. 18

Lv Murphy	4:30am
At Tomota	4:50am
At Andrews	5:25am
At Bryson City	8:55am
At Biltmore	10:57am
Lv Biltmore	11:17am
" Waynesville	11:48am
At Asheville	1:15pm

MIXED TRAINS

NO 51	Central time	NO 52
Lv Asheville	8:00am	
At Asheville	6:35pm	
At Spartanburg		11:00am
Lv Spartanburg		12:00pm

NO 53

Lv Asheville	6:20am
At Asheville	7:09pm
At Salisbury	6:45pm
Lv Salisbury	6:30am

NO 66

Lv Morristown	6:55am
At Morristown	12:01pm
" Asheville	6:45pm
Lv Asheville	6:30am

NO 65

Lv Asheville	6:30am
At Asheville	7:09pm
At Salisbury	6:45pm
Lv Salisbury	6:30am

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C. A. BENSINGER, A. G. P. A., Knoxville, Tenn.  
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