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TESTED THE DENTIST'S WORK

Khedive of Egypt Had Followers' Teeth Pulled So He Could See Whether It Would Hurt.

To illustrate Oriental habits of thought, Lord Cromer tells, in the Quarterly Review, this story of Ismail Pasha, the khedive of Egypt. It once happened that Ismail was suffering from toothache. He sent for a European dentist, who told him that he ought to have the tooth out. Ismail said that he was afraid it would be very painful. He was informed in reply that, if he would allow the dentist to administer laughing gas to him, he would feel nothing. He still doubted, but told the dentist to bring his apparatus to the palace and he would then discuss the question.

The dentist complied, and explained the process to the khedive. Ismail then summoned an attendant and told him to send up the sentry who was at his door.

When the man arrived the khedive ordered him to sit down in a chair, and requested the dentist to take out a tooth on either side of his jaw. Ismail then asked the man whether he had felt anything, and the man told him that he had not. But Ismail was not yet satisfied. He said that the sentry was a young, strong man, and that he would like to see the experiment tried on someone of weaker physique.

Accordingly he summoned a slave girl from the harem and had the dentist extract two of her teeth. Finding that she did not show evidence of extreme suffering, he then consented to have his own tooth out. It is related, although possibly that part of the story is apocryphal, that the dentist then received an order on the Egyptian treasury for one thousand pounds.

Foolish 'Gator.

"While one of our leading fishermen was indulging in a nap on the banks of the river," says the Winsett Courier, "a hungry alligator crawled up and swallowed his boots. One of the boot-legs had a pint of corn liquor in it, and as an alligator was subsequently discovered trying to climb a tree, it is thought to have been the same one that swallowed the boot with the liquor in it."—Atlanta Constitution.

Vain Repinings.

"By right of conquest," he declared, the maid belonged to him; but as along life's path they fared—his eyesight growing dim, her temper waxed sharp and shrewd, her tongue became uproarious; and he wished, as his past he viewed, that he hadn't been victorious.

PEKING SEES DEVIL DANCE MAN IS WORTH 1,000 EGGS

Ceremony Instituted During the Tsing Dynasty More Than 200 Years Ago, Enacted by Priests.

Peking recently witnessed the ceremony instituted during the Tsing dynasty, over 200 years ago, known as the "devil dance." It took place in the Lama temple, and was witnessed by several thousand devout Buddhist worshippers, says East and West. Eighty priests danced in groups, varying in number from two to twenty. All the celebrants wore gorgeously embroidered silk robes and masks representing animals. Conspicuous were heads of tigers, oxen, sheep and deer. The dance ended at two o'clock in the afternoon, when a procession of the priests formed and proceeded to the east gate of the temple grounds, where the paper effigy of a nude woman was burned.

The legend which the ceremony commemorates is that the devil, in form of a woman, ran about the country, casting spells and working mischief to crops, animals and humans. Attempts to catch her were futile until the Buddha sent a charmed horse to run her down. The animal overtook the fleeing woman after a race of 10,000 li, seized her in his teeth, brought her to a place of punishment where she was publicly destroyed by fire. The female figure is not alike on all occasions; sometimes an old hag is represented, but generally the woman is young and comely, as being more dangerous to mankind.

The ceremonial recalls to those who have traveled in Mohammedan countries the religious fervor of the "dancing dervishes."

Cats as Hunters.

Dr. A. A. Allen, professor of birds at Cornell, suggests that anyone who is skeptical about the hunting ability of the cat should go out in the early fall morning after a light snow fall and track the wild animals of the nearby woods. Perhaps you will find the tracks of a red squirrel; squirrels are very clever and usually manage to exist even in cities. Perhaps you will find the tracks of a cottontail or two; rabbits are very prolific and stand a great deal of persecution. Probably you will find the tracks of a few rats and mice; but be assured you will find "Fuss-in-Boots" in force, "her tracks crossing and recrossing." Doctor Allen does not believe there is a place in the eastern United States within five miles of a human habitation where you will not find the tracks of the domestic cat more frequently than those of any wild animals, squirrels, rabbits, mice excepted. Trappers catch them in their traps set in the wilds far from houses.—Grit.

Hindrances to Usefulness.

The great hindrances to usefulness in those who think they wish to be useful, yet have never really tried to be, are pusillanimousness and ambition. They are twin sisters. To put it otherwise, there is the fault of not thinking it worth while to do a little because it is little, and of not caring to do something because it may not lead to much.—Bishop Thorold.

Bacteria Long Lived.

How long some bacteria may live under proper conditions is brought out by M. W. Lyon, Jr., of George Washington university in a letter to Science. He tells of a culture of organisms of paratyphoid beta kept for more than ten years sealed in a test tube at Howard university, which, when transferred to another medium, produced the reactions that proved the bacteria to be alive and active.

New Danger.

Once we have this wireless phone in common use it ought to be easy for suspicious wives to locate errant husbands compelled to stay late at the office.

Same Ingredients Are to Be Found in Both—Valued at \$2.45 for Illuminating Purposes.

What is a man? How much is he worth from a scientific viewpoint?

According to one way of looking at it a man is worth about \$2.50 a day from his shoulders down and anywhere from \$50,000 to \$1,000,000 a year from his shoulders up. This is said to be the estimate of the average successful business man.

The scientist, however, looks at the question from another angle. According to him a man is worth \$2.45 for illuminating purposes, since a man weighing 150 pounds contains about 3,500 cubic feet of oxygen, hydrogen and nitrogen in his constitution, which at 70 cents per 1,000 cubic feet equals the price above. Also a man contains enough carbon to make 9,360 lead pencils; enough phosphorus to make 800,000 matches or enough to kill 500 persons, and enough water to fill a 38-quart reservoir.

Furthermore, it makes no difference how sour a man may look he contains about 60 lumps of sugar, a great deal of starch, chloride of potash, magnesium, sulphur and hydrochloric acid in his system. There are 50 grains of iron in the blood of an ordinary man, enough to make one spike large enough to hold his weight.

What is a man? This is the somewhat cynical answer of one scientific man:

"Break the shells of 1,000 eggs into a huge pan or basin and you have ingredients from which to form him from his toenails to the most delicate tissues of his brain."—Popular Science Monthly.

EVERY FUR SEAL HAS HAREM

Male Sometimes Gathers More Than 100 Females on the Section of Beach Which He Controls.

Fur seals are extremely polygamous and the old males, which weigh from 400 to 500 pounds, "haul up" first on the breeding beaches. Each bull holds a certain area, and as the females, only one-fifth his size, come ashore they are appropriated by the nearest bulls until each "beach master" gathers a harem, sometimes containing more than 100 members, says the National Geographic Magazine.

Here the young are born, and after the mating season, the seals which have remained ashore without food from 4 to 6 weeks, return to the water. The mothers go and come, and each is able to find her young with certainty among thousands of apparently identical woolly black "pups."

From the ages of one to four years fur seals are extremely playful. They are marvelous swimmers and frolic about in pursuit of one another now diving deep and then, one after the other, suddenly leaping high above the surface in graceful curves, like porpoises. Squids and fish of various species are their main food. Their chief natural enemy is the killer whale, which follows their migrations and haunts the sea about their breeding ground, taking heavy toll among them.

Chautauqua Circle.

The circle was organized in 1878, with the aim of enlarging the influence of the assembly, which was organized in 1874. Anyone may become a member of the circle by sending an application together with \$5 for the "unit books"—membership book and magazine for one year—to Chautauqua institution, Chautauqua, N. Y.

Roses That Soon Fade.

The roses of pleasure seldom last long enough to adorn the brow of him who plucks them; for they are the only roses which do not retain their sweetness after they have lost their beauty.—Hannah More.

Varieties of the Peanut.

Roughly speaking, three varieties of peanut are grown in this country—red, white and Spanish. The white, the most important variety, has a nut with two kernels with pink skins; its vine spreads along the ground, in this respect unlike that of the red variety, which grows more upright and in a bunch. The pod of the red nut holds three and sometimes four kernels, and has a deep red skin. The Spanish is a much smaller nut, with a lighter skin and milder flavor than either of the others possesses. The entire crop is shelled and used especially in the confection known as nougat.

Guided by Magnetic Currents.

Recent experience has tended to show that carrier pigeons and other birds of passage are guided by magnetic currents. M. A. Thauzies, a French student of pigeons, has noted that on two occasions when pigeon flights were unsatisfactory magnetic storms were occurring, and the flights of these birds have been becoming often uncertain and erratic since wireless telegraphy came into extensive use.

Betrayed Vindication.

The Persians of the time of Cyrus were Zoroastrians. The Persian religion was primitively monotheistic, and they allowed no idols or other material symbols of deity in their temples. There was less enmity on the part of the Jews against the Persians than against the other great nations with whom they came in contact, due probably to the monotheism which characterized the Persian religion. So Cyrus, whatever else may be said of him, was certainly not an idolator.—Christian Herald.

Pity the Poor Dyspeptic.

"Back home" we used to gather around the piano on an evening, a God-fearing, respectable family, and hold orgies of sentimental melody, seeing Nellie home, and impugning the winds of heaven to bring back our Bonnie to us. To a chance dyspeptic sitting on the hydrant outside, it must have been sickening.—Robert M. Gay, in the Atlantic.

Human Lobsters.

Many women are like the species of lobster which, if left upon the rocks by the receding tide, waits for the returning tide to float it from its temporary prison. There on the rocks it would remain to die, although a slight effort would enable it to reach the waves, tossing only a few feet below. There are many human lobsters, mere "hangers on" of society, who are entertaining themselves with the idea that because they are women they are to be helped without putting forth any effort themselves.

To Have Bright, Clear Light.

A smoking lamp or one with an unpleasant odor is usually caused by dirt. Soaking the wick and occasionally the burner in strong vinegar for an hour and then rinsing it in fresh vinegar and drying thoroughly will keep these parts clean.

Darkest Just Before Dawn.

When you get in a tight place and everything goes against you until it seems as if you cannot hold on a minute longer—never give up; for that is just the place and the time that the tide will turn.—Harriet Beecher Stowe.

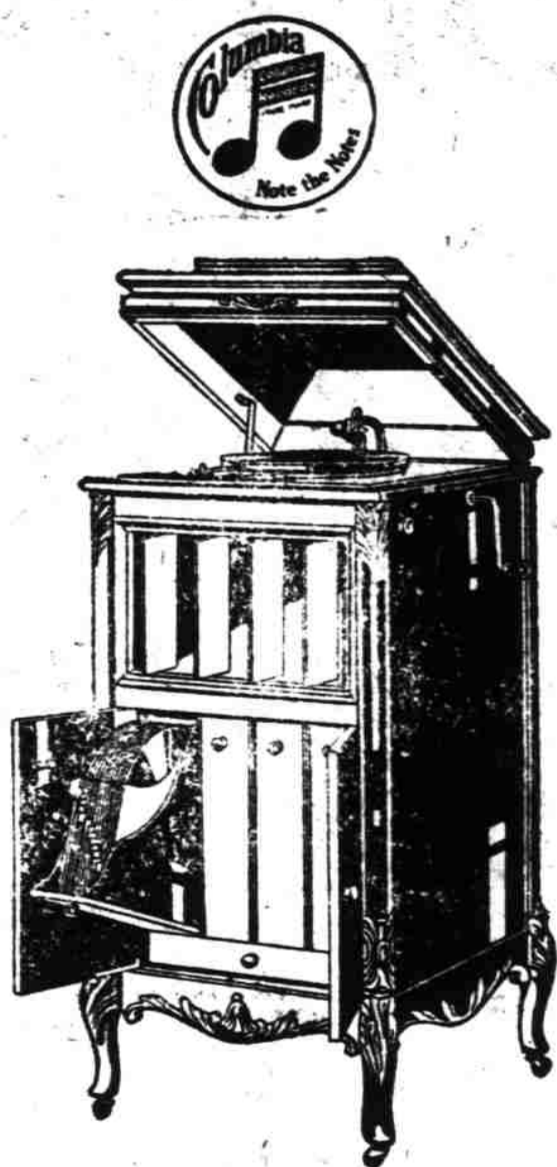
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