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FIGHT WITH A MUSKALLONGE

(New York Sun.) When the little bald stenographer got back from his vacation, his face was cracked and flaked with patches of peeling skin. "Just getting over the scarlet fever?" remarked the blonde clerk. "Oh tell you," said the other, as he opened his desk. "I've had the greatest holiday that ever happened." He flicked two weeks' dust from his typewriter keys. "You know, I was born in the country."

the best of them wasn't in it for game-ness with any three-pound black bass that the boy and I caught that day. "Well, the black bass stopped biting; and when you've been catching black bass that run over five pounds there isn't anything else in the river you can't fish for with a rod. So the boy and I went trolling. "The little bald stenographer was big game among the islands, for I remembered some whoppers being taken out when I was a kid, some by troll and some by heavy night-line baited with large chub; and I wanted to give the day's sport a good round-off for the boy. So I said: "George, how would you like to catch a thirty or forty-pound muskallonge, to pack in ice and send down to Uncle Tom in Jersey City, just to give him a surprise?"

"On the scales at the general store." "It was the biggest muskallonge taken out of the river in three years. The tail was over fifteen inches across and you could have put your head inside his mouth." "What did you say is the name of that village?" said the stout clerk, as the bald stenographer put a point to his pencil. "Wait a minute," he said, as he gathered up his note book. "There's the chief's bell."

WRITING INK "For all ordinary writing purposes," said a man acquainted with the ink trade, "colored inks, once used to some extent, have now been almost entirely superseded by black ink. They are still made, and in many colors; and red ink is still, as ever, a standard for various special uses in counting rooms."

"Then various other colored inks are sometimes also used in counting rooms, as in the preparation of statements or exhibits, in which, for purposes of convenience, the several divisions are made each in a separate color. But for the ordinary purposes colored ink, as violet, black is the thing."

"Among the inks for special uses might be mentioned white ink, made for writing with on black paper, and especially employ for writing cards for window displays and like purposes. "Black inks are largely comprised between the black and the blue-black; the former setting on black as it leaves the pen, and the latter putting on blue and turning black. There is now used in this country more blue-black than black, and the proportion of blue-black sold is increasing."

"Countries have their peculiarities in this respect. In France, for example, more black ink is used; while England has long been distinctively a blue-black country. "Writing ink is sold in a great variety of packages; ranging from two-ounce bottles to sixty-gallon casks. School boards are the chief purchasers of ink by the barrel."

"Among the smaller packages there are still sold annually thousands of the tin-horned type, once in well-nigh universal use. In some remote parts it might be that ink would still be found in no other form, and the pyramid bottle is yet sold, in fact, more or less everywhere, though it has now been largely supplanted by modern bottles of improved shapes, in which the ink is more easily accessible, which are far more convenient to the user."

"There have been made in bottles in this country various improvements, all, however, chiefly with a view to greater utility. He fancy ink bottle, which served also as inkstands, as bottles in the form of a lady's slipper, come from Europe, and chiefly from Fiumer's of ink? The commercial and financial uses, decidedly. Ink, is to be sure, an article of world-wide use, and it is used in millions of homes, and it might be thought that the aggregate consumption of these millions of users would be the greater. But even in a letter-writing household they are not writing letters all the time, and a counting room and offices, on the other hand, men are using ink all the time, and they are critical users, who must have not alone good ink, but fresh ink, clean inkstands, and that sort of thing, and so, common as the use of ink is, it is in the world's offices and counting rooms that the greater amount is used."

"American writing inks exported? To wherever ink is used. American inks are sold to some extent in every country in Europe, to a considerable extent in Germany, England, Holland, Spain and Italy. The sales are made almost entirely for the office trade. I should say that a third of the ink now used in the ocean and counting rooms of the manufacture, with the proportionate consumption of American inks all the time increasing. "These inks cost them more than they would have at any price? (2123451234543 would have to pay for ink made in Europe, but they say, nevertheless, and in increasing quantities, for the simple reason that American inks are the best in the world."

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