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THE JOURNAL.

E. E. HARPER, - - Proprietor. C. T. HANCOCK, - Local Reporter.

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N. C., as second-class matter.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

The waltz had its beginning in Germauy.

Postal cards were introduced on June 8, 1572.

A famous showman has succeeded in training geese to perform.

From Poland came the stately polonaise or polacea and mazourka.

The Hoosac Tunnel is the longest railroad tunnel in the United States. Harvel, Ill., boasts of a resident 197

years old and less than four feet tall. The ruins of the Tower of Babel are within the walls of Babylon, in Asia Minor

The first agricultural exhibition was held at Georgetown, District of Columbia, in 1810.

In one Philadelphia man-ion-the residence of George W. Childs -- there are 2000 clocks.

It is tigured out that each inhabitant of this country consumes forty-three

pounds of sugar per annum. Among a flock of blackbirds that visited Gardiner, Miss., a few days

ago, was one that was pure white. The Congo River in Africa is 15 miles wide in some places. Steamers often pass each other, but out of sight.

For the first time in the history of Kentucky a colored man has been drawn on a grand jury. The event occurred in Adair county.

It is stated that the Chinese high officials have been instructed to travel henceforth in gun-boats, on account of the frequent disasters to merchant steamers.

A New York bank's vaults are said to have been fitted up with a combination electric alarm and flash-light camera that automatically takes the picture of the intruder.

At Crown Point, N. Y., there is a handsome granite monument which was crected to the memory of a horse, The horse was "Old Pink," and the monument was erected by General John Hammond, who rode the old war-horse during the civil war.

Animal Migrations.

The distribution of birds and animals furnishes a key, writes Docto: Felix L. Oswald, to many geological enigmas, for instance the changes in relative ex ent of oceans and continents on the surface of our planet. Europe and North America must some time or other have been connected by a land bridge considerably south or Behring's Strait, since the list of indigenous mammals common to both continents is by no means limited to polar species. Asia and the South Sea Islands, on the other hand, must always have been separated by a deep and impassable sea, as demonstrated by the striking contrast between the fauna of Borneo, Java, Sumatra, continent. On the 160,000 miles of its area, Sumatra, for instance, can boast of several hundred varieties of indigenous mammals, including the elephant, the rhinoceros, two kinds of wild cattle, six kinds of deer and fifteen different species of monkeys. On a more than ten times can continent. - [New York Voice. place. - [St. Louis Republic.

PEARLS OF THOUGHT.

A thief thinks that every other man would steal.

No man ever loved a woman while he was busy.

No man can be a hero when his liver is out of order.

Do not imagine that every man who says nothing approves of your conduct.

Whenever you find a man who says that honesty does not pay it is a sign that he has never tried it.

It is never very easy to forgive an enemy; it is impossible to forgive him when he continues to prosper.

Women seldom mean the pleasant things they say to women or the unpleasant things they say to men.

The man who is lonesome and wants to talk nearly always meets the man who is tired and doesn't want to talk.

You never make a greater mistake than when you imagine that any one in the world is really interested in your aches and pains.

The world will be nearer right when a man has learned to laugh a little less at his neighbor's troubles and a little more at his own.

A wise woman never treats a man so well as when she has reason to believe he is beginning to think something of some other woman.

A man will receive more sympathy from the neighbors for his wife's one little fault than she will receive for her husband's ten big ones.

So many people who how! that they do not get the good things in life which they deserve should be feeling thankful instead that they don't get the punishment they deserve, either.

When you see a woman as mad as she can possibly be you may know what the trouble is. A milliner has sold her a hat, guaranteeing it to be an exclusive style, and then duplicated it.

What a "Carat" Is.

The word "carat" comes from the Abyssinian name for bean. It corresponds in weight with a certain species of East Indian bean, and was originally only used as a weight in the same manner that our word "grain" comes from a grain of wheat, and has also its average weight. The exact relation of the carat to the grain, Troy weight, is in round numbers, as 4608 to 1185; or, in other words, 1185 carats are equal to 4608 grains Troy. By division of the last number by the first we find for the weight of a carat 5 88 grains, nearly. The carat is the weight by which jewellers sell diamonds. The carat is now only used for weighing precious stones and pearls, because the grain is to small. In ancient times it was used as the unit of weight for gold, but is now, on account of the greater abundance of that precious metal, superseded by the ounce. In regard to the alloy of gold it has been accepted to take 24 carats of gold or 93 grains, very near, as the standard of pure gold, and to call gold in which 20 carats in 24 carats are pure gold, gold of 20 carats; when three-fourths is pure, or 18 carats in 24 carats, it is called 18-carat gold. So in regard to the alloy of gold, the word carat has become similar to the expression of a percentage, with the difference that 21 is substituted for 100. So 18-carat gold is identical to 75 per cent. fine; 12 carat to 50 per cent. fine, etc. That this manner of estimating the value is kept up is simply due to the custom of following the duodecimal system in making alloys, which naturally drives us to the expressions 70, 80 or 90 per cent, when speaking of the fineness of the most valuable metals.-[St. Louis Re-

Breeches, Trousers and Pantaloons. Pantaloons first came into use in Venice during the fifteenth century. etc., and that of the Australian They were worn by the devotees of the patron saint Pantaloon, and were called pantalinis by the Italians. To put them on was thought to be an evidence of foolishness or buffoonery, they being nothing more than a long pair of stockings, the wearer much resembling a clown. The ancient Saxons wore "breeches" very similar to larger territory Australia, on the other the above, rendering them even more hand, could muster only a few mar- attractive to barbarian eyes by sewing sucials, half a dozen rats and a kind on stripes of various bues. Breeches, of wild dog that may be a descendant in the strict meaning of the term of an imported variety. Land obsta- for trousers is the only proper word cles rarely prevent the migration of to express the existing style of wearwild animals; lions were once found ing apparel from the hips to the all over Western Asia and Southern ankles-were worn by many of the Europe, and even as far north as nations of ancient times, notably the Macedonia. The hanuman monkey, Medes and Persians, Phrygians, Gauls or Entellus, has managed to cross the and Tentons. "Bombastes" breeches Himalayas into Botan; but an im- were introduced into England by the memorial prevalence of sandstorms Normans. Henry VIII. wore the along the coast of the Persian Gulf puffed out style; the knee-breeches seems to have prevented the swamp- were popular until about 1812, when loving tiger from invading the Afri- the change to modern trousers took

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L. H. CUTLER.

The Country Church. The Cumbertand Presbyterian be-

lieves in holding up the country churches:

The life-blood of the church flows in through our country congregations. Let them die, and the church will die, Perhaps nineteen-twentieths of the ministers in all the churches were reared in country homes. The town air seems not suited to the development of boys into preachers. The church must look for her supply of pastors and leaders to country congregations; therefore, the organization and sustaining of such congregations is not less important than the founding and endowment of theological schools-nay, the supply of strong and earnest young men to be trained is even a more fundamental want than the provisions for training then. We dare not neglect our country churches. Nothing is more needed than a systematic and effective plan of putting life into any of them that have lost their ancient zeal and vigor; and we should follow the western tide of immigration and the development of new communities everywhere, organizing new churches among the homes that are springing up in the country. Greater results are possible at a smaller cost in the country than in the city. A thousand dollars spent in building a plain church in some modest village or country neighborhood will often prove a greater blessing than ten times that sum expended in some fashionable center.

Skin Superstitions,

Frequenters of the popular afternoon tea are remarking the extraordinary pains pretty girls who pour the ambebeverage are at, to direct the tapering spout of the kettle in the direction of their rosy cheeks, or white brow and chip. It appears that some one has assured them that the warm, fragrant steam arising from the steeping leaves is most beneficial for softening and purifying the complexion. True, the heated vapor does bring a deep, pink flush, and cause dampened locks to cling tendril-like about fair foreheads, but these amateur waitresses are laboring under a grievous error when they imagine that this treatment beautifies the skin. It is harmful in the extreme, and, unless the suffusion is immediately followed by a brisk toweling, a chapped and roughened complexion will be the result. All through the orange growing country, where that exquisite fruit is eaten from the time its rind shows the faintest gilding, girls always pee the oranges at arm's length, being fully convinced, because some negro mammy has told them so, that the pungent oil springing from the skin will leave a freckle wherever it touches .- Il'ustrated American.

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