A WHALER'S FRIEND.

THE "KILLERS" OF TWO-FOLD BAY WHICH HELP THE FISHERMEN.

A Strange and Terrible Fish, and Its Peculiar Characteristics--Death to Whales and Sharks But Will Never Injure a Man—It Has Enormous Strength.

Two-fold bay, a magnificent deep-water harbor on the southern coast of New South Wales, is a fisherman's paradise, though its fame is but local, or known only to outsiders who may have spent a day there when traveling from Sydney to Tasmania in the steamers which occasionally put in there to ship cattle from the little township of Eden. But the chief point of interest about Two-fold bay is that it is the rendezvous of the famous "killers" (orca gladiator), the deadly foes of the whole race of cetaceans other than themselves, and most extraordinary and sagacious creatures that inhabit the ocean's depths. From July to November two "schools" of killers may be seen every day, either cruising to and fro across the entrance of the bay or engaged in a Titanic combat with a whale—a "right" whale, a "humpback" or the long, swift "finback." But they have never been known to tackle the great sperm whale, except when the great creature has been wounded by his human enemies. And to witness one of these mighty struggles is worth traveling many thousand miles to see; it is terrible, awe-inspiring and wonderful.

The killer ranges in length from ten feet to twenty-five feet. Their breathing apparatus and general anatomy is much similar to that of the sperm whale. They spout, "breach" and "sound" like other cetaceans, and are of the same migratory habit as the two "schools" which haunt Two-fold bay, always leaving there about November 28 to cruise in other seas, returning to their headquarters early in July, when the humpback and finback whale make their appearance on the coast of New South Wales, traveling northward to the breeding-grounds on the Bampton shoals, the coast of New Guinea and the Moluccas.

The head of the killer is of enormous strength, the mouth being armed in both jaws with fearful teeth, from two inches to three inches long and set rather widely apart. In color they show an extraordinary variation, some being all one hue—brown, black or dull gray; others are black, with large irregular patches or streaks of pure white or yellow; others are dark brown with black and yellow patches.

And now comes the curious and yet absolutely truly described part that the killers play in this ocean tragedy. The killers, the moment the whale is dead, close around him, and, fastening their teeth into his body, bear him to the bottom. Here they tear out his tongue and eat about one-third of the blubber. In about thirty-six to forty hours the carcass will rise again to the surface, and as the spot where he has been taken down has been marked by a buoy, the boats are ready waiting to tow him ashore to the trying-out works. The killers accompany the boats to the head of the bay and keep off the sharks, which otherwise would strip off all the remaining blubber before the body had reached the shore.

The killers never hurt a man. Time after time have boats been stove in or smashed into splinters by a whale, and the crew left struggling in the water, to be rescued by the "pick-up" boat, and the killers swim up to them, look at—aye, and smell them—but never touch them. And wherever the killers are, the sharks are not, for Jack Shark dreads a killer as the devil dreads holy water. "Jack" will rush in and rip off a piece of blubber if he can, but he will watch his chance to do so.

A Queer Legacy.

A gentleman who died at Mons, France, left a legacy of $3,000 to five friends, the money to be spent on dinners served in different restaurants, and at each meal a certain dish to be eaten and a certain wine, of which he was very fond, to be drunk. Furthermore, his memory was to be toasted at dessert, the five companions were to dine in black clothes and black gloves, and enter the room preceded by a flag and the music of an accordion.

A Funny Sight.

An English paper says that the hat of a certain short sighted master at Eton blew off one day, and as he started in pursuit a black hen dashed out of the gateway. The schoolmaster saw the hen, and thought it was his hat, and all Eton was electrified by the spectacle of a hatless and breathless reverend man hunting a black hen from one end of the street to the other.

Jews of the World.

The Jewish year book estimates that there are about 11,000,000 Jews in the world, half of them still under Russian jurisdiction, notwithstanding their wholesale expulsion from the empire. Of the race in general it may be said that, numerically speaking, it is extremely small for its age, its chance of getting bigger apparently not increasing with its years.

War Correspondents.

War correspondents were employed as far back as the time of Richard II. Scribes, specially commissioned, were sent up with the English army, which invaded Scotland at that time. But, incredible as it may seem, not one of the London newspapers was specially represented at the battle of Waterloo.

Raffle of Bibles.

A raffle for Bibles takes place every year in the parish church of St. Ives, in Huntingdonshire. This quaint custom has been observed for 200 years.

MANUFACTURE OF MATCHES

Is One of the Largest and Most Important of Industries.

The manufacture of matches, trivial as it may seem, is one of the largest and most important existing. So large an amount of money is invested in their manufacture that in France it is a Government monopoly and a considerable portion of the revenue of the State is derived from this source. The yearly value of the matches made in England alone is said to amount to nearly $10,000,000 each year, and that the numbers that the makers turn out daily exceed 300,000,000. In France the Government monopoly is let to a company for a minimum annual payment of over $5,000,000, with a great increase if a certain number is exceeded. Among the largest factories in Europe are those of the Scandinavian peninsula and England. In Germany, however, there are between 200 and 300 factories. Of the dangerous material phosphorus, which is employed in the manufacture, between 1,000 and 2,000 tons are annually consumed.

The general character of phosphorus is that of an exceedingly inflammable substance, burning slowly in the open air and shining with a luminous appearance in the dark. In this state it is one of the most poisonous substances known, less than two grains having been known to cause the death of an adult human being, and innumerable cases have occurred of children being poisoned by sucking the ends of a few matches.

On the other hand, heated without exposure to the air for some short time the phosphorus changes into a red powder, which is perfectly insoluble in water, not combustible and not in the slightest degree poisonous. In this latter state it is mixed with other substances and placed on the outside of the boxes of what are termed safety matches. These matches consist of non-poisonous chemical materials that will not ignite when struck on any ordinary surface, but are immediately set on fire by rubbing on the box, which is covered with a preparation of innocuous red phosphorus.

But, unfortunately, the public at large prefers matches which will ignite when struck on any surface and the manufacture of these is necessarily attended with risk to the workers, the people who are most seriously affected being the girls who pack the finished matches in the boxes in which they are sold. By practice their dexterity becomes so great that they almost invariably take up in one hand the exact number required.

All Must Pay Board.

When members of the queen's family or any wandering German relatives of high degree visit London and occupy apartments in Buckingham palace, "by invitation," they pay their board just like common folks in a first-class hotel. This prevents the sovereign lady from having too much company and makes things very pleasant for the palace servants. The independence it gives some of the royal guests is not wholly appreciated by them, but, as the queen early in her reign determined on this economical course, her subjects cannot justly complain of her extravagance. It is a very expensive piece of pleasure, being a guest of royalty, and even the queen's own children must pay their way out of their allowances, when not directly under mamma's roof.

Jasmine Pipe Stems.

In Turkey, the jasmine is extensively grown for the manufacture of pipe stems. For this purpose the stems of the growing plant are trained with the greatest care until they have attained the proper length and size. The bark is protected by a wrapping of varnished linen or calico. Two or three times a year this will be taken off and the bark treated to a citron juice bath. This is said to give it the light color so much sought after. Some of these pipe stems are from ten to eighteen feet in length and bring as much as $100 each.

The Wealthy Sassoons.

A traveler tells of treasure chambers in Bagdad that rival the tales of the "Arabian Nights." Among these multi-millionaires are the Sassoons, whose banking firm exercises the functions of a great power throughout Asia. Some members of this family have become Europeanized, having established themselves in London, and one of them is married to a Rothschild. A passport signed Sassoon is a safe conduct throughout the wildest regions of the Himalayas, through Afghanistan or Persia or Thibet. They deal with the chiefs of all the wandering tribes, such transactions being mostly on honor. The idea of failing the Sassoons is entertained with as much dread and horror as death.

A Powerful Dog.

There is a powerful breed of dogs along Smith's sound that does not hesitate to attack the most ferocious wild animals. These dogs hunt in pairs and a big bear is a joke to them. One dog can bring down a reindeer and kill it in a few minutes. Their thick coat is tawny in hue and in winter a thick fleece of wool covers them. They look so much like wolves it is hard to tell what they are at a little distance.

Electrical Currents.

A scientist has discovered that electrical currents in the form of waves rapidly succeeding one another can produce insensibility to pain and cold in the flesh, acting as an anesthetic like ether. When the currents were applied to the finger and thumb by wires, the finger could be pricked with a pin without pain.

The most uncompromising critics are usually found in our own families.

Potash.

ENOUGH of it must be contained in fertilizers, otherwise failure will surely result. See that it is there.

Our books tell all about fertilizers. They are sent *free* to all farmers applying for them.

GERMAN KALI WORKS,
93 Nassau St., New York.

ICELAND GEYSERS.

Tourists Have Injured Them by Throwing Stones Into Their Craters.

Barren as the place really is, the artist's eye would revel in the beautiful effects on the snowy jokulls, the twilight softening shades of mauve, greens and grays on the distant lava peaks, and the luminous midnight sky. The intensity of the blue water of lake or ocean is superb, and the mighty waterfalls are grand. And the geyser fields! All the warm tints, from cream to russet, are found in the mineral deposit around the basin of the Great Geyser, Little Geyser, Strokkr (the Churn), and the Little Strokkr, while Blesi (the Blue One) is lined with exquisite white, like porcelain, making it a fitting vessel for the cooking of food, and for furnishing boiling water for our tea and coffee. It was so smooth and beautiful that I seemed to be mutilating something rare when I chipped off pieces of its lining, but I knew they would be valuable souvenirs, and the uneasy, bubbling water would soon amend the deficiency.

The mud pools on this plain are the most dangerous, for they spout hot mud diagonally out of the earth. Coming upon them in one direction they are not seen, and many a visitor has gone home with a scalded foot. The hydraulic display is now very fitful and inconsiderate tourists have injured the spouting fountains by loading stones into them to see them cast out, so you must take your tent with you, and encamp on the plain to await the pleasures of their majesties. Blesi will serve you well while waiting. The Great Geyser had not spouted for a week when we were there, and such surliness indicated a near activity. The water spouted unusually high when it finally appeared, 150 feet, and showed all the tints of the rainbow, majestic at the same time and mysterious. It played for fifteen minutes, and then its beautiful cascades subsided in a feathery mist, a refined and graceful withdrawal.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

This remedy is intended especially for coughs, colds, croup, whooping cough and influenza. It has become famous for its cures of these diseases, over a large part of the civilized world. The most flattering testimonials have been received, giving accounts of its good works; of the aggravating and persistent coughs it has cured; of severe colds that have yielded promptly to its soothing effects, and of the dangerous attacks of croup it has cured, often saving the life of the child. The extensive use of it for whooping cough has shown that it robs that disease of all dangerous consequences. Sold at Dr. Councell's Pharmacy.

A Wonderful Bird.

Many sailors believe that the frigate bird can start at daybreak with the trade winds from the coast of Africa and roost the same night upon the American shore. Whether this is a fact or not has yet to be determined, but it is certain that the bird is the swiftest of winged creatures and is able to fly, under favorable conditions, 200 miles an hour.

Stag and Engine Race.

A race between a stag and a locomotive on the railroad was lately witnessed near Labelle, Can. The engineer noticed the stag on the track, about 200 feet ahead, and he blew a warning whistle. The animal started on a run, keeping to the track, and continued the race for three miles, then gracefully bounded aside until the locomotive had passed.

I have been afflicted with rheumatism for fourteen years and nothing seemed to give any relief. I was able to be around all the time, but constantly suffering. I had tried everything I could hear of and at last was told to try Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which I did, and was immediately relieved and in a short time cured. I am happy to say that it has not since returned. Josh. Edgar, Germantown Cal. For sale at Dr. Councell's Pharmacy.

Have Your Eyes Examined.

See here! Why go to the cities and pay extravagant prices for fitting your eyes? We will examine them carefully and honestly, tell you if we can suit you, and besides save you money. Don't buy from any peddler or faker who comes along but rather patronize a responsible dealer.

STURMER, Jeweler and Optician.

The Plan is THE THING!

With apologies to Shakespere, and the Easton Gazette has a plan to give you your money's worth and the people of the Eastern Shore have in a measure appreciated our effort, more are appreciating it every day.

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