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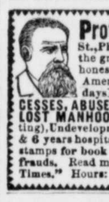

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SINGS ITS DEATH SONG.

A Peculiar Bird Found in the Jungles of South America.

There is a queer bird in the jungles of northern South America which is called the "pauji" by the natives, but is known to science as the galeated curasson. It is chiefly remarkable because it sings its own death song.

It does not really sing, but makes a deep humming noise which sounds very much like the Spanish words "El muerto esta aqui" (the corpse lies here).

"It is while uttering this lugubrious chant," said a South American traveler, "that the 'pauji' usually meets its death, for the hunter can then easily track it to its retreat, and it falls a victim, as the Indians say, to its own death song."

If the "pauji" gets suspicious it immediately ceases humming, and that is a sure indication to the hunter that the bird has seen him or scents danger. In such a case the only thing for the sportsman to do is to remain perfectly still. The bird may become reassured after waiting awhile and again begin to call, "The corpse lies here." It can then be cautiously approached and killed.

If it is only wounded the "pauji" usually escapes, though it cannot fly much better than the ordinary domestic fowl. It is very fleet of foot and will outrun the hunter until it is lost in the dense undergrowth of the jungle.

In the mating season the male "pauji" is the most pugnacious of birds and will fight its own kind whenever it meets them. Often the fight ends in the annihilation of both combatants.

How Japs Play Ken.

In its most widely practiced form the basis of the Japanese game of ken is that the fully outstretched hand signifies paper, the fully closed hand a stone, and two fingers alone extended, the rest being closed, scissors. Each of the players, counting one, two, three, throws out his hand at the moment of pronouncing three, and the one whose manual symbol is superior to that of the others, according to the theory of the game, wins the trial.

Superiority is determined on the hypothesis that whereas scissors cannot cut a stone they can cut paper, and whereas paper is cut by scissors it can wrap up a stone. Consequently scissors is inferior to stone, but conquers paper; stone is inferior to paper, but conquers scissors, and paper is inferior to scissors, but conquers stone. There are innumerable varieties of the game, for it is not a mere method of determining a dispute or priority, and they are constantly added to by ingenious young ladies, the dancing girl class especially, who play it with exquisite grace and judicious enhancement of beautiful hands and arms.—Japan Mail.

Careful of the Thermometer.

In a certain village not very long ago a benevolent doctor offered to give a thermometer to every cottage, carefully explaining its use. Soon after their arrival a district visitor entered one house where the new thermometer hung proudly in the middle of the room dangling at the end of a string. The visitor complimented the owner upon it and inquired if she remembered the instructions.

"Aye, that I do," was the reply. "I 'angs un there and I watches un until 'e gets above 60."

"Quite right, Mrs. ——," said the lady, much pleased that the directions given had taken root. "And what do you do when it gets above 60?"

"Why, then," was the unlooked for answer, "I takes un down from the nail and puts un out in the garden and cools un down a bit!" — London Tit-Bits.

Cloves.

"Cloves," said a physician, "make an excellent and handy remedy for nausea, for the headache due to train rides and for slight attacks of seasickness. I went abroad last year, and on the boat the first day out I began to feel the approaches of seasickness. I took a clove every hour all the rest of the day, and by midnight the attack had left me, and it did not return again. My wife is much given to indigestion, particularly when she eats pastry, but experience has taught her that she may now eat pastry with impunity provided that she swallows a clove now and then for several hours after the meal."

They Hadn't Run, But—

A young couple rushed into the city hall the other day and breathlessly announced that they wished to get married.

The alderman eyed the nervous bridegroom elect and said severely, "I'm afraid this is a runaway match."

"Well, your honor, I can't exactly say we run, but we walked pretty smart," was the prompt reply. — New York News.

Not a Characteristic.

"That was your wife with you at the railway station, wasn't it?"

"What makes you think she was my wife?"

"Well, she gave you such a short answer."

"That wasn't my wife."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

No More Money.

Old Lawyer—Why do you feel that your client will lose his case? Have you exhausted every means at your disposal to—

Young Lawyer—No, but I have exhausted all the means at his disposal. —Exchange.

A Living Proof.

Willie Sapphedd—No; I have no bwothers or sistahs. I'm the only child of my pawents.

Miss Oldestile—Dear me, and there are people who will persist in asserting that marriage isn't a failure!

WHAT IS WEALTH?

Health and Ability to Work Better Than Money and Worry.

Does wealth consist in money, houses, lands, bank stocks, railroad bonds, etc., alone? We think not. The young man starting in life with no money, but with good digestion, good sleep, good health and ability to work in some profitable employment, has what the aged capitalist would be glad to exchange all his millions for.

What compensation is money for sleepless nights and painful days or the misconduct of dissipated children? Which brings the greater happiness, the glitter, show, jealousies and falsity of fashionable life or the heartfelt friendships which prevail so largely in the homes of the industrious poor? In how many of the palaces of our millionaires will you find greater happiness in the parlor than in the kitchen? How many millionaires will tell you that they are happier now than when starting in life without a dollar?

On the top of mountains we find rocks and ice and snow. It is down in the valleys that we find the vineyards. Let no man envy those richer than himself until taking all things into account—age, health, wife, children, friends—he is sure he would be willing to exchange.—George J. Angell in Our Dumb Animals.

The Erudite Prisoner.

"The charge ag'in ye," the police justice said, "is burglary. What have ye got to say?"

"As to that," replied the prisoner, a seedy looking man who appeared to have seen better days, "if by the term of 'burglary' you mean the offense which, according to English law and practice for centuries, has been clearly defined as 'house breaking by night,' the charge is palpably ridiculous. The policeman alleges that he detected me in the act of breaking into a house yesterday afternoon in broad daylight. If, on the other hand, the term is made to cover the same offense when committed by day, which, I believe, is your absurd American understanding of the word, in a legal sense, I shall have to concede the correctness of the charge, your honor, reserving, however, the right to regard with a species of contempt the crude jurisprudence of this country."

"Take 'im back to 'is cell," gasped the police justice, "an' let 'im sober up."—Chicago Tribune.

To Be Healthy Be Practical.

Theoretically, every adult person of any intelligence wishes to be strong and healthy. Practically, a majority of them wish nothing of the sort. They would like to be well enough, but are not willing to pay the price, though it really costs nothing. When a man gets out of health he usually wants to get something to "patch him up" so that he can continue the foolish things which have caused his bad condition; hence the almost universal resort to drug treatment instead of the natural means of restoring and maintaining health and strength. If a man is really desirous of being naturally sound and healthy he will try to study out the means of becoming so. These means are all included in the seven foundation principles of practical hygiene—namely, exercise, rest, air, light, food, drink and bathing.—Cooking Club.

When You Buy Cheese.

When you buy cheese bear in mind that all good cheese will be mellow to the touch, yet firm. The rind will be of an even tint, elastic and free from puffs, and a sample will reveal a firm, close, buttery grain of a nutty flavor. Cheese which feels so hard that you cannot dent it with your finger tips on the rind is either sour, salted too heavily, skimmed or cooked too much. On the other hand, if the rind breaks upon pressure or does not spring back readily when the finger is withdrawn this indicates an oversoft article, caused by the slack cooling of the curd or a want of acid. At best it will have an insipid flavor and will "go off" as it ages.

An Unappreciative Listener.

A well known lawyer whose first name is James has a brother whom he visited lately. His brother has a daughter, aged four years, whose mother had lectured her a few days before for telling "stories." The lawyer, thinking to entertain the little one, took her on his knee and told her two of his best folklore tales. Instead of being charmed, as he expected, "she never smiled, but when he had finished slid from his knee, with a solemn face, and, going to her mother, said: 'Mamma, Uncle Jim will go to the bad place sure. He has just told me two big stories.'"—Kansas City Journal.

Purely Conventional.

"Agatha," said her mother, "I don't like to hear a daughter of mine tell even a conventional lie. You know you can't bear Aunt Becky, and yet when she came the other day you said, 'Auntie, how glad I am to see you!'"

"That wasn't a lie, mamma," answered Agatha. "That was an exclamation."—Chicago Tribune.

Marrying For Money.

"I married for lub de fust time," said Ebenezer Snow, "but dis time I marries for money, an' don't you forget it."

"Your bride elect has money, has she?"

"Yes, suh. Dat girl has no less dan $34.78 in de savin's bank, for she showed me de book." — Detroit Free Press.

Bad Attack of Paralysis.

Gentleman—You can't work on account of paralysis! Nonsense! You look as strong as I do.

Tramp—Well, ye see, boss, it's paralysis of de will dat I'm troubled wit. —Exchange.

There is no place quite as dry as that where a river used to be.

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