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WASTED INDUSTRY.

A Mouse Task That Failed Because of a Lack of Ingenuity.

A number of white footed mice which I had in captivity, says a writer in Country Life In America, escaped from their cage to a cupboard in the kitchen, and thence through a hole in the plaster and between the laths to the walls of the house. Every night they came out for food. One evening I saw a mouse come out of the cupboard. He found a hickory nut on the floor and attempted to carry it up the wall twelve inches to the hole in the plaster, but, alas, the crack between the laths was too narrow, and after fumbling with his burden for a minute or two he dropped it to the floor. Next he tried to push it in ahead of him, and, failing in that, he went in himself, turned round and attempted to pull it in after him. Occasionally it would slip out of his paws and roll upon the kitchen floor, and then out he would come and repeat the whole performance. He tried it again and again, but with no better success. He kept at it until far into the night, and when I awoke at 7 o'clock the next morning the first thing that I heard was that mouse or another one fumbling and dropping the hickory nut.

Since then I have kept them well supplied with nuts, and, although they still spend hours in carrying them to the crack in the laths and letting them fall, they are always forced in the end to eat them in the cupboard. There is plainly a lack of ingenuity, because ten minutes' gnawing would have solved the problem. Had the aperture in either case been too narrow to admit themselves they would have quickly widened it with their teeth, but to apply the same principle to get the nut through seemed to be a piece of reasoning entirely beyond them.

HISTORY OF THE COACH.

The First of These Vehicles Was Built In 1457.

As popular as coaching is in some parts of the country, but little reliable information has ever appeared in the public press respecting its history and development. At the town of Kotze, in Hungary, in 1457, the first coach was constructed. This was soon afterward presented to Charles VII. at Paris. The first authentic record of a stagecoach in England shows that six of such vehicles were in use there in 1662. So popular did they become in that country that a few years later they were in general use on all the principal roads of the kingdom.

Steam railways have to a large extent done away with the use of the coach as a link in the commercial chain, but as a means of furnishing the highest type of recreation the coach and four is as popular today in the British empire and in France as it was when this was practically the only means of locomotion in those countries.

Stagecoaching in America was almost coextensive with the settlement of the colonies, and in the early history of the country there were few if any places of any importance that did not welcome the sound of the coachman's horn as one of the fascinating incidents of pioneer life. As civilization pushed itself westward the stagecoach was ever in the lead of those agencies which blazed its pathway. These vehicles, as well as their equipments, were comparatively crude in their construction and unpretentious in their appointments, but they admirably served the purpose for which they were intended and laid the foundation for the popularity of coaching as a pleasurable pastime developed in later years.

Coaching parties had been popular in England and France for several generations before they were introduced in this country, yet the sport is so wholesome and enjoyable that it cannot be doubted that in time it will become as popular here as it is across the Atlantic.—Illustrated Sporting News.

Zola and Dreyfus' Book.

The editor of a Paris paper, recalling what Zola had done for Dreyfus, called upon the novelist to have him review the unfortunate captain's book, the history of his troubles. The visitor found him at the big table in his library, doing his day's work. "Review Captain Dreyfus' book!" he repeated when the proposition was made to him. He got up and ambled round the table—a short man, with a stomach and no presence—grunting at intervals. Finally he said: "Why should I review his book? He never even read mine."

The Bigger the Better.

A Scottish parish minister was one day talking to one of his parishioners, who ventured the opinion that ministers ought to be better paid.

"I am glad to hear you say that," said the minister. "I am pleased that you think so much of the clergy. And so you think we should have bigger stipends?"

"Aye," said the old man. "Ye see, we'd get a better class o' men."

The Retort Unexpected.

"Yes," she said with sarcastic bitterness, "I believe it is true that a man is known before marriage by the company he keeps."

"No doubt," he smilingly replied. "I remember that I kept company with you for fully four years."—Minneapolis Times.

The Criminal Escaped.

Jack—You've heard about the escaping criminal who stepped on a slot machine and got a weigh? Mack—Yes; that's old. Jack—Well, even the bloodhounds couldn't get his cent.—Yale Record.

Keep on trimming your lamps, tilling your soil, tugging and pegging away. You can never tell when the messenger of success will come.

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Relieve the aches of a bad
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Mr. W. H. Wright, of 806 Chestnut street, gold and silver plater at 830 State street, Erie, Pa., says: "While I was not bothered with kidney trouble in a severe form, I felt for some time that my kidneys were sluggish and inactive. When I first got up in the mornings I had a dull, tired aching across the loins, and felt unrefreshed after my night's rest. I saw Doan's Kidney Pills advertised, and felt that they would remove the trouble, so I procured a box at Haviland & Hunter's drug store and used them. A few days' treatment sufficed to thoroughly restore the kidneys to a normal and healthy condition, and I have had no return of the trouble since."

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THE MISSES REED,

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that no throwing of rubbish such as bushes or other obstructions on the public highways that are calculated to frighten horses shall be permitted. The law will be enforced against all offenders.

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d26-tf CHARLES L. DODD, Clerk.

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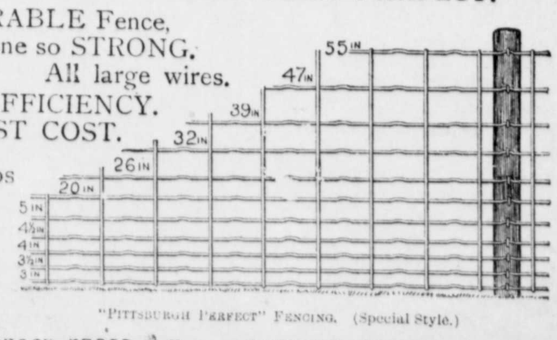

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