

HIS NOSE WAS HIS EYE.

Strange Result of an Accident to a Sixteenth Century Man. Several authors of the sixteenth century mentioned the existence of a man who, having lost his eyesight, could see through his nose, says the Philadelphia Record. The story, much doubted at the time and pronounced fabulous by physicians, is nevertheless true if the researches of E. Douliot prove correct. It seems that the victim had lost his right eye early in life, and later on while climbing on a cherry tree fell upon a fence, the pickets horribly mutilating the left eye, the cheek and the nose. The surgeon called in considered the eye entirely destroyed, sewed up the wound and it healed in time, forming a large scar where the eye had been. A year later the man, then considered stoneblind, lay in the grass, when he surprised himself by discovering that he could perceive through the cavity of the nose the sky and the color of the flowers on the meadow around him. From that time on he practiced for five or six years to see with his nose, which to him became practically the organ of vision. He gradually became more proficient in seeing in this way and could see everything beneath him while he remained quite insensible to the light from above. The condition of this man can be explained scientifically. Although the lens of the eye had been torn from its socket by the fall, the optic membrane and the nerves at the rear of the cavity of the eye had retained some of its feeling power. When the eye had healed together a small hole in the bone over the nose must have formed which acted as a lens in the same way as a pinhole can be used to take a photographic picture. This also proves that the retina of the eye acts like a camera obscura where the objects from the outside become visible when the rays of light arrive there after passing through a small opening.

MILD WINTER, SURE.

Hornets' Nests Are Low, Nuts Are Scarce, and Weeds Are Short. "We'll have a mild winter, unless my signs fail me," says Henry Rife, the oldest farmer in Laltukenny township, N. Y., according to an exchange, who has all his life been noted as a weather prophet among the folks along the North mountains, "and I guess this from the hornets, the nuts, and the weeds. I notice that the hornets have built their nests low. They would be high up out of reach, were we going to have a hard winter. I can't explain this, but my father and grandfather always gauged by this. Then nuts of all kinds are scarce. There are hardly any chestnuts, shellbarks, or acorns. If a hard winter was coming the Good Man would have provided for the nuts that must store this year if the snow lies deep. A big crop of nuts is always followed by a hard winter, and this also works the other way. Then I notice that the weeds have grown up short, and their seeds hang near the ground. Were a hard winter coming the weeds would have grown up tall, so that when the snow would lie deep the birds could hop along on the snow and get the seeds from the top of the plants. If the weeds are covered with snow for a long time, the birds can't get any feed. The Good Man looks after the birds, too, and I don't believe they will starve this winter on account of the berries and seeds being covered with snow. For these three reasons I think we'll have a mild winter."

A VALUABLE DISCOVERY.

The Secret of a Miner in the Klondike Gold Fields. The Klondike is responsible for the conception of a chemical compound which promises to revolutionize mining methods in every section where winter puts a stop to operations every year. The nature of the chemical is a secret, which the inventor will divulge to one. The chemical is simple and cheap, however, and can be manufactured upon the ground where the mine is located. The discoverer will locate several mines in the spring, and develop them the following summer and winter. No matter how cold the atmosphere, it will not interfere with the thawing properties of the wonderful fluid. The value of such a discovery is readily apparent. It practically conquers the inconvenience of cold and extreme temperatures, and does away with the necessity of thawing the ground by the slow and tedious method of building fires and allowing them to thaw out the frozen earth. The inventor estimates that the chemical will melt the earth to the depth of two feet. Continued application of the fluid will allow the miners to keep continuously at their labor. Besides using the fluid for developing whatever mines he locates, the inventor will take up enough material to supply the other miners at reasonable prices.

Luxurious Imperial Travelers.

The height of luxurious traveling has been reached by the czar and czarina. The empress' private car is upholstered in pale blue satin. The electric lamps are all in the form of lilacs, and it contains writing and tea tables made of mother of pearl. The nursery is the next apartment, and is as comfortable and handsome as the same rooms in the czar's palaces. There are dining-rooms and drawing-rooms and several sleeping apartments. In fact, this train is a miniature palace. The wheels are covered with India rubber tires.

Cats in Medieval Times.

Down to as late as the middle ages cats were comparatively scarce in Europe and were so highly prized that any person who killed one was obliged to pay a fine. This penalty sometimes was required to be paid in the shape of a pile of wheat big enough to cover the slain animal when it was held vertically by the tip of its tail, the nose touching the ground.

GATCHING CONDORS.

A Prize Upon the Ferocious Birds in Chili. Chili offers a bounty for condor heads, and an American in that country has made from \$700 to \$800 a month killing this bird of prey. One month he got a warrant for \$1,080. Condors steal sheep and calves. He writes, says the Chicago Chronicle: "How did we capture these ferocious birds? Our first job every morning before we had even a peep of sunlight over the mountains was to carry the carcass of a dead animal—a horse or a cow—out on the plain, where it could easily be seen from all points of the compass. We sometimes made a carcass do service for a fortnight, but it required a strong stomach and indifference to stench. We moved about every few days from one locality to another, and never put the rotting body twice in the same place, because of the extreme suspiciousness of an average condor. Generally we would move three or four miles every 24 hours. "After we had placed our bait carcass we set up our tents and the canvas flies that concealed us and our horses from the view of the condors. Breakfast was eaten in the canvas that hid us from several condors coming down through the clouds from the mountain crest straight toward our bait. When the birds had eaten heartily we sprang to our horses, which stood near, bridled and saddled, ready for the chase. When a condor has gorged itself with food it cannot rise without running to give itself momentum. An expert lassoer could send his rope over a condor's head and so manage it that it was slipped down until it touched the shoulders of the wings before it would be tightened on the bird. Then the rider would turn the horse about and lead the chase himself, forcing the unwilling bird along until tumbled, spent, to the ground, and was dragged to death at the horse's heels."

HE LOVED TO LIVE. The Touching Lesson of a Very Charitable Life. The story of George Francis Train sitting in the park surrounded by birds and children is a familiar one. It is not so generally known that North St. Louis was the home of a child and bird lover who died some years ago, says the St. Louis Republic. It was this gentle old man's custom to leave home every morning directly after breakfast with his pockets full of bread crumbs and rock candy. He would go to one of the parks near his home and sit down on one of the benches. No matter how cold it was he never forgot those bread crumbs. At sight of him the birds would fly toward him. There were not so many sparrows then as now, but sometimes hundreds of them would flutter about him. He has often been seen sitting there, quietly with the little birds perched on his hat and shoulders. When the birds had collected he would bring out his store of bread crumbs, and then there would be a feast. The rock candy he kept for children and poor people. He was always generous with it. He would say that it was pure and would help the poor wretches to keep warm. It is told of him that he once paid a debt of \$150 for an old friend. The creditor was told to say to inquirers that the bill was paid by "one who loved him." When they asked the old man about it he smiled, but did not acknowledge that he had paid it. He merely said: "Ah! Love has paid many a debt."

WHAT THEY BROKE.

The Old Farmer Found That He Had Been Mistaken. There had been rather a bad runaway accident in a mountain town. Several persons had been injured, and the doctor would have it, as good luck would have it, a clever young medical student happened to be on the ground and did excellent service, says the Youth's Companion. When the doctor came there was nothing to be done, but he listened with great interest to his young colleague's exposition of the cases. They talked for a long time on the hotel piazza. The farmer who had been driving the horses and was himself unhurt listened with eager interest to explanations wherein scapula, humerus and clavicle played prominent parts. Finally he took up the reins sadly and drove home to his wife. As soon as he entered the yard she threw her apron over her head and hurried forward to meet him. "Ephraim says some of the folks was hurt," she called. "How much was it? Did they break their legs or their arms—which?" "The farmer drew in his now pacified steeds at the post and let the reins slacken in his grasp. "Well," he said reflectively, leaning forward, both elbows on his knees: "I thought one of 'em broke his leg and another a collar bone, an' so on, but I guess I didn't hit it right. I stood by while the doctors were talkin' on't over and 'peared to me as if, arter all, 'twas only some of them Latin parts."

Used for Life-Saving Service Only.

The telephone lines between the United States life-saving stations along the New Jersey coast will no longer be used for any other than official business, orders having been issued from the department headquarters to that effect. This will end the rivalry between several prominent ministers, who have from time to time been preaching to the crews of the stations by the aid of the phone.

Cost of Elephant Transportation.

Elephants on Indian railways pay the rate of six cents a mile. The baggage cars have compartments for dogs, cats, guinea pigs, rabbits and monkeys. Atesca in Mexico. Among the natives of Mexico there are, according to Lumboltz, about 150,000 survivors of the Aztec race.

Colonial Silverware.

Reproductions of colonial silverware are this season represented not only in tea and coffee services, but in trays, water pitchers, candlesticks and other pieces.

A POOR COUNTRY.

Algeria is a Place Which Colonists Should Avoid. According to a French correspondent, Algeria is about the last place in the world where a colonist ought to go. The temperature makes both agricultural and commercial success impossible. The country is a bastard region, neither European nor colonial. If it were two degrees further south, or ten degrees further north, all would be changed. In the former case it would be an industrial paradise that would beat St. Domingo, Ceylon and India, because, being at the very doors of France, it would be a suburb of Europe, whither 15,000,000 or 20,000,000 emigrants would go to cultivate coffee, indigo, vanilla, sugar, cotton, pepper and other colonial products. If Algeria were moved further north, its mineral wealth, at present incapable of exploitation, would enable it to rival Normandy, Auvergne, Beaune and Picardy. As it is, everything is blasted by the climate. The sugar cane has no sugar; it is inferior bamboo. The coffee berry is empty. The cotton is too short for spinning. The cocoa palm bears no fruit; the pineapple will not ripen; and the vanilla matures only in a hot-house. None of the species will flourish with the products of Brazil or India. Corn becomes hard in the third year; a mealy potato is unknown. Oxen in four generations divide from 700 or 800 pounds to 500. Fowls are poor; fruit is wormy; and even the banana is flavorless and pasty. There are a few good oranges; but the wine is acid and rough, the sugar of the grape not being amenable to entire conversion into alcohol. Even the human race is subject to the universal degeneration.

THIS WAS HIS MESSAGE.

The Young Woman Blushed in Anticipation But Didn't Have Done It. In purchasing a present care should be taken that the price tags and charge checks do not accompany the gift, thereby causing temporary embarrassment. A young woman of this city received among her Christmas gifts last year a handsome pocketbook of embossed leather, which had been sent her by a young man who was supposed to have a tender feeling toward her, but had never expressed it, says the Chicago Times-Herald. The whole family assisted in the ceremony of opening the small package, and when the wrappings were off and the nature of the present revealed, there was much merriment over the gift. The pocketbook was apparently empty, but in searching it a small card was discovered in a secret compartment. "A proposal!" shouted the one who had found it. "Give it to me instantly," demanded the annoyed recipient of the present. "Read it aloud, sis," suggested a mischievous brother. "Here," said the father of the family, with mock sternness, "the young man, has not consulted me—if anyone reads the message I should."

CLAMS AND OYSTERS.

An Interesting Exhibit in the Salt Water Side of the Aquarium. One of the gallery tanks at the Aquarium was stocked lately with oysters and hard shell clams, showing the clams as they appear in nature, says the New York Sun. The hard clam does not bury itself completely in the mud or sand which it may inhabit, but only to the depth of half or three-quarters of its shells. It opens its shells to feed, living upon minute forms of animal life floating in the water, and sinks or raises itself in the mud with the aid of its foot, the wedge-shaped part of the body that is nearest the opening of the shell. With its foot the clam pushes away the sand, and so lets itself sink deeper and deeper; and with its foot it can roll the sand in under itself and thus raise itself. Oysters must have something to grow upon, shells or stones or something. In this tank oysters are seen growing on a bottle, a familiar manner of growth, but always interesting. There are four or five oysters on the outside of this bottle, and there is an oyster growing inside the neck. Oysters inside bottles are not uncommon. In the tank also there are seen oysters growing on clams, but so attached that they do not in any way interfere with the clam's existence. In this tank also are a stone and a bottle, each covered with what look at a distance like pieces of gray calico with small dark figures. These coverings or incrustations are formed by colonies of little animals known as ascidians.

Pat's Panther.

Three northern men were hunting in Missouri, and had with them an Irishman as cook. One evening, after dark, the cook took a pail and went to nearby stream for water, and in less than a minute he came running back, all in a tremble. When he found his speech, he explained that he had been chased by a panther. The hunters set out to investigate, but could find no trace of the beast. The next evening the cook was at work when there came a wild, unearthly scream, almost over his head. "Panther!" howled the cook, letting the pot drop into the fire. There was a general shout of laughter. "You goose," cried one of the hunters, at length, "your panther is a screech owl!"

Bulletin Financier.

Vendredi, 14 janvier 1898.

COMPTOIR D'ÉCHANGES (CLEARING-HOUSE) DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS.

Table with columns for various financial items like 'Billets des Etats Unis', 'Or', 'Argent', and their respective values.

MARCHE MONETAIRE.

Table showing market rates for gold, silver, and other monetary items.

MONNAIE.

Table listing various currencies and their exchange rates.

OR ET ARGENT.

Table detailing gold and silver prices and market conditions.

MARCHE DE NEW-YORK.

Table showing market data from New York, including stock and commodity prices.

MARCHE DE NEW-YORK.

Table with market information from New York, including various commodity prices.

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Bulletin Commercial.

Vendredi, 14 janvier 1898.

MARCHE DE LA NIE-ORLEANS.

Table showing market rates for various commodities in the New Orleans market.

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VINS ET LIQUEURS.

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