

JAPANESE CHARACTER

There is Some Disagreement Among Foreigners as to the Character of the Little Islanders.

If Japan has determined to make the fight for her existence now, rather than wait until Russia has absorbed Korea, all the world is curious to know much more concerning the real character of the Japanese than is understood at present. And it appears, states the New York Times, that notwithstanding the numbers of Japanese who have studied and lived in America, notwithstanding the large American contingent of residents and tourists in Japan, together with the appreciation Americans have shown, at least for the arts of that country, opinions regarding the Japanese character are as wide apart as the poles. Yet upon that character will depend the outcome of the life-and-death struggle between Russia and Japan.

We have had plenty of glowing eulogists of the Japanese and some detractors. Percival Lowell undertook to say on the strength of a comparatively superficial acquaintance with this people that they lack personality and individual soul, even that they "do not think," while Basil H. Chamberlain, who makes Japan his home, has reached an opposite conclusion after a residence of many years. Another writer on things Japanese, a German of Dutch descent named Ten Kate, has just contributed to Globus the harshest verdict which has yet appeared, he accuses the Japanese of lack of the love of truth, lack of depth in intellect and sentiment and inaccessibility to abstract ideas. He says they have no individuality, are unstable and easily moved by suggestions from stronger minds; are wanting in tenacity of purpose and grit; are open to paradoxes and slaves to vanity and jingoism. Ten Kate has only faults to find in the Japanese, but he remains in Japan, as so many others before him, who have not been able to escape the charm of the country while grumbling at the people who make the land delightful. He even goes so far as to charge them with monotonous features, with looking alike, and, of course, he recounts as examples of their heartlessness the cheerful tone they employ when speaking of the dead and the bloody deeds which are found in their history under the Shoguns, down to the disappearance of the Shogunate in 1868.

Fortunately for the Japanese, there are foreigners among them who dissent utterly from such an indictment of a nation. Dr. Baetz has lived in Japan more than a quarter of a century as a practicing physician, a teacher, and a writer on Japanese matters. He has employed many Japanese as trained nurses and in other capacities, and he reports that his experience proves just the contrary. From other physicians and from Americans and Europeans who employ native labor he obtains the same evidence in favor of the quickness and thoughtfulness of the Japanese. The adverse opinions he attributes to the difficulty of getting information from people who are very sensitive to ridicule, who often pretend not to understand when asked questions they think are dictated by pure curiosity, and to some degree also to the unsettled condition of mind in a country which has made recently such extraordinary changes in politics and social conditions.

It was Dr. Baetz who pointed out some years ago the singular physical resemblance between the Russians and the old inhabitants of Japan, now only found in the north, the Ainus. This resemblance extends to the character of the Ainus and Russians. What an odd whirligig of events, that Russia should now be casting about to absorb the Japanese by way of Corea, the Japanese who are a composite of Ainus, Mongols and Malays! Another wave of the race that once held Japan and was conquered and absorbed by Malay intruders from the south is coming eastward again to strive for leadership in China. To accomplish this the Russians propose to cure Japan of her dream of organizing the far east by dealing her a blow which, if it succeeds, will mean her ruin as a nation having anything to say in Asia. No wonder Japan feels that she must fight. What neither Lowell nor Ten Kate appear to recognize is the tremendous character the Japanese have shown by their acceptance of the valuable elements in European life, and the extraordinary evidence they exhibit of self-repression. Certainly a more patriotic people does not exist, and so far as bravery and military spirit is concerned they have no superiors. It may turn out that in the course of the conflict with a nation so well led and so well prepared, at such a distance from the present center of Russia, that empire will receive a blow to its power and prestige from which it will never recover.

Cliff of Natural Glass.

A cliff of natural glass can be seen in Yellowstone Park, Wyoming. It is half a mile long and from 150 to 290 feet high, the material of which consists being a good glass as that artificially manufactured. The dense glass which forms the base is from 75 to 100 feet thick, while the upper portion, having suffered and survived many ages of wind and rain, has naturally worn much thinner. Of course, the color of the cliff is not that of natural glass—transparent and white—but is mostly black, and some places mottled and streaked with brownish red and shades of olive green and brown.

Heard in Cincinnati.

"Say, pa," queried little Johnny Bumpkin, "what does this paper mean by saying the man went from bad to worse?" "It probably means that he went from Columbus to Cleveland," replied the old man. Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

QUININE A UNIVERSAL DRUG.

Something of Interest Concerning Its Use, Discovery and Value to the Human Race.

I assume that everyone in the civilized world has taken a dose of quinine. It is the universal drug, says a writer in the New York Press. Its value is unprecedented by the masses, who use it only for colds and fevers—the same thing. As a tonic it is unsurpassed. As an alternative it has no equal in the materia medica. I heard a distinguished surgeon say: "If I wanted to ferment a barrel of cabbage in less time than anybody else could do it I would put in an eighth of an ounce of quinine. A little quinine in the disordered stomach acts just as it would in the cabbage. It hastens the assimilation of the food and restores the normal conditions."

Habitual users of quinine are slaves to it, but derive little benefit from it. Men with malaria eat it by the ounce, and still keep the malaria. The world is full of quinine drunkards, who pour a spoonful into the palm of one hand and lick it down without a grimace. I have seen them chew chinchona bark as one chews gum. Others, not habituated, must take two grains or ten in a capsule. Before capsules were invented it was taken in molasses, and the chances are the molasses effected the cure. Too much of it is nearly as bad as too much calomel. Great fortunes have been made out of it, however, and its cultivation in Ceylon and Java is said to be successful.

There are several pretty romances connected with the discovery of "kina," as the native Indians of Peru called the cinchona trees from which quinine is derived. What do you call it—kwine, kwe-neen, kin-nine, keen-neen or kin-need? It is possible that your pronunciation of the word may discover your birthplace. What a lot of names the drug has had! Quinine, cinchona, cinchona powder, Jesuit's bark, Cardinal De Lugo's powder, Peruvian bark, China bark, quina, quinquina, chinchona bark, etc.

The world is indebted to Louis XIV. for its general introduction. In France and Italy physicians who prescribed its use were persecuted. Protestants altogether repudiated it. Robert Talbot, an Englishman, cured the dauphin with it, and Louis le Grand was induced to buy the secret. He was the only king who ever embarked in the drug business.

The discovery of cinchona bark is enveloped in mystery. The wife of the Spanish viceroy in Peru was Countess Chinchon. She was cured of an intermittent fever by drinking an infusion of the bark, introduced it in Madrid and bestowed her name upon it—Chinchona. We have corrupted this into cinchona. That's one story. Another is that the Jesuit missionaries, who were accustomed to taste the bark from every tree they hewed down, discovered the precious febrifuge. A third is that certain animals while in a fever happened to gnaw the bark of the cinchona tree and were cured. A fourth is that some persons suffering with fever drank copiously of a pool of water in which some fallen cinchona trees had long been soaking, charging the water with the medicinal principle. Their speedy cure led to an investigation which discovered the quinine.

One of the strange things about quinine is that it is not used as a medicine in the practice of the native physicians of Peru, Ecuador or Colombia. The Indians did not even know of its existence until enlightened by the Spaniards about 250 years ago.

Men's Fads.

"Women are not the only ones who have fads," said an observing individual during a discussion on fads. "I know a contractor in this city who goes about buildings he is constructing and extracts bent nails from waste lumber. He straightens them out and tosses them into a nail box. It is not because he is penurious, for he is quite generous. It is just a fad. I know a banker in New York who has all envelopes laid on his desk after the letters have been taken out. Then at his leisure he cuts the envelopes apart and lays the addressed slips in a pile to be used for scratch pads or memoranda pads. That is his pastime, or fad, if you will. There is a rounder uptown who never passes a hotel without going in and looking over the register. And I know that he is never expecting to find a familiar name. He told me, when I chided him about it, that he didn't know why he did it, unless it was his fad."—N. Y. Commercial-Advertiser.

Silent Great Men.

The list of silent great men is a long one. Especially is this true of noted warriors: Wallenstein, Wellington, Von Moltke, Grant, Marlborough, Charlemagne, Hannibal, Caesar, all gave their orders in as few words as possible, and demanded like brevity from their subordinates. It is said that Marlborough never allowed more than a minute for a verbal report, and it is told of Von Moltke that when an aide-camp brought a written message that France had declared war, the great general simply ordered it filed in the "second pigeon-hole on the right, first tier." In that pigeon-hole were complete plans for the successful campaign that followed.

The Other Kind.

A pathetic wall floated out of the seventh-story apartment.

"Oh, fireman, save my child!"

"Where is the conflagration?" they asked, as the janitor came out of the building.

"There ain't none," replied that dignitary, "she's just begging the fireman in the dollar to keep her kid from freezing."—Cincinnati Times-Star.

PLANT CAUSE OF CANCER.

The Oleander Said to Be a Prolific Breeder of the Flesh-Devolving Disease.

When I was a child a neighbor rodd to our door on horseback. While he was talking with my father his horse crowded close to the porch and attempted to bite some twigs of an oleander. The man was greatly alarmed when he saw that the animal had broken a stalk, asked for water and washed the horse's mouth thoroughly, says a New York Sun writer.

My father asked the reason of his anxiety. He said a mouthful of the twigs would kill the horse almost instantly and told of a horse that died in severe tremors a few minutes after eating a few shoots of the plant; also of a neighbor who pruned her oleander plants and threw the branches into a little pond in the barnyard. The cattle drank the water and died.

Some year later a playmate was under medical treatment for an enlargement of the throat which seemed to threaten goitre. Her horse was an oleander bower and the blossoms were her favorite decoration. She sometimes bit off the stems if they were too long. After months of the most thorough treatment the swelling disappeared.

A young woman who was extremely fond of oleander plants kept a very large tree in her room. One day in midwinter she dug out a portion of the earth and filled in the space with fresh earth from the florist's in order that her favorite might throw out a new crop of blossoms. That night she complained of serious irritation of her throat. A few days later the glands below the ear enlarged until they were on a line with her cheek. For nearly a year every remedy known to medical science was tried. The swelling at last yielded to treatment and she permanently recovered.

Another woman transplanted and reported a large number of oleanders, becoming wearied with her task. She complained that night of a curious irritation in her throat. A swelling came in the glands below her ear. All remedies failed. It became malignant and caused her death about six months afterward.

Within the past year a death from cancer of the face or mouth has occurred in a household where are the largest and most beautiful oleanders I have ever seen. Yet another case is that of a woman of middle age whose favorite flower was the oleander. She kept all varieties, collecting them from various places as she found new ones. She had a clearly developed cancer, the doctors assured her, entirely cured, took treatment for years and was, so whether any symptoms of the disease have developed within the last eight or ten years I am unable to say.

I might give other instances, but these are to my mind sufficient ground for belief that there is some connection between the oleander and glandular affections of a more or less malignant character.

ORIGIN OF CANT PHRASES.

First Use of Some of the Expressions So Common in Our Modern Conversation.

Royal Tyler, who was born in Boston in 1757, visited London in 1809, states the Brooklyn Eagle. From there he wrote a letter to a friend in New England, a bit of which may not be uninteresting to readers of to-day.

Some years since "all the rage" was the cant, and an Englishman asserted that universal philanthropy and peace were "all the rage." To this succeeded "quizz" and "quizzical," every man of common sense was a quizz and every blockhead quizzical. To these succeeded "bore," "everything animate and even inanimate was a bore," "a horrid bore." I am not certain that I give you the correct order of succession, for, indeed, I am not ambitious of the correctness of the genealogy of nonsense. The cant expressions now in vogue are "I owe you one" and "that's a good one."

But besides these evanescent vulgarisms of fashionable colloquy there are a number of words now familiar, not merely in transient converse, but even in English fine writing, which are of vulgar origin and illegitimate descent, which disgust an admirer of the writers of their Augustan age and degrade their finest compositions by a grotesque air of pert vivacity. Among these is the adjective "clever," a word not derived from those pure and rich sources which have given all that is valuable to the English language—a word not used by any English prose writer of eminence until the reign of George III., nor even introduced into a serious poem, until adopted by Cowper—a word which, if we may judge of adjectives as we do of men, by their associates, shows the baselessness of its origin by the company it keeps, being generally coupled with "fellow," a term I conceive of no respect except in courts and colleges.

Were Not Observant.

It is related of Dr. Joseph Bell, who is in a measure the original of Sherlock Holmes, that while a professor of medicine at Edinburgh he invited his class to test their powers of perception by tasting a dark amber colored liquid, showing them that it was harmless by dipping his fingers in the fluid and touching fingertip to lip. When they had all made very faces he gravely informed them that if their powers of observation had been good they would have seen that while it was the forefinger that went into the nautical mixture it was the middle finger that found its way to his mouth.

Devoted to Her Art.

"And you say Miss Weste Baltimore is devoted to music?" "I should say she is! Why, she won't have a skirt made that isn't according to plaited."—Baltimore News.

LIGHT OF THE GLOW-WORM.

That It Has Its Use Appears from Various Observations to Be a Fact.

Not only the origin of the glow worm's light, but the use to which it is put, deserves study. There are several theories of the purpose for which certain organisms have evolved a light-producing power in the mysterious history of life. In some cases it may serve to attract prey, which comes up to inquire into the unusual phenomenon, and remains to furnish dinner; in others it acts as a protective, frightening away the assailant, much as a burglar may be driven out of the house by judicious handling of a two-way switch. A more simple reason for its existence, writes W. E. Garrett Fisher, in the London Mail, is that it serves like the cyclist's lamp, to illuminate a dark road, or enable its possessor who lives in the unlighted depths of the sea to find the way about. The old-fashioned advocate of "final causes," who argued that snuff was the real cause of the human nose, would have added that the firefly was endowed with light-giving powers in order to decorate the hair of South American beauties, or to help the heroes of Capt. Mayne Reid to read secret messages.

The light of the glow worm comes under yet another classification. The best opinion seems to be that it is one of the numerous and fantastic match-making contrivances with which so many of the lower creation are endowed by nature, happier therein than "man, proud man," who has to trust his tail. In Goldsmith's delightful account of "Animated Nature," the suggestion was hazarded—probably out of Goldsmith's own poetic head—that the light of the female glow worm was "an emanation which she sent forth to allure the male to her company." Naturalists of the time laughed at Goldsmith, but he was quite right. The glow worm's light, whether hoisted by male or female, is as much a sign of pairing time as the song of the nightingale, the gaudy plumage of the cock pheasant, or the court dress of the debutante. Prof. Emery's observations in the "pleasant meadows that encircle Bologna" show conclusively that the light of the glow worm is used as a love signal. The female glow worm, in a marriageable mood, lights up her lamp like Hero of Abydos, and keeps it burning until all the suitors within sight have formed a circle around her for her to choose from. There are worse ways of courtship.

If we are to believe a Japanese investigator who published his results six or seven years ago, the glow worm can give our own maidens hints in the useful art of choosing a mate. He professed to have ascertained that the light of the glow worm, when filtered through a suitable medium, showed the characteristic properties of the rays then just discovered by Prof. Roentgen, rays which we can only use through the medium of a fluorescent screen.

In that case, it is clear enough why the light is always displayed at mating time. Appearances are deceptive in all ranks of life, and the power of literally "searching the heart," which the Roentgen rays bestow upon their lucky possessor, must be simply invaluable to those about to marry. Solomon long ago pointed out the value of the ant as a pattern to humanity. Our Japanese friend will be immortal if his discovery reaches the marriageable maiden to initiate the glow worm, and insist that her rival swarms shall "searchingly" pass the searching test of the X-rays.

A RUSSIAN DICK TURPIN.

Young Highwayman Who Robbed the Rich to Give to the Poor.

"Solomon II., by the grace of God, King of the Jews." This was the way in which a very remarkable prisoner recently signed the prison book at Kieff, Russia, says the London Daily Mail.

His history is curious. He was a handsome, hard working student of the Kieff seminary, but on finishing his course, writes a correspondent, he immediately provided himself with a revolver, dagger and a number of forged papers and passes, and began a career of robbery and brigandage, which was marked throughout by consummate skill and forethought.

He murdered and stole in the highway, his victims in Kieff including a staff captain and a master of the watch. At his richly furnished apartments in Kieff he dispensed lavish hospitality to a circle of most respectable friends, who never suspected the source of his wealth.

His capture was brought about by the accidental protrusion of a revolver from his coat pocket while he was bargaining with a fur merchant. The latter pointed him out to a detective, and "Solomon II." was arrested and bound like a dangerous wild beast.

At the preliminary examination he confessed to a long series of robberies, the proceeds of which he appears to have dispensed largely in succoring the poor and the outcast. He denied any murders, however, professes penitence and intimates his anxiety to expiate his misdeeds in the pious seclusion of a monastery.

Coffee Plantations.

There are 49,000 coffee plantations in the world. The total annual production of coffee amounts to 21,500,000 bags, of an average weight of 134 pounds each or 2,881,000,000 pounds. This production represents a total value of more than \$225,000,000 annually from more than 1,800,000,000 coffee trees in full bearing. The land used exceeds 3,600,000 acres. The value of the property is more than \$1,350,000,000. The industry gives employment to 2,220,000 men, women and children.

GREAT BAMBOO BUILDERS.

Filipino Carpenters Are Extremely Skillful Constructing Houses of the Native Wood.

Give the Filipino gentleman the bamboo tree and he asks for no other material for the building of his house, save a ton or two of nipa grass with which to thatch his roof and a dozen or two yards of bejup, or rattan, a sort of bush rope, the natural cord with which he binds together whatever is broken or needs fastening securely.

With the bamboo, writes Margaret Haines, in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, the Filipino carpenter proceeds to make the rafters, the gabled roof, the sills, the floors and the supports of the native gentleman's house, and he lashes together what he cannot nail, with bejup.

He whittles, as he goes, all the nails and bolts that he will use from the thick bamboo, and drives these nails or spikes through holes that he has cut with a knife, whether joinings must be affected.

The Filipino uses his big, broad-bladed knife to cut his food, to fight his foe and to prepare his building materials, and when his knife is not actively employed in either of these offices it is worn at his belt slipped into a leather sheath, and the law which forbids the carrying of "concealed" weapons in a city of the United States could not possibly be construed to cover his case. The knife is never concealed, but is always in full and fearsome sight.

The Filipino housebuilder constructs his roof first. Then, when the lower part of the house is all finished, the roof is fitted onto its place.

The nipa which forms the thatch is laid on layer after layer. This spear-bladed grass, about 15 inches long, has a smooth natural finish much like that of the palm leaf, as seen in the favorite fans of an American summer time, and sheds water better than any wooden slingle possibly could.

The nipa is bound down to the roof with strips of bamboo cut thin and laid into a lattice. From the under side the carpenter practically sews his roof covering to the bamboo rafters, using a rattan needle and the strong grass of a rattan cord as a thread. The thatch is not bound down tightly, for through the roof the native Filipino secures his ventilation, and through the roof the smoke filters and escapes from his dwelling.

The nipa roof is durable. It sheds water and dries quickly. Its chief foes are the winds and the ants. The strong, dry winds of the orient rust in and rot the eaves and nip up the thatch, or the ants eat it. In two or three years, then, the Filipino gentleman sets about patching the leaky places in his roof, much as does the American gentleman with a shingle top to his dwelling.

A Filipino house of five or six rooms is nipa thatched for about \$10. The shingling of a house of that size in the United States costs about \$500. We might well borrow from the Philippines the nipa roof idea if it were not for the cost of importing the material.

The Filipinos with huts in watery places on the edges of the "lagunas" thatch their dwellings entirely with nipa hanging loosely upon the roof and sides, but this is not the way the better classes of Filipinos build their residences. The bamboo walls, outer and inner, are found in the better houses of the natives, and the roof, with its lattice of bamboo covering the nipa is neat and effective.

It must not be supposed, however, that all of the houses in the Philippines are built of bamboo and without the use of metal nails. The bamboo house is the general staple, but the better class Filipinos, and still the houses commonly constructed by the native of small means; but the public and governmental houses and the residences of the Filipino gentleman of wealth are made of lumber and stone, though upon many of even these more costly and elegant buildings the nipa thatch is used.

Taking Manila as an example, the residences of the wealthy citizens are built with a foundation of native stone with an overhanging upper story of lumber. The numerous windows are made with small panes, with thin shells set into them instead of glass. The houses are constructed around a court, and in the court the horses are stabled. There are no back yards in Manila. This is the city gentleman's residence. The country gentleman thinks his bamboo house quite as desirable, and from a picturesque viewpoint it pleases the American better.

Servants in the Philippines.

Gen. Luke E. Wright, Gov. Taft's successor in the Philippines, described a native servant in a recent letter.

This servant, a boy, was ignorant. Gen. Wright explained, and then he gave this case in point:

"I told him at luncheon to fill an empty pepper crust, and I waited for the pepper, but it was a long time coming."

"Finally I looked him up impatiently. He sat bent over the crust, with the pepper beside him."

"How long is it going to take you to do that job?" I said.

"Not much longer," he answered; but you must remember that it is no small task to force the pepper through these little holes."

"He was filling the crust, you see, without removing the perforated lid."

—N. Y. Tribune.

White Blood Corpuscles.

Recent experiments in France show that the white blood corpuscles, or "leucocytes," besides absorbing foreign bodies, destroying worn-out cells, absorbing liquid poisons and carrying food substances to the tissues, also fulfill a very important function in distributing medicinal drugs to all parts of the body and carrying them in particular to the location in which they will do the most good.

THE WOMEN OF PORTO RICO.

New Englanders Learn How American Residents on the Island Help the Natives.

"The Spaniards went to Porto Rico for what they could get out of it, and I am sorry to say that a good many Americans have gone for the same reason," said Mrs. Elliott Jones before the National Society of New England Women at a recent business meeting, reports the N. Y. Tribune.

"But, nevertheless," she continued, "we have done much for the Porto Ricans, and the American women resident on the island, most of them being wives of army and navy officers, have taken a leading part in the good work."

"I never saw anything so terrible as the poverty in Porto Rico. People often ask me why the American occupation has not improved the condition of the people, but this is easy to understand after one has lived here. Although the Spanish government has been destroyed, the land is still owned by Spaniards, and they have taken advantage of the establishment of the American system of currency in the island to raise their rents, reckoning a peso, which is worth only 60 cents, as equal to \$1. This has nearly doubled rents and has caused a great deal of poverty, for which the United States is being blamed. Then there was the hurricane, which left thousands destitute. This was when the women came to the rescue. About 20 of them organized the Woman's Aid society of Porto Rico, appealed to their friends in the north and collected clothing for the multitude."

"At first aid was given absolutely gratis, but it soon became evident that this was producing pauperism, and arrangements were made for supplying the women with work. This is still kept up and under the care of the secretary the women, who when they first came for assistance, tumbled over one another like a lot of animals, have become neat, clean and self-respecting. Another thing which the women have done is to build a hospital at San Juan. Formerly the poorer classes of Porto Rico had scarcely any care in time of sickness. The new-born children were cared for themselves, and the result is the terrible deformity which one sees everywhere in Porto Rico. The new hospital is intended for maternity cases, and the city of San Juan is giving \$200 a month to its support. American nurses have been secured, and if any of you want to help you can send a box of cast-off clothing addressed to the Woman's Aid society, San Juan, Porto Rico. Don't put in any furs or velvet, but make up a box of all the cotton garments, sheets, towels and pillow cases that you can spare and you have no idea how much good it will do. I would like to tell you more about what is being done in Porto Rico, but it would take too long."

PORTO RICANS EMPLOYED.

Effect of Policy Adopted in the Island's Department of the Interior.

The secretary of the interior has received the report of the commissioner of the interior for Porto Rico, Mr. William H. Elliot. Mr. Elliot covers the operations of his important department and in summing up states: "In the conduct of the business of this department it has been adopted, upon its organization, as both just and in accord with the express desire of President McKinley, and confirmed by President Roosevelt, to give worthy and competent natives the preference in the selection of employes has been strictly adhered to. No foreigners, with knowledge of the fact by the department, have been employed and no Americans except in positions where the introduction of new systems or the prosecution of particular classes of work required the services of men specially qualified, and such were not locally obtainable."

"The force regularly employed in the several branches of the department of the interior aggregates fully 1,200 persons, at least 95 per cent of whom are native-born citizens of Porto Rico. To their loyalty, integrity, honesty and devotion to duty too high tribute cannot be paid, and this applies to all, from the highest salaried official to the smallest paid laborer. Whatever of success may have been attained along the many lines of work under the supervision of the commissioner, the credit for it belongs to the employes, whose efficiency and industry have made progress possible and it will be one of the chief pleasures of my future life to contemplate the years of duty performed in Porto Rico, and to recall with gratitude memory of the valuable assistance so freely and kindly contributed by those whom I have been so fortunate as to have labored with in the interesting work of helping the people to reach the goal of their hearts' desire—American citizenship and in the upbuilding and prosperity of the country."

Albino Deer in Oregon.

An albino deer, with a coat as white as snow and eyes a delicate pink, was killed in the Canyon mountains of southern Oregon recently. It was one of the very few albino deer ever seen in the mountains of the west. Old hunters tell of seeing them, usually separate from the main herds, at various times during the early days; but they were too shy to be approached near enough for a shot. The deer killed in the Canyon mountains was with four other deer at the time it was found, and had not this been true the hunters would not have taken it for a deer. Its white coat made it far more conspicuous than the remainder of the herd and it is perhaps for this reason that albino deer are shunned by their mates.