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COOPERSTOWN, NORTH DAKOTA, OCTOBER 26, 1905.

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Cooperstown, North Dakota.

FISHING WITH BIRDS

CURIOUS AND ANCIENT INDUSTRY CARRIED ON IN JAPAN.

How Cormorants Are Harnessed and Managed by the Skillful and Dextrous Anglers, Working at Night by the Light of Blazing Pine.

The origin of cormorant fishing in Japan is lost in a very remote antiquity. At least a thousand years ago it is known to have flourished, and there is a tradition of its existence upward of 2,000 years ago. Much romance and history are connected with the fishery in the early days, and the names of some of Japan's greatest warriors and statesmen are associated with it. While a commercial enterprise, it does not, however, give employment to many people and is not conducted in many places. It is confined to rivers, and the most extensive, interesting and famous fishery is that in the Nagara river, and the most noted of the cormorant fishing villages is in the outskirts of the large city of Gifu.

At the time of my visit the chief cormorant fisherman, whose ancestors for many generations had engaged in this fishery in the same locality, attired himself in the peculiar dress of the profession for the purpose of exhibiting his birds and the methods of handling them. Later he and all the other fishermen on the river went to a rendezvous and gave a practical demonstration of cormorant fishing.

The cormorants are controlled by means of a slender cord which passes around the bird's breast and is tied in the middle of the back. The cord is made of woody fibers of the cryptomeria tree, with the exception of a short section next to the bird, which consists of whalebone. There is a supplemental cord tied around the neck at the lower end of the gullet for the purpose of preventing the fish from passing so far that they cannot be recovered. The tying of this cord is a delicate operation, for if too tight it may injure the bird, and if too loose it will allow the fish to be swallowed.

The fishery is conducted from boats which are of a special type, being long, narrow dugouts, propelled primarily by paddles, but when en route to the fishing grounds often provided with a sail. Each boat has a crew of four men and a complement of sixteen cormorants. Late in the afternoon the boats start for a place in the river where fishing will begin, the cormorants being stowed away in pairs in bamboo baskets. The fishing grounds cover many miles, and operations are confined to successive sections of the river nightly, in accordance with law. Stretches several thousand yards in length are set aside as imperial preserves, on which no fishing is permitted.

As soon as darkness prevails a blazing fire of pine wood is kindled in the iron basket overhanging the bow of the boat, and the boats drift downstream together, sometimes in a mixed group, sometimes in a line extending across the river, each guided and propelled by two men. The captain, standing near the bow, manages twelve cormorants and his assistant four, the cords being held between the fingers and frequently shifted as the birds move about. With the cormorants diving and darting in all directions, those of different boats often mingling, it is a wonder that they do not soon become inextricably tangled, but so skillfully are they managed that the lines rarely become fouled. In a short time the cormorants' gullets begin to bulge with fish. When they are well filled the birds are pulled up to the gunwales one by one, and their catch is gently squeezed into baskets. This continues for several hours, and each cormorant may fill its gullet fifteen to twenty times.

Spectators usually go to the fishing grounds in a kind of barge, illuminated by lanterns, and eat their dinner on board while waiting at a convenient point for the fishing boats to arrive. During the evening when I witnessed the fishery the seven boats in whose operations I was particularly interested averaged 700 to 800 fish apiece, and the aggregate catch was worth \$150, a very respectable sum to Japanese fishermen.

The fishery is prosecuted with enthusiasm by both men and cormorants, and the shouts of the fishermen, the hoarse croaking of the birds, the rush of the mountain stream, the splashing and creaking of the paddles, the hissing of the embers as they fall into the water, the weird lights and shadows combine to make a performance which a westerner is not likely soon to forget.—National Geographic Magazine.

Mercury. Mercury, made of quicksilver, is a heavy fluid, dull, silvery metal in appearance. It is used in the forms of blue ointment, blue mass and gray powder.

Blue mass is a powerful substitute for calomel, acting heroically on the liver, but is not often given.

Mercury ointment is a mixture of mercury, lard and suet. It is a powerful remedy and is used in some skin affections rubbed on externally; also is used for scintilla by rubbing twice a day in the axilla (under the arms).

Mercurial ointment mixed with warm lard so that it can be applied with a brush is used to destroy parasites. Blue mass is one-third mercury. The remaining two-thirds is a suitable material to bring into pliable form. The dose is from three to twenty grains. Too much mercury taken into the system will evince itself by the following symptoms: Tenderness about the teeth, fetid breath, with spongy gums. If the use of mercury is continued the skin of the neck and chest becomes affected and salivation follows; also the nervous system becomes affected.

Don't Borrow Trouble.

It is a bad habit to borrow anything, but the worst thing you can possibly borrow, is trouble. When sick, sore, heavy, weary and worn-out by the pains and poisons of dyspepsia, biliousness, Bright's disease, and similar internal disorder, don't sit down and brood over your symptoms, but fly for relief to Electric Bitters. Here you will find sure and permanent forgetfulness of all your troubles, and your body will not be burdened by a load of debt disease. At H. H. Bateman's drug store. Price 50c. Guaranteed.

A Scotch Collie Story.

A story of a Scotch collie is current on the Derbyshire border, according to the Dundee Advertiser. A farmer in the Peak district, having purchased a small flock of sheep in the lowlands, drove the flock the whole way from Scotland to his farm in Derbyshire with the aid of a collie dog which was lent to him by the Scotch farmer from whom he purchased the sheep. "When you get to your home with the sheep," said the Scotchman, "let the dog fill his belly; then tell him to go home." The Derbyshire man duly arrived at his farm with the sheep and was so pleased with the collie dog and its performance that he decided to keep it a few days before sending it back. One day he was away from home during the whole of the day, and on returning in the evening he found that the Scotch collie was missing and also the flock of sheep. In a few days tidings came that the dog had arrived at his Scotch home and had brought the sheep back with him.

Breaking It Gently.

He is a rather serious minded boy who has more sense of responsibility than many grown persons. So when he was sent to his grandmother's to break the news of her aged sister's death he did so with much gravity and no little self importance.

"Now, Alfred," his mother said, "you mustn't tell grandma suddenly, because it might shock her, even though she knew Aunt Martha was ill. Tell it to her gently."

"All right," assented Alfred, starting out on his mission with mingled solemnity and eagerness.

Arrived at his grandmother's house, he greeted her with a sober "Hello!" and then proceeded to "break the news" by saying: "Aunt Maria's dead, grandma, but you mustn't feel bad, 'cause she was pretty old, anyhow. You'll be the next one, I s'pose."—Brooklyn Life.

A Clever Hint.

Mrs. A.—There are times when I wish I were a man. Mr. A.—For instance? Mrs. A.—When I pass a milliner's window and think how happy I could make my wife by giving her a new bonnet.

TIGER HUNTING.

Luring the Fierce Animals by Imitating a Monkey.

To call a tiger the proceeding was as follows: The milk, having first ascertained that a tiger was in the neighborhood, would climb into a well branched, leafy tree situated near where he supposed the tiger to be, and after hiding himself among the branches as best he could would commence to imitate the chattering of a monkey and break and drop twigs in the way that monkeys do.

Then he would let fall to the ground a bundle of rags weighted so that the thud when it struck the ground would sound as if a baby monkey had tumbled down from the tree, and at the same time would imitate the supposed baby monkey cries. This would be the supreme moment, for if a tiger were near it would often spring into the hope of snapping up such a dainty morsel as a young monkey, and then a bullet from the gun of the hidden milk might find its billet in the tiger's body. By this means the milk was said to have killed a considerable number of tigers, and certainly the man's power of mimicry was wonderfully good.

The call for deer was of an entirely different nature, the sound imitated being the cry of a fawn, and as this cry sometimes attracted tigers, too, it had to be adopted with caution, because it was used only in open grass land, from which the caller would not have had much chance to escape were a tiger suddenly to put in an appearance.—London Field.

Tapoca and Pearl Tapoca.

Tapoca is manufactured from the plant called in Brazil manioc, in Peru yuca and in the West Indies cassava. When the true starch is separated from the root it is placed on hot plates and while it is heating is stirred with an iron rod. The starch grains burst, and the whole agglomerates into small, irregular masses. Pearl tapoca is not a product of the plant at all, but of potato starch.

American, All Right.

A countryman registered at a hotel in Kansas City the other day. He did not explain on what "plan" he purposed to become a guest.

"European or American?" asked the clerk.

The guest looked surprised. "American," he said emphatically. "Born and raised up here in Platte county. I don't look like no foreigner, do I?"

A Different Meaning.

Beaks—What brought on old Wilkin's paralytic stroke? Peaks—I didn't know he was afflicted with one. Beaks—But you just told me he was paralyzed. Peaks—Quite true; but I didn't say he was suffering from a paralytic stroke.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Doomed.

"He'll never reach the top in his profession."

"Why, he believes he's there now."

"That's the very reason that he'll never get there."—Philadelphia Ledger.

A Good Action is Never Lost.

It is a treasure laid up and guarded for the doer's need.—Calderon.

Green.

Owing to its derivation the word "green" was originally applied to the color of vegetation, but not to the color of the sea. No application of "green" to the color of the sea is quoted before Chaucer, but as early as the year 700 it was used for vegetation. The word is akin to "grass" and "grow," which verb originally belonged to the vegetable world alone. "Green" comes from an Aryan root, "ghra," meaning to be green or yellow, and "yellow," "gold" and "yolk" come from that same root.

Not Mere Curiosity.

The world has a store of pleasures in waiting for the unaccustomed traveler. Sometimes, indeed, they may be mostly in anticipation, as was the case with Amos Riggs of Plumtown.

"How d'ye do?" said Mr. Riggs cordially to the stern visaged man who was his seat mate in the car on the occasion of Mr. Riggs' first trip to Boston. "Now what might your name be? Do you live in Nashua or beyond?"

"I should like to know what business it is of yours where I live or who I am?" said his companion crossly.

"Well, now, it ain't any particular business o' mine, strictly speaking," said Mr. Riggs mildly, "but it's jest like this: I've got a cousin up in Canada that I've never seen, and I've always thought I might come upon him some time jest by asking folks their name and so on."

Tides and Storms.

When a tempest is approaching or passing out on the ocean, the tides are noticeably higher than usual, as if the water had been driven in a vast wave before the storm. The influence extends to a great distance from the cyclonic storm center, so that the possibility exists of foretelling the approach of a dangerous hurricane by means of indications furnished by tide gauges situated far away from the place then occupied by the whirling winds. The fact that the tidal wave outstrips the advancing storm shows how extremely sensitive the surface of the sea is to the changes of pressure brought to bear upon it by the never resting atmosphere.

Full of Tragical Meaning.

are these lines from J. H. Simmons, of Casey, Ia. Think what might have resulted from his terrible cough if he had not taken the medicine about which he writes: "I had a fearful cough that disturbed my night's rest. I tried everything, but nothing would relieve it, until I took Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, which completely cured me." Instantly relieves and permanently cures all throat and lung diseases; prevents grip and pneumonia. At H. H. Bateman, druggist; guaranteed; 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

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New Cure for Cancer.

All surface cancers are now known to be curable, by Bucklen's Arnica Salve. Jas. Walters, of Dunfield, Va., writes: "I had a cancer on my lip for years, that seemed incurable, till Bucklen's Arnica Salve healed it, and now it is perfectly well." Guaranteed cure for cuts and burns. 25c at H. H. Bateman's drug store.

M'KINLEY'S DEATH.

How the Associated Press Worked to Get and Give the News.

On the afternoon of Sept. 6, 1901, worn out by a long period of exacting labor, I set out for Philadelphia with the purpose of spending a few days at Atlantic City. When I reached the Broad street station in the Quaker City I was startled by a number of policemen crying my name. I stepped up to one, who pointed to a boy with an urgent message for me. President McKinley had been shot at Buffalo, and my presence was required at our Philadelphia office at once. A message had been sent to me at Trenton, but my train had left the station precisely two minutes ahead of its arrival. Handling my baggage to a hotel porter, I jumped into a cab and dashed away to our office. I remained there until dawn of the following morning.

The opening pages of the story of the assassination were badly written, and I ordered a substitute prepared. An inexperienced reporter stood beside President McKinley in the Music hall at Buffalo when Colquhoun fired the fatal shot. He seized a neighboring telephone and notified our Buffalo correspondent and then pulled out the wires in order to render the telephone a wreck, so that it was a full half hour before any additional details could be secured.

I ordered competent men and expert telegraph operators from Washington, Albany, New York and Boston to hurry to Buffalo by the fastest trains. All that night the Buffalo office was pouring forth a hastily written but faithful and complete account of the tragedy, and by daybreak a relief force was on the ground. Day by day through the long vigil while the president's life hung in the balance each incident was truthfully and graphically reported. In the closing hours of the great tragedy false reports of the president's death were circulated for the purpose of influencing the stock market, and to counteract them Secretary Cortelyou wrote frequent signed statements giving the facts to the Associated Press.—Melville E. Stone in Century.

LITERARY DRUGGERY.

Froude passed seven years in collecting materials and writing his "History of England."

Nearly five years of Irving's time were consumed in writing "The Life of George Washington."

Gibbon devoted over twenty years of his life to the labor of reading for and writing the "Decline and Fall."

Dickens says in the introduction to "David Copperfield" that he spent two years in the composition of that novel.

Bancroft devoted nearly thirty years to his "History of the United States," which is not a history of the country at all, since it ends where the history of the country properly begins.

Cruden labored nineteen years on his Concordance to the Bible and immediately after its publication was sent to a lunatic asylum. He never fully recovered from the mental disease brought on by this gigantic undertaking.

Primitive Water Pipes. Very primitive water pipes of an ancient date have been discovered in the streets of Manchester, England. They were hollowed out tree trunks fitted together so as to make a wooden conduit. The joints were somewhat in the style of those of a fishing rod, the thin end of one trunk being made to fit into the thick end of the other. It is supposed that this means of supplying Manchester with water was in use about 200 years ago, and discoveries of the same kind made in other towns go to confirm that view. The boring through the wood was about four inches in diameter. The supply of water in those days was not only much less in absolute quantity than now, but very much less in proportion to the population.

Highholes' Large Families. Few birds have larger families than the highhole, but were it not for the number of his family, how could he hold his own among so many enemies? His conspicuous size and color always make him a shining mark to the collector, for every village lad in the land has collected flickers' eggs. He is a fellow of expediency, however. If his home is robbed, his wife soon lays another set of eggs. It is on record that one pair, when tested by the removal of egg after egg, laid seventy-one eggs in seventy-three days.—St. Nicholas.

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Chicago Great Western Railway.

The Chicago Great Western Railway offers choice of four through tourist cars per week to California: the first leaving Minneapolis 7:40 a. m., St. Paul 8:10 a. m. every Monday; going via Omaha, the Mo. Pacific and Santa Fe, arriving Los Angeles 8:00 a. m. the following Friday. The second leaves Minneapolis 8:00 p. m., St. Paul 8:30 p. m. every Tuesday going via Omaha and the Rock Island Scenic Route, arriving San Francisco 4:28 p. m. Saturday. The third leaves Minneapolis 10:45 p. m., St. Paul 11:20 p. m. every Wednesday going via Kansas City and the Rock Island-El Paso Route, arriving Los Angeles 12:55 p. m. Sunday. The fourth leaves Minneapolis 10:20 a. m., St. Paul 10:50 a. m. every Thursday via Kansas City and the Santa Fe Route, arriving Los Angeles 8:25 a. m., San Diego 12:45 p. m. Monday. For further information apply to R. R. Jones, Trav. Agt. Fargo, N. D.

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The Winter Short Course in Agriculture begins Oct. 16th. Three years of 5½ months each are required to complete this course of study. The time required does not take a boy from the farm during the busy season. Every young man who contemplates farming for a livelihood should, at the very least, complete this course of study. Other short courses are offered. Send for Short Course Circular. Address, J. H. Worst, President, Agricultural College, N. D. 42

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