

his notes obliged her often to put him outside the window among some trees which were trained up in front of her house. One morning while the cage was thus placed a sparrow was observed to fly round and round it, to stand on the top and to twitter to the bird within as if desirous of forming a friendship. After a few moments he flew away, but returned in a short time, bearing a worm in his bill which he dropped into the cage. Day after day the sparrow continued his friendly acts, and at length the two birds became so intimate that the canary very often received the food thus brought into his own bill from that of the sparrow. Some of the neighbors, desirous to see how far the sparrow's generosity would go, hung out their canaries also, when he likewise brought them worms, but his first and longest visit was always paid to his earliest acquaintance.

A young duck, by some accident had its leg broken, and the wounded limb having been put in splints, the duck was placed under a small crate, or railed coop, to prevent it, for a time, from running about. The poor prisoner looked very forlorn in the cage, and was evidently an object of pity to its brothers and sisters around. They tried to release their companion by forcing their necks under the crate and so lift it, but the effort was beyond their strength. On ascertaining this they held a consultation and then they marched away in a body. Presently they reappeared with all the ducks belonging to the farmyard, amounting to about forty. After a great deal of quacking, they surrounded the crate, and every neck was inserted under the lowest rail; they then made a united effort to raise the crate, but alas! in vain, their strength was not sufficient. Another consultation was now held, and, after another storm of quacking, the whole of them came to one side of the crate; as many as possibly could now thrust their necks beneath the rail, the rest pushing them forward from behind. This time they succeeded, the crate was raised, their imprisoned friend was liberated, and noisy were the greetings she received as she limped, once more free, into their midst.

Mr. Edward Cook, after having lived some time with his brother George at Tugsten, in Northumberland, went to America, and took with him a pointer dog, which he lost soon afterward, while shooting in the woods near Baltimore. Some time after, Mr. George Cook, who continued to reside at Tugsten, was alarmed at hearing a dog in the night. He admitted it into the house, and found that it was the same his brother had taken with him to America. The dog lived with them until his master returned home, when they mutually recognized each other. Mr. Cook was never able to trace by what vessel the dog had left America, or in what part of England it had been landed.

A sentinel belonging to a menagerie at Paris was always very careful in requesting the spectators

not to give the elephants anything to eat. This conduct very much displeased the female, whom he had several times endeavored to hinder him from so doing by sprinkling his head with water from her trunk. One day, when several persons were collected to view these animals, a bystander offered the female a bit of bread. The sentinel perceived it, but the moment he opened his mouth to give his usual admonition, she, placing herself immediately before him discharged in his face a violent stream of water. A general laugh ensued; but the sentinel, having calmly wiped his face, stood a little to one side, and continued as watchful as before. Soon afterward he found himself under the necessity of repeating his admonition to the spectators; but no sooner was this uttered than the female laid hold of his musket, twirled it round with her trunk, trod it under her feet and did not restore it till she had twisted it nearly into the form of a corkscrew.

An English officer, who was in Paris in 1815, mentions the case of a dog belonging to a shoeblack, which brought customers to its master. This it did in a very ingenious, though scarcely honest manner. The officer, having occasion to cross one of the bridges over the Seine, had his boots, which had been previously polished, dirtied by a poodle dog rubbing against them. He, in consequence, went to a man who was stationed on the bridge and had them cleaned. The same circumstance having occurred more than once, his curiosity was excited and he watched the dog. He saw the dog roll himself in the mud of the river, and then watch for a person with well-polished boots, against which he contrived to rub himself. Finding that the shoeblack was the owner of the dog, the officer taxed him with the artifice; and, after a little hesitation, the man confessed that he had taught the dog the trick in order to procure customers for himself. The officer, being much struck with the dog's sagacity, purchased him at a high price and brought him to England. He kept him tied up for some time and then released him. The dog remained with him a day or two and then made his escape. A fortnight afterward he was found with his former master, pursuing his old trade of dirtying gentlemen's boots on the bridge.

HOW NIHILISTS CORRESPOND.

The correspondent of an Eastern paper writes thus: I had an interview the other day with Leo Hartman, the famous Nihilist, who escaped from the clutches of the czar's officials some years ago, and who is now living quietly in New York, where he is experimenting with electricity. It will be remembered that it was for his connection with the attempt to blow up the late czar at Moscow that Mr. Hartman was "wanted" by the Russian police, but it is not generally known that at the time a reward of 500,000 ru-

bles, or \$250,000, was offered for his capture.

This will be sufficient authority for the statements I am about to make and which I received from him concerning the methods of secret correspondence used by the Russian nihilists. When I saw Mr. Hartman he was in his workshop and in a state of high glee over the receipt of some cipher letters from Russia and Siberia.

I asked him how he managed to get them, but this he would not tell; however he volunteered to explain how the secret correspondence was carried on. When first it became necessary for the nihilists to send secret letters invisible writing fluid was the method adopted. This fluid was changed according to the exigencies of the case.

If the letter was destined to be destroyed the moment it was read, milk, sugar dissolved in water, or, when in prison, even saliva was used. These leave no trace on the paper, but on holding it over the flame of an oil lamp until it is nearly scorched the writing of the slowest liquid—the saliva—becomes jet black. But the officials of the third section of his imperial majesty's own chancellerie, who deal exclusively with political offenses, soon discovered this plan, and another had to be adopted. This time ferro-cyanide of potassium was used and the writing only became visible by brushing it over with a solution of ter-chloride of iron. Even this the officers of the czar discovered. And now the scientists among the Nihilists were puzzled, for it was clear that by no chemical process could they for long keep secret the writings which fell into the hands of the officials.

Accordingly they put their heads together and invented the most perfect system of secret correspondence that has ever been conceived. But before explaining this system I shall tell how the Nihilists celebrated their departure from the old methods. They steeped several sheets of paper in gun cotton, and, writing simple letters on them with black ink, left spaces between the lines as formerly, for it was between the spaces of such harmless letters that their invisible ink was always used. These they forwarded in such a manner that they must fall into the hands of the officials.

The officers of the czar did not hold the letters over a lamp to bring out the writings; they wished to preserve them; so instead they used a hot smoothing iron. And then came the crash. The moment the hot iron was applied to the gun cotton soaked paper there was a terrific report and the unfortunate officer was horribly mangled by the explosion. But, although this accident might deter the police for a time from examining their letters, the Nihilists would not trust them, and they devised this plan:

Each two desiring to correspond select a "parole" or word, generally of three letters, and this word, and this only, is the key to the cipher, which can be read only by those corresponding. Of course, one man may have a hundred correspondents,