CHIPPY AND ADDER.

Details of a Meeting of an American Sparrow and a Poisonous Snake.

Down in South Jamesburg, N. J., there is a long, winding, sandy road that leads from the main thoroughfare up to and past the state reform school for incorrigible boys. About a mile from the school the road is cut through a hill and has sloping banks on both sides.

The natives of Jamesburg know that portion of the road to be infested by snakes of many varieties, but the ones they fear most are copperheads, black snakes and adders. Bushes on both sides of the slope and a small brook near by, skirted by a growth of rank weeds and underbrush, make the spot an ideal abode of snakes.

A reporter had occasion to visit the Jamesburg reform school, and walked up the winding road, not knowing that it had an established local reputation for snakes. When quite near the brook his attention was attracted to a peculiar noise in a bush. Looking toward it he saw a small field chippy, with its bill extended and uttering the strange sound. The bird was perched on a top branch, and its wings were moving as if trying to fly, but it was apparently unable to do so.

The reporter saw on investigating that a large snake was stretched out under the bush, with its head erect, and small, beadlike eyes cast full upon the frightened bird. He stopped to pick up a stone, and the motion caused the snake to crawl away in the high weeds. The bird ceased fluttering for a moment, and the reporter retreated across the road to watch proceedings from a distance.

The bird seemed to recover its self possession, and began hopping about among the branches. When it had reached one of the lower branches it suddenly stopped, began uttering the peculiar sound as before, and then hopped to the ground. It was evident that the snake had returned, and the bird, which evidently saw it also, made the effort to escape before the serpent had again woven the spell around it.

As soon as the snake saw the bird alight on the ground it coiled itself up in a small knot and sprang at the bird. The calculation failed, and the bird, with wings extended, hopped along the bare road, holding its head erect, and with bill opened wide continued to make the screeching noise, louder and more plaintively than before. The snake crawled after its intended victim, which was too badly frightened to increase its speed, and too much overcome with fatigue to use its wings. The reporter tried to kill the snake.

When the bird saw him raise his hand it turned sharply away and ran up the sand bank and was lost from sight in the field. The snake continued its chase until he threw the stone, which fell wide of its mark. Then, when almost half way up the incline, it stopped, opened wide its mouth, and began pointing its forked tongue at him. The reporter returned within a few feet of it, when it lowered its head and flattened out until several inches of its body looked like a dark mottled ribbon. Before it could spring the reporter cut the creature in two. It measured over three feet.

The assistant superintendent said the snake was of the poisonous flat headed adder species, much found in that locality.—New York Sun.

Hygiene on the Cars.

Those who travel much have often asked themselves if it is not possible to have the railroad cars kept cleaner and the air in them purer. Very often, however, the passengers themselves are to blame for the state of things that exists. Dr. Conn, in a paper before a meeting of railroad surgeons, puts it in this way. He says: "Many good people permit their children and even allow themselves to throw upon the floor of the car nutshells, banana and orange peel, and remnants of lunches. In warm weather these refuse matters will in a short period render the atmosphere of a coach almost unbearable to a sensitive person, and the effect upon the nervous system is very depressing."

Dr. Conn urges very properly that the hygienic condition of railroad cars should be a more important part of railroad management. It is the duty of trainmen to examine the wheels of carriages at frequent intervals. Why not also the air and sanitary state of the passenger coaches?—Herald of Health.

This Gong for Business.

In the office of the captain of the watch at the treasury department is a large gong connected with a series of wires. That bell has never been rung since when it is tested to see if it is in working order, and the officials trust that it never will be sounded. When it does, barrens of the most serious kind is meant.

At some time or other some crank or cranks might get into the cashroom or banking office of the treasury, and by the bold use of arms attempt to make a raid. This gong is connected with the cashroom by a number of wires, and the pressure of a button at convenient places will sound the alarm. The watchmen have orders when that bell rings to drop all other work and come to the cashroom thoroughly armed and ready to deal with whatever may present itself.—Washington Post.

How Cloth Is Shrunk.

After the goods have been examined and tested they are sponged, or shrunk. There are several methods of doing this work. One is by wetting the cloth and hanging it up to dry. Another is by rolling the garment on perforated copper cylinders into which live steam is admitted, which penetrates the roll of cloth and shrinks it—i. e., after the cloth is laid away to cool, the water and the heat together shrink it, and so set the fiber of the wool that it shrinks very little, if any, more. There are certain houses which make a business of sponging goods for the trade, but a good many large clothing firms do their own sponging.

INTELLIGENCE OF A CAT.

How an Ordinary Mother Pussy Found a Home for Her Young Ones.

The ordinary house cat is capable of displaying great intelligence when the need is imminent and her maternal instincts are aroused. A cat belonging to a family who had a cottage at Newport had raised her progeny in peace for several years beneath the friendly roof, when the advent of a small bull terrier sent her and her five young kittens in great dismay under the house. For several days they lived in torment, hardly daring to show their noses, until the mother, becoming desperate, resolved to change her abode.

Deliberately selecting a neighboring cottage where there was one dog who had been brought up with cats and rather liked them than otherwise, and taking a dark night when the enemy was asleep, she moved her entire family, one by one, into the cellar of this new place of refuge—much to the annoyance of the mistress of the house, who had a peculiar antipathy to cats. After a few days the whole family were voted an unendurable nuisance. Twice they were sent back to their original abode, and each time they returned in full force. The children plead for the little kittens, however, so the mother cat was ignominiously bundled into a basket and carried a few miles back into the country and let loose.

That night about 2 o'clock the most terrible squalling and mewing broke out among the cats. The commotion lasted about an hour and then utterly ceased. "Did you hear those cats?" every one exclaimed as they met at the breakfast table. Strange to say, every trace of the five kittens had completely vanished and the cause was discovered later. The indignant and ill used pussy had returned, held an indignation meeting with her children, and had departed with them one and all—taking refuge in still another house in the neighborhood.

This last family, feeling sorry for a cat who struggled so bravely to keep her family together, endured their caterwauling for several days until they, too, became desperate. The cats, having grown wily, were most difficult to catch. Several, however, were captured and sent in different directions, while the mother was presented to the butcher as a great measure, and taken by him to a neighboring village.

And here is shown the wonderful pertinacity and intelligence of this hunted cat family. One after the other they all returned to their original home, the old mother having found her way back over the weary miles, and, concluding with Owen Meredith's, "How, after all, old things are best," she reassembled her progeny in their old abiding place, made friends with the terrier, and is now enjoying her well earned rest.—New York Tribune.

Old Marriage Customs.

The ancient marriage ceremonies of the church were divided into the betrothal and the nuptials. The essentials of the betrothal were the ring, the dowry, the joining of hands and the veiling, while those of the nuptials comprised the oblation, or fee, the kiss, the benediction, and the crowning. These ceremonies are carefully observed in the Syrian, Coptic and other eastern churches.

The silly custom of the priest taking the first kiss from the bride is both unseemly and irreverent. The man should kiss his wife as soon as the ceremony is over and the priest and his clerks should reverently retire to the vestry.

In the Church of England, as soon as the service is over, the wedding party retire to the vestry and there record their names in the marriage register, the bride, strange to relate, signing her maiden name once more and for the last time. It is then that a signal is given to the belfry and the church bells ring out their marriage chimes.—Rev. Thomas P. Hughes, D. D., in New York World.

Bruin Had No Chance.

One day Will Lemon, while riding the range on the upper Weens, encountered a big black bear. Lemon had no gun, but he is very handy with the lariat, and he soon had the rope around bruin, and with true cowboy skill and a hitch around the pommel of his saddle he quickly had the bear off his feet and dragging over the ground. Then lashing him to a tree he dispatched him with rocks.—Portland Oregonian.

She Staid on the Shady Side.

The following scene occurred in the Brass City one afternoon: A very neat, gray haired colored woman, sixty-five or so, got into a car in which there were a number of persons. She located herself on the shady side. Presently two women came to get in and bade her move up. She very quietly replied that she preferred to keep her seat. Then, with angry looks and words truly insulting to the well behaved auntie, they took a seat in front, one of them being in the sun. They kept up a most sarcastic manner until she reached her destination and then exclaimed: "Now, look out for your fine complexion, or you'll spoil it." She tossed her head and good naturedly replied: "Nevah mind! I've paid my five cents and had a right to the shady side!" She won the sweet by being a lady.—Waterbury American.

No Use for Fast Steamers.

Who wants to cross the ocean in a flyer? What shall it profit a man to take a vacation simply to be shot from one place to another as from a catapult? Everybody agrees that the most restful thing about a journey abroad is the ocean voyage. The time spent on the water, where one is cut off from business, home mails, telegraph, newspapers, society and all that worries or annoys, is the best medicine imaginable for tired Americans. Why wish it shortened? When one can cross the ocean in two or three days, the advantages and attractions of a foreign trip will be greatly lessened.—Indianapolis Journal.

PRODUCTIVE WHEATS.

Results of Experiments with Twenty-three Canadian and American Kinds.

The Ontario agricultural experiment station in a recent bulletin publishes at length the results relating to twenty-three Canadian and American varieties of winter wheat grown under exactly the same conditions. While intended primarily for the benefit of farmers in the province, a knowledge of some of the important points brought out will be useful to farmers in the states.

WINTER FYFE—RED CLAWSON—AMERICAN BRONZE.

As a summary of results with the above varieties it was found that the bald wheats have on an average given 2.96 more bushels per acre, or 21.44 per cent. more than the bearded varieties, but the latter have weighed on an average 1.37 pounds more per bushel.

The white wheats have given an average of 3.16 bushels more per acre than the red wheats, and they also stand higher in the estimation of the millers than the latter. The bald white chaff wheats gave an average of 13.8 bushels per acre more than the bearded and red chaff wheats. The seven leading varieties in point of yield were all white wheats, except the American Bronze.

These experiments tend to confirm the popular opinion that white wheats, under favorable conditions, give more bountiful returns than red wheats, and that the same may be said of the bald varieties as contrasted with the bearded.

The best four yielding white wheats for 1890 were the Garfield, Surprise, Canadian Velvet Chaff and Bonnell, and the four best leading varieties of red wheat were American Bronze, Early Red Clawson, Red Velvet Chaff and Jones' Winter Fyfe, in the order named in both instances. There were only four days of difference in the ripening of the twenty-three varieties.

In this connection it is well to state that in experiments conducted at the Ontario station through a series of years the difference in yield between white and red and bearded and smooth wheats was so slight as to lead to the conclusion that the one is equal to the other in productiveness and vitality.

The Early Red Clawson shown in the cut is generally catalogued by our leading seedsmen as the earliest of all winter wheats.

Winter Fyfe is claimed to be hardy as well as a good yielder, while American Bronze is considered another desirable hardy winter wheat.

Selecting Seed Corn.

The yield of corn can be greatly improved by the careful selection of seed. It should be done before the corn is harvested, going through the field and tying a red string to stalks that promise to have two or more well formed ears. When the corn is ripe enough to cut, save such stalks by themselves, and when husked take the best of the two ears. In this way varieties will be formed whose tendency will be to bear two good ears on a stalk. This should be planted far enough away from other corn so as not to be fertilized by it. Even then some stalks will be found that will have only one or even no ear. These should be cut out before they have fertilized the silk on bearing stalks. In growing seed corn the suckers should be cut out. They rarely bear ears good for anything, while they furnish more than their proportion of pollen for fertilizing bearing ears of grain. For seed purposes it does not matter if the ears are not filled in all parts if it comes from destruction of nonbearing stalks. The scattered grains will grow full and round, instead of being compressed as they are in an ear that has been fertilized with excessive growths of pollen on its own stalks, as well as on those earlier and later than itself.—American Cultivator.

Drying Fruit.

The present year is abundant in fruit, in marked contrast with the scarcity of last season. Notwithstanding the enormous amount that will be consumed in its green state, the various methods known for its preservation in other forms will be taxed to their utmost to dispose of the crop. One of the readiest and most available among farmers is that of drying the fruit. In this state its bulk is greatly decreased, its keeping qualities extended as long as desirable, and the water of the green fruit is not subject to charges for transportation.

In a year of plenty there is no excuse for drying poorly flavored and imperfect fruit. A poor apple is not improved by drying it. Good ripe fruit only should be used, and where farmers use this method for preserving a portion of their crop, special care should be taken to produce a first class article. Where artificial heat is used the fruit should not be scorched. If evaporated in the sun the trays must be covered to keep off insects. Besides inherent good qualities it must have a clean and attractive appearance to command the best price. Dealers will purchase none but the best, unless it be at a price which brings a loss to the producer, and there should be enough good stock to make second grades unsaleable.

One authority states that the value of the annual product of poultry and eggs in the entire country is $600,000,000.

It is estimated that 1,300,000 pounds of butter and 400,000,000 of cheese are produced annually in the United States.

Premiums to be offered by the American Berkshire association at the Columbia fair will amount to $1,000 and be in cash.

MRS. GRAHAM'S

Cucumber and Elder Flower Cream

[illegible] Price $1.00. [illegible]

Sample Bottle [illegible]

MRS. GRAHAM'S

Face Bleach

[illegible] Price $1.50. [illegible]

The Druggist [illegible]

This $500 Piano will be given away at the Fair October 8th by Spencer & Lynch. Who will be the lucky one?

Buy your Jewelry on the Weekly Ten Per Cent. Installment Plan, at L. Hollander's Jewelry Store, 149 Main Street.

Mr. J. E. [illegible], manager of the Paris Co-operative Mercantile Institution, Paris, Idaho, says that for colic produced by change of drinking water, Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy is without an equal. It is quick and effectual and leaves no bad results. For sale by Z. C. M. I. Drug Dept.

Merit Wins.

We desire to say to our citizens, that for years we have been selling Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Dr. King's New Life Pills, Bucklen's Arnica Salve and Electric Bitters, and have never handled remedies that sell as well, or that have given such universal satisfaction. We do not hesitate to guarantee them every time, and we stand ready to refund the purchase price if satisfactory results do not follow their use. These remedies have won their great popularity purely on their merits. A. C. Smith & Co., Druggists.

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It is with the greatest confidence that Hood's Sarsaparilla is recommended for loss of appetite, indigestion, sick headache and similar troubles. This medicine gently tones the stomach, assists digestion and makes one real hungry. Persons in delicate health, after taking Hood's Sarsaparilla a few days, find themselves longing for and eating the plainest food with unexpected relish.

Have you a ticket in the drawing for the $500 piano.

CATARRH IN NEW ENGLAND.

Ely's Cream Balm gives satisfaction to every one using it for catarrhal troubles.—G. K. Mellor, Druggist, Worcester, Mass.

I believe Ely's Cream Balm is the best article for catarrh ever offered the public.—Bush & Co., Druggists, Worcester, Mass.

An article of real merit.—C. P. Alden, Druggist, Springfield, Mass.

Those who use it speak highly of it.—Geo. A. Hill, Druggist, Springfield, Mass.

Cream Balm has given satisfactory results. W. F. Draper, Druggist, Springfield, Mass.

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A GOOD GIRL OR WOMAN FOR LIGHT [illegible]

A GIRL FOR GENERAL HOUSEWORK. [illegible]

PUPILS FOR A DANCING SCHOOL. [illegible]

1,000 FIRST-CLASS WETHERS [illegible]

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THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE stockholders [illegible]

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