

Valuable Maine Pelts.

AN ISLAND COLONY OF FOXES, SOME OF THEM WITH SKINS WORTH \$400.

There is an island off the coast of Maine, six miles outside of Boothbay harbor, where the rarest of one species of fur-bearing animals is found in numbers. They are black and silver foxes, and it may be said in the beginning that they did not get on the island by themselves. A few years ago Thomas F. Morgan of Grotan, Conn., who was summering at Boothbay harbor, conceived the idea of stocking one of the numerous islands in that vicinity with black and silver foxes, which are now almost extinct in the wild state. He looked around for a suitable island, and finally hit upon Outer Heron, as possessing all the conditions necessary to the success of such a colony as he desired to plant. Outer Heron is a wooded island of 100 acres or so, with considerable elevation and bold, rocky shores. It has plenty of fresh water, and its dense growth of spruces, pines and firs breaks the force of winter gales. There is a good dwelling house on the island, and in winter a dozen or more lobster fishermen live in shanties around the little cove that serves as a harbor. The island was owned by Richard H. Emerson, a veteran, who resides at East Boothbay. From him Mr. Morgan obtained permission, in consideration of a yearly rental, to stock the island with foxes.

An order was sent by Mr. Morgan to a fur company, engaged in breeding black foxes on an island in Alaska, for a consignment of the animals, and 30 good specimens were started east. The journey took many months, being made by vessel and steamer to San Francisco and thence overland, and when the consignment arrived at Boothbay harbor only seven of the foxes were alive. These were put on Outer Heron about a year ago, and they have thrived and multiplied from all indications. A few months ago a company was formed under the laws of Maine to foster the industry Mr. Morgan thinks he will make out of the fox raising business on Outer Heron. Mr. Knight has the reputation of being one of the best fox hunters in his county. He is familiar with the ways of the red fox, and has shot as many of that variety as would stock two or three islands like Outer Heron. He is obliged to confess, however, that he knows very little about the black fox. He has set about the task of studying those on the island, but with slight success as yet, for the valuable denizens of Outer Heron are very shy, unless hungry, and as this has been an open winter they have not suffered for food. Mr. Knight talked entertainingly about the prospects of raising black foxes for market.

"We don't expect to get any returns right away," said he, "but when we get the island well stocked we ought to do well. Last year there were only 1,700 black and silver fox skins sold in London, the fur market of the world. They nearly all came from Alaska, and they were 14 months on the way. If we can raise skins here we can get them to London 3 months earlier than they could be sent from Alaska. We intend to breed out all the light strain, or silver foxes, from our stock. A silver fox is by no means a cheap animal—the pelt of a good one is worth \$75 to \$100—but the black fox is much more valuable, the pelts being as high as \$400 each."

Mr. Knight is now arranging a feeding pen for the animals in the barn on the island. Recently a horse was taken to the island and killed in the woods. The animals have fed on the carcass and kept out of sight of the settlement at the shore. If driven out of the woods by snow to seek food, it is expected they will come to the barn and feed, and thus get the way of feeding there. After the animals have become tame enough to feed at the barn Mr. Knight intends to rig traps to catch them. All "silvers" will be sorted out and taken away, leaving those with very dark coats. It is expected that by this system of breeding animals with entirely black coats can be obtained.

Drying the Umbrella.

During the frequent use of umbrellas in the spring showers, we should keep in mind the oft-repeated caution concerning care in drying them. They will last much longer if they are always placed when wet with the handle down ward to dry. The moisture then falls from the edge of the frame and the fabric dries uniformly. When it stands handle upward, which is commonly the case, the top of the umbrella holds the moisture, and not only takes a long time to dry, but it soon injures the silk or other fabric used for the cover, and rusts the steels. This is the cause of this part of the umbrella wearing out before any other part. Umbrella cases are also responsible for the rapid wear of the silk. The constant friction causes the tiny holes that appear so provokingly early. When not in use leave the umbrella loose.

Turbans and Toques in great variety at Mrs. R. McDougall's.

Her Jaw Was Sot.

On the hill beyond the creek was the cabin of a squatter, and as I drew near a man about 50 years old who had been seated on a stump rose up and saluted me, and queried:

"Stranger, how fur up the road hev yo' cum this mawnin'?"

"From Harper's Corners," I replied.

"And did yo' meet up with a woman on the way?"

"Yes. About five miles back I met a little old woman going the other way."

"Was she weepin'?"

"No."

"Was her jaw sot?"

"Yes, I think it was."

"Was her jaw sot like a mew'l when he's determined not to pull?"

"She had her teeth hard shut and looked pretty ugly."

"And what did she say?"

"Nothing. We simply bowed to each other as we passed. Do you know the woman?"

"Reckon I orter, as she's my wife."

"Oh! Then she's gone to the store?"

"No. We had a fuss this mawnin' and she's left me. Jist put on her bunnet and said she'd never come back."

"But she will, of course?"

"I axed you if she was weepin', and yo' said she wasn't. If she'd been weepin' that would mean that she'd take a walk down to the Corners and back and make up with me. I axed yo' if her jaw was sot, and yo' said it was. That means that she'll keep right on to brother Jim's, and that I'll hev to foller arter her and beg her parding and promise her a new kaliker dress befo' she'll cum back."

"Then she's left you before?"

"'Bout 100 times, sah, and it allus works that way. If she weeps she'll be back befo' night; if her jaw is sot I hev to go arter her and knock under. As this is a case of sotness I might as well git along and try to overtake her. Sorry I can't ax yo' to stop, but yo' see how it is. Sotness is sotness and yo' can't unsot it and must tharfo' make the best of it."

Not So Crazy as He Seemed.

At Bloomingdale Asylum they have among the assembled lunatics many who are not too violent or too mischievous to be allowed to roam about the grounds. Recently the superintendent has given occupation to some of these "trusties" by utilizing them in carrying on the improvements about the asylum grounds. Some of them have been set to trundling bricks in wheelbarrows.

A few days ago one of the attendants saw a grey-bearded wheelbarrow man promenading solemnly through a side path, pushing before him a wheelbarrow turned outside down.

"Here, you!" cried the attendant, hold on!"

The lunatic stopped with a weary sigh.

"Well," he said, "what is it?"

"What are you doing with that wheelbarrow?"

"Friend," replied the crazy man, with patient courtesy, "if you had watched me carefully you would have seen what I was doing with the wheelbarrow. I was pushing it, friend. I will now push it some more."

He started on.

"Hold up a minute," protested the attendant. "Don't you know that it is foolish to push a wheelbarrow that is wrong side up?"

"Foolish?" said the lunatic. "Not on your life is it foolish! I am not so crazy as I look, friend. Yesterday I kept my wheelbarrow right side up, and a pie-faced Irishman came along and filled it full of bricks. I know better now."

Great Expectations.

There had been a collision between the street car and the bicyclist. The street car had made the touchdown.

"How did this thing happen?" demanded the policeman.

"I don't know," replied the bicyclist earnestly. "I did everything I could. I rang my bell and yelled for the blamed old car to get out of the way, but it didn't. That's all."

She Guessed It.

"Darling," he said, falling upon his knees before her and covering her little hands with kisses, "darling, can't you see—can't you guess that I love you?"

She drew herself up to her full height, looked at him for a moment and then said, "Well, I should hate to think that this was just your natural way of behaving in company!"

Fancy Dress Hats in the newest styles of the season at Mrs. R. McDougall's.

All the novelties of the season to be had at Mrs. R. McDougall's.

See the Watchspring Corsets, the latest out, at Mrs. R. McDougall's.

Come and see plain straw Sailors, also children's Sailors and trimmed hats at Mrs. McDougall's.

Wall Paper, Paints and Oils, Glass and Putty.

If you want the best in the above lines call at . . .

Nevison's Bazaar.

THEY ARE ALL RIGHT.

Only want to be tried, and then, after taking into consideration style and prices of my different lines of


BOOTS AND SHOES

etc. you will be able to say the same, if you make your purchases at

W. L. ROBSON'S.

Furniture, Doors, Sash, AND UNDERTAKING, AT W. M'Keown's, FRANCIS ST. WEST, FENELON FALLS.

R-I-P-A-N-S
The modern standard Family Medicine: **Cures** the common every-day ills of humanity.



ONE GIVES RELIEF.

MISS NELLIE SLATER, DRESSMAKER.
Work done by the day or at home, BOND STREET EAST.

Coleman's Salt BEST FOR TABLE USE BEST FOR DAIRY USE
UNEQUALLED FOR QUALITY
CANADA SALT ASSOCIATION, CLINTON, ONT.

FRUIT and ORNAMENTAL TREES. 700 ACRES.
Shrubs, Roses, Vines and Seed Potatoes

WE have the largest assortment and employ the very latest and most improved methods for propagating. All stock carefully packed under our personal supervision, and all new varieties tested at our trial farms before being catalogued. These are the only testing orchards connected with any Nursery in the Dominion.

Agents Wanted to Represent Us.

Special attention given to Park, Cemetery and Boulevard orders. Estimates furnished for supplying entire orchards.

Why buy of foreign concerns or of middlemen when you can purchase as cheaply from us and get better value? Our stock is Canadian grown and acclimated.

Catalogue (English or French) free on application.

Stone & Wellington, Toronto, Ont. FONTHILL NURSERIES.

The Leading Canadian Tree Men.

JOB PRINTING

Neatly and promptly executed at the GAZETTE Office. Prices reasonable.

WE CAN GIVE POSITIONS to persons of all grades of ability, agents, book-keepers, clerks, farmers' sons, lawyers, mechanics, physicians, preachers, students, married and single women, widows. Positions are worth from \$400 to \$2,500 per annum. We have paid several canvassers \$50 weekly for years. Many have started poor and become rich with us. Particulars upon application, and if satisfactory and necessary, a personal interview may be arranged. This is an honest advertisement, and if you want to better your position, write before you sleep. State salary expected. Neither loafers nor tipplers need apply. **THE BRADLEY-GARRETTSON CO., Ltd., Toronto, Ont.—51.**

Scientific American Agency for PATENTS
ADVISES, TRADE MARKS, DESIGN PATENTS, COPYRIGHTS, etc.
For information and free Handbook write to MUNN & CO., 361 Broadway, New York. Oldest bureau for securing patents in America. Every patent taken out by us is brought before the public by a notice given free of charge in the Scientific American.
Largest circulation of any scientific paper in the world. Splendidly illustrated. No intelligent man should be without it. Weekly, \$3.00 a year; \$1.50 six months. Address, MUNN & CO., PUBLISHERS, 361 Broadway, New York City.

DIRECTORY.

SOCIETIES.

KNIGHTS OF TENTED MACCABEES.
Diamond Tent No. 208. Meets in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block on the first and third Tuesday in each month.
H. E. AUSTIN, Com.
C. W. BURGESS, R. K.

MAPLE LEAF TRUE BLUE LODGE No. 42. Regular meetings held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday in each month. Hall in McArthur's Block.
H. E. AUSTIN, Master.
J. A. FOUNTAIN, Deputy Master.
ROBERT J. DUNDAS, Rec-Secretary.

CANADIAN ORDER OF ODDFELLOWS.
Trent Valley Lodge No. 71. Meet in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block on the first and third Mondays in each month.
Wm. McKeown, N. G.
R. M. MASON, V. S., Sec.

O. L. No. 996. MEET IN THE ORANGE hall on Francis-St. West on the second Tuesday in every month.
LEWIS DRYMAN, W. M.
J. T. THOMPSON, Jr., Rec-Sec

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF FORESTERS.
Court Phoenix No. 182. Meet on the last Monday of each month, in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block.
T. AUSTIN, Chief Ranger.
HERBERT SANFORD, R. S.

CANADIAN HOME CIRCLES. FENE LON Falls Circle No. 127, meets in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block the first Wednesday in every month.
P. C. BURGESS, Leader.
R. B. SYLVESTER, Secretary.

A. F. AND A. M., G. Y. R. C. THE SPRY Lodge No. 406. Meets on the first Wednesday of each month, on or before the full of the moon, in the lodge room in Cunningham's Block.
E. FITZGERALD, W. M.
REV. W. FARNSOMB, Secretary

CHURCHES.

BAPTIST CHURCH—QUEEN-ST.—REV. James Fraser, Pastor. Service every Sunday morning at 10.30. Sunday School every Sunday at 2.30 p. m. Prayer meeting on Thursday evening at 7.30; Minister's Bible-class on Tuesday (fortnightly) at 7.30.

METHODIST CHURCH—COLBORNE Street—Reverend T. P. Steel, Pastor. Sunday service at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sabbath School at 2.30 p. m. Epworth League of Christian Endeavor, Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock. Prayer meeting on Thursday evening at 7.30.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH—COLBORNE Street—Reverend M. McKinnon, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 2.30 p. m. Christian Endeavor meeting every Tuesday at 8 p. m. Prayer meeting every Thursday at 7.30 p. m.

SALVATION ARMY—BARRACKS ON Bond St. West—Capt. & Mrs. McClelland. Service held every Thursday and Saturday evenings at 8 p. m., and on Sundays at 7 a. m., 11 a. m., 3 p. m. and 7.30 p. m.

ST. ALOYSIUS R. C. CHURCH—LOUISA Street—Rev. Father Nolan, Pastor. Services every alternate Sunday at 10.30 a. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 2 p. m.

ST. JAMES'S CHURCH—BOND STREET East—Rev. Wm. Farncomb, Pastor. Service every Sunday at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 11.30 a. m. Bible class every Thursday evening at 7 o'clock.

Seats free in all churches. Everybody invited to attend. Strangers cordially welcomed.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PUBLIC LIBRARY—PATRICK KELLY, Librarian. Open daily, Sunday excepted, from 10 o'clock a. m. till 10 p. m. Books exchanged on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 12 a. m. till 3 p. m. and in the evening from 7 to 9. Reading room in connection.

POST OFFICE—F. J. KERR, POSTMAS- TER. Office hours from 7.40 a. m. to 8 p. m. Mail going south closes at 8 a. m. Mail going north closes at 3 p. m.

NEWSPAPER LAW.

1. A postmaster is required to give notice by letter (returning the paper does not answer the law), when a subscriber does not take his paper out of the office and state the reasons for its not being taken. Any neglect to do so makes the postmaster responsible to the publisher for payment.

2. If any person orders his paper discontinued he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether it is taken from the office or not. There can be no legal discontinuance until the payment is made.

3. Any person who takes a paper from the post-office, whether directed to his name or another, or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for the pay.

4. If a subscriber orders his paper to be stopped at a certain time, and the publisher continues to send, the subscriber is bound to pay for it if he takes it out of the post-office. This proceeds upon the ground that a man must pay for what he uses.

5. The courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers and periodicals from the post-office, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is *prima facie* evidence of intentional fraud.

The latest postal laws are such that newspaper publishers can arrest any one for fraud who takes a paper and refuses to pay for it. Under this law the man who allows his subscription to run along for some time unpaid, and then orders it discontinued, or orders the postmaster to mark it "refused," and have a postal card sent notifying the publishers lays himself liable to arrest and fine, the same as for theft.