

FEATHERED SONGSTERS OF THE SUMMER TIME.



Of the many different kinds of birds, some are called perching birds. These are the robin, thrush and bluebird. Then there are the swimming birds, as ducks, swans and geese, which live on the water and swim around most of the time.

being one of the finest of any of the thrushes. Its nest is made on boughs of trees, out of grass, weeds, leaves and some mud. The American robin is a common, large red or brown breasted slate-colored bird, with white on its throat, lower belly and tips of the outer (under) tail feathers.

throughout the year. It is a very common small, blue-backed, chestnut-breasted, white-bellied bird. The female bird does not equal the robin as a songster, but the few notes it has are sweet and never loud. There are 400 species of the humming bird. They belong to a family of small, bright-colored American birds that are known to be the swiftest-flying birds we have; in fact, their flight through the air is so swift (and their wings vibrate so rapidly), that they look like a hazy mist.

known to imitate thirty-two different kinds of birds in less than a quarter of an hour. Many people have them for pets, and find them very delightful companions. The woodpecker belongs to a very large family of creeping or climbing birds, with stiff, sharp-pointed tail feathers, which they use to help support their bodies against the tree. Their toes are four in number, two going forward and two backward, so they can hold on to the tree more easily.

ETIQUETTE OF DESERT MINERS.

Never Ask a Man Where His Claims Are, Says a Death Valley Miner. "Never ask a man anything about his mine because he won't tell you if you do. It isn't etiquette to ask such questions on the desert."

NEWEST PHOTO OF KING AND QUEEN OF SIAM.



Seldom has England had visitors to arouse such great interest as have her recent royal callers, the King and Queen of Siam. Chulalongkorn I, King of Siam, has been twenty-nine years on the throne, having succeeded to the crown at the age of 15. He rules over a country of 244,000 square miles, or slightly more than twice the united size of Great Britain and Ireland.

AMERICA'S FUTURE PLAYGROUND.

The St. James Bay Region WEST becomes a Paradise for Sportsmen. The most urgent need of Quebec is a railroad from the St. Lawrence northward to St. James Bay, says Muncey's. This would open up 70,000,000 acres of land and connect Quebec with Hudson Bay—that inland sea, which is greater than ten Lake Superiors. The summer travel alone would probably enable such a railway to pay dividends, as the whole region is a paradise for sportsmen.

NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

When Carl Schurz was in Washington in 1862, waiting for his assignment in the army, he had to undergo the tribulations of persons who are supposed to have influence. The news had gone abroad that in America there was a great demand for officers of military training and experience. This demand, writes Mr. Schurz in his "Reminiscences of a Long Life," could not fail to attract from all parts of the globe adventurous characters who had seen, or pretended to have seen, military service in one country or another, and who believed that there was a chance for prompt employment and rapid promotion.

FOUND ITS WAY HOME.

The story of a pet seal, captured when a pup by a lighthouse-keeper on the coast of England, is given in "Reminiscences of a Sportsman." The young seal was fed, and allowed to leave the range of the kitchen, and the members of the household became greatly attached to it. It would make its way daily down to the water, and pass many hours swimming about. It secured more or less food in that way, but always returned to its place in the kitchen at night.

THE GERMAN SEAT OF HONOR.

In the more rigid German circles the sofa is still the seat of honor, upon which the hostess sits, to which the visitor may be invited. This writer has an acute memory of the proof of his hostess when he dropped easily by her side on the sofa and searched for his gutters. Very kindly the baroness explained that the sofa was sacred and a man would do well to wait for the invitation to sit upon it. Does that tradition linger in England?—London Chronicle.

ON SECOND THOUGHT.

"Don't you remember, you said you would drown yourself if I didn't marry you?" "Yes, I remember; how foolish I was!" "Do you consider that it was foolish?" "Yes, I should have threatened to drown myself if you did marry me."—Houston Post.

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Where They Come In. "I see that the world's population is estimated at 1,450,000,000 persons. Is our town considered in that calculation?" asked a Buckshoo boy of his father.

Trusting His Partner. The Carrolls all confidently believe that their Billy, aged five, is destined for future distinction. "Buckshoo," they say, "is a name that will make him famous."

Something New. "Yes," said the lady snoot. "I know more about the affair than I care to tell." "That must be an unusual experience for you," growled the savage beakbeak. —Chicago News.

The Alternative. Muggins—I hear you are having your daughter's voice cultivated. Bugger—Yes; I'm afraid it can't be cured, as I am doing the next best thing.—Philadelphia Record.