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the microscope in the fields revealed much sportance to man. Many forms bout whose origin little was tre had much light shed upon the instrument was employed in both arreng animals and We find now that man is constantinvisible foes—some attackand others the food which he ring the past at mmer and fall a comple of this scourred in the of the so-called " potato ret," proved a great loss throughout nce and in many parts of the sies. In the tulletin issued in from the Bureau of Industries, that the "rot" prevailed through southern belt of the Province. ose one-half to three-fourths of destroyed, and in some it was digging With such disaster the questions are naturally sugthat is the cause of the "rot" tremedies can be adopted?

This dhease has received a great tentien from betanists since the nit became a scourge in Ireland rarts of the British Isles, and it moreded to be the result of a angus called Phytophthora infesis attacks all parts of the plantand tubers. By those ignorant history of this tiny parasitic plant stien is paid to its appearance on and no alarm is experienced unoutes are affected. But being wious, its presence on the leaves come a serious matter, especially remember that it spreads with dity. It is usually indicated by perenting a blotched, brownish, desd appearance. A c.ose examthe posatoes showing this will mumerable slender stems growing the surface of the leaves and stems ected plants. These branch and at the ends into pear-shaped edies (spores), which are produced When ripe they separate tem and being exceedingly light the atmosphere, where they are but, many of them finally reachground or settling upon plants. sourable conditions of meisture the contents of a microscopic spore out a long minute tube, which into into any part of the potato give rise to the fungus; or may into several distinct portions mores) which burst through the and become the source of the plant. The mature plant which the tops and tubers is very minute. eseen only by the aid of the mi-It consists of many colourless, thread-like structures. These the tissues of the potato and feed inices, so that it soon weakens ins to waste away. From the te structures tiny stalks arise, beautiful plant like forms and gon their branches the spores alers, Toronta ferred to. They live but a short but the thread-like structure his and hardy, and from fragments fungi may arise. It is said by stanother kind of spore is produccan winter, and thus give rise to mism in another season. These no-called resting speres, apparente purpose of keeping the species tain periods, while the spores alinsidered are produced rapidly so as a the spread of the fungus under he conditions. This minute mi-

le life, incapable of manufacturing on the mineral kingdom, but gupon other plants and feeding upjuices. A wet season supplies convell adapted for its development, te we find the "rot" associated th weather. There is no doubt Agents Was y speres are always more or less but they are prevented from being of trouble because the weather is d for their growth. is.—The "rot" usually appears te first two weeks in August, and ather is favourable its spread is

plant is certainly a low form of

pid, for as soon as the thread-like which arises from the spore is deit immediately becomes spore bearence the importance of examining for the appearance of the ipots that indicate the presence

son as discovered, dig the potahay will allow it to spread to the ad thence to the tubers. If it these and damp weather comes, Martainly appear.

er digging, the potatoes should be menditions unfavourable for the the fungus, if any happens to be

tring early varieties is worthy of ation, so that they may mature be-Muon arrives when this parasite to affect the crop.

potato stalks in affected lands gathered and burned, se as to the millions of spores which may

none but good seed. If at all atriect them; and plant in welland. If the potatoes to be used have been taken from cellars where were kept, they are likely to microscopic spores on them and stice. It would be best to get a maffected districts.

carcely necessary to remark rould be injudicious to plant petaas same field the following year witation of the "rot," inasmuch rund may retain the germs of the

planting upon heavy clay soil, a light and dry soil. This prelewest conditions suitable for the d the fungus.

of our climate is not so fafor the development of this inmgu as that of Britain ; yet as metimes visited by it, and although viewed as a scourge, it is well bould remember its nature and always be ready to guard against appears. As last summer was fer its prepagation, great care

this spring. - By J. Hoyes Panton M. A. Professor of Natural History at the Ontario Agricultural College.

He Fired on Time.

They engaged a new porter at a Lafayette Hotel. Everybedy liked him, he was so cheerful, so obliging, and so rigorously and scrupulously exact in carrying out every order given him. The other day Mr. J. B. Jehnson, the vice-president of the Omaha Chilled Plough Works, put up at the hotel. Mr. Johnson is a very dignified and polished gentleman, and extremely particular about his room and service. That evening a very extraerdinary thing occurred. Some say it was about 9 o'clock, others place it as late as 101. At any rate, somewhere near that time Mr. Johnson was amazad to see the door of his room epen and a man step in.

"Who the dickens are you?" asked Mr. Johnson.

"Oi am the porter," replied the stranger, deliberately removing his coat and rolling up his sleeves.

"Well, what is the meaning of this singular intrusion?" inquired Mr. Johnson. Thomas did not reply. He spit upon his hands, executed a rapid and fantastic jig, and leaped auddenly upon the astonished guest.

"Help! Murder!" bellewed Mr. Johnson ; "crazy man killing me,"

"Shut up, ye dhirty spalpeen !" exclaimed Thomas, obtaining a firm grip upon the bust of his treusers, and propelling him rapidly out of the room, "its none of the leikes of ye that is wanted in a decent

"But, my good man!" gasped Mr. Johnson, his words coming by excited jerks, "there is some mistake. Let me explain!" "Niver a word, ye heedlum!" replied Thomas, rushing him toward the stairs; "we're en to ye The house has had ye

spotted !" The next instant the guests in the corridor were amazed to see two figures, one spluttering and kicking and the other grim and determined, scoot down the staircase, plunge through the lobby, and disappear into the outer darkness. In a few mements Thomas returned, panting and relling down his

"What in the name of heaven were you doing?" asked Mr. Weekly, the proprietor, when he recovered sufficiently from the shock

to speak, "I was firing that dhirty blackguard Johnson," replied Thomas.

"Firing him? Hold me, semebody? What put such an infernal idea into your

"Here she is," replied Thomas, with an injured air, holding the slate before the proprietor's eyes.

"By—the—great—horn speen," gasped Mr. Weekly, and swooned away. This was what he read : " No. 40; fire at 10:30."

The Carrier-Pigeon.

The carrier, the acknowledged king of pigeons, has in its name the source of a great annoyance to its sensitive fancier. He admits fer it an ancestry dating back to the message-bearers of Persian kings and Turkish sultans, and that the peculiarities of structure—the preminent wing-butts, the great muscular development which gives the full-rounded breast, the wing best adapted to speedy and leng-centinued flight, and the protruding eyeball peculiar to the traveling bird, all points he values for their part in the perfect symmetry—that these were all fixed in its day of usefulness as the courier of royalty. But he is careful to explain that he has counted out all useful qualities and practical values in the bird of to-day; that the points he values highest are these of development of growth to perfect which his bird is carefully secluded from the deteriorating influences of sun and outdeer air; that the name is only applicable to it for its elegant carriage, one of its most valued and to be remarked properties ; that it is only the ignorant who could confound the grand high-class bird with that little shapeless message-bearer,

the homing pigeon. The carrier has always been held in the highest esteem in England. Meere, writing in 1735, tells of a fancier in Bishopegate street who kept a silver hatchet and block with which to chop off the heads of those condemmed to death, "that being of the blood royal they eught not to die after the manner of the common herd."

A Prediction Fulfilled.

The following anecdote was related to me in 1864, long before the fulfilment of the prediction that it contains. Napeleon III. one day took it into his head to consult the celebrated chiromancien, Desbarolles, who mol, ory place, thus surrounding died the other day at a very advanced age. Desbarolles told him some curious facts respecting his character, his tastes and his past life. "Now," quoth the emperor, "tell me something about the future. Where will my death take place and by what malady shall I die ?" Desbarolles hesitated for a moment. "Sire," he said at length, "you have asked me for a frank response, and l will reply to you frankly. You are distined | him. to breathe your last on English soil, and you will perish by the knife." Very curiously was the prediction fulfilled, though the knife preved to be not that of an assassin, but that of a surgeon.

Cleverly Trumped.

Two pretty quick-witted minds came in contact when the Rev. Dr. Vincent introduced at Chautauqua a Chicago clergyman who was to lecture on "Fools." The preliminaries are thus reported : "We are new to have a lecture on fools by one (a very long pause and loud laughter from the audience, when the President concluded from the saving clause) of the wisest men in the country." The lecturer advanced to the desk and respende "I am not half so big a feel as Dr. Vincent (another very long pause, and still more hearty laughter from the audience) would have you suppose."

Dr. York, an infidel lecturer who has lately been visiting New South Wales, on leaving was presented with an album containing photographs of persons and places in the colony. He closed his speech of thanks to the honors by saying, "God bless you !"

YOUNG FOLKS.

A PUZZLED TIGER.

A STORY OF BRITISH INDIA.

Two men sat under a clump of palm-trees on the bank of a small river in upper Bengal eating their tiffin (lunch) with the appetite of men who had been all morning in the open air. One of them, a tall, weathertanned, black-mustached fellew, was evidently an English officer. His companion, who was a good deal smaller and slighter than himself, did not look much like either a fighter or a hunter; but the almost superstitious reverence paid him by the Hindeo servants showed that he must be a great man in some way.

In fact, there were few more famous scientists or more adventurous travellers than Professor Anneroyd, Fellow of the British Reyal Geographical Society, President of the Calcutta Antiquarian Club, Honorary Member of the Russian Imperial Association of Scientific Research, with other titles too numerous to mention. There was hardly a corner of the earth, however remote or dangerous, into which he had not thrust his little bald head and goldrimmed spectacles; and people who saw him for the first time, after having heard of his expleits, were greatly startled to see, is quite a small pamphlet, and has been reinstead of the big bearded, sun-burned fellow whom they expected, a slender, palefaced little man, who looked as if he would be knocked up or knocked down by the first mishap that befell him,

In the centre of an open space just behind the two picnickers stood a large lookingglass, which the Professor had just been using in one of his experiments; and at this the native attendants were looking and pointing excitedly, although keeping their distance from it all the while as carefully as if it had been a packet of dynamite.

"See those fellows !" laughed Major Hampton, as he finished his second plate of cold chicken. "I'll be bound they all take you for a magician of the very first class. Just new I overheard two of them having a discussion about what you could be trying to do. One would have it that you were at work to discover a buried treasure."

"So I am, 'chuckled the Professor, cutting himself a slice of bread, "but it's a treasure of knowledge, not of meney. However, this can't be much fun fer you, my dear Major; and its too bad of me to keep you here all day doing nothing, just for my convenience. Couldn's you find a wild beast or two to amuse yourself with while I'm at work ?"

"No such luck," replied Hampton, shaking his head. "This bit along the river game; but since they began to cut away the jungle you can't get a decent tiger here for leve or money."

The words were scarcely uttered when, as if on purpose to give the lie to them, the native servants, who had been enjoying their long pipes in the cool shade of the trees that flanked the clearing, suddenly sprang up and fled in every direction with shrill cries of terror. Mingling with their outcries came a deep, hoarse roar, which the hardiest sportsman never hears quite unmoved—the cry of a hungry tiger on the

track of his prey. "Up into that banyan-tree for your life, Anneroyd!" shouted Hampton, leaping to his feet, " for that fellow means business, and no mistake."

Up flew the Professor as nimbly as a menkey, and the next instant Major Hampton was beside him. But even in that moment of deadly peril the veteran sportsman had found time to snatch up his double-barrelled rifle and ammunitien pouch.

Hitherto the flight of the Hindoos and the fearful sound that accompanied it had been the only signs of the terrible creature's presence. But the Majer's keen eyes soon detected a stirring among the bushes, and then a great flat head and fiery eye gliding forth from them.

"Isn't he a splendid fellow ?" whispered Hampton, as coolly as if he were looking at the beast through the bars of a cage in a menagerie. "He seems to be in want of a lesson, though, and I'm going to give him

But he had hardly leaded one barrel of his rifle when he suddenly broke inte a fit of laughter so violent as almost to shake him off his perch. And well he might. The tiger was indeed about to get a lesson, but such a one as neither he ner his two enemies had foreseen in the least.

The tall mirror was still standing in the middle of the clearing, just as the coolies (native porters) had left it; and the tiger, coming out right in front of it, saw (as he thought) another tiger advancing against him open-mouthed. His very whiskers bristled with rage at this defiance, and with a savage grewl he drew back for a decisive spring. But in deing so he moved beyond the line of reflection, and instantly the other tiger disappeared as if he had never been.

This was evidently something quite new to the "royal Bengal." He stepped short, stared blankly around him, drepped his tail, and altogether looked so utterly bewildered and foolish that the two watchers almost burst their sides with laughing at

"Well," gasped the Major. "if this isn't the best fun I've seen since I came out, my name's not Dick Hampton."

Meanwhile the tiger seemed to have made up his mind that the puzzle lay in the mysterious looking-glass, and that it was his duty to examine it mere clesely. He crept cautiously toward it, and of course the other tiger reappeared at once. Now fer it i With one tremendous bound he was close upon his enemy; but the shock of his leap overturned the mirror, and the phantom tiger vanished ence mere.

This second disappearance was quite too much for the nerves of the "jungle king." With a lew whine of dismay he turned sharp round, and was about to make off, when Majer Hampton, who had no notion of losing his game se easily, levelled his rifle and fired. The sting of the bullet in his flank changed the tiger's fear to fury, and with a roar like thunder it darted toward the tree whence the shet had come; but instantly the second barrel sent its charge home, and the menster relied ever into the jungle grass, a harmless heap of black and yellow fur.

A nightgown is nothing but a napsack.

OVER THE OCEAN.

Mr. Gladstone will spend the heliday recom at Hawardon Castle when not ongaged in his canvass in Scotland.

The total coal output in Great Britain last year was 159,351,415 tone, with 520,632 colliers employed, against 160,757,779 tons and 520, 360 colliers employed the preceding

The backwardness of the season in Soetland is seriously retarding agricultural operations; and in some districts farm work is less advanced than it has been for a great many years past,

Her Majesty has written a letter to Elizabeth Mount, the heroine of the Columbine, expressing sympathy with her in the sufferings she endured in her wemorable voyage, and sending at the same time a check for

A copy of Dickens' "Strange Gentleman," one of the rarest of his productions, was recently bought by a small beekseller for three pence. By him it was sold for 15s to a young man in the trade, he in his turn disposing of the book to another person for £1. This last knew the value of his prize, and, in spite of its being imperfect, resold the the volume for £5 to a well-known firm of booksellers, who now want semewhere about £12 for it. A perfect copy is worth £20. It printed-without the frontispiece.

In the confederation of Switzerland, with a population of about two millions and a half, or just one half that of London and its suburbs, there are no less than four languages. Out of every thousand of inhabitants about 600 speak Germain, 227 French, 56 Italian, and 17 Romanisch. Each of these languages represents a separately and sharp. defined race, and in addition to this multiplicity of race and language, the Swiss are divided in the matter of religious confession; in every thousand of the population there being roughly 600 Protestants to 400 Roman Cathelics. Surely it is no small praise to the constitution of Switzerland and to its administration, that with such diversity of race tongue and religion, there should be a prefound common sentiment causing Germain, French, and Remanisch alike to cherish as the strengest political feelingaffection for the fatherland.

Truth learns that the Princess of Wales has really been suffering from blood-poisoning. Her Royal Highness is new convalescent, but it is probable that during the Easter holidays she will either go abread for a short time, or else take a cruise in the Royal yacht, Osborne. The Princess' health cannot yet be pronounced to be entirely satisfactory, as she will require much care for a considerable time to come. The Low here used to be a famous cover for the big | Church people at Torquay are by no means pleased that the Princess should have " sat under" Mr. Hewitt, the vicar of Babbacombe, who is locally known as "Father" Hewitt, and is one of the most "advanced" clergymen in the West of England. The Duchess of Sutherland is a regular member of the congregation, and Babbacombe is a very attractive church, the musical services being exceptionally good.

> been carrying out the auggestion of cooking | creating havoc, whereupen she ran dewn, and the results are most encouraging. Large supplies of scraps are sent in, which are carefully coeked and prepared into seup, stews, pies and puddings, and these are sold at I penny a dish to the peor, who gladly avail themselves of the opportunity of procuring a good meal at such a price. The girls at the Guards' Industrial Home have been called to assist in this good work, and for some time prepared the meals in their own kitchen, but the business hasse largely increased that suitable premises have been secured where the work is done. Lady Wolseley started a Mayfair sorap cart, and has organized her plan se systematically that large quantities of really dainty morsels are collected and sent to Westminster two or three times a week, and add greatly to the material in hand. Under the auspices of Lady Sudeley a similar collecting cart will go about Belgravia.

Switzerland, since the time of the Remans, Bellinsona has been a very important military post, for it is the southern key to the Gotthard Pass, and commands the whole valley of the Ticino. In old times the conquering cantons of Eri Schwyz and Unterwalden sent in turn a Landvegt or governor te rule in Bellinsona over the province, and each centon built itself a mighty castle. All three remain, and their ancient towers and heary battlemented walls, built as they are upon commanding eminences, give the town an old world and picturesque appearance. Some thirty years ago, too, the Swiss confederation, profoundly impressed with the necessity of making good the Getthard Pass against all comers, flung a line of fortifications right across the valley just below the town. To a layman, this picturesque zigzag. of turreted masonry looks very formidable, and as if no man or mouse could overleap such a wall much less an army; but military critics assert that so rapid has been the advance in the art of war, that as a work of defence it is new absolutely valueless.

left the fleck, while still a gesling, and resolved to have nothing more to de with its companion geese, but to try a new way of life for itself. So it beldly marched into the barracks of a Unlan regiment one day and stationed itself next the sentry bex. The Uhlans were touched by the goose cheesing to ally itself with their corps, and built a shed for it to live in. For twenty three years neither threats or persuasion were able to separate this bird from its adopted regiment. When the corps changed quarters the goose went with them, and when the Uhlans went to fight for their country the desclate creature took up for a time with a battalion of infantry ; but no seoner did the first Uhlans enter the town than the goose marched out to meet them, and went with them to her old quarters. Since her death she has been stuffed, and is to be seen in a glass case on the gate of the barracks of Stuttgart.

When Franklin bettled the lightning he was considered an Ajax ; the pulpit thundered against his daring impiety. It was eche of the ancient curse on the first tiller of the ground, the first builders of towers, the first bearer of fire and the arts to men. Nevertheless, one of Jove's bolts was bettled and, from that time, it has been studied and analyzed, until science has learned hew to store up lightning and regulate its action.

Some years ago a Frenchman crossed the Beglish obannel bringing sixteen thundersterms in a Gladstone bag. He conveyed to Sir William Thombson, at Glasgow, se many little metal boxes, canned lightning. Dr. Buchanan came in one day to borrow one of these boxes, saying that he wanted to use it on a patient, -a little child that had a tumor on its tengue, which he was afraid to out off or to burn off in the old way ; the heated wire sometimes loses its heat, has to be reheated, causing much pain. The atored electricity was taken to the child's room, the wire was kept at one heat. In one second the lightning touched off the tumor. painlessly, soft as a mother's kiss; and the child is well.

THE STORM'S APPEARANCE.

An Eye Witness Describes the Cyclone in Minnesota.

The best testimony that can be had from eye witnesses of the storm is to the effect that the cloud was somewhat different in appearance frem cyclenes in general as reported. Hon. J. A. Demeules, an ex-member of the house of representatives was at his house near George lake, not far from the track of the storm. He told a reporter of the appearance of the cloud. Said he : "It must have formed rapidly, and just above the lake, as it was there when I first noticed it. It was very black, and seemed to be constantly in motion. At first I thought it was the smoke from some large fire and it was moving rapidly across the lake when I first saw it. It was flat and eval in shape, with a sert of spiral at each of the extremities, one extending upward and the other downward. It was peculiar in appearance, and I watched it closely when it had passed across the lake. It seemed to stop. Its movement resembled that of a fan opening and closing, and it remained stationary for some seconds. Almost instantly its form changed. Instead of lying flat, it seemed to turn on end and the spirals that had run up from the other end formed a part of a big double spiral. It had a mevement that was peculiar, as if there was a commetion

within it.

ITS COURSE WAS RAPID and as seon as the big spiral was formed it began moving at a terrific rate in a course that was somewhat zigzag. It dropped dewn to the ground, and I saw the entire work of ruin. Its course after it crossed the river was rather sinuous, though hardly as much so as before. It swept across the country, and in five minutes from the time it reached the Sauk Rapids the work of destruction was done." A Mr. Clarke was driving with Mr. Cooper of the State board of agriculture. He said that he had seen the cleud form. There were two at first that came together directly over the lake, and then turned on end and swept onward. A daughter of Governor Gilman correborates Mr. Dameule's story. She saw it when it lay like a fan, and she said it was apparently standing still. She thought it was the smoke from some large fire and ran to a lookout on the top of the governor's house, to discover where the fire was. Before she had reached the top the cloud had turned and was appreach-Baroness Burdett-Coutts (says Life) has | ing with terrible rapidity and was already savery dishes for the poor in Westminster, A gentleman who did not give his name told Mr. Alexander Rigg, of Menticelle, who was here that he had seen a man in the spiral rapidly moving after the clouds had passed Sauk Rapids three or four miles. There are one or two missing, and it is possible that it may have been the druggist whe had not been found.

> A peculiarly sad incident occured at Sauk Rapids, Minn. Out in the rubbish seme rods from the depet, wandering about the stricken neighborhood, was a middle aged man. He looked haggered and took no notice of the curious people who constantly passed him in their search among the ruins. It was Charles Shellgreen. His home had been leveled to the ground by the cyclene, and he was wandering near the spot where his home had once stood. He was a poer man and had nothing but his home. One of the visitors was the Rev. Mr. Pierce, of Fergus Falls, who had once preached at Sauk Rapids, and not knowing how Mr. Shellgreen had been afflicted, he approached him and asked if he had lost any besides his house. The man stopped, walked up and shook hands with the man of God and said "my baby." He could go ne further, but rat upon the ruins of his home, and the tears rolled from his eyes as his veice thickened. His entire family had been killed, a wife and four children. The woman and three of the children lay over in the dead house awaiting their ceffivs, but the fourth, a little girl baby of some weeks, had not been found. The minister could not say cheer up, and he left the man sitting alone and desolate, with the tears streaming from his dazed eyes.

A Manly Word to Boys.

You are made to be kind, boys, generous, magnanimous. If there is a boy in school who has a club foot, don't let him know you ever saw it. If there is a poor boy with ragged clothes, don't talk about rags in his hearing. If there is a lame boy, assign A goose which has just died at Stuttgart | him some part in the game that doesn't require running. If there is a dull one, help him to learn his lesson. If there is a bright ene, be net envious of him; for if one bey is proud of his talents, and another is envious of them, there are two great wrengs, and no more talent than before. If a larger or stronger boy has injured you and is serry for it, forgive him. All the school will show by their countenance how much better it is than to have a great fuse,

A Leopard Can Change His Spots.

"That, my young friend, is a leepard," observed a schoolmaster at the Zee the other day as he was showing off before three er four favorite pupils. " Notice the spots upon his skin. Can the Ethiopian alter his skin or the leopard change his spots ?"

"Yes, sir," unexpectedly replied a keeper who was standing near ; "that 'ere one eften does,"

"How so?" inquired the schoolmaster, eagerly, with visions of discoveries floating before his eyes. "Explain yourself, my friend."

"There, sir! Didn't you see her? She's just done it," enswered the keeper. was first of all a-lying down on this spot, and then she got up and changed, and new she's lying down on that spet."

Exit keeper amidst disgust of schoolmaster and stifled laughter of pupils.