

Galilee.

Jesus! thy saints have waited long
For ruddy sky and wrath divine,
When thou shalt come with angel throng,
And in the pomp of glory shine;
But hollier than such cloudy throne
Thy watch and walk beside the sea,
When midnight's stars in beauty shone
On the still waves of Galilee.

The ministers of pride and power
Have wrought a change in human things,
And seen, in some propitious hour,
Thy kingdom patronized by kings,
But nearer to thy heart was laid
The humbler learner at thy knee,
Drinking the gracious words that made
The night divine on Galilee.

Grandly the skill of art may show
In pictured wall and chanted hymn,
Where high barbaric windows throw
Strange light into the chancel dim;
A scene of simpler art was thine—
The song of maidens by the sea,
And fishers' nets in bended line
Along the shore of Galilee.

The foxes find a sure retreat
In holes upon the mountain's breast,
Where the green olive branches meet
The birds have built their sheltered nest;
The cows and sheep, if need night began,
Have found from wood and willow up
And left them to the Son of Man,
Who has not where to lay his head.

Oh, Christ! whatever men may say,
They, not thyself, in pride have grown;
And let them not expect the day
When they shall see thee on a throne,
Nor look for wonder and for sign,
But thy full soul of love to see
In eyes whose light of life divine
Outglimmer the stars on Galilee.

The Story of the Seal.

There is probably no part of the earth's surface, used for farming or stock raising, that produces so handsome a yield to the acre as the narrow beaches of the Prybiloff islands in Behring's strait. These are four in number, St. Paul's with 21,120 acres, St. George, with about 17,000 acres, Otter island, a mile and a half long and less than half a mile wide, and Walrus island, a mere flat rock, rising but little above the surf, a quarter of a mile long and a hundred yards wide. The first two have together seventy-one miles of coast line, but so much of the shore is bold and rocky that only eighteen and three-quarter miles are visited by the seals.

On St. George several thousand sealions have taken possession of half a mile more of landing. The beaches on which they breed are narrow reaches of sand varying from forty to 150 feet wide, and covering a total area of 6,387,340 square feet, or not quite 147 acres. On this area about 100,000 seals are killed yearly, worth \$700,000. This is a yield of \$7,762 an acre. The United States government obtains from these islands a rental of \$55,000 yearly and \$262,500 for 100,000 sealions. This is taxing these barren sand beaches to the amount of \$2,150 per acre. Figures like these deserve consideration, for it is only by such computations that the value of fisheries to the country will ever be made apparent. In the present case it is satisfactory to know that the government tax is a blessing to the world.

The total number of seals which breed annually on the islands is computed at 3,493,670, and before the restrictions placed on the hunt by government they were killed at the rate of 240,000 monthly. This would have exterminated them in less than five years. Now the number is limited to 100,000 a year, and they are said by some observers to be increasing at the rate of five per cent. annually. The above number does not include those which are killed, but the breeding community which is preserved. Of non-breeders, the number is estimated at 1,500,000, so that the total seal population is about 4,700,000.

The male seals land first, in the latter part of April usually, or in May. They always choose for their resting grounds or "rookeries" such beaches as are strewn with large boulders, where the new-born seals can have some protection against the sweep of the surf. On landing they give themselves up entirely to sleeping, but meanwhile keep a sharp lookout to prevent young bachelors and old weak patriarchs from coming to the rookery. This system of natural selection is advantageous to the race and to their human pursuers also. It keeps the stock strong and hardy and sends the bachelors of less than six years (the age of maturity) to haul themselves up at some other point, where they collect together and can be readily herded by the hunters without alarming the breeders. The females do not land for a month after, and are then taken possession of by the male nearest to the point at which they leave the water. The selection is not made without tremendous fighting, and some of the old seals are wounded and killed, or driven off. Prof. Elliott says: "It appears to be a well understood principle among the able-bodied bulls that each one shall remain undisturbed on his ground, which is usually about ten feet square, provided that he is strong enough to hold it against all comers. Some of these bulls show wonderful strength and courage. I have marked one veteran, who was among the first to take up his position, and that one on the water line, where at least fifty or sixty desperate battles were fought victoriously by him with nearly as many different seals, who coveted his position, and when the fighting season was over

(after the cows have mostly all hauled up) I saw him covered with scars and gashes, raw and bloody, an eye gouged out, but lording it bravely over his harem of fifteen or twenty cows, all huddled together on the same spot he had first chosen." The fighting is done with the mouth, and when the jaws have closed on a foe the effort of shaking them loose leaves an ugly wound; "the sharp canines tearing out deep gutters in the skin and blubber, or shredding the flappers into ribbon strips."

The families average about fifteen cows each, and they take up so little room that a space two feet square suffices for a cow, while the bull, being much larger, needs about twice as much room. Within two days after landing the young are born, and in three or four days more the guardian patriarch allows the mother to retreat to the water, where she spends most of her time, returning to land whenever the young seal requires food. Seals are good mothers, and nurse their young for nearly a year, or for more than a year if they do not have another birth. While the mothers are playing in the water the old male remains on shore and takes care of the pups. It is thirty-five or forty days before the pup can be taken to the water, and four months before he is strong enough to follow the mother on her migratory journey through the ocean. As each mother has one pup, the four square feet of ground which formed her resting place carries two lives, and the computation given above of 3,193,670 breeding seals on these islands is made from a measurement of the area occupied by the "rookeries." Prof. Elliott found their distribution so uniform that he calls it "a fine instinctive law of distribution," and says the government agent can always safely report upon the condition of the seal crop by observing the area occupied by the animals between the tenth and twentieth of July. That is the week of their greatest expansion. When the purpose for which they have landed is accomplished, the systematic organization breaks up, and the seals scatter, some straying inland, and the whole herd may cover twice its normal ground. Of every 100,000 breeding seals more than 85,000 are cows and less than 15,000 bulls, and in a few weeks after the females begin to land, there are about 180,000 parents and pups on the same ground.

In the autumn and early winter the seals take their departure. Where they go is not ascertained definitely, but they probably spread themselves over the North Pacific, following schools of fish or frequenting banks and shoals where they can find food. The amount of food required by them is immense. At five pounds each per day, which is not half enough for a full grown male, they, the seals of these two islands, will eat up no less than three million tons of fish in a year. This immense quantity makes it evident that human care can do nothing to assist their propagation. In the sea they have enemies, but it would be simply impossible to obtain food enough for them at the islands, even if it were the only point to be considered. To get such a supply they spread themselves over the ocean, and there come in contact with enemies as voracious as they are. Killer-whales and sharks make such havoc among them that of a million pups, which is the estimate of a year's increase, not more than one-half return the next spring. Some observers put the proportion much lower, and with great probability considering the helplessness of the sucklings. The second year, however, they are better able to care for themselves, and do not lose more than one-tenth of their numbers. After that they do not suffer much during their lives of fifteen or twenty years. From natural enemies the pups have most to fear, for they are probably the most toothsome, as well as the most helpless. In the stomach of one killer-whale no less than fourteen small harp seals were found. But man also has his share in their destruction, and he strikes what he finds without regard to age. The seal loves to sleep on the surface of the water, and are often surprised in this condition by whalers and the natives. It is quite common to find shot and even bullets imbedded in the blubber, just under the skin, of the young seals killed on the islands. Were it not for these various enemies, there is no knowing where their increase would stop. Out of a million pups born every year, 550,000 are destroyed at sea in the first two years of life, 100,000 more are killed for their skins, and probably 25,000 are killed by natives, or die soon after birth. This is a total loss of 675,000 less than five years of age yearly, by accountable causes, and yet the increase is reported at five per cent., or 200,000 seals a year. As the artificial destruction of one-tenth the annual increase by man does not interfere in the least with their perpetuation, Prof. Elliott considers that they have arrived at their maximum expansion. One reason, however, for the slight effect of the hunt upon their numbers is that one bull kills more seals than all the other bulls which survive at the end of the second season, one-half are probably males. But their family relations are such that only one-fifteenth of the males are needed, and the remainder, or more than 200,000, can be killed in their second, third, and fourth years without disturbing their natural increase. In fact, on its present basis, the seal hunt can safely supply about 180,000 skins a year.

The conditions of this business are such that there is no reason why, without unexpected accident, the seals should not continue to earn at least \$300,000 a year for the United States government for centuries to come. To make this certain it is proposed to have them carefully mapped as they lie on

their breeding grounds, and compared from year to year. They bear this inspection very well. Those which arrive earliest are sometimes timid, but when the males are in great numbers they take no notice of the inspector. They are fortunately not affected by village sounds, unless very near, nor the stench of the slaughter field.

The habits of seals are as interesting as those of any animal known. The mere fact that the observers are not mistaken, only one-fifteenth of the males can set up a family, indicates that the law of selection must be in active use among them. The cows do not come to land until their young are ready for birth, and having borne them, they leave the principal care of the pups to a husband who is not the father. There is no proof, but evidence to the contrary, that the seals, male or female, seek the same rookery year after year. The strongest warriors get the first pick, and the system of unlimited roguery in which they indulge makes it impossible for a cow to return either to her old home or her old husband. The strongest bulls establish themselves on the water line, and when the first cows appear they are received with great affability, and coaxed and urged up on to the rocks. Their new found masters and protectors are violently jealous, and the new acquisition cannot be enticed unless the rival fights a successful battle. But the fortunate husband soon has his attention called to a new appearance of cows, and while he is engaged with number two his next neighbor reaches his long neck, picks up number one by the nape of the neck, and lands her within his own precinct. When number two is brought to shore the two bulls at once have a fight, during which two other rivals take possession of both cows! The gentle cow thus progresses with some rapidity to a back station where the lord is not so often beguiled by new arrivals, and there she rests. As before said, these cows bring forth almost immediately. Then they leave the pups in charge of the bull, who cares for them so faithfully that he sometimes remains four months out of the water. During this time he is deprived of food, and lives on the store of fat he has accumulated during the winter.

This trial is much more severe than that of the bear's hibernation, for the seals are extremely active during their deprivation. No special organic provision for this ordeal has been found, the stomachs showing no peculiarity either in spring or fall. The long fast, however, greatly weakens them, and after two or three months the old bulls who have not been able to get a place on the breeding ground, and have consequently spent the summer in cruising around behind the rookery, find it possible to come forward and drive out their once powerful antagonists. This phase of seal life is as singular as any other, for the new comer does not think of driving away the pups born under the seigniorate of his predecessors, but on the contrary takes the place of faithful guardian to them.

As to the cows, they are so gregarious that even when they come in such numbers as to be able to make a choice they prefer the best filled harem. They will not lie quiet away from the great mass of their sisters. The consequence is that the stations nearest the water have from twelve to fifteen cows each, and those in the rear from five to nine. When they come up from the water they bl-a-a-t to their young, who answer in the same manner, and in this way they are quickly singled out. Some signal is necessary, for after they are two months old they collect together by tens of thousands, frolicking and sleeping. Yet it is strange that the mothers will see them killed without showing any concern. Even the fierce old guardian who protects them and their mothers seems to have no interest in them personally. It is a precedent that he guards, and if they stray beyond that, they get no care from him.

The pups do not know their mothers, but being inclined by nature to bl-a-a-t incessantly, the mother can find her own. By the time she reaches it, it may have fallen asleep, and then she has nothing to do but take a nap herself, for she cannot find it in the wriggling and crawling mass of thousands of pups, and she will not let any other take its place.

The females come to maturity at two years of age, the bachelors at five or six; and as there are a million and a half of these classes who are not admitted to the harems, it is obviously necessary to have some provision for them in seal sociology. They take their rest on so-called "hauling grounds," of which there are two kinds. The most favored is near the water, in some place apart from the breeding grounds. The other lies further inland, and must be reached by passing through the precincts guarded by the patriarchs. The bachelors are allowed to do this, and a path running between the harems is by common consent regarded as neutral. On this pathway a steady stream of bachelors is passing, while the neighboring patriarchs guard their seraglios with redoubled vigilance.

Such are some of the peculiarities of a seal colony, and a much more complete account of them is given by Prof. Elliott in a letter from the secretary of the treasury to the House of Representatives, published by the United States government. The sound arising from these great breeding grounds, he says, "where thousands upon thousands of angry, vigilant bulls are roaring, chucking, piping, and multitudes of seal mothers are calling in hollow, blating tones to their young, which in turn respond incessantly, is indescribable. It is, at a slight distance, softened into a deep booming, as of a cataract, and can be

heard a long distance off at sea—under favorable circumstances, as far as five or six miles—and frequently warns vessels that may be approaching the islands in thick weather of the proximity of land." The value of the seal islands to the United States government is, by a common mode of calculation, as follows: Two million seals of suitable age for killing, at \$2.62, gives \$5,250,000. This amounts to twenty years' taxes, but takes no account of the annual rent, which would be \$1,100,000 more in that time. Total value of seal islands alone, \$6,350,000. The other furs which Alaska sends to our markets bring at least one-half the value of the sealskins.

Would Jump on the Car.

He stood on the corner, waiting for a car. He was dressed up to kill, and he knew it. His hat shone like the headlight of a locomotive. He had an umbrella in one hand and a sachel and a bouquet carefully wrapped in tissue paper in the other. The car came along. He did not hail it. He did not want it to stop. He could get on it without putting the driver to that much trouble. He had seen others do it, and knew just how it should be done. The front platform was crowded, but that made no difference to him. He would show the passengers standing upon it how to do the thing gracefully. He stepped to the track, took his umbrella, sachel, and bouquet in one hand, and as the car passed him, grasped the brace on the front platform with the other. The car was going at a good rate of speed. His feet flew into the air, and as he assumed the perpendicular he managed to get one of them on the step. Then he shut his hat up like an accordion against the stomach of a fat gentleman who was at that moment drawing in a mouthful of smoke from a regalia, and who was, in consequence, too full of indignation—and smoke—for utterance. Then the "killer" laid his sachel, bouquet, and umbrella down upon the platform very suddenly, and apparently without any intention to do so on his part; and then he laid himself down upon them. This was also done in an irresistible way. At this moment the driver put the brakes on very suddenly, and he rolled over on his back. The man who was behind him stepped on his stomach and leaned over the dashboard—gazing intently at the track, as though he saw something there to attract his attention. Then the passengers righted themselves, and our hero gathered himself up and went inside the car, amid suggestions about "learning how to get on a car," etc. But he only smiled sarcastically. He knew what he was about. The next time they saw a passenger attempt to get on a car he thought they would make room for him. And the passengers, on their part, made up their minds that the next time he attempted the feat, they would.

Taken Clear In.

An actress of considerable prominence in Paris was admired by a married gentleman named B. They visited in company the establishment of a prominent jeweler, and were shown a magnificent set of diamonds worth \$3,000. B. estimated that \$2,000 were the highest figures he could use on this occasion. He did not say that he intended to present them to the actress, but she, at least, thought so, and was, moreover, fond of diamonds. The actress having taken counsel with herself, visited the jeweler privately. "B. will give me \$2,000 for the diamonds," she said, "and if he can get them at that price will probably present them to me. You ask \$3,000. Be it so. Here are the extra \$1,000 from my own purse. When he comes again to-morrow offer him the jewels for \$2,000. Keep our little game shady. Farewell." On the morrow B. went to the jeweler's again and bought the diamonds for \$2,000. The actress awaited anxiously the coming present in which she had so liberally invested. She is still waiting. B. saw that he had a bargain in diamonds—he had had really once intended to present them to this queen of the stage; but he saw financial storms, disaster, shipwreck on every side. He said to himself: "These diamonds are a good investment; they will certainly at any time bring the money I have given for them;" so he changed his mind and gave them to his own wife. "What's hers is mine, and what's mine is my own," said he. And the actress' \$1,000? A pang shoots through her breast as she thinks of it. She has even been obliged to see those very jewels on the brow of Madame E.

How Much Shall We Eat?

Sir James Clark thought that one of the most fruitful sources of consumption was excessive eating. He says: "By a too stimulating diet the stomach becomes disordered, the secretions impaired, the circulation unbalanced, the skin dry and harsh; and often, as a consequence, tuberculous disease results." Dr. Johnson offers the following on this point: "Whenever a meal is followed by an inappetite for mental or corporeal exertion, we have transgressed the rules of health, and are laying the foundation for disease."

What an immense gain it would prove to us all if the dessert could be abolished! Ninety-nine people in a hundred get enough, and most of them too much, before reaching it.

"Sir, one word," said a soldier one day to Frederick the Great, when presenting to him a request for the brevet of lieutenant. "If you say two," answered the king, "I will have you hanged." "Sign," replied the soldier. The king stared, whistled, and signed.

Presents from India.

A London correspondent, writing of the many curious animals presented to the Prince of Wales during his trip through India, and brought home by him in the Serapis, says that though a considerable number of the animals have found a temporary home at the Zoological Gardens, London, where they are being inspected by the public, a number of them have been forwarded to the royal residence in Norfolk. The gem of the collection is the elegantly formed gazelle, which rejoices in the name of Lalla Rookh. She is very tame, and flits about the house of Mr. Jackson with as much freedom as if she were a member of the family. The collection has just received an interesting addition, a cow of the buffalo species having had a calf. Both mother and offspring appeared to be doing well. In a paddock beyond the gas works are three Brahmin cows grazing contentedly. Originally they had with them a bull of the same breed, but unfortunately he died on the passage. They have the well known hump on the top of the shoulders, and are scarcely more than half the size of an ordinary English cow. They possess sleek coats of a white gray, with long, thin, white tails tipped with a tuft of black curly hair. They are by no means in a bad condition, considering the long sea voyage they have had. They are very tame, although they manifest a playful disposition to run at anybody who goes near them. At the Royal Mews is a pair of beautiful bill ponies from Nepal. They are not more than fourteen hands high, and are brown, with dark manes. One of them, which the Prince of Wales rode on some of his hunting expeditions, has an enormous mane, as well as a very heavy forelock. In the adjoining box are two animals, larger end of stouter build, one of them beautifully marked. In another is a pair of diminutive ponies, scarcely more than three feet high, and with short and frizzled manes. In the deer shed are two wild boars, and two hog deer. Near the head keeper's house, and in a shed by itself, is the fine Samur buck which came over in the Jumna; and in an adjoining shed is another of the peculiar looking little animals of the deer species called the dog deer. It is not higher than an ordinary pig, whilst its gait and manners somewhat resemble the animal after which it is named. There are four brace of dogs, singular looking creatures, some of them being hairless, and of a dark lead color.

The Temple at Jerusalem.

It is probably no exaggeration to say that more has been written regarding the temple of Jerusalem than in respect to any other building in the known world, and, unfortunately, it may be added, more that is wild and utterly untenable. This last peculiarity arises from several causes. First, because all the earlier restorers were entirely ignorant of the ground on which the temple stood, and of the local circumstances that governed its construction; it was not, indeed, till the spot was surveyed by the late Mr. Catherwood in 1833, and his plan published on a sufficient scale in 1862, that restorers had such a map of the ground as would enable them to adjust their measurements to the locality with anything like certainty. Though that plan was wonderfully perfect considering the circumstances under which it was made, it has since been superseded by that made under the direction of Capt. (now Major) Wilson, R. E., in 1864-5, which leaves nothing to be desired in this respect. It can be depended upon almost to inches, and has been engraved on a scale sufficiently large for all topographical, if not quite for architectural, purposes. A second cause of the wildness of the restorations hitherto attempted is that the temple at Jerusalem was quite unique. Not only had the Jews only this one temple, but, so far as we know, it was entirely of their own invention and utterly unlike the temples of the Egyptians or Greeks. It may have had affinities with those of the Babylonians or Assyrians; but, notwithstanding all that has been done of late years, we know so very little of what the temples of Mesopotamia were, that these hardly help us even at this day, and the assumption that this might be so was of no use whatever to earlier restorers. Having thus no analogies to guide them, and as it is literally and absolutely true that not one stone remains on another of the temple, properly so called, it is not to be wondered at that early restorers failed to realize the truth and indulged in fancies which were utterly untenable. In nine cases out of ten their object was to produce a building which would be worthy Solomon in all his glory rather than a reproduction of the very moderate building described in the Bible.—Contemporary Review.

Talking at Table.

This is one of the best digesters; there is no tonic known equal to it, as it is of the kind calculated to promote hilarity and good feeling generally. Most parents are prone to prohibit their children from laughing and talking at the table; it is unphysiological; it is a cruelty. Joyousness promotes the circulation of the blood, enlivens it, invigorates it, sends it tingling to the remotest part of the system, carrying with it animation, vigor and life. The louder the little ones laugh the better; the faster they talk the better, for then they eat less in a given time, consequently chew their food more thoroughly.

In the present century two sultans were murdered after being deposed; and of the ten sultans of the seventeenth century six lost their throne by violence, and three of them were strangled.

The Old Fashioned Way.

The rattle of the lawn mower is heard in the land, but a citizen of Detroit, according to the *Free Press*, when a hardware man asked him if he didn't want a mower, replied: "No, sir, I don't. There's nothing like a good sharp scythe to cut grass. You can sell your new fangled notions to such as want them." He went home with a scythe one forenoon. The grass was in fine condition and he never felt better in his life. He threw off his coat, whistled like the farmer who surveys the dewy meadow and then went in. The grass fell in showers for about a minute and then waited while the scythe cut the penstock hose in two. The wife and son came out and denied leaving the hose there, and after some hard words the mower cut a new swath. It wasn't a very long one, owing to the fact that the point of the scythe entered a cherry tree. Some boys leaned over the fence and asked who cut the favorite cherry tree, but there was no reply. After pulling and tugging for awhile the scythe was extracted, and the man crossed to the other side of the yard and cut a swath along the fence. There were only eighty-four pickets in the fence. That's the reason the scythe didn't chip into any more. It was a beautiful swath, however, and it encouraged the mower to renewed exertions. It wasn't long before he turned up three bottles, four oyster cans, a coil of wire, five or six clothespins and a lot of rag carpet. When he struck an old stove cover he leaned against the house to sharpen up. The second pass he made he sharpened up his thumb. The third pass passed the scythe over into the back yard, where it cut three lines out of the clothes reel and nearly stabbed the hired girl in the heel. "Nevertheless," explained the citizen, as he stood at his gate with his thumb rolled up in the largest part of an old shirt, "I claim that a scythe has many advantages over a lot of cog wheels and handles. I have ridden up and down on the street cars so long that I am a little out of practice."

Specific Gravity.

When Archimedes was asked if he could find out whether the jewelers had, in making the crown, kept back some of the gold, and supplied its weight with some other metal, the philosopher was put to thinking and experimenting; and one day he exclaimed, with excited energy: "Eureka! Eureka!" ("I have found it! I have found it!")

What had he found? He had discovered that any solid body, put into a vessel of water, displaces its own bulk of water; and therefore, if the sides of the vessel are high enough to prevent it running over, the water will rise to a certain height. He now got one ball of gold and another of silver, each weighing exactly the same as the crown. Of course the balls were not the same size, because silver is lighter than gold, and so it takes more of it to make the same weight. He first put the gold into a basin of water, and marked on the side of the vessel the height to which the water rose. Next, taking out the gold, he put in the silver ball, which, though it weighed the same, yet, being larger, made the water rise higher; and this height he also marked. Lastly, he took out the silver ball and put in the crown. Now, if the crown had been pure gold, the water would have risen only up to the mark of the gold ball; but it rose higher, and stood between the gold and silver mark, showing that silver had been mixed with it, making it more bulky. This was the first attempt to measure the specific gravity of different substances.

An Ingenious Piece of Work.

The Colorado State building on the Centennial grounds is in the form of a Greek cross, in the center and under the cupola of which is suspended a bell ingeniously constructed out of grains in the stalk, grasse, and broomcorn brush, while the tongue consists of a bell-shaped gourd suspended at the end of an elongated club gourd of over six feet by about two inches in diameter. The bell is eight feet nine inches across the bottom, and eight feet six inches high, and is in the same proportion, and bears the same inscription, as the old Revolutionary relic in Independence Hall: "Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land to all the inhabitants thereof (Lev., xxv. 10)."

Reporters.

Dr. Bartol, of Boston, a gentleman of somewhat radical views, has been preaching a sermon on reporters and reporting, and favors the process. "The reporter," said the doctor, "is a photographer. But the sun may slur or distort; and who of us ever thought his own picture handsome enough, or his ideas fitly represented? But these invisible observers and listeners have no personal favor, or personal or sectarian bias. There is no bribe to take or ax to grind. They pass up the exact record, nothing added or left out. They are but our proxies and servants; for in all our action and speech we are reporting ourselves, and, however we wish, are no more able to question the register than a man to deny his own signature."

Dr. Marcy, the physician to the late Alexander T. Stewart, has received from Mrs. Stewart, as an appreciation of his services, the exquisite picture by Col. Knapp of "Spring" or "The Swing." It cost \$6,000, and Mr. Stewart had refused twice that sum for it. It was one of the gems of his gallery.