

Au Elephant's Surgical Operation on Himself.

Elephants very frequently make use of tools. Sir John Tennant, Romanes, Dampier, and others say that these creatures, when passing through the jungle, break branches from the trees and use them as fans. One day, while observing Jessie, a very intelligent elephant that was on exhibition at the St. Louis fair grounds, I noticed that she was greatly worried and annoyed by the attacks of a swarm of large flies. These insects had settled on her back where she could not reach them with her proboscis or with her tail. She seemed to study the situation for a few moments; then, reaching out her trunk, she seized a mop-broom, which stood in the corner of her stall, and deliberately brushed off the greedy little bloodsuckers with it.

Mr. G. E. Peal states in Nature that he once saw a young elephant deliberately fashion a surgical instrument. He saw the animal in question go to a bamboo fence and break off one of the pickets; this picket is further fractured with its trunk and one of its forefeet until it obtained a sharp fragment some ten or twelve inches in length. Then, leaning forward on one of its fore legs, it thrust this fragment, which is grasped

with its trunk, into its "armpit," and vigorously moved it to and fro. As a result of this operation, a large elephant leech was dissolved, which dropped to the ground and was at once ground to mince-meat beneath the horny toes of the sagacious brute, which grunted its intense satisfaction!

Jessie, the elephant mentioned above, had some knowledge of pneumatics. One day I tossed a peanut, which fell to the ground some eight or ten inches beyond the utmost reach of her trunk. She stretched out this organ to its fullest extent toward the peanut, then blew through it a sudden, quick and powerful blast. The peanut was hurled against the wall, from when it bounded and then rolled beneath the feet of the intelligent animal, which at once swallowed it. I tried this experiment several times, each time with a like result.—*Scientific American.*

HABITS OF SPEECH.

"Why do educated parents allow their children to contract habits of ungrammatical speech that will have to be conquered in after-life?" asked a spinster of a mother.

"Because they hate to worry the poor little things about such matters when they are young and should be care-free. It seems cruel to be all the time correcting them and keeping them on their good behavior. They will have to learn the rules of our dreadful language all too soon as it is."

"Yes," said the spinster, "and in addition to learning to speak properly they will have to unlearn the tricks of speech in which they have been allowed to indulge all their little lives. I know," laughing, "that there is much ridicule of 'old maids' children,' but I believe that my theory in this case is correct. It is a positive unkindness to let your child double his negatives and say 'ain't,' when several years from now he will be harshly reproved for such lapses. The child must learn to talk anyway, and is it not as easy to teach him to say 'It is I,' as 'It's me?' And is it not as simple for the little tongue to lisp 'I saw it,' as 'I seen it?' I love baby-talk, and should not correct a child for his mispronunciation of hard words. As he grows older he will himself see his mistakes in that line and change them. But I insist that it is a parent's duty to make the difficult path to grammatical speech as easy as possible by never allowing the little ones to stray from it in the beginning."

THE ELEPHANT'S JOKE.

Every visitor to the Philadelphia Zoo knows Bolivar, the largest and possibly the most wicked elephant in captivity. He has more visitors every day than any six men in the city. He does not carry a car, as does the elephant at Lincoln Park, nor is he useful in any way except as a peanut consumer. It is through him that the peanut man at the park makes all his money; for who would buy peanuts if it were not for the elephant and his overwhelming appetite?

Many stories are told of him, but here is one of the latest: The drinking-cup, which is Boliver's very own, is a four-gallon iron affair, which would do very well for a small boy's bath tub. It does not, however, hold enough water to fill Boliver trunk, which has a capacity of just six gallons.

It happened not long ago that a small boy had been teasing Boliver, holding forth a peanut and then withdrawing it

just about as the elephant was about to gobble it up. Boliver did not like it, but what could he do? He pulled at his chain and flapped his ears and sneezed; but the small boy only laughed.

Just then along came a keeper with a four-gallon drinking cup full of water. Boliver blinked his little eyes, and thrust his trunk into the water, as though he were very thirsty. It interested the boy, and he drew nearer. When Mr. Boliver raised his trunk he did so quickly, and pointing at the boy, turned on the power. The force of the stream carried the boy off his feet and landed him on the other side of the roadway, a dripping, wretched creature. Boliver enjoyed the joke immensely, and flapped his ears and clanked the chain as though he was trying to say, "Come over here again, won't you, little fellow?" But, needless to say, the boy did not accept the invitation.—*The Presbyterian.*

BABY'S WELFARE.

Every mother is naturally anxious that her little ones shall be bright, good natured and healthy. Every mother can keep her children in this condition if she will give them an occasional dose of Baby's Own Tablets. These Tablets cure indigestion and stomach troubles, prevent diarrhoea, cure constipation, allay simple fevers, break up colds, destroy worms and make teething easy. And the Tablets are guaranteed to contain no opiate or harmful drug. Mrs. R. E. Long, Peachland, B. C., says: "I have found Baby's Own Tablets unsurpassed for teething troubles, breaking up colds and reducing fever, and they make a child sleep naturally. They have done my little one so much good I would not like to be without them." Druggists everywhere sell these Tablets, or you can get them by mail at 25 cents a box by writing The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

WHERE CORK COMES FROM.

Cork is the bark of an oak tree commonly known as the cork oak, a native of Spain, the south of France, Italy and Algeria.

The tree usually grows to an age of about thirty years before the first crop of bark is removed; it grows again so rapidly that it may be taken off every eight or ten years. After it is removed it is usually flattened by heavy weights and sometimes heated by fire to fill up the pores as much as possible.

We all know how much cork is used for stoppers of bottles, which at one time was its chief use. Now we find cork used for a great many other purposes, on account of its lightness—"as light as a cork" is a common saying.

It is used for lining hats, because it repels heat and keeps articles that are protected by it cool. It is commonly used in Portugal for making a peculiar kind of basket or box in which the agricultural laborers carry their food.

Ground into powder cork is mixed with oil and India-rubber, and it then forms the linoleum with which our floors are covered.

—Evidently the evangelistic movement is one not to be despised or depreciated. The additions to the Presbyterian church on confession for the three years before this movement began were 159,727; for the three years since, 200,034, an increase of 40,307. Figures tell a significant story here.

WHAT MAKES YOU COUGH.

Did you ever wonder just what it is that makes you cough? In a general way it is understood to be an involuntary effort of nature to eject something from the breathing-pipe. As a matter of fact, merely a slight throat inflammation caused by a cold will cause a cough to start, and the more you cough the more you want to cough. If you allay the inflammation in your throat the cough will stop.

Don't hurt the sensitiveness of the throat with medicines containing a narcotic, but give it healing and soothing treatment. This is difficult, because the inflamed parts are in the way of the passage of food and drink. The true cough remedy is something that will protect the throat from the ill effects of catharral discharges and also from the irritation of swallowing food. Such a remedy is Adamson's Botanical Cough Balsam, which for many years has been conquering the most obstinate coughs. It is a soothing compound, prepared from barks and gums. Its beneficent effect is quickly felt, and the work of healing promptly begun. If you once take Adamson's Balsam for cough, you will never be satisfied without some of it at hand for any new cough. A trial size of the balsam can be secured of any druggist for 10 cents. The regular size is 25 cents. In asking for the Balsam, be sure to get the genuine, which has "F. W. Kinsman & Co." blown on the bottle.

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A WARNING NOTE FROM THE BACK.

People often say, "How are we to know when the kidneys are out of order?" The location of the kidneys, close to the small of the back, renders the detection of kidney trouble a simple matter. The note of warning comes from the back, in the shape of backache. Don't neglect to cure it immediately. Serious kidney trouble will follow if you do. A few doses of

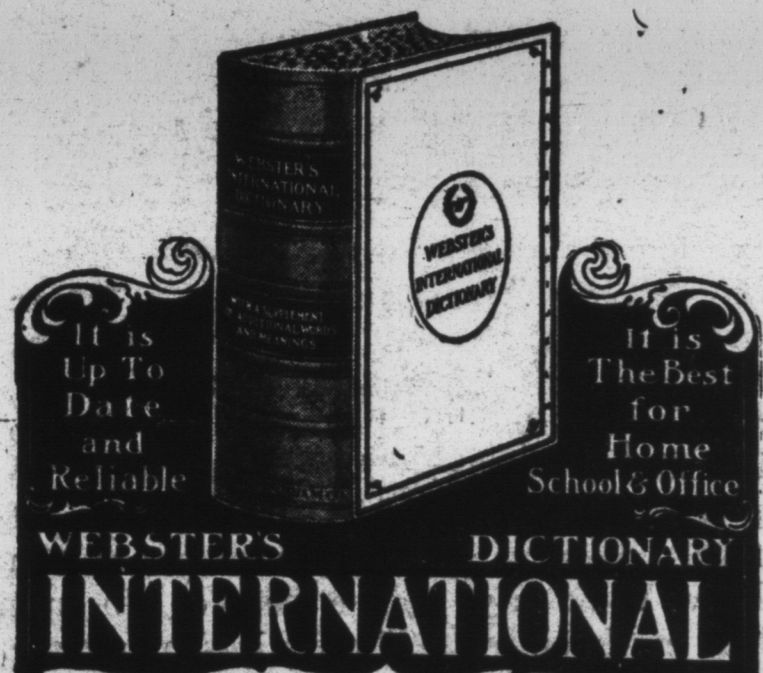
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