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Romans Liked Cock Fighting.

In the New Testament the cock is mentioned in reference to the denial of the Lord and indirectly in the "cock-crowing." There is no mention in the Old Testament of the cock or hen. These domestic birds were known to the early Greeks and Romans and probably were introduced by the Romans into Palestine. It is said that these birds were prized by the Romans both as food and for cock fighting.

Rusty Door Fastenings.

The best door fastenings sometimes fail to catch without a special turning of the knob, the latch seeming sluggish and slow in action. This annoyance may be remedied by a few drops of kerosene, which dissolves the accumulated rust. Apply with an oil can having a long tube, so that the oil may be thrown far into the interior of the latch.

"Yankee Doodle" Old English Air.

"Yankee Doodle," which has now become virtually a national air for Americans, was originally sung in derision by the British troops at the time of the Revolution. It was an old English air, and its correct title was "Yankee Doodle," which the troops altered to "Yankee Doodle." It was not long, however, before the Americans declared that they had made the Britishers "Yankee to Yankee Doodle," and from that time on the troops under George Washington considered the song theirs.

Use for Old Rubbers.

Old hot-water bags make ice holders to use when wringing cloths for hot water for compresses, face massage, etc. Cut the bag all around the seam. Cut the stiff top of an old rubber shoe in a great proportion to the hands and hotter water can be used.

New Discoveries In The Virgin Islands

Scene In Charlotte Amalie.

THE three little islands of the West Indian archipelago which the United States has just purchased from Denmark have attained in the last few months a prominence in the public eye such as they have not known since Columbus discovered them. Artists, writers and scientists have journeyed into the Caribbean. The surprised natives have been interviewed, the scenery described, the hills and beaches dug up for relics.

Theodore de Booy, an ethnologist attached to the Museum of the American Indian, Heye foundation, has returned from the islands after completing what is probably the first thorough scientific search of them for relics of their primitive inhabitants, writes Frederic J. Haskin in the Chicago Daily News. He brings in the interesting information that our three little islands of St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John were never inhabited by either the Arawaks or the Caribs, popularly supposed to have been the pre-Columbian peoples of all the West Indies; but were the home of a distinct race. He also discovered that these islands were once the home of a wingless bird, which was exterminated by the Indians, and he interestingly describes the probable condition of the Virgin Island in pre-Columbian days, when they were heavily forested and had a fauna quite different from the present one.

Ancient Villages Found.

Mr. de Booy found the sites of two villages upon the island of St. Thomas, where the Danish capital of Charlotte Amalie is now located. On St. Croix he found evidence of a large population for primitive times; he estimates that about 10,000 Indians were supported by this rich little island, which is now largely planted in sugar cane and tropical fruits. The island of St. John, which is the best watered and most beautiful of the three, he believes never to have been occupied by the Indians as a home, but to have been set aside by them for ceremonial purposes.

Mr. de Booy unearthed many skeletons of the primitive people of the islands, many of their stone implements, and found numerous shell heaps where they had made their fishing camps; but the relics which convinced him that he had come upon the traces of a separate tribe were the bits of pottery that he found about the village sites. On the strength of this pottery alone he asserts positively that the Virgin Island Indians were neither Caribs nor Arawaks, but of a different tribe, for the making of pottery is an art, and it is in art which gives play to personality and imagination that any people, primitive or civilized, is distinctive. Thus a penknife made in Germany is not in any essential or characteristic way different from a penknife made in the United States. You could not distinguish the two products in a store window. This is because there is only one way to make a penknife so that it will best serve its purpose. But German painting and sculpture are absolutely distinctive from these arts in the United States as are German philosophy and fiction.

So among primitive races stone axes, arrow heads and knives made by widely separated tribes in about the same stage of development are much alike, but the pottery of these tribes, in form and design, is different.

Theory of Their Origin.

Mr. de Booy's theory is that the people of the Virgin Islands belonged to some South American tribe which was driven from its mainland home, found all of the more rich and important islands occupied by the warlike Caribs and the powerful Arawaks, and so were forced to settle on the two minor islands of St. Thomas and St. Croix, which are about the smallest in the Indies that have a dependable water supply. It is interesting to notice that this weak primitive tribe got the islands for the same reason that the small and helpless civilized nation of Denmark got them later—because no one else wanted them.

These first inhabitants of our new islands were similar in habits and pursuits to the other West Indian natives. They were farmers and raised various tropical crops. Beyond a doubt they were expert fishermen and were able to travel from island to island in their great seagoing canoes. These are described by early explorers and are known to have been large enough to seat 80 or 90 men. The Indians used them not only for fishing, but for war and piracy; among the distinctive remains are some that indicate the presence of a few Caribs; these were undoubtedly brought to the islands as prisoners.

Flightless Bird's Bones Found.

Next to his discovery that a hitherto unknown tribe once inhabited these islands, Mr. de Booy's most interesting find was the bones of a flightless bird. Such a bird belonging to the rail family and having useless rudimentary wings inhabits New Zealand at the present day, but that a similar creature lived on this hemisphere was a tremendous surprise to the scientists of the Smithsonian institution in Washington, who identified the bones sent them by Mr. de Booy. The bird is not prehistoric, but undoubtedly was hunted and eaten by the Indians three or four hundred years ago.

Another creature which existed upon the islands in pre-Columbian days and is now extinct was the isobodon, a large rodent, which also furnished the islanders with food.

It is well known that these three islands, which are now covered for the most part with brush and grass, where they are not cultivated, once supported heavy forests. The trees were probably burned by the Spaniards in order to make room for crops.

Mr. de Booy's discoveries indicate that the islands not only have been deforested, but that the whole character of their fauna has been changed by man. Not only the flightless bird and the isolobodon have been exterminated, but he also found bones of a species of crow which is now extinct and is known to have inhabited only dense forests. For these animals which have been destroyed, the European fallow deer, the partridge and the wild goat have been substituted. Thus the character of both flora and fauna have been radically altered by man and if one of the aborigines could return he would probably find the islands hard to recognize.

No Danger.

A party of engineers were out wire cutting in "No Man's Land" one night. Things were progressing very favorably when one of the sentries sent up a flare or star shell so that he could spy out the land. Immediately all the wire cutters, except one, threw themselves down.

"Keep still, you idiot!" they whispered to the foolhardy one.

"It doesn't matter, you silly chumps," came the retort. "It's one of ours!"

Psaltery Like Modern Guitar.

The psaltery was a stringed musical instrument to accompany the voice. In the prayer book version of the Psalms the Hebrew word is given as "lute." This instrument resembles the guitar, but was larger with a convex back, resembling a gourd.

NICKNAMES WERE LEGALIZED

Titles Spread Upon Official Records, According to Early Archives of Several States.

Nicknames are not likely to get out of fashion so long as human nature remains what it is. In these days, however, it is not customary to spread such titles upon official records, as was formerly the habit, according to the archives of several of our states.

In the Dutch records of 1641 we have John Pietersen, alias Friend John. In the Newton purchase from the Indians, dated in 1650, one of the boundaries is "by a Dutchman's land called Hans the Boore," and in the Bushwick patent, dated October 12, 1667, one of the boundaries is "John the Swede's meadow." In 1685, in the Kings county records, a man is named living at Gowanus as "Tunis the Fisher."

The common council of New York in 1691 ordered fish to be brought into the dock "over against the city hall or the house that Long Mary formerly lived in," and in the same year an order was passed "that Topknot Betty and her children be provided for as objects of charity."

The explanation of this custom in many cases was that the persons in question either had no family names or had forgotten them, says a New York exchange, so that the use of their generally accepted nicknames became a necessity.

Sister Classified.

Little Willie's father was teaching him about plants and said, "A weed is a thing that grows in a place where it is not wanted." "Well," replied little Willie, "then sister is a weed, cause she's growing here and I don't want her, for she takes all my pennies."

Famous Library.

The library of the House of Lords contains about 60,000 volumes, and they are set out in a luxurious suite of rooms. The library is particularly rich in historical works and memoirs, and includes one of the finest collection of law books in London as befits the needs of the Peers.

Detroit United Lines

Birmingham Time Table

Eastern Standard Time.

South-bound—Express Service—5:20 a. m., 6:15 a. m., then half-hourly to and including 6:45 p. m.; then local service 7:15 p. m., and half-hourly to 10:45 p. m., 11:45.

South-bound—Locals—4:55 a. m., 5:25 a. m., 5:55 a. m., 6:05 a. m., 6:20 a. m., 6:35 a. m., 6:50 a. m., 7:05 a. m., 7:25 a. m., and every half-hour to 6:55 p. m.

North-bound—Express Service—7:07 a. m. and half-hourly to 9:07 p. m. Local Service, half hour, 9:47 p. m. to 12:47 a. m.

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FOR DUMP WAGONS AND TEAMS CALL US WE HAVE TWO-YARD WAGONS AND BEST OF HORSES
BIRMINGHAM SERVICE CO.
PHONE 63

MORTGAGE SALE.

Default having been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Peter B. Shingler and his wife, Sarah H. Shingler, of Pontiac, Oakland county Michigan, dated the 18th day of July, A. D. 1916, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Oakland and State of Michigan, on the 15th day of July, A. D. 1916, at 10 o'clock a. m. of said day, in Liber 226 of Mortgages, on pages 568 and 569, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of seven hundred fifty-two dollars and eighty-two cents ($752.82), and an attorney fee of thirty dollars ($30.00), as provided for in said mortgage, and no suit or proceedings at law having been instituted to recover the moneys secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; notice is hereby given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, on *Monday, the 12th day of November, 1917,* at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of said day, the undersigned will, at the easterly front door of the Court House, in the City of Pontiac, County of Oakland, Michigan (that being the place where the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland is held), sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, the premises described in said mortgage, lot No. 3 of Cleaz's Addition, subdivision of Outlot No. 5, on southwest quarter of Section 29, being on the west side of State Avenue, Fifth Ward, City of Pontiac, County of Oakland, State of Michigan. Dated August 6, 1917.

D. L. DAVIS, Mortgagee.
MANLY D. DAVIS, Attorney for Mortgagee. Business address: 601 Majestic Building, Detroit, Michigan. 10aug-2nov

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION.—General.

State of Michigan, the Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court held at the Probate office, in the City of Pontiac, in said county, on the 5th day of September, A. D. 1917. Present, Hon. Kleber P. Rockwell, Judge of Probate. In the matter of the estate of

SUSAN SMITH, Incompetent.

Thomas H. Cobb, guardian of said incompetent having filed in said Court his final account (resignation) and petition praying for allowance of the same and the appointment of a successor, the discharge of himself and the cancellation of his bond.

It is ordered that the 6th day of October, A. D. 1917, at 8:30 o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition, it is further ordered that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

KLEBER P. ROCKWELL,
(A true copy.) Judge of Probate.
JUDSON A. FREDENBURGH, Register of Probate. 14-28sep

MORTGAGE SALE.

Default having been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Gaylord C. Brimmer and Alice M. Brimmer, his wife, of Waterford township, Oakland county, Michigan, dated the 26th day of July, A. D. 1915, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Oakland and State of Michigan, on the 9th day of May, A. D. 1916, at 2:30 o'clock of said day, in Liber 206 of Mortgages, on page 660, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of five thousand seven hundred four dollars and fifty-six cents (5,704.56), and an attorney fee of thirty dollars ($30.00), and an additional sum of seventy dollars ($70.00) paid for insurance on this property, as provided for in said mortgage, and no suit or proceedings at law having been instituted to recover the moneys secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; notice is hereby given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and the statute in such case made and provided, on *Monday, the 12th day of November, 1917,* at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of said day, the undersigned will, at the easterly front door of the Court House, in the City of Pontiac, County of Oakland, Michigan (that being the place where the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland is held), sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, the premises described in said mortgage, town: All that certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Township of Waterford, Oakland county, Michigan, and described as follows, town: Lots No. 2 and 3 of Lake Acres Subdivision Number One [1], as recorded in the Oakland County Records, in Book No. 18 of Plats, on page 19. Also a strip of land 10 feet in width, running from the highway to the lake off the southeast corner of Lot No. 4 of said subdivision, said parcel being in town 3 north, range 9 east.—Dated Aughst 6, 1917.

M. D. DAVIS, Attorney for Mortgagee. Business address: 601 Majestic Building, Detroit, Michigan. 10aug-2nov

State of Michigan, County of Oakland, in Chancery. Mary Baker, plaintiff, vs. Milton W. Baker, defendant. In this case it appearing that the defendant, Milton W. Baker, is not a resident of this State, and that his whereabouts is unknown, therefore, on motion of A. Floyd Blakeslee, attorney for plaintiff, it is ordered that defendant enter his appearance in said cause on or before three months from the date of this order, and that within 20 days the plaintiff cause this order to be published in the Birmingham Eccentric, said publication to be continued once in each week for six weeks in succession.

GEORGE W. SMITH,
Countersigned:
MAURICE E. MINCLEY,
Deputy Clerk in Chancery.
A. FLOYD BLAKESLEE, Attorney for Plaintiff
10aug-21sep

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Timbrel Now the Tamborine.

The timbrel of the Bible was the instrument known today as the tamborine. It was used in early times by the Syrians of Padan-aram at their merrymakings (Genesis 31:27).

The Life Extension institute issues a statement advising girls and young women to go to bed early every night, to shun cake and in no circumstances to eat ice cream. They will be glad to follow this advice, beginning on the same day they stop talking about clothes.—New York Herald.