

on her own resources since the revolution. Many kind friends have offered help, but she has refused all financial aid. Her expenses at Washington have, of course, been very heavy, and she has had to mortgage her private property to obtain funds. I am sure the American nation would never allow the queen, whom they have deprived of her country, to sink into poverty. You know when a proposal for annexation was made under the Harrison administration it was intended to offer the queen ample compensation for the loss of her crown. Now that annexation is an actual fact some proposal of a similar nature will be made."

"Before this war broke out," said the queen, "I had every hope that I would come into my own again. If annexation had been defeated the movement for the restoration of the monarchy would have gained strength enough to sweep the republic away. My people never voted for the republic, but at least 75 per cent of them would have voted for my return to the throne."

"Everything now depends on the manner in which the commissioners the United States is sending to Hawaii settle the government. If they treat my people well and give them the full measure of liberty which they deserve all will be right."

"We were the most civilized race in the Pacific," went on Liliuokalani, proudly. "We belonged to the family of nations. Our representatives were to be found in every court. We had all the machinery of modern government, our people were educated and knew how to vote intelligently. It is a very different thing from annexing a colony of another nation or capturing a group of savage islands like the Philippines. Hawaii has a just claim to the preservation of her state rights. If the nation is to be absorbed by the United States, then it should be admitted to the union, and the Hawaiians should be granted the same rights and privileges as are accorded to any other portion of the race."

"Then, again, some special provision must be made for the introduction of Asiatic labor, or else all the sugar plantations will be ruined. It will never do to stop the coolies coming there altogether."

"But are not there enough men now on the islands to work the plantations?"

"Yes, there are enough coolies now, but if more were not allowed to come you can see that the supply would soon run out, and there would be a great rise in wages. Then it would be impossible to grow sugar profitably, and the islands would be ruined."—San Francisco Call.

#### PHILIPPINE SEA SNAKES.

Not only do various reptiles and other queer creatures abound in the forests and swamps of the Philippines, but the surrounding water of these interesting islands teem with veritable sea serpents. These strange creatures, which pass their entire existence in the water, possess deadly fangs. The are a great menace to the fishermen who are constantly exposed to their attacks.

Technically speaking, science has named the group they constitute the Hydrophidae. They differ from the terrestrial snakes only in the possession of a flat, paddle like tail. These reptiles inhabit the tropical seas of the old world, and occasionally attain a length of eight feet. Dr. Rudolph Weber, professor of drawing in Princeton university, observed large numbers of these creatures while on a steamer bound for Sumatra. Dr. Weber was in charge of a scientific expedition, and naturally took especial notice of them.

He says that when the vessel was some fifty miles off the coast, myriads of sea snakes could be seen swimming about as far as the eye could reach. They kept upon the surface, and several distinct species were recognized among them. During calm weather these reptiles may be seen sunning themselves upon the surface of the sea, remaining motionless except for a slight undulation caused by the movement of the water. When alarmed, the agile reptiles dive like arrows, leaving a train of bubbles behind them. Some species are extremely brilliant in coloration, being bright yellow, banded with black, while others are tinted with delicate shades of green.

The food of sea snakes consists entirely of fishes. Frequently fishes armed with long sharp spines fall victims to their appetites. Among these are the apogous and siluroids, which are furnished with spines three and five inches long. But these do not embarrass the voracious reptile in the least. The victim is first killed by the snake's poison, after which it is swallowed head first. The spines, naturally pointing toward the tail of the victim, and being relaxed in death, are compressed against the body of the fish as deglutition proceeds. While in search of their prey, sea snakes sometimes venture a short distance up the mouth of large rivers. Dr. Weber records an instance where he was fishing in one of the rivers on the east coast of Sumatra. He was using a drag net, and had cornered a number of medium sized fish. As the net was being brought in, two large sea snakes suddenly made their appearance inside. They showed no signs of uneasiness at capture, but were hurriedly gobbling down the cornered fishes. Nor did they cease operations until the last fish had disappeared, when the formidable creatures made their escape.

Being air breathers, the sea snakes lead a similar existence to the whale. Scientists have expressed much interest as to how long they can remain under water. Prof. R.P. Whitfield of the American Museum of Natural History, while dragging for corals, saw a large sea snake lying motionless among some coral growths some eight feet below the surface. It showed no signs of fear, and remained in the same position for an hour. The venom of these reptiles are even more deadly than that of the cobra. The fangs are very short, and consequently do not penetrate so deep as the fangs of most serpents, but only a scratch from then is necessary to produce serious results. Owing to their great shyness, accidents are very rare. When cornered they snap and bite viciously, retaining their hold upon a victim. As their eyes are adapted only for use in the water, they strike blindly when brought into the air, although living for days when removed from their native element.

Many specimens hauled up in fishermen's nets have been sent to zoological gardens. The London gardens even went so far as to build a special tank for their accommodation. But these captured specimens either die en route or a short time after being kept in captivity. Seeking a dark corner of their tank, they refuse all food and ultimately starve to death. Around the numerous volcanic islands of the Malayan archipelago these reptiles are particularly numerous. Frequent eruptions occur among these islands, which are hardly more than the body of the volcano. During the time of an eruption, the few people residing near by take to the water in their boats to escape the rain of ashes and mud. It is generally a case of jumping from the frying pan into the fire, however. At such times the sea becomes uncomfortably warm from its close proximity to the burning mountain, and the sea snakes swim wildly about for escape. They endeavor

to climb over the gunwales of the refugees' boats, while they twine their bodies in great masses about the forward chains.

When about to lay their eggs, these serpents approach the shore. The eggs are laid above high water mark, and left to hatch by the heat of the sun. Many creatures prey upon the young reptiles, and other large fishes, while the adults, in spite of their death dealing fangs, fall victims to sea eagles and large gulls. After the great typhoons which are common in the Philippines and their vicinity, many of these creatures may be found along the beach, where they have been cast up during the storm and killed by the violent pounding of the waves.

The gigantic sea serpents so often observed by intemperate captains of small sailing vessels have no relation to these creatures. One of the "sea monsters" seen not long ago and described as undergoing the most remarkable of gyrations, proved to be a dead anaconda, thrown overboard from a Trinidad steamer.—New York Times.

#### RASPBERRY CULTURE

Within a few years back a notable change has been introduced in the general management of the raspberry. The only pruning formerly given to this plant was confined to cutting out the old stems which had fruited, thinning out the young stems which were to produce the next crop, and shortening them by cutting off a portion of their tops. These would then be fastened to a stake or some similar support, and this completed the pruning for the season. But the more modern system obviates the necessity of any kind of support and the plants are managed so they are able to support themselves when full of fruit. This is accomplished by allowing the first year's growth of set out plants to grow undisturbed; the second year two or more shoots will be produced, and when these have reached a height of about two feet their tops are pinched off, so as to stop their further upright growth; they will then proceed to push out side shoots or laterals on all sides, balancing and supporting themselves very effectually and appearing like small evenly headed trees. When growth has been completed for the season and the leaves have fallen, these side shoots are pruned back so as to leave them from 12 to 16 inches in length, according to their strength. This pruning can be done quite rapidly with pruning shears. At the same time, if not before, all the old stems or canes which have fruited are also removed; but many cultivators prefer to remove these old stems immediately after the fruit has been gathered, claiming that by so doing the young canes have greater freedom of growth; also, that by promptly removing the old canes many kinds of insects which lodge in the old wood and have cocoons and nests upon it, are thus destroyed by burning all the prunings as they are collected. This system is continued annually; no greater number of young shoots than is required are allowed to grow, all others being destroyed as they reach a few inches in height. The summer topping is attended to as previously stated, and the result of this routine treatment is a self-supporting plant and improved fruit.—William Saunders.

At Boise, Ida., Wednesday, the Democrats, Silver Republicans and Populists of that state will meet in state convention. It is probable that a fusion will be effected and the contest for governor promises to be a warm one.