

## A Harmless Reptile.

Not only are toads actually harmless, but they are also absolutely and directly useful to us, perambulating our fields and gardens at night, and devouring vast quantities of injurious insects which would never be destroyed by the hand of man. The mode in which a toad takes its prey is very curious. The singularly beautiful eye of the toad is as quick as it is bright, and if within the range of its vision an insect or a grub should happen to move, the toad is sure to see it and nearly certain to catch it. First, the toad holds its head as high as possible, so as to make sure of its prey, and then crawls slowly toward it, preferring to get under it, if possible. When it is nearly within reach, it gazes intently at the insect, its mouth being gradually brought nearer. Something pink then flashes from its mouth, and the insect vanishes as if by magic.

The pink flash is the tongue of the toad, which is formed in a rather curious way. The base of the tongue is fixed close to the front of the lower jaw, and is long and tapering, the tip pointing down the throat when it is at rest. When, however, it is used for catching prey, it is thrown out with a sort of "click," and the tip which is covered with a sort of glutinous secretion, adheres to the insect, and conveys it down the toad's throat before the prey has had time to make an effort for escape. When the toad swallows its prey, it does it with a mighty effort, during which the eyes almost disappear, the size of the insect having little to do with the vehemence of the demonstration. Sometimes when a large beetle is swallowed it does struggle, but too late, and for some time its struggles may be seen through the thin and ribbed sides of its captor; the toad sitting the while in perfect composure, not in the least affected by the scratchings that are going on in its interior. Indeed the stomach seems as devoid of feeling as if it were of iron. Moreover, the toad not only cares nothing for the scratchings and kickings of a large beetle, but it is equally indifferent to the stings of wasps, bees and insects similarly armed with venomous weapons, and will eat them with marvelous appetite, as if the sting acted as a sort of gentle aid to digestion, like cayenne pepper with cucumber.

A BOSJESMAN ORGIE—Chapman in his "Travels in the interior of South Africa," thus describes a novel and disgusting scene of which he was an eyewitness, at a great gathering of the natives:—After eating, drinking and other preliminary ceremonies, the Bushmen indulge in a bout of smoking from a rude clay pipe, which being passed around each inhales one mouthful. A fit of violent intoxication ensues, the stomach distends, the breast heaves, the eyes turn their whites to view, a quivering motion seizes the whole frame, and they fall back in terrible convulsions, kicking and writhing; their faces assume the most hideous contortions, and the foam issues from their mouths, while the more hardened of the party try to restore the senses of their fellows by squirting water from their mouths on their faces, and pulling at a tuft of hair in the crown of their heads. This is one of the most disgusting spectacles that can be witnessed. It occasionally happens that some of them die in these convulsions; others on recovery, say that they have been in an ecstasy of delight, and desire a repetition; and it is every young Bushman's greatest boast to have been drunk from tobacco. When smoking alone, they frequently fall into the fire, and are sometimes burnt to death. In the course of my rambles, I have seen hundreds who have been injured by fire, into which they had fallen during this state of delirium; and they are too lazy or thoughtless to take any precautions before they commence these dangerous orgies. The Bushmen generally obtain tobacco by sending a few jackal skins to Chapo, a distance of 150 miles, in barter for it. The first time I observed one of these people in this state, not knowing the cause, I turned to inquire of the others, but I found they were all in the same state of stupor, one excepted, who looked particularly foolish, and smiled at my dismay, though his head was fast bobbing. Presently he rolled over among the rest. Appalled at the symptoms, I seized one of their tortoise-shells, ran for water, which I dashed unsparingly over them; and, on their being restored, found that this immoderate use of tobacco had caused them."

## An Adventure in Africa.

A recent traveler in the forests of Africa gives the following graphic account of his adventure with a lion:

The distant roaring of a lion now reached my ears, and filled my soul with emotions of horror so great, that I could not summon even a thought of prayer, and memory refused to supply me with the most hackneyed expression of piety. Bound as I was to a forest tree by the savages who had captured me, I now heard this terrible animal approaching, crushing the shrubs and branches in his native wood as he came. His fearful roar was singular in sound; hoarse and inarticulate, it swelled upon the air like a prolonged "O," that seemed to come from and pass to a vast distance. It never became loud or shrill, but the idea it suggested of the animal itself made it seem to pierce the very soul. With great bewilderment of mind, like one in a dream that is full of nightmare, I beheld a great and dark skinned lion run out of the wood a hundred yards off; and, after looking about, he came towards me; for, by some strange instinct, he became sensible of my vicinity in an instant.

"On beholding me he dropped his prey (a zebra held in his mouth), and after uttering another hoarse roar, continued to approach, with his nose close to the ground, while switching his tufted tail and shaking his shaggy mane preparatory, as I imagined, to making a spring upon me. I closed my eyes, and, with a heart that died within me, resigned myself to my fate. He approached nearer and nearer, until I felt his whiskers touch my chin.

One moment more and I would have been lost; but summoning all my powers, I uttered one fierce and heartrending yell, which brought the savages from out of their homes. The lion, hearing this yell, suddenly turned about and calmly taking his zebra in his jaws, left the spot, and I was saved.

## How Mosquitoes bite.

The mosquito has a proboscis like an elephant, only not so large. He cannot do as many handy things with it as the elephant can with his. But he can cause a good deal of annoyance in a small way with it.

It is hardly the thing to say that the mosquito bites us, for he has no teeth. He carries a pair of scissors, inside of his proboscis; the neatest and sharpest little cutting tools you ever saw. He gets his living with these.

They are two delicate little blades, and are placed alongside each other. When he is ready to make a meal of us, he first buzzes around with these beautiful wings, and sings a pleasant little song. If we let him quietly settle down, he picks out a place on our skin which is just to his liking. He is very delicate about it. When he gets ready he puts his proboscis down, and pushes his little scissors out, and makes a neat cut, so that he can suck the blood out. Then he drinks as much blood as he wants, and is done his dinner.

But he does not leave yet. He is going to pay his bill. He has taken our blood, and he will leave us something in exchange for it. With all his faults he is an honest little fellow, after his fashion. He has the pay in his pocket, ready to squeeze out before he goes. It is poison, but that makes no difference to him. It is the best he has to give us.

His poison pocket is at the head of his proboscis, and at the lower end of the proboscis he has another little pocket into which he puts poison enough for one dose. This poison is very powerful. A very little of it makes the place where the mosquito puts it very sore.

After he has sucked our blood, he puts the drop of poison into the place he took the blood from. It is not the "bite" or the cut that the mosquito makes that hurts us, but the dropping of this powerful poison into our flesh. If the mosquito was large enough to give a powerful dose of this poison, it would be bad for us. If he were as big as a kitten, and his poison as strong in proportion, a "bite" from him would kill us.

The signal box is especially constructed, and placed so as to give a full view of the line and outside signals. It is made comfortable and warm; it is well lighted at night; it contains a clock, the telegraph instruments, the levers of the points, connected with the signals by the "locking" apparatus, and is furnished with a box of fog signals, and with hand signal lamp and signal flags.

SNAKES IN IRELAND.—Once a Week corrects the common notion that there are not snakes in Ireland, as follows: "A correspondent informs us that not only do serpents and frogs manage to exist in Ireland, but that they absolutely swarm, the latter especially, in the country districts—notably in the county of Dublin and the Queen's county. But as the snakes are there, and old authorities maintain that Ireland was free from them until comparatively recent times, the fact remains that somebody must have imported them. One account gives it out that they were first propagated from Spain, introduced as an experiment, in 1696, by a Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin; another, that a gentleman imported a number of vipers from England into Wexford, about the year 1797, but that they died immediately after. In the summer of 1831, however, a gentleman, by the way of experiment, brought a few pairs of the common snake from Scotland, and placed them in a plantation at Milecross, near Newtonards; and the readiness with which they multiplied was more alarming than pleasant. The late Marquis of W—d, well known in his day for his strange freaks, is said to have tried the same experiment on his own estates, but with no success."

## KNOX'S

Patent Hard Steel

## PLOW S



Made only by

## AMES PLOW COMPANY

Manufacturers of Agricultural Implements and Machines.

Quincy Hall, - - - BOSTON, Mass.,  
and 53 Beekman St., - - - NEW YORK,  
Send for Descriptive Circular.  
w16ly

## "Seely's Specialties."

## "VICTORIA REGIA!"

The Standard Perfume of America!

## "COCOA CREAM!"

The Neatest and Most Desirable Hair-Dressing in use!

## "FLAVORING EXTRACTS!"

Lemon Vanilla, etc.,

For Purity and Strength, are Unequaled

FOR SALE BY

## Z. C. M. I.

J. M. SEELY &amp; CO.,

DETROIT, MICH.

w24-2m

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF BEAVER COUNTY, }  
TERRITORY OF UTAH.In the matter of the Estate of }  
Cornelius O'Connell, deceased. }

Order to show cause why order of sale of real estate should not be made.

It appears to the Judge of said Court, by the petition of Martin O'Connell, the Administrator of the Estate of Cornelius O'Connell, deceased, duly presented and filed, praying for an order to sell the whole of the real estate, in order to wind up the affairs of said estate, and to pay the debts, charges and expenses of administration.

It is therefore, ordered by the Judge of said Court, that all persons interested in the estate of said deceased, appear before said court on the 19th day of August, A. D., 1871, at 10 o'clock a. m., of said day, at the basement of Meeting House, in Beaver City, Beaver County, U. T., to show cause why an order should not be granted to said administrator to sell the real estate of said deceased, and that a copy of this order be published at least four successive weeks in the "Deseret Weekly News," a newspaper printed and published in Salt Lake City, and having an extensive circulation in said county.

JOHN R. MURDOCK,

Probate Judge.

I, WILLIAM FOTHERINGHAM,

Clerk of the Probate Court

in and for said county.

Dated,

July 15, 1871, Territory of Utah, County of Beaver.

w25 1m

## O R E S.

A. T. GREEN,

## COMMISSION MERCHANT

No. 3 Front Street, San Francisco,

Agent for

SAMPLING, CRUSHING, ASSAYING  
AND SELLING OF ORES.

Shipments received from Miners, and the entire business transacted with promptness and accuracy.

Merchandise of all descriptions purchased and shipped on commission for country Merchants.

Consignments of Produce and Merchandise received and sold at the highest market prices.

Refers by permission to Jas. Linforth, of Linforth, Kelog & Co.; J. Hunt, President Pacific Insurance Co.; A. J. Ralston, Sec. Pacific Insurance Co.; Jos. A. Donohoe, of Donohoe, Kelly & Co.; Falkner, Bell & Co.; Badger & Lindeberger; Taaffe & Co., and J. B. Roberts, Esq.  
w16-tf

## WOODMANSEE &amp; BROTHER,

DEALERS IN DRY GOODS, GROCERIES and GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

## STORAGE AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

Fire-Proof Building, Main Street

## MINING DEEDS

OF the most approved form, in accordance with the Territorial Laws. Also other Deeds and Blanks.

FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE.

s20 w15 tf

W. F. ANDERSON, M.D., H. J. RICHARDS, M.D.

## Surgeons and Physicians,

Offices for the present at their respective residences in the 13th and 17th Wards. w1-tf

## WM. M. HOYT &amp; Co.,

## WHOLESALE GROCERS,

48 River Street, CHICAGO.

w113m

## O'Hara Flint Glass Works

JAMES B. LYON &amp; CO.,

Manufacturers of

Fine Pressed, Cut and Engraved Table

## GLASSWARE

w7-6m

PITTSBURGH, PA.

FINE

## WATCHES

AND

## Time-Pieces!

—:O:—

## GILES BRO. &amp; CO.,

OFFER THE LARGEST AND MOST CAREFULLY SELECTED ASSORTMENT OF

French Clocks,  
American and Swiss  
Watches,  
Silver-ware  
and Jewelry,

## For Wedding &amp; Holiday Presents!

To be found in the West.

Manufacturing ourselves and through our New York and Geneva houses, we have the advantage of offering the

NEWEST PATTERNS AND AT  
THE LOWEST PRICES OF ANY  
HOUSE IN THE TRADE!

It will be for the advantage of those about purchasing, to compare our prices with other manufacturers in Chicago and New York.

## GILES, BRO. &amp; CO.,

142 Lake Street,

## CHICAGO

Agents.

NATIONAL WATCH CO., Elgin, Ill.

UNITED STATES WATCH CO.,

Marion, N. J.

F. S. GILES, Resident Buyer, Paris and Chaux de Fonds, Switzerland.

Orders and inquiries by mail promptly responded to. w4-6mon