TWO SNAKE STORIES.

TOLD BY A GENTLEMAN WHO IS AWAY UP IN SERPENTOLOGY.

Snakes That Should Not Be Killed—How the Black Snake Hunts and Captures Its Food—Securing a Python From a Vessel Who Had Entirely Taken Possession.

"Sit down and sharpen your pencil, while I overhaul my mental [illegible]," remarked Mr. Thompson, [illegible] of the zoological collection in the park, in reply to a request for some snake stories. "[illegible] giving you some of my experiences I want to [illegible] against the [illegible] harmless [illegible] the black snake, garter snake and the like. Every farmer should protect them, for they are beneficial, instead of being harmful, as is generally supposed by a large [illegible] of humanity. Any [illegible] will tell you that the food of the black snake consists largely of [illegible], while that of the garter snake is principally [illegible], such as grasshoppers, caterpillars, etc.

"Now for some of my experiences. In my younger days I was crossing Ashby's gap over the Blue Ridge, Virginia, in company with an [illegible] of the famous Black Horse Cavalry, Ashby. We were making a portion of the ascent through quite a deep cut, when our attention was attracted by a toad, which rolled instead of hopped down the side slope. Ashby pulled up the horse and said, 'There is a black snake after that fellow.' An instant after the snake thrust his head through the fence, and on observing us drew back. In the meanwhile the toad had gathered himself together, and was hopping at a lively gait up the road. Ashby remarked, 'Now I will show you something,' and sprang out of the buggy and caught the toad, which he carried a short distance and released. Returning, he turned the buggy and drove back down the road some 50 steps, where we alighted and tied the horse. Climbing over the fence on the opposite side of the road to that on which the snake had made his appearance we stealthily worked our way up until we came in sight of the point where he was first seen. Lying down in the long grass and peering through the rails, we did not have to wait long before the snake reappeared.

"He looked about for a few seconds, and then descended the slope down which the toad had rolled, and followed his trail up the road. On coming to the spot where it had been picked up, he began to circle, precisely as a dog would act on losing the scent. He gradually increased the size of his circles until he struck the spot where the toad had been put down, when he made a bee line after it. We leaped into the road and hurried after his snakeship, who as soon as he discovered that he was being followed turned up the slope and squirmed out of sight through the fence. Ashby said, 'I am sure you are satisfied now that a black snake hunts by scent.'

"Now I shall have to take you out to South Africa. I lived in Durban, Natal, which is about 1,000 miles around the Cape of Good Hope, up toward Madagascar. One morning I received a note from the port captain asking me to come down to the harbor with all possible dispatch, as a python had taken possession of a German brig and I was wanted to capture it. Taking one of my keepers with me, I hurried down, and found quite a crowd on the jetty, among which was the crew of the brig. On inquiry I learned that there had been a shower during the night, and in the morning the mate had ordered one of the men to go aloft and shake out the sails, in order to dry them. He started up, and on reaching the maintop turned and came down in the closest run. The tar was instantly ordered to halve and numerous other places, while the valiant mate started aloft to attend to matters on his own hook. No sooner did his head get on a level with the top than he came down at a gait which far excelled that of the [illegible] sailor. He instantly raised the alarm, and the entire crew lost no time in getting on shore and spreading the report that the rigging was full of the biggest kind of snakes.

"With the assistance of the port captain's [illegible] I had no difficulty in making a critical examination of the entire upper works of the vessel, which was anchored about 100 yards from the shore. The result was one large python, coiled around the top of the main and topmast. Borrowing a sack, I managed, after much persuasion, to get two of the crew to pull myself and keeper off to the brig, where they left us and turned back to the jetty. I survive the flag halyards, made a noose in one end of them and hunted around until I found a stout piece of [illegible] some six or eight feet in length. Climbing up the shrouds, I made my way through the lubber's hole by [illegible] his snakeship with the reed, to the end of which I had tied the noose. He put his head down through the hole for the purpose of fighting me, when he was instantly noosed around the neck and the halyards made fast to the rail[illegible]. In his violent efforts to effect a release he drew back with such force as rapidly to choke himself into insensibility. Calling to the keeper to hold the mouth of the sack open, I watched until I thought he was nearly at his last gasp, when I squirmed up to the top, loosened his coils around the mast, lowered him into the sack, when the keeper immediately cut the noose. By the time that I reached the deck he had [illegible] recovered from his severe wind [illegible]. I gently opened the mouth of the sack to have a good look at him and discovered from his bloated appearance that he had recently partaken of a hearty meal. On the arrival of the crew on board it was discovered that the captain's fox terrier was missing. I therefore concluded that the python, in exploring across the harbor, had struck the vessel's cable, up which he had crawled on to the deck, swallowed the dog and gone aloft to digest his meal."—Buffalo [illegible].

MYSTERIES OF THE LOUVRE.

Walls That Are Believed to Hide the Bones of Murdered Men.

Every one who has "done" the Louvre will remember the low pitched and somewhat gloomy halls in which are stored the treasures of Egypt. Beneath these lie yet more darkly mysterious vaults, inaccessible to the public, though approached by a wide and handsome staircase, such as would lead one to imagine that it communicated with apartments of some importance. Yet one finds at the bottom nothing but broad passages arranged in the form of a cross, and without any sign whatever of their use [illegible].

A recent examination, however, of the solid stone walls gives experts reason to believe that the masonry is more recent than the rest of the structure in this, the oldest portion of the former palace. M. Vangueret, a well known critic, believes that many of the bodies of victims killed in the revolution of 1830 were [illegible] here, and that the government [illegible] afraid to reveal the fact when the [illegible] were [illegible] Jubilé.

On the other hand, M. [illegible], the architect of the building, and M. [illegible], the [illegible] of the society for [illegible] the opinion [illegible] Catherine de' Medici, and there [illegible] lead to a [illegible] would clear up the matter and would [illegible] several [illegible] points as to the foundation of the [illegible]. Unfortunately the [illegible] not [illegible] research, and it would be [illegible] appeal for [illegible] the [illegible].—London Chronicle.

Wooden nutmegs

Colored tea is beginning to offer the closest sort of parallel to wooden nutmegs—there is less tea in it, and more color, every year.

It is to Japan's interest to stop this; but "enterprising" American colorists stand in her way.

It is our interest to stop this; but your indifference has heretofore stood in our way.

It is your interest to stop it; but your slowness stands in your way.

The way out is *Schilling's Best* tea—money-back tea, at your grocer's.

Also pure and money-back: Schilling's Best baking powder, soda, spices, and flavoring extracts.

A Schilling & Company San Francisco

How Fast Does Electricity Travel?

The above question is frequently asked in every day conversation, but is seldom answered to the satisfaction of the querist. Whenever we say that the speed of electricity from point to point along a proper conductor is practically instantaneous. Various attempts have been made to ascertain the exact number of miles which the current will travel in a given length of time. According to the most reliable estimates which such experimenters have made its speed is not less than 114,000 miles per second. The writer adds: "Such speed is inconceivably great. The mind cannot contemplate it without staggering."—St. Louis Republic.

THE PAWNBROKER.

His Life Not a Happy One From His Own Point of View.

"Yes," said the pawnbroker, "the public has an idea that we are a hard hearted lot, but that is only one side of the story. A man in this business who had to sit and stand wouldn't have a roof over his head inside of a year."

"You mean you can't afford to pity the misfortunes of others in a [illegible] Way?" I queried.

"Very few people come here in any way of misfortune. You saw the young man who went out as you came in?"

"Yes—as went, eh?"

"Very likely. Here's a watch he brought. The works are second class and the case filled. I can buy a cart load at $11 apiece. He was hard up and came here to make a raise. He said his wife was dying, and he wanted $10 on the watch. When I offered him $6, he wept, but if you'll follow him two blocks you'll find him in a saloon, spending part of the money. Nine out of ten customers don't hesitate to lie, and ten out of ten would beat your Uncle Isaac if they could."

"But people pawn their clothes to get food," I said.

"Perhaps so. Here's a dress a woman brought in an hour ago. She also wept. She had a story about sickness and hunger, and she declared this was her wedding dress. From several earmarks I know she bought this dress secondhand. I know she paid $6 for it. I strained a point when I offered her $6, but she'll go out and call me a highway robber."

"But you never get taken in and done for?"

"Don't I? Well, I'd like to see the pawnbroker who hasn't been done up. It's a small month when I don't get bent, and by the very people whom you would sympathize with most. See these diamonds?"

"Yes—fine diamonds."

"What are they for a dollar apiece?"

"You don't mean it?"

"Glad to get it, sir. They were left by a woman who wanted to raise money to keep her husband. I was half sick and very busy and gave her $80 on them. They are paste—only paste. She came in here to fool me of course, and no doubt had a good laugh over it. Here's a [illegible] set with pearls, which my clerk advanced $20 on. The weeping man who brought it wanted to bury his dead wife with the money. I can buy them at wholesale for $2 apiece. Don't you believe all you hear about your uncle having a heart of stone. There are plenty of people who wouldn't beat a street car, but we are considered fair game for them, and they'll lie like snakes to skin us to. It's a great place for tears, sighs and tales of sorrow, but the main idea is to give your Uncle Isaac the cold drop, and it's done oftener than I care to acknowledge."—Detroit Free Press.

A SERVICEABLE FARM GATE.

It Swings In Either Direction and Possesses Many Desirable Advantages.

A serviceable and easily constructed, strong and not liable to sag, is in demand on every farm, but is of rare occurrence. A correspondent of the Ohio Farmer tells how he has made several gates of this description and gives directions by which others may follow his example.

The longer piece is 4 feet 6 inches long, 3 by 4 inches, rounded at the ends and banded to prevent splitting. A

SWING GATE WITH NO SAG.

round rod three-fourths inch in diameter and about 4 inches long is inserted in each end about 2 inches. The lower rod or pipe should have a flange welded on 1½ inches from one end. At the foot of the gate stick a block of wood or stone, so that its upper surface will be level with the ground. In its upper surface make a hole about 2 inches in diameter and 1½ inches deep. If the hole is of this gate lay a piece of an old buggy spring 6 inches long. On it place a block screw eye in each end. Then it be a stop for the gate to be placed on. Set the gate in the step, take a piece of plank about 14 inches long, bore a three-fourths inch hole 3½ inches from one end, put the plank on the top and pivot, and spike it securely to top of gatepost. The gate swings in either direction and does not pull on the post so hard as if hung on hinges.

Improvements In Plows.

The plow in principle may not have changed much in 3,000 years, as has been stated, but individual plows have been greatly improved, so that the draft is much less and the labor for the operator greatly reduced. Scientific principles have been studied, and the plow has been so constructed that the resistance is reduced to a minimum, while doing the work most effectively. The most recent improvement is the self sharpening share point, consisting of layers of edges, so that as one wears off a new and sharp edge is presented instead of a dull surface. This makes the draft much easier and saves the bother and expense of resharpening. A great variety of implements have been tried as substitutes for the plow, but they have not proved satisfactory under all conditions.—American Agriculturist.

Correct.

Teacher (to class)—Why is procrastination called the thief of time?

Boy (at foot of class)—Because it takes a person so long to say it.—Harlem Life.

Gladness Comes

With a better understanding of the transient nature of the many physical ills, which vanish before proper efforts—gentle efforts—pleasant efforts—rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge, that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, which the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs, promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere esteemed so highly by all who value good health. Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is the one remedy which promotes internal cleanliness without debilitating the organs on which it acts. It is therefore all important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only and sold by all reputable druggists.

If in the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, laxatives or other remedies are then not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative, one should have the best, and with the well-informed everywhere, Syrup of Figs stands highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.

Teachers' Rates Fixed via Rio Grande Western Railroad.

For the benefit of the teachers returning to their eastern homes, and for the public, the R. G. W. Ry. announces a rate of $50 to Sioux City, Omaha, St. Joseph, Kansas City and all other Missouri River points and return. Tickets will be sold June 11 and 15, limited to Sept. 5. Those intending to avail themselves of this opportunity to visit their eastern homes at the low rate mentioned should remember that the R. G. W. has a through line of Pullman standard sleepers as well as through tourist or family sleepers to Chicago, New York and Boston. For further particulars call at ticket office No. 18 West Second South Street.

SPECIAL EXCURSION EAST.

Via Union Pacific, June 12th and 16th.

On above dates, round trip tickets will be sold to Omaha, Kansas City and Sioux City at rate of $30.00, good returning until September 4th. City ticket office 201 Main street.

Utah Commercial and Savings Bank. 22 East First South.

General banking business; pays 5 per cent on deposits. F. Armstrong, Pres., F. W. Madson, vice-pres., J. E. Jennings, cashier.

Good Health

And a good appetite go hand in hand. With the loss of appetite, the system cannot long sustain itself. Thus the fortifications of good health are broken down and the system is liable to attacks of disease. It is in such cases that the qualities of Hood's Sarsaparilla are clearly shown. Thousands who have taken Hood's Sarsaparilla testify to its great merit as a purifier of the blood, its power to restore and sharpen the appetite and to impart a healthy action of the digestive organs. Thus it is, that what we say of what Hood's Sarsaparilla does that tells the story and constitutes the strongest recommendation that can be urged for any medicine. Why not take Hood's Sarsaparilla now?

"Judgment !!"

BattleAx PLUG

The umpire now decides that "BATTLE AX" is not only decidedly bigger in size than any other 5 cent piece of tobacco, but the quality is the finest he ever saw, and the flavor delicious. You will never know just how good it is until you try it.

Sterling $\frac{925}{1000}$

MEANS 925 parts in every 1000 is pure silver, the other 75 parts is alloy. Silversmiths call an article of such grade "Sterling" fine. A great many goods in this day of fraud and imitation are stamped "Sterling" which are not Sterling. However, there is plenty of "Sterling 925" goods, if you go to the proper place to buy them.

People are always anxious when buying of us that their purchase shall be placed in one of our neat boxes which bears the stamp "J. H. LEYSON & CO." This indicates that the public has proven the quality of our integrity.

When buying your Wedding Gifts, insist that the article shall be stamped "Sterling" and placed in a box stamped "J. H. Leyson & Co."

THERE IS ONLY ONE PLACE

in Salt Lake City where this combination of genuineness can be obtained, and that is of us.

—INSIST THAT YOUR—

WEDDING PRESENTS

Shall Be Put Up in "LEYSON'S" BOXES.

J. H. Leyson Co.,

SILVERSMITHS,

No. 128 Main Street.

CLIFFORD R. PEARSALL, Manager.

Graefenberg Pills

CURE HEADACHE, BILIOUSNESS, INDIGESTION.

Act Mildly but Surely. Best Liver Pill. Cure all Stomach Disorders, Constipation and Kidney Troubles.

Sold by Druggists, and Wholesale and Retail by Z. C. M. I. Salt Lake City.

GRAEFENBERG CO.,

111 Chambers St., N. Y.

COMING! * COMING!!

TO SALT LAKE.

Two Days, June 16 and 17.

THE GREATEST, GRANDEST, THE LARGEST AND THE BEST

Of America's Big Amusement Enterprises!

THE GREAT WALLACE SHOWS!

[illegible]

THE EIGHTH WONDER OF THE WORLD!

HONORABLY CONDUCTED. HONESTLY ADVERTISED!

[illegible]

FINEST HORSES OF ANY SHOW ON EARTH

$3,000,000 Invested Capital!

[illegible]

The BEST SHOW on EARTH!

THE OLD, THE STALE AND COMMONPLACE

[illegible] WE ARE THE ONLY EXPONENTS OF THE NEW CIRCUS [illegible]

SEE RALSTON THE HIGH DIVER

[illegible]

OUR STREET PARADE

[illegible]

Cheap excursions will be run on every line of travel.

Remember the date! Never decided! Never disappointed! No gambling devices tolerated.

F. Auerbach & Bro.

During the last two weeks of our GREATEST OF ALL

COMPULSION SALES

Thousands of Remnants in Silks, Dress Goods, Wash Fabrics, Domestics, Linens, Laces, Embroideries, Ribbons, etc., etc; also odd sizes in Ladies' Suits, Waists, Wrappers, Skirts, Children's Dresses, Hosiery, Underwear, Boy's Clothing, Shoes, Hats, Hoods, etc., etc., have accumulated and will be closed out this week at

STILL FURTHER REDUCTIONS.

All goods opened and cut will be left at same Sacrifice Prices as last two weeks until all is sold. So take advantage while these truly Great Bargains are still to be had.

A Lucky Purchase

Just Received at less than half regular cost. A large Importer's Stock of Latest Novelties in

SUMMER GOODS

For hot weather such as beautiful Silks, latest designs, handsome Imported Wash Fabrics, fine Dress Trimmings, Nobby Ladies' Waists, etc., which will be placed on sale this week together with our own stock at prices that will cause you to wonder how they can be sold so cheap.