

COUNTRY CHILDREN.

Little fresh violets
Born in the wildwood,
Sweetly illustrating
Innocent childhood!
Shy as an antelope,
Brown as a berry,
Free as the mountain air,
Romping and merry?

Blue eyes and hazel eyes
Peep from the hedges,
Shaded by sun-bonnets
Frayed at the edges!
Up in the apple trees,
Headless of danger,
Manhood in embryo
Stares at the stranger.

Out on the hilly patch,
Seeking for berries;
Under the orchard tree,
Feasting on cherries;
Trampling the clover-blossoms
Down 'mong the grasses;
No voice to hinder them,
Dear lads and lasses.

Dear little innocents,
Born in the wildwood;
O that all little ones
Had such a childhood!
God's blue spread over them,
God's green beneath them;
No sweeter heritage
Could we bequeath them!

—Rural New Yorker.

Baker's Discovery.

THE IDENTITY OF LAKES ALBERT
NYANZA AND TANGANYIKA
PROVED—DETAILS OF SIR SAMUEL
BAKER'S EXPEDITION IN
AFRICA.

KHARTOUM, via Alexandria, July 26.—I hasten to communicate to you facts of the highest importance and interest in connection with the expedition of Sir Samuel Baker, who has reached this place from the lake regions and the far South. On Sunday, the 29th of June, the English Pasha arrived at Khartoum, accompanied by Lady Baker, his nephew Lieutenant Baker, and seven English engineers, besides his personal attendants. They had traveled hither from Gondokoro, using one of the steamers which had been taken up country for the navigation of the lakes, and occupying a period of thirty-two days for the journey.

Baker has accomplished even more than was expected of him. He has penetrated as far southward as Musandi, which is a point near the head villages of the chiefs Kabriki and Kamrisi. On reaching this place the Pasha found that the ivory and slave traders had spread all kinds of evil rumors about the expedition, inflaming the native tribes against it. Kabriki had been informed by them that Baker Pasha was coming at the head of an Egyptian army to take forcible possession of his country and annex it to Egypt, with the view of exacting heavy taxes and tributes and carrying away the people. It was accordingly agreed between the traders and the negro chiefs to murder Baker if possible, and by every means to prevent the progress of the Egyptian soldiers. Shortly after the arrival of the Pasha with a portion of his troops at Mosindi, Kabriki, following an African custom, sent ten jars of Pombe, a beverage resembling beer, to the strangers. The liquor was heavily charged with poison, and all those soldiers who partook of it were suddenly seized with frightful symptoms, and soon fell to the ground insensible and apparently lifeless. By administering strong antidotes the poison was neutralized in every case, and no lives were lost. Baker then dispatched some of his officers as messengers to demand why the poisoned beer had been sent into camp; but as soon as they entered the negro village Kabriki ordered them to be killed, and they were immediately murdered in cold blood. War was then proclaimed, the chief beating his great drums, and ordering a levy of 10,000 warriors. A large body of these attacked the Pasha, who had only a hundred odd Egyptian troops with him. These men were all greatly fatigued with the long journey into the interior, and some of them were suffering from the poisoned drink. Baker was therefore compelled to beat a retreat before the swarms of enemies assailing him, and he retired after burning his camp and heavy baggage. During seven days of great danger and hardship the backward march of the Egyptians was sorely harassed, and as many as thirty men were left dead on the route. At the end of this perilous

week the English Pasha came to the Province of Rewinka, a chief hostile to Kabriki, and welcome assistance was then obtained. The pursuit had been already abandoned, but with a view to punish Kabriki it was arranged that Rewinka should furnish 2,000 armed men, and that these, with thirty picked Egyptian soldiers, should return towards Mosindi, and do their best to take and kill the treacherous negro. Baker promised that if this expedition was successful Rewinka should be appointed Governor of his own and Kabriki's district in the name of the Viceroy of Egypt. With the remainder of his force the Pasha then returned northwards towards Fatiko, but on reaching a place called Lazarita (?) he and his men were unexpectedly fired upon from the houses of the slave-traders there. Thirty of Baker's soldiers were thus slain; the remainder entrenched themselves till assistance could be obtained, and then issued from their entrenchments to attack the traders, who held a strong position in dense thickets of reeds. The attack was very successful, the reed beds were taken by storm, and 140 of the slavers' party were slain, many prisoners being also captured, while the remainder fled inland. The captives, in explanation of the attack made upon Sir Samuel's command, said that the orders of their masters and of the chiefs friendly to them were to kill "the Nazarene"—meaning Baker—wherever and whenever they could. They all confirm this declaration, which was drawn up from their own mouths, signed and sealed by each, and then forwarded to the Government of Soudan, at Khartoum, as a documentary proof of the malignancy of these slave-hunting merchants.

This chastisement cleared the whole country about Gondokoro and down toward Rewinka's territory. After a period of repose, which was imperatively needed, Baker commenced systematically to organize the districts which were in his possession. He made Fatiko the chief town of the new territory, and appointed superintendents at the other stations. Before long the natives settled down wonderfully well under the new Government, and appeared exceedingly satisfied with the safety and quiet which it afforded. The light tribute exacted of a basket of bread and a bundle of grass per month for each hut was paid with alacrity and regularity; and when Sir Samuel went finally northward, having established the reinforcements sent him along the annexed region, the negroes at Fatiko gave him the most vociferous farewells, calling him "father" and "master," and looking upon him as their future protector. The term of the contract signed by Sir Samuel Baker and by the English engineers with the Khedive has now expired, and having made all arrangement, the Pasha embarked at Gondokoro in one of the steamers brought up country by the expedition. Another vessel of the same model has been successfully carried as far as Gondokoro, and as soon as camel transport can be obtained it may be taken to the lakes and set afloat there. The third of the three iron vessels sent up in pieces with the same object lies yet at Khartoum, the difficulties of transport having proven extremely great.

Next to Fatiko the chief station of the new territory will be Gondokoro. Baker has marked out eight more spots as principal posts, and these will constitute a chain leading from Nubia to the Albert Nyanza. One thousand additional troops have been ordered down to complete the garrison of these stations.

Thus much for the political portion of the tidings brought by the gallant Pasha. I have further a most important geographical discovery to communicate, one which cannot fail, I think, to astound many scientific men in England. It is declared as an ascertained fact by the returning party that lakes Tanganyika and Albert Nyanza are proved to be one and the same water. The length of this magnificent inland sea, thus for the first time made known to mankind, is not less than 700 miles, and it is announced as positive that a vessel can be launched above Murchison's Falls, at the head of the Nyanza, and sail away to Ujiji, or lower, through ten degrees of latitude.

Sir Samuel Baker, with his lady and suite, were all in excellent when they arrived, and they leave us to-day by the Berber country

for Souakin, to which port the Egyptian Government are dispatching a special steamer, which will bring them up the Red Sea to Suez. No losses have occurred of late among the Europeans from sickness, except that of Mr. Higginbotham, the chief engineer. I send you this intelligence direct from the lips of the emancipator of Central Africa.—Cor. London Telegraph.

The Sea Serpent.

ITS EXISTENCE NOTHING NEW—
THE MONSTER FIRED UPON—
STATEMENTS OF PARTIES WHO
SAW IT—EXCITEMENT IN THE
VICINITY.

We gave our readers last week an account of the enormous serpent which lately made its appearance near Dresden, in Lake Champlain. Further investigations confirm the authenticity of its presence. For the past twenty years the monster has been seen at intervals by men whose veracity is unquestioned.

The lake at and near Dresden, as our citizens are aware, has many bayous, marshes and caves where such a monster could secrete itself from human gaze. Catden is a marsh extending about eighty rods into Dresden Mountain, its inner recesses being inaccessible to the approach of man. Axeheive Bay, opposite Pulpit Point, is another place where such a serpent might secrete itself without fear of molestation from its worst enemy. There is a cave on the Chapman farm, which has always been supposed to contain huge monsters and reptiles, and many times men and boys have asserted that the glare of a pair of bright and hideous-looking eyes has struck terror to their souls and caused them to flee for safety. Harvey W. Buel has assured us that he has known of the existence of an immense serpent in the vicinity of Long Pond for many years, and we have the testimony of a member of the Barret family that traces of some marauding monster have been seen on their farms, appearing at intervals for the past ten or fifteen years. It was but two weeks since a party of fishermen from our village observed a great commotion in the waters of the lake at a place called Linley marsh; at the same time something arose about four feet from the water's surface, which they thought at the time was an enormous turtle, but the power which threw it upwards was to them a mystery. At the same time the fish was observed to spring from the water in the neighborhood, while a great wave rippled the water's surface of the marsh. Since the appearance of the article in our last week's issue, we have conversed with several men who have no hesitation whatever in saying that they have beheld the monster.

On Friday last General David Barret informs us that he saw the serpent with his head sticking out of the water, just opposite his dock at Dresden. The General ran back for his gun, but the monster had disappeared before his return. David Barret, Jr., and Leverett Wilson started immediately in search of the reptile and they saw him dragging his immense length across the tall grass of the marsh. It had something in its mouth which resembled a large turtle. Mr. Barret raised his gun and fired, but the serpent paid no attention to it other than taking to the water and disappearing immediately. James Tobin asserts positively that he has seen the serpent.

All of these gentlemen think the serpent must be thirty to forty feet long, instead of twenty, as stated last week. They all say the sun shining on his silver-like scales made the hideous length of the monster glisten brightly. That the serpent has been seen before, we have the testimony of J. A. Parkes, well known to all our citizens, that about eight years ago, while driving along the public highway two miles east of our village, he observed a large snake, eighteen or twenty feet long, and as large as a man's thigh, emerge from the mountain recesses and move swiftly across the fields, at the rate of ten miles an hour, toward Jerry Collins' marsh, and take to the water.

We have no disposition to create a sensation, knowing full well that sea-serpents have been too numerous of late years, but when gentlemen who are known as men of veracity give us the facts before mentioned, our profession as a journalist

calls upon us to lay such facts before our readers. The excitement at Dresden and the immediate locality is intense. Parties armed and equipped are searching the marshes and bays. Visitors are flocking to Dresden, and Gen. Barret assures us that the notoriety we are giving his locality subjects him to annoyance from visitors, whose questionings will not allow him time to attend to his duties. True it is that men of the New York and Canada railroad cannot be induced to wander off alone in the neighborhood of the monster's stamping ground, lest their lives might be sacrificed to satiate the appetite of the great snake. We shall lay the facts before our readers from week to week, and trust that we may soon be able to chronicle the destruction of the great serpent.—Whitehall Times.

Polygamy In England.

A most extraordinary statement has made its appearance in that highly respectable paper, the *Saturday Review*, to the effect that English society is getting so overcrowded with unmarried women that serious thoughts are entertained of introducing polygamy as a remedy for the enormous evils which this condition of things entails. The paper further asserts that the enthusiasm with which the Shah of Persia, a polygamist, has been received by the women, is nothing less than a distinct expression in favor of the Persian social system. The whole passage is very curious:

"We have already seen that it is in obedience to its symbolizing cravings that the populace has been in a delirium of excitement during the Shah's visit. The reason of the welcome given to the Shah by the leisured classes is no less clear. Society is governed by the necessity of providing occupation for its unmarried members. Unmarried women form the majority of every household, and nothing checks their steady increase from decade to decade and from year to year. Food is plentiful; neither famines nor fevers decimate them; Malthus is not read. To the eldest succeed the younger, equally healthy and good-natured; equally unable to 'dress on £15 a year as ladies.' London has grown unmanageable. The number of persons who accept are out of all proportion to the number of those who give, nor does society sympathize with the difficulties and disappointments of those who endeavor to provide for its amusement. It is, therefore, only natural that the mother of a large and increasing family should find her symbol in the Shah. Just as Dr. Primrose represented the quintessence of monogamy, so the Shah represents the polygamic element, and suggests the one conceivable method of providing for our surplus female population. The politician may see in him a firm ally, the financier the gain of new concessions, but the mother will dream of fresh woods and of untrodden pastures, where the younger members of her family may browse in peace. Let the sceptic go to a London breakfast. The road is lined with carriages containing three or four women in each. With the exception of two policemen not a man is to be seen. The host has gone out of town for the day, and the hostess is in the garden eating bread and honey under a tree; the lawn is covered with gowns displaying a combination of colors which even without the intervention of the Shah would make the season of 1873 a remarkable one. Mankind is represented by an author or an editor, four boys up for a cricket match, and a friend who is paying a visit. The men who ought to be there are spurring little ponies, or shooting pigeons—noble pursuits through which an outlet is found for that surplus of physical energy which we are told cannot be repressed, and which has made England what it is. If the day is a wet one the entertainment is turned into a tragedy. The rain drops through the leaves and the guests are obliged to crowd into drawing rooms. There is a smell of wet clothes, a cry for carriages not forthcoming, as the coachmen have not finished their breakfast at the neighboring public house. Nor is the evening free from similar troubles. There are girls enough for twenty balls, and men enough for two. Even, therefore, if three take place upon the same night, the consequences are disastrous to some one. There are perhaps twenty houses in London to which nearly

everybody goes who has not some real excuse for absence, but the one we are speaking of does not belong to this category. At half past eleven there are three little boys at the foot of the staircase, trying to look as if they had not been there half an hour, putting on their gloves for the tenth time, unknown to one another, and disregarding the entreaties of the hostess, who, having heard of their arrival, has sent a servant to implore them to come up-stairs. The two ball-rooms have about forty women in them, and three fathers who are on their way either to the House of Commons or their beds. Those well-known faces fulfilling the functions of ball-room signs, beaming with a settled placid instinct, have already secured their seats for the evening. By the side of each a daughter stands, just come out, wondering whether the one man she knows in London, fed with frequent dinners at her father's house, and who never fails her, will dance with her this evening. Her fate is to stand there. He has gone first to the ball where the Royalists are, and then to the one which has the best supper. The room's "untrampled floor" is very sticky, and at half-past twelve the host is angry, and commits the fatal mistake of imagining he has some jurisdiction in his own house. Thirty more men, it is true, have come; but six do not dance, and four are at supper with the one young married woman whom the hostess asked. At half-past two the ball is over, and chaperons wake from their dreams of Teheran, and to the fact that the world is vanity. Such are too frequently the results of an expenditure of three or four hundred pounds; redress is needed, and the Shah is its symbol. Among the stories lately current, in which we place full reliance in common with the others we have heard, is one to the effect that the Shah has met an ancient dowager in order to discuss the question in all its bearings. The interview was most satisfactory, and a concession was granted, which though upsetting to some extent the present relations between the sexes, is likely to remove all the difficulties against which society has now to contend. When the terms of the concession are made public, we shall comment more fully upon them."

—Real foresight consists of reserving our own forces. If we labor with anxiety about the future, we destroy that strength which will enable us to meet the future. If we take more in hand than now we can do well, we break up, and the work is broken up with us.—Observer.

—Chinese Method of Mending Glass.—Take a piece of flint glass, beat it to a fine powder and grind it well with the white of an egg, and it joins the china without riveting so that no art can break it in the same place. You are to observe that the composition is to be ground extremely fine.

—What Minister Washburne said:—"I was in Congress when the salary was but \$3,000, and I always found it more than sufficient to meet my necessary personal expenses. When it was raised to \$5,000 I thought it too much, and think so still; but raising it to \$7,500 is nothing more than straight stealing. Every year that I was in Congress I laid by a portion of my salary, and none of my constituents ever complained that I didn't live decently. The people don't send the representatives to Washington to live like princes, buck the tiger and keep half a dozen mistresses."—Ex.

—In the ancient temples of Egypt is probably the oldest timber in the world ever used by man. It is found in connection with stone work, which is known to be at least four thousand years old. This wood, and the only wood used in the construction of the temples, is in the form of ties, holding the end of one stone to another in its proper surface. When two blocks were laid in place, then it appears that an excavation about an inch deep was made in each block, into which an hour-glass shaped tie was driven. It is therefore very difficult to force any stone from its position. The ties appear to have been the tamarisk, or chittim wood, of which the ark was constructed, a sacred tree in ancient Egypt, and now very rarely found in the valley of the Nile. These dove-tailed ties are just as sound now as on the day of their insertion.