

MEWHAT STRANGE.

INCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS OF EVERYDAY LIFE.

near Facts and Thrilling Adventures which Show that Truth is Stranger Than Fiction.

The London Illustrated News repeats the following story of a remarkable cat in London, and adds some remarks of its own: "To a one-storyed brick building, occupied by eight families, a district messenger was returning very late at night. Directly he opened the door the cat sprang at him and began to pull and tear at his trousers with its claws. Had he been an ordinary man (one of those abominable idiosyncrasies is a hatred of cats), he would probably have kicked the cat; but as a district messenger his mind had doubtless been expanded. He encouraged the animal rather than otherwise, and "when it ran towards the kitchen door and jumped back he ran behind the stove and began to scratch at the fire-board, from which flames and smoke began to pour out." The house was roused, but not till after many pails of water had been used was the conflagration extinguished. But for that the boy would have gone to his death and been burnt in it—a fate that would have befallen two-and-thirty other people. It is no wonder, and little to their credit, that this faithful and intelligent creature "is the hero of the neighborhood," and was the only living creature that fought in the establishment "sitting" as it were, and looking after things. The cat, it should be remembered, is naturally fond of fire and water, which makes its conduct still more meritorious. A great deal was lately made of "a fireman's dog," which used to accompany engines and escapes; but that may have been from mere love of excitement: never smelt out a conflagration for himself, as in this case.

In Missouri there is a snake called "spread head" that plays "possum." An observer came across one and struck it with a small whip. The snake immediately ejected a toad it had recently swallowed, then appeared to bite itself in the side, promptly turned on its back and stiffened, but did not become stretched straight out, and lay perfectly still. The naturalist turned him right side up. He was lying dead so earnestly that he was not content to lie in so life-like a position, but immediately turned himself on his back again. Then the observer withdrew to watch developments. In about fifteen minutes the snake cautiously raised its head and to or three inches of his body and looked around. In a few seconds he turned himself over and made off. The same observer afterward frequently watched these snakes go through the same pretended suicide. Sometimes, while playing dead, if he was sharply pricked with a needle otherwise acutely stimulated, he promptly resume his interest in surrounding things, and either show fight or try to escape.

In Belgium it is the custom to give certificates of marriage in the form of little books with paper covers. These books, which are often prepared in the course of law proceedings, and are taken in evidence, are to become dirty and dog-eared. The Burgomaster of Brussels has therefore hit upon a new plan. Hereafter a charge will be made of the books, which will be neatly bound in morocco and gilt-edged. They will be something more than mere certificates. A summary of Belgian law on the marriage is given in them for the use of young couples, and among a mass of other miscellaneous information, are directions for the feeding and care of infants. There are also places for writing the names and birthdays of the children of the marriage, the authorities considerably affording scope for twelve entries. To persons the books will be issued free of charge. One of the Town Councilors was in favor of adding sections for obtaining a divorce, but suggestion was not adopted.

While crossing the ridge between Run and Rattlesnake Creek, in the southern part of Lackawanna county, Penn., a few days ago, Gaylord G. Crippen of Spring Brook township saw a pure white hare squatting in a hollow as though it was asleep. He was about to toss a stone toward the animal to see it scoot, when the wildcats sprang out of the brush on opposite directions and pounced on the hare at the same instant. He killed it in a twinkling, and began to fight for the possession. The hair and blood flew, and the rough and tumble battle the animals worked away from the several feet, when a fox stole into the brush, seized the hare in the middle and trotted off with the wildcats finally sent it whining for the hare, and

being so Mr. Crippen buried a stone at it and it went limping away with a broken hind leg.

JULIUS HUFFINGTON, agent at the Dillsboro Railroad station, in Indiana, while away the loneliness of his isolated abode, when not engaged in official duties, by training squirrels, coons, cats, dogs, and other members of the four-footed family. His best performers are two huge cats, and to display their training "Hufl" will call for a discussion on the tariff, and at once each cat will get upon a chair, facing each other, and begin a series of most discordant yells and screams, each feline striving to outdo the other in grimaces and noise, while distorting their bodies and waving their tails in animated defiance. At a signal from their master they leave their chairs and, standing on their hind feet, engage in a pugilistic encounter, which generally ends in a genuine cat fight unless prevented by their trainer, who settles the conflict by distributing a little food to them as the revenue for their tariff speeches.

The genius of advertisement, working in the brain of a Brooklyn merchant, has inspired a novel application of the ancient "sandwich man" device. He has equipped a big Newfoundland dog with sandwich boards and turned it loose to wander at will about the city streets. The dog is unusually large and handsome. Fastened on his back is a white oilskin coat, fashioned like an ordinary dog blanket, except that it is so long as to almost sweep the ground, and painted thereon, in vivid colors, is an advertisement of the business of the dog's owner. The dog seems to know his business, too, for he spends most of his time trotting up and down the shopping district of Fulton street, where the crowds are thickest. He is good-natured and fraternizes with the children who accompany the shoppers, and in many ways makes himself conspicuous and thus an efficient advertisement.

A VERY singular case is that of a young man in Wisconsin named Chandler. For years his mouth has shown a tendency to grow up. Four years ago it became so small it was feared he would starve, and a fund was raised by neighbors and he was sent to Chicago, where the mouth was cut to the natural size and pieces of flesh grafted into the corners, thus hoping to prevent the closing. This has been overcome, and his mouth is rapidly growing up again, the opening at present not being larger than an ordinary goose quill, through which he takes all his nourishment. It is thought that he must eventually starve to death, as there seems no way of preventing the complete closing of the mouth. Otherwise the young man seems healthy, and is capable of doing considerable work.

A CITIZEN of South Bend, Wash., has a humpback whale on his hands which is proving a worse incumbrance than the traditional elephant, not alone to himself, but to the whole community. The whale became stranded at the mouth of the river and the enterprising citizen bought it from the fisherman who captured it and made some money by placing it on exhibition. But the whale died and after a while it became very dead and the owner can't dispose of it. He tried, as a last resort, to burn it and spent his profits on wood and kerosene, but the whale won't burn. The town is pervaded by an extremely ancient, fishlike smell, and the citizens are urgent in their demands that the owner of the whale shall remove his property in some expeditious way.

From Manitoba comes an account of what, no doubt, farmers in this country will consider to be not only unusual, but perfectly unprecedented, conduct on the part of a litter of young pigs. Mr. W. McRinnell, Melita, South Manitoba, relates that his nearest neighbor, a farmer, has a sow, with a litter of eight young ones, which he lets out in the bush every day with his cattle. When the young pigs were about six weeks old he noticed that his cows when he came to milk them were quite dry. He could not make out the reason for some time until he watched, and then he found that when the cows laid down in the middle of the day the young pigs would go up and suck them dry, and the cows would not mind in the least.

A DISPUTE over a Belgian estate among disgruntled beneficiaries has resulted in curious disaster for the disputants. A year ago a widow died, leaving an estate worth over six and a half million francs. The immediate relatives to whom it was left disputed over the spoils, and suit was instituted in the Brussels courts to settle their various claims. The case attracted wide attention, and at the trial it was proved that more than 8,500 persons were related to the testatrix, and relatives even twelve degrees removed were adjudged entitled to some of the fortune.

The army was drained of many of its good men last year under the pressure of the war. The government has now been compelled to buy or to

of court martial—a good riddance; so that all in all the army lost about thirty per cent. of its reported enlisted strength through retirements, deaths, desertions, expirations of enlistment and discharges.

TWO MEN uprooting peach trees on the farm of Mrs. Richard Diehl, Chestertown, Md., on the Eastern Shore, unearthed the other day an iron pot containing \$150 in old coin and an open-face silver watch, doubtless the forgotten treasure of some one who buried it when many persons were hoarding coin during the period of inflated currency.

QUEEN VICTORIA is in possession of a curious needle. It was made at the celebrated needle manufactory at Redditch and represents the Trajan Column in miniature. Scenes from the Queen's life are depicted on the needle, so finely cut that they are only discernible through a microscope.

Mrs. SMITH, of Willimantic, Me., has the reputation of being able to swat with a board about as hard as any one in New England. The other day, seeing a good-sized deer in her back yard, she seized a board, and going out, managed to swat the deer hard enough to kill it.

TWO hogheads of molasses recently received in Dexter, Me., had paid \$3 freight from New York to Bangor; \$4 from Bangor to Dexter, thirty miles.

Odd Things About Cents.

From time to time one sees references in the daily papers, referring to the difficulty experienced by the ferry companies, car lines, etc., in disposing of enormous accumulations of ordinary copper cents. The reader is very apt to remember this, particularly if in exchange for a dollar bill he is returned ninety-five one cent pieces by a conductor.

As a matter of fact, there is no excuse for the item, much less for a car conductor or change taker in unloading his weight of copper upon the always more or less abused passenger. The United States Sub-Treasury, at Wall and Nassau streets, makes, and has made it a practice for years, of exchanging minor coin for United States money of large denomination, and it has many regular customers who are so served.

There are a number of curious things about cents as they come to the Sub-Treasury. In the first place, they are quite extensively counterfeited. This may seem strange, as the profit in a counterfeit cent is necessarily small. It is true, however, nevertheless, and is supposed to be the work of Italians, who, more largely than any other nationality, seem to favor the imitation of our minor and subsidiary coin.

The Brooklyn and New Jersey ferry companies, the elevated railroads of both New York and Brooklyn and the various slot machine companies are regular customers for the exchange of cents for other money at the Sub-Treasury. At times they turn in enormous quantities, the slot companies alone ranging between \$125 and \$700 a day.

As might be expected, all sorts of oddities in the way of coin come in with the quantity taken in the machines. In addition to the counterfeits are scores of "not one cents" of war times, metal discs and foreign copper, Austrian money predominating. As the copper cent is merely a token, no matter what its condition is, it is redeemed at par if it can in any way be identified as United States money.

The popularity of the slot machines a year or so ago brought about a curious condition of affairs in the country. This was nothing short of a "cent famine." The headquarters of the company is in New York, and all agents sent their cents here for redemption, which drained the country of its supply and overstocked the minor coin vaults of the Sub-Treasury here with cents.—[New York Herald.

Not Compelled to Buy Whistles.

An erroneous impression has arisen in regard to the army whistle. Their use by army officers is not compulsory, as many critics seem to think. Many officers suggested the advantages of whistles in cases where the verbal command could not be distinguished, and General Schofield recommended that officers desiring to use them be given that privilege. The command by the whistle is to be given only in skirmish drills. The method of carrying the whistle is left to the officer's taste. It may be carried in the sword hilt or elsewhere, according to the pleasure of the wearer. It will, therefore, be seen that the War Department has been unjustly accused of compelling officers to purchase an additional outfit of questionable utility merely to gratify the personal whim of a superior officer. The whistles suitable for sword hits cost \$2, but an officer is not compelled either to buy or to

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

The Seven Rests in Disease.

Mention is made by Professor Hilton, in his lectures on "Rest and Pain," of the seven varieties of the former obtainable in the treatment of disease, namely: Mental rest, bodily rest, a combination of those two, as in that most perfect state of rest called sleep; organic rest, as evinced in the avoidance of exertion in cardiac disease, of talking in affections of the respiratory tract, and in limiting, so far as possible, the act of deglutition in affections of the alimentary tract by the substitution of enemata; local rest, as secured by change in the position of body or limb, the use of pillows, cushions, etc.; dietetic rest, by avoiding too frequent use of food and drink; lastly, medicinal rest, in the relief of spasm by inhalations and the not too frequent administration of medicines to the prejudice of nutrients or stimulants. Professor Hilton lays it down as a rule that, by a consideration of the manner in which these principles of rest may be best applied in each special case of disease, are relief and comfort to be brought to the sufferer, and diseased action arrested.—[New York Tribune.

Salmon Fishing With Oil.

Oil is not only a pacifier of turbulent seas, but by its very assuaging properties helps to deliver to the hook of the fisherman the delicious salmon which abounds at the mouth of the Guadarranque, a small river which empties into the Bay of Algesiras, near Gibraltar. There salmon are caught with a kind of lance at a depth of from 8 to 44 feet and even more. The slightest wind ruffles the water so that it is impossible for the fishermen to see where the lance is striking. A few drops of oil come into play to good advantage. They dissipate and still the waves, and the angler has no more trouble in lancing the salmon, which is plainly visible in the sand to which it is so partial. Experiments of a similar nature have been made in a pool of the Gave de Gloron, but where the current is very swift, keeping the water from being transparent, although it is very shallow.—[St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Greece has more public holidays than any other country in the world.

The municipality of Glasgow, Scotland, is building houses and establishing telephone service.

Grass and Clover Seed.
The largest grower of Grass and Clover Seed in the world is Salzer, La Crosse, Wis. Over 50 hardy varieties, with lowest prices! Special low freight to New York, Pa. and the East.
LET US WILL CUT PRICES OUT AND SEND IT WITH 10c postage to the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., you will receive eleven packages grass and clover seeds and his mammoth farm seed catalogue full of good things for the farmer, the gardener and the citizen.

A piece of clean tissue paper is the best thing with which to clean spectacles.

Becham's Pills with a drink of water morning. Hascham's no others. 25 cents a box.

CURES OTHERS

To purify, enrich and vitalize the blood, and thereby invigorate the liver and digestive organs, brace up the nerves, and put the system in order generally, "Golden Medical Discovery" has no equal.

BYSPESIA IN ITS WORST FORM.

ERVIN DRETERLY, Esq., of Gettysburg, Pa., writes: "Only those who have had dyspepsia in its worst forms know what it really can be. What a case needs I have found in your kindly encouragement, and your 'Golden Medical Discovery'." Although I can now claim, if any one can, that I have a cast iron stomach, I always keep your 'Golden Medical Discovery' and the 'Pellers' on hand when setting down from an active summer's vacation, to quiet student life.

WHY NOT YOU?

Farmers SEND Produce TO F. I. SAGE & SON, 183 READE ST., N. Y.

Receivers of all kinds of Country Produce, including Game, Eggs, and Dressed Butter and Dressed Calves. Specialties: Berries, Grapes, Apples, Peas, Honey, Onions, Potatoes and Butter. Correspondence and Consignments solicited. Stencils furnished. Reference: Dun's or Bradstreet's Commercial Reports, to be found at any bank.

After 25 Years Cured by S.S.S. About twenty-five years ago I was afflicted with a disease which the doctors pronounced SCROFULA. I was treated by several physicians and specialists without being benefited, and I tried many blood remedies, without relief. I was recommended, and after taking six bottles I am now well, my skin is perfectly clear, and I would not be in my former condition for two thousand dollars.
Mrs. T. BUCK, Delaney, Ark.

Greatest of Family Games Progressive America. The most entertaining and instructive game of the century. It delightfully teaches American geography, while it is to young and old as fascinating as whist. Can be played by any number of players. Sent by mail, postage prepaid, for fifteen 2-cent stamps. The Trade Company, Boston, Mass.

WORLD'S FAIR AWARDS TWO MEDALS. Durability—Easily Applied. This rubber contains no coal tar and will not dry up and become brittle and expose to the weather. Sent for free samples and Circular No. 81 and 83 Fulton Street, New York, U. S. A.

Warren's Natural ASPHALT. Ready-to-Roofing. 370 Warren Chemical & Ref. Co., 81 and 83 Fulton Street, New York, U. S. A.

JAPANESE TOOTH POWDER. Gen. milled for 10c. Lapp Drug Co., 121 E. 1st St., Wash., D. C.

PATENTS Obtained Promptly, Cheaply. HELP WANTED! MURDERED! \$500 REWARD. Complete information 12c. L. B. 44, Fremont

One bottle for fifteen cents, Twelve bottles for one dollar, by mail. R.I.P.A.N.S. Ripans Tabules are the most effective recipe ever prescribed by a physician for any disorder of the stomach, liver or bowels. Buy of any druggist anywhere, or send price to THE RIPANS CHEMICAL COMPANY, 20 SPRUCE ST., NEW YORK.

Better than Ever for 1894. Is Different from Others. It is intended to aid the planter in selecting the seeds best adapted for his new soil and conditions and in getting from them the best possible results. It is not, therefore, highly colored in either sense; and we have taken great care that nothing worthless be put in, or nothing worthy be left out. We invite a trial of our seeds. We know them because we grow them. Every planter of vegetables or flowers ought to know about our three warrents: our cash discounts, and our gift of agricultural papers to purchasers of our seeds. All of these are explained in the Catalogue, a copy of which can be yours for the asking. J. J. H. CROOKY & SON, Marblehead, Mass.

Bear in Mind That "The Gods Help Those Who Help Themselves." Self Help Should Teach You to Use SAPOLIO