

A Mother's Love
 Saved Her Ten-Year-Old Child After the Failure of Four Physicians.
 My little girl, ten years of age, had Bright's Disease. Her ankles, feet and eyes were terribly swollen. Four of our best physicians attended her, but without success, and her life was despaired of. But a mother's love and prayers surmounted all difficulties, and I determined to try Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Kidney Pills, made at Randolph, N. Y., which I had heard recommended so highly for

Bright's Disease.
 How happy I am that I determined upon this course for my little girl by one of the best-known symptoms of the disease left her. Words fail to express my gratitude, and I cannot too earnestly recommend the Favorite Kidney Pills. Her recovery was entirely due to this medicine, which was the only one taken after her case was abandoned by the physicians.—Mrs. Laura A. Remont, West Randolph, Vermont.

Favorite Remedy, Randolph, N. Y. Price One Dollar. Sold by all Druggists.

VT. MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE
 Insure in the old reliable Home Company. You can get cheaper insurance than in Foreign Companies. The Company is making extra efforts for safe risks. Favorable home legislation. Apply to the undersigned—Sole Agents for Randolph and Brattleboro. BOWDEN & CLEVELAND, VT. Office over Jewett's store, West Randolph, VT.

R. M. CHASE, D. D. S., DENTAL ROOMS,
 OVER GREENE & CHASE'S DRUG STORE, BRATTLEBORO, VT.
 At Rochester the first Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of each month.

J. K. DARLING, Attorney and Counsellor at Law,
 MASTER AND SOLICITOR IN CHANCERY, CHELSEA, VT.
 Collections promptly made.

Dr. H. Carpenter, Dentist,
 South Royalton. Will be at Stafford and Sharon the first week of every other month alternately. Elixirs administered by a competent physician.

LADIES' PEERLESS DYES
 Do Your Own Dyeing at Home. They will dye everything. They are sold every where. Price 10c. a package. They have no equal for Strength, Brightness, Amount in a Package or for Fastness of Color, or non-fading Quality. They do not crack or smut; no colors. For sale by M. J. Sargent and E. E. Evans & Co.

DR. M. L. SCOTT, HOMOEOPATHICIAN,
 WEST RANDOLPH, VT.

BAILEY & GOSS, Physicians and Surgeons,
 West Randolph, Vt.

I. P. DANA, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
 SOUTH ROYALTON, VT.

E. O. BLANCHARD, D. D. S.,
 Special attention given to the preservation of the natural teeth, and the inserting of artificial crowns.
 Gold, Rubber, Celluloid and Continuous Gums used as base for artificial teeth, bridges & stay's block. West Randolph, Vt.

J. C. DYER, LIVERY AND FEED STABLE,
 WEST RANDOLPH, VERMONT. First Class Teams at Reasonable Prices.

Preserving the Natural Teeth a Specialty
 On Bots & Gays Block. West Randolph, Vt. W. S. CURTIS, D. D. S.

A. W. TEWKSBURY & SONS, MANUFACTURERS OF

DOORS, SASH, BLINDS

LUMBER, STAIR RAILS,

Bowl Posts, Mouldings, Brackets, Sheathing, Adjustable Window Screens.

DIMENSION TIMBER TO ORDER
 Cleopards, Shingles, Brick, Lime, Cement, Sills, Dried Hardwood Flooring, etc.

CONTRACTORS AND BUILDERS.

By STATES furnished for any building. Finishing the Interiors of Churches, Banks, Offices, Libraries, etc., a Specialty.

WEST RANDOLPH, VT.

SWALLOWED TACKS.

THE BAD RESULT OF A YOUNG MAN'S QUEER MANIA.

From Tacks He Took to Swallowing Pins, and Had to Have a Wonderful Operation Performed to Save His Life.

Charles Raymond, says the New York correspondent of the Cincinnati Enquirer, has been a familiar figure around Niblo's Garden for many years. Besides having charge of the machinery of the theater, which has brought him into personal contact with all the celebrities of the stage, he has a bright intellect and a cheerful disposition. Raymond did not take kindly to the ordinary indulgences that men usually employ to ruin their health. He did not use tobacco or drink intoxicating fluids, but he had one little specialty that he heartily enjoyed. It is perfectly safe to say that there are few persons who have been lured into following his example to get a share of the joy that seemed to come to him. Raymond's method of dissipation or relaxation after the trying duties of a night's performance were over, consisted in eating tacks for the amusement of his friends. There was no legerdemain about it, either. He would swallow a handful of tacks with as much greed as a love-sick maiden would candy. He found out that he could swallow tacks while working at laying carpets when a young man. Professional carpet-layers always carry the tacks in their mouths when at work, and Raymond found that once in a while a tack would slip down his throat. He was alarmed at first, but finding that he was not much injured by the tacks, the idea struck him that he had discovered a good way of having fun at the expense of his friends, and he has been at it ever since. He has swallowed several kegs of tacks in his day, and the only bad feature noticeable was that his appetite always appeared to be on the increase. The explanation of the phenomenon is a simple one. Raymond has not a copper-lined stomach, as has often been suggested to him, but he has a strong stomach, into which there flows an unusual amount of powerful gastric juice, which dissolves the iron.

Raymond became ambitious. Tacks were not good enough for him, and he got tired of taking them. He wanted a change of diet, and he made it without consulting a physician. He made a mistake, like many others who will not leave well enough alone, and he is now sitting up in a cot in the New York Hospital, artistically done up in beautiful white bandages. He swallowed a dose of pins to please his admirers, but he never sought their admiration again in the same way. One dose was enough. It is not known exactly how many he took, but his confidence in his digestive apparatus led him to attempt to give a few points to the ostrich. The theory was magnificent, but the gastric juice did not have any fancy for brass, and each individual pin made a dive for liberty on its own hook.

Raymond began to suffer in a few hours, and was taken to the hospital. Dr. Wheeler took charge of the case. The patient was kept perfectly quiet with opiates to give nature a chance to get rid of foreign bodies by inclosing them in a cyst, but this solution, if the difficulty did not appear. The patient became pale, thin and delirious. A swelling appeared in the region of the umbilicus after several days, and this increased until the skin broke and discharged fibres of the omental tissue, faeces and pus. There was no time for further delay, as the developments proved conclusively that the contract was too large for nature and assistance must be given.

The patient being thoroughly anaesthetized, an incision was made in the abdomen in the median line from the umbilicus nearly to the pelvis, so that all the abdominal spaces could be reached without much trouble. The peritoneum was very vascular and much valuable time was lost in checking the hemorrhage at this point.

A number of pins were found in the lower part of the abdomen, where they had dropped after coming through the opening that had been made in the small intestine by an abscess. Several other pins protruded through the membrane, and were held by the head. These were pulled out.

The surgeon was in doubt as to what course he should pursue, but finally made a small opening into the intestine near the stomach, through which a small rubber tube was inserted. The bowl was tied above and below this point, and warm water was gently forced through the tube. As soon as the pressure distended the bowl fine streams, little miniature fountains, burst forth, and a careful count showed that there were sixty-three perforations in the intestine in a length of thirty inches. The mesenteric artery and its branches leading to this portion of the intestine were ligatured with silk passed around them with an aneurism needle.

The intestine was then cut with scissors in two places thirty-two inches apart, and all the broken down intestines were removed. The upper point of severance was close to the stomach, and through this opening the stomach was carefully explored, and several pins were taken out that had fastened on the lining membrane. All the pins had reached the stomach, none having lodged in the oesophagus. None of the pins could be detected in the lower part of the bowel, and the canal appeared to be intact. Being satisfied that there were no more perforations, the divided ends of the bowel were brought together and united with interrupted sutures of fine spun silk. After a final search for pins in the cavity, it was thoroughly washed with a carbolic acid solution, and the abdominal wound was closed with silver and cat-gut sutures.

The operation had been somewhat prolonged by the appearance of unforeseen difficulties, and the patient was in a low state. Vigorous treatment prevented a collapse, and after the effect of the shock passed away he showed marked improvement, being free from pain entirely. There have been no drawbacks. The patient has an excellent appetite, and the removal of the bowel does not appear to interfere with digestion. The immense wound in the

abdominal wall is healing splendidly, and most of the sutures have been removed. In a few days the patient will leave the hospital, having made the record of recovery after the removal of the largest section of intestine ever taken from a human being.

CARPETS.

A Salesman Gives Several Little Points About His Business.

"Do you know anything about carpets?" was asked a New York Mail and Express reporter the other day by a traveling salesman of one of the biggest houses in the trade.

"Not very much," was the truthful reply.

"Well, lots of the carpet men, especially the retailers, are in just about the same way," he said. "They can tell if the pattern pleases them, whether they like the general effect or not, but as to understanding the manufacture, as to telling by feeling or looks how a carpet is likely to wear, as to knowing how a carpet is up to the 'standard'—why, they don't."

"What do you mean by the 'standard'?"

"Look at this piece of ingrain. You see the threads are interwoven—across and lengthwise. Now, a third running across we call a 'pick.' Count the number of 'picks' in an inch. There should be fourteen. That is the way we make our 'standard.' If there are one, two or three less than fourteen, you see the carpet is far more loosely woven and less durable, though you wouldn't know the difference on the surface. An ingrain, you know, consists of several thicknesses or layers of threads woven together—'ply,' as we say—that is, twofold carpet is two thicknesses of threads, and a three-ply three. The three-ply is the carpet of our grandmothers. After having fallen into disuse for many years it is coming in again. No, I don't think the rage for the antique has anything to do with it; people are beginning to believe again in its serviceability—that is all.

"So much for the cheaper carpets; the more expensive kinds, the Brussels and the Wiltons, are woven on a back upon wires running crosswise; the standard is ten to an inch. The wires drawn, semi-cylindrical tubes of wool are left. This is the surface of the Brussels carpet. The Wiltons differ in this way, that the tubes of wool are woven thicker and higher. The wires here have knife attachment on the end, and upon being withdrawn by machinery, split directly through the top of the tiny tube. A rich and plush-like surface is thus formed. Here you can get effects and delicacy of tints and shades that you can't have in a Brussels carpet. Compare these two pieces," and he threw on the floor side by side a Wilton and a Brussels. "Now these are exactly the same pattern. This is evident; made of exactly the same shade and kind of wool. That is not so evident, for it doesn't seem so in the least; their effect is totally different. The plush and velvety surface of the Wilton has a softness, a richness, a delicacy which makes the Brussels look flat beside it. Still, you wouldn't notice the difference unless you compare them directly, as we have been doing. This carpet, the Wilton, is thicker and finer and heavier and handsomer than the other, but it cost just about twice as much. An American? Oh, that is the finest of all."

A Diver Nearly Scalped Under Water.

Chamberlucio said he would get us some extra fine oysters from an old sunken vessel on which the oysters had formed. We knew he was a good driver and so put him at it, we sitting around looking at him dive in twenty feet of water and bring up oysters. Finally one of the boys who was also diving came up and said a shark had Chamberlucio, but almost at the same time popped Chamberlucio, but all covered with blood on his head. We got him into the boat, and none too soon, for a number of sharks of great size were around the boat biting at the blood that Chamberlucio left in the water.

We washed old Cham off and found that he was almost scalped, the fish (for it was not a shark, it was a mirror or Hebrew fish) had taken the top of his head into his mouth down to the eyes and cut a complete circle around the head, taking out one of his eyes, cutting into the bridge of his nose across the cheek and around the back of his head. We cared for him the best we could, and since he has got well, but only has one eye and has a ring around his head. He says that the fish took his head into its mouth and swam with him around under part of the vessel; that he fought as best he could with his hands and thinks he got his fingers in its eyes, and that is why it let him go, and then he lost no time in getting to the top.

Mexican Cattle.

From the Spanish cattle, as originally introduced there by the early Spanish adventurers, have come the earlier types of Texas cattle, of late years much modified by the introduction of many modern breeds. The Mexican cattle possess large, bony frames, are deficient in flesh, especially on the superior parts, and require a large range in the semi-arid regions of that country. They are, in fact, almost feral in their habits. They have little value, except to supply inferior beef at a cheap price, and in the near future will be supplanted by better breeds. It is not many years since their only value was in their hides and tallow. They graze the year round on the plains and valleys, herded by the keepers, and like the cattle of the plains, are "rounded up," once a year, for branding.—Prairie Farmer.

The Cat and the Cow.

Joseph S. Arnold, of La Fayette, R. I., probably has the wisest cat on earth. He also has a cow whose weakness enables the cat to display her wisdom. The cow "leaks" her milk, and the cat knows enough to go down in the stable each afternoon, when the cow's udder is full, stand under it, open her mouth, and catch the lactal overflow. The cat has followed this practice all winter, but now that Mr. Arnold has "turned the cows out to pasture," many persons are curious to know whether the cat will carry on the scheme in the open and distant lots.—[N. Y. Sun.

SOMEWHAT STRANGE.

ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS OF EVERY-DAY LIFE.

Funny Episodes and Thrilling Adventures Which Show That Truth is Stranger Than Fiction.



HIRTY-FIVE or forty of the Hub's most fashionable young ladies have adopted a new fad. They propose to establish an institution in the Bowery, in New York City, like Toynebee Hall, in the heart of London, which is to be the model after which the Bowery institution will be patterned. The poor women in the neighborhood will be invited to visit the institution, and there learn from the fair tutors something about the art and science of making home attractive, even where there is little money to begin. Certain well-accepted reforms in cooking will also be introduced, and there will be a kitchen supplied with all modern appliances for making food stable and digestible. The idea underlying this project is that the refining influence of a neat and attractive and cleanly kept home for the workingman will be the best possible stimulant to his moral progress. He will leave his nights at home, and always aim to save his money. It is said that the London institution is highly successful. Of course the girls, many of whom belong to the oldest families, will take turns making trips over to New York for missionary work among the deserving women in the lower wards, and this will become very fashionable. There is an attempt to keep the purposes of the project as well as the identity of the young ladies a secret until the opening of the institution.

The keepers of lighthouses situated upon rocks at some distance from the mainland have not infrequently been exposed to considerable privation, when cut off by continuous bad weather from all communication with the world; but it may be doubted whether such a tale as that of the keepers of the Bogskarew lighthouse has ever before been told. This lighthouse is situated in the Baltic, some forty miles from the nearest land, and on the 14th of February the greater portion of the building was carried away by a terrible gale, and from that time for a period of more than nine weeks, the two men have been undergoing terrible sufferings. It is said that they have been the whole time without water or fuel—meaning, of course, that the stock of water stored up for their use was lost, and that they had to depend entirely upon such rain and snow as might fall. The cold in the Baltic is very great; and an existence without fire in a ruined lighthouse, exposed to the fury of the northern gales, must have been almost insupportable. Rain can have fallen but seldom, although they may frequently have had snow, but this, as they had no means of melting it, can have been but of little use to them, for snow taken in the mouth excites rather than quenches thirst. The detailed narrative of nine weeks spent in the ruined lighthouse would rival the most exciting adventures of fiction.

SHILO GILL, one of Douglas County's best and most prosperous farmers, lives on the banks of the Embarras, in Illinois. Mr. Gill has a dog, to which he is greatly attached, which exhibits almost as much intelligence as a human being, and is of great service on the farm. The other day Shilo was strolling along the banks of the stream with his favorite dog Barney, when he came to a riffle, in which several large fish were floundering in their efforts to pass up to reach deeper water. The bodies of several of the larger ones were partially above water. Barney dashed in and in an instant had dragged one to land, and his master took possession of his catch. Again the intelligent dog returned to the riffle and another fish was landed, and this operation was continued until Shilo found that his "string" contained thirteen as fine fish as one would ask for. Every morning and evening the fish attempt to pass the riffle, and at these times Gill and old Barney are on hand to get a supply of fish, and both enjoy the sport hugely. The dog was struck by the fins of a large catfish the other evening, since which time he is a little chary of tackling that species.

OKLAHOMA settlers are complaining that the new land office is "pulling the ground from under their feet," but the literal meaning of that phrase is at present illustrated on the Island of Heligoland, where a stormy sea recently toppled over a large cliff, together with its top stratum of pastures and cottages, and at the same time revealing the existence of a cleft undermining at least one-third of the remaining seaunt area, which has now been reduced to a little less than one-third of an English square mile. Year after year the sea encroaches upon the rocks of the west shore, but the full extent of its depredations was only lately revealed by the discovery of an old map, showing not less than eighteen different villages, with castles, forts and monasteries, where the water now covers the submarine rocks to a depth of half a hundred fathoms. Like the Island of St. Helena, the cliffs of Heligoland rise abruptly from an ocean abyss which more than probably will swallow up the last breakwater before the middle of the next century.

It is not often that a rooster has any particular desire to take a bath, but a few days ago a Port Oram (N. J.) bird showed that under the pressure of necessity he could swim like a duck. He was chased by a dog to the edge of the Morris Canal, and seeing no other mode of escape, he jumped in. The dog followed, but the rooster, using both wings and feet as propellers, forged rapidly through the water. An eye witness reports that the winged one was the faster swimmer, and when he struggled up the opposite bank the dog was a bad second. The triumphant rooster stood upon the shore and crowed for over a minute, and while thus engaged in self-laudation, the dog landed and almost succeeded in catching him by the tail. He saved himself by fluttering into a tree.

ABOUT six o'clock the other night a peculiar circumstance was noticed by a

number of people at Jamestown, Dakota. A small black cloud hanging rather low was noticed to move rather queerly, when suddenly the cloud was lost sight of and a precipitation of frogs was seen. There were several hundreds of them, and they could be seen hopping up in the street a block away. A number of dogs were promptly on hand and made it lively for the hoppers. It is claimed that a funnel-shaped cloud, indicating a cyclone, was seen in the west shortly before, and the theory of some is that the frogs were caught up and carried in the air until it spent itself, which happened to be over the centre of the principal business streets.

An Austrian physician reports the curious fact that in the highlands of Styria the arsenic habit is gradually superseding beer and wine. A penny's worth of arsenious acid (common white arsenic) is enough to keep even a habitue in stimulants for a week, and where arsenic can be had at wholesale prices, a dollar's worth would about suffice for a life-time—not a very short period, either, since old mountaineers are known to have followed the practice for half a century. Arsenic-eaters soon lose their appetite for alcohol and loathe tea and coffee, but somehow their vice seems compatible with the tobacco habit, which appears to mitigate the after-effects of the baneful drug.

MR. SMITH, while fishing in Lake Catherine, Fla., lately caught a strange looking fish about two feet long, body like an eel, but thicker and larger, no scales, head short and flattened. But the great difference between it and other fish was its having two anterior limbs, each about one and a half inches in length, which are used in swimming, and it can use them in traveling on the ground, for it can move pretty well out of its own element. It is not a true fish, but a reptile, and is described in natural history as a siren. They can live a long time out of water. They are rarely seen. This is the second one caught by Mr. Smith within a month.

One of a recent party of convicts bound for Siberia was a baroness and her husband, formerly her footman, sentenced each to twenty years' servitude. The baroness was married when young to an old man, and she fell in love with his footman. She poisoned her husband and was arrested, but the footman escaped. She subsequently escaped from the hospital where she was confined, sought out her footman lover, and married him. They settled in Kovno, and were only recently discovered there, living in abject poverty.

FOR many years an old cow of a light brown sandy color has been getting her herbage off the old hills beyond the depot at Vienna, Ga., which has grown scantier year by year, and in the winter amounted to almost actual starvation. It was a noticeable fact through the bleak part of last winter that this cow tried on several occasions to commit suicide by jumping upon the track in front of the engine. Since the grass has come out you never see this cow about the railroad at all.

There is a young married lady in Elberton, Ga., who is a snake charmer. She is fearless of these reptiles, and will capture with her hands any snake she finds in the woods, and has tamed several of them for pets. Once she captured a large snake that seized her hand. This lady did not experience any trouble from its fangs, and continued her sport of capturing them. She seems to have a strange power over reptiles, and it is seldom they offer any resistance.

A PECULIAR attempt to evade both the customs and quarantine regulations is reported from Windsor, Canada, to the Customs Department. A railway car, containing a horse, several sheep, and several bales of hay, was duly reported at customs. One of the officials found a throughbred bull wedged in between the hay and the rear of the car.

THE stormiest of all inhabited spots on earth seems to be Jason Island, in the Falkland Archipelago, some three hundred miles northeast of Cape Horn. House-breaking hurricanes are a little less frequent than in the Indian Ocean, but gales which even an old sailor would dislike to encounter occur every few days, and from May to New Year there is not a calm week in the year.

J. D. STAFFORD, of Grantville, Ga., "turned off" his fish pond, and a large gourd was found in the bottom of the pond. This gourd had an aperture about the size of a silver quarter in it, and inside the gourd were two mud-catchfish which would weigh a pound each. The fish went in while small, and remained there until too large to make their exit.

OLIVER SHEPHERD, a lad of sixteen, living near Champion, Ind., had an exciting experience with a black snake the other day. He was passing along the road near his home when the reptile appeared from some bushes and attacked him. The boy started to run, and was closely pursued for nearly a mile by the snake.

AN APALACHICOLA (Fla.) firm has a cat that is sixteen years old and has presented the firm with an average of twelve kittens per year for fifteen years, making a total of 180 kittens.

Imagination in Disease.

A story has been told at times during the past ten years in this city of a resident who, imagining he was ill, went to bed, and when told by the physician who had been summoned to attend him that nothing was the matter with him replied that he was sick, he knew he was sick, and would be dead in less than a week. He fulfilled his prediction by dying. Another case, somewhat similar, was told on Friday. A young man residing in the Ninth Ward had the measles, and "caught it" by imagination. His home is in the country, where he went a fortnight ago. A brother at that time told him how he had been exposed to measles over a month before, and of his luck in escaping contagion, and when the young man, who boards in the city, returned he told his schoolmates about his brother, adding that he felt sure he would take the disease. Every day he brooded over the matter, saying he knew he would get it, as it was just his luck, and, sure enough, he did get it, and is now ill at his boarding-house with the old-fashioned measles, good and hard.—[Philadelphia Ledger.

HER COMPLIMENTS.

Mrs. Dolly Madison Sent the Following Telegraphic Message.

In your issue of this morning, you refer to the Chicago News, you have justly lauding her womanhood and visiting young writers to study her style and charming style. No better advice could be given. This reference to Mrs. Dolly brings to my mind the fact that Mrs. Dolly carried to her grave an honor never presented to any other woman, and one that can never be again. History, you know, is not ways to be relied upon. It is the memory of Mrs. Madison that correct an accepted historical statement as to the first telegraphic message sent over a wire. It is generally supposed that the words, "What hath wrought," were the first four transmitted. This is not true.

When Prof. Morse was in Washington preparing to test the telegraph, which had been erected at Government expense between Washington and Baltimore he was attended by several gentlemen friends, among whom was Congressman John P. Wetherill, of Maryland. Prof. Morse rang up the Post Office at Fayette and Washington streets, and having received an answering signal, he announced that he was ready to transmit a message to Baltimore. At this juncture Congressman Wetherill suggested that, as communication by electricity was a great event in the world's history, the letter should be stowed upon some one identified with the nation's progress. This suggestion met with approval, but none could think of a person whom this honor would conspicuously benefit. Suddenly Wetherill cried out: "I have it! Mrs. Madison in Washington and she is just the person!"

That distinguished lady was sent for and in half an hour she arrived, highly excited, but with the heavenly, obliging smile she always wore. Prof. Morse asked her to write out a brief message to some friend in Baltimore, and Mrs. Madison accordingly wrote a line to the wife of the Congressman, simply the words: "Mrs. James Madison's compliments to Mrs. Wetherill." This message was ticked off and shortly thereafter reached Mrs. Wetherill at the country home in the suburbs of Baltimore, having been dispatched from the Baltimore office by a courier on horse back.

Several other preliminary messages such as "How are you?" etc., were sent, and then came the formal communication: "What hath God wrought." The facts were narrated to me by Congressman Wetherill in 1847.

An Extraordinary Literary Work.

One of the most extraordinary literary works of the present time is the story of the every workers was Honore de Balzac. He could write only by candle light, and when free from interruption. When writing a novel he would retire to bed at 8 o'clock in the evening and most of the morning. With his desk lit and a strike out at a sitting his first sheets, very little more than the plot. This would send to the printer, who would return the few columns of print, posted in the middle of a half a dozen blank sheets, giving an immense margin. On this margin Balzac would begin to sketch the personages of the story, interpolating the dialogue, perhaps completely altering the original design of the book. Horizontal, diagonal and vertical lines would run everywhere, the paper would be scribbled over with asterisks, curves, and every kind of mark. He was the despair of printers, who always stipulated for special rates when they had any of Balzac's writings to set up. The second sketch would again be sent to the printers, and would be again returned with broad margins as before, and this process would be repeated four or five times, until at last the novel would be completed, but the profits had been swallowed up by this eccentric plan of writing. It was in this way that "Comedie Humaine" was written. This was a method involving a drudgery that very few even of the most ambitious authors would endure. Balzac was willing to pay the price, and while his pecuniary reward was not great, he has secured for himself an enduring place in French literature.—Chicago Herald.

Woman Against Serpent.

One of the most venomous battles between a woman and a large live snake occurred at Grand View recently.

About 7 o'clock, as Mrs. H. N. Strait, the handsome and accomplished wife of H. N. Strait of the Wyoming Plumbing Company, descended to the cellar of their residence on St.teenth street, Grand View, she was startled by a loud hiss and two red eyes looking directly at her. Burning with a lamp, the lady discovered a large snake coiled around a post of wood. Taking a coal shovel in her hand, Mrs. Strait prepared to deal with the monster. The first hiss seemed to infuriate the reptile, and with a loud hiss, it sprang at the woman, who was so nobly defending herself. A blow from the shovel knocked the snake aside, and with the rapidity of lightning the snake again prepared to strike. Five consecutive times did the huge monster retreat, and then plunging through the dimly lighted air at the woman who was so nobly defending herself. At last a well-directed shovel knocked the reptile to the floor. It seemed to stun it for a moment. Its glistening eyes had now become fascinating balls of flame, and the woman fangs worked with awful velocity. The snake coiled in the air, and with its failing strength she reached the floor above, where help soon reached her.

Mr. Strait is in Wyoming Territory, where he is largely interested in a mine, where he discovered mica mine, and his wife discovered with the servants. A party was alone with the servants. A party of neighbors were summoned and the snake carried into the woodshed. It measured eleven feet and eight inches from the head to the tip of the tail.—[Kansas City Traveler.