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CANNON BURIED 125 YEARS.

Revolutionary Rifle Dug Up in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

A cannon of the revolutionary war has been discovered buried on the farm of Ephraim Kaufman, near Warwick, Chester County, says a Reading (Pa.) correspondent of the Baltimore Sun. The cannon weighs 4,550 pounds and is of cast iron. The letters "P. W. F." cut on it are taken to mean that it was made at the Pennsylvania War-wick furnace, which operated during the revolution. The furnace made cannon for Washington's army.

During the occupancy of Philadelphia by the British under Lord Howe it was reported that Howe was about to send an expedition out to destroy the furnace, capture the cannon and then come on to this city and seize the provisions and supplies which were kept here for the American army. The people in charge of the furnace were so certain that the expedition would be made that they buried a number of cannon to keep them from falling into the hands of the enemy. The place of burial was not marked, and in consequence the cannon remained concealed until a stream running near the old furnace changed its course slightly. The change exposed one of the former banks of the stream.

Recently two men were fishing in the stream, when they noticed the top of what they supposed to be a pipe protruding from the former bank of the creek. Upon examination they found it to be the top of an old cannon. It was then dug out, and four mules were required to draw the heavy gun up the bank. The cannon is greatly rusted and is of the type used during the time of the revolution. Marks on the gun seem to show that it weighed 4,550 pounds when it was new. As it now weighs but 4,550 pounds by rust in its 125 years' burial. The cannon was supposed to have been buried in the bed of the stream. The waters were turned out of their usual course until the weapons were secreted from expected invaders, after which they were allowed to resume their usual flow. The cannon which was discovered recently was five feet below the surface.

Mr. Kaufman, who owns the farm on which the cannon was discovered, removed the cannon to his home in Oley Township, near Friedensburg, this county. The trip was twenty-four miles, by way of Pottstown and Douglassville, and took a day. Mr. Kaufman now has the gun on his lawn. It is the largest revolutionary rifle in this county. The gun is seven and one-half feet long and six feet in circumference at the muzzle. The mouth is fourteen inches in diameter and the opening five and one-half inches.

LIVING WITH A TARANTULA.

Big Spider Terrorized and Killed Family Six Months.

An ugly, venomous tarantula from the tropics was dispatched at the home of William Zink, at Hudson and Willow streets, Gloucester city, recently, after it had terrorized the family for a period of six months. Zink was a former fruit dealer, and one day a half-year ago while he was handling a bunch of bananas the huge spider hopped out and escaped.

Zink and members of his family searched for the insect for some time, but without avail, and then concluded that it had gone out into the wide world. Not long after that, however, the tarantula was discovered in the house, and again chase was given it, but once more it escaped by hiding.

At intervals ever since then the tarantula had been seen at various places through the dwelling, but in every instance it managed to elude its pursuers, who began to have creepy feelings every time they saw anything move in a shadowy place. It got to be a reign of terror in the house, but no one seemed able to find the thing that menaced them.

Just as he and his wife were about to retire one night Zink once more caught sight of the tarantula as it clung to a picture frame in his bedroom.

"Ha!" cried Zink. "I have you at last, you pesky varmint!" and he made a heroic effort to do the thing to death.

The huge insect seemed to wink at him as it dodged behind the picture frame and mysteriously disappeared like a ghost or some other horrid creation of the fancy. Sure that he was on the trail of the pest Zink got up early the next morning determined to rid the house of the creature. He searched in every possible crevice and cranny, and at last, after two hours of unceasing scrutiny, he came upon the spider crouched in a little crevice in the wall where it may have hidden all these months. Zink killed it and proudly exhibits the hairy body at his home. It measures over five inches across its legs.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

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The success of the series in the New York Herald was instantaneous, for who has not heard of "Foxy Grandpa" and "Bunny"?

The jolly old gentleman, dear to grown people as well as children, might almost be called the Mr. Pickwick of comic pictures.

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