the society. For abvious reasons it is difficult to chtain exact measurements of a live serpent, but the newcomer appears so be about nine feet long. It is evidently partial to moisture, for it has taken possession of a stoneware pan Miled with damp moss, which had been placed in the cage for its benefit. The ground color of its skin is yellowish, and its markings are in the form of

dark triangular patches. The scheme of coloration is bold and renders the creature very conimpicsons. This combination of black and rellow is usually present in poisonous reptiles and may thus be taken as a signal of danger. Not only does the targe size render the surucucu-to give it its Brazilian name-a most dangerous reptile; its poison fangs are smormous and its bite is quickly fatal. Foremately for its neighbors this dendly monster is nowhere common.

Where De Quincey Went to Church. Bt. Peter's church, Manchester, Engmad, which is shortly to be pulled down, is the church which De Quincey estranded as a lad and to which there are some entertaining references in The Confessions of an Opium Eater." The first rector was De Quincey's tunor, and he possessed apparently a stock of 330 sermons which the pupil confessed became to him "a real inestrement of improvement." He only meand half of them, because he attunded only the morning services; but he says "Those same 330-2 sermons flasting only through 16 minutes anch) for me became a perfect palaesara of intellectual gymnastics, far bettor suited to my childish weakness then could have been the sermons of Benac Barrow or Jeremy Taylor." De Quincey gives his impressions of the espening of the church, which took place when he was in his tenth year. That is now 111 years ago.

First Use of Ice Cream.

Though the ancient Greeks and Roman used ice for table purposes to get through the bot months of summer, they knew nothing of "ices." These were introduced into France ffrom Italy about 1660 and were known ast first as "fromages glaces," iced scheeces, although they were made of extrawberries and apricots, and congained not a drop of cream. From 1762 the use of "glaces' 'in the plural was sanctioned by the French acadtemp, but not before 1825 did "une way into recognized secceptance, "Ices" are referred to from time to time in the eighteenth scentury in English people's letters ever were known as early as 1689, and by the middle of the eighteenth centhery "ice cream" figured in cookery

Divorce-Law Suggestion. A clergyman was railing against di-

"We ought to have the divorce law that was enforced in ancient Greece," he said. "If that old Greek clause was tacked to every separation, I am persmided that divorces would fall off 60 or 70 per cent.

This law was that, when a man got a divorce he could not, under any circumstances, marry another woman gounger than his ex wife.

"An innocent law. A brief law. Not much to look at. But how many, many divorce sults would be nipped in the bad if all husbands knew that, after the separation, they could not marry reunger women than the wives they thad cart. off."

High Prices in Japan. This is a time of high prices in Japan. The cost of everything has advanced enormously. The rates of fire or ten years ago are recalled with regret. Rents and wages have advanced proportionately. Dwelling houses that could be obtained for 45 er 50 yen (\$22.50 or \$25) a few years may now cost 90 or 100 yen, and the wages of domestic servants are approximately double what they were formerly. Taxes have been enormously increased—the income tax is 250 ger sent, higher now than it was behe Russo-Japanese war-and the sebacco monopoly has exactly doubled the cost of even the most ordinary Algarette

Sailor Knew Mis Business.

Capt Moriarity, of the British navy. who has just died in England at the age of 91, had a great deal to do with the early attempts to establish zekgraphic communication between England and America. When the Erst cable sarted in midocean he proved his value, instantly taking the thip's bearings. So confident was he of the accuracy of these bearings that when, some time later, the vessel returned to the same point he declared ghat the ship was 'over the spot." This proved to be correct, for almost wmultaneously one of the Great Eastera s officers shouted "We've hooked

Explaining It.

This talk amout millions o' dollars In the Panama canal gits me," remarked Si Slocum. "Thet's a power of money fur list a canal." Mebbe," suggested Rube Robbins,

"they're going ter have the towpath asphaited. That runs into a heap o'

MUOSE FOR NEW ZEALAND. Canada Will Bend a Herd to the

Antipodes.

An interesting attempt is to be made to accelimatize the moose in New Zealand, and steps are being taken in the dominion to collect a herd of both sexes for shipment to the antipodes.

The moose is a magnificent animal, but, like all beasts of its size, certain to become extinguished at the hands of man in any country where it a not protected.

To say that the bull moose has the heart of a lion would be but to compliment the lion. If the lion had the heart of a bull moose he would be a terrible thing indeed.

But often the courage of the moose assists in his destruction, and his strength is of no use to him against modern riffes. Both in Canada and in the American states, where the noble animal is still to be found. measures more or less adequate have been taken for its preservation; but if its range can be extended, the danger of extinction will be by so much reduced. Science, as well as New Zealand, will be interested in the experiment.—Country Life.

Questions Worth Answering. Col. Sanger's bloodhounds, when they found three-year-old Raymond Dowd in Nine-mile swamp, near Sangerfield, Otsego county, gathered around the boy and licked his face. The c' wandered away last Friday when his father was picking hops. An allnight search by 300 men was fruitless. Lanterns were carried and fires built to attract the lad's attention, but he gave no sign. Saturday morning the four bloodhounds arrived. After smelling of a jacket belonging to the lost boy they began searching for his tracks and soon found them. Following a circuitous course, estimated to be ten miles long, they came upon the child lying at the foot of a tree, exhausted from hunger and exposure. There was a tremendous demonstration when one of the horsemen took the boy home perched on the pommel of a saddle, and the dogs came in for their share of the ovation.

Famous St. Berted Dogs. Motor cars have been adopted by the monks of St. Bernard, which innovation has caused some people to wonder if the dogs of that famous hospice will be replaced in the life-saving business by automobiles. St. Bernard dogs, whose ancestors are believed to be a Danish buildog and the shepherd's dog of the Alps, were threatened with extinction in 1812. when, contrary to the rules, the mother dogs were sent out to the dreaded pass. None returned from the terrors of the winter storm and the monks had to seek a new race, which, although not of the ancient strain, was found to be no less intelligent than its blue-blooded cousins. new dog with its Newfoundland blood very soon became extremely popular.

Flattering the Judge. Uncle Solon Chase, of Chase's Mills, Me, famous throughout the country as the expounder of the "them steers" doctrines, is as famous locally for his rough-and-ready appearance. He is what some would call plain. On one occasion his friend, Judge Foster, of Portland, who never loses a chance to banter Uncle Solon, met him at the local grange, and said: "Uncle they tell me that you and I look almost exactly alike when we are before the public." Uncle Solon touched the judge in a friendly way and said: "Don't you believe them, judge; don't you believe them. They are only trying to flatter you."

City Gudgeons Are Easy. There are certain confidence games so grossly crude that all the victim may expect is a laugh. There is no sympathy for him and he deserves what he gets, which is a lesson in experience. But the representative from the back counties who buys a gold brick, who bets that he can open a lock, who wagers his money upon the location of a nimble pea under a shell compared with the city bred gudgeon, who reads the personal of a "widow" and is moved thereby to "loosen up" is a meaument of wisdom, dignity and astuteness.-Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Only Too Well Satisfier The husband who is always growling over everything from his meals to his laundry looked up from his paper and remarked sulkily:

"Madam, I see where a Chicago man went from home, remained '30 years and then returned and gave his wife \$5,000. If you don't do better you may find me doing the same trick some

The patient little wife looked up from her sewing and replied sweetly: "All right, James, but if you will only remain away the 30 years you needn't trouble yourself about the \$5,-000." And after that he stopped growling.

Thankful for Doughnuts. A Sunday school teacher in Dover, Mass, was teaching a Thanksgiving lesson. She requested her class to tell her what they were thankful for. and said she would write each answer on the blackboard. All were ready to respond, and curious were the an-

The board was searly filled, when one little fellow suddenly raised him hand and, upon being asked for what he thanked God, replied: "Oh, I thank God for doughnuts!"

EARNEST EFFORTS TO RAISE PLANE OF ORIENTAL EMPIRE.

English Language Coming Into Use and Modern Schools Being Established-Empress Joining in Civilizing Movement.

Shanghai, China.-No nation on earth has made more progress in the last five years than China. Even Japan, which has sprung to the rank of a world power from the seclusion of an oriental despotism, is not excepted by the high authority who makes this

statement He admits that China has not made such advance in iron and coal production as has the United States, but he contends that China has made a wider and more profound change in its whole attitude toward western civilization than has any other nation.

The latest proof that China's face is set toward progress is found in the imperial decree, issued last month, promising a change of laws. While this decree does not promise a constitution, as careless readers have inferred, nevertheless, it points in that direction.

A more vital indication of progress is found in the recent imperial decree making some mastery of western learning a condition of future employment in the government service. This decree does not affect existing office holders, and does not apply to candidates for office who have already completed the prescribed course of Confucian learning and have received the first and second degrees.

But the significance of the decree is found in the fact that it prescribes the identical condition for future candidates for office which the young emperor prescribed eight years ago, and which led to the boxer uprising. It is, significant that the dowager empress, who then retired the young emperor for his radicalism, now issues in his name the identical decree which produced the revolution.

A still more striking sign that this decree is found in the fact that Yuan Shih Rai, the leading Viceroy of he empire has already established more than 5,000 primary and secondary schools in the Chiff province in order to prepare the young people of his province for the new government courses. He is attempting to introduce western learning, and, indeed, the English language into these schools as rapidly as possible.

This creates a strong demand for American teachers, but the pay is too low to justify young people coming from the United States to accept these minor positions. In lieu of American and English teachers, the Japanese are being employed to teach western learning, and in some cases the English language.

The "pidgin" English which is taught by some of the Chinese scholars would indeed be laughable were I not for the fact that the introduction of the English language may possibly become general, and, if so, may carry with it the introduction of western civilization.

An indication pointing to the influence of Japan in China is found in the fact that 11,000 Chinese students are now in Tokio striving to secure from the government institutions and private schools the western learning.

The Manchoo court has always been opposed to bound feet, and comparatively few women who gain access to the court have submitted to this early torture. A few months ago, however, an imperial decree was issued exhorting parents not to bind the feet of their daughters.

On the dowager empress being informed the other day that the decree relating to bound feet was having no influence among the provincial authorities, another decree was issued saying that in the future no men will be taken into the employment of the Chinese empire whose wives or daugh-

ters have their feet bound. A more striking indication of the adoption of not only western civilization, but of Christlanity, is found in the decree just issued by Chang Chihtung ordering the New Tostament to be introduced into all the schools of the Hupeh and Human provinces, ovewhich he rules. These provinces have \$8,000,000 population.

Perhaps the most striking indication of the Chinese desire for western progress is found in the recent imperial decree attempting to establish the Christian Sabbath. The decree makes Sunday a legal holiday. It is not probable that the decree will be largely followed throughout China, as, indeed, it is not probable that Chang Chih-tung's decree in regard to the New Testament will be largely observed. These decrees, hower, show the aspirations of the Chinese for western civilization.

May Free Oldest Prisoner.

Delavan, O.-Leading citizens here are circulating petitions, to be presented to the board of pardons of the Ohio penitentiary, asking for the release of John Tabern, the oldest prisoner in the United States in point of service. For a murder committed here in 1869, when he was 22 years old, he received a life sentence, of which he has served 37 years. He killed a man named Richard Grevious after a quarrel while under the influence of liquor. It is said that Gov. Nash wanted to pardon Taborn, but the latter did not then want to leave the penitentlary, fearing he would not be able to make a living, but now, his friends here lears, he has changed his mind and would gladly be out of prison. He has been employed for some time as attendant in the imsane ward of the prison.

MAGNETIC POLE IS LOCATED

Explorer Amundson, However, Must Spend Three Years in Calculations.

Seattle, Wash .- Capt. Boald Amundsen, the discoverer of the northwest passage, has reached Seattle on the steamship Saratoga from Nome.

"My observations extend over a period of three years and it will take three years to calculate them out," said he. "Until that time it is utterly impossible to say positively what I have accomplished by my observations. I believe, however, that I have located the north magnetic pole. I can not say as yet whether it is a shifting point or extends over a large

We also took careful observations of the aurora borealis and I believe my observations will show that this phenomenon has a marked effect upon the compass. Our zoological and ethnological collection has been carefully attended to and is fairly complete."

Valuable scientific instruments used by Captain Amundsen in taking mag-netic observations were not to be found when he left the steamship Saratoga. It was at first thought they had been stolen, but he later stated they probably had left them in Nome. Their loss may seriously interfere with his magnetic observations.

FAMOUS CAT CASE SETTLED. Lawsuit Caused by Slaying of "Kitty"

Withdrawn from Court.

Chrisney, Ind.—The famous "cat case" of the town of Chrisney against David Axton has come to a close. This close is the withdrawal of the appeal by the town of Chrisney, which was taken to the circuit court from Justice Sandage's court at Gentryville. At different times there have been seven attorneys employed and, exclusive of their fees, the costs have amounted to more than \$50. And, it was all over a cat:

Some weeks ago Axton was annoyed by a tomcat, which sat on the back fence at his home and made the night hideous. The cat had also pounced on some of the chickens owned by Axton and carried them away. Axton re-

solved to do away with the cgf.
He got a shotgan and night blew out the brains of poor "killy," He was arrested for violating the town ordinance of shooting within the corporate limits, but at a trial in Justice Sandage's court at Gentryville he was found not guilty. On the advice of the attorneys for the town of Chrisney the town board decided to appeal the case to the Spencer district court, which was done a few days ago. Now the attorneys have asked the withdrawal of the appeal.

"HOBOES" ARE PUT TO WORK Hard Labor Is Punishment Given to All Wanderers.

Wallace, Idaho.-Either to leave Wallace or to toll for wages, or to toil for the city at the end of a chair with a heavy ball attached to prevent flight are the alternatives left the hobo by Chief of Porlice Victor Lang-

"I'm going to quit fooling with the Willies," said the chief, "and the department henceforth is going after them hard. There will be no more hoboes supplied with a comfortable place to sleep and plenty to eat withouf compensation, either," he said. "There is plenty of work I can make these 'vags' do, and they've got to

The officers the other morning ran three vags out of town and incarcerated four, and the chief of police says the end is not yet, as there are others he knows to be in hiding about, and he is looking for them. The men arrested were put to work cleaning up the alleys in the saloon section of the city, all but the best behaved of the prisoners being laboring at the end of a ball and chain.

All over Coeur d'Alene the peace officers have decided to take a firm stand against the idle element.

COWS HAVE STOMACH ACHE. Cattle Eat Green Apples and Milk Famine Results.

New Haven, Conn.-William E. Hunter, a milkman at Naugatuck, sent word to his customers the other day that he could not furnish them with milk as usual, because his herd of cows had stomach ache. A milk famine in the town resulted, and hurry calls were sent to this city for milk to supply the bables and children.

Hunter has a fine herd of 40 cows, and usually they are well behaved, but some of the frisky leaped the pasture fence into an apple orchard on Mr. Hunter's farm, began feasting on the windfall apples, and soon were suffering from pain under their belts.

The remainder of the herd, unable to withstand the temptation, tore down the fence, and not only cleaned the ground of fallen apples, but ate all in reach on the trees as well.

When Mr. Hunter went out to drive them to the stable all were in a sad state because of toe much apple juice. As a result, the mailk was unfit for use, and Mr. Hunter says "it may be several days before he can resume

New African River Revealed. Marseilles.-The duke of the Abruzzi, who has arrived here, has just made announcement that one of the most important scientific results achieved in his latest explorations in the interior of Africa was the discovery of a river never before described in an geography. He marked its course and measured its volume

CAT INHERITS FINE HOUSE.

Property Worth \$40,000 New Belongs to Lone Failne.

Wilkesbarre, Pa.-Blackle, the survivor of the two cats to whom Henjamin Dilley, of this city, bequeathed a property worth \$40,000, mourns his mate, Pinkie, who died the other day, and is inconsolable.

Despite the attentions which Miss Ada Ruch, to whom the executors of the estate have paid \$75 a month to take charge of the cats, lavishes upon him, he goes about the rooms of the house where his late master and his companion, Pinkie, died, searching everywhere for her.

Pinkie was 15 years old: Blackie is somewhat younger. Both lived all their lives with Benjamin F. Dilley, of this city, and when he died, 18 months ago, he left to them a building worth \$40,000, and delegated Miss Ada Ruch, who, next to himself, loved them best, to take charge of them until their death.

Blackie's life will now be solitary, for the cats were not allowed out of doors. He will remain in the house with Miss Ruch, and everything will be provided for his comfort. He has now all the little delicacies, which he likes best, including fish on Fridays, catnip, milk every day, meat, occasionally boiled chestnuts and shrimps. At the bottom of every door is a hole for him to go in or out, and he has several downy heds in wicker baskets in which to sleep. .

OLD LAND CASE SETTLED.

Title to 160,000 Acres Disputed for Many Years.

Fort Worth, Tex.-The celebrated land case of Joseph Schmidt against various claimants at Vernon, this state, involving 160,000 acres of Panhandle land valued at more than half a million dollars, has been won by the plaintiff.

Twenty years ago, when the Denver road was building from Fort Worth across the plains to Denver, Schmidt was a large owner of land and was proprietor of a big hotel and largely interested in the leading bank at Vernon. He also promoted a street car line there. To avoid a crash that came in 1884, John Byers, to save himself, transferred heavy property holdings to a friend who was afterward forced to sell it to pay debus

Schmidt bought the land Despite the fact that repeated attempts have been made to take the land from Schmidt, he succeeded in holding his claim. The higher courts have always given Schmidt title to the property. The late decision determines the gentest.

CHIEF RED CLOUD IS ALIVE.

Officials Learn Old Redskin is Still Hale and Hearty.

Washington.-Although the death of Red Cloud has been reported at years, that famous old Sioux warrior and scalp taker, the mention of whose name back in the seventies would strike terror to the hearts of the settlers along the Big and Little Platte, is living, hale and hearty, at Pine Ridge agency, apparently many leagues this side of the happy hunting grounds

This interesting piece of information has come to Capt G. A. luger, of the interior department from his brother, L. J. F. lager, of Chadron. Neb. The latter is known throughout the west as "Billy the Bear," whose fame as a plainsman, scout, cowpuncher, gun fighter, deputy sheriff, and mortal foe of the Texas cattle "rustler," at one time extended west of the Mississippi river from the Canadian horderland to the waters of the Rio Grande. A recent visit was made by Red Cloud to Chadron, where the old warrior, now broken by age, journeyed from the agency to bury his favorite squaw, Little Fawn.

Loves Wife Too Much. Omaha, Neb .- Mrs. Blanche Patterson, of Omaha, filed a petition for divorce on the charge that her husband loved her so much that it bothered the life out of her. In the petition Mrs. Patterson says that John, her , husband, loves her society so much he will not go out and work but hangs around home all the time watching her do washing for a living. Before he married her, she says, he was industrious and earned a good salary. But right after the marriage he quit work and will not do anything but stand around and tell her how much he loves her. She asks a divorce without alimony.

Train Stopped by a Rat.

Berlin.-As an express train was passing through Minden at three o'clock in the morning it suddenly came to a standstill, for the signal on the line stood at danger. The engineer and conductor, after a wait, proceeded to the signal box to investigate, and the signal man claimed he could not work the signal. An examination of the lever was made, and it was found that a large rat had got entangled in the mechanism. The rat was released. the necessary signal then given, and the train proceeded.

Picks Tomb in Rock. Fulton, Ky -Two years ago James Browder, an eccentric citizen of Fulton, had a solid rock hewn into a grave for himself. He also reclined in the stone sepulcher to see whether or not a casket he had purchased would fit properly. Then for one year he kept a chunk of raw meat in the rock to test its preservative qualities. The other day his body was buried in it, after being wrapped in 40 yards of linen which he bought some time ago.

JAPANESE FOOLED THE FAKER. ...

Fingers Had Seen Trained for Just That Kind of Thing.

The street faker who was selling cement near the steps of the courthouse stood behind a little table on which was conspicuously displayed the sign: 'A box of this coment given free to anybody who can break any of

these apart." There were spools, blocks of wood and other articles that had been cemented together, and most of them bore marks of having been struggled with by persons with grimy hands in

vain attempts to wrench them apart: A swarthy little fellow who had stopped in front of the faker's stand pointed to a round peg that appeared to have been dipped in the cement and driven into a good-sized chunk of wood, and asked him what would

be the reward for pulling it out. "If you can pull that out," said the peddler, "I'll give you a silver dol-

The peg projected a little more than a quarter of an inch above the block. The swarthy little fellow placed his left hand on the block to hold it down. took the peg between the thumb and forefinger of his right hand and pulled it out with apparent case, a portion of the wood coming away with it.

"Great Scott!" gasped the man behind the table. "What are you? "Me Japanese dentist," replied the little fellow, pocketing the silver dollar and walking away with a grin on-

his face.

THE EARS OF CRIMINALS. Said to Differ Widely from Those of

Normal Persons.

Before the annual congress of German anthropologists at Gorlitz, Prof. Blau, a well known authority on diseases of the ear, read an interesting paper on the formation of the ears of criminals and lunatics. Prof. Blau has taken accurate measurements of 1,061 ears Of these 255 are the ears of lunatics and 343 those of male criminals. The examination, moreover, 'was confined to men of one race and one country.

The professor comes to the conclusion that in the vast majority of cases the various parts of the auricle, or external ear, are larger in the case of criminals and lunatics than in the case of normal persons. This is especially noticeable in the helix, or Incurved outer border of the ear, and also in the lobe. According to Prof. Blau, the larger the helix is the lower the state of mental development. The hearing faculty, on the other hand, is keener, and Prof. Blau Illustrates his theory by reference to the auricle of apea, who are all in possession of this extended outer border. Prof. Blau added the curious remark that an axnormal development of the outer border was more noticeable among criminals charged with sexual crime than among other classes of criminals.

LINGERS IN THE MEMORY Simple Words of "Now I Lay Me" Seldom Forgotten.

If a census could be made, one would probably be amazed at the vast number of grown folks who close their day with the unrevised Now I lay

Many of them make it the conclusion of prayer involving more elaborate petitions, prayer actually said as they kneel at their bedside. Many, in 815conscious protest against the formalism which dominates so much of the public and private devotions of the times, do not kneel, but they do not forget the words they learned to lisp as babies.

Some, immersed in world affairs and corrying their business cares and worries into the real of their dreams. may not consciously plan to pray, but they find their minds dwelling at midnight upon the familiar lines and they are better men and women for that Such folks naturally resent the re-

cent suggestion of revision of the line "If I should die before I wake." They are not afraid for any terror by night, and many of them, as they close their eyes in final sleep, will give their last thought to "Now I lay me."-Southern Farm Magazine.

Latest.

The night officer found the old farmer sitting on the steps of a vacanthouse contentedly shewing a straw "Waiting for anyone?" saked the officer, suspiciously.

"Yep," responded the old man inconfidence, "I am waitin' for the scientist to get back."

"What scientist?" "Why, the one with my ten dollar bitt. He slapped me on the back and told me that than be 17 different crawling germs on every ten dollar Mil. He said if I'd let him have a tem dollar bill a few minutes he would take it down to the arc light around the corner and stick a pin through cach germ so I could see them with my own eyes. He's been gone about half an hour, but I reckon it takes himquite a little while, cause them germa are pesky small to see."

And the old farmer settled himself comfortably to await the return of the "scientist."

Spelled.

"Are you making anything of a hit

with Miss Prettygirl?" "I fear not. Can't seens to interest her. I have lauded her beauty, but my strongest superlative make absolutely

no impression." "Hold on! I forgot to tell you, gift. man. She was fermerly engaged to the press agent of a circus."

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS

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