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The Ellicott City Times.

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VOL. XXV. NO. 47. ELLICOTT CITY, MD., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1894. SINGLE COPIES, 5 CENTS.

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Snake Swallowed by Snake.
 One of the strangest incidents in the experience of the management of the Zoological Society's menagerie has occurred, says the London Times, in the cattle house, the scene being one of the compartments in which the box consticators are confined. Two large boas occupied the chamber, one snake being 9ft. and the other 8ft. long. When the house was opened in the morning only one boa was found in this cage; the other had disappeared. Though the survivor was only a foot longer than the other snake, there was no reason to doubt that it had completely swallowed his companion. It was so distended that the scales were almost wasted, and it was unable either to coil itself or to move. There is every reason to believe that in accomplishing this almost incredible feat the snake acted by mistake, and that it devoured its companion by what deserves to be called an accident. The larger boa was fed with a pigeon before the house was closed for the night. It swallowed the bird, and the other boa was then given a pigeon, which it had begun to swallow when the snakes were left for the night. It is believed that the larger snake then caught hold of the part of the pigeon which projected from the other's mouth, and gradually enveloped, not only the bird, but the foot of the other snake. The process began the swallowing process would go on almost mechanically. As the swallowed snake was only one foot less in length than the one which had been nearly equal bulk, weighing about 50 lb., the gastric juices must have dissolved the portion which first entered the snake's stomach before the second snake was drawn into the jaws. Though still rather lethargic, the surviving boa is not injured by its meal. It coils itself up without difficulty, and its scales have the beautiful iridescent blue peculiar to the skin of snakes when in perfect health.

From Stonington, Connecticut, comes the story of a lively struggle with a sword-fish. These sharp-nosed monsters are common in the Eastern waters of the Sound this summer, and this encounter took place off Montauk Point between Henry Chesbro, one of the crew of the fishing-sneak Mattie and Lena, and a sword-fish weighing more than 300 pounds. Chesbro had harpooned the big fish, and after waiting the usual length of time, got into a small boat to bring his prize to the vessel. As soon as Chesbro approached him and commenced hauling in the line the fish availed himself of his opportunity and started to battle for his life. He began operations by diving so as to spear the boat on coming to the surface. Missing his aim the fish dived again for a second attack. It was not a late for the man to retreat, and defenceless, in the frail cedar yawl, he awaited the attack. When the fish shot out of the water once more he drove his sword completely through the boat from side to side. The sword entered the boat about three feet from the bow on the port side and came out through the stern plank on the starboard side. Chesbro had retreated to the stern of the boat, and thus escaped injury. His plight was seen from the schooner, and the vessel headed for the conflict. By hauling, Chesbro kept the disabled craft afloat until succor arrived. A blow on the head finally killed the fish, which weighed 338 pounds.

Can You Push?
 During the war of the rebellion a party of soldiers was told off for the defence of Rodman's Point. The enemy, ten to one, pressed heavily upon them and drove them to the Tar River, where only a clumsy boat remained in which they could escape. They hurried into her, the balls coming thick and fast from the advancing rebels. They all gained the shelter of the boat, but one man when loaded she stuck fast in the mud. What was to be done? There was no safety but in crouching low upon the deck. He says there is nothing. If any one could demonstrate he leaped overboard, thrust the boat out into the stream, and fell pierced by seven balls. He gave up his life for others; he died that they might live.

A Shrewd but Sleepy Dog.
 A dog who usually accompanied his master on evening visits to the house of a friend had asked there one night and was forgotten. Long after his owner had gone the sleepy fellow awoke to find himself alone and in the dark. The door was shut and locked, and the family asleep in other rooms, so his whining was not noticed. Though the windows were closed, one blind was open, and the dog, determining to go home, leaped through the window, breaking glass and such as he went.
 Some time after he was spending the evening with his master in the same house, and as before he went to sleep, but not in the usual place. When the dog's owner prepared to leave, his hat and cane were missing. A search showed not only the missing articles, but something else. The cane and hat had been taken from the rack, and lay on the floor, while by their side rested the sleeping dog. But one paw was in the hat and the other across the cane. He did not mean to be left again, and he wasn't.

Coyotes in the Melon Patch.
 A remarkable story of the sagacity of animals comes from Cheyenne county, Oklahoma. There has been little or no rain there this season, and all the springs have gone dry, so there is no place for the many wild animals abounding in that section to quench their thirst. The soil there is very fertile, watered and hundreds of acres have been planted by the scattered settlers. Since it has become so dry the coyotes are after their melons. When an animal comes on a watermelon patch he jumps on a melon until he cracks it, then inserts his nose into it and quenches his thirst with its contents. As soon as our discoverer of this communicated the fact to the others, and the entire melon crop was destroyed in this way.

Their Residences.
 Judge Duffy—Where do you live?
 "Trap"—Nowhere.
 Judge Duffy—(to trap No. 2)—And you?
 "Trap No. 2"—Right opposite to him.
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