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[On a Scotch moor.] When fairles dance on the moor by night (Golden halt in the heather). Stray silken threads from their dainty h May haply cling to the flowering ling Or the pink and purple heather (Mine eyes are blind in the mystic light,

But none the less 'tis a winsome sight). When morning breaks and the fairles flee (Gossamer threads in the heather), The moorland shines with glist ning lines Like harps new strung with gold and slung On the pink and purple heather (Gossamer threads are all I see, But none the less they are harps for me).

And when the wind breathes, far and near (Æolian harps in the heather), Sweet music rings from the tiny strings, And wild and free is the harmony Through the pink and purple heather (Never a note may reach my ear, But none the less is it sweet to hear). -Pall Mall Magazine

ALLIGATOR MIMICS.

HOW SWAMP RANGERS CALL AND CAPTURE THE REPTILES.

of the Unmated Bulls-How Nests Are Built and Eggs Hatched-Peculiar liabits of Feeding. The alligator is rapidly disappearing in

the settled regions of Florida and becoming scarcer every day even in such remot regions as the Everglades, owing to the war of extermination waged against it by hide hunters, taxidermists and dealers in curiosities. These pursue it night and day year in and year out. The little ginger lings just out of the nest are in great demand, as they are worth from \$2 to \$3 per hundred in the local markets. The 'curio" dealers who purchase them often resell them at \$1 each to northern visitors, or else they kill and stuff them into card plates, eigar holders or whatever else their fancy suggests and dispose of them at good prices. The young are frequently ured from their lurking places by a poor imitation of the grunts of their mother and men expert in mimicking her may capture a large number in a day, as they espond promptly to the calls and pour out of cavities in hot haste to see the caller. The most expert "gator callers" I ever knew were swamp rangers, both white and black, who were born and bred within a short distance of an alligator swamp and therefore knew every intonation of the saurian's voice. These men could make matron charge wildly at them across a broad stream by imitating the frightened

and young and often carned good sums by their art. and lasts until the middle of July, and during that time the unmated bulls make night hideous. In fighting each other the use law and tall with the utmost furv They must deliver exceedingly heavy blows with the latter, for the sounds can be heard at a considerable distance. When one gets a good mouth hold on the other, it clings like a bulldog, but as the body armor is generally toothproof, except in special places, little damage can be done

cries of her young or lure a decrept old

bull by mimicking the grunts of the fe-

male. They could in fact delude both old

even in a protracted conflict. As the reptiles can only deliver blows at objects a little to one side of the head, it is imusing to see them try to get directly in front of each other and make circular sweeps with the tail in the blind hope that some may prove effective. I have known them to fight for hours at intervals with great fury and have again seen a huge bull retreat in a most demoralized manner after receiving a few blows.

When the female is ready to lay her eggs, she retires to some secluded wet or swampy place and bullds out of mud, decaved vegetation and rushes a nest two or three feet high and having a large, firm base. If she builds on tidewater, she carries her nest farther back—some years more than others—as if she knew when tides would be unusually high, and the strangest part of it is that, as a rule, "high nests and high tides" go together. The receptacle for the eggs is deep and spacious and well made. She lays from 20 to 100 eggs in this, usually in July, covering them with light, loose material to give the young when hatched plenty of room, and makes the upper part solid by beating with her head and walking over it several times to trample it down. She frequently walks over it while the eggs are incubating, in order to keep it packed, for if it became loose the rain would enter and prevent the eggs from hatching.

It usually takes 60 days for the young to appear, and she evidently knows the hour they should announce their presence, for she keeps passing around the nest the day when they are expected, becomes nervous, usually irritable, and so pugnacious that she is ready to fight anything from a mole to a man that approaches her nursery. On hearing the young give their first faint croak she begins tearing away the covering with claws and jaws, and on reaching them give several endearing grunts, then proudly leads them to her cave in the swamp, stream or lake close by. From that moment forward she must vigilantly watch her progeny to prevent them from being destroyed by enemies, for everything that cats flesh seems to prey upon them. Fishes, snakes, owls, hawks, polecuts and turtles devour them whenever they can, but their worst foes are the bull alligators, for they destroy them out of mere wanton-

One of the peculiarities of the eggs of an alligator is that they are generally of different shapes, although the ends are always alike. They are about 11/2 inches in diameter, and the ordinary length of the newly hatched youngsters is four inches. These do not eat any food for several days after leaving the nest and make a beginning on larvæ, water insects and frogs, gradually advancing to snakes, fishes and finally to anything edible. They cannot eat food that requires tearing apart, owing to the bluntness and irregularity of their teeth. An adult saurian possesses 80 teeth, if it has not lost any by accident, and no two are of the same size and shape except those opposite each other. That is why it cannot tear fresh flesh and must allow it to putrefy before it can be eaten. The teeth are hollow, yet strong, and are shed every year, so that the loss of a few in a contest produces no permanent injury. Both old and young catch their proy by lying in wait for it and striking it sud denly with the tail when it approaches near enough to be hit. Mouth and tail work automatically together, for the caudal blow promptly knocks the prey into the distended, awaiting jaws. That given, the gaurian backs off into deep water and begins rolling over and over like a barrel, or spinning round and round in a circle for the purpose of suffocating its captive as speedily as possible. It then takes its prey to some favorite retreat and buries it until it becomes tender enough, through putrefaction, to be easily torn apart.-John Mortimer Murphy in Popular Scienco News.

Great Smokers.

Many visitors to Europe consider it a high honor to be invited to visit the Rookers' club at Bruges. At the smoking contests of this organization a stated quantity of tobacco is given to each member, and the one who takes the most time in smoking his portion wins the prize. When the pipe goes out, the competitor is counted out, for no relighting is allowed. The present record for a quarter ounce of tobacco is 91 minutes.—London Letter.

READ WHAT THE PRESS SAYS OF WALTER L. MAIN'S BIG SHOW.

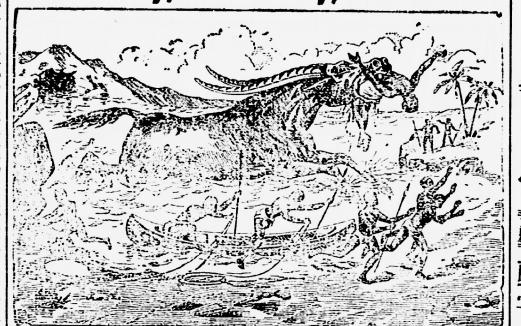
\*\*\*Gives more than it advertises, cannot be classed among the cheerful liars in its advertising methods. \*\*\*The greatest and most thrilling wild beast performance on earth is a feature of Main's big show—and the whole show is good.—Pittsburgh Leader, Wednesday, April 27, 1898.

# WALTER L. MAIN'S RING CIRCUS

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RECAL ROMAN HIPPODROME ---WILL EXHIBIT IN-

Ellicott City, Wednesday, October 12.



ed, Split Hoofed, Blood Excluding, Marvelous Marine Monster can be seen nowhere else on earth. The Earest, Strongest, Wierdest, Swiftest, Fiercest of all the cread seas living. Wonder Startling, Unique in each and every part he is the Most Monstrous Beast Alive. You'll see him under the canvas every day. It ESWEATS BLOOD. HE WEARS HORNS. He is alone of his kind. He plows the waves and walks the forests. A Bigger curiosity than all the other animals you have good some content of the canvas every day. other animals you have ever see.

will be led by an Ageient, Historical Quebec Calash, every morning at 10 o'clock

The Little Folks Must See the Baby Elephant

The King of the Forest and Master of the Horse. OUR FAMOUS BAREBACK RIDING LION, an animal actor par excellence. Leaps through hoops and over the banners just like a circu

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Twenty-five gentiemanly ushers.

Two performances daily at 2 and 8 P. M. under the largest waterproof tents ever constant.

Location of Ground, SYKES' FARM, West End.

Digestibility of Cold Food.

It is impossible to digest articles of foo

until they are raised to a moderately high

temperature. Much of the illness preva

lent in summer would be avoided if people

ate warm food, as they do in winter. Deli

cate persons especially should avoid cold

dishes and drinks. They are extremely tax-

ing to the digestive powers and a great

draft on the vitality. The human system

has just so much power in reservo, and if

A physician of wide experience say

an unvarying practice of taking a plate of

ropolitan, and if he is tired or overtaxed

the nearest first class hotel and get a dish

of the best soup he can find. He frequent-

ly takes it without accompaniment of any

sort. Occasionally a cracker or roll is

This man declares that, all things being

equal, he will stake his reputation on the

theory that nine-tenths of the intestina

troubles of the summer season could be

avoided by the systematic and frequen

use of hot beverages, or, what is better

dishes of soup eaten as hot as they can b

Houses In Mexico.

not be built rapidly in Mexico is that the

walls are always made very thick in order

to withstand the occasional earthquake

shocks. In the thin walls usually put up

in the United States the mortar will read

ily dry and "set" after the wall is erected

but here, where walls are made anywher

from 2 or 3 to 6 feet thick, they must b

allowed to dry thoroughly as they a

built, or serious consequences result from

the drying of the outer edge while the cen

ter is still "green." Thus it is that one

sees the walls all over a new building in

different stages of completion, and it is

often a curious sight to see thin interior

walls completed to a point much higher than the thick outside walls.—Modern

Poetleal Figures.

Common people often use figures of

speech which are both poetical and strong.

While visiting in Norfolk near the North

sea Tennyson was much impressed with

the saying which he there heard, "The sea

This poetical saying he used to compare

with another he heard used by an old fish-

a stormy day she, clinching her fist at the

thee show thy white teeth!"-Exchange.

'Aye, roar, do! How I hates to see

is moaning for the loss of the wind."

woman who had lost two sons at sea.

advancing tide, cried out:

Mexico

as follows:

The principal reason that houses can-

relished .- New York Ledger.

eaten at the same time.

he makes it his imperative duty to visit

IT SAVED HIS LIFE.

A Hymn That Made the War Scouts Lower Their Muskets. The Presbyterian prints a war anecdote of an unconventional sort. Different read-

ers will read more or less into it, according to their different habits of mind, but all will find it interesting. Some Americans who were crossing the this is exhausted in warming up the large Atlantic met in the cabin on Sunday night to sing hymns. As they sang the last hymn, "Jesus, Lover of My Soul,"

amount of cold food that is taken into the stomach there is but little left to carry or the other processes of existence. one of them heard an exceedingly rich and beautiful voice behind him. He looked that for 45 years he has scarcely had a round, and, although he did not know the day's illness or an hour's pain, and thi face, he thought that he knew the voice. exemption from suffering he attributes t So, when the music ceased, he turned and asked the man if he had been in the civil hot soup three or four times a day, winter war. The man replied that he had been a and summer. His practice is largely met Confederate soldier. "Were you at such a place on such a

night?" asked the first man. "Yes," replied the second man, "and a purious thing happened that night which this hymn has recalled to my mind. I was posted on sentry duty near the edge of a wood. It was a dark night and very cold, and I was a little frightened because the enemy were supposed to be very near. About midnight, when everything was still and I was feeling homesick and miserable and weary, I thought that I would comfort myself by praying and singing a hymn. I remember singing these lines: "All my trust on thee is staid.

All my help from thee I bring; Cover my defenseless head With the shadow of thy wing. "After singing that a strange peace ame down upon me, and through the ong night I felt no more fear." "Now," said the other, "listen to my story: I was a Union soldier and was in the wood that night with a party of scouts. I saw you standing, although I did not see your face. My men had their rifles focused upon you, waiting the word to

"Cover my defenseless head With the shadow of thy wing. said, 'Boys, lower your rifles; we will

fire, but when you sang.

Missed the Trance. Mary had been to have her fortune told, and when she came back her mistress noticed that she was rather cross and slammed the dishes around in a most destructive manner. "Why, what is the matter, Mary?" she queried presently. "Didn't she tell you a

good fortune?" "Oh, yes, it was good enough, if that's all," snapped Mary, "but I don't believe in them card tellin women like her. She all, but went into a transome, an then when I got there she hauls out two dirty decks, an never a transome does she have. She can tell all the good fortune she wants t'-I wouldn't believe a word out of her mouth!"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

great Irishman, was all his life long in dire straits for money, and when he died, in 1816, the bailiffs were netually in possession of his house. Sheridan's forbears had been O'Sheridans. "Why," asked on one occasion his little son, "why have we not the O' as well as

"Heaven only knows!" was the father's

The Owe Sheridans.

Willing to Yield. The Troy Times tells of a little girl who had been naughty. When bedtime came her mother said to her, "Now, Mabel Richard Brinsley Butler Sheridan, the when you say your prayers, be sure to asl God to help you not to be a naughty little girl." Mabel promised that she would add this petition to her prayers. So when she had finished her usual form she spoke

"And now, O God, please keep Mabel from being a naughty little girl." There was a pause, then she concluded, "Neverreply. "We ought to have it, for we owe everybody." theless thy will, not mine, be done!"



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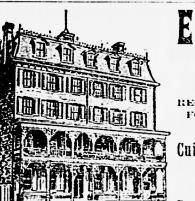
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