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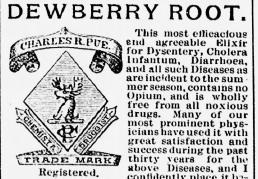
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A SNAKE IN CHURCH.

The Reptile Colled Itself Around A good snake story comes from Hanover township, in the northeast corner of this county, about 15 miles from here. The exact scene is laid in the Hargrove church, a country meeting house, in which services are not held every Sun day. The spot is sequestered from the main road, and, as there is no telephone or telegraph in the immediate vicinity, the story has been belated in reaching the outer world. It might be said that the incidents to follow occurred last night, but the facts are that the time was last Sunday evening. It was the regular preaching time, and, as the day had been warm, the congregation was a little slow in assembling. Among the worshipers were Mr. and Mrs. James Arnold, members and influential people. On entering the church

they took their accustomed seats far up

in front. The services had just begun

when Mr. Arnold was aware that there

was something wrong with one of his

legs between the knee and the foot. He felt this member being entwined, and then there was a squeeze. By the faint rays shed by the kerosene lamps he saw a snake coiled about his leg, the head of the reptile reaching almost to his lap, with its forked tongue protruding. With one swipe of the hand the head of the snake was knocked to the floor, and instanter Mr. Arnold had set his foot on it. He then took out his knife, with which he attempted to cut the snake in two. By this time there was consternation in the congregation; women were on the seats; the service abruptly closed; the men who were not timid crowded about Mr. Arnold, who was still sawing away on his snakeship. Such excitement as reigned was never before witnessed in Hargrove church. Finally the snake, in two parts, was lifted from between the seats. It was a black snake and lacked only one inch of being six feet long-the largest snake killed in this county for many years. After the snake was killed the congre-

gation resumed worship, the services passing off just as if nothing had happened, but the reports are that the flock was nervous and that every time a foot was scraped along the floor every woman was ready to jump on the seats, and the men were willing to get away. The supposition is that the snake crawled into the church while it was being made ready for the Sunday meeting.-Indianapolis News.

MOCK HANGING IN A CHURCH

Grewsome Performance Entertains a Colored Congregation. A most startlingly unique entertainment, in which the principal feature was a grewsomely realistic imitation of an execution by hanging, was given in the colored Baptist church in Carthage the other night and attracted a crowd which packed the big building to its utmost. An interesting account given in The Press of the "tragic" affair is as follows: "The audience assembled in the base ment of the church, where the gallows was erected, reaching upward about five or six feet. The drop was only a short one, but every other detail was carefully copied from a sure enough hanging scene. About 9 o'clock Peter Gibson and Sporting Willie Hancock came in, leading Art Irwin, the boy condemned to the gallows. suppressed murmur ran over the audience, which waited with bated breath the finale of this strange scene. The amps about the walls cast a shuddering, gloomy light about the room, and a superstitious horror could be traced on many a face. But negro good humor cannot long be suppressed, and scarcely had the first feeling of awe passed away

when some lusty voice broke out in a hearty laugh. "This soon spread, and the scene lost large share of its grewsomeness. The convicted murderer was led up the steps of the improvised gallows, his arms and egs were tied and a rope was fastened to his neck, a black cap was adjusted, the trap sprung and the body dropped. So far as actual appearance went he might have been hanging by the neck. The body turned and twisted as the rope let out its slack, and there it hung for several minutes. When taken down, the boy dropped, seemingly limp and lifeless, and was carried out on a stretcher amid a deathly silence. "The affair, however, was not so realistic as it appeared, for before entering the room another rope had been carefully harnessed around Irwin's body, with a loop coming under his coat collar. This last rope was concealed by the boy's

clothing, and, although the rope appeared to encircle his neck, it was, in reality fastened to the loop under his collar. After a few minutes in which to remove opes, etc., Irwin returned to receive the congratulations of his lady admirers, who gathered around the little 'hero' in groups."-Kansas City Journal. Novels of the Centuries.

A writer in Literature gives the follow ing list of historical novels for those who wish a series of pictures of manners and life from the beginning of the Christian era to the present day: First century, "Last Days of Pompeii" and "The Gladiators." Third century, "Marius the Epicurean." Fifth century, "Hypatia." Eleventh century, "Hereward the Wake" and "Harold."

Twelfth century, "Ivanhoe" and "The Talisman. Fourteenth century, "Quentin Durward," "Romola" and "Last of the Bar-Sixteenth century, "The Monastery," "Tower of London," "Kenilworth." 'Westward Ho" and "Judith Shaks-

Seventeenth century, "Fortunes of Nigel," "Peveril of the Peak," "Old Mortality" and "Manzoni." Eighteenth century, "Esmond," "Waverley," "Rob Roy," "Heart of Midlothian," "Dorothy Forster," "The Chaplain of the Fleet," "The Virginians," "The Spy," etc.

Then there are the special periods, such as the French revolution and the Napoleonic wars, illustrated more or less luridly by "Ninety-three," "Tale of Two Cities," "The Conscript" and "War and Peace."

They Had Enough. To a recent sectarian convention that met in an up the state town an old minister went as the delegate from a small village and took his wife with him. They were sent to the home of one of the church pillars to be entertained. table the very first meal some one spilled a cup of hot tea over the old gentleman's lap, and every one was sorry, the victim himself not excepted. That was the first disaster. That night when the house was still and every one was slumbering peacefully the plaster in the ceiling just above the sleeping guests' upturned faces took occasion to loosen itself, and down it came with ruin and rout and awakened every one in the house. The visitors were helped out of the scene of the disaster and put to rest in another room, but in the morning they were stirring around quite early, and when they appeared at the breakfast table they brought their gripsacks down too. "You're very kind," they said, "and we've had a pleasant time, but we really

Inducements to Die. Flushing, N. Y., has never been ac eused of being unduly enterprising. It is a staid old place, very charming and altogether respectable. Most of its inhabitants carry on their business in New York and go home for rest and enjoyment. Just now, however, it is distinguished by a business rivalry that makes the metropolis blush. Two tombstone dealers are cutting rates in the very latest

department store style. Outside of one

shop you see headstones marked: "Best

bargain in the city. Buy now and avail of cut prices." And in front of the

other shop you read: "This stone for

had elsewhere for less than \$50,"

\$18.95. Reduced from \$35. Can't be

must be going today."-New York Sun.

Street Car Episode. The open car was crowded. Men and women were standing up in front of seated passengers. A large, florid, elderly woman and her three daughters held down the third seat from the rear. Several women were standing in front of this family party. The fifth occupant of

the seat got off. "Judie," said the large, florid, elderly woman, touching her fourth daughter, who had a place in the seat ahead. "here's a seat in here now. Come and get it. I'll hold it for you." And she spread her palm leaf fan over the vacant place. A little, dried up woman, with a determined mouth, who had been standing for a straight two miles in front of the seat seizing mother of the daughters, slipped in and sat down plump on the fan just as the fourth daughter from the seat ahead was squeezing in to make up family seatful. "Didn't you hear me invite my daughter into this seat?" asked the large, florid

woman raspingly.
"Yes," responded the little, dried up woman amiably, "but I've had a lifelong aversion to nepotism on street cars." That floored the woman who wanted little personally conducted car of her "I wonder what the little hussy means by that?" she inquired in a stage waisper of her daughter on her left.-Washington

The Kingdom of Heaven.

In the Episcopal church catechism the

following questions and answers appear:

Q. What is your name? A. N. or M. Q. Who gave you that name? A. My sponsors in baptism, wherein I was made member of Christ, the child of God and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven. A correspondent of The Churchman (P. E., New York) points out that the word inheritor in the phrase "inheritor of the kingdom of heaven" is not equivalent to heir. Nor is the kingdom of heaven identical with heaven. "An inheritor," he says, "is one who has come into actual possession (here and now). The kingdom of heaven is, here at least, simply the church. The response in the catechism is rehearsing the benefits whereof they are partakers who have been bap tized. They have been admitted into the church. But since the church is the body of Christ, they have been made members of Christ: since the church l God's family they have been made chil dren of God: and since the church is the kingdom of heaven, they have been made inheritors of the kingdom of heaventhat is to say, they have been made actual partakers of the privileges and

blessings of the Christian church. Odd Church Buildings. England has some curious places o worship. On Reigate heath is Windmill church. The people of the neighborhood wanted a church near at hand and somebody suggested turning the ground floor room of a windmill into one. This has been done, and services are held there every Saturday afternoon. The most interesting of the "hanging" churches is St. Swithin's. In former times it was like any other church, but when King Charles went to live at Win chester he attended services at the cathedral, and the St. Swithin church building was in the way and prevented his taking a short cut, so he had a road cut through the church called King's Gate. The church was not demolished altogether, and services are still held in the part over the gate. Ilfracombe has a church built on a pie town in the world. A church that may be reached by a climb of 199 steps may

be said to be queerly situated. Whitby,

the Yorkshire seaside resort, has its parish church on a steep cliff, and the climb up to it on a Sunday morning is most pic Oranges, Ten For a Cent. The man who had recently returned from Porto Rico was walking through a down town street with a friend when the latter stopped at an Italian fruit stand and inquired the price of oranges. The veteran from the tropics sniffed disdain fully at the rather unattractive looking fruit and whistled in amazement when the dealer named a pretty high price. "I wonder what they'd think of that in Porto Rico?" he remarked. "Why, a few weeks ago, just outside of San Juan, I met a man carrying a great basket of the finest oranges I ever saw. They were about three times as big as these and were full of sweet juice, as I found by trying one. I asked him how much he wanted for the lot-there were 60-and he said, 'Ten tentavos'-about 6 cents of our money. Think of it! Ten for a cent!

I closed the bargain, and when I got into the city I began to boast of it. But it didn't seem to impress people much. In fact, one seemed to think I'd been swin-"You could have bought them cheaper than that,' he said seriously, 'if you had got them in quantity.' "I don't believe I'll eat oranges any more now that I've come north-too much of a contrast, both in quality and price,

to what I've been having."-New York

Tribune. They Sneeze In Concert. "The American Hay Fever association," says the Kansas City Star, "is, so far as known, the only society in the United States bound together by the ties of disease. There is no diphtheria club or pneumonia circle or independent order of rheumatics, or other organization where a common malady forms a bond of union. Only members of the American Hay Fever association blow their noses and wipe their eyes in unison. "The Hay Fever association was first heard of a good many years ago, when Henry Ward Beecher was a leading spirit, and the gathering ground of the organization was said to be the White mountains, in New Hampshire. Later New Mexico was proclaimed the sneezer's Mecca, and Captain Philip Reade, U. S. A., appeared as chief scribe. "Now it is given out that Marquette. Mich., is the head center in place of l'e toskey, originally selected, and it is said that the fall meeting of the association will see a thousand members in attend-

Jap Stumped by Kipling's Dialect. A candid Japanese critic falls foul of Kipling's dialect. He writes: "It has been said that Kipling's ability in dialect is hereditary. His father was a very fine mimic. With free conscience and black despair I hereby pronounce it to be the most unpronounceable dialect that I have ever seen spelled out. Sanskrit must be a joke in comparison, and may be Mulvaney and his compeers spoke the dialect just to put Pali to shame. What I cannot understand here is that he makes no explanation-nay, gives no account - of the disjointed jawbones, tongues helplessly twisted into a rope and the broken fragments of the lips of the speakers. Kipling is the ideal incarnate of the up to date literatus-that is to say, a sworn enemy to the classics and a perfect imp in smashing the decalogue right and left. His popularity is not wonderful."--Lahore Tribune.

Military Attaches. The whole system of having military attaches accredited to legations is out of place except for the purpose of bribery. The presence of these men in Washingtal in the world, is for the purpose of se curing by unlawful means information which would not be given them were they to ask for it openly. Even during our late war with Spain it came out that the Spanish embassador, through its military and naval attaches, had been regularly violating the hospitality which be enjoyed, and all of this was justified on the ground of exigency.—Atlanta Conditution.

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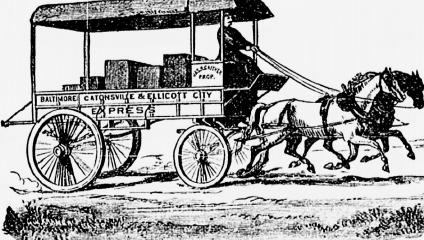
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