A Very Small Animal But a Great Fighter.

It Is Claimed by Zoologists That, Accord ing to Its Size, This Underground Worker Is the Most Savage

of the Quadrupeds. "What is the fiercest animal in the world?" asked a Washington Star writer

of a zoologist. "The mole," he replied. "You are surprised, but such, in my opinion, is the fact. People ordinarily look upon the mole as a sluggish and harmless creature, spending its life in groping blindly underground. As usual the popular idea is a mistaken one. The mole is in reality the most ferocious and most active of animals. Imagine it magnified to the size of a tiger and you would have a more terrible beast than the world has yet seen. Though with defective powers of vision and therefore incapable of following its prey by sight, it would be agile beyond conception, springing this way and that as it went along, leaping with lightning quickness upon any creature which it met, rending it to pieces in a moment. devouring the yet warm and bleeding flesh and instantly seeking, with hunger insatiable, for a fresh victim. This creature would, without hesitation, deyour a serpent twenty feet in length, and so tremendous would be its voracity that it would eat twenty or thirty such snakes in the course of a day. With one grasp of its teeth and a single clutch of its claws it could disembowel an ox, and if it should happen to enter a fold of sheep or an inclosure of cattle it would kill them all for the mere lust

of slaughter. "Let two such animals meet and how terrific would be the battle! Fear is a feeling which the mole seems never to entertain. In conflict with an adversary of its own kind its efforts are exclusively directed to injuring its opponent, without regard for its own protection. An examination of the skeleton of a mole will repay your trouble, so wonderful is its adaptation of structure to its manner of life. It looks like a veritable machine for digging and it has several accessory bones which are not found in any other living beast, being discovered only in certain fossil

"The mole is gifted with incredible activity. It pursues the earth worms on which it chiefly feeds with an energy that is untiring, and, when it has caught one, it devours the prey like a starving tiger, rending it with its powerful claws and teeth. Occasionally it will capture a bird and tear it into fragments, devouring eagerly the bleeding flesh. During the latter part of June Mr. Mole falls in love, and in his attachments he is as furious as in all other phases of his nature. At that period he cannot meet another male of his kind without fighting, very often to the death. He constructs a bridal chamber for his chosen spouse at the intersection of two of his tunnels, so that there is more than one way of escape for herself and the you threatens. This chamber is partly filled with dried grass for a couch, and it is always at some distance from Mr. Mole's dwelling proper.

"The subterranean dwelling of Mr. Mole is a wonderful labyrinth. No human being could very well find his way about in it, supposing that its dimensions were sufficiently magnified to admit his passage through the maze of tunnels. The latter compose a net-work as complicated as that of the sewers of a metropolis. It must not be imagined that the animal burrows at random. On the contrary, it works on a well-defined system, though how it forms its burrows in such admirably straight lines, always laboring in the blackest darkness, is a mystery.

"The home of the beast is in a hillock under the shelter of some tree or bank, so as to be inconspicuous. Here is its center of operations, from which regular roads lead off in different directions to its feeding grounds. If you dig into the hillock you discover a very elaborate and wonderful structure. The central apartment of the dwelling is a nearly spherical chamber, around which run two circular passages, one on a level with the ceiling and the other at some height above. The upper circle is much smaller than the lower one. Five short and nearly vertical passages connect these galleries with each other. When Mr. Mole enters his house from one of the tunnels he has first to get into the lower gallery, thence to ascend into the upper gallery and so descend into the chamber. However, there is another entrance to the chamber from below by a passage which dips downward from the middle of the spherical room, then curving upward and finally opening into one of the bigger tunnels or highroads. Of these highroads there

are seven or eight. "Owing to the peculiar habits of the mole comparatively little is known about the animal and his ways. The use of this labyrinth and complicated system of tunnels, the latter usually extending over, or rather under, a very great space of ground, is in some degree a mystery. One object of the arrangement is doubtless that the owner in case of alarm shall be able to make his escape. By the continual pressure of the animal's fur the walls of the chamber and passages are rendered smooth. hard and polished, so that the roof will not fall in even after the most severe storm. The mole can swim excellently and it often sinks wells for the purpose of obtaining water to drink. In fact, it possesses most varied accomplishments, and I consider that in point of ferocity, activity and voracity it is superior even to the great cats of the tropics."

Patriotism and Pay. Talking of national emblems the other day while calling on a friend, I said I thought ours the most beautiful flag in the world, and that when abroad the sight of the stars and stripes

made my heart jump for joy. My friend's seamstress, who was sewing in the room, remarked, somewhat sadly:

"You would lose some of your patriotism if you made those same flags, as my sister does." "Why?" I demanded.

"Because," was the reply, "you'd have to live on bread and salt. The white stars are set on the blue ground by hand. There are forty-five, I think. They are placed on both sides alike, so that makes ninety to be basted and felled on, and it must be done neatly,

"The pay is from sixty to seventyfive cents for that portion of the flag, and by working from morning till night as hard as she can, my poor sister, who is a quick sewer, can just finish one in a day, for which she receives

sixty cents. She says she can't say hurrah for the red, white and blue with much fervor."-N. Y. Recorder.

Amount of Salt in All Oceans. Expert hydrographers and others of a curious turn of mind and a faculty for figuring on things that seem impossible of solution have concluded that the waters of the oceans and seas of our globe hold not less than 50,000,000,000,-000,000 tons of salt in suspension! If these figures are correct and the oceans should be entirely dried up, there would be a deposit of salt 450 feet deep over every foot of the great basin. If taken | Rand Instruments, Snare and Bass Drums. land it would give us a salt covering



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The Harpooner's Story.

Neb Bedford, June 1, 1883.

Dr. J. C. Ater & Co. Twenty years ago I was a harpooner in the North Pacific, when five others of the crew and myself were hiad up with scurey. Our bodies were bloated, gums swollen and bleeding, teeth loose, purple blotches all over us, and our breath seemed rotten. Take it by and large we were pretty badly off. All our lime juice was accidentally destroyed, but the captain had a couple dozen bottles of Aten's Barsapanilla and gave us that. We recovered on it quicker than I have ever seen men brought about by any other treatment for Scurvy, and I've seen a good deal of it. Seeing no mention in your Almanac of your Sarsaparilla being good for scurvy, I thought you ought to know of this, and so send you the facts.

Respectfully yours, "Raiph Y. Wingate.

The Trooper's Experience. Massen, Basutoland (S. Africa,) March7, 1885.
DR. J. C. Ayrn & Co.—Gentlemen: I have much pleasure to testify to the great value of your Barsaparilla. We have been stationed here for over two years, during which time we had to live in tents. Being under canvas for such a time brought on what is called in this country "veldt-sores." I had those sores for some time. I was advised to take your Sarsaparilla, two bottles of which made my sores disappear rapidly, and I am now quite well.

Yours truly, T. K. Boden,

Trooper, Cape Mounted Riftemen.

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out and sprend upon what is now dry Fifes, Piccolos, Clarionets, Cymbais and all Instruments per

THE INDISPENSABLE NAPKIN.

It Was First Used Only by Children and Curiously enough that article now considered almost Indispensable, the table napkin, was first used only by children, says the Youth's Companion, and was only adopted by elder members of the family about the middle of the tifteenth century. In enquette books of an earlier date than this, among other sage pieces of advice for children, are instructions about wiping their fingers and lips with their napkins. It seems that the tablecloth was long enough to reach the floor and served the

grown people in place of napkins. When they did begin to use napkins they placed them first on the shoulder, then on the left arm, and finally tied them about the neck. A French writer, who evidently was conservative and did not welcome the napkin kindly, records, with seorn "The napkin is placed under the chin and fastened in the back, as if one were going to be shaved. A person told me that he wore his that way that he might not soil his beautiful frills." It was a difficult matter to tie the two corners in the back, and it is said that thence originated our expression for straitened circumstances: "Hard

led to the habit of the table waiters of earrying a napkin on the left arm. Napkins became popular in France sooner than in England. At one time it was customary at great French dinners to change the napkins at every course, to perfume them with rose water and to have them folded a different way for each guest.

to make both ends meet." This custom

About 1650 Pierre David published "Maistre d'Hostel." teaches how to wait on a table proper ly and how to fold all kinds of table napkins in all kinds of shapes. The shapes were: "Square, twisted, folded in bands and in the forms of a double and twisted shell, single shell, double melon, single melon, cock, hen and chickens, two chickens, pigeon in a basket, partridge, pheasant, two capons in a pie, hare, two rabbits, sucking pig, dog with a collar, pike, carp, turbot, miter, turkey, tortoise, the holy eross and the Lorraine cross."

WONDERS OF PHOTOGRAPHY.

Soap Bubbles Photographed in the Act of Bursting. Electricity has been doing some pretty work in the photographing of drops of water, and Prof. C. V. Boys in a recent lecture gave illustrations of what had been accomplished, says the Detroit Free Press. He first showed photographs taken by the electric spark of soap bubbles in the act of bursting. and explained the process by which it is possible to ascertain the respective speed at which different soap bubbles burst. One photograph showed an issue of liquid from a very small pipe, which to the naked eye appeared to be a perfeet stream, but which, on an electric photograph being taken, was resolved into a beautiful and regular series of drops. In connection with this Prof. Boys remarked that the science of liquids and of the forces involved in the phenomena of the surface of liquids es of physical science. The effect on a fountain of playing or singing was to change its appearance into one, two or three apparently separate, clear streams of liquid, but a photograph taken as a tuning fork was struck demonstrated that the water was disposed in drops in perfect regularity. A picture of a rifle builet, passing through the air at the rate of two thousand feet a second, was also exhibited. Prof. Boys, however, showed that if it were wished to investigate what was really happening when rifle bullet was being projected through the air at the maximum possible speed, it would be necessary to have recourse to a method of illumination in finitely more rapid than the electric spark. For this purpose a mirror of steel, about the size of a twenty-five cent piece, is now used. It is so mount ed as to revolve with ease without get ting hot at the enormous speed of one thousand times a second, and the end of the beam of light given off from this mirror passes across the screen at such a rate that it enables photographs to be

CURE OF SEASICKNESS. Many Things May Pattiate the Misery,

taken in about one ten-millionth of a

But There Is No Panacea. Most of those who have experienced the miseries of sensickness, however they might differ in minor details of statement, would agree in ascribing this most dispiriting malady to one main cause—the motion of the ship. In so far the whole medical faculty would concur in their decision. This, then, is the central fact which confers upon the disorder its unique position. It is really not a pathological, but a physic logical disturbance, concludes the Lon-

don Lancet. It has no natural connection with dyspepsia. The robust and healthy, by a strange contradiction, suffer from it for the time hardly less than the weak and ill. Its variations of intensity are felt to be counterparts of mere bodily oscillation. Some find relief from it in change of posture, others in active occu pation, all more or less when their storm tossed vessel sails under the lee of land. Custom and use commonly secure immunity. These are circumstances which one and all point to mechanical causation as a source of the

discomfort. It is the unaccustomed rise and fall, the jerk and relaxation of loosely at tached abdominal viscera, mainly, perhaps, but not alone, of the stomach, acting upon the central connections, which must bear the brunt of accusation. It follows that successful treatment cannot be guaranteed by any one method or panacea. Recumbency, pure deck air, moderately firm bandaging of the body are all useful. Drugs have their place and their partial utility. but, as we have already suggested

there is no remedy equal to a lee shore. Nothing can be much more depress ing than seasickness, and for this reason we should strongly advise all weak persons not to encounter, if possible, the risk of its occurrence. It is astonishing how soon and how completely those who are favored with a fair measure of constitutional clasticity recover from its depression. In their case the benefits of a sea trip may thus, with compensations of air, diet and appetite, be even enhanced by a few hours of mechanical nausea. It is, in truth, for such persons only that tours of this kind are advisable.

RELICS OF OTHER DAYS. THE room in which Napoleon I. died is now a stable.

THE original declaration of independence is in the state department at Wash ington. In the executive mansion at Raleigh, N. C., is a card table presented to Gov. Barrington by King George II. about

the year 1755. THE old home of Mr. Blaine's ansestors in Carlisle, Pa., a large brick building, is soon to be torn down to make way for improvements. The house has remained unchanged for years, except that its rooms have been used as law

THE oldest church in the United States is the Church of San Mignel, creeted at Santa Fe, N. M., seventy-seven years, before the landing of the Pilgrims on Plymouth Rock, twenty years before the founding of St. Augustine, Fla., and fifty-three years after the landing | W. R. HARRISON

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#### THE NESTORIAN HERESY. teen Hundred Years.

It Has Been in Existence for Nearly Fif-The Nestorians, a small community of Christians established in Asia Minor, in the environs of Mossul, have agreed, says the Levant Herald, to embrace Catholicism and join the Chaldeans. The Nestorians and Chaldeans belong to the same race. The patriarch Mar Shimoun is the head of the Nestorian church. His grace Mgr. Elia is the spiritual chief of the Catholie Challeans, who speak the same language as the Nestorians. For a long time past an active correspondence had been going on between the two patriarchs, Mar Shimoun, residing at Djoulamerg, and Mgr. Elia at Mossul. The question was fully discussed in these letters of the union of the two communities, which have almost the same religious rites and, as said before, are of the same race and speak the same language. The result of this exchange of opinions has been to establish a basis of understanding for the union, which is to be effected under the following conditions: Mar Shimoun, the Nestorian patriarch, and his flock embrace Catholicism; the prelate will continue for the remainder of his life to exercise his spiritual authority over the Nestorians, under the jurisdiction of Mgr. Elia. Upon his death no other Nestorian patriarch will be nominated, the religious affairs of the community being administered by a vicar appointed by Mgr. Etia or his successors. The vicar will be helped in his task by a council composed of notabilities of the Nestorian community and he will be

situated between Mossul and Djoulamerg, in order to fix upon the final conditions of the reunion. The Nestorian heresy dates from the fifth century, says St. James' Gazette (London). Its author, or chief supporter, Nestorius, was bishop of Constantinople from 428 to 431. The heresy, which is based upon the distinction between the divine and the human nature of Christ, consists in denying that the Virgin Mary was the mother of God. This doctrine was condemned by the third general council, held at Ephesus in 431, and Nestorius was deposed from his bishopric and subsequently banished. Applications for help and instruction were made by the Nestorians to the late Archbishop Tait, and the present archbishop of Canterbury sent a mission in 1886 to expound the doctrines and ritual of the established church. It would seem. however, that they prefer those of

directly responsible to Mgr. Elia and

his successors. This agreement has

been accepted by the two patriarchs

and the respective communities. The

two prelates were to have an interview

on the 27th ult. at Bessika, a village

#### SAVED BY HIS ELOQUENCE. It Was an Extemporaneous Speech, But

There Was Nothing Dull About It. "The much-admired gift of extemporaneous speaking is disappearing," said ORGANS, Prof. Williamson, of Texas, to a St. Louis Globe-Democrat writer. "In this connection, the ordinary after-dinner connection the ordinary after-dinner platitudes occupying five or ten min utes, which seem like five or ten hours, are not meant. I have reference to a speech of an hour or longer. It is almost impossible nowadays to hear a speaker make a speech of any length that is really extemporaneous. Perhaps such speeches never were entirely spontaneous as was claimed, but they were more so than the so-called extemporaneous speeches we hear now-

> "I remember hearing one speech in my life that I am satisfied was delivered without preparation, however, and it was an eloquent one, too. It was in California in '49. We were busy at work, a crowd of us, getting out gold, and one night two brothers named Burke-popular fellows-lost every ounce of their dust. Some thief had crept into the tent and stolen it. Suspicion fell at once, and without any reason, on an Englishman in the crowd, who had held himself aloof from every one. A search of his tent found more dust than it seemed reasonable for him to have accumulated, and he was at once taken to a tree with a rope around his neck and given fifteen minutes to pray. The fifteen minutes reached an hour and a half, and such a flow of eloquence upon the subject of circumstantial evidence I have never heard before or since. Its power may be imagined when I tell you that the crowd in that country and in that day was influenced to change the verdict of capital punishment to banishment and confiscation of his property. He walked down to Frisco and took a job as bartender. A month after we found that the cook we had in camp was the thief, and, after stringing him up, I was sent to hunt up the Englishman and turn his property back to him. His name was Rivers, and he was a 'varsity man in England, and a senior wrangler, 1 found when I met him. He had a pile of several thousand dollars, and went straight to England. I never heard of him afterward, but I will never forget that eloquent and extemporaneous ad-

#### A Fight with a Wairus.

A few weeks ago the crew of the sealing schooner Oscar had a lively experience off Clayoquot, a little place on Vancouver island. One seal had been caught early in the morning, and at about ten o'clock the hunter in one of the boats noticed two heads some twenty yards in front of him. The fog partly obscured objects at any distance, and the hunter thought the heads were those of seal. He shot, and the discharge of his gun was followed by a shrick of agony from one of the animals, which at once made for the boat. The men then became aware that a large female walrus, wounded and infuriated, was after them. She rose up out of the water, and grasping the side of the boat with her powerful tusks tried to overturn it. There was a fight of several minutes, the men endeavoring to beat the walrus off with oar blades and paddles. Finally a shot through the head killed her, and she was towed back to the schooner as the great prize of the sea-

Some people value a pet grievance far above money or anything which money can buy A good many years ago there lived in Washington a United States naval officer who thought himself unjustly treated by the naval retiring board and made incessant complaint about it to his brother officers. "Well, Sam," said one of his friends, who was a little worn out by hearing the same story over and over, "why in the world do you submit to it, if it is so? There is a man here who will incorrect it."

"What!" ejaculated the complaining officer, whose reasoning powers had evidently become a little confused through meditation on his wrongs. "do you suppose for one instant that I would take twenty dollars for a grievance like this? You don't know me!" -Youth's Companion.

A Financial Crists.

"My mother-in-law never understands a joke," says a correspondent. "I finish a good story, and she always looks up and asks: 'Well, what did the other man say?' As she can't appreciate wit, I was surprised to receive a letter from her a few weeks after my little boy had swallowed a farthing, in which the last words were: 'Has Ernest got over his financial difficulties yet?"

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#### A GOOD CROW STORY Pennsylvania Bird That Was Possessed

"When I was living at the foot of

Pinxster peak I had a tame crow that

was worth considerable to me," said a Loyalsock man to a Pittsburgh Commercial Gazette reporter. "The way came to get the crow was a little singer lar One of my boys was flying him kite early in the summer, and when it had sailed high up over a piece of woods on my place the string broke and the kite lodged in the top of a hemlock tree. The boy bawled about the less of his kite, and I had to climb the tree and get it for him. A crow flew off her nest near the top of the tree while I was climbing, and when I reached the nest I found one egg in it. After I had loosened the kite and let it drop I placed the crow's egg in my mouth and kept it there until I had backed down the tree, and then I ran to the barn and put the egg under a hen that had been sitting a day or so. The old hen offered no objections, and several days before she came off with her chickens she hatched out the liveliest little crow I ever saw. We began to raise the baby crow in the house; when he was bag enough to run around on the floor I named him Kite. He learned to say a good many words by the time he was a year old, and one morning that summer I heard him yelling down the unused chimney at a lot of swallows that were nesting in it. The swallows were making a great racket, and Kite was singing out: 'Hold your tongue!' as loud as he could yell.

"Kite could tell the time of day by the clock, and when the weather was cloudy I used to send him to the bonse from the field to see what time it was Instead of asking my wife the crow would look at the clock without saying a word to her and then sail back to the lot and sing it out to me. When the sky was clear I could tell by the sun within ten minutes what time it was, and the crow got so that he could guess almost as close as I could. One sunshiny afternoon I told Kite to fly to the house and bring me the time. The crow-cocked his head to one side, glanced up at the sun, and said: 'It's five minutes to two. John!' I told him it was later than that. and he flew to the house and back and said: 'It's two minutes to two!" and he was right.

"The crow got feeble the winter after he was five years old. He couldn't stand the cold, and I kept him in a box half full of shavings behind the stove. He lost his appetite soon after New Year's, and one night when I had got ready to go to bed he called me to him and said: 'John, Kite'll be dead in the morning.' I fussed over him and told him he was good for another year. but I couldn't make him believe it. My bed was near the stove, and in the night he crawled out of his box and asked me to take him in bed with me. 'Kite's almost gone!' he whispered, and when I awoke he lay dead on my breast.'

#### AN ACCOMPLISHED BIRD. How a Parrot and Its Owner Swindled an Old Lady.

shamefully swindled in New Orleans

one day," said a traveler to a St. Louis

Globe-Democrat man. "A vessel had just come in from South America and brought with it a very large and handsome parrot. It was the property of an Italian sailor. He came ashore with Polly perched on his shoulder and was soon stopped by the old lady in question, who inquired if he would sell the bird. That was his business ashore, but he did not consider it necessary to advertise that fact in black-faced type. After telling the necessary amount of 'trading lies' he offered to part with Polly for fifty dollars. The old lady looked disappointed and turned away. As she did so the bird began to sing 'Nearer, My God, to Thee.' She turned and came back. The parrot began to chatter to her: 'Nica woman! Nica lady! Me lika nica lady! Polly kiss nica lady!' That settled it. She paid the fifty dollars and took the cage. As she started off the bird screamed out: Where in hella you maka to witha de Poll!" It ripped, swore and blackguarded her shamefully. She dropped the cage aghast, and the bird screeched 'You breaks my damn necks, huh?' Then followed several forcible but inelegant expressions about old women in general and that unfortunate specimen in particular. She went back to the sailor and said, very meekly: 'My good man, I guess I won't take the bird after all. 'Oh, you no taka de bird, huh? I give you fifteen dollars fora de bird, said the sailor. Well, there was no help for it. She couldn't take the blasphemous feathered biped home, so she took her fifteen dollars and her departure, while tears of mortification streamed down her withered cheeks. I chanced out in the residence part of the city that afternoon and saw the sailor negotiating with a new customer. Polly was at her old tricks and

nsisted on kissing the 'nica lady.'

A Wife's Little Trick. Do you know how to take your time in dressing when you are going out with your husband without having him bite the head off you every few minutes as he inquires if it is going to take you all night, or all day, as the case may be, to get ready? Here is one little wife's trick:

"Having stood this thing as long as

it was possible," she said, "I determined

to give John something to keep him employed while I dressed. So every time he asks me when I'll be ready, I auswer with confidence, 'Just as soon as you.' Then I slip off and hide his hat, cane or gloves, and while he hunts the missing articles in silence, not during to ask me their whereabouts after his repeated insinuations on 'woman carelessness,' I take my time in dressing with-

out fear of a lecture." MID TREES AND FLOWERS. INSECTS are destroying whole forests

in Virginia, and among other trees the M. GARVIN, Camden, claims to have the tallest sunflower stalk in New Jersey. It is more than eleven feet in

FRENCH florists are cultivating a

plant which bears a flower that is white in the morning, red at noon and blue A TULIP show has been held annually at the Orange Tree inn, Butley, a small village near Macelesfield, England, for

the past sixty-seven years. THE pioneer vineyard of northern Ohio, now famous for its American wines, was planted by Hiram T. Dewey, in 1857, one mile from the city of Sau-

THE SCALES OF JUSTICE. For the murder of a city marshal a man has been sentenced at Corpus

Christi, Tex., to ninety-nine years' imprisonment. A woman has been sentenced in Paris to penal servitude for life for killing her husband by pouring kerosene on his clothing and igniting it.

A PITTSBURGH justice decides that it is legal for any householder, from his own premises, to throw water upon an organ-grinder who refuses to move on. A contormonist, at an exhibition in Halifax, N. S., twisted himself into a ludicrous shape, and said: "This is an imitation of an Albion hotel bedbug. The audience laughed, but the hotel proprietor couldn't see the joke. He began suit for five thousand dollars.