

**THE HOME OF BIG SNAKES.**

**EPISODES IN AN ARTIST'S VISIT TO ZULULAND.**

**The Boa Constrictor and the Apes—Killing the Big Snake—The Monkeys' Picnic.**

The following interesting extract is from an artist's account of his adventures in South Africa, published in the San Francisco *Examiner*. This is a place for serpents and all kinds of snakes. Here in the cool nights the little green monkeys take shelter in the thick foliage of the tropical vegetation, locked in each other's arms like brothers and sisters. But how often is their sleep disturbed by a sudden clasp in the jaws of a boa constrictor or black mamba, who noiselessly creep upon their innocent victims along the branches and seize them before they have time to awaken. Owing to the deadly malarial effects of these "dongas" or hollows, the natives in their hunting excursions give them a wide berth.

Speaking of monkeys brings to mind a very humorous incident. One day, being on the edge of the berg, sketching a grand view of the mountain, looking along the edge my attention was attracted toward a number of baboons that were frisking about among the rocks. As the animals are very shy, I remained perfectly quiet and went on with my painting, but hoping that they might come nearer. Being thus engaged, partly with the landscape and partly with the baboons, what should I see in the long grass but an immense boa-constrictor. He seemed at least twenty feet long and one foot in diameter. He was crawling along toward the baboons, and I watched the result with intense interest. No sooner did his snakehead show his head above the long grass than the animals scampered off in a second. Talk about the agility of prairie dogs and ground squirrels! No one would imagine that these fellows, big and clumsy as they seemed, could disperse so quickly. The serpent seemed just as quick, for with a few springs on his tail he seemed to be among them, but he did not succeed in capturing any of them. Snatching up my shot gun, I was determined to have that serpent's skin. I went up to the place where he disappeared behind the rocks. There he was, about a hundred yards away, crawling slowly along the edge of the precipice. I was gaining steadily on him, but did not like to run for fear of alarming him—starting him into a run, as it were, either from me or toward me. I wanted to make sure of him without giving him a chance, if I could help it. I was always a coward when fighting rattlesnakes in Mendocino County; but this whopper, twenty feet long, made me quake in my boots worse than if there were fifty snakes hidden there.

After following him some time he stopped crawling; he raised his body on a rock, and, turning his face toward me, saw me. I was within range of him with heavy shot. Bang! bang! went both barrels. The stock of my gun kicked me affectionately, and, when the smoke cleared away the serpent was not in sight. Reloading my piece, I advanced cautiously, with my finger on the trigger all the while. When I got to the spot there lay my victim, twisting and trying himself up in a knot and unraveling it again with lightning-like rapidity. Then he stretched himself out at his full length, and, raising himself upon his tail, bounded into the air several times, making a circle of sixteen or eighteen feet at every jump, till at last, with a mighty effort, he bounded again, and fell to the earth with a crash. He was dead, past all danger to man or beast! He weighed at least 100 pounds. My next anxiety was as to how I could get that beautifully colored skin. He was on the very edge of the precipice. A final spasm of the lingering life that clings so tenaciously to the snake tribe might destroy my hopes. I could only sit and wait. It was fully an hour before I had the courage to commence the skinning, and after considerable labor I succeeded. When he was skinned he looked so white and clean that a person could be tempted to eat him. There were no Kaffirs around or they would make short work of him. They will not kill a snake or serpent if they can avoid it. They have a kind of superstitious reverence for them, especially for the larger kind. But when a white man kills one they readily eat it all except the head, which they believe to be poisonous.

When I got back to my esel, chair and umbrella, I was nearly dumfounded at seeing the same tribe of baboons playing high jinks with my painting materials. Two little fellows were up among the ribs of the umbrella, and another had his head out through a rent in the top. He looked like a little sweep with his head through the chimney on a frosty morning. It was one of the most comical things in the monkey line I ever witnessed. One big baboon was exploring with all his might the contents of a box of flake white, while another was dabbling the muzzle of a little baby that was sitting on its mother's back, she herself being engaged in breaking the handles and pulling out the hairs of my brushes. I never, in any monkey cage or menagerie, saw as many different colored monkeys. One big fellow, half red, half blue, with a great white patch over his left eye, was pulling the canvas (now twisted into a rope) from a big old woman, with two squalling baby monkeys with white muzzles and pink hair. Half a dozen others were fighting for the esel. I kept salors playing the "tug of war." The whole business was too much for me. So, laying down my serpent's skin, I opened fire on them. They came the humorous part of the whole scene. Talk of scampering. The family opened out, running to all points of the compass. Baboons in green, yellow, pink, purple, scarlet, white with black spots, and black with yellow and every color spots! Such a variety of uniforms you never saw. Big fellows, four feet high; little fellows, crying and squalling for their mothers, mothers looking and crying for their babies. I had to stand and laugh till my sides were sore.

The excitement over, I went up to clear the wreck. The umbrella was broken and torn past all repair; colors were smeared upon everything; all cans bitten and indented; canvas, brushes, everything utterly ruined. If you can imagine the undivided attention of a band of two hundred baboons, for about two hours, to the limited space occupied by an artist's kit, you will have some idea of what the ruin was which I have attempted to describe. I need not say that I was so disgusted with my bargain in the serpent's skin that I was tempted to throw it over the cliffs. Nothing was worth carrying from the wreck but the chair, which was too strong for them to break up. The esel was broken and bitten all over, and looked as if it had been made out of a tree afflicted with small-pox.

**Two Kentucky Desperadoes.**

"Alf Underwood," said a Congressman from Kentucky, "was one of the smoothest desperadoes that ever stole a horse or robbed a traveler in the mountains of the old commonwealth. He was the famous Jesse's brother, and looked the fiend he was, while Jesse looked the angel and was worse than Alf. On one occasion Alf, forged an order for \$300 on a relative in Bath County. The order was protested and Alf was arrested. He made the man he imposed on go his bail, and that same night he and Jesse stole a horse apiece and left for Virginia. One of the horses gave out next day and they left it at a farm house, with money enough to have it taken back to the owner, whose name they gave to the farmer, and to whom they told that the horse had been borrowed. They then put out through Virginia, Jesse on foot and some distance behind. The officers in pursuit came on them in this condition, and capturing Jesse, they had a comparatively easy time in getting Alf. On the way back Jesse made an attempt to escape, and he was shot in the back with a musket ball and so badly wounded that he was left in jail in the next county town the party reached. Alf, was taken on to Owingsville, Ky., and jailed. He stayed there some time, and one day a younger brother tied a revolver to a pole, and hoisting it up to the window, Alf took it and prepared to leave his confinement. When the jailer came around with the prisoner's supper he was confronted with the muzzle of the shooter, and having nothing else to do, surrendered. Alf made him stay in the cell with him until he had eaten his supper, and then he locked the jailer up and went forth a free man.

"He stole a couple of horses that night and put off post-haste to the jail where his brother Jesse had been recovering, and appearing before the sheriff, armed and equipped, showed his papers (forged) as a constable and demanded the prisoner. The sheriff told him Jesse was well enough to travel, and he was anxious to have him sent where he belonged. He told the pseudo constable that he was a very dangerous man, however, and that he would send a deputy or two along to assist in his safe transfer. Alf told him that he was not afraid of anything that ever wore shoe leather, and felt perfectly able to take the scoundrel back to justice without assistance. The sheriff finally agreed to let him have the prisoner, and with a few dire threats to Jesse, who was meekly submissive as to what would be his fate in case he made any attempt to get away, Alf, put him on the extra horse, and with the repeated cautions of the sheriff ringing in his ears he rode away with his prisoner. On the edge of the town Alf transferred a couple of revolvers to his brother, braced him up with a drink and the two desperadoes rode merrily back to Kentucky and for a long time after that held high carnival in the hills. These two brothers were afterward the leaders in the famous 'Underwood War' in the State, and Jesse died with his boots on, while Alf, if he lives, is in exile and cannot bear the weight of his own name."—Washington Star.

**Jay Gould Taking Exercise.**

The haste of commercial work in New York is proverbial, writes a correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*. The hours of business in the Wall street neighborhood are only about five a day, and the utmost possible amount of labor is crowded into them. But some of the chief operators are busy overtime. Jay Gould was one of these until lately. They tell a story in his office about his resolving, on the advice of his physician two years ago, to take exercise.

"I don't wish you to exercise violently," said the doctor; "all you need do is to practice mild calisthenics an hour every day."

"All right," said Gould; "show me exactly what to do."

Thereupon the medical man instructed the millionaire in a variety of movements, such as flexing and extending the arms and legs, inflating the lungs and slowly excluding the air, beating the chest with the hands, and bending the body sideways and backwards. Next day, when his brokerage partners, Conner and Morosini, looked into his private office, where he sat at his desk reading letters from the morning's mail, they were astounded at the sight. Gould was going through a series of contortions that indicated nothing less than raving madness. His eyes were on the manuscript of a long epistle, and he seemed to be intently perusing it; but his puny physique was undergoing the strangest motions—his arms and legs extending one after another in all directions, and his body doing more genuflections than were ever conceived of a ritualist. Was he having a fit? No; his calm face indicated no agony or illness. Had he gone crazy? That was likely, the two partners thought.

"What is the matter, Mr. Gould?" asked Conner, approaching rather cautiously.

"Is there something bad in the letter?" said Morosini.

"No, no," replied Gould, setting an arm revolving like a wheel with one spoke and no rim; "I'm exercising without loss of time."

**SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.**

In a test to ascertain the resistance to depression of American white oak it was found that the ultimate crushing stress on a stick twenty-five inches long and dimensions of 11.82x4.34 inches was 76.7 tons.

Japanese lacquer ware, known throughout the world as the most superb for beauty and quality, is made from lacquer furnished by the sap of the Rhus vernicifera, a tree cultivated especially for this product. It is a dirty viscous liquid, which is refined by straining and decantation.

And now comes a man who wants to lower very sensitive photographic plates to the bottom of the sea, so as to find out how much light gets down there, and incidentally to obtain pictures of Spanish galleons and treasure chests and other valuables which are supposed to cover the ocean bed.

Oil from pine wood is now manufactured on a considerable scale at the South. The material is subjected to intense heat in sealed retorts, and one cord of it is said to yield fifteen gallons of turpentine, eighty gallons of pine wood oil, fifty bushels of charcoal, one hundred and fifty gallons of wood vinegar and a quantity of inflammable gas and asphaltum.

Tree toads have several fingers on their forelegs, in the ends of which are suction disks that enable them to climb the sides of trees with the same ease and by a similar method to that by which the fly walks on the ceiling. A species of tree toad hatches its young in the water, and they appear first as tadpoles. These have the ability to fasten themselves to the back of the parent, so that the tadpole may be found not only in the water, but with its parent in the branches of the tree.

The force exerted by growing plants can be easily measured. Darwin took a spring clothes-pin, measured the force necessary to open it, and then fastened it upon the growing root. He found that the pressure was of many ounces. President Clarke, of Amherst Agricultural College, made some interesting experiments with a growing squash, which was harnessed and had levers attached in such a way that the force exerted could be ascertained. It was equal to thousands of pounds, and finally the harness broke. In a grave yard at Hanover, Germany, a block of stone containing twenty cubic feet has been thrown out of place by a tree growing from a seed which germinated in the crevice of the rock. It has already been lifted over five inches.

IT IS USELESS TO ATTEMPT to cleanse a stream while the fountain is impure. Dyspepsia, complaints of the liver or kidneys, scrofula, headaches, and all diseases arising from impure blood, are at once removed by Dr. Walker's California Vinegar Bitters, the infallible purifier of the blood and renovator of the system. It has never been known to fail.

Every room in the agricultural college at Lansing, Mich., is occupied by a student.

**Invalid's Hotel and Surgical Institute.** This widely celebrated institution, located at Buffalo, N. Y., is organized with a full staff of eighteen experienced and skillful Physicians and Surgeons, constituting the most complete and efficient medical and surgical skill in America, for the treatment of all chronic diseases, whether requiring medical or surgical means for their cure. Marvellous success has been achieved in the cure of all nasal, throat and lung diseases, liver and kidney diseases, diseases of the digestive organs, bladder diseases, diseases peculiar to women, and all skin diseases, rheumatism, neuralgia, nervous debility, paralysis, epilepsy (dial), spermatorrhea, impotency and kindred affections. Thousands are cured at their homes through correspondence. The cure of the worst ruptures, pile tumors, varicocele, hydrocele and strictures is guaranteed, with only a short residence at the institution. Sent 100 cents in stamps for the Invalid's Guide Book (48 pages), which gives all particulars. Address: World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y.

At cost \$103,949.418 to conduct the public schools of the United States in 1884.

"Golden Medical Discovery"—the great blood-purifier.

Four hundred and thirty-six trains run in and out of Boston daily.

Offensive breath vanishes with the use of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy.

Recent observations show that crabs do not reach great depths in the ocean.

If you have Cutting, Scalding or Stinging sensations in the parts when voiding urine—Swamp-root will quickly relieve and cure.

The purest, sweetest and best Cod Liver Oil in the world, manufactured from fresh, healthy Livers, upon a scientific plan, is also pure, light and sweet. Patients who have once taken it prefer it to all others. Physicians have decided it superior to any of the other oils in market. Made by Caswell, Hazard & Co., New York.

**CHAPPED HANDS,** face, pimples and rough skin cured by using Juniper Tar Soap, made by Caswell, Hazard & Co., New York.

One word: one step may make or mar one's future. Dr. Jones' "Red Clover Tonic" is the proper remedy when you have dyspepsia, bad breath, piles, pimples, acne, malaria, low spirits, headache, or any stomach or liver troubles. 50 cents.

Five dollars saved yearly in boots and shoes by using Lyon's Heel Stiffeners, cost only 25c.

No Ointment in Pile's Cure for Consumption. Cures where other remedies fail. 35c.

**How to Secure Health.** It is strange any one will suffer from derangement brought on by impure blood, when SCOTT'S Sarsaparilla can be had for so little. It purifies the blood, restores health to the physical organization. It is a strengthening syrup, pleasant to take, and the best Blood Purifier ever discovered, curing scrofula, syphilitic disorders, weakness of the kidneys, erysipelas, Malaria, Nervous disorders, Debility, Bilious complaints and Diseases of the Blood, Liver, Kidneys, Stomach, Skin, etc.

**Get the Best**

Is a good motto to follow in buying a spring medicine, as well as in everything else. By the universal satisfaction it has given, and by the many remarkable cures it has accomplished, Hood's Sarsaparilla has proven itself unequalled for building up and strengthening the system, and for all diseases arising from or produced by impure blood. Do not expect anything with an untried and untried article which you are told is "just as good," but be sure to get only Hood's Sarsaparilla.

"I consider Hood's Sarsaparilla the best medicine I ever used. It gives me an appetite and refreshing sleep, and keeps the cold out."—JAMES S. FOWNS, 108 Spring St., Portland, Me.

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Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5. Prepared by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

**100 Doses One Dollar**

**SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.**

The best preparation for coloring the beard in Buckingham's dye for the whiskers. To strengthen and invigorate the stomach, and to stimulate the appetite, take Ayer's Pills.

**A Beautiful Panel Picture.**

In order to advertise Mellin's Food in every home, we will mail, on receipt of 6c. in stamps, (to pay postage) a beautiful panel picture, printed in twelve colors. Size, 18x22 inches. DOLBER, GOODALE & CO., 40, 41, 42 & 43 Central Wharf, Boston, Mass.

**CONTAGIOUS!**

I am a native of England, and while I was in that country I contracted a terrible blood poison, and for two years was under treatment at a vast hospital at Nottingham, England, but was not cured. I suffered the most agonizing pain in my bones, and was covered with sores all over my body and limbs. Finally I completely lost all hope in this country, and sailed for America, and was treated at Roosevelt in New York, as well as by a prominent physician in New York, but having no connection with the hospital.

I saw the advertisement of Swift's Specific, and I determined to give it a trial. I took six bottles and I can say with great joy that they have cured me entirely. I am as good and well as I ever was in my life. I. FRED. HALFORD, New York City, June 12th, 1883.

**DR. KILMER'S SWAMP-ROOT**

**CURES KIDNEY & BLADDER**

**A MEDICAL VICTORY!**

Cures Bright's Disease, Catarrh of the Bladder, Torpid Liver, It dissolves all Kidney and Bladder Gravel.

**SYMPTOMS AND CONDITIONS** of Urine for which this Remedy should be taken.

Scalding Stopping Blood-tinged Urine, Dropsical Swelling, Headache, Frequent Costiveness, Hemorrhage, Nervous, Rheumatic, Urinary, and all derangements of the internal viscera. Purely vegetable, containing no mercury, minerals or deleterious drugs.

Price, 25 cents per box. Sold by all druggists.

**DR. RADWAY'S SARSAPARILLIAN RESOLVENT,**

**The Great Blood Purifier.**

**For the Cure of all Chronic Diseases.** Chronic Rheumatism, Scrofula, Syphilitic Complaints, etc. See our book on Venereal diseases, price 25 cents. Glandular Swelling, Hacking, Dry Cough, Cancerous Affections, Bleeding of the Lungs, Dyspepsia, Water Brash, White Swelling, Tumors, Pimples, Eruptions, Eruptions of the Face, Indigestion, Headache, Gout, Gravel, Rheumatism, Salt Rheum, Dropsy, Consumption, Diabetes, Kidney, Bladder, Liver Complaints, etc.

**SCROFULA.**

Whether transmitted from parents or acquired, it is the curative means of the Sarsaparillian Resolvent.

Cures have been made where persons have been afflicted with Scrofula from their youth up to old age, and of every age, by DR. RADWAY'S SARSAPARILLIAN RESOLVENT, a remedy composed of ingredients of extraordinary medicinal properties, essential to purify, heal, repair and invigorate the broken down and wasted body. ONLY 10¢ a bottle, safe and permanent in its treatment and cure.

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Send a letter stating to DR. RADWAY & CO., No. 32 Warren Street, New York, for "False and True" regarding this medicine.

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I am a native of England, and while I was in that country I contracted a terrible blood poison, and for two years was under treatment at a vast hospital at Nottingham, England, but was not cured. I suffered the most agonizing pain in my bones, and was covered with sores all over my body and limbs. Finally I completely lost all hope in this country, and sailed for America, and was treated at Roosevelt in New York, as well as by a prominent physician in New York, but having no connection with the hospital.

I saw the advertisement of Swift's Specific, and I determined to give it a trial. I took six bottles and I can say with great joy that they have cured me entirely. I am as good and well as I ever was in my life. I. FRED. HALFORD, New York City, June 12th, 1883.

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