THE HOME OF BIG SNAKES.

EPISODES IN AN ARTIST'S VISIT TO ZULULAND.

The Bon 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 *Ecominer*: 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 con-stricter or black mumbra, 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 perfeetly 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 snakeship show his head above the long grass than the animals scam-pered 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 scrpent'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 rattle-snakes 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 be 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 tying himself up in a knot and noraveling 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 carth 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 tenaclously to the snake tribe might destroy my hopes. I could only sit and wait. 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 years ago, to take exercise.

"I don't wish you to exercise violentof him. They will not kill a snake or
ly," said the doctor; "all you need do is serpent if they can avoid it. They have kind of superstitious reverence for every day. 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 easel, chair and umbrells, I was nearly dumbfounded at seeing the same tribe of baboons playing high jinks with my painting mater-Two little fellows were up among the ribs of the umbrella, and another had his head out through a rent in the 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 wit-One big baboon was exploring with all his might the contents of a box of flake white, while another was daubing 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 so 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 easel I ke sailors 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. Then 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 repairs: colors were smeared upon everything; oil cans-bitten and indented; canvas, brushes, everything uttenty rained. 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 som

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 scrpent'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 casel 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 Congress-

man 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 fiend he was, while Jesse looked the angel and was worse than Alf. On one occasion Alf. forged an order for \$30 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 jailor 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 jailor 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 cars 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 It was fully an hour before I had the crowded into them. But some of the courage to commence the skinning, and 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

to practice mild calisthenics an hour

"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 side-ways and backwards. Next day, when his brokerage partners, Conner and Mo-rosini, looked into his private office, where he sat at his desk reading letters from the morning's mail, they were as tounded 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

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

"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; 'T'm exercising without loss of time.

A Chinese Bill of Fare.

A gentleman who has been in China for some time past sends to the New York Sun the subjoined bill of fare in English which he took home from a dinner given by a high official in one of the most important cities of the empire. He says it was a delicious dinner:

Birds' nest and pigeons' egg sonp Fried fish. Brotled shark fins. Baked macaroni. Stewed bamboo shocts. Cold chicken, with stuffing. Stewed water chostnuts and much Roast wild duck, with salad Chinese cakes,
Riscuits, with vegetable stuffs
Meat pies.
Almond tea.

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

Japanese lacquer ware, known the world over as the most superb for beauty and quality, is made from lacquer fur-nished by the sap of the Rhus verni-cifera, 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 asphal-

Tree toads have several fingers on their forelegs, in the ends of which are suctorial 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.

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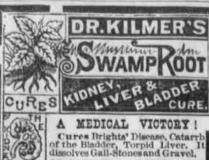
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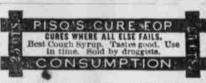
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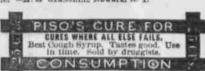
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NERVOIR OFFINALE DECAY. THE PERSON AND DECAY. THE PERSON AND DECAY. THE PERSON AND DECAY. Dr. WARD & CO., LOUISIANA, HO.

The Chief Stomach Disease of the World. SYMPTOMS. Nausea,

Indigestion, Palpitation. Loss of Appetite, Heartburn,

Pain in Stomach, | Flatulency, etc.

The cause of dyspensia is often due to edentary habits, rapid eating and neg-ected constipation, as well as to improper

Sour Stomach.

lected constipation, as well as to improper food, the excessive use of stimulants, tea, coffee and tobacco. Eating too heartily when tired is a frequent cause, but whatever the cause the remedy is plainly indicated. As everything taken into the stomach when weak and irritable proves a source of irritation, dyspepsia is the most difficult to cure of the majority of chronic complaints; but Burdock Blood Bitters, by its direct action in regulating the bowby its direct action in regulating the bow-els, stimulating the liver to secrete healthy

The Great Remedy,

bile, and by its tonic and nutritive effects upon the system, and its general purifying action through the kidneys, the skin, the liver and the blood, soon restares the natural action of all the organs and thus makes the relief or cure of this investrate disease a simple matter. From one to three bottles will relieve or cure the chronic cases of long standing. cases of long standing.

Dyspepsia is, without doubt, one of the Dyspepsia is, without doubt, one of the most prevalent diseases known to the American public, and is often mistaken for some other disease. When your appetite is variable, when you sense a faint, gnawing feeling at the pit of the stomach, unsatisfied craving for food, rising and souring of the same, heartburn, bad breath, bad taste in the mouth, low spirits, headache, pain—sometimes in back of the headache, pain—sometimes in back, often times palpitation of the heart, disinclina-tion to effort—mental or physical, languor lassitude, etc., etc., dyspensia is the lassitude, etc., etc., dyspepsia is the cause and should be immediately treated with some reliable remedy; such is B. B. Bitters. It will effect a permanent cure in brief time. Try it; test it thoroughly, and write us if you are not greatly benefited.

Space will not permit us to print any of the thousands of testimonials of those who have been cured or greatly benefited, but, to substantiate our statement that Burdock Blood Bitters is the bast known remedy for dyspepsia, we append a sample dozen of the names of those cured:

of the names of those cured:

W. H. Cooper, cor. Park and Adams St., Rocton,
Mass. Chas. R. Sweet, 65 William St., Frovidense,
R. L. C. J. Whitehead. Norwich Ci. Mrs. J. Mc
Bermott, S. G. Stonist, Enfalo, N. Y., Mrs. S. E.
Edwards, Bridgelmmpton, L. L. J. T. Hareld, M.
Liberty St., Emplanation, J. V. Mrs. C. B. Green,
25 Court St., Materiowa, N. T., L. G. McCormick,
Altonia, Pa., Mrs. H. F. Remington, Mr. Broad
St., Bridgeport, Ct., Mrs. Hollery, B. Robert St.,
Pittaburg, Pa.; J. Huckstein, B. Spring Garden,
Allechony City i Mrs. E. A. Jenkin, Mr. Carson
St., Pittaburg, Pa.; Jacob Daner, Spring Garden,
Ave., Allegheny City, P.

Send for our "Almanac," "Book of Games," and "How to Name the Baby," FOSTER, MILBURN & CO., Buffalo, N. Y.

