## A BLOOD THIRST.

Abnormal Appetite Developed in a Texan Girl.

Periodically Afflicted With a Craving for the Life Fluid.

A malady of the most remarkable and distressing nature has recently attacked the young daughter of Winthrop Davis who owns one of the largest saw-mills in this vicinity, says the Atlanta (Tex.) correspondent of the Philadelphia Times. The young lady is in her 16th year, and, when in her normal health, of an amiable, rather shrinking disposition, and possessed of no small claim to beauty, besides being intelligent and well advanced in her studies. About three months ago she fell into a low, melancholy state, and displayed a singular aversion to all society, refusing entirely to converse at times and exhibiting a sullen, angry disposition when questioned or remonstrated with.

All food was rejected for several days until a piece of freshly-killed beef was accidentally brought into her presence, when she threw herself upon it with all the savage greediness of a famished animal, and began to tear and rend it with her teeth, sucking the blood with a shocking relish for the yet warm fluid.

Since then, at periods ranging from three to seven days, she is seized with the same thirst for blood, and when brought in sight of it will drink it with avidity, in spite of all efforts made to restrain her. Such efforts are attended with much danger, for during these attacks she fails to recognize even the members of the family, and will snap and bite savagely at anyone attempting to molest her.

Her entire appearance undergoes a change, her usually gentle expression becoming inhumanly ferocious, her eyes bloodshot and glaring, while her jaws snap furiously and she keeps up a hideous snarling and growling. Her face becomes suffused with blood and her hair bristles on her heal like that of an angry animal. Once satiated with blood she falls into a deep sleep, as if from intoxication, and in awakening seems to have no remembrance whatever of her singular attack and is once more her quiet, lady-like self, only complaining of severe headache, which frequently lasts until her next seizure.

Physicians who have seen her are at aloss to account for the cause of her malady and have, up to the present, failed entirely to relieve her. By the advice of several, attempts have been made to keep her from the sight of blood, but the result is so distressing that it is now thought best to allow her to gratify her unnatural thirst. Unable to do so otherwise, she attacked her own flesh, tearing it without any apparent pain and sucking the blood with

On another occasion, when seemingly at herself, her attention was attracted to a jounger brother, who, having cut his hand, entered the house for the purpose of having the bleeding gash bound up. She instantly leaped across the room and without warning seized the boy's hurt hand in her mouth and bit him to the bone. It was only with the greatest difficulty that she could be made to release him, and when finally forced to let go gave vent to her rage in hoarse cries, or rather screams, like a wild beast cheated of its prey.

Mr. Davis and his wife are persons of

education and refinement, and profess themselves entirely unable to account for their daughter's peculiar affliction, as on both sides for generations there has never been any intemperance or

A Monkey Does an Heroic Thing

A large ourangoutang was very much attached to his master and to the baby boy, who was the pet of the whole family. One day a fire suddenly broke out in the house, and everybody was running here and there to put it out, while the little boy in his nursery was almost forgotten, and when they thought of him the staircase was all in flames. What could be done? As they were looking up and wondering, a large hairy hand and arm opened the window, and presently the monkey appeared with the baby in his arms, and certainly climbed down over the porch and brought the child safely to his nurse. Nobedy else could have done it, for a man cannot climb like a monkey, r and is not nearly so strong. You may imagine how the faithful creature was praised and petted after that. This is a true story, and the child who was saved was the young Marquis of Kildare.

Fragile Steamship Records. "It's very strange!" commented Mrs.

Snaggs, as she laid down the paper. What is strange?' asked her hus-

band.
..Every day or two I read about a steamship's record getting broken. It's strange they don't make them stronger." PEARLS OF THOUGHT.

No one should so fear being egotistic as to avoid the society of their own conscience.

It will make more difference to those who refuse to see the truth, than to the truth itself.

Information is the literal form of knowledge; if not derived from experience, it is deceit.

It does not follow that a man should have more authority because of his superior knowledge. A man mistakes conceit for wisdom,

when he cannot bear to listen to an idea at variance with his own. Progress is derived from honesty, while to be a successful deceiver, train-

ing is absolutely necessary. The man who mistakes a form for a fact, is also ignorant of the method by

which a success is achieved. The more one knows about the past, and what the future will be, the less they know about the present.

If a man has an idea that he can find no authority for, he should take courage and hunt for another one.

Gallows Point.

Midway in the harbor between Kingston, Jamaica, and Port Royal a tongue of land juts out from the peninsula the reefs that bound the crooked ship channel toward the northward. Once this tongue of land was boundered by a strip of white coral beach, and covered with a growth of wiry grass; now it is nearly smothered under a thick growth of mangrove thickets, pierced by narrow canals that run here and there through the tangle, and dotted by little lagoons, in the lonely waters of which herons and pelicans and frigate-birds live an almost undisturbed life.

The name by which that point of land is known indicates its history with a terrible brevity; it is "Gallows Point." There in the old days of seventy-five or a hundred years ago a gaunt, hideous framework stood in the sight of all, and almost always between the upright posts one or more dead pirates hung in chains, swaying slowly to and fro in the breeze, with hollow, sightless eyes turned now toward the white-winged ships, and now toward the long neck of Cagawaya, whilst buzzards, the "John Crows" of Jamaica, sailed solemnly round and round in the air above, their silent following shadow now and then flitting across the gray stony brow beneath.

Every one quotes Tom Cringle's Log in Jamaica, and it is, perhaps, with al its exaggeration, the best guide-book that can be found of the island. The author lived in those days, and saw most that he describes with his own eyes. In one part of his story he describes twenty-five Cuban pirates strung up at Gallows Point in one morning.

## Why Silk is so Expensive

To produce sufficient silk to make dress requires more time and capital than most people would imagine. If we take one and a quarter pounds as the weight of pure silk required, this would be equal to two pounds of raw silk. To produce two pounls of raw silk would require the entire silk obtained from 7000 to 8000 worms, allowing a percentage for death by disease and other casualties.

It may be interesting to state that these young worms when newly hatched would scarce'y weigh one-quarter of an ounce, yet in the course of their life, which only lasts some 30 to 35 days, they will consume about 300 to 400 pounds of leaves and increase in weight about 9000 times.

Consumers of silk will not wonder at its high value when they consider that to raise two pounds of raw silk so much time and money is required. Besides the original cost of the eggs or young worms, they require feeding at regular intervals daily with mu berry leaves, and consume the above weight of leaves during their life. This is a large item of expense if the cultivator does not grow and gather his own leaves, but ir compelled to purchase them.

A Berth That is Avoided.

If the Thirteen C.ub which made so merry at a recent banquet in London, wishes really to strike a blow at popular superstition, let it go recruiting for lady converts, and set them traveling in the thirteenth compartment of the ladies' Pullman sleeping car of the Friday's Orient Express running between Paris and Vienna. The company rarely succeeds in finding a tenant for this particular bed. The carriages are always reserved beforehand, but the numbered tickets are only distributed at the last moment. In spite of this precaution, however, No. 13 of the ladies' tickets on that day of the week, is almost invariably returned, and the train, although otherwise crowded, has to travel with one berth empty.

QUAINT AND CUBIOUS.

Twins aged ninety years are living in Wixom, Mich.

An autopsy on a Wisconsin man a few days ago revealed five jackknives

In York County, Penn., a party of tramps recently emptied a water tank and converted it into a bedroom.

An Iowa girl, Fiora Loak, shot a man dead for serenading her grandfather on the occasion of his latest marriage.

At Williamsport, Md., is a maple tree that has a full crop of green leaves, while every one of its neighbors is dry

A smart little Pennsylvania girl living near the Maryland line has trapped enough fur-bearing animals to buy herself a nice gold watch.

In Sevier County, Ark., Nathan Cannon, aged 83, undertook to kick a dog. The dog dodged and Mr. Sevier was picked up with a broken leg and wrist.

One hundred and sixty-seven bears were killed in Maine last year. The State paid out \$835, or \$5 per head bounty. Over \$1000 was paid as bounty for killing crows.

A meteor of great illuminating power passed over Forkston, Penn., the other night, and in a minute thereafter a heavy report was heard, and the earth shook perceptibly.

At East Lyons, Ia., a goose died very auldenly. On cutting it open a silver thimble was found in its throat. It is thought the fowl choked to death while trying to swallow it.

A petrified moccasin was unearthed at Pendleton, Ore., by some laborers who were digging for the foundation of a bank building. It was sent to the Smithsonian Institution.

The belle at a recent dog feast on an Indian reservation in Dakota wore a jacket trimmed with teeth from 150 elks, which she berself had slain. is the granddaughter of the chief of the tribe.

An espalier pear tree at Pollet, France, was planted in 1580, and is now the oldest in Europe. It spreads 100 feet, its stem is three feet through, and it still bears 3000 to 4000 pears yearly.

A petrified apple was discovered recently at Harrington, Me., by some boys. It had changed to the color of marble. The stem and blossom were apparently as perfect as when the fruit iell from the tree.

Shearing Geose. A curious case came before an English court for adjudication recently, says Galen Wilson, in the American Agriculturist. A poulterer was charged with cruelty to 48 live geese by pluck ing them of their feathers, and the own. er of the geese was charge I with procuring the commission of the offence. The proceedings were taken by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. A witness swore that "after the geese were plucked their skins turned . purple color and they seemed to be in pain. They walked about with their backs up and shrank when touched." The practice was shown by defendants to be very prevalent, and the society asked for a nominal fine, to put a stop to it. The defendants said it was the custom of the district to pluck the feathers every six weeks, and if they were stopped from doing so many people would discontinue keeping geese, as much more money was realized by the sale of the feathers than by the geere. The court imposed a fire of eighteen shillings each upon that it would be a warning to other people. Plucking live geese and ducks prevails all over the United States. I is a barbarous proceeding and the birds are justified in "getting their backs up" at the cruel practice. Should such cases be prosecuted, doubtless the courts of this country would decide as did the court in question. There is a species of large water fowl whose habitat in winter is the open lakes of the interior, and their feathers are so firmly set that they cannot be plucked. Shearing is resorted to, and many housewives have beds made of these feathers which almost equal those of eider down, as the stiff, troublesome quill-ends are absent. Shearing geese and ducks could be made to supersede plucking.

## What it Costs

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