DEADLY SEA SNAKES.

VILE REPTILES THAT INFEST THE WA-TERS OF THE PHILIPPINES.

The Venom of These Serpents Is More Patal Than That of the Cobra and a Mere Scratch From Their Pangs Will Produce Serious Results.

Not only do various reptiles and other queer creatures abound in the forests and swamps of the Philippines, but the surrounding water of these interesting islands team with veritable sea serpents. These strange creatures, which pass their cutire existence in the water, possess deadly fangs. They are a great menace to the fishermen, who are coustantly exposed to their attacks.

Technically speaking, science has named the group the Hydrophide. They differ from the terrestrial snakes only in the possession of a flat, paddlelike tail. These reptiles inhabit the tropical seas of the old world and occasionally attain a length of 8 feet. Dr. Rudolph Weber, professor of drawing in Princeton university, observed large numbers of these creatures while on a steamer bound for Sumatra. Dr. Weber was in charge of a scientific expedition and naturally took special notice of them. He says that when the vessel was some 50 miles off the coast myriads of sea snakes could be seen swimming about as far as the eye could reach. They kept upon the surface, and several distinct species were recognized among

During calm weather these reptiles may be seen sunning themselves upon the surface of the sea, remaining mo-tionless except for a slight undulation caused by the movement of the water. When alarmed, the agile reptiles dive like arrows, leaving a train of bubbles behind them. Some species are extremely brilliant in coloration, being bright yellow, banded with black, while others are tinted with delicate shades of green.

The food of sea snakes consists entirely of fishes. Frequently fishes armed with long sharp spines fall victims to their appetites. Among these are the apogous and siluroids, which are furnished with spines three and five inches long. But these do not embarrass the voracious reptile in the least. The victim is first killed by the snake's poison. after which it is swallowed head first. The spines, naturally pointing tovard the tail of the victim, and being relaxed in death, are compressed against the body of the fish as deglutition proceeds. While in search of their prey, sea snakes sometimes venture a short distance up the mouth of large rivers.

Dr. Weber records an instance where

he was fishing in one of the rivers on the east coast of Sumatra. He was using a dragnet and had cornered a number of medium sized fish. As the net was being brought in, two large sea snakes suddenly made their appearance inside. They showed no signs of uncasiness at capture, but were hurriedly gobbling down the cornered fishes. Nor did they cease operations until the last fish had disappeared, when the formidable creatures made their escape.

Being air breathers, the sea snakes lead a similar existence to the whale. Scientists have expressed much interest as to how long they can remain under water. Professor R. P. Witfield of the American Museum of Natural History, while dragging for corals, saw a large sea snake lying motionless among some coral growths, some eight feet below the surface. It showed no signs of fear and remained in the same position for half an hour. The venom of these rep-tiles is even more deadly than that of the cobra. The fangs are very short, and consequently do not penetrate so deep as the fangs of most serpents, but scratch from them is ne produce serious results. Owing to their great shyness accidents are very rare. When cornered, they snap upon a As the eyes are adapted only for use in the water they strike blindly when brought into the air, although living for days when removed from their native element.

Many specimens hauled up in fishermen's nets have been sent to zoological gardens. The London gardens even went so far as to build a special for their accommodation. But these captured specimes either die en route or a short time after being placed in captivity. Seeking a dark corner of their tank, they refuse all food and ultimately starve to death. Around the numerous volcanic islands of the Malayan archipelago these reptiles are par-ticularly numerous. Frequent cruptions occur among these islands, which are hardly more than the body of the vol-

During the time of an eruption the few people residing near by take to the water in their boats to escape the rain of ashes and mud.

It is generally a case of jumping from the frying pan into the fire, however. At such times the sea become uncomfortably warm from its close proximity to the burning mountain, and the sea snakes swim wildly about for escape. They endeavor to climb over the gunwales of the refugees' its, while they twine their bodies in

great masses about the forward chains.

When about to lay their eggs, these serpents approach the shore. The eggs are laid above high water mark and left to hatch by the heat of the sun. Many creatures prey upon the young reptiles. Among their enemies are sharks and other large fishes, while the adults, in spite of their death dealing fangs, fall victims to sea engles and large galls. After the great typhoons, which are common in the Philippines and their vicinity, many of these creatures may be found along the beach, where they have been cast up during the storm and killed by the violent pounding of the waves.—New York

A planter in Hondurss has a right to egister" himself and 50 laborers,

MEMORIES.

The heart grows and sometimes when strange hands waken A strain, a melody of other days. And backward through the past the mind goes

straying
Till heartstrings smap in twain on which he

I walked today along the village highway.

A sunny head was bared, a form to blow—

Ab, with a pang it breacht to me swe : mem-

Of one so like him in the lang of " But bitter sweet, the mercories that awaken. The love that filled each heart was never told. For both of us were proud, and I, so fearful. My secret should be known, was silent, cold.

Ah, well, the same old tale, so oft repeated
I knew not that he loved me-sh, rot smile.
Twas after years I barned it, but he never.
Never knew I loved him all the while.

- Flow Van B. Specce

CHINESE SHOES

The Comfort and Healthfulness of Woven Straw Sandals.

"I may seem to be quarreling with my broad and butter," said an up town chiropodist to one of his best customers the other day, "but in my humble and mewhat professional opinion, the most sensible of all men in the matter of footwear is the Chinaman Did you ever notice his feet? I don't believe there is such a thing as a corn or a bunion in all China. Chiropodists would starve to death there so far as the requirements of the masculine foot are concerned. Whatever the deformities inflicted on the feet of women in China may be, the men certainly enjoy sound and comfortable understandings Look at the Chi nese laundrymen here in Washington. They stand at their work 18 bours a day. No class of workingmen I know of spend so many hours on their feet as they do. Yet they never break down there, and, physically, they are a won derfully healthy race

"Simple living and freedom from the nervous pursuits of our civilization may ave something to do with it, but I at tribute their exemption from foot weak ness and disease to the kind of house shoe so universally worn by them I have a pair that I have worn for several years, and I wouldn't wear anything else for genuine indoor comfort. The are woven of straw and seaweed an soled with horse hide. There is a thic sole of straw above the leather, an through this the air can circulate free ly, keeping the muscles of the under part of the foot always cool The laun drymen, you notice, are usually bare ot, which is an added advantage i the matter of healthfulness. There is about as little material in the uppers a is consistent with the idea of a shoe and this is just enough to keep th thing on the foot. This upper, too, i woven loosely of seaweed, so that the ai-can have access to the foot. Nowherdoes this shoe pinch or in the least de

gree press the foot.
"These are the indoor shoes of th Chinaman. On the street here in the United States nowadays he wears ver commonly the leather shoes or boots of American manufacture. That is one of the ways in which he is becoming Americanized. But the outdoor cloth shoe of China is a great deal worn also That, like the indoor shoe, is very thic and soft in the sole, and the foot i never pinched or strained by it. The healthiest footgear ever known proba-bly was the sandal of the Greeks. I had no upper, and, as you will see it statuary, the feet of men and womer were ideally perfect. All the sandal af forded was a protection from the ground 'To him who wears sandals,' say the Arabs, 'it is as if the world were shod with leather.' The Chinaman seems to follow out this motto, and his shoes are nearly soles and nothing more. But the great secret of the excellence of his indoor shoe is the half inch straw sole.' Washington Star.

Neatly Caught.

A certain Greek adventurer some years ago undertook to palm off upon the public some false copies of the gos pel manuscripts. Many learned men were deceived, but not Dr. Coxe, librarian of the Bodleian library at Oxford How he detected the fraud is related in his own words in The Spectator:

I never really opened the book, but I held it in my hand and took one page of it between my finger and thumb while I listened to the rascal's account of how he found this most interesting

antiquity.
At the end of three or four minutes I handed it back to him with the short comment, "Nineteenth century paper, my dear sir," and he took it away in a hurry and did not come again.

Yes, I was pleased, but I have handled several ancient manuscripts in my time, and I know the feel of old paper.

A Dumas Story.

Dumas the elder was rarely spiteful to or about his fellow men, but one day, when he happened to be in that mood, a friend called to tell him a piece of a friend called to tell him a piece news. "They have just given M. X. the Legion of Honor," he said. Then implicant tone, "Now, can you imagine why they should have

"Yes," answered the great dramatist promptly. "They have given it to him because he was without it."

Free Passes. The legislative free pass is still universal in France. Every member of the chamber of deputies has free traveling on any railroad in the country and is furnished with a medal of identification to make sure that he gets his privileges. In the matter of pay they are better off than the British members of parliament, though their indemnity of \$5 a day is small beside the \$5,000 a year of the United States congressman.

Mrs. Hicks (shopping)—Hark! Didn't I hear something smash? Hicks—Good heavens, you have good ears. It was only me going broke.— Harlem Life.

The first sermon in Maine was deliv-d at Mouhegan Aug. 9, 1607.

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COMMISSIONERS' - SALE

Seated and Unseated Lands.

In pursuance of an Act of Assembly, the Commissioners will offer for sale, at their office in Brookville, Jefferson county, Pa., on

Thursday, September 15, 1898,

ck A. M., the following tructs of Seated and Unscated Lands, purchased by the numissioners at Treasurer's Sale of 1896:

QU'A	TED	TAN	ITYP
1312/11	120	TARRE	(D)

Venr.	Names of Owners.	H. & L. or Acres	Locality.	Tax ar
1803	Jackson Cook	19	Barnett township	8 11
1893	R. Simpson	13	and the control of th	9.7
1893	S. A. Woods	H & L	Big Run borough	- 6
1802	Samuel O. Culver	Lot	Brookville borough	1 1
'93, '95	S. S. Gathers	Lot	Clayville borough	- 4
1903	Harrison Evans	Lot	44	4
1800	Thomas Malyen	Lot	T 2	- 3
192, 193	John Williams	Lot		- 3
1803	James Miller. John Nihil	124	Eldred township	3
92, '93, '94, '95	John Nihil	120	McCalmont township	3
1893	Francis Johnson Charles Anderson	19	40 00000	16
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96, '94, '95	Charles Anderson	13		3 8
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'93, '94, '95	IA. W. Corbett, min	10	Pincercele township	3
'93, '94, '95 '92, '93	G. W. Leslie	Lot	Pinecreek township Reynoldsville borough	8
1893	John H. Hinderliter	11 & L	Ringgold township	1 7
1893	77 45 64	H&L	and the same of th	3
1802	James Miller	11/5	Rose township	1
'92, '93, '95 '93, '94, '95	B. M. Martin Geo. M. McDonald	Lot	48	3
'03, '04, '05	Geo. M. McDonald	Lot	* *	4
1892	S. M. McDonald	Lot	# # #	- 3
1802	W. C. Adams	H&L	** *********	3
92, 93	W. D. J. Marlin J. W. Miller	16	U U	4
1893	Harbort Moore	Lot %		- 3
1893	James Humphrey timber	AMPL	Warsaw township	. 3
1893	James Humphrey, timber Joshua Long, Est. Dr. T. J. Bennett	196		11 3
'93, '94, '95	Dr. T. J. Bennett	Lot	44 44 7777777777	3
'92, '93	IWm. Eldler	11.6	Washington township	- 5
1802	Frank Kofsky	30%		9
'92, '93, '94	James Wilson, min	40	** **	12
1893	Jacob Leidwanger	HåL	Winslow township	13
1893	A	H&L	** ** *********************************	- 3
92, '93, '94, '95 92, '93, '94, '95	Gordon & White	.70		
'93, '95	Harvey Hohr.	106		
'93, '94	Mrs. Julia Mari	11.1.1	7.0000000000000000000000000000000000000	
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1893	John J. McCreight, min. Grant Rhodds	111	: : ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	36
20' 10' 10' 10	J. L. Syphert	Lot '2		2 3
92, '93, '94, '95	Francis Smith	100	# # management	7
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'93, '94	Enmuel Brown, surface.	H& 5	Young township	**
'92, '93	Reuben Morley	2 Lots		6
1892	Henry Miliron	HA M		- 4

1894, 1895	A. Cox D. F. Steck, Est.	30	Barnett township	8 8 37
1895	D. F. Steck, Est.	13	Gaskill township	10 72
1895		9	11	6 39
1894	Jacob Minich	20	Knox township	9 82
1894, 1895	Anderson & Yeaney	coal of 1-10 4	** ** *********************************	2 82
1894	E. B. & A. Reitz	22	W W	7.27
1895	E. Welser, timber	100	Pinecreek township	44 50
1804, 1895	Thos. Paisley, Philip st	Lot No 23	Reynoldsville borough	3 18
1804	Annie R. Test, Jackson st	44, 45, 46, 52-4 L		13 02
1894	Mrs. Kate D. Marlin	135	Rose township	431 332
1894	Dr. A. M. Clark, min., 2742	99	Snyder township	13 82
1804	E. Weiser, min 2934	77	Washington township	10 04
1805	Wright C.B.& Doring H. A	2888, min. 376		71 00
1895	Same	2960, min. 132%		30.78

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