The running river of expediency Has drowned the hopes that Fortune held why fall upon the track so many climb?

Why strive to speak what all the earth has Why labor at a work the ages plan?— Life has been lived so oft an outworn

The time-sweet carol of a bird, flower; and see ah, shame to The endless aspiration of the spring.

The full throat of the world is charged with

Morning and twillight melt with ecstasy high heat of noon. Simply to be, Palpitant where the green spring forces

Eager for life, life unashamed and strong-This is desire fulfilled. Exalted, free, The spirit gains her ether, scornfully Denies existence that is dark or wrong.

his is enough, to see the song begun Which shall be finished in some field afar. Laugh that the night may still contain a star,

Nor idly mean your impotence of grace. Life is a song lift up your care free face liadly and gratefully toward the sun.

Helen Hay Whitney.

A MIDNIGHT RUN

Frie Waters.

and father, who was a contractor, had me, and that some one was breathing a big job on a new railway. The object of this journey was to pay the men, the paymaster being ill.

"I don't like you to carry so much money," mother complained, "It's

"Not a bit of it, Mary; don't worry Not a creature knows that I am taking It Resides we are shead of pay day."

But mother was not satisfied, watching us wistfully from the doorstep the next morning when we started for the brought the money, which was put into father's valise. My bag was only half full and exactly like father's in

We left town at 11 o'clock. You may be sure that we kept a careful eye on the vallee

It was dark when we reached Oakton, and after a poor supper at the only hotel we waited for the stage which was to take us to our destina-tion—twelve miles distant. The stage, drawn by two bony horses, rumbled up to the sidewalk.

Where's Bill?" father asked, for the burly driver always amused him with his quaint remarks.

"Guess Bill can't drive this here stage tonight," the landlord answered. Them old horses skeered at something this morning and upset the rig. an' Bill, he's a-lyin' upstairs with a broken leg."

Billy's substitute was anything but attractive. I have seldom seen a more disagrecable face. His eyes were small and shifting; his mouth drawn sown. He was polite, however, and out out his hand for the vallees.

"Never mind." said father, careless-"They will not be in the way, dace we are the only passengers."

The night was dark and gloomy. An countable depression came over Going through the village father told me that it had once been of some importance, but a rival town had drawn away business and people, adding that it was sad to see "such beauti-ful houses going to decay."

"We will pass a house said to be baunted." father went on. "A man was found dead in his room and the place became so terrifying to the famfly that they left it hurriedly not even aking their furniture."

I wished that father would not dwell on such unpleasant subjects, for it gave me a horrid sensation of fear.

Where did the accident happen this orning?" we inquired of the driver. "Near the haunted house was the The horses seemed nervous and mied at every shadow.

"Here's the place," the driver cried, "and ourse it! the beasts seem to It." At the same instant the rified snimals shied violently, and before we could speak the left wheels had gone into a ditch and the big pole off. The man jumped out. trying to quiet the frightened horses. trange to say we were unburt and crambled out, clinging to our luggage. The driver professed great concern We freed the horses and tried lift the wagon, but so much damage had been done that it was impossible

"I must get on to Norton tonight." "Can we get a wagon

There was nothing nearer than the ead and considering:

There's some folks in the old house and I will be back by daybreak." emed to be no alternative, it should fall! we went to the old mansion. The oor was opened by a man with an that he would give us shelter. After Engering before a cherry wood fire, shadows, we were conducted to a big

After our host left us we stepped at, discovering that the veranda was dilapidated and that a long turned our attention to the room. A igh-backed bed stood at one and in the centre a table on had been a handsome apartment, with When they disappeared we ran rapidly richly painted walls and dark wains-Old pictures hung on the

Opposite the tables were por-handsome people in the dress of gan to prepare for bed. Father on the table, taking

"Please leave Jim at home this trip," | of the money parcels on top. I wanmother said, when father suggested dered about looking at everything. I taking me with him, as he often did in had an uncanny feeling and a sensathe holidays. I was a lad of twelve tion that somebody was looking at

> "Look at this picture, father," I cried, pointing to the life-sized face of a handsome old gentleman with cold blue eyes. "He seems to look at me wherever I go."

"They say that's a sign of good painting, Jim.'

I had been learning of eyes lately from an uncle who was an oculist and he had shown me how the pupil dilates in darkness and contracts in a strong office. A messenger from the bank light. I do not know what induced me to take one of the candles and go close to the picture.

"See this big moth, father," I cried. Can I catch it for my collection?" Going to the portrait of the old genleman I raised the candle suddenly and was certain that I saw the pupils of the blue eyes grow smaller and smaller.

"Oh, that moth!" I said, and made another move with the light, to see again the sharp contraction of the pupil.

"There! you've blown out the light! father said. "Be careful, lad."

In the dim light I glanced hastily, to see a well dilated pupil in the pale blue eyes. To say that I was fright-ened would be to put it mildly. I was perfectly terrified-ghosts and goblins were in the very air. If ghosts could see they could hear-I dared not speak. Once more I raised the candle which I had relighted. Had I been dreaming? The eyes in the portrait were dark brown!

What I had seen, I had seen, but how was I to convince father of the fact. He meantime had repacked the vallee, eaving it on the table. Going behind the bed where the eyes could not follow, I wrote rapidly on a bit of paper. Again pretending to catch a moth called father. The moment he saw my ghastly face he realized that somehing serious had happened. But for the money he might have laughed at my fears, but he was superstitious and confessed afterward that he had experienced the same sensation of a presence in the room. He scribbled a few lines, telling me to watch him and

We heard voices below: a door shut and then silence fell. We blew out the lights and pretended to retire. Then father got up quietly, took everything out of my bag, which, you remember, was the duplicate of his, and stuffed it with heavy bedding, locking and strapping it and putting it on the ta-Cramming everything in the precious value, he put it in the bed. We were dressed except for our boots. We left the French window ajar and got into bed. The moon came up and shone into the room.

"Good night, Jim; pleasant dreams," ame in a sleepy voice from father and presently loud snores could be heard from his side of the bed. An hour passed. I kept shivering and seemed to see mother watching us anxiously; would we never see her dear face again? Suddenly we heard stealthy steps and nudged each other. The snoring became louder. Peeping through half-shut lids, we saw a shadowy form creeping in the window and a hand stretched out to the valise on the table. Then cautiously and

noiselessly man and bag disappeared, Father argued that the men would take their plunder to a distant room village, the man declared, "and I must | to open it, and that if they found themhe these horses back and hitch them | selves tricked our fate would be sealto the other 'bus." Then rubbing his ed. Signing me to follow, father slipped out of bed. Carrying our boots and the valise we gained the veranda der. I guess they can give you a going down the ladder which creaked under our weight. Great heavens! if

We touched the ground safely. Moving in the shadow of the building, enforgettable face; with large pale we reached the barn; hiding behind it.

Blue eyes, a wide forehead with a Horrors! what did we hear! I clutchoken nose. He spoke kindly, saying ed father's arm and we cowered down in the high, rank burdocks. The door opened, and four men came out, laden which seemes to emphasize the fitful with trunks and bags. They hastened to a wagon already loaded. The poor droom upstairs. Its windows opened old stage horses were harnessed to it. It was evidently a "fitting." There

was not time to examine their spoils. "They'll not wake till morning." the blue-eyed man whispered hoarsely ladder leaned against it. We next "The old one is snoring like a rusty

To our unspeakable relief they jumped in and drove rapidly toward Oakwere two lighted candles. It ton, evidently to catch an early train. down the road. At last we reached house. Waking the inmates we told their gift frames tarnished and our story. One by one the family hurried down, and a little brown-haired girl was greatly excited, watching us

were a gang of counterfelters, their chief being the blue-eyed man with the broken nose. The authorities were prepared to search the place tomor-

Neighbors were collected, horses brought out, and we started in pursuit, And here I may as well say they were never captured

At daylight the constables from the village went with us to the haunted house, where were found evidences of a counterfeiter's work and signs of a hasty departure. They had probably been warned of the intended raid, and father's journey with the money and had delayed their flitting in order to secure it, in both cases causing the breaking down of the stage. thought with glee how enraged they must have been when they opened the

In examining the house they found the secret of the blue eyes. In an adjoining room hung a picture. Taking it down we saw that the plaster had ben removed and the canvas exposed. Over the eyes were cleverly arranged slides. Moving them, one could by pressing the face closely to the yielding canvas, look into the next room The man with the broken nose could do so more easily. Thus I saw his eyes as he watched father stow away the money.

That night's adventure gave me the chance of finding a treasure, for the little girl whom I met for the first time that night is now my wife. She declares, however, that it was not a ease of "love at first sight." That more grotesque little figure she never saw, with staring eyes, hair standing on end, clothes covered with burrs, and a red necktie neatly tied under one ear.-Michigan Farmer.

AUDIT GAME SWINDLE.

Applicant for Loan Pays to Have His Books Examined-Gets Nothing.

It is hard to keep track of the easy money games that are going on in this town all the time. The man who pays the bill is usually the one who s looking for money that is not easy. He is short himself, and he is seeking some one to help him out. When he has had his little dose of experience he is shorter than when he began.

A new phase of the swindle might be called the audit game. A man needing capital is likely to be taken n by men who advertise that they have unlimited capital to put out in safe ventures. He knows that his own business is pretty well founded and he nibbles at the bait.

At the office indicated he gets -s ordial welcome. He would like to borrow money, would he? Well, he has come to the right place, but it is only fair to warn him that the shop cares to do business only with high grade business men.

The applicant, however, is a little wary. He would like some assurances on his part that the men he is to deal with are all right. The man who receives him calls his attention to several prosperous looking men sitting in an inner office looking over securities. He points these men out as rich and as always seeking safe investments. Sometimes the caller is introduced to one of these men, who mildly acknowledges that he has money, but who makes it known at once that he has no desire to handle any proposition that isn't safe. He node to the first man, and tells the visitor to make plain his proposition to him. If it seems to be good, he will be glad to look it over.

Here is where the bunco The office man again says that his clients must be sure before they invest. It will be necessary to make an exhaustive examination of the applicant's books. It is only right that the applicant should pay for this. According to the nature of the business in which he is engaged, the price will be from \$100 to \$500. The lender-to-be assures the applicant that there will not be the slightest difficulty in getting the loan. But the money must be advanced to pay for the examina-

tion. The applicant is by this time s confident that he will get the money that he pays the advance required. The examiners come around all right, They go over the books and ask a lot of wise questions, but are non-commital. In due time the applicant gets word that the moneyed men have come to the conclusion that the examination of the applicant's business shows a condition which makes it undesirable for them to invest in it.

A promoter who has investigated several of these concerns said to a Sun Reporter that there are scores of men engaged in this game.-New

France's Submarine.

The French navy is still maintaining an active interest in submarine vessels, and an entirely new type of craft is soon to be constructed at Cherbourg, which, on account of its large size, will be known as a "submarine cruiser." It is 182 feet in length and 15 feet beam, being driven by electric motors when under the water and by gasoline engines at the

surface. There are two electric motors which operate two propellers and eight horizontal rudders, while current is to be supplied by double sets of accumulators. Water-tight compartments will be fitted along sides of the vessel for over two-thirds of its length, while fuel-tanks are to be placed in the centre, one on each side.-Harper's Weekly.

The first notes of the "Marseillaise" are being used as a popular form of whistled greeting in London.



the day."

he does.

ance.

door with them

ma, "for he belongs to somebody, you

Just then Bridget came in, and see

in the dog, said, "Sure, ma'am, and

that dog have worrit the life out o'

from the kitchen duer twinty times

was far from being mutual.

Then grandma said, quietly,

a plateful of scraps and going to the

Somehow that seemed to settle !!

his owner find him, in a few days."

Trix was almost as happy as if it

"What is your name, dear doggy?"

About 10 o'clock, as the two played

together on the porch, the postman's

whistle suddenly sounded, and Nix

fairly flew round the corner of the

house to the front. Then, almost be-

fore Trix could wonder why, he

letters at his feet. At the same min-

front door bell furiously, and

seized the letters from his hand.

Then mama had to explain

had been in the habit of taking let-

ters from the rural free delivery post-

ularly. Sure enough, when the whis

tle sounded next day he rushed to the

front again, and this time the post-

man had ready just the letters which

One Friday morning, a week from

the day when he first appeared to

Bridget, mama stood at the window

about 5 o'clock, for it had been a

very warm night and she had not

rested well. She was just in time to

see a market wagon coming down

the street, and as it came opposite

the house, Nix suddenly bounded into

the street and raced round the wa-

gon, wild with joy. Then the man took him up beside him, looking fully

Mama exclaimed softly to herself,

'He has found his owner!" and she

So mama was able to tell Trix that

Then another Friday morning cam

round, and as mamma opened the

wonder what this is," she said, and

when she peeped in there was a beau-

thing, and you may be sure Trix nev-

One morning mama had him up at

5 o'clock and out in front ready to

see Nix when he came, and there

was the happiest meeting you ever

saw, which the marketman enjoyed.

too, and finally Trix was taken upon

the wagon with them, and rode two

I think Nix actually thought Trix

when the marketman put the little

wagon, then at the house; but mama

Mullins, in Youth's Companion.

squares down the street and back.

"From a grateful dog."

er forgot to look for it.

gret him too much," she said.

belonged there.

as happy as the dog.

his grief.

tiful

would make a good team.

The Cat's Tea-party.

Five pretty little pussy-cats, invited out to Mother, let us go-oh, do! for

Cried: "Mother, let us go-oh, do! for good we'll surely be.
We'll wear our bibs and hold our things as you have shown us how—
Spoons in our right paws, cups in left—and nake a pretty bow;
We'll always say, 'Yes, if you please,' and 'Only half of that.'
"Then go, my darling children," said the happy mother-cat.
The pretty little pussy-cats went out that night to ten.
Their heads were smooth and glossy black, their tails were swinging free;
They held their things as they had learned and tried to be poilte—With snowy bibs beneath their chins they were a pretty sight.
But wh' alas for manners good and conts as soft as silk!
The moment that the little kits were asked to take some milk
They dropped their spoons, forgot to bow, and—oh, what do you think?
They pit, their noses in the cups and all began to drink!
Yes, every naughty little kit set up a meow

Yes, every naughty little kit set up a meow for more.

Then knocked the teacups over quick and scampered through the door. -Our Dumb Animals.

Another No-Prize Problem.

The idea of the following puzzle was suggested by London Tit-Bits. It seems, according to the veracious paper, that there was, in the days of ancient Athens, a crank arithmetician equally so, who was perpetually strolling out to the groves of Academia to bother poor old Plato with his propositions. But Plato devised a way of getting rid of him. When the crank one day proposed to inflict on him a lengthy oration, the philosopher cut him short with the remark: "Look here, old chappie" (that is the nearest translation of the original Greek term of familiarity), when you can bring me the solution of this little mystery of the 3 nines I shall be happy to listen to your treatise, and, in fact, record it on my phonograph for the benefit of posterity."

Plato then showed that 3 nine may be arranged so as to represent the number 11, but putting them in the form of a fraction. The puzzle he then propounded was, to so arrange the 3 nines that they would represent 20. It is said that the crank worked 9 years at it and then gave up the ghost. But it is easy enough provided you know, thus:

9 plus 9 (Nine plus 9 is 18, and this vided by 9-10ths is of course 20.) The puzzle is a good one to try on your mathematical friends.

Blown Away.

"I'm tired of everything, mamma, Do tell me what to do," said Beth Lincoln, coming into the room where her mother was sitting. "Why not play basketball with me?"

"With you, mamma. I didn't know you could play basketball."

Why not? I have balls in the yarnbasket, and I am going to weave the yarn in and out over this ball," said Mrs. Lincoln, smiling and holding up a wooden ball, over which she stretched the heel of Madge's little stock-

"Oh, that kind! I don't call that play," said Beth.

"You and your friend Neille had a nice time yesterday playing you were a sewing society; and why may not I play that my real work is play -basketball, for instance? I will at the wagon; but there was a clear toss a ball to you." whistle from the man, and he rushed

the ball. she came close to her mother; "But mamma, without joking, what can I the doggy certainly did love them, do? I am tired of everything and and was sorry to go. everybody. Please tell me what I can

"Is my daughter really tired of her outside dining room door, there lay on the floor a little paper bag. "I self?" asked Mrs. Lincoln, with slight emphasis on "herself?" "Why, yes. Didn't I say so, mam

ma?" "How would it do to stop trying hand: to please self, of which you are so tired?"

"Mamme, what do you mean?" Just then dear little Madge came toddling into the room, and said wistfully, "I haven't any one to play with.

Mrs. Lincoln save Beth a meaning look, and said: "How would it do for my big girl

to get away from self, and amuse my httle girl?" Mrs. Lincoln was called from the

room, and she found two happy children when she returned half an hour later. What were they doing? Beth was blowing soap bubbles, and Madge was trying to catch them. Mrs. Lincoln stood for a moment in silence, thinking, "What a beautiful picture!"

boy down at his own door, he did Beth looked up and saw her mother, stand a minute and look first at the and said. "Aren't the bubbles beautiful, mamma, and isn't Madge a dear?" said, "Come, my son," and he came "I have two dears now; but what at that dear call, just as he should, has become of that tired self?" back into the house, which certainly could not do without him..-Isla May

"Blown away, mamma, with bubbles," laughed Beth.

he could.

doggy!"

Trix and Nix. While mamma, papa, grandma and

Here is a story illustrating the tact Trix were at breakfast one morning of Captain Hoegemann of the German there was a sudden tap, tap at the Lloyd fleet. On one of his trips he outside door of the dining room, was made a confidant of a Boston mawhich opened on a portico. tron who constantly aged for advice "Trix, see who it is," said mama; about her son.

and when he went to the door, there "Captain, will you get me a good stood a little Scotch terrier with book for Bobby to read?" she said one bright, knowing eyes, ears erect, with a fringe standing out round them, and a brisk, stubby tail. He was say-The captain strode down to ship's library and returned with "Jack ing "Good morning!" just as well as and the Beanstalk."

"There, Bobby, that's the best book Trix was so astonished he could no know of for a Boston boy," he obsay a word for a minute: then:

"O mama, mama, it's a dear, nice It is said that Bobby did not appreclate the captain's chivalry.-New "Well, drive him away," said York Press.

SERPENT'S WISDOM A MYTH.

BNAKES GOOD AS FOOD, BUT NOT AS PETS, SAYS A SCIENTIST.

Blue Racers the Most Delicate Eating -Snakes Not Hostile to Man-Their Cunning and Curiosity-Good Points About Them-Snake Meat Sandwiches,

"Snakes are all right as food, but me these two days. I have drove him very unsatisfactory as pets, for the reason that they have no psychological nature," said a scentist now con-"O mama," said Trix, "he doesn't nected with Harvard university.

belong to anybody, then, and he wants to stay with us, you can see During a six years' residence in the west he made a close study of snakes There was not much doubt about and their ways. Having them in his study unconfined and about his premthat, but the trouble was, the feeling ises in numbers, he became familiar The little terrier stood, eager, with them. doubtful, beseeching, waiting his

The wisdom of the serpent he profate, which he knew hung in the balnounces a myth, though he admits that snakes have much cunning, are wily to a degree and perfectly underthink he is 'a stranger at the door,' stand their power and limitations. and needs refreshment," gathering up For example, a rattlesnake does not retreat in haste when disturbed Realizing that its bite ends the game, it is invariably deliberate, but if left to and with a look of relief papa said, itself in its own good time it makes "No doubt he will find his home, or

Other venomous snakes also recede wlowly, understanding as does the ratwere Christmas, and the dog seemed tler, that they are equal to most emergencles. Contrary to the common notion, snakes are not hostile to man, said Trix, over and over, but he an-The most venomous and powerful swered nothing, so papa said he will run from man if possible. It is guessed they would have to call him only in self-defence that any poison-'Nix." and he thought Trix and Nix ous snake strikes.

That a rattlesnake rattles to give warning of its presence is a popular fallacy. It really does nothing of the The tails of all snakes quiver when they are excited and therefore the rattle is heard when disturbed. Why it has rattles on its tail no one bounded back and laid a little pile of has been able to find out.

It would be, according to this stuute the postman was ringing the dent of snakes, quite absurd to consoon clude that the handsome, independwas telling mama how her dog had ent, husky rattlesnake is instinctively or otherwise considerate of others in giving warning of its presence. As about Nix, and the postman said he are all snakes, it is simply negative probably came from the country, and in its attitude toward others, save when the instinct of self preservation is aroused, when it becomes positive man. He knew a dog that did it regin self defence.

The chief difference between the ways of a polsonous snake and of one whose bite is no worse than the sting of a mosquito, is in the deliberate withdrawal of the one and the hasty retreat of the other in case of danger. The large majority of snakes are quite harmless and slip away with all speed at the approach of either a human being or an animal, knowing that the ability to conceal themselves is their one means of preservation.

While not crediting snakes with wisdom, it is stated that in many ways they are the reverse of stupid. They are very curious, and when they can do so without danger to themselves, they examine an unfamiliar object with keen and repeated attention.

felt sorrowful to see him go, and dis-It is related by this scientist that in mayed when she thought of Trix and attempting to capture a water snake he put his foot on it in the soft ooze "Well, I guess he did not care much at the creek side, but failed to hold for us, and we must try not to reit. To see what the snake would do, he stood perfectly still, and in a few But the wagon only went a few moments it came back and, swimrods when Nix bounded down and ming slowly round and round his came up the walk again, stood a minboot, examined it most carefully, not, ute, first looking at the house, then as might be supposed, by looking at it, but by touching it at every point

> and again. The quick thrusting out and draw ing in of the tongue is a snake's way of finding out what things about it mean. The tongue is its most important sense organ. It really has very little sensation elsewhere, and those that are most poisonous can, if not restrained or hurt, be moved about

> with its tongue, not once, but again

with impunity. peach, and a scrap of paper Yet those who handle and study with this written on it in a scrawling snakes constantly invariably hold them by the back of the neck, as a After that, throughout all the sumcat does a kitten, and both seize and liberate them with alacrity. Before mer market season, there was on Friday mornings a little paper bag at they are seized the rule is to keep out of striking distance, which is the dining room door, with a peach or pear, grapes, tomatoes or some-

one-third the length of the snake. In the college town where these studies of snakes were made the antinathy and horror with which they are ordinarily regarded no longer pre vails. On one occasion a city visitor at the scientist's house announced in terror that there was a snake on the steps of the porch.

"Yes, it's sunning itself," her hostess replied easily. "I often fear some one will step on it. For several years it has been about the grounds. It is was going with them for good, and quite harmless, though occasionally It captures and devours a young robin. Snakes are so very fond of birds and they require live food."

For some years a large pilot snake, picked up on a Michigan prairie and named Daisy, was almost constantly with this man, who, to know snakes made companions of them. Often it wound itself about his arm and seemed to like being there.

The dainties that snakes love he provided and he constantly bestowed on Daisy such care and attention as was calculated to win a snake's affections. The only result was that Daisy grew quite unafraid; seemed to prefer to take food from his hand and made no effort to escape, which was all that could be expected from a creature which has no affection for ts young. Many snakes spurn their offspring from the first, others keep about with them for a week, giving them pointers as to how to get on in the world, and then leave them to shift for themselves.

Daisy when left to its own diver sions followed the instinct which Journal.

gives its kind the name of pilot snake, and would make excursions up the supports of porches and the sides, of a house or room, but was quite willing to be captured and carried about. In the fall it descended to the cellar, and winding itself up in a tight coil hibernated, without food, from the middle of September to the middle of April, coming out in the spring, seeming glad in its way to be

In discussing snakes and their pe culiarities, attention was called to their beautiful coloring and markings, which, it is asserted, are finer than those of any other creature living on land in this part of the world; to their graceful movement in symmetrical curves, and to the fact that they never make a superfluous motion. Observation also shows that they serve a useful purpose in ridding the land of grasshoppers and other pests inimical to agriculturists.

Most particular as to their food, snakes eat only that which they kill, and they judge of the fitness of their food by its motion, taking nothing which does not move swiftly. Field mice and birds are dainties they especially covet, and in hunting and capturing them they display the gulle and cunning which the scriptures attribute to them.

That they charm their prey is another popular belief which is quite unsupported by fact. The creatures they hunt fear them, as a hungry snake has a way of getting what it goes for, and, seeming to understand this, a bird is so filled with terror when it sees a snake that often it is unable to fly and falls an easy victim to its enemy. It is this condition that leads to the generally accepted conclusion

that a snake has the power to cnarm.

As an article of dlet, the blue racer, of all snakes is said to be the most delicate in flavor, as it is very cleanly in its habits and particular as to its food. The flesh of the rattler is also perfectly wholesome and toothsome. having a flavor, like the flesh of most snakes, like chicken.

At an evening entertainment, given at the home of this investigator, lettuce edged sandwiches of finely minced snake meat were served, and were supposed to be chicken until it chanced that a student discovered a peculiarly shaped bone. Twirling it between his thumb and finger he approached his host and asked if there was anything, save a snake, that could make use of that bone. Being assured there was not, the company were soon discussing the merit of the blue racer they had been eating. From one snake 35 sandwiches had been made.-New York Sun.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

The most remarkable movement of our times is expressed in the statement that "the world is eating up its sheep." In Germany the flocks have decreased over 60 percent since 1873, and this is only an extreme instance of what is going on elsewhere. The increasing price of beef is given as one reason of the eating up of the sheep; the dread of tuberculosis is another.

At a recent sale in London a quarto colume containing the second part of Shakespeare's "Henry IV," and bearing the date of 1605 was sold for \$2,500. This volume, which was inscribed with William Penn's autograph, was one of five early Shakespeare quartos belonging to George Carrington, who had owned them for many years without realizing their great value to collectors of rare The ontie \$14,250

A Sullivan county dead man sang at his own funeral. A phonograph was placed on his coffin. When the religious ceremony was over the phono graph was turned on and the church listened to the dead man's voice rendering one of his favorite i ans.

-Kansas City Star. Burglars who have a dog to keep watch for them and give the alarm when danger approaches are operating in Alameda, Cal., with success. The police have a description of the dog.

Taking four heads of human hair of different colors but equal weight, it has been found that the number of hairs per head varies as follows: Red, 90,000; black, 103,000; brown. 109,000; blonde, 140,000. Dark brown hair is the color most frequently found in England, the proportions averaging as follows: Red-haired people, 30; black, 67; fair, 108; light brown, 338; and dark brown, 807. Four hundred and fifty hairs of average thickness laid side by side would cove one inch in width.

A fire which broke out at the top of a 200-foot mast in South Boston, belonging to a local space-telegraph station, proved to be quite beyond the ingenuity and resources of the city fire department. The mast was consumed in 12 hours down to the 50foot gaff. It was then determined to make an effort to scale the pole, and four firemen undertook to raise a section of hose within reaching distance of the flame. They climbed 10 feet apart, and while the weight of the hose severely taxed their combined strength, their efforts were successful and the blaze was readily ex-

Lawson-So your wife has been away all summer? I thould think you would be anxious now about her return?

Dawson-I am. I'm afraid she's coming back next week.-Some