THE KING OF THE SKY.

AN EAGLE THAT MADE A DESPERATE FIGHT FOR LIBERTY.

Trapped, Shot, Bound and Blinded, the Bird Held the Field-Fight Enough for Farmer Williams, and He Was Glad to Turn His Share of It Over to Others.

"If any person who doubted that a wounded eagle was a desperate customer for a man to tacke," said Lewis Williams, of Berks county, Pa., "could have witnessed an encounter that I had with one once on the Blue Mountain, in Tulpehocken township, he would have had his doubts removed in short order.

I had been losing a good many chickens one fall, and supposing that they were being carried off by foxes I set a trap for Reynard. The morning after setting the trap I went out to look for it, and it was nowhere to be seen. It had been chained to a small stake in the ground, and the stake was also missing.

FIRST ROUND FOR THE BIRD. As I was returning home I heard a great commotion among a big flock of crows in the woods a quarter of a mile up the mountain. The crows were cawing in such a furious chorus that their cries could have been heard for a mile. The birds were circling round the tres tops in one particular spot, and frequently a number of them would dart viciously down through the trees toward the ground. I was curious to know what could be eausing this unusual proceeding among the crows, for they are birds that do not fool their time away for nothing. I walked up the mountain, and as I approached the spot where the crows' circus was going on, the tumult among the crows increased. When I arrived within easy gunshot of the spot the flock withdrew to a more distant part of the woods, but kept up their hubbub and jawed and chattered in a way that left no doubt of their having been intensely disturbed by some unpleasant experience.

"I walked on, and had taken but a few steps when I heard a sound as of a chain being dragged along on the ground, and instantly concluded that it was the chain of my missing trap. I momentarily expected to see the fox, hampered by the trap on his leg, come into sight, believing that he had been attacked by the crows who had discovered him in his crippled condition. Imagine my surprise then when, instead of the fox making his appearance, an enormous bald eagle strutted out from behind a big tree, dragging the trap, chain and stake. The jaws of the trap

were fastened on one leg of the great bird. "I had with me an ordinary shotgun, with which I had expected to kill the fox if I found it in my trap. When the eagle saw me it rose with great difficulty from the ground, owing to the burden on the leg, and flew toward the top of a tall, dead tree, I fired at it. The charge hit the eagle in one of its wings and brought the bird to the ground. The eagle was such a splendid specimen that I resolved to capture it alive. I approached it with no thought of having any difficulty in accomplishing my purpose in the handicapped and erippled condition of the bird, but I found that I didn't know as much about bald eagles as I thought I did, for in spite of the crippled wing and the burden of the trap and chain, the engle rushed upon me and attacked me with such fury that I turned and fled from

'At the edge of the woods I stopped, and at first thought I would go back and shoot the eagle, but my desire to have it alive was so strong that I determined to make every effort to capture it. I hurried home and got a stout rope and on empty feed bag.

"A LITTLE DISFIGURED, BUT"-"The engie no sooner saw me again than he rushed toward me with all the force at his command, hampered and crippled as he was, and forced the fighting at once. I had made a mose in one end of my rope. As the eagle came tearing toward me, his sound wing raised several inches from his side, the wounded one dragging helpless and bleeding on the ground, his powerful hooked benk thrown open, the feathers on his neck bristling like the hair on an angry buck, and the chain clanking as he dragged the heavy trap on his leg, he was a startling picture of intense into and unbounded fury. I had never faced so fierce a presence, nor could I have

"I knew that by the plan I had formed for capturing the engle I could quickly over-power him if I could manage it successfully; so I stood my ground, and when the immense bird was almost near chough to me to strike me with his beak, I quickly tossed the noose over his head. It slipped down over his wing, and I drew it close by a sudden and strong jerk. I then ran to one side and tied the other end of the rope to a sapling. The eagle was now shorn of the great help of its once powerful wing, as it had been of the use of one of its enormous talons by the trap. Yet it pulled the rope taut and shook the sapling from root to top in his efforts to get at me. As he thus strained at the rope, I succeeded in slipping the feed box down over his head, and then elasped the eagle around the body, supposing that he was now at my mercy.

But although blinded, pinioned and doubly crippled, the eagle was still nnconquered. As I stood clasping the great bird, endeavoring to secure the mouth of the bag about his legs, he saldenly threw himself against me. He sprang clear off the ground, and striking me in the breast with his one free talon, with a flerce downward stroke, ripped my clothing from me, and made two deep furrows in my flesh clear to the waist. The blood streamed from the wound, and supposing that I was fendly hurt, I hurried home as fast as I could go. The eagle was trapped, shot, bound and eneased in a bag, and still he held the field.

"On reaching home I found that my wound was ban' enough, but nothing to be frightened about, but it put me out of the notion of further contest with the eagle. I sent my boy to where a couple or men were threshing buckwheat for me in a distant in di, to tell them to go and finish the capture. They went and succeeded in overpowering the ugly bird, and brought him triumphantly in, followed nearly all the way by the flock of crows, whose cries were easily interpreted into shouts of rejoicing over the downfall of the terrible foe that had played such havoe with their over confident companions. The eagle was released from the trap and his sweep of wing measured. It was nearly eleven feet from tip to tip. He was tied to a strong stake in the yard, but his terrible temper forbade all attempt to care for the frightful wound the trap had inflicted on his leg and for the broken wing. He refused to eat, and died in three days. His stuffed figure is now in a Philadelphia museum."—New York Sun.

Chinese Wonders.

Of works of art, the great wall of China may truthfully be said to be the most elaborate and extensive on the globe. It was built about the year 300 B. C., to protect China from the annual incursions of the Tartars. It is 1,500 miles long and, where still intact, 30 feet high and broad enough to allow of

six horsemen riding abreast on its top.

The Imperial canal, also a Chinese work, is something over 200 miles long. A vast army of from \$2,000 to 40,000 men are said to have been employed for a period of fifty years in in St. Louis Globe-Democrat. its construction. -St. Louis Republic.

JEFFERSON DAVIS' OLD SLAVE. He Was Probably the Wealthiest Colored

Man in the South. The wealthiest colored man in the south since the war, who was born a slave and set free by the emancipation proclamation, was Ben Montgomery, of Mississippi. He belonged to Mr. Joseph Davis first, and then to Mr. Jefferson Davis, For years before the war he was the secretary of the Hon. Jaseph Davis, Mr. Jefferson Davis' elder brother. The Davises were large planters and owned the "Hurricanes" estate, consisting of three great cotton plantations at the extreme lower end of Warren county, Miss., and about eighteen or twenty miles below Vicksburg. There were between 12,000 and 15,000 acres of the finest land on the Mississippi river in these

plantations and 750 slaves. All the letters respecting the business of these places for thirty years were written by Ben Montgomery. He frequently went to New Orleans on business for the Davises and carried with him once \$90,000 in money. He traveled with Mr. Davis all over the north, and could have run away fifty times had be wished. But he remained faithful and loyal to the last. The Davises were noted for their kindness to their slaves. They had finer "quarters" on their plantations, probably, than any planters in the south, excepting the Hampton's. They kept a physician always on the places, and in every way cared for their "colored people," as slaves were frequently called. When Mr. Jefferson Davis and his brother Joseph left their homes, one as the president of the Southern Confederacy and the other as a brigadier general, they put everything under Ben Montgomery's charge. He made the crops of 1861-62 and 1862-63, about 5,000 bales of cotton, and shipped it to New Orleans and sold it to foreign buyers for gold. This money he carefully sent to Mr. Davis In 1862 when the slaves were emancipated, Mr. Davis sold the "Hurricanes" to Ben Montgomery for \$300,000 in gold. It has been said that this sale was only a ruse to save these splendid estates from confiscation. Whether this was true or not, when the Federal "agents for the protection of abandoned property and lands" came to take possession of the Hurricanes they found Ben Montgomery with a title so strong and valid that it could not be upset, and they left him alone

in peaceable possession. After the war he continued to plant these places with great success, making every year from 1,100 to 2,200 bales of cotton, besides an abundance of corn and hay. In 1874 or 1875, there still being a balance due on the payments, Mr. Davis took the property back, but left Ben Montgomery in full charge. These places yield a very handsome annual income now to Mr. Davis, who, though he prefers to live on the Mississippi seashore at Beauvoir, yet visits his old home once a year and spends a few weeks with his friends of fifty years ago. As I have said, he was a very kind master, and, therefore, whenever he goes back to his former residence, all the old time Davis negroes within fifty miles around come to see "Old Marse Jeff" and have a great time. When Ben Montgomery died, in 1881, Mr. Davis went up to his funeral, and there was no sincerer mourner than he who once had the fate of a people upon his shoulders at the grave of his old and life long friend, though his slave. - Washington Letter.

Uses of Mirrors.

The use of a mirror for reflecting the sun seems to run from the extremes of boyish roguishness in flashing the sun's rays upon the eyes of some companion-or even older then reaches to the other extreme of using it to flash the sun's rays for heliotrope signals in the coast survey or army service, or to measure the deflection of a galvanometer needle. But there is a vast middle space of practical usage of mirrors, apart from that of individual vanity, which is rarely thought of.

In the boyhood days of the writer he remembers looking into a new pump which had been thoroughly spiked the night before it was to be placed in the well, by means of some rocks which were pushed in about midway and wedged against each other.

Various plans for their removal had been suggested, the most practicable of which was to saw the pump in two and join it together again somehow. The writer suggested that a mirror be brought, and the sunlight flashed in to reveal the position of the stones. A bar of wrought iron was bent to a hook, suitable to the condition of affairs, and extricated the stones one by one, the mirror showing the openings of light so that the person could work efficiently and intelligently.

Objects lost in wells have been disclosed by means of the sun's rays thrown down upon them by mirrors. Dark basements in cities are lighted by means of mirror surface of total reflecting prisms, made out of decidedly cheap glass, and held in proper position in racks placed in alleyways, under gratings forming a part of the walk .-Electrical Review.

Had Cut His Eye Teeth, Anyhow. There was a very old man from Meriwether county in attendance at Pike superior court. He was feeble in appearance, and, indeed, some of his old acquaintances asked him his age. "Well," he said, "if I live to see Feb. 31 I will be 115 years old. Another remarkable fact connected with my construction is that I haven't a tooth in my head." Opening his mouth and pointing to his smooth, toothless gums, he continued: "I was born that way. Wonderful as it may appear, my youngest son and eldest daughter were born that way also." The same old fellow, looking as if he were standing at the other end of the corridor of life, with all the gravity of over a century hanging over him, seriously says to

an acquaintance: "You mark a dollar and give it to me, and I will put it with one of mine, and you can't tell for the life of you which one you marked." "You are mistaken," says the acquaintance, and the silver dollar is forthcoming, marked and handed over. Then the grave old man rattles it with one of his own and pockets both. "Give my dollar back," says the acquaintance. "No," interrupts the dollar and give it to me you could not tell it from one of my own—that is, because I am not going to give you a chance. Remember, I did not ask you to loan me a dollar, but give it to me; you did so, and now I don't care to have any joking." The fellow grunts and goes away with a blank expression of countenance.-Savannah News.

There are very few of what would strictly be considered true fissure veins. The term is applied somewhat generally, and there are so many kinds of veins that it would be difficult to explain the distinction. It would be diffiruit even for a person well versed in geology and all the formations described by geological writers. The Comstock, for instance, is one of the youngest veins we have, though it is generally spoken of as a true fissure, and few people recognize the fact that it is not. The Granite mountain, I presume, would be termed a genuine true fissure by the majority of experts, and I think probably it is. It certainly has all of the requisites. Frequently, also, we find cross veins, in which the youngest one is by far the strongest, -Expert

SCOURGE OF PHTHISIS.

APPALLING DEATH RATE IN PRIS-ONS AND THE CAUSE.

Dr. Von Ziemssen Says That There Ought to Be More Air and Exercise for Prisoners and Healthful Recreation for School

"The effect of lack of fresh air and insufficiency of outdoor muscular exercise can be best studied in prisons, asylums, convents and similar institutions." This Professor Dr. H. Von Ziemssen declares. "The curtailment of freedom and the privation of open nir entail a row of factors," declares the learned doctor, "the potency of which in individuals is not easy to estimate. The air in the closed rooms, and especially in the dormitories, is not pure; it contains dust and fungi, is poor in oxygen, but rich in earbon, dioxide and bad odors. On account of the sedentary life, respiration is not deep enough and the lungs are not well expanded. The absence of outdoor movement and of vigorous muscular work diminishes assimilation and reduces the need of nourishment, while the monotonous diet impairs the appetite." SLAYING PRISONERS.

Continuing, the writer charges that the diet is often poor, and that in jails there is penitence and longing for homes; in penitentinries contact with the dregs of mankind, and in cellular prisons there is solitariness and absence of all incitement. Under such weakening faculties the organism sinks into a deprayed condition, and a wide door is opened for tubercle bacilli, which are ubiquitous in

Dr. Von Ziemssen declarge that the huge proportions in which inmates of prisons succumb to consumption are not sufficiently known. He quotes from Baer to show that mortality from that disease in prisons is three or four times what it is on the outside. In the race generally it is computed at 14 to 45 per cent., while in prisons from 40 to 50 per cent, of all deaths is due to consumption,

This rate varies greatly, however. In Austrian prisons during four years the mortality from consumption was 61 per cent. In the prisons of Bavaria it was but 38 per cent. The death rate seems to vary with the conditions of the buildings and of discipline. In American prisons Dr. Von Ziemssen's statements are fully borne out.

After somewhat extended consideration of destructive tendencies of prison life, the doctor asks: "Why are not prisoners put at outdoor work? Why are they packed together in close working rooms and impure atmospheres? It has been found practical to put the insane at rural employments and to watch over them; why should it not be possible in the case of prisoners? Why not allow prisoners to indulge in athletic and other exercises? Surely it is not the intention of the law that the criminal, whose removal from society is necessary for its safety, shall become sick and dief The penal code aims to punish and improve, not to make sick and slay."

He points out that while the condition of prisons has been immeasurably improved, and that in consequence those terrible epidemics of typhus, scorbutus, dysentery, etc., which once decimated them have disappeared, tuberculosis remains a veritable scourge, being three or four times greater than that among the general population.

SAVE THE CHILDREN. Dr. Von Ziemssen especially condemns the serts that in collective prisons and houses of correction, where the deteriorated atmosphere of working rooms and dormitories is breathed in common by the prisoners, although the volume of air furnished is less than in the cellular system, and the healthy prisoners are associated with the diseased ones, still the mortality from consumption is less. This fact he ascribes to the ubiquitous nature of the tubercle bacilli and to the deprivation of outside air and outdoor work. Under the cellular system, as well as to psychical causes, such as ennui, lonesomeness, repentance, longing after freedom, etc. He insists that the considerations cited deserve the attention of law makers. The alarming evil, he repeats, cannot be got rid of without changing the manner of working and increasing the supply of fresh air.

By Dr. Doherty confession is made that the criminal classes are more liable on account of their dissipated and vagabond lives to consumption and other diseases, but, he adds, that regard for the welfare of society, if not for the health of the convicts, should compel, since consumption is contagious, an earnest effort to diminish or destroy the danger from such prelific breeding places of the disease.

He also treats at length of the health of pupils in the public schools, suggests reform and points out the need of it, declaring that the case of cloister like seminaries, orphanages and educational institutions is similar to that of all trades and avocations which bring together a number of persons in crowded, unhealthy rooms and deprive them of fresh air and freedom, and that what has been said of the prison applies mutatis mutandis to all of these. He suggests a state supervision of hygiene in seminaries and similar institutions, especially in girls' boarding schools,

He declares that it is shown in all cases that the more the free exercise of youth is limited in such institutions the more frequent is tuberculosis present. He highly commends the practice in English schools of the pupils devoting all their time out of school to outdoor exercises, and equally condemns the German curriculum, which compels too protracted hours of study, leaving but little time for exercises of any kind. The advantage is, he asserts, with the English children, who show differences for the better in color of skin, bright glances and active movements. He thinks it is high time that school children should have a sufficiency of recreation, and that regular investigation, at least once a quarter, should be made into each pupil's vital capacity, a systematic noting of his weight in relation to size, to his muscular power, and also into the choice and supervision of games. Such regular investigations, made at least quarterly, would, in his judg-ment, furnish valuable information for the training of youth. Every catarrh, every swollen gland, every skin affection, every trouble, though apparently unimportant and hardly worthy of notice in a child free from a hereditary disposition, should receive careful attention and treatment.-Chicago Her-

Cat Adopts a Chicken. While councilman John A. Gormley was in the cellar of his house he heard the peep of she had found in an adjoining yard. She had taken the shicken down into the cellar, and after it and appeared to be much distressed over its loss.—New Bedford (Me.) Standard.

was introduced into England about the belearned from the Romans.

BIG PAY OF FREAKS.

Some of the Oddities That Are Real Gold Mines in Themselves.

"Horrors! how can such creatures live?" exclaimed a country dame a few days ago, as she pottered about with her eyes bulging out in surprise at the human curiosities in one of the museums of this city. "They make more money in one week than you do in six, all the same," and a little all wise street gamin laughed at the surprise of the country

"That's true," murmured the museum proprietor, who had overheard the previous remarks, "and no one knows it better than I."

The freak of nature possesses a veritable gold mine in himself. All prodigies, whether they be great or small, one eyed like the mythological Cyclops, or possessing as many heads as a hydra, can fill their purses, provided they muster enough courage and strength to sit in gaudy dresses loaded with tinsel on museum stools. The salaries of some of these freaks are enormous, and not a few make as much money in the course of a year as the honored gentleman who occupies the presidential chair. Their salaries range from \$25 to \$1,000 a week, and are determined by the relative eccentricities or peculiarities of the freaks. For instance, albinos with pink eves and silken white hair receive from \$40 to \$50 per week, while those with eyes and hair of the same ruddy hue are valued at \$100 a week because of their rarity.

Among the high priced freaks are the so called "skeletons," or extremely thin persons, whose weekly salaries range from \$250 to \$500. To be a proper skeleton freak one must have bones, skin and a little blood, with all the vitals, but no flesh to speak of. Bow legged skeleton freaks are preferable to those who are knock kneed, simply becaese they are scarcer. Such prodigies as woolly babies or infants, with a remarkable grower of hair all over the body, face and limbs, are worth a great deal to the museum manager. They receive compensation of from \$500 to \$700 a week to sit on a museum stool. Rare curiosities like dog faced boys also come high. They, or rather their parents, guardians or owners, receive for putting them on exhibition salaries ranging from \$400 to \$600 per week. Those having faces resembling pug dogs get \$500 a week, while others who more fortunately possess shepherd dog or greyhound faces bring

The star freaks in dime museums are, however, midgets, and Mexican ones, like the famous Lucia Zarate, who has a maid and interpreter to accompany her around the country, draw salaries ranging from \$750 to \$900 a week. Good midgets weigh from ten to twelve pounds. There are so many fat people that there is a general impression that prodigies in this direction do not command large salaries. This is not the case, however. They are paid as high as \$600 a week, but to earn such a valuation they must weigh at least 600 or 700 pounds. Giants are paid about \$375 a week. Those from Japan, for some unaccountable reason, are the best drawing cards, and are consequently the highest priced. Aztecs receive the comparatively low compensation of \$175 weekly.

Big footed girls are much needed curiosities at museums. To possess large enough pedal extremities to be called a freak, however, it is necessary that each foot shall be three times as large as the owner's head. For such a monstrosity \$450 is the price paid weekly. Armless people who do all manner of work with the feet are paid \$100 or more, according to the skill which they may have acquired in making their feet do the work of cellular system, where he says the highest | their missing hands. There are so many "wild" mortality from tuberculosis is found. He as- girls that freaks of this class receive only \$125 a week. Ossified men are paid from \$200 to \$300, and are considered very profitable freaks in well conducted museums. Gennine Hindoo snake charmers receive about \$175 n week. Glass eaters draw weekly salaries ranging from \$75 to \$125. Twins and triplets receive \$100 for the same length of time, Men with remarkable memories, boomerang throwers and such ordinary curiosities get from \$25 to \$100 a week.

Freaks are rarely kept in any dime museum over two weeks at one time. Managers find that if kept longer than this they hardly prove sources of profit,-Philadelphia Record.

A Reporter Wanted. "When I was working on a St. Louis pa-

per," said an old newspaper reporter over his midnight lunch, "I had rather a queer experience. I dropped into the office one evening after dinner, and the city editor asked me to go up to - Choteau avenue and seo what was wanted. A card had been received asking that a reporter should call. I thought that perhaps there was a wedding or something of that sort, and so I went to the house, I rang the bell. A young woman opened the door. 'Step into the parlor, please,' she said. I removed my overcoat and hat and entered the parlor. There were three young ladies sitting in the parlor, which was handsomely furnished.

"The young lady who opened the door followed me into the apartment. I sat down, and to make myself agreeable, chatted about some conventional topics. All the young ladies engaged in the conversation, and before I was well aware of it I found that an hour had slipped by. No one had said anything to me about what the reporter was required for, so at last I asked:

"Well, miss, can you inform me what it is that you wished a reporter for f "The young ladies at this all smiled and

looked at one another. I thought there was something interesting, and I finally asked boldly: "'Well, I am a reporter for The Democrat.

What can I do for you? ".'Oh,' said the young lady who opened the door, 'I'm sure there is nothing.' "'Well,' I said, 'why was the presence of a reporter desired?

"All the young ladies smiled and at last one of them said: "Why, Cousin Annie is engaged to a reporter, and as we had never seen a reporter we thought we would write to the office and

have one call, so that we could look and see

what sort of a person a reporter is.' "At this naive reply I rather wilted, and as soon as I could I got out of the house. I often wonder now what sort of a rara avis those young women imagined a reporter to be."-Cincinnati Enquirer.

Ten or Fifteen. The party of Maine capitalists who made

a trip to the south was received with an ada trip to the south was received with an address of welcome by an old colored "auntie" at Shreveport, La. "Glad ter see year, genmen, said see, "course I is. Whar ye from, genmen, an' whar yer gwine ter?" Here the speaker was overwhelmed by applause, fola chicken. Making an investigation, he lowed by what she and her brood appreciated found that an old cat belonging to him was still more, a shower of nickels from her diskindly looking after a young chicken which | tinguished guests. "How many children have you?" was inquired, as the ebony flock increased about the door. "Dunno, sah; ten or having placed it in a box where she slept, was looking after the little one with as much interest as if it had been a kitten. When the "Jake," "Pete," "Rastus," "Jule," "Liza," wanderer was taken away from her she cried and got a good many together, but they were too much excited by the nickels that kept dropping among them to keep still, and the census had to be abandoned. It was evident, Cheese is mentioned by Aristotle about however, to Judge Hall, who tells the story in The Waterville Sentinel, that the mother was correct as far as her knowledge extended. ginning of the Christian era, having been There were at least "ten or fifteen."-Lewiston Journal.

Buffalo Bill's Father.

An old time resident of Denver a day or two since related an incident of the original "Buffalo Bill" Cody, father of the present famous showman, which has never been in print. Old man Cody was a prominent figure on the plains in an early day, being the owner of an extensive trading post on the Arkansas, in the vicinity of Fort Larned. Late in the 50s PLATISMOUTH. he received information that the Indians proposed to-clean out his ranch, which was an extensive adobe building surrounded by a stockade. He did not pay much attention to it, but the same news continued to reach him, and was at last confirmed by the arrival of a large band of Cheyennes and Arapahoes and Kiowas, who camped on the opposite side of a deep arroyo from the trading post, across which the military authorities had erected a

bridge for the passage of ppply trains.

The savages pretended to be very friendly and wanted to trade, swapping furs and skins for ammunition, but their real object was to burn the post and carry away Cody's scalp as a trophy-a fact of which the old frontiers man was well informed through the spie whom he had among them. The place wa well armed, but not sufficiently manned to resist the attack of so formidable a band of red skins, and old Bill cast about to see what he could do to protect himself. In the stock yard of the post was an old howitzer which had been abandoned by some of the plains military expeditions, and this he carried up to the top of the post and placed it so that it would sweep the bridge. He had plenty of powder, but no other ammunition fit to load it with, and so he charged the gun with old mule shoes, nails, bits of iron and similar

The cannon loaded, he awaited developments. Early one morning he observed an unusual movement in the camp of his pretendof friends and soon, fully armed, with wa

paint on, the savages made a main toward the fort. Cody was at his howitzer, match in hand. The painted devils crowded the long but narrow bridge, and just as the foremost reached the nearest bank he discharged his gun at clear range of the bridge. There was a wild howl of disappointed rage, a vision of dead Indians tunfbling in the arroyo, of legs and arms and heads lying around loose without claimants, and fleeing and frightened savages escaping from the fatal bridge. Cody's single shot had saved his post, and he was always thereafter left in peaceful possession of his ranch. Just what struck them on the bridge the Indians never knew, and the survivors of the fatal charge always entertained the firm belief that "Buffalo Bill" was in league with the evil spirit, and, as such, a person to whom it was safe to give a wide berth. - Denver News.

He Did It.

Emil Charles Pfeiffer, of Cambridge, states that a student of physiological psychology named Martenfeldt is the culprit who is re sponsible for the "Pigs in Clover" atrocity Martenfeldt had been making researches i some determinations of the sensitiveness of the tactile sense, under the direction of the great Helmholtz, and found that the ability to balance a marble on a perfectly smooth piece of plate glass depended upon the delicacy of what is known as the reaction timethat is, depends upon the quickness of the nerve current in receiving the impression that the marble will roll, sending the impression to the controlling organs in the cerebellum that contract or relax the muscles of the arm and the degree of responsiveness in the nervous end organs of the fingers which hold the piece of glass. Martenfeldt found that if he placed the

marble in the center of the plate and marked four or five spots on the edge of the plate and then asked the subject with which he experimented to tip the plate so that the marbl would run across a particular spot, a consid erable time elapsed before the subject could determine how to tip the plate to make a marble roll as required. When Martenfeldt complicated the apparatus and placed rings of pasteboard about the center of the plate. with holes for the marble to run through, the average results of his experiments gave a remarkable psychological law, which was that the "reaction time" depended upon the size of the circles of pasteboard, which made an impression upon the field of vision of the retina, and was in direct proportion to the diameters of the circles expressed in milli metres. He sent one of his plates to Dr. Her man Meyer, of Philadelphia, where it was seen by C. M. Crandall, the toy deviser. - The Doctor.

Did Eve Talk French?

No subject has been more fertile of specula tion than the origin of language, and on few perhaps, can less satisfaction be obtained The Jews positively insist that the Hebrey tongue is the primitive language, and that spoken by Adam and Eve. The Arabs, how ever, dispute the point on antiquity with the Hebrew. Of all the languages, except the Hebrew, the Syriac has had the greatest number of advocates, especially among castern authors. Many maintain that the language spoken by Adam is lost and that the Hebrew. Chaldee and Arabic are only dialects of the original tengue. Geropius published a work in 1589 to prove that Dutch was the language spoken in paradise. Andre Kemp main trined that God spoke to Adam in Swedish Adam answered in Danish, and Eve spoke in French, while the Persians believe three languages to have been spoken in paradise—Arabic, the most persuasive, by the serpent.

Persian, the most poetic, by Adam and Eve. and Turkish, the most threatening, by the Angel Gabriel. Erro claims Basque as the language spoken by Adam, and others would make the Polynesian as the primitive lan-guage of mankind. Leaving, however, these startling theories, we may sum up in the words of Darwin: "With respect to the origin of articulate languages, after having read on the one side the highly interesting works of Wedgewood, Farrar and Professo Schleicher, and the celebrated lecture of Professor Max Muller on the other side, I cannot doubt that language owes its origin to the imitation and modification, aided by signs and gestures, of natural sounds, voices of other animals and man's own cries,"-Current Literature.

Modern Witcheraft.

A horrible case of murder for supposed witchcraft is reported from the Deccan. A a village in Chennar, Jaluho, certain shep herds were suspected by the villagers, and these suspicions were accominated in consequence of a severe epidemic of cholera. Two tried and condemned for witchcraft by the village commission, and sentenced to be tortured to death. There, in the presence of all the villagers, their teeth were extracted with pincers and their heads shaved. Subsequently they were buried up to their necks. wood was piled round their heads, a fire was kindled, and the skulls were roasted into powder. Some thirty persons have been convicted and sentenced to various terms of im-

Another case of murder for supposed witch craft was recently tried at Bombay. The accused imputed the death of his father and mother and the illness of certain members of his family to the arts of an old woman, and beat ber to death with a thick, henvy stick These cases are common, but are rarely brought to the notice of the British authorities. - Calcutta Dispatch to London Times.

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Attorneys - at - Law. Office over Bank of Cass County,

NEBRASKA

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