#### TWO OHIO YARNS.

## Frog Alive in a Man for Three Years

and Alligators. These stories are vouched for by

correspondents of the Cincinnati In

quirer: At Dayton, O., Mr. Louis Whitcomb, a core-maker, has suffered for three years past with a stomach ailmenthat baffled medical treatment. Con vinced finally that some animated organism was domiciled in his stomach, he detailed the symptoms to Dr. H. T. Weis. The doctor's diagnosis satisfied him that something was hopping about in Whitcomb's stomach. Emeties failed to elevate the unknown, when the doctor resorted to potions that kill. This was followed by a powerful physic. Whitcomb has exhibited to the doctor the web feet and other undigested remnants of a huge frog that had been making its home in the core-maker's stomach for the past

an alligator six feet long in the waters of the Little Cuyahoga river. That When cut open several small fish, pieces of river grass and a partly digested turtle were brought to light.

#### One Oyster for Two.

We laugh at the innocent young housewife who ordered "half a dozen halibut" for dinner. Had she lived in the South Pacific Islands she might have been equally laughed at for ordering half a dozen oysters-not to say a pint. The author of "Oysters, and All About Them" gives some examples that nearly match the giant clams and abalones of the California

Pliny mentions that, according to the historians of Alexander's expedidition, oysters afoot in diameter were found in the Indian Seas, and Sir James E. Tennent was unexpectedly enabled to corroborate the correctness of this statement, for at Kottier, near Trincomalee, enormous specimens of edible oysters were brought to the be saw himself a little child, putting was in his heart, and he thought of are. A saleswoman can accomplish eleveninche, in length by half as many

But this extraordinary measurement is beaten by the oysters of Port Lucoln in South Australia, which are the largest edible ones in the world. They are as large as a dinner-plate, and muttered a few words in his her sleeping in my arms and carry her and of much the same shape. They grizzled beard: "Lend me a 5-franc to my home: I will put ber in my are sometimes more than a foot across the shell, and the oyster fits his habitation so well that he does not leave much margin.

asks you to lunch, at Adelaide, to have one oyster fried in butter, or in eggs and bread crumbs, set before you, but it is a very pleasant experience; for the flavor and delicacy of the Port Lincoln mammoth are proverbial, even in that land of luxuries.

## Where Politeness Was Expensive.

The Spanish lover has a very pretty way of saying, "I throw myself at sess yourself of my house, it is all yours," but she does not expect them to take actual possession. The words | stars glittered. are the flower of chivalry.

But an occasional visitor takes were in Cuba, says the Detroit Free few steps, he stopped suddenly before her head fell back without her awak-Press, they were invited to dine at the a heart-wringing sight. palace of the governor general in Ha-

the Spanish lady at once handed it to her foot, which hung helplessly and her, with the usual remark:

"It is yours, madame, with the greatest felicity. Do me the great favor to possess yourself of it.

Mrs. Grant was delighted; she warmmistake to be announced.

## Where Nobody Starves.

Within a hundred miles of the east coast of Australia no native in an uncrippled condition has ever died from lack of disestible food-a rather comprehensive term in a country where fern roots are boiled like potatoes, and snails and grasshoppers are considered tidbits. Strange to say, the martyrs of that horrid diet get old, as a proof that freedom from care is. after all, the main condition of longevity. A similar phenomenon may be observed in the villages of Central Russia, where mental stagnation prevails in its ugliest forms, but where charity and parish poor laws protect every native from the risk of actual starvation.-Professor Oswald in Good Words.

A Primate's Pleasantry. A candidate for priest's orders preaching his extempore trial sermon before the late Archbishop Taft and Dean Stanley, in his nervousness began stammering, "I will divide my congregation into two—the converted my hand to be cut off, if that number and the unconverted." This proved does not turn up on the stroke of too much for the Primate's sense of midnight." humor, and he exclaimed: "I think sir as there are only two of us, you had better say which is which."

#### THE SLEEPING SEA.

Far away fair ships are sailing-Far, and faint, and dim, -Gleams of white, or glints of light, On the vague horizon's rime.

And the ocean, only varied Where the breakers cry From the strand of gleaning sand, Stretches level to the sky.

Cloudless azure heavens bending O'er the sleeping sea-Pulsing heat about our feet-Where can peril be?

Can it be that tempests gather, Strong winds lash the deep?
Tossed in pain the tall ships strafn,
Maddened billows shoreward leap?

Trust the lion, trust the scrpent, When he sleeping lies, Trust thy hands to flaming brands-Trust not fickle seas and skies. -Isaac O. Rankin, in May Overland.

#### A PIECE OF GOLD,

When Lucien Hem saw his last 100-At Akron, O., considerable interest franc note gripped by the bankhas been created over the discovery of keeper's rake, and rose from the roulette table, where he had lost the the reptile had lived in the water for last fragments of his little fortune, some time was evident by the various collected for this supreme struggle, he

> With dizzy head and tottering legs ne went and threw himself down upon the broad leather settee surrounding lost at the beginning of the evening the play table.

lit by the three large shaded lamps; ing his fortune. listened to the light jingle of gold on the cloth-covered table; felt that he profound sleep.

had slept for barely half an hour, and | money felt an imperious need for breathing the gright air. The clock hands markremembered that it was Christmas ture of certainty and disdain! eve, and, by an ironic trick of memory, Only something like a red-hot iron dealing with woman than saleswomen its shoes into the chimney before nothing but of the little mendigant

going to bed. At that moment old Dronski-a robbed. pillar of the gaming house, the classic woolen cloak, ornamented all over yes, when 1 o'clock strikes-4 swear with grease stains-approached Lucien, it! I will quit this place. I will take piece, monsieur. It's now two days | warm bed; I will bring her up, give her since I have stirred out of the club, a dowry, love her as if she were my and for two days the 'seventeen' has own daughter, care for her always, alnever turned up. Laugh at me, if you | ways!" It is a new sensation when a friend like, but I'll suffer my hand to be cut off if that number does not turn up on the stroke of midnight,'

Lucien Hem shrugged his shoulders. He had not even enough in his pocket to meet this tax, which the frequent- infernal table. ers of the place called "The Pole's At length, one minute before 2 hundred sous." He passed into the o'clock, the keeper of the bank rose antechamber, took his hat and fur abruptly and said in a loud voice: coat, and descended the stairs with

feverish rapidity. Since 4 o'clock, when Lucien had

pletely white. In the calm sky, blue-black, the cold

The ruined gambler shuddered under his furs, and walked away, his mind still teeming with thoughts of hands these polite people at their word, and despair, and more than ever turning they are too polite to explain the mis- to the remembrance of the box of pistake. When Gen. and Mrs. Grant tols which awaited him in one of his drawers; but after moving forward a raised her so that he might carry her;

On a stone bench, placed according vana. In the evening a ball was given, to old custom near the monumental which was attended by the beauty of door of a mansion, a little-girl of 6 or 7 years of age, dressed in a ragged Among the senoritas was one lady black frock was sitting in the snow. who stood conversing with the Ameri- | She was sleeping, in spite of the cruel can general's wife. She was superbly cold, in an attitude of frightful fatigue dressed, and carried a marvelous fan, and exhaustion; her your little head which had descended to her from her and tiny shoulder pressed as if they great-grandmother. It was a costly had sunk into an angle of the wall, affair of carving, lace and diamonds. and reposing on the key stone. One Mrs. Grant admired it, upon which of her wooden shoes had fallen from

lugubriously before her. With a mechanical gesture, Lucien put his hand to his waistcoat pocket, but a moment afterwards he recollected that he had not been able to find | table, the homeless child had died- | settled immediately. ly thanked the lady and kept the fan, even a forgotten piece of 20 sous, and nor would the dismayed senorita, had been obliged to leave the club who had lost her heirloom, permit the without giving the customary "tip to the club attendant; yet moved by an instinctive feeling of pity, he approached the little girl, and might, perhaps, have taken her in his arms and given her a night's lodging, when, in the wooden shoe which had slipped from her foot, he saw something glit-

## He stooped: it was a gold coin.

Some charitable person, doubtless some lady, had passed by, had seen on this Christmas night the little legend, had placed there, with a secret hand, a magnificent offering, so that this poor abandoned one might believe in presents made for the infant Savior, and preserve, in spite of her misfortune, some confidence and some it suffice, being a very steady officer use of red stockings. The Board of

to tell her this, when he heard near his ear, as in hallucination, a voicethe voice of the Pole, with its coarse drawling accent, almost whispering: "It's now two days since I stirred out of the club, and for two days the 'seventeen' has never turned up; I'll suffer

Then this young man of three and of the poor child a piece of gold twenty, descended from a race of From the French of Francois Coppee, honest men, who bore a proud mili- in Strand Magazine.

tary name and who had never swerved from the path of honor, conceived a frightful idea: he was seized with a mad, hysterical, monstrous desire, After glancing on all sides, to make so is because of the peculiar construcsure that he was alone in the deserted tion of their eyes. You may have street, he bent his knee, and carefully outstretching his trembling hand, he stole the gold piece from the fallen

Hurrying then, with all speed, he returned to the gambling house, scaled the stairs two and three at a stride, and entering the accursed play-room as the first stroke of midnight was the eyeball. sounding, placed the piece of gold on the green cloth and cried: "I stake on the seventeen!"

The seventeen won. With a turn of the hand Lucien

pushed the thirty-six louis on to the

The "red" won.

might have been imagined that the | more became large. little ivory ball dancing in the roulette was magnetized, fascinated by the substances found in its stomach. Set giddy and thought he was going eyes of this player and obedient to ple who could use cats as clocks. But him. In a dozen stakes he had recov- it must be admitted that this way of ered the few wretched thousand franc | telling the time of day is rather a loose notes, his last resources, which he had one, and could only be trusted in very

> ly on the clandestine gambling house his fantastic vein of luck, he was on clock and put it all wrong. in which he had squandered the best | the way to regaining, and more besides, years of his youth; recognized the the hereditary capital he had squandrayaged faces of the gamblers, crudely ered in so few years, and reconstitut. Men Behind Dress-goods Count-

> In his eagerness to return to the gaming table, he had not taken off his was ruined, lost; recollected that he furcoat. Already he had crammed had a home the pair of regulation | the large pockets with bundles of notes pistols which his father, General Hem, and rouleaux of gold pieces; and, not then a simple captain, had used so knowing where to heap his winnings, well in the attack of Zaatcha; then, he now loaded the inner and exterior to the writer to ask if there was any overcome by fatigue, he sank into a pockets of his frock coat, the pockets reason for this. The manager replied, of his waistcoat and trousers, his When he arose, with a clammy cigar case, his handkerchief-everymouth, he saw by the clock that he thing that could be made to hold his one to ask the question. "There are

> And still be played, and still be won. like a madman, like a drunken man! ed a quarter before midnight. While And he threw handfuls of louis on to rising and stretching his arms, Lucien | the "picture," at hazard, with a gest better ideas of combination than

"Is she still at the same spot? Sure-Pole, wearing the threadbare hooded by she must be still there! Presently—

> But the clock struck 1, and then a quarter, and then a half, and then three-quarters. And Lucien was still seated at the

"The bank is broken, gentlemen-

enough for today. With a bound Lucien was on his shut himself up in the gaming house, feet. Roughly pushing aside the your feet, senorita." Of course he snow had fallen heavily, and the gamblers who surrounded him and redoes nothing of the kind. The Span- street-a street in the center of garded him with envious admiration. ish hostess says to her friends, "Pos- Paris, very narrow, and built with he hurried away quickly, sprang down Courts martial are only temporary high houses on either side-was com- | the stair and ran all the way to the stone bench. In the distance, by the light of a lamp he saw the little girl.

"Oh! how cold she is, poor little

He took her under the arms and time of the Rebellion brought her

"How soundly children of her age following conversation ensued. He pressed her against his bosom to Bragg lives?

warm her, and, siezed by a vague inquietude, and, with a view to rousing | do anything for you? her out of this heavy slumber, he kissed her eyelids.

terror that these eyeballs were half skeered the Yankees, they ran rite open, showing half the eyeballs- pectst my house-rite pectest-when glassy, sightless, motionless. Upon up comes Captain Forrest with his his brain tlashed a horrible suspicion. crittur company [cavalry] and makes He placed his mouth close to that of a line of fight rite through my yard. the little girl; no breath came from it. and oversets my ash-hopper, and While with the gold piece which he trends-

had stolen from this medicant Lucien | General Bragg (sitting near)-Colhad won a fortune at the gaming onel Brent see that the lady's claim is died of cold!

Seized by the throat by the most frightful of agonies. Lucien tried to utter a cry, and, in the effort which he made, awoke from his night mare on the club settee, on which he had gone to sleep a little before midnight, and legs and feet. The Board of Health in where the attendant who had quitted | Paris employed M. Schutzenberger, a the house last had left him out of

The misty dawn of a December morning was graying the window

his watch, took a bath, breakfasted. | ted to him derived their red color from wooden shoe lying in front of the sleep- and then went to the recruiting office aniline and containing a large proporing child, and, recalling the touching and signed an engagement as tion of antimoniac oxide. As chila volunteer in the First regiment of Chasseurs d' Afrique.

heutenant; he has only his pay to doubt that it was the cause of the live upon, but he contrives to make pustural rash which accompanies the hope in the goodness of Providence.

A gold piece! It was several days of rest and riches for the beggar, and means of saving, for the other day, described in favor of the dystal described in the pears even that he has found the interdiction for wearing apparel of dystal dystal dystal described in the pears are the saving apparel of the dystal Lucien was on the point of waking her at Algiers, one of his comrades who tions. was following him at a few paces distant in one of the hilly streets of Kasha, saw him give something in charity to a little Spanish girl sleeping in a doorway, and had the indiscretion to see what it was that use fowls for breeding that are at least Lucien had given to the child. Great was his surprise at the poor

> lieutenant's generosity. Lucien Hem had put into the hand

#### ' Cats as Clocks.

Everyone knows that cats can see in the dark, but the reason they can do noticed that in a moderate light the pupil or black part in pussy's eyes is small and oval shaped, while in the full glare of light it becomes narrow. Now, in the dark, it expands to a circle, and nearly fills the surface of

This peculiarity of the cat's eye is turned to account in a curious manner by the Chinese. The Abbe Huc relates that when he was travelling in China he asked his attendant what time it was. The man went over to a cat that was quietly basking in the sun, He lifted the seventy-two louis on and, examining its eyes, told the Abbe the same color; the "red" again won. that it was about two hours after-Twice he "doubled"-three times- | noon, and on being questioned how he always with the same success. He knew that, he explained that the had now before him a pile of gold and | pupils of a cat's eye were largest in notes and began to scatter stakes all the morning, and that they gradually over the board; the "dozen," the "col- grew smaller as the light increased, umn," the "number," all the combi- till they reached their minimum nations succeeded with him. His luck at noon; that then they began to was unheard of, supernatural. It widen again, till at night they once

The good Abbe was filled with admiration for the ingenuity of a peoclear and serene weather, for tempohe play table.

For some minutes he gazed vacanthundred louis at a time, and aided by would sadly derange your four-footed

If you have done much shopping you must have noticed that more men than women are employed at the dress goods counters, observes a Chicago Tribune shopper. It occurred just as if he had been expecting some several reasons for it. Women do not like to take the say-so of their own sex on dress goods men have women: men are more diplomatic ia ing in the snow whom he had more at some other counters than men. But at the dress-goods counter men make best employes. You would naturally think that a woman could grab up a piece of goods and show it 66 to advantage. I never saw one that conld do it. Few women are good judges of combinations of colors on the counter. A modiste is, of course, but a woman cannot always have a modiste with her when this business take to a thing like combining colors as naturally as ducks take to water. They seem to know as soon as they see a woman what will become her in the way of dress goods. There are many articles in such a store as this which women prefer to buy of their own sex. but when it comes to dress goods they perfer to deal with men."

## Prompt Ruling.

It is chiefly in civil courts that complaint is made of the law's delay." organizations, and cannot continue cases from term to term. But with "God be pruised!" he said, "she is all the promptness of military legal procedure, it is not often that a decis-He approached her, he took her ion is obtained with so little hesita-

tion as in the following case: An old lady living in "Dixie" in the complaints to the headquarters of she was met by his adjutant, and the

Old Lady- Is this where Captain

Colonel Brent-Yes, madam; can I

Old Lady-Well, you see, mister, live over where the fightin' was, and Then it was that he perceived with when Captian Brazg's company

#### The Danger of Wearing Red Stockings.

It has been remarked that the wearingby children of red stockings coincides with pustular eruptions on their chemical expert, to ascertain whether the dyes coloring the stockings contained poisonous matter. He has sent in his report, in which he says Lucien went out in the street, pledged | that all the many specimens submitdren perspire freely, this matter enters into solution and is thus taken At the present time Lucien Hem is a into the pores. The professor had no

> In selecting breedeng birds, pick out the best and discard all of the weak. sickly ones. Generally it is best to one year old. If pullets are desired, have old hens and young cockerels; if roosters are desired reverse this. So far no rule has been discovered for determining the sex of eggs; it is all guess work. Save all the poultry manure to use in the garden in the spring.

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