SUPPOSE YOU WRITE A BOOK

Route of Human Thought from Throbbing

FACTS FOR THE EUDDING AUTHORS

Various Plans on Which Publishers Undertake the Manufacture of Books - Arrangements Authors-Manuscript Renders.

Mr. George Haven Putnam, a noted New York publisher, prints in the New York Independent an instructive letter on the relations of authors and book manufacturers. As an illustration of the enormous waste of literary effort in the United States Mr. Putmam states that not more than one and one-half per cent of manuscripts received are accepted by his house. While a certain proportion of the manuscripts rejected by one house are accepted by another, he estimates that fully 90 per cent of the works which are prepared for publication in book form never find a purchaser at all. This he regards as an enormous waste of labor and of hopefulness.

The manner of determining the value of manuscripts submitted and the terms on which publication is undertaken are detailed as follows:

The first thing that an author who has book in residences or in preparation has to consider is, which firm in the considerable list of publishing houses in the country is most likely to be prepared to give favorable attention to his production, and which imprint would, if it could be secured, prove of the greatest service to the book. It may, however, often be difficult, at least for a beginner in literature, to se-cure trustworthy information as to

cure trustworthy information as to the idiosyncrasies of the different publishing houses; and the author should guard himself from being unduly discouraged in having his manuscript declined by several publishers and should continue to submit this to one house after another until it has been the rounds of all the firms whose imprints are worth securing. If the work should be de-clined by all, the writer may be pretty well satisfied that whatever its intrinsic merits, it is not of such a character as to secure a popular appreciation or a remunerative sale A confident author, possessing a mens consci-inflati divini, may still console himself with the reflection that perhaps all the publishers are mistaken; and that if his volume could only overleap the barriers which publishing stupidity has placed between it and the pub-lic, the latter would eagerly accord the appreciation and the fame and the moneys. The history of literature does present in-stances of obtuse publishers refusing to recognize literary gems, which have, later brought fame and fortune to their authors and profits and prestige to more clear-sighted and enterprising firms. The number of such instances is, however, in all the centuries of ublishing, at best but inconsiderable; while publishing, at best but inconsiderable, white literary history fails to give record of the discouragingly long, yearly list of under-takings in which the publisher's enerprise, influenced, possibly, by the sanguineness of the author, has outstripped his clearsighted-ness and judgment, and which have brough to him less instead of profit. It has, in fact been estimated that one-half of the books published each year in the United States have failed to return their cost, and that one-half of the remainder have brought no profit, thus leaving the cost of supporting the publishing machinery of the country to be borne by the publisher's share of the profits

In submitting a manuscript, there is, as a rule, nothing to be gained by the author in securing a personal interview with the publisher. Of course there may be many considerations which will render it degrable for authors and publishers at some time to come together, but it is very seldom that anything is gained by such personal word at the time the manuscript is first handed in. A literary work, in the few minutes' time proper to allow for a call in a business office, cannot receive such attention as authors usually expect for their productions. It is not, like a Chatham street hat, to be cared for "while the owner

of one-quarter of the books issued.

There is also no advantage in taking time to point out to a publisher the particular merits or peculiarities of a work. If the purpose and value of the work cannot be made clear to the examiner of the manu-script without a personal explanation from the author, it is not likely that the volume is in shape to be of much service to the general public. It is probable that there are today but few writers so unsophisticated as to undertake themselves to read their manuscripts to the publishers to whom they submit them. Any such would, of course promptly be told that there is no time in a business office for anything of this kind; and it might also be explained to him that, irrespective of the question of time, a pub-lisher's mind is not apt to be, during busi-ness hours, in a sufficiently free and receptive state to render him appreciative of the beauties of literature; and such consideration as he might be induced to give would, under the circumstances, be most likely to

In fact, as is now very generally under-stood with all the larger publishing houses, the business of making a first examination and analysis of the manuscripts submitted is in the hands of assistants who are called "readers." The production of manuscripts is. as said, being actively carried on by thousands of literary aspirants throughout the country. From Maine to Texas, from Florida to Alaska, the caccethes scribendi, accompanied by a greater or smaller amount of inspiration, is keeping in motion thousands of earnest pens, while the manuscripts which are the results of all this hopeful scribbling are, with the exception of a small portion, finding their way to Chicago, poured into the publishing houses of three cities—New York, Boston and Philadelphia. These three cities thus form the literary sifters and the literary clearing houses of the continent. As a result of such concentration, the leading publishing houses receive each (exclusive of magazine material) from one hundred to

several hundred manuscripts per month.

The task of caring for this mass of material is quite a considerable one and in-volves no little outlay of time and money. The cash value of the manuscripts, if calculated on the basis of the author's esti-mates, would be enormous, and even with such considerable discount as it might be proper to make on these estimates, is still quite large, and the labor of keeping the records of the manuscripts, of the carre spondence connected with them, and of safely returning to the owners the greater portion of them, calls for the services of a number of "manuscript clerks." The manuscripts, when recorded and numbered, are sent out to the examiners, being usually divided among these according to their subjects, fiction going to one class of readers, science to another, theology to a third, etc. The written reports which come back from the examiners refer to the manuscripts by their numbers, and it may often be the case that the examiners have no knowledge of the names of the authors whose material they are reporting upon. The publishers then give to the returned manuscripts such further consideration as is warranted by the reports of their examiners; but while a favorable report secures for a work exercial attention a decidedly unfavorable and the public.

while the author is disposed to consider every dollar wisely invested that serves to bring the first of the public.

Publishing contracts under all the above methods, excepting the first, are usually decidedly unfavorable reports.

decidedly unfavorable one is usually accepted It will be seen that, under such a system a work has every opportunity of securing the thorough examination and the impartial con-

sideration upon which writers (not unnatur-ally) lay so much stress, and that in connec-tion with such an examination of manu-scripts, identified by their numbers, much less weight weight can be given to personal introductions or recommendations accompanying the manuscripts than writers are apt to im-As before said, publishers are always on the lookout for good material, and for the first efforts of the young writers who are to become the leading authors of the next de-cade; and each day's supply of manuscripts is carefully, if not hopefully, scanned in the chance that it may include a "Jane Eyre" or

the absolute owner of the copyright of the work, and being at liberty to print, without any further renumeration to the author, as many editions of it as he may find demand for. Under such a purchase, unless there be special provision to the courary, the pub-lisher is also at liberty to transfer the copy-Pen to Cold Print. right and the right to publish to any other publisher, the author retaining no control over the publishing arrangements or over the form of the editions printed. This owner-ship, on the part of the publisher or his assignee, is, of course, limited by the term of the copyright he has purchased—twenty-eight years—at the end of which term the author, or, if the author be dead, his widow

or child, regains the right to publish the material, and by secoring a renewal of the copyright for the renewal term of fourteen years, regains also the exclusive control of it, and is again at liberty to make what iblishing arrangements may seem desirable Under the second method, the author re-ains the copyright of the work, and receives from the publisher, as royalty, a certain percentage of the retail price of the copies sold. In this, as in the first case, the publisher assumes the expenses of manufacture and publication, and in consideration of this outlay, which can, as a rule, not be reimbursed from a sale of less than 1,000 copies, the first 1,000 copies sold are frequently exempted from copyright. In other words, the publisher and the author begin to make money out of the book at the same time. The royalty is paid simply as a commutation profits, and it is in order, therefore, for e payments not to begin until the profits gin. If less than 1,000 copies are void a work of current literature, there must

e, as a rule, a deficiency on the publisher's avestment. This deficiency would, of purse, be increased if the author received a royalty on all the copies sold; and it seems reasonable that, if the publisher has conented to assume the risk and investment of bringing a work before the public, he should not, if the venture brings loss instead of profit, be called upon to swell such loss by a compensation to the author. How-ever much labor may have been invested in a work, it may be contended that if the pub-lic be not willing to pay for it the amount it has cost to produce, it possesses no com mercial value and can earn nothing for its

The limit of 1,000 copies to be excepted from copyright became customary when the sale of that number would, as a rule, return the first investment. It is the case today, however, that with novels and other works o light literature published in paper covers and at low prices, a sale of from 2,500 to 3,00 copies is required to return the first cost. If the work continues in sale, it is frequently arranged, however, that after a cer-tain sale has been reached a royalty shall be paid also on the first 1,000 copies.

The percentage of the retail price which s paid as author's royalty varies according to the nature of the work and according also to the probable extent of its sale. While it is, of course, not practicable to estimate in advance of publication with any degree of precision what sale can be depended upon, it is the case that for a second or third book by the author whose previous volumes have won immediate success, a circle of readers may be assumed to be waiting, and for such a book the author may properly expect a higher rate of royalty than would be paid on the first book of an untried author. It is also frequently the practice to have the rate of royalty increased after a certain numof copies, say 5,000 or 10,000, have been

Under a third form of publishing arrange ment the author assumes for himself the cost of manufacturing the work, remaining the owner, not only of the copyright, but also of the stereotype or electrotype plates, if any have been made, and of the copies printed. Instead of receiving a royalty he pays to the publisher a royalty or commis sion for taking charge of the publication and of the sale of the book. The first step in such an arrangement after the publisher has decided that he is ready to associate his imprint with the work, estimates prepared showing the cost of printing the book in the model selected. The publication agree-

ment is based upon such estimates. It is customary with books the edition of which remain the property of the author, for the publisher to make such outlay for advertising as the author may have directed, the amount of the same being charged against the author and being deducted from the proceeds paid to him from the sales.

The fourth publishing arrangement is

compromise between the second and the third. Under this, the author assumes the cost of putting his volume into type, and retains the ownership of the plates (including the illustrations, if there be any), while the outlay for manufacturing from these plates the editions of the book is borne by the publishers. The cost of ordinary advertising and that of the copies given to the press for review is, under this method, assumed by the publisher, but special advertising outlay may be divided between author and publisher. The author owning his plates receives from the publisher for the use of these plates a royalty in addition to that which he receives for his copyright, and usually equal to the latter.

opyright, and usually equal to the latter.

There are certain conveniences in retaining the ownership of the plates of a bool which cause many authors to prefer this method. If any changes, corrections or addi-tions are considered by the author essential or desirable before the printing of further editions, it is much easier for the author to arrange for these to his satisfaction if he be the owner of the plates, than if it is first necessary to decide with the publisher how the cost of such alterations ought to be divided. It is also a convenience for an author who, at the close of a contract with one publisher, desires to transfer his work to so other house, to be in a position to transfer his plates at the same time, instead of being obliged first to arrange for the purchase of these, and possibly to combat some difference of opinion as to their market value. In the event of a publishing firm becoming bank-rupt, the stereotype plates belonging to them are of necessity disposed of to the highest bidder, and an author not owning his plates, might undergo the annoyance of seeing his books transferred to some publishers to whom he would never of his own option have committed them. And finally, an author who owns his plates as well as his copyrights, fels that his literary reconstruction. tels that his literary property is more fully

under his control, as part of his estate, to devise and bequeath as seems best to him. A fifth publishing method, which is not often employed in this country, is what is called the half-profit arrangement. The author contributes the book, in which he has layested his labor, and the publisher invests the capital needed to manufacture the book, and the machinery and business connection needed to bring it before the public, and the profile, if any accrue, are divided equally be-tween them. The principal objection to this method is the many occasions to which it gives rise for differences of opinion between author and publisher. It is not easy, in con-nection with the somewhat complicated ma-chinery for publishing, advertising and dis-tributing books, to determine with perfect equity and precision just what proportion of the general expenditure properly belongs to any one book; and that is to say, just what is the actual cost of the publication, and, of course, until this can be determined, it is not practicable to arrive at the sum of the net profits which are to be divided. The proper amount to be expended in advertising and in "pushing" (to use a business term) any one book may also easily be a cause of any one book may also easily be a cause of an honest difference of opinion, the publisher being naturally averse to investing any deliars that do not seem likely to be repaid, while the author is disposed to consider every

reliabiling contracts under all the above methods, excepting the first, are usually drawn for terms of years, ranging from two to ten. These contracts provide, among other things, that the author, or the representative of the author who comes to treat with the publisher, is the absolute owner of the convight of the work in constitution. the copyright of the work in question, and of the right to publish the same, and that he will assume the cost of any lawsuits or other measures which his publisher may be obliged to undertake to defend such copyright or publisher may lishing right against infringement. They provide, further, that the work contains nothing libelous, or in any way defamatory, and that the author will make good to the publisher any loss or expense to which he may be put in the event of anything libelous being found in or charged against the second of the sec being found in or charged against the work.

chance that it may include a "Jane Eyre" or an "Uncle Tom."

When the author and the publisher have agreed between them that a work is to be published, it remains to be decided under which of the several publishing arrangements the publication shall be undertaken. The following are the methods most generally in use in this country:

First, the author sells his manuscript outright for a fixed sum, the publisher becoming

Ashantee's Merry Fiend, His Army, His Castle and His Gold.

ENGLAND REACHING FOR THE PRIZE

Maxim Injections of Civilization a Cure for Suvagery Running Riot Over Africa's

king of Ashantee, and perhaps add a few million acres to the imperial domain. The army of invasion is about to embark for the rebellion section of Africa, and will attempt for the second time to conquer the most extraordinary ruling potentate in the world.

The king of Asbantee is the absolute mon in the heart of the African forest, a few hundred miles back from the "Gold Coast." The

of sovereignty. Another remarkable fact about the barbarous king is that he has no throne. He has, however, a solid gold stool, which does service as a throne. It takes four able-bodied slaves to tug this heavy stool around.

But the great official emblem of royal au thority is an umbrella. This curiosity has a big bamboo handle and spokes of embosse gold. On the end of each spoke is a human skull. Nobody, not even the king himself. knows the significance of this strange scepter of majesty, but it has descended to him from long line of ancestry.

King Prempeh, among other things, has exactly 3,333 wives allowed him by law. Why this liberal figure was decided upon his majesty does not know. Like the umbrella, they came to him by inheritance.
The king wears carrings. They are of solid

gold. He also has other personal adornments solid gold. His royal ancestors all word gold earrings, too. His majesty lives in a big stone and native brick palace-the only structure of the kinkingdom. His royal highness sleeps

The king is many times a millionaire, and it is believed that he has several barrels o gold dust and nuggets. Ashantee is rich in

King Prempeh is a bloodthirsty monarch and he is in the habit of making human eacrifices on a wholesale scale. Whenever it pleases him to do so he orders a few hundred subjects to be beheaded. Besides this, during certain religious ceremonies, it is customary

o kill subjects. It is just twenty-one years since the British government appropriated \$4,000,000 to send out an expedition to bring the king of Ashantee to terms, and before the expedition got back, after burning Coomasie, his capital, t had cost as much more. The English troops under Sir Garnet Wolseley remained only two days in the

capital of Ashantee. Before they left the savage potentate agreed to do certain things. That was King Koffee. His successor, the present king of Ashantee, King Prempeh, has not fulfilled these con-

Turning aside from the complications of th eastern question, the dispute about Venezuela and the row with Russia over China, the British government sent an ultimatum to the king of Ashantee. They gave him until

But this savage monarch was not fright ened by the ultimatum of Britain. He did not even wait until the ultimatum expired. The advance of the British into the king of Ashanter's country is expected to be well under way early in December. In the meanwhile troops will be sent to Accra from Lagos nd other places. All is now excitement on the Gold coast.

THE GROVE OF SKULLS. The one thing which has always excited penetrated into this African town. lying 140 miles back from the Gold Coast, is the Grove of Skulls, where in countless numbers the bones of victims of the king lie upon the ground with the festering remains of those who have recently been dis-

Here, where vultures gorged with human flesh, perch upon the trees waiting for the new victims which many years have taught them to look for with certainty, is a spectacle, presented the like of which is to be seen nowhere else upon earth.

This spot, where the executions have taken place from time immemorial, is in a small grove back of the large market place at Coohassie. The victims are brought to this place with their hands securely tied, and they are made dumb by two knives thrust crosswise through their cheeks.

The poor wretches are for a time tortured y being pinched, pricked with swords and fired upon at short range with blank cartridges. The powder from these cartridges enters the flesh, causing excruciating agony. Then the executioners, who are fou-astically dressed, seize their huge swords and, flourishing them in the air, lop off the heads of the victims, one after another. Then they retire from the scene, drenched with blood from head to foot, and leaving the podies lying where they fell. As soon as the executioners retire the

cultures swoop down from the trees above and the ground is soon black with them. At night the panthers come and slink away, satiated, before the dawn.

WHAT STANLEY SAW. The pathway leading to the grove has been worn broad and deep through years of use, and it is always slippery with blood. Henry M. Staniey, who, as a war correspondent, accompanied Sir Garnet Wolseley's expedition

to Coomassie in 1874, visited this grove.

"As we drew near," says Stanley, "the foul smells became so sufficiating that we were glad to produce our handkerchiefs to prevent the intolerable and almost palpable odor from the intolerable and almost palpable odor from mounting into the brain and overpowering us. After some thirty paces we arrived before the dreadful scene, but it was almost impossible to stop longer than to take a general view of the great Golgotha. We saw some thirty or forty decapitated bodies in the last stages of corruption, and countless skulls which lay piled in heaps and scattered over a wide extent. The stoutest heart and work wide extent. The stoutest heart and most tolcal mind might have been appalled." Several officers of the expedition, although remained but two days at Coomassie, made e trip to this awful spot and subsequently

escribed it as beyond anything else in horror be seen in the world today. "Under a buge tree," said one of these gen-tlemen in a letter, "the skulls were piled up so high that they reached almost to the lowest limbs. You could nowhere see the ground, as it was all covered with bones and skulls. Here and there could be seen a decomposing

body.
"The vultures slowly rose from the ground upon our approach, but several of them were so gorged with human flesh that they could cure constitution and billiousness.

"If you want to know what a ducat is worth,

try to borrow one"-a breakfast, try Quaker

Quaker

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Quaker Wisdom

THE PLUG HAT POTENTATE clumsily flapping their wings. The smell of the place was something awful. SERIOUS BUSINESS AHEAD.

According to the cable dispatches not nore than 300 men will leave England to British West Africa squadron. Probably cliently force will equal that which Sir Garnet Wolseley headed. But it will have character than is a more serious business to perform. Wolseley real state of affairs, was charged with the errand of punishing. The cause of all

This will not be accomplished without a light. The king of Ashantes stands at the

immediate execution.

Moreover the king is absolute over a do-The king of Ashantee is the absolute mon-arch of about 3,000,000 subjects. They live in the heart of the African forest, a few hun-dred miles back from the "Gold Const." The dred miles back from the "Gold Coast." The king wears a girdle of dried grass around his hips and a "plug" hat. He owns no crown, but in some way has become possessed of a but in some way has become possessed of a

the nuggets to the king on pain of instant

Count.

Under this system the royal palace has come a treasure house. Sir Garnet Wolse-ey found in the king's palace rings, masks tacle, Mr. von Schweringer must have felt become a treasure house. Sir Garnet Wolse-ley found in the king's palace rings, masks and other trinkets of pure gold and of very creditable workmanship. He also found the skull of a British officer heavily mounted with gold and jewels. It was the trophy of a battle fought early in the century, and was used as a drinking cup.

A. G. Bartley of Magic, Pa., writes: public that DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve cured cured my boy of a running sore on his leg. A QUARTER CENTURY OF EDITING Recollections of Early Journalism in

Northern Nebraska. The following extracts relating to early ournalism in Nebraska are taken from the contribution of E. N. Sweet to the souvenir edition of the West Point Republican;

"Time flies! It is difficult for me to realize that the 18th of November, 1895, is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the existence of the West Point Republican, but such, indeed, in the case. Just think of it! Twentyfive years since the writer pulled the lever of the old Washington hand press, and printed No. 1, Vol. 1, of the Republican!

"In the spring of 1870 I was postmaster at Chilton, Wis., and also editor and publisher of the Calumet County Reflector. accompanied an editorial excursion through Iowa and Nebraska, and caught the western fever. Upon returning home I immediately resigned as postmaster, and in a short time thereafter established the Mirror at Missouri Valley, Ia. We had a county seat fight there and lost. In the fight I dropped \$600, and concluded to emigrate to Nebraska and grow up among the 'sand hills.' And also the Mirror was smashed, and my printing outfit was moved across the Big Muddy and landed at West Point (a point which I fixed upon after due deliberation as favorable and promising), ready for business.
"I saw West Point for the first time by

moonlight, and its appearance was impressive moenlight, and its appearance was impressive and picturesque. Through the dim vistas of the past, in his mind's eye, the writer sees it even now. This was before the days of railroads in the Elkhorn valley, and I rode from Fremont to West Point in the night time, by stage, Have forgotten the name of the driver who took me through, but distinctly remember that he dould talk a buzzaw into silence, and make a guinea hen saw into silence, and make a guinea hen ashamed of herself, but he handled the lines the horror and amazement of travelers who skillfully and flourished his whip successfully

and so we got there safely. "Early the next morning I met and held an informal conference with the leading men of the flourishing little fown. These gentlemen talked 'business,' and before the sun had reached its meridian at was settled that the Republican should be established there at an early date. An so it was—being established on the 18th day of November, 1870. "I was favorably impressed with West Point and its surroundings immediately I saw it. I liked the 'snap' of its people. On the morning following my arrival at West Point to canvass the prespects for establishing a

newspaper there, a proposal was made by some of the liberal and enterprising citizens to raise a bonus as an inducement; to which I emphatically demurred. However, I asked that \$200 or \$300 be advanced for the purpose of paying expenses of removal from Missouri Valley, etc., the subscribers to the fund to re-ceive credit on subscription and advertising —which met with general approval. A soliciting committee was immediately selected and before 12 o'clock, noon, the committee informed me that about \$350 had been raised "Notwithstanding West Point was a border

town twenty-five years ago, the 'fighting editor' had but little to do. On one occa-sion, however, during the second week of the sion, however, during the second week of the existence of the new journai, he was buoyed up with what seemed to be a fair prospect for a first-class row. A large number of track layers on the Elkhorn had been to town and indulged freely in drinking whisky, beer, etc., and a dozen or more got into a free fight and 'painted the town red,' as the saying goes. The Republican published an account of the unseemly occurrence as a matter of news, and scored the parties engaged in it as an example. The paper congaged in it as an example. The paper con taining an account of the breach of the peace was issued in the evening. At about 9 o'clock the following morning the fighting editor cast his eagle eye down the street and saw two score or more tracklayers making a bee-line for the printing office. Preparations for war were immediately begun. The fighting editor was in a haze of glory—grasping a hammer in one hand and a bottle of ink in the other, and put on a bold front that would have daunted a lion. M. S. Bartlett, the foreman, promptly equipped himself with the shooting stick (which wasn't loaded) and a mallet (which was) and announced himself ready for the fray; young Rufus Vaughan-a composito stood at Bartlett's back armed with a 'side stick' and a column rule, and close in his rear stood the devil flourishing the hell box and lye brush. Tramp, tramp, tramp! On came the railroad hosts! The door opened and—Say, mister, have yee's any of them papers left which gives the b'ys the divil? 'Why, yes,' 'Give me half a dozen. What's the cost?' And in regular order came the other fellows and purchased copies of the Republican. They went away happy, and the fighting editor went across the street to Zajiceks' 'to see a man.'''

DeWitt's Little Early Risers, the pills that

Sample of the National Game that

Paralyzed the Victim. Mr. Von Schweringer of the German embasey at Washington is likely to carry with take part in this expedition. But they will him always some ideas of American ways be joined by the West India regiment at of doing in polite society and entertaining Sierra Leone and a naval brigade from the foreigners in the matter of card playing decidedly more in the nature of dime novels of the most melodramatic and sensational character than is at all compatible with the

The cause of all this is that Mr. Von the Ashantees for their lawiess raids into
British recritory. The present is an expedition for conquest. The Ashantees king has likely to be of lifelong duration. The enlands practical joke, the recollections of which are likely to be of lifelong duration. The episode Golden Sands.

Golden Sands.

Should the Turkish question be settled in a satisfactory manner, Great Britain will give its entire attention to the subjugation of the

On the evening agreed upon, relates the fight. The king of Ashantes stands at the head of an army which in a peace footing numbers at least 50,000. But every one of his subjects is a soldier, sworn to fight to the subjects is a soldier, sworn to fight to the looking at his hand discovered that six cards looking at his hand discovered that six cards had been dealt to him. Thereupon he laid had been dealt to him. Thereupon that down the cards, quietly remarking that he would not play that hand. One and another of the young men leaned excitedly forward, exclaiming that he would play; that he must do so or there would be trouble. The foreigner simply relterated his former statement that he would not play that deal. Then the fun began for the youn

It will be an arduous march, but the game is worth the candle. Every stream that crosses the Ashantee kingdom washes "golden sands." The soil is replete with nuggets. Eight generations of Ashantee kings have levied tribute on their subjects in this form: The golden sand to the miner foreigner, while the air became lurid with prefanity that would have enlightened a in the elasticity and scope of the

the cold chills run up and down his with sufficient speed to have heated them selves to boiling point. With a nerve and manliness that could not have failed to impress its if upon any one not bent upon the successful carrying out of a practical joke, the unarmed foreigner rose to his feet with the dignified speech: "Gentlemen, my

life is in your hands."

The joke had gone too far, however, for the young bloods to be satisfied with any such tame ending as this. There were wild whoops, and again with renewed vigor the pistols and bowie knives were flourished about. Then some one in the crowd jumped upon a table, and immediately a sce idemonium ensued. In the midst of it all the foreigner made his way out of the room Afterward, in speaking of the truly American game of cards in which he had taken part, he gave the briefest, most graphic as count of the manner in which his exit had been accomplished.

"I was a great many times getting out of

No cat in Maine probably had more need of her nine lives than did one in a Monmouth store last week and week before. The large oat bin in the rear of the feed store, holding an even carload, had just been filled, when the cat, chasing a mouse, went down her first between the partitions of the bin, eight feet, to the floor beneath. There she re-mained on her head for thirteen days, or until the oats having been removed, she was discovered. Tabby is now alive and well and just as eager for mice as ever.



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