

NEBRASKA NEWS.

The farmers of Nebraska are rejoicing over the fine rain. The crops are looking fine.

Will Fraser of Niobrara had four fingers of his right hand mashed in the job press at the Star office. Dr. Smar dressed the hand.

Burglars broke into the hardware store of S. Dewey at Hay Springs and stole goods amounting to \$200. There is no clew to the robbers.

Great preparations are being made for the Fourth of July celebration at Madison. Hon. W. W. Young of Stanton will deliver the address. A chorus of sixty voices under the direction of Rev. Fowler will sing.

The rush still continues at the United States land office at O'Neill for reservoir slings. So far 1,466 filings have been made. William F. Allen of Omaha has made about 250. Western Nebraska will soon be covered with water.

Petitions are being circulated for signatures throughout Knox county asking the county board to relocate the county seat. The originators of the move are interested in a rural site located in the center of the county about fifteen miles from the railroad. Enough signatures, it is thought, will be secured to the petition to call the election.

A serious accident befell Lee Berry of Oxford at Orleans. While other young men he was bathing in the Republican river, and in diving from a tree his head struck a stone. Upon recovering which is considered doubtful, it is feared his mind will be permanently impaired.

While painting his residence in Oxford Captain J. M. Lee fell from a ladder at a height of about fifteen feet, badly fracturing his right arm. Notwithstanding his advanced age, it is thought the captain will recover with so more serious results than a permanently stiff arm.

The wheat crop in the vicinity of Farmington is a very unsatisfactory condition. The late, cold spring delayed the growth of the fall wheat and the putting in of the crop of spring wheat and the continued low temperature hindered the germinating of the seed, consequently it did not come up, and since then the cold weather has hindered its growth and it is reported that some fields are heading out at six inches. The weeds are troublesome and will reduce the product greatly at harvest time. Corn is doing well and promises well, though the weather is not regarded as very propitious for a big crop. It is quite dry, notwithstanding the frequent showers, which have been light. Farmers are very busy with the corn crop and business is dull.

Weariness of suffering from epileptic attacks, Phoebe Kearns of Omaha, aged 7 years, attempted to end her life. She obtained a bottle of laudanum and took it to her home, 1543 Sherman avenue, when she returned in the evening from work. Her mother discovered the bottle, and, having her suspicions aroused, concealed it. Miss Kearns awoke in the night, searched for the bottle, and found it where it had been hidden. She drank the contents of the bottle and again retired. When her mother discovered her in the morning she was still conscious, but her pulse was extremely weak. A physician was summoned to her aid, and after a few hours' work she was in much better condition. She is still very weak, but it is believed she will recover.

GENERAL NEWS.

London.—Some war insurance was effected at Lloyd's at 15 per cent for three months and at 2 per cent for insurance or buildings at Johannesburg.

Pretoria.—Both chambers of the volksraad have adjourned to allow their members to consult their constituents as to the franchise proposals of President Kruger.

Peoria, Ill.—The American Spirits Manufacturing company has decided to manufacture Bourbon whiskey on an enormous scale, and for this purpose has commenced building in this city a warehouse with a capacity of 14,000 barrels.

Middlesboro, Ky.—While acting as a seaman on the John Moore and this craft at Rockhouse, Letcher county, William Maggard was shot dead by Craft, who fled to the mountains with an infuriated posse in pursuit.

Stockholm.—The International Hydrographic and Geological congress to discuss arrangements for periodical researches in the North Atlantic and the North Sea opened here. Sir John Murray, Dr. Nansen and other explorers were among those present.

Springfield, Ill.—A Lincoln special to the State Register says that State Veterinarian Scott and assistants have found in the herd of 100 cattle at the State institution for Feeble Minded Children there twenty-five head which show symptoms of tuberculosis.

Chicago, Ill.—The National Association of Wood Pump Manufacturers met here today with representatives in attendance from all parts of the United States. The object of the meeting is to secure for an advance in price of their product, it being claimed that such advance is necessary on account of the greatly increased cost of material.

LAWTON REINFORCED

MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR ON SLAUGHTER UPON FILIPINOS.

Over a Thousand Insurgents Fell in the Battle of Cavite—Next Blow at Imus.

Manila.—(Special.)—The Fourth regular infantry and the Wyoming regiments have been added to General Lawton's command, and today they were towed across the bay in caissons to Las Pinas preparatory to moving to Imus, five miles inland, where the rebels are reported to have an arsenal and a large quantity of arms and supplies.

REPORTS FROM GENERAL OTIS.

Washington, D. C.—(Special.)—General Otis cabled today as follows: Manila.—Adjutant General, Washington: Success of Lawton's troops in Cavite province greater than reported yesterday. Enemy numbering over 4,000; lost in killed, wounded and captured, more than one-third; remainder much scattered, have retreated south to Imus, their arsenal of five pieces of artillery, three were captured. Navy aided greatly on the shore of the bay landing forces occasionally. Inhabitants in that country rejoice at delivery of Imus and welcome with enthusiastic demonstrations arrival of our troops.

OTIS.

The war department bulletins the following: Manila.—Adjutant General, Washington: Prominent Filipino, friendly to Americans, assassinated at Cebu. Inhabitants of that locality urgently requested American protection in strongest force. Have sent battalion Tennessee and two guns from Iloilo, which insure peace. Hughes now in charge of affairs in that section.

Captain Cable of General Wharton's staff, with three companies of the Twenty-first regiment, reconnoitered in the direction of Imus. The rebels, who were apparently expecting an attack, retired, leaving behind them twenty Spanish prisoners, who joined the Americans. The rebels have probably gone to the mountains along the lake.

According to native stories, the rebels carried 100 dead and 300 wounded thro' Bacoor after the recent battle. The natives are now flooding into Bacoor and it is probably there are many soldiers in plain clothes among them.

The whole section is practically without food and Major General Otis has ordered the distribution of rice and beef to the inhabitants.

DOUBTS ABOUT LUNA'S DEATH.

Many people still refuse to credit the stories of the assassination of General Luna, by the guard at Aguinaldo's headquarters. Though the reports, to that effect are most circumstantial and from good sources, rumors of assassinations and disasters from the rebel camp are so frequently printed in the local papers that they have come to be regarded with indifference. The latest is that the governor of Cebu has been killed by natives because of his friendship to Americans.

A prominent commercial man with exceptional means of learning of the Filipinos' movements claims to know General Luna is still alive, adding to the statement that if he is dead, and if his death occurred a month ago, people would have expected a collapse of the revolution to follow.

The failure of the Filipinos to follow up the peace negotiations strengthens the impression that their overtures were merely to gain time and in order to lure the Americans to show their hands.

The Independencia, a revolutionary organ, of May 20, a copy of which has just been obtained, prints an interview with General Luna, showing the arguments he used to keep up the spirits of his followers. He represents the Filipino cause as prospering, "because the Americans have gained only a hundredth part of Luzon by hard fighting," and says within the American lines give he proceeds of their work in support of the Filipino army. He is said to have further remarked: "More Americans will be killed by ambushes, surprises and disease than in battles."

"I detest war, but we cannot accept peace at any price but independence. The Americans suffered for their own independence and in their hearts they appreciate why we resist them."

ALASKAN BOUNDARY DISPUTE.

No Definite Settlement Has Yet Been Made.

Washington, D. C.—(Special.)—No official confirmation of the reaching of an arrangement in London providing for the temporary delimitation of the Alaskan boundary has been received at the state department. It is gathered that a responsive answer has not yet been received from Canada by the British government to the American demand proposition. At any rate the British government has not made a conclusive answer on its part.

Least a misleading impression is carried by the statement from London to the effect that the arrangement said to have been reached would carry the boundary issue over until the high commission meets in August. It may be stated that the arrangement ratified by this government is not likely to be limited in such fashion. Moreover, as the record published of the last proceeding of the high commission shows that the Canadian side refused to discuss any other questions until the boundary question was adjusted, it is to be presumed that they will adhere to the decision and that the boundary question must be removed from the list of discussion by a *modus vivendi* as a condition for the meeting of the commission.

SCHOOL LAND AT YOUR OWN PRICE.

As soon after the first of July as practicable I will hold public auctions for leasing about 625,000 acres of school land, under the provisions of the new law, in the following counties: Antelope, Banner, Blaine, Box Butte, Brown, Chase, Cherry, Cheyenne, Custer, Dawes, Deuel, Dundy, Garfield, Grant, Hayes, Hitchcock, Holt, Hooker, Keith, Keya Paha, Kimball, Knox, Lincoln, Logan, Loup, McPherson, Pierce, Perkins, Rock, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan, Sioux, Thomas and Wheeler. Under the new law, if these lands will not lease at the public auction at 6 per cent over the appraised value, they may be leased to the person offering 6 per cent over the highest valuation. These lands are in the best stock-growing portions of the state, where cattle, sheep and horses can be produced at less expense and, therefore, at greater profit than anywhere I know of, and yet surrounded with as good and intelligent a class of citizens as anywhere to be found. The harvest truly is great and lasts almost the year round, and no more inviting field for the intelligent stockman and farmer can be found; and now that there is an opportunity to secure twenty-five-year-lease contracts thereon at what the lands are worth, the lessee himself being the judge, it is confidently expected that all or nearly all of these lands will be leased during the present year at the public auctions, as above mentioned. Anyone desiring to attend any of these leasing auctions will be notified of the time and place of holding the same as soon as it has been arranged, if they will write me at once, giving the names of the counties in which they are interested, and will also be furnished a list of the lands to be leased, so that they may visit the counties in advance of the leasing auction and examine the lands which will be offered. Notice of the auction will be given in the local papers. Send stamp for copy of the new school land law under which the lands will be offered. Any further information will be cheerfully furnished.

Lincoln, Neb., May 18, 1899.

J. V. WOLFE,
Commissioner Public Lands and Buildings.

OUT OF THE ODD.

One sailor in 354 is lost at sea. There are forty-seven Chinese temples in the United States. Whistling is regarded as a violation of the divine law by Icelanders. The Tartar alphabet contains 202 letters, being the longest in the world.

For \$300 a year a man can, in Japan, pay for a house, food and two servants. Explosive bullets were first used in India for hunting tigers and elephants. The Free Methodist church of America has about twenty-five thousand members.

Lots of people marry money, but the license is always made out under another name. The individual who gives to the woman of pleasure brings up more grave than pearls. It occasionally happens that a man dissociates his common sense when he falls in love.

Women, according to a prominent physician, have, as a rule, much coarser hair than men. The retail dealer doesn't stand well with the manufacturer when the latter has to carry him. The grave of an unmarried woman in Turkey is often indicated by a rose carved in stone.

The taste of strychnine can be detected when one grain is diluted with 60,000 parts of water. The first electric railway in the world was built in Ireland, from Bushmills to Giants' Causeway.

France has kept 200,000 tons of coal stored at Toulon since 1893 to be ready in case war should break out. A fool may insult and abuse others, but a wise man gives people credit for what they are actually worth.

There are now over 5,000 vocations open to women. One is marriage—the others are of minor importance. The shipyards of Great Britain, all working together, could turn out a big steamship every day of the year.

Every other Austrian household and every third Italian family contributes one member to the national army. There is a rosary in the British museum made of the vertebrae of a snake. Another is composed of rats' teeth.

Oysters are such nervous creatures that a sudden shock, such as a loud thunderclap, will kill a whole boat load. A moralistic failure is a man who gives you advice about getting on in the world, then winds up by striking you for a loan.

The largest steel shaft in the world has just been finished. It is 27 feet 10 inches long and its diameter in the middle is 37 inches. When a dog barks at night in Japan the owner is arrested and sentenced to work for a year for the neighbors whose slumbers may have been disturbed.

DEVIOUS DEFINITIONS.

Essay—A paragraph padded with words. Centurion—A cyclist who makes a century run. Helium—The trousers that are handed down from father to son. Quiet—About the hardest thing for a woman to keep in this world.

Adversity—The only scale that gives the correct weight of our friends. Ultimatum—Something a woman is continually working off on her husband. Brave—The man who will stand with in twenty feet of anything a woman knows of.

HOW YE CAN TELL 'EM.

When you hear a person tellin' how the world has gone awry, An' relat' all the trouble we'll encounter by and by. When you hear him prophesyin' nothin' else but doubt an' gloom—How the sun will soon get the ague an' the flow'rs forget to bloom. If you've any mind fur guessin', you kin allus hit it right. His luck has gone agin him. He's the man that lost the fight.

An' when you meet another, steppin' high an' lookin' proud, A-shakin' hands so cheery an' a-smilin' on the crowd, An' tellin' folks to brace up; that the troubles they go through Is all imagination, things that vanish like the dew; Who says this earth's all right, no matter what is said or done, You kin recognize him easy. He's the lucky chap that won.

CALEB'S WILL.

"You mean that you can't put yourself out to give your mother's brother a night's lodging?" said Caleb Cheverel, bitterly.

The March wind, bearing dust and grit and bits of flying paper on its restless wings, came whistling around the corner, lifting the old man's faded comforter's ends and turning his blue nose a shade bluer still, while Mrs. Larkins, his eldest niece, stood in her doorway, filling up the aperture with her ample person in such a way as to suggest the familiar legend, "No admittance!"

Mrs. Larkins was stout and blooming and cherry-cheeked dressed in substantial alpaca, with gay gold brooch and earrings, which bespoke anything but abject poverty.

Uncle Caleb was thin and meager and shabbily dressed, with glossy seams in his overcoat and finger-nails protruding from his worn gloves like ancient rosebuds coming out of their calyx.

"I'm very sorry," said Mrs. Larkins, stiffly; "but we have but one spare room, and that is at present occupied. Of course I should be glad to do all I could for you, but—"

"I understand, I understand," said Uncle Cheverel, turning coldly away. "I'll go to my niece Jenny. I wish you a very good evening."

Mrs. Larkins closed the door with a sigh of very evident relief. "I dare say Jenny will take care of him," she said philosophically. "Jenny has a smaller family than I have. But I don't see why he came up to London instead of staying peacefully down in Tortoise Hollow, where he belongs."

Mrs. Jennie Eldertop, Mr. Cheverel's youngest niece, had a smaller family than her sister Rebecca, but then she had a smaller income as well. She had just finished a vigorous day's cleaning when Uncle Caleb was announced.

"Oh, drat that man!" said Mrs. Eldertop, wringing her parboiled fingers out of a basin of steaming soapuds. "What sends him here, just now of all times in the world?"

And she went down stairs ungraciously enough to the street door, where her husband was welcoming the old stranger.

"Come in, Uncle Cheverel—come in!" said honest Will Eldertop. "We're all upside down here—we mostly are, now that the spring cleaning is going on. But there's room for you if you don't mind the children and their noise and a little smell of whitewash in the spare room."

Mrs. Eldertop's welcome was by no means so cordial. She looked, to use a common expression, "vinegar and darning needles" at the visitor, while in her inmost soul she calculated the probability of the cold boiled ham and turnips holding out for once more at supper.

"Come, Jenny, don't scowl so," said Mr. Eldertop, when Uncle Caleb had gone upstairs to wash his hands and face. "Ain't he your uncle?"

"A good for nothing old vagabond," said Mrs. Eldertop, acidly, "without a half-penny laid up ahead."

"For all that he's your guest," said her husband, "and you're bound to be civil to him. And here's his overcoat now, with a zig-zag rent in it. Just mend it while you are waiting for the kettle to boil."

"I won't!" said Mrs. Eldertop. "All right," retorted her lord and master. "Then I'll take it next door to Alexia Allen to mend."

Now, Miss Allen, the tailoress, who lived in the adjoining house, was pretty and buxom to look upon, and Mrs. Eldertop had nursed comfortably a jealousy of her for the last four years.

"You'll do no such thing," said Jenny, tartly. "Hand it here."

And she threaded a needle with a black silk and thrust her finger into a thimble, very much as a determined crusader of old might have donned sword and shield for some encounter with the Moslem.

"What's that?" said Mr. Eldertop, for a folded paper fell from the pocket of the garment as his wife turned it upside down.

"Some tomfoolery or other," answered Mrs. Jenny, brusquely. "I fancy you're mistaken," said Mr. Eldertop. "It's the rough draft of a will."

"But he's got nothing to leave," shrieked Mrs. Eldertop. "I'm not so certain of that," retorted Will. "Just look here, Jenny! I give and bequeath to my two beloved nieces, in equally divided parts, the sum of \$10,000, at present invested in consols, and—"

"He's been a miser all along," said Mrs. Eldertop, her face grawing radiant. "Making up poor mouths and traveling around the country with all this money in the funds. A regular old character—just like those one reads about in novels. Put it back, Will! put it back. We've no business to be prying into Uncle Caleb's secrets; but what a blessing it is he came here instead of stopping down at Rebecca Larkins'!"

And when Uncle Cheverel came down stairs he was surprised at the sweet smiles with which his niece Jenny welcomed him.

"Been mending my coat, eh?" said Uncle Cheverel. "Thank'ee kindly, Jenny. I caught it on a nail yesterday and I was calculating to sew it up myself when I could borrow a needle and thread."

"I'm glad to be of use, Uncle Caleb," beamed Mrs. Eldertop. "Johnny, put on your cap and run to the grocer's for a smoked mackerel for your uncle's breakfast. I hope you found your room comfortable, Uncle Caleb?"

Before she slept that night Mrs. Eldertop put on her bonnet and shawl and ran round to the Larkins' mansion to impart her wonderful tidings to Sister Rebecca.

"You don't say so!" cried out the astonished matron. "Gospel truth!" said Mrs. Eldertop. "I saw it with my own eyes."

"He must come here," said Mrs. Larkins, resolutely. "Not if I know it," said Mrs. Eldertop. "He's my guest and my guest he shall remain!"

"But if I'm to share equally with you," said Mrs. Larkins, "I ought to show him some attention, the dear generous-hearted old man."

"Lest he should alter his will," shrewdly remarked Sister Jenny. "You always were a worldly creature Becky!"

"No more than yourself!" said Mrs. Larkins, bristling up. "But it's my family I am thinking of, Jenn. I'll tell you what—I'll come around and see him tomorrow."

"But don't you breathe a syllable about the will," said Mrs. Eldertop, in a mysterious whisper. "Oh, not for worlds," said Mrs. Larkins, fervently.

During the next week Uncle Cheverel was overwhelmed with civilities. On Thursday a new suit of clothes arrived with Mrs. Larkins' love and compliments. On Friday Mrs. Larkins came with an open barouche to take Uncle Caleb for a drive in the park. And on Saturday Mrs. Eldertop burst into tears and declared she should never be happy again if her mother's only brother didn't pledge himself then and there to make his future home with herself and Will.

Uncle Caleb looked a little puzzled. "Well," said he, "if you really make a point of it—but I was intending to meet Cousin John at Gravesend."

"Dear uncle, promise me to stay here always," cried Mrs. Eldertop, hysterically. "Just as you say, Niece Jenny," assented the old man, complacently. Mrs. Eldertop felt that she had carried her point.

But when Mr. and Mrs. Larkins came on Sunday afternoon to press a similar petition, Uncle Caleb opened his eyes. "My importance seems to have 'gone up' in the market," he observed quaintly. "I never was in such demand among my relatives before. But I can't be in two places at once, that's plain."

And he decided to remain with Mrs. Eldertop, greatly to the indignation of the Larkins family, who did not hesitate to hint boldly at unfair advantages and undue impartiality.

But just as Mrs. Larkins was rising to depart, with her handkerchief to her eyes, little Johnny Eldertop came clamoring for a piece of paper to cut a kite tail from.

"Go along," said Mrs. Eldertop, impatiently. "We have no paper here. Go to Amelia."

"Hold on, little chap—hold on!" said Uncle Caleb, fumbling in his overcoat pocket—he had just been about starting for a walk when the Larkins party arrived—"here's a bit as is of no use to nobody."

And he produced the "rough draft" and bestowed it on Johnny. "One side's written on," said he, "and 't'other ain't." It was lying on the floor in Mr. Watkin's law office, when I stepped in to see if Joseph Hall was employed there as porter still. An old chum of mine Hall was in Tortoise Hollow. I can't bear to see even a bit of paper wasted, so I axed the clerk if it was of any use. He said no—it was only a draft of Dr. Falcon's will. Dr. Falcon made a new will every six months, he said, so I just picked it up and put it in my pocket. Everything comes in its use once in seven years, they say, and this is just right for little Johnny's kite tail."

Mrs. Larkins looked at Mrs. Eldertop, Mr. Eldertop stared into the spectacled eyes of Mr. Larkins.

Uncle Caleb chuckled benevolently as little Johnny skipped away with the piece of paper which had been freighted with such wealth of anticipation.

The Larkinses took leave without any unnecessary formula of adieux and Mrs. Eldertop took occasion to tell Uncle Caleb that perhaps he had better prosecute his original design of the Gravesend visit.

"Because we're expecting company tomorrow," said she, "and our best room will be wanted for a while. And," she added within herself, "I will take good care that it shan't be empty again just at present."

So Uncle Caleb went to Gravesend where Cousin John was as poor and warm-hearted as himself, and he was never invited to return to London again.

CONTEMPLATED SUICIDE.

Herr Harden, Prince Bismarck's intimate friend and companion, has caused a sensation in Berlin by the publication of some curious facts about the great German.

The most sensational revelation was that, when his political career closed, Bismarck—the monumental man of the last half of the century, the most successful of mortals, if success be measured by achievements—actually contemplated suicide. He says: "Bismarck undoubtedly contemplated suicide as a relief from his intense sufferings, the full extent of which was only known to those about him; but he was restrained by pride."

"His own words to me were: 'People wish me long life. It is very kind of them. If they could take away my pains I would also consent to their wishes. But, as it is, my duties now consist of washing, shaving and cutting the nails of my hands and toes and such matters.'

"I have become a useless member of human society. Since I can no longer go out my pleasures have been reduced to the modest dimensions of a good glass of wine, which is too often forbidden to me now, and, again, a pinch of snuff. Should one wish to live longer thus? My good wife is no longer with me."

"I am completely contented to die and long for Euthanasia. It is no longer considered respectable and moral for a man to put an end to a used-up life. It was different in classical days. We have all read Cornelius Nepos and what he says about suicide. We have become more sentimental."

"If one were to end his life now the motive would be twisted, the widest reports circulated. No one can blame me for not being able to do more. I have had to give up political business; the sight of the development of affairs furnishes no pleasure for me; I have too long looked on agriculture as a minor employment to let it rule my life now."

"Then, after a pause, Bismarck said: 'People do not know what it is to feel one's self slowly dying, and there are, in addition, the pains with their innumerable shades.'"

A Novel Lunch.

One of Philadelphia's wealthy young bachelors, who has most artistic rooms about a mile from the Philadelphia club, was surprised one afternoon by a call from a mother and daughter, both special friends on whom he was anxious to make a favorable impression.

Of course, he was glad to see them, but they had taken him unawares, and he reflected with a growing horror that there was not so much as a cracker to offer.

Being a man of wonderful mental resources, a bright idea suddenly struck him. Why not use dog biscuit? He had plenty of these, and they were not half unpalatable, while if broken up into tiny judicial bits there was every chance of their not being recognized. They might even be mistaken for the latest thing in biscuits. Determined to try it anyhow, the bachelor presently offered his guests some sherry with bits of dog biscuit, served upon a faint Sevres plate. It worked like a charm, as the guests were visibly impressed with the new viand. They nibbled at it diligently, if with difficulty, and asked where it might be obtained. Upon this point the young man was unable to give any satisfaction. The biscuits were, he said, a special importation of a friend of his, very costly and very rare, who had presented them to the bachelor, the latter, of course, only serving them to his most honored guests.

The mother even asked if she could stop take a sample home with her; they were going abroad very soon, she said, and would so much love to match it in London or Paris. But this aspiration the startled youth nipped in the bud by begging to be allowed to obtain a boxful of the dainty article for them from his friend.

A Youthful Gamblers Bribe.

Little Francis is only five years old as yet, but already he has a pretty clear conception of some of the ways of the world and its methods of accomplishing desired ends. Visiting at his grandfather's house not long ago, one of his uncles taught him to match pennies, with the result that he wanted to keep on with this amusement day and night, Sunday and weekday alike.

"Grandpa says we can't match pennies today," he weepingly told one of the aforementioned uncles on a Sunday. "Oh, go and coax him a little," was the laughing rejoinder, "and I guess he'll give in and let us."

And this was the interpretation that Francis gave to the word "coax," to the horror of his strongly religious grandfather.

"Grandpa," he said, gazing up into his ancestor's face with beseeching earnestness, "if you will let us match pennies this afternoon I'll give you half of all I win."

A Snake Story.

Charles Casey, Albert Baldwin, Oliver J. DePaul, Meri Nutting and Louis Fanlon, farmers living in the vicinity of Meadow Pond, Mass., organized a snake hunting party and went looking for the reptiles. The first place they struck was in an old well. The stone covering of the well was removed and a large number of snakes were seen crawling around. The killing was quickly begun and when finished seventeen black-snakes, measuring about eighty feet altogether, were stretched on the sod. These men claim the championship for snake killing in Worcester county.