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FOR SHERIFF

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MISSOURI SNAKE CATCHERS.

Queer Industry Carried On Along the Mississippl

The Reptiles Forsake the Low Lands in Fall and Seek the Bluffs, Where They Hibernate Through Winter.

The cool fall weather affords the careful observer a fine opportunity for noting one of the curious things in -the migration of snakes, says the Alton correspondent of the St. Louis Republic. These reptiles look up their winter quarters, and these quarters in this vicinity may be found in the bluffs which line the river bank above the city. All the snakes which spend the summer in the bottom lands of Missouri point, just opposite, make their way across the river to the bluffs, where they hibernate until the gentle breezes of spring thaw them out, when they slip down the shale and debris which underlie the bluffs and again

seek the lowlands.

The crossing of the river is a very simple matter for them. They simply swim over, and many are killed by fishermen while making this crossing. An old resident of the bluffs above this city states that he has seen the time in November when the river could not be crossed in a skiff, especially in the middle of the day when it was warmest, without at least a dozen snakes being seen swimming for the bluffs, and he has frequently killed a half dozen rattlesnakes with an our while going to and from Alton.

A hunter along these bluffs lately saw an old man who appeared to be looking very intently at the water with a field-glass, and, curious to discover what it meant, joined him at the edge of the water. The man had with him besides the field-glass a heavy sack and a curious pair of long woode tongs, and in answer to questions sa I he was a snake catcher, watching the

surface of the water the while. Presently he sighted a snake swim ming for shore a short distance abov where he was standing, and proceeded to meet him with his tongs, with which he picked up the snake as he landed. It proved to be a black snake, and was dropped into the sack without further ado. During the next hour he caught two water snakes, a garter snake and a spreading adder. The last he put in his sack and turned out the others, saying that they were "no

good. The old man had grown quite friendly by this time, and a visit, by invitation, was paid to his cabin boat, in the back room of which he had corraled over fifty live and hissing snakes, which he said he sold to a party in St. Louis, who benefit them to others for different purposes. The trick of catching them he had learned when a boy rom Indians, who would come down OREGON to the bluffs and catch rattlesnakes as the bluits and catch rattlesnakes as they crossed the river. These Indians used to catch them with boats, and sold them to a man at the fort. He had learned something that the In-dians did not know, however, and that Opportunity for Suffering dians did not know, nowever, and the is that a man can eateh more snakes along the shore with half the work.

Snake catching is followed every fall 00 YOU SUFFER? Write usatonce, explain of the year here by a number of men will send you FREE OF CHARGE a full course of specially prepared remedies best suited to your case. We want your recommendation. ding the neighborhood of some very undesirable visitors and thus con-

ferring a benefit on their fellowman. MUMBLING LECTURERS.

How English Audiences Are Entertained by Men of Science. the British audience at certain of these lectures. We have been present, says a writer in the London Globe, on one such occasion when a distinguished, but perfectly unintelligible, member the "Pigs in Clover," and many others, has invented a brand new one, which is going to be
the greatest on record. There is fun, instrucand gentlemen from eight o'clock until ten. What he was saying no one learned will find as much mystery in it as the voung and unsophisticated. This great puzzle is the property of the New York Press Club. for whom it was invented by Samuel Loyd, the great puzzleist, to be sold for the benefit of the novement to erect a great home for newspaper But he held a long rod in his hand and workers in New York. Generous friends have periodically he raised it and pointed at given \$25,000 in prizes for the successful puzzle an enigmatic agglomeration of lines, solvers. TEN CENTS sent to the "Press Club" which were believed to be an illustra-Building and Chrrity Fund," Temple Court, tion. This of itself alone would have New York City, will get you the mystery by satisfied his audience, coupled, of course, with the spectacle of his own respectable person. And when the lecture was over the secretary complimented the old gentleman on his most instructive discourse, there was a rush of eager seconders of the resolution, and the general public streamed out. yawning and happy. This gentleman received twenty-five guineas for his effort, and it is not known to this day what he was talking about. There is no civilization in the world to equal that of the average provincial audience at a lecture. It tolerates all things uncomplainingly. We have known these kindly people endure a long series of lantern slides upside down without a murmur, though their pictorial matter was believed to be of a very ex-

citing nature.

the crossing sweeper. The installation ging has become so inseparable that of Mme. Grevy in the Elysce is a happy the movement of the tail follows the instance. She was the daughter of a emotion, whatever may call it forth. tanner, and earned her living in Paris as a bonnet maker. When she married, her whole fortune was less than five hundred dollars; at her death she lesses something like a quarter of a million to her daughter. She did not will have to agonize.—Confucius. invent an ancestry with her promotion, nor assume fine airs with her rich gowns. Her manners were characterized by simplicity, her accounts were ally slaves to imagination.—C. Simtall, and she set her face accounts were ally slaves to imagination.—C. Simtall, and she set her face accounts were tail, and she set her face against court etiquette.

Subscribe for the GAZETTE

ANTIQUITY OF SHORTHAND.

Cicero is said to have been the in-ventor of shorthand writing, and the freedman, Marcus Tullius Tiro, his friend, the first stenographer, and he undoubtedly did use a method of short-hand writing as early as 60 B.C. The Swifte and Secrete Writing by Characture. Invented by Timothe Bright, Doctor of Phisike, Imprinted at London by I. Windet, the assignee of Tim Bright, 1588. Cum priuilegie Regiae Maiestatis. Forbidding all others to print the same." Dr. Bright in this work says: "Cleero did account it ble to the Roman common weale (Most Gracious Soueraigne) to inuent a speedic kinde of wryting by character

licero's invention at this day. The stenographer who recalls the efforts required to properly master the few characters used in the art to-day will wonder that of Cicero's system, with its 7,000 characters, nothing remains at this day. It was not until 1642, according to the New York World, that the art became of any practical use, and it was first used in the house of lords in 1600 in taking testimony in a divorce suit. Stenographers were not regularly employed in parliament,

however, until 1802. into consideration an army probably ers or even office amanuance

A Line in California Where the Grade Is

Six Feet in a Hundred.
California has a railroad so unique that the most expert "railroad man" in the world would be unable to name it should be accidentally happen upon it at a time when the cars and engine were not in sight. The word "engine" is used advise-llv. for, according to the extraordinary "thoroughfare," and should you come in contact with the entire Nothing can surpass the patience of road is of the "bicycle" or single track he British and lence at certain of these variety, the engines and cars sitting on cable railways, the wheels of both tongue of steel which works in the groove. In addition to this each wheel vent it from jumping the track on any the numerous short curves. miles of road operated by this "sys-tem." When completed it will be fourto the other. In one place there is an eight hundred-foot grade, mounted at there is a grade between a quarter and a half mile in length in which the

hundred feet of track. Language of the Dog's Tall.

Those who reason only by analogies,

stock of everything pertaining to his

Highest of all in Leavening Power .- Latest U. S. Gov't Report.



PETTY DISHONESTY.

Charming Girl Who Was Highly Elated at Her Success in Bluffing a Street Car Conductor Out of

taurant keepers, soda water dispensatories, railroad companies and all other institutions of civilization for the collection of nickels, dimes or other small change is one of the strangest phenomena of these fast-

triding days. I was discussing a lunch the other day with a very charming girl, says a lady writer in the New York Herald. The first thing she said after removing her gloves and arranging her rings so that they would show to the very best advantage to the other women present

Well, my ridedown town didattcost meacent. That stupid conductor never came around for my fare."

At the moment a pretty blonde girl passed our table and saluted my com-panion. The sight of the nickel up-held seemed to inspire pleasant thoughts. She stopped and began to giggle. Then they giggled together

husband a cool three hundred dollars. "I have ridden in five horse cars to-day and it hasn't cost me a cent."

time. The conductor was way up in front. He didn't know who or how many got on. of this. The hand harpoon had been shoved into the right place and the staright ahead of me, for I wanted to see what he would do. He passed and repassed, collecting nickels from idiotic women who were fumbling in their purses. Each time he looked swashes of the tail and a keeling mother purses. Each time he looked swashes of the tail and a keeling mother purses. suspiciously at me. At last he said, snappishly: 'Have I got ma'am?' I looked over his head as haughtily as I could. He became humble. 'Did I get your fare, lady?' he lisped. 'How many fares do want?' I replied, sternly. At that the poor man faded away to the back platform, thoroughly crestfallen. Several good-looking fellows glared as if they

The girls laughed long over this experience, but when the blonde charm-

In due time the waiter brought me my check.
"Let me see it," said my beautiful philanthropist. Of course she got it. She studied it for a moment seriously, then an amused expression crept

profoundly grateful. As I collected my change and rose to go I noticed an ominous frown settling them infer it. It was there still; the dogs wag their tails when over her lovely brow and I am sure the

from North Carolina.

The Little Impositions That Some Women Think All Right

Here she held up the nickel exultant-

and winked at each other. "That nickel reminds me of some-

My companion instantly grew serious and knitted her pretty brows.

was gone I remarked savagely that thought such tactics dishonest

"Nonsense!" observed my lady, laconically, and refused any further discussion

around the tempting mouth and final-

himself out of fifty cents. Now, don't be a simpleton and have him correct it. It's none of your business, anyway." But I thought it a first-rate opportunity for a lesson in morals. I called

ABSOLUTELY PURE swinging in my own grapevine swing. A party of my lisher friends who lived

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phis. Pa.

It Was in Use Before the Beginning of the Christian Era.

first English treatise was by Timothe Bright, entitled, "An Arte of Shorte worthichis labour, and no less profitaas Plutarch reporteth in the life of Cato the younger. This invention was in-creased afterward by Seneca that the number of characters grue to 7,000. Whether through inure of time, or that the men gaue it over for tediousness of learning, nothing remaineth extant of

In many of the public schools of the country stenography is a part of the training. An evidence of its recent remarkable growth is shown by a circular issued by the bureau of education issued at Washington. Here it is shown that from July 1, 1889, to June 30, 1890, 57,375 persons received instruc-tion in the art of shorthand in schools and colleges in the United States. Five thousand five hundred and fifty of these were in New York and Brooklyn. A like circular was issued by the bu-reau in 1884, in which it was shown that during the year 1882 the number of pupils receiving instruction was 12,-It is therefore quite safe to say that the number for 1893 exceeded 75, 000. But this number does not take equally large who receive instruction om some other source or from professional stenographers. Out of this vast army, however, but a very small minority are either physically or men-tally qualified to become court report-

SHORT BUT QUEER RAILROAD.

St. Louis Republic, there is no danger of encountering more than one piece of machinery of that class upon this and force of men with which the road is equipped you could count the entire "gang" on the fingers of one hand. This west coast curiosity lies in, or rather runs up and down, a portion of San Benito county, extending from Burt's lime kiln to Tres Pines, in what is known as the Gavilan ramge. The very low upon the rail. The rail is of the slot pattern, not unlike that seen the engine and the cars having a has a flange on both sides, and, the whole track being of but one rail, the wheels are, in reality, tongued rollers with flangelike projections on each end. Every wheel in the whole outfit belonging to this curious railroad is thus provided with four bearings, which prelast accounts there were but nine teen miles rom one terminal station the rate of six feet to the one hundred. and on another section of the road

average ascent is four feet to each one pleased, and the movement is gener- word "fool" issued from between her ally understood by their human asso- set teeth. ciates as an intimation that they are very happy. The chief delight of wild dogs, as with modern hounds and The Stirring and Veracious Yarn of a Man sporting dogs, is in the chase and its places of power and dethroning the form of pleasure, which is one of the mighty without warning France leads chiefest among the agreeable emotions the nations, not excepting America, when in a wild state. Owing to some where the grandson of the millionaire inosculation of the nervous mechanism in the shade of my own fig tree and may black boots for the grandson of the association of pleasure and wag-

THE most modest little pond can re-

Borg, the jeweler, is the man to fix up your watch or clock. Le keeps a full

The readiness and enthusiasm with which fair woman will beat the res-

ly and laughed in an almost fiendish

thing funny, Susie," laughed the blonde girl, whose costume cost her

"How did you manage it?" she inquired, eagerly.

"Easily enough," retorted the blands beauty. "In two cases the impudent conductor never even asked me for my fare, and of course I didn't call him and beg to be taxed. Three of the cars I rode on were crowded, and when I boarded them others did so at the same

had a mind to throw him out of the

ly she burst into a peal of laughter. "See," she said, engerly, bending across the table. "He has cheated

had erred and you may believe he was

A RIDE ON A WHALE.

the theater people, and it looked, after accompanying excitement and conseCapt. Jim Willis, who hails from a week, as if the woman who found it
quences. When the presence of Morehead City, N. C., where he runs wasn't going to put in a claim. I'm Fortune's Freign.

In unexpected turns of the wheel of fortune, elevating the unknown to an invariable accompaniment of this places of power and dethroning the form of pleasure, which is one of the mighty without warning Freeze and the money of the story, as given to a Washington Star was saved by being wide awake, for I insulating a Jonah of him. In his own saling a Jonah of him. In his own saling a Jonah of him. In his own saling a Jonah of him a claim. I'm game is first detected is invariably the pleasure craft for the accommodation going to get a hat with the money I of northern consumptives, had an experience with a whale that came near making a Jonah of him. In his own saling a Jonah of him. In his own saling a Jonah of him a claim. I'm game is first detected is invariably the pleasure craft for the accommodation going to get a hat with the money I of northern consumptives, had an experience with a whale that came near making a Jonah of him. In his own saling a Jonah of him. In his own saling a Jonah of him. In his own saling a Jonah of him a claim. I'm game is first detected is invariably the of northern consumptives, had an experience with a whale that came near making a Jonah of him. In his own saling a Jonah of him. In his own saling a Jonah of him a story, as given to a Washington Star.

farther up the beach, came running by, and as they passed me they sang out:
'There she blows!' This cry woke me
up. I saw a jet of water spurted upward from the sea, and down to the pier I rushed. There wasn't a real whaleboat in the town, but four ordi-nary fishing bonts were manned by as many crews. One carried the harpoon gun and one the hand-hurling appa-ratus. The other two were without any armament excepting several shot guns and one or two rifles. We rowed off so as to come at the game from different points of the compass. I was in the gunboat. As we approached the whale it was seen that he was a large and fat one. He took no notice of our coming. When we got within about one hundred feet of the monster the harpoon gun was fired, and the barbed weapon took effect just behind the head and pretty well up on the back. This was painful, but not necessarily a fatal shot. The other boats turned

themselves loose and made some inser-tions in the fish. "Instead of going under, as wounded whales do, he remained on top to fight it out. He swished his tail and turned the sea into suds and made such a swell that the good people of Alexandria would not have permitted him to pass their port without slowing down. He plunged headlong against one of the boats and stove it so that it would hardly float. Its occupants were knocked overboard. There was a good deal of excitement. The sea round about us was boiling, the whale was red-hot with rage, the men were shouting and the guns were popping The fish next hurled himself against the boat in which I was, and it yielded to his wishes and got smashed. It was raised a considerable distance in the air, and when it came down I was on that whale's back, just abaft his head and holding on to that harpoon the transfer of the harpoon and the boat had parted, and about two hundred feet of manilla hawser squirmed and wriggled snake-like around in the seething sen. The whale didn't seem to observe my attitude and continued his attention upon the two remaining boats. There wasn't any time to think of this. The hand harpoon had been side announced that the fish was dead. Our eatch was lashed alongside the pier and the next day we went to work at his carcass. The fish was sixty-two feet three and three-fourth inches long, and the proceeds from the sale of his oil, bone and other valua bles were three thousand five hundred

dollars. AN ELASTIC CONSCIENCE.

The Sin of It Lay Only in Being Found Out With Her. The penalty attendant upon being detected is the entire foundation of many people's honesty. A woman, says a writer in the New York Recorder, in whose company I found myself re-cently; was relating with pride an instance of her shrewdness. She re-marked as a preface to her story that anyone who expected to get the better

of her would have to be an early riser.

"I went to the theater the other

Said she:

that much in-

night and after the play a lady who sat in front of me asked me if the umbrella under her chair belonged to "I said no, and as no one else claimed it she left it at the box office. It was a lovely umbrella with a silver handle. "Well, now the joke begins. About a week later I went to the theater and the waiter and showed him where he asked if such an article had been found and if they had it. I described it perfectly and told when it was lost. I didn't say it was mine, but just let owner had never called for it-probably never knew where it had be

They handed it out when I had an-

swered all their questions, and I'm

"I had just as good a right to it as

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