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The paper of the people

TWELFTH YEAR

HEPPNER, MORROW COUNTY, OREGON. TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1894.

WEEKLY SO. GO.

SEMIWEEKLY GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED

Tuesdays and Fridays THE PATTERSON PUBLISHING COMPANY.

At \$2.50 per year, \$1.25 for six months, 75 cts.

Advertising Rates Made Known on Application.

THIS PAPER is kept on file at E. C. Dako's Advertising Agency, 64 and 85 aferchants Exchangs, San Francisco, California, where con-racts for advertising can be made for it.

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SNAKES USED TO WALK

At Least So Says a Smithsonian Expert on Reptiles.

The Python Has Feet-An Illustration of the Serpent's Power of Locomoti-- The Snake Moves Like a Man Walking in a Bag.

The good housewives of New England, and, perhaps, in other parts of the country, are wont to meet the questions of inquisitive youngsters with the exclamation: "Oh! snake's foot!" an expression like "hen's teeth," and a "side-hill badger," denoting the impossibility of a thing. The snake's foot, however, is something more than a nonentity, and the story of the serpent in the Garden of Eden, that was doomed forever to crawl upon its belly, is only partly, if it is at all, true.

This was proved to a representative of the Washington Post the other day who called at the Smithsonian institu-The wise men there who are skilled in anatomy of animals have recently received a big python that sick-ened and died in New York. His mottled hide was drying in the sun at the time in a sequestered spot between the Smithsonian building and the wooden shed where the taxidermists have their workshops. It is an uncanny place, and the man who chances to glance in there may behold anything from the carcass of an ourang to that of a buffalo. Prof. F. A. Lucas, who had the remains of the twenty-foot anake from the east in charge, was asked if

snakes had feet. "Oh! yes," said he, and he took down the skeleton of the python, which had been stripped of all the flesh so that the frame work of bones fastened with cartilage remained as perfect as life. It was coiled up like a bunch of rope and as light as a kite. It was surprising to know how frail a structure of bone could make a very supple snake, able to give an elephant a hard tussle

"Yes," said Prof. Lucas again, "snukes have feet, and the best exam-The New Home Names Machine to. ple among living species is the 257 Market St. San Francisco, Cal. python. He pointed to the sheleton

of the python, which he held in his hand, and showed two long ribs on each side of the body well back to-ward the tail. Those are the remains of the snake's feet and legs. Like the vermiform appendix in man, the snake wermiform appendix in man, the snake has no earthly use for them now, and can get along quite as well as he is. All the big snakes have these remains of former feet, especially the boa constrictors and the anacondus. Prof. Lucas says that the bones of the legs, which have withered and shortened in the large with his realize his propose. The legs which have withered and shortened in the large with his realize his like Jackson; and we may hope that the ages during which big snakes have the typical American of the future enjoyed existence, are found in some small species of snakes in this country, in the meantime the past is to be unalthough it is not common. The best derstood and estimated as the known species is the glass snake of facts stand, and only a thoroughly sympathetic comprehension of these

quented the waters of prehistoric seas that purpose. The fact that Clay probably the ancestor of the present snake. He was called the plesiosaurus, and acquired monstrous dimensions. Popular zoologists like to picture bat-tles in the seas where the water was any theory that makes either of the tles in the seas where the water was made red with the blood of these monsters and others of their tribe. Their board sole surviving descendants are the half mythical sea serpents. They had fins, and the rudiments now found may be the remains of these. When the reptiles came to the land to live, and learned, for some reason unknown, to burrow in the sand, they would undoubtedly lose these. There are missing links, however, in the line of descent of the snake, and all the scientists tell about reptilian genealogy is

partly a matter of conjecture. Of the many snakes that live in the water nowadays the major part are rapid swimmers and are deadly to handle. Prof. Lucas mentioned one called the platurus, on account of its big flat tail, which swims in tropical waters. He says it is accounted great sport to catch it with a hook and line. but the danger comes when the catch is hauled in, and the average man is very shy of that kind of fishing, as one bite means death right speedily, and in the most agonizing form

There is still another explanation of the rudimentary foot of modern times in the snake world, and that is that it is the remains of a flying dragon. There were undoubtedly dragons in the times of old, and when the dragons ceased to fly and came to the earth to drag out an existence, it is not improbable that some of them survived as snakes, and that the remnants of their feet and wings survive in the species that tempted Eve in the Garden of

The usual method of locomotion with the snake tribe is rather peculiar, and is more like walking in a bag than anything else. In fact, a snake walking, for a snake does not crawl, is like a number of boys put in a bag at a Fourth of July sack race. Prof. Lucas was showing the other day how this done. The snake walks on his ribs, The old Germans, or Teutons, as they vere called in the early days, used to have a warlike custom of proclaiming their kings. The sturdy warriors would lock together their brazen shields, lifted high above their heads, quently two. on which the future king was elevated. A snake's belly is in all respects like the inter-locked Teutonic shields. His feet are his ribs, which he is capable of working backward and forward, and at the same time bending them.

The two largest bears he himself killed weighed respectively four hundred and ten pounds. Most of his hunting for bears was done in northern Mississippi, where he had a plantation.

Of all the states New York has the greatest number of savings bank depositors, 1,516,389, and also the greatest number of savings bank depositors 1,516,389, and also the greatest number of deposits, \$588,425,421 where he had a plantation. Over each rib, or foot, there is a shield, and as the foot moves the point of the shield is lowered and digs into the ground or takes hold of any projection n the surface over which it is going Thus he moves his bulk along. He also curls himself up, and thus he moves along more swiftly. Grabbing hold with his front ribs an ugly snake can hold fast while he pulls up his other haif, which in turn takes a hold while the front part is pushed along. The scientists do not believe that snakes can spring, but they do sometimes

LIKE A GIANT CORKSCREW.

Fourteen Times Around a Mountain Be-

There is a mountain fifteen miles from Tumacacor, but so near the international line that it is not known positively whether it is in Arizona or Mexico, but it is believed that it is United States property. Miners, says New York Recorder, have always called it Babel mountain, and it is a most ap-propriate name. It is of a soft sandstone and pumice formation, and the work of making the road was not a difficult task. The road commences in a canyon of the footbills and rises at an easy grade, corkscrew fashion, going around the mountain fourteen times before the summit is reached. The road is about fifty yards square when it starts at the base and gradually gets smaller until it is only ten feet wide at the top. In many places the road has been washed out by the storms of years, but it is still possible to take a horse to the top. In many places, where the sides overnang a little, the mark of the builder's pick can be plainly seen on the wall of rock. the mountain a person must follow the road, and this is a two days' task, as it is about thirty miles, as near as can be calculated without actual measurement. The lowest road is a little over three miles long when it goes around the mountain once. However, this is very irregular and goes around several spurs of the mountain. The roughness of the road is undescribable, and a horse is of no use for a week after the trip. The top of the mountain is about There is nothing at the top, and the adventurer womiers, when he gets there, what the road was built for

THE CRADLE OF GREAT NEN. A Distingulated Publiciat Says the West Is Their Birthplace.

The typical Americans have all been western men, with the exception, let us say, of Washington. Washington had not had much of European culture

cannot imagine Hamilton, or Madison or Livingston, or John Adams, or the Pinckneys living tolerably on the frontier. They are not Americans in the sense in which Clay and Jackson and Lincoin are Americans. We may wish that the typical Americans of the past had had more knowledge, a more cultiwill be wiser and better poised. But who have actually been the typ-There was a monster of old that fre- ical Americans will enable us to effect John Quincy Adams, represented the forces which were really predominant and distinctively American in our depeculiar sections of the Atlantic sea-board the principal or only theater of American history

A GHEAT BEAR HUNTER. Five Hundred of the Animals Slain by

Gen. Wade Hampton. Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, in his "Wilderness Hunter," speaks of Gen. Wade Hampton, of South Carolina, as the man who, "with horse and hound, has been the mightiest hunter America has ever seen." His special game has been of it, but then again I may not." bear and deer, but he has also had the fortune to kill some sixteen cougarsthe panther of the east, the mountain lion of the west, and the lion and puma of South America. Of black bears, according to Mr. Roosevelt, he has probably killed more than any other man living in the United States. Thirty or forty of these he has killed with the knife.

His plan was, when he found that the dogs had the bear at bay, to walk up close and cheer them on. They would introduce the control of the savings banks of Russia have only Manual to the control of the savings banks of Russia have would instantly seize the bear in a body, and he would then rush in and posit, says the St. Louis Globe-Demo stab it behind the shoulder, reaching over so as to inflict the wound on the opposite side from that where he stood. He escaped scathless from all these encounters save one, in which he was rather severely torn in the forearm. Many other hunters have used the knife, but perhaps none so frequently.

Gen. Hampton always hunted with large packs of hounds, managed sometimes by himself and sometimes by his negro hunters. He occasionally took out forty dogs at a time. He found that all his dogs together could not kill a big, fat bear, but they occasione ally killed three-year-olds, or lean and poor bears.

During the course of his life he has himself killed, or been in at the death of, five hundred bears, of which at least two-thirds have fallen by his own hands. In the years just before the war he had on one occasion, in Mississippl, killed sixty-eight bears in five months. Once he killed four bears in a day; at another time three, and fre-The two largest bears be himself

GREAT ARSENIC FATERS.

Hair on the Altar of Good Complexion. The majority of the female beauties plexions, languid expressions, fragile physique and a die-away look in the faces and hands. which are more suited to the endeal to their perruquier. The mystery a pillar into two equal parts. of this curious comt cation of premature baldness and anusual delicacy of complexion was explained by the III.'s j order to produce the aristocratic pallor and languor, and found to their horror that another effect of the drug this and also by the fact that these crous little bonbonnieres and chews gum or the English girl che

was to make the hair drop out. Valuing their complexion above their hair, however, they sacrificed the one to the other. What a woman will endure for her complexion may be estimated by arsenic eaters rarely live past forty There is no pleasure, moreover in the consumption of the poisonous The arsenic is made up into dainty looking caramels, which fashionable dames will produce from prequite openly, just as the American girl late. The arsenic question, Englishmen say, was becoming quite a burn ing one in the antipodes. When a man married a young looking, lovely creature, adorned with luxurious ringlets he was disgusted to find after the cere mony that she was really a semibald, was shortening her life to please her own vanity and was inespable of fulfilling the duties of a mother to debill tated children which she brought into the world. Moreover, the suffering which she would go through in any attempt to overcome this pernicious habit was quite enough to make her break down, if, indeed, she could be per-suaded to bear it at all.

HIS PET PHRASE.

and an easy disposition, He went through life with the greatest indifferague as to its cares and its troubles. One phrase he used on all occasions: It may be so, but then spain it may

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

"it may rain, but then again it may

a hunting exentsion "Why, yes," said he, "I did go once on a bit of a jaunt of the sort, but I made a sorry set out of it. I borrowed a gig of a friend, and started for a day's pleasure, as I thought: but the horse was a stranger to me, and so, not having received a regular introduction to him, as soon as the chase begun, off he set at full speed, with me inside the gig.

"I began to be alarmed. Thinks I, There's danger here: I may go a little farther without being turned over, but then again I may not.' Well, away he tore, over farrow and field, leaping every ditch and bank that came in his way. Presently 1 saw we were near ing a horse-pond, and 1 began to say

"However, after running a tremer dous risk, I escaped a broken neck that time, and after getting pretty safely through the remaining part of the chase, says I to myself, says I: Well, I may be tempted to gon-hunting again, but then again, I may not.""

SAVING THE PENNIES.

only 50 cents to the inhabitant on de

Denmark has the greatest amount to the inhabitant in the savings banks being about \$50 to each. In 1892 there were in this country 1,050 oanks that received savings deposits

the deposits aggregated the enormous sum of \$1,712,760,026, France comes next after the United States in the number of depositors in the savings banks, having 4,150,000, and having on deposit the sum of \$559,

the depositors numbered 4,781,605, and

Germany has the greatest number of depositors in the savings banks, over 5,000,000, but the aggregate of their de posits is not given in the government In Switzerland 360 inhabitants in the

000,000.

banks; in Germany, 180; in France 170, in Great Britain, 135; in the United The Austrian savings banks are pat

,000 have money on deposit in savings

ranized by 1.850,000 depositors, who have on deposit \$615,000,000.

Of all the states New York has the

526,386.

ART AND ARTISTS. Australian Women Sacrifice Health and Giotto's greatest advance in paint The majority of the female beauties of Sidney, according to an English ob-black color the Byzantine painters emserver, have peculiarly delicate com- ployed for the human figure, and substituting the color of nature for the

THE museum of antiquities at Dreservated temperment of an old civiliza-tion than the active vitality of a new teresting marble relief from Rome, worth. It was easy even for a novice which represents an ancient butcher to detect that these ladies owed a good shop, of oblong shape, and divided by A FORTRAIT, which is supposed to be

of Robert Auchmuty, one of George

III.'s judges, in Boston, is still hang-

the supreme courtroom in that city. The picture is the work of John Singleton Copley and bears the date of MR. BURNE-JONES, the English artist. is engaged upon the interesting task of painting a portrait of Mr. Gladstone's youngest granddaughter, Doro-

thy Drew. This little blue-eyed maiden of three years is said to resemble the grandfather startlingly. A GREEK peasant living on the island of Egina recently discovered a mag nificent statue buried in the ground, upon which had been a small plantation, and which he had cleared. The statue was sold to a bric-a-brac dealer, who sent it to London, where it has just been bought by the British government for the sum of sixty-five hun-

BALKING THE UMBRELLA THIEF

maticulty Returnable Rain Shield. Another long-felt want is about to be filled. Drawings for the invention were received at the patent office only a few days ago, and the man, who, by the way, is a Washingtonian, is preparing to build him a new house in the most fashionable part of the city with the prospective funds from this inven- Rio, the Kenrsarge is bound for San tion. It is nothing less than an auto-matically returnable umbrella. That a "home" port, although within the is, one that will make its own arrange-, lines of the station), and the Machias is ments for its return to its owner when destined for China. The dynamite lost. The nomadic habit of umbrellas, especially when left unchained in the It was Good for All Occasions and Need neighborhood of a crowd, has long on the eastern coast of the United According to the "Memoir of Henry Compton," been a serious question whether the published in London some vertex agosthere is an issue on some vertex agosthere is an issue on some vertex agosthere is an issue on some of the ambrella, that would go of also discovered as a serious was a new order of the ambrella, that would go of also discovered as a serious doubt. At the navyard at Mare Island, Cal., the old Mohienn's and less itself or an innate deprayity of the coast defonse. from his both of make in temper of the umbrella-using public that made the South Pacific. findings keepings without much in-The new, non-losable umbrella does not differ essentially from the ordinary The qualities that made him a great commander and a great president were qualities which would have made him the world be fig. 18 his a unit one day says decein is concealed the working part of the gullet its contents that into the gullet its contents that would be fig. 18 his a unit of the device. It is a compactly are always the would be fig. 18 his a unit one day says developed the contents that it rejected by the mouth in the figure a pullet.

ing reverberator, enabling it to be heard for, say, the length of a street car or in a good-sized hallway. In con-Seeing him reading: "Daniels' Field car or in a good-sized hallway. In con-Sports," I inquired if he ever went on nection with the phonograph is a combination lock which sets the machine for action. The owner of the umbrella on setting it down simply switches in the combination and as soon as it is picked up the phonograph gets in its work. The remarks can be arranged according to the taste in oratory of the man who owns the umbrella and can range from a politely couched request not to disturb the rain protector to a stentorian cry of "Stop, thief," or "This fellow is stealing another man's umbrella," or any other exclamation of a more forcible nature, the strength of the language being only limited by the local municipal ordinances regarding profanity.

LEGENDS OF MONSTERS. Possible Cause of the Tales That Sur-

vive in English Folk Lore. Every reader of north-country lore and legend, says an English paper, is familiar with the stories of monstrous "worms," "dragons," "flery flying serpents" and the like, which are said to have located themselves in various districts. Sexhow, under the shadow of the Cleveland Hills, Teesgirt, Stockburn and Lambton upon the Wear are instances. Men have laughed at the stories, calling them "old wives' tales," but forgetting that even these maynay, must-have had, somewhere and sometime, some foundation in fact. The old stories of elves and fairies, which amused and frightened children in bygone days, may well, as Kingsley points out, have had their origin in memories of the feeble folk of the stone age who chipped flints into rude knives and arrowheads, and who lin zered in out-of-the-way caves, it may be, long after the bulk of them has been slain or driven away into the far north by stronger and better armed tribes. So the stories of these terrible monsters may not be so foolish as they appear. Take, for instance, the legend of the Stockburn worm. The name of the man who slew it is preserved, and is that of a well-known north-country family. His tomb is pointed out in the ruined church of Stockburn, where also he lay in effigy with the "worm" at his feet until, the sacred edifice falling into decay, the monument was removed to Stockburn hall adjacent. There, too, is preserved the falchion or sword with which the monster was slain, and which was shown to every fresh bishop of Durham as he entered his diocese - a custom which only ceased in the days of Van Mildret, the last of the prince bishops. In a field close by the stone round which the 'worm" coiled itself is still to be seen This story, so circumstantial in its details, can hardly be entirely fabulous. How then did it rise? aurus and plesiosaurus,"

mote places, one here and another there, even in historic times? UNCLE SAM'S BIG FLEET.

Lang, "gave Tennyson the 'dragons of

the prime." May not some descendant

of these creatures have lingered in re-

t Is Scattered All Over the Earth Pro tecting American Interests. At no time within recent years has the United States government been so well represented in foreign waters by ed naval force, nor so poorly provided for in ships at home, as at present. Three big cruisers are at Rio Janeiro two more are on their way there, and this number will be creased to six by the monitor Mian-tonomoh. The gunbout Yorktown is at Callao, Peru, and the corvette Alliance has sailed to join her, from La

Libertad. The old Yantic is stationed permanently at the mouth of the Rio

de la Plata, charged with the duty of

attending to American interests in

adjacent territory.

The Ranger, which sailed from La Libertad recently for Corinto, Nicaragua, is assigned to the west coast of Central America, where revolutionary outbreaks are so frequent, while the corvette Kearsarge, now en route from New York to San Domingo to afford protection to American life and property in the threatened uprising there, will cruise about the West Indies, and, until relieved by the cruiser San Francisco, along the east coast of Central America. The Philadelphia and the Adams are at Honolulu. The Asiatic or China station, which has become so mportant through the hostile feeling of the Chinese toward Americans over the exclusion law, has six vessels at tached to it, and it is expected that the Machias, now at Brooklyn, will sail

soon to join them The North Atlantic or home station has nominally five, but actually only one vessel in commission to its credit, for the San Francisco is on her way to cruiser Vesuvius is therefore likely to be the sole war vessel left for service vessel Monterey is also at Mare Island.

A NON-VENOMOUS South African snake rticle, says the Washington Post, ex-