

HORRIBLE BUTCHERY

Masked Man's Attempt to Exterminate an Ohio Family.

TWO KILLED, THREE INJURED.

Fiend Gains Entrance to the House by Means of a Ladder—Husband and Wife Horribly Mutilated—Brave Daughter Leaps From a Window and Summons Aid—Object of the Deed Unknown.

AKRON, O., March 30.—At a late hour Saturday night a masked man entered the farmhouse of Alvin M. Stone, near Tallmadge, a few miles from this city, and in the brief space of half an hour committed a horrible butchery. When he took his departure Stone and his wife, both aged people, were dead, horribly mutilated, and Ira Stillson, the hired man, and Emma Stone, the eldest of three daughters, were unconscious from blows dealt by the murderer.

The murderer entered the house by means of a ladder, which he raised to an upstairs window. He first passed through the room in which Hattie and Flora Stone were sleeping without awakening them. "Going quietly downstairs to the room in which Mr. and Mrs. Stone slept, he attacked them with a blunt weapon of some sort, hitting both upon the head. They were probably rendered unconscious and possibly killed by the blows, but the fiend, not satisfied with that, proceeded to mutilate their bodies with a knife. He cut off one of Stone's ears, slashed him across the face and stabbed him in the back. Then he laid Mrs. Stone's cheek open with the knife.

Hired Man and Daughters Attacked.

After satisfying his fiendish desires downstairs, he proceeded to the room of Stillson upstairs. The hired man heard the intruder apparently, for he had arisen, when he was dealt a stunning blow on the head. Next the murderer turned his attention to Emma Stone, who slept in a room by herself. That awakened the two other girls who slept across the hall. Hattie Stone arose to go to her sister's assistance, but as she entered the latter's room she was felled to the floor by a blow on the head, but fortunately was not rendered unconscious. Regaining her feet, she ran to her own room and locked the door. Throwing a bed quilt about her, she leaped from the window and ran through the rain and mud to the nearest neighbors, a quarter of a mile away. After he had struck Hattie down the murderer returned to Emma's room and struck her on the head, leaving her unconscious. Then he tried the door to the room in which Hattie had left her younger sister Flora when she jumped from the window. Finding the door locked he battered it down. Finding only Flora in the room he asked where the other girl was. When told that she had gone for help he hastily left the house and made his escape.

Neighbors Go to the House.

Hattie, with the blood streaming from the wound in her head, managed to reach the neighbors' house, told her story and then fainted. After she had been put to bed, the neighbor, calling for help, went to the Stone house. There the evidences of the butchery were discovered. The only person in the house who was able to speak, was Flora Stone, aged 16, and she was so badly frightened that she could tell nothing about the murder, except that the man who committed it wore a mask over his face.

Object Not Robbery.

The crime is a mystery. There is no possible motive for the murder, so far as can be learned. Certainly the murderer was not bent on robbery, for in the baron drawer in Mr. Stone's room were two gold watches and some money and nothing had been taken apparently.

The sheriff of Summit county was called to the scene of the murder yesterday morning, and with a posse of men he searched all day for clues to the murderer. Nothing has been discovered. One man has been found who says he saw a buggy pass his house late Saturday night going in the direction of the Stone house, and the same house is believed to have been found in the streets of Kent, a few miles east of Tallmadge, yesterday morning. Ira Stillson, the hired man, and Emma and Hattie Stone have not yet recovered consciousness and it is feared that Stillson at least will die, while the chances for the recovery of the two girls are very small.

IOWA LAUNCHED.

America's Most Powerful Fighting Vessel Now Afloat.

PHILADELPHIA, March 30.—The battleship Iowa was launched from Cramp's shipyard Saturday afternoon. When she slipped from her cradle and dipped her keel in the waters of the Delaware, Uncle Sam's new navy received the most powerful fighting vessel afloat. Federal, state and municipal governments were represented by high dignitaries. Miss Mary Lord Drake, daughter of the governor of Iowa, named the big naval baby. The bottle she broke on its great iron prow contained champagne, and not water from either the Des Moines or the Schuylkill rivers, which some Hawkeye state prohibitionists wanted used.

Alabama Journalist Dead.

HUNTSVILLE, Ala., March 30.—J. Withers Clay, Sr., the nestor of Alabama journalism, died yesterday after a long illness from a stroke of paralysis received soon after President Cleveland's first election while addressing a public meeting of celebration. Mr. Clay was about 70 years old, a graduate of Yale and a brother of the late Senator C. C. Clay.

Dies While on a Pleasure Trip.

New York, March 30.—The steamship Madiam arrived yesterday from an excursion trip to the West Indies. On March 24 B. Smith, a saloon passenger, died of pneumonia. He was 48 years of age and a well known druggist of Monmouth, Ills. The body was brought to port in a sealed casket.

Postponed Until Tomorrow.

NEW YORK, March 31.—The trial of the alleged Cuban filibuster, Bernardo J. Bueno, Captain Samuel Hughes, John D. Hart, Captain Lawrence Brabazon and Benjamin Guerra, accused of violating the neutrality laws in connection with the steamship Bermuda, which was set down for yesterday in the criminal branch of the United States circuit court, was adjourned until tomorrow by consent of counsel.

Serious Complication.

GUTHRIE, O. T., March 31.—The supreme court yesterday refused to recognize Greer county, just added to Oklahoma by the United States supreme court as a county and attached it to Oklahoma county, 200 miles away, for judicial purposes. This leaves the new county as an organized territory with 20 murderers applying for writs of habeas corpus.

Visited Franklin College.

FRANKLIN, Ind., March 31.—President Andrews of Brown University, Providence, R. I., was a visitor at the chapel exercises at Franklin college yesterday and spoke to the students at some length. President Andrews will be connected with the summer school of Chicago University during the coming session.

Death of Mrs. Elizabeth Charles.

LONDON, March 31.—The Times announces the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Charles, author of many historical novels, characterized by a deep religious feeling, among them being "Draytons and Davantes," and "Chronicles of the Schomberg-Cotta Family."

Weather.

Indiana—Fair, followed by increasing cloudiness.
Illinois—Cloudy and threatening.

JACKSON'S DEFENSE

Alleged Murderer Will Endeavor to Prove an Alibi.

SHERIFF SECURING EVIDENCE.

Large Number of Witnesses to Be Summoned For the Trial, Which Is to Be Called One Week From Today—Both Sides Are Busy—Visitors at the Jail Were Numerous.

NEWPORT, Ky., March 31.—Just one week from today Scott Jackson's trial will begin and 12 good men will determine whether he is guilty of the murder of Pearl Bryan.

The real hard work of Sheriff Jule Plummer in the case is now on. He is busy with the attorneys for the prosecution, working out a line of prosecution. He will put in several days selecting the witnesses whom he will call in the Jackson case. This requires fine discrimination, for when the case was being worked up the witnesses examined were all asked to tell their stories with reference to both of the men. They were not asked to confine their testimony to either, and as a consequence their statements will now have to be sifted.

Sheriff Plummer's Task.

The sheriff will have to go carefully over all the statements and note those which he considers valuable. Most of this testimony was taken either in the office of Chief Deitch or Mayor Caldwell at Cincinnati by a stenographer. It took the stenographer over a week to transcribe and arrange the evidence given.

Colonel Deitch has turned one of his copies over to Plummer and he is working with this. As soon as he completes this work the summonses for the witnesses will be served.

While the prosecution is at work on this the attorneys for the defense are not idle. Attorney Crawford, for Jackson, is getting up his defense, and it is limited that while the prosecution may spring a surprise or two, the defense may do the same thing.

Crowds at the Jail.

It is expected that an alibi will be in order, and to all appearances Jackson will try to prove that by the lady who keeps the Ninth street house where the two men roomed.

If it is attempted the prosecution may set up a claim that the presence of Jackson in his room part of the fatal Friday night was a preliminary to an alibi he was preparing in anticipation of arrest.

Big crowds called at the jail yesterday, but very few got in to see the men, however. All who did get to see them were greeted cordially by the prisoners, who seemed to be glad to have callers to relieve the dreary monotony of jail life.

Refused to Give Up Their Money.

DEPOIN, Ills., March 31.—Two farmers, named Charles Eckelmann and Frank Dennis, were held up about four miles east of here. They had been to town with some hogs, for which they had received considerable money. When they refused to give up their money the highwaymen shot Eckelmann and he will likely die. The robbers escaped without getting any money and there is no clue to their identity.

Knights of Pythias' Meeting.

CLEVELAND, March 31.—The officers of the Ohio brigade Knights of Pythias, met here yesterday with Supreme Chancellor Ritchie and Major General Cagahan of Indianapolis and decided to hold the annual meeting of the Ohio brigade in this city on Aug. 24 to 31. An invitation was extended to all other brigades in the country to meet here at the same time. This meeting will take the place of the annual convalescence.

Investigating Dygert's Case.

HAVANA, March 31.—The authorities of the war courts are investigating and gathering all the facts in the case of Walter Grant Dygert, the American who has been imprisoned for working with the insurgents and whose case has been the subject of representations from the United States government. The authorities are striving to clear the matter up in order to determine whether to indict Dygert or not.

THE GIANTS OF OLD.

PREVIOUS AGES SUPPLY US WITH ENORMOUS FOSSIL BONES.

Lizards Three Times the Size of the Largest Elephant and a Turtle Whose Shell Looked Like a Hut—Marine Giants and the Remarkable Plated Lizard.

The belief in a race of giants was once almost universal and held until recent years. Even today large skeletons when found are sometimes reported as being those of giant human beings. This was especially true of the period about the tenth and eleventh centuries, and in the latter a most amazing discovery was reported, which threw the scientific world of the time into great excitement. It was said that the body of Palas, the son of Evander, had been discovered beneath the tomb of the emperor, and it is unnecessary to state, proved to have belonged to a huge fossil elephant. As late as the fifteenth century a war of words was waged over a find of large bones, one party claiming that they belonged to the giant Teutobochus. In 1857 a giant was discovered in Switzerland. The council of Lucerne requested a learned scientific man, Professor Felix Plater of Basel, to report upon it, and he not only announced the bones as part of a human giant, but made a complete restoration, showing the man 20 feet high, which the proud city adopted as an ancestor in the arms of the commonwealth. The design and some of the bones can still be seen in the college of Jesuits at Lucerne. Unfortunately for the theory and much to the discomfort of the people who had raised to a high pinnacle this mighty ancestor, it was found to be the remains of an elephant.

Nearly all the mastodon finds in this country were attributed to giants, but there is no evidence that a human giant ever existed over 8 feet in height, and it is extremely doubtful if this height was ever attained.

Giants other than human are very common in all branches of the animal kingdom—giants in every sense when compared to their pygmy representatives of today. Some years ago some laborers in the Semlak hills of India were engaged upon a government work when they came upon the remains of a turtle that proved beyond question that these animals had their giants in the days of old. The shell which the men exposed might have been used as a shelter for several men, and at first, before its bony nature was observed, it was thought by the natives to be a hut of some kind. Fortunately the bones were unimpaired, and they were taken out and removed to the British museum, where a complete restoration of the animal may be seen. The length of the turtle was 10 feet, its horizontal circumference 25 feet, and its girth 15 feet, but it was estimated by scientists that this was not an adult, and that when fully grown this huge creature would display a domelike back 8 or 9 feet high, giving a total length of 20 feet.

One of the common animals in equatorial South America and in Central America is the lizard, iguana, which attains a length of 4 or 5 feet and is considered a large lizard, but it was a pygmy when compared to an ancestor that once wandered over England and various portions of the world. A number of years ago some workmen were excavating and blasting in a quarry near Maidstone, England, when some bones were uncovered that caused profound astonishment on the part of the finders. The skeleton was perfect, and as it was lifted out, bone by bone, their amazement increased, and the news was spread all over the country, attracting large numbers of people. When the bones were placed in their proper position, they were found to be the skeleton of a gigantic lizard that when alive must have been three times as bulky as the largest living elephant and stood upon its hind legs like a kangaroo, tearing down branches from the highest trees. Such an animal was a slow mover and sluggish and must have fallen an easy prey to the human hunters, if they existed.

The marine giants were even more bizarre and remarkable than the land forms. If we can imagine the little iguana lengthened out to 80 feet, its back spines changed to broad, finlike objects, we form some idea of the appearance of one of the small dinosaurs, Stegosaurus, ungulates, one of the most uncanny and remarkable creatures ever found. It is called the plated lizard, and the best skeleton was found on the eastern flank of the Rocky Mountains. Some of the plates with which this armored lizard were protected were two or three feet in diameter and the spines over two feet in length. From the fact that the hind limbs were the largest, it is evident that this strange creature could lift itself up and sit like a kangaroo, resting upon its powerful tail, which, with its enormous spines, must have been a terrible weapon.

A giant from America had a skull that measured eight feet in length. Almost over the eyes were two large horns, a third placed over the nose. The great length of the skull was given by a huge crest that was protected by a ridge of long plates. The mouth of the triceratops was protected by a horny beak. In life it must have presented a formidable appearance, with a body clumsy and low like that of a hippopotamus, a long tail like an alligator's, its head calling to mind the rhinoceros. This monster was 25 feet in length and must have been one of the strangest animals of its time.—Philadelphia Press.

Coujugal Felicities.

"Mabel, I sometimes think you only married me for my money."

"Those lucid intervals are encouraging,"—Hartley Life.

A fossil dragon fly 27 inches long, armed with big jaws and teeth, has been found in the coal measures of Commeny, in the department of the Allier, France.

No Hope For Higher Wages.

DANVILLE, Ills., March 27.—President O'Connor, of the Illinois miners, and President Purcell, of the Indiana miners, arrived here and held a conference with President Kelly, of the Kellyville Coal company and the superintendent of the Consolidated Coal company in reference to a raise in wages. Mr. Kelly informed them wages were more likely to drop. Messrs. O'Connor and Purcell will probably remain here for two weeks and will form a complete organization of all the miners in this locality.

Gratitude For Speaker Reed.

CHICAGO, March 27.—The general offices of the National W. C. T. U., have addressed a letter to Speaker Reed at Washington, expressing gratitude for the speaker's action in enforcing the rule against smoking in the house of representatives. The letter also expressed the hope that at no distant day the sale of liquor will also be banished from the national capital.

There is a very large attendance at the North Indiana M. E. conference, now in session at Richmond.

BODY IN THE TRUNK

Decomposed Remains Found In an Auction Purchase.

POLICEMEN TAKE UP THE MATTER

On the Top of the Box Was Written "G. M. Morgan, 166 Jefferson Court, Chicago"—Member of the Warehouse Firm Tells What He Knows of the Luggage. Very Poor Chance of Identification.

CHICAGO, March 27.—The badly decomposed body of an unknown man was found yesterday in a trunk bought at an auction in Waken & McLaughlin's warehouse at 504 North Water street. The auction was the regular disposal of unredeemed property and many curious purchases were on hand. The sale was almost over when a large rough box was dragged out and offered. Bids were made and the box was knocked down to two men from the suburb of Austin—Philip Grief and Charles Haas. Inside was a square trunk, which was broken open and a gruesome sight was disclosed. The trunk contained the badly decomposed body of a man, without any clue of identification.

As soon as the discovery was made the men commenced to search for something that would indicate where the box had come from or by whom it had been owned. On the top was written "G. M. Morgan, 166 Jefferson Court, Chicago." Nothing else was found to establish former ownership.

J. Wallace Waken, the senior member of the warehouse firm, said last night: "The goods we handle are secured from railroads in the majority of cases. Unclaimed baggage is sent to us and we keep it as long as the law requires. Then after proper advertisement we sell it. I think this box was sent to us by the Michigan Central Railroad company. They sent us a lot of baggage a year ago and the box, if I remember correctly, was included." The police have taken up the matter, but there seems to be little chance of their doing anything with the case. The undertaker who took charge of the body said that some material intended to hasten decomposition had been thrown upon the body when it was placed in the box and it had done its work well.

As far as can be judged the body is that of a man between 40 and 50 years of age and of medium height. This opinion the undertaker gave after looking at the bones. In the condition of the body it is impossible to form an opinion of the man's personal appearance.

At the address given on the box a Mrs. McMillen resides at the present time. She said last night that she knew nothing of the box or of G. M. Morgan to whom it was addressed. She said some day in the early part of the present week an expressman came to her house asking for Morgan. He had a large box in the wagon and said that he had been hunting for Morgan all day, but had been unable to find him. The police are now looking for the expressman in order to get hold of the second box if possible.

DISPENSED KILLING WHISKY.

Coroner's Jury Holds Two Men Responsible For a Sudden Death.

LINCOLN, Ills., March 27.—The coroner's jury has held William J. Pettitt and John Miller responsible for the giving of whisky to William Hoagland Saturday, March 24, at a primary in West Lincoln, which caused Hoagland's death Sunday. At the same place where free whisky was dispensed two other young men were made crazy and two boys reduced to such a state of drunkenness that for several hours their conditions were alarming. Hoagland leaves a widow and six small children.

INHUMAN FATHER.

Little Boy Claims He Has Been Chained to a Peg For Two Years.

LOUISVILLE, March 27.—Yesterday the 11-year-old Elbert Henderson of Jefferson town came into the city with a chain two feet long attached to his ankle. He was taken to a hardware store and the chain removed. He says that for two years his father, William Henderson, had him chained to a peg. He was taken in charge in this city by the humane society and the elder Henderson will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Sensational Case at Marion.

MARION, Ind., March 27.—Lora Trexell, employed in the family of Lewis Marks of this city, has filed suit in the circuit court asking \$10,000 damages from George W. Gunter and Dr. T. C. Kimball on serious charges. Mr. Gunter is a member of one of the most prominent dry goods firms of this city and is colonel of the Fourth regiment, Indiana National Guards. Dr. Kimball is surgeon of the Fourth regiment, Indiana National Guards, and is one of the most prominent physicians in this part of the state. Both claim that the suit is blackmail.

WANT LAWS OBEYED

Women Go Before a Convention and Ask Nominees to Make Pledges.

REFUSES TO REMOVE THE PRIEST

Charges Against Father Dempsey Not Sustained—Sinking Wells For Oil—Man Doing Needle Work—Governor Matthews Improving—Methodist Conference at Richmond—Notes of Indiana.

LEICESTER, Ind., March 28.—The new woman was in evidence at Rochester, Fulton county, last night, when a large number of active church and society workers appeared before the Democratic convention and presented a petition asking that candidates for nomination be pledged to an honest and conscientious effort to perform the duties necessary to abolish gambling and control the liquor traffic. The women addressed the convention, and, as it is a new departure, much interest is being awakened.

METHODIST CONFERENCE.

Large Number of Ministers From Other Indiana Conferences.

RICHMOND, Ind., March 28.—This is the fourth day of the North Indiana conference, and the crowd of visitors from surrounding towns and cities is the largest since the opening. The roll of visitors shows that there are a number of ministers present from the other Indiana conferences, while several are from Ohio. Church members from outside the city came yesterday in order to be present at Dr. John's lecture last evening, which was held at the First church.

Refuses to Remove the Priest.

VALPARAISO, Ind., March 28.—Two weeks ago a number of the members of St. Paul's church of this city visited Eoff Wayne and filed a number of sensational charges with Bishop Rademacher against Rev. Father Dempsey and asked for his removal. Yesterday Bishop Rademacher came here and after making a full investigation held there were no grounds for the statement made and refused to remove the pastor.

Man Doing Needle Work.

OHIO FALLS, Ind., March 28.—Two years ago Dow White, an employee of the Ohio Falls car works, was caught between two cars and his back was broken. Since then he has been unable to work at any of the usual vocations, and realizing that he must do something for support, he began to learn to embroider. He is now one of the most expert embroiderers in the county.

Sinking Wells For Oil.

WASHINGTON, Ind., March 28.—The Cable Coal company has begun prospecting for oil, with a diamond drill, in Pike county. Last fall, while drilling for coal, at a depth of about 400 feet, gas was discovered, to the extent of about 85 pounds pressure per inch. Prospecting for oil has also been begun in Martin county, and also near Washington.

Struck a Vein of Lead Ore.

BRAZIL, Ind., March 28.—John Reynolds brought to this city some specimens of lead ore, which have been tested and found to contain 97 per cent of pure lead. Reynolds claims to have discovered a large vein near this city, the whereabouts of which he will not disclose unless compensated.

Found a Can of Gold.

JEFFERSONVILLE, Ind., March 28.—Frank Lynch yesterday displayed on the streets an old \$10 gold piece, which he found, with a large number of gold coins, hidden in a scalded tin in the yard back of Joseph Goodman's grocery. Lynch was digging up a small tree when his spade struck the can.

More Child Indicted.

MUNCIE, Ind., March 28.—The youngest person ever arrested here on a grand jury indictment was taken in by Sheriff Sherry yesterday. He is Virgil Robbins, 9 years old, charged with assaulting Willie Jones, 15 years old. They fought over a game of marbles.

Governor Matthews Improving.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 28.—Governor Matthews begins to show substantial signs of improvement. He has been regaining strength rapidly for two days, and it is now believed that unless he should suffer a relapse his recovery will be speedy.

Gain a Suit Against a Saloonist.

MUNCIE, Ind., March 28.—Melvina Dowling, sued Saloonkeeper Michael Reardon for \$2,000 on the charge of selling intoxicants to her husband after she ordered him not to, and while Dowling was drunk. The jury awarded her \$120.

INDIANA HAPPENINGS.

A new Democratic paper will soon be published at Clay City.

T. H. Condit of Imperial, Pa., was fatally injured by falling from a Panhandle train near Knightstown.

Dr. W. F. Work and Walter Dedrick of Clark county are reported to have made a great strike in the Cripple Creek gold field.

It is said that the windowglass manufacturers of the gas belt are preparing to meet the cut made by the French manufacturers.

Mrs. E. E. Mitchell, of Martinsville, supposed to be hopelessly ill of consumption, claims to have been started on the road to permanent recovery by the faith cure.

A colony is organizing in Madison county for migration to Santa Clara county, California, which it is proposed to transform into an Eden for Populists and Spiritualists.

James Malone of Los Angeles, Cal., and John Collins and Frank Morris, claiming Indianapolis as home, are under arrest at Mt. Carmel, Ills., charged with burglary at Petersburg.

The damage claim of Mrs. William Priest of Elkhart county against William Barker, for alleged defamation of character, has resulted in a jury at Goslen returning a verdict in favor of plaintiff for \$5,500.

LOVE AND ROSES.

A wild rose drank of the morning dew,
A wild rose smiled at the morning sun,
A wild rose dreamed the warm day through,
A wild rose died when the day was done.

And ever the rose was fair, was sweet,
And ever the rose was shy,
But a rose's life, like a dream, is fleet,
And a rose in a day will die.

It fell on a day that love once grew
In the beam of the heart like a rose,
Like a rose it smiled in the morning dew,
Like a rose it died at the sweet day's close.

And ever the love was fair, was sweet,
And ever the love was shy,
But the life of love like a rose, is fleet,
And a love in a day will die.

—John N. Billard in Vanity.

SOME SIGNS OF APPROACHING AGE.

How a Man Showed That He Was Growing Old Without Knowing It.

A man, apparently slightly past middle life, whose hair was tinged with gray and noticeably thin on top, sat near me at a theater. As the curtain rose for the first time a spectacle man of about the same age entered and occupied the vacant seat between us. He looked at the other fixedly. The look was exchanged, and in a second each had the other cordially by the hand. The conversation told that they had been schoolmates who had not met in many years.

"By Jove, Charlie," exclaimed the first, "it does me good to see you. You haven't changed much more than I have, and I am not a day older than when we got our diplomas."

"I can't quite agree with you, Tom," answered the other, "but I don't feel very old yet. I see you still enjoy the theater, and I suppose you have kept up your literary tastes for the past 30 years."

"Thirty years!" repeated Tom. "How the years fly! Do you remember how they used to drag? Theaters! Well, I do go now and then, but the plays and actors are not what they used to be. As to books, I still read them, but none of the modern trash. There hasn't been a good book written for a quarter of a century. The new ones give me the dyspepsia worse than what I eat. Do you remember the meals we had on the old Vermont farm? Those were happy days. Thirty years and more ago! Strange, but I don't show a sign of age. I wonder where this confounded draft is coming from. I feel neuralgia on top of my head now."

"Tom, old boy," replied the other, "you are deceiving yourself, for you have shown marked signs of approaching age within three minutes. Your belief that theaters and actors have degenerated, that new books are below the standard, that childhood cooking was perfection and that time flies so very fast are all indications that you are on the down hill side of life. The slight draft that you say brings a tinge of neuralgia to the top of your head, where, I notice, the hair is rather thin, wouldn't have been thought of 30 years ago. Then here you are in the very front seat of a theater. No use denying the signs, Tom. We are getting along and must admit what others plainly see."—New York Herald.

THE CRACKED COIN GAME.

How the Shrewd Man Wins Bets With a "Rocused" Bit of Silver.

Two blithe and confident young men entered the subterranean one day last week, and one of them dropped a silver half dollar, or something which looked like it, on the desk before one of Uncle Sam's money signs. It fell with a dull and leadlike sound.

"Good or bad?" asked the first blithe young man.

The clerk investigated.

"Good," said he.

"Good enough," said the first blithe young man. "Five dollars, please."

The second young man, not quite so blithe, passed over a bill apparently the amount of a bet, and together they left the place of gold and silver. The subterranean clerk smiled and closed one eye.

"It's a good eng," he said. "I have heard of it before. Guess some of the sharp 'uns' are making a good thing out of it."

"You see, if you take a silver coin and crack it some way or other, on an anvil say, you can take all the ring out of it without in any way spoiling the looks of the coin. Then all you have to do is to get a confederate and work the saloons and cafes for suckers. Bang your coin hard on the mahogany. The barkeeper looks at it with suspicion. You hastily substitute another coin for it that rings like Old Trinity's chimes, but grumblingly murmur your belief that the first coin is all right. Your confederate offers to bet that it isn't. You do a little verbal fencing back and forth. The sucker comes forward, as he always does, for they are born every minute. The confederate backs him up with a slap on the back and a confident assertion that the coin is lead. A bet is made. The money is put up. All adjourn to a bank in the vicinity to test the matter. The coin is pronounced O. K., and the sucker pockets his loss."—New York World.

The Pig's Grunt.

The continued grunting of the pig is of interest as revealing something of the conditions of life of his wild ancestors. A herd of swine scattered in the long grass or among the brush of a European forest would soon lose sight of one another. But the grunts of each would advertise his presence to his neighbors, and so the individual members of the herd would not lose touch with the main body. Then there are grunts and grunts. If one of my readers will imitate the ingenious Mr. Garner and take a photograph of the nearest pigsty, he might get material to make up a book on the language and grammar of the hog. However, back the jungle, the wild pig could, by taking note of the pitch and emphasis of the grunts to right and left of him, tell pretty much what his hidden colleagues were thinking about. —North American Review.