

TEXAS RANGER
FOOLED THEM

Sent N. Y. Scientists a Horned Rattlesnake,

And They "Swallowed" the Fake Smoothly.

New York—Gone is the glory of the great "bull snake" rattlesnake, the wonderful rhinoceros diamond back, the unparalleled Texas unicorn. Gone also is the pedigreed "goat" of the New York scientist who let a simple Texas ranger fool them with a new species of Crotalus adamanteus from the Mexican border, more wonderful than the sea serpent of Atlantic City bathing places, that wore a horn an inch long on the top of his skull. For Br'er Snake shed his skin the other night and the horn came off.

The mysterious rattler came to Raymond L. Ditmars, curator of reptiles at the Bronx Zoological Park, about three months ago, having been shipped north by W. A. Snake King, as he calls himself, a Texan who lives near Brownsville and who spends a great part of his time bagging reptiles for the Zoo. It was he who sent the huge diamond back that nearly cost the life of Keeper Tooney a few months ago, and the fresh snake was an outcropping of this accident.

Curator Ditmars wrote to King in Texas telling him of the affair, and the snake hung around for a while, but seriously. He has been bitten so often by the "vipers" that he could not conceive of anyone, even a New York zoo keeper, being inconvenienced by them. Also it had, cost him not a little trouble to get that snake, and perhaps he was peevish that his acquisition was not a desirable citizen.

PROMISED RARE SPECIMEN.

"You see," explained Mr. Ditmars, "when the army went to the border they drove all the snakes away for miles, and it was hard to get specimens. King wrote me that he drove his flivver automobile across the boundary line into the sand desert in search of some for us, and when he was in Mr. Carranza's territory some deliberately unfriendly natives plugged a couple of holes in his gasoline tank with American rifles. He had to go back home and get a couple of horses to tow his machine to where the snakes were. Of course it hurt after that to hear that one of the few he captured on the trip started a campaign of 'schrechlichkeit.' Anyhow, he wrote in answer to my letter, saying the next time I send you one it'll have a horn on it."

Sure enough, a few weeks later the mysterious snake arrived. It had a beautiful horn, fully an inch long, extending from the skin over the eyes. It was the only reptile the snake experts had seen with such an appendage. The so-called horn rattler of Texas only has two little bumps over the eyes much like the tip on a snail's head.

"King wrote me that he couldn't classify the snake," said Mr. Ditmars. "But he had discovered an entire race of them, and could furnish any number to the zoo. He asked me to examine it thoroughly and have some other scientists look it over and possibly write a treatise on the new species."

The curator did as Mr. Snake King asked. He called on two or three expert biologists. They got out their magnifying glasses and their microscopes and they looked at Senior Snake's horn.

"Wonderful!" exclaimed one, whose name it wouldn't be fair to tell. "Why, one can see the blood vessels in the membranous composition of the protuberance. It is absolutely genuine and unique."

The rest either agreed or admitted that they were stumped. But Raymond L. Ditmars has been handling snakes since he was in short knickerbockers, and at the age of 20 he was lecturing on them for the Board of Education. It is said he wasn't a success as a lecturer, because he insisted on illustrating his discourses with live specimens instead of stereopticon slides. Anyhow, he was canny and wary on the new marvel.

"I'll wait until Monsieur Snake sheds his skin," he allowed.

SKIN AND HORN CAME OFF. The reptile was put in a glass cage, where the public and more scientists came to marvel at him. He seemed to enjoy the discussion that he caused, for he refused to slough. In the hot weather the average rattler gets a new suit of scales every few weeks, like a new Palm Beach suit, but this one stuck to his old uniform until it was positively shabby about the rattles and had a seedy look where it got the most wear.

At last came signs of the expected change. The reptile's eyes turned bluish in color and the next morning Mr. Ditmars, visiting the cage, saw a strange snake inside. It had a head as bald of horns as the outside of an egg. But on the skin, the old suit which had been discarded, stuck a strange



MAGIC BAKING POWDER

CONAINS NO ALUM

contraption that looked like a bone collar button with the tip sharpened. Mr. A. W. Snake King, with the assistance of an Indian, had cut an incision in the snake's skin over the eyes, and had inserted the spine of some Mexican bush, the base of which had been flattened to form a foundation. Then the skin had grown over again, the tiny scales had ringed themselves about the orifice, until it seemed perfectly natural. Only when the skin was shed did nature cast off the thing.

Now the skin lies on Curator Ditmars's desk in the reptile house, a warning to natural scientists and a memento to the simple Texas ranger who had the biologists plumb loosed for three months. And little Panchito Snake, no longer a mystery, but an ordinary Crotalus adamanteus once more, coils his six and a half feet of new fall fashion union suit up in his cage and sticks out his fangs in full appreciation of the heat.

Minard's Liniment Cures Burns, Etc. LITTLE, BLACK AND UGLY. And Very Touchy, Too, is the Devil's Coach Horse Beetle.

My, how very touchy he is! Point your finger at him and see how he turns up his tail and opens his jaws, just as if he were a lion instead of a tiny beetle. He thinks he is going to frighten us away. But we won't hurt him, anyway because he is a very valuable sort of beetle—a tiny harbinger man. He's called the devil's coach horse beetle.

He's long, black and ugly. He spends this time hiding under stones or crawling about in gardens. Like a majority of beetles, he's one of nature's scavengers.

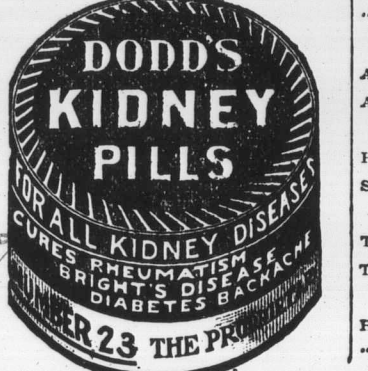
Have you ever thought what a dirty old world this would be if it were not for the animals and birds and insects that go around cleaning up? Certain birds and animals devour the bodies of other animals, but they leave it to the beetles to clean up the crumbs.

So he's busy all day devouring the little particles that the big eyes of the bizzard cannot see. He's always celebrating clean-up week. So don't blame him if he turns up the end of his tail and looks at you threateningly when you disturb him. He's too busy to play.

Rheumatism Goes Quickly Its Virus Forever Destroyed EVERY CASE IS CURABLE. Good-bye to Rheumatism! Your aching joints, your stiff, sore muscles, those sleepless nights and suffering days—good-bye forever—your day is gone. Sufferer, cheer up, and read the good news below. "A man met me a month ago, and said, 'Don't stay crippled, quit complaining, limber up.' My answer was, 'I'm rheumatic. I can't do it.' He looked me over in a pitying sort of way and told me to go to the nearest drug store for Nerviline and Ferruzone. The combination had cured him. I was convinced of his sincerity and followed his instructions. I rubbed on Nerviline three times every day—rubbed it right into my aching joints. The pain quickly lessened, and I became more limber and active. To draw the virus of the disease from my blood I took two Ferruzone Tablets with every meal. I am well to-day, not an ache, not a pain and no sign of stiffness at all."

What Nerviline can do in a case like this it can do for you, too. For nearly forty years Nerviline has been recommended for Rheumatism, Lumbago and Sciatica and Lame Back. It is the one remedy that never disappoints.

A TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION. To print a kiss upon her lips He thought the time was ripe; But when he went to press, she said: "I do not like your type."—Boston Transcript. A kiss he printed on her lips And showed her no contrition, Because the artful mix inquired: "Well, where's the next edition?"—Birmingham Age-Herald. A kiss he printed on her lips And she made this oration: "Please, continue doing that. It boosts my circulation!"—New York Evening Sun. A kiss he printed on her lips, She smiled, the artful creature, And modestly inquired of him: "Was that a special feature?"—Moscow (Idaho) Star-Mirror. He tried to kiss her lips again, But couldn't quite get at her; She held a book in such a way "They were 'next to reading matter.'"—Boston Courier. To print a kiss, he did insist, Upon her lips—but listen! The maid was weep, she turned to cheek—"This more 'Preferred Position.'"—Montana Daily Record. He called her coltie, lambie, kid, Until she made petition: "All barnyard names are now forbid, 'Am I a 'Stock Edition'?"—William Willeeta.



GILDED LIMES. A feature of Native Festivals and Feasts of South India.

Instead of changing cards the well-to-do natives of southern India show their esteem on New Year's Day by presenting to their friends limes covered with brass leaf, or in some cases with gold leaf. As the natives have several New Year's days of their own in addition to the special ones of the English, the Mohammedans and the Hindu and Telegu branches of the Hindu, the gilded limes are passed around rather frequently. The custom is a purely local one, and it had its origin so far back that no one remembers when or why it was started.

In addition to the New Year's festivals gilded limes are sometimes presented to the host at the ordinary "tamash" or social gathering. If a native is too poor to afford gilded limes, not to mention gold covered ones, he gives plain, undecorated ones. It is said that a great quantity of brass leaf is used for decorating limes for these special occasions, and the brass trade in this kind of gilt is very large throughout the southern part of India. Brass leaf is sold also for the decoration of gilded caps, or "topi," worn by the Mohammedans in that part of India, as well as for ornamenting the dress of the Mohammedan women.

The Appetite of Youth Quickly Restored

Appetite is useless unless digestion is good. Dr. Hamilton's Pills make tremendous appetite and keep digestion up to the mark as well. The liver, bowels and kidneys are stimulated, the stomach strengthened, and robust health quickly follows. Dr. Hamilton's Pills build vigor and snap into the system, make folks feel youthful and happy. You'll forget you had a stomach, forget your days of sickness if Dr. Hamilton's Pills are used. Insist on having Dr. Hamilton's Pills, 25c per box, no other medicine so good.

LIKE A TINY SOLAR SYSTEM. Power and Possibilities That Are Locked in an Atom.

The most generally accepted theory about the structure of the atom—which is no longer regarded as the ultimate indivisible particle of any element, as this of course could have no structure—is that it is positively charged nucleus surrounded by a system of electrons which are kept together by attractive forces from the nucleus. Thus it becomes a sort of infinitesimally small solar system. In an article in the General Electric Review, Dr. Saul Dushman draws the following conclusions from a discussion of the laws that govern the atoms of the several elements: "Considering the relationships exhibited by the different radioactive elements, one realizes that the dream of the alchemists may not have been as fatuous as has appeared until recently. The concept of an absolutely stable atom must be discarded once for all, and its place is taken by the miniature solar system, as it were, consisting of a central nucleus and one or more rings of electrons. "But the nucleus itself is apparently the seat of immense forces, and in spite of its exceedingly infinitesimal dimensions it contains both alpha particles and electrons. Once in a while the nucleus of one of the atoms will spontaneously disintegrate and expel an alpha or beta particle. A new element has been born. What causes these transformations? Can they be controlled? These are questions which only the future can answer. But if we had it in our power to remove two alpha particles from the atom of bismuth, or any of its isotopes, not only would the dream of the alchemists be realized, but man would be in possession of such intensely powerful sources of energy that all our coal mines, water powers and explosives would become insignificant by comparison."

Puzzle of the Eagle and the Whale

There are two animals that puzzle naturalists more than any others. They are nature's submarine and airplane, the whale and the eagle. It is known that whales occasionally descend as much as 3,000 feet below the surface of the sea. Why they are not injured scientists have yet to discover. It is this pressure which prevents a modern submarine descending even 300 feet, let alone 3,000. Eagles have been seen through telescopes to fly with apparent ease from 30,000 to 40,000 feet above sea level. At that height no human being can live owing to the rarefaction of the air. How the birds live and fly at far greater heights than man can endure for long is a question still to be answered.—Pearson's Weekly.

Legend of Hapsburg Castle

According to legend, the ancient castle of Hapsburg, overlooking the Rhine, was founded in 1020 and was without surrounding walls for defensive purposes, a strange omission in those warlike days. A friend coming to stay at the castle so greatly deplored the absence of the usual defences that its lord declared that before sunrise on the following morning his stronghold would be surrounded by impregnable walls. Naturally the visitor smiled and did not believe that this thing could come to pass, but in the early morning he was awakened by the lord of the castle, who bade him look out upon the walls. He had kept his promise, but in an unexpected way. Instead of seeing a surrounding wall made of stone, the visitor saw an unbroken circle of the lord's followers, all in their armor and bearing weapons. And it has since been the boast of the Hapsburgs that the family's devoted subjects were sufficient defence in no matter what emergency.

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THE FAMOUS PRODUCTIONS OF FLORENCE AND ROME ARE REPRODUCED IN THE NEW ART STONWARE NOW ON VIEW AT ROBERT JUNOR'S 62 King St. East HAMILTON, ONT.

Couldn't Fool Him. She hailed from a remote country village in England and had traveled by rail on a visit to friends who resided in a distant town. While entering the railway station for the return journey she found to her dismay that she had lost her handbag, which contained her return ticket and cash. After a fruitless inquiry and search a lady to whom she had spoken of her loss very kindly offered the suggestion that the old dame should wire to her husband at her expense, and ask him to telegraph a money order, also telling him the circumstances in which she was placed. She assented to this, and the telegram was sent and duly delivered to the old dame's husband. He tore the message open and read it. "Any answer?" asked the messenger. "Na, nor brass neither," said he. "They'll find they nobbut got a noodle this time. They'll not hood-wink me; that bain't Mary's writin', I could tell 'ers from hundreds."

Minard's Liniment Relieves Neuralgia. Modesty. When every pool in Eden was a mirror That unto Eve her dainty charms proclaimed, She went undressed without a single fear Or thought that she had need to be clothed. 'Twas only when she'd eaten of the apple That she became inclined to be a prude, And found that evermore she'd have to grapple With the much debated problem of the nude. Thereafter she devoted her attention Her time and all her money to her clothes, And that was the beginning of convention, And modesty as well, I suppose. Reaction's come about in fashions recently, Now girls conceal so little from the men, It would seem, in name of all that's decent, Some one ought to pass the apples round again. —Chicago Music News.

RUNNING NOSE COLDS CURED SNEEZING STOPPED INSTANTLY. The worst of a cold is how suddenly it comes. No time to hurry to the drug store, cough develops, the lungs are affected with pneumonia or tuberculosis and it's too late. Keep Carrizone on hand—it kills colds instantly. Something magical about the way it cures catarrh and bronchitis. Carrizone is the best remedy, because it cures in nature's way, it heals, soothes and restores permanently. Carry a Carrizone Inhaler in your pocket, use it occasionally and you'll never catch cold; that is worth remembering.

Married His Widow. Sir Thomas Lipton had this very good Scotch story: "Some time ago he visited Scotland, when he met an old friend whom he had not seen since they were at school together. They got to discussing old times and Sir Thomas suddenly asked: "'And how's Geordie?'" referring to an old Scotch school friend, known to both of them. "Oh," was the answer, "he's dead long ago, and I shall never cease to regret him as long as I live."

Iron Bridges. Introduction of the semi-elliptical arch in bridge building in England met with complaint on behalf of the Tweed side people, because the roadway over it being almost level, as one old man said, "You did not know when you were on it and when you were off it." The first iron arch constructed was made in England at Coalbrookdale by one Darby. The bridge consists of one semi-elliptical arch, 108-foot span, each of the ribs being cast in two pieces only. It was opened for traffic in 1779, and a new era in the art of bridge building was thus entered upon. Up to 1880 cast iron was predominant in bridge construction, and although it is believed that wrought iron was introduced before 1800 it does not appear to have been extensively used before.

Official Ignorance. One of the best of the many stories of English official ignorance of the colonies is recalled by P. A. Silburn in "The Governance of Empire." Lord Palmerston was forming a new ministry and in a preliminary council was arranging its composition. He had filled up all the portfolios with the exception of the colonial office. First one name and then another was suggested and thrown aside. At last he said to Sir Arthur Helps: "I suppose I must take the thing myself. Come upstairs with me and show me where these places are on the maps."

Time for Peaches and Cream! To get full palatoy with maximum of nutriment for the day's work eat them on shredded wheat biscuit—a complete, perfect meal, easy to prepare, appetizing and satisfying. In Shredded Wheat all the body-building material in the whole wheat grain is retained, including the bran coat, which is so useful in promoting bowel exercise.

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