

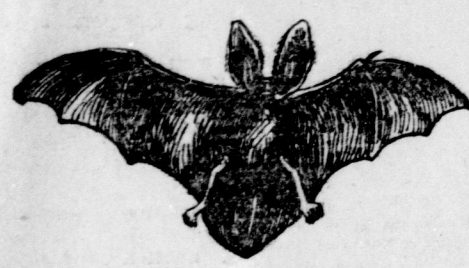
SUCK HUMAN BLOOD

VAMPIRES WITH SHARP TEETH
AND AN APPETITE FOR GORE.

Only One Blood-Sucking Species in the World—All Others are Harmless, Feeding on Insects Only—The Large Kind, Known as Flying Foxes, are Fruit-Eaters.

Uncle Sam has a bat man. His name is Gerrit S. Miller, and he is engaged in making a study of bats for the Government. With this end in view, agents of the Department of Agriculture have been collecting these flying mammals from all over the country, and the contents of hundreds of their stomachs have been examined. The bat is an animal of some consequence, inasmuch as it feeds on harmful insects. How many of these are yet, in fact, sciences up to date has learned very little about bats and their habits.

That is a pity, because bats are very remarkable creatures. As a group they stand alone, being not nearly related to any other animals. Nobody knows where the creature they spring. Early naturalists put them down among the birds, which



BIG-EARED BAT.

was not very surprising. They are the only mammals that fly. It is not necessary to explain that a flying squirrel does not really fly. Bats are able to remain for hours on the wing, being so swift in their movements and so eccentric in their habits that insects find it difficult to shoot them without special practice. The most interesting bat in the world is not found in the United States, and nobody need regret that circumstance. It is the true vampire. Although many kinds of bats have been charged with blood-sucking, this is the only species which really has been able to ascertain. It is a good deal of damage by biting horses on the back, where the saddle rubs. It also attacks cattle. It does not hesitate to assail human beings, and being provided with sharp chisel-like teeth, it is able to cut a piece of flesh clean out of a man. Fortunately, it is small, weighing only a few ounces, and having for a wing-spread about a foot. That is not much for a bat. The Kalong bat of Java measures 6 feet from wing-tip to wing-tip.

It was Darwin who first made scientific demonstration of the blood-sucking habit of the vampire bat. He found that it fed exclusively on blood, the whole digestive tract being specially modified for that tract. The intestine is much shorter than in any other species, because blood is easily digested. The vampire is the only species of its genus, which is called "Desmodus." The bats of the United States are commonplace animals, comparatively speaking. One must go to other countries to find bats of great size and dressed in a garb resembling that of an undertaker. There are species which are beautifully colored. One of the largest kind is nearly white, with a rosy blush from the red blood that is seen through its skin. A South American species is bright red, mixed with buff. The long-eared bat of California is almost white, with huge ears twice the length of its head, and a remarkable projection on the top of its nose.

There are about 400 species of bats in the world. Of these thirty are found within the borders of the United States. These flying mammals are most numerous in warm countries. In tropical America are many species which feed on fruit.



MACROGLOSSUS OF JAVA.

Some of these have long tongues furnished with bristles, by means of which they scrape off the pulp of the fruit they eat. In Mexico, the West Indies and South America the fruit-eating bats are plentiful, but no species having this habit is native to the United States. The fruit-eating species which are called "flying foxes," are much larger, with a wing-spread of 3 feet or more, and the teeth are different. In the differentiation of species naturalists rely to a great extent upon teeth.

These "flying-foxes" of Europe and Asia do a good deal of damage. They come in large flocks and settle upon an orchard, taking the fruit at night. Some of Rudyard Kipling's stories tell about such visitations of bats in India. This is the only harm that bats ever do, leaving the single species known as the vampire out of question. They are the most innocent animals imaginable and there is not the slightest occasion for the fear with which most people regard them. Their appearance is certainly against them, the face being hideous, and the mouth filled with sharp teeth. They suggest dark unwholesome caverns, and their nocturnal habits make them mysterious to the popular mind. There are plenty of superstitions relating to bats. Many a ghost has turned out to be a bat. It happens that bats are almost always killed on sight.

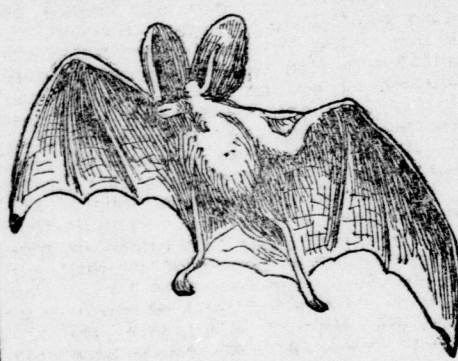
A story that has become classical is told of the eccentric naturalist Rafinesque, who on a certain occasion was the guest of the great Audubon. The family had gone to bed and it was near midnight when suddenly there arose a fearful uproar. Audubon, perceiving that the noise came from his guest's room, hastened thither and found Rafinesque running about the apartment stark naked, holding the handle of Audubon's favorite violin. The body of the instrument had been battered to pieces in trying to kill bats which had entered the open window presumably in pursuit of insects attracted by the candle inside. Rafinesque, believing the bats to be a species new to him, lost his head altogether.

The numbers of bats sometimes found in caverns are astonishing. A favorite roosting-place of these animals is Wyandotte Cave, Crawford County, Ind. Here they hibernate in myriads, hanging to the roof and walls by their hind feet. There is a room in this cave that is known as Bat Lodge, because the bats appear to assemble

there for council as well as for sleeping. In the day time the ceiling is covered with clusters of them, crowded thickly together, and the air is filled with plaintive whining, whispering voices and a disagreeable odor from the bodies of the animals. At the beginning of twilight the bats start to leave the cave for their nightly hunting expedition. According to one description that has been given, a column of them from 30 to 40 feet wide and from two to three miles long is then seen to move in a straight line from the mouth of the cavern to the northward. A few minutes later, another column quite as large issues forth, directed to another point of the compass, and a little later yet another column to yet another point. In the morning the bats return, but in small flocks.

In caves which have been dwelling-places of bats during long periods great accumulations of bat guano are found. This material is most valuable as a fertilizer, containing a large proportion of nitrogen. Considerable quantities of this guano have been taken from caverns in Texas. The deposits in Marble Cave, in Southern Missouri, are large, and many tons of the stuff have been taken out by means of a windlass and bucket. But for the fact that there are no facilities for transporting the merchandise to market, this guano might be worked more extensively with profit. The length of time during which the bat guano has been accumulating in Marble Cave can only be reckoned in the hundreds of thousands of years. In the lower layers of it are found bat remains, particularly the jaws of bats, mixed with bones of animals that have been long extinct. It is safe to estimate that the accumulation represents a period of not less than 1,000,000 years. Astonishing accumulations of cherry pits and other seeds are made by the fruit-eating bats of Jamaica. They carry the fruit into caves, eat the pulp and drop the seeds.

The droppings of bats have a very strong and unpleasant odor. In the neighborhood of New Orleans, and elsewhere in the Southern States, many houses are rendered uninhabitable by this cause. The bats go into lofts, between walls and under loose clapboards—into all sorts of crannies, in fact, from which it is difficult to dislodge them. There is a record of 9,640 bats killed in one house at Seneca Point, near Charlestown, Md. Bats in cold latitudes spend the winter in a condition of torpor, the vital functions being practically suspended. No pulse can be detected, and the animals seem actually dead. For the sake of warmth they frequently gather together in masses. They hibernate usually in hollow trees or in caves, hanging by their hind feet or by the wing claws which correspond anatomically to the thumbs of a human being. Some species of bats have sucking disks on their heels



MEGADERM VAMPIRE.

and wrists, so that they are able to stick on a wall like flies.

At least three species of bats are positively known to have the habit of migrating, going south in winter. These are the "red," the "red," and the "silver-haired" bats. The hoary bat is a mountain species and breeds in the far north. Its winter resort is the southern part of South Carolina and Southern Texas. The three species above mentioned are not found on Cape Cod, except in the middle of August, when they appear abundantly for two weeks. At that season many of them come aboard vessels off the coast. The migrations of bats, like those of birds, are controlled by considerations of temperature and food supply.

The wing of the bat is a very different affair structurally from the wing of a bird. A bird's wing is a mere stub for holding feathers; the fingers being rudimentary. In a bat's wing, on the other hand, the fingers are enormously developed, and over them is stretched a membrane, very much as silk is stretched over the ribs of an umbrella. The membrane consists of two coats of skin with nerves and vessels between. It is interesting to note two methods of adoption by nature of the wing. Bats, though less graceful flyers than birds, are much more agile. They do not soar, but accomplish flight by rapid wing beats.

The wing of a bat is something more than a mere instrument of flight. It is an extremely delicate organ of touch. In fact, it may be said that the sense of touch is more highly developed in the bat than in any other animal. Its nocturnal habit renders this perceptive faculty extremely valuable to the creature. It must be remembered that the membrane which covers the wings extends from the head down to the feet and tail, practically surrounding the body. The large ears are also organs of touch. At the bases of the fine hairs that cover the membrane and the ears are sensitive nerve-fibers. A bat that has been blinded will fly about a room, passing hither and thither between threads that have been stretched across this way and that, without ever touching one of them. This somewhat curious experiment has been made more than once.

The expression "blind as a bat" is based on a false notion. The eyes of a bat are well developed, and it is probable that it sees very well. Its senses of hearing and smelling are exceedingly acute. The voice of a bat is a metallic squeak so highly pitched as to be near the limit of human hearing, being reckoned at about 2,300 vibrations a second. When vibrations become much more rapid than that they are not detected by the ear. Many persons cannot hear the squeak of a bat for this reason. Apparently, bats are not very intelligent, notwithstanding their keen senses. Their breeding habits are a mystery, though it is known that the female gives birth to from one to three young.

The female bat is a very devoted mother. A story perfectly well authenticated is told of a person who caught a little bat and carried it away. The mother followed and actually alighted upon the breast of the captor, her fear of him being overcome by the strength of the maternal instinct. All bats are nocturnal, and there is not one day flying species, though some of them venture abroad in the twilight. It is chiefly on this account that so little is known positively about bats. To shoot them is difficult for lack of daylight, as well as by reason of their erratic mode of flight. An enthusiastic bat hunter would rather kill one hoary bat than slay a dozen deer. The sexes of bats differ very little, the females being slightly bigger as a rule. The males of some species have scent glands at the neck or on the shoulders, and one genus has them on the wings. These glands are rudimentary in the females. Whether or not the scent is for the purpose of attracting the female is not known.



AFRICAN BAT.

that are fish-eaters. They actually catch small fishes somewhat after the manner of fish-hawks. Bats are very abundant in the Yellowstone National Park. Immense numbers of them congregate in the caverns and in pockets in the rocks near the Hot Springs. They seem to find the warmth agreeable, and hundreds of them may be startled from every cranny. The so-called pale bat of California, New Mexico and Arizona, a comical naked muzzled of a livid hue which gives to the animal a very repulsive appearance. It infests houses and causes much annoyance by scrambling about in walls. Another remarkable California bat has enormous ears, projecting forward so as to form what look like ear trumpets. The nostrils are far above and beyond the mouth in a sort of proboscis.

There is a slightest cause of the fear which is only entertained by women that bat will get into their hair. No animal is less likely to do such a thing. How the notion originated is beyond imagining. Another popular belief is to the effect that bats carry bed-bugs. This is likewise unfounded. Certain parasitic insects that look like bed-bugs and on the ears of bats, but they are not such.

They Saw President Lincoln.

The Chicago Times-Herald lately printed some reminiscences of the old state-house by Gen. John McConnell. He had been a close friend of Lincoln before the war. "He was to me a perfect being," General McConnell declares. "I do not know a flaw in his character."

Not long after Lincoln's election to the presidency, General McConnell was with him in his office in the old state-house in Springfield, when a tall, lank countryman, with his trousers tucked into his boots, put his head into the door and asked to see Mr. Lincoln. He was from Kansas, he explained, and with his family was going back to Indiana. He had voted for Mr. Lincoln, and wanted to see him.

Mr. Lincoln, we are left to suppose, received his unconventional caller with politeness, and presently the man asked:

"What kind of a tree is that below there in the yard?"

It was a warm November day, and the window was open. Mr. Lincoln looked out, and said:

"It is a cypress. I suppose you would have known it if you had been on the ground."

"No, I don't mean that," said the countryman. "I mean the other one nearer the house. You will have to lean farther out."

Mr. Lincoln leaned out, and then straightening up, he said:

"There is no other one."

"No," said the man. "Well, do you see that woman and them children over there in that wagon? That is my wife and children. I told them I would show them the President-elect of the United States, and I have. Good-bye, Mr. Lincoln."

And so saying he stalked down stairs.

AFTER FIVE YEARS OF AGONY

From Rheumatism Mr. John Gray, a Farmer of Wingham, Ont. Secures Perfect Relief in Four Hours, and is Cured in a Few Days.

Mr. John Gray, 35 years a resident of Wingham, Ont., requests us to publish the following: "About five years ago I contracted rheumatism, owing to an accident, and since that time have suffered great agony. At intervals I have been completely laid up and unfit for any kind of work. A friend strongly recommended me to go to Mr. Chas. Swaine's Rheumatic Cure. I did so, and received perfect relief in four hours. It enabled me to sleep, which I had not done for years satisfactorily. I used in all six bottles, and am completely cured. I have recommended it to many, and it always cures in a few days."

Tommy—How many presents did you get? Jackie—Twenty-one. How many d'yer get? Tommy—Nineteen. But I'll bet yer I can make more noise with mine than yer can with yours.

How to Cure Skin Diseases.

Simply apply "Swaine's Ointment." No internal medicine required. Cures Itch, eczema, itch, all eruptions on the face, hands, nose, etc., leaving the skin clear, white and healthy. Its great healing and curative powers are possessed by no other remedy. Ask your druggist for "Swaine's Ointment." Lyman, Sons & Co., Montreal, wholesale agents.

PAY TOO MUCH RENT

REPORT OF U. S. COMMISSIONER
OF LABOR WRIGHT

On the Rent Question—Other Countries Compared—Employers Aid Their Help by Providing Low Rents and in Other Ways.

Workmen in this world are paying too much of their wages for rent! This is the opinion of Carroll D. Wright, United States Commissioner of Labor. He comes to this conclusion after making a recent investigation of the housing of the working classes in various countries of the world. One-fifth of the wages earned by the head of a family ought to be the maximum expenditure for rent in cities. This, Commissioner Wright says, is agreed by the most competent economists. Hence the workman in the city who earns \$50 a month should not pay more than \$10 of it each month to his landlord.

Through the assistance of Dr. E. R. L. Gould, late statistical expert of the Department of Labor, Commissioner Wright has collected information concerning houses and building enterprises for workmen in all of the larger countries of the world. From these he has selected plans, with accompanying data, as models. These include large tenement or block buildings and small houses for individual families.

One of the most interesting is a French company which has formulated a scheme to assist its employees to become house owners.

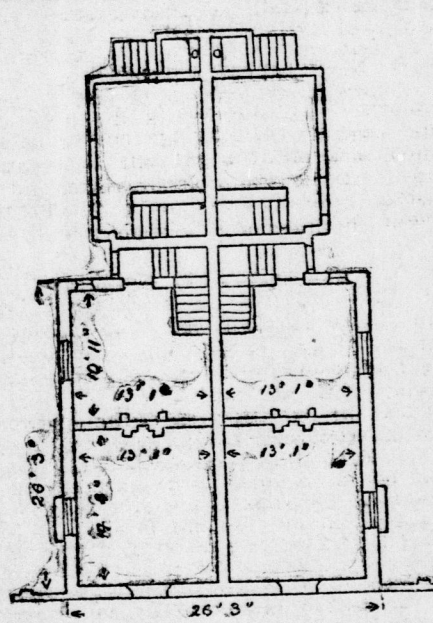
A man working for this company may rent a comfortable little cottage of brick and cut stone, with two stories, including a kitchen, parlor and two bedrooms, besides a cellar, for only \$8.32 per month in American money. Twice this amount is charged for such a house by private owners in the neighborhood. Each house stands on a lot two thousand square feet in area, and thus has an ample yard. By a novel arrangement reductions in rent are made for men in the employ of the company for certain lengths of time, and who have a certain number of children.

Besides this, the firm lends money to workmen, at low interest, that they may build their own houses. It sends a physician, free of charge, to the beds of any man or their families in case of injury or sickness. To those in the families of men employed more than two years they furnish free medicines. Men working less than two thousand square feet in their families one-fifth of the regular price of medicines. A free hospital and attending nurse are maintained for employees and their families.

All persons in the settlement likewise have access to mineral baths. The employees themselves are given free accident insurance, and are afforded a relief fund, savings bank, hospital, and garden lands for rent at a low figure. Besides this benevolence on the part of the employers, scholarships are given to workmen's children who show special aptitudes and who wish to attend the industrial schools.

Through a real estate company at Rouen, France, comfortable houses are rented to workmen for about seventy-seven cents a week or \$40 a year. Men living in these houses make from seventy-seven cents to \$1.35 per day. Hence those receiving the lowest wages need reserve but one day's salary each week to pay their rent. The price of such a house held by private parties in the same part of Rouen would be much more. The tenant cares to purchase his home he may do so by paying \$30 each year in addition to his rent, for sixteen years. These houses are cosier, two story affairs, containing generally five rooms—a kitchen and living room on the first floor and three bedrooms on the second.

A celebrated chocolate manufacturer in France houses at Noisiel about fourteen hundred of his employees in model dwellings. The rents are lowered according to a fixed scale, after ten, fifteen and twenty years' service. The average house has two stories. Such houses rent for a little less than \$30 a year, which is from a tenth to a twelfth of the wages of each family. Besides offering this cheap rental, the proprietor furnishes free repairs, taxes, water, schools for employees' children, medical attendance, baths, literary and musical entertainments. Here are situated schools,



A co-operative store and bakery, concert hall, club room, restaurants where workmen not tenants get their meals, refreshment, hospital and library. Provisions in the store are sold at cost; the free schools are conducted at the proprietor's expense, and besides these he has established a savings bank which gives six per cent. on all deposits.

By a corporation of Birkenhead, England, is worked a novel scheme by which employees may live in its houses almost free of rent at the expiration of a given time. At the end of the first year rent is reduced thirty per cent., at the end of the third another thirty per cent., and at the end of the fifth another thirty per cent., continues to be paid to most expenses of maintenance and repairs. Thus the men are given an incentive to stay long, and the company is enabled to retain old and experienced hands.

A large mining company in Belgium has purchased reservations upon which it has built, in groups of four, comfortable brick houses of five rooms, renting for \$1.45. The average rent for like houses in the vicinity, owned by private parties, is said to be double this. The same company, although not selling its own houses, advances money to workmen, free of interest, to be deducted from their wages, if they care to build.

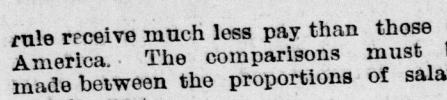
The proprietor of one of the world's greatest gun works, in Germany, has instituted a reservation for his employees and their families, now numbering in all about 8,000. Besides providing systems of cheap rental and mortgages, he has established two immense lodging houses for

his employees. The charge for boarding and lodging in these is twenty-six cents per day for each man. The management is conducted on the plan of a military barracks, every man making his own bed and attending to his room. Orderlies are appointed by the proprietor, and respect for these officers is demanded from the lodgers. Fines are also imposed upon employees for the violation of rules laid down by the proprietor.

In Belgium, there is a semi-official institution, the General Savings Bank, holding deposits guaranteed by the Government. This lends money to workmen at low rates of interest in order to encourage them in building their own homes. Through a system of life insurance likewise established under Belgian law, the family of a workman is given a home, in case of his death.

Commissioner Wright points with great emphasis to the importance of these institutions of the Belgian Government.

Six institutions in America have been selected by the Commissioner in his study of model small houses. The rent paid by a model small house will appear very large after reading of the small rents asked in foreign countries. But it must be borne in mind that foreign workmen as a



rule receive much less pay than those of America. The comparisons must be made between the proportions of salary paid for rent.

One enterprise of Illinois, one of Maine, one of Connecticut and three of Massachusetts aid workmen in renting or buying their homes. At Pullman, Ill., according to estimate, the workmen in their tenements pay about one-fifth of their wages for rent. Examination of the New England concerns shows that employees in one place paid from ten to twelve and a half per cent., in another fifteen per cent., and in another twenty per cent. of their wages for rent, to the employers. In Boston a philanthropist has organized a scheme by which a tenant in twelve years may come in possession of his own home by paying for it in instalments equaling the average rate of rent.

Commissioner Wright believes that rapid transit will powerfully influence this housing problem. For the workman, he says, space is now measured by time, not by distance. Electric railways are causing the lessening of distances.

Convinced.

It is said that although the celebrated advocate, Lord Erskine, was sometimes jocular and occasionally a little unkind in his treatment of witnesses, no man was better able than he to make them realize the foolishness of uttering irrelevance or the repulses without giving offense.

At one time a witness obstinately refused to be sworn in the usual manner, but stated that although he would not "kiss the book," he would "hold up his hand" and swear.

Erskine asked him what reason he had for preferring such an eccentric way to the usual method.

"It is written in the book of Revelations," replied the obstinate man, "that the angels standing on the sea 'held up their hand.'"

"That is very true," said Erskine, "but I can hardly see how that applies to your case. In the first place you certainly are not an angel. And in the second place you cannot tell, you have no means of knowing, how the angel would have sworn had he stood on dry ground as you do."

There was no flippancy or irreverence in Erskine's tone, and after a moment's reflection the stubborn witness yielded to the point, impressed by the advocate's common sense view of the matter, and took the oath in the usual manner.

The Bridge to Paradise. Al Sirat is the name of an imaginary bridge between the earth and the Mohammedan Paradise. It is not so wide as a spider's thread, and those laden with sin fall over into the abyss below. Just so narrow is the bridge between health and illness, and many there are who fall into the abyss of chronic invalidity, solely from the fact that they do not know what to do to get their health.

For so many women suffering from diseases peculiar to the sex, Dr. Pierce's Prescription has proved an invaluable boon. For prolapsus, inflammation of the uterus, suppression and all diseases arising therefrom, it is truly unequalled in its powers of cure.

The best system in any patient is prompt pay; as long as it lasts you need not care what else ails him, unless he is likely to die.—Medical Record.

Scientific Miracles. A question which has received wide attention from our theologians of recent years is, whether the days of miracles are past. We cannot settle this question, but we can give an expression of opinion which has reached us from the little town of Tavistock respecting the cures for alcoholism effected there by the Owen Electric Belt. Some five or six from this point, including our correspondent, have taken the cure and every one of them are living witnesses to its efficacy. We do not claim to work miracles, these results are purely scientific. We are simply specialists, and keep abreast of medical research in this line, hence our unrivaled success. We quote from letter just received: "All the boys here are doing well, and everyone considers that the days of miracles have not yet ended, especially in the case of Jno. W., who never was known to remain sober for more than three weeks at a time before taking the treatment, and now I must say that Jack has been transformed into a gentleman." Comment is useless. From every direction come the same gratifying reports. Toronto office, 28 Bank of Commerce Building. Phone 1163. xt

I was cured of rheumatic gout by MIN. ARD'S LIMENT. Andrew King, Halifax.

I was cured of acute Bronchitis by MIN. ARD'S LIMENT. Lt. Col. C. CREWE READ, Sussex.

I was cured of acute Rheumatism by MIN. ARD'S LIMENT. C. S. BILLING, Markham, Ont.

The proprietor of one of the world's greatest gun works, in Germany, has instituted a reservation for his employees and their families, now numbering in all about 8,000. Besides providing systems of cheap rental and mortgages, he has established two immense lodging houses for

ASK FOR INFORMATION.

Persons who have sufficient interest in knowing what the experience of life insurance companies that have kept abstainers and non-abstainers in separate classes has been, to send a postal card to the manager of the Temperance and General Life Assurance Company at Toronto, Ont., stating their desire to get this information can have it by a return mail.

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