

A CAT BUCKING A MAN'S BREAST IN MISSOURI.

Mr. French, a member of the Thorne Dramatic Troupe, playing an engagement in this city, retired to rest at an early hour, and soon fell into a deep slumber. After the lapse of an hour or two he was aroused by a feeling of overpowering oppressiveness and suffocation, and was horrified to find that a huge cat was sitting on his breast, and had its head to his mouth sucking away his breath. He found himself in an almost exhausted condition; so much so that he was unable to shake off the vampire fiend attacking him. Struggle as he would, the cat only fastened its claws the deeper in his chest, and went on at its horrible feast. His groans and cries of agony, however, fortunately brought some neighboring lodgers to his relief, and he was rescued from his frightful position. Even then they were compelled to turn him out of bed and roll him over and over on the floor before the cat could be made to release its hold and abandon its purpose. Mr. French's face and chest this morning bear frightful evidences of his terrible battle with the monster.—*Moberly Enterprise Monitor.*

BASE BALL AS A REVIVAL AGENT.

The Lexington, Ky., Gazette tells the following good story, which is vouched for:

Two good, clever brothers, who live not a hundred miles from Lexington, who are known to be earnest Christians, have organized and have now in a flourishing condition a base ball club on a highly moral basis. The *modus operandi* is this: The club meets every Saturday evening for play, invitations in the meantime having been sent out in the highways and byways, and especially to every hardened case. After the game is over these particular cases are selected and invited to supper, after which they are taken to the prayer meeting, which is held weekly, in the school-house hard by; and so unexpectedly has the poor sinner been led along, that, before he is aware of it, he is down on his knees to the first effort in prayer, probably, since he left his mother's knee. He is then appointed to lead the meeting on the next Saturday evening, and is duly installed a member of the club, which is said to be in a very flourishing condition.

SAVED BY A CANARY.

The dwelling house of George Bockius, of Little Britain, Penn., narrowly escaped destruction by fire on Wednesday night week. During the night Mrs. Bockius was awakened by loud and peculiar screams from her canary bird, which hung in its cage in the kitchen. Arousing Mr. Bockius, they listened for a few minutes, when a noise was heard as of the fall of the cage to the floor, and Mr. Bockius hastened down stairs. On arriving at the kitchen he found the room on fire, the flames having spread around the ceiling and burned off the string that secured the bird cage. By the application of water Mr. Bockius succeeded in subduing the flames. The origin of the fire is unknown, but it is supposed to have originated from a lingering spark from the previous day's ironing fire, lodged somewhere about the ironed clothing. Considerable clothing was destroyed.

Miscellaneous.

Mr. Frank Buckland, writing respecting the capture of a West African python on board a vessel in the London Docks, says: "I wish this latest arrival had been a little smaller, as he might have afforded a meal to the ophophagus, or snake-eating snake at the zoological. This fellow has now eaten 110 common English snakes in fourteen months."

Manitoba offers a good market for thoroughbred stock. The local papers say that if some enterprising Ontario breeder will be on hand at Winnipeg at the time of the Provincial Fair in October he can meet all the farmers of the North-West and make sales at good prices. The crops promise to be good, and farmers will then have the cash to buy.

An English correspondent describes a scene of which he was an eye witness: Five large rats were started by the ferrets from a hollow tree growing near the mill dam. They undertook to swim across the river, but were detected and pursued by a pair of swans. The swans struck vigorously with their bills, often catching the rats and shaking them after the manner of a terrier dog. The chase was an exciting one, the rats diving without avail. Three of the remain were killed, and the other two landed in a badly crippled condition. As the swan is such a good ratter, the bird has an extra claim to the fostering care of man. But will all swans boldly fight rats?

During the first half of every month, when money is plenty with the miners of a city, many gambling saloons in that city are closed. These saloons are

Horse Notes.

SALK OF MOLLIE SMITH.—This well-known mare, with public record of 2:38, foaled 1862, by Ryedyk's Hamblonian, was sold to Jacob L. Dodge, of New York, by Major Barker, on Saturday, 1st inst., for \$616. \$10,000 was once refused for this mare by her late owner, J. O. Smith, of Newburgh, upon her showing a half mile in 1:04.

JOKE ON THE EDITOR.—The editor of the Peru, (Ind.) Republican was absent on a political mission when the races occurred in his town, and the compositors got it into their heads that horses always trotted in two minutes and a fraction, so they reported Dan Minor as winning in 2:11, 2:08, 2:08, instead of 3:11, etc. Fast boys, those Peruvian printers.

PROMISING TWO-YEAR OLD.—Mr. P. P. Jordan, of Harrodsburg, Ky., is the owner of a bay filly, 2 years old, named Fannie Witherspoon, that recently trotted a half mile over the Harrodsburg track in 1:22. On the occasion of this remarkable performance, Mr. A. J. McKimmon, of Nashville, Tenn., offered Mr. Jordan \$8,000 for Fannie, which offer was declined.

TROTTER AT PITTSBURG, PA.—A lively race took place at Friendship Park on Monday afternoon, at which the best time ever made on this track was scored against the winner. The principal contestants were Joe Brown, Nellie Irwin and Lady H., though there were several other horses in the race. It was won by Joe Brown in three straight heats; time, 2:20, 2:25, 2:26. The favorite in the pools was Nellie Irwin, and her supporters consequently dropped heavily. The time made was faster than that made by Goldsmith Maid on the same track. A large crowd was in attendance.

Middleport, N. Y., has a first-class curiosity in the shape of a colt, dog and pig, combined. The colt was born Sunday last, and is a curiosity indeed. Its head is all right, but the ears are about two inches further back than they should be, and resemble the ears of a bull dog. It has a body like a hound and a little short tail, resembling, in every particular, the tail of a pig. The colt is the property of Mr. George Martin, who lives about three-quarters of a mile northwest of this village. The colt died Monday morning last, and we are informed that Mr. Martin has sent the hide to Michigan to be stuffed.

Capt. Jenks, by Norfolk, his dam by Belmont, was purchased a day or two ago by Messrs. Pymey & Gray. He is spoken very highly of by all who have seen him, and there is little doubt of him making a first-class trotter. He has had very little training yet it is claimed a 2:30 gait is not much more than a jog for him. He ran in several races a couple of years ago, and was broken to harness when thrown out of training as a race horse. He is a fine looking bay gelding about 15½ hands.

Bodine, who swept everything before him in 1874, but who was kept in retirement last year owing to lameness, made his first appearance on the turf this season in the free-for-all race at Jackson, Mich. His competitors were Frank Reeves, General Garfield, Observer and Badger Girl. Fred Hooper, Mollie Morris and Kansas Chief were entered in the purse, but they declined to start owing to the heavy condition of the track. A severe rain had fallen, which rendered the work very difficult. Bodine could not make much headway through the mud. He was third in the first heat, second in the second, fourth in third and fifth in the fourth heat. The fastest heat was the first, 2:40, which was won by General Garfield. The three next heats were taken by Frank Reeves. Although we do not report Bodine as a victor, it is gratifying to know that he is able to appear on the track this year.

MAMBRINO HUNTER.—Mr. Peter Duryea, of Port Richmond, Staten Island, has sold a half interest in his chestnut stallion Mambrino Hunter, to Mr. John Feeks, of Syracuse (N. Y.) Driving Park, for \$3,500. Mambrino Hunter is an elegant specimen of the representative American trotter, in form, general appearance and pedigree. He is four years old, stands 16 hands, strip in face and both hind ankles white, deep-chested, finely coupled, tremendous stifles and gas-kins, long from point of hip to hock, showing immense driving power; short back and flat, tapering legs, finely cut head, piercing eye and a good neck, fitting on to well inclined shoulders. He has never been handled for speed, but has trotted to wagon in 2:41, and after making a short season in the stud will be regularly trained by Mr. Feeks for the late Fall trotting season. The following is his pedigree: Mambrino Hunter, ch s, foaled 1872, sired by Herr's Mambrino Patchen (sire of Lady Stout, record of 2:29 as a three-year-old), dam Kate Hunter,

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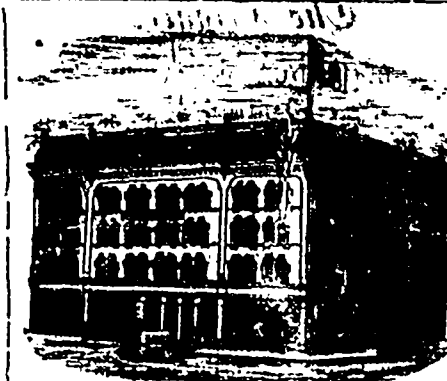
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The proprietors of the SPORTING TIMES have much pleasure in announcing to their patrons that they have made arrangements to present a magnificent horse picture to their advance paying subscribers for the year 1876-7. Realizing the importance of this undertaking, and being determined to offer our subscribers a picture that should in itself be worthy of the paper it represents, and which should be treasured as a work of art; after culling over the finest productions of the American press, we selected the beautiful chromo of GOLDSMITH MAID, printed in nine colors and innumerable shades, size 18½ by 24 inches, believing, as our friends will when they see it, that it is the finest horse picture ever published in America. It is not to be confounded with the miserable pictures hawked around the country by some journals, but is really a work of high art and intrinsically of more value than we receive for our yearly subscription. She is represented standing in a box stall stripped, and in this position the picture, from which the chromo is reproduced, was painted by one of the first artists in the profession in America. When varnished and mounted it is impossible to distinguish between the chromo and a very fine oil-painting. It is a work of art worthy of a place in the finest collection in the country, and what adds to its value is the only correct likeness of GOLDSMITH MAID ever published. As a memento of the most remarkable trotting equine in the world, shortly to be relegated from the turf, it will be treasured by every horseman in the country, more especially by those who have seen the little mare in any of her races. This picture was sold by subscription only a few months ago for \$6 a piece, and copies of it were in great demand. We expect in this liberal gift to more than double our subscription list in the next three months, and if our friends who receive the picture will only show it to their acquaintances and inform them how they may get a copy, we are sure our anticipations will be realized. The picture can be procured in no other way; we do not sell it; and only give it to those who remit Yearly in advance for the SPORTING TIMES.

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