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PECULIARITIES OF SMELL,-The insensibility of certain eyes to particular colours, and of certain ears to particular sounds, appear to have their counter part in the insensibility of certain noses to particular odours. "Thus, a gentleman who is fond of sweet scented flowers, states that he does not recognise the peculiar odour of the syrings, although reses, violets, mignonette, &c., produce their normal effect on his olfactory nerves.

A Dog Story.—A poor fellow, a carter named Colville, residing at Crossgates, near Dunfermine, left home some time ago accompanied by his dog. He did not return that day, but on the following afternoon, the dog arrived home in a very excited state, and acted in a most eccentric manner, apparently enneavouring to atract the intention of the inmates. Seeing that the animal continually rushed off in the same direction, and that he evidently wanted some one to go with him. Colville's friends resolved to follow him, fearing something had happenned. The dog led them straight away some dis tance to a dismal coal-shaft, where it stopped and refused to go any further. The worst being now conjectured, grappling irons were procured, and eventually after much trouble, the dead body of Colville was brought to the bank.

Ages of Animals.-A bear rarely exceeds twenty years; a fox fourteen or sixteen; lions live long. Pompey lived to the age of seventy. The average of cats is fifteen years; a squirrel and hare seven or eight years; rabbits, seven; elephants have been known to live to the age of four hundred years; a dog, twenty; pigs have been known to live to the age of thirty years; the rhinoceros to twenty; a horse has been known to live to the ago of sixtytwo, but averages twenty-five or thirty; camels sometimes live to the age of one hundred; stags are long-lived; Cuvier considers it probable that whales sometimes live one thousand years, ravens frequently reach the age of one hundred; an eagle died at Vienna at the age of one hundred years and four; swams have been known to live three hundred years. Mr. Mallerton has the skeleton of a swan that attained the age of two hundred years. Pelicans are long-lived. A tortoise has been known to live to the age of one hundred and seven.

SHETLAND -Healtaland, or Shetland, is a wonderful archipelago, consisting of more than a hundred islands. The sea-coast on the maintand is broken up and indented with deep bays, locally called "voes." In Cornwall similar places are called "zawns." Round the majestic cliffs and towering headlands the turbulent surges caused by the cur rents of the ocean are called "rousts." In England similar places are called "races," as the "Race of Portland," &c. The sheep, as well as the ponics, are very small in Shetland. The sheep give the wool from which the shawls are made. In the high latitude of Shetland the light of day at midsummer never totally disappears, and the smallest print can be read at midnight, when the lingering rays of the preceding day mingle with and give way to early dawn of the morrow. During winter the nights are proportionly long and dreary, and in the month of December the sun is not above the horizon more than five hours and twenty minutes.

PARSLEY -Parsley was held in high esteem by the Greeks. At banquets they bound their brows with slight sprigs, and also adorned with them the graves of their deceased relatives. In the Isthmian games, at Rome, the victors were crowned with pareley. It was formerly supposed that this plant originally came from Sardinia, because that island is represented on ancient medals as a female, beside whom is a vase containing a bunch of parsley; but it is, in fact, a native of all damp and shady spots in Greece, and even of the southern provinces of France. From the beautiful green of this plant is formed an elegant decoration to certain dishes garnished with it. To the poor man's soup it adds a luxury, and it contributes to the elegance of the finest dinners. A branch of laurel and a parsley crown are the attributes which would now a days suit the god of banquets. These plants have been employed for nobler purposes; but in the age of gastronomy, it will not do to insist too strongly on what was done in the heroic ages.

AN ELECTRICAL PLANT.—A plant possessing natural electrical powers is said to have been discovered in Nicsragua, and a short description of it is given in a Belgian horticultural journal. It is a species of "Phytolacea," and has been christened "P. electrices," in consequence of its curious properties, which are so strong as to cause a sensible shork, as from a galvanic battery, to the hands of any persons attempting to gather a branch. The needle of the compass is affected by proximity to the plant. There is a curious shrub called the "compass plant," which has long been known to exist in the prairie lands of the Western States of North America, and which takes its name from the peculiarity that the edges of the leaves are invariably turned north and south, while the surfaces face east and west. This curious property enables travel-lers, by simply feeling the leaves, to ascertain their direction in the darkest night, the plant itself haying, it is said, a perceptible general inclination towards the Pole. The cause of this fixity of position in the leaves has never been discovered; some authorities attribu ing it to the effect of light on the varying sensitiveness of the two sides of the leaves, while others seek for the reason in electricity. The latter hypothesis has not been generally accepted but if the alleged discovery of the electrical plant in Nicaragua is authentic, the probability of such an influence being at work in the compass plant is greatly increased.

ADVENEURE WITH A SNAKE IN INDIA.—Eight or ten large fish had been taken, and the chase had wandered some two or three hundred yards from the spot where the sahibs had left their guns, when suddenly a shrick was heard from one of the men who searched the bank with their feet; he was seen to fall back into the water, and a huge serpent uncoiling himself from his cold lair, and raising his head above the surface, took his course down the centre of the stream, lashing the water into foam, while the villagers fled in every direction. Not so the gallant shikarees; closing together as the monster approached, they cut at him vigorously and severely wounded him. A terrible tussle now ensued; turning upon his assailants with open mouth, he attempted to seize one of them, but was repelled by a shower of blows and several fresh wounds. He then once more sought safety in flight but was pursued by his active enemies, and being disabled by a well-directed cut that broke his spine, was dragged to land amid the shouts of all present, The sahibs had indeed charged into the river to help the shikarces, but their guns being left behind, their knives were of little use in such a melee, and the victory belonged solely to the two swordsmen. The snake proved to be a very large rock snake (a species allied to the boa), and measured nearly twenty feet in length; while the thickest part of his body was as large as a stout man's thigh. An attempt was made to preserve the skin but the numerous wounds, the heat, and the closeness of the weather, and the want of arsonical soap ren-

dered their efforts unavailing.

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THE EXTENSIVE CLOTHING HOUSE OF J. G. KENNEDY & CO. It has been the aim of the Commercial Review, in

OUR RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS.

the exhibits we have made of the various branches of industry with which our city abounds, to mention only those establishment that can be fairly called representatives of their trade. And while as a general rule we have taken only those which do a wholsale business, we have not overlooked those in the retail trade which, from the magnitude of their operations, deserve especial mention. Within the last few years a great change has taken place in the clothing trade. Ready-made goods are now produced in as fine fabrics and as good styles and make as are the most of custom-made suits. In-fact there are many of our best citizens who buy ready-made clothing entirely, and none of their acquaintances are aware that their stylish suit do not come from a fashionable tailor. Especially has this feature of the trade been apparent during the hard times and when comony was a necessity. The most extensive retail clothing house in this city is that of Mossrs. J. G. Kennedy & Co, No. 31 St. Lawrence st. We had the pleasure of visiting this establishment a few days since, and we can safely assert that a larger finer or more stylish stock of clothing would be hard to find. The building occupied by them is four stories in beight and is filled to repletion with every class of goods in the clothing line, comprisevery class of goods in the clothing line, compris-ing men's boys', and youths' ready-made clothing n every variety, Canadian and Scotch tweeds, cas-simeres, doeskins, &c. On the first floor is the stock of over coats, suits, &c., in the latest styles and makes, and sold at prices to suit the most excepting. Induct it mould be difficult to Carl exacting. Indeed it would be difficult to find a customer who could not be suited in his department. The measuring and culting department is also on this floor. Here the finest custom-made clothing can be obtained at minimum prices. The 3rd and 4th floors are devoted to clothing of every description. They carry at all times a fine stock of tweeds, broadcloths, &c, &c., in bales. Their clothing for excellence of quality and first class workmanship and finish cannot be surpassed. We commend any of our readers who really want superior, well fitting, stylish, and durable custom or ready-made garments at bottom prices to pay this house a visit they are sure to be suited by going to this fine establishment .- Advt.

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