

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1897.

HYPNOTIZED BY SNAKES.

DR. BRAYMAN'S ESCAPE IN AN AMAZON FOREST.

But for the Quickness and Bravery of His Native Guide He Would Have Lost His Life—Hypnotism an Instinctive Force—A Scheme of Murder Frustrated.

"What in modern days we have called hypnotism is a thing which, under one name or another, or unnamed, has existed as long as animate life in the world," said Dr. A. G. Brayman, who has devoted considerable study to hypnotism both as an abstract science and in its bearing on medical practice. "In the most ancient histories we have evidence of this force in the belief in the power of certain men to bewitch others, which in the Latin races survives in the fear of the evil eye. And from the earliest times in civilized rural communities, as among all savage peoples, the belief in witch doctors—men and women who cure ailments by incantations of one sort or another—has prevailed. No doubt these occult healers often accomplish all they profess; and the secret of the cure is the hypnotic influence they exercise upon the mind of the patient.

"In lower forms of animal nature we find manifestations of this power in the charming of birds and animals by snakes. The thing that led me first to study this subject was when in boyhood I saw a frog fascinated by a snake. The snake, which was about three feet in length, of a non-venomous species, lay coiled by the roadside, its head resting upon its coils, the forked tongue darting from the mouth while its eyes were fixed on the frog, which sat motionless gazing on the snake a foot away. This was as they were when I found them; how they came together I could not tell. There apparently was nothing to prevent the frog from hopping away out of danger, but he chose to squat there within reach of his inveterate enemy. I had an errand that took me a mile beyond. I left the two as they were, did my errand, and hurried back. The snake had retreated into the long grass, where I found it with the frog, half swallowed, in its mouth; the frog was fully alive, but was making no resistance or attempt to get away from the snake.

"Ten years later, on the Amazon River, I had a startling evidence of the hypnotizing power of the snake family. In my occupation of collecting bird skins for mounting I was threading a forest path, carrying in hand a gun loaded with very fine bird shot, while my Indian guard followed, carrying a heavier gun charged with buckshot, to use in case we should come upon a deer or a jaguar. A bird of brilliant plumage flew into a tree which overhung the path, and as I peered into the foliage trying to discern the bird I became aware of something swaying before my eyes and a flitting of prismatic colors producing on me something of the impression of a kaleidoscope. So unobtrusively had this thing come into view that it dawned only slowly on my mind, preoccupied with the search for the bird, that the object so softly reaching toward me was the head and six feet of the neck and body of an enormous water boa. From its mouth the forked tongue was shooting and vibrating and changing light's were from its eyes bent upon me. With my cocked gun in my hand I did not think to use it or to run away, but stood gazing, literally spell-bound, as the snake, slipping from the bough on which it lay, advanced its head toward me.

"I heard my guide shout from behind me. The snake's head drew back with an angry hiss as the Indian crowded past me, raising his gun to his shoulder as he did so, and with the loud crack, crack! of the two barrels he seized me with both arms and rushed me back away from the place. Then I saw the snake, which had dropped from the tree, writhing and twisting in the path—an immense fellow, twenty-eight feet long and of girth in proportion. Its head was shattered by the two charges of buckshot, but the convulsions of the body were enough to show the reptile's enormous strength and give an idea of how I should have fared if once it had thrown its coils around me. The boa would have done this in a few moments more, the guide told me, and if he had not rushed to my aid I would have stood still, fascinated, and never stirred to avoid my fate. In other words, the snake had 'charmed' or hypnotized me beyond all power of resistance or retreat.

"The two episodes just related were in my own experience. A third case, illus-

trating the human power of hypnotizing, with an unselfish purpose, occurred with a friend of mine, named Jerome Parker, who at the time was residing as a sheep ranchman in the Argentine Republic. He had in some way offended a gaucha, as the cowboys of the pampas are called—a race of wild riders of mixed Spanish and Indian descent, with the vengeful and bloodthirsty characteristics of both strains of ancestry—and, unknown to my friend, the gaucha had determined to kill him. The time and place that he selected for carrying out his design was a holiday festival in a little plaza town called Santa Clara. Parker was there, but, as after the fashion of ranchmen at that time in the pampas, he carried a pistol in open view, and moreover, had friends with him likewise armed, the gaucha thought it too risky to try the business with his knife and so resorted to his other deadly weapon, the lasso. But to use this effectively it was necessary to catch my friend off his guard, and the first effort of the gaucha was to engage his attention.

"During the first part of the day there were tricks and games by horsemen and other performances in skill to amuse the crowd. At last the gaucha referred to, dismounting from his horse and taking his position in front of Parker, began a performance with his lasso. He had two musicians as accompanists and to the strains of a weird air played in slow time on a guitar and an Indian drum, he made the rope writhe and roll on the ground before him in endless coils like a thing alive, then swung it above his head in loops and spirals his feet at the same keeping step with the music. Without missing step, and with lasso still twirling he set foot into his stirrup and swung himself upon his horse's back; then, as the crowd about gazed in rapt silence at this strange performance, the lasso suddenly shot forth, straight as an arrow from his hand, and the loop settled about the shoulders of Parker. With a yell the gaucha wheeled his horse and set spurs to him, intending to drag Parker to death while making good his own escape. Parker was jerked from his feet a yard into the air at the first jump of the horse, falling heavily to the ground, with both arms pinioned by the lasso. He was powerless to help himself, but as luck would have it a wagon drawn by eight mules which was crossing the plaza lay right across the gaucha's path, and as he turned to pass around it an American in the crowd with a revolver shot the horse through the shoulder bringing him to the ground. The gaucha stepped from the animal's back as it fell, and drawing his knife, started for Parker, when the American shot him twice, through the leg and the body, stopping him. Parker was insensible when picked up, but was not seriously injured. The gaucha died of his wounds.

The thing that particularly interested me in this episode, as a hypnotist, was the carefully planned and well-executed method which the gaucha took to fix the attention of his intended victim, and the friends about him, upon the performance with the rope, leaving himself free to carry out his design of murder without hindrance—and he would have succeeded had it not been for the unforeseen accident of the wagon blocking the way.

"In duels in all ages, in the working up of a drop by frontier desperadoes in the far West, in every poker game in which expert players are engaged, the exercise of hypnotic influence is involved, the person possessing the stronger will or magnetic force using his power for intimidating or otherwise influencing the other. The revolving mirrors and other equipment of the professional hypnotist are mechanical aids for predisposing a subject to yield to the same influence, which an attentive observer may see exercised in the whole round of animal life without much help."

Badly Disabled.

A writer in Harper's Drawer says that a lawyer, having some papers to be executed by an old Irishwoman, went to her house one morning for her signature. On his arrival he requested her to sign her name "here," indicating the spot.

"Oh," said she, with a bland smile, "you sign it for me, for sure, since I lost my glasses I can't write."

"Well, how do you spell your name, Mrs. S.?"

"Martha, dear," she cried, "come here directly and spell me name for the gentleman, for sure, since I lost my teeth I can't spell a word!"

Short's Dyspepticure.

cures Dyspepsia, Headache, Biliousness, etc. 50c. and \$1.00. From C. K. Short, St. John, N. B., and druggists generally.

STUMBLING ON A FORTUNE.

Gambler Jim Warren of Idaho Played It All Alone.

An old prospector tells a story of the first days of mining in Idaho which sounds like a romance, but which he vouches for as being strictly true, and which agrees with the story frequently told by the late Judge Craig of Douglas county, who was one of the party that staked off the first claims in Idaho. "The first find of placer gold in Idaho" said the old prospector, "was made early in 1862 by Jim Warren, a prospector, who put in the time when not engaged in the field in patronizing the gaming table. A little camp had been established at Florence, and the diggings were poor and there was so little to be made that the men drifted away in little squads to find better pay. Warren and four others started out together, but soon afterward a disagreement arose, and Warren left the party to go it alone. After two or three days he camped one evening on the stream now known as Warren Creek, and, there being fair indications, the next day was spent in prospecting.

"Panning seven pans of dirt he saved the proceeds, and, taking samples of the quartz vein: back to Florence, where the gold was weighed and found to be worth 70 cents, or ten cents to the pan. This was not a big thing, for these days, but it led to the expectation of better strikes, and an expedition of sixteen men was organized to investigate the new field.

"On their way to Warren Creek they came across Warren's four companions from whom he had parted several days previously. They were 'tin-horns' and poor prospectors and had been unsuccessful. Seeing Warren with the crowd, they concluded that he had made a strike and followed him. Warren and his friends, not caring to share the discovery with the four men, resorted to a ruse to throw them of the scent, and spent several days on Seeseh Creek, so-called from the war of secession which had then been recently heard of. The four gamblers, being nearly out of provisions, were frozen out and compelled to return to Florence. The expedition then hastened to Warren Creek and staked out the Warren Meadows for themselves and their friends. Eight men were sent back to Florence for provisions, the rest remaining to work the claims. While the eight men were gone some of those who remained discovered better diggings at Summit Flat, obtaining from \$2 to \$1 to the pan.

"The claims at Warren Meadows were abandoned and new claims staked out on the new field. When the men returned from Florence with the provisions they were followed by about 600 miners, who suspected that rich dirt had been found, and swarmed along Warren Creek and its tributaries, making rich finds everywhere. The original locators were extremely fortunate in the Summit Flat diggings. Two men, named Besse and Osgood, worked together and rocked out 100 ounces the first day and 40 ounces during the next forenoon. The assay office had just been established at Boise, and these 140 ounces of dust were the first receipts of the office. The gold was found to be worth \$14 an ounce, the net returns of the two men for a day and a half being \$1,960. In three weeks that party of sixteen men had taken out from their claims on Summit Flat 30,000 ounces of gold. Before the close of the season 100,000 ounces were taken out, and the original members of the expedition had enough money to keep them comfortably for life. About as much more was taken out during the next season before the bar was exhausted.

"The honesty of the miners in those pioneer days was illustrated by an incident which occurred during this stampede from Florence. In the crowd of 600 that followed the eight men sent to Florence after provisions was a man nicknamed 'Boston', of a thirsty turn, who bought two barrels of whiskey and a wagon hauled by a pair of mules, his knowledge of the average prospector leading him to the conclusion that the crowd, limited to water as a beverage, would soon begin to suffer from the pangs of thirst. On the way to the diggings one Vandeventer offered him a handsome advance on the first cost of the whiskey, and the offer being accepted, the whiskey was turned over to Vandeventer, who set the barrels on end under a tree, took out the heads, hung a tin dipper on the side of each barrel, fixed a contribution box up against a tree with a slot in the closed lid, and went on with the crowd, leaving the improvised saloon to take care of itself. The miners



John Noble COSTUMES

Worn Throughout the World.
Three GOLD MEDALS Awarded

Canada's who like to dress nicely look to John Noble Ltd. for their pretty and durable wearing apparel. John Noble's many customers in Canada are so delighted with the goods supplied them, and the money they save (after paying duty and carriage) by dealing direct with the greatest firm of Costume experts in the world, that no lady who has once patronized this firm would for a moment dream of getting her costumes elsewhere. They are exquisite creations and models of ease and comfort.

MODEL 882—A smart well cut bodice trimmed with black and white. A full skirt, also made with black and white. \$2.50. Full bodice, well cut, trimmed with rows of fancy stitching. Tailor-made shirt in black. \$2.50. Full skirt, also made with black and white. \$2.50. Full skirt, also made with black and white. \$2.50.

PATTERNS of the two good durable cloths in which these costumes are supplied: 1.—John Noble Cheviot Serge, weighty and weather-resisting; 2.—John Noble Costume Coating, smooth-surfaced and lighter in weight. **SENT POST PAID** with Illustrated Book of European Fashions, to all who write naming this newspaper. Ladies who cannot wait for Patterns, can order straight away with the certainty of receiving satisfaction.

COLOURS of all Costumes: Black, Navy, Brown, Sage Green, Ruby, Myrtle, Electric-Blue, Fawn, Purple and Grey. **STOCKED SIZES** are 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000, 1002, 1004, 1006, 1008, 1010, 1012, 1014, 1016, 1018, 1020, 1022, 1024, 1026, 1028, 1030, 1032, 1034, 1036, 1038, 1040, 1042, 1044, 1046, 1048, 1050, 1052, 1054, 1056, 1058, 1060, 1062, 1064, 1066, 1068, 1070, 1072, 1074, 1076, 1078, 1080, 1082, 1084, 1086, 1088, 1090, 1092, 1094, 1096, 1098, 1100, 1102, 1104, 1106, 1108, 1110, 1112, 1114, 1116, 1118, 1120, 1122, 1124, 1126, 1128, 1130, 1132, 1134, 1136, 1138, 1140, 1142, 1144, 1146, 1148, 1150, 1152, 1154, 1156, 1158, 1160, 1162, 1164, 1166, 1168, 1170, 1172, 1174, 1176, 1178, 1180, 1182, 1184, 1186, 1188, 1190, 1192, 1194, 1196, 1198, 1200, 1202, 1204, 1206, 1208, 1210, 1212, 1214, 1216, 1218, 1220, 1222, 1224, 1226, 1228, 1230, 1232, 1234, 1236, 1238, 1240, 1242, 1244, 1246, 1248, 1250, 1252, 1254, 1256, 1258, 1260, 1262, 1264, 1266, 1268, 1270, 1272, 1274, 1276, 1278, 1280, 1282, 1284, 1286, 1288, 1290, 1292, 1294, 1296, 1298, 1300, 1302, 1304, 1306, 1308, 1310, 1312, 1314, 1316, 1318, 1320, 1322, 1324, 1326, 1328, 1330, 1332, 1334, 1336, 1338, 1340, 1342, 1344, 1346, 1348, 1350, 1352, 1354, 1356, 1358, 1360, 1362, 1364, 1366, 1368, 1370, 1372, 1374, 1376, 1378, 1380, 1382, 1384, 1386, 1388, 1390, 1392, 1394, 1396, 1398, 1400, 1402, 1404, 1406, 1408, 1410, 1412, 1414, 1416, 1418, 1420, 1422, 1424, 1426, 1428, 1430, 1432, 1434, 1436, 1438, 1440, 1442, 1444, 1446, 1448, 1450, 1452, 1454, 1456, 1458, 1460, 1462, 1464, 1466, 1468, 1470, 1472, 1474, 1476, 1478, 1480, 1482, 1484, 1486, 1488, 1490, 1492, 1494, 1496, 1498, 1500, 1502, 1504, 1506, 1508, 1510, 1512, 1514, 1516, 1518, 1520, 1522, 1524, 1526, 1528, 1530, 1532, 1534, 1536, 1538, 1540, 1542, 1544, 1546, 1548, 1550, 1552, 1554, 1556, 1558, 1560, 1562, 1564, 1566, 1568, 1570, 1572, 1574, 1576, 1578, 1580, 1582, 1584, 1586, 1588, 1590, 1592, 1594, 1596, 1598, 1600, 1602, 1604, 1606, 1608, 1610, 1612, 1614, 1616, 1618, 1620, 1622, 1624, 1626, 1628, 1630, 1632, 1634, 1636, 1638, 1640, 1642, 1644, 1646, 1648, 1650, 1652, 1654, 1656, 1658, 1660, 1662, 1664, 1666, 1668, 1670, 1672, 1674, 1676, 1678, 1680, 1682, 1684, 1686, 1688, 1690, 1692, 1694, 1696, 1698, 1700, 1702, 1704, 1706, 1708, 1710, 1712, 1714, 1716, 1718, 1720, 1722, 1724, 1726, 1728, 1730, 1732, 1734, 1736, 1738, 1740, 1742, 1744, 1746, 1748, 1750, 1752, 1754, 1756, 1758, 1760, 1762, 1764, 1766, 1768, 1770, 1772, 1774, 1776, 1778, 1780, 1782, 1784, 1786, 1788, 1790, 1792, 1794, 1796, 1798, 1800, 1802, 1804, 1806, 1808, 1810, 1812, 1814, 1816, 1818, 1820, 1822, 1824, 1826, 1828, 1830, 1832, 1834, 1836, 1838, 1840, 1842, 1844, 1846, 1848, 1850, 1852, 1854, 1856, 1858, 1860, 1862, 1864, 1866, 1868, 1870, 1872, 1874, 1876, 1878, 1880, 1882, 1884, 1886, 1888, 1890, 1892, 1894, 1896, 1898, 1900, 1902, 1904, 1906, 1908, 1910, 1912, 1914, 1916, 1918, 1920, 1922, 1924, 1926, 1928, 1930, 1932, 1934, 1936, 1938, 1940, 1942, 1944, 1946, 1948, 1950, 1952, 1954, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968, 1970, 1972, 1974, 1976, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1994, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024, 2026, 2028, 2030, 2032, 2034, 2036, 2038, 2040, 2042, 2044, 2046, 2048, 2050, 2052, 2054, 2056, 2058, 2060, 2062, 2064, 2066, 2068, 2070, 2072, 2074, 2076, 2078, 2080, 2082, 2084, 2086, 2088, 2090, 2092, 2094, 2096, 2098, 2100, 2102, 2104, 2106, 2108, 2110, 2112, 2114, 2116, 2118, 2120, 2122, 2124, 2126, 2128, 2130, 2132, 2134, 2136, 2138, 2140, 2142, 2144, 2146, 2148, 2150, 2152, 2154, 2156, 2158, 2160, 2162, 2164, 2166, 2168, 2170, 2172, 2174, 2176, 2178, 2180, 2182, 2184, 2186, 2188, 2190, 2192, 2194, 2196, 2198, 2200, 2202, 2204, 2206, 2208, 2210, 2212, 2214, 2216, 2218, 2220, 2222, 2224, 2226, 2228, 2230, 2232, 2234, 2236, 2238, 2240, 2242, 2244, 2246, 2248, 2250, 2252, 2254, 2256, 2258, 2260, 2262, 2264, 2266, 2268, 2270, 2272, 2274, 2276, 2278, 2280, 2282, 2284, 2286, 2288, 2290, 2292, 2294, 2296, 2298, 2300, 2302, 2304, 2306, 2308, 2310, 2312, 2314, 2316, 2318, 2320, 2322, 2324, 2326, 2328, 2330, 2332, 2334, 2336, 2338, 2340, 2342, 2344, 2346, 2348, 2350, 2352, 2354, 2356, 2358, 2360, 2362, 2364, 2366, 2368, 2370, 2372, 2374, 2376, 2378, 2380, 2382, 2384, 2386, 2388, 2390, 2392, 2394, 2396, 2398, 2400, 2402, 2404, 2406, 2408, 2410, 2412, 2414, 2416, 2418, 2420, 2422, 2424, 2426, 2428, 2430, 2432, 2434, 2436, 2438, 2440, 2442, 2444, 2446, 2448, 2450, 2452, 2454, 2456, 2458, 2460, 2462, 2464, 2466, 2468, 2470, 2472, 2474, 2476, 2478, 2480, 2482, 2484, 2486, 2488, 2490, 2492, 2494, 2496, 2498, 2500, 2502, 2504, 2506, 2508, 2510, 2512, 2514, 2516, 2518, 2520, 2522, 2524, 2526, 2528, 2530, 2532, 2534, 2536, 2538, 2540, 2542, 2544, 2546, 2548, 2550, 2552, 2554, 2556, 2558, 2560, 2562, 2564, 2566, 2568, 2570, 2572, 2574, 2576, 2578, 2580, 2582, 2584, 2586, 2588, 2590, 2592, 2594, 2596, 2598, 2600, 2602, 2604, 2606, 2608, 2610, 2612, 2614, 2616, 2618, 2620, 2622, 2624, 2626, 2628, 2630, 2632, 2634, 2636, 2638, 2640, 2642, 2644, 2646, 2648, 2650, 2652, 2654, 2656, 2658, 2660, 2662, 2664, 2666, 2668, 2670, 2672, 2674, 2676, 2678, 2680, 2682, 2684, 2686, 2688, 2690, 2692, 2694, 2696, 2698, 2700, 2702, 2704, 2706, 2708, 2710, 2712, 2714, 2716, 2718, 2720, 2722, 2724, 2726, 2728, 2730, 2732, 2734, 2736, 2738, 2740, 2742, 2744, 2746, 2748, 2750, 2752, 2754, 2756, 2758, 2760, 2762, 2764, 2766, 2768, 2770, 2772, 2774, 2776, 2778, 2780, 2782, 2784, 2786, 2788, 2790, 2792, 2794, 2796, 2798, 2800, 2802,