SEPT. 26, 1877.

THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE.

WAR NEWS.

CATHOLIC INTELLIGENCE.

THERS.-It is now beyond the shadow of a doubt that Thiers died a sincere Catholic.

BISHOP MEDLET, of Fredricton, who was present at the consecration of St. Michael's Church, has arrived in Quebec to take part in special services at that church in commemoration of its 21st anniver-

EPISCOPAL .- The Courrier du Canana announces sary. that several Canadian bishops and priests had a conference with the Papal Ablegate, Mgr. Conroy, at Montreal on Monday, relative to the subjects which form the object of his mission to Canada.

THE ARCHRISHOP OF QUEBEC .- His Grace has been confined to his room for a few days past by an attack of illness. It has not, however, we are glad to learn, been serious enough to prevent him from attending to any business of an important nature that may have presented itself. A few days' quiet will, it is confidently hoped, quite restore him.

MUSICAL .- The Rt. Rev. Bishop Healy proposes to introduce music into the Catholic schools of Portland, Me. Last week the organist of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Portland, thearai of the school for the musical instruction of Catholic young men in the hall of the Kavanagh School.

A NEW IRISH BISHOP .- The Cork Examiner announces that the Holy Father has been pleased to of Boss. The Bishop-elect is a nephew of the late of Cloyne. We believe he holds in politics the and patriotic principles as Dr. Keane, while his capacity for discharging the duties of the episcopal not only of the Holy See but also of the majority of the clergy of Ross. On the whole, Dr. Fitzgerald promises to be a worthy successor to Dr. O'Hea, and that is saying a good deal.

ADVICE.-His Excellency the Delegate Apostolic is reported to have said at Three Rivers, in answer to an address :- " However different may be the interests of the various Province of the Dominion ; however different may be the polical parties which you may believe yourselves at liberty to follow in matters purely civil, be always united when the defence of the interests of the Church and of your lights as Catholic citizens are in question. But while defending your own rights, always show that you are also the protectors of the rights of others; and thus you will always continue to be what, just now, you proclaim yourselves to be with legitimate pride-a united people living In perfect harmony with all your fellow-citizens, whatever may be their nationality or their religious belief."

THE HEALTH OF THE POPE .- The Roman Correspondents of certain London papers have sent, during the week, continual telegrams respecting the illness of the Holy Father. The Paris Correspondent of the Standard went so far as to say on Thursday that he had private information from Rome that "a vacancy in the Papal See might be hourly expected." It is satisfactory to learn from the Italieajournal by no means favourable to the Holy Seethat these reports are mere inventions. The Italie of Wedinsday says : The tropical heat from which we [in Rome] have suffered for some days, has, it is true, somewhat weakened the Holy Father, but his state, whatever that may say, is far from causing measiness. There is a prostration of strength, but it is only temporary, it will disappear with the heat. The Pope suffers from rhcumatic pains in the legs consoles himself, and often repeats Senectus ipsa est morbus " Old age itself is a disease."

THE MIRACLES OF MARY -A correspondent of the Paris Il Univers writes :- Before concluding let me mention a few more of Mary's miracles, for I have not the audacity to count up all her wonderful works. The fathers at Lourdes state that there when we reflect on the sufferings which the piltude of cures muy be accounted for. On Monday, vomiting. The doctor said she had heart disease. Her hands and limbs wore swollen ; she could not walk and suffered acute pain during the journey. After one bath in the piscina she felt cured and kneeled in it. Mass was about to commence in the grotto. She knelt all the time, partook of the Holy Communion, then attended on foot to the Basilica, and thence proceeded on foot to the missionary station. There is no signs of swelling left either ou the hands or legs. On the same day a lady from Paris, whose name and address are in my possession, but which I am requested not to publish at present, had been for the last eight months suffering from a couple of tumors of the chronic species. On her arrival at Bordeaux on Saturday night she swooned and her life was despaired of. She received shirer, but the swellings opened and healed up at once She walked without difficulty, went to the missionaries' house, and was seen this morning about the grotto, walking and even running with the greatest ease. A New PRESENTATION CONVENT AND AN INTEREST ING INCIDENT IN CONNECTION WITH IT .- Three weeks agg, in the midst of a merciles downpour of rain, the venerable Bishop of Cork laid the foundationstone of another of those blessed houses of prayer genial, gentle, and saintly foundress of the Order of the Presentation. It was in Crosshaven, in counly Cork, that the function of Sunday took place, and that the new memorial of Nano Nagle was mised up for the glory of God, and for the blessedness of the poor and the young of the district. At Cork addressed the large congregation, and in the legitimately displayed. There are many subjectscourse of an impressive discours narrated the following touching little episode in connection with the foundation of the convent. Having expressed his joy that there was soon to be spread in Crosshaven a new institution under the charge of the Sisters of the Presentation Order, his lordship proceeded :- Singularly enough it was a child, formed from her infancy in the love of the Blessed Virgin and in the supreme worship of the living God, by the Sisters of that same order, who had been em-ployed by Almighty God as His instrument for their introduction there. Forced to quit her native land and to go into a distant region, there, faithful to her religious principles, God prospered her; she wedded a man of rank and means; but the choicest blessing that God bestowed upon her was that her husband became a convert to the Catholic faith. Gmtefal for that high gift, he would fain make some votive offering by which to declare his gratitude to God, and, consulting with his wife, they recolved to dedicate so much of their means to the glory of God as would maintain some small estabment of the religious of the Presentation Order here, The convent at Crosshaven was the outcome of their pious and grateful vow. It reminds one not a little of the beautiful history of St. Mary Major in Rome.

HARD ON THE "CONSTRUCTIONISTS,"-Mr. O'CORDOR Power, M. P., addressed a meeting of Irishmen in Leeds on the policy of obstruction. He accused the Government of keeping down the Irish people by brute force, and throwing dust in the eyes of the English nation, and he protested against the voting away of the people's money at hours when their representatives were either in bed, or phisically incapable from after-dinner effects to attend to their dutles.

IRISH NEWS.

THE BROTHERS-HOSPITALLERS OF ST. JOHN OF GOD. -There is being just now established near Kilsheelan, in the County of Tipperary, by some members of the Order of Brother-Hospitallers of St. John of God, in a house which the Count de la Poer has generously made over to them, with some land for that object, an admirable and much-needed institution. Anxious to extend to Ireland the beneficial results of their Mission in other countries, the Brothers of St. John of God are now opening, under the auspices of the Bishop of Waterford, an asylum for incurable indigent boys, thereby supplying one of the most pressing wants of the present age. The new institution of the Brothers-Hospitallers is not self-supporting, but depends entirely for its existence upon the public.

IRISH FISHERIES .- The Inspectors of Irish fisheries continued at Lismore their enquiry into the system of drift net fishing pursued in the tidal waters appoint the Rev. Cannon Fitzgerald, ex-President of the Blackwater. The evidence adduced was appoint the New Online Aregusta, of the vacant See principally that of persons interested in angling in of St. Colman's College, Fermory, to the vacant See the upper waters, whose testimony was that within of Boss. The Dishop crede is a hope of the last of upper waters, whose testimony was that within reperated and much lamanted Dr. Keane, Bishop the last few years the amount of fish had largely decreased. Mr. Street, a Waterford fish merchant, admitted on cross-examination by Sir Joseph M'Kenna that he had paid two thousand five capacity for the worked by the fact that he is the choice hundred pounds for fish captured in the office is vouched by the Holy See but also of the majority neighborhood of Lismore, almost all of which was sold to him by Mr. Foley, the lessee of the Lisi more weir. The inspectors severely commented on the absence of energy shown bu the conservators in not protecting the river, and carrying out the by-laws as they ought to have done. The enquiry was then adjourned until next December.

NUNS IN THE WORKHOUSE .- 'three nuns of the Mercy Convent, Nans, took possession of the apartments alloted to them as nurses in the infirmary of the Naas workhouse, and commenced the charitable duties connected with their office, to the intense delight of the sick poor and all connected with the workhouse. The Rev. S. Morrissy, chaplain of the workhouse, attended to welcome them on behalf of his Eminence the Cardinal, who kindly and thoughtfully sent a message of welcome and benediction to the good sisters to cheer them on their laborious path. The reverend mother and mother assistant were also present to receive the sisters, and see that all arrangementi were made necessary for their reception. The guardians of Naas Union deserves great credit and praise for their liberal action in the matter, and also for the manner in which they provided for the comfort of the sisters.

OBSTRUCTION NEXT SESSION .- The London correspondent of the Daily Express writes as follows in the number of that journal for the 17th ult. :--Some people appear to think that the obstructives will not renew their tactics next year, and that there is more pretence than reality in all the talk in which they are indulging. There can, however, be no greater mistake. Mr. Parnell, before he left London, told several of his friends that the session which is past would be nothing to that which is to come. The Irish quartette hold, in fact, that there has been as yet no obstruction at all, and that next and loins ; he sometimes complains of them, but he year they will commence the work in carnest. It will be recollected that last session they selected one or two measures as the field of their peculiar tactics. They put down, indeed, a hostile notice to every bill on the paper, but as a matter of fact they offered a real, serious, and protracted resistance to one or two measures. I understand, however, that every bill is to be opposed, not in name but in his been no parallel to this success before, but reality. The tactics of obstruction are to be used with a steadiness, a tenacity, not to say ferocity of gims had to endure during the journey this multi- purpose, of which we have had no experience in former parliamentary warfare, and a vigorous and the 20th, Marie Aubert, of 'Fonnieurs, who came determined effort is to be made to bring all legis-with the Agen pilgrims, was restored to health in lation to a standstill. In Committee of Supply the the piscina. This poor woman, aged forty-sight | obstructives intend to use their privileges to canvas years, had been sick nearly all her life. For the not only every note but every item, and to scan the last eighteen months she had been frequently national expenditore with the same minuteness with which a careful housewife overlooks her tended clong the whole line and was repulsed with weekly bills. This is no imaginative description of the tactics of the Ultra Irish party. It is only the expression of the purpose which they avowed to several members at the close of the session, and which will be made quite apparent to every one in the course of the next few weeks. It is, therefore, quite clear that the next House of Commons will be called upon to take very serious measures with a party whose avowed object is to discredit and destroy parliamentary government. THE HOME RULE LEAGUE .- The Council of the Irish Home Rule League held a meeting the other day and discussed the question of the Parliamentary action which the Home Rule members ought to adopt in the next and future sessions of the Imabsolution, and before allowing her to resume the perial Legislature. The result of the deliberation journey some hesitation was felt Until two of the Council was the carrying of the following o'clock in the morning she was in so critical a state | resolution :-" That this Council earnestly recomthat grave doubts of her recovery was entertained., mends the Home Rule constituencies to call on When she entered the piscina she felt a painful their representatives during the present recess to render an account of their Parliamentary conduct, and further recommends them to oblige negligent members to give implicit continuous attention to their Parliamentary duties." The general opinion here is that this resolution of the Council has not done, and is not likely to do much good towards the solution of a great difficulty. At the same time it is impossible to deny the strength and the depth of the feeling that pervades the country as to the need of a more vigorous Parliamentary action on and holy toil that have risen up so numerously and the part of the Irish members than has marked so magnificently from the humble beginnings so un- there procedure for some time past. It is felt that ostentatiously made some hundred years ago in the rejection of the attempts made during the last Cork and elsewhere throughout Ireland by the session at the settlement of some Irish questionsnotably of the question of Irish University Education-deserves some vigorous and practical notice from the Irish members, and that their feelings and their Parliamentary influence ought to be made manifest-even in the way and to the full length of obstruction-on questions on which the force the conclusion of the ceremonial the Bishop of and the effect of the Irish Catholic vote might be many items of expenditure-for instance, the expenditure on the Queen's Colleges and University -on the system of national education and various other subjects, in which all the legitimate resources of Parliamentary action might be availed of in order to their ample discussion, and to the exposure of the unsound principles on which the whole policy of the expenditure is based. I should not be surprised if a Parliamentary campaign of this kind should be insisted upon next year as the outcome of calm, dispessionate deliberations which will be held during the recess on other platforms than those of excitable and excited public assemblies, such as those that are hinted at in the resolution of the Council of the Irish Home Rule League. Meanwhile another complication has been added to a subject already sufficiently complicated and distract-ing, by the letter addressed by Mr. Butt to the Times of Monday. It is not easy to comprehend its meaning, or the course of action towards which it points for, whilst distinctly repudiating the "obstructive" proceedings of last session, it does not indicate, neither does it disclaim, that Mr. Butt has decided on such a line of Parliamentary tactics in next session as that to which I have just alladed. A clearer statement must come from the member for Limerick before his views can be accurately known.

AN AGGRESSIVE TURKISH MOVE .- It is stated in Constantinople that Ismail Pacha has arrived before Erivan, in Russian Armenia, and is about to attack that place.

IN TURN.—The Golos publishes a telegram from Igdyr, Asia Minor, which shows that the Turks, on the 18th, were cannonading General Tergukassoff's positions there.

A BOLD POLICY .- Turkey will not accept mediation while a single Russian soldier remains on Turkish soil. Chefket Pasha at Orchanie has communicated with Osman. Plevna will probably be revictualled shortly.

THE SHIPKA PASS .- A special edition of the Globe had a Pera despatch saying :-" News has been received at the English Embassy that Suleiman Pacha carried the remaining Russian positions in the Shipka Pass this morning, inflicting enormous loss. The defile is now entirely in the possession of the Turks."

VALUE OF THE FORT.—Fort St. Nicholas, which was captured by the Turks on Sunday morning, is said to be the key of the Russian positions in the Shipka Pass and to command other Russian works. General Radetzky, the Russian commander, is supposed to have about twenty-five thousand men and Suleiman Pacha about forty thousand.

ARDAHAN HAS NOT FALLES .- The Daily News Vienna correspondent says a telegram from Tiflis contradicts Mukhtar Pacha's report that Ardahan had been evacuated by the Russians, and states that, on the contrary, the garrison has been increased to twelve battalions of infantry and six squadrons of eavalry.

BEFORE KARS .- The Herald's special correspondent at Karall, Armenia, telegraphs that on Monday 5,000 Turks took up their position near Kuruk Dara. The Russians are waiting for reinforcements to attack, and it is very probable that another battle will be fought at that point of the Kars investing line.

STILL IN BUSSIAN HANDS .- Au official despatch is published in Constantinople, which denies the correctness of the rumor that the Russians had completely evacuated the Shipka pass. It states that, on the contrary, the two Turkish brigades which captured Fort St. Nicholas retired to their former positions for strategical reasons after having occupied the fort for six hours.

ANOTHER -- Correspondent takes most gloomy views of the Russian prospects. Before Plevna the Rus-sians lost 20,000 on the 11th inst. The wounded are rotting and fostering uncared for. Roumanian surgeons neglected the wounded for two days after being struck. It is doubtful whether Plevna can be taken even when the Guard arrives. The Russian position in Shipka Pass is precarious. The Turks lost 2,000 in the late attempt to capture Fort St. Nicholas.

SERVIA FRIGHTENED .- The news of repeated Russian disasters has created great uneasiness here, especially as everything has been prepared for the crossing of the Danube at Gladova by the Russians, and their reception in Negotin and the Tinlok village. It is annouced that the Cabinet have agreed to postpone action, and the troops now marching to the frontier will be recalled into towns not so near the border, in in order to give no umbrage to the Porte.

ENGAGEMENT .- The Herald's special correspondent of the headquarters of the Czarewitch, at Bjela telegraphs, under date of Monday, that a desperate en-gagement was fought in the Valley of the Lom on that day. Thirty-two battalions of infantry and eight batteries, comprising the whole of the troops under the command of the Czarewitch, attacked Assaf Pacha's division at Sirankeny. The Turks were strongly reinforced at ouce, and the Bussians were driven back with great slaughter.

NOT TAKEN AFTER ALL .- A later despatch from Constantinople says the Russians in the Shipka Pass have been reinforced. General Radetzsky's official account of the fighting does not admit that the fort was ever occupied by the Turks He says: -"After five days' bombardment the Turks at three o'clock in the morning, made a sudden attack on Fort St. Nicholas. The attack subsequently exenormous loss to the Turks, after a desperate fight, which lasted nine hours. THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE .- The meeting of Prince Bismarck and Count Andrassy at Salzburg is to be regarded as the sequel of the recent interview between the Austrian and German Emperors, and as merely strengthening the views then exchanged between the two sovereigns regarding continuance of the understanding between the three Imperial Courts upon the means of averting Europeoan complications. This result is secured without formal treaty stipulations, inasmuch as it represents complete personal agreement existing between the three Emperors. THE GUARD TO THE FRONT .- The first detachment of the Russian Imperial Guard passed through Bucharest yesterday morning on their way to the seat of war. General Gourko accompanied them. The men presented a splendid appearance, but have seen little service. Other regiments are taking parallel roads outside of Bucharest, all converging on Simultza. The Agnece Russie, commenting upon the arrival of the Guard and the order to Russian troops in Poland to join the army at the seat of war, states that these facts are a sufficient reply to the rumours of peace and an armistice circulated by certain jounals. ONE STORY .- The correspondent at Grony Studeni reports that the Roumanians have advanced within 50 yards of the second Plevna redoubt, near Gravitza, and it must soon fall. The temper of the Russian troops is admirable, Notwithstanding that the ranks are depleted, the Russians have 320 guns continually firing. The Turks rarely rely; it is said their ammunition is failing. The Turks are estimated at 60,000 to 80,000, with 140 guns. When Russian reinforcements arrive Plevna should fail easily. The Turks will not allow the Russians to bury the dead, which lie 300 yards from the Russian positions, and must breed disease. RUSSIAN MISTAKES .- The Daily News correspondent lately with General Gourko, writing on Tucsday last, asserts that the mistake of the Russians of waiting supinely upon the defensive is becoming more and more disastrous. The Turks are receiving reinforcements faster than the Russians, and the Russian reinforcements when they arrive will hardly more than fill the gaps caused by battle and sickness. The writer continues -" The position of the Russian army is exactly that always sought by Napoleon for beating his enemy in detail, and one hundred thousand men are enough, and more than enough, to take Plevnu. Instead of this the Russians prefer acting on the defensive, keeping up their extended line, thus dooming themseles to a numerical inferiority everywhere, and giving the Turks the initiative, allowing them to take the offensive everywhere, and they are following this plan because they have not moral courage to abandon for even a few days the line once occupied. The non-occupation of Plevna was a mistake. The non-occupation of Loftcha was a mistake. The neglect to ascertain the whereabout of the army of Osman Pasha was a mistake. The battle of Plevna was a mistake; but all these mistakes are nothing as compared with the colossal blunder made by the Russians in remaining on the defensive since the battle of Plevna.

MISCELLANEOUS.

QUIET .--- Saturday's affairs were quite everywhere. The blockade and bombardment of Plevna continue.

IMPROVEMENTS .- The Marquis of Conyngham is at present causing considerable improvements to be made in the town of Slane, county Meath.

ALARMING .- The Albany Journal quotes a Kentucky paper as saying that "investigation of the records of the State show that not a single man or woman in the whole commonwealth is under the present law legally married."

Cool .- A gentleman of Angus, Scotland, had an ancient valet named Gabriel, whose petulance and license of speech went so far as to be almost intolerable. One day at dinner Gabriel took the iberty of calling something said, "a great lee." "Well," said the laird, really offended, and rising from the table, "this will do no longer: Gabriel, we must part at last." "Hout, tout, laird," replied Gabriel, pressing his master into the chair, "whau wad your honor be better than in your ain house ?"

A REMARKABLE POND .- There is a very remarkable pond on the top of Prospect Mountain, near Addison, Vermont. It is about three quarters of an acre in extent. Except a small space in the centre it is covered with a thick moss, strong enough for people to walk upon. Poles are pushed through the moss at any point, but none have ever touched bottom, yet there are large trees growing there. The moss forms a thick mat or carpet, and is described as being exquisitely beautiful.

MR. BUTT AND HIS RECEPTION COMMITTEE .-- We understand that Mr. Butt's Reception Committee held a meeting last night at the Foresters' Rooms, and unanimously came to the conclusion that no necessity exists on the part of the hon. and learned member to visit his constituents just now, and that they are prepared to hear his observations on the present crisis in the Home Rule policy, and on the principle of obstruction as applied to Parliamentary action, in writing. A manifesto from the Irish leader is immedietely expected by the committee. Lamerick Reporter.

THE EMPRESS OF INDIA'S SUBSCRIPTION .- " Empress of India, £500." We must all feel our cheeks burn with shame in reading this line at the top of the Indian Famine Fund. Such a miscrable sum from the Empress of All the Indies at such a crisis! Of course weat home know what her Imperial Majesty's resources are, and how necessary it is for her with only a thousand per day or so-not more than the income of a first-class mine owner-to economise. But in India the Imperial figure is magnified through an auriferous atmosphere, and assumes gigantic proportions. Knowing this could we not have contributed our pence to a sum to be given in the Empress's name, so that it might not have been associated with a few paltry pounds -- Funny Folks.

WHALLEY AND NEWDEGATE -It appears that Mr. Newdegate's suspicion of the Jeauitical mission of Mr. Whalley has got some historical foundation at any rate. Great amusement is excited here at present by the opportune or inopportune discovery that the celebrated Jesuit Father Garnett, who was so cruelly executed in the time of James in connection with the Gunpowder Plot, passed among Catholics under the assumed name of Mr. Whalley. Bad people take a malicious glee in noticing that Mr. Whalley, "the Jesuit," in the State papers spells his name in precisely the same way as Mr. Whalley, the great Protestant member for Peterborough. Who knows but Mr. Newdegate was fully aware of this extraordinary fact when some years ago he, with solemn gesture and menacing brow. denounced the English Whalley?

HASSAN PASHA AND THE CZAR .- Hassan Pasha, the brave defender of Nikopolis, who has been taken prisoner by the Russians, gave in a conversation with a Russian dignitary the following account of the manner in which he was received by Czar :--When I had knelt down before the Emperor, according to the custom of our country, His Majesty ordered me to stand up and offered me a seat. After having complimented me on the courage I and my troops had shown during the siege, the Czar said a few words of condolence about my captivity, which he assured me would he made as light as possible, and such as a man of honour and a gallant soldier had a right to expect. Altogether, the Russian Czar has shown to me more courtesy than I had ever experienced on the part of my great app illustrious masters, the Padishahs of Stamboul, during the thirty years I have served them." SULEMAN'S WAY OF MARCHING .- Suleiman dispenses with the ordinary machinery of an army. He transported his whole force from Adrianople to Karabunar in 48 hours. There were no staff officers, bureau chiefs, quarter-masters-general, adjutants, and ambulance superintendents to make confusion. As a correspondent of the London Times describes the march, Suleiman said, " (lo," and the army went. With no further ado the divisions massed rapidly on the railway station, and the men crowded into every conceivable corner of the train, from the tender to the guard's van, each man with his ammunition already in his pouches, three days' biscuit in his haversack, and his water-bottle full. Train followed train in rapid succession, and as each arrived at its destination it shunted and waited for the next. Then as the provisions arrived the men were brought down in thousands, and every man hoisted a scak of biscuits on his back and carried them to the pile were they were stowed, without the intervention of half a dozen commissaries to count and keep tally, and without having waited for orders from a least four different departments. As regiment followed regiment into the camp at Karabunar each bivouscked, pile arms, sosked hard biscuits in the water, prostrated themselves before the great and only Allah, their God and friend, and lay down to sleep od the grass. PRINCE HASSAN AND HIS GLOVES .- We have from a correspondent a curious bit of information about the young Commander-in-Chief of the Egyptian contingent of the Danube. Though but twentyfour years old, Frince Hassan, son of the Khedive, is an experienced soldier, and has already had his haps and mishaps. The young Prince received his military education at Woolwich and Berlin, after which he occupied the office of Minister of War to his father. During the late war with Abyssinia he was seriously wounded and made prisoner. Although treated with great consideration, King John "to punish him," as he expressed it, for fight-ing against Christians," ordered that a large cross should be tattoed on the back of each of the Prince's hands. This was done; and when his wounds were healed the young officer was released and returned to Cairo. Arrived at home Prince Hassan consulted the best European as well as native physicians and chemists, and Copt soothsnyers, promising a large sum to any one who should rid him of these momentoes of the Abyssinian King. Advice was freely offered and experiments tried, the Prince underwent much suffering, but all in vain-the Christian crosses were indelible. In despair he finally resorted to a Dervish for advice, and the holyman communicated a remedy which, at least, had the merits of being undeniably efficacious. Chop off both thy honds," he said to the Prince, "better live without hands than wear forever these signs of the infidel giaours." But Hassan relished it but little, and so remains to this day tattoed with as one good turn deserves another, the grateful bird the hateful symbols. This is why no one ever sees him without gloves.

NATURALISTS' PORTFOLIO.

3

THE CATOTE .- The Cayote is the most cowardly of all animals. It hunts in packs, and will never think of attacking anything bigger that a rat if alive, except it is wounded. They secround a wounded man or animal on the western prairie at first at a respectable distance, but draw gradually closer, and then pounce upon and tear their victim to vieces.

SNAKES .- A correspondent writes :- I have killed snakes in may ways, and have no hesitation in rccommending a horse whip as the best weapon for their destruction in a house, or anywhere where a gun cannot with safety be used: the slightest stroke of a whip breaks a snake's back, and you cover a longer line of ground with an elastic whip than a stick, and are, therefore, less likely to miss your blow. In the open field on the jungle, I must confess my favorite weapon for the coup de grace is a gun loaded with small shot.

THE CCCKNOACH UTILISED -In Russia the common cockroach (blatta orientalis) is a favorite popular remedy for dropsy. Dr. P. Bogomolow, of St. Petersburg, lately examined its effects in nine cases of Bright's heart disease, and other affections of severe dropsy ; and in all the result was the same. There was an increase in the secretion of the urine and perspiration, with rapid disappearance of adema, and also almost complete disappearance from the urine of albumen and renal derivatives. The dose was five to ten grains of the powdered cockroaches in the twenty four hours, but they were also administered as a tincture and as an infusion. These insects do not, like cantharides, says the Boston Journal of Chemistry produced an irritant action on the kidneys. Dr. Bogomolow has succeaded in extricating from them a crystalline body, which he calls antihydropin, and which is their active principle.

THE ORYK, OR GENSBAK .- This animal belongs to South Africa, and is well known amongst hunters as the only antelope that revenges itself on the lion. When it sees the lion in the act of springing on it, it lowers its head, and receives the lion on the point of its sharp horns. It invariably perishes by the shock, but the lion also perishes with it. Their skeletons have been more than once seen lying together bleached on the plain. The description given of this animal by Cumming is highly graphic. 'The oryx, or gemsbox, to which it was now about direct my intention to more particulariy, is about the most beautiful and remarkable of the antelope tribe. It is the animal which is supposed to have given rise to the fable of the Unicorn, from its long straight horns, which, seen in profile, so exactly covering one and other, as to give it the appearance of having but one. It possesses the crect mane, long sweeping black tail, and general appearance of the horse ; with the head and hoofs of an antelope. It is robust in form, squarely and compactly built, and very noble in its bearing.

A WONNERFUL LAKE .-- We have more than once heard of the wonderful properties of the waters of deep spring valley lake, but, until the present, not with sufficeiency of detail to give the story full credence. Lieutenant Woterspoon, Company D, 12th United States Infantry, in command of the relief party for Captain Joe's Indians passed several days in the valley, and bears witness to the literal truth of the remarkable phenomena. These are, that the ducks, which visit the lake in great numbers, become so loaded down with crystallisations of borax, salt, and similar substance, that they are utterly unable to fly, and while in this condition become an casy prey to the Indians, who wade into the water and take them up in their hands. In fact this substance often collects upon the bird's bills in such weight as to actually drag them under water and drown them. As asserted by Mr. Beasly and family, who have lived near the lake for years, the ducks are often loaded with several pounds weight of this substance; not less than ten pounds in some instances. During the first stages the crystals are evenly disposed over all the bird's feathers above water, sticking them as firmly together as it glued. Then it accumulates in bunches or strings, forming drags or rafts, with which the birds can swim but little if at all, and, if formed from the bill or head, soon causes its death by drowning.

AN OFFENDED ELEPHANT .- Everyone has heard of the sagacity of elephants; the writer having been had many opportunities of in India vears,

judging of it. One day two ladies were watching some elephants being fed near their camp in the jungles of the Central Provinces, when the elder of the two unfortunately took it into her head to offer one of the elephants a very hot chapatti, which is a cake made of flour and baked on the fire over a thin plate, and consequently, when fresh made, is burning hot. Elephants are usually fed with these twice a day, but they are always allowed to cool before being given. This one was still so hot that it hurt ihe beast's trunk, for he dropped it with the quickness of lightning, and with a shout, at the same time striking a blow on the hand of the lady, whom he, of course, considered had meant to hurt him intentionally. Had she been a little near, and the beast not at the full length of his chain, the same blow on the head would certainly have killed her on the spot; as it was her hand was in a most painful state for weeks afterwards. Next morning, when it was time to start for the next encampment, this same lady who usually got up the ladder first and sat nearest to the elephant's head, proceeded to do as usual, but, as soon as she approached the elephant, he began to trumpet and throw water over her. This he did several times, till at last she had to give up trying to ascend, and another lady took her place. The elephant, however, permitted her to sit near his tail, but he remained cross all day, and subsequently showed that justice is not as invariably devoleped in the elephantine character as supposed .- Essays on Everyday Life.

MASPIES .- A magpie was in the habit of hiding bits of food, not immediately wanted, in some long grass at the bottom of a row of iron hurdles. This board was discovered and often robbed by a favourite terrier. One morning Mag was observed in great excitement, hopping and chattering incessantly, rapidly repeating every word in his vocabulary at the dog, who was busily engaged in rifling the storehouse. In his search, however, he passed over a turf of grass in which a piece of beef was conceled. Mag was on the spot in an instant, drew forth the treasure, and securely fixed it on the higest bar of hurdels-far above the dog's reach. He then, at a little distance, began pluming his feathers, chattering to himself with a very self-satisfied air, and occasionally hopping back to take another look at his recovered meal, evidently priding himself on his skill. The conduct of this magple is quite in keeping with the whole adage of "Set a thiefto catch a thief." His pilfering habits are notorious. He is also a sad poacher. Not only the cggs, but the young, of phesasants, patridges, and other game are destroyed by the magpie; nor are unfledged chickens or ducklings of the farmyard safe from his mischievous attacks. In captivity he is very amusing ; and, notwithstanding his thieving propensities, no one can contemplate his dark arch eye, his inquisitiveness, his familiarity and hear his effects at mimicry, without interest, That he is not wholly devoid of grateful feeling, the following anecdote shows : A favonile magpie had been accustomed to receive dainty bits from the mouth of its mistress. One dry, it perched, as usual, upon her shoulder, and inserted its beak between her lips, not, as it proved, to receive, but, dropped an immense caterpillar into the lady's mouth.