oldiers of the Indian Army, as the e Tirah Campaign, and Somaliland In the present day an injunced at the time of their baptism to the British Government, which the olemnly promise. Lord Kitchener ted at Simla in 1903 that they numfour thousand in the Burma Mil-, and other detachments. There han two million Sikhs in India. ers of them being in the Panjab million in the Sikh Native States. cy of Sikhism to relapse into Hin-

not prevented their nominal inome 342,000 in twenty years. It lesirable to foster the loyalty of so race. There is documentary evirove that seditious attempts have by Hindus and others to tamper oyalty of the Sikh regiments, but iener proclaimed that such at-

d failed. A. Macauliffe in a recent work has

rom recognized sources exhaustive ne Gurus and Bhagats, and interany of their sacred hymns in suit-He has avoided repetitions, and, dvice of Sikh scholars, selected pastranslation. "They have decided is no omission of anything necesith or morals, but that the whole of the Sikh sacred writings is here and that, if any sikh shapes his condingly, he will be in no danger of secure absorption in the Creator or in the Creator's heaven." This is as in the hymns (which are all in verse) Nirvan, or absorption in roposed as the supreme object of ainment, but a paradise called Sach also promised to the blest. Mr. sums up some of the moral and erits of the Sikh religion thus: "It dolatry, hypocrisy, caste exclusiveconcremation of widows, the imof women, the use of wine and xicants, tobacco-smoking, infantiler, pilgrimages to the sacred rivers of the Hindus, and it inculcates loytude for all favors received, philjustice, impartiality, truth, honesty, moral and domestic virtues known liest citizens of any country." He eproduced, in thirty-three pages of analysis of the Sikh religion recordai Gur Das, who was a contempor fourth, fifth and sixth Gurus (1574ne or two precepts only can be quot-Supreme Being, the All-pervading ie divine Nanak's Guru." "The Suod, the Perfect God, the Primal Behe True Guru." "Take not arms hy Sovereign." "From a temporal tual point of view woman is half dy and assisteth to salvation." di Granth Sahib, in its complete tains the hymns of six of the first

us, with additions, such as a couplet nth, panegyrics of bards who attend-Gurus or admired their characters, ns of mediaeval Indian saints: The e not arranged in the Granth accordneir authors, but according to the e Rags, or musical measures to ney were composed. The composieach Guru are distinguished by mal-wards. Guru Gobind Singh's Granth, after his death, contains a large his hymns on a number of subjects, Mr. Macauliffe has translated from difficult dialects with enormous la work will be highly appreciated by ents of Indian theology and history nost valuable to the officials connectthe Sikhs in military or civil life, and shoped, help to produce sympathy behe Sikhs and the English.

### OVEMENTS OF MUSICIANS

Gadski begins immediately a tour of covering a month's solid bookings her operatic season at the Metropolitan House, for which she is this season for twenty weeks. In addition to erts which Mme. Gadski will sing beafter her operatic season, she will be recital, as usual, in New York during ht of the season.

zi Scheff's popularity in Toronto was phatic demonstration recently when before a large and fashionable audicluding many persons prominent in and official life. Frequent applause the star and her company in "The

Scheff is starting on one of the longs which has ever been arranged for She will travel in a special train of from Toronto to the most southerly the United States, and from the Atthe Pacific Coast, a distance of more .000 miles.

Donna.

SOLID ALCOHOL phol briquettes, small tin boxes filled dough-like combustible material, can ed in the gripsack and used as a spirit any time until exhausted. Putting on er extinguishes the flame. The niling ared by heating denatured or ordinary to 140 deg. F. over a vater-bath, addparts of grated and deed Venetian soap arts of gum lac, and stirring until the ubstances are completely dissolved. ution is at once poured into the boxes covers closed. When cool the mixture

HUNTING AND FISHING, HERE AND ELSEWHERE

IN THE COILS OF A CONSTRICTOR.

"Do constrictors bite?"-

The traveler, just back from a two years' trip through the wilderness of the Amazon Valley laid down his cigar and looked irritated at my question. When the smoke from his black cigar had resumed its orderly puffs, however, I ventured further. "I would like to know a lot more about those big fellows. How long do they ever grow? I have read that it's all the way from twelve to twentyfive feet.

To begin with, you must remember that if a boa could not change his length, he could not be a constrictor, for the ability to do so enables him to crush his prey. The largest one that I saw measured had been captured and brought into Para by some Indians. Asleep on the floor, it measured sixteen and a half feet, and looked about the size of a fiveinch stove-pipe. I have no doubt it could extend its length, or contract it, anywhere between the figures you mentioned. Before a constrictor can coil about its prey, it must obtain an anchorage, and its slender, sharp teeth, curved slightly backwards, are used for

that purpose, and that only.
"'Dangerous?' Yes, just as a bull is dan-

'The anaconda?' It is a distinct species, even larger than the boa; a specimen in the British Museum measures twenty-nine feet in length, and much larger specimens have been killed. The naturalist Bates believes they attain at least forty feet. Though they spend part of the time on land, their home is in the tepid waters of the rivers and lagoons, where they may sometimes be seen thrashing the water, either at play, or in pursuit of a victim.

The boa constrictor lies in wait where wild creatures come to drink; but the natives will see one as quickly as you or I would see a bull in a pasture. Only one instance of a loss of a human life by one of these creatures came under my personal observations; indeed, I did not even hear of any others, save

in vague rumors. The victim in this instance was a young Irish sailor, Jimmy O'Dowd, who had deserted his ship at Para, and worked his way up river to the plantation I was visiting. Here he worked in the cane fields for his board, until attacked with chills and fever. He had partially recovered, but at that time was not able to work in the hot sun of the open fields.

One day he went fishing in the mill pond. road ran along the side upon which the house stood, and he had gone to the other, which was heavily wooded to the very bank. In order to reach that side, one must either cross by boat, or walk a long way around the pond's end. Jimmy took the boat, and had tied it up in plain sight of the house, and sat down near it to fish.

"I was reading on the piazza, and two of the ladies of the household were there with me, doing some fancy work. All the men were

busy in the fields or the mill.

"The first intimation we had that there was trouble were terrified yells of 'Help! Help!' from across the pond. Instinctively we looked to where O'Dowd had been sitting near the boat. He was now standing, his left arm stretched upward, and waving wildly, as he continued to shout. Something that moved seemed to pinion his right arm, which was held to his side. A moment later, he fell, and ld to his side. A me

his cries ceased. I had no idea what the trouble was, until the men who had been at work in the mill rushed out, shouting 'Cobra Assou! Cobra Assou!' (great snake) and started to the rescue, most of them going round the end of the pond, while three plunged into the water to swim across. These, however, got entangled in the sunken tree-tops, and were the last to reach the victim, who was dead before help

"I waited until I had seen one of the men despatch the monster, by severing the head, whose jaws still kept their hold on the shoulder where the creature had first fastened to his victim; then I called to one of the men to come and take me over in the boat.

When the creature was dead it at once relaxed so that its victim could easily be drawn from the encircling coils. I will not describe the boy's appearance, I wish I could forget it. With the exception of the head, I oubt if there was a bone remaining unbroken, and no one part of the body was larger in diameter than another. O'Dowd had been a short man, but this thing would have measured fully six feet in length

"I have read that the constrictor kills its victim by covering its mouth and nose with its coils, so suffocating them. In this case the face was not covered at any time, but the terrible compression must have forced the breath from his lungs, and prevented their being refilled; perhaps as speedy and merciful a way as death could come."—Dewey Austin Cobb, in Outdoor Life.

### COCK AND SNIPE IN SOUTH WALES

Pembrokeshire is an ideal country for rough shooting, and it is wonderful how many cartridges you mar get through in a day when wandering amongst the glens, bright even in January with golden gorse blooms and russet, red-brown fern, and wooded lower down where the stream whispers amongst the alders and rose-tipped branches of the dogwood. After a wet and stormy night three of us left a beautiful old Welsh mansion not far from the Clydau River, well sheltered by beech woods, where we used to take toll of the woodpigeons on windy evenings as they came in to roost. We had waited for the rain to stop, so it was nearly noon when we reached a cene" or "Reindeer epoch."

rough sedgy pasture, with a tiny brook at the oottom overgrown with willows and dogwood. With a shrill cry a snipe rose, and fell beyond the brook to a second barrel, and was safely retrieved. One or two snipe rose wild, disturbed by the Sealpham terrier and the four spaniels, which, together with a stately retriever, formed the pack. Soon we came to a glen, densely wooded at the bottom with alder and willow, with red-leaved brambles and coarse grass for undergrowth, whilst here and there a great beech or oak towered above all. Great moss-covered rocks peeped out here and there, and on the hillside above they lay scattered everywhere amongst the bracken. 'Cock back!" came now from the lungs of the stalwart keeper, and, dashing through the trees, the beautiful birds sped away, only to fall a victim to our host's unerring 20-bore. Soon several more woodcock rose, but always managed to get away in the thick cover be- a small pond at the top of the marsh, and

covert became thinner, and consequently shooting easier, and a cock pheasant which tried to break back was neatly stopped. Several woodcock were added to the bag in quick succession, and another missed before reached the end of the beat A second beat along the rocky hillside above yielded one woodcock which gave an easy shot as he flew from some thick bracken a few yards ahead of the line, and by lunch-time we had got five woodcock besides the snipe, some cock pheasants, and a few rabbits. Heavy rain then put an end to the shooting for the rest of the day.

On another occasion my host and I went out alone and made a delightful mixed bag. Near the home farm lies a marsh beloved of snipe, through which a tiny stream trickles, fed by a spring in the moor above. It was to

fore anyone could get a shot. Presently the fringed with rushes, that we first bent our steps, for duck had been reported there by a groom, who never failed to notice anything likely to help us in the way of sport. As we ploughed our way quietly through the marshheavy from rain succeeding frost-we took care to keep a big Welsh bank between us and the pond. On arriving at the bank we peered cautiously over, and three ducks rose with much fluster and quacking, and sailed hastily away quite out of range of me, but my companion, who was away to my right, cleverly knocked over the drake at over fifty yards range. Whilst the retriever was picking it up he put up an old cock pheasant from rushes, which quickly followed the fate of the drake, and fell close to a small and very marshy alder wood, carpeted with great tussocks, and a favorite resort of woodcock. The snipe were not at home that day, so the only noteworthy event was that in getting over a

bank a bramble-tough and aggressive, as all Welsh brambles are-caught my foot and soused me in a marshy pool. We next made for a favorite bog not far away, where we shot a few snipe and missed more, for they were wild that day. My companion had now to leave me, and, of course, his dog went with him, and as I left the moor alone a snipe rose behind me almost in the farmyard of a little white homestead, but with a quick turn and lucky shot he fell to a charge of No. 8. As I tramped down a lane between great banksthat reminded me of the Limerick country, except that there were no ditches-with small farmhouses here and there, I peered over into a newly ploughed field where I had stalked a flock of green plover with much success a few days before, but they had gone farther afield. The next moor yielded another snipe, though ought to have killed several and put up others which rose out of range. As I left the moor a covey of partridges rose with a whirr and disappeared towards the Clyddau Valley. Passing down a wooded glen towards the river some pigeons got up out of shot-as they generally do. As I thought of the Welsh hero, Owen Glyndwr, and of how often he had crossed and recrossed that river in his country's service, a rabbit broke in on my meditations by dashing from the bracken to his hole halfway down the glen, which he reached in

As I neared the Clydau, a heron flapped

slowly away and was not shot at. Every spot now recalled pleasant memories. Here some years ago below the swirl of water I had killed a trout, using a Marsh brown with blue body—a pattern I had never seen till I came to Wales-whilst there amongst the reeds only a day or two before I had shot a teal. As I had just dragged myself through a particularly awkward mass of brambles on the top of a bank which rose out of a morass of black and oozing bog, I heard the cry of a snipe as it dashed over some thorn bushes ahead. I fired, and dropped it; but, alas! after a long search in impossible ground I had to give it up. Just as I was thinking of lunch I was lucky enough -though without a dog-to put up a woodcock from some willows round a spring at the merest glimpse of the bird through the branches, and missed it with my right barrel, but another glimpse in a gap gave me a second chance. Uncertain whether I had hit or missed, I was vainly searching, when suddenly I espied it lying below a dogwood tree, and could not help stopping for a few min-utes to admire its wonderfully harmonious and protective coloring. After lunching by a pool I made my way up a rocky glen, where little stream dashed down between steep green hillsides, in places thickly covered with tangled scrub, flat-topped where the wind had caught it. Here black cattle fed on the rich grass, but I saw little else, except a few woodpigeons. On the moor above I killed a snipe or two, and then made for home. The wild glen leading up to the house, where the drive runs along above the stream through masses of rhododendron bushes, and great bare the edge of the bog bordering the river. I got branches and debris torn down by winter storms, reminded me faintly of the lower slopes of the Himalayas. As I laid out the bag on the old oak floor in the hall, according to custom, the huge fire in the cheerful old fireplace cast bright gleams on the feathers of the various birds. Another day the bag was still more mixed, and consisted of snipe, teal, pheasants, and green plover, besides many rabbits, and but for my bad shooting would have held a woodcock also. It is a grand country, full of historic interest as well as sport. No wonder Welshmen are proud of it, and of their Welsh hero, Owen Glyndwr, born at Trefgarn, not far away from the glens I have attempted to describe.-Homeless, in The

Science From an Easy Chair

Soon after the last great extension of glaciers in Europe, during which nearly all of Great Britain and the North of France and Germany were buried with Scandinavia under one great ice-sheet-and when this ice-sheet had receded, and the climate was like that of the Russian "steppes," cold and dry-there were men inhabiting the caverns on both sides of the Pyrenees. The tract of land which we call "Great Britain" was a part of the Continent of Europe. There was no "English Chan-The Thames and the Rhine opened by a common mouth into the North Sea. The mammoth and the hairy rhinoceros still lingered on in France and the more central regions of Europe, but wild horses, the great ox (Aurochs), the bison, ibex, chamois, were abundant, and the thick-nosed Saiga antelope, now confined to the Russian and Asiatic steppes, was present. The most abundant and important animal immediately north of the Pyrenees was the Reindeer. The cave-men of France and Central Europe were a fine race-living by the chase, and fabricating flint knives and scrapers, fine bone spearheads and harpoons, as well as occupying themselves in carving ivory and reindeer antlers, so as to produce highly artistic representations of the animals around

They rarely attempted the human face or figure, and when they did were not so successas in their animal work. They also painted on the walls of some of their caverns, with red and yellow ochre, carbon and white chalk, representations—usually about one-third the size of nature—of some of the most important animals of the chase. They must have used lamps, fed with animal fat, to illuminate the walls, both when they were at work on the pictures and also afterwards, when they exhibited the finished pictures to the less gifted members of the tribe, as wonderful, even mag-

This was probably not less than 50,000 years ago, and may have been more. Earlier than the date of these reindeer men, in the preceding cold, humid period of the glacial extension (probably from 180,000 to 150,000 years ago) these and other caves were occupied by an inferior race—the Neander men. They could not carve beasts on ivory nor paint, but could make very good and well-'dressed" flint weapons, larger and heavier than those used by their successors, and could make large fires in and about the caves, both to cook their meat and to keep off the wild beasts (lions, bears and hyienas), who contended with the strange, low-browed Neander men for the use of the caves as habitations.

On this side of the Pyrenees the reindeer men have left some wall-pictures, but the best preserved and most numerous at those of the cave of Altamira, near Santandar. These comprise some partially preserved representations n yellow, red, white and black of the great bison, the wild boer, the horse, and other animals. A group representing some twenty-five or more animals (each about one-third the size of nature), irregularly arranged, exists on a part of the roof, and others are found in other parts of the cabin. 'Among these are numerous drawings of human beings in masks, representing animals heads—probably indicat-ing the "dressing-up" in animal masks of priests or medicine-men in the way which we know today is the custom among many savage tribes. Twenty-seven of these "decorated caverns are now known-eleven in Spain, one in Italy, and fifteen in South and Central France and others are continually being discovered. The most careful and critical examination by scientific men leaves no doubt as to the vast antiquity of these paintings, and as to their dating from such a time as when the animals painted (including in some cases mammoth and rhinoceros, as well as bison reindeer, wild boar, ibex, red deer, bear and felines) were existing in the locality. The covering up of some of the drawings (which are partly engraved and partly painted) by earthy deposits and by encrustations of lime, and the presence in the cave deposits of the worked flints and bones characteristic of the reindeer men, leaves no doubt that these pictures are of that immense antiquity which we express by the words "Quaternary period," "Upper Pleisto-

It is, of course, only in accordance with what one would expect that these picture are of very varying degrees of artistic merit. But some (a considerable number) are quite remarkable for their true artistic quality. In this respect they differ from the rock paintings of modern savage races—the Bushmen of South Africa, the Australians, and the Californian Indians-with which, however, it is instructive to compare them. They agree in their essential artistic character with the carving and engraving of animals on bone and ivory so abundantly produced by the Reindeer men. It is also the fact that these Franco-Spanish wall-paintings were executed at different periods in the Reindeer epoch. Some are more primitive than others; some are very badly preserved, mere scratched outlines with all the paint washed away by the moisture of ages; but others are bright and sharp in their coloring to a degree which is surprising when their age and long exposure are considered. The French prehistorians, MM. Cartailac and the Abbe Breuil, have produced a sumptuous volume, containing an acount, with large colored plates, of the best preserved of the Altamira paintings—a copy of which I owe to the kindness of H.R.H. the Prince of Monaco, who has ordered the publication of the work at his own charges. It is not surprising that the country folk who, in some of the Spanish localities, have known the existence of these paintings from time immemorial, should regard them as the work of the ancient Moors, all ancient work in Spain being popularly attributed to the Moors, as a sort of starting-point in history. It is, however, very remark-able that little damage appears to have been done by the population to the paintings, even when they exist in shallow caves or on overhanging rocks. No doubt, weathering, and the oozing of moisture, and the flaking caused by it, has destroyed most of the Pleistocene paintings which once existed, and it is an ascertained fact that some—for instance, those of Altamira—are breaking to pieces, owing to the opening up and frequentation of the ca-

It has been remarked that, although these paintings belong to what is called the "reindeer epoch," yet in the Cave of Altamira there are no representations of reindeer, but chiefly of bison and the wild boar. It is also remarkable that in the case of the painted rock-shelters of Calapata (Lower Aragon) and of Cogul (near Larida, in Catalonia), no reindeer are represented; but on the former there are very admirable drawings of the red deer, and on the latter silhouettes of the bull, of the red deer and the ibex. In fast, no representations of reindeer have been observed on cave-walls or rock-shelters south of the Pyrenees. It is possible that this may be due to the date of the Spanish paintings being a good deal later than that of those French cave-paintings, which show reindeer, mammoth and rhinoceros. And we have to bear in mind that in the North of Africa (Oran) engraved drawings on exposed rocks are known, which are for good reasons attributed to the Neolithic period; that is to say, much later than the Reindeer epoch of the Palaelithic

In any case we have to remember that there are two very different and possible explanations of the presence or absence either of certain animals' bones or of representations of certain animals in one "decorated" cave and not in another. The one explanation is that animals have succeeded one another in time in Western Europe-changing as the climatic conditions have changed—and that when in two cave-decorations or cave-deposits compared the animals are different the cause may be that the one deposit or cave-decoration is much more recent than the other.. The other explanation is that (as we well know) at one and the same moment very different animals occupy tracts of land which are only a hundred miles or so apart, but differ in climate and general conditions. At this moment there are wild bears and also wolves in France, but none in England; the elk occurs in Sweden and Russia, but not in the West of Europe; the porcupine in Italy and in Spain, but not in France. As late as the historic period the African elephant flourished on the African shore of the Mediterranean, but not in Spain; now it is not found north of the Sahara at all. So we have packed."

various possibilities to consider in comparing the animal-pictures on the cave walls of Spain with those found in France, and may well suspend judgment till we have knowledge of a greatly extended area.

At this moment I am anxious to draw attention to the painted group of ten human figures lately discovered on a rock shelter at Cogul, near Lerida, in Catalonia, and just now figured and described in the admirable French journal called "L'Anthropologie." These figures are those of young women dressed in short skirts and curious sleeves, the hair done up in a conical mass rising from the sides to the top of the head. Each figure is about seven inches high. The great interest about these drawings is that they are probably tens of thousands of years old, and present to us the young women of the reindeer epoch. No other such painting of the women of this period is known, and the astonishing thing is that, though these are by no means fine specimens of prehistoric art, yet there is a definitely modern look about the figures and a freedom of touch about the drawing which makes one think at first that the picture is some hasty but clever sketch in silnouette of a number of short-skirted schoolgirls at play. The waist is extremely small and clongated, the skirt, or petticoat, bell-shaped, and the whole figure "sinuous." One of the figures appears to have a cloak or jacket, but the breasts and legs are bare,

Some three years ago Dr. Arthur Evans scovered in the palace of the ancient Kings

of Crete colored frescoes 5,000 or 6,000 years old, representing in great detail elegant young women with greatly compressed waists, strongly-pronounced bustles, and elaborately ornamented skirts. These Cretan paintings of prehistoric young women, both in costume and pose, are like nothing so much as the portraits of distinguished ladies of the fashionable world of Paris exhibited by the painter, Boldoni, in this year's "Salon." It is remarkable that Dr. Evans should have found contemporary paintings of young ladies who lived as long before Homer or Homer lived before us And it is still more remarkable that those young ladies were "got up" in the same style, and apparently aimed at much the same effects of line and movement as those which have become the latest fashion in Paris, and may be described as sinuous and serpentine. Not only is that the case, but it is evident that the painter of Knossos, the Minotaur city, and M. Boldoni, have experienced the same artistic impression, and have presented in their pictures the same significance of pose and the same form, from the tip of the nose to the ends of the fingers and the points of the toes-thus revealing a sympathy reaching across 7,000 years. It seems to me that the same artistic impression is to be detected in the still earlier paintings of the wasp-waisted little ladies of the Cogul rockshelter of Catalonia. We find here the same sinuous figure with exaggeratedly compressed waist, prominent bosom, and emphasized haunches. But it is ten, perhaps forty, thousand years earlier! One is led to wonder whether this type of human female-today expressed with such masterly skill by Boldonimay not be at the back of the mind of a portion of the human race—that which populated what are now the shores of the Mediterranean, and probably came there travelling northward from the centre of Africa. Possibly they brought with them that tendency to and admiration for megalopygy which is evidenced by the earliest known palaeolithic cave sculptures, and has persisted in some degree ever since in Europe—a tendency and a taste which are on the one hand totally absent in the East and Far East (Japan), and on the other hand have a strong development in the modern Bushmen (and the related Hottentots), an African race, and, like the Spanish cave-men, rock painters.

# WHAT ARE ANGELS? .

He had been to Sunday school, and wanted his mother to tell him about angels-what were they?

'An angel, my dear, is a little girl with wings that flies away up in the skies." Yes, ma, but I heard pa tell the governess the other day that she was an angel. Will she

"Indeed she will, my dear! She will fly away just as soon as she gets her trunk

## A CURIOUS FISH

The sea is always mysterious, always giving up strange things for the eyes of men; some are very beautiful, some hideously repulsive and still others that look like nothing we are familiar with; indeed these last are more like the dreams of the artists who draw pictures of what is supposed to be on Mars or Saturn. To this last class belongs the strange wolf-fish that is occasionally caught on Puget Sound. Sometimes the deep water trawler who fishes in a hundred fathoms of water for cod and snapper hauls up one of these eellike sea wolves and has a good big fight before the catch is killed and hauled aboard. and if he should by any mishap get a finger in the creature's mouth you may be sure he will lose that finger like a flash, for the wolf-fish has teeth as long and sharp as an alligator and his jaws are a powerful crushing machine. In the back of his mouth he has a beautiful set of extra molars that work like a quartz mill, for he feeds on shell fish, which he crushes to a pulp, shells and all, before swallowing. They, are wicked looking creatures, repulsive in brown, mottled, leathery skin and probably live only in the deep waters, for they are only caught occasionally and then always by some deep water trawler who fishes for rock cod

These fish find their way into the fish markets occasionally, where they are exhibited on the counters as a cruio along with the many-armed devil fish the mowrays and the strange, plant-like forms that come up entangled in the meshes of the nets It's all in the day's work with the fisherman, and he has ceased to wonder at anything the sea may give him, but to us who we ashore these forms are as the unknown things of another world.-Outdoor Life.