thousand miles. The flight of an eagle after prey is like a flash of lightning, and he rushes past like a falling meteor, descending with fearful force upon his victim, which is staggered at the blow of his cruel talons. Oftentimes the visitor in the Tennessee mountains can just see him like a little speck in the sky, moving in majestic curves around the crest of a far-away peak. The sight-seers and mountaineers who love to watch them always choose the break of dawn or a calm sunset. They wheel in circles and glide about in horizontal sweeps just before starting out on a day's hunt or in settling for the night. When lingering by the mountain rivers watching for ducks or geese, or even fish, a pair of eaglets will display their natural shrewdness. They swoop from opposite directions upon a fowl, which tries to escape by diving, and could outwit one eagle, but suddenly, as the fowl comes to the surface of the water the second eagle seizes him.

Eagles are captured by the expert mountaineers, who spy upon the parent bird building her nest and wait for the breeding season. After a due time they scale the mountains, and, well armed for the inevitable fight with the parent birds, go to these mountain eyries. Oftentimes four men are required to let one of them down a deep precipice or cliff, while two of them, dead shots with the rifle, shoot and kill the old birds upon their first approach, for it fares ill with the daring robber who attempts to secure the young birds with none to protect but himself. In this way are many of the old birds killed for the taxidermists or for feathers, while the eaglets are borne away and caged for a good sale. An eagle captured, at first, is an uninteresting prisoner. Frequently they utter hoarse cries, sullen and savage, breathing heavily and fiercely all the while. Their eyes dart fire, their low brows and flat foreheads are contorted with hateful expressions. They will dart fiercely at the bars of their iron cages, and finding themselves unable to reach their hated captors, draw themselves up and utter terrific plaints and whines. They are always restless while in captivity, due, of course, to their natures. Rarely an eagle is captured in a huge trap baited with a small lamb. Attempts have been made, too, in the Tennessee mountains to capture them in nets, but this is impracticable, or else the mountaineers prefer to capture them when young by visiting their nests. Dangerous and difficult of accomplishment as this is, many a mountaineer finds it his chief source of revenue.

SUPERSTITIONS ABOUT CATS.

ANCIENT LEGENDS AND MODERN BELIEFS.
London Standard.

The Arabs have a curious legend connected with the cat. It was created, they say, to keep down the mice who swarmed in Noah's Ark and devoured the food of the other animals. A Russian story tells us that the furry coat of the cat was originally designed for the dog, but that the nobler animal forfeited it by growing impatient at the slow distribution of the gifts, at the Creation, and therefore going over to the devil, in hopes of getting something better. Since then the dog has hated the cat because he suspects her of having stolen his coat. In the Middle Ages cats were often kept in nunneries. From this fact may have arisen the traditional association of cats and old maids. Cats, too, were always connected in the popular mind with sorcery, and were supposed to be the constant attendants of witches. An Egyptian origin is claimed for this belief, for it is said that when Typhon, the Evil Principle, terrified the gods and goddesses so much that, to protect themselves, they took on them the shapes of animals. Bast (the cat goddess) assumed that of the cat. Bast, in one of her aspects of the Egyptian Diana, was, like Hecate of the Greeks, a patroness of witchcraft. In the Monferrato it is believed that all cats who wander about upon the roofs during the month of February are really witches, whom it is lawful and even necessary to shoot. A German superstition has it that if a black cat sits upon the bed of a sick man it is a presage of his death; while if, after his