

cat into the Niagara river, as the train was passing over the Suspension Bridge. Now the fireman was a merciful wag and he "let the cat out" and placed instead within a lump of coal during the temporary absence of his superior. All went well, and when the bag went down 200 feet to the raging waters below, the would-be slayer no doubt heaved a sigh of relief, and perhaps sorrow. Of course the captive made tracks for home and if ever cat and man met under peculiar circumstances, it was when that engine-driver returned home that evening. The cat still lives.

No. 2 is the simple relation of a fact. It is told to illustrate just how much reliance can be placed on petitions. The incident occurred not one hundred miles from Brantford. The wags fell to discussing the carelessness with which a certain hotel-keeper signed petitions and a bet was made that he (the hotel-keeper) could be induced to sign a request that the City Council would order his hanging and would subscribe money to buy the rope. The preamble was carefully prepared and the two called on their victim. Of course the explanation given was in effect that the Council was being asked for certain favors to the liquor interest and a subscription was asked to secure legal talent to urge the matter. The name was readily affixed, and the money as cheerfully given, and only after the amount was spent at a neighboring bar, was the plot discovered that the Signee had asked for his own execution, and had helped to defray the expense. The moral of the story is: Be careful to scan closely any and every document you sign.

And now comes a dog story: A farmer determined to end the career of his canine and to do so effectually, planned a little jaunt into the woods, but taking the precaution to secure a good piece of rope as a part of the equipment. A tough sapling was bent down and a connection made between the neck of the dog and the top of the tree. When the tree was released, the effort on its part to resume an upright position was not greatly retarded by the weight at the top, and poor Carlo was struggling several feet from the ground. The half-repentant owner thought his work done and started to run away from the place of execution.

My story would end here, only that a neighbor had been curiously watching the summary proceeding from behind a big tree near by. As soon as things had reached the climax just recorded, the spectator rushed to the rescue, and in a trice the rope was cut, the half-suffocated culprit rescued, and he was making a rather zigzag journey home. Please let us drop the curtain over

the meeting between the executioner and his still living dog. E. L. Y.

RAISE FEW DRONES.

—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

From what I have seen in nearly every apiary which I have visited in the past, I am of the opinion that bee-keepers lose very much of the profits which they might otherwise secure, by having too much drone comb in their hives. Each colony should be allowed one or two inches of drone comb, but no more unless such colony is one which we wish to rear drones from for the improvement of stock, and in this case I give from one to three frames of such combs. Where three drone combs are used in each hive, it is a rare thing that I secure any surplus honey from that colony, for the drones will consume nearly if not quite all the surplus honey gathered by that colony, especially if I try to have the colony keep drones through the season. To be sure, the colony will generally give some surplus right in the height of the season: but this must be given back for the drones, if they are kept after the honey harvest. I have given this item so that the readers may know just what a lot of drones in each hive will cost them.

Here, I think I hear some one say, "If this is the case, why allow any drone comb in any but the colony which is to rear drones?" The reason for allowing one or two inches of drone comb to each colony is, that all colonies, which I have ever seen, will have some drone comb anyway, even if they have to tear down worker-cells to get it, building drone comb in its stead. Now, where we try to exclude every cell of drone comb, the bees revolt, and build drone comb in out-of-the-way places, a few cells here and a few there, so that the bee-keeper has no chance of keeping unwelcome drones from flying, by way of decapitating them just before they hatch, unless he uses a drone trap, which thing is an inconvenience to the bees and their owners, generally speaking. By having this one or two inches of drone comb all together in a single comb, and that comb placed in a certain position in every hive, it is a very easy thing to open the hives every 23 days and decapitate all the drones in a whole apiary. By placing this comb on the outside, or next to the side of the hive farthest