Bitten by a Cobra.

Among many instances of snake-bite poisoning I have seen was a strong young Brahm, of twenty, well known to me, cattle on the plains in the West. Up to who had been bitten during the night a very recent period pasture cost the while watching his maize crop. Ere I herdsman just nothing at all, for he turnknew of it they had brought him into my | ed the cattle loose on the ansold governcompound in front of the bungalow. As | ment lands. A four-year old steer raised yet he walked quite steadily, only lean- under this system cost less than four doling slightly on the arm of another man. lars, and, upon being driven to a railway There was that peculiar drowsy look in station, sold for eighteen or twenty dolhis eyes, however, as from a strong nar- lars. This lucrative industry has procotic, which indicated his having been | duced a race of cattle millionaires who bitten for some time, and left but little have become as powerful as they are rich. room for hope now. He could still They have been holding conventions in clearly tell me particulars. He had been | Chicago and St. Louis, and are asking bitten, he said on putting his foot to the favors of Congress. It seems that the ground, while moving off his charpoy in recent large western emigration has curthe dark, but, thinking the bite was that | tailed their grazing-grounds, and in many of a non-poisonous snake, had given no instances they have been forced to purmore heed to the matter, and gone to sleep again, till he was awoke by his nothing. As the Texas cattle are benefitfriends coming in search of him

the bite-very faint no larger than the the cattle kings ask the United States to prick from a pin, but still the unmistakble double mark of the poison fangs. He elt the poison, he said, gradually ascendng the limb, and pointed to a part just bove the knee, where he felt it had alady reached, the limb below that being, said, benumbed, and painless to the uch, like the foot when "asleep." In walking to and fro, but gradually I limbs seemed to be losing their power ovoluntary motion, and his head was binning to droop from the overpoweron sing roused.

togring him further by keeping him mong about, and he was allowed to rema at rest. Shortly after this, while bell supported in a sitting posture, all at ce, without any premonitory sign, he we one or two long sighs, and life ceas, about an hour after he had himselfalked into the compound. There was mething terribly real in this faculty of puting out each stage of the ascending ison (ss the snake-bitten patient alwaysan) that was gradually bringing him larer and nearer to death, with the prospt of only another hour or halfhourf life remaining in him; and yet the pient does not seem to realize this with to keenness that a looker-on does, probly from the poison benumbing at well sof the body.

The Smallest Republic.

Te whole territory of the state (San Mamo) consists of sixteen square miles, andhas a population of about 9,000 souls. Th capital city, inclusive of the Borgo at is foot, has over 900 inhabitants. The arry is composed of ten companies of niety men each; but perhaps our guide fogot to reckon the reserves, for Mr. But says that the military force is 2,000 stong, and that half the able-bodied men devery family must be enrolled between to ages of sixteen and sixty-five, unless tley are government officers, doctors, riests or students. The entire revenue à the state is less than £5,000 a year, but an Marino is a model of financial prutence, and has no public debts, lives within its income, and has even a nest egg laid by against rainy days. And although it bestows no titles on its own subjects, it swells the exchequer by the sale of orders and titles of nobility to foreigners. To avoid complications with Italy it has no printing press within its dominions. For the same reason it refrains from growing tobacco, and, buying the leaf from Italy at cost price, contents itself with manufacturing its own cigars. It possesses no penal establishments, but has made a very pleasant arrangement with its obliging neighbor. San Marino sends its crimnals to be punished in Italy, and, although that part of the arrangement is not recorded in black and white, may be said to receive monks and nuns in exchange. For the two large nunneries and four monasteries of this tiny state afford the devout, uncurtailed privileges that are no longer, it seems, to be enjoyed across the border.

Burglar Stories.

bed in a remote chamber in a big house | several months these four men had workwhen she accidentally perceived a man ed together in the same claim, sometimes hidden under the bedstead. She knelt | get ing barely sufficient for daily wants, down by the bedside, and repeated aloud sometimes not even for that. For seprayer of the Church of Eng and. She without any result. After a long discusthen blew out her candle and quietly got | sion they decided to abandon the claim. into bed. Presently a voice sounded un- Down in the mine the three looked gloomderneath the bed telling her not to be | ily around with a kind of sulky regret at afraid he would do her no harm. The having to leave a scene of so much usedriven to it by poverty. He added that his pick he struck the quartz, making the words of the collect had recalled to splinters fly in all directions. His pracon to say that the man was truly repent- and satisfied himself that it was gold ! honest living.

sneak out of the place.-[All the Year | place is occupied by the finest city on the | easier and partially completed canal at Round,

Cattle-Ranch Speculation.

One of the most profitable businesses in the country has been the herding of chase pasture which formerly cost them ed in health by being driven north on With some difficulty I was able to find | foot instead of being carried by railway give them a cattle trail extending from Jentral Texas to the Canada frontier, a distance of 1,500 miles in length by ten miles in width. This is a magnificent scheme, but the farmers in the several States and Territories interested object, as they say the cattle men would not keep within the limits of the ten miles, but we him the usual remedies, and kept | would overrun the border country. seems the cattle kings, with their armies of cowboys, have treated the settlers very badly, overruning their farms and seizing every available stream or lake of water indrowsiness that was surely gethering for the use of their cattle. Many of these or him. At intervals he pointed out ranch owners are foreigners, and not a thooison line steadily rising higher, and few of them sprigs of English nobi ity. wastill able to answer questions clearly These aliens are n w monopolizing our soil by hundreds of thousands of acres. length it seemed to be of no use Indeed, the continued high price of meat and the profitableness of cattle-ranches have created quite a speculation in the wild lands of the West.

Tortures in Bengal Jails.

The Indian Statesman, referring to an inquiry which has been directed to be made by the Lieutenant-Governor "as to the tortures which are declared to be practised in the prisons of these provinces, particularly in the Presidency Jail, under the pretense of maintaining discipline," says : "The whole world knows the mortality that prevails in the jails of Bengal, and in particular the Presidency Now, our informants do not the sae time the powers of the mind as scraple to say that many men therein have practically been 'murdered' in the last twelve years by the repeated floggings to which they were subjected until her at home. She was taking a cap of tea their bodies were a mass o gangrene. Some years ago a letter in the Indian Dai y News partially lifted the veil upon this prison-house, and the public heard, with indignation, of the lash being laid on 'at intervals of one minute,' to prolong the torture, and of the tail ends of the cats being fitted with contrivances to cut and tear the flash from the body; that floggings were repeated before the wounds caused by previous lashings were healed, and that the number of corporal punishments in this jail were from thirty | to sixty daily. We are quoting the very words of a long letter in the Indian Daily News of the 16th of February, 1877, and those infamous bruta ities, or similar ones, are practiced, we are assured, still. When a prisoner dies in hospital from these tortures the very superintendent of the jail, generally a medical officer, holds the inquest, and the verdict is one that suppresses everything that is vital in the case. Only yesterday did another gentleman, whose duties take him frequently to the jail, tell us that he had seen a hundred men at a time crowded round the hospital for treatment, and he reminded us of the fact that but three or four years ago the jail officials reduced the dietary scale of the prisoners in a way that was instantly followed by the miserable prisoners dying like so many flice in the

Miners' Luck.

The death of Peter Whyte recalls the strange story . f the founding of Victoria, Australia In an Australian mining camp at one of the tents sat four men-the 10th of June, 1858 - talking earnestly of their One night a dear old lady was going to future and bemoaning the past. For the beautiful collect of the evening | veral weeks, indeed, they had labored burglar then came out and said that this less toil, "Good-by," said one: "I'll was his first offence, and that he had been | give you a farewell blow," and raising him the time when he was still innocen, | ticed eye caught a glittering speck in one and that if she would only forgive him he of the bits at his feet. Stooping, he exwould go away quietly and never offend | amined it and the place he had struck, against the law again. The story goes | when, with a loud exclamation, he knelt and that the good lady saw him earning an | He then commenced picking vigorously. His mates caught the meaning and follow-In know of one or two cases in which ed his example. In dead silence they there has been great courage on the side | worked on-they had discovered a monof the attacked party and great cowardice | ster nugget. Then a wild, glad shout on that of the burglars. In fact, this is sounded in the ears of the one at the generally the case when burglars have to | windlass, who had sunk into a half-dose, deal with the police. I have a friend-a feeling probably the want of his breakslight, delicate lady, who has shown mar- fast. To his inquiry, "What is going velous courage in cowing a burglar. She on?" the cry came, "Wind up," and as went into her kitchen one night when the he did so there rose to the surface a huge servants were out or had gone to bed, mass of virgin gold. When fully exposand found a man in the act of packing up | ed to vie the men were almost jusane | forming barriers to the success of the all her silver plate. She resolutely lock- with joy. After watching it through the work, are in reality the most favorable ed the kitchen door, put the key in her day and live long night they had it con- spots for locks. It is the muddy 36 pocket, and told him that he should not veyed in safety to the bank. It was leave the room until he had placed back named the Welcome Stranger, and yield- dredging of the lake, and the cutting beevery article of liver where he had found ed the fortunate discoverers of it \$30,000. it. The man obeyed her in the most ab- On the site of that spot the forest and ject manner, and was then allowed to the scrub have disappeared and their

celebrated go d field of Victoria.

Artificial Sea-water.

It was supposed for many years that there was some mystery in natural substances that made it impossible for man to reproduce them. Organic substance, it was supposed - that is, matter created by a living organism-could not be successfully recreated by the art of man! But this is proved to have been a mistaken notion. Urea, an animal substance, was among the first that was scientifically reproduced. Since then many other other organic substances have been recomposed by chamists and physicists. It has been believed, for instance, that artificial sea-water could not be created, and the fact that salt-water fish died in the first imitations of salt water seemed to confirm this belief. But the scientists in Berlin have reproduced a salt water that is actually superior to that of the ocean, and in which salt fish live and thrive better than in salt water brought from the ocean. Like wine, this artificial water improves with age, while the ccean water deteriorates. In the Hamburg aquarium the water has not been changed for filteen years, and it is perfectly clear, odorless, and of the very best quality. All that is needed is to add something to make up for evaporation. The following is the receipt for making artificial sea-water: thirteen and onequarter gallons of pure, hard well-water, forty-six and a half ounces of common salt, three and a half ounces sulphate of magnesium, five and a quarter ounces of chlorate of magnesium, and two ounces of sulphate of potassium. This mixture is allowed to stand for some time, when some live salt-water algæ adhering to stones should be added. These algæ multiply and grow quickly, and their function is to supply oxygen to the water. Some hardy animals could then be put in, and as the aige multiply more tender ones could be added. Should the water become turbid, it should be filtered, and, to make sure of the supply of oxygen, an aerating apparatus can boused with advantage. The success in reproducing seawater makes it possible for man to sometimeget the secret of the medicinal waters which now can be taken with advantage only in the locations where they are

Isabella and the Earthquake. Queen Isabelia was rudely shaken by the repeated shocks of earthquake at Seville, Spain, batnotseriously hurt. She had a narrow escape of being in the sauve qui peut in the theatre, where she was to have witnessed an Italian opera. But the unexpected arrival of a welcome visitor kept and laughing at the solemn talk of her parro; when the first oscillation took place. The bird fell down fainting from its perch, just as might a young lady. Isabella's armchair toppled over, and the cup was flung from her hand. A member of her household writes that she was not alarmed until some time after the shock, when there was a nervous reaction. When she felt the earthquake she cried out, "Why, if I were not in my own house I should fancy we were in a sinking ship." A second shock at midnight, and a third at dawn, rather upset her. Her ears were assailed by the cries of the people in the streets. She telegraphed to the King to send money at once for distribution among the greatest sufferers, and has placed the Palais de Castille at the disposal of a Spanish committee, which will give a fete there for the banefit of the victims of the earthquakes in Southern Spain. It is also proposed to set up in the ex-Queen's Paris residence an exhibition of lace, jewels, fans, art prayer books, and objets de piete belonging to the Spanish royal family. A show of this kind would be all profit.

The New Anæsthetic.

Cocoaine chloride, the new anæsthetic, which produces unconsciousness only in the locality of the body to which it is applied, is coming into active use. The swelling on General Grant's tongue, which it is feared may be cancerous, has been greatly reduced by the use of this new remedy. A physi ian of Vienna, Dr. Fleischl, declares that it will cure rapidly and painlessly the effects of bad habits in the excessive use of morphine and alcohol. The "patient" is deprived of the drug or the liquor, and the terrible nervous prostration which has always followed the abandonment of these stimulants is prevented by hypodermic injec tions of cocoaine chloride. A cure is effected in ten days. The trouble about this newest discovery is that, as soon as it is known people, assured that they can be cured when they get too bad, will become reckless in the use of opium an liquor. The drug, however, is very expensive, and those tempted to dissipation should remember that if they spend all their money indulging in their bad habits they will have none left to spend for the

The Nicaragua Canal.

Little faith is placed in Panama in the Nicaragua Canal. The experience gained in the 47 miles of work on the Panama Canal leads all practical men to foresee the great difficulties which have to be overcome in the 145 miles of the Nicara guan Canal. One river, the Chagres, i the great obstacle to rapid advances. In the San Juan itself there is a mightier obstacle, while its numerous affluents pour millions of tons of water and debris into what is proposed shall be converted into a navigable channel. The rapids, which are so frequently spoken of as miles from the mouth of the river, or the tween that sheet of water and the shore, which combine to prevent the work being undertaken simultaneously with the Panama.

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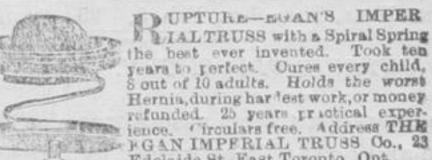
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