

## John Haslin.

NEW PRINTS;  
NEW GINGHAM;  
NEW SHIRTING;  
SEASIDE SUITINGS;  
WHITE COTTONS;  
GREY COTTONS;  
TRUNKS;  
REMNANTS,

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CLOCKS & JEWELRY,  
SILVERWARE,  
GOLD PENS & PENCILS

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Remember the Place.

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NEW PATTERNS—NEW SHADES.

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New Curtains, in all the new colours  
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Of Furniture Covering, in Silks,  
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Hair Cloth.

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F'ton, March 5.

### Quebec Fire Association Company

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### A STRUGGLE FOR LIFE.

Thrilling Experience of a Hunter in India  
with a Deadly Constrictor.

A writer in the Statesman, of India, signing himself R. M., who was once head of the Crown Lands Department, in the colony of Trinidad, says: In company with a half-breed, who combined the vocations of a woodman and hunter, I stumbled suddenly on a large specimen of the crotalus mutus, slowly winding its way among the leaf debris of the forest. For some time it was difficult to discern the scaly folds of the snake through the brown mass of decaying foliage, but having reached a clear spot, the reptile coiled around a low stump and prepared for action. About a yard of the body next to the head was contracted into numerous sharp curves not unlike a corkscrew, while the yellow eyes gleamed with a baleful light. There was little fascination about these orbs, and no mistaking the malignant intentions of their owner. A stick brought within reach of that mortal coil was struck almost with the rapidity of lightning, no matter how swiftly withdrawn. This was effected by the instantaneous straightening of the short curves into which this portion of the body had been contracted. Even the wily mongoose would have needed all his marvelous agility to avoid the deadly stroke, if once within range. The reach was about a yard, and the assault was delivered horizontally some six inches from the ground, directly toward the assailant. The hunter, who had hitherto kept at a respectful distance, as he alleged the snake could spring, was eventually persuaded to approach sufficiently near to strike it with a ten-foot pole. At the first blow the heavy coils relaxed from the stump, and the creature appeared dead or stunned. The writer at once grasped the neck, about two inches from the head, and raised the reptile partly from the ground to examine it. Although galvanized into life by the touch, the crotalus seemed at once to recover its energies, and swiftly made a couple of turns round the thigh and right arm of the would-be captor. The constricting power exercised was such that the hand grasping the neck began to lose power, and the writer realized the awkward predicament into which his temerity had led him. Little could be done with the free left hand, while the "scaly terror" began slowly to withdraw its head from the relaxing grasp of the right. For some seconds the trembling woodman appeared deaf to entreaty, and could not be persuaded to apply a noose or lasso to the snake's head. The largest serpents become paralyzed when properly noosed, and are readily dragged along the ground helpless as a log. Just as the snake's head seemed about to ooze through the numbed fingers, the half-breed screwed up his courage sufficiently to apply the lasso as directed, with the result that the brute at once relaxed its coils and was dragged down to a neighboring stream, hung up and skinned. It measured eight feet five inches, and was about as thick in the largest part of the body as the calf of a man's leg. The fangs, which were carefully extracted, measured one and a quarter inches in length, and were hollow to within a short distance of the point, where, on the inner side, lay the orifice through which the poison was ejected by the action of the base of the fang on the bag in which it was secreted. On squeezing the bag a small quantity of poison, a yellowish fluid, passed down the hollow in the tooth and gathered into a tiny drop of concentrated death. The stomach contained two wood rats about the size of guinea pigs, one partially digested, the other recently swallowed.

### A TAPE-WORM TRAP.

The Peculiar Instrument Invented by an  
Ingenuous Kentucky Doctor.

A prominent physician was conversing with a New York Times reporter a few nights ago concerning the curious instruments invented to aid surgical and medical science. Scores were considered as remarkable and the list was pretty nearly exhausted when the physician remarked: "I'll tell you of one now that I'll wager you never heard of. It was invented by a Kentucky physician, was patented, and the model is now in the Patent Office at Washington. It was invented as a means for removing tape-worms. Its description is as follows: The affair is made of platinum, and is about the size of a small hazel-nut. It is spherical and hollow. In one side of it is cut an opening about the diameter of an ordinary lead-pencil, and within this is a set of springs somewhat after the fashion of a mouse-trap. Behind the loop which springs up to catch the prospective victim is a tiny hook.

"The patient is supposed to fast for two days. This accomplished, the tape-worm becomes thin and wants something to eat. Then is the time for the operation. A little piece of cheese is hung upon the hook within the trap, the springs are set, and after a silk thread has been tied to a little hole in the end of the trap, the latter is swallowed. The worm is supposed to be ready to take almost any thing. He encounters the trap, and the cheese becomes a rare opportunity to him. He sticks his head in through the little hole and fusses with the cheese, when snap goes the trap, and master worm is caught about the head.

"When two hours have elapsed the trap and its victim are slowly pulled up by means of the silk cord, and the monster of the abdominal cavity is removed. I am not aware that many of these traps have been used, inasmuch as the tape-worm lives not on solids, but simply upon absorption. But the affair was a novel one for a physician to invent, and actually to get a patent upon."

### A Cure for Sleeplessness.

Is sleeplessness curable? A correspondent who says he has tried the remedy and found it efficacious declares that thinking of a dream and going over and over the scene it presented will induce sleep.

He is entitled to be believed so far as his own experience goes, and at any rate he rightly urges that the expedient of counting numbers or repeating easy-flowing verses often, if not always, fails.

### Old Hickory on Sweet Temper.

"I can not forbear pointing out to you, my dear child," said General Jackson once to a young lady in whose welfare he felt a deep interest, "the great advantages that will result from a temperate conduct and sweetness of manner to all people, on all occasions. Never forget that you are a gentleman, and all your words and actions should make you gentle. I am quick and hasty in my temper, but it is a misfortune which has caused me inexpressible pain. It has given me more trouble to subdue this impetuosity than any thing I ever undertook."

### THE SNAKES OF TEXAS.

A Great Variety of Reptiles in  
the Lone Star State.

Peculiarities of the Thunder Snake—The  
Elongated and Swift Coach-Whip—Rat-  
tlesnake Pilots and Their Com-  
panions, the True Rattlers.

Texas possesses, perhaps, as great a variety of the serpent family as can be found any where on the globe, writes a correspondent of the New York Times. To mention a few that have come under my own personal observation would be to name not one-tenth of the varieties indigenous to this blessed country.

Thunder snakes are by no means common in Texas, and yet they are often encountered by prairie travelers, especially before and after thunderstorms. Flashes of lightning and claps of thunder, which are so terrifying to bipeds and quadrupeds, seem to have the greatest charm and delight for these members of the ophidian family. Whenever a thunderstorm comes up these snakes have a regular picnic. They come crawling out of holes, from behind rocks and rotten stumps and enjoy the fun while it lasts. Their nature is quarrelsome, their character fierce, and they are aggressive in a high degree, which qualities are remarkable in being possessed by a serpent that is both fangless and innocuous.

The black snake is so well known to all North America that it is hardly worth noting him from this point of the world. We have two species in Texas; one which inhabits marshy places, ponds, creek bottoms and shady spots, and another that lives in the mountains, among the rocks, and in the woods where dead, dry leaves are plentiful and young birds numerous. He is not a constrictor and he is not poisonous. Nearly all striking serpents have fangs, usually loaded with poison, while the constrictors seldom if ever strike, preferring to affectionately squeeze their enemies to death. Green grass snakes, which are perfectly beautiful in this latitude; bead snakes likewise, milk, corn, garter and runners are entirely too common to discuss.

Coach-whips are remarkable in this country for their tremendous length and their surprising speed. The form of the reptile is elegantly slender, his coloring is of the most delicate beauty, and his constricting powers are scarcely even surpassed by boas, anacondas or pythons. He is cream or clay-colored, very much like the hard-baked prairie over which he glides, is very long in proportion to his diameter, and his scales are arranged in such a manner that they closely resemble the plaited leather of a whip. The movements of the coach-whip are like chain lightning. Not endowed with poison, yet has he tremendous power of locomotion and terrible strength in his long, slender coils, which he wraps about and entangles the limbs in such a fashion, binding them to the body, and rendering his victim perfectly helpless. He forms his coils into a living lasso, which are capable of crushing almost any thing within the deadly rings.

A Mexican warned me upon my arrival in this country to beware of the coach-whip as I would of a rattlesnake, for a friend of his, after chasing one for some distance and seeing it dart into a hole, seized the reptile by the tail and dragged it forth. Like a flash the snake threw itself upon the man, enveloping him in coil after coil, and would have squeezed the life out of him had not my informer, who chanced to be near, caught it by the tail and unwrapped the coils. This is a very easy matter to do, for while his constricting powers are great, yet a child catching him by the tail could easily unwind his bands.

Only recently, while going through a prairie-dog village a few hundred yards from this post, I saw a zigzag yellow streak darting across the ground, which proved to be a seven-foot coach-whip. I followed him at the top of my speed, but he led me a lively chase before I was able to overtake him. It was a neck-and-neck race for a few minutes, but at last I gave him a rap with a long stick I held in my hand, which produced an instantaneous crisis. He leaped upon that stick like a shot, and in less than a second was squeezing it with all his force. I dropped the stick and let him have a few minutes' fun, after which I smashed his head with a stone and skinned him.

Rattlesnake pilots are a sure indication that the true rattler is somewhere in the vicinity. They seem to desire the company of their dangerous kinsmen, and by some people pilots are often mistaken for the true breed. They are in reality ground rattlesnakes, with the same diamond-back markings, are slightly poisonous, have a short, thick, chunky body, but no sign of rattle about them. There is another snake in Texas known as the pilot. He is also slightly poisonous, boasts large, yellow stripes along his body, and is covered with beautiful yellow zigzag lines on both sides.

As a rule, poisonous and non-poisonous snakes are eternal enemies. The most deadly serpent we have in America is the rattlesnake. The most harmless of ophidians are the bull, black and king snakes, all of whom will tackle and kill a rattler without the least hesitation. There is no more deadly reptile in the world, not excepting the cobra of Asia, the Haje of Africa, or the Fer-de-Lance of Martinique than the terrible, bloated rattlesnake of the staked plains of Texas.

A few miles north of this point begins this famous desert, and here are to be found the largest, most active and most dangerous rattlesnakes in the world. Six feet is an ordinary length and ten inches a moderate circumference. Recovery from their venom is excessively rare. In August they become large, yellow, bloated things, and it is at this time of the year that the Apache Indians seek them out to obtain poison for their arrows. A deer's liver, smoking hot, is torn out and laid before the reptile. He is punched and angered so that he strikes it again and again, the morsel turning a blue-black from the poison, even before the snake has finished striking.

This delightful morsel is then placed high on a pole to rot and decompose in the sun, after which it is brought down and the arrows stuck into it, they being afterward dried in the sun to retain the poison—a most cruel, devilish, horrible custom among the worst Indians on the continent.

### An Imaginative Story.

The heroine of a story now running in a Southern paper is made to say: "I will do the washing this time, mother, for it is the greatest of delights to me." This is a wide departure from the realistic in fiction; in fact, it reaches the pinnacle of the ideal at a bound. As the work of the imagination the story will take high rank.

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Repairing, in all its branches, done  
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FISHER'S BUILDING,  
QUEEN STREET

RESIDENCE. ST. JOHN ST.

### NOTICE.

### NEW GOODS.

## James R. Howie,

Practical Tailor.

I beg to inform my numerous Patrons that I have just opened out a very large and well selected stock of NEW WINTER CLOTHS, consisting of English, Scotch and Canadian Tweed Suitings, Light and Dark Spring Overcoatings, and all the latest designs and patterns in Fancy Trousers, from which I am prepared to make up in first class style, according to the latest New York Winter Fashions and guarantee to give entire satisfaction. PRICES MODERATE.

Ready-made Clothing in Men's, Youths and Boys' Tweed, Diagonal and Men's All Wool working pants

### MEN'S FURNISHING DEPARTMENT.

My stock of Men's Furnishing Goods cannot be excelled. It consists of Hard and Soft Hats of English and American make in all the Novelty and Staple Styles for Spring Wear, White and Regatta Shirts, Linen Collars, Braces, Silk Handkerchiefs, Merino Underwear, Hosiery and a large and well-selected assortment of Fancy Ties and Scarfs in all the Latest Patterns of English and American designs. Rubber clothing a specialty.

## JAMES R. HOWIE

190 QUEEN ST., F'TON.

Fredericton, June 12th.

## The Old Doctors

Drew blood, modern doctors cleanse it; hence the increased demand for Alteratives. It is now well known that most diseases are due, not to over-abundance, but to impurity, of the Blood; and it is equally well attested that no blood medicine is so efficacious as Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

"One of my children had a large sore break out on the leg. We applied simple remedies, for a while, thinking the sore would shortly heal. But it grew worse. We sought medical advice, and were told that an alterative medicine was necessary. Ayer's Sarsaparilla being

### Recommended

above all others, we used it with marvelous results. The sore healed and health and strength rapidly returned."

—J. J. Armstrong, Weimar, Texas.  
"I find Ayer's Sarsaparilla to be an admirable remedy for the cure of blood diseases. I prescribe it, and it does the work every time."—E. L. Pater, M. D., Manhattan, Kansas.

"We have sold Ayer's Sarsaparilla here for over thirty years and always recommend it when asked to name the best blood-purifier."—W. T. McLean, Druggist, Augusta, Ohio.

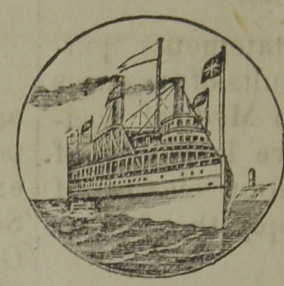
"Ayer's medicines continue to be the standard remedies in spite of all competition."—T. W. Richmond, Bear Lake, Mich.

## Ayer's Sarsaparilla,

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—THE—

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Fredericton and St. John

TO

### BOSTON

And all points South and West.

ON AND AFTER MONDAY, Dec 17th, and further notice the Steamer CLEOPATRA will leave St. John every MONDAY, at 8 o'clock (Local) for Eastport and thence to Boston direct; and the Steamer CUMBERLAND will leave St. John every THURSDAY morning at 8 o'clock (Local), for Eastport, Portland and Boston.

Returning, the Steamer CUMBERLAND will leave Boston every Monday morning for St. John, via Portland and Eastport; and the CLEOPATRA will leave Boston every Thursday morning for St. John, calling at Eastport only.

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Agent

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