BIG CATFISH STORY.

Laurels or He Will Be Outdone.

Lackawaxen, Pa., Aug. 7.-"Having expert and p tient anglers. always had my head close to nature's

" 'If you want to make a study of catfish that are the real thing,' he with the aid of his hired man, haul- beyond words."-Washington Herald. usual way. Another constant sympton er harmless foods. had said to me, 'you should come ed them into his boat they were still with me over to my native valley of as full of life and vigor as they were the Scrubgrass and look the Mole- before they had succumbed to tempfetcher pair over.'

"Jefferson Shellenbanker was workballiwick as the proper place for studying the perfect catfish was that I had mentioned casually one day a touching little incident that had small pond on his premises, and havcome within my ovservation at Prom- ing for some reason taken a high ised Land pond. In time of high water Promised Land pond in those ed them on his wagon and transferred days rose and covered the old stumps them from their native Scrubgrass along its shores, when the water be- waters to the waters of the pond. gan to recede it regeded quickly. The catfish proved truly grateful for Most of the stumps were big and some of them were hollow.

one of these floods was a good time member of the Molefetcher family to net bait fish along the shores. I who went to the pond to feed them, was netting some one day when I and would come on call at any time saw a movement at the top of a big to let the children play with them. hollow stump that had been covered by the high water, but which was now about half way uncovered. The They call him "Rassy" for short, but stump was twenty-five feet from that doesn't matter. One day "Rasshore. Looking closer I saw that sy" went to the pond to have larks the movement was made by a cat- with the pair of catfish, and it struck fish which had its head and half of him that it would be a nice little its body above the hollow in the change for both him and them if he stump. As it turned its gaze toward should play horse with them a while. me where I stood netting out bait He got some twine, made a harness, fish it gave a flop that landed it in put it on the catfish, and with a the water below.

Left by Receding Water.

"It was plain to me that the catfish had settled itself in the hollow of that stump as a pretty comfortable nook to be in while the flood water was carrying it, and that it hadn't noticed the receding of the pond. course, had given the catfish a great back into the pond I naturally supposed that would end its trouble.

"I went on with my bait netting, when pretty soon I saw the catfish pop its head out of the water a yard around the pond with great relish or so from where I stood with my of the fun, and it was indeed a bait net and gazed at me with a cheering sight. When it queer look in its eyes. caught my eye the catfish turned and swam back toward the hollow stump, a log about the pond. He was only keeping its head out of water, and leading up to what was really in it. turned so it could look at me.

"I stood still, wondering what the bigmouthed fish was acting in that way for. After swimming a little iron rod to serve as a wagon tongue, way toward the stump the catty turned and came back again until it was ted for the working out of his idea nize the advantages of this method. close to me, and with that queer look and he transferred his team of catstill in its eyes, "The catfish kept this up so long,

coming close to me, and then swim- it, and in the presence of his delightming back toward the stump, some ed family took up the reins, chiruped times going all the way to it and to the catfish and away they started trying to spring up into the hollow, with him up the pond at a three-minout of the ordinary was exciting that idea was an unqualified success. Evfish.

"It's coaxing me to go to that stump for some reason or other," said I.

"So I waded over to the stump and as I approached it the catfish spattered and splashed around in the waing frantically about in the water in the hollow were a myriad of young catfish. The big fish on the outside was their mother.

Restored to Their Mother.

"Well, what had I to do with her she discovered it and saw me with a net lifting minnows out of the water along shore she got an idea, and that idea was to coax me to come life her kittens out of it and restore them to her.

"The person who hadn't his head ever close to nature's heart and his eyes constantly open to the strange ways of nature and her creatures down the stream Molefetcher caught might not have fallen to this idea. up with the nigh catfish. It had the I did, and as I netted the little cat- hawk by the throat, and the hawk ties out of the hollow stump and turn ed them over to their mother, and hauled half a mile farther along. He I declare it almost brought tears to was so badly crippled that it was my eyes to see the joy of that happy plain he would never be of any more

this incident one day in the presence of Jefferson Shellenbanker. He listened to it with rapt attention, and it pleased him, brightened up to him, much to the bereavement of the Moled in 1748.

home.

" There may be more picturesque team, SAVED LIFE OF WHOLE SPAWN. tive Scrubgrass,' said he, 'but there er, 'if you want to make a study is not a creek nor a river nor a pond of catfish that are the real thing, Follower of least Walton Relates on the face of the earth that breeds, you should come with me over to Tale Which immediately Starts An- rears, and fosters catfish that can my native valley of the historic other and Greater Yarn-Baron compare in size, strength, docility, Scrubgrass and look the Molefetcher Munchausen Better Look to His tenacity, mildness of temper, tracta- pair over.' bility, and willingness with the catfish

" 'I wish my friend Izaker Moleheart, with an ear alert to its every fetcher were known to you. He is make a study of the Molefetcher pair, vorite, hook worm, has its name orithrob and an eye ever open to ob- not a large man, but he is big The night before we were to go, gin from two Italian words, "pelle," The same reasoning is true of the serve particularly ways of nature that enough to be one of the best fisher. Shellenbanker came in from Lacka- and "agra," meaning "rough" "skin." third theory. If either theory was the casual person never would de- man that ever kept you wondering wack looking distressed. He had re- The name is a rough description of true corn would long ago have been tect," said Warren K. Ridgway, for- while he told you all about it. A ceived a letter from home. merly sheriff, treasurer, register, re- year ago this spring Izaker stretchcorder, and clerk of Pike county, "I ed a set line in the creek, after the said he. 'Had a fearful thunder inflammation of those parts of the substances have been extracted from became intensely interested in what sure but unexciting Scrubgrass style storm in the Scrubgrass Valley. Light body most exposed to air and sun. spoiled and decomposing corn, differ-Jefferson Shellenbanker told me one of angling. It doesn't matter what ning struck the iron rod in Molefetch shine, as the hands and forearms, ent investigators have extracted very time, and was disappointed beyond else he caught, but among his catch er's cedar boat. Catfish team loung- feet and ankles, face, neck and should different substances. To further neg words when he got that letter from were two representative Scrubgrass ing near. Killed 'em both.' catfish.

" 'When my friend Molefetcher, tation and swallowed the bait with which the Molefetcher's hooks had ing for me at the time, and the way been disguised. They were well he came to refer me to his native matched, sound, kind as kittens, and weighed thirteen pounds each,

Eat Out of His Hand. " 'My friend Molefetcher has regard for the pair of catfish he loadthis mark of consideration, and showed their appreciation of it by taking "When the water was falling after their meals out of the hand of any

" 'My friend Molefetcher has a seven-year-old boy named Erastus. pair of lines to guide them drove them round and round the pond to his great amusement and the equally great delight of the gentle-mannered fish

" 'The father of this ingenious lad got an idea from this line of sport with the catfish. He made a strong The discovery of its predicament, of harness for each fish, with bridle and bit in regular fashion. This inscare, but now that it had jumped telligent and willing pair of Scrubgrass catfish fell in with the idea from the first time the harness was put on them, and the bits were put in their mouths. They pulled a log

" 'But my friend Molefetcher's idea was of wider scope than just hauling He made him a light cedar boat, easy running and of light draft. From the bow of the boat he projected an so to speak. The pond was not fitfish to his millpond. Hooking them up to the boat, Molefetcher got into ery day the team of catfish enjoyed themselves by giving some member of the Molefetcher family a spin about the pond.

Scared by Hawk. " 'One day my friend Molefetcher was riding along on the pond behind ter as if dancing for joy. I looked his catfish team. They were going down into the hollow of the stump, down the pond at a nice little jog, Old South Church tower and sight when suddenly a fishhawk, whose the boat from Bedford, and to eyes must have been a good deal bigger than his stomach, pouched down on the team and tried to lift the catfish out of the harness. This sudden assault frightened the team and they ran away. They made a wild two hours off-and the inhabitants beri beri; and just as in the latter hardly ever used as an article of food predicament? Nothing, except when dash toward the dam. Molefetcher held onto the reins and tried to stop to the wharf. "Billy" was thrifty vanced to explain the operation of gra is on the increase. them, but it was no use. Over they

went. " 'The boat was smashed to pieces. with my net over to that stump and Molefetcher came near being drowned. They rescued him in time, and down the creek he tore after the runaway team. The hawk still had its clutches in the off catfish's shoulder as they went over the dam. A mile was dead. The off catch was overuse in the team. In fact, my friend "I happened to refer casually to Molefetcher turned them both out in the pond to pasture as they pleased and has never hitched 'em up since,

as it did, recollections of his old efetcher family and to the lasting PELLAGRA NOT DUE TO CORN. disappointment of the turned out

and healthful valleys than my own na- " 'Yes,' said Jefferson Shellenbank- That is Now Attracting Much At-

the historic Scrubgrass yields to her 'pies paquequallads nospect and the Southern States that it has alaccounted for? If this theory was therefore, and set a day for going with him to his native balliwick to

rious Methodist churches of Johnhis cause. The churches on Clayton and morose. circuit as far as practical will meet with the church at "Elizabeth" where morning and afternoon services will be had. Dinner will be served on the grounds. Brethren will take due notice thereof and bring baskets. Brother Sam F. Austin. Lav Leader for Nash county will deliver the address at 11 o'clock A. M. and Rev. Costen J. Harrell in the afternoon. Everybody invited to come. W. S. STEVENS, Chairman.

N. E. EDGERTON, Sec.

Telephones and Telegraphs.

Of more than 15,000,000 miles of wire in the telephone and telegraph systems of this country, the telephones use nearly 13,000,000. year's telegraph messages numbered 368,470,509, of which 5,869,317 were cablegrams. The capital of the telegraph and cable companies was \$244,-607,900, yielding an income of \$244,-607,900. The capital of telephone systems was \$814,616,004, yielding \$184,-401,747. In 1907 the telephone business was eight times as great as that of the telegraph. Wireless stations in 1907 were operated at a loss of \$47,628, on a capital, in six systems, of \$32,726,242. But there have been marked developm-nts during the past two years. The railroad telegraphs number 625 and operate 860,-000 miles of single telegraph wire. besides 52,518 miles of telephone wire These systems paid out in 1907 \$37,-242,479 in salaries and wages, maintained 33,441 offices and 30,115 telephones: transmitted 5,923,483 commercial messages and 258,589,333 messages in connection with railroad busi ness. All the present indications show that the telephone will come into increasing use in the dispatching of trains, interurban electric roads having been among the first to recog--Washington Herald.

A Town Crier Silent.

Nantucket has lost its town crier, 'Billy" Clark, who died, brokenhearted, because he had lost his that I made up my mind something ute gait. My friend Molefetcher's voice. He was a queer vocal newspaper. He made two rounds of the town a day in the morning to announce auctions, bargain sales, and entertainments, and in the afternoon or evening to tell the news of the outside world that had been brought to Nantucket by the boat, and to sell newspapers. It was his afternoon function, also, to mount the proclaim her coming by blowing his horne on the four sides of the belfry. on a foggy day this meant that the steamer would arrive in thirty min- the causative agent of pellagra, as in the storage or preparation of the utes and on a clear day that she was could accordingly govern their rush and made folks pay for their fun. the assumed cause. [It is now gen- In writing of the cases in eastern mer, when the visiting strangers caused by a germ and that rice had In studying the cause of the series New York artist, gave him a gold There are many theories as to the practically all of the corn used by a barrel of flour or other things sub- a new method. stantial.-Washington Herald.

Buttons for Suspenders.

There are \$15,000,000 worth of buttons made in this country every year. yet lots of men use nails to connect their suspenders with their trousers. -Chicago News

Interesting Discussion of a Disease tention-Facts Cited to Show That It is Hardly Due to Eating Meal From Spoiled Corn, As is Popularly Supposed.

Pellagra, the disease which is claim "I became intensely interested in ing so much attention at present in most overshadowed the beforetime fa- true ,corn would poison every or one of the symptoms of the disease. rejected as a food. As to the fourth " 'From my friend Molefetcher,' This symptom manifests itself as an theory, although numerous poisonous ders. This inflammation (technical ative this theory, similar poisonous "So I didn't get to study the Mole-name, erythema) looks and feels like substances have been prepared by fetcher pair, and I was disappointed an ordinary sunburn, acquired in the similar methods from wheat and othis a condition of the throat and It is true that fungi and moulds Churches Asked to Hold Services. mouth very much resembling scurvy, are found on corn, but that one in-The gums swell and bleed, the lining criminated by the majority of au-By request of Dr. D. B. Zollicoffer, of the mouth and throat swell and thors as the causative agent of pellathe mouth and throat and on the blue mould (perricillium crustaceum), ston county are earnestly requested tongue. The person attacked is pale, which is found anywhere and everyto meet at their several places of has a peculiar staring look, and com- where. If this theory was true, evworship on the 5th Sunday in Au- plains of headache, giddiness and erybody would have contracted pellagust and hold at least a simple ser- vague but often severe pains in the gra long ago. vice of thanksgiving to God for his back and joints. The character In examining the numerous obsermercies and blessings and make a changes and the patient becomes irri- vations that have been made, there contribution to the Lord to advance table and at the same time stupid is one fact which stands out very

The skin eruption is just like or- investigator claims to have reproducdinary sunburn in appearance and ed true pellagra either in animals or returns.

tacks of giddiness, with a tendency it may. to fall forward or backwards; trembling of tongue when pushed out of the belief that the disease appeared pressed on.

apparently recovers, only the dark colored rough skin remaining to remind him of his trouble. However, next year at about the same date the whole series of symptoms recur and in a more severe form. Each recurrence leaves the patient in worse and worse shape mentally and physically, until finally there is extreme emaciation, paralysis, complete dementia and epileptic convulsions.

The duration of pellagra is exceedingly variable. It may last only two or three years, but usually it extends to ten, fifteen or more.

Knowledge of pellagra is of comparatively recent date. It was recognized and described almost simultaneously in Italy and Spain. In Spain ft was described by Casal in 1762 but had been present since 1735 under the name of "rose sickness." In Italy, under the name of "Alpine scurvy, it was described by Odoard in 1776 but had been recognized in 1740.

Pellagra has been ascribed to the most varied causes, such as sun heat, poverty, unsanitary dwellings, ed it as an article of food. But to syphilis, irritant oils, bad water, alcohol, garlic, onions, corn. It has so telling against the corn theory, and popular name. Although it is known that sunlight and direct sun rays influence the eruption, as in for concluding that exposure to the sun is the cause of the disease, especially as the eruption is limited to the early spring season and lasts about a fortnight.

The corn theory, of all the fancied causes of the disease, demands, be. days of Casal (1762), the province of cause of its popularity, the most Oviedo in Spain was one of its chief

searching scrutiny. gra appeared soon after the introduc- est number of victims being in the tion of corn into Europe, and that it province of Madrid. Now, no change advanced pari passu with the exten. Whatsoever has taken place in the sion of corn cultivation, and with the corn cultivation in the province of more general adoption of the new ce- Oviedo; the people eat corn there toreal as an article of food. For these day just as freely as they did in 1762, and other reasons corn is held to be and there has been no improvement rice has been held to be the cause of grain. On the other hand, corn is case, various theories have been ad- in the province of Madrid and pella-

The poisonous action of corn has ed." been variously attributed to-

contained naturally in the grain.

been eaten.

The first Sunday newspaper appear. In shock in field or after being place led in barn).

(e) Fungus or moulds found on corn.

Of these theories the first must have been advanced by a European unfamiliar with the food value of corn, for just the opposite is true. That corn normally contains the poison that induces pellagra falls down of its own weakness, otherwise how could the immunity of millions of people who live on corn be

Lay Leader, the members of the va- numerous sores (ulcers) develop in gra is, strange to say, the common

prominently, and that is that each

acts like it in every way except that man ,sometimes, in himself, by inocuwhen like sunburn, it scales off af- lating the skin, injecting into the ter about two weeks, the new skin is veins, or administering by the mouth rough and stained a light reddish- the special organism or poisonous brown color, which condition is par- product which he happens to have

manent and the natural color never discovered. This fact is sufficient proof that the real cause of the dis-The nervous symptoms are: sleep- ease is yet to be discovered. The dislessness; great weakness, especially ease must have, can have, but one in lower extremities; peculiar at specific cause, be that cause what

The corn theory is based chiefly on

mouth; tenderness and actual pain soon after the introduction of corn when spine in middle of back is into Europe, and that it everywhere followed the extension of corn culti-After about two months the patient vation, and increased with the more general adoption of the new cereal as an article of food. Both the statement and the argument is incorrect. We know nothing positive about the introduction of corn into Europe. The general belief is that it was introduced, by the Spaniards, from South America. There is historical evidence that corn was cultivated in the old world hundreds of years before the discovery of America. Corn was used as an article of food in Italy for 200 years before the discovery of the existence of pellagra. It has been pointed out again and

again by numerous observers that the areas of pellagra and of corn culture do not correspond, that there are vast regions in which corn is extensively clutivated and much eaten, but in which pellagra is absolutely unknown. On the other hand, pellagra has been observed very frequently in places in France, Spain, and Italy, in which corn is not cultivated and in people who have never usovercome these embarrassing facts, been regarded as a modified form of the comfortable term "pseudo-pellaleprosy. "Sun disease" was the old gra" ("make-believe" pellagra) was invented. The disease is pellagra when it fits in with the orthodox theory and when it can be connected in smallpox, this is no adequate reason any way with corn; but when this is not possible the disease becomes "pseudo-pellagra."

A comparative study of the distribution and prevalence of pellagra at different periods is decidedly unfavorable to the corn theory. In the centres. In 1900 this was the prov-The general opinion is that pella. ince which suffered least, the great-

Hence his two birthdays, one in sum- erally conceded that beri beri is North Carolina the observer states: were expected to reward him openly no more to do with causing or spread- of cases occurring in my section I one year Eastmans Johnson, the ing the disease than any other food]. was impressed with the fact that watch-and another in winter, when manner in which corn causes the the people came from Ohio and Vir the islanders remembered him with disease, nearly every theorist giving ginia, though in neither of these States had pellagra ever been report-

> A friter in the Southern Medical (a) Deficiency in its nutritive prin- Journal says that in an orbian asylum in Nashville in 1906 one child of (b) Special poisonous substance a family of four developed the disease, the other three children devel-(c) Poisons made after the corn has oping it later and that twelve other children in the asylum, coming from (d) Poisonous substance made du- all sections of the South, have develring decomposition of grain. (While ope the disease since 1906. The provisions used in the orphanage are the best the market affords. The corn

meal used by this institution is obtained from the same mill which furnishes meal to the Tennessee Insane Asylum in which there is no pella-

gra, even among the colored inmates. It is rather a strange and peculiar tact that the majority of cases reported in America-these all from the Southern States-occurred in institutions. In Europe the disease does not occur in towns or institutes, but, like malaria, infests the country regions, and, except very rarely, only the poverty-stricken field laborers are affected.

The most noted observers in Europe and the government experts in America are agreed that this disease has as a specific cause a germ or microbe, as has tuberculosis, diphtheria, small pox, etc., and that corn is the cause of pellagra is as erroneous a theory as that bad air causes malaria. Malaria is made up of two Italian words, mal-bad; aria-air; and for hundreds of years bad air was accused of being the cause of chills and fever or ague. It remained for later generations to prove the air innocent of the charge of causing chills and fever, and ere long some will discover the germ of pellagra and thus clear the fair name of corn of the present unjust accusations.-States. ville Physician in Statesville Landmark.

Mr. Luther Guthrie, of Beaufort, N. C. spent money freely in employing doctors to cure his wife from continual headache. He writes:

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