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Providence Independent, V. 16, Thursday,
November 27, 1890, [Whole Number: 806]

Providence Independent

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RAILROADS.

Table with rail line names (Perkiomen, Philadelphia and Reading, etc.), destinations, and departure times.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING R. R. SHORT AND DIRECT ROUTE TO PHILADELPHIA, NEW YORK, NEW ENGLAND, THE SOUTH AND WEST. On and after Nov. 16, 1890, TRAINS LEAVE COLLEGEVILLE

A Dangerous Vocation.

The railroad line from Lucknow to Lahore, India, runs through a country where the tiger and panther yet crouch where there is no sound of the car wheels, and where almost every train passing up and down cuts serpents in two as they crawl over the track from cover to cover.

struck the ground once, and then made a leap of about twenty feet and bore Williams to the earth. Two or three seconds later he flung the unfortunate man over his shoulder and started off. He did not make for the thicket, but for a ravine to the west. I urged Zeb after him as fast as he could go, and bearing the crash of his footsteps, the tiger halted and wheeled around and stood looking us in the face. I was so near before my beast halted that I could see that Williams was gripped by the right shoulder. He lay almost on his back diagonally across the tiger's body.

At a distance of not over fifty feet the elephant halted. He saw that the ground was broken and that he stood no show of pursuit. I had my rifle ready, and though I felt almost certain that I would kill Williams if I fired, I raised the weapon to my face and fired at the white spot on the tiger's breast. I believe he leaped three feet high with his burden, and he had touched the earth again when the ball exploded. It made an awful wreck of him, and as I rode forward I had no hope whatever for the man. I found him covered with blood and hair and flesh, and his coat sleeve torn off, but I had scarcely taken him by the heels to draw him aside when he roused up and was soon able to converse. The tiger gave him a severe bite in the shoulder, and he had been considerably shaken up by the explosion, but in two weeks he was at the head of his gang again. The tiger must not only have been a man-eater, but in the full vigor of life and strength.

I found that he had received several severe bites on the trunk, and a sharp stone had severely cut his right foot. After that night the sight of a wolf instantly aroused his ire. I had him in the town of Sundella one day, a year later, when a native, wearing a wolf-skin shoulder cape happened to pass near. Zeb at once charged him, and seizing the poor fellow in his trunk flung him clean over the telegraph wires and on to the roof of a bungalow. The man had a leg broken, and, of course, I had to settle the damages. After two days of palaver he named his figures. He wanted a sum equivalent to \$25 in American money, and his friends thought it a fortunate speculation on his part.—N. Y. Sun.

It was taking in plain sight and I declined taking any passengers, but hastened to get away myself hoping to avoid the threatening storm by rising above it. You would naturally suppose that by starting ahead of the storm the balloon would keep in advance of it, but on the contrary I found, on rising that the air was rushing toward the clouds and that if I would escape I must hasten to rise above them. I tried hard to accomplish this, but without avail. However, as I had succeeded in getting above the black and angry-looking front of the storm, I congratulated myself on having escaped that portion and was deluded with the belief that in the light gray cloud above there was no danger.

Embarrassed in a Tunnel. Perhaps they were not so much interested in each other as they seemed to be, but they were both young and she was pretty, and every one in the car got the idea into his head that they were a good deal in love with each other. At any rate, shortly after the train left the station only two people were talking, and these two were the young man and the young woman. All the rest were just watching. "There is a tunnel a little way up the road," he said, trying to appear self-possessed, but looking a little guilty.

three inches in length and one and a half inches in diameter. The swallows nest under the eaves of his barn, which project some twenty inches from the building. The rafters do not run out more than one-half or two-thirds of this distance, the space between them being quite thickly studded with the mud nests of the swallows. One pleasant day in June his son noticed quite a commotion among the birds, and called him to the spot. They were amazed to see a large snake clinging to the end of a rafter, with its head in one of the nests, evidently devouring the young birds. The reptile was able to cling to the end of the rafter by hugging it tightly, and was only dislodged after some effort. It had swallowed two young birds, and another was part way down its throat. The young man had not "believed in killing snakes," but on this occasion he dispatched the reptile forthwith. The barn is sheathed up with rough pine boards, upon which there are two coats of paint, and from the ground to the point whence the snake was dislodged the distance is nineteen feet and four inches. How it managed to get to the spot seems altogether a mystery. There was no hole through the side of the barn nor under the roof boards, nor did it seem possible for it to have worked its way from the top of the roof. Then, it was quite as difficult for it to have found a way to the roof. Mr. Carpenter is a most reliable observer of all natural phenomena—an investigator, really—but he was unable to form any opinion as to how the reptile reached its prey. He described it as resembling the common garter snake, except in the matter of its great size, hence I could form no idea as to the species to which it belonged.—Charles Aldrich, Webster City, Iowa.—American Naturalist.

