DEVIL-FISHING

BY WILLARD W. GARRISON.

IMAGINE a great, fat slimy something poked out of the water into your face, quickly followed by another slimy something and then another and another; each endeavoring to secure an option on a different portion of your anatomy, and you have one of the various joys of fishing for the devil fish.

But along the American coast of the Gulf of Mexico there are lots and lots of men who eke out their livings doing just this thing. For the man who doesn't have to fish for the devil-fish, it's fun, but to the man or crews of men who do it for their daily bread; well, they content themselves with a single catch a day.

Aristotle of old is recorded in history as the first writer on the subject of devil-fishing, but he was exceedingly fond of Mr. Aristotle's health he left lots unsaid because he didn't investigate.

Every Gulf of Mexico sailor who fishes for this creature carries a hatchet close by, for that is the only means of getting away from the fish's tentacles—simply cutting them off as they are about to grasp the intended victim.

In the gulf the devil-fish is harpooned and seldom after one of these great prongs has been imbedded in the body of the victim are the fisher' men able to land their quarry within two hours. Usually it takes from three to four hours of good, hard muscle-grinding work and then lots of times the crew of the hunting craft must cut the cable and lose the harpoon simply because the brute fights too hard to allow the occupation to be carried on safely. It is little wonder that one fish a day of this variety is considered sufficient.

Many wild, weird tales are told of the devil-fish. One class of stories deals with the creature's addiction to towing ocean-going steamers out of their courses. So strong is the deep-sea monster that captains of vessels have been known to wonder what was carrying them to windward, and upon investigation find that a devil-fish or cuttlefish was trying to bite off a corner of the rudder.

Numerous cases of the fish attempting and succeeding in towing ten-ton sloops for miles have been recorded in the annals of the industry. The devil-fishers always are compelled to put up a hot fight against this animal of the sea. The intended quarry will pull them far out of their course after the first harpoon has stung his hide and it takes two and sometimes three of them before the catch can be brought close enough to the sloop to allow the gunner to place a shot in a vital spot.

The fish must be continually worried or it will descend to the bottom to rest, in which case it usually takes the boat, crew and apparatus with it.

A story is told of a boat crew which had not had a devil-fish strike for two days until finally the harpoon expert on the bowsprit imbedded his instrument of torture within the vitals of one of the monsters. The creature, of course, went through the formality of turning the water thereabouts into a delicate black, this being one of the traits of the species when attacked. This done the devil-fish started for home, which was the bottom of the gulf. The harpoon expert hated to let go, on account of strikes being few and the boat, crew and harpoonist also began the descent in inky darkness. The craft being provided with air tanks at each end, the harpooned had some job on his hands, and when down in the sea about 20 feet, as near as the mariners could figure, the eight-armed namesake of Uncle Sam trust gingerly climbed into the boat with the men who were seeking his life-blood. It being dark the fishermen did not perceive his presence. Once more at the surface, however, and there was a miniature fire panic. Realizing his presence of mind, however, the harpooner put an end drop on his second throw and put an end to the pranks of the fish. That tale has been called "just a fish story," but there are three deep sea fishermen to-day who vouch for the truth of a portion of it and they still ply that trade on the coast of the gulf. But now when the devil-fish starts for home, they let him go.

The manta, as the creature is called by science, is to be found as far north on the Atlantic coast as the Carolinas and in those waters some of the largest of this class of sea creatures have been seen. One caught on the Atlantic coast several years ago required three yoke of oxen to drag it from the sea and its weight was estimated at four tons.

Usually the devil-fish measures from 20 to 25 feet across its back when full grown and one mariner on the Pacific coast reported that he had estimated one to be 40 feet, which eye measurement, of course, is within the realm of possibility. The creature has two well defined plans of defense, and thus the Almighty has endowed the species with more than the ordinary powers, for usually fish, beast or bird of the air has only one natural mode of protection. The cuttlefish, however, can cast from its tissues an inky substance known as "sepia," which turns the water in its vicinity an impenetrable black and allows escape. Combined with this there is the set of eight tentacles, which possess grips of iron and are lined underneath with "suckers," which, when in working order, form a vacuum over the object grasped and thus insure a firm hold.

So firm is this grasp that story tellers of several decades ago were fond of dropping the treasure-hunting hero into the hold of the sunken galleon and there bump him up against the "terrible devil-fish which had thwarted all human wiles and for umpty hundred years been the guardian of the don's loot." The hero always won and captured the coin, being dragged to the surface unconscious.

There have been one or two cases where the cuttlefish has made its home within the cabins of sunken ships. In one case in particular off the northern coast of South America it is told that a devil-fish killed three divers who descended to lay plans for raising the ship. As each victim was brought to the surface dead from a cause which none of his mates could guess, another was sent to take his place. Finally the trouble was suspected and the last man sent down gave explicit instructions about being brought to the surface upon the faintest tug at the guide line. After numerous trips up and back he succeeded in dislodging the creature by cutting off its arms one by one. Deprived of its arms, it fled and no further trouble was experienced.

Perhaps the most uncanny sight which ever befalls the devil-fish hunters is when, on a clear day, the denizens of the deep may be seen on the bottom walking along with the aid of their tentacles, which are used as feet. On land, it is recorded, this is a physical impossibility, for the fish, but buoyed up by the water of many fathoms, it's easy.

Though absolutely the most dangerous of creatures of the sea, it is said the devil-fish displays greater fear of human attack than any of the other species. The first move when assailed, is to try to grab the hunters with two or more of the long arms that stretch out as occasion demands. Failing in this the fish will attempt to get away under cover of the inky "sepia," but when caught with the harpoon and it finds there is no apparent escape the real tug of war commences and the struggle is never ended until the quarry ceases quivering in death. Then the cables which hold the harpoons are lashed to the stern of the craft and the sailors turn the vessel's nose towards home, the most welcome part of the voyage.

Study the habits and origin of the cuttlefish is one of the most interesting which any scientist ever attempted. The fish are propagated by means of eggs. The tiny creature at first has only one tentacle, which, when it grows older, gradually divides into two and then into four and after a year or so into eight small arms. These grow larger and stronger as the age of the fish increases. Some adult specimens have been caught, the tentacles of which were over 20 feet in length. Jets of water squirted by means of fins constitute the method of locomotion of the cuttlefish.

The devil-fish's choicest occupation is that of feeding upon shoals of smaller members of the finny tribe and when interrupted in this pursuit he or she is terrifying. The great creature will toss several of its tentacles to the surface, still continuing to feed with the rest of them; and if this bluff fails to scare the intruder away, the devil-fish will come to the surface personally to see about it.

While next to human beings, sharks are the greatest enemies of the cuttlefish, the scavengers of the sea are just about as frightened by the tentacled monsters as the latter are by the sharks. Mariners have often told of the battles which they have seen in clear water between these warriors of the briny deep but accounts telling of the victors are scarce.

Along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico the sharks show their delight at the plight of the devil-fish when caught by following in its bloody wake and with wide-open jaws, seeking a bite here or there from the carcass. At night along the coast they fight in the water for the opportunity to consume the dead devil-fish after the fishermen have finished with him.

All in all devil-fishing is the most thrilling, most hazardous, most entrancing method of angling which has ever been discovered, for the creature is doubtless the craftiest of the inhabitants of the tropical waters. And the man who goes after the scalp of the devil-fish while he is not armed with modern accoutrements is taking his own life in his hand. The plain hardware store hatchet with the short handle is declared to be the best weapon of defense in close quarters and dozens of lives have been saved simply because the parties attacked were equipped with hatchets and knew how, when and where to use them upon the anatomy of the dangerous fish.

UNCLE SAM SEEKS STAMP VENDER.

Will the time ever come when Uncle Sam can dispense with letter carriers? The increasing use of the automobile, the pneumatic tube and mechanical devices in the postal service would indicate that eventually some method of delivering mail will be found which will, in a large measure, do away with the present system of distribution.

The postoffice department has an annual appropriation which is used to experiment with mechanical devices, and every year the officials are called upon to investigate the practicability and utility of inventions. There have been hundreds of different styles of mail boxes submitted, and there is no end of devices designed for picking up mail bags by fast-moving express trains. There is no doubt, so experts say, that the stamp-fixing machine will come into general use, and they are equally certain that the government will adopt slot machines for the automatic sale of postage stamps, as Germany and numerous other foreign countries have. The department has made an official trial of such machines.

A little more than a year ago the postmaster general appointed a special committee of officials to make a thorough investigation of the stamp-vending machines. Washington is now having its extended public demonstration of these machines, and other cities also will have the chance to try them for a long period under the direct supervision of the postoffice authorities.

When the postmaster general decided to make experiments with stamp-selling machines, he invited all persons with inventive tendencies to submit models. He did not confine the invitation to America. The result was that some 75 machines were offered for experiment, and the postoffice committee had a long and tedious task in selecting those that appeared to be practical.

After much investigation the committee selected a half-dozen machines for further test. To the owners or inventors of these six makes was given the opportunity to make public tests of the vendors under the direction of the department, but at their own expense. Finally three different models were picked out for an extended public test at government expense.

Two of these machines are foreign inventions—one a German machine and the other the invention of an Australian.

GIFT OF CHINESE EMPRESS

Miss Carl, Portrait Painter, Has an Interesting Jewel Presented by Tai Ann.

Miss Katherine Carl, the portrait painter, has an interesting jewel, presented to her by the empress of China, which reveals Tai Ann, even amid her cares of state, as a remarkable enthusiast for the minor harmonies of life.

It was while Miss Carl was living at the palace for the purpose of painting the empress' portrait that the incident occurred. On one occasion when Miss Carl appeared before her the empress was not satisfied with the unrelieved gray of the painter's gown. Sending for flowers from the garden she tried them against the gray gown, but as they were all pink or red in tone the combination did not please her.

Finally she drew from her own hair the floral decoration which she herself wore. This was of jasmine blossoms, worn in the Chinese fashion, with the leaves all removed and a long pin thrust through rows of blossoms, which were packed tightly together on the pin. The head of the pin has a branch of coral, with a setting of two large pearls.

When the empress had tried this flower strung pin against Miss Carl's hair and gown she was pleased with the note of color it afforded, and, thrusting it into Miss Carl's hair, she said:

"Keep this pin when the flowers have faded as a souvenir of me and to remind you also that it is the duty of all of us to look as well as we can at all times, and especially that it is the duty of women."

Wisdom from Uncle Eben.

"Nursin' a grouch," said Uncle Eben, "is like neglectin' de flowers an' vegetables an' puttin' in yoh time tendin' de weeds."

Real Estate Exchange

Of WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL'

Exchange Bank, Birmingham, Mich.

The following is a partial list of Farms, City and Village Lots, and Real Estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing, we request that parties will write us if they do not see what they want in this list.

5.

Elegant house and lot 66 feet front and 20 rods deep on Maple Ave. East (half an acre). Pine barn and every modern convenience. Furnace bath, closets, etc. This property bought for what the buildings cost. Will exchange for improved city property for portion of the purchase price.

66

Village lots on Woodward avenue, bounded north by land of Mollie G. Smith, east by D. G. H. & M. Ry, south by Bower street, west by Woodward avenue. Each 66 feet front on Woodward avenue, 198 feet deep on north side and 146 feet on south side. All in Village of Birmingham, Mich. One of the finest building sites in the village.

77

One acre on Saginaw street, just south of land owned by John Germack, 66 feet frontage. Any one wishing to purchase will find this a bargain. For particulars inquire of Mollie G. Smith or at the Exchange Bank.

109

Eighty-acre farm in White Lake township, W ½ of s e ¼ of section 32; 70 acres cleared, 10 acres timber and huckleberry swamp. (Don't laugh; this swamp fetched the owner over $150.00 last summer.) Three acres of good orchard, house of 7 rooms, good neighborhood; 4½ miles from Milford, 8 miles from Commerce; proposed electric road crosses within a mile of the house. Price $2,000.

147

Nice little home for someone of small means; 1½ acres in n w ¼ of n e ¼ of sec 34, township 2 N, Troy; house 7 rooms, barn in good shape; well at back door and house; never dry; mile and one-half to Rochester Electric; fare to Detroit 15c. R. F. D. All cash and no grumbling will buy it at 2500. Hurry up!

No. 167

Wants to trade for 80 or 60 acres on or near electric. Ninety-four acres on east ½ of south west ¼ Sec 11, Troy township; three buildings valued at $2,500 insured for $1,700; fine young orchard to bear; farm well adapted for stock or dairy; 1¾ miles from electric at Troy Corners, where there are good schools and churches. Pays 1½ to Detroit; $60 per acre.

No. 171

Finest building site between Birmingham and Pontiac, on electric railway. Just north of Birmingham, among the country homes of well-to-do men, such as Welch, Barbour, Radicott, Brady, Shaw, Conklin, and others, 43 acres, nearly half of which is timber and pretty little branch of River Rouge (never dry) runs through the place with gentle flow and cascades. Splendid building, good drainage, fine orchard of 3 acres. Price is high but if you have the cream you must expect to pay for it.

178

Seven-room cottage on west side of Bates street, 67 feet front, 132 feet deep. You couldn't build the house for $1,200, and that's all we ask for it. City water, wood shed, cellar, all ordinary conveniences. One of the best bargains we have. Show it to you any time.

180

Farm in Avon township; 35 acres of good clay loam; all cleared; small orchard, no buildings; must be sold down. For sale or exchange for small farm.

188

One of the best-arranged and finest-equipped residences in the village, and is absolutely the best location. Fast Maple avenue, two blocks from electric road; bath, toilet, hot and cold water, city gas, 10 rooms, 2 stories, rebuilt last year, better than new; 2 buildings, fine orchard; 125 feet on Maple, 20 feet deep; plenty of room for chicken run and garden; good barn, fine workshop.—Say! What else do you want, anyhow? Will sell house and 100 feet front for $3,500. One of our best bargains.

193

Thirty-five-acre fruit farm, 1¼ miles north of Birmingham, on the town line, 6 buildings, insured for $1,200. All kinds of soil—clay, gravel, sand and dark loam. Last year this farm produced 223 bushels raspberries, 20 bushels blackberries, 111 bushels strawberries, 10 tons hay, etc. A gravel ridge 80 rods in length, with an almost inexhaustable supply of gravel, is worth almost the price of the farm alone. No waste land and under a high state of cultivation. Worth looking at anyhow. Price $5,000, terms easy.

194

Fifty acres in Township of Troy, adjoining the Troy Stock Farm; 6 buildings, good house, basement barn, plenty of maple shade, fine orchard; gasolene fruit; 2½ miles from Flint Division D. U. R.; 3 wells and fine spring. Price $4,000.

196

Fifteen acres in Township of Royal Oak; no buildings; small grove of apple trees; fine clay loam; new land, well drained, clay bottom; heavy top soil; one mile south of Campbell's Corners on road, ¼ mile east of electric road; adjoins J. L. Hudson's celebrated tracts, which sell for $500.00 per acre; 1½ miles from Detroit. Pub grounds. Price $300 per acre; will exchange for Detroit property.

196

Six acres, part of s w ¼ of n e ¼ of section 26, Troy township; new barn, fair house, soil clay loam, fine family wood; 8 miles east of Flint electric road; 2½ miles from Big Beaver; good farm for somebody. Price $625.

198

Ten acres 1 mile east of Royal Oak village on excellent land, 40 fine apple trees, no buildings. Price $1,000. The place is well fenced, and the price will enable you to build the kind of house you may require.

200

One hundred and twenty-six acres near Birmingham, unimproved; 2 acres of fine timber and orchard, flowing well; pretty little River Rouge runs through the farm; ½ mile from Birmingham; Worth looking at. Take your choice for $1,000 per acre. Oh, yes; the price is $12,000, and the terms easy. Farms are not good at this figure now and then, but just year, in the immediate vicinity, for $150.00 per acre. Can't take you to see it to-day, but will please you, and if, you don't buy we won't grumble.

201

Fine 2-story residence on Maple Avenue, corner of High Street; 132 feet front, 132 feet deep; hot-water heater, hot and cold bath, toilet, city gas, city water, fine lawn, good shade, in the best class of city residences. Cement walk (cost $200); and best neighborhood in town. House would cost at least $3,000 to build today; ask any one who has built for less and see what they say. You can buy this house for $2,500, and have your own way about payments. Ask the man at the bank.

216

A new, modern dwelling, constructed by a well-known builder for his own use, from best concrete blocks, hollow walls, 8 inches thick; in one of the best localities in our village; lot 60x100 feet; 8 large sized rooms, bath, hot-water heater, city water, ozeo-pool, hot-air furnace, 9 rooms beautifully finished in hard wood, large grate. Five reasons for selling. Price $3,800. Let us show it to you any day—any time.

219

Tidy little place for some one with moderate means. Corner Chestnut and Palm, Campbell's Addition, south of Maple road. House 5 rooms, insured for $1,200; that's $1,700, and prices are advancing all along the lines in that location. If you come right away we will accept offer of $1,500, and if that is too high after we have shown you over the premises, we will name figure to the owner and you can make your own terms. Eh?

222

Two-story tenement or terrace, on the east side of Woodward Ave., near Flint line; 2 flats, 3 rooms each, bath, hot and cold water, separate entrance; each tenement complete and independent of other apartment. Rents for $14 per month each. Forty dollars per year will pay all taxes and insurance; lot 66 feet on Woodward Ave., and the lot is 70 feet front on the best frontage on Woodward; and 132 feet deep; room for a nice garden; can live in one apartment and have a steady income from the other. Come and see us and let us ponder over. Come and let us help you ponder. Always at your service, if you can't call, write.

227

Five acres just outside of the corporation limits of Birmingham, about 19 rods frontage on Woodward Avenue, on the Pontiac electric line; one stops in front; about $0 rods deep to the River Rouge (branch of the River Rouge) crossing the back end of the property; a beautiful location for a country for a nice little chicken farm. My building, but can be bought cheap enough so that you can build to suit yourself and have one of the finest little homes of the many in the Birmingham district. Postal card request will bring prices and particulars. Rather have it to you, though.

229

A pleasant and eligible farm of 71 acres in Wayne township, 2 miles from the Northwestern electric road, 1 mile from Plymouth; 7 acres good timber, 3 bearing orchards, and this portion of the farm would be worth it. Rich sandy loam and clay loam, under high state of cultivation. Better investigate.

232

Farm of 97½ acres, just outside the Village of Birmingham, on the D. U. R. electric line; 134 feet to Detroit, half-hour service; 40 acres cleared, good acres; four buildings, all in good condition. Equipment location between Detroit and Pontiac.

241

Fine new house with all modern conveniences, within 200 feet of the town side of Woodward Avenue; 8 rooms, hard-wood finish; lot 66x100; plenty of fruit. You could not build the house for $3,000, and that's all we ask for the premises. Well worth looking at.

243

Farm of 160 acres, Saginaw county, 2 miles from Fergus Station, on the M. C. Ry. Clay loam; good buildings valued at $5,000, and $3,000 will buy the farm if you come right away—now. The place is within 2 miles of five coal mines, and there is a rich coal deposit under the entire farm; 6 miles to Chesaning; 16 miles to Owosso; 418 miles to Charles and 22 miles to Saginaw. Well drained, good fences, and altogether worth the money.

244

If you could buy an acre and a quarter of land with a brick house equipped with hot and cold water, bath, water closet, furnace, and every possible convenience, and barn, chicken house, plenty of fruit and cement walks—and the house alone cost $6,000—for $3,000 on easy terms, you'd call it a snap, wouldn't you? Well, we can do it. Come on and we'll show you.

246

One hundred and twenty-seven acres in the Township of Avon. Six buildings worth $5,000, 17 acres of timber, 5 acres of orchard; well watered (Clinton river runs through the farm); no marsh; land is 120 feet above the river; fine cedars, 4 wells, 2 good houses, 2 barns in good repair, well fenced, and only a mile from the thriving Village of Rochester. Will trade for a smaller farm or will consider an offer of $8,500, with one-third cash. Take you to see it any old time at all.

247

House, barn, and also an acre of good garden land on north side of middle Street. Good, old-fashioned house, and a cozy home at a low price. Party has decided to go West and wants to sell badly enough to make a decided sacrifice. Ask the man at the bank about it.

249

Nice, warm, old-fashioned house on the south side of Maple Avenue, among the best class of residences in the village. Plenty of room for a good garden, and it can be bought for $1,500. Not Why not? Well, just come and talk it over with us; and after you look the premises over you will make us an offer anyhow.

250

Now, here is a "Beaner!" House, barn and chicken house, with two acres of land on westerly side of Woodward, opposite Electric Park, known as "Elmcrest." Ten rooms, bath, toilet, two cellars, furnace, hot-air, good land; furnace, two grates and mantels, one of the best equipped lot of buildings in the village; city water, drains, fine shade trees and beautiful lawn; buildings insured for $4,000. $2,500 cash will buy it, and the balance of purchase price can be had on long time and low rate of interest. Without exception, this is the finest location and the best lot of buildings on our st, and the price is right.

251

House and lot in Campbell's Subdivision; scores lot 60x110, fine hedge on front and side, cellar, city and eastern water in the kitchen, fine veranda on front and side, cherries, peaches, pears, crab apples—all bearing—and some smaller trees. $1,450 will buy it, and terms can be made so that it won't take a millionaire to handle it. Come on.

252

Eight acres of land in Newaygo county, Michigan, listed "A No. 1 sandy soil;" no buildings, 10 acres oak timber; price $5 per acre. Won't cost anything to investigate. We're ready to answer all questions you may ask—wise or otherwise.

253

Two hundred acres of sand and sandy loam, 40 acres of mixed timber, 20 acres cleared; two buildings of little value. Price $10 per acre. In the township of Big Prairie, County of Newaygo. And then we have 440 acres more, in the same township, with 3 buildings, 25 acres of orchard and 100 acres of mixed timber; all at $10 per acre. We'll just show you to dig into this proposition, and you know what our opinion used to be at school regarding any "feller" that wouldn't "take a dare."

256

Eight-room house, good barn and two acres at excellent land on west side of Southfield Avenue in the Village of Birmingham—one of the best-equipped and tidiest homes in the village. Buildings would cost $2,800 to build today (house is practically new), and the whole outfit can be bought for just a little more than that. Enough to secure it will get it, and you can have your own way about payments on balance!

257

Just what everybody wants! Don't wait a minute or you'll lose it. Fine house and barn, with 3 other good buildings, and nearly two acres of fine orchard, lots of small fruit, buildings insured for $2,500; 2 acres of excellent land, ¼ mile from Flint Electric, an hour's ride from Detroit. Price $2,350; terms easy. Don't wait to see school, church and stores. Take you to see it any old time.

208

Lots 23 and 24, Buell's Addition, Birmingham, Price $400 for both lots. Terms, $25 cash; balance on contract.

265

Eighty-acre farm in Ionia county, Town of Easton. Will exchange for small farm or residence. Property is described as the s ½ of s e ¼ of sec 36, town 7 n., r 7 w. Nine buildings insured for $2,250 mortgage of $1,500, which can run; 2,000 cash will secure balance. 2 miles from Ionia; 5-room white brick house; all kinds of fruit; no hills or waste land; excellent soil. This offer is good for 30 days only, so you'd better get busy.

269

House and lot, east side Woodward Avenue; will exchange for other property; lot 105x97; house 6 rooms, bath, hot and cold water; some fruit $1,000; buildings are insured for $600.

270

House and lot, west side of Ann Street; 2-story frame cottage, cement block foundation, 8 rooms and cellar; one block from Woodward Avenue; $1,800; terms easy.

271

Forty feet front on Southfield Avenue, 176 feet deep; 2 buildings, 6-room house, 3 bedrooms, water in house, garden, fruit, new cement walks; $1,250.

273

New cement house, one block from Woodward Avenue, 4 bedrooms, bath and closet on second floor, 6 rooms downstairs; large veranda, hot-air furnace, hot and cold water, hardwood floors, good barn large enough for horse or auto; cement walks, cistern, etc. Worth looking at; also worth more money than we ask for it, but we'll sell it for $3,800 on easy terms.

274

Nice little country place for someone of small means. Will exchange for unincumbered buildings with two acres of good land; buildings insured for $725; cistern, good location, 2½ miles from Clawson on the Flint electric line; $900; terms easy.

275

Fine new house and 102 acres of good land on west side of Woodward Avenue, near Pontiac; 16 acres timber, 8 acres orchard, buildings, valued at $7,000; hot and cold soft water, tubular hot-air furnace, bath, toilet, water closets, ozone, piazzas and apples in great abundance; one mile from Pontiac on D. U. R. electric. Prices and terms on application.

276

Farm of 160 acres, west of Birmingham; excellent soil, good buildings, fine location; 16 acres orchard, 20 acres timber; one of the finest farms in this county. Price low and terms. Take you to see it any day.

277

Forty acres on the line of the Flint electric, at Harris Corners, in Troy township. Excellent soil, clay loam. Some of the best building locations for building a nice country residence. The place is held for more money, but make us an offer of $2,600 cash, and we will see what we can do for you; or, will sell out in 10 acre lots or 20 acres in any sort of parcel, or any part of the 40, at prices which cannot fail to interest you.

277

Farm of 160 acres in Southfield, gravelly loam and clay; 4 good buildings, 6 acres orchard, 40 acres oak timber; 1 mile from cheese factory and Village of Franklin; 2½ miles from electric road; telephone, R. F. D., and $45 per acre will get it if sold before March 1. Possession will get full title. Come, or we will take you to see it at any time.

278

How would you like a good big farm in Crawford county, Michigan? 560 acres, and the north branch of the Au Sable river runs across it. 90 acres cleared, 2 acres orchard, 2 buildings valued at $2,500; good house 8 rods from the river; abundance of game and fish, fine climate, pure air, school house on the same section; only four settlers in town-ship; ideal place for club building for hunting and fishing. Price $15 per acre; terms easy, and we will make some effort in a corporation to buy it, if postal will bring full particulars, photographs and map.

280

Farm of 228 acres in Troy—15 acres oak and maple timber, 3 acres orchard, 4 acres meadow, 2 buildings valued at $4,000, insured for $3,000. No waste land. Soil rich loam; fencing, wire; tank and tank house; buildings fair; on mile from Rochester electric; 8-room house with good cement bottom cellar; 200 rods of new Page wire fence. $85 per acre will buy it, and the terms are easy at low rate of interest.

281

Two very desirable lots in the Buell Addition can be bought for $325 on account of the owner leaving town. Board'to go soon, as share-crop of oats in the neighborhood are selling for twice the money.

282

Lot 4 in Block 7, Campbell's Subdivision; good house insured for $650; fine location; price $1,200. Nice easy little home for some one with enough cash to make a small first payment.

283

Lots 23 and 24, Buell's Addition; one of the best locations in the whole plat, can be bought for $400, and you can get them by paying only $25, and the balance on land contract with easy payments.

284

House, barn, and 1¼ acres of excellent land, with plenty of fruit; 8-room house, good barn with cement floor; fine location on west side of Woodward Avenue, near Electric Park; good drainage; cement walks. Price $2,500.

285

Two-story cottage with wing, 2 lots 80x160, good barn and woodshed, cement walk; fine location on south side of Maple Street; good neighborhood, two blocks from Woodward Avenue; cellar, cistern, city water, 8 rooms. Price $1,800.

286

Fine farm of 56 acres on Franklin Road, 1½ miles from Court House in Pontiac. No buildings, good well and new windmill, no waste land, well fenced, nice grove of 3 acres on west end, new gravel. State road ½ mile to city limits, ½ mile from electric; fine view; farm well fenced. Price $6,300; enough cash to secure, balance on long time at 6 per cent.

287

Eight acres, 2-story dwelling, 10 rooms, 366 feet front on Southfield Avenue, in village; city water, good barn, chicken house, woodshed, cement walks, buildings well kept at $3,000, an acre of orchard, all kinds of fruit. Price $4,000; terms easy. Anxious to sell.

288

Acreage, 16 acres one block from Woodward, streets on two sides, excellent land well drained; just the thing for platting. Price $4,000. Terms, $2,000 cash and balance on mortgage, easy terms.

289

Two-story frame house, practically new; 10 rooms, good furnace, nice barn and carriage house, 120 feet frontage on south side of Townsend Street, two blocks from electric, cement walks—everything in excellent condition; city water, all conveniences, and will be sold for $3,000 cash, or enough to secure and balance on easy terms. One of the best bargains on the list. Come and see it.

291

Fine 2-story house on west side of Woodward Avenue; 10 rooms, bath, closet, furnace, hot and cold water, fine lawn, good shade, 100 feet front and 146 feet deep; house practically new, having been recently rebuilt. Price $4,000; terms easy.

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One of the best equipped and loveliest little farms on our list; 47 acres, new stone house, 10 rooms, furnace, bath, hot and cold water, city water, ½ acre beautiful grove of native trees, 16 acres of best orchard just coming into bearing; all kinds of fruit. Fine high location, 2 miles out outside of village limits; 22 rods to electric; no waste land; pretty location in the country. Owner has business which takes him to other parts and will sell at a great sacrifice. Price and terms call at the Exchange Bank, and if you want something that will be the ordinary at almost your own price you will go with the man and look it over. Any time—any day.

HOUSES UNDER THE GROUND.

Dwellers in the Desert Make Practical Use of Walls Erected by the Ancient Romans.

Concerning the mysterious underground dwellings in the desert back of Tripoli Hanus Vischer writes in the Geographical Journal: "On the northern edge of the mountains the little land of Gharian, with its villages and gardens, stands like an island among the general destruction. To this day the old Roman terraces have withstood the keen wind from the sea and the winter rains and give one an idea of the country's former prosperity. The Arabian villages among ancient olive groves and large fruit gardens, built on the old terraces. Ruined castles look down from every little hill, old Roman or earlier fortifications. The present inhabitants live in underground houses, hewn out of the solid rocks, the ancient dwellings probably of some prehistoric race.

"A curious maze of earth mounds, which rose on either side of the road, showed the position of the village. From one of these mounds, the rubbish taken out of the ground when the house was built, I looked down into a square courtyard about thirty feet below the ground, with walls hewn perpendicularly out of the red rock. Around the walls several doors and narrow slit windows showed the different rooms. The master of the house then led us to a door which was built above the ground, like the entrance to some cellar, and down a narrow passage or tunnel to the courtyard below. The first apartment we came to held donkeys and some goats and was used as a stable.

"The living rooms were all whitewashed and, like the courtyard, exceedingly clean. The most picturesque—the little house with the whitewashed arches leading into the rooms, the red sides of the rock covered partly by a fresh green creeper, and over it all the square of dark-blue sky. The inhabitants praise their houses, for they are cool in summer and warm in winter, when the cold northeast wind blows, but they know nothing of the original builders."

Land and Nautical Miles.

In considering the speed of a steamship, it must be remembered that a knot, or nautical mile, is a very different thing from a land mile. A mile is 5,280 feet, while a knot is 6,080 feet and a fraction. Therefore, when a vessel makes 23.05 knots an hour, she passes over very nearly 27 land miles.

Duties of the Soul.

Emerson: The soul is the perceiver and revealer of truth.

Vast Area for Trees.

England has 17,000,000 acres of land available for forestation.

We All Know Them.

"I hates," said Uncle Eben, "to see de kind of a man dat thinks he can't git on in de world without compellin' somebody else to git off."

Many Tons in Seam of Coal.

A four-foot coal seam yields 6,000 tons an acre.