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Hear what Madame Albani's special accompanist has to say about the

BELL PIANOS

THE QUEEN'S.

TORONTO, Feby. 22nd, 1897.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

In connection with my visit to Canada as Pianist to Madame Albani, I have had occasion to observe various makes of pianos, and have been much impressed with the advances which are being made in the art of piano construction in this young and flourishing country. One of the most recent instruments to arrest my attention—and I might say one of the best—is the well known "Bell" Piano. Its tone is admirable throughout, and the touch firm and responsive—just what we musicians like—in fact, an excellent piano in every respect. The new Orchestral Attachment (which I understand can be obtained on "Bell" pianos only) is also an excellent feature, and one which will doubtless excite interest with all classes. I do not hesitate to say that I consider the "Bell" piano a good, honest instrument, and so recommend it to any intending purchaser.

(Sgd.) ARMANDO SEPPILLI.

(Conductor, Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden.)
Pianist to Madame Albani, Canadian tour, 1896-7.

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G. F. HUTCHESON

LASSOING A PANTHER

HOW A HUNTING PARTY IN TEXAS FOUND A QUEER PET.

A Ferocious Animal Captured in Cowboy Fashion—How a Daring Negro Got One of the Cubs—The Mother and Her Children in Captivity.

Those who conclude that there are no ferocious or dangerous wild animals in the mountains of western Texas would experience a very sudden change of sentiment if they should meet a panther face to face in some lonely canyon. The magnificent animal now chained in front of our wagons is called by some a Mexican or mountain lion and by others a panther. She is of a dull yellowish color and will weigh more than four or five ordinary leopards. She measures just 11 feet from the tip of her nose to the end of her long tail.

Although she has been in captivity only a few days she is astonishingly docile so long as she can see her two cubs that are chained under the wagons. The moment they set up a whine she springs to her feet, all her hair turns the wrong way, and while her eyes look like glowing coals of fire she gnashes her sharp white fangs and tries the strength of her chain. If it were not strong enough to hold an ox, I should prefer that there were two or three counties between us just at that particular moment. The cubs are already as gentle as lambs and as playful as kittens, and nothing pleases them better than to crawl under our blankets at night and cuddle up close to us to escape the chilly nothings.

We captured her in the mountains of the Deall river in western Texas, and I doubt if a more daring feat was ever accomplished by a crowd of hunters. Game of all kinds is very abundant in this region, and the boys had tired of shooting deer, antelopes and turkeys. Several big wolves and two or three panthers had been slaughtered, and it was evident from the numerous tracks about the water holes that there were plenty more of them in the mountains. One evening the hounds struck a hot trail and ran a big panther into a cave on the side of a mountain.

That night while discussing the ad-

Wants, Lost, Found, &c.

TO LET—A house on Hillsborough Street containing 9 rooms besides pantry, at present occupied by Mr. W. S. McKie. Possession given 15th of May. Apply to Mrs. Batch corner Gt. Geo and Fitzroy Sts. 101 eod 248

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COOK WANTED—Apply to Mrs. Sullivan, Brighton Villa. 95 tr

TO LET—One half of the three story dwelling house, containing eight large rooms, on Prince St. Possession given on 2nd May next. W. W. Wellner. 42

WANTED—A competent girl for general housework. Apply to Mrs. Arthur Newbery

WANTED—An apprentice to learn the blacksmith business. Apply to G. H. Foster, Fowal Wharf. dy eod

TO LET—That comfortable and pleasantly situated house on upper Queen St., being the southern half of the residence of the late Chief Justice Palmer, now in occupation of Commander Cheyne. Hot and cold water in bath, rent moderate, possession given 1st May next. Apply to H. JAMES PALMER, Charlottetown. 65

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JOY & DAVIES

ventures incident to the day's hunt two daring young men, Petmaker and Black, declared that they intended to hang a noose over the mouth of the animal's den on the next day and capture her alive. Both are Texas reared boys and experienced hunters. The proposition met with unanimous approval, and all volunteered to assist in the desperate undertaking. The next day as we rode out of camp some of the boys grew bolder, and two of them, who were expert vaqueros, declared that they intended to rope the beast if they could get close enough to her. These two—young Petmaker of Menard county and George Black of Austin—rode toward the den, and the other members of the party and negro Jim, who had charge of the hounds, started to beat up the valley.

We had gone but a short distance before the dogs struck a hot trail and ran with yelps which indicated that they were close to the animal.

Petmaker and Black heard them coming and reined in their ponies on the edge of a little opening and unslung their rawhide ropes from the horns of their saddles. The big animal sprang out of the brush and stopped within 20 feet of Petmaker. The cowboy's lariat flashed through the air and landed right around the wild animal's neck.

The instant it touched her she screamed like a terror stricken woman and, leaping high in the air and gnashing her teeth, began to decrease the space between her and the daredevil at the other end of the rope. Black, who was too far away to co-operate with his comrade at first, was now on the field, and with lucky precision he hurled a second noose over the animal's head. Both wheeled their ponies, and the trained animals made a leap in opposite directions. The ropes were drawn taut, and the big monster was choked to the earth.

While she was rolling on the grass and clawing at the noose another expert with the rope galloped and caught one of her hind feet. They could now easily hold her at a safe distance from each other, and after much excitement and many rather dangerous stratagems they succeeded in dragging her to a good camping place not far away. Since at that stage of her captivity we could not move her to the wagons, we moved the wagons to her, and, putting a stout chain around her neck, we made her fast to a tree.

Some of the hounds were set baying at the cave, and one of the boys and the negro Jim went over there to call them off. An old dog ran into the den and came out yelping with a young jaguar about the size of a house cat hanging to his hide. They captured the cub, and then the negro crawled into the den and brought out another—a thing that I would not have done for a deed to Texas.

The cubs soon made friends with us and were ready to eat from our hands or crawl upon our knees in a few days. When the mother saw her children in captivity, she set up an awful roar, but when they were put down by her side she seemed to be very grateful and soon afterward made a hearty meal of a large piece of venison that was thrown to her. After a few days she seemed to become perfectly reconciled to the new order of things and is now on the lookout for something to eat. Negro Jim puts her on the back and leads her about like a lamb. The hounds have made friends with her, and nothing pleases her better than for our bird dog to play with her. She could easily throttle the largest bull on the plains and toss a man about as a cat does a mouse. We have named her Miss Vixen.—Cor. St. Louis Republic.

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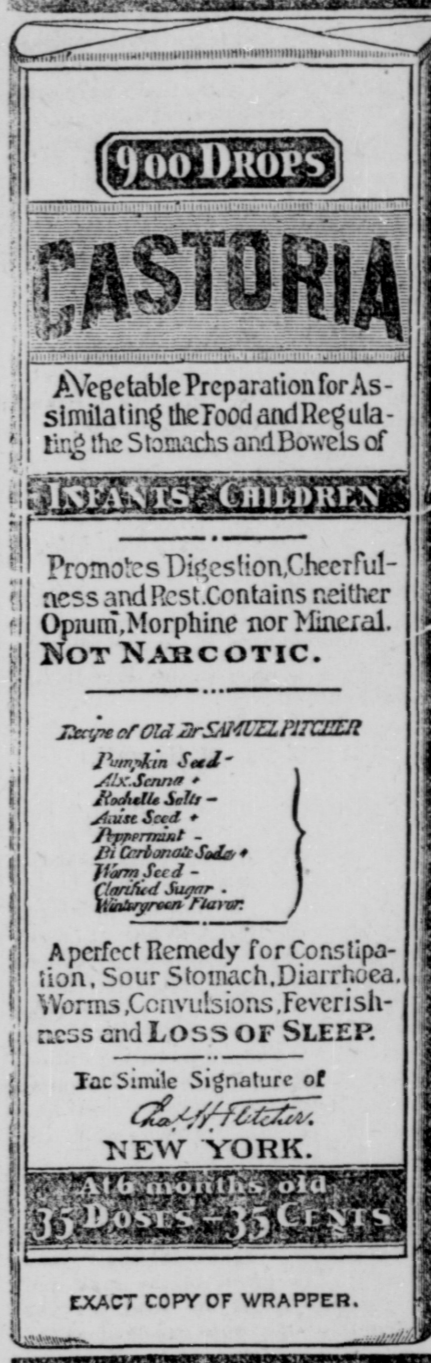
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