



## The Sea Serpent Ashore

On Friday evening, February 29th, the inhabitants of Stratton were in the great state of alarm, occasioned by the appearance of a monster, supposed to be nearly akin to his Satanic Majesty, uninvited, had thought to proper visit the neighbourhood. It appears a man while walking between the cross-roads and an old Roman Bridge, was startled by a monster lying across his path, which, at his approach reared itself, and, with a terrific hiss, appeared ready for the attack. In terror, he alarmed his neighbours, who valiantly arming, rushed to the combat. Spades, pickaxes, prongs, choppers, dragged from their peaceful avocations, were carried forward to annihilate the monster. Thus armed the sallied forth; but imagine their disappointment, the enemy had vanished. Not to be outdone, they watched for several succeeding nights in breathless anxiety awaiting its appearance; nor was their ardour cooled until information reached them that the monster had been captured, the first night, by a lady, who, having passed the spot a few minutes previous, had occasion to retrace her steps; seizing it by the middle, she returned, and our hero, with fifty chosen men, she met advancing, fully determined to annihilate her Boa!

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