

# ***"27" Is Like Menagerie; Haven for Bird and Beast***

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**Sparrow Flies Into Cigar Store and Perches on Showcase,  
While Collie Pokes His Head Over Transom on the  
Second Floor and Rats Scurry to Cover.**

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Led by the success of the army of rodents which have infested the Sam Silverman cigar store and McCollough's saloon at '27 West' Superior street, various other animals have recently selected the place as a particularly good habitat and a voluntary menagerie is being added to daily. An English sparrow flew in late yesterday, lit on the show case in the cigar store and proceeded to make itself at home. It strutted about the top of the case, peering down at the array of cigars and distracted the mind of an entering customer so that he fairly stumbled over a large brown rat scurrying across the entrance.

Mr. Silverman walked toward the front of the shop to make the sale, but the customer-to-be, with a "This is too much," had backed out of the store and was hurrying down the street, rubbing his eyes and staring at familiar objects to see if there was something wrong.

The proprietor sighed and turned to the bird, which seemed to be enjoying itself immensely. His wandering glance was halted midway by a large hairy head projecting through an open skylight at the rear of the room.

This time Mr. Silverman himself was startled out of his usual calm, and springing from behind the counter, started towards the skylight. It was another invader. A large collie had jumped from the rear stairs to a lower roof, and had thus found its way to the open window. After rescuing the dog and jumping to avoid another brown rat that was on the rampage, the proprietor returned to his chair behind the counter, wiping the perspiration from his brow as he went.

"This is getting on my nerves," he declared, glancing furtively around as if he expected his rodent tenants to come running down the room in a file. "I certainly am going to vacate as quickly as I can."