

SHIPS LOST IN THE ARTIC.

Explorers Deprived of Their Shelter and Provisions by Parting of Glacier.

December was a dark month. There was no difference between day and night. We missed the cheery illumination of the electric arc, and under the light of numerous little oil lamps we labored, sewing our fur clothing for the sledge trip and making harnesses.

Storms were many, and the members of the scientific staff in their walks to and from the observatories often had to face winds of high velocity, with driving snow and low temperatures.

CRUSADE AGAINST ABSINTHE

Press of Switzerland Up in Arms Against the Curse of the Nation.

Absinthe drinking is the curse of French Switzerland, and crimes by absinthe drunkards have been so alarmingly frequent of late that the Swiss press has started a crusade against the sale of the liquor.

In the cantons of Vaud and Geneva over 100,000 signatures have been obtained to a petition urging the government to suppress the absinthe distilleries.

Most of the absinthe sold in small cafes at a penny a large wineglassful is made from chemicals and raw alcohol, and this is the stuff drunk by the poor.

The canton of Neuchatel depends upon its revenue on the make and sale of absinthe, and from this quarter there is much opposition to the crusade.

Partents of Disaster.

Norwegians are much concerned over a strange incident of the festivities which welcomed King Haakon to Christiania. A newspaper thus describes it: "At the very time when the royal procession had to pass the ancient fortress of Akerhus there was assembled there a great number of spectators, mostly military, in order to see the new king drive past."

Getting the Boat.

Clerk--And what sort of pace do you wish, madam? Mrs. Hamble--Some ancestral pace, please. I see that it is being worn by the noblest people.--Cleveland Leader.

Waiting for the King.

Jack--Miss Peachy is a silent belle. Tom--What's the answer? "I kissed her the other night and she never talked."--Chicago Daily News.

JOHN HAY AS JOURNALIST.

Few Newspaper Writers Have Been So Well Equipped for the Work as He.

Few newspaper writers have brought to their task the equipment which Hay possessed when he came to the "Tribune" in the winter of 1870. Friends Joseph Bucklin Bishop in "A Friendship With John Hay."

Scarcely less enjoyable than his talk was his writing. He wrote mainly upon foreign affairs, political, social, and literary; and whatever he wrote, intellectual men everywhere, who read it, talked about it.

PREDICTIONS BY MACHINE.

Contrivance Used by Coast Survey at Washington Performs Unique Service.

A machine that prophesies is an engine in use by the coast survey at Washington, D. C., which can and does predict the time of high and low tide for a given locality, and makes these predictions for a year in advance.

NOW THE GRANITE STATE.

Magnitude of Deposits in Texas Gives the Commonwealth That Distinction.

The new Granite state of Texas, whose magnitude of granite deposits probably outrank those of any other state. It could with equal fitness be styled the foremost cattle state, and, judging from its famous undeveloped iron ores, it may become a center of metallurgy.

Only Born King.

There is a fact about King Alfonso well worth knowing. Of all the kings who have ever lived, with the sole exception of Jean I. of France, who lived but a few hours, he is the only one to be a king from the moment of his first breath--a veritable "born king."

COUNTERFEIT DOGS.

FAKERS PREPARE PRIZE ANIMALS FOR THE MARKET.

Hair Is Dyed, False Skins Sewed On and Various Other Deceptions Are Employed in the Work.

The spurious dog dealer keeps a sharp eye on all the members of the canine species as he walks about; he is prepared to buy a likely animal for five shillings or seven shillings six pence, if he can get it for or without the asking, says Pearson's Weekly.

There are plenty of dogs about and a pug or a black and tan can be bought cheaply enough, but those are not really good animals. The right kind of a dog is scarce and fetches a high price; this is the dog faker's opportunity and he makes good use of it.

The unfortunate creature is fixed tightly in a wooden box or framework. At the top there is a slit in the wood of the same dimensions as the line that is wanted on the dog's back.

This last process is done with nitric acid and those who have had to deal with that chemical will not need to be told that the animal suffers great pain for three or four days.

Exactly how long the deception would remain undetected depends upon the thoroughness or otherwise with which the transformation work has been done.

Perhaps the most curious method of altering a dog's appearance is that of sewing another skin over the original covering. The Chinese are reputed to be past masters in this art and to have practised it for the purpose of getting diamonds out of the Kimberley mines.

This double skinned animal is sold to a lady fond of the particular kind of creature which this dog now impersonates, and the dealer has done a good thing.

A lady who had bought a dog likes that and had given it a bountiful supply of food was greatly worried on seeing the creature lie down and give vent to expressions of pain.

It was not such a dreadful deed as it appeared; in fact, it was only like the schoolboy unbuttoning his waistcoat after a good dinner. The extra wrapping was so tight that it did not allow for natural expansion.

Russian Terrorism.

The "terrorist" element of the Russian revolutionary organization is resorting to frequent assassinations in revenge against civil and military officials who have manifested special harshness in putting down revolutionary demonstrations.

Still Hangs On.

"Ever notice it?" queried the man who asks questions on the installment plan. "Did I ever notice what?" queried the party of the other part.

"That when a man says he is tired of living he is just a scoundrel to avoid accidents as before?" continued the party of the prelude.--Chicago Daily News.

Unusual Qualifications.

Caller--Your butler is a very efficient man. Mrs. Nurtch--Oh yes. He's a society has-been. Knows just who to let in and who not to, you know.--Detroit Free Press.

In Hobeland.

Bettergrade--A beautiful young Vassar graduate once took a deep interest in me. Always--Dot no? Wot kind of microbe was she studyin'--Brooklyn Mag.

CEMETERY OF GUANAJUATO

"El Campo Santo" One of the Most Grievous Places in Existence.

The catacombs and cemetery at Guanajuato are unlike anything of the kind in the world. Within an enclosure embracing but six acres rest the bones of over 200,000 human beings.

It is situated on an eminence overlooking the beautiful city of Guanajuato. Surrounding the sacred spot is a wall built of masonry, 12 feet high and 12 feet thick.

Every foot of ground within the enclosure is utilized. Grave space is rented, but the cost is much less than the most aristocratic niches.

At the end of that time the body is taken up and cast into the underground chamber of horrors, where they intermingle with the bones of thousands of other dead in an indiscriminate mass.

A cave or tunnel extends along the four sides of the cemetery, and in this dismal and ghastly place are placed the remains of the mummies that have been taken from the niches in the wall.

WHERE NO MICROBES EXIST

Alpine Heights That Are Free from Disease Germs and Insects.

A traveler sat in the moonlight on the lawn of a Florida resort. He had dined well, his coffee was on a little table at his elbow, and his cigar burned the soft, mild air of the February evening with the aroma of excellent tobacco.

Near the traveler some young ladies, slim and graceful figures in their white gowns, played check golf under a great arch of electric lights.

Amid this charming scene the traveler talked about the coming summer. "This is all right," he said, "but give me Zermatt. That is where I am going to spend the summer. I will spend the summer 8,000 feet up in the air."

"No man knows what a summer is till he has passed one high up on the mountains. July and August, spent at an altitude of 8,000 or 10,000 feet, are two feet months of heaven."

"How pure and delicate and sweet the summer air is on those Alpine heights; how tonic, how uplifting! And the sunshine, the mid-long shadows of the mountains, the brilliance and brightness of the stars, how amazingly beautiful they are up there."

"Flee, gnats, mosquitoes? Not one. They can't live so high up. They are never seen at such a height from one year's end to another. Microbes, disease microbes, don't exist up there, either. You can prove this with a piece of raw meat. You can throw a piece of raw meat out in the sun on an August afternoon, and instead of rotting, the meat will dry. At the month's end it will be sweet, wholesome, dried beef."

Deferred Applause.

Smith--I was awfully disappointed at the way they received my anecdotes last night. They didn't laugh at all. Brown--O, but they did. You should have heard them laugh after you left the room.--Stray Stories.

LAST OF INDIAN TRIBES.

Self-Government Gives Way Entirely to the United States Constitution.

When, on March 4, 1906, the tribal organization of the Cherokees, Choctaws, Creeks, Chickasaws, and Seminoles is dissolved, and their members diffused in the mass of the country's citizenship, the final chapter in the Indian's annals as a distinct race will have been written.

Numerically, however, the Five Civilized Tribes are more important than any other aggregation of red men. They are of immeasurably greater consequence socially than all the rest of the Indians in the United States put together.

This ascendancy ends with the dissolution of the tribal governments on March 4, 1906. United States laws will then be immediately extended over the Indian territory, the terms Seminole, Cherokee, Choctaw and the rest of them will vanish, and their bearers will gain the same privileges and be subject to the same responsibilities as their white neighbors in Oklahoma and the rest of the territories.

TRAMPS FLOCK TO CITY.

When the Weather Turns Cold the Hobos Desert the Rural Districts.

"Where do they come from at such short notice?" inquired a business man of a member of the police force, referring to a number of poorly dressed men loitering about the sidewalk near one of the missions.

"Out of the woods, I imagine," was the response of the policeman, stating the Washington Star. "It requires only a few hours to drive such persons to the city. A little cold weather is all that is necessary. Then the hobos are unable to make themselves comfortable in the barns and box cars, and there is nothing left for them to do but get to the cities, even if they do have to do a little work for what they get."

The policeman explained that such persons had been less numerous in this city this year than usual, because of the continued warm weather. He said that charitable institutions have probably had a much smaller number of tramps to deal with this winter on account of the weather conditions.

"Tramps of this type," the policeman explained, "will not seek charitable places unless they are forced to do so. They are usually afraid of police raids, and if they can keep out of sight of the police they are well satisfied. It goes against them to perform manual labor, but when they are unable to beg the price of a meal and night's lodging there is nothing left for them to do but go to a place where they will have to saw wood and take a bath."

"Many of them do not mind sawing a few sticks of wood, but they do object to being immersed in the winter time. I can recall an instance in which two hobos positively refused to accept the hospitality of an institution after they had performed their task at the woodpile because they objected to the bath. The two men had done an honest hour's work, but they balked at the tub, indulged in a little profanity and walked out without even getting a bowl of soup."

"Such persons," concluded the officer, "are satisfied with a hay rick or stable if the weather is not too cold, and they would rather beg or steal than work for what they get or do anything that would elevate them."

Quakeresses Never Catch Cold.

"A Quakeress," said a physician, "never catches cold. Her immunity is due to her bonnet. If I had my way all of us, women and men alike, would wear Quaker bonnets. This bonnet protects the back of the head and the nape of the neck, two very tender spots. The nape especially is tender. Let a good draught strike you there for just a second, and I'll guarantee you a week's cold. The Quakeress bonnet may not be beautiful, but protecting her nape as it does, it keeps her free from colds year in and year out."

He Gets the Coin.

Mrs. Huggins--I hear your husband has got a political job. Does it pay a good salary? Mrs. Murgin--No; the salary don't amount to much, but the graft is all that could be desired.--Chicago Daily News.

TOY STOPS WIRELESS

BOY JABS EXPERTS BY BLOCKING REPORTS.

Crude Instrument Is Used in His Experiments -- Government Scientists Puzzled Over Interruption -- Lad Considered a Genius.

Washington.--With home-made apparatus Lloyd Manuel, a Newport schoolboy, is able to interfere with the operation of the naval wireless station at that point. Commander Albert Gleaves thinks the matter so important that he has sent to the bureau of equipment of the navy a detailed account of the plant which the boy has built.

His induction coil is one taken from an old automobile and throws a half-inch spark, while his key is the ordinary Morse instrument. The coil with which he controls the wave length is made of No. 14 copper wire, bare, wound around a wooden cylinder in grooves. His spark gap is made with two common steel nails driven into a pine board one-eighth of an inch apart, and his ground circuit is accomplished through a connection with water pipes in the house in which he lives.

According to the reports made to the navy department, the youth, who is not more than 15 years old, has given a decided shock to the wireless operators, and it is believed that in his crude apparatus they may find several valuable ideas.

Newport, R. I.--Lloyd Manuel is regarded here as a genius. He began his experiments in wireless telegraphy four years ago, and soon had a system that would work across a room. Now a pole 40 feet high rises from his cottage home, and he has a sending apparatus the power from which is obtained from a set of dry batteries. He gets a spark about a quarter of an inch long, and this enables him to send a mile and a half. With this he communicates with the torpedo station and the Fall River line boats.

"My arrangement is modeled according to the Marconi system," he said, "and I am now constructing a special apparatus, such as the government uses. I am sorry if I have given the operators at the station any trouble, and will take care not to do it again. I know the Morse and continental codes, and now I am learning the naval code." Experts say he is an expert in their use.

Manuel left school two years ago, and has been delving in wireless telegraphy ever since. He hopes to get his living from it. He was found at a children's party. The festivities stopped while he gave an interview.

STOLEN IDOL IN A MUSEUM

Treasure Is Discovered to Have Been Taken from Collection in Vera Cruz.

Pittsburg, Pa.--Carnegie Museum has been found guilty of receiving stolen goods, but not knowingly. An ancient Mexican idol, remarkable for its character and state of preservation, which was purchased a number of years ago from an agent in Vera Cruz, Mexico, it has been discovered, was stolen from a private museum in that city.

At the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in Pittsburg in 1902, the idol attracted the attention of several interested in Mexican archaeology. One of these visitors recently visited the museum of Senor Theodoros Dehesa, governor of Vera Cruz. The governor was lamenting the loss of a rare idol and showed a photograph of the object stolen from the collection. His visitor informed him it was in the possession of the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburg.

This led to correspondence, and Dr. W. J. Holland, director of the museum, offered to return the idol, but the governor donated it to the museum.

SUBJECT IS NOW AGED 110

"Grandfather" McMillan Attributes Longevity to Abstemious Habits in Drinking and Eating.

London.--"Grandfather" McMillan, King Edward's oldest subject, who lives at the Home for the Aged maintained by the Little Sisters of the Poor, has entered his one hundred and tenth year. For 14 years the stator, whose only funds are the alms they beg from door to door, have cared for the old man.

"It is 28 years since he returned from the United States. While he was there he buried the wife he married in Ireland when she was a girl and he was a lad of 18. It is 30 years since she died, and she was 80 then."

"Yes, I've lived a long while," said he to a visitor. "It's because I've always led a steady life. I was never worse than drunk in my life, and I never ate too much. I never believed in ruining my stomach with too much drink or food. I am happy, sleep well, and enjoy my food."

Key to Longevity. A Connecticut woman died at the age of 105, and there is still an older woman in that state. They got their start before the age of food adulterants.