

HOME OF THE COLD WAVE.

Valley of Eastern British Columbia Said to Be Its Starting Place. It is frequently asked: Where do cold waves originate? The coldest portion of the North American continent, says the Washington Post, is, in all probability, in the Saskatchewan Valley, east of Mount Hooker and Mount Hood, both of which are situated in the Rocky Mountain range that divides British Columbia from the valley and the Alberta country. The height of this mountain range prevents the eastern trend or flow of vapor from the Pacific Ocean from crossing over into the valley, as it would were it not for the presence of this high range of mountains. Yet it must not be supposed that extreme cold always prevails here, because at certain intervals the vapor from the Pacific flows east by way of the Alaska peninsula, through the upper valley of the Athabasca River into Alberta and the valley of the Saskatchewan, and there meeting with a more southern and eastern flow of vapor that flows through the gap in the mountain range, made by the Bay of San Juan, it warms and expands the atmosphere, crosses the path of the cold wave, and a warmth of from 20 to 40 degrees is the result, as we often see graphically marked on the weather map by red dots here and there on its surface. But this does not satisfactorily answer why it is that the cold wave leaves its home in the above mentioned valley to go junketing on a southern tour. To find the cause of those successive cold waves which we experienced from time to time last winter we will have to look in quite another direction, down to the northern tropical latitude, where the great evaporation of those warm currents and ocean surfaces is carried westward from the Atlantic Ocean by the trade winds, and is massed together between the winds of the eastern off-shore winds, blowing sometimes from Florida, and at other times from Texas, but in either case promoting cyclonic action, which has the effect of enlarging the area of the storm, and the immediate result is an enormous expansion of atmosphere usually denominated "low." As this "low" moves across the surface of the middle or eastern states it pours down large quantities of water in the shape of rain, and is constantly receiving accessions of cloud matter to replenish its energies; and thus in this manner it creates more or less of a vacuum into which the air from the northwest is drawn with more or less momentum, and the cold wave is completed.

"DOUBLE-BARRELED NAMES." Use of the Hyphen is Usually a Piece of Snobbery.

Hyphenated names in Europe may be divided into two categories—namely: those wherein the hyphen is a mere piece of snobbery and affectation, and those wherein it is consequent upon a legal obligation. The latter are in the minority and are borne almost invariably by legates and their descendants, who have inherited property, usually real estate, contingent upon their taking the name of the testator to their own. Or else they are men who have married heiresses and been accepted as husbands for the latter on the condition that they should append the family name of their wives to their own patronymic. People in the other category who use the hyphen merely with the object of creating the impression that they are of more ancient lineage than is really the case invariably prefix, instead of appending, the additional name. And it is this that enables one to distinguish the "bona-fide" double-barrel, as Lord Randolph Churchill used to call them, from those who are not. For you have only to ask Mr. Ponsonby-Jones for the name of his paternal grandfather in order to find out that the old gentleman was a simple Jones, devoid of the aristocratic Ponsonby; whereas in the case of surnames adopted in deference to testamentary dispositions one will invariably find on inquiry that the paternal grandfather and ancestors bore the first of the two patronymics. The persons who make use of hyphenated names without being compelled to do so are usually the owners of patronymics ex-cruciatingly plebeian, who hope, vainly it is true, to redeem the commonplace character of their name by prefixing thereto one calculated, they trust, to create the impression that they are connected with some of the great houses of the nobility. Thus it is quite common to find Montmorency-Smiths, Plantagenet-Robinsons, and Vere de Vere-Browns.

Ornamentation of Glass.

The ornamentation of glass is now proposed to be effected by means of an ingenious process in which a coat of acid resist is laid on the glass, and from the parts forming the background to the design the "resist" is removed with a stencil, soda and hydrofluoric acid being then poured upon the surface; hydrofluoric acid is next applied, the resist removed, and the glass cleaned, the latter being now coated with stain, the use of the stencil being the means for freezing the ornament from such stain, the latter remaining as a protection for the background. After burning the stain into the glass, the latter is taken from the kiln, cleansed, and the required outline traced upon the glass, the background at the same time filled with acid resist; the solution of soda and hydrofluoric acid is again poured on so as to leave a white "mat" on the whole ornament, leaving the outline, which is protected by the resist, clear; the shading-in is then accomplished in the usual manner.

Ants That Make Nests.

A new phase in the wonderful instinct of ants is the case of formica smaragdina of Malacca, which makes its nest in trees, joining the leaves together by a thin thread of silk at the ends. The first step in making the nest is for several ants to bend the leaves together and hold on with their hind legs, when one of them after some time runs up with a larva, and, irritating it with its antennae, makes it produce a thread with which the leaves are joined. When one larva is exhausted a second is brought and the process is repeated.—Philadelphia Press.

Pneumatic Boots.

The pneumatic principle has been applied to boots. The air tubes lie between the upper and lower soles, and give a springy movement to the foot calculated to reduce friction with the ground and to alleviate fatigue.

NOT SO VERY POOR.

The Man from New Zealand Had \$9,000 in His Waistcoat. Over two weeks ago W. K. Nicholson of New Zealand arrived here on the steamer Mariposa, and put up at the American Exchange hotel, says the San Francisco Examiner. He was so roughly dressed and so unquiet in appearance, with a queer bunch of whiskers on his chin, that he seemed a walking advertisement of hard luck. He had arrived in the steamer, and he took one of the very cheapest rooms in the house. Under these circumstances Manager Wiseman was inclined to keep a wary eye on him. At the end of three days Mr. Wiseman broached the idea of settling his bills. The queer guest said he would pay the bill in the next day or two. He did not, however, and he was spoken to again about it. Still there was a hitch, but finally the New Zealander said he would go upstairs and get the money. After a while he came down with it and paid the bill. Then he explained that the reason why he hadn't paid it before was that he had all his money sewed up in his vest. On investigation it was shown that he had a surprising amount. There was no less than \$5,000 in bills and English sovereigns, mostly the latter, besides \$4,000 in drafts. The sovereigns weighted the vest down till it was as heavy as the owner, and all an able-bodied man could carry. They were skillfully and stoutly sewn in from the bottom up, so that all around his sides and front there was money, and the back of the vest had to be strengthened with leather straps to keep the garment from being pulled to pieces. This queer contrivance, loaded with coins, bills and drafts, the man with the billy-goat whiskers had been lugging with him wherever he traveled. There were fears at times that he would be robbed, but Nicholson has always insisted that he could take care of himself. A few days ago, after returning from a warm walk down town with his load of cash, he threw off his heavy vest in his room and put on another one to cool off. He finally stepped down stairs, leaving the door open. He sat at a desk for a long time, forgetting about his cash. Suddenly he recollected it, his face assumed an ashen hue, and he vanished upstairs like a streak of light. His precious vest was there, though, hanging on a chair. He grabbed it and put it on, and since then has worn it constantly. Nicholson came over to invest his money, but did not find anything to suit him, so the land of the antipodes will get him again. He sailed on the Mariposa, the same steamer on which he came.

Cataloguing a Great Library.

A word more in regard to the problem of the card catalogue. A few years ago it was proposed in this library to print its titles as they then stood, and an approximate but safe estimate showed, after cutting the titles down to the minimum of intelligibility and correctness, that such a book catalogue would fill more than seventeen volumes, closely printed in somewhat small type and in two columns to a page, each volume to be of quarto size and to contain 650 pages. By the time this colossal feat could have been done enough titles would have accumulated to make it desirable to repeat the task at once. Since this estimate was made the type-setting machine, with its speed and economy, has become a revolutionizing element in the printing world. This library is now asking itself how this invention can be used toward solving the catalogue problem. It is proposed—and machines are already made for the purpose—to print the titles of all new books, to use the titles as heretofore in the card catalogue, and then to save the "slugs" on which each title will be cast until enough have been accumulated and alphabetized to form the basis for a general printed catalogue. The slugs will still be saved, and by a constant process of accumulation and alphabetizing new editions will at any time be possible.—The New Public Library in Boston, by Lindsay Swift, in the Century.

The Campaign Liar.

The campaign liar will have a hard time in England after the passage of the bill pending in parliament which forbids him to exercise his talent. It imposes a fine of \$500 and loss of suffrage for five years as penalties for disseminating slanders against a candidate for office. It makes no difference whether the slander is original with the person who utters it or not, he is liable to the above penalty if he circulates or repeats it, unless he can show that he had good reason for believing it to be true. Hearsay will not serve as such defense, but the offender must prove that he has taken pains to satisfy himself that what he tells is true. What havoc, such a law, well enforced, would create in this country in a campaign year!

Character on the Wheel.

Each man retains the peculiarities of his gait on a bicycle to a certain extent. One man, for instance, who limps a little in walking, does the same thing on his wheel, emphasizing one stroke more than another. A second, who moves with long strides when his feet are on terra firma, simply translates this motion to meet the new environment when he goes out for a ride. A third, being a brisk, energetic little person, always walking rapidly, keeps his legs going at a relative speed on his safety and couldn't stroll along if he tried.

Betting Killed in Pennsylvania.

Horse racing in Pennsylvania has been killed by a bill that passed the legislature forbidding the sale of pools or betting of any sort in the state. It is especially directed to break up the pool-rooms, while hitting at the pool-rooms it has wiped out all betting.

PROGRESS OF BIFURCATION.

Some Recent Examples of the Growing Favor of Dress Reform.

The new woman is going to put herself in evidence by reforming her costume according to signs from all over the country. The bloomers of an early generation are now blooming out in more graceful if more startling garments. The news that the progressive women of Pittsburg have made demands on their modistes for bicycle garments advanced to the degree of knickerbockers and leggings is matched by similar reports from other points. A young woman at Ann Arbor was taunted from her boarding-house for adopting that fin de siècle costume, and by that martyrdom has been elevated to the position of queen of a cult. Elmore, O., has not been exactly known as a center of fashion, but when twentyfour of Elmore's daughters swear to wear the garments which interfere neither with pedestrianism nor paddling it is plain, says the Pittsburg Dispatch, that they intend to lead the newest fashions. We do not understand that the fair dress reformers are, as a body, adopting the ground which their predecessors did of the mid-century, that skirts must be abolished on hygienic grounds and for the emancipation of woman. The new cult accepts hygiene as a side issue, is confident of being able to emancipate herself whether she wears skirts or not, and bases the new departure on the principle impregnable in the feminine system of logic that they are wearing the things in England and France. Whether the difference in principle is responsible for the difference in result or not it is a fact that while the bloomers of the '50s were something fearful the bloomers of the '90s are something stunning. Of course, it is subversive of our long standing conventional rules of propriety to find our progressive young women whirling along the streets in the garments heretofore considered sacred to masculinity. But after the first shock is over we may perceive that garments adapted to the purposes for which they are worn contain nothing essentially immodest. We can certainly reconcile ourselves to bicycle suits and hunting costumes without more difficulty than to fashionable bathing dresses. If the new woman determines to wear the new garments, the masculine objection will not prevent her. Many males can, indeed, be found who will assent to the proposition that she may emancipate herself from the slavery of skirts provided she frees the rest of the race from the depressing tyranny of the theater hat.

THOSE WOMEN.

Banished Smoke from Legislature, but Themselves Chewed Gum.

One good end was gained by the three woman members of the Colorado legislature. By sustained pertinacity they secured the adoption of an order prohibiting the smoking of pipes, cigars or cigarettes in the house while it was in session. The men members felt greatly annoyed because they could not solace their brains with tobacco, but they soon found out that they were closely watched by the woman members, who, whenever they saw the smoke curling in the air over any desk, sprang to their feet and protested to the chair. The most determined member of the woman contingent was the chief watcher, and not a whiff ever escaped her eye. We have been told by our Denver correspondent that toward the end of the session no smoking was allowed for a minute in the house. This was a most excellent service which the three woman members rendered to the cause of good manners in the legislature. We give them commendation without stint for securing a valuable reform. In one respect, at least, the Colorado legislature was raised to the level of the more polite legislatures of the eastern civilized states. It was with all the more regret that we read that part of the last letter of our Denver correspondent which told how the three woman members themselves carried out a practice hardly less objectionable than smoking. "It was astonishing," he said, "how industrious the three women were in gum chewing; their jaws were seldom at rest." We must quote a few more words, though they seem to us almost distressing: "Mrs. Cressingham, especially, was persistent. Often when she rose to speak she would pause after addressing the chair to reflect upon what to say, and such times her jaws could be seen moving steadily as she stowed away the morsel of gum, so that she could not interrupt her." We assert at once that this is not an argument against the election of woman members of a state legislature, but, says the New York Sun, we fear that the enemy will be able to use the distressing fact with evil effect on the stump.

The Nations at Rome.

The various nations of Europe are represented in the list of Popes as follows: English, 1; Dutch, 1; Swiss, 1; Portuguese, 1; African, 2; Austran, 2; Spanish, 5; German, 6; Syrian, 8; Greek, 14; French, 15; Italian, 197. Eleven Popes reigned over 20 years; 69, from 10 to 20; 57, from 5 to 10; and the reign of Pius IX. was the longest of all, the only one exceeding 25 years. Pope Leo XIII. is the 258th Pontiff. The full number of the Sacred College is 70, namely: Cardinal Bishops, 6; Cardinal Priests, 50; Cardinal Deacons, 14. At present there are 62 Cardinals. The Roman Catholic hierarchy throughout the world, according to official returns published at Rome in 1884, consisted of 11 Patriarchs, and 1,153 Archbishops and Bishops. Including 12 coadjutor or auxiliary bishops, the number of Roman Catholic archbishops and bishops now holding office in the British Empire is 134. The numbers of the clergy are approximate only.

Curiosities of Character.

John Petch Hewby, the noted whist authority, who has just died, was the son of Puritan parents who never allowed a pack of cards to be brought into their house, and ex-Governor St. John, the Kansas prohibitionist, has a son who has just killed his second wife after being divorced from his first because of drunkenness.

Sir John Thompson's Funeral.

The obsequies of Sir John Thompson, the Canadian premier, cost \$50,000. The amount raised by public subscription for his almost desolate widow and children amounts to only \$35,000. In other words, the statesman's family asked for bread and grateful Canada gave them a magnificent funeral.

Smart Old Maine People.

Mr. William Weeks of Bunker Hill, aged 84 years old, has been making two trips a day with two yoke of oxen from his wood lot to Damariscotta pond, and an 85-year-old Rockport man is seen out horseback riding occasionally, but the Sheepscot Echo is excusable for thinking that one of its neighbors, Mrs. Sarah Mathews, yet takes the lead. That lady was 86 years old last January, but the Echo reports seeing her out coasting recently, and thoroughly enjoying it, too.

Cure for Insomnia.

Lord Rosebery has been a victim of insomnia for years and has found his only relief in yachting. He can not indulge in that narcotic at present.

PHYSIC WITH YOUR PIE.

The "Food Cure" a New Wrinkle Among Doctors in England.

The "food cure" is a comparatively new idea, introduced into England by several physicians of advanced ideas, who boldly advance the proposition that they can cure ordinary human ills by dieting and without the use of medicines, says the New York Mail and Express. They claim that certain foods contain all the elements necessary to effect cures; that they have made up a list which embraces tonics, febrifuges, diuretics, and, in fact, every medicinal agent that is defined in the pharmacopoeia. These foods are of the simplest character, but the English doctors do not disclose them, except to their patients. They say that in the course of ten years there will be one-third the medicine used that is used to-day, and they point out the fact that the sale of quinine and all antipyretics has decreased in the last five years to a remarkable degree. "There is a good deal of common sense in the idea," said a physician who had heard of the new departure, "and it may take if doctors generally will go into it, but I fear patients will not. Why? Well, you might convince a man that he was getting sufficient iron for his system when he was eating beef, or that if he needed starch he could get it from bread instead of from pills, but you couldn't do that with a woman. They do not reason that way; I am speaking especially of patients slightly hypochondriacal when I say they would reject such treatment immediately; but as a general thing you could apply the rule to all womankind. Advice as to exercise or diet is generally lost. The average woman wants to take medicine, and if it is very disagreeable she imagines it is very efficacious. She gradually gets a mania for pills and potions, and takes delight in dosing everybody who will submit. Now if a doctor can readily help her condition by giving her bread pills with a hypnotic suggestion, I think it is his duty to do so, and collect his fee. He might as well try to whistle down the north wind as to make a woman believe that exercise and diet are better than medicine. If he is overly conscientious and abandons the case another fellow comes along and gets it, so the natural temptation is to cater to a patient's whims.

CALMS AN ELEPHANT.

Commotion in Which a Circus Chariot Is Overturned.

The elephants were lined up in the arena at Ringling Brothers' circus at Tattersalls yesterday morning, says Chicago Times-Herald. Mme. La Russa led Tribby, the baby elephant, from the innermost precincts of the big building, with the view of putting baby through her paces. Babylon and Judas, two big elephants, began trumpeting when she appeared. They swayed from side to side, lashed their sides with their great trunks, and threw sawdust in the air, while their keepers with sharp hooks endeavored to allay their rage. Babylon broke away and made a lunge at Judas, which the latter dodged. Then the former ran across the arena and slid into the dressing-room. Judas sidled toward Tribby and began caressing her with his trunk, but the baby did not seem to care for nursery lullaby, and turned a contemptuous ear to Judas. Tribby was in quest of instruction, not love. She ruffled up against her instructor, and her intelligent eyes were a study as she looked for the word of command. Suddenly there was heard a great commotion in the menagerie. Babylon was hustling among other elephants, trumpeting his rage at Judas. He crashed into the big band chariot, weighing 7,000 pounds, and over it went, but was not seriously injured. An East Indian attendant, who had just joined the show, rushed up to Babylon and gave a command in the Indian tongue. The effect was magical. Babylon subsided, and, trembling, slunk off toward his proper corner in the elephant corral and put his leg in the chain loop. His regular keeper appeared and prodded him once or twice with his hook, and Tribby, the funny little baby elephant, out in the arena, undisturbed by the commotion raised by Babylon, received her hour's instruction and retires with a bow.

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