

How Sparrows Clear Away Snow.

On the east side of Central park, at Sixty-seventh street, stands a clump of pine trees, where toward evening it seems as if all the sparrows in the park congregated to gossip and scold and quarrel with each other, and to pass upon the doings of their gray coated, wingless, club carrying namesakes.

The recent snow storm, however, made things rather uncomfortable for them. Every needle of the big pines was covered with the pretty, soft, light flakes, which didn't seem so pretty to the pugnacious, feathered little English-Americans. So they perched themselves on the Fifth avenue stone wall and on the rocks near by, and with their sassy looking bull heads cocked to one side held a council of war that was almost distracting to the aristocratic people that live on the other side of the street.

They seemed at length to have devised a plan to clear their perches, for they flew into the trees and then half a dozen at a time dove through the needles and against the smaller perches with such force that the light, dry snow was shaken off and fell to the ground in little white clouds. At the end of half an hour of hard work their home was entirely cleared of the disagreeable stuff.

Then, of course, they must needs hold a thanksgiving meeting, which was even more distracting than the council. But all things have an end, and one by one the noisy chattering snuggled up to each other, sank down on their perches, tucked their heads under their wings and went to sleep to dream about cake crumbs and big fat worms.—New York Herald.

Fateful January.

The death of the Belgian heir to the throne, Prince Baudouin, has revived the old superstition concerning the fatefulness of January for the royal family of Belgium. The record of events that have caused the superstition has been increased of late years with remarkable rapidity. In January, 1867, the Empress Charlotte, sister of the Belgian king, became insane in consequence of the shooting of her husband. The king's only son, crown prince and Duke of Brabant, died on Jan. 23, 1869. In January, 1881, the royal castle in which the Empress Charlotte lived was destroyed by fire. In January, 1889, Crown Prince Rudolf of Austria, the Belgian king's son-in-law, was killed in the tragedy of Mayerling. On New Year's day, 1890, the royal castle at Laeken burned down. "Alas!" exclaimed the Belgian queen when the news of the fire was brought to her in Brussels, "it is this terrible January. It always brings us misfortune."—New York Sun.

The Carbons Ticked the Message.

A dozen people who stood chatting at San Antonio, Tex., were treated to a most remarkable electrical phenomenon. At that time the elements had entered into a conflict, seemingly, with the electric fluid from the trolleys and telegraph wires, and blue and white flashes of flame were leaping wildly from water spouts and door casements. Suddenly the carbons within the large globes hanging in the center of the room began that incessant clicking heard in a telegraph office, and the experienced ear of an operator, who happened to be one of the group, detected the fact that it was a veritable message being transmitted in the usual symbols. A notebook and pencil were drawn and the message, which proved to be an Associated Press dispatch, was written out; it was the description of the Reform club banquet, and gave the speech of Mr. Cleveland in New York city. A telegraph and electric light wire coming together is supposed to have caused the phenomenon.—Exchange.

A Movement for Cleanliness.

Over in Berlin a local woman's society is distressed over the carelessness of dentists, and is agitating a reform punishing such by legal measures. It is charged that the dentists use their instruments indiscriminately and without proper cleansing. If this be true the offense is serious enough. A tyro in medical science knows that the month is the hotbed of septic germs; nothing could be more simple and easy than to convey all sorts of disastrous organisms from one person to another by means of forceps and excavators. The women of Berlin will do well to compel the washing of the instruments in carbolic acid in the presence of patients, as they have set out to do, if this extraordinary carelessness exists.—New York Times.

Choked to Death by a Toy Balloon.

Charles Schneider, a 7-year-old boy, was choked to death recently by getting the gum of a toy balloon fastened in his throat. He was visiting a relative, Thomas Hern, and while playing with his little friend the gum of a balloon stuck to the roof of his mouth, and he began swallowing it. Mrs. Hern's attention was attracted by the boy's playmates. She attempted to get the gum out of his mouth, but failed.

Physicians were sent for at once, and Drs. McCord and Burleigh arrived just as the boy had breathed his last. It was some time before the gum could be gotten out, as it had become firmly imbedded in the boy's throat.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Leipzig is to have an international exhibition in the summer of 1897 for the apparatus and methods of the Red Cross societies, the most improved means of feeding and clothing soldiers, hygiene and popular cooking. It will be in the Crystal Palace, a structure of about twice the size of Madison Square Garden, New York.

Some friends who attended the funeral of a young lady in London had a novel experience the other day. A few weeks before the young lady had sung "Nearer, My God, to Thee" into a phonograph, and after the funeral ceremony the hymn was reproduced.

Little Wallace Chapman, a four-year-old Kansas City boy, has a wonderful memory. He recently repeated, verbatim, a nineteen stanza poem after hearing it read aloud three times.

How the Lepers Live.

At the leper settlement of Molokai, writes Sister Rose Gertrude to *The Ladies' Home Journal*, the time hangs very heavily on the hands of even these ease-loving children of the tropics. Some few, in the first stage of the disease, build cottages, some cultivate taro, tobacco, sugar-cane, or other plants in small inclosed patches. In the olden times they distilled strong and harmful liquors, but this is now, happily, forbidden by law. The sea around abounds with all kinds of fish, and the stronger ones pass hours in this favorite pursuit. There are a number of horses at the settlement, too, and sometimes there are horse-races, the training for which is an amusement to them for weeks before. Hand, the women fish or ride too. As a rule, they are not much given to domestic pursuits, though some still make hats, and gorgeous quilts with birds and flowers cut out of colored rags, stitched on to the white calico. But those who can work are almost disinclined to do so, by the uselessness of their industry. "We are dying," say they; "Why should we waste our time in working to leave good things behind for those who do not care for us?" The Chinese bear off the palm for industry. They plant taro and rice, and establish bread and cake stores, and even make candy for those who have the good fortune to receive money from their friends on the other islands. Of course there are many who from loss of hands or feet are unable to work, and theirs is the saddest lot. They have literally nothing to do but sleep and smoke, and their lives are unutterably dreary.

A Burglar Captured.

This morning about two o'clock, John Wood, the well-known plumber who resides on Main Street, was awakened by hearing glass break. On getting out of bed he received a blow on the head. He immediately grappled with the burglar, and after a terrible struggle succeeded in holding him until his wife obtained help. On being searched at the station, Mr. Wood's watch and wallet was found on his person. He gave the name as Robert Terry. The broken glass proved to be a bottle of Sulphur Bitters which had almost cured Mrs. Wood of rheumatism.—Exchange. 5-29-21.

Judge (to youthful witness)—"My son, do you know what would become of you if you should swear that this is not true?" Youthful witness—"Yes, the lawyers'd git me."—Chicago Tribune.

Do You Cough?

Don't delay. Take Kemp's Balsam, the best cough cure. It will cure your coughs and colds. It will cure sore throat or a tickling in the throat. It will cure pains in the chest, and all diseases pertaining to the Lungs because it is a pure Balsam. Hold it to the light and see how clear and thick it is. You will see the excellent effect after taking the first dose. Large bottles 50c and \$1.

People never tire of talking over the late Katherine Wolfe's superb gift to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She did more than any one man for the museum's valuable collection. She has not only bequeathed thousands of dollars and notable paintings by old and modern masters, but she has left a stated income to be used every year for the purchase of more pictures.

Many of the trained nurses in Bellevue hospital, New York, belong to the Bellevue Guild, a society devoted to the best interests of the profession. The badge consists of a silver cross with "Aye, ever ready!" inscribed on one side and "Bellevue Guild" on the other. Just now the company of mull caps and seersucker gowns is collecting funds for a club house.

Juvenile jewelry, if worn at all, should be extremely simple, and all ornaments set with precious stones are in extremely bad taste. The foolish mothers who send their girls to school loaded with trinkets display, to say the least, very questionable taste, and this custom is apt to foster vanity and a longing for meretricious display.

Don't wait until in front of a ticket seller's window before trying to find your *trampy* hidden pockets. If tickets can be purchased in quantities on routes you frequently travel purchase them, and save other people's temper and your own time.

Near Walker, Vernon county, Mo., a miner excavated a petrified foot 23 inches long and 30 inches around the instep, supposed to be that of a giant. The miner has been offered \$150 for it, but declines the offer.

There are two counties in Georgia that have not a lawyer. They are Echols and Charlton. The returns for 1890 show further that Charlton has neither a doctor nor a dentist.

She

Had a headache and it was caused by biliousness. Manners' Double Extract Sarsaparilla cured her, and will cure others. For sale by Moyer Bros., Druggists. Price 50c a bottle.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

Ignorance of Foreigners Concerning America.

Previous to our civil war the lack of knowledge abroad with regard to the United States was singular. We were ignored in the economy of nations, in the schools and society of the Old World, as of no importance. To most people America was as yet undiscovered. Only the most advanced thinkers had divined that we were working out the problem of the future. To see their countries become Americanized was the nightmare of rulers, as it is now the dream of the more intelligent of the peoples. The bolt of slavery was still upon us, and we were numerically among the smaller nations. When sent to a monastic school in Belgium at the age of ten, I was led into the Petite Cour and introduced by the Pere Superieur to the crowd of eagerly expectant boys, "Tenez, mes enfants, voila votre nouveau camarade le jeune American!" I well remember a fair-faced lad (he was son of a banished Polish noble, who went up to the father and plucked him by his skirt, with, "Mais, mon pere, il est blanc comme nous." His keen disappointment at my not being black, for he had never seen a negro, he always rather laid up against me. And when later I attended the Friedrich-Wordesten Gymnasium in Berlin, the only two ideas I could ever find that boys of my age had assimilated of the shreds and patches they had been taught about America were Niagara and slavery. How much did a Massachusetts lad who had left home in his first decade know about slavery, or how many, in those stagecoach days, had been to the Great Falls? "Ach, du bist kein Amerikaner," my playmates would exclaim, "wenn du Niagara nicht gesehen hast!" imagining no doubt, that this world-famed cataract was at every man's back door. And my never having seen a slave stamped me still more an impostor. Our civil war wrought a change. We hewed ourselves into notice by doctory blows. Yet were the most conservative among the military autocrats of Europe unwilling, till toward the very end, to look upon us in any other light than as armed mobs, and even in the war of '66 they declined to profit by our experience. But by 1870 the Germans, with their keen instinct for war and more numerous ties with the States, had adopted many of the methods we had first devised, and to-day not only are our campaigns studied as samples (of good and bad alike, as all campaigns must be), but fair justice is done to our actual merit in the province of war, and to the exceptional ability of some American generals.—From "Some American Riders," by Colonel T. A. Dodge, in *Harper's Magazine* for June.

Catarrh Can't Be Cured

with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you have to take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is no quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years, and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing catarrh. Send for testimonials free.

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Early Railroad Fun.

THE FIRST PASSENGER TRAIN IN PENNSYLVANIA AND ITS TROUBLES.

In November, 1832, the first passenger train in the State of Pennsylvania made its trial trip. It was drawn by "Old Ironsides," a famous engine built by L. M. Baldwin, founder of the great locomotive works in Philadelphia that still bears his name. Old Ironsides had some drawback to its efficiency. For example, on the trial trip it was found that the wheels were too tight to keep the machine on track. So engineer and machinist had to push it until considerable headway was gained. Then they jumped aboard, so that their weight would keep the wheels down. The boiler, also, was too small, and did not generate enough steam for long distances.

Hence, for much of the distance between Philadelphia and Germantown the engineer and his assistants found their varied career. They had to push and ride alternately. The rails, too, had unpleasant eccentricities of their own. They were usually made of wood with strap-iron spiked upon them. The strap rails had a fashion of curling up through the weight of the cars on their central part. Often the engineer would be compelled to stop the car to pound down the "snake head," as it got to be called, or else detail an assistant to hold it down with a lever while the train passed on.—Illustrated American.

Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria.

In the Spring

The feeling of lassitude peculiar to the season begins to be felt. The average stock of vitality has been pretty thoroughly exhausted in carrying its possessor through the rigors and changes of the trying winter, and as the more genial season approaches and the strain upon the system relaxes a feeling of prostra-

tion, more or less pronounced in degree and duration, is the natural and inevitable result. During the existence of this feeling of lassitude and depression, business cares and exertions seem almost impossible of endurance, and even the lightest duties and responsibilities of life are regarded as a burden to be shirked or disregarded to the greatest possible extent.

If You are Wise

To devise some preparation to counteract this tired feeling and restore the system to something like a normal condition has been the endeavor of many people more or less skilled in medical science, and countless concoctions under the general title of "spring medicine" have been placed upon the market, had a brief boom and then been lost sight of, to be succeeded by some other similar preparation. The principal ingredient in most of the spring "bitters," "tonics,"

etc., alcohol, the effect of which upon the human system has been sufficiently dwelt upon through various public mediums to render any extended reference to the same unnecessary here. The temporary feeling of strength and exhilaration produced by this active agent is as certainly followed by a greater degree of depression, while the results of continued indulgence are a permanent impairment of the vital organs—the heart, kidneys, liver and brain.

The facts of the case are that you have been living upon meat and other fatty substances to a greater extent than at any other time of the year; the pores of the skin have been closed, and upon the kidneys and liver have devolved all the work of keeping the system clear. But now summer is at hand, and these organs cannot keep up the drain. The pores of the skin must be open, else disease will step in and throw you upon a bed of sickness. If the pores be but partly open, then you are languid, lazy and ill at ease. You want a spring cleaning process within yourself, and then you will be filled with vigor and a zest for work and business. You can have all accomplished by the use of

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