

AT DAWN OF DAY.

Unbroken silence, brilliant eastern skies, Without a stirring leaf, Incessant from celestial chalice, Affront in mid-air brief,

TOBACCO PIPES.

A Medical Authority That Says Clay Is Preferable to Wood.

If tobacco smoking is justifiable at all on hygienic grounds, says The Lancet, it is generally conceded that the pipe is the least injurious means.

COST OF SABLES.

How the Price Advances After the Skin Leaves Siberia.

Up in the great watershed dividing Siberia and Mongolia lives a peculiar race of people, half Chinese, half Tibetans.

Sable hunting in the Siberian mountains and northern Mongolia is confined almost exclusively to the Syots and other native races.

The trader sits on his wagon and barter cheerfully. With the eye of a connoisseur and with fingers rendered deft by long practice he sees and feels the smooth, warm skins of the little animals.

This small black one—well, a two ounce packet of tobacco is enough for that; that large black one—a handful of shot and an equal quantity of gunpowder; a packet of tea for a lovely skin with a long black stripe down the center; this one, a fine skin, but a little bit hurt by the shot entering the back—well, say a string of beads for that.

HIS HIGH PRICED EYE.

How a Clever Bunko Game Was Played on a Son of Sunny Italy.

A well planned scheme was worked on a down town Italian confectioner the other night whereby he lost \$50.

The pretending purchaser at once began a diligent search for the missing glass eye. With both hands he clawed into the fruit, scattering it in all directions.

An hour later another man came along, pretended to make a purchase, and while fingering around in the fruit suddenly espied the wonderful glass eye.

Lord Byron, in his reported conversations with the Countess of Blessington, remarked to her that "medical men do not sufficiently attend to idiosyncrasies, on which so much depends, and often hurry to the grave one patient by a treatment that has succeeded in another.

Sheep Ticks.

Every one who has sheep knows the tick, the worst pest of this animal, that does serious harm to the young lambs without suspicion of the cause to the shepherd.

The Count's Mistake.

"So Gwendolyn is not to marry the count after all?"

Testing Him.

Bagley—Do you recollect that \$5 I let you have about a year ago?

Brace—Perfectly.

Bagley—That's good. I see your memory is all right. How's your eyesight?—Harlem Life.

SWEET LIFE ENDED.

A Patient Sufferer Gone to Her Eternal Home.

After many months of illness, Miss Mary Gussie Bencoter, daughter of Rev. C. L. and Mrs. Bencoter, expired at the East Main Street M. E. parsonage this morning at 9 o'clock.

Miss Bencoter took a two years' course in the ladies' seminary at Birmingham, Pa., then attended the high school at Altoona for two years, and spent two years in Dickinson seminary, Williamsport, in which institution she graduated in June, 1897.

It was while attending the latter institution that the young lady became ill. After arriving home in this city, she was compelled to go to bed. Her health gradually failing, on October 20 she was taken to the M. E. hospital, Philadelphia, where she submitted to an operation on October 30.

Miss Bencoter's life was a daily demonstration of the strong christian faith which buoyed the young woman up in all her sufferings.

At the early age of 8 years she was converted, and from that time until the close of her earthly career she gave repeated manifestations of the Christlike that was imbedded in her being.

Deceased is survived by her parents, her brother, Warren E., and her sister, Helen Clarinda. The funeral will take place Saturday afternoon. Services will be conducted in the East Main Street M. E. Church.

PILES—ITCHING, BLIND AND BLEEDING—CURED in three to six nights. Dr. Agnew's Ointment is peerless in curing. One application gives instant relief.

The Richest Island.

The island of Cuba has about the same area as the State of Pennsylvania. From east to west it is probably twice the length of Pennsylvania, but its average width is much less, not more than 80 miles.

Pennsylvania supports a population of between five and six millions and is increasing rapidly. Cuba with good government, it is believed, could support in plenty a population of 10,000,000.

The commerce of Cuba before the war indicates the possibilities of the island under free and orderly government. In 1893 Cuba exported 718,204 tons of sugar and produced 815,894 tons.

Dr. Agnew's Ointment. And cured in 3 to 5 nights. Dr. M. Parkman, Binghamton, N.Y. writes: "Send me 12 dozen more of Agnew's Ointment. I prescribe large quantities of it. It is a wonder worker in skin diseases, and a great cure for piles."

exported and of cigarettes 39,581,493 packages. These are only the main exports. They show what may be done with the exhaustless soil and climate of the island when its people were in a condition of virtual slavery under Spanish rule.

The mineral resources of Cuba are of great variety. American capital and enterprise was being attracted to their development before the present revolt broke out.

It is singular that Cuba has great claims as a pastoral country. Her pastures are broad and rich, and a century ago raised more cattle and horses. The island, with these natural pastures, was just beginning to raise fine Durham and Devonshire stock when ten year war desolated the country and put a stop to the industry.

Once independent, immigrants will be attracted to Cuba in great numbers. American capital, labor and enterprise will go there, and in time become an influential factor in progress and orderly government.

ATMOSPHERES OF PLANETS.

The Gaseous Envelope Which Surrounds Venus is Much Like Our Own.

Dr. Johnson Stoney's name has long been associated with a theory that the composition of the atmosphere of a planet, and, indeed, the question whether it shall have an atmosphere or not, depends upon the size of the planet, which determines the force of gravity at its surface.

It is more particularly with a reference to the moon that the theory has usually been presented. Stripped of its scientific phraseology, Dr. Stoney's view is that the gravitational force of the moon, which is only about one-sixth as great as the earth's, is not strong enough to prevent the indefinite expansion of such gases as form the earth's atmosphere, and that consequently if the moon ever had a gaseous envelope these gases were probably long ago dissipated in space.

Limiting the inquiry to a temperature of 61 degrees Centigrade below zero, Dr. Stoney applies the theory to all of the members of the solar system, with the following results: From the moon, all gases having a vapor density less than 39 will escape with a greater promptness than hydrogen and helium do from the earth.

The conditions of Venus resemble those of the earth; but the case of Mars is of exceptional interest. Dr. Stoney says that it is legitimate to infer that on this planet water cannot remain. The atmosphere of Mars he thinks to consist mainly of nitrogen, argon and carbon dioxide. Upon this view there can be no vegetation, as we understand the term, upon the planet, and its snows, frost and fog do not arise from the same cause as on the earth.

The mining town of Duryea, near Wilkesbarre, was the scene of a disastrous cave-in shortly before noon on Friday and two men are thought to have perished. The mining town of Duryea, near Wilkesbarre, was the scene of a disastrous cave-in shortly before noon on Friday and two men are thought to have perished.

Buildings Sink Through the Earth. Two Miners Supposed to Have Perished.

Men, women and children rushed in terror from their homes. In many cases the houses were so twisted that the doors could not be opened and such occupants as were penned in their homes were in a state of terror until others came to their assistance and chopped open a means of egress.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Sold by C. A. Kleim.

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TOWN CAVE) IN. Hundred and Fifty Houses Wrecked at Duryea. Buildings Sink Through the Earth. Two Miners Supposed to Have Perished.

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When the cave-in occurred there were seven men at work in the mine. They were Fred Hensel, James Hardy, Thomas Robson, Henry Hudelson, Charles Carey, David Emanuel and Thomas R. Williams. All were rescued with the exception of Emanuel and Williams. It is believed they have perished. The loss will reach \$80,000.

CASTORIA. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Sold by C. A. Kleim.

Shakespeare's Autograph. The rarest autographs in the world are probably Shakespeare's. Only seven are claimed to exist—three signatures to his will (two of which are doubtful), two to conveyances of property, one in the folio edition of his plays (doubtful) and one in a translation of Montaigne. This last is in the British museum and cost over 300 guineas.

The largest gasometer in the world is at East Greenwich. When full, it contains 12,000,000 cubic feet of gas. It weighs 2,200 tons, is 150 feet high, 300 feet in diameter, requires 1,200 tons of coal to fill it with gas and cost nearly \$40,000.

Gunpowder was invented by Roger Bacon, an Englishman who lived in the thirteenth century, but Germany claims the merit for several who lived about 80 years after Bacon's decease.