

BEGINNING OF TIME.

IT IS GREENWICH WHICH TELLS US WHAT O'CLOCK IT IS.

Marvelous Instruments Employed by the Scientists in Charge of the Great Observatory—The Point Whose Longitude is Zero.

Doubtless every student of geography has had his curiosity aroused regarding Greenwich Observatory, whence longitude is reckoned and where the world sets its timepieces; and has been desirous of learning more about the dwelling place of "Longitude Naught"; and the chronometer that regulates the clocks of the world.

The most important room of the whole observatory is the transit room. Four broad stone pillars occupy the greater part of the space of this room. Two of these pillars are tall, as well as broad and massive. They stand east and west of the center of the room and carry between them the Transit circle. Here is the home of "Longitude Naught"; for the optical axis of the great telescope of the transit circle marks the exact spot crossed by the prime meridian of the world.

THE CHRONOGRAPH.

The error of the clock is determined twice a day, shortly before ten o'clock in the morning and shortly before one o'clock in the afternoon. These two times are chosen because, at ten and one o'clock signals are sent to all the great provincial centers. Also at one o'clock the time ball at Greenwich and at Deal are dropped, so that the captains of ships within sight of the dropping-mast may set their chronometers.

Thus is time found and regulated at the great Observatory. The rating of chronometers for the Royal Navy is one of the most important duties of the Observatory. Here they are carefully tested until their time keeping qualities are as perfect as human skill can make them.

There is little of the picturesque or sensational in the regular routine work of the Observatory. The daily observation of the sun and of many stars—called clock stars, the determination of the error of the standard clock and its correction twice a day, the sending out of time signals, the care, winding and rating of hundreds of chronometers and the determination, from time to time, of the exact longitude of foreign and colonial cities make a ceaseless round of work. Yet there is a charm in all to those who delight in the handling of delicate and exact instruments which renders its dreary routine fascinating.

A Cautious Man.

"It's a good thing to be cautious when among strangers," said the precise-looking man to a tall, angular old fellow, to whom he was talking on the deck of an Atlantic liner.

"Yes," was the response, "you can't always tell who you're talking to when you don't know, and strangers thrown together, as we are, are very likely to make mistakes if they don't look out."

"That's what I think about it," said the precise one. "There are several people around that I'd like to know who they are, but I feel a delicacy in asking."

"Who, for instance?" asked the tall party, letting his eyes wander about the deck.

"Well, there's a lady standing there by that door, talking to a young fellow who looks as if he might be her son."

"That far door?" inquired the tall party, stretching his neck around.

"Yes."

"She looks as if she might bite a nail in two?"

"Yes."

"Keeps it going all the time, as if there wasn't any such thing as an eight-hour law?"

"Yes."

"Got a bonnet on that looks as if it might be a sign for a vegetable garden?"

"Yes."

"Got a complexion like a slab of tan bark?"

"Yes."

"Got clothes on that look as if they'd been made out of last year's circus posters?"

"Exactly—she's the one! Who is she?"

"The tall party got up to have a better look before committing himself.

"She's a jay from Westminster, ain't she?" he said, with a laugh, as he sat down again.

"Yes. Who is she?"

"Oh, she's my wife. Let me take you over and introduce you."

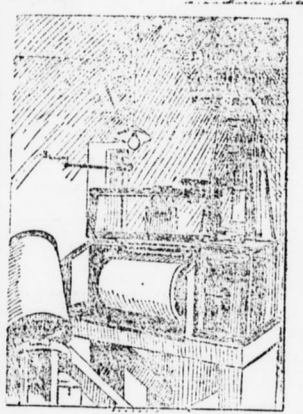
But the cautious man declined, and managed to lose himself in the crowd as quickly as possible.

Sublime and the Ridiculous. A sentimental gentleman, out for an hour's sail, was rhapsodizing in the following terms:—"When we contemplate the heavens, under the brilliant light of day, or again in the fading shades of the evening, when the stars begin to appear one by one with increasing splendor, are not our souls impregnated with a sense of sublimity, of rapture, of mystic awe? Oh, my friend"—turning to the man at the helm—"oh, my friend, what do you think?"—"Think?—why, I think it's very unlikely."

Thousands of Egyptians live in old tombs, eating, sleeping, wailing, loving, laughing, dancing, singing, doing all their deeds of daily life and household work among the mummies and sarcophagi.

have been made, and the average of these gives the time of transit.

At the Observatory there is a great clock, called the sidereal clock, which registers twenty-four hours in the precise time that the earth rotates once on its axis, or the time when a given star would again appear on a fixed meridian. Hence, since the exact time is known when the star ought to be on the meridian, this clock can be readily checked by the observations of star transits.



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AS TO THE FOOT.

Some Things About It that Are Said to Indicate Character.

It is surprising the little interest we take in other people's feet. Our own command the whole of our attention; and very worrying they are sometimes.

Have you ever noticed the shape of your feet? It may astonish you to know that one's feet are as much an index to one's character as one's face, or one's lines and wrinkles therein. This is the opinion of a foot surgeon whom P. W. has interviewed on the subject.

"Palmistry, physiognomy, and the like, are beside the mark compared with the value of the study of the feet in the formation of a man's character," said he. "There are three classes of the human foot—Aryan, Scandinavian, and the Anglo-Saxon. The first two are pure; the third is the blend of the former. There is also a nondescript type.

"The Celtic or Aryan foot was the foot of the old Phoenicians, and is the highest type of the human foot. It has many characteristics which stand out from all other feet.

"You may know it by the big toe being shorter than the next one to it, the big toe joint being large and long, the arch being short and high-pitched, and the heel-bone being irregular in form. The man with the Celtic foot will perform what he says; he will be strong, healthy, moral. It is the foot of the soldier, of the conqueror, and the trustworthy man.

"In the Scandinavian foot the big toe stands far away from all the others. The arch is flatter and longer than the Aryan; the heel is very symmetrical in relation to the general outline; the toes are longer; the tread is narrower. It is the more elegant of the two, but the Celtic is the stronger development. The man with such a foot as this will be no less sincere than the Aryan-footed man, but he will be slower in coming to a decision, and will perform his duty or a promise usually with less grace. For swimming it excels the Celtic; but the latter is all for long distance walking, mountain climbing, rapid and quick movement.

"The Anglo-Saxon may be termed the general all-round foot. We pass into degeneration from this, the foot that fills our prisons, hospitals, work-houses, and supplies us with the foot-pad.

"Even the prospects of marriage may be gleaned from comparison of the feet.

"The Anglo-Saxon foot is that of the business man. The big toe and the one next to it are brought on a line. The arch is not so accurate as the Aryan, but an improvement on the Scandinavian. The displacement across the tread is greater than the Scandinavian, but not equal to the Aryan."

How the Sultan's Wives Bath.

The secret of the Sultan's harem is one which has been kept inviolate for a long time. The arcana, or hidden she has revealed the process which goes on within the bathroom, which she says is the only recreation in which the wives of the Sultan are able to indulge.

The first room is the place in which the ladies take off their garments, and it is presided over by a woman who is a sort of overseer and chaperon, as well as a caretaker, for every one of the ladies, as she takes them off, hands her the jewels which she has been wearing. Her greeting to all and each as they enter is the Turkish equivalent of "I hope you will come back pleased."

All along the side of the walls are low couches, while in the middle of the room is a clock, and near it an open stove which is called a "mangal." This stove not only keeps the apartment warmed to the proper temperature, but it also serves the second office of perfuming the room.

The bath itself is of white marble, and contains perfumed water in which the women plunge and play like the children at any of our own seaside places. After the splashing about period they go through a course of treatment with ordinary soap, and then comes a course of massage whose refreshing and revivifying powers are known to all.

After the bath, a cup of coffee is served from a huge bronze pot, which is kept on the top of the mangal in the disrobing room. In this room, too, there are cradles consisting of a pillow suspended by means of a rope at each end. On these pillows, tied by means of silken scarves, are the children of the bathers, and they sleep or crouch away the time which is enjoyed by their mothers in the only recreation which is permitted to them, and here the women play with their offspring in exactly the same way as do the mothers in a less excited, but probably much happier, station in our own land.

A Singular Find.

A very singular find is recorded in a London magazine. Some ivory cutters, while at work upon an elephant's tusk, discovered the head of an assagai or African spear embedded in it. This tusk was being cut up for knife handles. It is surmised that the spear was thrown at a young elephant, and that the head broke off and lodged in the hollow part of one of its tusks. Then, as the tusk grew, the spear-head was pushed further and further towards the tip, and at length the ivory grew round the steel blade itself.

Doing Good.

She who does good to another, does also good to herself; not only in the consequence, but in the very act of doing it; for the consciousness of well-doing is an ample reward.

Sixty thousand elephants are annually slaughtered in Africa for the sake of their ivory.

Advertisement for Castoria 900 Drops. Includes text: 'Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of INFANTS CHILDREN. Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Signature of Dr. J. C. Hathcock. The Kind You Have Always Bought. CASTORIA. THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.'

Advertisement for Castoria. Includes text: 'CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of The Kind You Have Always Bought. CASTORIA. THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.'

Fine PHOTOGRAPHS and CRAYONS at Mc Killip Bros., Bloomsburg. The best are the cheapest.



TID-BITS FOR MA' HONEY! and tender little juicelets for the children, are all right, but papa and "the boys" want a good, big, juicy steak, roast or chop when business or school duties are over, and we can cater to them all. Our stock of prime meats is unexcelled for quality, and we send them home in fine shape. J. E. KEIFER.

THE MARKETS. BLOOMSBURG MARKETS. CORRECTED WEEKLY. RETAIL PRICES.

Table listing market prices for various goods: Butter per lb. \$.20, Eggs per dozen .12, Lard per lb. .07, Ham per pound .10, Pork, whole, per pound .06, Beef, quarter, per pound .07, Wheat per bushel 1.00, Oats " " .35, Rye " " .50, Wheat flour per bbl. 5.75, Hay per ton 9 to \$10, Potatoes per bushel 1.00, Turnips " " .25, Onions " " 1.00, Sweet potatoes per peck .35, Tallow per lb. .05, Shoulder " " .09, Side meat " " .08, Vinegar, per qt. .05, Dried apples per lb. .05, Dried cherries, pitted .12, Raspberries .12, Cow Hides per lb. .34, Steer " " .05, Calf Skin " " .80, Sheep pelts .75, Shelled corn per bus. .50, Corn meal, cwt. 1.25, Bran, " 1.00, Chop " .90, Middlings " 1.00, Chickens per lb new .12, " " old .11, Turkeys " " 1.25, Geese " " .14, Ducks " " .08.

Table listing coal prices: No. 6, delivered 2.60, " 4 and 5 " 3.85, " 6 at yard 2.35, " 4 and 5 at yard 3.60.

Advertisement for New England Conservatory of Music. Includes text: 'The Leading Conservatory of America. CARL FAHLSTEN, Director. Founded in 1855 by E. Tourjée. NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC, BOSTON-MASS. Send for Prospectus giving full information. FRANK W. HALL, General Manager.'

Advertisement for Johnson's Belladonna. Includes text: 'Weak Backs Strengthened by Johnson's Belladonna. IT TOUCHES THE SPOT. ELY BROS., 56 Warren St., N. Y. City.'

Advertisement for Patents. Includes text: 'PATENTS. Caveats and Trade Marks obtained, and all Patent business conducted for MODERATE FEES. OUR OFFICE IS OPPOSITE THE U. S. PATENT OFFICE. We have no sub-agents, all business direct, hence can transact patent business in less time and at less cost than those who route from Washington. Send model, drawing or photo, with description. We advise if patentable or not, free of charge. Our fee not due till patent is secured. A book, "How to Obtain Patents," with references to actual clients in your State, County, or town sent free. Address: C. A. SNGW & CO., Washington, D. C. (Opposite U. S. Patent Office).'

Advertisement for Parker's Hair Balm. Includes text: 'PARKER'S HAIR BALM. Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Never fails to restore Gray Hair to its Youthful Color. Cures scalp diseases & hair falling. 25c, and \$1.00 at Druggists. 6-10-H. C.'

Advertisement for Shopping Made Easy. Includes text: 'SHOPPING MADE EASY. Orders received for all kinds of merchandise. Samples sent. No commission charged. Best of references. Circulars sent on application. MISS E. B. EATON, 156 Fifth Ave., N. Y.'

Advertisement for Sapolio. Includes text: 'A handful of dirt may be a household of shame.' Keep your house clean with SAPOLIO.

Advertisement for Stove Naptha. Includes text: 'STOVE NAPHTHA, the Cheapest and Best Fuel on the market. With it you can run a Vapor Stove for one-half cent per hour. Give us a call and be convinced. W. O. Holmes, Eshleman & Wolf, L. E. Wharey, W. F. Hartman, Bloomsburg, Pa.'

STRAY PARAGRAPHS.

Catch the flag stealers. Accommodation trains never go out of their way. Silk hats are conceded to be the height of fashion. The water has been turned on the Market Street fountain. A "pony" has been known to be the forerunner of a nightmare. A sudden sting on the foot often forces one to acknowledge the corn. It begins to look as though explorer Andree and his party has been sent up for life. Politics are not very lively in Columbia County at the present time. Things may take a turn later. It is said that a canvass of the town would reveal the fact that there are several Spanish sympathizers in our midst.

Picking Out a Husband.

A contemporary gives the following advice to its fair readers: "For a man's birth, look to his linen and finger nails, and observe the inflections of his voice. For his tastes, study the color of his ties, the pattern and hang of his trousers, his friends and his rings—if any. For his propensities, walk round and look carefully at the back of his head. A symmetrical cerebellum, with well-trimmed hair, is an indication of self-control and energy. If you want a successful man, see that he has a neat foot; he will move quicker, get over obstacles faster, than a man who falls over his own toes and trips up other folks with 'em, too. For his breeding, talk sentiment to him when he is starving and ask him to carry a band-box down the public street when you've just had a row. To test his temper, tell him his nose is a little on one side and you don't like the way his hair grows. There are other ways which will suggest themselves naturally to a bright woman.

In a Bad Condition.

"My blood was in a very bad condition and I had boils, pimples and carbuncles. My stomach was out of order and I had no appetite. My food did not agree with me. After taking a few bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla my blood was purified and I was completely cured." P. D. WHITEHEAD, Mahanoy City, Pa.

Hood's Pills are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla. Easy and yet efficient.

Reduced Rates to Scranton via Pennsylvania Railroad, account German Catholic Parade.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company announces that, for the parade of the German Catholic State Convention at Scranton, Pa., Wednesday, May 25, it will sell excursion tickets from points on its line within a radius of one hundred miles to Scranton and return at rate of single fare for round trip. Tickets will be sold May 24 and 25, good to return until May 26, inclusive. 2t.

If you want lithographed bonds, certificates of stock, checks, drafts, diplomas, or any thing in that line, the COLUMBIAN office can furnish them. See samples.

An Opportunity You Now Have

of testing the curative effects of Ely's Cream Balm, the most positive Cure for Catarrh known. Ask your druggist for a 10 cent trial size or send 50 cents, we will mail it. Full size 50 cents.

ELY BROS., 56 Warren St., N. Y. City.

My son was afflicted with catarrh. I induced him to try Ely's Cream Balm and the disagreeable catarrhal smell all left him. He appears as well as any one.—J. C. Olmstead, Arcola, Ill.

This Catches the Girls.

A set of swindlers are sending out circulars promising in order to introduce their goods to send to any address, postage prepaid, ten yards of red, brown or green silk for \$1. The eager victims, who are many, receive ten yards of thread cut from the spool. A young lady not far from here sent nice big hard earned dollar recently and got in return ten yards of baby ribbon worth about one cent per yard. It is quite likely she will catch on to the next just as readily.—Hazleton Sentinel.