

KING WINTER'S FREAKS.

EXTRAORDINARY WARMTH IN MANY PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

Some Authorities Maintain That the Change is Permanent and Due to the Disruption of the Arctic Wind by Irrigation—Many and Curious Theories.

"What is the matter with the weather? Such is the question that has been coming to the signal offices east of the Rocky mountains and to hydrographic bureau and local scientists in many sections of the United States. And with the question have come statements that would be simply incredible if not attested by clouds of witnesses—statements of flowers blooming in open air, "greens" gathered from the garden on New Year's day, cotton blooming on "St. Jackson's day," green pasturing a country night as far north as latitude 38 deg. and no ice to cut within 500 miles of New York!

New Orleans and Charleston, perhaps, present the most extraordinary figures—official, too, being those taken at the signal stations. On the 11th of January the official thermometer at New Orleans registered 63 deg. in the shade, and for thirty-four days it has only once or twice been below 70 deg. at noon. In November there were a few pleasantly cool days, but since the 1st of December every day has been hot and dry. The hottest winter previously known averaged seven degrees cooler, and the average is much cooler than that. At Hammond, La., a ripe watermelon was pulled on Christmas, and on the first of January three days of January cotton blooms appeared in Plaquemine parish. For three and a quarter months the total rainfall has been but a fraction over three inches, or a foot less than common; the city cisterns are generally dry, and the people are using river water. By way of consolation, it is added that the ice factories of the city are producing ice at the rate of 5,000 tons a month, and can, if needed, produce 800 tons a day, at a cost of \$6 a ton.



THE GULF STREAM.

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In Charleston the mean temperature for December is 57 deg., and the rainfall fall less than a third of an inch. If the people were not afraid of late frosts, they would agree to supply northern markets with early vegetables ten weeks ahead of the usual time; and if the present weather continues cotton could be picked in May instead of October. At Syracuse, N. Y., garden roses have developed and several sorts of shrubs have formed leaf, while the north has been warmer generally than in any winter since 1820. In all New England, save a "thin skin" on a few of the most northern lakes, there is no ice, while on the eastern end of Long Island, which gets the warm wave at its strongest, dandelions are in full bloom where the earth is ordinarily hidden by snow.

Explanations abound. But they do not explain. It is of course, known that the winter storms from west to east, or east-northeast, are moving across the continent in a track from 300 to 500 miles north of the usual line, and that, as the storm center creates a suction drawing side winds towards it, this operates to bring up warm winds from the south; but why do the storms go so much further north?

The first explanation offered was the now familiar one, the maximum (or minimum) of sun spots. But that is completely demolished by the records for many years showing no connection between sun spots and warm or cold winters. An explanation just fanciful enough to make it popular was that of the Gulf Stream; many captives contend that it is gradually drawing nearer the Atlantic coast, and here, giving us warm and foggy weather, "quite English, you know." There are three conclusive answers to that. First, the matter is not so; the Gulf Stream sways as moved upon by winds and other currents, but its central line is just where it was when first located in the charts. Second, England and western Europe generally have their usual winters. And thirdly, and most conclusive of all, the Gulf Stream is even more abnormal west of the Appalachians, away up in the northwest and at the west end of the Gulf of Mexico, than at the Atlantic coast. The Gulf Stream is a big thing, but it could not make green fields in Missouri in January.

A few super-scientific people are inclined to fall back on the late Professor James Watson's favorite theory, that the earth, sun and solar system in their grand sweep through space, pass through great belts of heat and cold—great zones which fill uncounted millions of miles of the interstellar void. It is now generally conceded that the illimitable space through which the stars are scattered (about as thickly in proportion, perhaps, as if a hundred pin heads were distributed over the state of Texas) is filled with some substance, extremely tenuous, of course, but still a substance, or gas, if you please. And it may well be that it is great waves of heat through which the whirling systems plunge. Only, we cannot prove it just now.

Sergt. Dunn, the local weather official of New York city, propounds a most startling theory, and very plausible too; but those who hear it for the first time will have to think a while before they can decide to be glad or sorry. His theory is this, as outlined recently in the New York Sun: The change is permanent, the United States generally is to have milder winters, and the cause is that a new storm center has been established by the settlement, irrigation and reclamation of a once arid region in the far west. From the Black Hills to the mouth of the Rio Grande and from longitude 98 deg., or thereabouts, to an unknown western line, was once the "Great American Desert." Settlement and irrigation have wonderfully changed its character. It is scarcely an exaggeration to say that millions of acres have been covered with timber since 1860. Within the memory of men still living the buffalo grass clothed the western bluffs of the Missouri. Then the dry winds swept over the plains without hindrance. Now artificial groves, ponds, canals, plowed fields and irrigating ditches and reservoirs, world's wide, have been planted, and has made by the hand of man. In demonstration Sergt. Dunn says that a New Yorker who, within a year or two, has invested thousands of dollars in an irrigation company in Colorado recently called on him to tell the story of his ill luck. After the ditching of the company had been dug at great expense and the water had been turned on, the company began to look for evidence of substantial benefit to the cities in which they are built.

TO GO, WIN OR LOSE.

Ward Says Injunction Won't Stop the Players' League.

WHAT HE BUILDS ITS HOPES ON.

W. L. Harris Presents the Arguments of the Brotherhood Men and Tells Why They Expect Their Plan to Yield Handsome Salaries to Players and Good Profits to Owners.

"Win or lose," says John M. Ward, "the Players' League will go ahead in 1890." Mr. Ward referred to the great injunction suit, the decision of which is now pending. What he meant was that the new league, which has without the National League, who played last season with the National League. The presumption is that should it be without them they would come to the Players' League in 1890.

The players' league is the part of the leaders of the Brotherhood League, as announced by Mr. Ward, is honest, it indicates a confidence in the success of the new movement, not only on the part of the players, but on the part of the owners. The latter are, in the view of their own arguments, upon which they base their chance for success.

This letter is for the purpose of presenting the main points upon which the Brotherhood depend for success. It is written at the request of several correspondents, who have asked me to give a resume of the Brotherhood side of the question.

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Notes of the Foreign Stage. Joseph Anderson, the younger brother of Mary Anderson, who has acted for several years in her company, and who, last year, married a daughter of Lawrence Barrett, has been engaged to perform as a back stop, and the reputation of being a terrible thrower. It is said by persons who have seen him work that he resembles Milligan, the big catcher of the St. Louis Browns. During the winter he will remain at his home in Kook, Ia., and will report in Cincinnati for practice with the team early in March.

The receipts of the Paris theatres for October during the three latest winters is that they were as follows: 1887, 1,963,211.17; 1888, 1,958,511.17; 1889, 1,428,522.17. As compared with the receipts of 1886, 1,963,211.17, the receipts of the three latest winters were: 1887, 10,417,344.17; 1878, 13,074,927.17; 1889, 15,370,922.17. From a theatrical point of view, world's wide evidence of substantial benefit to the cities in which they are built.

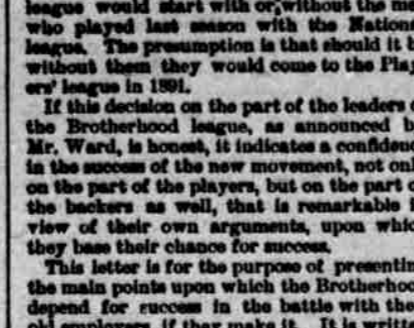
CHESS AND CHECKERS.

Chess problem No. 43 (and game) By Herr Taborita.



White to play and mate in four moves.

Checkers problem No. 45—By R. Hughes. Black—13, 22, 30.



White to play and win.

Chess problem No. 44: Black—K, B and 3 P. White—K, Q, R, Kt and 3 P. White to play and win in three moves.

White—1, 13 to 16. Black—1, 23 to 19. White—2, 13 to 9. Black—2, 13 to 9. White—3, 10 to 12 and win.

LANCASTER MERCHANTS AND OTHERS. Lancaster merchants are given considerable advertising space in this issue. The public's attention is called to the advertisements appearing below. The wise shopper always consults the advertising columns of the INTELLIGENCER before purchasing.

W. P. Hoeh, Druggist. W. P. Hoeh is a prominent dealer in drugs, medicines, chemicals, fancy and toilet articles, and all articles that a first class pharmacy would keep to satisfy the demands of a large and critical patronage. His stock is large and varied in every particular, and the manner of transacting business is liberal and metropolitan.

Mr. Urban is a prominent representative of this profession, located at 104 East King street. He has been engaged in this business since 1867, and is well known to all who are interested in the medical fraternity and the general public.

Walter C. Herr, Jeweler. One of the most successful jewelers in this city is Mr. Herr, proprietor of the store located at 104 East King street.

Henry Martin, of this city, is the inventor and patentee of machinery for making bricks and tiles, and the constant improvement of his line, upon the constant improvement of his line, he has been engaged for over twenty-five years.

One of the most popular establishments in this city is that of Mr. Rudy, located at 25 North Queen street, to which place he moved about two months ago from No. 29 North Queen street.

This popular hotel is located on South Christian street, near King, and is conducted by Capt. McMillen. This place is heated throughout with steam, and there is a bath room and water closet on each floor of the house.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

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W. C. Sapp. 114 S. Queen St. HOTEL FURNITURE A SPECIALTY. GROCERIES.

TRIPPLE'S CASH GROCERY. The Best Place to Get GROCERIES, TEAS, COFFEES, SPICES, &c.

NO. 42 & 44 SOUTH QUEEN STREET. SALT FISH A SPECIALTY.

HOTEL Exchange Hotel. (Entirely Remodeled.) Cor. East King & Christian Sts. LANCASTER, PA.

E. McMullen, Proprietor. Centrally Located, Sample Room on First Floor, Steam Heat Throughout, Accommodations First-Class, Loved in the City.

Call and you will Come Again. Stabling for 60 Horses and Vehicles. HARDWARE, &c.

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