### THE GREAT FAMINE OF 51 YEARS AGO

It is Likely to Be Duplicated in Ireland This Winter.

CAUSE OF THE LATEST TROUBLE

Too Much Rain and Too Little Sunshine Threaten the Emerald Isle with Another Period of Tragedy Recalling the Horrible Sufferings of the People of That Unhappy Land Half a Century Ago.

From the Globe-Democrat. The present distress in Ireland is atthe United Kingdom, but in this country also, for there is not a neighborhood in any large American city but has one or more natives, of the Emerald Isle, who retain their interest in the old sod and sympathize with its suffering people. The threatened famine is due to the failure of the potato crop, which, now, as for a century past, has been the main reliance of the people for a food supply. While we have been suffering from an almost unprecedented drouth, the people of Western Europe have been afflicted with an unusualy wet season. The downpour in many parts of the west coast of Europe, as in Great Britain and Ireland, has been almost incessant. There has not been sunshine enough to develop vegetation or ripen the crops, the fields were flooded, the hay was an almost total loss, the

grain rotted on the ground, and the

potatoes completely failed. The geographical situation and the climatic conditions of Ireland are so peculiar as to justify a moment's attention. The guif stream, after crossing the Atlantic and traveling about 4000 miles through the ocean, still retains enough warmth to affect the climate of the British Islands and render them temperate in both winter and summer, although the opposite coast of America is a most uninhabitable. The western shore of Ireland receives the full force of the gulf stream, and the atmosphere is moisture laden to a degree rare in any country not situated under equatorial skies. A very moderate change in temperature produces heavy precipitation, and the raying among the English people, "It always rains in Ireis not so gross an exaggeration as it might appear. Potatoes thrive there better than most other vegetables in rainy countries, but even the potato can have too much rain, and, in a summer when the rains are unusually heavy, in addition to the lack of development of the tuber, caused by insufficient sunshine, there appears what is known as the potato disease, black heart, it is called by the Irish, a tuber even of fair proportions, being utterly worthless from the fact that its interior is eaten out by a black cancerous growth. Whether the black heart is a consequence of the rain, or arises from other causes, is not satisfactorily determined; but when the black heart and the rain come together, as this year, the consequences to the peasantry are serious.

The present distress not unnaturally recalls reminiscences of the famine of 1846, and the two following years. The great famine came after a period of unusual political disturbance. Daniel O'Connell was then in his glory, and his agitation for the repeal of the union his agritation for the repeat of the union the digestive organs that carried off age back, made almost unbearable to ferent pieces of a dinner set keep them between Great Britain and Ireland the digestive organs that carried off age back, made almost unbearable to ferent pieces of a dinner set keep them between Great Britain and Ireland the digestive organs that carried off age back, made almost unbearable to ferent pieces of a dinner set keep them over the country. O'Connell's efforts also resulted in unusual oppression by in Irland since. In 1881 there was a dragging along, all unknowing. But the the landlords, who, unable to answer the arguments or match the eloquence of the Irish speaker, retallated by rals ng rents, exacting the last penny like the suffering which then befell the A few hours later the pilot flag flew due, increasing valuations, and, in unhappy people of that country. It at the fore, and not long after the pilot every way they could, making heavy the burdens of an already over-taxed people. Evictions were numerous in all emigration which has diminished its was a restrained, almost sullen, aniparts of the country, and much distress prevailed, in consequence of the summary ousting of tenants from their homes. All this, however, was but a trifle when compaired with what was to come.

### A GLANCE AT HISTORY.

In the spring of 1846 the heavens were leaden for weeks at a time. Such rains as came had rurely been witnessed, even in a country where rain is of almost daily occurrence. The peasants turned the mud, however, with their spades, and planted their potatoes, in hope that a favorable change in the season might come. The rains of the spring continued into the summer, the seed rotted in the ground or developed little but vine, and the tubers were either small or worthless from the black heart. The season so far that it was too late to sow grains, even if the peasents had had the money to buy seed, and millions of people beheld starvation staring them in the face.

### DIRE CONDITIONS.

The district now affected covers most of the south and west, as well as a large part of the north of Ireland, the Provinces of Ulster, Connaught and Leinster being the regions where the crop failure has been most general. But in 1846 the rains covered the whole of Ireland, and the entire country was in the condition which now threatens the western coast. The population of Ireland in 1841 was recorded in the official reports of the British Government as being over 8,197,000. The area of Ireland is about 32,000 square miles, or much less than half that of Missouri. and into this comparitively limited space was packed a population of 256 to the square mile. The urbane population did not, as in some other countries, comprise from one-fourth to a third, but, it is estimated, only about 10 per cent of the total, so that over 7,000,000 of people were mainly dependent upon the potato crop for the daily food. When the potato falle-

Woman's

THE N. K. FAIRBANK COMPANY,

Chicago, St. Louis, New York, Boston.

there was nothing between them and starvation. It is no easy matter, under any circumstances, for 250 people to make their living on a square mile of land, but when the effort is made and results in a total failure of the main crop, the consequences are frightful. To add to the horror of the situation, there were at that time only a few miles of railroad in Ireland, the country roads were far from good, and many villages and communities in retired districts could hardly be reached at all.

The Irish peasants of the west coast live, at best, in a state of misery. Their dwellings resemble the dugouts of the cowboys on the plains, cellers covered over with straw thatch, and in these miserable quarters, where, during heavy rains, the floor was often mud, lived thousand of human beings. Even these wretched dwellings, however, were not there own. The tenants were forced to pay rent for quarters which tracting wide attention, not only in in other countries would hardly be assigned to the lowest domestic animals. Among the peasants of the west coast the suffering was awful. Men, women and children died of famine by thousands. Travelers whose morbid curiosity led them to the country, solely for the purpose of witnessing its horrors, told the world of what they had seen, and Great Britain stood aghast at the revelations. There was no more love for the Irish in England then than now, but it was felt that something must be done, and parliament was, accordingly, called upon to afford relief. Once aroused to the necessities of the situation, action was prompt. and, as far as parliament could act, efficient, for from first to last £50,000,-000 were voted to relieve the distress in the country. This sum, however, was totally inadequate to provide for the wants of \$,000,000 starving people. It was, to use a familiar expression, but a drop in the bucket. As one speaker in parliament declared, it was less than the sum annually wrung from a starving peasantry by non-resident

landlords The main difficulty was, however, not so much in providing supplies, but in getting them to the points where food was needed. The coast towns and villages could be easily reached, but the lack of roads aiready mentioned constituted a most serious obstacle to succoring the wants of the interior population. To add to the difficulty of the situation, the British government was as slow about helping the starving in Ireland as it is about everything else, and while officials were writing communications to one another, inditing documents and going through the usual red tape formula, without which nothing can be done in British official life, people were starving to death, Finally a great number of horses and carts were sent to Ireland to supplement those of the country people, on the coast all available pack animals were hired to transport supplies into the interior, and hundreds of men were employed to earry loads of provisions to be distributed among the suffering, and thus the starving were

ONE MILLION VICTIMS

How many died during 1846, 1847, 1848 a partial or total fallure-will never be known, as the British government did agreeable a character, and the esti-mates vary from 100,000 to 1,000,000. No doubt, many who did not perish of sheer want died from allments con-tracted by the use of improper food, for in their hunger the people gath- place for him and his was the United ered and boiled grass, sea-weeds, the leaves of trees and other innutritious anchors up and all sail made for home. enough done, substances which induced diseases of Then began a long, slow, dreary voybeen several years of terrible distress | might be happening while they were famine '- the same district which is time went by as time has a sad habit now afflicted, but in no year subse- of doing, and the ship slipped by the quent to 1846 has there been anything Banks and pointed for Boston Harbor. used; rinse immediately in luke-warm like the suffering which then befell the A few hours later the pilot flag flew water and then in water slightly blued. was emphatically the great famine; schooner was made out to windward. from Ireland then began that flood of population steadily, year by year, to mal. Duties were done, to be sure, but already stated, was 8,000,000. Statis-tical authoritis estimate that at the beginning of 1846 it had increased to at least 8,500,000, in 1846, when the famine came, the population began a general exodus, and counting those who died of hunger and disease and the emigrants, by 1851, a period of five years, the population had fallen off to 6.574.271, a decline in actual population of at least 2,000,000. The decrease from the year of the great famine to the present has been steady and continuous. In 1861 the population fell off from the census of 1851 to 5,798,967, in 187! it was 5,412,377, in 1881 it was 5,-174,836, and in 1891 it was 4,704,750. Never, except through destructive war. was a country depopulated at so rapid a rate. Thirty years of civil and foreign conflict in Germany did 1 ot reduce the population in the same ratio as the population of Ireland fell off in the years immediately following the famine. The great famine of 1846 was one of the most awful tragedies of history.

### AFTER LONG YEARS.

From Harper's Magazine, Dear, whom I would not know If I passed you on the street, So long and long and long ago Are the days when we used to meet,

You may be glad to hear That somewhere out of the blue Come vague sweet dreams that bring you That I often think of you.

That now and then I thrill At a rustle in the dark; That I start as the wind sweeps over the

As I see the fire-fly's spark.

omebody stepped on my grave? Or somebody slipped out of yours? cannot tell! There are ghosts that crave

A bit of the love that endures -Margaret El. Sangster.

# Try Grain-0! Try Grain-0!

Ask your Grocer to-day to show you a package of GRAIN-O, the new food drink that takes the place of

The children may drink it without injury as well as the adult. All who try it, like it. GRAIN-O has that rich seal brown of Mocha or Java, but it is made from pure grains, and the most delicate stomach receives it without distress. 1 the price of

15 cents and 25 cents per package. Sold by all grocers.

Tastes like Coffee Looks like Coffee

THE MAN WHO DID. A Story of Years Ago with Its Share of Present Interest.

From the New York Sun. This is the story of a man who did. There were men at that time who didn't, and they were as honest in their actions, perhaps, as the others who did. It was more or less a question of viewpoint. But this one man might have turned the other way and been less

blamable than many of his fellows.

Uncle Sam turns out each year now, as he did fifty years ago, a lot of young fellows who swear allegiance to his service and then go forth on sea and plain to duties involving manliness, courage, and hardihood. To their glory, be it said, there are no funkers. service today is easier, however, than it was back in 1860, and there is not the strain of sectional feeling among the officers that disrupted tion of the trolley. many a mess in that other time. The worst that happens now is to get some priggish or unpopular chap about who upsets equanimities. But in 1860 feeling was so strong that even the quarter deck was not free from suspicions of a treason taint, and the "old man" -as the ship's commander is irreverently and affectionately called-was compelled to be diplomatic beyond customs to restrain the latent fires.

It happened that a slow old tub of a sloop-of-war lay in a French harbor awaiting orders to sail in some direction or other, and her officers and men were looking for the next mail to gather news of what seemed to be an grave one, but the firmness and policy of the old man kept things in good form and outwardly politeness and brotherhood reigned. The days came -for in all three years the crops were and went, and one afternoon the ship's boat brought the mail bag aboard. In a short time every man's nose was not care to collect statistics of so dis- buried in a newspaper or a letter, and

an hour afterward the fires were more is than smouldering in every heart. That night the old man-he died an admiral-took counsel of himself and decided that the most comfortable States; so at daylight he ordered brown, and men because of what From that moment every man aboard the present. In 1941 the population, as perfunctorily. News would soon be theirs, and it was news they ached for.

The pilot's cockleshell boat was lowered and it made for Uncle Sam's tub. The pilot made a grab at the ship's ladder, made it, and began to clamber deckward. Once on board the weatherbeaten guide found each man at his station, every officer on deck, and the whole crew carrying faces that were livid with suppressed emotion. Slowly livid with suppressed emotion. Slowly he made his way to the old man, and pulling off his cap, scraped the deck. With a deep clearing of his throat the captain said:

'Well, pilot, what's the news?" Your Boston pilot was in no more of a hurry in those days than he is now, and he deliberated a moment before

"Sumter's fired on, and the United States has gone to hell!" Little by little the listening officers fell back and instinctively made two groups; the North and the South. The of break had come; but, because of the old man's shrewdness, it came at home and not in a foreign harbor.

With a very steady voice the captain said: "Mr. Pilot, put us into Boston as soon as you can.'

Then lifting his hat he said:

anchor chains hurtling through the hawse holes chanted "Home again." In the early morning all the officers

said: "Gentlemen, it is the parting of the the hand, for that will blister it, sure, ways. Some of us will never meet again, and some of us will die in doing what we believe is right. Uncle Sam has educated, fed, and clothed us, and we have sworn to stand by him. Yet no eath can bind a man beyond the strength of his conscience, and changed conditions make a changed man. On that table I have written out the dear old oath of allegiance and signed it. I stay by the flag. Let each one of you go to his cabin and think it over; then let him come back here and sign below

me or-let him go his way." And then he went on deck. One at a time the officers came back, until nine names stood under that of the old man; the others were going the other way. An hour later the captain went down to his cabin and took the paper in his hands. As he did so he looked up and saw the man who did. A young, tall, handsome midshipman from Maryland was this man who did. and the captain's voice trembled as

he said: "Winnie, do you sign?" "Aye, aye, sir. Same flag and same Uncle Sam in Maryland as in Massa-

chusetts, y'know." "God bless you, boy! Your father and I fought side by side as lads in 1812, and, while there are some of us who are not going away, I preyed God your father's son would stick to us." This is the story of Captain Winfield Scott Schley, the man who did stick

to his flag when some others didn't. And it's gospel truth.

RAILROADS IN THE GREAT CITY Their Milenge and That of Other American Cities. From the Sun.

In respect of elevated railroad service New York and Brooklyn will stand far in advance not only of other Amerlean cities but of all American cities combined, for they will have together 160 miles of elevated lines, whereas the next largest elevated railroad mileage, in Chicago, is only sixty-six. The street car mileage of the present city of New York is 365, of which one company, the Metropolitan Traction, has 185, thirty-five of which are operated by cable or electric power. The Third Avenue Railroad company has fiftyfive miles of surface lines, and the Union railroad of the annexed district, sometimes called the Huckleberry, has twenty-eight. The railway system of Kings county has 350 miles, exclusive of the elevated railroads and the steam car lines running into and out of Brooklyn. There are thirty miles of double track and eight miles of single track steam lines and thirty-five miles of trolley car lines on Staten Island, and if to these totals be added the steam railway system in New York, the Central, Harlem and New York and Northern, within the city boundaries, a total of 1,000 miles of railroad mileage within the Greater New York is obtained, a mileage larger than some European countries have and a mileage remarkable in other respects, the number of passengers carried being greater per mile than in any other country and than in any other city of this country. Philadelphia has 400 miles of street railroad. Chicago has nearly 600, exclusive of the primitive affair known as the Chicago Elevated. Boston has 550, St. Louis 295, Baltimore 225, Washington 140, San Francisco 231, Pittsburg 242, Cincinnati 261, Cleveland 192, Detroit 166, Louisville 150, and Buffalo 150. While the development of the railroad lines of the country has been retarded during the last few years in consequence of the hard times, the mileage of the surface lines within the large cities and connecting neighboring towns has been increased enormously by the introduc-

At the beginning of the civil war, the mileage centre of the country was at Mansfield, O., which has since enjoyed the distinction of having Secretary John Sherman for its most conspicuous resident. In 1880 the railroad centre of the country was thirty miles northwest of Logansport, Ind., and It is now about seventy-five miles southwest of Chicago.

#### HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

The torn pages of a book may be nicely mended with white tissue paper. Clean plaster of paris ornaments with wet starch. Brush off when dry. inevitable conflict between the North and South. The strain was rather a stray one but the firmness and relies.

Have you ever tried steaming rice instead of cooking it to a mush in water?

South the desired quantity over night, then put in the steamer with enough water to a little more than cover. Sait and steam undisturbed for an hour or till done, keeping the steamer over brisk-ly boiling water all the time. Serve without stirring up, so as to keep the grains

> A delicious breakfast or supper dish made after this fashion. Take what Is left of the cold boiled hominy and spread a thin layer of it in the bottom of a buttered pudding dish. Over this sprinkle a layer of grated cheese, then a thick layer of the hominy, and, lastly, the grated cheese on top. Bake till the cheese cover is a nice melted golden brown, then the center will be well

Rounds of felt placed between the difly than do pieces of tissue paper

When laundering embroidered linen, make a strong suds of some white soap and lukewarm water and wash the pieces carefully. The washboard must not be and hang out to dry. When half dry, lay them out smoothly on a clean cloth, which has been laid over a piece of double-faced, white Canton fiannel, and press on the wrong side with a hot iron until they are quite dry. If they are fringed, comb the fringe out carefully with a moderately coarse comb.

To clean silver, first wash or remove

all the grease from the silver, then rub a woolen cloth wet with ammonia whiting and polish on the chased and filigree parts with a toothbrush. The chimney of a lamp is less liable to break if never touched with water. A

polished with soft flannel or chamol Chamois leathers, after being used, should be thoroughly rinsed, then wrung nearly dry and placed in bags, each by itself, in a cupboard out of the way The common practice of allowing sponges and chamois leather to lie around is a

very wasteful one. New potatoes should be boiled in their jackets, skinned while hot and put at once into a warm cloth. Serve them on a hot vegetable dish, in which a lump of butter has been melted. Sprinkle over

them some finely minced parsley, a dash of pepper and some salt. If you want to make a pretty little present for your newly married friend, a set of "holders" will probably be ac-ceptable. That for the dainty teapot, for a 5 o'clock ten, may be of cream brocade, embroidered with pansles, or some other pretty design, and bound with ribbon Or you might work on it "Unless the tea-kettle boiling be, filling the teapot spoils "Then lifting his hat he said:
"The flag's servant and your's,gentlemen." and went to his cabin.
The groups, now knowing the worst.
whispered apart, and one by one the men disappeared. Late that night the will not be out of place. For the ironing table make two or three holders of the part of table, make two or three holders of nar row-striped bed ticking, which you may work in feather stitch, and bind with were called together and their captain said:

tape. Put in three or four thicknesses of flannel, well basted together, so that it will not slip and make a wrinkle under

### TOO CONSCIENTIOUS.

"The thing for you to do, madam," said the attorney. "Is to bring suit against the we man for allenating your husband's afctions. She has means, and you can undoubtedly recover heavy pecuniary damages from her."

"Would I have to put a money value on my husband's affections?" inquired the lient.
"Certainly. And you need not fear to make the figure very large."
"I am not under oath, am I?"

"Not at all This is merely a consultaon."
"Well, then, you may sue the woman for-for-I guess you may make it as high as \$75,"-Chicago Tribune.

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WINDING UP SNAKES IN INDIA. How They Are Made Harmless and

Helpless After Being Captured. From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Menageries are always in need of snakes, and as India abounds in these reptiles, perhaps to a greater extent than any other country in the world, to India go the managers when their stocks begin to run low. Snake hunting in India, unless one understands the trade, is a perilous business, for a larger percentage of the Indian serpents are poisonous than in any other part of the globe, and even a Hindoo has no desire to die of snake-bite, nor

within the cushing folds of a constric Besides, however, the demands from the menageries, the Indian government pays a bounty on snake heads so there is a double incentive to Indian snake hunters, and when there are sufficient orders on hand from the menageries a hunt is organized.

Preparations are made by ascertaining from the natives a promising snake district, which is usually a tract of jungle with a thick bamboo or grass undergrowth. In such lands snakes are found by thousands, and, after a promising patch is discovered, a be ginning is made by clearing or ourning the undergrowth from a strip entirely encircling the snake farm; then a broad expanse of perhaps an acre is cleared on one side, and there is located the snake trap, a netting extended for 200 or 300 yards on each side of the cleared tract, its wings gradually contracting to lead the reptiles into a cul de sac, from which there is no escape. Several hundred natives are assembled, and on a day when the wind is from the right quarter they surround the district selected, and, at a given signal, set fire to the jungle. After the fire has fairly started the natives are called behind the netting, as there is no need of their services on the other sides, for every snake tenant of the bush flees in the same direction toward the fatel netting. Behind it stand rows of men, armed

with clubs and sticks, ready to give their snakeships a lively reception. As the fire approaches the netting the snakes come in crowds, by hundreds, sometimes by thousands. At the wings the men are concentrated, with their clubs, ready to kill those attempting to escape, and as the main body of the reptiles approaches the netting, the wings are push d forward toward each other, the stakes supporting the netting are driven firmly into the ground. and the snakes are inclosed. But snakes can climb almost as well as monkeys, and so the men at the wings are kept busy killing those that endeavor to escape over the ropes. the cul de sac the netting extends above as well as on the sides, and the larger portion of the reptiles are finally concentrated within this inclosure. There the scene is one of lively animation, for the snakes are of all sizes, some of the venomous reptiles of India not being more than six or eight inches in length, and, as their movements are very quick, the barefooted beaters are kept dodging about in a manner at once grotesque and amusing, their anxiety to escape the small serpents that go through the netting like a flash being even greater than their eagerness to kill as many snakes as possible and thus receive a larger share of the government bounty. No snake is permitted to escape

and after all the smaller reptiles which can work their way through the meshes of the net have been killed, attention is turned to the larger which remain.

In various parts of the netting there are loops which can be untied and then refastened, and, after the slaughter of the little snakes has been finished, the work of capturing the most promising specimens begins. The superintendent points at an anaconda that will bring a good price, and, as the animal thursts its head against the netting in fruitless efforts to escape, a stick with a wire loop at the end is introduced, the snake is lassoed immediately back of the head, the wire is tightened, and the future occupant of a menagerie cage, hissing and writhing, is dragged through and seized by a dozen natives at once. Bundles of bamboo, cut into proper lengths, have already been prepared, three or four men straighten the snake and lay him on a bamboo, sometimes placing three or four smaller splints around him, and then lashing him securely down with bamboo withes every inch of his length. Generally the lashing is found to be sufficient, and only when the serpent is very large and powerful are the extra bamboos tied around him for

fear he might break the stick to which he is fastened. This operation is not carried on without an immense amount of protest from the snake, which hisses in the most terrifying manner and wriggles wildly in an effort to escape. But hissing and wriggling are all in vain; the Hindoos lash him down, fin ishing the operation by forcing his upper jaw upon the lower and trying the two together to the stick in such a way that he cannot even hiss. After all the best specimens have been selected and tied, the remainder are killed, beheaded, and the heads sent to the nearest government station for the bounty, and the captives are loaded into carts for transporation to Bombay, where they are disposed of to the European agents.

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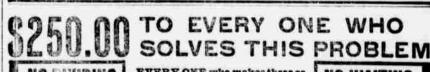
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HERE ARE THE WORD PUZZIES! CAN YOU SOLVE THEM? The following to word sakes where some of the terre should appear. HERE ARE THE WORD PUZZLES! CAN YOU SOLVE THEM? The tree words we have selected. Can you so the the etters should appear.

Fill in the proper letters in these spaces and make the complete words we have selected. Can you so it!

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2. -A--BAL- A well known game. 6. M -T-R Something found in a brick 7. -- EEL Something which forms a part of

9. P-----RITY What the Re-14. PHO-OG-APH Something that makes 15. W---ING Something which cannot be done without water.

EXPLANATION. Each dash appearing in the partially spelled words indicates the absence of a certain letter, and when the proper letters are supplied the original word we have eslected to form each riddle will be found complete. Example: No. 16, C—ND—, Something children are fond of. In this case the omitted letters are A and Y, which, when properly inserted make the word CANIV.

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