

SOME FAMOUS DARK DAYS.

SUPPOSED TO USHER IN THE END OF THE WORLD.

Lamps Lighted in Midday—Strange Phenomena—New and Old Exhibitions—Colored Rain and Snow.

"I went through a curious experience lately," said a steamboat man to the writer. "Business took me to a small town in Louisiana, and I remained there all night, and on turning in at the small hotel I told the porter to call me at eight sharp, and left the blind open, so that I should be sure and not oversleep. A few hours, as I thought, later, I was aroused by some one pounding on my door, and I soon recognized the boy's voice, saying it was time to get up. It can't be more than four, I sung out, for it's as dark as pitch. 'It's eight, all de same,' yelled the boy; an de world's a coming to an end—'and then," continued the speaker, "I heard yells and groans all about, and I can tell you I wasn't long in getting into my duds, and when I got down stairs there was a curious scene. All the lamps were lighted, and the rooms were full of negroes, all a yelling and groaning that the end had come. The white folks didn't look much more cheerful, for it did look kind of queer, as out of doors, where the sun, by good rights, ought to have been three hours high, it was as black as the ace of spades—not an ordinary night black, but something worse—so that it seemed like a regular fog, and people got lost and ran into fences and the like. It lasted for about four hours, and then, having scared the people half to death, it began to let up, and finally the sun came out. It was what they called a dark day, and, although there were plenty of theories proposed, I doubt if any exactly hit the mark."

The Louisiana dark day is by no means the first that has visited the country. In an old journal dated August 9, 1782, there is a note concerning a dark day in New England: "At twelve o'clock, when people began to go to dinner, it suddenly grew dark. Chickens went to roost, and few persons returned to their stores, and universal alarm was felt. The gloom lasted well into the afternoon, clearing away before sundown, however, as if to show that that luminary was still in existence." In very early times dark days have been recorded, and the one in England in the year 1678 was justly famous. In 1807, and 1816 England had a similar visitation. In early days these occurrences were supposed to precede disaster of some kind, as war, plague, or something of that nature. In October, 1783, the sunlight was shut off over a greater part of Canada so quickly that the inhabitants in many towns were panic-stricken, and a number of persons were injured by losing their way and falling over cliffs, etc. In this case the darkness was followed by a hurricane that caused great damage throughout the country. During the war of 1812 a remarkable dark day was experienced in London, and in the succeeding year the darkness came for several days in succession, so that lamps were useless, and business was almost completely at a stand-still. The display was followed by a terrible snow storm and a winter remarkable for its severity. Probably the most remarkable dark era, especially so for the wideness of its range, was that which appeared over New England, Maine and New Hampshire felt it the most, but it was universal all over the States. In the Connecticut legislature one of the speakers was quoting from the Bible the line referring to seeing "through a glass darkly," when, like a shot, they were left in darkness, black, ominous clouds seemingly settling down over the locality. The speaker, it is said, pointed to the great window and remarked: "It is rarely that we have an example better than can be found in the Bible, and I move we adjourn and go out and see it," and, as the house was in almost total darkness, it adjourned. Candles were lighted at this time all over New England, and the superstitious were positive that the end had come. A peculiar feature of these dark spells was that they were all remarkable for a peculiar hue or tint that pervaded them. Thus the fog, if it can so be called, that spread over New England had a remarkably brassy hue, that gave all objects a spectral appearance, while some observers stated that every thing had a yellow tint, and claimed that there was an odor of sulphur. This same hue was noticed by the writer some years since on the Maine coast, and was supposed to be due to forest fires, that filled the air with smoke. The wonderful dark fog that fell like a pall over England and other parts of Europe in 1783 is described as having a decided blue tint. On other occasions the tint has been red, gray or purple. One of the most remarkable "blue days" on record was noticed a few years ago in South America, and in some towns, where the houses were pure white, they gave an extremely rich blue reflection of many different shades. The great extent of these periods of darkness is difficult to explain.

It has been found that vast amounts of organic and inorganic matter are always floating about in space, and it has been assumed that at times great bodies of dust are swept into the air—quite enough, in fact, to occasion a series of dark days under the locality where the dust was held suspended in the air. What are known as "red snow," "blood rains" and other phenomena in Europe are merely the result of the precipitation of this matter to the ground. They were even more dreaded in early times than the dark days, and the people of the time fully believed that blood had fallen from the sky. A blood rain according to Pliny, fell in Constantinople in the year 850. At Brixen there was a similar fall in 869; at Bagdad in 920; at Viterbo in 1219; in Bohemia in 1419; in Westphalia in 1543; at Emden in 1566; at Strasburg in 1633; Brussels, 1640, and at Venice in 1687. Other famous blood rains occurred at Genoa in 1744; at Clevea, 1763; Picardy, 1765; Italy, 1803, and at Glessen in 1831. In the records of all these rains there are accounts of the terror of the people, who truly believed that some terrible visitation was about to occur, and, indeed, they were not agreeable to the eye. The snow that was pure white in the evening would, in the following morning, have changed to a rich blood-red, so that the

entire country looked as though it had a coating of blood. In the slang of to-day the world was "painted red." The cause of the peculiar color was explained by the fact that tons of dust had fallen, and the red hue was the natural tint of peroxide of iron. Nor was the color of these rains confined to red. In 1846 a yellow rain fell in France, and so alarmed all the inhabitants that it is said that wild animals took to the towns, and utterly lost their fear of man. This rain is said to have originated in South America, and Ehrenberg estimated that hundreds of tons of organic matter was deposited about the surrounding country. This must have crossed the Atlantic in some extremely high current. The yellow pollen of plants at times causes what is known as yellow fog, and that this coloring agent is carried along through the air great distances the writer can testify, as in 1833 the rocks on certain parts of the Maine coast appeared covered one morning with a yellow powder that resembled sulphur, and not a few fishermen thought it was, but the microscope showed it to be pollen, and investigation proved that it must have blown several hundreds of miles.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Preserved Sunshine.
Light and life are inseparable, that is, such as the generally received opinion many years ago, and in accordance with it, houses were built, liberally supplied with windows, and as liberally now—but go along any of the fashionable streets of New York, and you will find not less than three, and often six, distinct contrivances to keep out the sunshine and gladsness. First, the Venetian shutter on the outside; second, the close shutter on the inside; third, the blind which is moved by rollers; then, fourthly, there are the lace curtains; fifth, the damask or other material. In the same train come the exclusion of external air by means of a double sash, and a variety of patent contrivances to keep any little stray whiff of air from entering at the bottom, sides and tops of doors and windows. At this rate, we will, in due time, dwindle into Lilliputs, if indeed we do not die off sooner, with all science and art, and leave the world to begin anew, from the few sons of the forest, who persisted in eschewing civilization. We lay it down as a health axiom—the more outdoor air and cheery sunshine a man can use, the longer he will live. But the Preserved Sunshine! What about it? That very same sunshine which so lavishly beamed upon our continent with all its tropical fervor in the earlier ages of creation, what has become of it? A casual reader of the Journal will explain, "What a fool of a question that is!" Let us leisurely inquire into it; but in doing so we must take it for granted that the reader knows something. In Central America, where the sun shines with all its brilliancy and fierceness, vegetation is of fabulous growth, of a luxuriance almost incredible. But how does a tree grow? Without light no wood is made in any vegetable growth; the woody fibre is from carbonic acid gas being absorbed by the leaves and through the bark of any growth. But light separates the two constituents which compose this carbonic acid gas, carbon and oxygen, and two different uses are made of it; the oxygen is liberated, thrown out and breathed by animals and men, while the carbon or "coal" goes to form the woody fibre of the plant, which presents a kind of ring, plainly seen in sawing through a tree, the number of rings indicating the age of the tree in years; some of these rings are broader, some narrower, indicating most probably the more or less sunshine of the year, for a plant will not grow as much in a cold summer as in a warm one. In a section of a California tree, a part of which we have seen, more than two thousand such rings were counted, showing that these trees must have lived in the times of David and perhaps of Abraham. In the earlier ages of the world, some great flood or floods swept over the immense growths of the warmer climes, which then, no doubt, included what is now called Ohio and Pennsylvania. In process of time, this growth was covered with earth and stones, and eventually became "coal," the anthracite and bituminous, with which we are so familiar; and the very identical carbon which the sunlight of ages ago separated for the purpose of vegetation, is now, by its combination with its old associate oxygen, returning to its original condition of carbonic acid gas, and in making that change by what we call "burning," warms our houses, lights up our streets, and is preparing to grease our rail cars, by the oil which it is capable of yielding.—Hall's Journal of Health.

American Fables.
A Tiger suddenly Appeared before a Peasant one day and asked for a Certificate of Character, Explaining that he Desired it to help him Better his Fortunes.
"But what can I say Good of you?" Protested the Peasant.
"Why, man, I've had a dozen Chances to Down your whole Family, but have never even Bitten one!"
MORAL: We don't know how Thankful we ought to be to the Burglars who don't Burgle.

THE ANT AND THE LION.
The Ant having heard that the Lion had killed a Hunter and picked his Bones set out and journeyed through the Forest until she met the King of Beasts. After stating what she had heard the Ant continued:
"It fills me with Sadness and Sorrow to know that of you, I shall Proceed to make your Future conduct my Special Mission."
At the Desire of the Ant the Lion accompanied her Home. The young Ants annoyed him and he killed them by the score. The Beetles, who were Friends of the Ants, came on a visit to be snapped up. Wishing to see how the Ant Hill was constructed, the Lion in one moment made a wreck of the Labor of Weeks. Finally, when the Philanthropic Ant had several times Narrowly escaped with her Life she felt to exclaim:
"Begone with you back to your Haunts! As a Wicked Lion you may now and then Slay a Hunter, but as a Reformed Beast you will certainly be the Death of this Whole Colony!"
MORAL: The Tramp who is taken In for the Night causes more Anxiety than the dozen sleeping in the fence-corners.—Detroit Free Press.

SELECT SIFTINGS.

The secretary of the London Swimming club submits the theory that salt water is a cure for lunacy.

Franco and Greece have 100 holidays annually; Russia sixty-six, Belgium, sixty-five, England eighty-four, and the United States sixty. These include Sundays.

A Spaniard named Phillips, butcher at Poplar Creek Agency, M. T., recently lost one of his children by death, and to commemorate the event cut off his left forefinger, and sacrificed a fine mare and a three-year-old steer on the grave of the child.

The Great Wall of China is about 1,400 miles in length. In the greater part of its length it is simply a rampart of earth, but in the eastern section it is a wall of solid granite, fifteen to thirty feet high, and wide enough at the top for six horsemen to ride abreast. At intervals there are watch towers from forty to fifty feet high.

Every man, woman and child, from the king downward, in Burmah, may be said to smoke immense cheroots four or five inches long, made of a coarse leaf rolled up and filled with wood-chips, raw sugar, and a dash of tobacco, according to taste. One of these cheroots once lit frequently passes round the entire family circle, not forgetting even the smallest members of it.

Glass drinking cups have been found in Anglo-Saxon graves, and they are all round-bottomed. Such cups could not be made to stand upright, and it has been supposed they were so designed in order to cause the drinker to empty them at once. This feature is said to have given rise to the word tumbler which has been applied to our drinking vessels, though these do not possess the curious shape of the ancient cups.

The Blue laws of Connecticut were so called because they were collected and issued in 1650 in blue paper covers. They were the first collection of laws founded for the government of the colony. Copies of these laws found their way to England, where they first received the name of Blue Laws. After the restoration of Charles II. the word "blue" was applied to rigid moralists of every kind, especially the Presbyterians.

The Man Who Jumps.
"There's always some fool to jump off a train and get hurt," said a brakeman, "and frequently the one that jumps is just the man who always claims that he knows better and gives other people lectures for their foolishness. I'll never forget a little thing that happened one day as we were going into Indianapolis. On the train was a sheriff who had in charge three imbeciles whom he was taking to the asylum. They were not handcuffed nor tied in any way, but permitted to run about the car just as they wanted to. On board was a passenger who complained about this a good deal. He thought the imbeciles should be tied up. 'They haven't any more sense than to go and jump off the train,' he said, 'and they should be better taken care of.' But the sheriff he just took things easy, and said he guessed they were all right. Well, as we were going into Indianapolis, I was standing on the rear platform. This complaining passenger came out, with his grip in his hand, and his shiny silk hat on his head. As we came to a street crossing, he said: 'Guess I'll get off here, and before I could do a thing to stop him, he jumped. He probably thought we were running slow, but those things are very deceptive. He landed on his feet, but he didn't stay there long. He just assumed the shape of a half circle, bent the wrong way to be uncomfortable for him, and ended up with his nose in the mud and his heels in the air. Then he spread out and fell flat, kind o' sprawling out as if he wanted to cover the whole street. But the funniest thing was that as I turned to go into the car, I found one of them imbeciles looking out the door. He grinned as if he was never so delighted in his life and uttered: 'The fool did jump, didn't he?'—Chicago Herald.

Physiologists say that our bodies are renewed once in seven years. The material of which they are reconstructed is the blood, and unless it be fully charged with the elements of vitality, the strength and health of the system decline. Of all blood depurants, Dr. WALKER'S VINEGAR BITTERS is the safest and most infallible. It will speedily cure all blood diseases.

The last war between England and Russia began in 1854.

WOMAN'S
I recommend it to every woman I hear of who is suffering with any womb trouble, no matter what description, and I have yet to hear of a single failure to cure.
Send for our Book on Diseases of Women, which is mailed free.
Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Best Friend
If You Telephone
For the doctor, and find he is out of town, just ask your druggist to send you a bottle of Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

It will relieve all those tired feelings, and prevent serious illness.
Mrs. M. M. Lewis, A street, near Powell, Lowell, Mass.: I suffered from Headache, Indigestion, and Debility, and was hardly able to drag myself about the house. Ayer's Sarsaparilla has worked a marvelous change in my case. I have taken less than two bottles, and now feel strong and well as ever.
Mrs. S. Emory, 11 Newton Place, Holyoke, Mass.: For more than two years I have suffered constantly from Headache and Indigestion. A little over a month ago a friend urged me to try a bottle of Ayer's Sarsaparilla. I did try it, and before I had finished the second bottle, my headache disappeared, my appetite returned, my food digested properly, and my health was completely restored.
Mrs. S. Fisher, Chelsea, Mass.: I have been troubled with severe Headaches, for years, but since taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla have not had an attack.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla
Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by Druggists. Price \$1; six bottles, \$6

Christians are Italians by blood and language, Frenchmen by political action and idlers by nature. The women are the laborers and also the beasts of burden. A French traveler says he has seen women and girls emerging from the woods bending under the heavy loads of brushwood for fuel, while their male companions rode behind them on ponies or mules.

"Her face so fair, as flesh it seemed not, But heavenly portents of bright angels' hue, Clear as the sky, without a blemish or blot, Through goodly mixture of complexion due, And in her cheeks the vermeil red did show." This is the poet's description of a woman whose physical system was in a perfectly sound and healthy state, with every function acting properly, and is the enviable condition of its fair patrons produced by Dr. Pierce's "Favorable Prescription." Any druggist.

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Throw Away Trusses. and employ the radical, new method, guaranteed to permanently cure the worst cases of rupture. Send two letter stamps for references, pamphlet and terms. World's Dispensary Medical Association, 663 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

QUEEN VICTORIA is fonder than most people of the Great American oyster. It is possible, for a short time to the robust, but the majority of refined persons would prefer immediate death to existence in their reeking atmosphere. How much more revolting to be in one's self a fitting sewer. But this is actually the case with those in whom the activity of the liver drives the refuse matter of the body to escape through the lungs, breath, the pores, kidneys and bladder. It is astonishing that life remains in such a dwelling. Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" restores normal purity to the system and renews the whole being.

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THE HERO OF TIPPECANOE
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THE CAMPAIGN TOKEN OF 1840
ASK THE OLD FOLK WHAT IT MEANS.

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\$1.00 A BOTTLE.
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MAL-ASSIMILATION OF FOOD.
\$1.00 A BOTTLE.
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15 Pounds Gained in Three Weeks.
AND CURED OF CONSUMPTION.
Messrs. Craddock & Co., 1083 Race St., Phila., Pa.
Gentlemen—Please send me twelve bottles of Dr. H. J. JACK'S CARBONIC BLOOD, one each of Pills and Ointment, for a friend of mine who is not expected to live; and as your medicines cured me of Consumption some three years ago, I want him to try them. I gained fifteen pounds while taking the first three bottles, and I know it is just the thing for him. Respectfully,
LAWRENCEBURG, Anderson Co., Ky.

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To sell first-class Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Hoses, and small Fruits. Permanent employment on the most favorable terms. Address: J. M. EDWARDS, Nurser, man, Danville, Va.

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Fraser Axtle Glycerine.
One trial will convince you that it is the best. Ask your dealer for it and take no other. Every box has our trade mark on it.

If afflicted with sore eyes use Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye Water. Druggists sell it. 25c.

FOR DYSENTERY, INDISTESTION, depression of spirits, and general debility in their various forms, also as a preventive against fever and ague and other intermittent fevers, the "Ferro-Phosphated Elixir of Calissaya," made by Cassell, Hazard & Co., New York, and sold by all Druggists, is the best tonic; and for patients recovering from fever or other sickness it has no equal.

It is estimated that 35,000 cases of milk are sold daily in Boston.

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"Within a week after taking Hood's Sarsaparilla my appetite began to improve, my headache left me, my strength seemed to be renewed, and I felt better in every part of my body. I rejoice when I think of the good Hood's Sarsaparilla has done me."—C. L. BARNETT, Syracuse, N. Y.

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Self-Feeling and Hair Cutter.
The best in the world.
Kills the Scalp, imparts, and restores the hair to its natural growth. Length of hair is increased by ten to twenty percent. The higher level is raised the more the hair grows. No itching or irritation. Sold by all druggists. Price 25c per bottle. Wholesale price \$1.00 per dozen. Send for circular.

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"I was a * * * ROXBOROUGH, June 1, 1882. "Ten years ago I was attacked with the most intense and deadly pain in my back and legs."—Kidney.

"Extending to the end of my toes and to my brain!"
"Which made me delirious!"
"From agony! I!"
"It took three months to hold me on my bed at times!"
"The doctors tried in vain to relieve me, but to no purpose."
"Morphine and other opiates!"
"Had no effect!"
"After two months I was given up to die!"

"When my wife heard a neighbor tell what Hop Bitters had done for her, she at once got and gave me some. The first dose eased my brain and seemed to be hunting through my system for the pain."

"The second dose eased me so much that I slept two hours, something I had not done for two months. Before I had used five bottles, I was well and at work as hard as any man could, for over three weeks; but I worked too hard for my strength, and taking a hard cold, I was taken with the most acute and painful rheumatism all through my system that ever was known."

"I called the doctors again, and after several weeks they left me in a crippled condition for life, as they said. I met a friend and told him my case, and he said Hop Bitters had cured him and would cure me. I looked at him, but he was so earnest I was induced to use them again."

"In less than four weeks I threw away my crutches and went to work lighty, and kept on using the Bitters for five weeks, until I became as well as any man living, and have been so for six years since."—H. H. BARKER, Ex-Superior.

"That poor invalid wife, sister, mother, 'Or daughter! I!"
"Can be made the picture of health!"
"with a few bottles of Hop Bitters!"

"None genuine without a bunch of green Hops on the white label. Shun all the vile, poisonous stuff with 'Hop' or 'Hops' in their name."

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No other medicine known so effectively purges the blood of deep-seated diseases. Millions bear testimony to its wonderful curative effects.

It is a purely Vegetable Preparation, made from the native herbs and roots of California, the medicinal properties of which are extracted therefrom without the use of Alcohol. It removes the cause of disease, and the patient recovers his health.

It is the great Blood Purifier and Life-giving Principle; a Gentle Purgative and Tonic; a perfect Renovator and Invigorator of the system. Never before in the history of the world has a medicine been compounded possessing the remarkable qualities of VINEGAR BITTERS in healing the sick of every disease that is heir to.

The Alternative, Aperient, Diaphoretic, Carminative, Nutritious, Laxative, Sedative, Counter-irritant, Sudorific, Anti-Bilious, Solvent, Diuretic and Tonic properties of VINEGAR BITTERS exceed those of any other medicine in the world.

No person can take the Bitters according to directions and remain long unwell, provided their bodies are not destroyed by fevers, the blood or other means, and the vital organs wasted beyond the point of repair.

Biliousness, Remittent, Intermittent and Malarial Fevers, are prevalent throughout the United States, particularly in the valleys of great rivers and their vast tributaries during Summer and Autumn, especially during the months of July and August. These Fevers are invariably accompanied by extensive derangements of the alimentary canal and bowels, in their treatment, a purgative, exerting a powerful influence upon these organs, is absolutely necessary.

There is no cathartic for the purpose equal to Dr. J. WALKER'S VINEGAR BITTERS, as it will speedily remove the dark-colored fecal matter with which the bowels are clogged, and at the same time stimulating the secretions of the liver, and generally restoring the healthy functions of the digestive organs.

Fortify the body against disease by purifying all its fluids with VINEGAR BITTERS. No epidemic can take hold of a system thus fortified.

It invigorates the Stomach and stimulates the torpid Liver and Bowels, which render it of unequalled efficiency in curing the most inveterate cases of Biliousness, and in restoring the system to its normal state, and carrying off without the aid of Calomel, or other mineral poisons, every particle of poisonous matter from the system.

Dyspepsia or Indigestion, Headache, Pain in the Shoulders, Coughs, Tightness in the Chest, Hiccups, Sour Stomach, Flatulency in the Mouth, Bilious Attacks, Palpitation of the Heart, Inflammation of the Lungs, Pain in the region of the Kidneys, and a hundred other painful symptoms, are the offspring of Dyspepsia.

Scrofula, or King's Evil, White Swellings, Ulcers, Erysipelas, Boils, Carbuncles, Scrofulous or Injurious Inflammations, Mercurial Affections, Old Sores, Eruptions of the Skin, Sores of the Eyes, etc., etc., in all, as in all other cases of Biliousness, a course of VINEGAR BITTERS has shown their great curative powers in the most obstinate and intractable cases.

For Rheumatism and Chronic Rheumatism, Gout, Bilious, Remittent and Intermittent Fevers, Diseases of the Blood, Liver, Kidneys and Bladder, the Bitters have no equal. Such Diseases are caused by Vilitated Blood.

Mechanical Diseases.—Persons engaged in Palea and Minerals, and in other occupations, Gold-batters, and Miners, as they advance in life, are subject to paralysis of the Bowels. To guard against this, take a dose of VINEGAR BITTERS.

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