

A FAROE ISLAND HARVEST.

DISCOVERY AND SLAUGHTER OF A SCHOOL OF WHALES.

The Signal Which Rings the Entire Population to the Shore—Killing and Dividing the "Catch."

A letter from Sudero, one of the Faroe islands, to the New York Tribune says: The brief message "Grind!" ran up and down the hillsides of this bleak island yesterday, and the lame picked up his crutch and ran, even the deaf heard the commotion and joined in. Every man, woman and child able to wield a knife laid hold of the nearest and sharpest one and made for the shore. To the faroes the message that a school of Grind-whales has been sighted off the coast means the realization of their wildest dreams of wealth and luxury. If the killing be successful and the yield large, it means that even if the barley crop, that is the only grain that ripens, barring accidents, is the brief summer of this high latitude, has failed, they will have most to eat through the winter with their turnips and potatoes, and that their lamps shall not want for oil in the long nights, or the boys for decent coats to go to church in on a Sunday. Hence the commotion when the report spread yesterday that a boat had been seen off Koolajoig bay to the north with a pair of trousers hoisted at the masthead, which signal is interpreted by all within sight to read: "Grind! Come quickly!"

A commotion in the water, here and there a score of black snouts lifted inquiringly above the surface, announce the approach of the Grind. Up go trousers, coat, or any old garment that is at hand, to the masthead, and the boat manoeuvres promptly to prevent the escape of the whales, leaving the signal to do the rest. No sooner is it seen on shore than all work ceases, all other cares or concerns are laid aside on the instant. Fires are lighted on the hill-tops and runners carry the message "Grind-bud," that is, "news of Grind," from settlement to settlement, climbing the mountains and forcing streams with incredible speed and activity. The duty of every one who hears it is to rush at once to the water to assist in driving the Grind ashore and in killing it there. The Faroes are sober, religious people, but when, as has happened more than once, the message reaches a Bygd, or settlement, on Sunday during services, church and sermon are forgotten or put off to a more convenient season, and the congregation, headed by the minister, more for the shore with all the speed there is in them. The boats are manned and well loaded with stones—no boat ever goes to sea without an ample cargo of rocks and cobble-stones—and a beeline is made for the Grind.

With loud shouts and a shower of stones the start yesterday was made in a double line for the beach half a mile away. The whales had up to this been lying quietly under their noses turning inquiringly toward land, and again toward the sea; but now they began to move about uneasily, turning from the boats. They were clearly enough getting alarmed at the aspect of things, but could not make up their minds what to do. When they got into low water they liked it still less, and the boldest made a terrific rush for the inner line of boats to gain the deep. Met by stone-throws and yells, they ran along it, seeking an outlet, and nearly found one at the extreme right, where the line was weak; but a few well directed stones drove them back, and turning about they now made with as great speed for the beach, those in front grounding and stirring up the sand and mud at the bottom so that the clear bay became a turbid mud pool. Escape was now no longer possible, the whales being unable to see their way out. That was the signal for the slaughter to begin. The boats broke line and made a common onset on the struggling, defenceless mass, the harpooners cutting right and left as they shot from whale to whale, avoiding with great skill their dangerous tails, with the sea to foam in their dying agony. The fighters on shore, among whom were a number of the picked young men in the settlements, ran into the water, sometimes up to their necks, and gashed each struggling whale across the back of the neck with their short, sharp knives, then left it to bleed to death. Some in their mad rush had run clear up on the beach; these were slashed first; a stout iron hook with a wooden handle not unlike a cotton hook, which every islander carries with his knife in the belt, was fixed in the whale's eye and six or seven men pulled it ashore. By degrees the whole beach became covered with the huge beasts. When it was over, in less than three-quarters of an hour, I counted 136 in a ghastly row. The enormous loss of blood of the whales quickly dyed the muddy water a bright red that deepened as the struggle went on and spread further from shore until the bay seemed a sea of blood.

The slaughter over, the kidneys of the monsters, now secured on the beach against misadventure from wind or flood, were cut out and carried in triumph into the Bygd, where forthwith a grand feast was spread. The grind-whale's kidney is esteemed a great delicacy, and as the occasion called for liberal potatoes of scampars matters were soon on a very comfortable footing all around. On the feast followed dancing. When the Faroes dance, they clasped hands in a high circle and stamped around vigorously, keeping tact to the grind-song, like all their poems an unending string of verses with the common refrain:

Bully boys Kill the Grind, Like the job.

or words to that effect. Not until a majority of the "bully boys" were snoring loudly under the rude tables and benches in their wet clothes, which few had thought of changing after the killing, was there an end to this interesting epic.

To-day the difficult and laborious work of dividing up the catch is in progress. The assessor, or bailiff, conducts this, as he did the battle in the bay, and decides all questions and quarrels that may arise over the division. First of all the biggest and fattest whale is picked out for the funder of the school. It is the "finding-whale." Next the "damage-whale" is put aside to pay for any damage done to boats or apparatus during the struggle. The church, the

state and the owners of the land on which the grind was beached come in for their share in the "finding-whale" and the "ground-whale," and then comes the turn of the people who, young and old, share and share alike. The baby in the cradle gets as much as the head of a family, or the ablest boatman. The women share with the rest. At a good catch the clergyman's share may often reach a money value of three, four or five hundred dollars, and that of the others in proportion. The head alone of a full-grown grind-whale (which is good for nothing else) yields from fifty to eighty quarts of oil, which, at the price paid at the Government stores, would make it worth from five to seven or eight dollars. But the head is the least item in the make-up of a Grind. All Sudero has meat enough since yesterday to last the year round, and there are 2,300 mouths to feed. Grind-meat is not bad. Those natives who have a personal acquaintance with good beef say that it is much like it. May be it is. But for the oily taste that to a native is its most alluring quality, one might perhaps discover points of similarity. Boiled salt Grind meat (remember that the whale is a warm-blooded mammal and not a fish) with potatoes and blubber form an islander's dream of heaven. There is only one thing that he prefers, and just now it is in process of preparation—may a kind fate send us favoring breezes and speedy deliverance from Sudero—the meat fresh, dried in the sun and the air until it is just gamy enough to please the palate. Strips and chunks of Grind meat are being hung already on every wall to dry. In a week the thousand stench of Cologne will be as nothing to the single stench of Sudero.

The Little Snakes.

A barelegged boy riding a rake on one of the divides near the Santa Fe trail dragged into the window a rattler; but instead of coiling and giving forth a decided buzz, the snake manifested every inclination to get off peaceably. The average Kansas lad would have taken a strap from his harness, given the reptile two or three paralyzing taps, counted the rattles, and gone on his way before anybody discovered the rake was idle. Not so did Billy Woodward, who is only a few months from County Donegal and possessed of the abundant natural curiosity of an Irish boy abroad. He got down from his high seat and began to study natural history. The snake tried to run away, but Billy "headed her off," as he said afterward. Once or twice the fugitive coiled and threatened to the boy's great delight. For fifteen minutes the teasing went on, and then the snake darted her head into a hole in the prairie sod. Perhaps a third of her length was concealed, while there came from underground a noise which the boy said sounded like "a queer kind of clucking." By the time he had got a trace chain loose the snake was out of the hole and wriggling slowly toward the uncut grass. Billy followed her up, "fetched her a couple of cracks" and supposed the sport was over.

Later in the day a party of hunters came along and the boy exhibited his trophy, and told what he had seen. One of the hunters, a ranchman of varied experience, got out his pocket knife, and with the remark that he guessed he could show the others something about rattlesnakes they never knew before, stooped down and drew the sharp blade across the thickest fold of the dead snake. Out squirmed eleven young rattlers, all of a size, eight inches long, and as large around as a lead pencil. They were a very lively family, and had to be laid out one at a time. Billy's eyes grew big as he saw the revelation which added the best part to his snake story. The ranchman said that when overtaken with his young the maternal rattler will, as a last means of protection, swallow the little ones. She calls them with a noise which is a combination of cluck and whistle. Very rarely does it happen that the act is witnessed. In all his experience the ranchman said he had never seen this snake swallowing performance but once. Then he had come upon the mother snake and her young sunning among the stones. They had tried to get away, but failing the young had glided into the mouth of the old one in response to the peculiar call, and had disappeared before his eyes.—Globe-Democrat.

Drinking Habits Changing.

As a proof of the great change in the drinking habits of the people it is shown by official statistics that the consumption of ardent spirits in the country in the first decade of this century averaged four and a half gallons annually to each head of the population. The consumption of spirits for drink has gradually declined from that time, until now it does not much exceed one gallon annually for each inhabitant. The total amount of spirits produced in the country and imported for consumption in 1880 was 98,963,651 gallons. From this must be deducted an export of 3,004,087 gallons, which leaves 86,364,564 gallons for domestic consumption. If 25,000,000 gallons be deducted for use in the arts and manufactures, there remained 61,364,564 gallons for consumption for drink. In 1884 the total amount of liquors retained for domestic consumption and imported was 68,807,474 gallons. If twelve per cent of this be deducted for the arts and manufactures, 60,55,605 gallons remain for drink. In other words, 81,443,321 inhabitants of the United States consumed in 1880 more spirits for drink than 55,000,000 inhabitants consumed for drink in 1884. While the consumption of whisky is steadily declining, the use of beer and light wines is increasing.—Philadelphia Record.

Flour Barrels.

Flour barrels are a source of great expense to the people of this country. Say there are 50,000,000 barrels of flour consumed in this country each year, and say that there are 12,000,000 of people who buy it by the barrel, there might be saved to the people of this country \$2,400,000, saying that twenty cents per barrel is saved by purchasing flour in sacks. Really it may be little more than this, especially so in mullin sacks, the mullin being valuable for further use. There is more flour than this sold in barrels, but in the larger cities the bakers sell the barrels for twenty and twenty-five cents apiece, which represents a loss of from ten to twenty cents a barrel.—The Millstone.

NEWS AND NOTES FOR WOMEN.

Pale mauve is one of the fashionable colors.

Woolen lace is seen in all colors and widths.

Gainsborough hats are much worn abroad.

Jackets of varied shapes and styles are fashionable.

Braid is again in fashion, but for cloth dresses only.

Braid and fancy galloons are in high favor for dress trimmings.

Capes, fics and short mantles will all be worn for early fall wraps.

Children will wear a great deal of navy blue combined with scarlet.

Girls employed in the watch-factory at Waterbury, Conn., get a \$1.50 a day.

The eldest daughter of novelist Howells is developing a great talent for literature.

Orchids and narcissus of precious stones are some of the novelties in brooches.

Mules, elephants and horses richly caparisoned are the passing fancy for lace pins.

Lace and moire are admirably combined in dressy frocks visiting and ceremonious occasions.

Serpilliers and shamah are canvas materials with narrow plush stripes in a variety of combinations.

Wollen stuffs are more in favor than silk or velvet ones for bonnets and hats, as well as for the frocks with which they are worn.

Miss Blanche Williams, of Brantford, Canada, is the first colored girl ever admitted to the privileges of the university of Toronto.

The basque is still the bodice most favored by dressmakers, but its made very short and simple, with or without a waistcoat, at pleasure.

Polonaises of velvet or velveteen will be worn over skirts of rough woolen stuffs, with bourrette, boucie, Astrakhan, frize, and other borders.

Scotch pebble jewelry is again in fashion; this time the stones are set in sections flush with the surface, giving a finish of varicolored marquetry.

Straight, graduated, raised, sunken, boucie, bourrette, broche, zigzag, waved, and mixed combination, stripes are all seen on both wool and silk fabrics this fall.

Some of the richest millinery stuffs are used by dressmakers to form the narrow waistcoats, the cuffs, and high collars of dresses of various kinds of material.

Frise or boucie wools are utilized for the borders of skirts, the collars, cuffs and pockets of tailor-made cloth dresses, and for the trimmings of jackets, newmarkets and ulsters.

Miss Liffert, of Allentown, Penn., goes to bed at 9 o'clock every evening and sleeps soundly until 5 o'clock the next afternoon. The young men who call on her must leave early.

Decorative buckles and clasps are by no means confined to ladies' belts, but find places on wraps, dress bodices and draperies in large sizes, while smaller ones are popular on neck ribbons and garters.

There is living at the foot of Graves mountain, in Georgia; Mrs. E. Callanan, an aged lady of about eighty years, who has been living there for sixty years, and never was in all that time on top of the mountain.

Cause for Rejoicing.

CINCINNATI.—The Times-Star says: "A remarkable discovery, made last winter, is attracting wide-spread interest. As it involves a most important question—that of public health, it is being discussed by eminent physicians and public men. It is shown conclusively that throat and lung troubles can be cured without resorting to the use of morphia or opium—especially dangerous in the case of children as arresting development, and poisoning the system. The Governor of Maryland and all the officials of that State endorse the remedy; the State chemist of Delaware pronounces it the purest and most effective, and hospitals and charitable institutions in Philadelphia and other cities use it with remarkable results. The remedy, which is only twenty-five cents a bottle, is Red Star Cough Cure. It is really vegetable; it contains no poison or narcotics, and is a positive cure."

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The Increase of Insanity. Boston supports 800 insane, says Mr. T. B. Sanborn, not 75 of whom will recover!

This is frightful! Insanity has increased 40 per cent in a decade, and in most of the cases are incurable. Whatever the individual cause may be, the fact remains that Uric Acid blood sets the brain on fire, destroys its tissues, and then comes some form of fatal illness.

Nothing is so pitiable as a mind diseased. Most brain troubles begin in the stomach; then if the blood is filled with uric acid, caused by failure of kidney action, and the consequent destruction of the blood life—albumen—and the fat and the flame and in a brain in full blaze as when one raves, or in slow combustion, as in milder forms of insanity. Rev. E. D. Hopkins, of St. Johnsbury, Vt., a few years ago was confined in an asylum. He took a terrible cold while sitting in putting out a fire in a neighbor's burning house, and for twenty-five years that cold was slowly filling his blood with uric acid and finally the deadly work was done. The case looked hopeless, but he happily used Warner's Sarsaparil and recovered. That was twenty years ago, and having riddden his blood of all uric acid, he has remained well until this day.

It is indeed a terrible thing to lose one's mind, but it is a more terrible thing to suffer such a condition when it can be so easily prevented.

SCARF has been made from nappies four teen years old from the seed.

"He who is false to present duty," says Henry Ward Beecher, "breaks a thread in the loom, and will find the flaw when he has forgotten the cause." A case in point occurs to us. Mr. Wm. Ryder, of 87 Jefferson street, Buffalo, N. Y., recently told a reporter, "I was a large abcess on each kidney, kept continually discharging, for twenty years. Nothing did me any good except Dr. Pierce's 'Golden Medical Discovery.' It cured me." Here is a volume expressed in few words. Mr. Ryder's experience is entitled to our readers' careful consideration.—The Sun.

HARTFORD has a thirteen-year-old girl who tips the beam at 345 pounds.

Pile Tumors, neglected or badly treated, often degenerate into cancer. The worst pile tumors are painlessly, speedily and permanently cured without knife, caustic or salve, by our new and scientific method. Pamphlet and references 10 cents in stamps. World's Dispensary, Medical Dispensary, 633 Main Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

"WHAT has become of the Americans?" is the cry in Paris.

No lengthy advertisement is necessary to bolster up Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy.

SIBERIAN cats are the prevailing fashion in felines.

SKIN DISEASES.—"PERSON'S AROMATIC SOAP," cures Tetter, Salt Rheum, Ringworm, Scabs, Pimples, Itching Skin Eruptions. 25 cents by Druggists, or by mail. Wm. Dreyfuss, Philadelphia, Pa.

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

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

Men look slovenly with run-over heels. Lyon's Heel Shifteners give boots straight, 25c.

Piso's Remedy for Catarrh is agreeable to use. It is not a liquid or a snuff. 50c.

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